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Modern Classics from Finland

RIGHTS GUIDE



Arto Paasilinna

1942-2018

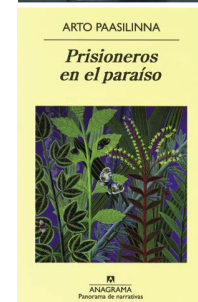
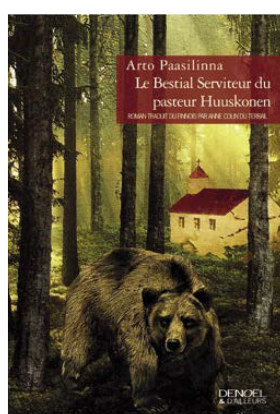


Arto Paasilinna is perhaps the most renowned contemporary Finnish writer, having published 35 novels and countless other works over a career spanning 50 years. His most famous books include *The Year of the Hare*, *The Howling Miller*, *A Charming Mass Suicide*, and *The Forest of Hanged Foxes*. Paasilinna's books have sold over 8 million copies worldwide and have been translated extensively into over 40 languages.

Paasilinna's depictions of the endless escapades of Finns and their irrepressible attitude towards life have claimed a permanent place in Finland's literary canon. His tragi-comic stories about life in the North—along with his keen, satirical depictions of Finnish society—have captured the imaginations of millions of readers around the world. Often delving into magical realism, Paasilinna is sometimes described as an eco-philosopher; his works are simultaneously timely and timeless.

Exploring issues such as suicide, ageing, desperation, and everyday dreariness, Paasilinna paints a hilarious and joyful picture of the human race. At the core of his wild adventures lies a philosophical understanding of people as prisoners of modern conventions, mediocrity, and the other scourges of modern life—which his protagonists pig-headedly fight against.

Works by Paasilinna have been adapted to film and stage, both in Finland and abroad, and also as graphic novels.



Arto Paasilinna

The Year of the Hare

An internationally bestselling comic novel in which a man—with the help of a hare—realises what's important in life.

Journalist Vatanen is burnt out and sick of the city. One summer evening he accidentally hits a young hare on a country road. He tends to the hare's leg, befriends the creature, and gradually sheds his former life.

The incident becomes a life-changing experience for Vatanen, who decides to quit his job, leave his wife, and sell his possessions to travel Finland with his new-found friend. Their adventures lead them to forest fires, pagan sacrifices, and killer bears before they settle down in a cosy cabin in the wilds of Lapland.

THE YEAR OF THE HARE is a wildly entertaining mix of fable, farce, mid-life crisis, and travel book. It's a tale of freedom, commitment, and survival that has been charming readers around the world for decades.

With rights sold in over 30 territories, this award-winning book is widely considered Arto Paasilinna's best work and a Finnish literary classic.

THE YEAR OF THE HARE was adapted for film in France in 2006 (dir. Marc Rivière) and Finland in 1977 (dir. Risto Jarva). It has also been adapted for stage. The UNESCO Collection of Representative Works classified it as a masterpiece of world literature.

"A change-your-life novel."

– *New York magazine*

Prizes and nominations:

1994: Premio Letterario Giuseppe Acerbi (Italy)

1993: Pro Finlandia (Finland)

1989: Prix Littéraire Air Inter (France)

Original title: *Jäniksen vuosi*

Publication: W+G, Finland | 1975 | 182 pages

Material: Finnish PDF | Full English Translation | Full German translation | Reviews sheet
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Ukrainian: Calvaria*
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Arto Paasilinna

The Howling Miller

A fable of freedom and the Finnish backwoods featuring Huttunen, an eccentric outsider swimming against the societal current.

Gunnar Huttunen is a troubled man. He fought against the Russians in World War II and watched his wife burn to death. Now, having bought a dilapidated mill on the Kemijoki River, he's determined to start a new life in Lapland.

There's just one problem: Huttunen howls at night and there's nothing he can do about it. The local villagers are scared; they're closed-minded at the best of times and now they're determined to run Huttunen out of town.

Luckily, there's one person on Huttunen's side: a young and beautiful agricultural advisor who has fallen madly in love with him.

THE HOWLING MILLER paints a crystalline portrait of society and what it means to function outside of its norms. It's a narrative *tour de force* told with verve, humour, and a touch of the bizarre.

THE HOWLING MILLER was adapted for film in France in 2017 (dir. Yann Le Quellec) and Finland in 1982 (dir. Jaakko Pakkasvirta). It has also been adapted for stage and performed at the Quantum Theatre at Frick Park Environmental Centre in Pittsburgh.

"THE HOWLING MILLER has the feel of an ominous Hansel and Gretel-style bedtime story—part myth, part fable and part novel—a form that has a funny way of bypassing the head and directly affecting the animal instincts."

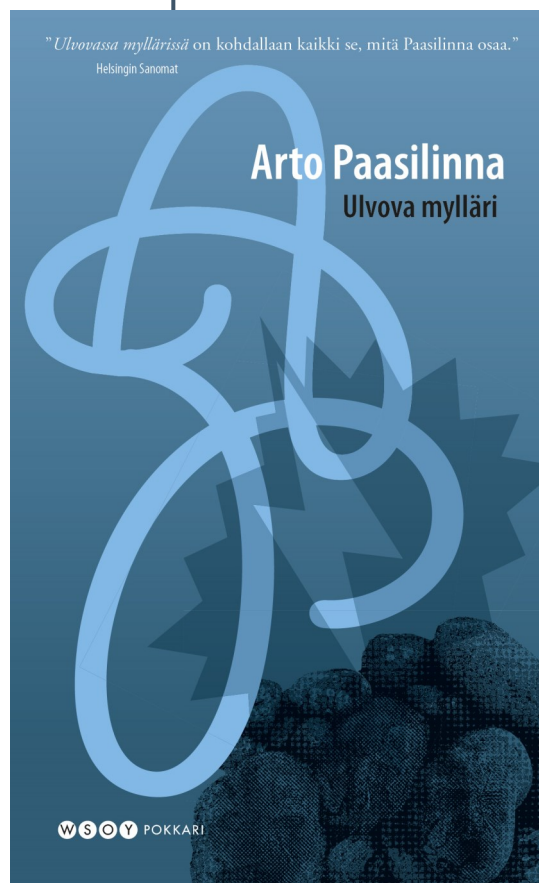
– The LA Times

Original title: *Ulvova mylläri*

Publication: WSOY, Finland | 1981 | 236 pages

Material: Finnish Edition | Full English Translation

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Arto Paasilinna

A Charming Mass Suicide

Two depressed men decide to found a 'Let's do it together' suicide association to help the suicidal achieve their goal.

Onni Rellonen has reached a dead end. The only way out seems to be a revolver and a secluded barn. But when Rellonen arrives at the barn, he's surprised to find that someone else has beaten him to it: Colonel Hermann Kempainen already has a noose around his neck.

The two men realise they have a lot in common and decide to support each other from here on out. Together they place an advert in their local newspaper, which prompts over 600 responses from suicidal individuals. With strength in numbers, Rellonen and Kempainen decide to form a suicide association in order to help everyone achieve their shared goal. The story reaches its climax as a busload of suicidal individuals embark on a trip across Europe in search of the best spot for a mass suicide.

A CHARMING MASS SUICIDE is one of Paasilinna's most popular titles. It's a joyful celebration of life that shows off his exceptional talent for dark comedy. Delving into the gloomy Finnish psyche, A CHARMING MASS SUICIDE ultimately turns the group's misery on its head and showcases a surprising zest for life.

A CHARMING MASS SUICIDE was adapted for film in Finland in 2000 (dir. Ere Kokkonen). It was also adapted for a musical in South Korea in 2009.

"Outstanding medicine for depression, better than Prozac!"

– *Lire, France*

"Don't commit suicide without reading this book."

– *Lecture Ecriture, France*

Original title: *Hurmaava joukkoitsemurha*

Publication: WSOY, Finland | 1990 | 280 pages

Material: Finnish PDF | Full English Translation

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Slovenian: Mladinska Knjiga

Spanish: Anagrama*

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Arto Paasilinna

The Forest of Hanged Foxes

Dark, macabre humour from Arto Paasilinna, the much-loved Kurt Vonnegut of the North.

"Only wealthy people lived in the old, respectable stone houses in Stockholm's Humlegaard; people like the Finn Oiva Juntunen. By profession, he was a crook."

Three small-time crooks grow tired of living in poverty and decide to steal a pretty hefty amount of gold. Unfortunately things don't quite go to plan and two of them end up getting caught.

Although they're locked up in prison, the crooks remain unusually calm, comforted by the knowledge that their friend is keeping their gold safe and will share it with them upon their release.

The problem is that Oiva Juntunen fancies the gold for himself. He becomes increasingly anxious as his friends' release day approaches. Faced with the prospect of two tough guys coming to collect their dues, Juntunen decides to make a run for it.

Filled with dark, macabre humour, Paasilinna seamlessly combines an action-packed narrative with strong characters and humorous, yet deep, philosophical musings in this situational comedy.

THE FOREST OF HANGED FOXES was adapted for TV film in Finland in 1986 (dir. Jouko Suikkari).

"The author concocts situational comedy highlighted by deadpan, sometimes black humour, the kind familiar in the American Middle West."

– *The New York Times*

Prizes and Nominations

1995: Lecture Jeunesse Prize (France)

Original title: *Hirtettyjen kettujen metsä*

Publication: WSOY, Finland | 1983 | 240 pages

Material: Finnish Edition

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Italian: Iperborea*

Korean: SOL*

Norwegian: Aschehoug

Portuguese (BR): Editora Âyiné*

Russian: Olga Morozova / Eksmo

Slovenian: Mladinska Knjiga*

Spanish: Anagrama*

Swedish: Brombergs*

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LIFE SHORT, RYTKÖNEN TALL

A profound summer road trip novel about memory loss that travels across Finland.

Land surveyor Taavetti Rytkönen remembers the good, old days as though they were yesterday. The problem is, he can't remember yesterday. Rytkönen sets off on a journey to discover his past. If only his taxi driver had known who he was picking up.

Original title: *Elämä lyhyt, Rytkönen pitkä*

Publication: WSOY, Finland, 1991

Material: Finnish Edition, French Edition

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THE REVEREND'S BEASTLY VALET

A fantastic display of absurdism, even by Paasilinna standards. Shortlisted for the 2007 Prix Femina Prize.

Reverend Huuskonen is conducting a marriage ceremony between two bears. But everything goes wrong when the village caterer is burnt to a crisp on an electricity pylon. The villagers decide that Huuskonen must adopt one of the bears, and the two get on like a house on fire. But it isn't all plain sailing.

Original title: *Rovasti Huuskosen petomainen miespalvelija*

Publication: WSOY, Finland, 1995

Material: Finnish Edition, French Edition

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THE SWEET POISON COOK

A hilarious crime novel about an unexpected killer who dresses in old lace and spikes drinks with arsenic.

Every a month, on pension day, a gang of loudmouthed, out-of-control louts turn up at Linnea Ravaska's front door and demand she hand over her money. In preparation, Linnea prepares a glass of deadly poison, proving just what a sweet poison cook is capable of...

Original title: *Suloinen myrkynkeittäjä*

Publication: WSOY, Finland, 1987

Material: Finnish Edition

Rights sold: **Czech:** Hejkal*; **Dutch:** Wereldbibliotheek*; **French:** Denöel; **German:** Lübbe; **Icelandic:** Edda / Skrudda; **Italian:** Iperborea; **Korean:** SOL*; **Latvian:** Daugava; **Lithuanian:** Baltos Lankos*; **Norwegian:** Aschehoug; **Polish:** Kojro; **Russian:** Olga Morozova*; **Slovakian:** Slovart; **Slovenian:** Mladinska knjiga*; **Spanish:** Anagrama*; **Swedish:** Brombergs*

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THE SON OF THE THUNDER GOD

A slapstick Christian satire that's more Monty Python's *Life of Brian* than Jeanette Winterson's *The Passion*.

At an urgent crisis meeting, a group of pagan deities realise that Finns have stopped believing in their own God. Supreme God Ukko sends his son Rutja to earth—in the guise of an antiques dealer—to set things straight. Finland's government officials watch with baited breath as a wave of change sweeps across the country.

Finnish title: *Ukkosenjumalan poika*

Published by: WSOY, Finland, 1984

Material: Finnish Edition

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PRISONERS OF PARADISE

Paasilinna reinvents the literary topos of a desert island in a way that only he can.

A plane on a UN mission is forced to perform an emergency landing on the Indonesian archipelago. Its passengers—made up of Swedish midwives, Finnish lumberjacks, and Norwegian doctors—decide to settle down and found a society based on maximising happiness. Could the fair distribution of wealth and justice, alongside liberation from civilised structures, actually work?

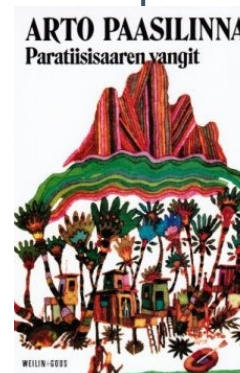
Finnish title: *Paratiisisaaren vangit*

Published by: WSOY, Finland, 1974

Material: Finnish Edition, French Edition

Rights sold: **French*:** Denöel; **German:** Lübbe; **Italian:** Iperborea; **Korean*:** SOL; **Romanian*:** Curtea Veche; **Spanish*:** Anagrama; **Swedish*:** Brombergs

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TEN SHREWS

An unmissable erotic farce from Finland's best known comic novelist Arto Paasilinna.

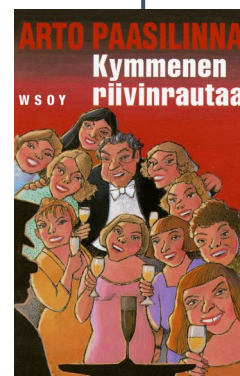
When factory manager Rauno Rämekorpi's wife asks him to bin his birthday flowers, he walks out of the front door and doesn't stop—opting instead to deliver a flower to every woman he's ever known. The result is as side-splitting and farcical as fans of Paasilinna have come to expect.

Finnish title: *Kymmenen riivinrautaa*

Published by: WSOY, Finland, 2001

Rights sold: **Dutch*:** Wereldbibliotheek; **French*:** Denöel / Gallimard; **German:** Lübbe; **Italian:** Iperborea; **Latvian*:** Daugava; **Portuguese*:** Relógio d'Água; **Slovenian:** Mladinska knjiga; **Swedish*:** Brombergs

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THE BEST VILLAGE IN THE WORLD

A lively tale about a self-sustaining community that's founded by the son of a dying arsonist.

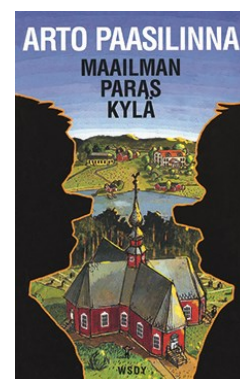
On his deathbed, former arsonist Asser Toropainen asks his grandson to do something about the churches he's spent his life burning down. And so Eemil builds a new one in Sotkamo, and it's not long before the church attracts a lively community. One thing's for sure: life in the best village in the world is better than wallowing in the recession outside.

Finnish title: *Maailman paras kylä*

Published by: WSOY, Finland, 1992

Material: Finnish Edition

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ADAM AND EVE

An audacious climate fiction novel about late capitalism and the lure of the corporate world.

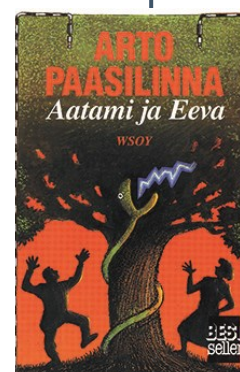
Entrepreneur Adam is on the verge of bankruptcy. Luckily lawyer Eve is prepared to invest in his latest idea, which he believes will solve the climate crisis. And so begins a story of survival against the odds, as Adam and Eve bring the business world to its knees. But is Adam's invention as good as he claims?

Finnish title: *Aatami ja Eeva*

Published by: WSOY, Finland, 1993

Material: French Edition

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A HAPPY MAN

A wickedly funny satire about money, power, and the joys of small town life.

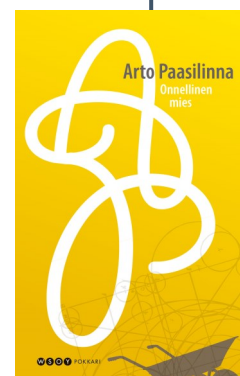
Bridge engineer Akseli Jaatinen is tasked with replacing Kuusmäki's rotten wooden bridge with a concrete one. But the parish council hold a grudge against him and do everything they can to stop Jaatinen completing the project on time. But the feisty Finn refuses to surrender.

Finnish title: *Onnellinen mies*

Published by: WSOY, Finland, 1976

Material: Finnish Edition

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GOD ALMIGHTY

An earthy and humorous tale with echoes of Giovanni Guareschi's *Father Camillo* series.

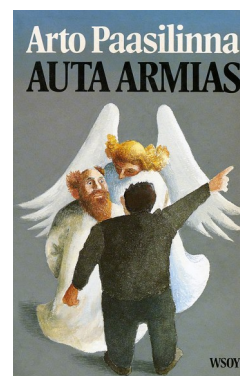
Birger Ryyänen is a crane driver who has just come out the other side of a painful divorce. Although he's not religious, he likes to talk to God when he's at the top of his crane. What Ryyänen doesn't know is that God is stressed and in need of a sabbatical. Enter... Ryyänen!

Finnish title: *Auta armias*

Published by: WSOY, Finland, 1989

Material: Finnish Edition

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THE CLUMSY GUARDIAN ANGEL

A soaring and heart-warming fantasy about a trainee guardian angel with a seemingly impossible task.

When Sulo Auvinen graduates from the Invisible Community of Angels' Headquarters, he's immediately given an assignment: watching over Aaro Koronen, a forty-something man with more money than sense. The fledgling guardian angel does his best to help Auvinen, but first there's a love triangle to break up.

Finnish title: *Tohelo suojelusenkeli*

Published by: WSOY, Finland, 2004

Material: Finnish Edition, French Edition

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THE FINNISH BOOK OF SNOTS

A lively and adventurous eco novel about life in contemporary Finland, species extinction, and animal rights activism.

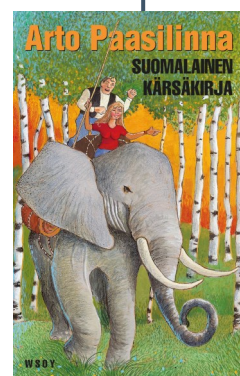
When the EU declares a ban on circus elephants, Emilia decides to leave Kerava and join the Great Moscow Circus. On the way, the young elephant learns many new skills—like how to dance the Russian gopak. But eventually Emilia's owner Lucia must take her all the way back to Africa.

Finnish title: *Suomalainen kärsäkirja*

Published by: WSOY, Finland, 2005

Material: Finnish Edition, French Edition

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SEARCHING FOR GRANDFATHER

A touching tale of freedom that's full of sex, alcohol, and plenty of misunderstandings.

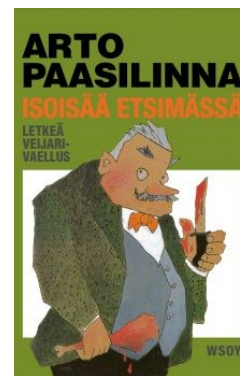
August Väisänen is on a mission to find his grandfather, who has recently escaped his unbearable wife. But when Väisänen tracks him down, things aren't as simple as he initially thought. The two men embark upon a trip across Europe, experiencing freedom for the first time.

Finnish title: *Isoisää etsimässä*

Published by: WSOY, Finland, 1977

Rights sold: **Latvian*:** Daugava; **Norwegian:** Aschehoug; **Slovenian*:** Mladinska knjiga; **Swedish:** Brombergs

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GOOD HEAVENS!

A laugh-out-loud novel about trying to make a difference that's set in the afterlife.

In the world of the dead, a recently deceased journalist meets Pope Pius IX along with Finnish public figures Väinö Linna, J. V. Snellman, and archaeologist Sakari Pälsi. Upon realising that the world is unjust, he decides to intervene. Luckily enough, the deceased are able enter the dreams of the living.

Finnish title: *Herranen aika*

Published by: WSOY, Finland, 1980

Material: Finnish Edition

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SAVIOUR SURUNEN

A rowdy tale about a human rights activist gone rogue that's full of irony.

Professor Surunen, an honourable member of Amnesty International, is tired of signing petitions. Taking matters into his own hands, he heads to Kalmania, a central American dictatorship, to liberate its prisoners. Next up: freeing the inhabitants of eastern Europe's communist paradise, Kytislavia.

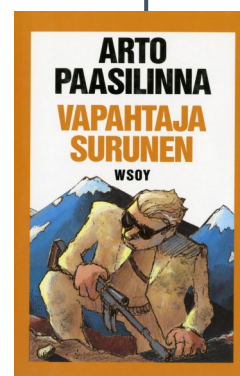
Finnish title: *Vapahtaja Surunen*

Published by: WSOY, Finland, 1986

Material: Finnish Edition, French Edition

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COLD NERVES, HOT BLOOD

A dazzling novel about strength, bravery, and the power of magic set in a war-torn Finland.

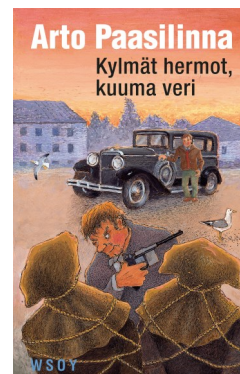
When Antti Kokkoluoto is born, his midwife—who sidelines as a witch—predicts his death day: 12 July 1990. Armed with the knowledge that he's set to live a long life, Kokkoluoto fearlessly serves in both the Winter and Continuation Wars. Will the midwife's prediction come true, or will Kokkoluoto survive his own death day?

Finnish title: *Kylmät hermot, kuuma veri*

Published by: WSOY, Finland, 2006

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THE HERB GARDEN OF UNHANGED SCOUNDRELS

An unflinching and irreverent story about the secrets that lie within a former Soviet Union kolkhoz.

When the Finnish National Security Service catch wind of something sinister afoot at a former Soviet Union kolkhoz in Lapland, they send their most senior inspector to investigate. But when Inspector Jyllänketo finds a labour camp populated by unemployed former criminals, he goes rogue and decides to embark upon a mission of his own.

Finnish title: *Hirttämättömien lurjusten yrttitarha*

Published by: WSOY, Finland, 1998

Material: Finnish Edition, French Edition

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VOLOMARI VOLOTINEN'S FIRST WIFE AND OTHER OLD JUNK

A playful and jocular tale of an insurance lawyer with a very unusual antiques collection.

Following in his father's footsteps, Volomari Volotinen is on a mission to acquire only the rarest antiquities, including a tuft of prehistoric pubic hair, a loaded wartime canon, Tarzan's loincloth, and a Field Marshall's dentures. Not to mention Christ's collarbone from 700AD!

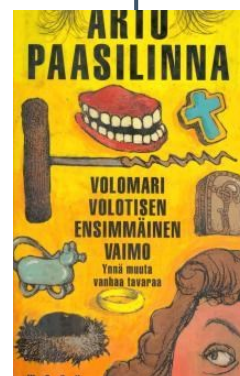
Finnish title: *Volomari Voltisen ensimmäinen vaimo ja muuta vanhaa tavaraa*

Published by: WSOY, Finland, 1994

Material: French Edition

Rights sold: **French:** Denöel / Gallimard; **Italian:** Iperborea; **Norwegian:** Aschehoug; **Swedish*:** Brombergs

*Rights reverted



WAR HORSE

Two Russians—a pilot and a Soviet spy posing as a pharmacist—infiltrate Finnish society with side-splitting results.

Lieutenant Savolenko has been commanded to drop off Kunitsin in Finland. But when his plane runs low on fuel, Savolenko is forced to land behind enemy lines. He has no choice but to join his passenger and become a member of the Russian Airborne Troops, working as a saboteur.

Finnish title: *Sotahevonen*

Published by: WSOY, Finland, 1979

Material: Finnish Edition

Rights sold: **German:** Lübbe; **Norwegian:** Aschehoug; **Swedish:** Brombergs



THE WANTON PRAYER WHEEL

A rich tale of travel and trickery that pushes the boundaries of imagination and carries a strong political message.

A group of Finnish men travel across Lapland's Lake Inari, the Tibetan mountains, and India in an attempt to sell their latest gadget: a prayer wheel made from an old-fashioned coffee grinder. Countless comic blunders later, the men found their own religion whereby the universe itself is their deity.

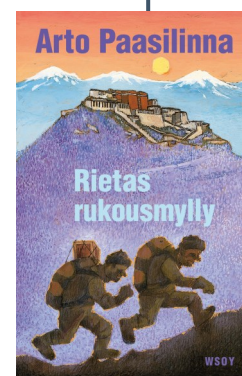
Finnish title: *Rietas rukosmylly*

Published by: WSOY, Finland, 2007

Material: Finnish Edition

Rights sold: **Czech*:** Hejkal; **German:** Lübbe; **Swedish:** Brombergs

*Rights reverted



THE AIR SHIPS OF MR LILJEROOS

An audacious novel and a thrilling adventure about coming together in the face of a natural disaster.

When businessman Lars Liljeroos builds an airship to promote his brewery, he inspires a whole bunch of copycats. The international media are obsessed and it's not long before Finnish heavy metal band Black Shotton board an airship to kick start their world tour. But when a dangerous earthquake ravages the earth, the airship passengers must put their differences aside to help.

Finnish title: *Liikemies Liljeroosin ilmalaivat*

Published by: WSOY, Finland, 2003

Material: Finnish Edition

Rights sold: **Russian*:** Olga Morozovoj; **Swedish*:** Brombergs

*Rights reverted



SUNRISE ON JUDGEMENT DAY

A farcical, laugh-out-loud tale of a Finnish man who seizes his opportunity to save the day and become a hero.

When former flight attendant Hermann Heiskari spots a distressed woman in a hot air balloon on his ice-fishing trip in Lapland, he can't quite believe his luck. Finally, his moment to shine! He'll make sure Leena Lundmark will never forget what he did for her.

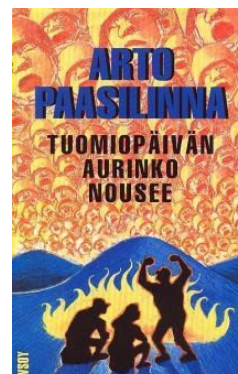
Finnish title: *Tuomiopäivän aurinko nousee*

Published by: WSOY, Finland, 1997

Material: Finnish Edition

Rights sold: **German*:** Lübbe; **Swedish*:** Brombergs

*Rights reverted



THE SUREFOOTED SHIPWRIGHT

A surprising and jubilant tale with enough twists and turns to keep you guessing until the very end.

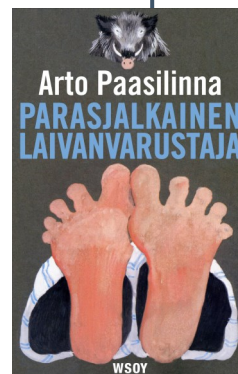
Aulis Rävänder has got everything he could have ever wished for: a loving wife; sweet children; a good job; and a gorgeous island villa. But everything changes when he comes home to find that a stranger has been in his house. Rävänder retreats to his island to think about what he's found out. That's when he accidentally dials the wrong number.

Finnish title: *Parasjalkainen laivanvarustaja*

Published by: WSOY, Finland, 1985

Material: German Edition

Rights sold: **German:** Lübbe; **Slovenian:** Mladinska knjiga



OPERATION FINLANDIA

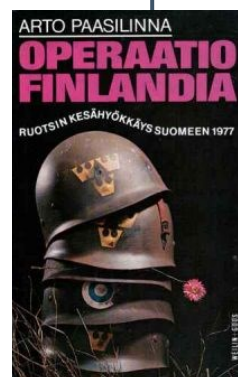
Arto Paasilinna's explosively funny first novel. A stunning combination of social satire, historical romance, and side-splitting comedy, which marks the birth of Finland's greatest humourist.

The far right have taken over Sweden and the Åland Islands want to leave Finland. In the summer of 1977 the unthinkable happens: a Swedish fighter squadron strikes Naantali and a war breaks out. OPERATION FINLANDIA was dedicated to the then King of Sweden, Crown Prince Carl Gustav, with the promise that Paasilinna would write an alternate ending if the book were ever translated into Swedish.

Finnish title: *Operaatio Finlandia*

Published by: W+G, Finland, 1972

Rights sold: **German:** Lübbe



THE FLIGHT OF THE MAIDENS

A poignant and touching summer tale about three wild orphans who embark upon the trip of a lifetime.

Life hasn't been kind to Stina, a young girl who lives in the dreadful Kaksisaari Orphanage. Along with her friends Roosa and Meer, she hatches a plan to make it to her father's summer cottage in time for Midsummer. As the three girls are chased across Uusimaa by policemen and conscripts, the girls' resourcefulness shines through.

Finnish title: *Neitosten karkuretki*

Published by: WSOY, Finland, 2008

Rights sold: Sweden*: Brombergs

*Rights reverted



NINE DREAMS

A razor-sharp work of autofiction from Finland's much-loved comic novelist Arto Paasilinna.

Paasilinna was 10-years-old when he took on his first construction project: a cabin in the woods. He went on to construct 53 buildings: farmhouses; cottages; sheds; and saunas. Through a narrative of his various building projects, Paasilinna takes the reader on a journey of where his most famous novels were written.

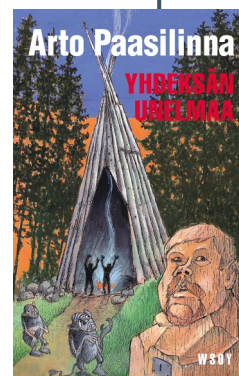
Finnish title: *Yhdeksän unelmaa*

Published by: WSOY, Finland, 2002

Material: Finnish Edition

Rights sold: Swedish*: Brombergs

*Rights reverted



ALIVE AT HIS OWN FUNERAL

Part fairy tale, part narrative fiction, Paasilinna's final novel tells a thought-provoking story of masculinity, bravery, and the many different paths a person's life can take.

Set in the midst of the Winter War, refugee Arttu Tukkijänkä makes a decent living as a funeral photographer. After witnessing a poorly organised funeral, he starts planning his own—much to his wife's dismay. Paasilinna tackles themes of death, suicide, and post mortems with a distinctive splash of silliness.

Finnish title: *Elävänä omissa hautajaisissa*

Published by: WSOY, Finland, 2009

Material: Finnish Edition

Rights sold: Czech*: Hejkal

*Rights reverted



THE FLYING CARPENTER

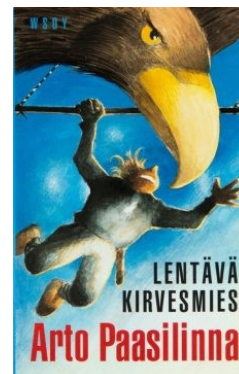
Absurdist humour, Bronze Age mythology, and magical realism come together in this laugh-a-minute story of a man and his nemesis: a giant, black eagle.

It's 100BC. Ronkoteos finds himself stranded in the middle of Lake Pielinen, only to be pulled out of the water by a giant, black eagle. The ever-resourceful Ronkoteos decides to make the most of his situation by stealing the eagle's eggs and earning a bit of cash on the side.

Finnish title: *Lentävä kirvesmies*

Published by: WSOY, Finland, 1996

Rights sold: All rights available



KOIKKALAINEN FROM FAR AWAY

A surreal and unpredictable eco-novel about a space ship that no one notices because everyone's too busy watching television.

When a space ship lands on earth, eco-farmer Taisto Hallikainen is the only person to notice. Everyone else is too busy watching TV. A human-like creature, who Hallikainen names Koikkalainen, emerges, announcing that he has been sent to earth to find specimens to take back to his home planet. Hallikainen agrees to help, but will they find what they're looking for?

Finnish title: *Koikkalainen kaukaa*

Published by: WSOY, Finland, 1988

Rights sold: All rights available



THE GOLDEN CLIMBER

A biting post-war satire about a boy with big ambitions who is determined to create his own luck.

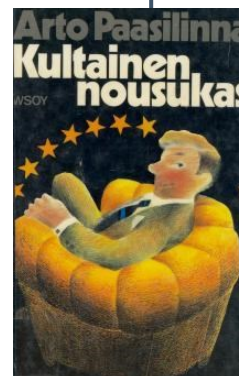
A poor boy is born in the remote village of Salla, where he is immediately rejected by his own mother. But Askeli isn't prepared to accept his fate and he sets out determined to find his own luck. A part-time job selling fish at his local marketplace inspires him to start a fishing business in Norway, but will Askeli's luck eventually run out?

Finnish title: *Kultainen nousukas*

Published by: WSOY, Finland, 1982

Material: Finnish Edition

Rights sold: All rights available



THE LAST LAP OF THE HUMAN RACE

A riotous science fiction novel set in an imagined future in which mankind faces extinction.

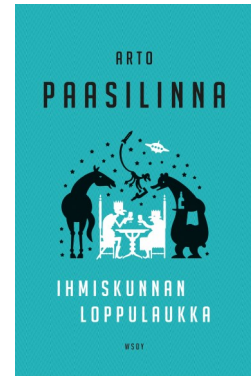
It's the year 2005 and birth-rates have fallen dangerously low. Children simply aren't being born any-more. Enter former vet and legendary horse trainer Tarmo Saamakorpi, who has taken it upon himself to do something about it. Five years later, when a healthy boy is born, everyone is thrilled. But can the youngest man alive save the day?

Finnish title: *Ihmiskunnan loppulaukka*

Published by: WSOY, Finland, 2000

Material: Finnish Edition

Rights sold: All rights available



THE WORLD ENDS IN A NEIGH

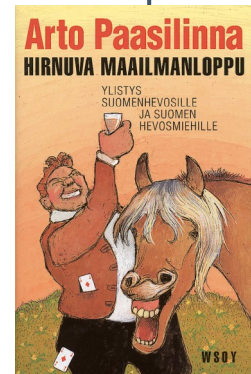
A wild and rib-tickling story that combines Orwellian dystopia with talking horses and social satire.

Thanks to local vet Tarmo Saamakorpi, Huru-Aaroni the horse has learnt to speak. And it's not long before horse breeder Ossi Huikkola's whole stud are talking. Exploring life from the perspectives of both horse and man, Paasilinna tells a hilarious story with surprising depth.

Finnish title: *Hirnuva maailmanloppu*

Published by: WSOY, Finland, 1999

Rights sold: All rights available



THE SHERIFF OF DENVER

Arto Paasilinna's first ever novel. Written by a 16-year-old Paasilinna, this clever and addictive Western was published posthumously in 2019.

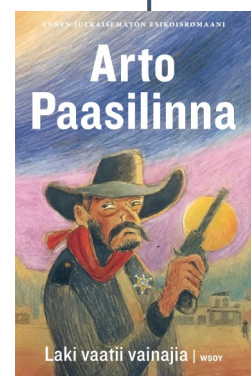
The sheriff, a man with plenty of criminal tendencies and a penchant for whiskey, comes up against mail robbers, an overzealous district chief, and the unrelenting Christian Women's Association in Paasilinna's first novel. Playing with stereotypes throughout, a teenage Paasilinna's writing is characteristically sharp and delightfully entertaining.

Finnish title: *Laki vaatii vainajia*

Published by: WSOY, Finland, 2019

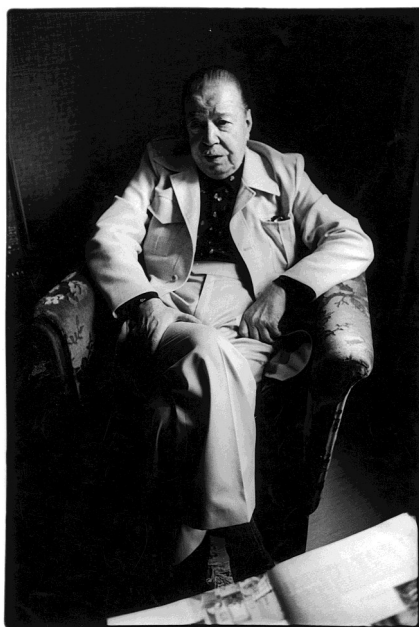
Material: Finnish Edition

Rights sold: All rights available



Mika Waltari

1908-1979



Mika Waltari is the most popular 20th century Finnish writer, best known for his magnum opus *The Egyptian*. Set in Egypt during the 18th Dynasty in 1300BC and first published in 1945, the historical novel became an immediate international bestseller upon publication and was adapted into a lavishly-produced Hollywood production by 20th Century Fox in 1954. It remains the most translated Finnish book in history.

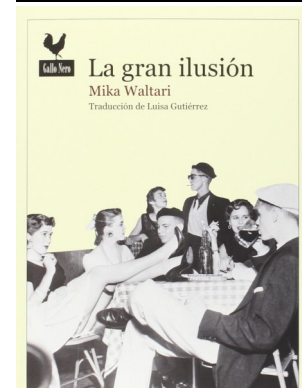
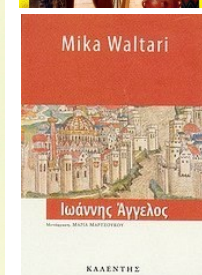
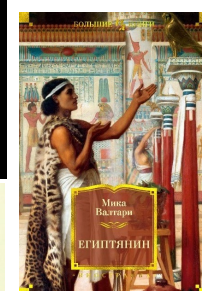
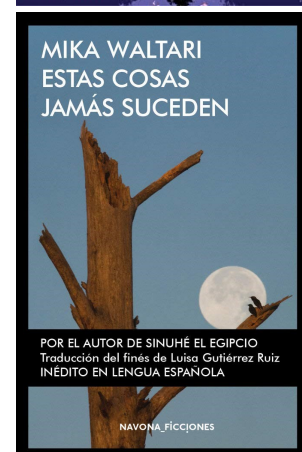
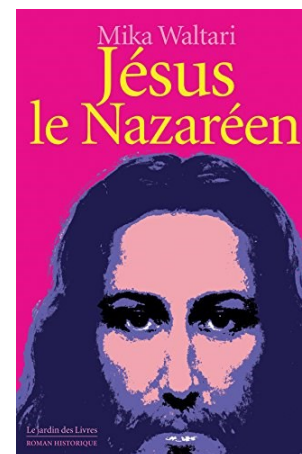
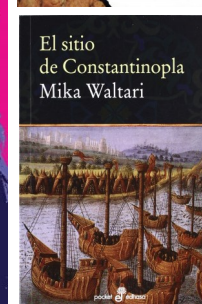
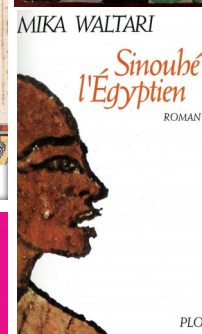
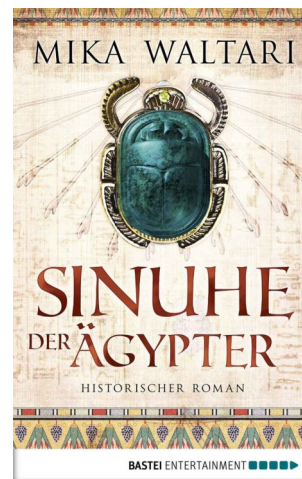
Over a career that spanned five decades, Waltari published well over 100 works, which have been translated into over 40 languages to date.

As well as historical fiction, Waltari published crime fiction, poems, short stories, essays, fairy tales, travelogues, plays, and memoirs. In fact, Waltari is widely considered the first notable Finnish crime writer: his *Inspector Palmu* series is internationally-renowned and was adapted for film by Matti Kassila.

As a twenty-year-old Waltari became one of the lead figures of the Torchbearers, a Finnish literary movement who were inspired by Russian and Italian futurism and sought to take Finnish literature into the rest of Europe.

In 1957 he was appointed to the Academy of Finland, having previously won the state literature award a staggering five times.

Often drawing comparisons to Paul Morand, Ernest Hemingway, and F. Scott Fitzgerald, Waltari is credited with opening Finland's window towards continental Europe and introducing urban romanticism into Finnish literature.



Mika Waltari

The Egyptian

The most translated novel in Finnish literary history

One of the first major novels set in ancient Egypt by the greatest Finnish writer of the 20th century.

Sinuhe, a physician and advisor to both pharaohs and kings, travels from Egypt to Syria, Babylon to Mitanni, and Hattusa to Crete at the end of Minoan civilisation.

Self-centred and arrogant, though ultimately well-meaning, Sinuhe knows all the right people and his royal connections ultimately wind up exposing the palace's secrets, including details of sexual liaisons, shifting political alliances, and even homicide.

Meanwhile Pharaoh Akhenaten, a utopian dreamer and an out-of-touch visionary, tries to bring the monotheistic worship of Aton to Egypt, causing his reign to be marked by internal conflict.

THE EGYPTIAN became an instant international bestseller upon its publication in 1945. Painting a lively picture of life in 14th century Egypt, Waltari tells a timeless story of the brutal reality of human civilisation.

Translated into over 40 languages, THE EGYPTIAN has been praised by Egyptology scholars for its historical accuracy. The novel's depiction of the geopolitical situation of the Middle East can also be read as an allegory for World War II, its pessimistic message about the persistence of mankind's flawed nature fascinating readers for decades.

Michael Curtiz and 20th Century Fox's adaptation of THE EGYPTIAN was nominated for an Academy Award in 1955.

"A grand immersion into an epic tale."

– *The Philadelphia Inquirer*

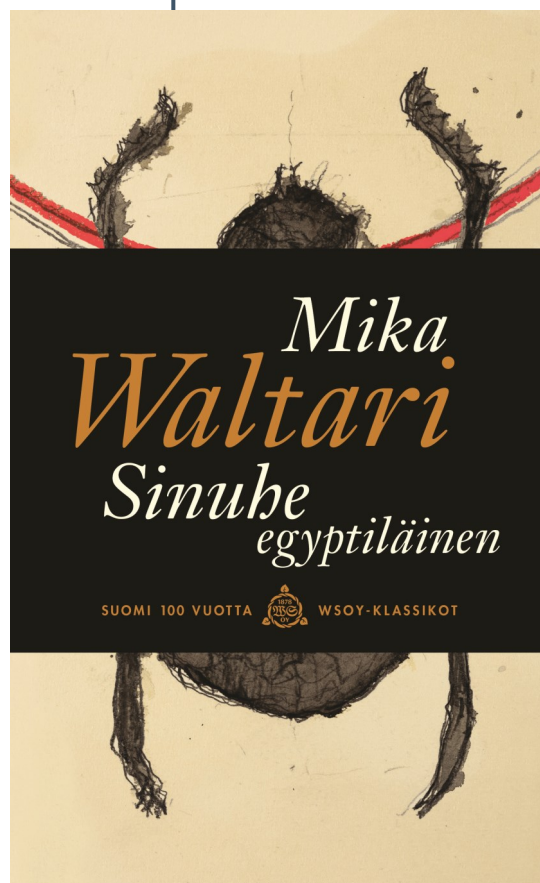
"A powerful novel of impressive erudition... As a picture of ancient Egypt, there has been nothing quite like it."

– *Library Journal*

Publication: WSOY, Finland | 1945 | 779 pages

Materials: Finnish PDF, English Sample Translation 50pp, Synopsis

Contact: Tabatha Leggett | tabatha.leggett@bonnierrights.fi



Rights sold

Arabic: National House for Printing and Publication

Belarusian: Encyclopedix*

Bulgarian: Narodna kultura / Paper Tiger / Ednorog*

Catalan: Proa

Czech: Albatros

Croatian: A3DATA

Danish: Vilhelm Prior / Gyldendal*

Dutch: Van Gennep

English: Hamilton & Co

Estonian: Varrak

Farsi: Novin

French: France loisirs

German: Lühbe

Greek: Mich. Saliveros / Kaktos / Kalendis

Hebrew: Am Oved / Carmel

Hindi: Shabdakar

Hungarian: Europa*

Icelandic: Odds Björnsson

Italian: Rizzoli

Japanese: Okakura Shobo

Korean: Dongyok*

Latvian: Jana Rozes*

Lithuanian: Tyto Alba

Mari, Russian: Sarta*

Norwegian: Aschehoug

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Portuguese, Brazilian: Bertrand Brasil

Romanian: Polirom

Russian: Atticus-Azbooka

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Slovenian: Drzavna

Slovakian: Premedia

Spanish: Debolsillo

Swedish: Wahlström & Widstrand

Thai: Bosof*

Turkish: IQ Kültür Sanat

*Rights reverted

Mika Waltari

The Wanderer

The gripping sequel to *The Adventurer*

In the astonishing second instalment to *The Adventurer*, Mikael the Finn converts to Islam in early 16th century Europe.

The Adventurer established Mika Waltari as a true master of historical fiction, cementing his status as a national icon of Finland. *THE WANDERER* raised the bar even higher.

When Mikael the Finn and his ever-loyal sidekick Andy decide to pull the breaks on their adventure, they board a ship in the port of Venice that they hope will take them on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land.

But once again things don't go to plan, and it's not long before their ship is seized by Muslim pirates! Mikael and Andy take stock of their options and decide that their best bet is to convert to Islam.

THE WANDERER follows Mikael through this conversion in 16th century Europe as he comes to occupy a high position in the court of Suleiman the Magnificent.

Ever the lovable rogue, Mikael marries an Italian woman, serves as the Sultan's slave, and becomes an authorised physician who goes by the name el-Hakim.

Painting a rich picture of the Mediterranean in the early 16th century, *THE WANDERER* weaves historical fact with lively storytelling seamlessly.

THE WANDERER was published with the title *The Sultan's Renegade* in the UK.

"A complex plot, with successive interlocking episodes, THE WANDERER adds up to another picaresque romantic adventure novel which those who enjoyed its predecessors will claim as their own."

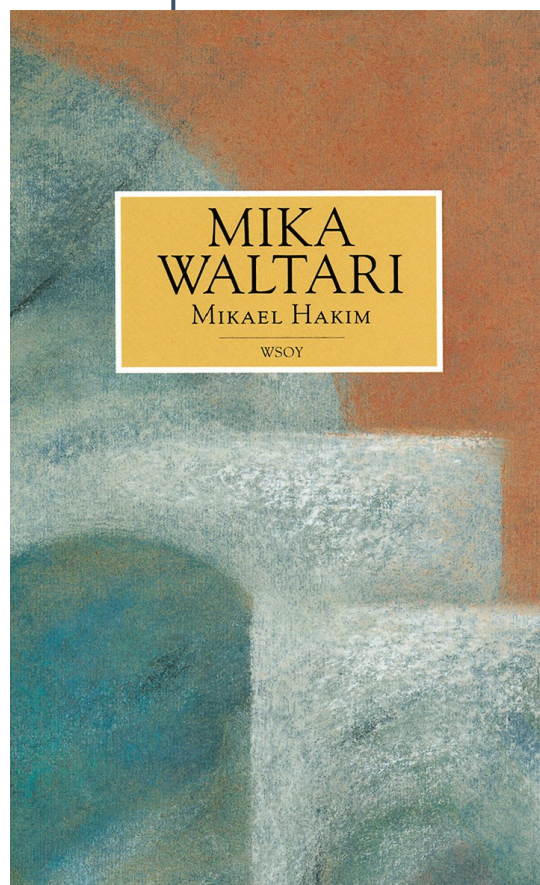
– **Kirkus Review**

Publication: WSOY, Finland | 1949 | 984 pages

Material: English Edition, Synopsis, German Edition

Contact: Tabatha Leggett | tabatha.leggett@bonnierrights.fi

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Rights sold

Croatian: A3DATA

Czech: Hejkal

Danish: Odense

Dutch: Van Holkema & Warendorf

English: G. P. Putnam's

Estonian: Orto

French: Oliver Orban/Les Jardin des Livres*

German: Kuebler Verlag

Greek: Kalendis

Hungarian: Europa

Icelandic: Bókaförlag Odds Björnssonar

Italian: Garzanti

Lithuanian: Tyto Alba*

Polish: ISKRY / Ksiaznica*

Portuguese, Brazilian: Merito

Romanian: Polirom*

Russian: Eksmo

Spanish: Cumbre / Exhito / Plaza & Janes / Edhasa*

Swedish: Wahlström & Widstrand

Turkish: Bilge Kultur*

*Rights reverted

Mika Waltari

The Adventurer

A breath-taking novel filled with adventure, romance, and intrigue set against a rich historical backdrop.

Set in 16th century medieval Europe, *THE ADVENTURER* tells the story of Mikael the Finn, who is born out of wedlock and spends his life relentlessly pursuing a higher social status.

But things don't quite go to plan and Mikael finds himself drifting through Europe alongside Andy, his dim but loyal sidekick. Together the two men lie, steal, and drink their way across the continent, narrowly avoiding countless scrapes along the way.

Mikael's travels lead him to become an aide to the King of Denmark, a job that requires him to betray his people and flee Finland.

THE ADVENTURER follows Mikael's travels across the Mediterranean, where he gains first-hand experience of Denmark's conquest of Sweden, Protestant reformation, a German witch-hunt, Hungary's expansion of the Ottoman Empire, and the Sack of Rome during the reign of Pope Clement VII.

Featuring historical figures including Paracelsus, Martin Luther, and Thomas Muentzer, and described by the Finnish Literature Society (SKS) as Waltari's "most misanthropic work," *THE ADVENTURER* is a truly compelling historical fiction novel that is filled with suspense, humour, and a healthy dose of irony.

THE ADVENTURER was published under the title *Mikael the Finn* in the UK.

Praise for Mika Waltari:

"A member of the Finnish Academy since 1957, Mr. Waltari was noted for his descriptions of middle-class urban life and one or two novels with rural themes in Finland, but was best known abroad for his later, historical works."

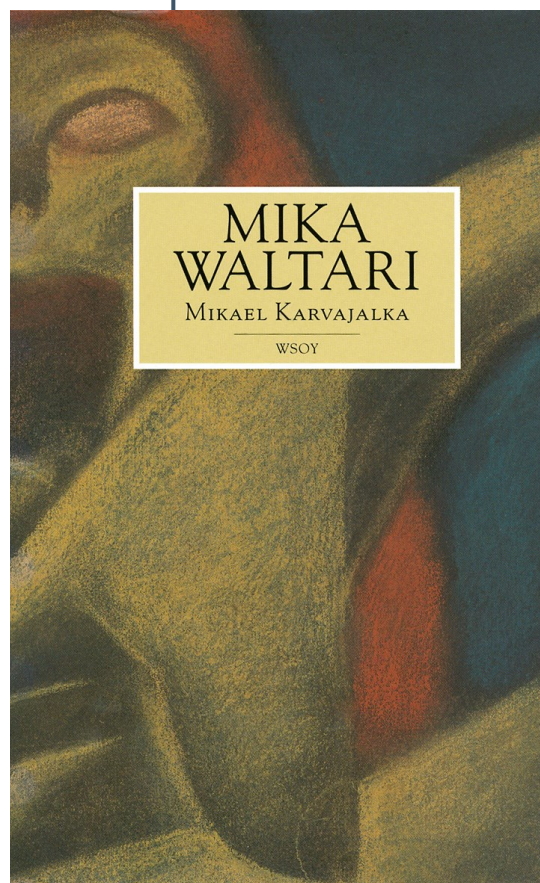
– *The New York Times*

Publication: WSOY, Finland | 1948 | 780 pages

Material: German Edition

Contact: Tabatha Leggett | tabatha.leggett@bonnierrights.fi

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Rights sold

Croatian: A3DATA

Czech: Hejkal

Danish: Odense

Dutch: Van Holkema & Warendorf

English: G. P. Putnam's / Pocket Books

Estonian: Varrak

German: Kuebler Verlag

Greek: Kaktos*

Farsi: Dunyā-yi Kitāb

French: Les Jardins des Livres*

Hebrew: M. Mizrahi

Hungarian: Europa*

Icelandic: Bókafélag Odds Björnssonar

Italian: Garzanti

Lithuanian: Tyto Alba*

Norwegian: Bergendahl

Polish: ISKRY / Książnica*

Portuguese, Brazilian: Merito

Romanian: Polirom*

Russian: Eksmo

Serbian: Tabernakl

Slovakian: Ikar*

Spanish: Edhasa

Swedish: Wahlström & Widstrand

*Rights reverted

THE SECRET OF THE KINGDOM

A magnificent historical novel set during the 40 days between Easter and Pentecost, when Jesus is said to have risen from the dead.

Marcus Mezentius Manilianus arrives in Jerusalem on the day of Jesus' crucifixion. The more he learns about Jesus, the more desperate he is to become one of his disciples. The only problem is, Jesus' existing disciples are reluctant to allow Marcus into their inner circle.

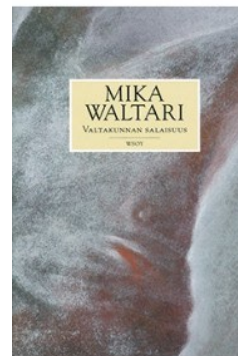
Original title: *Valtakunnan salaisuus*

Published by: WSOY, Finland, 1959

Material: Synopsis

Rights sold: **Arabic:** Hilmi Murad; **Bulgarian:** Ednorog*; **Croatian:** A3DATA; **Czech:** Albatros; **Danish:** Sesam; **Dutch:** Van Holkema & Warendorf; **English:** G. P. Putnam's; **Estonian:** Varrak; **Farsi:** Zorin; **French:** Les Jardin des Livres*; **German:** Kuebler; **Greek:** Kaktos*; **Hebrew:** Bitan; **Hungarian:** Europa*; **Italian:** RCS*; **Korean:** Pauline; **Lithuanian:** Tyto Alba*; **Norwegian:** Aschehoug; **Polish:** Ksiaznica; **Romanian:** Polirom; **Slovakian:** Petrus; **Slovenian:** A3DATA; **Spanish:** Edhasa; **Swedish:** Schildts

*Rights reverted



THE ROMAN

Exploring the early days of Christianity, this is the searing sequel to *The Secret of the Kingdom*.

Humorous, gut-wrenchingly tragic, and wisely philosophical, THE ROMAN is a fascinating story about the beginning of Christianity. The historical fiction novel follows Minitus Launsus Manilianus as he travels from Corinth to Jerusalem in the pursuit of fame, all while trying to avoid getting caught up in any political entanglements.

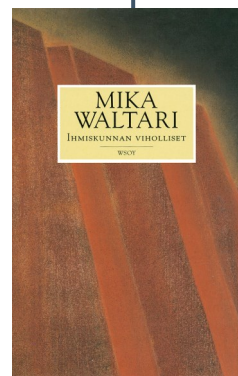
Original title: *Ihmiskunnan viholliset*

Published by: WSOY, Finland, 1964

Material: English Sample Translation 16pp, Synopsis, French Sample Translation 60pp

Rights sold: **Croatian:** A3DATA; **Czech:** Cezky Klub*; **Dutch:** Van Holkema & Warendorf; **English:** Hodder & Stoughton / Buccaneer; **Estonian:** Varrak*; **Farsi:** Intishārāt-i Dursā; **French:** Les Jardin des Livres*; **German:** Kuebler; **Greek:** Kaktos*; **Hebrew:** Am Hassefer; **Hungarian:** Europa*; **Italian:** Rizzoli; **Lithuanian:** Tyto Alba*; **Polish:** Ksiaznica; **Portuguese, Brazilian:** Itatiaia; **Romanian:** Polirom; **Slovakian:** Slovenský spisovateľ; **Slovenian:** A3DATA; **Spanish:** Edhasa; **Swedish:** Wahlström & Widstrand

*Rights reverted



THE ETRUSCAN

A rich historical novel set during Rome's Villanovian and Classical periods.

Set during the era that saw the formation of the Roman Republic (509BC), the Athenian defeat of the Persians at Marathon (490 BC), and the Greek repulse of the second Persian invasion (480 BC), THE ETRUSCAN follows the adventures of Lars Turms as he searches for the meaning of life in the ancient world. One of Waltari's most popular works.

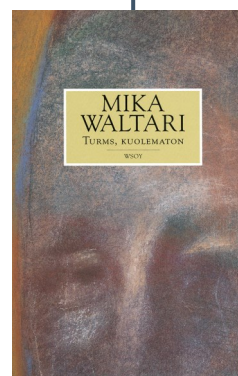
Original title: *Turms kuolematon*

Published by: WSOY, Finland, 1955

Material: Synopsis, German Edition

Rights sold: **Bulgarian:** Ednorog*; **Catalan:** Proa; **Croatian:** A3DATA; **Czech:** Albatros; **Danish:** Sesam; **Dutch:** Van Holkema & Warendorf; **English:** Buccaneer Books; **Estonian:** Varrak; **French:** Les Jardin des Livres; **German:** Kuebler; **Greek:** Kalendis; **Hebrew:** M. Mizrahi; **Hindi:** Shabdakar; **Hungarian:** Europa; **Italian:** Castelvechi; **Latvian:** Jana Rozes*; **Lithuanian:** Tyto Alba*; **Persian:** Shirin; **Polish:** Ksiaznica; **Portuguese, Brazilian:** Itatiaia; **Romanian:** Polirom; **Serbian:** Tabernakl; **Slovakian:** Ikar; **Slovenian:** Cankarjeva založba; **Spanish:** Eshasa; **Swedish:** Wahlström & Widstrand; **Thai:** Bosof; **Turkish:** Türkiye Yayınevi

*Rights reverted



YOUNG JOHANNES

Published posthumously, **YOUNG JOHANNES** is the astonishing prequel to, and original draft of, *The Dark Angel*.

Set in the 15th century, **YOUNG JOHANNES** tells the story of Johannes Angelos, a young theologian who is set on saving the Byzantium Empire from the Turks. It's the original version of *The Dark Angel*, which Waltari abandoned upon realising he'd written 450 pages without mentioning Constantinople.

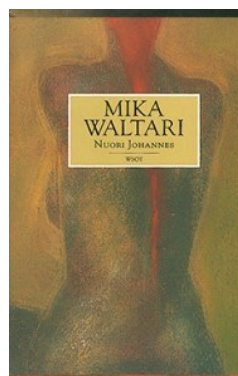
Original title: *Nuori Johannes*

Published by: WSOY, Finland, 1981

Material: Synopsis, German Edition

Rights sold: **Czech:** Plaza & Janés; **Czech:** Hejkal*; **Estonian:** Varrak; **French:** Phéus; **German:** Kuebler, **Greek:** Kaktos*; **Hungarian:** Európa; **Lithuanian:** Tyto Alba*; **Polish:** Panstwowy Instytut; **Portuguese, Brazilian:** Distribuidora Record de Servicos de Imprens; **Romanian:** Polirom; **Slovakian:** Slovensky spisovatel; **Spanish:** Debolsillo

* Rights reverted



THE DARK ANGEL

A vivid work of historical fiction and a searingly powerful telling of the fall of Constantinople in 1453.

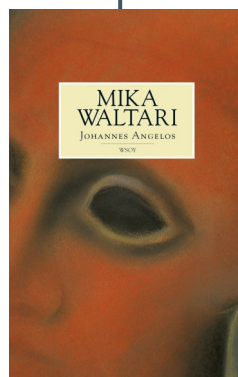
Johannes Angelos falls in love with Anna Notaras the moment he sets eyes on her in Constantinople. Meanwhile, the Byzantine Empire has shrunk to a shadow of its former glory and is crumbling in on itself. As the city prepares to face a massive Turkish army, Angelos and Notaras pursue a passionate love affair that is marred by tragedy. Using the diary of its protagonist to describe the 1453 siege and fall of Constantinople, **THE DARK ANGEL** was inspired by the real life diary of Niccolò Barbaro.

Original title: *Johannes Angelos*

Published by: WSOY, Finland, 1952

Rights sold: **Bulgarian:** Knizen tigr, **Croatian:** A3DATA, **Czech:** Euromedia*, **Danish:** Vilhelm Prior, **Dutch:** Van Holkema & Warendorf, **English:** G. P. Putnam's, **Estonian:** Sinisukk, **Farsi:** Almi, **French:** Phéus, **Hebrew:** Zohar, **Hungarian:** Barrus, **German:** Kuebler, **Greek:** Kalendis, **Italian:** Iperborea, **Latvian:** Dzintars, **Lithuanian:** Tyto Alba*, **Norwegian:** Aschehoug, **Polish:** Ksiaznica, **Portuguese, Brazilian:** Merito; **Romanian:** Polirom, **Serbian:** Tabernakl, **Slovakian:** Slovensky spisovatel, **Slovenian:** Obzorja, **Spanish:** Edhasa, **Swedish:** Wahlström & Widstrand, **Turkish:** Cep Kitaplari*

* Rights reverted



CATHERINE

Set in the 16th century, this historical fiction novel tells the lively and turbulent story of King Eric XIV's former mistress and wife, Catherine.

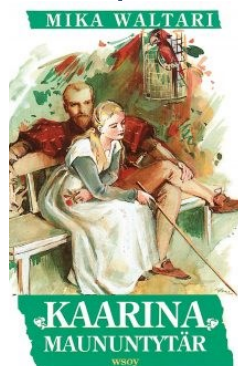
The power-hungry Eric XIV of Sweden embarks upon a troubled love affair with a 15-year-old called Catherine. When Eric dies, he leaves Catherine to spend the rest of her days in Kangasala Manor in Finland. At this point, she is just 23-years-old. A historical fiction novel quite unlike any other.

Original title: *Kaarina Maununtytär*

Published by: WSOY, Finland, 1942

Rights sold: **Croatian:** A3DATA, **Czech:** Hejkal, **Danish:** Jespersen og Pio, **Dutch:** Atlas Reeks, **Estonian:** Sinisukk, **French:** De La Siuzaine Editions, **German:** Luhe, **Icelandic:** Draupnisutgafan, **Lithuanian:** Tyto Alba*, **Polish:** Ksiaznica*, **Slovakian:** Smena, **Spanish:** G. P. Ediciones, **Swedish:** Wahlström & Widstrand

*Rights reverted



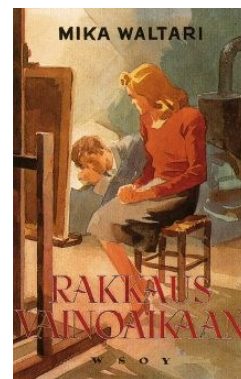
LOVE IN TIMES OF WAR

A romantic historical novel about two young people who lose their youth before it even began, set during the truce between Finland and the Soviet Union in 1940.

Marjut and Aatos return from the Winter War having experienced unthinkable horrors. Whilst Marjut gave birth prematurely in a bomb shelter, Aatos suffered a severe head injury. In Marjut's countryside home, the two find solace in one another and start to fall in love. That's when the Continuation War breaks out. LOVE IN TIMES OF WAR was removed from libraries in Finland during World War II.

Original title: *Rakkaus vainoaikaan* **Published by:** WSOY, Finland, 1943

Rights sold: All rights available



DANCE OVER THE TOMBSTONES

A spell-binding historical romance novel set during Finland's transition from Sweden to the Russian Empire.

The year is 1809. Emperor Alexander I arrives at the Diet of Porvoo and is immediately taken by the governor's 18-year-old daughter, Ulrika. Ulrika dreams of freedom for her country and struggles to make peace with the emperor's dark past. A story of passion and the pursuit of justice, set during perhaps the most important era of Finnish history.

Original title: *Tanssi yli hautojen* **Published by:** WSOY, Finland, 1944

Material: Finnish PDF

Rights sold: **Bulgarian:** Delakort*, **Croatian:** A3DATA, **Czech:** Hejkal*, **Danish:** Jespersen og Pio, **Estonian:** Orto, **French:** Phebus, **German:** Luebbe, **Greek:** Kaktos*, **Icelandic:** Draupnistútgáfan, **Spanish:** Styria*, **Swedish:** Schildts

*Rights reverted



THE GRAND ILLUSION

Drawing comparisons to the works of F. Scott Fitzgerald and Ernest Hemingway, Mika Waltari's biting sharp debut novel tells a story about the aimlessness of urban life and the disillusionment of the lost European youth after World War II.

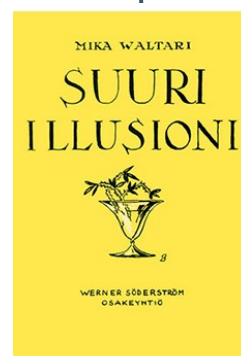
When journalist Hart visits a hair salon one summer, his life changes immeasurably. It's there that he meets the talented writer Hellas as well as the irresistibly seductive Carita. What ensues is a painful and intense love triangle set over a swelteringly hot Helsinki summer.

Original title: *Suuri illusioini* **Published by:** WSOY, Finland, 1929

Material: Finnish PDF, panish Translation

Rights sold: **Czech:** Omega, **Estonian:** Varrak*, **Norwegian:** Aschehoug, **Spanish:** Gallo Nero, **Swedish:** Wahlström & Widstrand, **Ukrainian:** Calvaria*

* Rights reverted



THE WONDERFUL JOOSEF

A wild and spirited summer page turner filled with Helsinki charm and nostalgia for times gone by.

It's spring. University student Karin Lauraeus walks across Helsinki's Esplanadi with her skirt fluttering in the breeze. She's furious at men and their deceitfulness. That's when she sees him. First she notices his glasses. Then his shabby raincoat, worn shoes, and pipe. That man doesn't seem to belong here...

Original title: *Ihmeellinen Joosef* **Published by:** WSOY, Finland, 1938

Rights sold: Czech: Euromedia*, Estonian: Sinisukk

*Rights reverted



THE TONGUE OF FIRE

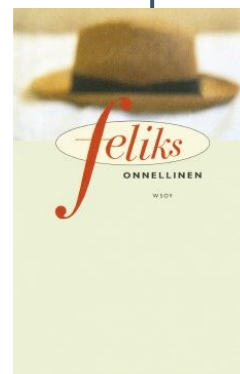
A biting sharp and entertaining novel exploring the problems of religion in the modern world.

Shy office clerk Felix has recently become a Messenger of God. But his new position comes with a daunting task: every day he must confront a stranger with the words "The Lord is looking for you. If you will him to do so, He will forgive your sins." This unusual task leads Felix to meet people from all walks of life, giving him the chance to address his own internal guilt.

Original title: *Feliks onnellinen* **Published by:** WSOY, Finland, 1958

Rights sold: Croatian: A3DATA*; English: G. P. Putnam's*; Estonian: Loomingu*; German: Paul Neff; Hungarian: Valo-Art Bt; Slovenian: A3DATA; Spanish: Plaza & Janes; Swedish: Schildts

*Rights reverted



DO YOU WANT TO BE A WRITER?

The great Mika Waltari's guide to becoming an author.

Including tips on developing your own writing style, choosing the right topic to write about, and dealing with publishers—as well as a charming section on choosing the right typewriter—this non-fiction classic has long been considered a must-read for fans of Mika Waltari as well as anyone who dreams of making it as an author.

Original title: *Aiotko kirjailijaksi?* **Published by:** WSOY, Finland, 1935

Rights sold: All rights available



A NAIL MERCHANT AT NIGHTFALL

An extraordinary autofictive novel believed to tell the story of Mika Waltari completing his magnum opus, *The Egyptian*.

A NAIL MERCHANT AT NIGHTFALL follows Sinuhe during the summer he decides to concentrate on his writing. But things don't go to plan and Sinuhe spends his summer misbehaving, drinking too much, having an ill-advised love affair, and experimenting with hallucinogenic mushrooms.

Original title: *Neljä päivänlaskua*

Published by: WSOY, Finland, 1949

Rights sold: **Czech:** Hejkal*; **Dutch:** Van Holkema & Warendorf; **English:** G. P. Putnam's*; **Estonian:** Loomingu; **German:** Lubbe; **Lithuanian:** Tyto Alba*; **Polish:** C&T; **Slovakian:** Hevi; **Spanish:** Ediciones GP

*Rights reverted



JOURNEY TO ISTANBUL

Mika Waltari's infamous travelogue about his 1948 journey from a post-war Finland to Istanbul.

Travelling through post-war Finland was difficult, but it was something that Mika Waltari insisted upon doing in order to write historical fiction novels. Making his way through Europe with a stack of dodgy visas, American cigarettes, and currency that was difficult to get hold of, JOURNEY TO ISTANBUL tells the story of the fieldwork and research Waltari did for *The Egyptian*.

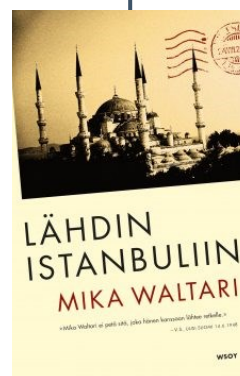
Original title: *Lähdin Istanbuliin*

Published by: WSOY, Finland, 1948

Material: Synopsis

Rights sold: **Czech:** Hejkal*

*Rights reverted



A LONELY MAN'S TRAIN

The much-loved travelogue of Mika Waltari's 1929 return trip from Helsinki to Istanbul.

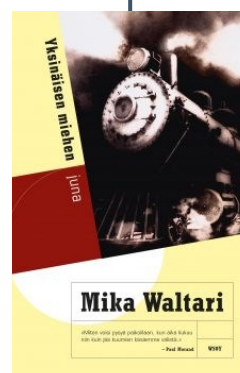
Documenting his trip from Helsinki to Istanbul and back, A LONELY MAN'S TRAIN tells the stories of Waltari's visits to Rome, Berlin, Vienna, Budapest, Belgrade, Paris, and Sofia. Waltari was fascinated by Istanbul—then Constantinople—and set off with the promise: "I'm off to seek adventure, romance, long-distance train journeys, new people, and new cities."

Original title: *Yksinäisen miehen juna*

Published by: WSOY, Finland, 1978

Material: Finnish Edition

Rights sold: **Czech:** Hejkal



WHO MURDERED MRS. SKROF?

The first instalment in Mika Waltari's *Inspector Palmu* trilogy, a cult classic murder mystery set in pre-war Helsinki, which has drawn comparisons to Arthur Conan Doyle's *Sherlock Holmes* series.

Inspector Palmu thinks there's more to unpopular widow Mrs. Skrof's murder than meets the eye. He sets out to interview a growing list of suspects, including an acrobatic pilot, a surrealist painter, and a charismatic leader of an extreme Protestant sect.

Original title: *Kuka murhasi Rouva Skrofin?*

Published by: WSOY, Finland, 1939

Material: Finnish Edition, English Sample Translation 20pp

Rights sold: **Bulgarian:** Narodna mladez, **Czech:** Knižni Klub, **Danish:** Hasselbalch, **Dutch:** H. P. Leopolda, **Estonian:** Ecotalent, **French:** Sceaux, **German:** W. Kaser, **Greek:** Kalendis, **Hungarian:** Kolonel, **Icelandic:** Bókaútgáfan Esja, **Italian:** Iperborad, **Norwegian:** W. Cappelens, **Polish:** Literackie, **Spanish:** Novaro-Mexico, **Swedish:** Lindqvist



INSPECTOR PALMU'S MISTAKE

When a rich heir is found dead following a dinner party, Inspector Palmu is called upon to investigate. The second instalment in the *Inspector Palmu* trilogy.

Inspector Palmu doesn't believe that Bruno Rygsack slipped on a bar of soap and died. And it turns out he's right to be suspicious: the dinner party in question was crime-themed, involving theft, forgery, and poison. Filled with Waltari's characteristic humour, this is a murder mystery that keeps readers guessing until the very end.

Original title: *Komisario Palmun erehdys*

Published by: WSOY, Finland, 1940

Rights sold: **Czech:** Knižní klub*, **Danish:** Carl Aller, **Estonian:** Eesti Raamat, **German:** SM Bucher, **Greek:** Kalentis*, **Hungarian:** Európa könyvkiadó, **Norwegian:** J. W. Cappelens, **Polish:** Literackie*, **Spanish:** Plaza & Janes, **Swedish:** Wahlström & Widstrand

* Rights reverted



IT IS WRITTEN IN THE STARS, INSPECTOR PALMU!

The final novel in the cult classic *Inspector Palmu* trilogy, featuring the much-loved sixty something inspector with a unique ability to see through suspicious behaviour.

When Kaino Peltonen comes across a body while walking the dog, the press rush to the scene. Luckily it's not long before Inspector Palmu and his team turn up and get to work solving the crime amidst all the mayhem.

Original title: *Tähdet kertovat Komisario Palmu*

Published by: WSOY, Finland, 1962

Rights sold: **Czech:** Euromedia*, **French:** Le Masque, **German:** Lubbe, **Estonian:** Eesti Raamat, **Greek:** Kalentis, **Hungarian:** Europa, **Polish:** Ksianica*, **Russian:** Raduga, **Slovakian:** Smena, **Spanish:** Ediciones G.P.

*Rights reverted



FROM FATHER TO SON: THE HELSINKI TRILOGY

Comprising three abridged novellas, **FROM FATHER TO SON** tells the story of Helsinki through three generations.

The stories, which are largely inspired by Waltari's own family, span many districts of the city. Dealing with themes including the famine years of the 1860s and the immanent threat of war, the protagonists of these novellas are united by a shared longing for a sense of peace.

Original title: *Isästä poikaan*

Published by: WSOY, Finland, 1942

Rights sold: **Latvian:** Zelta Abele Apgads, **Spanish:** G. P. Ediciones



CITY OF SORROW AND JOY

Helsinki residents from different socio-economic backgrounds mix in this smart and thought-provoking one-day novel.

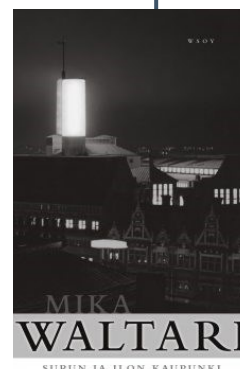
A stranger arriving in Helsinki by train. A young boy recovering from surgery. A worker. A successful businessman. A young nationalist. A conscientious theologian. A writer seeking creativity. An old, dying man. This diverse pool of characters from different socio-economic backgrounds encounter one other at various points throughout the same day. The result is acerbic and thrilling.

Original title: *Surun ja ilon kaupunki*

Published by: WSOY, Finland, 1936

Rights sold: **Czech:** Hejkal*, **German:** Abenland, **Spanish:** Plaza & Janes

*Rights reverted



THE ORANGE PIP

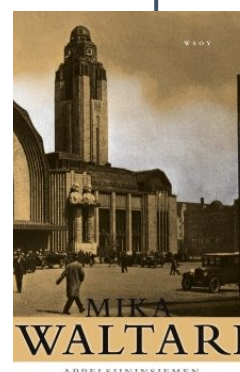
Spanning twelve months, **THE ORANGE PIP** is a heart-breaking novel about a Helsinki family's seemingly eternal search for happiness.

Reinhold, an old professor, is married to a traditional woman who can't stop arguing with their daughter, Irene. With her graduation approaching, Irene strikes up a relationship with a married lawyer in his thirties. The one thing that unites the family is that they are all individually searching for happiness. Upon its publication in 1931, **THE ORANGE PIP** caused outrage for its frank portrayal of premarital sex.

Original title: *Appelsiininsiemen*

Published by: WSOY, Finland, 1931

Rights sold: All rights available



THIS KIND OF THING NEVER HAPPENS

Finland's answer to Hitchcock's *The Lady Vanishes*. Originally rejected by publishers for being "too morbid", **THIS KIND OF THING NEVER HAPPENS** is a poetic and mysterious 63-page novella.

Against advice from the local authorities, a business man boards a plane to Athens on the eve of World War II. He's surprised to find just one other passenger: a singer en route to Egypt. When the plane crashes, the pair are stranded in the Balkans, in a country in the midst of a civil war. Filled with rich symbolism, the fate of the unfortunate duo is left for the reader to interpret.

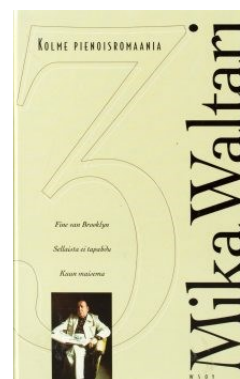
Original title: *Sellaista ei tapahdu*

Published by: WSOY, Finland, 1939

Material: Finnish Edition, English Sample Translation 30pp, Synopsis, French Edition

Rights sold: **Estonian:** Katherine, **French:** Actes Sud, **Hungarian:** Europa, **Polish:** Poznanskie, **Spanish:** Navona, **Ukrainian:** Folio*

*Rights reverted



A STRANGER CAME TO THE FARM

A profoundly tragic tale about love, resentment, and alcohol abuse. The 1937 winner of major publisher WSOY's novella competition.

Aaltonen arrives at a remote Finnish farm seeking work, only to fall in love with the alcoholic farmer's wife. However, before their relationship has a chance to blossom, an unthinkable tragedy takes place. Passing thoughtful and philosophical comment on human nature and the banality of life, this novella's publication in 1937 was met with moral outrage from readers.

Original title: *Vieras mies tuli taloon*

Published by: WSOY, Finland, 1937

Rights sold: **Arabic:** Hilmi Murad, **Croatian:** A3DATA, **Czech:** Hejkal*, **Dutch:** Van Holema & Warendorf, **Danish:** Borgen, **English:** G. P. Putnam's Sons*, **Estonian:** Eesti Raamat, **French:** Gallimard, **German:** Luebbe, **Greek:** Kaktos*, **Hungarian:** Fatum-Ars, **Hebrew:** Poalim*, **Italian:** Garzanti, **Latvian:** Zelta Abele, **Norwegian:** Aschenhoug, **Polish:** C&T, **Romanian:** Literaturn Universală, **Spanish:** Plaza & Janes, **Swedish:** Schildts

*Rights reverted



NEVER A TOMORROW

A classic pre-WWII novella by Finland's Mika Waltari. **NEVER A TOMORROW** was the runner up in WSOY's 1937 novella competition, before being disqualified when the jury found out the winning entry was also by Waltari!

Captain, a thrill-seeking former elite soldier, is in a relationship with his colleague's wife, Astrid. When the couple hit a young boy with their car, they panic and hide his body in the woods. With the threat of World War II looming, Astrid grows increasingly paranoid and Captain worries that she'll confess.

Original title: *Ei koskaan huomispäivää*

Published by: WSOY, Finland, 1942

Rights sold: **Czech:** Hejkal*, **English, UK:** Hodder & Stoughton, **English, USA:** G. P. Putnam's Sons*, **Estonian:** Orto, **French:** Actes Sud*, **German*:** Paul Neff, **Italian:** Rizzoli, **Hungarian:** Europa, **Polish:** C&T*, **Slovakian:** Tatran, **Spanish:** G. P. Ediciones, **Swedish:** Wahlström & Widstrand

*Rights reverted



FINE VAN BROOKLYN

Mika Waltari's classic novella about a Finnish scientist who looks back on a former ill-fated love affair with a Dutch woman in Brittany.

A Finnish scientist falls in love with a Dutch woman, Fine van Brooklyn. Blinded by passion, he pursues the woman who plays hot and cold with him. Filled with satire and irony, FINE VAN BROOKLYN is an acerbic and sharp depiction of how a beautiful woman can play with a man's heart.

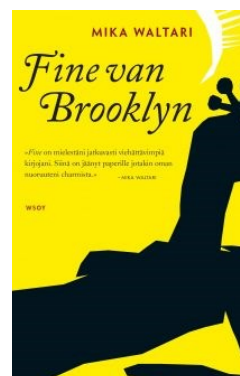
Original title: *Fine van Brooklyn*

Published by: WSOY, Finland, 1943

Material: Finnish Edition, German Edition

Rights sold: **Czech:** Vysehrad, **Dutch:** Schone, **English, UL:** Hodder & Stoughton, **English, USA:** G. P. Putnam's Sons*, **Estonian:** Eesti Raamat, **French:** Actes Sud, **German:** Kuebler, **Hebrew:** Poalim*, **Hungarian:** Europa, **Italian:** Iperborea, **Polish:** Panstwowy Instytut, **Slovakian:** Tatran, **Spanish:** Aurea*, **Swedish:** Schildts, **Ukrainian:** Folio

*Rights reverted



MOONSCAPE AND OTHER STORIES

An unmissable collection of six short stories. The winner of Finland's 1954 State Prize for Literature.

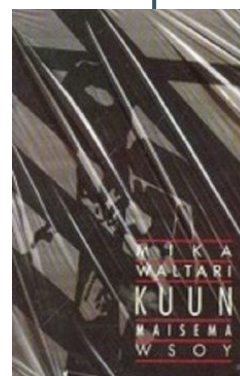
Six short stories—*Something in a Man*, *An Iceland of Ice*, *Moonscape*, *Before the Twilight of the Gods*, *The Tie from Paris*, and *Freedom of a Man*—comprise this short story collection. The titular story follows two foster siblings who develop ill-fated feelings for one another. It is a poignant story about how the pressures of society can inhibit the dreams of individuals.

Original title: *Kuun maisema*

Published by: WSOY, Finland, 1953

Rights sold: **Croatian:** A3DATA*, **English:** G. P. Putnam's*, **Estonian:** Eesti Raamat, **German:** Paul Neff, **Spanish:** Ediciones GP, **Hebrew:** Poalim, **Ukrainian:** Folio

*Rights reverted



CHRISTMAS STORIES

A collection of 57 short stories about Christmas, originally published in Finnish magazines and newspapers throughout Mika Waltari's lifetime.

Suitable for children and adults alike, this collection includes favourites such as *The Writer's Christmas*, *The Wisdom of the Earth*, *Homecoming*, *The Incredible Adventures of Engineer Jalovaara* and more. Handling topics from the life of an artist to reflections from soldiers on the front line and the musings of children, the collection is sure to both intrigue and delight readers.

Original title: *Joulu tarinoita*

Published by: WSOY, Finland, 1985

Material: Finnish Edition

Rights sold: All rights available



FIVE ACES AND OTHER STORIES

A stunning collection of Mika Waltari's stories that were originally published in magazines and newspapers between 1925-1948.

FIVE ACES AND OTHER STORIES is a collection of previously unpublished short stories by Mika Waltari that were originally published in around twenty magazines and newspapers. From horror to romance and everything in between, it's a varied collection that contains something for everyone.

Original title: *Viisi äässää ja muita kertomuksia*

Published by: WSOY, Finland, 1999

Rights sold: All rights available



THE LOCKED BOX AND OTHER STORIES

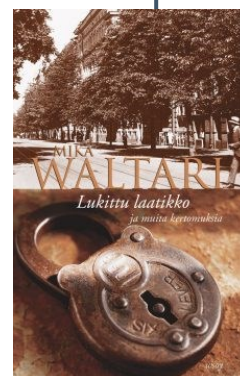
A selection of short stories published by Mika Waltari from 1926-1957.

THE LOCKED BOX AND OTHER STORIES is a selection of Mika Waltari's short stories and fairy tales, including *This Kind of Thing Never Happens*, *The Freedom of People*, and *Before the End of the World*.

Original title: *Lukittu laatikko ja muita kertomuksia*

Published by: WSOY, Finland, 1978

Rights sold: All rights available



THE CHINESE CAT AND OTHER STORIES

For the first time ever, 33 of Mika Waltari's most charming fairy tales have been published in a collection, **THE CHINESE CAT AND OTHER STORIES**.

Although the stories were written for young readers, their topics deal with issues of an adult nature and are sure to be appreciated by children and adults alike. While some of the collection's stories are pure fantasy, others tell stories of animals, and then there are those that are doused in irony, too.

Original title: *Kiinalainen kissa ja muita satuja*

Published by: WSOY, Finland, 1932

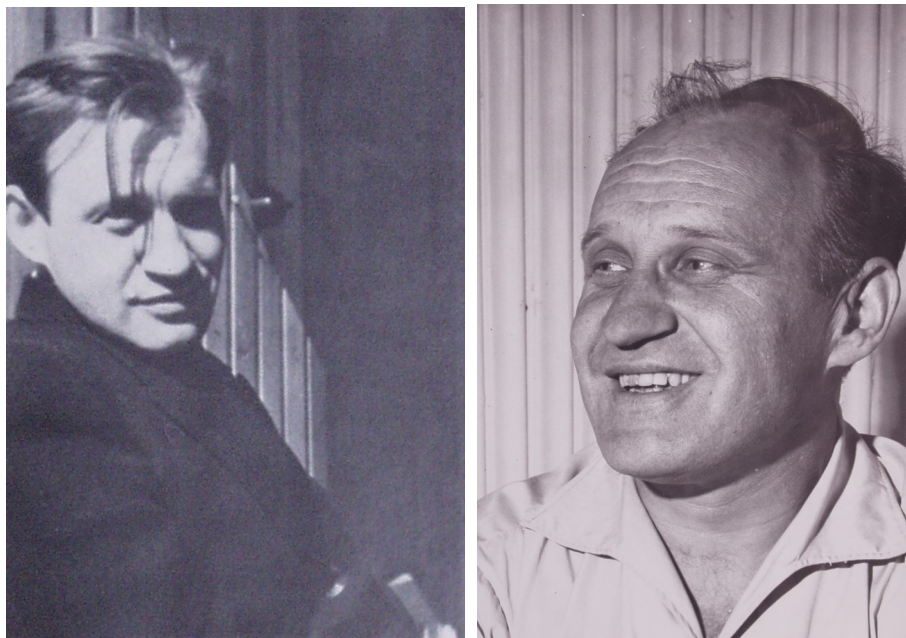
Rights sold: Czech: Euromedia*, French: Nathan, Hungarian: Aqua, Romanian: Albion*, Polish: Bonna*, Slovakian: Ikar*

*Rights reverted



Väinö Linna

1920-1992

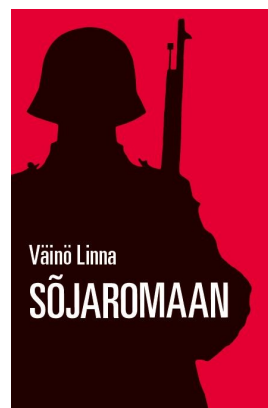
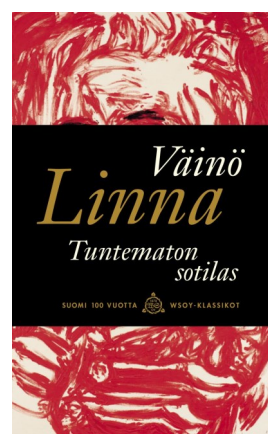
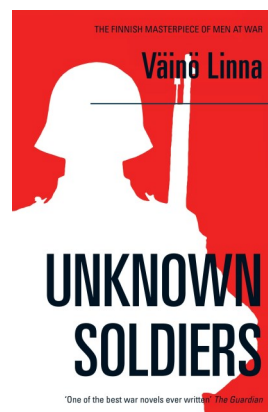
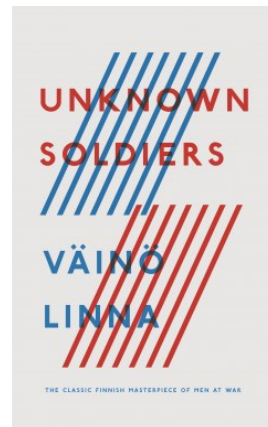


Väinö Linna is one of the most influential Finnish authors of the 20th century. He was born in Urjala, Finland in 1920 into a family of tenant farmers, the seventh of ten children. Conscripted during the Second World War, Linna served as a machine-gunner on the eastern front from 1941-44, an experience that would form the basis for his breakthrough novel *The Unknown Soldier*, which caused a sensation by shattering the myth of the noble, obedient Finnish soldier.

The Unknown Soldier has been adapted for film three times, by Edvin Laine in 1955, Rauni Mollberg in 1985, and Aku Louhimies in 2017. The 1955 adaptation is shown on national television in Finland every Independence Day and watched by 20 per cent of Finns.

Linna is also the author of the *Under the North Star* trilogy, which follows the lives of an ordinary Finnish family through the First World War, the Finnish Civil War, and the Continuation War as well as the struggle between the Whites and the Reds in the movement to Independence. The trilogy is considered a classic in Finland, playing a crucial role in starting discussions about what really happened in 1918 and thus starting to heal decades-old wounds between the two factions.

Linna's works have had a profound influence on Finnish social, political, and cultural life. Their exuberant humour and earthy dialogue renewed the language of Finnish literature and many of their witticisms and sayings have found their way into collections of set phrases.



Väinö Linna

The Unknown Soldier

The Finnish masterpiece of men at war, a classic novel that has sold 800,000 copies and has been translated into over 20 languages to date.

One of Finland's best-loved literary masterpieces, THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER (Eng: *Unknown Soldiers*) follows a ramshackle troop of machine-gunners in the Second World War, in mobilization in 1941 through Finland's defeat to The Soviet Union, three years later. As these very different men, from across the country, and all walks of life, argue, joke, swear, cadge a loaf of bread and a cigarette, and combat both boredom and horror in the swamps and pine forests, the war will make or break them. They are the unknown soldiers.

Weaving together the wartime songs, propaganda and dialogue that characterised life on the frontlines, Linna's novel distils history into a searing fiction that was instantly recognized as truer than fact.

Upon its publication in 1954, the novel achieved, in the words of its dumbstruck publisher, "greater success than any book in our country, ever".

Three film adaptations of THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER have been made, the latest by Aku Louhimies in 2017.

Gritty and unromantic in its depiction of battle, told with a documentary-like realism, THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER also honours the dogged determination of a country, and the bonds of brotherhood forged between men at war, as they fight for their lives.

"One of the best war novels ever written"
— *The Guardian*

"A rediscovered classic... profound and enriching ... The Unknown Soldier still has the power to shock."
— *The Herald*

Original title: *Tuntematon sotilas*

Publication: WSOY, Finland | 1954 | 554 pages

Material: Full English Translation

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Väinö Linna

The *Under the North Star* trilogy

Väinö Linna's magnum opus follows an ordinary Finnish family living through the most turbulent period in Finland's history.

Part I, *Under the North Star*, is set in the decade preceding the February Manifesto and the eve of the First World War. We follow Jussi, a farm hand from Häme, as tension mounts between crofters and land owners and Jussi's son Askeli becomes an active socialist.

In Part II, the Finnish Civil War breaks out, with atrocities being committed on both sides.

The trilogy ends with Part III, which is set during the era of Finnish Independence. After the Finnish Civil War, life improves for farmers, but things take a turn for the worse when the Second World War breaks out.

Linna deftly wields the most powerful weapons in his literary arsenal from beginning to end: dark humour; characters that grow increasingly complex; and dialogue directly from the mouths of the nation's people. The *Under the North Star* trilogy is considered a work of art, which reveals more about the lives of Finns than history books themselves.

Prizes and Nominations:

1963: The Nordic Council Literature Prize

"...flawless prose with vivid images and wonderfully colloquial voices, which smack of the original Finnish in a most subtle... way."

— **Tom Moates, *Scandinavian Review***

"The language... meanders with a mix of eloquent descriptive and narrative passages... sometimes it breaks up into pure phonetic sound."

— **Susan Vickberg, *Journal of Finnish Studies***

Original title: *Täällä pohjan tähden alla 1-3*

Publication: WSOY, Finland | 1959, 1960, 1962 | 449, 504, 527 pp.

Material: Finnish Editions

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