



Spring
2020



Helsinki Literary Agency *Children's and Young Adult List*

the 1990s, the number of people in the UK who are employed in the public sector has increased by 1.5 million, from 2.5 million in 1980 to 4 million in 1995. The public sector has become a major employer in the UK, and its growth has been a key factor in the overall growth of the economy.

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Children's and Young Adult List

Illustrated Children's Fiction

- 5 SANNA PELLICIONI & MAAMI SNELLMAN & KITI SZALAI *I Remember You with Love*
- 7 PAULIINA VANHATALO & ANNA EMILIA LAITINEN *Kerttu the Pincher*
- 9 AKI-PEKKA SINIKOSKI & ILJA KARSIKAS *Under the Moon*
- 11 MALIN KLINGENBERG & SANNA MANDER *The Life of Fart*
- 13 TOMI KONTIO & ELINA WARSTA *A Dog Called Cat Meets a Cat*
- 15 ANNA HÄRMÄLÄ *Postcards from Grandma Flyaway*
- 17 HANNAMARI RUOHONEN *Kaisa and Oskar's Book of Outings*
- 19 KRISTIINA LÄHDE & JULIA VUORI *Archie in the Spring*

Illustrated Children's Nonfiction

- 21 CARLOS DA CRUZ *Scalebook series*
- 23 VIRPI KAARINA TALVITIE & ANNA SOFIA URRILA & HENNA-KAISA WIGREN & KIRSI-MARJA ZITTING *Close your Eyes, Iris!*

Children's Novels

- 25 ANJA PORTIN *Radio Popov*
- 27 VUOKKO HURME *Belle's Secret*
- 29 EVA FRANTZ *Raspberry Hill*
- 31 ALEXANDRA SALMELA & LINDA BONDESTAM *Fantasticle Friend*
- 33 MALIN KLINGENBERG *The Senior Squad series*
- 35 KARIN ERLANDSSON *Song of the Eye Gemstone series*
- 37 VUOKKO HURME *Rotation series*

Backlist highlights

See page 38–42



Illustrated
Children's
Fiction



Sanna Pelliccioni (b. 1976) is an award-winning illustrator and children's author. Maami Snellman (b. 1970) is a literary arts teacher and children's author. Kiti Szalai (b. 1971) is a Finnish language and literature teacher.

Sanna Pelliccioni & Maami Snellman & Kiti Szalai

I Remember You with Love

When Alma and Diego celebrate the Day of the Dead, they feel heavy with sadness and buoyant with joy.

When Alma's beloved grandmother dies, the world becomes a quiet place. Her mother sits at the window, looking out. Her father's days weigh on his shoulders as he goes to the store, cooks a meal.

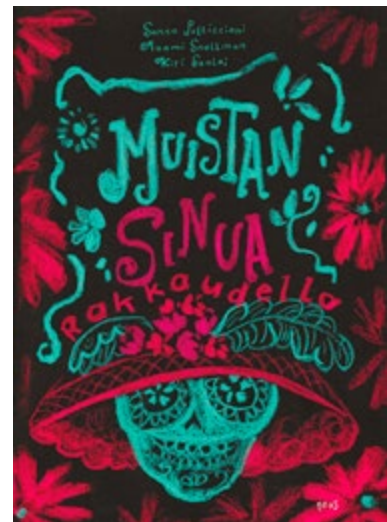
One day Alma's classmate Diego approaches her at recess and says that, like her, he misses his *abuelo*—his grandpa, who died in the spring. Soon Diego and his family invite Alma and her parents to a big party where they remember the dead.

Celebrating the Mexican *Día de Muertos*, Alma and her family experience a new way to grieve and remember loved ones who have died in this story, joyful in its sadness and sensitively illustrated by Sanna Pelliccioni.

“As they sit around the table they tell all the best stories of Alma's grandma and Diego's abuelo. Memories flutter through the room, climb up the wallpaper, peep out from between the curtains.”

“The book offers another, beautiful way to face death. Death does not have to create a dark and gloomy cloud that covers all, but it can be faced with joy. [...] The book is beautiful with its dark shades, a bit mystical, especially warm. The crayon illustrations take the reader to a journey from one culture to another.”

Sivukukkasia blog



Muistan sinua rakkaudella

Teos Publishers, 2020, 40 pp.

READING MATERIAL

Finnish original, English translation

RIGHTS INFORMATION

Helsinki Literary Agency
info@helsinkiliteraryagency.fi

ALSO AVAILABLE

We Had to Leave (Meidän piti lähteä, 2019)



Illustrated
Children's
Fiction



Pauliina Vanhatalo (b. 1979) is a writer who has published numerous novels, autofictional works and popular fiction. *Kerttu the Pincher* is her first children's book. Anna Emilia Laitinen (b. 1983) has illustrated numerous books, many of them for French and Italian publishing houses. She is a winner of the Finnish Illustration Association's Kaiku Prize. *Kerttu the Pincher* is the fifth children's book she has illustrated.

Pauliina Vanhatalo & Anna Emilia Laitinen (illustrations)

Kerttu the Pincher

*Kerttu K has two hands and ten fingers,
and at the tip of each finger is a long nail.*

Kerttu thinks her family is mostly completely boring: her mother, her father, and her brother too. No one listens to her, understands her or pays her enough attention. But Kerttu has her methods: when she isn't noticed, she pinches people!

In the end the rest of the family has had enough, and Kerttu loses her lovely long nails. She is very cross – but luckily her mum understands the reason.

Pauliina Vanhatalo's first children's book bears the message that we all have our own inner worlds, which need space and which make us unique. Anna Emilia Laitinen's water-colour illustrations are tender and charming.

“There's something I should have told you,” Mum says, wiping the tears from Kerttu's cheek.

It sounds like a secret. And maybe it is, a bit, for Mum tells her that there is another world inside everyone. It is a world of imagination, thinking, planning, dreaming and play. Memories are kept there. That's where you look for answers to questions. And it's where dreams come from.”



Nipistäjä-Kerttu

S&S, 2019, 46 pp.

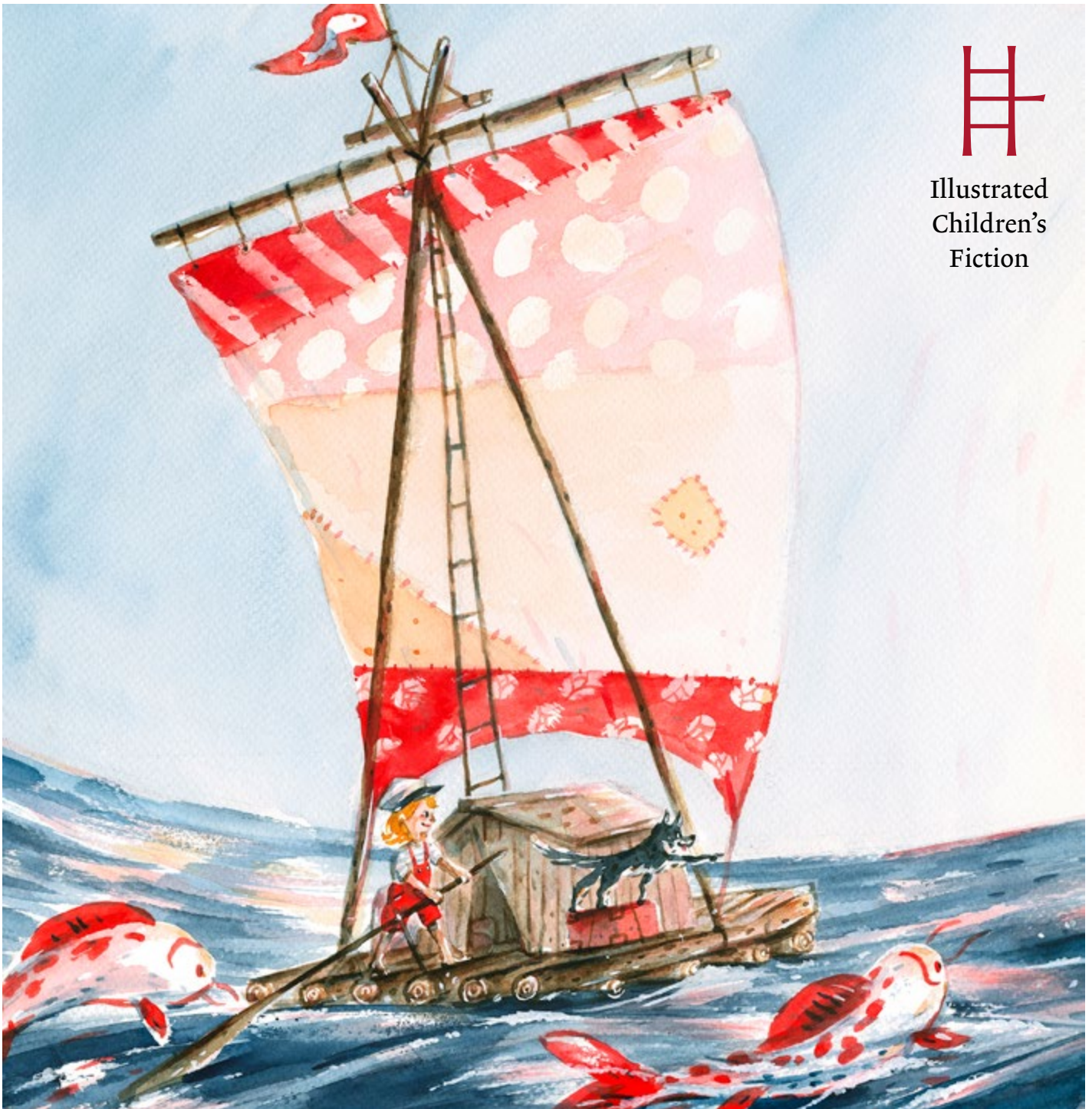
READING MATERIAL

Finnish original, English translation

RIGHTS INFORMATION

Helsinki Literary Agency
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Illustrated
Children's
Fiction

Aki-Pekka Sinikoski (b. 1978) is a photographer. His photos have been exhibited in Sydney, New York and Moscow. *Under the Moon* is his first book for children. Ilja Karsikas (b. 1978) is an illustrator who works in the field of art and visual design. He has illustrated several children's books.

Aki-Pekka Sinikoski & Ilja Karsikas

Under the Moon

A sensitive and wistful book about existence, the purpose of life, and a strange adventure.

“When I was a child my mum flew up to heaven. She worked at the circus and that night they shot her up in the air as usual. But it wasn’t an ordinary night. It was a magic night. After she flew up, she never came down again. She just flew and flew. First through the tent, then through the clouds, all the way to the moon. Now she sits up there on the moon. I’ve seen her many times. She often smiles.”

The evening bath takes the child of the story to a deserted island where odd friends reflect on life while they make fish soup and pancakes. In between they play chess and look for things to find on the beach.

But then God rings up and says that it’s time to go home as Dad is waiting.

Aki-Pekka Sinikoski makes his debut as an author with a warm and philosophical text that receives a precise and personal accompaniment from Ilja Karsikas’ watercolour illustrations. In *Under the Moon*, they create a magical world where sadness, but also beauty and absurdity, have a place. This sensitive and wistful book about the meaning of love, existence and the purpose of life brings to mind children’s classics of world literature like Antoine de Saint-Exupéry’s *The Little Prince*.



Under månen | *Kuun valossa*

Schildts & Söderströms | S&S 2020, 40 pp.

READING MATERIAL

Swedish original, Finnish original,
English translation

RIGHTS INFORMATION

Helsinki Literary Agency
info@helsinkiliteraryagency.fi





Illustrated
Children's
Books



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 illustratr 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; Estonia,
Tänäpäev; Sweden, Rabén & Sjögren

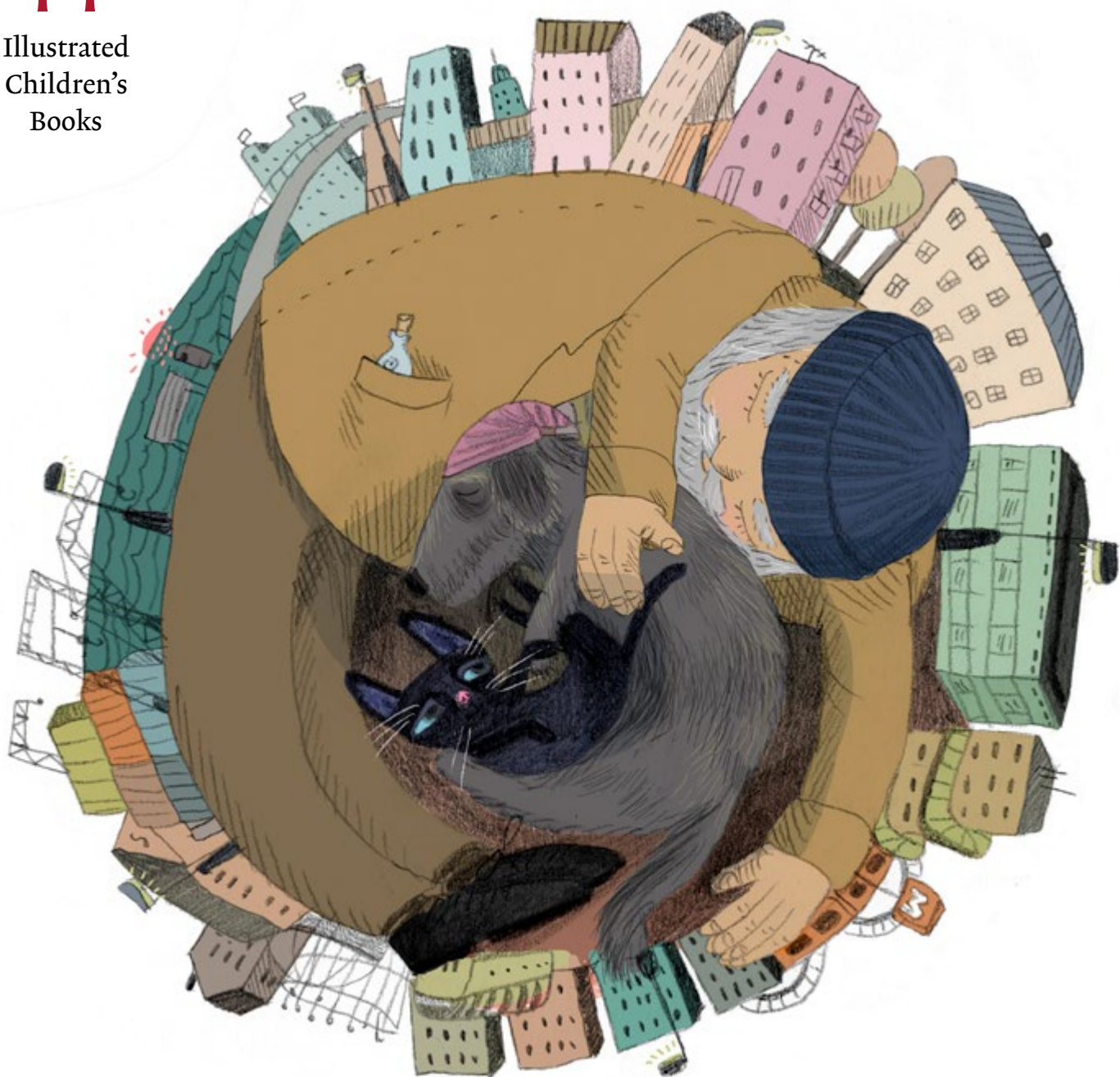
RIGHTS INFORMATION

Helsinki Literary Agency
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Illustrated
Children's
Books



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. Elna 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. *A Dog Called Cat Meets a Cat* was nominated for the Finlandia Junior Prize in 2019, and it was the readers' favourite in the competition.

ALSO AVAILABLE

A Dog Called Cat (*Koira nimeltään kissa*, 2015)

Rights sold: Estonia, Päike ja pilv; Lithuania, Niekio rimto; Spain, Lata de Sal



Koira nimeltään Kissa tapaa kissan

Teos Publishers, 2019, 40 pp.

READING MATERIAL

Finnish original, English translation

RIGHTS SOLD

Estonia, Päike ja pilv

RIGHTS INFORMATION

Helsinki Literary Agency
info@helsinkiagency.fi





Illustrated
Children's
Fiction



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 | Posti-
kortteja mummi Muuttolinnulta*

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

READING MATERIAL

Swedish original, Finnish translation,
English translation

RIGHTS SOLD

Turkey, Dinozor Çocuk (Ayrıntı Yayınları)

RIGHTS INFORMATION

Helsinki Literary Agency
info@helsinkiliteraryagency.fi





Illustrated
Children's
Fiction



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

ALSO AVAILABLE

My Lost Mother (Kadonnut äitini, 2017)

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



Kaisan ja Oskarin retkikirja

S&S, 2019, 32 pp.

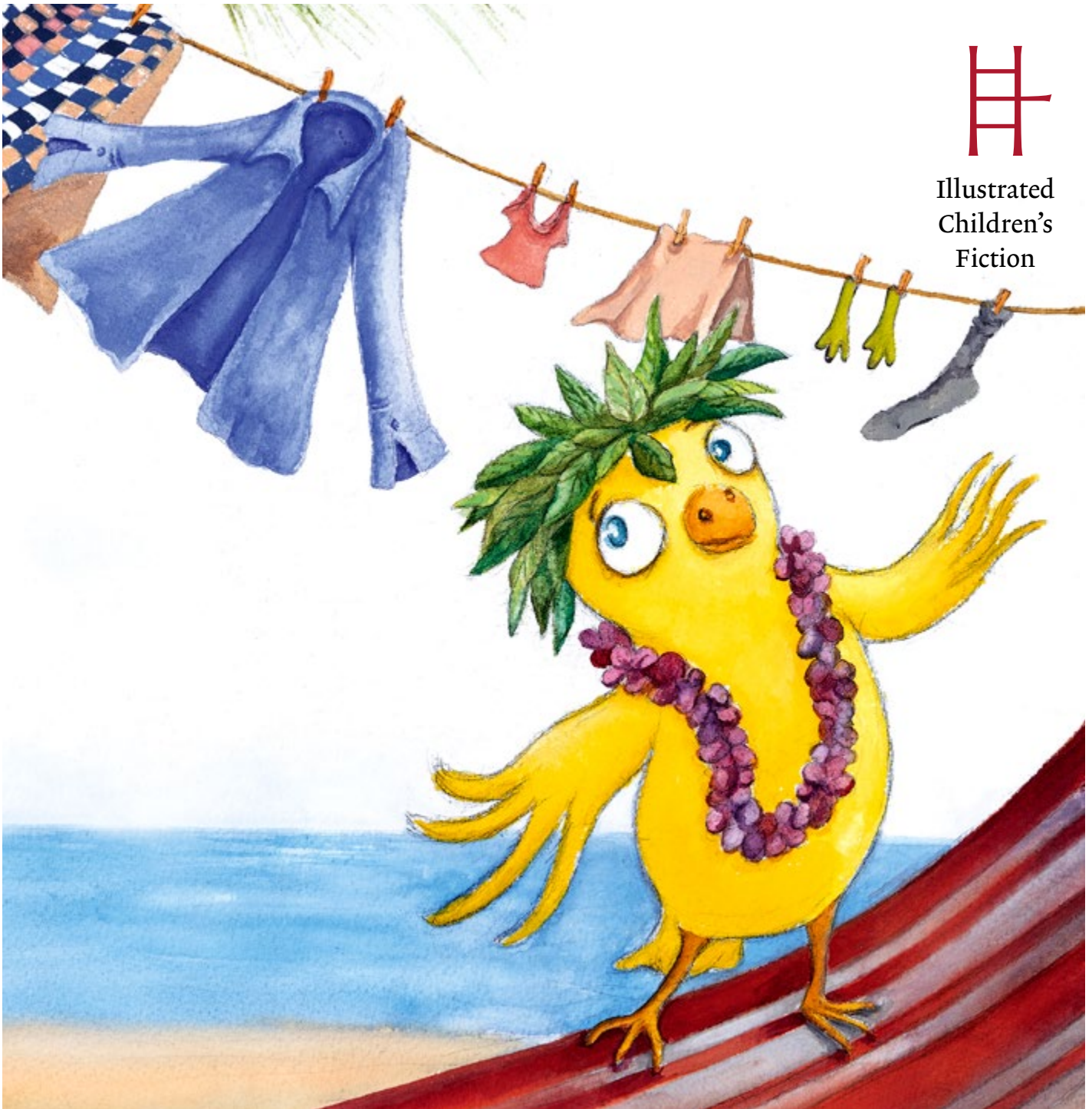
READING MATERIAL

Finnish original, English translation

RIGHTS INFORMATION

Helsinki Literary Agency
info@helsinkiagency.fi





Illustrated
Children's
Fiction

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.

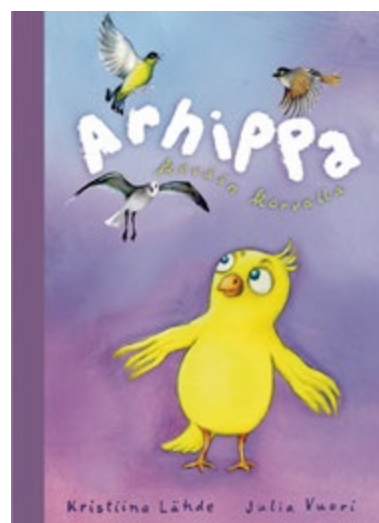
The friends set out to follow the light, and they bring a mysterious work of art with them as they go to meet the northern spring. Little Archie realizes that she is part of a great family of birds and that the earth is as small as a grain of millet. But the most important thing she learns is something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

ALSO AVAILABLE

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



Arhippa kevään korvalla

Teos Publishers, 2019, 34 pp.

READING MATERIAL

Finnish original, English translation

RIGHTS INFORMATION

Helsinki Literary Agency
info@helsinkiagency.fi



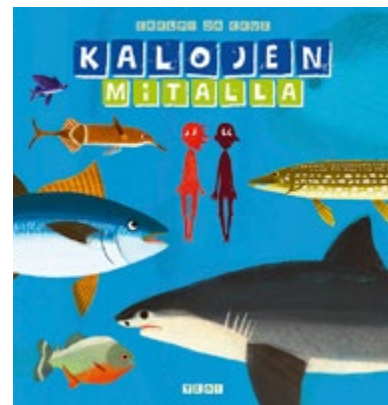
*Animal Scalebook,
Scalebook #1*

Eläinten mitalla
Teos Publishers, 2016, 36 pp.



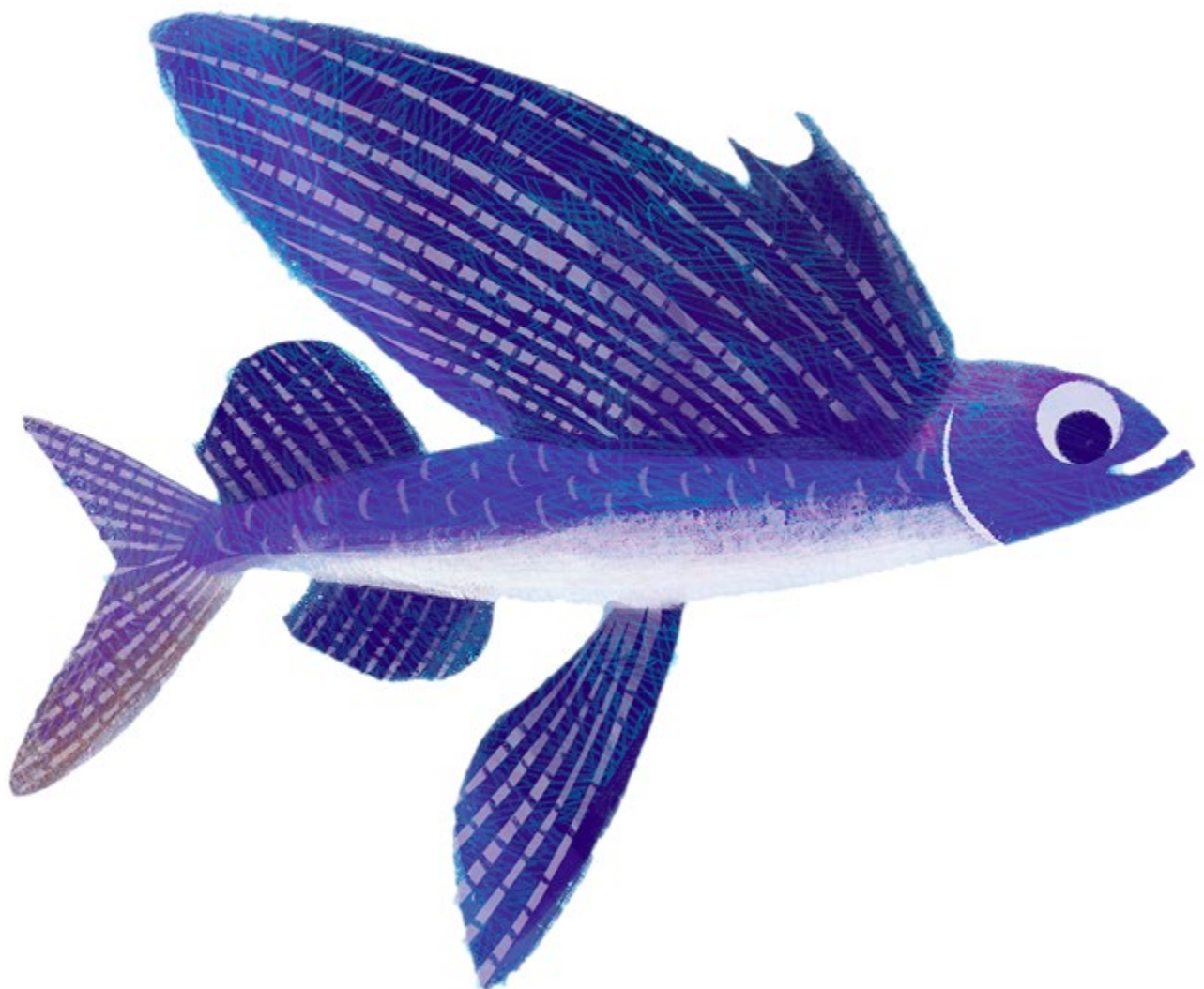
*Dinosaur Scalebook,
Scalebook #2*

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 micro-raptor, 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

Helsinki Literary Agency
info@helsinkiagency.fi





Illustrated
Children's
Nonfiction



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

Helsinki Literary Agency
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Children's
novels



© Miikka Pirinen

Anja Portin (b. 1971) is a Helsinki-based writer who has previously written children's books, essays, non-fiction and a novel (*Obituary*, 2019). She has studied comparative literature and law at the Universities of Helsinki and Turku, and has worked as a journalist and an editor.

Anja Portin

Radio Popov

What if you were all alone in the world – but one night you discovered that the Sharp Ears always hear you when you sigh?

Nine-year-old Alfred lives virtually alone. His mother has disappeared long ago, and his father, who stays away on business trips, doesn't always seem to remember that Alfred exists. One night, Alfred sets off in the company of the mysterious Sneak, who puts things through letter-boxes – not just newspapers, but apples, woollen socks and sandwiches.

Thus begins an unforgettable adventure that changes everything, and not just for Albert. Sneak turns out the eccentric Amanda Lehtimaja, a paperwoman who is one of the Sharp Ears. At Amanda's home Alfred finds an old radio transmitter designed by a Russian physicist, A. S. Popov. He starts making a secret, nightly radio broadcast that all the other forgotten children in the city listen to.

But how can Amanda and Alfred help the children, and what will Alfred's father do when he notices that his son is gone? And who exactly are the Sharp Ears?

“Some stories start with a trivial little whimsical idea, like someone deciding to find out if they would sleep better on the hallway floor than in their own bed. Like I decided to do one night.”

Radio Popov is an exciting and humorous, warm-hearted story that brings to mind the most beloved classics of children's literature, like the fairy tale novels of Astrid Lindgren.



Radio Popov

S&S, September 2020, c. 250 pp.

READING MATERIAL

Finnish original (available in June 2020),
English sample, English synopsis

RIGHTS INFORMATION

Helsinki Literary Agency
info@helsinkiliteraryagency.fi



Children's
novels



© Tuure Hurme

Vuokko Hurme (b. 1979) is a children's author based in Helsinki whose output includes nonfiction, novels and picture books for children. Her middle-grade trilogy, *Rotation*, has been published to a wide critical acclaim. Hurme has also worked as an art educator and led colour workshops at the Espoo School of Fine Arts.

Vuokko Hurme

Belle's Secret

*What if you could move objects
by willpower?*

Belle's family has a secret: they have wonderful powers of colour. The Colourfuls are able to control the colours of their own possessions, and they can handle them and move them about by willpower. Belle's colour is red and her big sister Mary's is blue, while their little brother Tapio is still looking for his colour and practising hard.

When the Colourfuls, hiding their secret skills, move into the Gertrude Rinne condominium, something changes: Belle no longer wants to be an eternal outsider. She wants to play in the yard with the other children. So she has to make an impression on her new friends—at all costs.

On top of all this, Belle's head is turned by a charming but mischievous girl named Liia. And what is the strange greyness that threatens not just the Colourfuls but everyone else as well?

Belle's Secret is the first book of four books about the Colourful family. Reetta Niemensivu's expressive line drawing illustrations complete the text with red finishing touches.

"Hurme has an amazing ability to create new worlds and bold, multi-dimensional characters."

The Literary Lore Blog on
the *Rotation* series

ALSO AVAILABLE

Upside Down (Rotation #1, Kiepaus, 2017)
Rights sold: Turkey, Can

Right-Side Up (Rotation #2, Kaipaus, 2018)
Rights sold: Turkey, Can

About-Turn (Rotation #3, Keikaus, 2019)



Tiukun salaisuus | *Värikkäät* #1

S&S, August 2020, c. 200 pp.

READING MATERIAL

Finnish original, English sample,
English synopsis

RIGHTS INFORMATION

Helsinki Literary Agency
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Children's
novels



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Eva Frantz (b. 1980) works as a journalist at 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 three novels so far: *The Blue Villa* (2017), *The Eighth Maiden* (2018), which was awarded as the best crime novel of the year and nominated for the Nordic Glass Key Award, and *Out of the Game* (2020). 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



Hallonbacken

Schildts & Söderströms, 2018, 150 pp.

READING MATERIAL

Swedish original, English sample,
English synopsis

RIGHTS SOLD

Bulgaria, Perseus

RIGHTS INFORMATION

Helsinki Literary Agency
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Children's
Novels



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 Stormbeard.

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

Helsinki Literary Agency
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*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.



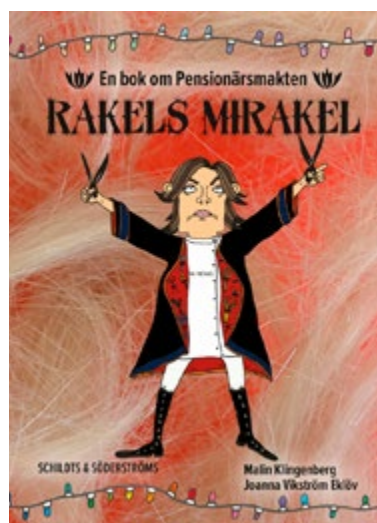
*Fake Bernice,
The Senior Squad #3*

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.

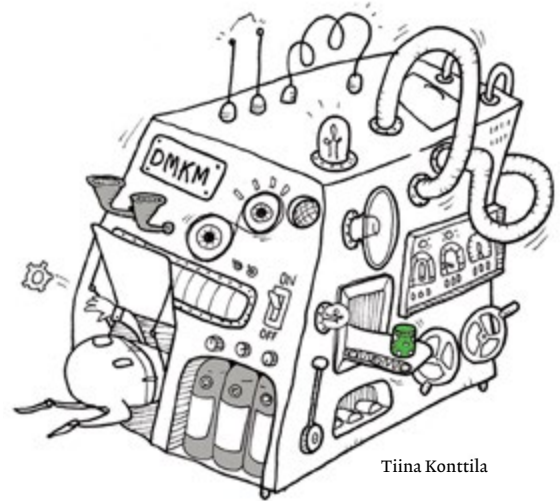
In a small-town school a boy sits in a class room, deep in thought. He's called Patrik, and today will be the most exciting day of his life, although he doesn't know it yet.

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.



Tiina Konttila

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 SOLD

Bulgaria, Perseus (books #1–4)

RIGHTS INFORMATION

Helsinki Literary Agency
info@helsinkiagency.fi



*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.

RUNEBERG JUNIOR PRIZE 2018

WINNER OF A CHILDREN'S NOVEL COMPETITION BY SCHILDTS & SÖDERSTRÖMS PUBLISHERS

NOMINEE FOR THE ARVID LYDECKEN PRIZE

NOMINEE FOR THE NORDIC COUNCIL LITERATURE PRIZE

Karin Erlandsson

Song of the Eye Gemstone series

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

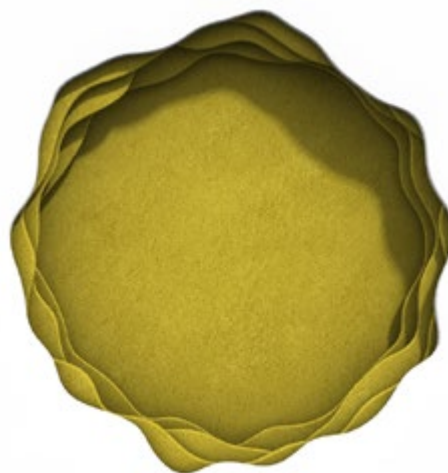
There is a kingdom where the bottom of the ocean is covered with colourful pearls. There is one pearl that everyone wants – the eye gemstone. The story says that whoever finds it will never need to long for anything anymore, and generation after generation people have left their families to search for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

Bulgaria, Perseus (books #1–3); 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 prestigious 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).



*Upside Down,
Rotation #1*

Kiepaus
S&S, 2017, 248 pp.



*Right-Side Up,
Rotation #2*

Kaipaus
S&S, 2018, 320 pp.



*About-Turn,
Rotation #3*

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.

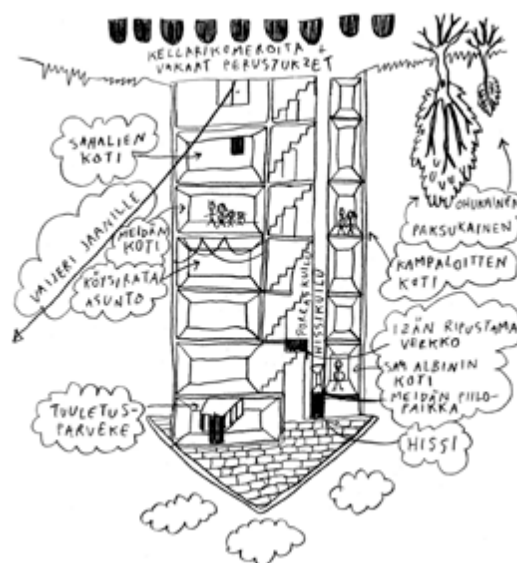
The incident that everyone refers to as “The Rotation” has changed everything, but people have learned to get along in their upside down world. They move from house to house with the help of ropes and special gear. They enjoy simple lives without running water or electricity.

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



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 SOLD

Can, Turkey (books #1–2)

RIGHTS INFORMATION

Helsinki Literary Agency
info@helsinkiliteraryagency.fi

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.



Kari Hotakainen

Children's Book

Siltala Publishing, 2016 [1990], 130 pp.

RIGHTS SOLD

Estonia, Tänapäev



Maija Hurme & Anssi Hurme

Batboy

Schildts & Söderströms | S&S, 2014, 28 pp.



Maija Hurme & Anssi Hurme

Shadowed

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

RIGHTS SOLD

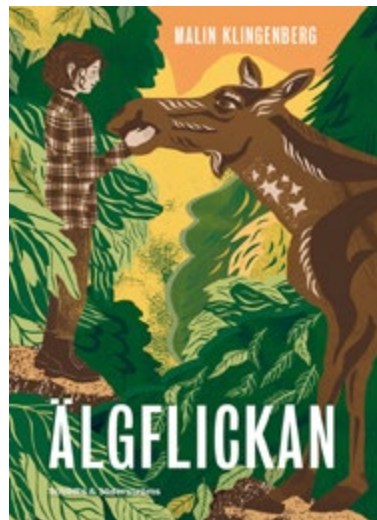
Czech, Cesta domů



Helmi Kekkonen & Aino Louhi

Topsy-turvy Anna

S&S, 2019, 48 pp.



Malin Klingenberg

Elk Girl

Schildts & Söderströms, 2018, 190 pp.

RIGHTS SOLD

Germany, dtv



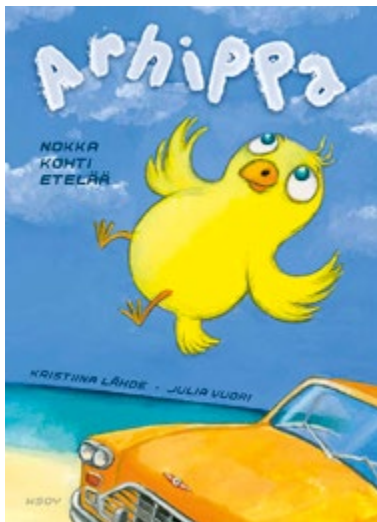
Tomi Kontio & Elina Warsta

A Dog Called Cat

Teos Publishers, 2015, 32 pp.

RIGHTS SOLD

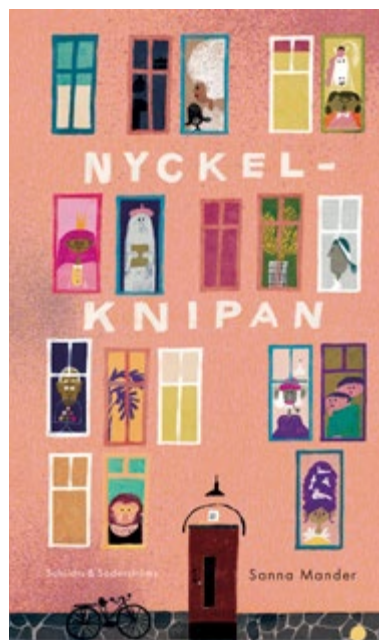
Estonia, Päike ja pilv; Lithuania, Nieko rimto; Spain, Lata de Sal



Kristiina Lähde & Julia Vuori

Archie Goes South

WSOY, 2016, 30 pp.



Sanna Mander

The Lost Key

Schildts & Söderströms | S&S, 2017, 40 pp.



Sanna Mander & Anna Sarve

The Spectacular Book of Princesses

Schildts & Söderströms, 2018, 72 pp.

RIGHTS SOLD

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



Hiroko Motai & Marika Maijala

Million Billion Santa Clauses

Schildts & Söderströms, 2014, 40 pp.

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



Sanna Pelliccioni

We Had to Leave

S&S, 2019, 48 pp.



Karoliina Pertamo

Bunny Likes

Schildts & Söderströms | S&S, 2018, 18 pp.



Hannamari Ruohonen

My Lost Mother

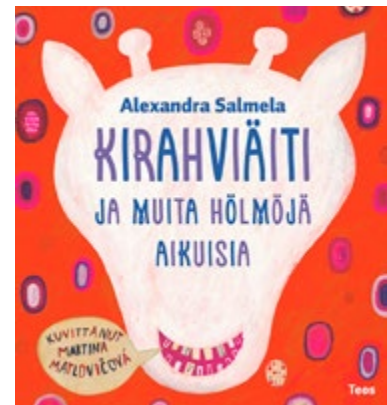
S&S, 2017, 30 pp.



Hannamari Ruohonen

Kaisa and Oskar's Book of Favourites

S&S, 2018, 30 pp.



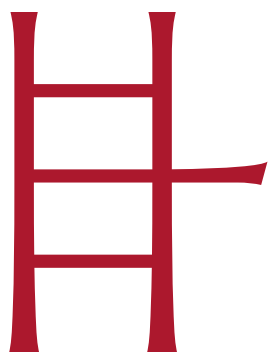
Alexandra Salmela &
Martina Matlovičová

Mother Giraffe and Other Silly Adults

Teos Publishers, 2013, 94 pp.

RIGHTS SOLD

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



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. (For titles published in Sweden, get in touch with Norstedts Agency, www.norstedtsagency.se.)

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 Pauliina Vanhatalo & Anna Emilia Laitinen's *Kerttu the Pincher* (2020) and Tomi Kontio & Elina Warsta's *A Dog Called Cat Meets a Cat* (2019).

