

OSLO LITERARY AGENCY

SELECTED BACKLIST

RIGHTS LIST

SPRING 2017

FICTION

Oslo Literary Agency is Norway's biggest literary agency, representing authors in the genres of literary fiction, crime and commercial fiction, children's and YA books and non-fiction. Oslo Literary Agency was established in 2016, replacing Aschehoug Agency.
Oslo

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Kjell Askildsen



Photo: Nils Petter Lotherington

In a single sentence Askildsen can tell a story so big that others would spend an entire book on it, and in his short stories, he can build an entire world, and let it collapse by the story's ending ... Askildsen writes with the same, shocking clarity as always
- Politiken, Denmark, on *The Cost of Friendship*

The Swedish Academy's Nordic Prize 2009
Brage Honorary Prize 1996
Critics' Prize 1991 & 1983

Kjell Askildsen (b. 1929) is one of the great Norwegian writers of the post-war era and an inescapable reference in contemporary Scandinavian literature. Admired above all for his short stories, Askildsen has cultivated a terse, ascetic style, the perfect vehicle for his existential themes. Though the world view often seems bleak and disillusioned, there is also humour in his works, albeit of the black, laconic kind.

Askildsen entered the literary scene in 1953 with a short story collection which received glittering reviews, but was banished from the library in his home town for moral reasons. After two more story collections and five novels he finally gained a wider readership in the 1980s with the Critics' Prize winning *Thomas F.'s Final Notes to the Public* and a later selection of his best stories. Two more excellent collections followed in the 90s. After a long silence, Askildsen returned with the acclaimed *The Cost of Friendship* in 2015.

Selected bibliography

- The Cost of Friendship, short stories 2015
- The Dogs of Thessaloniki, short stories 1996
- A Wide, Deserted Landscape, short stories 1991
- A Sudden Liberating Thought, short stories 1987
- Thomas F.'s Final Notes to the Public, short stories 1983
- Nothing for Nothing, short stories 1982
- Surroundings, novella 1969



Gunstein Bakke

Expectant



Impresses with a richness of thought we rarely see in contemporary literature
- Morgenbladet

A brilliant work of literature
- NRK

Shortlisted for the Critics' Prize 2016
Shortlisted for the P2 Listeners' Novel Prize
Shortlisted for the Sørlandet Literary Prize

1860: Julia Pastrana, «the Mexican bear woman», has arrived in Moscow. She is about to give birth, but can still be seen every day at the circus. Public curiosity grows by the day: Will the child be covered in fur, like its mother?

In the late 1970s a shady character living on an Oslo garbage dump discovers a stuffed woman's body. He brings her home to have somebody to talk to.

In 2013, the journalist Kira travels to Sinaloa to attend the handover of Julia's remains to the Mexican state. Kira, expectant as a consequence of rape, carries a spawn of darkness.

Expectant is a dizzyingly inventive and tender exploration of birth and death, transgression and abnormality.

Gunstein Bakke

Gunstein Bakke (b. 1968) made his debut with the novel *The Office* in 2000. His third novel, *Maud and Aud* (2011), won the EU Prize and was shortlisted for the Brage Prize, the P2 Listeners' Novel Prize and several other awards. Bakke has also published a collection of poetry and edited an anthology on the July 22 attacks.



Photo: Christian L. Elgvin

Havende
Forlaget Oktober, 2016

Novel
232 pages

Dag Johan Haugerud

Easy Atonal Pieces for Children



Winner of the P2 Listeners' Novel Prize 2016

A teacher leaves a house in a town by the foot of the Alps. She hurries to the library, where she passes an elderly man, who continues to the swimming hall, where he meets a young man. In 24 hours the story runs from person to person throughout central Europe.

One of these people is looking for a dissertation on *Tom and the Rabbit*, the popular children's book that Eivind Ness published before his serious, bestselling novels. Erik Andersen, a writer of the more inaccessible kind, wants to write a biography of Ness because of the children's book. But he needs the cooperation of the author's widow.

Years later, an older charity fundraiser stands in a doorway, wondering if she will recognize the young man and woman living in the house.

Easy Atonal Pieces for Children is as unpredictable and idiosyncratic as it is entertaining, a novel in three independent, but interconnected parts.

This year's most singular, thought-provoking novel
- NRK P2

A thought-provoking novel on art, truth, power and powerlessness
- Vårt Land

Dag Johan Haugerud

Dag Johan Haugerud (b. 1964) is a librarian, writer and filmmaker. He made his literary debut in 1999 with the warmly received novel *Something with Nature*. *Easy Atonal Pieces for Children* is his fourth novel.



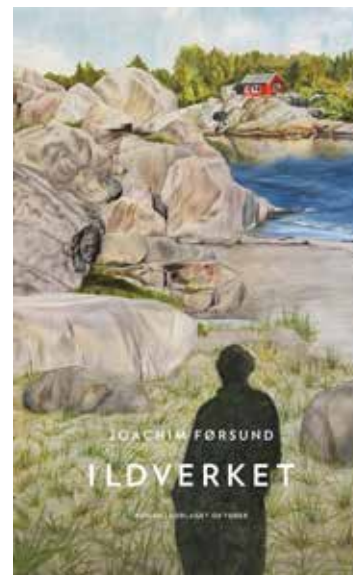
Photo: Baard Henriksen

Enkle atonale stykker for barn
Forlaget Oktober, 2016

Novel
352 pages

Joachim Førsund

Thin Air



Foreign rights sold: Danish (Batzer)

Sandra is fourteen. She has lost her mother and is about to be handed over to foster parents on a farm by the sea. Now she is sitting in the back seat of a strange car, trying to memorise the route so that she can find her way back.

Morten is standing by the window of his room. He has been longing for somebody to talk to, and he sees a car coming up the road through the asparagus fields. The girl in the backseat is his age, but she is tall enough to see into the world of the adults.

In dense, down-to-earth prose, Joachim Førsund writes about the possibility of becoming close with another person and the risk of being abandoned.

Quietly sensitive, poetic in a sober way, but also terrifying ... A gorgeous piece of writing
- Stavanger Aftenblad, Best books of 2016

A vibrating novel that moves and shakes the reader ... will be devoured in one sitting
- Dagsavisen

Joachim Førsund

Joachim Førsund (b. 1971) and has worked as a journalist, script writer and TV director. After three non-fiction books, he made his fiction debut in 2009 with the acclaimed novel *I Could Have Walked Home Blindfold*, which was shortlisted for the P2 Listeners' Novel Prize and subsequently translated into Danish.



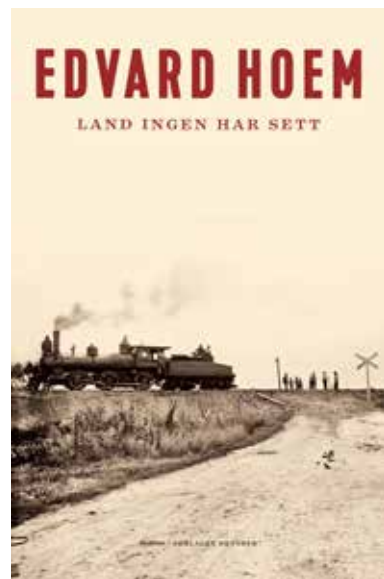
Photo: Agnete Brun

Ildverket
Forlaget Oktober, 2016

Novel
208 pages

Edvard Hoem

A Land No One Has Seen



The third book of Edvard Hoem's family epic follows two brothers through the best years of their manhood, Anton Edvard in Romsdal in Norway, Eilert on the Alberta prairie. While Europe is ravaged by the great war, both brothers will build themselves up from nothing, competing with and inspiring each other. Meanwhile, the rebellious Gjertine will make a final, long journey, to see her son in Saskatchewan.

A Land No One Has Seen is a rich, multifaceted story of powerful bonds between people who most likely will never see each other again.

The background to my emigrant novels are the family stories that my father told me, more than 60 years ago. For 20 years I gathered material in every place imaginable, while writing other books. In 2013 I could finally start moulding a multitude of facts together into a large scale work of fiction on those who left and those who stayed. These books are novels, but they are based upon people who once lived and loved, struggled and danced, grieved and dreamed.

- Edvard Hoem

- An epic family saga spanning two continents and three generations
- Rights to books 1 & 2 sold to Denmark and USA
- 181,500 copies printed of the first three books
- Fourth and final volume scheduled for 2017

Edvard Hoem

Edvard Hoem was born in 1949, and made his debut in 1969. Since then he has published a number of novels, and has been nominated for the Nordic Council's Literary Prize four times. In addition, Hoem has written plays, essays and biographies and has translated seven of William Shakespeare's plays into Norwegian.

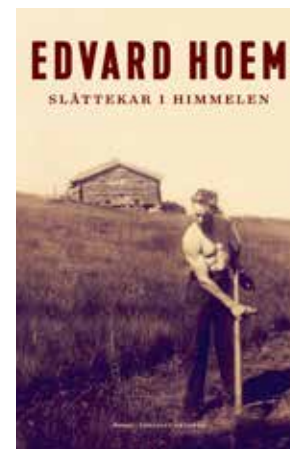


Photo: Paal Audestad

Land ingen har sett
Forlaget Oktober, 2016

Novel
400 pages

Haymaker in Heaven



Molde, 1874: Nesje, a widower with a son to take care of, works as a haymaker. One day Serianna comes along. She smokes a pipe and takes him fishing, and they fall in love. Soon they get married and have children.

Just like Nesje and Serianna, most people live a life of hard work connected to the earth and fjord. But more and more people are selling the few things they own to make the dangerous and exciting trip to America.

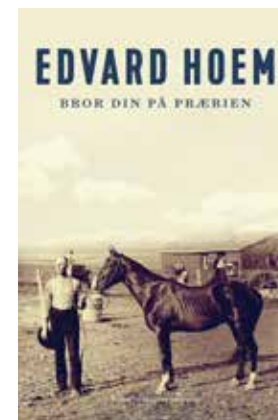
A master in action ... A magnificent piece of writing about the American dream

- VG

Novel
368 pages

Slättekar i himmelen
Forlaget Oktober, 2014

Your Brother on the Prairie



Eilert Knutsen is only 16 years old when he boards a steam ship in Kristiansund headed for America. His father, the haymaker Knut Nesje, is standing on the docks, blinded by tears. Six weeks later, Eilert knocks on the door of his aunt Gjertine in Day County, South Dakota.

Hoem manages to make a tiny house on the prairie into an important part of Norwegian history [These books] will live on as brilliant works of art in the history of Norwegian literature

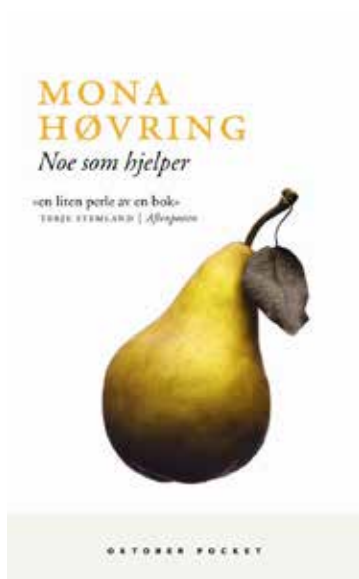
- VG

Bror din på prærien
Forlaget Oktober, 2015

Novel
480 pages

Mona Høvring

Something That Helps



Foreign rights sold: Danish (Lesen)

Crystal clear, scenic prose about a girl's burgeoning sexuality and black grief
- 5/6 stars, Berlingske

Something That Helps is a stirring novel about a young girl's sexual awakening, about inner strength and a turbulent family life, about friendship and loss. Laura's encounter with the older and erotically experienced Vivian Koller, and the friendship with the caring gardener Andreas, become crucial influences to her choices and development. Laura is both abruptly adult and childish, independent and vulnerable.

The clear, yet subdued language of the novel paints a multi-faceted and implacable portrait of a young woman who follows her own path towards destruction and reconciliation.

A brilliant novel on loneliness and a young girl's relationship to an older woman ... There is a surprising and pulsating quality to Mona Høvring's light prose
- Information, Denmark

Mona Høvring

Mona Høvring (b. 1962) has published six collections of poetry, the most recent being *Girl with Skull*. Since her first novel, *Something that Helps*, she has published two more acclaimed novels: *The Waiting Room in the Atlantic* (2011) and *Camilla's Long Nights* (2013), The latter was nominated to the Nordic Council Literature Prize.



Noe som hjelper
Forlaget Oktober, 2017

Novel
130 pages

Nina Lykke

No, A Hundred Times No



Foreign rights sold: German (Nagel & Kimche)

- * 15,000 copies printed
- * Shortlisted for the Young People's Critics' Prize and the P2 Listeners' Novel Prize
- * Book Club Book of the Month, March 2017

Ibsenesque ... incredibly precise in her portrayal of a certain form of life ... a kind of female Dag Solstad for the 2010s, satirical, recognizable and fun
- Kulturhuset, NRK P2

Ingrid and Jan have been married for a quarter of a century. They live with their two sons in a large house in a nice Oslo neighbourhood. The boys are big enough to be counted as adults, but they behave like hotel guests. Ingrid has lost all her illusions both about family life and her teacher's job. Jan, however, is vitalized by his unexpected promotion to sectional director in the government ministry – as well as by the far younger advisor Hanne, who has seen all her friends disappear into regular family lives. It's time to take action.

No, A Hundred Times No is a sharp, funny novel about the conditions of the nuclear family in a society where the lust of the moment is the ultimate guiding star and too much is never enough.

A razor-sharp, deeply probing, uncomfortable love triangle story that reads like a pageturner ... creeps under the reader's skin with its energetic, realistic prose, which at times tremble with violent emotion
- Adresseavisen

Nina Lykke

Nina Lykke was born in 1965. Her literary debut, *The Orgy and Other Stories* (2010), was nominated for the Young Readers' Critics' Prize. Her first novel, *Disintegration*, followed in 2013.



Photo: Jo Michael

Nei og atter nei
Forlaget Oktober, 2016

Novel
269 pages

Merethe Lindstrøm



Nordic Council Literature Prize 2012
Critics' Prize 2011

Merethe Lindstrøm (b. 1963) made her debut in 1983 with a collection of short stories, and has since published a number of acclaimed books, mainly short stories and novels.

After several well-received short story collections and novels like *The Stone Collectors* (1996) and *The Substitute* (1997), Lindstrøm achieved definite recognition in 2007, when her collection *The Guests* was shortlisted for both the Nordic Council Literature Prize and the Critics' Prize. The year after, she was awarded the Dobloug Prize for her entire work.

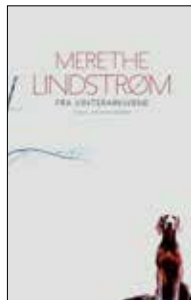
Lindstrøm found even greater success with her next book, the novel *Days in the History of Silence*, which won both the Nordic Council Literature Prize and the Critics' Prize, and which has been sold to 13 countries. A subsequent collection of short stories, *Architect*, and the raw, personal novel *From the Winter Archives* have confirmed her high standing in today's literary landscape.

A brilliant love story ... another step towards greatness by this singular and hypersensitive writer

- Dagens Nyheter, Sweden on *From the Winter Archives*

Selected bibliography

- From the Winter Archives, novel 2015
- Architect, short stories 2013
- Days in the History of Silence, novel 2011
- The Guests, short stories 2007
- The Child Searcher, novel 2005
- The Substitute, novel 1997
- The Stone Collectors, novel 1996



Terje Holtet Larsen



Since *The Peer Gynt Version* (2003) Terje Holtet Larsen (b. 1963) has been cultivating an inventive mix of fiction, autobiography and essay that owes as much to Kurt Vonnegut and Thomas Bernhard as it does to Jorge Luis Borges.

The Peer Gynt Version (2003) starts with the philosopher Otto Weininger's journey to Oslo in 1902 to watch a performance of Ibsen's *Peer Gynt*. Larsen's brilliant and amusing account of the reception of this performance is contrasted with a moving story of a mother and a son carrying the author's name.

In the acclaimed *The Dilettante* (2012), the author again turns up in his own novel, this time to tell his own "inverted autobiography". The book won the Riksmål Prize.

In *The Informer* (2016) an author is hired to forge the autobiography of a businessman who wants to disappear. With a dizzying narrative construction, elegant prose and hilarious put-downs of contemporary society, it is perhaps Larsen's most purely enjoyable novel yet. Nominated for the Young People's Critics' Prize.

Great art ... packed with sharp, hysterically funny humour ... at times reminiscent of several of Solstad's best novels

- Dagbladet on *The Informer*

A high point this autumn
- NRK P2 on *The Peer Gynt Version*

Selected bibliography

- The Informer, novel 2016
- Love between Intelligent Men, novel 2014
- The Dilettante, novel 2012
- Home Is Where You Die, Says Mr Saunders, novel 2008
- From a Failed Vanishing Act, stories 2004
- The Peer Gynt Version, novel 2003
- Sander, novel 1998



Kristine Næss



Nominated for the Nordic Council Literature Prize 2015.

Kristine Næss (b. 1966) made her debut in 1996 with a collection of poetry. She has since written novels, stories and a book of poetics, and her distinct, personal voice has given her a significant place in the Norwegian literary landscape. She has also edited a literary journal and worked as a critic. In 2009 Næss was awarded the Booksellers' Association's Author's Grant.

In 2015, *Only Human* was nominated for the Nordic Council's Prize. This complex, rich novel combines a crime mystery with portraits of three women of different generations.

At the center of the story is a middle aged, divorced author, who is deeply affected by the disappearance of a girl. Having often seen the girl walk by her large house, the author is unnerved when the police take an interest in her. When she also notices a mysterious man who seems to show up wherever she goes, things start spinning out of control.

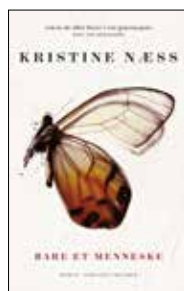
Only Human is sold for publication in UK and Sweden.

Few are able to take language closer to life than Kristine Næss. She is one of the very best of our generation

- Karl Ove Knausgård

Selected bibliography

- Only Human, novel 2014
- See What Happens, poems 2010
- Hannah's Story with Heddy, novel 2008
- Headstrong, novel 2004
- Rita Becomes a Writer, novel 2002



Per Petterson



With rights sold to 50 countries and awards won all over Europe, few Scandinavian literary writers have achieved as much international recognition as Per Petterson.

Petterson made his literary debut in 1987 with a short story collection, and won the Brage Prize for his fifth book, *In the Wake*, in 2000. A massive breakthrough came in 2003 with *Out Stealing Horses*. The novel has won the IMPAC Prize, the Independent Foreign Fiction Prize and several domestic prizes.

Its follow-up, *I Curse the River of Time*, won both the Nordic Council Prize, the Brage and the Critics' Prize. His latest novel, *I Refuse*, won the Booksellers' Prize and was hailed by The Guardian's reviewer as a "mesmerising achievement by the Norwegian master".

- Nordic Council Literature Prize 2009
- IMPAC Prize 2007
- Prix des Lecteurs de litt. européenne 2007
- Independent Foreign Fiction Prize 2006
- Booksellers' Prize 2012 & 2003
- Brage Prize 2008 & 2000
- Critics' Prize 2008 & 2003

It has to be said, on the evidence of these few novels, that Per Petterson is a profoundly gifted novelist

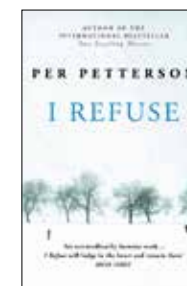
- Richard Ford

A brilliant novel that grabs you and overwhelms you with scanty means and allusive power

- Livres Hebdo, France

Selected bibliography

- I Refuse, 2012
- I Curse the River of Time, 2008
- Out Stealing Horses, 2003
- In the Wake, 2000
- To Siberia, 1996
- It's Fine by Me, 1992



Anne B. Ragde



Anne B. Ragde (b. 1957) is one of Norway's best selling fiction writers and her Neshov series has found a huge audience abroad as well. Ragde made her debut in 1986 with a children's book. Her first novel for adults, *A Tiger for an Angel* came out in 1990. She has since written numerous bestselling novels, crime novels and short story collections.

While her popularity grew steadily with each new book, she had a massive breakthrough with *House of Lies* in 2004. The sequels *The Hermit Crabs* and *Pastures Green* were equally successful. The much loved trilogy was made into a TV series, watched by more than 1 million viewers in Norway.

In 2016 she caught readers by surprise by publishing what everybody has been waiting for: a fourth book in the Neshov series, titled *Always Forgiveness*.

Even though House of Lies is first and foremost a page turner, a book you devour, you need not dig far to discover its intensity and complexity (...) House of Lies definitely deserves to become a long-lasting success
- Le Monde, France

* 1,4 million copies sold in Norway

* More than 2 million copies sold worldwide

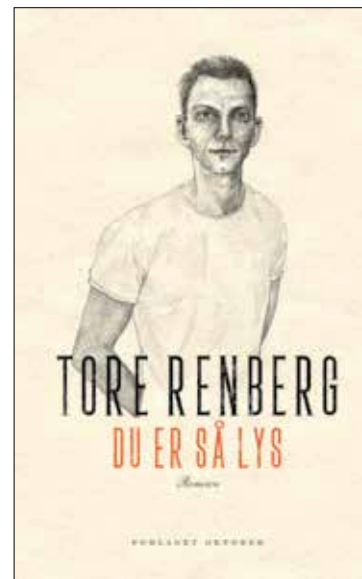
* Rights sold in 23 territories

Selected bibliography

Always Forgiveness [Neshov 4], 2016
I Have a Blanket in a Thousand Colours, 2014
I Will Make You So Happy, 2011
Pastures Green [Neshov 3], 2007
The Hermit Crabs [Neshov 2], 2005
House of Lies/The Berlin Poplars [Neshov 1], 2004
The Arsenic Tower, 2001



Tore Renberg Darkland



* A stand-alone psychological pageturner from one of Norway's most popular literary writers

* 10,000 copies sold in Norway

* Shortlisted for the Booksellers' Prize

* Shortlisted for the P2 Listeners' Novel Prize

* Longlisted for the Book Bloggers' Prize

Darkland is a rare work: a pageturner about a good person, a thriller about the completely ordinary lives of completely ordinary people, wise, generous and very, very well-written.

- Karl Ove Knausgård

There's a joyful change on Jørgen's and Vibeke's street when a family of three moves into the house next door. The father of the new family, Steinar, is quite a character – lively, winnable, charming in every way.

The families soon become good friends, but when the two men travel to London to see a football match, Jørgen becomes witness to something that makes him feel very uneasy. It soon turns out that Vibeke feels the same way. Who is Steinar? What is he doing? What is hiding beneath his immense energy?

Darkland is a nervewracking, gripping book about what we cannot see.

A luminous journey to hell ... terrifyingly suspenseful

- NRK P2

Tore Renberg

After publishing his first book in 1995, Tore Renberg (b. 1972) had his first massive success in 2003 with *The Man Who Loved Yngve*, which evolved into a bestselling series of books. In 2013 he launched a high-energy, darkly funny gangster series with *See You Tomorrow*, followed by *Attack from All Sides* in 2014.



Darkland
Forlaget Oktober, 2016

Novel
272 pages

Kjersti A. Skomsvold



Kjersti Annesdatter Skomsvold (b. 1979) is from Oslo. She made her literary debut in 2009 with the novel *The Faster I Walk, The Smaller I Am*, which was awarded the prestigious Vesaas Debut Prize and nominated both for the Booksellers' Prize and the P2 Listeners' Prize. The book was later shortlisted for the IMPAC Prize and has been published in 27 territories so far.

The powerful and acclaimed autobiographical novel *Monster Human* (2012) was shortlisted for the P2 Listeners' Prize and has sold more than 15,000 copies in Norway. An English edition is scheduled for publication in 2017.

Her third novel, the surrealistic love story *33*, was published to great acclaim in 2014. Never one to repeat herself, Skomsvold has also published a book of poetry and a YA novel.

A tour de force of autofiction ... an ambitious mix of Bildungsroman, memoir and social portrait. The result is fragmental, yet psychologically coherent ... a lengthy, fascinating and delightfully non-whining story about how the urge to write can defeat even the most stubborn of demons

- Weekendavisen, Denmark on *Monster Human*

Selected bibliography

- 33, novel 2014
- A Little Sad Mathematics, poems 2013
- Monster Human, novel 2012
- The Faster I Walk, the Smaller I Am, novel 2009



Dag Solstad



Brage Prize 2006
Critics' Prize 1999, 1992 and 1969
Nordic Council's Literature Prize 1989

Through five decades, Dag Solstad (b. 1941) has produced works of the highest literary quality, works that have both interpreted and defined the changing times. This sensitivity has ensured that in spite of the stylistic and thematic unity of his works, Solstad never seems to be repeating himself. Always challenging, always relevant, Dag Solstad thoroughly shows that timelessness is not at odds with engaging with your times.

Solstad's works can roughly be bracketed in decades: the modernist prose of the 1960s, the political novels of the 1970s, the (self-) critical investigation of utopianism of the 1980s, the existential novels of the 1990s and the formally adventurous books of the 2000s.

An utterly hypnotic and utterly humane writer
- James Wood

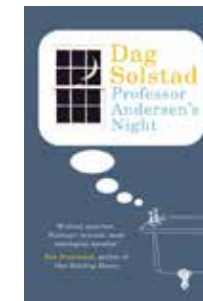
Wryly humorous and needle-sharp ... Solstad is unlike anyone currently writing in English
- Sunday Times, UK

Without question, Norway's bravest, most intelligent novelist
- Per Petterson

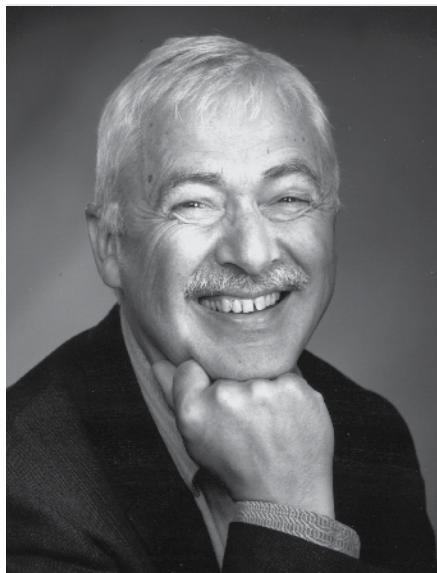
With rights now sold to more than 35 countries, the past decade has seen a surge in the international interest in his works. Among his admirers today are the critic James Wood, and the writers Lydia Davis, Peter Handke and Haruki Murakami - who has even translated *Novel 11, Book 18* into Japanese himself.

Selected bibliography

- Armand V., 2006
- 16.07.41, 2002
- T. Singer, 1999
- Professor Andersen's Night, 1996
- Shyness and Dignity, 1994
- Novel 11, Book 18, 1992
- Attempts to Describe the Impenetrable, 1984



Lars Amund Vaage



Lars Amund Vaage was born in 1952 on the west coast of Norway. He made his literary debut in 1979 with the novel *Exercise Cold Winter*, and has since published books in a great variety of genres.

The novel *Rubato* (1995) placed Vaage firmly among the among the elite of Norwegian novelists. *Rubato* won the Critics' Prize and was nominated for the Nordic Council Literature Prize.

After several outstanding novels and books of poetry, Vaage published what is arguably his crowning achievement, the novel *Sing*, in 2012. Explicitly leaning of the author's own experience, *Sing* is the powerful story of a man and his daughter, who has severe autism. The book won the Brage Prize, was nominated for the Critics' Prize and ended up on many critics' best-of-2012 lists.

A shining novel filled with tenderness, tragedy and momentous scenes
- Aftenposten on *Sing*

A heartbreakingly beautiful, vulnerable and wise novel about being the parent of an autistic child
- VG on *Sing*

Brage Prize 2012
Gyldendal Prize 2002
P2 Listeners' Novel Prize 2002
Oktober Prize 1999
Dobloug Prize 1997
Critics' Prize 1995
Aschehoug Prize 1995

Selected bibliography

Sing, 2012
The Shadow and the Queen, 2010
The Piano Keys, 2005
The Art of Walking, 2002
The Strange City, 1999
Rubato, 1995



Hanne Ørstavik



With the publication of the novel *Cut* in 1994, Hanne Ørstavik (b. 1969) embarked on a career that would make her one of the most remarkable and admired authors in Norwegian contemporary literature.

Ørstavik's breakthrough came in 1997 with the publication of *Love* (1997), which was named the 6th best Norwegian book of the last 25 years in a prestigious critics' vote in 2006. Other highlights include the Brage winning novel *The Pastor* and *There Is a Wide Open Square in Bordeaux*, which was named one of the 10 best translated books of 2014 in the Danish newspaper *Berlingske*. Ørstavik's works have been translated into more than 20 languages.

Through 10 novels Ørstavik has followed a path which is very much her own, often provoking fierce debate along the way. Her personal, urgent, yet unmannered style is instantly recognizable and much imitated.

A true masterpiece ... perhaps the best depiction of sexual frustration I have ever read
- Expressen, Sweden on *There Is a Wide, Open Square in Bordeaux*

Aschehoug Prize 2007
Brage Prize 2004
Dobloug Prize 2002
P2 Listeners' Novel Prize 1999
Hunger Prize 1999

Selected bibliography

On the Terrace in the Darkness, 2014
There Is a Wide, Open Square in Bordeaux, 2013
48, rue Defacqz, 2009
The Pastor, 2004
As True As I Am Real/The Blue Room, 1999
Love, 1997



Ketil Bjørnstad



Ketil Bjørnstad (b. 1952) is an author, pianist, composer, with several albums released by ECM. He made his literary debut with a collection of poetry in 1992 and has since written a number of novels, non-fiction and poetry collections. His international breakthrough came with the trilogy *To Music* (2004), *The River* (2007) and *The Lady in the Valley* (2009). The influential critic Elke Heidenreich described *To Music* as "a perfect book" in her Lesen! program for ZDF, and it went straight into the German bestseller list. The book was also Bjørnstad's literary breakthrough in France, where he was awarded the Prix des lecteurs in 2008.

He is currently writing his massive, six-volume novel series *The World I Used to Know*, where the two books published so far, *The Sixties* and *The Seventies* have been bestsellers in Norway, characterized by the critics as "Large-scale and daring ... An important contribution to the literature of reality." (Dagbladet) and "Some of the best he has written" (Dagsavisen).

This writer obviously possesses every kind of talent possible

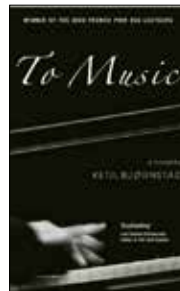
- Nils C. Ahl, Le Monde

A cultural prodigy

- John Fordham, The Guardian, UK

Selected bibliography

- The Sixties, novel 2015
- The Road to Mozart, biography 2014
- The Immortals, novel 2011
- The Lady in the Valley, novel 2009
- The River, novel 2007
- To Music, novel 2004
- Fall, novel 1999



Kari F. Brænne



Kari Fredrikke Brænne was born in Oslo in 1966. She studied art at art academies in Italy, Norway and New York, receiving the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts Scholarship.

She worked as a fine artist before her debut as a playwright in 2002. Her plays have been performed in theaters throughout Norway and have earned great reviews.

In 2007, she made her debut as a novelist with *A Different World*, for which she received Aschehoug's Debutant Prize. Her second novel, *Under the Deep Shadows*, has been sold for translation into several languages and has earned excellent reviews in France, Germany, Austria and Canada. Her third novel *Firmament Falling* was a favourite amongst readers and critics alike.

A literary masterpiece... Exciting and alluring!

- Bucher Spleen, Germany on *Under the Deep Shadows*

Incredibly entertaining (...) sober and well-written

- Dagbladet, on *Firmament Falling*

Selected bibliography

- Firmament Falling, novel 2015
- Under the Deep Shadows, novel 2010
- A Different World, novel 2007



Helga Flatland



Helga Flatland's debut novel *Stay If You Can. Leave If You Must* (2010) received excellent reviews and established her as one of the foremost up-and-coming, young Norwegian authors. She consolidated her position with *Everyone Wants to Go Home. No One Wants to Go Back* (2011) and *There Is No Whole* (2013).

The three books constitute a trilogy about small town Norway and the world around it, told through the story of three young childhood friends who travel to Afghanistan and are killed in action.

Flatland's fourth novel *Wing Loading* (2015) got rave reviews, with VG's critic declaring it "An important novel about our time".

Each novel on its own is a stylistic masterpiece that could, but shouldn't, be read separately. Together, they form a phenomenal story
- Extrabladet, DK

Amalie Skram Prize, 2015
Mads Wiel Nygaards legat, 2015
Young Critics' Prize, 2011
Tarjei Vesaas Debutant Prize, 2011
Aschehoug Debutant Prize, 2010

Selected bibliography

Wing Loading, novel 2015
There is No Whole, novel 2013
Everyone Wants to go Home,
No One Wants to Go Back, novel 2011
Stay If You Can, Leave If You Must, novel 2010



Jostein Gaarder



The biggest Norwegian literary success in modern times, *Sophie's World* has been translated into 64 languages and has sold more than 40 million copies.

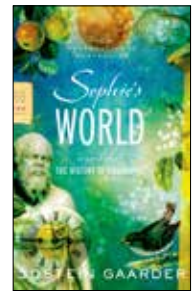
When Jostein Gaarder (b. 1952) published *Sophie's World* in 1991, he believed that a novel on the history of philosophy would appeal to a small, specialist readership. In 1995 the book was the most sold novel in the world. Gaarder's other works, both his children's books and adult novels such as *The Solitaire Mystery*, *Through a Glass, Darkly*, *Vita Brevis*, *The Ringmaster's Daughter*, and *The Orange Girl* have proved hugely popular and been published in a host of countries.

Jostein Gaarder has been an advocate for the promotion of sustainable development for nearly two decades. His profound personal commitment and great fund of knowledge have inspired readers all over the world to think and ask questions about ourselves, our place in history, and the world around us.

Deutscher Jugendliteraturpreis, 1994
Norwegian Booksellers Prize, 1993
Norwegian Critics Prize for children's or youth's literature, 1990

Selected bibliography

The Puppeteer, novel 2016
The Castle in the Pyrenees, 2008
Through a Glass, Darkly, novel 1993
The Christmas Mystery, novel 1992
Sophie's World, novel 1991



Monica Isakstuen

Be Kind to the Animals



Winner of the Brage Prize 2016
Nominated to the P2 Listeners' Prize

A small family of three is falling apart. They couldn't make it. Karen couldn't make it. While doing everything right - parting as friends, signing the papers, sharing custody, all in the way a modern woman is supposed to, everything inside her is rebelling. No, the child is mine. I'm its mother. There is nothing modern about me.

Is my daughter still mine when she is with her father, Karen asks herself. If you're a mother one week, what are you the next?

Be Kind to the Animals is a raw, warm, acute, but at the same time surprising novel about living in the remains of a broken marriage with the one you care about the most - every other week.

An incredibly beautiful and precise description of a life dilemma. The world needs to see this book
- Sissel Gran, author, psychologist and marital therapist

Foreign rights sold: Swedish (Bromberg)

An extraordinary reading experience
- Hamar Arbeiderblad

Merciless, but also surprisingly funny, with an abundance of ideas
- Morgenbladet

Monica Isakstuen

Monica Isakstuen (b. 1976) made her literary debut in 2009. Her 2014 novel *Replay* about pianist Joyce Hatto and "the greatest fraud in classical music" earned glowing reviews, with VG naming it "one of the best books of the year"



Vær snill mot dyrene
Tiden, 2016

Novel
208 pages

When people asked, I said we'd come to an agreement. The relationship wasn't working anymore; it wasn't going to be a good childhood for Anna. Most people seemed to be content with simple democratic and pragmatic explanations. We'd split up the furniture and household items in a reasonable way. Now it was just a matter of looking at the bank account and loans with the same level-headed attitude. See, it was going fine. Half to you, half to me. Then there was the child.

(...)

Someone has to take responsibility, to come to a decision. King Solomon draws an enormous sword from its sheath and lifts the child up in the air with one hand, ready to strike the blow. No! No, no, no, don't do it! howls the light-haired one and casts herself down at the feet of our man, the celestial wise king. Give him to her instead, she cries, do whatever you want, just don't kill him, please. And then Solomon lowers his sword and says loudly and calmly to the dark woman that if she does not want to die right then and there, she should leave at once, and then he bends down towards the light woman and gives her the child and says just as loudly and calmly that she can take her boy and go home, for she is the child's rightful mother.

Custody case, anno 900 B.C.

(...)

The discussion threads beneath web articles about divorce and child custody disclose that a large number of women fantasize about the other person dying. Earthquake, fire, plane crash, pileup, landslide, avalanche, choking. You shouldn't be ashamed of unpleasant feelings, wrote one of the most ardent debaters, confiding that she had often had such thoughts herself. You can't be afraid of acknowledging thoughts of revenge, and in any case the road from thought to action is long, and hate doesn't necessarily conflict with maternal instincts. You can be a loving mother even if you dream about sudden accidents, she concluded

(...)

I know, I know, I know. This isn't a competition. But I want to win it.

Ida Hegazi Høyer

Stories of Solace



Named one of the 10 best young writers in Norway by Morgenbladet

Never irrelevant, never boring ... one of our most interesting authors, regardless of age
- Dagbladet

Ida Hegazi Høyer

Ida Hegazi Høyer (b. 1981) earned rave reviews for her 2012 debut *Under the World*. With four novels in four years, she is established as one of Norway's most important literary voices of her generation. In 2015 she was awarded the EU Prize in literature for *Forgive Me*.



Historier om trøst
Tiden, 2016

Simply the most raw and interesting piece of literature I have read in a very long time
- VG, 6 out of 6 stars

Three cities. Three encounters. Three stories.

In *Stories of Solace* Ida Hegazi Høyer examines how new encounters - with places or people - challenge who we are, how we look upon ourselves, how we want to be looked upon. And how fast two perfect strangers can form an intimate relationship, not knowing whether the other one is dangerous or life-saving.

A nameless woman travels alone to three European cities. In each city, she meets and starts a relationship with a man, a woman and a young boy. With intense, dark and intelligent prose, the three chamber plays are, in a subtle way, also linked to the most crucial political and human issues of today's Europe.

Novel
160 pages

Jan Kjærstad



He exists. The perfect novelist exists and his name is Jan Kjærstad and he comes from Norway

- Dagens Nyheter, Sweden

Read, reader, read - great books are so rare
- Die Welt

Selected bibliography

The Path of Kins, novel 2015

I Am the Walker Brothers, novel 2008

The Discoverer, novel 1999

The Conqueror, novel 1996

The Seducer, novel 1993

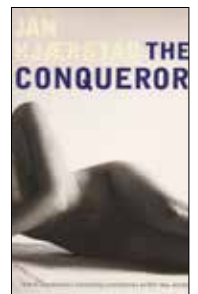
On the Verge, novel 1990

Jan Kjærstad (b. 1953) has a Master of Theology from the University of Oslo, and he made his debut as a writer of fiction in 1980. He has written a number of novels and short stories in addition to picture books and essays.

In 1984 he received the Critics' Prize for *Homo Falsus*, or *The Perfect Murder*. The fact that he was honored with Germany's prestigious Henrik Steffens Prize in 1998, awarded to Scandinavians who have significantly enriched Europe's artistic and intellectual life, illustrates his international appeal as an author.

His trilogy *The Seducer* (1993), *The Conqueror* (1996) and *The Discoverer* (1999) makes a monumental contribution towards renewal of the art of novel writing in Scandinavia, and secured the author the Nordic Council Literature Prize in 2001.

One of the most influential writers of his generation. Say his name, and I think of Milan Kundera, Martin Amis and Frank Zappa
- Linn Ullmann



Maja Lunde



Maja Lunde (b. 1975) is a Norwegian author and screenwriter. She has written several books for children and young adults, and several scripts for Norwegian television.

Her debut novel for adults *The History of Bees* is a unique and exceptional novel that gives the reader a feeling of literary familiarity and yet leaves you thinking that you never have read something similar. It is a novel about the relationship between men and women, about the relationship between parents and children, about grief, about burning for a thought, a profession. Not least, it is a novel about understanding how human interaction with some of the world's smallest creatures can be critical to whether we survive as a species or not.

The History of Bees is simply the most visionary Norwegian novel I have read since Knausgård's My Struggle
- Expressen, Sverige

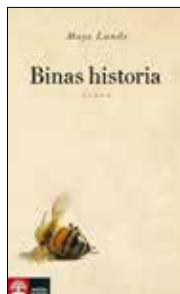
Sold to 17 countries

Norwegian Booksellers' Prize, 2015

Selected bibliography

The History of Bees, novel 2015

The Worlds Coolest Kids-children's series (2015 -)



Lars Petter Sveen



Lars Petter Sveen (b. 1981) has studied creative writing. From his debut in 2008, critics noticed his remarkable talent and originality. His got his big breakthrough in 2014 with his third novel *Children of God*. Set in Bethlehem at the time of Christ, it is a tale of good and evil seen through the eyes of biblical, historical and mythical figures, which mirrors our time as much as their own. It was nominated to, and won, numerous awards and is sold to Sweden, Denmark, France and the US.

Children of God is in every way a well-deserved breakthrough for a young author whose work is mature, original and bold

- From the PO Enquist Jury statement

A masterpiece. Lars Petter Sveens third novel is a rare piece of art

- Klassekampen

Children of God must be this years best novel

- Aftenposten

PO Enquist Prize, 2016

Jan Roar Leikvoll Prize, 2015

Mads Wiel Nygaards legat, 2014

Nynorsk Literature Prize, 2014

Tarjei Vesaas Debutant Prize, 2008

Selected bibliography

Children of God, novel 2014

I'll Be Back, novel 2011

Driving from Fræna, short-stories 2008



Carl Frode Tiller



Undoubtedly one of his generation's most important novelists, Carl Frode Tiller is admired for his instantly recognizable, furious prose and his ability to create vivid, complex characters whose fates often seem sealed by their inability to break out of destructive behavioural patterns. Though they might come across as dark and desperate, Tiller succeeds in portraying these tragic characters in a way that arouses the deepest sympathy in the reader.

Few have won as many literary prizes for their first books as Tiller, starting with the sensational debut in 2001. In 2005 he was named one of the 10 best Norwegian writers under 35. In 2006, *The Slope* was named among the 25 most important Norwegian novels from the last 25 years.

Drilling into the human nature with sensibility, painful honesty and accurate prose. A rare talent
- Jo Nesbø on *Encirclement*

Rights sold to 22 countries.

Nominated to the Nordic Council Prize 2010
European Union Prize for Literature 2009
Hunger Prize 2008
Brage Prize 2007
Critics' Prize 2007
Tarjei Vesaas First Book Award 2001
P2 Listeners' Best Novel Prize 2001

Selected bibliography

Encirclement III, novel 2014
Encirclement II, novel 2010
Encirclement I, novel 2007
Minor Characters, novel 2003
The Slope, novel 2001



Ellen Vahr The Gift



Ever since she was little, crofter's daughter Anne has felt different. She was born with the second sight, which is set off when she is out in nature. At the age of 25, Anne ends up in Norway's capital, then called Christiania, working as a servant girl for a renowned goldsmith and his sick wife. She is seduced by the master of the house, and simultaneously tormented by her closer relationship to his wife.

Suddenly Anne finds herself out on the street, saddled with children, poverty and shame. All she has left are her own self and her gift – and that's when she finally wakes up. With her knowledge of nature and her belief in her own skills, life opens up to her in a new way.

The Gift is a book about a women's struggle to find her own path and dare to follow it. It is a story of profound poverty, betrayal and violation, but it is also a love story about courage, hope and finding one's way home.

Brannfjell's achievements included providing home remedies for the treatment of rickets.

Nominated to the Bookseller's prize 2016
Based on a true story
Book Club Book of the Month, Jan 2017

Vahr has given life to a truly fascinating and strong woman who overcame fears and prejudices, followed her heart and found her own path
- VG

Ellen Vahr

Ellen Vahr is the great-great-great granddaughter of Anne Brannfjell. She left the world of finance to start working professionally as a coach. She has written several books on how to follow your dreams, and is a popular lecturer. *The Gift* is her first novel.



Gaven
Aschehoug, 2016

Novel
392 pages

Sigrid Undset



Sigrid Undset (1882-1949) won her the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1928 and will always be strongly associated with the trilogy *Kristin Lavransdatter*, which has been sold worldwide for decades. Set in 14th century Norway, *Kristin Lavransdatter* depicts the conflict between freedom of the individual and his or her duties towards the family, the Church and society at large.

Sigrid Undset's contemporary novels are noted for frankness and depth. She was also a prolific essayist on subjects ranging from Scandinavian history and literature to the Catholic church (to which she became a convert in 1924) and politics. During the Nazi occupation of Norway (1940-45), Undset lived as refugee in New York City. She returned home in 1945 and lived in Lillehammer until her death in 1949.



On *Kristin Lavransdatter*:

No other novelist, past or present, has bodied forth the medieval world with such richness and fulness of indisputable genius... One of the finest minds in European literature.
- New York Herald Tribune

Sigrid Undset's trilogy embodies more of life, seen understandingly and seriously...than any novel since Dostoyevsky's Brothers Karamazov.
- Commonweal Magazine

The finest historical novel our 20th century has yet produced; indeed it dwarfs most of the fiction of any kind that Europe has produced in the last twenty years.
- Contemporary Movements in European Literature

This Norwegian novelist should be the next Elena Ferrante ... [a] bewitching female-driven trilogy.
- Slate

Tom Egeland



36

Author and journalist Tom Egeland was born in 1959 in Oslo, Norway, and worked as a journalist before becoming a full-time author. He enjoyed a tremendous commercial breakthrough with the novel *Circle's End* in 2001, the first book in the bestselling, prize-winning series about the shrewd and neurotic archaeologist Bjørn Beltø. Thoroughly researched, the Beltø books deal with fascinating mysteries and conspiracies with roots at the very beginning of our civilization.

Egeland's novels have so far been translated into 24 languages. The thriller *The Night of the Wolves* (2005) was made into a feature length movie and a tv mini-series, and Egeland was awarded the Norwegian Riverton Prize given to the best crime novel for *The Gospel of Lucifer* (2009).

A first class thriller. Night of the Wolf is extremely sophisticated in its construction. Spellbinds the reader from the first page to the last. A bull's-eye of a novel!
- VG, on *Night of the Wolf*

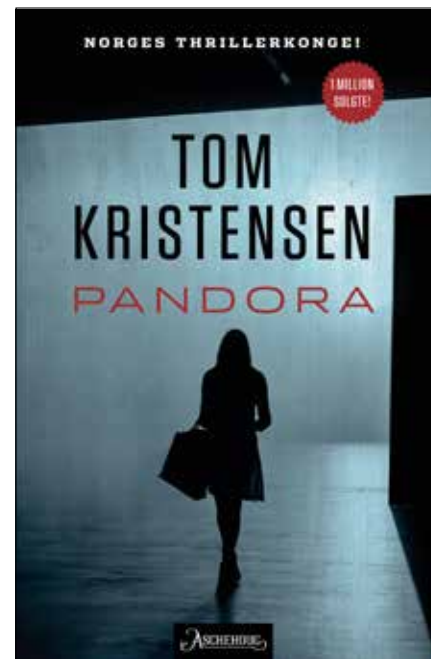
Wow! If you're one of those who'd wish to be able to read The Da Vinci Code again for the first time, this is your chance
- Fyens Stiftstidende, Denmark on *Circle's End*

Selected bibliography

- The Devil's Mask, novel 2016
- The Testament of Nostradamus, novel 2012
- Gospel of Lucifer, novel 2009
- Guardians of the Covenant, novel 2007
- The Night of the Wolf, novel 2005
- Circle's End, novel 2001



Tom Kristensen Pandora



IS, bio-terror and irretrievable deceit

It's standing room only at the evening show on a cruise ship in the Caribbean. During the extravagant finale, grey-white anthrax powder is strewn over the audience. It is the biggest bio-terror attack ever to hit the West.

In Mallorca, Omar Shakir arrives at his family's holiday home after the end of term in London. Threatened with the revelation of his deepest secret, he is forced into spying for the biggest and most secretive American intelligence service, the NSA. They suspect Omar's father of being The Bull – the Islamic State's powerful and invisible head of finance.

In Oslo, Stine Lind is working hard to finish her third documentary film. When her acquaintance Omar gets in touch, she suddenly sees an opportunity to make a sensational movie, not taking into account that it would uncover the most ruthless and barbaric terrorist organisation the world has ever seen.

37

Tom Kristensen

Tom Kristensen (b. 1955) made his debut in 2001 with the bestselling financial thriller *A Bullet*. In 2006, he received the Riverton Prize for *Realm of the Dead*. His three most recent thrillers – *The Profiteer*, *The Deep* and *Death Pact* – form a thematic trilogy about Norwegians who lay down their lives for Norway but receive very little in return.



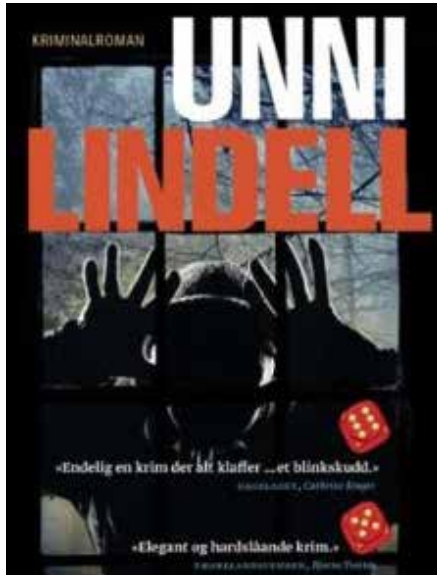
Photo: AKAM1K3

Pandora
Aschehoug, 2016

Thriller
450 pages

Unni Lindell

I Know Where You Live



Foreign rights sold: Swedish (Pirat), Dutch (Queri-do), Italian (Newton Compton), Icelandic (Ugla)

The second most sold Norwegian crime novel in Norway 2016

Finally a crime where absolutely everything works ... bull's eye

- VG, 6 out of 6 stars,

Cliffhangers one after another without room for breath between

- Hamar Arbeiderblad

Unni Lindell

Unni Lindell (b. 1957) is one of Norway's best-selling authors. Her crime mysteries featuring Cato Isaksen and Marian Dahle have been translated into many different languages and have sold close to four million copies in Norway alone. Lindell has won many prestigious prizes for her writing.

Jeg vet hvor du bor
Aschehoug, 2016

A new bestseller from Norway's queen of crime

Six-year-old Thona vanished in an allotment in Oslo fifteen years ago. She's still missing. Chief Inspector Marian Dahle has been demoted owing to psychological problems and burn injuries, but is now given the job of looking into the Thona cold case.

The Dove Lady lives in the allotment. For a long time her son Glenn Haug was under suspicion. The reopening of the case unleashes a dangerous revenge. Men are hauled into a black van, taken away, tortured and almost killed.

Nobody understands the terrible link until it's almost too late. Things are not what they seem. Marian lives in an old wooden house in Oslo's Frogner district. Suddenly she finds herself caught up in a nightmare of revenge with a dangerous enemy. And one night, there he is in her house.

This is one of the author's darkest books, and also underscores the direction Nordic crime novels have taken in recent years: sadistic serial killings.

Crime
390 pages

THE AUTHOR ON THE NEW PROTAGONIST MARIAN DAHLE:

The new protagonist, Marian Dahle, has been compared to Lisbeth Salander. She is not blessed with the same computer competencies, but has the more intuition.

Marian doesn't read social codes too well, but her colleagues see her as a quirky, intense, vulnerable and extremely accomplished investigator.

The young, rebellious woman has for several years been on the team of the notorious chief police investigator, Cato Isaksen, and from the very beginning she has been a nuisance to him. She is adopted from Korea and with her exotic features she stands out in Norway. Having had a troubled childhood she now she lives in solitude with her closest friend, the dog Birka.

In I KNOW WHERE YOU LIVE, Marion has been on sick leave for a year, suffering from injuries from the previous case she was involved in. Isaksen asks her to look into a cold case, in an attempt to get her back to work.

I never know where Marian is going. Often I think to myself, no, are you mad? And then she merely continues. I think we have a resemblance. She adds suspense to my life, and I to hers.

Unni Lindell



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