Bonnier Rights: Finnish titles Fiction & Narrative Non-Fiction RIGHTS GUIDE // SPRING 2020

Fiction

Marja Kangas The Only Way is Up

A laugh-out-loud novel about surviving life when it gives you lemons but you don't like lemonade...

Sirkku's sailor husband, Jalo, dramatically dumps her, just as she feels they've attained peak marital bliss. Shocked she didn't see it coming, Jalo's bolt out of the blue decision sends Sirkku spiralling out of control on a rollercoaster of emotions. As a professional actress, she ought to be more in touch with her emotions and know how to deal with them, but this time she's totally out of her depth, calling on her friends, therapists, even the universe, for help.

What follows can only be described as a shipwreck: Sirkku sends far too many texts she might later regret, gets a brand new hairstyle, goes to an organ concert on a whim, and gets drunk on box-wine wearing her wedding dress.

A shamelessly entertaining, uplifting, and delightfully ironic novel from Finland about love and divorce by a new voice with buckets of talent, THE ONLY WAY IS UP is Marja Kangas' debut novel about finding yourself in a crisis and learning how to get out of it. With its unbridled combination of elation, crying a river and feeling very, very sad, Kangas delivers all the ingredients of a side-splitting novel, with clear comparisons to Nora Ephron's *Heartburn*, David Nicholls's *Us*, and Elizabeth Gilbert's *Eat*, *Pray*, *Love*.

Marja Kangas was the winner of major Finnish publisher WSOY's 2019 writing competition to find the next voice in commercial fiction. The competition panel faced the daunting task of selecting a winning manuscript from an overwhelming 788 entries, but it was Marja Kangas who won their hearts and minds with her novel.

'A humorous, insightful—even surprising—story of one woman's predicament in the relationship jungle.' — WSOY fiction competition panel

Marja Kangas (b. 1974) is a professional drama teacher with a Masters in Theatre & Drama Studies. She also teaches creative writing, and takes great pleasure in having a good, long cry followed by a good laugh—often to herself first. Originally from the Finnish town of Kuopio, she divides her time now between Barcelona and Turku, Finland. @authormarjakangas

"TÄYDELLISTÄ VIIHDETTÄ!"



näkyvissä

MARJA KANGAS

WSOY



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Publication WSOY, Finland June 2020 285 pages

Material Finnish PDF English Sample Translation 82pp Synopsis Author Letter

> Film & TV Rights Available

Fiction

Tiina Laitila Kälvemark

Fear of Water

In the tradition of Maja Lunde's climate fiction comes this suspenseful, immersive Finnish novel about what lies beneath the surface.

Hester lives in a flood-stricken town whose dams have failed. A thirtysomething woman, she free-dives for fun and struggles to manage her multiple personalities, which she has suppressed for years. There's Ophelia, the hydrophobic control freak, promiscuous Honey, and domineering Hanna P.

When her stepfather, a dam-builder, becomes terminally ill, Hester resolves to find out what truly happened in her family that New Year's Eve twenty years ago, when everything changed. She embarks on a personal odyssey, uncovering dark revelations—told in flashbacks—that force her to confront memories she didn't even know she had, and begin listening to her own voice.

The narrative then turns to Ofelia's point-of-view, and we learn that Hester's relationship with her beloved grandmother is much more complicated and shocking than she has ever admitted to herself. Can Hester make peace with the past before her stepfather dies? And what about Hester's friend and occasional lover, Oliver?

When Hester dives into the water for the last time and resurfaces, will she finally be able to silence the voices in her head and rise to the surface alone? Laitila Kälvemark's concise prose inhabits Hester's various inner spaces with acuity and elegance in this fascinating and assured eco-novel depicting a possible near-future of our increasingly warming planet.

 'Laitilia Kälvemark paints a beautiful, sorrowful picture of people torn between life choices, marked by their transitory circumstances... I wouldn't be at all surprised if this is nominated for the literary awards.'
 – Ina Ruokolainen, Savon Sanomat

Tiina Laitila Kälvemark (b. 1970) is a Stockholm-based journalist and writer, originally from northern Finland. Laitila Kälvemark's debut work *Lost Shore*—a short story collection—was shortlisted for the Runeberg Prize in 2013. Her debut novel, *Of Stones and Silence*, was met with acclaim and shortlisted for the 2015 Tiiliskivi Prize. Laitila Kälvemark's short-form fiction has been published in both English and German; FEAR OF WATER is her first fully-agented novel. Tiina lives in Stockholm with her family.



Tiina Laitila Kälvemark





All rights available

Publication WSOY, Finland 2020 255 pages

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> Film & TV rights Available

Arttu Tuominen

The Oath

Winner of Crime Novel of the Year 2020

A suspenseful series in which individuals are forced to choose between their morals and their duties by an acclaimed, new voice in Nordic crime fiction.

THE OATH, the first book in the *River Delta* series, asks what happens when friendship comes up against the law?

In late autumn, a man is found dead at a summer cottage. A group of old friends have congregated for a few days of drinking, but everything goes wrong when one of the men winds up getting stabbed. When barely any mourners show up to pay their respects, it transpires that the victim has an exceptionally violent criminal background of his own. Police Commissioner Jari Paloviita, who is assigned the case, is horrified to learn that the suspect is his childhood best friend, an old classmate of Jari's who grew up on the wrong side of the tracks, but stood up for Jari as he was relentlessly bullied at school, with the two boys making a blood oath together.

In skilfully constructed flashbacks, Tuominen explores just how lasting the effects of our childhood traumas can be, and how the lives of two old friends can ultimately take two wildly different paths. In the end it is up to Jari to decide whether his loyalty to his friend holds more weight than his legal duty. Henning Mankell meets Stephen King's *The Body* in this touching and compelling crime novel about secrets, guilt and duty.

'The novel's protagonist, Police Commissioner Jari Paloviita, is reminiscent of Patricia Highsmith's characters. One or two innocuous acts inevitably trigger a slippery slope and, once on that slope, you can't stop sliding. The reader is kept guessing until the very end.' — 'Johtolanka' Prize jury

'...a cleverly built, beautifully written tragedy and an intense thriller.'
— Kansan Uutiset newspaper

Arttu Tuominen (b. 1981) is a Finnish environmental inspector moonlighting as a crime writer. Tuominen was awarded the 'Johtolanka' Prize for THE OATH, garnering praise for the novel's cleverly constructed flashbacks and realistic dialogue, making him eligible for the Glass Key Prize. Tuominen's writing is distinctive for giving a compassionate and relatable voice to those on both sides of the law. He lives in the south-western Finnish town of Pori with his family.





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> Film & TV Rights Available

Fiction

Arttu Tuominen

Jeopardy

Book 2 in the River Delta series

In the gripping second instalment by the award-winning writer of *The Oath*, a vulnerable secret threatens to derail everything.

The Oath, winner of the 2020 'Johtolanka' Prize for Crime Novel of the Year propelled Arttu Tuominen's new crime series to heady heights. JEOPARDY, the second book in the series, raises the bar even higher.

When Police Commissioner Henrik 'the Ox' Oksman is called to investigate an explosion at a club in the town centre, he has no idea that the case he has been assigned runs the risk of exposing his deepest secret.

The incident claims several lives and prompts an outpouring of public sympathy. Meanwhile, information about the tragedy spreads like wildfire and, inevitably, online forums run rampant with speculation about the perpetrator, or self-styled "emissary", who threatens to wreak further violence in a video message.

Jari Paloviita joins Oksman in investigating the case, but will the internal conflicts of Pori's police unit jeopardise everything before they can prevent another attack?

Set near the Baltic coast of western Finland, JEOPARDY is a novel about the threat and fear of violence, of inconvenient secrets, and self-acceptance.

Praise for The Oath:

'Tuominen's writing is reminiscent of Stephen King and the late Matti Yrjänä Joensuu, the great Finnish crime writer. In Tuominen's book, both the police and the other characters are multidimensional characters; crimes are not committed within a vacuum, and there's no external bad force that is easy to blame and punish.' – APU magazine

'The writer's social perceptivity brings depth and ethical reflection to the plot... This new crime series has a strong voice of its own. The Oath is affecting and timely." – Opettaja-lehti magazine

Arttu Tuominen (b. 1981) is a Finnish environmental inspector moonlighting as a crime writer. *The Oath*, the first novel in his new *River Delta* series featuring Jari Paloviita was awarded the 'Johtolanka' Prize 2020. He is working on a third book in the series, tentatively entitled *The Weight of the Past (Menneisyyden paino),* planned for publication in late 2021.

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Rights sold All rights available

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Material Finnish PDF English Sample Translation 40pp Synopsis Series Presentation Author Letter

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Kaija Puura

How to Raise the World's Happiest Children

From the world's happiest country* a practical, nonjudgmental and concise guide sharing the secrets of Nordic parenting, akin to Philippa Perry's *The Book You Wish Your Parents Had Read*.

They say money can't buy you happiness. Although Finland is an affluent country with enviable PISA ratings, what is its qualitative secret to achieving consistent high rankings on the global happiness indexes?

"In order to grow up into a well-adjusted adult, a child needs love and boundaries, emotional skills, and appreciation," says Kaija Puura, professor of child psychiatry and senior physician in Finland Puura defines a happy, well-adjusted child as: independent; has healthy selfesteem; can adapt their feelings and behaviour to a situation; flexibleminded; collaborative; able to create positive relationships; has empathy and helps those who need it.

Puura shares insights into the child's world, giving real examples of different scenarios from everyday life. Her indispensable book equips parents with practical and non-judgmental tips and encouragement on how their behaviour can have a positive impact on their child's growth and happiness, forming good habits with their children, and how to keep their cool when a tantrum strikes!

- How to survive toddler meltdowns
- Why giving choices is a decision-making dilemma for your child
- What to do when your child plays the "no" game
- How to make mealtimes bearable for everyone
- Making a routine for mealtimes, bedtimes, and homegoing time
- Why free play is the best way to develop creativity

* according to the independent World Happiness Report 2019 conducted by Gallup, and the OECD's Better Life Index

Kaija Puura (b. 1961) MD., Ph.D is Professor of Child Psychiatry and Head of Child Psychiatry at the teaching hospital at Tampere University in Finland. With a career spanning over thirty years, her extensive research and work on the assessment and treatment of young children has been widely published in national and international peer reviewed journals. She is currently an Associate Editor of the Infant Mental Health Journal. Kaija is also Executive Director of the World Association for Infant Mental Health and Vice President of the International Association for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Allied Professions (IACAPAP). This is her first trade book.





Rights sold Croatian: Stilus Russian: Eksmo

Publication WSOY, Finland February 2019 185 pages

Material Finnish PDF English Sample Translation 45pp Author Letter

> Film & TV Rights Rights Available

Highlighted Author: Katja Kettu

ROSE IS GONE

A wild and lyrical story about love, unfulfilled dreams and finding your roots. Winner of the 2018 Public Readers' Vote Finlandia Prize for Fiction, with over 22,000 copies sold in Finland.

Ettu wakes up on his Minnesota reserve to find that his beloved Rose is gone. Narrated by their adult daughter Lempi, who is struggling with her half-Ojibwa, half-Finnish identity, ROSE IS GONE is a rich, fiery and ultimately hopeful love story, with echoes of Karen Blixen and Gabriel García Márquez.

Finnish title: ROSE ON POISSA

Published by: WSOY, Finland, 2018

Rights sold: Czech: Argo, Estonian: Koolibri, German: HarperCollins, Hungarian: Gondolat, Swedish: Albert Bonniers Förlag

Film and TV Rights: Available

HAWK MOTH

An audacious novel about love and power, with a touch of magical realism. 43,000 copies sold.

In 1930s Lapland, the pregnant Irga flees into Soviet Russia. There, the White General's daughter settles in a small Mari village. Later, in contemporary Russia, Verna traces her father's life. Set between Northern Europe and the fringes of Central Asia, HAWK MOTH spans past and present seamlessly.

Finnish title: YÖPERHONEN

Published by: WSOY, Finland, 2015

Rights sold: Bulgarian: ICU, Czech: Argo, Czech audiobook: Audioteka, Danish: People's Press, Estonian: Koolibri, French: Actes sud, German: Ullstein, Hungarian: Gondolat, Norwegian: Pax, Polish: Świat Książki, Swedish: Albert Bonniers

Film and TV Rights: Available

THE MIDWIFE

The critically-acclaimed breakthrough novel that earned Kettu a legion of fans worldwide. Winner of the 2012 Runeberg Prize and the 2011 Kalevi Jäntti Prize. Over 130,000 copies sold in Finland alone.

At the end of World War II, a midwife from Lapland falls in love with a German soldier. At a Russian prison camp, the pair witness unbearable tragedy. Based on historical facts, THE MIDWIFE is a story about human behaviour in exceptional circumstances, treading the line between right and wrong.

Finnish title: KÄTILÖ

Published by: WSOY, Finland, 2011

Rights sold: Czech: Argo, Croatian: Hena, Danish: Art People, Dutch: De Arbeiderspers, English world: AmazonCrossing, Estonian: Koolibri, French: Actes sud, German: Galiani, Hungarian: Gondolat, Icelandic: Forlagid, Italian: Salani, Latvian: Dienas Gramata, Lithuanian: Alma Littera, Norwegian: Pax, Polish: Świat Książki, Spanish: Alfaguara, Swedish: Albert Bonniers, Vietnamese: Women's Publishing

Film and TV Rights: International film rights sold to Solar Films





KATJA KETTU ^{YÖPERHONEN}



Highlighted Author: Tommi Kinnunen

THE GLASS RIVER

A rich tale of the glass factory workers left to pick up the pieces after the war from Finland's answer to John Steinbeck. With 34,000 copies sold in Finland, THE GLASS RIVER won the 2019 Bothnia Prize.

A three-day novel set across three decades spanning the war, THE GLASS RIVER tells the story of the Tyynelä family in the war's aftermath. While Jussi moves between menial jobs, Helmi struggles to let go of the past and Raili longs for her former Helsinki life. A beautiful portrayal of those who history books forgot.

Finnish title: PINTTI Published by: WSOY, Finland, 2018 Rights sold: Latvian: Zvaigzne ABC, Norwegian: Pax Film and TV Rights: Available

THE LIGHT BEHIND THE EYES

A searing novel about the difficulties of finding your own way. Winner of the 2016 Public Readers' Vote Finlandia Prize for Fiction, with 52,000 copies sold in Finland.

Helena is just nine-years-old when she is uprooted from her small village and sent to a school for the blind in Helsinki. Forty-years-later, her nephew Tuomas chooses the same path as his aunt. Tommi Kinnunen writes compellingly about otherness, parenthood, and carving out your own destiny.

Finnish title: LOPOTTI

Published by: WSOY, Finland, 2016

Rights sold: Czech: Argo, Danish: Rosinante, Dutch: Prometheus, Estonian: Varrak, German: Penguin Verlag/Random House, Lithuanian: Alma littera, Norwegian: Pax, Polish: WAB/Foksal, Swedish: Norstedts

Film and TV Rights: Available

WHERE FOUR ROADS MEET

A breathtaking novel about forbidden dreams, which has sold 82,000 copies in Finland alone. Winner of the 2015 Young Aleksis Prize.

Set in reconstruction-era Finland, WHERE FOUR ROADS MEET is about small people, big houses, and double lives. Midwife Maria is a captive to her own desires, while her daughter Lahja longs for attention from her husband. Decades later, Kaarina redecorates her father-in-law's house, tearing down his dreams.

Finnish title: NELJÄNTIENRISTEYS

Published by: WSOY, Finland, 2014

Rights sold: Chinese, simplified: Chinese International Radio Press, Croatian: Hena, Czech: Argo, Danish: Rosinante, Dutch: Prometheus, Estonian: Varrak, French: Albin Michel, German: DVA/ Random House, Greek: Utopia, Hungarian: L'Harmattan, Icelandic: Bjartur, Italian: Edizioni ETS, Japanese: Shincho-sha, Latvian: Zvaigzne ABC, Lithuanian: Alma littera, Norwegian: Pax, Polish: W.A.B, Slovenian: Cankarjeva Založba, Swedish: Norstedts, Turkish: Bencekitap

Film and TV Rights: Available







Highlighted Author: Miki Liukkonen

THE MASTER OF SILENCE

A dazzling and genre-defying novel that captures the zeitgeist of our time. THE MASTER OF SILENCE, from Finland's rockstar literary savant Miki Liukkonen, has sold over 9,000 copies.

A twentysomething man is found dead in his office chair. Herman Leorne is interviewing people for his YouTube channel. A mother is considering overdosing on Botox. With influences of Foster Wallace and Mishima, this is an astonishing work about people and things outside of their ontological being.

Finnish title: HILJAISUUDEN MESTARI

Published by: WSOY, Finland, 2019

Rights sold: All rights available

Shortlisted for the 2018 Runeberg Prize, the 2017 Finlandia Prize, and the Bothnia Prize, Liukkonen's magnum opus about ordinary people and extraordinary events sold 10,000 copies.

O is about a swimming team preparing for the Olympics. *O* is about the Roma men of the future. *O* is about a withdrawn boy who exclusively communicates via the medium of Post-It notes. *O* is a megalomaniacal and encyclopaedic book about what the everyday means in our world, and how to live in it.

Finnish title: O

Published by: WSOY, Finland, 2017 Rights sold: French: Le Castor Astral Éditeur Film and TV Rights: Available



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Highlighted Author: Marja Kihlström

The Big O Workbook

An indispensable toolkit for women, those who identify as women, and their partners from renowned Finnish sexual therapist Marja Kihlström.

Following the success of *The Big O* and feedback from her thousands of readers and followers, Marja Kihlström is back with a companion workbook. Guiding readers towards a positive self-image, Kihlström presents a series of guided written, mental and practical exercises with room for the reader's own notes. Kihlström is the host of TV show *Sex Tapes Finland*, upcoming with Nelonen.

Finnish title: ISO O - HARJOITUSKIRJA

Published by: Kosmos, Finland, 2019

Rights sold: All rights available



marja kihlström

The Big O: The Scandinavian Guide to Female Pleasure

A modern, clarion call for more and better orgasms for women, by Scandinavia's answer to Esther Peel.

The Nordic countries are renowned for their strong women and their relationships with their bodies. In this approachable yet professional, fresh yet serious, tender yet confident book, Marja Kihlström offers modern psychological and practical advice for women tackling the obstacles standing in their way to their pleasure.

Finnish title: ISO O
Published by: Kosmos, Finland, 2018

Rights sold: Estonian: Pegasus, Polish: Zwierciadło



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