

Helsinki Literary Agency Children's and Young Adult List

Children's and Young Adult List

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Malin Klingenberg (b. 1979) is the author of the hugely popular Senior Squad series, awarded with the Runeberg Junior Prize in 2017. In 2018 she published her first young adult title, *Elk Girl*, to a wide critical acclaim. *The Life of Fart* is her first rhyming book. Sanna Mander (b. 1980) is an illustratror and a graphic designer whose colourful illustrations have appeared in Finnish, Swedish and English children's books. She has authored the Finlandia Junior Prize and Rudolf Koivu Prize winner of 2017, *The Lost Key*, and together with Anna Sarve *The Spectacular Book of Princesses* (2018).

Malin Klingenberg & Sanna Mander (illustrations)

The Life of Fart

A fart is something your parents have never let you talk about. Now there is an entire book dedicated to a fart's life!

While everyone is taught since childhood it is impolite to bring up our gassy part of life in public, it is still something almost every creature on earth experiences daily. You might be a mountaineer trying to conquer Mount Everest, a sportsman in the Olympics or just a simple cook – a fart is impossible to escape.

The Life of Fart is a cheerful and honest verse book that takes the young readers on a fun adventure exploring a phenomenon that many adults find tricky to talk about without getting embarrassed. With its vivid language and hilarious illustrations the book is a delight to the children who are constantly pondering curiosities of our daily life that no one is willing to explain to them.

The book is written by acclaimed children's author Malin Klingenberg, who has previously published the Pensioner Squad series, and illustrated by Finlandia Prize-winning Sanna Mander, known for witty children's books.



Fisens liv Schildts & Söderströms, 2019, 32 pp.

READING MATERIAL

Swedish original, Finnish translation, English translation

RIGHTS SOLD

World English, Pushkin Press; Sweden, Rabén & Sjögren

RIGHTS INFORMATION





Tomi Kontio (b. 1966) is an established poet and author. He has received numerous awards for his novels and poems. His first children's book, *Daddy Grew Wings in Spring* (2000), won the Finlandia Junior Prize and was awarded the LukuVarkaus Prize by a children's jury. Kontio's poetry has been translated into many languages. Elina Warsta (b. 1979) is an illustrator and graphic designer. Several of the book covers she has designed have won prizes in the Most Beautiful Book of the Year competition. Books she has illustrated have been published also in France, Japan and Latvia. Tomi Kontio & Elina Warsta (illustrations)

A Dog Called Cat Meets a Cat

What happens to the old friendship of Cat and Weasel when along comes a real cat, who has always liked to walk alone?

A Dog Called Cat Meets a Cat is a story about a dog called Cat, a man called Weasel and a cat of an adventurous disposition.

One day Weasel and Cat are sitting on a cliff beside the sea. Ships come and go in the harbour, and watching them Cat and Weasel talk about their friendship that has changed everything for them.

When a real cat disembarks from one of the ships, things take a new turn. The dog called Cat is at first distrustful but soon overcomes her fears. The cat, whose name has often changed during the vagabond years, becomes a cat called Dog. After years of hardship the cat called Dog has finally found true friends, and their adventures together can begin.

A Dog Called Cat Meets a Cat by poet Tomi Kontio and illustrator Elina Warsta continues the story of Cat and Weasel, which began in A Dog Called Cat (2015). A candidate for the Nordic Council Literature Prize and the recipient of a special mention from the International Board on Books for Young People for its illustrations, the book was an entrancing and poignantly beautiful tale about a lonely puppy who finally finds a friend.

"I look at the cat, entranced. How beautiful it is! It sets off to walk up the slope. I meet its gaze. I feel my skin begin to tingle, my muscles tauten and my hair stand on end. A low growl escapes my mouth.

'My little cat', Weasel says, stroking me gently. 'Don't be afraid. It's a cat, a small, pretty cat.'"

ALSO AVAILABLE

A Dog Called Cat (Koira nimeltään kissa, 2015)



Koira nimeltään Kissa tapaa kissan Teos Publishers, 2019, 40 pp.

READING MATERIAL

Finnish original, English translation

RIGHTS INFORMATION



Anna Härmälä (b. 1981) is a teacher, illustrator and comics artist. She has published three children's books: *Sorrowcheek* (*Burman*, 2016), *Decide for Yourself, Jori* (*Du bestämmer själv, Jori*, 2013) and *You Don't Belong Here, Beiron* (*Du hör inte hit, Beiron*, 2011), which won an award from the Society of Swedish Literature in Finland and a Rudolf Koivu honourable mention.

Anna Härmälä

Postcards from Grandma Flyaway

A charmingly curious travel book for small children!

The little bird Chirp has always lived at home in his nest with her mother and her father. Grandma Flyaway sends her granddaughter postcards from exciting places on her migratory travels: the street cafés of Paris, the beaches of the Canary Islands, Greece, Thailand, India, Mexico... Will Chirp ever dare to fly away from her home forest into the big wide world?

This inventive and light-hearted book tells the story of a journey around the world in postcards. Looking at the details of the postcards, children and adults together can try to guess where Granny Flyaway will travel next! Grandma's postcard messages include funny greetings and little morsels of information:

"BONJOUR MON CHERI CHIRP!

I flew here from Paris on Wednesday. What a lot of beautiful buildings there are here! To be honest I am quite beside myself. Yesterday I went to a café and ordered macaroni. I was so hungry. And then the waiter arrived with a tiny violet pastry—it looked just like a hamburger! There was a terrible row when we argued about whether or not it was macaroni."



Kort från Farmor Flyttfågel | Postikortteja mummi Muuttolinnulta

Schildts & Söderströms | S&S, 2018, 32 pp.

READING MATERIAL

Swedish original, Finnish translation, English translation

RIGHTS SOLD

Turkey, Dinozor Coçuk (Ayrıntı Yayınları)

RIGHTS INFORMATION

Helsinki Literary Agency info@helsinkiagency.fi





Hannamari Ruohonen (b. 1979) has illustrated numerous children's books. She has authored three books about *A City of Animals* (2007, 2008, 2009) that have been translated into French and Chinese. In 2017 came out *My Lost Mother*, in 2018 *Kaisa and Oskar's Book of Favourites* and 2019 *Kaisa and Oskar's Book of Outings*. Ruohonen's rich and expressive work has been praised by critics and the general public alike.

Hannamari Ruohonen

Kaisa and Oskar's Book of Outings

Let's go on an adventure. And maybe get lost, but only a tiny bit!

Kaisa and Oskar think that outings are one of the best things in the world. You can go on an outing almost anywhere and at any time; you just need a little bit of imagination. You can go on an outing to the playground of the day nursery when its gate is closed, or into the grassy jungle surrounding a ditch, or you can go on a ghost hunt with torches into the cellar, or you can just sit with Granny on a park bench to watch people. Sometimes you can take yourself to a neighbour's front door and get invited in.

Kaisa and Oskar's Book of Outings tells about the everyday pleasures of the siblings. The first book about them, *Kaisa and Oskar's Book of Favourites*, came out in 2018.

"The book, illustrated with coloured pencils, contains small funny observations which children can easily identify with, such as Kaisa licking all the butter off hot bread rolls before it can melt. Different everyday favourite things follow each other and the atmosphere is pretty idyllic."

> Helsingin Sanomat newspaper on Kaisa and Oskar's Book of Favourites



Kaisan ja Oskarin retkikirja S&S, 2019, 32 pp.

READING MATERIAL

Finnish original, English translation

RIGHTS INFORMATION

Helsinki Literary Agency info@helsinkiagency.fi

ALSO AVAILABLE

My Lost Mother (Kadonnut äitini, 2017)

Kaisa and Oskar's Book of Favourites (Kaisan ja Oskarin lempikirja, 2018)





Kristiina Lähde (b. 1961) is an award-winning poet, translator, and author. Julia Vuori (b. 1968) is a well-known illustrator and comics artist who also has received several awards of her work. Lähde and Vuori have created two children's books about Archie the canary: *Archie Goes South* (2016) and *Archie in the Spring* (2019).

Kristiina Lähde & Julia Vuori (illustrations)

Archie in the Spring

When spring arrives, a little canary's heart fills with a longing to go north.

The canary Archie and the taxi driver Swisher are having a cushy time in the South. But one day Archie's heart fills with yearning. The days in the North are getting longer, and soon there will be nightless nights there! It's time to go home.

The friends set out to follow the light, and they bring a mysterious work of art with them as they go to meet the northern spring. Little Archie realizes that she is part of a great family of birds and that the earth is as small as a grain of millet. But the most important thing she learns is something that's right in front of her.

"Swisher realized that Archie had migration fever. Deep within her was a longing to leave, to return home–it's a power that all birds have. Swisher mulled the matter over long into the night. Life in the South was nice. But the North had its good points, too. And although Archie was small, her feelings were enormous."

Archie in the Spring is the second book about the adventures of Archie the bird and Swisher the taxi driver. A book with humor and a gentle philosophy of life, it tells a story of friendship, travel, a story where a person, or a bird, can find a true home. The first book in the series, *Archie Goes South*, was published in 2016.

Kristiina Lähde Julia Vuori

Arhippa kevään korvalla Teos Publishers, 2019, 34 pp.

READING MATERIAL Finnish original, English translation

RIGHTS INFORMATION

Helsinki Literary Agency info@helsinkiagency.fi

ALSO AVAILABLE

Archie Goes South (Arhippa. Nokka kohti etelää, 2016)



Sanna Pelliccioni (b. 1976) is a children's author, illustrator and graphic artist. Her work includes the extensive *Onni* series of children's books, and she has also illustrated numerous children's books by other authors. *We Had to Leave* (2018) is Pelliccioni's first wordless children's book.

Sanna Pelliccioni

We Had to Leave

This book is a bit scary, but it has a happy ending.

We Had to Leave tells, in pictures, the story of a family fleeing war to find a place of safety.

The book has no text–readers can invent the words themselves. The child can take the leading role as narrator. They can decide how the story proceeds, how it begins and how it ends.

This book does, indeed, have many stories – some of them more, some less scary. The story is determined by who tells it, what mood they are in, what they have experienced and what they know.

Telling stories increases a sense of community, and develops language and imagination. The wordless book is suitable for children of all ages. It is also good for immigrants: the wordless book can be read with others on a basis of equality.

"This picture story is an excellent way of dealing with a refugee family's journey to seeking asylum. The wordless tale progresses convincingly through the power of Pelliccioni's gently expressive drawings. The subject may cause uncertainty in adult readers, but there is no need to over-explain things; the picture story demands adults simply to listen." Aamulehti newspaper

"Despite the familiar storyline Pelliccioni succeeds in creating an original story with her expressive illustrations and lively colour palette." Hufvudstadsbladet newspaper



Meidän piti lähteä S&S, 2019, 48 pp.

READING MATERIAL

Wordless original

RIGHTS INFORMATION



Animal Scalebook, Scalebook #1

Eläinten mitalla Teos Publishers, 2016, 36 pp.



Dinosaur Scalebook, Scalebook #2

Dinosaurusten mitalla

Co-authored by Carlos da Cruz and Maija Karala.

Teos Publishers, 2018, 46 pp.



Fish Scalebook, Scalebook #3

Kalojen mitalla

Co-authored by Carlos da Cruz and Maija Karala.

Teos Publishers, 2019, 46 pp.



Carlos da Cruz

Scalebook series

The vividly colourful scalebooks put things – and us humans! – in proportion by scaling different animals to everyday objects and distances.

Carlos da Cruz's Scalebooks are inspiring children's science books about the amazing size of animals. Some creatures make human beings feel like giants, others like Tom Thumb.

In Animal Scalebook we encounter the spiky hedgehog, snuffling along the ground, and the giraffe as it reaches for the highest branches of the tree. Along the way we also meet sea blubber, with its hundreds of stinging tentacles, dozens of metres long, and the white rhinoceros, which can run faster than the world's fastest human!

In *Dinosaur Scalebook* you learn how large was a microraptor, one of the smallest dinosaurs, and how small is a human compared to the largest found fossil of a dinosaur. But which dinosaur had feathers similar to a chicken?

In *Fish Scalebook* the focus is in the oceans, lakes and rivers of the world. Which kinds of fish live in the water, out of the human sight? Which fish can have inspired the stories about sea monsters? What surprises are there in the bottoms of the oceans?

Carlos da Cruz (b. 1972) is a French-born illustrator and graphic artist who lives in Finland. He has loved comics and drawing since he was a little boy. Later he studied graphic design, among other things, in Paris. Since moving to Finland he has worked on teaching materials and non-fiction books for children. In 2011 da Cruz was awarded the Cockerel Prize for his work as an illustrator.



The scalebook series started with Animal Scalebook in 2016 and was followed by Dinosaur Scalebook in 2018. The third one, Fish Scalebook, came out in autumn 2019. Dinosaur Scalebook and Fish Scalebook are co-authored by Carlos da Cruz and Maija Karala.

READING MATERIAL

French & Finnish originals, English translations

RIGHTS SOLD

France, Circumflexe (book #1), Complex Chinese (excl. Mainland China), Children's Publications (book #2)

RIGHTS INFORMATION





The book's writers, Anna Sofia Urrila (b. 1980), Henna-Kaisa Wigren (b. 1977) and Kirsi-Marja Zitting (b. 1982), are sleep-deprived mothers at the busiest time of their lives. They are also sleep researchers who met when they were working on their doctoral theses in the same research group at the University of Helsinki. Virpi Kaarina Talvitie (b. 1961) is an award-winning illustrator who, in addition to dozens of story books, has provided the illustrations for numerous textbooks and children's nonfiction works.

Virpi Kaarina Talvitie, Anna Sofia Urrila, Henna-Kaisa Wigren & Kirsi-Marja Zitting

Close your Eyes, Iris!

Why do you have to go to sleep, even if you're not a bit tired? How do you know you're sleepy? And what's the sleepy monster?

Iris is cross. She's in the middle of a game, and her mother, tired out by the baby, is angrily telling her to go to bed. Why are grown-ups allowed to stay up later? Why do you have to go to bed if you're not tired? And why doesn't sleep come anyway? Who on earth is the Sandman?

Her dreams take Iris with them into the forest, to a farm, under the water and finally to the mountains. At that point the dream becomes a little frightening when Iris meets a sleepy monster suffering from insomnia! Fortunately, when Iris wakes up in the morning everything is back to normal. Even her mother is more cheerful.

Close your Eyes, Iris! is a book about the fascinating and still largely unknown world of sleep. Many exciting aspects of sleep receive a child-level explanation which will also interest adult readers: how do fish sleep? And what about jellyfish, which don't have brains or eyes? How can bears sleep all winter? How do sleep and sleeplessness affect the human brain, nervous system and cells? Why is it sometimes really difficult to wake up?



Silmät kiinni, Silmu! S&S, 2019, 42 pp

READING MATERIAL

Finnish original, English translation

RIGHTS INFORMATION





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Eva Frantz (b. 1980) works as a journalist at Yleisradio, Finnish national broadcasting company, and is an enthusiastic blogger and the winner of two blogging awards. Frantz debuted with a cozy crime novel *Summer Isle* in 2016. Since then she has been working on a crime series that has two novels so far: *The Blue Villa* (2017) and *The Eighth Maiden* (2018), which was awarded as the best crime novel of the year. Runeberg Prize-winning *Raspberry Hill* (2018) is her first book for middle grade readers.

Eva Frantz

Raspberry Hill

Ghosts and crime for middle grade readers by Finland's rising crime queen.

Raspberry Hill is a sanatorium in the middle of the healing countryside, where city dwellers with lung diseases end up. Many of the child patients treated there are from poor families—like Stina. She's lived on Seaman Street in southern Helsinki in a small room with her five siblings and the mother since the father died in the war, and now she is very sick.

The sanatorium feels like a castle to Stina. It is vast and full of long corridors and echoes. It is also a very lonely place, until one day Stina meets Ruben. The boy starts turning up when they should be sleeping, taking her on nightly expeditions to forbidden parts of the building– like the eastern wing, which has recently burned down.

Little by little Stina starts to realize that everything is not quite right in the sanatorium. Why isn't her mother writing back to her? Why do the nurses seem so afraid? What really happened in the fire? And what is Ruben trying to warn her about?

Raspberry Hill is crime author Eva Frantz's first children's book–a suspenseful horror story for middle grade readers. It starts a series of stand-alone horror novels set in early 20th century that take their young readers on a journey back in time.

"Eva Frantz's book has all the right elements that a page-turner for an avid young readership should have: a proper suspenseful plot and supernatural twists."

Hufvudstadsbladet newspaper

ALSO AVAILABLE

Summer Isle (Sommarön, 2016) The Blue Villa (Blå villan, 2017) The Eighth Maiden (Den åttonde tärnan, 2018)



Hallonbacken Schildts & Söderströms, 2018, 150 pp.

READING MATERIAL

Swedish original, English sample, English synopsis

RIGHTS INFORMATION

Helsinki Literary Agency info@helsinkiagency.fi

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Alexandra Salmela (b. 1980) is an author and dramaturge who writes both in Finnish and Slovak. She won the Helsingin Sanomat Literature Prize with her debut novel *27, or Death Makes an Artist* (2010). Her first children's book *Mother Giraffe and Other Silly Adults* (2013) was nominated for the Arvid Lydecken Prize and the Torch-Bearer Prize. Linda Bondestam (b. 1977) is one of the best-known Nordic illustrators. *Animals No-One Has Seen Except Us* (2016) written by Ulf Stark and illustrated by Bondestam, won the Nordic Council's Prize for Children's and Young People's Literature, was on the shortlist for the August Prize and von the Snowball Prize for the best illustrated book in Sweden in 2016.

Alexandra Salmela & Linda Bondestam (illustrations)

Fantasticle Friend

"Bean-Bean froze in ski position. He had never seen Toughie so close up."

Bean-Bean hates miserable Wednesdays. That is when he has to walk through the park alone, and in the park lurks Toughie.

Today things go very wrong. When Toughie bullies Bean-Bean, her essential device is broken. As a punishment, Bean-Bean's beloved rag bird Stormbeard gets prisoned in the highest branches of a tree. Luckily, in the bus Bean-Bean bumps into a lion-maned cheetah, a genuine, living, imaginary friend. Together they hasten to save Strombeard.

The atypical adventure takes the friends into a forest to bounce on a trampoline in the appearance of fantastic fruit, and into the drains where they end up at the mercy of mutant monsters and mammoths.

Alexandra Salmela and Linda Bondestam's book is a crazy, funny and brilliantly colourful story about the power of the imagination and the courage to be yourself—whether you are a child using words in a funny way, an elephant in mammoth's clothing or a self-absorbed, constantly blabbering cheetah.

"I'm Cheetah," he said.

"What do you mean, cheetah?" Bean-Bean examined the creature in wonder. Around his face flourished a magnificently thick lion's mane. "But you look just like a lion."

"Well?" snapped lion's mane. "The cheetah is fastest of all. It can run a hundred and twenty kilometres an hour; it's faster than this bus, which can go... well, round forty two or forty four kilometres an hour, at this moment at least, and compared to that the cheetah is three times as fast and I'm the fastest of all cheetahs. Or nearly."

ALSO AVAILABLE

Mother Giraffe and Other Silly Adults (Kirahviäiti ja muita hölmöjä aikuisia, 2013)



Mielikutitusystävä

Teos Publishers, 2019, 120 pp.

READING MATERIAL

Finnish original, English sample

RIGHTS INFORMATION



Patrik and the Senior Squad, The Senior Squad #1

Patrik och Pensionärsmakten Schildts & Söderströms, 2010, 120 pp.



Irene and the Moneyhoover, The Senior Squad #2

Irene och Sedelsugen Schildts & Söderströms, 2013, 136 pp.



Fake Bernice, The Senior Squad #3

Den falska Bernice Schildts & Söderströms, 2015, 148 pp.



The Fantastic Alfredo, The Senior Squad #4

Den fantastiske Alfredo Schildts & Söderströms, 2016, 168 pp.



Rakel's Miracles, The Senior Squad #5

Rakels mirakel Schildts & Söderströms, 2017, 192 pp.

Malin Klingenberg

The Senior Squad series

A witty and hilarious middle-grade series about retired people fighting crime.

In a small-town school a boy sits in a class room, deep in thought. He's called Patrik, and today will be the most exciting day of his life, although he doesn't know it yet.

Soon enough the class tearaway, Irene, bullies Patrik into escaping from school. When he ends up on a wrong bus full of pensioners, it appears that one of the senior citizens has been kidnapped – and a group of villains are very interested in taking the other pensioners out of the game too...

In the Senior Squad series pensioners are living a secret life scuppering the evil plans of lowlifes with the help of two clever children, Patrik and Irene. The series consists of so far five books: *Patrik and The Senior Squad* (2010), *Irene and the Moneyhoover* (2013), *Fake Bernice* (2015), *The Fantastic Alfredo* (2016) and *Rakel's Miracles* (2017). The sixth book will come out in 2020.

The Senior Squad series has been praised for its crazy humor, quirky characters and action-filled plots that are perfect for young readers. The fourth novel of the series, *The Fantastic Alfredo*, was awarded with Runeberg Junior Prize in 2017.

Malin Klingenberg (b. 1979) is a Swedish-speaking author from Finland who has so far written five books of The Senior Squad series: *Patrik and The Senior Squad* (2010), *Irene and the Moneyhoover* (2013), *Fake Bernice* (2015), *The Fantastic Alfredo* (2016) and *Rakel's Miracles* (2017). *The Fantastic Alfredo* was awarded with Runeberg Junior Prize in 2017. The sixth book will come out in 2020. In 2018 Klingenberg published her first young adult title, *Elk Girl*, that has received wide critical acclaim. In autumn 2019 Klingenberg will come out with a rhyming book *A Fart's Life*, illustrated by Sanna Mander.



The Senior Squad series has five books so far, and the sixth book will come out in 2020. Originally written in Swedish, the first book in the series, *Patrik and the Senior Squad*, will be published in Finnish in 2019.

READING MATERIAL

Swedish original, English sample

RIGHTS INFORMATION



The Pearl Fisher, Song of the Eye Gemstone #1

Pärlfiskaren Schildts & Söderströms, 2017, 243 pp.



The Bird Master, Song of the Eye Gemstone #2

Fågeltämjaren Schildts & Söderströms, 2018, 310 pp.



The Scaler of the Peaks, Song of the Eye Gemstone #3

Bergsklättraren Schildts & Söderströms, 2019, 255 pp.



The Victor, Song of the Eye Gemstone #4

Segraren Schildts & Söderströms, 2019, 302 pp.



winner of a children's novel competition by schildts & söderströms publishers



Karin Erlandsson

Song of the Eye Gemstone series

A grand take of friendship, longing – and a kingdom of stories by an award-winning author.

There is a kingdom where the bottom of the ocean is covered with colourful pearls. There is one pearl that everyone wants – the eye gemstone. The story says that whoever finds it will never need to long for anything anymore, and generation after generation people have left their families to search for it, never returning.

Two girls set out for the hunt: Miranda who believes herself to be the most skilled pearl fisher of all, and small Syrsa who has a rare ability: she can hear the pearls singing, whispering, murmuring... Their page-turning adventure grows in the series of four books to epic proportions: to a grand tale of friendship and what truly matters in life.

The exciting, multi-layered story, located in skilfully constructed world with forests, mountains, fields and seas has been praised by readers and critics.

"Erlandsson masters the elements with virtuosity. Easily and naturally she lets the story billow onwards. It is full of descriptions of the mythical landscapes of the world. It is sharp and clear. It is compelling. [...] Karin Erlandsson's children's novel has a broad and obvious appeal, it grows beyond the traditional adventure novel – it challenges the conventions, and at the same time she gimmicks with the genre extremely stylishly. This is a long-awaited start for the return to the children's novel that follows the Finland-Swedish literary tradition in the very best way." Hufvudstadsbladet newspaper



Song of the Eye Gemstone spans four books: The Pearl Fisher (2017), The Bird Master (2018), The Scaler of the Peaks (2019) and The Victor (2019).

READING MATERIAL

Swedish original, Finnish translation, Russian translation, English sample, English synopsis, Spanish sample

RIGHTS SOLD

Estonia, Sinisukk (book #1), Faroe Islands, Bokadeildin (books #1–4)

RIGHTS INFORMATION

Helsinki Literary Agency info@helsinkiagency.fi

Karin Erlandsson (b. 1978) works as a journalist in Åland. In February 2018, she was awarded with the prestigeous Runeberg Junior Prize for her first children's novel, *The Pearl Fisher*, which was also shortlisted for the Nordic Council Literary Prize. The book was also the winner of Schildts & Söderström's children's novel competition in 2016. Erlandsson's first novel *Mink Farm* (2014) was shortlisted for the Nordic Council Literature Prize. She has written also two cozy crime novels – *Misdeed* (2016) and *Enclosed* (2018). Before moving to fiction, she has written a summer time cook book (2012).





Right-Side Up, Rotation #2

Kaipaus S&S, 2018, 320 pp.







About-Turn, Rotation #3

Upside Down,

S&S, 2017, 248 pp.

Rotation #1

Kiepaus

Keikaus S&S, 2019, 309 pp.



Vuokko Hurme

Rotation series

A clever and mind-boggling trilogy set in three different worlds – told by the authentic, wise voice of an eight-year-old girl.

Lenna has lived all of her eight years in a city called Kardum. Kardum used to be a normal city just like any other, but long before Lenna was born, the world turned upside down.

The earth is now where the sky used to be. And there is a dizzying drop into nothingness where the ground used to be.

The incident that everyone refers to as "The Rotation" has changed everything, but people have learned to get along in their upside down world. They move from house to house with the help of ropes and special gear. They enjoy simple lives without running water or electricity.

In fact, Lenna and her best friend Jaan have just the right amount of fun and excitement – until the supply of fresh water begins to run out.

Beneath the sky there is Mabal, a world built from all the things that have fallen from Kardum. There you don't have to be afraid of falling into the sky anymore, but instead you have to worry about what falls from the sky: trash, sand, and even houses and boulders.

And there's another danger. Mabal rests on a thin surface. Anyone who digs too deep below the surface will fall – no one knows where. That is no one, until Lenna and Jaan one day end up there: in the old Kardum that still lives in the age before the Rotation. When they realize that there is only a week to the Rotation, they have a choice to make: should they try to save the old world?

"The world and characters Hurme has created captivate the imagination." Helsingin Sanomat newspaper

Vuokko Hurme (b. 1979) is a children's art instructor. She has written both fiction and nonfiction for children and published articles in various magazines about family and children's art education. *Upside Down* was her first novel.



Rotation consists of three books: *Upside Down* (2017), *Right-Side* Up (2018) and *About-Turn* (2019).

READING MATERIAL

Finnish original, English sample, English synopsis

RIGHTS INFORMATION

Backlist Highlights

Illustrated Children's Books

- 33 HIROKO MOTAI & MARIKA MAIJALA Million Billion Santa Clauses
- 35 HELMI KEKKONEN & AINO LOUHI Topsy-turvy Anna
- 37 SANNA MANDER & ANNA SARVE The Spectacular Book of Princesses
- 39 MAIJA HURME & ANSSI HURME Shadowed
- 41 ALEXANDRA SALMELA & MARTINA MATLOVIČOVA Mother Giraffe and Other Silly Adults
- 43 KAROLIINA PERTAMO Bunny Likes
- 45 Malin Klingenberg ElkGirl



Hiroko Motai (b. 1972) is a Japanese author who one morning as a student woke up with the story of a millon billion Santa Clauses in her head. Marika Maijala (b. 1974) is an illustrator and graphic designer who has illustrated several children's books by different authors. She has been awarded with Rudolf Koivu Prize and nominated twice for the Finlandia Junior Prize. Hiroko Motai & Marika Maijala (illustrations)

Million Billion Santa Clauses

Captivating Christmas story for all the small and big ones.

A long time ago, there was only one Santa Claus in the world. And there were very few people and very few children in the world as well. Santa Claus could easily hand out all the world's presents in a single night.

As years went by, the number of people grew. The number of children grew, too. The sack of presents became too heavy. So Santa Claus asked if there might be two of him.

Two Santa Clauses were twice as fast as one, but only half the size.

As more years went by, more and more people and children came along and the number of Santa Clauses grew and grew – and at the same time all the Santas grew smaller and smaller.

Finally there were a million billion Santa Clauses in the world, invisible to the eye and obviously too small to carry presents. What happened then?

"The biggest Christmas book surprise has come in the form of a Japanese–Finnish collaboration. In a word: captivating." Helsingin Sanomat newspaper

"Beautifully rugged, transparent crayon illustrations determine the appearance of this wonderful book. The tiny pieces of text are either within the illustrations or in the margins. The illustrations change from totally gray images of a city to an almost empty page drawn with a controlled and amusing style." The Most Beautiful Book of the Year Award board





Million Billion Santa Clauses Schildts & Söderströms, 2014, 40 pp.

READING MATERIAL

English original

RIGHTS SOLD

Catalan, Pastel de Luna; Czech, K-A-V-K-A; China (simplified Chinese), Guanxi Normal University Press; Complex Chinese (outside mainland China, incl. Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan), Yeren Publishing House; Denmark, Turbine; Finland (Finnish & Swedish), Schildts & Söderströms; France, Cambourakis; Germany, Fischer; Greece, Patakis; Japan, Anonima Studio; Korea, Woorinabi; Poland, Dwie Siostry; Spanish, Pastel de Luna

RIGHTS INFORMATION



Helmi Kekkonen (b. 1982) has published a collection of short stories, *Home* (2009), and the critically acclaimed novels *The Choice* (2011), *Unsheltered* (2014) and *The Guests* (2016), which was shortlisted for the 2017 Runeberg Prize. *Topsy-turvy Anna* (2019) is Kekkonen's first children's book. Aino Louhi (b. 1981) is a wellknown artist who has also illustrated children's books and published a number of comics albums.

Helmi Kekkonen & Aino Louhi (illustrations)

Topsy-turvy Anna

Everything is just as Anna wants it to be: yvrut-yspot tcefrep!

Anna is topsy-turvy because Anna is Anna backwards; and she also likes things to be done backwards and clothes to be put on inside out and in general everything is more fun the wrong way round. Even Anna's first word was backwards: ESON.

And now it's the best day of the year. Anna's topsyturvy festival, or YADHTRIB YTRAP. Anna is turning six. She's been waiting for this day for such a long time! But her little brother is annoying and messes things up, she's not allowed to give out biscuits at her dance class, and even her best friend, Kerttu, doesn't understand anything anymore.

Topsy-turvy Anna is a charming story about something familiar to all children: looking forward to something so much that it's bound to disappoint. Aino Louhi's tender illustrations are drawn with warmth and convey a homely, nostalgic atmosphere.

"In the car on the way to the autumn's first dance class Anna has already forgotten the whole business. Dance classes are lovely and Kerttu will be there, and Anna hasn't seen Kerttu all summer. Anna laughs and sings. Every now and then Maija turns to look at her on the back seat and says, try to behave, calm down, but is still smiling."



Nurinkurin Anna S&S, 2019, 48 pp.

READING MATERIAL

Finnish original, English translation

RIGHTS INFORMATION





Sanna Mander (b. 1980) grew up in a suburb of Stockholm, Sweden, and has studied graphic design at the Helsinki University of Applied Arts. She lives in Helsinki with her husband and three children. Her colourful illustrations have appeared in Finnish, Swedish and English children's books, and also in cover art for albums, package designs, posters and numerous other publications. Anna Sarve works as a children's psychologist and has previously rhymed poems to the Finlandia Junior Prize -winning *The Lost Key*, also illustrated by Sanna Mander.
Sanna Mander & Anna Sarve

The Spectacular Book of Princesses

What are princesses made of? Stories, apples, adventure and starry belts!

> There are princesses everywhere—in the pages of story books but also in real life. Not all of them have crowns and not all of them have palaces; some princesses have silks and jewels, some bare feet and darned blouses.

> *The Spectacular Book of Princesses* is full of charming stories, strange facts and wild rumours about the world's loveliest princesses (and a couple of really awful ones). Among the puzzles that are solved are why princesses sometimes kiss frogs, what they eat, what sorts of pets they have – and the demands that are made of them.

Enchantingly illustrated, *The Spectacular Book of Princesses* offers a fast-paced and graphic account of what makes princesses of Snow White, Pocahontas and Cleopatra, Duchess, Catherine the Great, Rapunzel and many other heroines of fact and fantasy.

Known for her Finlandia Prize-winning picture book *The Lost Key* and her popular *Princess Colouring Book*, Sanna Mander returns to the world of princesses in this nonfiction book for children, which explores princess stories both familiar and unknown. Also revealed, of course, is what kind of shoes they wear on different occasions!

The text is co-authored by Sanna Mander and Anna Sarve. The book also includes fantastic fairytales by three well-known Finnish authors: Malin Klingenberg, Kasper Strömman and Peppe Öhman.

PRILLIGA PRILLIGA Doken CO Anna Sure W Sance Handes

Prinsessboken Schildts & Söderströms, 2018, 72 pp.

READING MATERIAL

Swedish original, Finnish original, English translation

RIGHTS SOLD

Estonia, Postimees Kirjastus (Eesti Meedia); Hungary, Naphegy Kiadó (Kossuth)

RIGHTS INFORMATION

Helsinki Literary Agency info@helsinkiagency.fi

ALSO AVAILABLE

The Lost Key (Nyckelknipan, 2017) The Life of Fart (Fisens liv, 2019)





Maija Hurme (b. 1976) is a visual editor and graphic designer in the daily broadsheet *Hufvudstadsbladet*. After her studies in journalism and history in Helsinki she has worked in several newspapers. Anssi Hurme (b. 1976) is a graphic designer who runs a design business. Their previous picture book collaborations are *Under the Covers* (2012) ja *Bat Boy* (2014).

Maija Hurme & Anssi Hurme

Shadowed

A beautifully illustrated story about a child, a father and great longing.

Shadowed is a mysterious story about an unfamiliar character in a child's life. No one else can see it, but it follows the child everywhere. It makes eating breakfast or playing with friends difficult. It asks for the scariest bedtime story.

It seems to have something to do with the mother being gone.

The story, subtly illustrated, does not name the shadow-it could be sadness, worry or longing. Bit by bit, its slightly scary presence turns friendlier and finally it loosens its grip.

"I knew it was in the room before I opened my eyes. I closed my eyes and pretended to sleep. It might leave.

But it didn't. In the morning it was in my bed. Who are you? I said.

Have you seen my mother? I asked. No answer. It stayed silent. I could hear only a small hissing sound, as if someone was blowing up a beach ball."





Skuggorna | Varjostajat Schildts & Söderströms | S&S, 2018, 40 pp.

READING MATERIAL

Swedish original, Finnish original, English translation

RIGHTS SOLD

Czech, Cesta domů

RIGHTS INFORMATION

Helsinki Literary Agency info@helsinkiagency.fi

NOMINEE FOR THE TORCH-BEARER PRIZE



Alexandra Salmela (b. 1980) is an author and dramaturge who writes both in Finnish and Slovak. She won the Helsingin Sanomat Literature Prize with her debut novel *27, or Death Makes an Artist* (2010), which was also nominated for the Finlandia Prize. Her first children's book *Mother Giraffe and Other Silly Adults* (2013) was nominated for the Arvid Lydecken Prize and the Torch-bearer Prize. Her second novel *Antihero* came out in 2015.

Alexandra Salmela & Martina Matlovičová (illustrations)

Mother Giraffe and Other Silly Adults

A wildly unconventional book of tales with warped situations in which children rule the roost.

Meet a magnetic knight, a headless dad, Gloop Beast and Frankfish who are all involved in the most incredible and side-splitting events. There's a lesson in this book: if, for instance, a silly adult is wrapped up in adult matters or makes you do boring chores, you can hop onboard a pirate ship and become friends with a mermaid.

The 21 short stories of *Mother Giraffe and Other Silly Adults* are not preachy. The heroes are either children or childlike beings whose ideas and dreams give birth to new worlds – as well as breathtakingly miraculous and wonderful plot twists and adventures! Sometimes the realities of children and grown-ups smack into one another, but there's nothing imagination cannot solve.

Two celebrated authors have combined their forces and put together this book. The writer Alexandra Salmela has won the Helsingin Sanomat Literature Prize with her debut novel; the illustrator Martina Matlovičová is among the most prestigious illustrators in Slovakia. The result is a revolutionary children's book with stories that work seamlessly with fascinating drawings and collage.

"Salmela's imagination flexes like a child at play. Without calcified thoughts, it is boundless from the smallest hole in the ground right up to the furthest space." Savon Sanomat newspaper

"The few-page-long stories blaze in the genuine realm of childhood make-believe, overflowing with absurd elements." Aamulehti newspaper

ALSO AVAILABLE

Fantasticle Friend (Mielikutitusystävä, 2019)



Kirahviäiti ja muita hölmöjä aikuisia Teos Publishers, 2013, 94 pp.

READING MATERIAL

Finnish original, English sample, French sample

RIGHTS SOLD

Czech, Albatros; Hungary, Scolar; Serbian, Obodsko slovo; Slovakia, Artforum; Turkey, Dinozor Coçuk (Ayrıntı Yayınları)

RIGHTS INFORMATION

Helsinki Literary Agency info@helsinkiagency.fi





Karoliina Pertamo (b. 1971) is a Finnish visual artist and art teacher who has illustrated several dozen children's books. Her illustrations *Murkling* (2015) and *Olga the Squirrel and the Mysterious Forest* (2014) were both nominated for the Finlandia Junior Award. *Baudeliero and Mette the Rat* (2014) was awarded the Society of Swedish Literature in Finland Prize and nominated for the Nordic Council Children and Young People's Literature Prize. *Near the Bairn* (2011) was shortlisted for the Rudolf Koivu Children's Book Illustration Prize.

Karoliina Pertamo

Bunny Likes

A board book bursting with joy for the little ones!

Bunny likes is a sweet and cheerful picture book about friendship and all the good and beautiful things in the world. Illustrated in vivid colours and featuring simple characters, the book introduces a new animal friend on every spread along with its favourite things to see and eat.

"At the end of every spread you get a sneak peek at the next character which is revealed by turning the page. The imaginative story of this happy and colorful book inspires toddlers to think about things they like and encourages them to turn the page." Helsingin Sanomat newspaper

"With its bright colours, confident imagery, anthropomorphic animal characters and highly interactive approach, this book is a prime example of today's high-quality picture book. [...] Listing the animals' favourite things invites the reader to imagine, even imitate sounds and explore how soft the moss is and how warm the sunshine feels."

Hufvudstadsbladet newspaper

Bunny likes is a literary debut of the award-winning children's book illustrator Karoliina Pertamo. It has been published in Finnish and Swedish.



Kaninen gillar | Pupu tykkää Schildts & Söderströms | S&S, 2018, 18 pp.

READING MATERIAL

Swedish original, Finnish original, English translation, French translation

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Malin Klingenberg (b. 1979) is a Swedish-speaking author from Finland who has so far written five books of The Senior Squad series: *Patrik and The Senior Squad* (2010), *Irene and the Moneyhoover* (2013), *Fake Bernice* (2015), *The Fantastic Alfredo* (2016) and *Rakel's Miracles* (2017). *The Fantastic Alfredo* was awarded with Runeberg Junior Prize in 2017. The sixth book will come out in 2020. In 2018 Klingenberg published her first young adult title, *Elk Girl*, that has received wide critical acclaim. In autumn 2019 Klingenberg will come out with a rhyming book *A Fart's Life*, illustrated by Sanna Mander.

Malin Klingenberg

Elk Girl

How to grow up, deal with changes – and tame an elk?

Johanna is just starting the seventh grade and trying to find her place in the new school. Things aren't as they used to be just a few weeks before—her best friend Sandra is now hanging out only with the most popular girls in their year, doing anything to get their approval.

Fortunately Johanna has a little forest den, where she can be herself and do what she loves: watch the wildlife. By chance, she befriends an elk. Soon she discovers that there are others too who appreciate the things that matter most to her.

Malin Klingenberg writes in a serious but light-hearted way about being a teenager in the throes of changes. And about taming an elk.

Elk Girl is a touching young adult novel from Malin Klingenberg, following her popular middle grade novel series about the adventures of *The Senior Squad*. Critics and readers alike have heaped praise on the book.

"I stepped down from my bed silently and went out the front. I thought an elk would be afraid of me but even though they must've noticed me, they only pricked up their ears. I sneaked closer. One of the elks turned its head and looked at me whilst slowly chewing a tuft of grass. I knew it was ridiculous to smile at an elk but I couldn't help myself.

Hello you, I whispered. The elk listened attentively again and stopped chewing for a moment, then went on eating." Translated by Aleksi Koponen

"Elk Girl takes a firm hold of the confusing and tangled everyday life. Humorist Klingenberg ladles absurdities into the story, like taming an elk with popcorn, but lets the seriusness shimmer in the backround. The result is brilliant."

Hufvudstadsbladet newspaper



Älgflickan Schildts & Söderströms, 2018, 190 pp.

READING MATERIAL

Swedish original, English sample

RIGHTS SOLD

Germany, dtv

RIGHTS INFORMATION

Helsinki Literary Agency info@helsinkiagency.fi



Helsinki Literary Agency is an agency with a strong list of the best Finnish fiction, nonfiction and children's authors. Founded in the beginning of 2017, the agency is a joint venture of four independent Finnish publishing houses: Gummerus, Schildts & Söderströms, Siltala and Teos. The agency represents a wide range of prominent, award-winning authors writing both in Finnish and Swedish.

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Gummerus

Gummerus, founded in 1872, is Finland's third largest trade publisher with a list of 200 titles each year. It is owned by Swedish Storytel.

Schildts & Söderströms

Schildts & Söderströms is Finland's largest Swedish language publisher with a history dating back 1891. Its imprint s&s publishes books in Finnish.

Siltala Publishing

Siltala, founded in 2008, publishes about 40 titles a year. Its list includes both literary fiction and nonfiction.

Teos Publishers

Teos Publishers, founded in 2003, publishes about 45 new titles annually. The focus is on literary fiction, but the list includes also nonfiction and children's titles.

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Colophon

This booklet was designed and set into type by Petri Latvala. The text face is TEFF Lexicon No. 2 created by Bram de Does in 1992. The cover illustrations are from Alexandra Salmela & Linda Bondestam's *Fantasticle Friend* (2019) and Anna Härmälä's *Postcards from Granma Flyaway* (2019).



September 21st, 2019