



Children's and YA books

Fiction

Non-fiction

SLE

SWEDISH
LITERATURE
EXCHANGE

NEW SWEDISH BOOKS

Autumn 2020 |

WELCOME TO THE SWEDISH BOOK YEAR OF 2020!

Never before has New Swedish Books presented this many books, selected by so many knowledgeable literature enthusiasts, as it does this autumn. As the critics pointed out, in one of the group panels recorded in connection with the Gothenburg Book Fair, it has been a fantastic year for Swedish literature!

Swedish Literature Exchange invited a group of critics to talk about their favourite books published so far this year. You can read more about these titles in the section 'Critic's Choice'. Daring prose, dynamic non-fiction, future classic children's and young adult literature, novels that shake their readers up – it's all there!

What's brand new this year is the section called 'Jury's Choice'. In this section we have included books represented by Swedish literary agencies. They nominated titles, from which the grants committee, who usually are in charge of assessing applications for translation grants, made a selection. Here too we find an equally dazzling array of books that all deserve to be published in translation.

We say thank you to all the literary experts that have taken part in creating this new New Swedish Books – without your enthusiasm and great expertise such an abundant smorgasbord of books could not have happened!

Enjoy!

Susanne Bergström Larsson,
Head of Swedish Literature Exchange

Maria Antas,
Editor New Swedish Books

www.swedishliterature.se

THE CRITICS

In three panel discussions, recorded by Swedish Literature Exchange, 11 critics present their favourites from this year's publications. The conversations are divided by genre: fiction, books for children and young adults, and non-fiction. You can watch the films on our website, www.swedishliterature.se. The conversations are subtitled in English so as to make it easy to follow what's being said. All of the books that inspired the critics are also presented here in written form. Watch, listen and read!

Photo: Ulrika Campbell



Hanna Jedvik is an arts journalist, critic and writer with previous experience working for the Swedish public radio (SR) and television (SVT) as well as the newspaper Göteborgs-Posten. Her latest young adult novel *På andra sidan bron* was published in August 2020.

Photo: Johannes W Berg



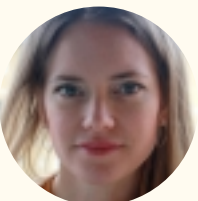
Johanna Stenlund runs one of Sweden's most popular book blogs @barnensboktips. Since 2016 she has surveyed and reviewed current publications of children's and young adult books in Swedish. She also freelances as a 'reading promoter', giving book tips on the radio and in printed media, as well as running digital book clubs for children.

Photo: Hans Orstadius



Lotta Olsson has worked at the daily newspaper Dagens Nyheter since 1987 and from 2001 has intermittently been the editor of children's and young adult book reviews. Additionally she has her own column where, every other week, she recommends her favourite books – often crime, popular literature or classics.

Photo: Johan Åhrström



Malin Nauwerck is a literature critic as well as a culture editor. She is also a researcher in comparative literature at the Swedish Institute for Children's Books, where she is responsible for a course on writing children's book criticism and is leading the first ever research project on Swedish author Astrid Lindgren's original manuscripts.

Photo: Peter Cederling



Yukiko Duke is a literary critic, translator and the artistic director of the literary festival 'Stockholm Literature'.

Photo: Annika von Hausswolff



Jenny Högström is a critic, translator and writer living in Gothenburg. Her criticism is published in daily newspapers including, for example, Aftonbladet Kultur, HD/Sydsvenskan and Göteborgs-Posten. In 2015 Högström debuted with the erotic novel *Achtung Blitzkrieg*, illustrated by Lars Krantz.

Photo: Swedish Arts Council



Jonas Thente is the literary editor of the daily newspaper Dagens Nyheter and a literary translator from English, Danish and Norwegian. He was previously a researcher in literature at the University of Lund and an editor at the Göteborgs-Posten newspaper.

Photo: Viktor Gårdsäter



Helena Granström is an author who has studied both theoretical physics and mathematics. Her 2008 debut was the essay *Alltings mått*. Since then Granström has published work across several different genres, most recently the novel *Betydelsen av kärlek*. Her writing regularly appears on the culture pages of the newspapers Expressen, Svenska Dagbladet and Sydsvenskan, and she is a frequent contributor on Swedish Public Radio (SR).

Photo: Mattias Burel



Henrik Brändén is a science writer and lecturer in biomedical natural sciences with a background in immunology research. He has produced several textbooks and works of popular science.

Photo: Natalie Grepp



Ingrid Elam is a professor emerita of literary composition and a non-fiction writer. She is also a literary critic at the Swedish daily Dagens Nyheter and on Swedish television. Between 1988 and 2000 she was the culture editor of three daily newspapers, among them Göteborgs-Posten and Dagens Nyheter. From 2012 until 2018 she was the Dean of the Faculty of Fine, Applied and Performing Arts at the University of Gothenburg.

Photo: Caroline Andersson



Moa Matthiis is a non-fiction author and critic. She has a Ph.D. in English Literature and is at present Senior Lecturer at Konstfack, University of Arts, Crafts and Design.

THE JURY

New in New Swedish Books: a selection of titles published in 2020 that Swedish literary agents currently are working with, trying to reach new readers in new languages. They have nominated books and the Arts Council's grants committee, who also read and assess books that foreign publishers seek translation grants for, have then acted as the jury. Together they have found many great titles, in all genres. The presentations of the books were delivered by the agencies. The jury's joint assessment of each book is added as a quotation on each page.

Photo: Martin Vallin



Cecilia Hansson is an author. Her debut in 2002 was the poetic story *Revbensdagar, morgnar*. Her latest book is the novel *Au Pair* from 2019. She is also active as a journalist (with a focus on Central Europe), literary critic, and as a translator of poetry from German.

Photo: Petr Shorely



Håkan Lindquist is a writer of fiction for both young people and adults. In his latest book *Ariel tjugofyra/sju*, the 10-year-old titular hero tells the story of a childhood marked by vulnerability and insecurity. He is also a translator, a photographer and librettist – as well as a cat-owner.

Photo: Gabriel Liljeval



Annina Rabe is a literary critic for, amongst others, Expressen and the Swedish public radio (SR). She regularly lectures on Swedish literature. She has co-written several books, including *Tusen svenska klassiker. Böcker, filmer, skivor, tv-program från 1956 till idag*, where she was responsible for the literature section, and most recently *Kris, kalas och kolhydrater* with Anna Hellsten.

Photo: Frank Svarten



Martin Hellström is Senior Lecturer in children's literature at the Linnæus University. He is currently reading the work of Swedish children's author Maria Gripe together with a group of children – a project which, in 2021, is due to culminate in a book. He also directs several children's theatre groups and reviews fiction in the daily newspaper Dagens Nyheter.

Photo: Snezana Vucetic Bohm



Kristina Hoas has an MA in Literary Studies and specializes in children's publishing. She has previously worked as a librarian, with a focus on literature for children and young adults

CHILDREN'S AND YOUNG ADULT BOOKS

Critic's choice

AFTER THE STORM

Malin
Nauwerck's
choice

...warning... crackle... very strong north-westerly winds. Sam lives on an island where it's often stormy. In a dream she hears on the radio about a plane disappearing. At the same time a rope finds its way into her bedroom, a rope that seems to want her to follow it, through the bedroom door and out into the snowy forest. The rope guides Sam across fallen trees and ravines to a dream-aeroplane waiting to take her away from the island.

In this debut by artist Ida-Lovisa Rudolfsson the textile collage is used to create a literal example of 'following the thread'. Playfully, she lets the rope wind its way across a landscape of embroidered birch trees, yellow skies and frozen, shimmering green lakes, transforming it into a swing, a line or a lasso.

After the Storm combines an international picture book tradition with contemporary textile art in an aesthetically original dream-story about play and longing

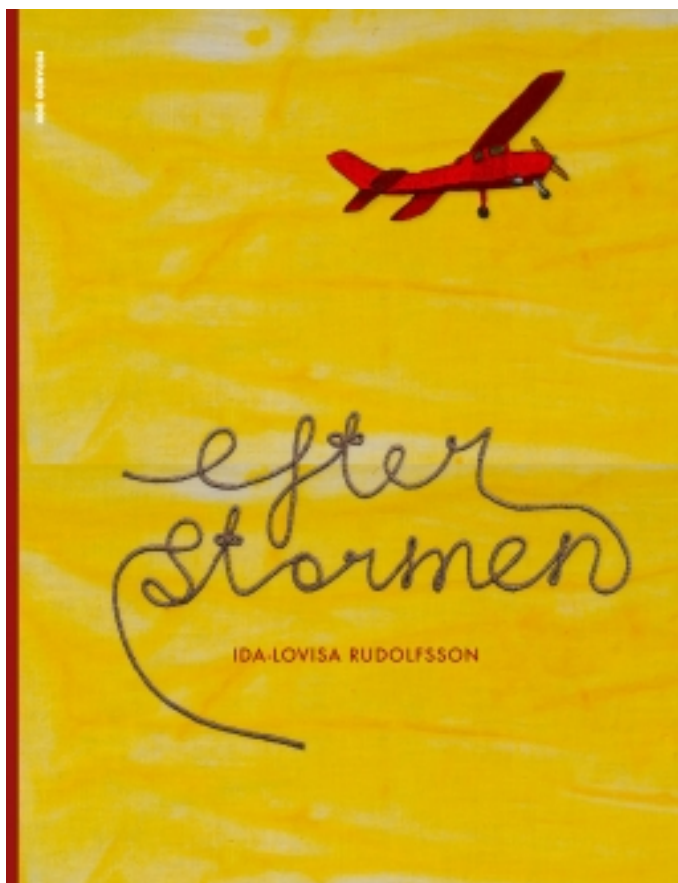


Photo: Ola Kjølbye



Ida-Lovisa Rudolfsson

Rudolfsson is a textile artist, now publishing her first book.

Picturebook, 3–6 years, 40 p.	Publisher Mirando bok	Rights Koja Agency Carin Bacho carin.bacho@kojaagency.com
Ida-Lovisa Rudolfsson		

THE CHILD WHO COULDN'T CLOSE HER EYES

Lotta Olsson's
choice



Anna Höglund has created several picture books for older children yet *The Child Who Couldn't Close Her Eyes* is a story for all ages with its mythological and biblical references, as in its opening lines: "And it came to pass..." It's a story for those brave enough to read past the horror-like cover where the child's eyes have been cut out like holes through to the pages behind. An abandoned child who sees too much is cared for by a blind dog rummaging for food on a rubbish heap. The story teems with symbolism as Anna Höglund, seemingly quite casually, draws glasses and windows to look through, or includes a green praying mantis that knows more than the others and a green ball of yarn, which becomes a link between the dog and the child. It is a book to read over and over again – a tiny Bible about finding each other and yourself.

Photo: Stefan Tell



Anna Höglund

Selected works

Mina och Kåge 1995

Om detta talar man endast

med kaniner 2013

Titta Hamlet 2017

Selected awards

Deutscher Jugendliteratur-

preis 1995 Augustpriset 1996

Astrid Lindgren-priset 2016

Picturebook, 5+ years, 32 p.	Publisher Lilla Piratförlaget	Rights Lilla Piratförlaget Linda Widman linda@lillapiratforlaget.se
Anna Höglund		

HUMLAN HANSSON'S SECRETS

Johanna
Stenlund's
choice

When Humlan returns to school after having chicken pox nothing is the same. Her best friend Nour has started playing with the super dangerous Horse Girls and suddenly Humlan is without her pal. And if it wasn't enough to be worrying about your secrets getting out, Humlan is also concerned with her aunt Fanny. She who loses her spark from time to time.

Humlan Hansson's Secrets is an honest story with profound depth and plenty of humour. Kristina Sigunsdotter and Ester Eriksson create a universe somewhere between fact and fiction, reminiscent of Barbro Lindgren's narrative voice. Words and images sprawl across the pages yet keep a continuous forward motion. Humlan shares her darkness as well as her laughter and I really hope we will read more about her rich inner life

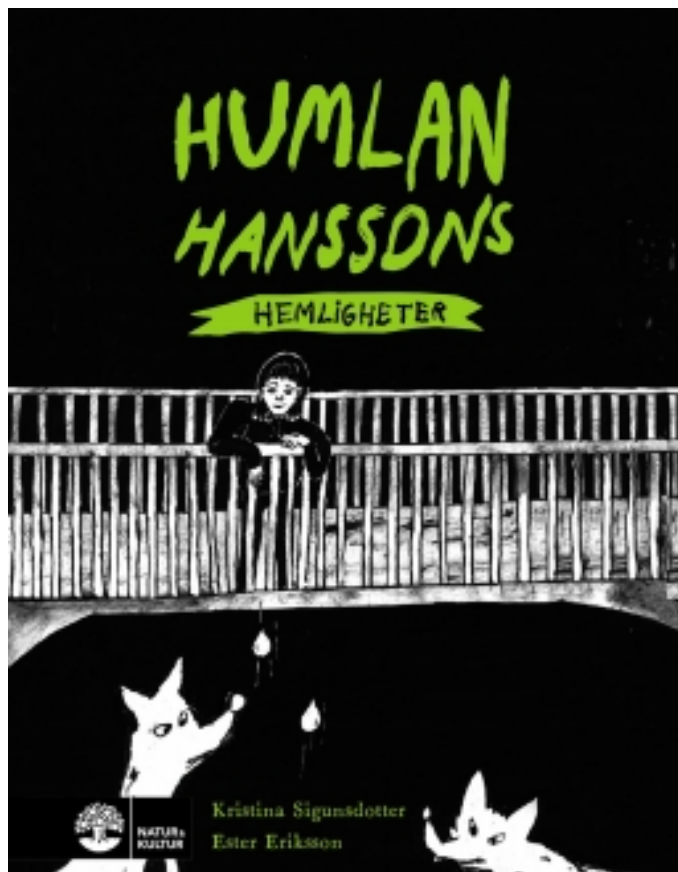


Photo: Anthony Hill



**Kristina Sigunsdotter
and Ester Eriksson**

Selected works

Kristina Sigunsdotter:

Min krokodil tror att den är en racerbil 2017 and *Kryptosapiens. Ett omänskligt äventyr* 2019

Ester Eriksson:

Det finns ingenstans att fly 2016 and *Jag, Esters rester* 2017

Selected awards

Kristina Sigunsdotter:

Västmanlands kulturstipendium 2010
Västerås kulturstipendium 2013

Photo: Anna Drvnik



Children's fiction, 9–12 years , 107 p.	Publisher Natur & Kultur	Rights Koja Agency Carin Bacho carin.bacho@kojaagency.com
Kristina Sigunsdotter, Ester Eriksson (ill.)		

THE LAND OF LINDWORMS

Malin
Nauwerck's
choice

The multi award-winning author Frida Nilsson has been called Astrid Lindgren's successor. In her latest fantasy story *The Land of Lindworms* she once again examines big existential questions. Do adults have a right to have children? Do children have a right to be loved? Is it the law of nature that the strong must prey on the weak?

One day orphaned brothers Sem and Immer receive a proposal: if they come along to childless Queen Indra's castle they will live a life of luxury. Indra is an ancient being, a lindworm, whose servants are badgers, foxes and bears. But Sem quickly grows suspicious. Not only are Indra's animals behaving strangely, Sem wonders if it really is a human child that she so longs for?

Frida Nilsson's loyalty to the child's perspective is unmistakable in this story about the true nature of evil, instinct and love.



Photo: Ellinor Collin



Frida Nilsson

Selected works

Hedvig! 2005
Apstjärnan 2005
Ishavspirater 2014

Selected awards

Les Olympiades 2012
Astrid Lindgren-priset 2014
Nils Holgersson-plaketten 2016

Children's fiction, 6–9 years, 415 p.	Publisher Natur & Kultur	Rights Koja Agency Carin Bacho carin.bacho@kojaagency.com
Frida Nilsson		

THE MISSING

Lotta
Olsson's
choice

Järvshöga is a typical village in the north of Sweden – except that it houses the country's oldest boarding school. There's a constant tension: ordinary villagers against the rich boys from Stockholm. Sometimes, however, boys and men disappear from Järvshöga, and, as Julia discovers, no-one wants to talk about it. She goes to the regular village school but becomes involved when a boy disappears from the boarding school a few weeks before the winter solstice.

It is a clever fantasy tale for young adults that realistically tells a story about class differences, the boarding school's disturbing history, the antagonism between city and countryside, and the city-dweller's fear of nature. Because the silence of the forest is frightening, and it gets worse when it seems as if something unknown is out there in the winter darkness.

This is the first part of a planned trilogy.



Photo: Kajsa Göransson

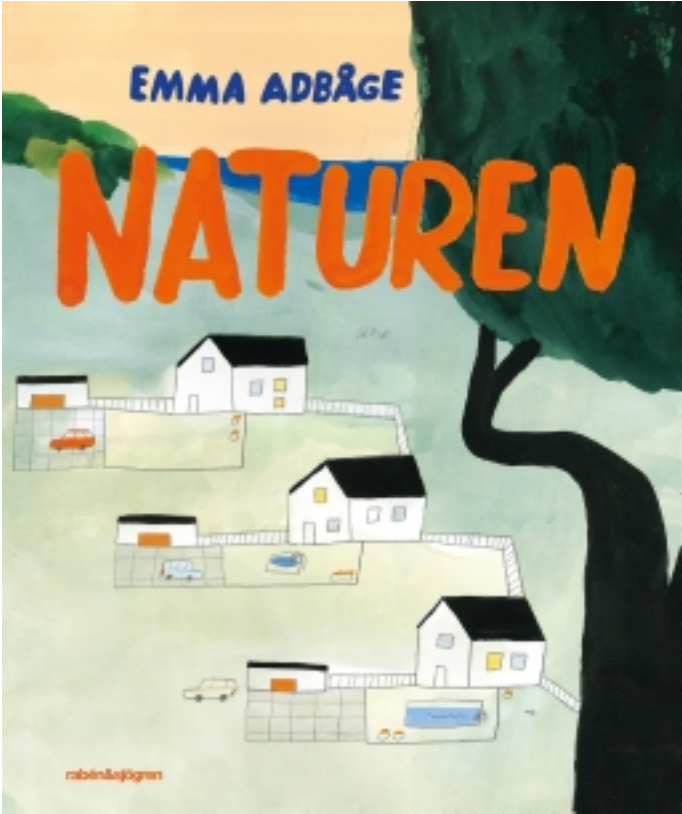


Camilla Sten Selected works

Together with her mother Viveca Sten she published the thriller series *Pledgelings*.
Staden 2019

YA novel, 380 p.	Publisher Rabén & Sjögren	Rights Nordin Agency Anna Frankl anna@nordinagency.se
Camilla Sten		

NATURE



In *Nature* Emma Adbåge depicts our complex relationship with nature, in a story marked by her characteristic wit and thoughtfulness. From what is clearly defined as a child's perspective she asks questions about our contradictory attitudes to nature. And she does this without central characters or even a proper plot. Instead it is a village and its surroundings that are at the centre. The villagers very much enjoy being in nature, but only when it's pretty and behaves the way they want it to. Not when the linden tree's leaves turn into brown goo on the ground, when too much snow falls, or when weeds take over the lawns. Instead the villagers want to tame nature. So they surface it with asphalt and build pools.

In her distinctive, slightly wonky images and kooky language, Emma Adbåge succeeds in describing climate crises and environmental destruction without becoming didactical. It is a down-to-earth and warm story of one of our time's most pressing issues.

Photo: Richard Gustafsson

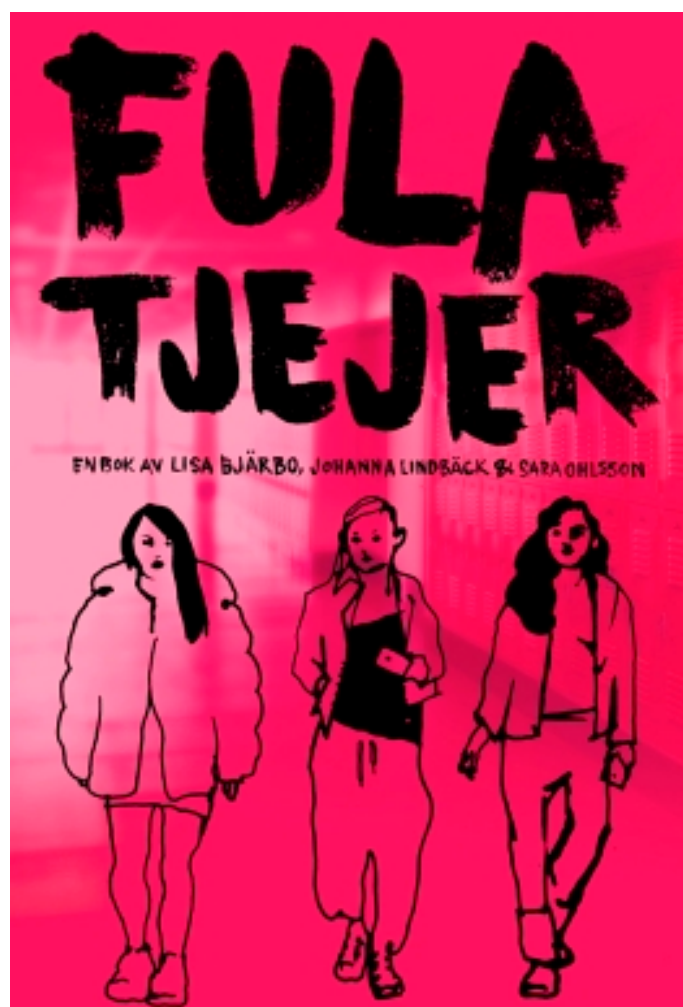


Emma Adbåge
Selected works
Vi hittar Smulbert 2009
Dumma teckning! 2017
Gropen 2018
Selected awards
Elsa Beskow-plaketten 2013
Augustpriset 2018
BMF-plaketten 2018

Picturebook, 3–6 years, 40 p.	Publisher Rabén & Sjögren	Rights Rabén & Sjögren Agency Åsa Bergman asa.bergman@rabensjogren.se
Emma Adbåge		

UGLY GIRLS

Hanna
Jedvik's
choice



Jasmine is the pretty girl with a mum who's an influencer with a massive following on social media. Eleni is the smart, slightly quirky, one. And Tilde is the new girl for whom life becomes total chaos when somebody in her new school creates the anonymous Instagram account "Ugly Girls". It is this trio that we in turn meet in Johanna Lindbäck, Lisa Bjärbo and Sara Ohlsson's shared literary project *Ugly Girls*.

When the account gets going terror spreads like wildfire through the school – no one wants their face to be published and no girl is safe. Not even the popular Jasmine. The hunt for the person behind the account begins.

In *Ugly Girls* the tension is interweaved with topical issues, all from a clear gender perspective and with a starting point in similar real events. The story is approachable and close to the reality of young people today. Its strength is in just how believable it frequently is and in its potential for young people to identify with the book's storyline and characters. There is much to think about and consider here, and the book finishes with a cleverly constructed ending.

Ugly Girls is the first book in a planned trilogy.

Photo: Petter Cohen



Photo: Petter Cohen



Photo: Stefan Tell



Johanna Lindbäck, Lisa Bjärbo and Sara Ohlsson

Selected works

Johanna Lindbäck: *Karta för förälskade och andra vilsna* 2017.

Lisa Bjärbo: *Inuti huvudet är jag kul* 2018.

Sara Ohlsson: *Ingen normal står i regnet och sjunger* 2016.

Selected awards

Lisa Bjärbo: Nils Holgersson-plaketten for *Allt jag säger är sant* 2013. Astrid Lindgren-priset 2018.

Johanna Lindbäck: nominated to the Nordic Council Children and Young People's Literature Prize for *Saker som aldrig händer* 2011.

YA novel, 288 p.	Publisher Gilla Böcker	Rights Lilla Piratförlaget Linda Widman linda@lillapiratforlaget.se
Johanna Lindbäck, Lisa Bjärbo and Sara Ohlsson		

UNDERWATER WORLDS

Johanna
Stenlund's
choice



In the short story collection *Underwater Worlds* everything that grates is brought bubbling up to the surface. Children are faced with difficult decisions, then forced to adapt to the changes and get used to life as it happens. How should you act when your best friend chooses someone else? What to do when your friend starts dating the one you're in love with? What do you say when your brother plans to abandon you? Or when your friend goes on about holidays you could never afford?

With melodic and elaborate language Elin Nilsson captures the thoughts and emotions that certain life situations bring about. Brilliantly succeeding her August Prize nominated collection of short stories *Call from Inner Space* she confirms her position as one of the best at diving down into the inner worlds of children and adding a pinch of magic.

Photo: Nils Wallin



Elin Nilsson
Selected works

Istället för att bara skrika
2011 *Flyt som en fjärl,*
stick som ett bi 2013
Anrop från inre rymden 2017

Selected awards

Malmö stads
kulturstipendium 2014
Göteborgs stads
litteraturpris 2014

Children's fiction, 9–12 years, 175 p.	Publisher Alfabeta	Rights Alfabeta AnnaKaisa Danielsson annakaisa.danielsson@alfabeta.se
Elin Nilsson		

CHILDREN'S AND YOUNG ADULT BOOKS

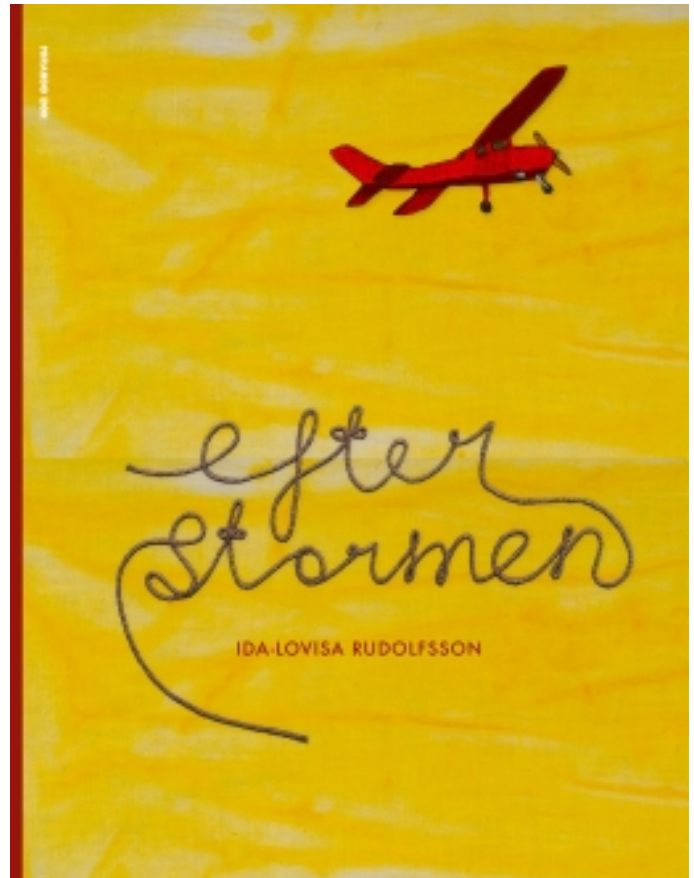
Jury's choice

AFTER THE STORM

One morning Sam wakes up on her lonely island in the middle of the ocean. In the night an icy storm passed over the island. Now snow is pouring into her bedroom, and lying in the middle of the floor is a rope, which turns out to be enchanted. When Sam tries to grab the rope, it slips away from her, enticing her to run after it, out of the little cottage and into the deep forest...

Here and there tree trunks and branches have broken off as a result of the night's strong winds and Sam runs, jumps, climbs and balances, with the help of the rope, through the storm-ravaged forest. Eventually she reaches the beach on the other side of the island and makes a surprising discovery.

Ida-Lovisa Rudolfsson is a textile artist, educated at HDK in Gothenburg. *After the Storm* is her first picture book. Stitch by stitch, she has created a peculiar and dizzyingly beautiful picture book about a winter storm and its aftermath. At the centre of the story is Sam, a girl with an amazing imagination that gives her tiger-like powers.



Ida-Lovisa Rudolfsson

Photo: Ola Kjelbye



The jury:

**An enchanted rope,
an enchanting story.
Successful
story-telling
through pictures.**

Picturebook, 3–6 years, 168 p.	Publisher Mirando bok	Rights Koja Agency Carin Bacho carin.bacho@kojaagency.com
Ida-Lovisa Rudolfsson		

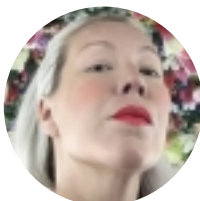
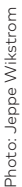
The jury:

**Powerful stories
about children who
have changed the world,
written with a sensitivity
for language.**

Seventeen children who in various ways have made the world a better place. Including Louis Braille who came up with the Braille system, Margaret Knight who invented all kinds of things (and had to fight in court for the right to her patents), Liam Hannon who made sandwiches for the homeless, and Muzon Almellehan who went from tent to tent in refugee camps to persuade parents to let their daughters go to school instead of getting married. And of course there is Greta Thunberg who has shaken up the political agenda all over the world.



Jenny Strömstedt and Beata Boucht



<p>Nonfiction, 9–12 years, 160 p.</p>	<p>Publisher Max Ström</p>	<p>Rights Bonnier Rights Per Widell per.widell@bonnierights.se</p>
<p>Jenny Strömstedt, Beata Boucht (ill.)</p>		

COME ON, JONNY!

The jury:
**Humorous
 embarrassments
 mixed with the magic
 of first love.**

"If your name is Jonny Jonsson-Johnson you can be certain of two things. One is that your parents are so useless at agreeing on things that they couldn't even agree on *one* surname. The other is that you are destined to fail. Everyone with a name like Jonny will end up in prison eventually. At least according to Nicolai, the biggest moron in our class."

A lot has happened since we were first introduced to Jonny in *Den där Jonny Jonsson-Johnson* (*That Jonny Jonsson-Johnson*). Krister Petterson - who is not a crazy prime minister killer, but a normal nice person who works in a warehouse - has moved in with Jonny and his mum. Elias and Melissa are more in love than ever. Elias is so much in love that he tries to persuade Jonny the only sensible thing to do is to get together with Melissa's best friend Naima. And maybe he should just do what Elias says? Ask her out. Get it over and done with. What's the worst thing that could happen?

Elin Lindell

Photo: Lars-Erik Kohrs



Children's fiction, 9–12 years, 192 p.	Publisher Alfabeta	Rights Alfabeta AnnaKaisa Danielsson annakaisa@alfabeta.se
Elin Lindell		

THE EXPEDITION ON ICE

Ida, Max and Jock's adventure begins when one day in early spring they go down to the water creek to fish and they step out onto the frozen sea. Suddenly the ice cracks and the three friends begin to drift away on an ice floe, out across the dark water, out to sea, where there are only more ice floes and water as far as the eye can see. Travelling across the icy ocean they reach a foreign shore where they spend the whole winter cooped up in a small hut while a snowstorm rages outside. Luckily there is tinned food. Eventually spring arrives and so do the penguins.

Thomas and Anna-Clara Tidholm have been fascinated by classic polar expeditions for a long time, which is how they got the idea for this book.

This outstanding husband and wife team have created a string of wonderful, award-winning books for children since the early 1980s. Including titles such as the *Ture* series, *Resan till ugri-la-brek* (which was awarded the Deutscher Jugendliteraturpreis), *Förritiden i skogen*, *Åke-boken* and many more.



Thomas and Anna-Clara Tidholm

Photo: Alfabet



Photo: Linda Gren



The jury:

**The great adventure is waiting
just beyond the everyday.
A shrewd voyage of
discovery to a land of ice.**

Picturebook, 6–9 years, 32 p.	Publisher Alfabet	Rights Alfabet AnnaKaisa Danielsson annakaisa@alfabet.se
Thomas Tidholm, Anna-Clara Tidholm (ill.)		

THE FAMILY

Ella lives with the Family on the Farm. The Family is run by Father. He makes sure that the food is blessed by the sun and that nothing from the outside, nothing poisoned, slips through the fence that surrounds them. You must do everything right if you're to survive the 'Collapse'.

One day Ella notices a boy on the other side of the fence. He must be one of the 'Losts'. But then why does he look so suntanned and healthy? What he tells Ella about the world is the opposite of what Father has taught them. Ella must try and find out what's true.

The Family is a novel about loyalty, friendship and life changing decisions that keeps the reader in an iron grip from the first page to the last. No one is left untouched. Cecilia Lidbeck has written several acclaimed children's novels, and *The Family* is her strongest to date. During 2020 it has been nominated both for The Children's Radio's Prize and the Crimetime Award's Prize for The Best Children's Novel.



Cecilia Lidbeck

Photo: Siri Lidbeck



The jury:

A depiction of growing up in a cult and life afterwards, that gets under your skin. It also makes the reader understand the lure of belonging to a cult.

Children's fiction, 9–12 years, 188 p.	Publisher Lilla Piratförlaget	Rights Lilla Piratförlaget Linda Widman linda@lillapiratforlaget.se
Cecilia Lidbeck		

HILMA AF KLINT – MAPS OF INVISIBILITY



The jury:
**Spotlight on
an unusual life story
– for both young and
old readers.**

Maps of Invisibility is the very first children's book about the artist Hilma af Klint and her work. It's a book that's not only about art, but also about magic, mysticism and scientific discoveries. Moreover, it's the story of a woman who for a long time was left out of the art history books. This despite creating her abstract images before anyone else was doing similar work. Hilma af Klint (1862–1944) began painting her non-descriptive and very symbolic images as early as 1906. That was years before Kandinsky and Malevich arrived at what is generally regarded as the birth of modern abstract art. She was heavily influenced by spiritual ideologies and claimed that she painted for the future under instruction from the spirit world.

The interest in Hilma af Klint has grown massively during the past few years. Her artworks are going to be displayed in exhibitions and museums all over the world for many years to come. The exhibition of her work at the Guggenheim Museum in New York in 2019 attracted a record number of visitors and the exhibition catalogue became their bestselling publication to date.

The book is richly illustrated with both quality reproductions of Hilma af Klint's work and illustrations drawn by Karin Eklund.

Ylva Hillström and Karin Eklund

Photo: Mattias Enström



Photo: Ylva Connell



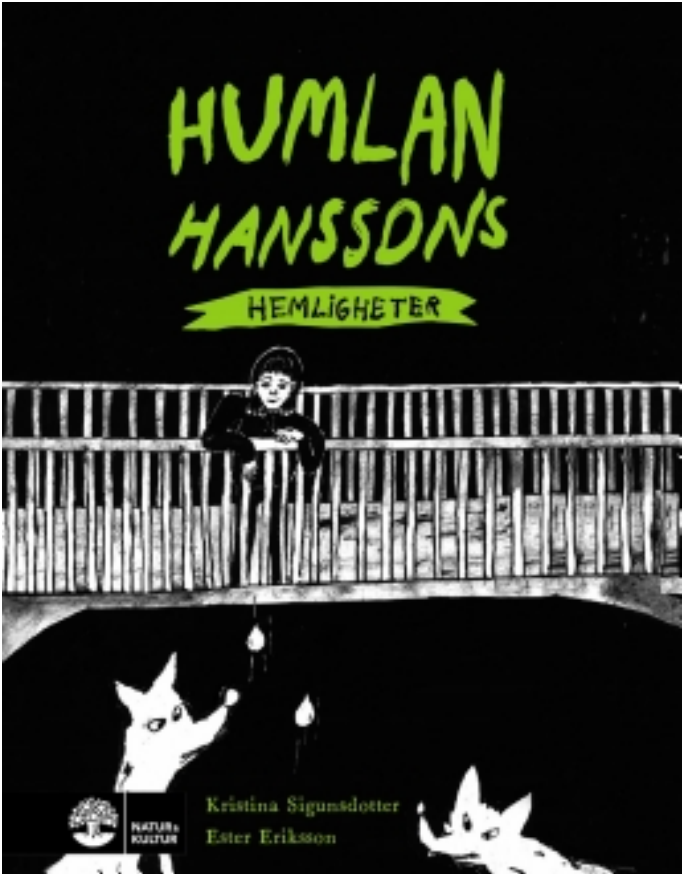
Nonfiction, 7+, 64 p.	Publisher Alfabeta	Rights Alfabeta AnnaKaisa Danielsson annakaisa@alfabeta.se
Ylva Hillström, Karin Eklund (ill.)		

HUMLAN HANSSON'S SECRETS

Humlan is going to be an artist just like her aunt Fanny, she who loves cheese and art and always speaks her mind. Not like Humlan's mum who's always dieting and sighing. But now aunt Fanny has lost her sparkle and stopped creating. At the same time Humlan's best friend has ditched her to be with the Horse Girls at school.

Sometimes it feels like Humlan transforms into a kind of aquarium of tears. And then she must lock herself in the toilets at school and let some of the tears out. She is actually pretty good at crying. Maybe she'll become both a famous artist *and* a movie star when she grows up?

With dark humour and great seriousness, Kristina Sigunsdotter and Ester Eriksson portray an ordinary extraordinary eleven-year-old girl who is trying to find her place in a world full of frightening sixth graders, confused adults and sleepless nights.



Kristina Sigunsdotter and Ester Eriksson

Photo: Anthony Hill



Photo: Anna Drvnik



The jury:
A witty and funny story that stands out from the crowd, about a very unusual aunt.

Children's fiction, 9–12 years, 107 p.	Publisher Natur & Kultur	Rights Koja Agency Carin Bacho carin.bacho@kojaagency.com
Kristina Sigunsdotter, Ester Eriksson (ill.)		

JUST BUTTS AT THE BEACH

Mira, Mum and Dad are spending their holiday in Italy. Mira is looking forward to going swimming in the big sea, and to try out her new diving mask. When they arrive, Dad doesn't want to be at the beach with all the tourists – instead he's heard of a nice beach that the Italians go to. But that beach doesn't look quite like beaches do at home. Aren't there a few too many bare butts...?

After the success of *Just Butts* (2019), journalist and body positivity activist Annika Leone and illustrator Bettina Johansson are back with a new book about Mira and her family. *Just Butts at the Beach* is a humorous book about a family on vacation, but it's also about nudity and rejoicing in our bodies.



Annika Leone and Bettina Johansson

Photo: Stefan Tell



Photo: Private



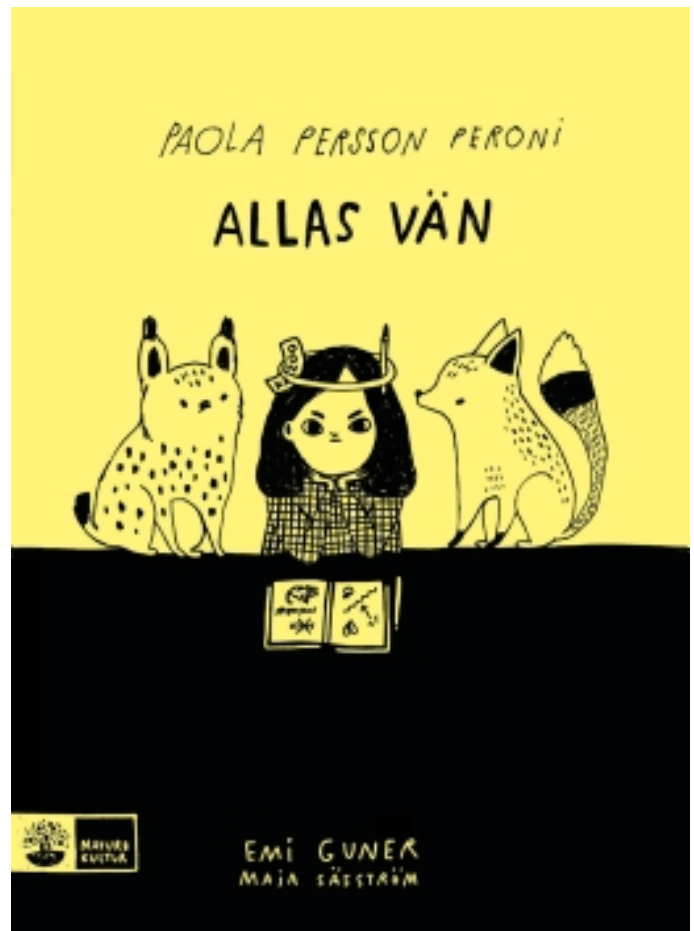
The jury:

**Body positivity
for children. Powerful
dramaturgy!**

Picturebook, 5+ years, 32 p.	Publisher Lilla Piratförlaget	Rights Lilla Piratförlaget Linda Widman linda@lillapiratforlaget.se
Annika Leone, Bettina Johansson (ill.)		

PAOLA PERSSON PERONI – EVERYONE'S FRIEND

What people didn't seem to understand was that Paola would be a great best friend if only she knew someone a bit more like herself – someone who also loved words, mummies and daydreaming. Someone who knew just what the other one was thinking and feeling. Someone who would whisper comforting words in her ear every time the class's queen bully tried to boss her around. Or someone who could help you get out of embarrassing situations – like when you have to pee really badly whilst sitting in a tree during a film shoot... But could there even be such a kindred spirit, and if so, where? This is a warm and relatable book about friendship for ages 6 to 9. It is the first book in a series about 11-year-old Paola Persson Peroni.



Emi Gunér, Maja Säfström

Photo: private



Photo: Rikard Häggbom



The jury:

**Children's lives are not
always easy.
A touching story
of friendship.**

Children's fiction, 6–9 years, 151 p.	Publisher Natur & Kultur	Rights Koja Agency Carin Bacho carin.bacho@kojaagency.com
Emi Gunér, Maja Säfström (ill.)		

SAD



The jury:
Big emotions
for small children.
A wonderful text with
clever illustrations.

Ah, feelings! We all know – whether we're young or old – how a relatively small incident can end up becoming a big drama.

Lotta Olsson and Emma Adbåge are a true dream team. Their new collaboration sees them creating two picture books about feelings. *Sad* is released in 2020 and *Happy* is due to be published in 2021.

Sad is set in a nursery where a child discovers that another child has taken her beloved cuddly toy. And then the drama begins. The rhythm of the text, the words and the illustrations come together to cleverly depict body language, expressions and movements in both clear and subtle ways. And when it all ends well, everyone breathes a sigh of relief.

With their masterly precision, not a superfluous word or pen stroke in sight, Lotta Olsson and Emma Adbåge convey the little girl's growing despair, as well as the interaction between children and grown-ups.

Sad is a picture book to read again and again, no doubt sparking some interesting conversations. It already feels like a classic!

Lotta Olsson and Emma Adbåge

Photo: Magnus Liam Karlsson



Photo: Richard Gustafsson



Picturebook, 3–6 years, 32 p.	Publisher Rabén & Sjögren	Rights Rabén & Sjögren Agency Åsa Bergman asa.bergman@rabensjogren.se
Lotta Olsson, Emma Adbåge (ill.)		

SISTER WEEK

The jury:
**A book about
wanting a sibling,
with an unusual beginning.
Reality and fantasy
intermingle.**

Raisin is desperately missing her big sister Bunny, but she spends every other week with her mum. What Raisin needs to understand is that they'll be together again when it's "Dad Week". But Raisin doesn't care – she wants her "Sister Week" NOW. Bunny is big and kind and gentle and dangerous all at the same time. They're supposed to be doing fun party stuff together, and as far as she's concerned everyone else might as well go home.

The story describes just how hard it can be to miss a sibling. This is the first book in Matilda Ruta's new series *Strandskogen* (*Beach Forest*), a series that deals with family relationships, whilst taking children's emotions very seriously.



Matilda Ruta



Photo: Göran Segeholm

Picturebook, 3–6 years, 40p.	Publisher Rabén & Sjögren	Rights Rabén & Sjögren Agency Åsa Bergman asa.bergman@rabensjogren.se
Matilda Ruta		

SONJA AND THE HAT SPLIT



The jury:
**Which choice of hat
 best shows that you love a parent?
 A beautiful book, also for adults,
 with illustrations
 that are spot on.**

A thoughtful story about divorce and finding your place in a new family constellation.

Sonja alternates living with Mummy one week and Daddy the next. Both places are nice but in different ways. When autumn comes Daddy takes out a hand-knitted stripy hat and gives it to Sonja so that she won't be cold. But when it's Mummy's turn to collect her, she doesn't think the hat is very good and buys her a new one – one with a bobble on. Every week throughout that autumn Sonja doesn't just swap houses but also hats. Daddy's week becomes "stripy hat week" and Mummy's week "bobble hat week". But one day Sonja has had enough!

With empathy and warmth Måns Gahrton and Johan Unenge let the main character, Sonja, tell her version of what it's like to live with divorced parents. Johan Unenge's beautiful watercolours paint an everyday life where there is both happiness and sorrow.

Måns Gahrton and Johan Unenge

Photo: Stefan Tell

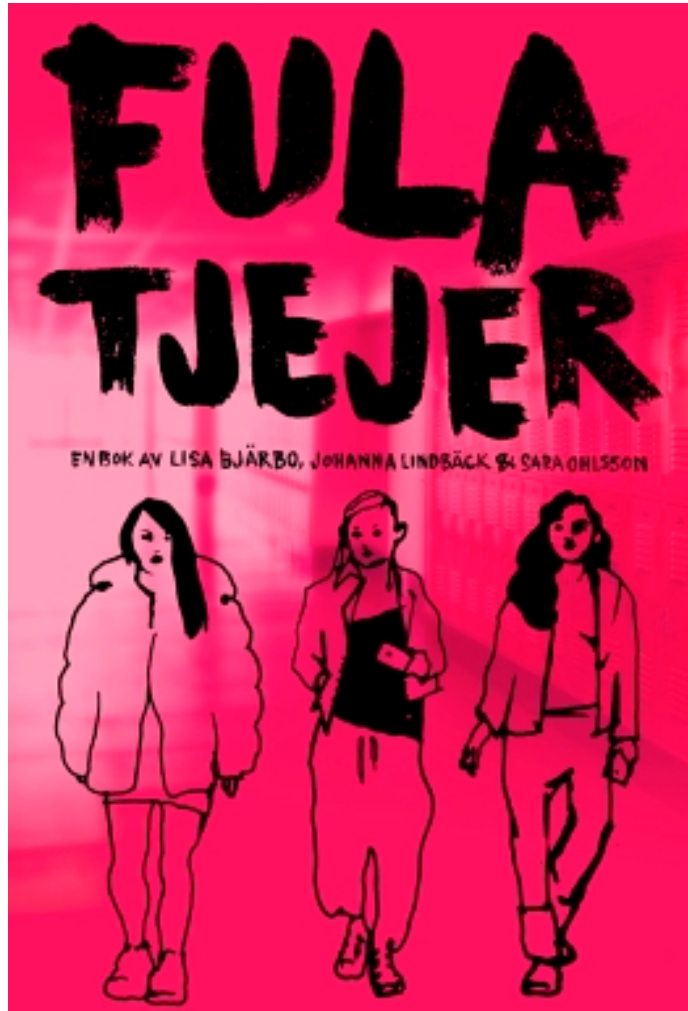


Photo: Stefan Tell



Picturebook, 3–6 years, 32 p.	Publisher Bonnier Carlsen	Rights Bonnier Rights Mathilde Coffy mathilde.coffy@bonnierights.se
Måns Gahrton, Johan Unenge (ill.)		

UGLY GIRLS



The jury:

Off the scale drama, in that early teenage life-or-death kind of way, when medium-sized everyday things take on gigantic proportions.

In a high school, somewhere in Sweden, someone starts an Instagram account called 'Ugly Girls'. Suddenly photos of both popular and less popular girls at school are being posted and fear starts spreading through the school – the fear of standing out and becoming the next victim. Tilde, Eleni and Jasmine are classmates but have barely spoken to each other – until now. Despite their differences they decide to join forces. They're going to nail whoever's behind the account, and they're going to do it together.

Sara Ohlsson, Johanna Lindbäck and Lisa Bjärbo are three of Sweden's best children's and young adult authors. *Ugly Girls* is the first book in their new collaborative project, which will be followed by *Annoying Girls* (2021) and *Weak Girls* (2022). The books combine humour, friendship and feminism with the suspense of a thriller. It has already received great reviews in Swedish media.

Johanna Lindbäck, Lisa Bjärbo and Sara Ohlsson

Photo: Petter Cohen



Photo: Petter Cohen



Photo: Stefan Tell



YA novel, 288 p.	Publisher Gilla Böcker	Rights Lilla Piratförlaget Linda Widman linda@lillapiratforlaget.se
Johanna Lindbäck, Lisa Bjärbo och Sara Ohlsson		

FICTION

Critic's choice

THE DESTROYER

Jonas
Thente's
choice



This is an unbelievable story. Here is a celebrated writer, internationally known, famous for her novels about gender systems and equality. Here is a man who dupes and manipulates his way into her life, until she's on the brink of bankruptcy and homelessness. An unbelievable story, yet it is autobiographical. Supported by her diaries Christina Herrström describes the maelstrom that the first part of the 2010s was for her. Sam, whom she first meets in his capacity as choir leader in a Stockholm church, is a pathological liar and a narcissistic psychopath. Step by step he takes advantage of Christina's weaknesses, almost to the point of extinguishing her. It is a horrifying and tense book that wants to warn the public of Sam and others just like him.

Photo: Stefan Tell



Christina Herrström

Selected works

Glappet 1998, YA novel

Denzel 2016

Selected awards

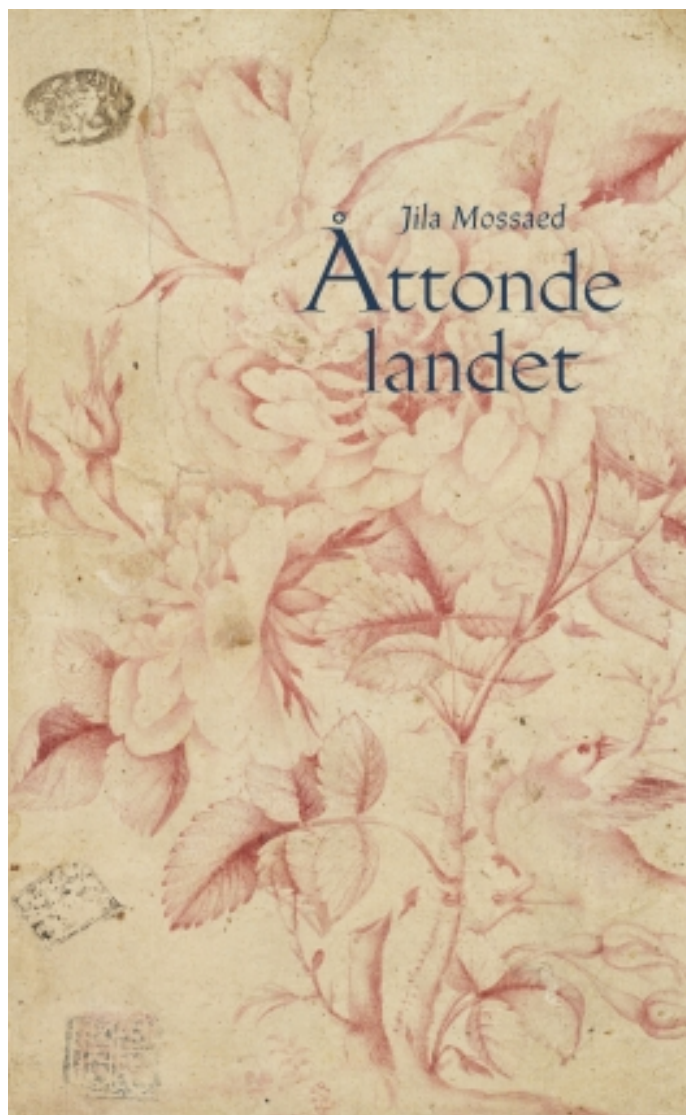
Årets brytare 2011

Dorispriset 2011

Novel, 506 p.	Publisher Albert Bonniers Förlag	Rights Christina Herrström christina@christinaherrstrom.com
Christina Herrström		

THE EIGHTH LAND

Yukiko
Duke's
choice



In 1986, 38 years old, Jila Mossaed left Iran, her country of birth. A celebrated poet in her homeland, she began a new life as an unknown refugee in Sweden. After only ten years she had mastered the Swedish language and published a celebrated poetry collection. In the six subsequent works her main theme has been exile as an existential state: that eternal, painful foreignness. This remains the case in her most recently published collection of poetry, *The Eighth Land*. Yet here her two irreconcilable worlds begin to approach one another: a blackbird perching on her Swedish balcony awakens the memory of a Persian nightingale in the gardens of Shiraz. Now there is also a "freedom in not belonging". Mossaed – who in 2018 was elected to the Swedish Academy – expertly charges her seemingly simple poems with an existential force.

Photo: Eva Bergström



Jila Mossaed

Selected works

Månen och den eviga kon 1997

Ett ljud som bara jag kan

Vad jag saknades här 2018

Selected awards

ABF:s stipendium 1999

Erik Lindegren-priset 2019

Karl Vennbergs pris 2019

Poetry, 68 p.	Publisher Bokförlaget Lejd	Rights Jila Mossaed jilamossaed@hotmail.com
Jila Mossaed		

IN THE MEANTIME

Jenny
Högström's
choice



Anna Hallberg is a consistent poet. Since her debut in 2001 with the short and pithy *Friction*, language, often in its most vocal and concrete form, has been her focus. However, in her new poetry collection *In the Meantime*, with a cover resembling the electrical enclosure in grey steel so typical of the Swedish urban landscape or perhaps the gravestone of the poet's dead mother, it sometimes seems as if language isn't enough. It cannot contain the grief, it cannot contain the loss, it cannot name.

Instead movements and objects of everyday life are invoked. A stillness. There is an attempt to cope, to be "open to death", even though it isn't possible.

Anna Hallberg writes: "I may die I don't mind / not you // the days are erased up to a point / where time is getting stuck". In the book's final section two lines run right across the book from edge to edge. Like a delineation of life, or the dividing-line between the living and the dead.

Photo: Caroline Andersson



Anna Hallberg

Selected works

Friktion 2001

Chow chow 2017

Lägesrapport från

Aniara – Tre essäer 2019

Selected awards

Aftonbladets

litteraturpris 2004

De Nios Vinterpris 2012

Poetry, 239 p.	Publisher Albert Bonniers Förlag	Rights Anna Hallberg annatext@gmail.com
Anna Hallberg		

I RETURN

Yukiko
Duke's
choice

After many years in the big city Janakippo returns to her native village in northern Sweden. She's bad-tempered and sullen, cultivating a straightforwardness that borders on being brutal and which leaves very little regard for anyone else. Beneath the rock-hard carapace, however, lurks a sensitive and tender artist who's had a difficult childhood. Sawmill-owner Karin Smirnoff won the hearts of Swedish readers with the two first novels in this loosely connected trilogy about the wounded 'returner'. With a fast narrative tempo and an inimitable dialectal prose Smirnoff recounts, in this the concluding third part, how Janakippo finally finds time to be an artist – after having saved her brother from death by alcohol and buried her mother in her very strict Laestadian Lutheran home village. But her rural community soon calls on her again and the novel transforms itself into a requiem for a Swedish countryside life that is being lost.

Photo: Johan Günséus

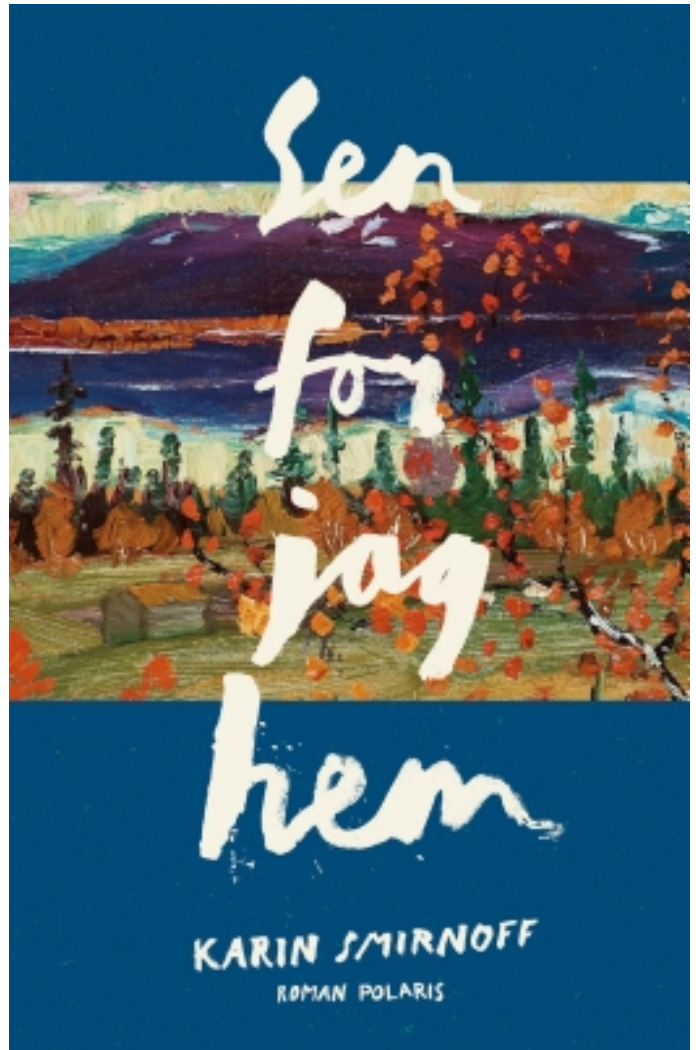


Karin Smirnoff
Selected works

Jag för ner till bror 2018
Vi för upp med mor 2019

Selected awards

Ilona Kohrtz stipendium/
Svenska Akademien 2020



Novel, 346 p.	Publisher Bokförlaget Polaris	Rights Politiken Literary Agency Sofie Voller sofie.voller@jppol.dk
Karin Smirnoff		

I SEE ALL THAT YOU DO

Ingrid
Elam's
choice

After six records of her own songs Annika Norlin makes her literary debut with a collection of short stories – *I See All That You Do*. It is, both in its language and style, a surprisingly confident collection of stories about young people with strong and difficult emotions, all relayed in a distinctly everyday tone: "When Mum died I was sad, but not surprised".

The theme is predominantly one of sadness; the sadness of not being seen, the sadness of not knowing the meaning of life, and the sadness of the worst thing that can ever happen – losing your own child. And yet, what is on offer here is joyful reading. Norlin writes with such a profound sense of humour that one cannot help but laugh at the inherent tragedy of life. It is like a northern Swedish smile, laconic, experienced and clear-sighted. No reader will escape the fact that these eight stories *see all that you do*.



Photo: Elin Berge



Annika Norlin

Norlin is a pop artist, now publishing her first book

Short stories, 218 p.	Publisher Weyler förlag	Rights Partners in Stories Erik Larsson erik@partnersinstories.se
Annika Norlin		

A SKY OF WITNESSES

Ingrid
Elam's
choice



Why do we read? One answer is that literature lets us experience other times and other people. Kjell Espmark's poetry offers us such moments. In *A Sky of Witnesses* a constantly changing 'I' speaks; sometimes easy to identify, sometimes an anonymous shadow in a recognisable landscape. Farinata calls out from Dante's *Inferno* and Hillevi is on her way to Föllinge in Kerstin Ekman's *The Wolfskin Trilogy*, whilst a Chinese person, executed during 'The Great Leap Forward', dies an anonymous death.

There is a timeline, from the painter in the Stone Age cave to the refugee reaching the coast of Lesbos. It is about that which is permanent in human nature, the vulnerability, the suffering, but also the ongoing possibility of the human being. It is great poetry and published just in time for the poet's 90th birthday. A gift to the reader.

Photo: Cato Lein



Kjell Espmark

Selected works

Mordet på Benjamin 1956

Voltaires resa 2000

Rosenkrantz mot

Guilkenstern 2020

Selected awards

Bellmanpriset 1985

De Nios Stora Pris 2000

Tranströmerpriset 2010

Poetry, 330 p.	Publisher Norstedts	Rights Norstedts Håkan Bravinger hakan.bravinger@norstedts.se
Kjell Espmark		

ON TIME, TONIGHT

Jenny
Högström's
choice

Gay themes are an intrinsic component of Kristofer Folkhammar's writing. They permeate his poetry and novels – most recently in the hilarious *The Schoolmaster Games*. But never has the subject found such musicality as in his new poetry collection *On Time, Tonight*, accompanied by Leif Holmstrand's expressive illustrations.

The aural quality is already inherent in the title's alliteration. It is a rhythm that the poems not only describe but also demonstrate. They often rhyme.

There is a 'we' and a 'you'. The 'you' is to be enticed – led into temptation. Yet in the pulse of the night, where the promiscuity of the gay world may be glimpsed, there are also signs of illness and contagion. Danger lurks alongside temptation.

The poems are delightful, disgusting, awful and beautiful. They work equally well as listened to or to take the poems into your mouth.



Photo: Samuel AD Martin



Kristofer Folkhammar Selected works

Isak och Billy 2011

När han kysste mig förlorade jag allt 2012

Magisterlekarna. Sodomitisk melodram 2015

Poetry, 79 p.	Publisher Bokförlaget Lejd	Rights Kristofer Folkhammar kristofer.folkhammar@gmail.com
Kristofer Folkhammar		

RENEGADES

Jonas
Thente's
choice



Klas Östergren had his popular breakthrough in 1980 with the hypnotic yarn *Gentlemen*. In 2005 its surprise follow-up *Gangsters* came out, making it clear that this was a project that sought to write the history of post-war Sweden, paying particular attention to its murkier corners. This autumn a third instalment is published: the almost 750 pages long *Renegades*. The multi-layered story continues, this time with hypocrisy and Swedish arms dealing as its red threads. But here some much more recent dirty business can also be found. Klas Östergren, who in all three novels appears as the narrator, was a member of the Swedish Academy but stepped down in 2018 in protest at the scandals that this venerable institution handled in the most unfortunate of ways. The turmoil following this affair gets its own section in the new novel.

Photo: Charlie Drevstam



Klas Östergren

Selected works

Gentlemen 1980

Gangsters 2005

I en skog av sumak 2017

Selected awards

Eyvind Johnsonpriset 1989

De Nios stora pris 2005

Selma Lagerlöfs litteraturpris 2012

Novel, 746 p.	Publisher Bokförlaget Polaris	Rights Politiken Literary Agency Sofie Voller Sofie.voller@jppol.dk
Klas Östergren		

FICTION

Jury's choice

ABANDONMENT

Abandonment is a stunning autobiographical novel about three women, three cities and one family. The narrator is a writer determined to define, once and for all, the desolate shadow that has followed her throughout her life, and which she mistook for normality. In the portrayal of Rita, Sally and Katherine, she traces how secrets, lies and taboos pass from one generation to the next.

Through exploring past generations of women in her family, Elisabeth Åsbrink tries to uncover the roots of her own abandonment. It's a captivating story of love, migration and humanity in the shadow of hatred. It examines how trauma and secrets are inherited and how you come to understand yourself by understanding your past. And, as the narrator points out: "This is fiction and therefore all that is told is true."



Elisabet Åsbrink

Photo: Johan Bergmark



The jury:

**Superbly written novel
about three women
from different generations
whose lives have been more or less
marked by displacement.**

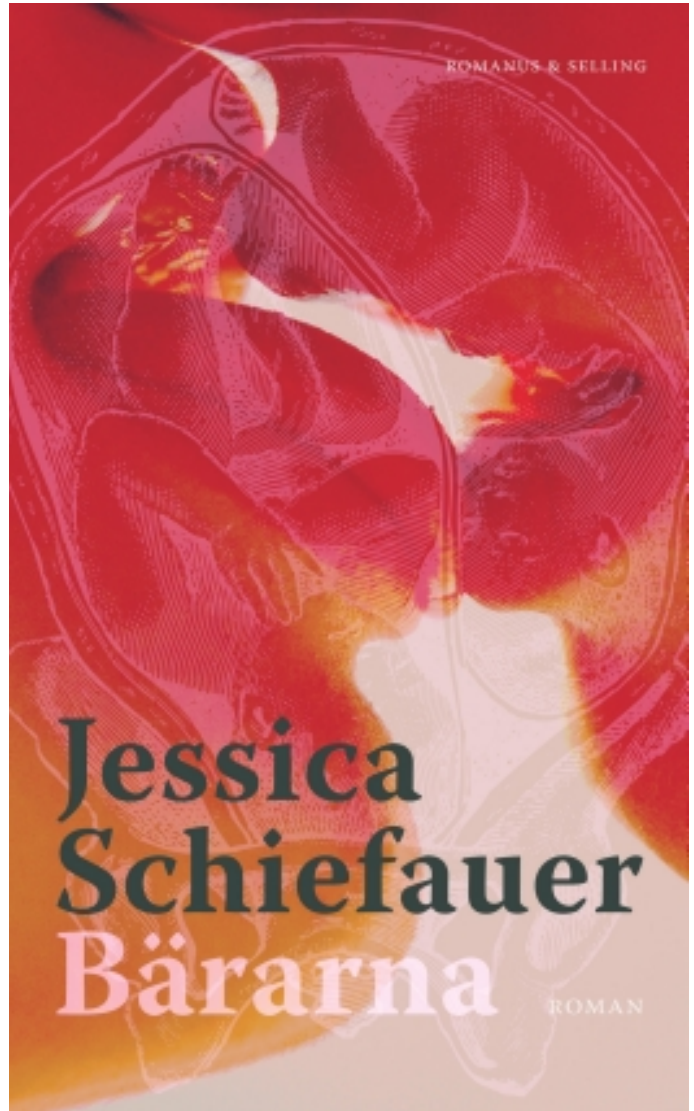
Novel, 317 p.	Publisher Polaris	Rights Hedlund Agency Magdalena Hedlund magdalena@hedlundagency.se
Elisabet Åsbrink		

THE CARRIERS

The Carriers depicts a world both similar to and different from our own. A pandemic has been raging for decades, a contagious disease that has forced men and women to live separately. The women have all the power, and the scarce resources are shared equally among the inhabitants. It's not a rich life – earlier generations have wasted many natural resources and caused severe changes to the climate. But they live a fair life, where everyone contributes.

Nikki and Simone have been a couple for several years when Simone's longing for a child and her subsequent depression, caused by not being able to conceive, begins to tear them apart. Nikki is desperate to help Simone and return them to a happier place. She finds a way – but has to pay a high price for it.

This is a story about how far you are willing to go for the person you love, and at what cost. It is about what sacrifices you are prepared to make for a greater good – and about what happens when the curtain falls and you are forced to re-think what you knew to be true.



Jessica Schiefauer

Photo: Ola Kjelbye



The jury:

A superbly written dystopia that's sure to become a classic. Echoes of Atwood, yet with its own voice.

Novel, 334 p.	Publisher Romanus & Selling	Rights Hedlund Literary Agency Siri Lindgren siri@hedlundagency.se
Jessica Schiefauer		

DAYS AND DAYS AND DAYS



The jury:
Desperation
 articulated in a strong
 voice and with linguistic zest.
Funny, clever
 and sarcastic.

Tone Schunnesson's second novel – after the critically and commercially successful *Trip Reports* (2016) – is a complex contemporary depiction of a not-so-young-anymore generation. A generation in constant pursuit of affirmation, with trust issues, and an endless need to assert their position towards others. It's about love and break-up, betrayal and confidences, and money as the condition for everything.

Bibbs is just about to turn thirty-nine. At the same time there are those who are turning twenty-six or nineteen. Even though Bibbs lacks talent she's been famous for a while, but the good life is beginning to slip through her fingers. And there seems to be a never-ending flow of unexpected expenditures. Like the rent.

Her boyfriend Baby has always provided stability, and when he unexpectedly dumps her she is devastated. After he walks out she is also faced with an ultimatum: if she wants to keep the flat she must pay 100.000 SEK in a week. She no longer has access to that kind of money – an amount that would have been easy to find ten years ago. Bibbs is forced to make extreme decisions, and in the end the only things with an ounce of truth still in them are the lies. Tone Schunnesson's new novel is a pitch-perfect study of success and destruction, dependence and betrayal, celebrity and anonymity.

Tone Schunnesson

Photo: Märta Thisner



Novel, 268 p.	Publisher Norstedts	Rights Norstedts agency Linda Altrov Berg linda.altrovberg@norstedts.se	Rights sold to Germany/Luchterhand Denmark/Gads Finland/Johnny Kniga
Tone Schunnesson			

FIGHT



The jury:

**A nuanced story
of problematic masculinity.
The switches between past and
present are wonderful.**

What they never tell you is that it's quick. It isn't something perfectly coordinated or under control. When it comes down to it, all that matters is who's first. One strike can make all the difference.

After coming out of a deeply destructive relationship, Conny finds himself in a vicious circle of violence. He desperately needs the sense of belonging he gets from Ibrahim and the others, but it doesn't come for free. It comes with the expectation to be there; at any time, at any cost, no matter what they ask of him. It comes with the expectation to 'be a man'. Conny struggles, but in the end, it's an easy choice. He is willing to do almost anything, whatever it takes, to show the world he's no longer weak.

Fight explores themes such as love, grief, friendship, and violence. But above all, it examines what it means to be a young man today, the expectations that are put on young men, and how they relate to each other.

Karl Modig

Photo: Ola Kjelbye



Novel, 302 p.	Publisher Vox by Opal	Rights Opal Agency Anja Eriksson, Melina Nordstrand anja@opal.se, melina@opal.se
Karl Modig		

THE HUNTERS IN ARMENTIÈRES

The jury:

Regardless of its weighty subject matter, a book that's infused with a sense of freedom and grace.

In *The Hunters in Armentières* Steve Sem-Sandberg collects four stories of varying length, all of them written whilst he worked on his acclaimed novel *W* (where he used the same true story that inspired Georg Büchner's famous play *Woyzeck*). Here themes present in both Büchner and his literary circle's work are employed. The final short story, 'Oberlin', is an adaption of Büchner's novella *Lenz*, that describes the older playwright's mental breakdown in January 1778 in a secluded village in the mountains of Alsace. The overall theme is the individual's longing for freedom, respect and self-value when confronted with an antiquated social hierarchy's demands for obedience and submission. A conflict where, often, the only way out is through violence or insanity.

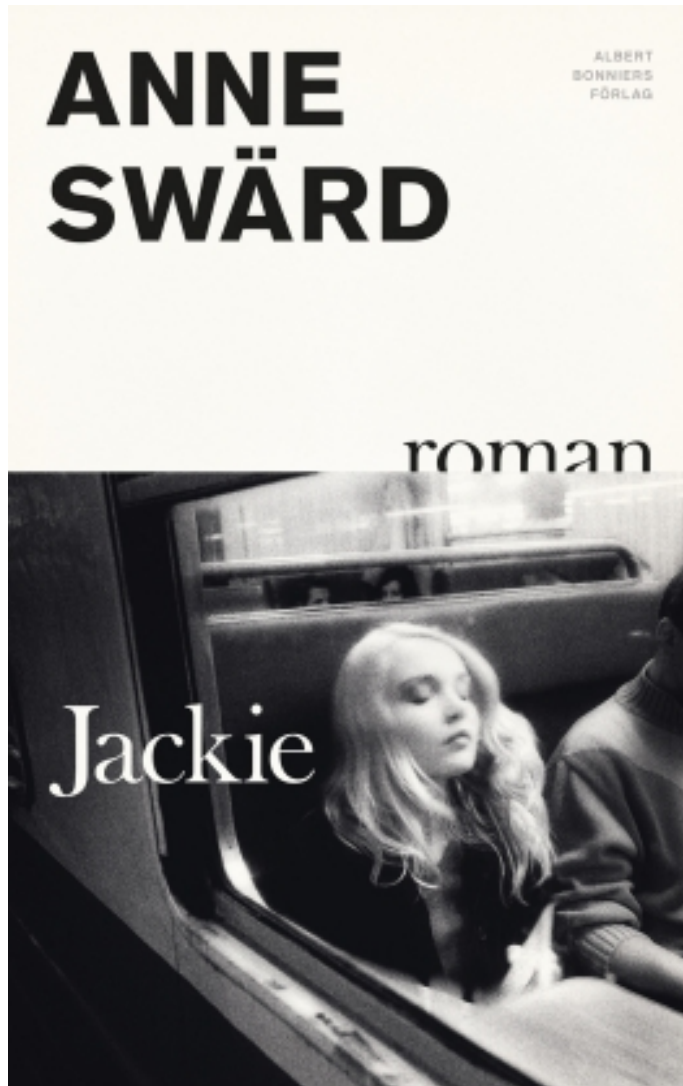
Steve Sem-Sandberg

Photo: Stefan Tell



Stories, 149 p.	Publisher Albert Bonniers Förlag	Rights Nordin Agency Joakim Hansson, Signe Lundgren joakim@nordinagency.se, signe@nordinagency.se
Steve Sem-Sandberg		

JACKIE



The jury:

Evocative! A real page-turner that's hard to put down. Timeless themes of love, violence and power.

"It all begins early one summer on a delayed train heading for the capital and her new life. It's like she already knows that something is about to take place and she registers everyone in her carriage. A feeling in the air, she doesn't know of what yet, but if something does happen she will probably be the most observant of witnesses."

Anne Swärd's latest novel is about a young woman on her way to Stockholm and the new life waiting for her there. It's the hot summer of 1988 and nothing has happened yet. The man she later meets is beyond anything she could have ever imagined.

In Anne Swärd's gripping and visceral narrative we are taken on a compelling journey through an ambiguous emotional portrait. From the highest highs to the depths of despair, Swärd drives the reader inexorably forward in this tale of love, obsession and survival.

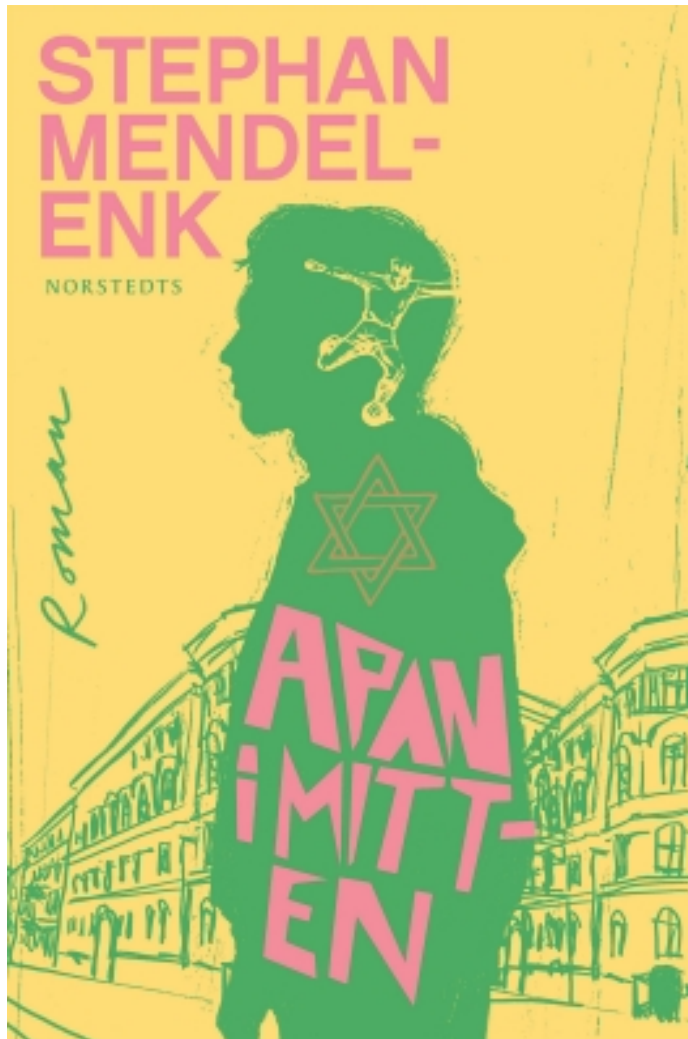
Anne Swärd

Photo: Thron Ullberg



Novel, 370 p.	Publisher Albert Bonniers Förlag	Rights Nordin Agency Anna Frankl anna@nordinagency.se
Anne Swärd		

MONKEY IN THE MIDDLE



The jury:
**A funny and witty book
 despite its serious subject matter,
 about Jewish life in Sweden.**

Stephan Mendel-Enk's much-longed-for return to fiction is both a humorous and melancholy story about Jewish life in Gothenburg in the 90s. *Monkey in the Middle* is a powerful novel about brotherhood, faith, fanaticism, but also a tender depiction of a teenage boy's struggle to deal with his father's suicide.

Jacob's family has been plagued by divorce and death, but following several years of turbulence his world appears somewhat peaceful again. The Berlin Wall has come down, Rabin and Arafat have shaken hands and Jacob has finally been allowed to play for the permanently troubled Jewish football team Maccabi.

But when his older brother – golden boy Rafael – returns to Gothenburg from Israel, things take a more serious turn. Having no real intention of finding a job, Rafael strikes up an acquaintance with a controversial local Rabbi and begins adopting his new friend's more orthodox views. His behaviour unsettles the family, especially Jacob, and soon political and religious antagonism threatens to tear them all apart. And the football pitch becomes yet another arena of conflict.

Monkey in the Middle is a stand-alone sequel to Mendel-Enk's previous novel *Three Monkeys* (2010), and is a humorous yet affecting coming-of-age story about football and brotherhood, as well as a young man's search for identity and the yearning to belong.

Stephan Mendel-Enk

Photo: Kajsa Göransson



Novel, 240 p.	Publisher Norstedts	Rights Norstedts agency Linda Altrov Berg linda.altrovberg@norstedts.se
Stephan Mendel-Enk		

MONSTERS IN THERAPY

A psychologist has gone missing. A collection of documents is found in her office: her work diary, letters, research material and transcripts of therapy sessions conducted for a book project.

Through the transcriptions we follow her conversations with a doctor suffering from an identity crisis, a lesbian psychopath vampire, the offspring of a manic scientist, and a narcissistic dandy. They are four of the most iconic monsters of the Victorian era – Dr Jekyll, Carmilla, Frankenstein's monster, and Dorian Gray – yet their struggles are timeless dilemmas. How can you learn to accept your darkest, most shameful personality traits? When everyone is afraid of you, how is it possible not to hate yourself? How do you age with dignity in a society obsessed with youth? And how do you explore your sexuality in a prejudiced world?

Mats Strandberg and Jenny Jägerfeld mix popular culture with psychology and literature to create a genre-bending and thought-provoking book. With humour and gravity in equal measure, they ask the right questions and analyze the answers. Their goal is to help the monsters – and perhaps also the reader.

The jury:

Funny and clever!
Popular science at its best.
Thrusting history right into
a contemporary
moment.



Jenny Jägerfeld and Mats Strandberg

Photo: Henric Lindsten

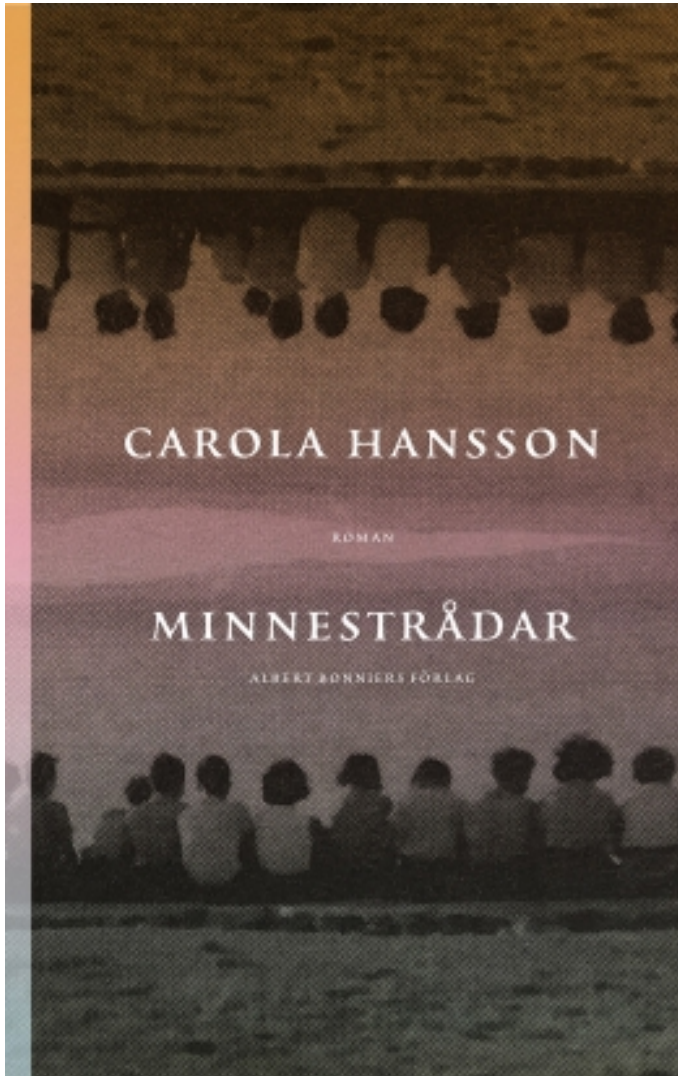


Photo: Henric Lindsten



Fiction, 289 p.	Publisher Norstedts	Rights Grand Agency Lena Stjernström lena@grandagency.se	Rights sold to Croatia/Fokus, Finland/Like, Germany/Blanvalet, Italy/il Saggiatore, Sweden/Norstedts. Film rights: ITV Sweden/UK
Jenny Jägerfeld, Mats Strandberg, Elin Sandström (ill.), Lotta Köhlhorn (design)			

THREADS OF MEMORY



The jury:
**An important book,
 beautifully written.
 A captivating page-turner,
 despite its serious
 theme.**

"The first time I met Otto," Madame Vidal said to me," was in April 1935 – a day when, from early morning, the most delightful spring rain fell over Königsberg; a gentle rain, and within a few hours the trees had unfurled their little light green leaves." It is there, in Königsberg, that the author begins her novel.

In the summer of 1939 60 Jewish youngsters arrive from Germany to a farm in Sweden. They're there to learn about farming so as to try and achieve their dream – a kibbutz in the future Israel. But war breaks out and they remain in Sweden. In her low-key, understated, language Hansson slowly shows how their lives become shattered by the Nazi terror.

Königsberg, where the story began, is a place that no longer exists, except in the memory of those who once lived there. Today, she writes, Kaliningrad is like a façade erected on the graves of the displaced. The novel revolves around a conversation between Madame Vidal (one of the Jewish youths) and an 'invisible' first person narrator and follows the threads of the past, a Europe and a civilization that has perished. This is a novel shivering with life.

Carola Hansson

Photo: Sara Mac Key

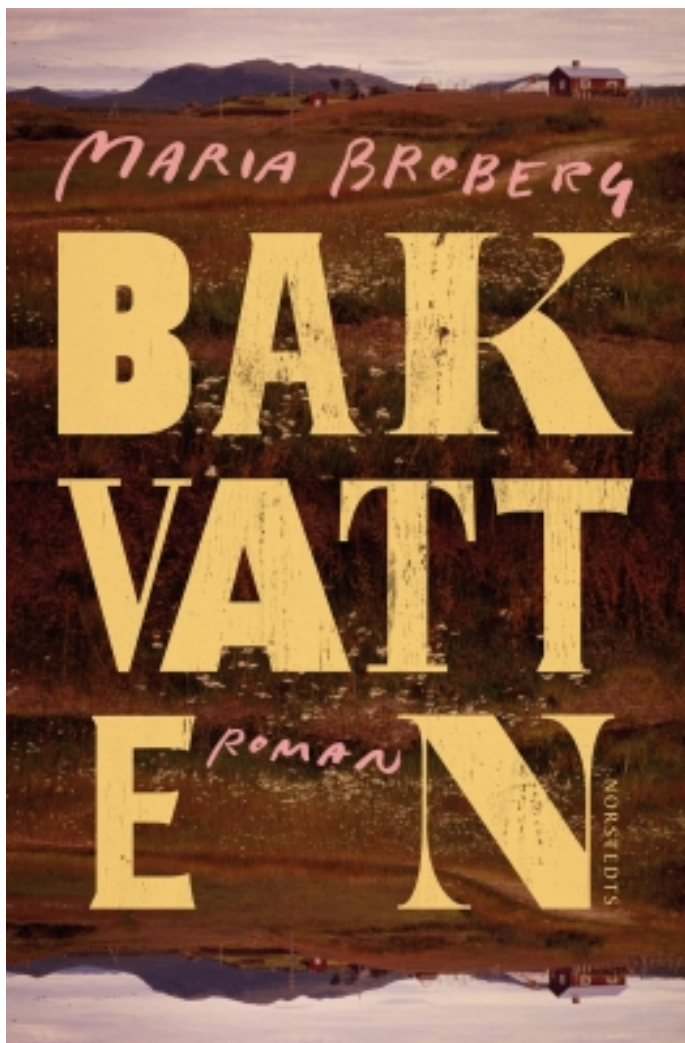


Novel, 300 p.	Publisher Albert Bonniers Förlag	Rights Carina Deschamps Agency Carina Deschamps carina@carinadeschamps.com
Carola Hansson		

TROUBLED WATER

The jury:

Her distinctive language underpins an increasingly thickening plot.



There lies Nilas, hidden under the moss, crystalline frost covering his cheeks. By treacherous moorland and rapid forest streams, at the same spot where Hebbe had died. Everyone believes that Nilas has drowned, that the Vindel River has swallowed him. Several decades will pass before the spring floods reveal what really happened.

Troubled Water is an evocative and psychologically charged novel that revolves around an unexplained disappearance. It portrays an isolated rural community through the small-scale agriculture of the 1940s and the emerging welfare state of the 1960s into the post-industrial shadow of today. But more than anything it is a story about a boy who longs for a father, about a young man who falls in love with someone he cannot have and about a woman who does not know how to be a mother. With a masterful hand, revealing the poignant details little by little, Maria Broberg shows how secrets, shame, guilt, misunderstandings and prejudice can alter the course of a man's life – with fateful consequences.

Maria Broberg's gripping debut carries on the tradition of some of Sweden's greatest storytellers and promises much more to come.

Maria Broberg

Photo: Andreas Nilsson



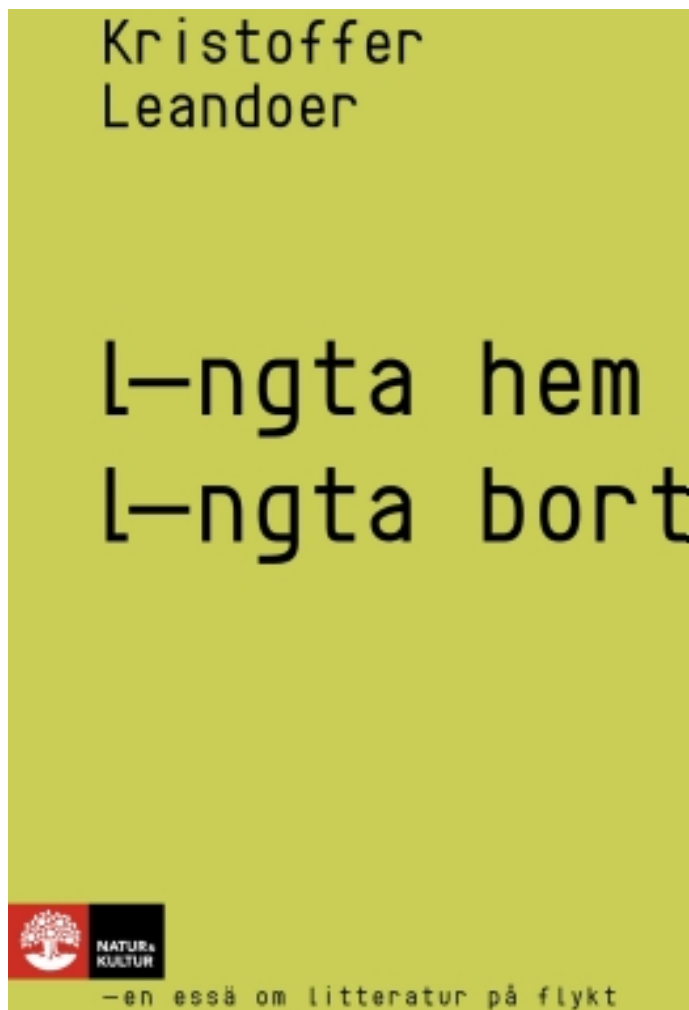
Novel, 272 p.	Publisher Norstedts	Rights Norstedts Agency Sofia Odsberg sofia.odsberg@norstedts.se	Rights sold to Germany/Nagel & Kimche
Maria Broberg			

NON- FICTION

Critic's choice

L-NG HOME L-NG AWAY

Ingrid
Elam's
choice



Escape and exile, breaking free and travelling home are some of the great themes of world literature and also the subjects of Kristoffer Leandoer's essay *L-ng Home L-ng Away*. Leandoer is exceptionally well-read and moves with equal ease through Ovid's *Tomis*, Marilynne Robinson's *Gilead* or the very capital of exiles – Paris. His highly evolved aptitude for creating unexpected associations that fire the reader's imagination makes this book an adventure – a journey through a library that resembles the world. You leave Naxos and Aeneas and in the next breath you're with Yoko Tawada in Berlin or by Edmund de Waal's potter's wheel as he attempts, using a piece of clay, "to still a small part of the world, make an inside space". The ceramicist's task echoes that of the author and the reader: to create a room of one's own, an inner exile.

Photo: Marcus Johansson



Kristoffer Leandoer Selected works

Flipperspelaren 1996
Skymningsfursten: en roman om det främmande 2005
De försvunna böckernas bibliotek 2016

Selected awards

De Nios Vinterpris 2008
Sorescupriset 2016
Karin Gierows pris 2017

Literary criticism, 413 p.	Publisher Natur & Kultur	Rights Natur & Kultur Anders Bergman anders.bergman@nok.se
Kristoffer Leandoer		

MERRY GAMES – JOYS, FANCIES AND AMUSEMENTS DURING THE SWEDISH EMPIRE

Henrik
Brändén's
choice

It is not easy to spot games and amusements in the source material from the bitterly cold, famine-ridden and war-torn Sweden of the 17th century. Yet, historian and writer Annika Sandén has found them: a snowball fight shows up in court proceedings because a grown-up got hit and caused a scuffle. The pretend wedding play of young farm girls is revealed thanks to the cathedral chapter's dislike of the fact that the game was taking place inside the church. Some shepherd boys' mock execution game is re-discovered in a travelogue on account of the axe they used being a bit too effective. In *Merry Games – Joys, Fancies and Amusements During the Swedish Empire* a myriad of such stories about children, young people and adults and their games, festivities and amusements are told. All, furthermore, are effortlessly connected to other research on play and partying: from other countries, other times and other fields.

Photo: Martin Alvehus



Annika Sandén

Selected works

Usla, elända och arma : samhällets utsatta under 700 år 2014

Bödlar. Liv, död och skam i svenskt 1600-tal 2016

Selected awards

Årets bok om svensk historia 2013

Stora historiepriset 2018



History, 423 p.	Publisher Atlantis	Rights Natur & Kultur Anders Bergman anders.bergman@nok.se
Annika Sandén		

SIRDOLAČČAT – THE DEPORTATION OF THE NORTHERN SÁMI

Moa
Matthis'
choice



We are so used to imagining geographical places in terms of national borders: lines on a map creating meaning by including or excluding. When Elin Anna Labba writes the history of the Swedish State's forced deportation of the Sámi people during the first half of the 20th century it becomes a story that necessarily breaks down the legitimacy of such borders. Sápmi, the cultural region of the Sámi, stretches across four national borders from the Atlantic coast in the west to the Barents Sea in the east, from the forestland of middle Sweden to the North Cape tundra. Lands and waters have names and meanings that precede the cartographical boundaries by thousands of years. It is in the footsteps of those who gave them these names, but were forced away, that Labba walks, listening to and recounting their voices with a sharp precision.

Photo: Hugo Thambert



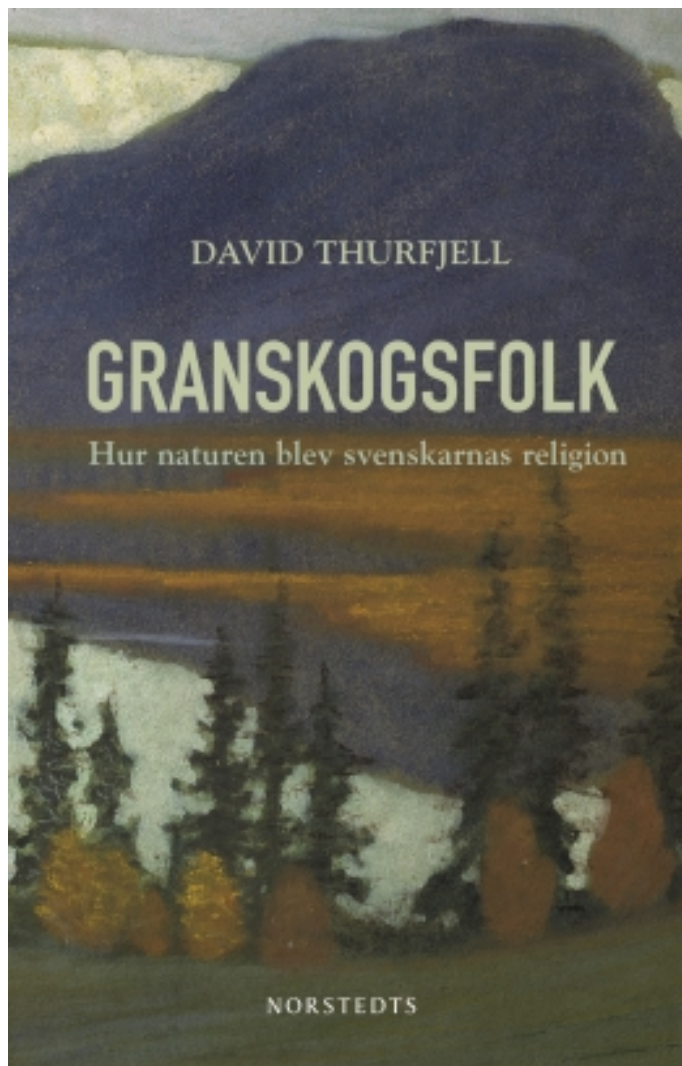
Elin Anna Labba

Sirdolaččat is Elin Anna Labba's debut work.

History, Reportage, 190 p.	Publisher Norstedts	Rights Norstedts Agency Catherine Mörk Catherine.mork@norstedts.se
Elin Anna Labba, Nina Ulmaja (design)		

SPRUCE-FIR FOLK

Helena
Granström's
choice



How did the Swedes develop their view on nature? Religious historian David Thurfjell demonstrates how the question is connected both to a human desire to create identity as well as national economy. Particularly evident is the link that joins a close relationship with forest, mountains and lakes (what we today think of as 'typically Swedish') with the Swedes' view on God and religion. Whilst Thurfjell shines a light on the evolution of the Nordic love of nature (using the historical development of human thought and his own interviews as a starting point) he also draws a stark image of a modern subject for whom the emotional experience controls all of their life choices: Do I like nature? And can I really be bothered with God?

Photo: Magnus Liam Karlsson



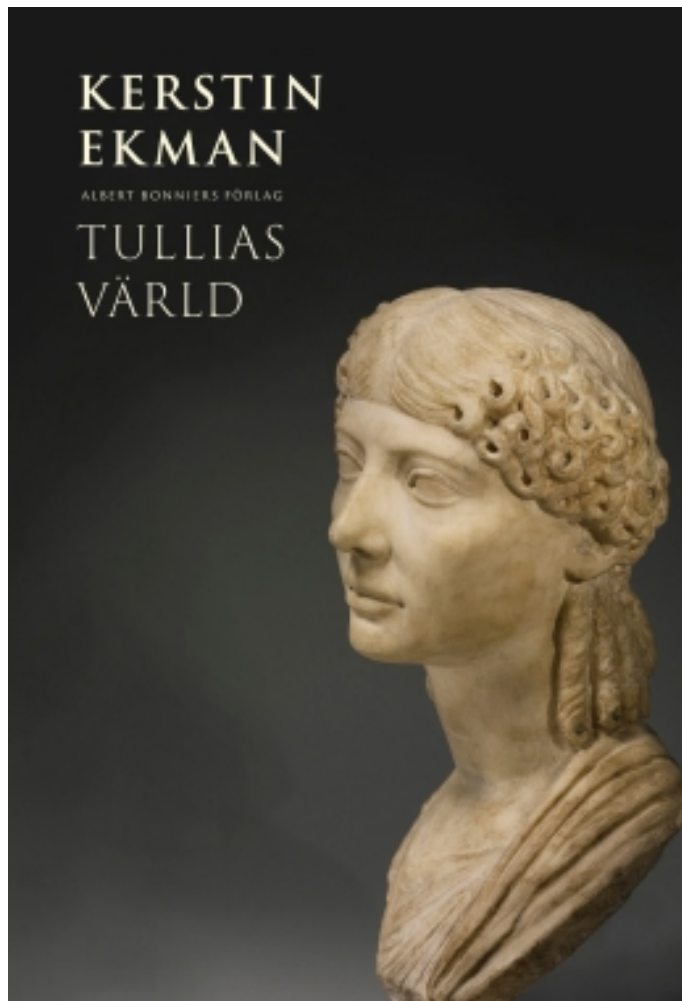
David Thurfjell Selected works

*Faith and Revivalism
in a Nordic Romani
Community* 2013
*Det gudlösa folket. De
postkristna svenskarna
och religionen* 2019

Religion, Contemporary Studies, 335 p.	Publisher Norstedts	Rights Norstedts Cecilia Kerstell cecilia.kerstell@norstedts.se
David Thurfjell		

TULLIA'S WORLD

Ingrid
Elam's
choice



Women are almost invisible in ancient Rome and of Tullia we don't know any more than that she died young and was loved by Cicero, her father. With a careful yet experienced hand Kerstin Ekman excavates a whole world around her. She allows us an insight into the conditions of women as they emerge between the lines of texts left behind by men. But she also gives us an insight into how these fates became crystallised seventy years ago in the mind of a young woman who read Latin in a Swedish small town high school, studying the Punic wars as grammar lessons rather than human tragedies.

Tullia's World is at the same time biography and autobiography, historical essay and wonderful reading. Here the author writes about history unencumbered by the conventions of school or academia, animatedly, captivatingly and thought provokingly.

Photo: Bodil Bergqvist



Kerstin Ekman

Selected works

Häxringarna 1974

Händelser vid vatten 1993

Grand final i skojarbranschen 2003

Selected awards

Augustpriset 1993

Nordiska rådets litteraturpris 1994 and numerous other awards starting from 1961

Women's Rome, 186 p.	Publisher Albert Bonniers Förlag	Rights Bonnier Rights Eleonoora Kirk eleonoora.kirk@bonnierrights.se
Kerstin Ekman		

THE UNNATURAL SELECTION OF OUR SPECIES

Henrik
Brändén's
choice

In this follow-up to the celebrated *The Re-Origin of Species*, biologist and science writer Torill Kornfeldt takes the reader on a voyage to the frontline of human genetic research. We visit luxurious fertility clinics, American bio-hackers and Chinese scientists racing to cure illnesses by inserting new genes into our bodies' cells; scientists that give monkeys human genes and in so doing change the sizes of their brains.

Without compromising her rigour Kornfeldt explains clearly and comprehensibly, and while not forcing her own conclusions onto the reader she asks important and difficult questions. How could we apply genetic engineering to humans? Should we change our own genes? Should we improve the genes of our future children, even if this means that any new characteristics would be passed on? These are questions we need to answer right here, right now. The last decade's technical developments have transformed these issues from science fiction to our reality.

Photo: Erik Ardelius



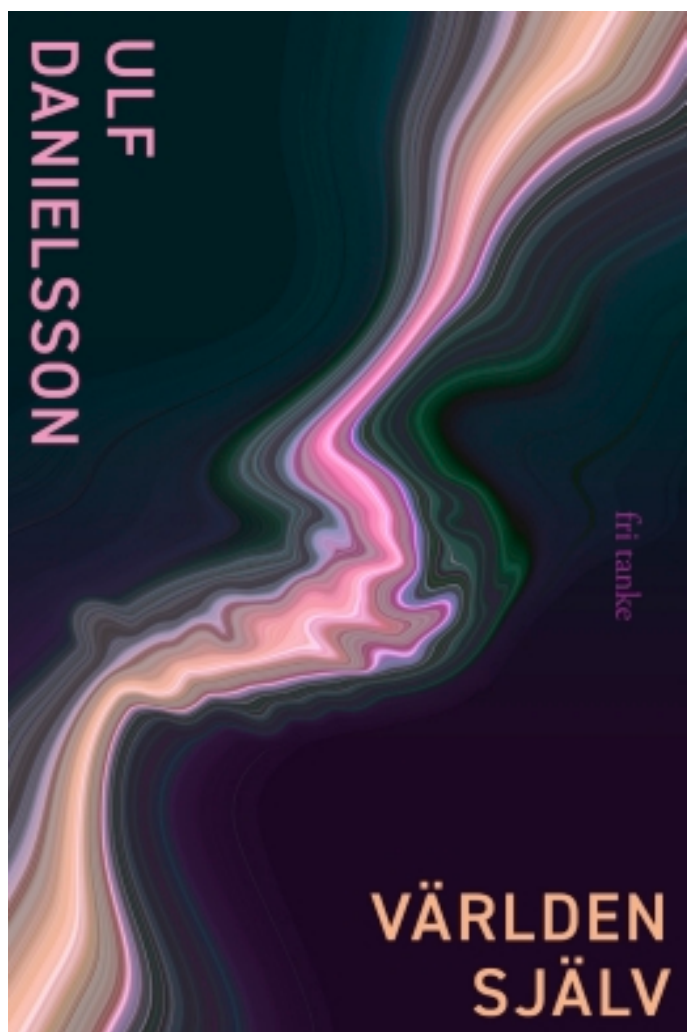
Torill Kornfeldt
Selected works
Mammutens återkomst 2016



Popular Science, 238 p.	Publisher Natur & Kultur	Rights Kontext Agency Rita G Karlsson rita@kontextagency.com
Torill Kornfeldt		

THE WORLD ITSELF

Helena
Granström's
choice



In a time where the notion of reality seems to have dwindled in value, writer and string theoretician Ulf Danielsson mounts an emphatic defence for its existence. In a personal and trustworthy address Danielsson argues for the importance of distinguishing between copy and original, both in life and science, directing criticism towards a lingering dualism that has marked contemporary scientific research. With his gaze firmly planted on corporeal life Danielsson explores both quantum mechanics and artificial intelligence. Reminding us that the subjective experience – the experience that ultimately is impossible to separate from the person experiencing it – also hides at the bottom of even the most abstract of equations.

Photo: Peter Knutson



Ulf Danielsson

Selected works

Stjärnor och äpplen som faller. En bok om upptäckter och märkvärdigheter i universum 2003

Den bästa av världar: Skapelse, slump, apokalyps, död 2008 *Vårt klot så ömkligt litet* 2016

Selected awards

Siripriset 2008
Harry Martinson-priset 2016
Karin Gierows pris 2017

Philosophy, Popular physics, 198 p.	Publisher Fri Tanke	Rights Fri Tanke Martina Stenström martina.stenstrom@fritanke.se
Ulf Danielsson		

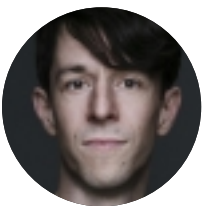
WHAT IF – THE NEW AGE OF ANXIETY

Moa
Matthis'
choice

What if I didn't turn off the stove? What if the person who last sat on this park bench had Covid-19 and now the disease has somehow spread to the armrest? What if I get ill? What if the world ends tomorrow? What if I lose my job?

Roland Paulsen is a senior lecturer in sociology. In his latest book *What if: The New Age of Anxiety* he tackles the inability of the modern human to live with the inherent uncertainty of life. The mantra "what if" is the mind's futile attempt at anticipating and guarding itself against a future that despite, or perhaps because of, a thoroughly regulated existence, feels like a bottomless pit. With a deft hand Paulsen mixes empiricism with theory, sensitively sketching a human who appears to be lost in a self-made labyrinth of civilisation.

Photo: Johanna Hanno



Roland Paulsen

Selected works

Empty Labor: Idleness and Workplace Resistance 2014

Vi bara lyder. En berättelse om Arbetsförmedlingen 2015

Selected awards

Johan Hansson-priset 2015



Psychology, 344 p.	Publisher Albert Bonniers Förlag	Rights Bonnier Rights Madelene Andersson madelene.andersson@ bonnierights.se	Rights sold to Germany/Goldmann Finland/Tammi Poland/ Zwierniada
Roland Paulsen			

NON- FICTION

Jury's choice

ALWAYS GOODBYE

The jury:

**Cleverly told, parallel stories
taking place at different
moments in time.
Insightful without being
obvious.**



Twelve-year-old Alma hasn't even left for her summer vacation and she's already homesick. She lives in Umeå with her mother Johanna, and all her friends, including her best friend Lina, live there too. A hundred miles away is the town of Gerlesborg, the home of her father, where she's meant to spend the entire summer longing to be back in Umeå. But when you're only 12 that's not a good enough reason to be the one who decides not to go.

Then the story jumps 30 years back in time and we now meet a young Johanna. She'd rather be anywhere else than with her parents, who are struggling through a divorce. Her mother's new boyfriend is really annoying and her father doesn't understand anything at all. They want Johanna to choose which parent she wants to be with. But how can a child make that choice without being consumed by guilt?

Always Goodbye delicately portrays two stories about children of divorce, seen through the eyes of two generations. A poetic and beautifully drawn tale that captures the child's perspective. It is a story about love, loss and ambiguity and how, reluctantly, you always have to say goodbye.

Alma Thörn

Photo: Johannes Samuelsson



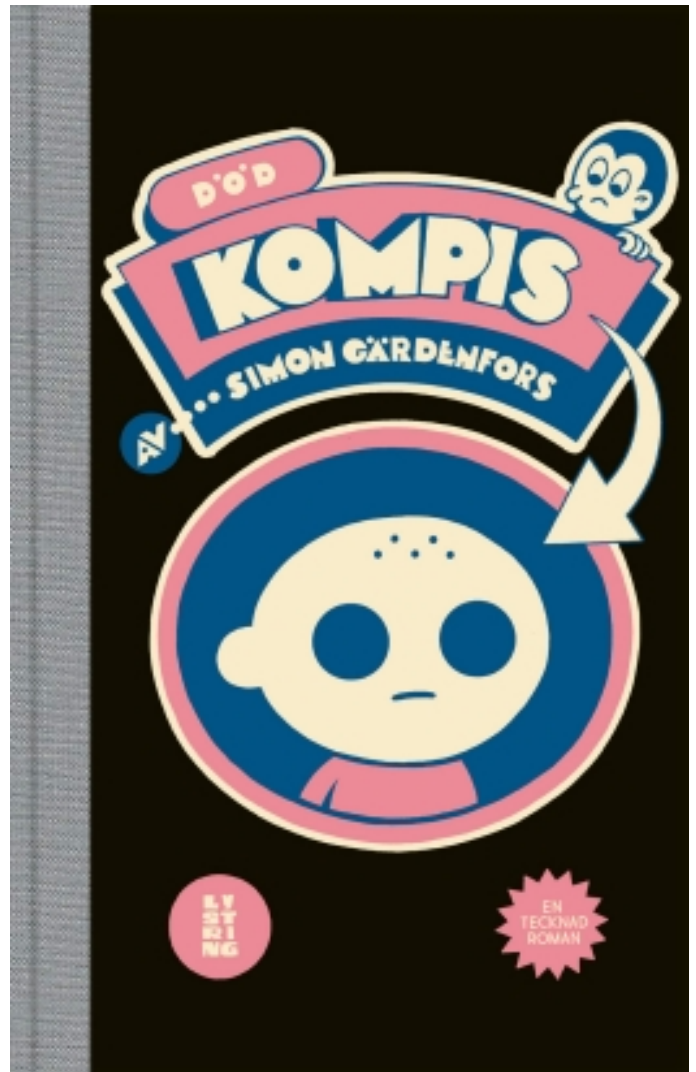
Comic book, Autobiography, 317 p.	Publisher Galago	Rights Am-Book Alessandra Sternfeld info@am-book.com
Alma Thörn		

DEAD FRIEND

Simon is just seventeen when he receives the phone call from the hospital: his best friend Kalle has died suddenly from meningitis. This marks the beginning of a long flashback, in which Simon looks back at how he and Kalle became friends, their hilarious teenage relationship, and at what his life has been like after that phone call. *Dead Friend* isn't just Simon's story; it is all the stories of the people who were close to Kalle. One of those stories, perhaps the most heart breaking, is that of Anna, Kalle's mother, and of the way she dealt with the loss of her son. Simon's clean drawing style (so graphic and cartoonish) and sharp irony clash beautifully with the complexity of the topic, making this book a profoundly nuanced portrait of grief and friendship, and one of the most unpretentiously deep comic books ever written.

Simon Gärdenfors

Photo: Jonas Eng



The jury:

**A book for all ages,
written in a consistent
and accomplished style.**

Comic book, Autobiography, 176 p.	Publisher Lystring	Rights Am-Book Alessandra Sternfeld info@am-book.com
Simon Gärdenfors		

SIRDOLAČČAT – THE DEPORTATION OF THE NORTHERN SÁMI

One hundred years ago, the Swedish and Norwegian governments came to an agreement regarding the nomadic people in the north. The settlement – referred to as 'a dislocation' by the authorities – initiated a long period of deportations of reindeer-herding Northern Sámi from their homes in Norway to new pastures in Sweden and Finland. In the Sámi language it gave rise to a new word – *bággojohtin* – forced displacement. And to *sirdolaččat*, as the older generation later called themselves, meaning 'the displaced'. The first ones that are forced out leave their homes in the belief that they will soon return.

Elin Anna Labba has collected stories, photographs, letters and the lyrics of traditional Sámi joiks. Together they form a chorus of voices echoing through time. The book portrays a hard life: reindeer lost on the way as they run north towards their familiar lands, children that are left behind with relatives. Sorrow that is stilled, yet lives on in new generations.

Sirdolaččat is a magnificent work about an untold part of Scandinavian history. Elin Anna Labba reveals an important piece of the Sámi people's legacy, its painful consequences still resonating today. The Swedish-language edition has been highly praised by critics. The Northern Sámi edition is Norstedts' very first book published in that language – a milestone in the publishing house's 197-year history.

Sirdolaččat is a magnificent work about an untold part of Scandinavian history, masterfully designed by Nina Ulmaja.

The jury:

**A sure-fire export!
Worth all the praise
it's received.**



Elin Anna Labba

Photo: Hugo Thambert



History, Reportage, 187 p.	Publisher Norstedts	Rights Norstedts Agency Catherine Mörk catherine.mork@norstedts.se	Rights sold to Norway/Pax
Elin Anna Labba, Nina Ulmaja (design)			

THE SIX WALLS OF LIFE

The jury:

Absolutely wonderful!
Lovely essays
with stylistic flair.



From Nina Burton, the 2016 winner of the August Prize for Non-Fiction, comes a beguiling and in many ways exceptional nature memoir, an homage to the natural world around us. What begins with a renovation of Nina Burton's summer cottage swiftly turns into an exploration of nature, life and philosophy in the hands of this award-winning essayist. Within the walls, the ceiling and the floor of the cottage as well as its surrounding garden we encounter a host of animals—ants, honey bees, foxes, squirrels, blackbirds, badgers, pigeons and deer—making her house their home. This prompts Nina to explore all that is awe-inspiring and often delightfully surprising about each species.

For instance, did you know that there are more ants in the world than there are seconds that have passed since the Big Bang? And that in relation to the size of an ant their anthill cities can be larger than London and New York? Or, that a bird's migratory instinct is so strong that an injured stork who had escaped captivity was once found six weeks later having walked 150 kilometres, following the migratory path of his flock on foot? This and many other remarkable musings are woven together with scientific exploration in the absolutely captivating *The Six Walls of Life*. Here Nina reveals the inner lives and hitherto unknown habits of the animals with which she shares her enchanted space.

An obvious heiress to the Swedish style of nature writing first made famous by Kerstin Ekman, Nina Burton writes with boundless enthusiasm and an inspiring curiosity, while enlightening the reader about the wider natural world. She transports us into her chirping, buzzing, humming sanctuary, letting us in on the hidden secrets of the animals who take up residence on our doorsteps and, through her book, also in our hearts.

Nina Burton

Photo: Sara Mac Key



Nature Writing, 272 p.	Publisher Albert Bonniers Förlag	Rights Bonnier Rights Elisabet Brännström elisabet.brannstrom @bonnerrights.se	Rights sold to Denmark/Kristeligt Dagblad. Germany/btb Verlag. Finland/Schildts & Söderströms
Nina Burton			

THROUGH OBJECTS OUR MEMORIES LIVE ON

The jury:

**Little things from everyday life,
perhaps just a small note with a name on,
become carriers of memories,
sometimes very difficult ones.
Here the small details
support the bigger picture.**

Dina and Jovan Rajs were born in the former Yugoslavia and their childhood was marked by the Holocaust. Dina hid using forged identity papers and was in constant fear of being discovered. Jovan hid too, but was also imprisoned in several concentration camps.

In this book the authors tell their story through the objects they have carried with them throughout their lives. Things that at first glance may seem trivial but which together testify to a life as survivors: a piece of paper, a family photo, an engagement ring, a chess set. Objects that were hidden when they were forced to leave their home, but which have influenced their way of thinking and feeling, reminded them of their story and, ultimately, shaped their entire lives.



Dina and Jovan Rajs

Photo: Roland Persson



Photo: Roland Persson



History, Biography, 152 p.	Publisher Bonnier Fakta	Rights Bonnier Rights Per Widell per.widell@bonnierights.se
Dina and Jovan Rajs		

THE UNLIKELY MURDERER

The book that closed the Palme case.

For 34 years the unresolved murder of Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme has haunted an entire nation – not to say the world.

After 12 years of research, resulting in the book *The Unlikely Murderer*, journalist Thomas Pettersson has brought the case to a close. In 2017 his findings prompted the police to re-examine the suspect Stig Engström and they were instrumental in the judicial closure of the investigation in June 2020.

In *The Unlikely Murderer* Thomas Pettersson presents a number of previously unknown facts in the Palme murder investigation. It is a sensational, enthralling and alarming book that shines light on the many mistakes and missteps made during a criminal investigation that lasted for over three decades.

On June 10th, 2020, Chief Prosecutor Krister Petersson presented the evidence for Stig Engström being "suspected on reasonable grounds" of committing the murder of Olof Palme. This evidence followed, to the letter, the material presented a few years earlier in *The Unlikely Murderer*.



Thomas Pettersson

Photo: Henrik Brunnsgård



The jury:
A meticulous depiction,
with journalistic drive,
of everything, or at least most of it,
that happened after the murder
of Olof Palme.

Crime Journalism, 256 p.	Publisher Offside Press	Rights Grand Agency Lena Stjernström lena@grandagency.se	Rights sold to Finland/Otava USA/TBA Film Rights: Sweden/FLX
Thomas Pettersson			

THE UNNATURAL SELECTION OF OUR SPECIES

The jury:
**Important, exciting,
 hyper-current and knowledgeable.
 Facts are served up
 in such a way that makes
 the reader feel clever.**



The progress of new genetic technology has hurtled forward at breakneck speed. When the first genetically modified children, twins Lulu and Nana, were born in China in 2018 it was clear that humanity faced new possibilities that previously we could have only dreamt about. It has given us the opportunity to change what it means to be human. The discovery of the CRISPR genetic scissors used to edit DNA could potentially lead to the eradication of many diseases. But, whilst advancements give us hope, they also force us to face difficult ethical and societal questions.

Torill Kornfeldt has travelled all over the world to meet the people who are driving this research forward. She has visited fertility clinics in South Korea, oncologists in China experimenting on sick patients, and bio-hackers in the USA who want to make the new technology available to everyone. She examines the consequences of these recent developments as well as what might still be waiting around the corner.

We stand upon a precipice; both fantastic and frightening possibilities lurk within our own genetic material. It is an exciting but complicated area to navigate. Yet, in Kornfeldt's hands, the resulting book is an easy read that expertly and effortlessly explains the current developments in the field. It is a book that's not only deep and intellectual, but highly entertaining and witty as well.

Torill Kornfeldt

Photo: Erik Ardelius



Popular Science, 238 p.	Publisher Natur & Kultur	Rights Kontext Agency Rita G Karlsson rita@kontextagency.com
Torill Kornfeldt		

WHERE THE SIN NEVER SETS – AROUND THE WORLD IN PORTUGUESE

The jury:
**Easy to read
 and engaging reportage.
 The reader will profit from
 a variety of unexpected facts.
 Joyful reading!**

With the Seven Deadly Sins as a starting point Henrik Brandão Jönsson recounts the unlikely tale of how one of Europe's poorest countries was once one of the most powerful nations in the world.

Now the former Portuguese colonies have become the sinful antitheses of their neighbouring states, as places where sex, alcohol, and gambling thrive. Each chapter in Brandão Jönsson's book represents a Deadly Sin and a Portuguese-speaking place that seemingly has come to embody it.

In Goa, drugs and gluttony had gained a foothold. In Macau money and greed had taken over. In the paradise island of Timor-Leste vanity, an example of pride, thrived, and in sexy Mozambique lust prevailed. In the temperamental Angola wrath was growing, and in exuberant Brazil sloth had spread. While the 'Mother Country' Portugal felt envy towards all that she had created abroad but had failed to accomplish at home. With this expansive text Brandão Jönsson offers the reader a book that they didn't know was missing until they found it.

Henrik Brandão Jönsson

Photo: Dado Galdieri



History, Travel, 282 p.	Publisher Natur & Kultur	Rights Kontext agency Rita G Karlsson rita@kontextagency.com
Henrik Brandão Jönsson		

GRANTS FOR TRANSLATION OF SWEDISH LITERATURE AND DRAMA

If you would like to publish a book translated from Swedish you can apply for a grant from the Swedish Arts Council.

The translation grant covers part of the costs for translating Swedish fiction, nonfiction, poetry, children's books, narrative nonfiction and comics/graphic novels. You can also apply to cover licensed stage performances of full length Swedish plays. The applied sum should correspond to the sum agreed with the translator according to the translator contract.

You can also apply for a maximum of SEK 10 000 for production costs for fully illustrated colour illustrated books, but only for fully illustrated four colour picturebooks, non-fiction or comics and graphic novels. Non- or partly illustrated books or books with black and white illustrations (except in some cases, such

as comics) are not eligible for production support. The grant cannot cover copyright costs.

Irrespective of genre, the work must be of high quality in terms of both language and literary qualities. The grant is meant to support translation of contemporary works, but could also be given to classics. Priority will be given to introduction of the work of contemporary Swedish authors into languages where there are no or few previous translations of that author's work.

You cannot apply for handbooks, popular psychology, self-help gardening, cookbooks, travel guides or academic works.

GRANTS FOR TRAVEL, PROMOTION AND THEMED EVENTS

This grant covers a wide range of activities, also in digital format, for example:

Invite Swedish authors, illustrators, playwrights for book launches, book tours, panel talks, literary festivals – the grant can cover costs for travel, accommodation, performance fees

Arrange reading events for unpublished books or theatre plays – the grant can cover translation costs for a sample of the text being read, but also for inviting the author, (see above), and for producing material in conjunction with the event.

Promote the books that might need an extra push – the grant can cover some marketing costs.

Arrange workshops or seminars for translators from Swedish into other languages – the grant can cover costs for a workshop/seminar leader, guest lecturers, some material costs in conjunction with the workshop/seminar. The length could be a full year or just one or two days.

Produce publications on Swedish literature and drama – it could be online magazines, blogs, special issues in papers, overviews over the Swedish literary scene. The grant can cover fees for contributors, marketing, some production costs.

Arrange larger events around Swedish literature, such as a Guest of Honourship at a bookfair or a festival – the grant can cover costs for the invited authors and illustrators, as well as costs for the Swedish stand, and some marketing material and events at the fair/festival.

GRANTS FOR TRANSLATORS OF SWEDISH LITERATURE AND DRAMA

If you are a professional translator of Swedish literature and drama into other languages, you can get support to cover cost in conjunction with your work.

Basically, there are two types of grants for translators to apply for: Travel grant and Sample translation grant

Travel grant: You can apply for travel- and accommodation costs if you need to go to Sweden to meet your author or Swedish publishers or to do research. This is also applicable if you want to visit a bookfair or literary festival in your own or some other country, to have meetings with publishers and authors. If you would like to take part in a translator conference or workshop that is not in your own town, you can also apply for this grant.

Sample translation grant: If you would like to introduce an author to your language for the first time, and need some work on your material, you can apply for this sample translation grant. The grant can cover costs for your work to make a good sample translation, and/or an author bio, and a resume of the book.

The maximum sum to apply for is SEK 12 000. We need to know which publishers you want to present your material to and why, and that you have a plan for your introduction work. After one year, we will need a report of how it all went.

We also support mentorship projects. The mentor applies for a fee at a maximum of SEK 12 000.

GÖTEBORG BOOK FAIR FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

Each year, the Swedish Arts Council arranges a visiting programme for foreign publishers and translators at the Göteborg Book Fair in the end of September.

We offer a three day program, a mix of arranged activities and free time for individual meetings. We arrange lectures on the Swedish Book Market, and on different literature genres, from children's and Y/A to nonfiction. The program also includes round table meetings with Swedish colleagues. The content differs from year to year.

There is plenty of room for meetings at the International Rights Centre, where all the agents have tables, or to listen to seminars and panel discussions at the fair. Or to just take a tour among all the exhibiting publishers at the fair.

Usually we select equal numbers of translators and publishers and try to match them as well as possible.

The grant covers a contribution to the travel costs and the costs for a hotel room for three nights. The travel grant is SEK 2 500 for travelers inside Europe and SEK 7 000 for travelers outside of Europe, and is paid to the applicant as soon as the grant is accepted. We take care of the reservation and payment the hotel for all participants, who all stay at the same hotel.

SLE SWEDISH LITERATURE EXCHANGE

The Swedish Arts Council works to promote Swedish literature and drama in translation. Under the name Swedish Literature Exchange, we do this through grants, information, networking, translator activities, and attendance at book fairs and other meeting places for literature exchange. You are most welcome to contact us if you would like to meet us in our offices or at the book fairs.

Our office

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Please sign up to our newsletter to keep up to date. The form is available on our homepage www.swedishliterature.se



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