

BONNIER

Rights Finland

Fiction
Spring 2023

Lois Armas

FLORA

A fresh and insightful exploration of what home is, how often we overlook it, and how sometimes—rarely—another person can be the home we've been looking for.

Flora, a young woman in her twenties, moves to Finland to be with her new boyfriend. Her old life in Latin America is on the other side of the ocean and, at the other end of their weekly video calls, her parents and the life and world she left behind.

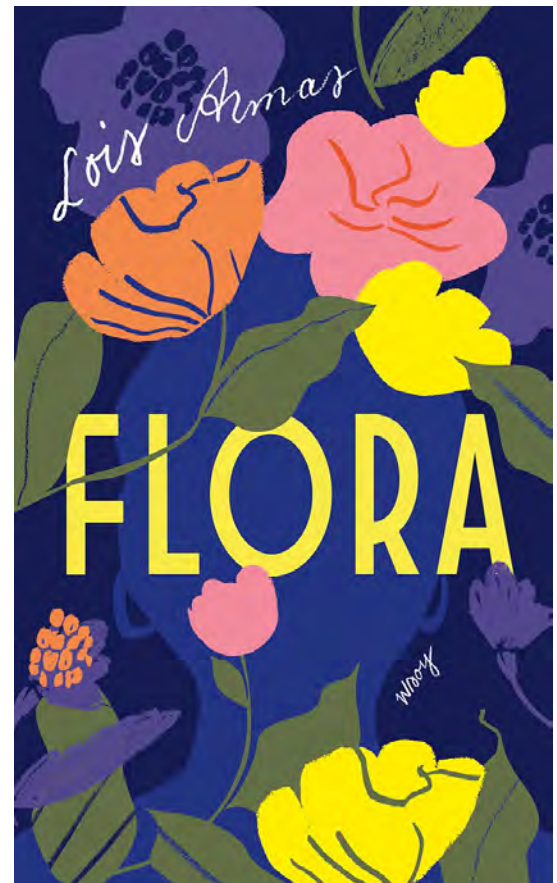
As her new life in Helsinki begins to take shape: the search for work, new friends, and learning a whole new language in a city where there's a hair salon on every street corner and its people seemingly all the same, ubiquitous Marimekko tote bag on their shoulders.

Following Flora's first two years in her new life, the novel is narrated by her newfound friends and her father from their points-of-view, thereby not showing her experience through her own eyes, but through the eyes of those closest to her.

Inviting the reader to observe Flora's acculturation from the multiple viewpoints of her boyfriend, her father, both her boyfriend's mother and ex, and Flora's colleague the narrators also open themselves up to their own vulnerabilities and insecurities. Gradually, an intimate, prismatic portrait of a young, hopeful person emerges, along with an invitation to examine how we in turn perceive Flora through our own definitions of love, friendship, and sense of belonging.

Lois Armas offers up a refreshing narrative of an underrepresented perspective in contemporary Finnish literature that, thematically, brings to Tommy Orange's *There, There* or Zeshan Shakar's *They Call Me the Wolf* and, structurally, Laila Lalami's *The Other Americans*.

Lois Armas (b. 1987) is a Venezuelan-born Finnish writer. She has a Masters in Social Sciences from the University of Helsinki and teaches creative writing. *FLORA* is her debut novel.



Rights sold
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Publication
WSOY, Finland
May, 2023
300 pages

Material
Full English Manuscript
Finnish PDF
Synopsis
Author Letter

Film & TV Rights
Available

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Johanna Aulén

Chernobyl's Dogs

A documentary-style graphic novel about the 1986 Chernobyl nuclear disaster told from the perspective of the dogs who were left behind.

Shortlisted for the Comics-Finlandia Prize 2023

The Chernobyl nuclear power plant disaster in April 1986 remains to this day the most disastrous nuclear accident in history. When Pripjat and other surrounding villages were abandoned, after the mass evacuations that began two days after the reactor's meltdown, evacuees were ordered to leave their pets behind. Howling dogs tried to follow their owners, even trying to board buses only to be kicked off them by soldiers. Still, the dogs ran after the buses transporting their owners to safety. There was no mercy; Soviet troops were sent in to shoot the animals but some survived and their descendants still populate the polluted Exclusion Zone today. In this touching and still hauntingly relevant documentary-style graphic novel, which had just gone to print when Russia invaded Ukraine, Johanna Aulén recounts the events of the nuclear disaster and its devastating impact on the environment and its abandoned canine inhabitants, highlighting the resilience of those left behind.

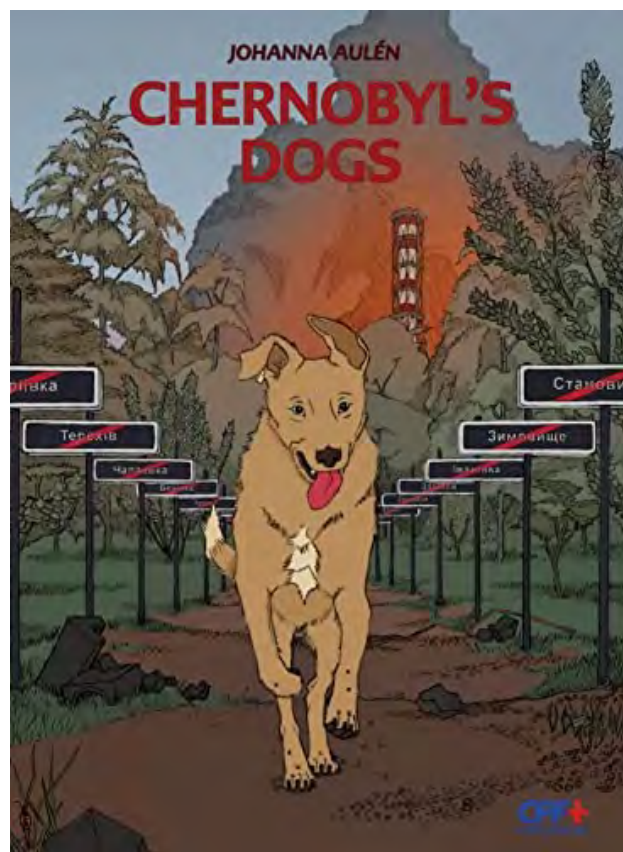
During the ongoing war, Russian troops have jeopardized the safety of the Exclusion Zone and raised the spectre of the Chernobyl disaster in their occupation of Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant, the largest nuclear power station in Europe. THE DOGS OF CHERNOBYL highlights the Soviet leaders' mistakes and disregard for human life thirty-six years ago that remain chillingly manifest to this day.

Johanna Aulén has donated non-exclusive NA English e-book rights to the graphic novel to the Clean Futures Fund (CFF), a non-profit that works to provide long-term support for communities affected by industrial accidents. All proceeds from sales of the Kindle edition go towards CFF's aid projects in Ukraine, where they have worked for several years with the Ukrainian government in assisting people and animals still affected by the Chernobyl disaster. CFF provides sterilization, vaccinations and medical care, as well as food for the stray dogs in the Chernobyl Exclusion Zone.

'Aulén's graphic novel skilfully builds an overview of the causes disaster and its consequences, particularly on the animals.'

- Helsingin Sanomat

Johanna Aulén (b.1981) is a graphic designer and arts teacher. CHERNOBYL'S DOGS (*Tshernobylin koirat*) is her debut graphic novel. She lives in Finland with her two dogs.



Rights Sold

English (NA): CFF (non-exclusive)

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WSOY, 2022
112 pages

Material

Finnish Edition
Full English Translation in layout (PDF)
Reviews

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Helena Immonen

Operation Arctic Fox

Book 3 in the 'Riina Koivu' series

Lt. Riina Koivu returns in a nail-biting new thriller set in the frozen wastes of Finnish Lapland and Svalbard as Russia seeks to secure its northern hegemony that demands Finland must once again fight fire with fire.

The Finnish Army Special Forces are on a winter reconnaissance exercise in northern Lapland near the Norwegian-Russian border. The situation becomes explosive when Staff Sergeant Joni Koivu and his combat partner spot suspicious intelligence activity on Finnish territory. Finland and Norway decide to respond to the aggression with a swift joint operation and Joni finds himself in the middle of another military conflict started by Russia.

As the global political situation changes, China sees an opportunity to strengthen its global position by conducting secret tests at the North Pole on its new submarine designed for Arctic operations.

As part of her work at The Finnish Security Intelligence Service as a geopolitical expert on the Arctic, Lt. Riina Koivu works goes on a work trip Svalbard to familiarise herself with the Russian research centre there. But why do Wagner mercenaries appear to be hanging around the Russian mine and research centre? What is Russia really up to?

OPERATION ARCTIC FOX is the third instalment in the acclaimed standalone series about power struggles between the geopolitical superpowers, with Finland being drawn into the fray. Immonen focuses on the military operations that involve ordinary reservists, well-known politicians, and professional soldiers, lending a grounded and realistic feel to her plots that are all too topical today. A must-read thriller for fans of Anna Tell or Grethe Boe.

Praise for the 'Riina Koivu' series

'...a flowing thriller that neither belittles, idealizes nor romanticizes violence and war.' — **Helsingin Sanomat newspaper**

'Immonen's second thriller exudes skilful pacing and her expertise in military affairs.' — **Kansan Uutiset newspaper**

Helena Immonen (b. 1986) is a Finnish writer, journalist, and communications specialist. She is an officer in the Finnish reserve forces and a trained 'Sissi' guerilla radio operator. The author of several middle-grade detective novels, Immonen debuted with her first thriller for adults, *Operation Red Fox* in 2020 (Docendo), which won Finland's Best Crime Novel of the Year in 2021, followed by *Operation Desert Fox* in 2022 and *Operation Arctic Fox* in 2023.



Rights sold

All rights available

Publication

Docendo, Finland
August 2023
400 pages

Material

Finnish Edition
Synopsis
Author Letter

Film & TV Rights

Under offer

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Satu Rämö

RÓSA & BJÖRK

The hotly-awaited standalone sequel to the bestselling *Hildur*

Evil is often found close to home but the closeness of people remains the best asset we have...

An unusual murder occurs in the remote Westfjords of Iceland with the discovery of an influential local businessman and municipal politician found shot dead on a ski trail. During the investigation, Detective Hildur Rúnarsdóttir and her Finnish partner Jakob Johanson are faced with a difficult question: is it wise to uncover every secret?

The traumas of Hildur's childhood rise to the surface as the mystery of her missing little sisters, Rósa and Björk, begins to unravel further. Meanwhile, Jakob tries to keep a cool head in the middle of a difficult custody dispute with his ex-wife.

RÓSA & BJÖRK is the standalone sequel to Satu Rämö's bestselling 2022 crime debut *Hildur*, which sold 100,000 copies in just six months of publication, scooping numerous awards and nominations, and a horde of Hildur fans, who have lapped up this second instalment. The third book, *Jakob* publishes this November.

50,000 copies sold—Finland's current #1 bestseller across all formats

'Rósa & Björk touches on the perfect. A five-star crime novel.' –
Aamulehti newspaper

'...I truly admire Rämö's ability to describe a tense, dangerous human relationship both in the dialogue and in the construction of a fast-paced scene.' – **Suvi Ahola, Helsingin Sanomat newspaper**

'Rämö has all the makings of becoming a lasting star of Nordic crime fiction.' – **Kansan Uutiset newspaper**

'A polished, exquisite book that hooks the reader.' – **Lily magazine**

Satu Rämö (b. 1980) is the author of numerous bestselling, prizewinning non-fiction titles in her native Finland, ranging from travel guides to Iceland, to inspirational memoirs and an Icelandic sweater knitting book. Most recently, her acclaimed fiction debut, *Hildur* (WSOY, 2022) became an immediate bestseller in Finland and is being developed into a TV series by Take Two Studios. *Jakob*, the third book in the loose trilogy will be published in December 2023. Satu lives with her Icelandic husband and two children in the small town of Ísafjörður in north-west Iceland. @satu_ramo



Rights Sold

Danish: Gutkind (1-3)
Estonian: Eesti Raamat (1-3)
French: Le Seuil (1-3)
German: Heyne (1-3)
Norwegian: Bonnier Norsk (1-3)
Polish: HarperCollins Polska (1-3)
Swedish: Forum (1-3)

Options

Dutch: AmboAnthos (1)
Latvian: Zvaigzne ABC (1)

Publication

WSOY, March 2023
361 pages

Material

Finnish Edition
Synopsis
Reviews

Contact

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Satu Rämö

HILDUR

Finland's acclaimed #1 bestseller—over 100,000 copies sold and optioned for TV

A cold case crime and dark secrets of a close-knit community intertwine in this bracing crime novel with a twist from a by an exciting, new voice in Nordic crime fiction.

Everyone does their best to survive amidst the freezing fjords of remote Iceland. Hildur Rúnarsdóttir is no different as she surfs the icy Atlantic swells to try and forget her traumatic childhood and the burden of the cases occupying her mind as head of the missing children's unit of the Ísafjörður police.

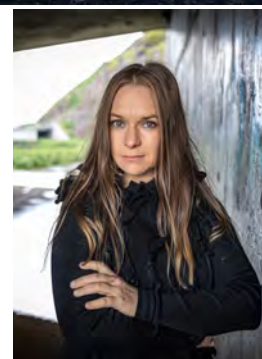
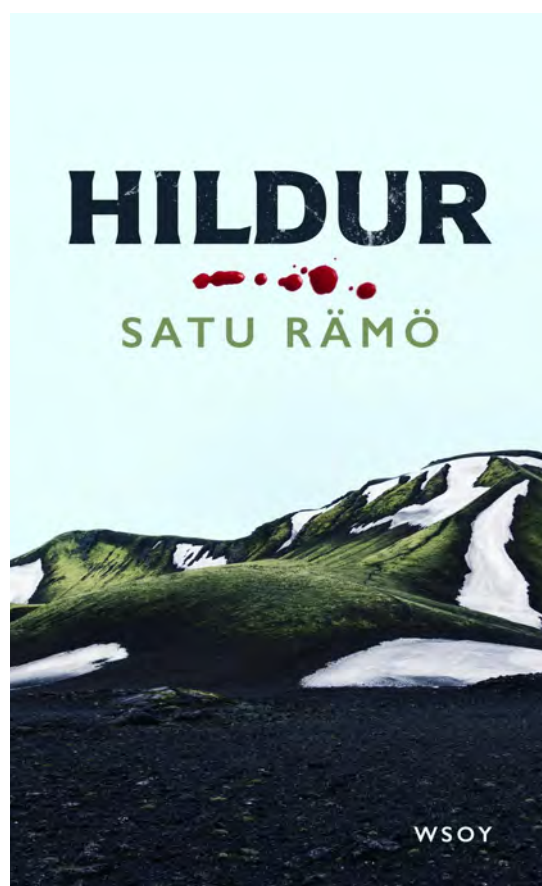
When Jakob Johanson, a Finnish police trainee with a knitting hobby arrives in Iceland to work alongside Hildur and try to escape his own, complicated life back at home, soon he, too, realises that the picturesque fjords also harbour their dark sides in the marginalized, exploitative, and power-hungry who dwell in their midst. Hildur and Jakob find themselves investigating a strange tangle of crimes as the fog obscuring secrets that have been in the dark for decades gradually begins to lift. Revenge may be sweet in theory, but will it solve anything in the end?

With a unique blend of Finnish and Icelandic sensibility, HILDUR launches a refreshing voice in the Nordic Noir tradition with a pinch of folkloric mysticism. Perfect for fans of Maria Adolfsson, Arnaldur Indriðason, or Ragnar Jonassón's *Hulda* series.

'In addition to the fine and strongly atmospheric milieu description, the novel's detective plot is cleverly woven, and the characters are believable in their everyday lives.' — **Helsingin Sanomat newspaper**

'Hildur Rúnarsdóttir, a police detective who surfs the icy waters of Iceland, barrels into the crime fiction genre like a tsunami. A book to be read in one sitting.' — **Max Seeck, NYT and Der Spiegel bestselling author**

Satu Rämö (b. 1980) moved to Iceland twenty years ago as an economics exchange student but ended up studying Icelandic culture, literature and mythology before forging a successful career as a blogger, writer, coach and mentor. Satu has published numerous bestselling, prizewinning non-fiction titles in her native Finland, ranging from travel guides to Iceland, to inspirational memoirs and an Icelandic sweater knitting book. *Hildur* is her fiction debut which will be followed up with *Rósa & Björk* (WSOY, March 2023) and a third book, *Jakob*, in December 2023. Satu lives with her Icelandic husband and two children in the small town of Ísafjörður in northwest Iceland. @satu_ramo



Rights sold

Danish: Gutkind (1-3)
Dutch: AmboAnthos (1)
Estonian: Eesti Raamat (1-3)
French: Le Seuil (1-3)
German: Heyne (1-3)
Icelandic: under offer
Latvian: Zvaigzne ABC (1)
Norwegian: Bonnier Norsk (1-3)
Polish: HarperCollins Polska (1-3)
Swedish: Forum (1-3)

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WSOY, 2022
 62,000 words/ 364 pages

Material

Finnish Edition
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 Synopsis
 Author Letter
 Reviews

Prizes & Nominations

Nextory E-book of the Year 2023
 Supla Audiobook of the Year 2023
 BookBeat Newcomer of the Year 2022

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Ville Verkkapuro

Pete

'We are kittens raised by dogs'

A searing, autofictional novel about a dead father, exploring the search for a better life and addiction through Kurt Cobain, The Simpsons, and white trash. A *Helsingin Sanomat* 'Critic's Choice' Pick of 2022.

Thirty-year-old Ville is living his best life with a dream job, love, friends – everything in his life is perfect. But like a tattoo on the soul, his father Pete's death troubles him and Ville is told that he looks and moves just like his father. Ville sets out on a quest to find out who Pete really was. Through the accounts of others' memories of Pete, he pieces together a portrait of his absent father to realize that he is neither Pete nor an addict, with some surprising turns along the way.

Taking a deep dive into themes of humanity, addiction, The Simpsons, white trash, Kurt Cobain's mind, family relationships and the essence of who we really are, PETE is a tender and deeply philosophical novel about addiction, the search for a better life and a father who died in uncertain circumstances, told with a disarming openness, directness, and warmth.

With his working-class roots and autobiographical and unflinching narrative that draw comparisons to Eduardo Louis' *Who Killed My Father*, Verkkapuro showcases his raw talent in this, his acclaimed debut.

'PETE is open to surprises and new forms, making it one of the year's most inspiring debuts.' – **Helsingin Sanomat prize jury**

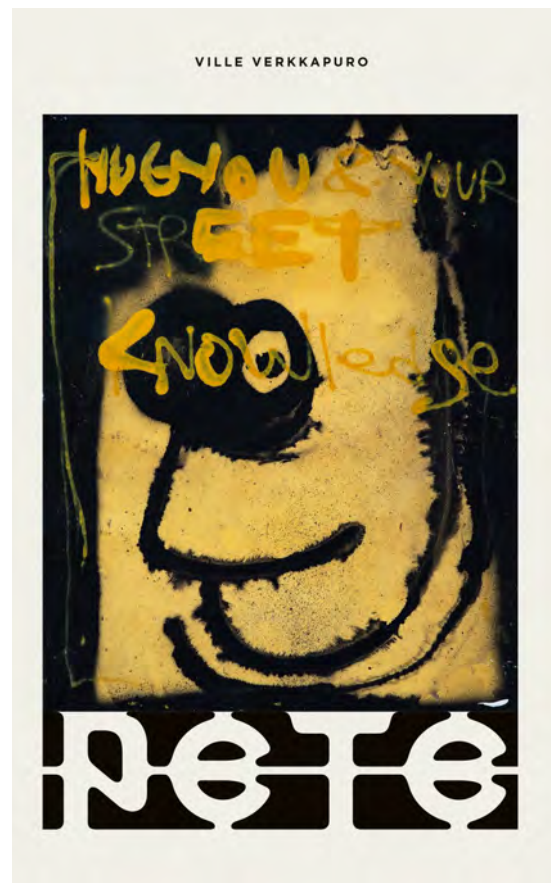
'Western Helsinki's Knausgaard' – **Helsingin Sanomat newspaper**

'A very good, even surprising, book. It's not an indictment, but rather a work full of love moving towards understanding and reconciliation. Both thought- and feeling-provoking. Recommended!'

– **Juha Itkonen, author**

'An impressive read.' – **Helmi Kekkonen, author**

Ville Verkkapuro (b.1990) is a Finnish writer, freelance copywriter, and musician from Pietarsaari/Jakobstad, Finland. His 2022 debut novel, *Pete* was warmly reviewed and nominated for the prestigious *Helsingin Sanomat* Literature Prize. In his musical career, Ville's played for the likes of New Ron, Vesta and Black Metal Raccoons. He lives and works in his adoptive hometown of Helsinki and is currently working on his second novel.
@villeverkkapuro



All rights available

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Kosmos, Finland
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Material

Finnish Edition
English Sample Translation 30 pp
Synopsis
Author Letter
Reviews

Film & TV Rights

Available

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RECENT FICTION HIGHLIGHTS

Hassan Blasim

The Clock and the Guests

A new novel by 'Iraq's Irvine Welsh'

Fact and fiction blend together in two biting narratives about hidden manuscripts, persecution, and a dinner party that goes wrong by the writer hailed by *The Guardian* as 'perhaps the greatest writer of Arab fiction alive.'

ISIS has taken over the city of Mosul in northern Iraq, converting the legendary Clock Church into a command headquarters. Home to countless individuals who have been subjected to the violence of ISIS, the church's crypt contains a pile of ancient and valuable manuscripts that Catholic cook Abu Qatada is desperate to steal and return to its rightful owners.

When Abu Qatada, posing as a Muslim to gain access to the crypt, enlists the help of his apprentice Elias, a Yezidi orphan from Syria, the pair embark upon a journey even more arduous than that of the clock itself. As electrifying as it is tragic, *Elias and the Land of ISIS* is Blasim at his best.

In *The Law of Sololand*, Refugee S hears that locals haven't responded well to a new refugee camp in an isolated town in Nordak. Having himself fled the torture of a religious militia and settled in Scandinavia, Refugee S wants to help foster relations between the people of Sololand and their guests.

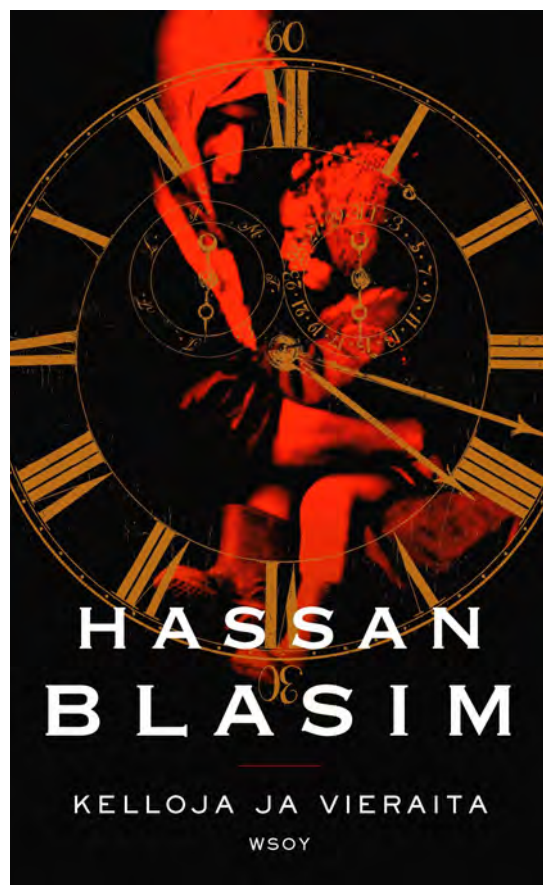
But when Refugee S signs up to facilitate Dinner Guests, a volunteer-run integration initiative, the ugly side of the North is revealed. Blasim expertly captures the devastating dislocation of exile in this coruscating second novel.

'Blasim shows himself, once again, to be a storyteller beyond compare...' — **Helsingin Sanomat newspaper**

'This is how good literature does good: it provides an opportunity to identify with people whose life destinies are completely different but their feelings, emotions, and thoughts are universal.'

— **Kulttuuritoimitus, Finland**

Hassan Blasim (b. 1973) is an Iraqi writer based in Helsinki, Finland. Born in Baghdad, he studied at the city's Academy of Cinematic Arts where two of his screenplays won the Academy's Festival Prize for Best Work. Blasim left Baghdad in 2000, travelling through Europe as a refugee before settling in Finland in 2004. His debut collection of short stories, *The Madman of Freedom Square* (2009), was longlisted for the Independent Foreign Fiction Prize in 2010. His second collection, *The Iraqi Christ* (2013), won the Independent Foreign Fiction Prize in 2014. His debut novel, *Allah99* was published in 2020 to international critical acclaim. Blasim's writing has been translated into over 20 languages to date.



Rights sold

World English: Comma Press
Serbian: Geopoetika

Options

Danish: Vandkunsten
Dutch: Jurgen Maas
German: Antje Kunstmann
Italian: Utopia
Swedish: Albert Bonniers

Publication

WSOY, Finland
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219 pp

Material

Arabic PDF
Finnish Edition
English Translation tk
English Synopsis
Reviews

Film & TV Rights

Offer accepted (Option)

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Maija Kajanto

Holiday Season at the Lakeside Inn

Book 2 of the 'Birch Tree Cafe' series

As the first snows fall and a hectic holiday season running the Birch Tree Café and the newly-opened Lakeside Inn beckons, Krisse Kivimaa begins to wonder if she might have bitten off more than she can chew...

Christmas arrives in a snowy Pyhävirta and with it surprising new turns. Kristiina 'Krisse' Kivimaa has settled into her new life in Pyhävirta running The Birch Tree Cafe for her grandmother. When the village begins attracting new tourists to the newly opened lakeside country inn, Krisse jumps at the opportunity to treat its guests to her freshly-baked date cake. But running both the café and hotel is more than a full-time job for Krisse, so when a big snowstorm threatens to cancel an important booking by a group of Dutch snowboarders and the hotel roof springs a leak, Krisse needs all the help she can get. Meanwhile, her love interest, Tommi the mayor, starts acting distant, and events from a hundred years ago start to haunt her, and her beloved grandmother seems to be keeping a secret from her.

As a new door opens to new possibilities in Krisse's life, she has to decide how much to importance to place on the opinions and wishes of others near to her. An equally delicious novel set against a snowy, Nordic backdrop as Christmas approaches and Krisse finds herself juggling a lot more than she had bargained for.

As in the first book, this standalone sequel also features short, mouthwatering recipes to tantalize readers sprinkled throughout the book's chapter openers. The third, autumnal-themed book in the standalone series will be out in August 2023.

'The only downside to the reading experience was that the delicacies featured in the book caused chronic salivating.' - **Kirsin kirjanurkka blog, Finland**

'Kajanto has managed to hit the nail on the head with light, humorous and light-hearted feelgood without resorting to sickly pink goop. Everyday life with its cares and sorrows, but where things have their way of working out. And the winter atmosphere is wonderful. HOLIDAY SEASON AT THE LAKESIDE INN is the perfect Christmas vacation!'
— **Luetut.net blog, Finland**

Maija Kajanto (b. 1978) is a Helsinki-based writer, journalist and communications professional. She debuted in 2019 with a women's fiction trilogy, which garnered acclaim for her realistic portrayal of working life. The *Birch Tree Cafe* series is Maija's first to be published by WSOY. @maijkajanto



All rights available

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WSOY, Finland
November 2022
231 pages

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Finnish Edition
English Sample Translation 36 pp
Synopsis
Reviews

Film & TV Rights

Available

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Maija Kajanto

Summer at The Birch Tree Cafe

Bestselling Nordic feelgood

A delectable summertime novel and opener of a new trilogy that will leave readers craving more...

After an unfortunate episode involving ludicrous amounts of lo-vage, professional recipe developer Kristiina 'Krisse' Kivimaa throws in the towel at her stressful job in a test kitchen in Helsinki. She heads to a small lakeside village in the middle of Finland, where her beloved grandmother, Helmi, needs help running The Birch Tree Cafe, after breaking her leg. Both Krisse and the cafe need a new lease of life, so Krisse immediately rolls up her sleeves and gets stuck in. It's not long before an old flame reappears and past events, which Krisse would rather forget, threaten to disturb her new life. Is it truly possible to escape the ghosts of the past? And are there those moments when nothing truly beats a good cinnamon bun to cure all ills, from broken hearts to aching feet?

SUMMER AT THE BIRCH TREE CAFE is an eminently devourable and life-affirming novel with a generous sprinkling of humour and lots of heart that will transport readers to the land of a thousand lakes where cosy, red cottages and the scent of freshly-baked goods abound. The perfect read for fans of Jenny Colgan, Lucy Diamond, and Kajsa Ingemarsson.

An autumnal-themed third standalone will be published in August 2023.

BookBeat's most-listened to audiobook of the summer

Over 30,000 copies sold to date

'Like fresh summer rain.' **** — **Seura magazine, Finland**

'Entertaining summer reading with a well-paced story and recipes as a bonus.' — **Kotona kirjassa blog, Finland**

'There is a place for lightness and entertainment and SUMMER AT THE BIRCH CAFE fulfils this need superlatively.' — **Kirsin kirjanurkka blog, Finland**

'A truly delicious story hiding inside the beautiful covers of this book.' — **Luetut.net blog, Finland**

Maija Kajanto (b. 1978) is a Helsinki-based writer, journalist and communications professional. She debuted in 2019 with a women's fiction trilogy, which garnered acclaim for her realistic portrayal of working life. *Summer at the Birch Tree Cafe* is Maija's first novel in a planned tetralogy for WSOY. @maijakajanto



All rights available

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Synopsis
Author Letter
Reviews

Film & TV Rights

Available

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Tommi Kinnunen

Dark Moons

Finland's beloved chronicler returns...

A hardy schoolteacher takes on a job at a remote island school where nothing transpires to be as it is in this crystal-clear novel about survival by one of Finland's most acclaimed and beloved writers today.

'Nobody comes out of this life unscathed. The only thing that can take us by surprise is the way each of us will be broken.'

It's 1947 when aging school teacher Elna Suorajärvi takes on a teaching position at a remote school close to the Soviet border in northern Finland. The school is on an island, accessible only by rowboat in summer and on skis in winter.

On landing on the island with her few, worldly possessions, it transpires to Elna that nothing is the way it should be: the school is a dilapidated barracks abandoned by the Germans, her pupils are traumatized from the war, and a debilitating illness ravages her tired body. However, the resilient Elna gets on with teaching —the only way of life she knows—even in the freezing winter, when she resorts to teaching from her bed in the classroom. The solitary nights invite disturbing thoughts about her estranged, abusive sister and scarred family history. But after the long winter must come the respite of summer.

Throughout the powerful narrative spanning a school year, we hear Elna's unforgettable, deeply humane voice and her resilience and survival, observed with Kinnunen's psychological acuity. Through Elna, Kinnunen also paints a portrait of the soul of a nation in the postwar, reconstruction era with his hallmark concision, eloquence and sparks of wit.

DARK MOONS confirms Kinnunen as a masterful storyteller whose power lies in the voice-driven, delicate depiction of the human condition and in his wise, compassionate and insightful narration. This new novel deepens his mastery in portraying remarkably strong women whose voices are not heard in history or textbooks.

An instant bestseller—40,000 copies sold to date

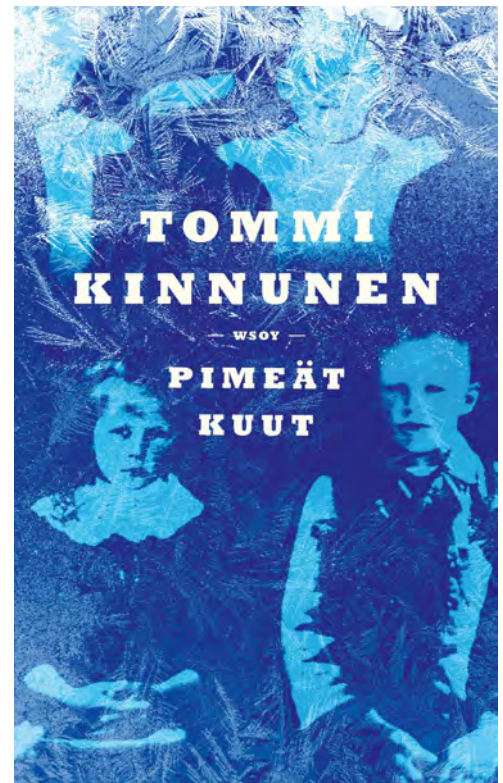
'Kinnunen is interested in the narratives to be found in the shadow of the broad arc of Finnish history. Dark Moons is a piece of this history, told through the resilient female main character.'

— **Helsingin Sanomat** newspaper

'[Kinnunen] touchingly portrays a lonely woman's battle with bureaucracy, the education system, and the people who become her enemies.'

— **Satakunnan kansa** newspaper

Tommi Kinnunen (b. 1973) is a Finnish literature teacher and writer hailing from Kuusamo, north-eastern Finland. He wrote his way into the hearts of Finnish and international readers with his 2014 debut *Where Four Roads Meet*, which has sold over 100,000 copies, rapidly securing a firm foothold as one of the most beloved authors of his generation, with five acclaimed bestsellers that have earned him numerous prizes and literary awards. His novels have been translated into 21 languages to date and adapted for the stage, opera, and big screen. He lives in the city of Turku with his family.



Options

Croatian: Hena

Czech: Argo

Danish: Cicero

Estonian: Varrak

Latvian: Zvaigzne

Lithuanian: Alma littera

Macedonian: Antolog

Polish: Poznańskie

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WSOY, 2022

287 pages

Material

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English Sample Translation 40 pp

Synopsis

Author Letter

Reviews

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Arttu Tuominen

The River Delta series

The Oath | Jeopardy | Silenced | Shamed

The internationally bestselling series by Finland's answer to a contemporary Henning Mankell.

Book 1, **THE OATH** (*Verivelka*), the acclaimed series opener about a boyhood pact that comes back to haunt Police Detective Jari Paloviita, who faces the most challenging case of his life as his personal loyalty and professional conduct dramatically collide. A *Der Spiegel* bestseller.

Book 2, **JEOPARDY** (*Hyvitys*) sees Police Commissioner Henrik 'The Ox' Oksman in the lead on the hunt for a dangerous fanatic whilst also grappling inconvenient personal secrets and self-acceptance.

Book 3, **SILENCED** (*Vaiettu*) follows the attempted murder of an elderly veteran that uncovers a dark history behind a series of seemingly inexplicable murders.

Book 4, **SHAMED** (*Häväistyt*) hits close to home for Detective Linda Toivonen, who is assigned the case of a missing schoolgirl that leads to a shady online predator calling themselves 'Peter Pan' as Linda also does battle with her own, personal demons.

Set in and around the Baltic coastal city of Pori in south-west Finland, Tuominen's series has been praised for its atmospheric setting and socially-engaged, distinctive narratives that give a compassionate and relatable voice to those on both sides of the law. Over 120,000 copies sold across the series in Finland alone and optioned for TV, the series is a must-read for fans of Nordic crime, particularly Henning Mankell or Ragnar Jónasson.

Winner Palle Rosenkrantz Prize 2023

Winner Storytel Best Audiobook Award 2022

Nominee BookBeat Best Finnish Crime Author 2021

Shortlisted The Glass Key Award 2021

Winner 'Johtolanka' Crime Novel of the Year Prize 2020

'Thoroughly likeable and well-written.' **5 out of 6 stars**

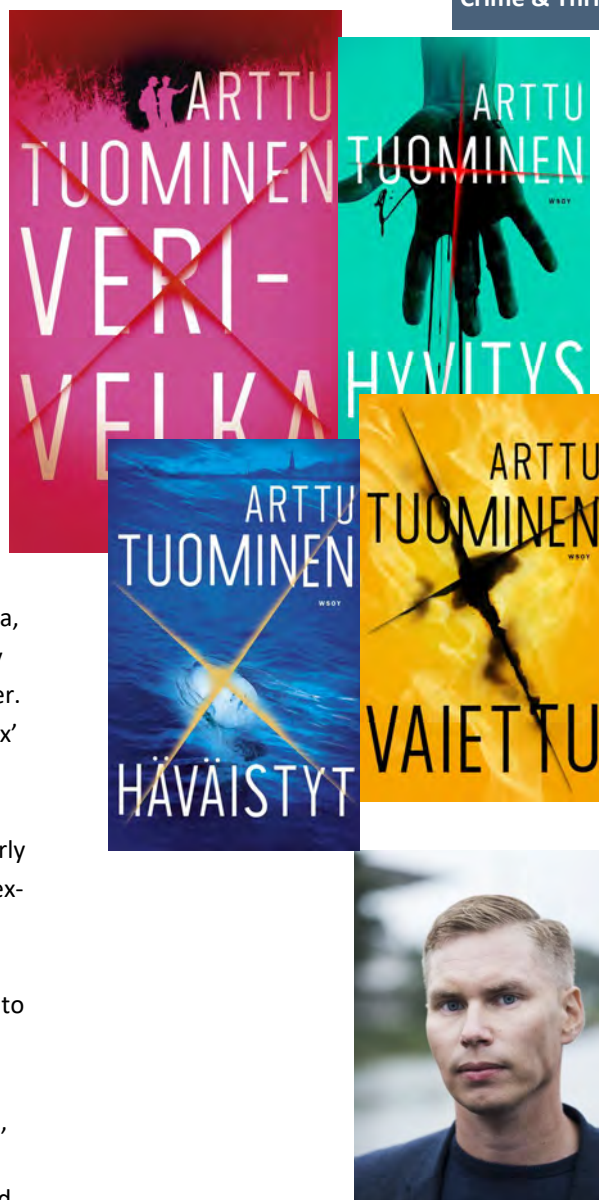
— **Politiken, Denmark**

'Exceptional reading.' — **BTJ, Sweden**

'Great, layered suspense.' — **Neue Press, Germany**

'A magnificent novel.' — **Le Point, France**

Arttu Tuominen (b. 1981) is a Finnish environmental inspector moonlighting as a crime writer. Tuominen's writing is distinctive for giving a compassionate and relatable voice to those on both sides of the law. Tuominen won the 'Johtolanka' Prize for *The Oath*, earning him a shortlisting for Scandinavia's prestigious 'Glasnyckeln' Glass Key Prize in 2021. He is the first ever Finnish crime writer to receive the Palle Rosenkrantz Prize, for *Jeopardy* in 2023. @arttutuominen



Publishers of the River Delta series:

Danish: Modtryk (1-6)

Dutch: De Fontein (1-3)

French: La Martinière (1-2)

German: Bastei Luebbe (1-4)

Italian: Piemme (1-2)

Slovenian: Litera (1-3)

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Synopses

Series Outline Books 1-6

Author Letter

Reviews

Film & TV Rights

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Meri Valkama

Yours, Margot

Winner of *Helsingin Sanomat* Debut of the Year Prize 2021

The acclaimed, bestselling novel about the fragility of memory and a family secret. An immediate national bestseller with over 60,000 copies sold, and a TV miniseries in development with Juho Kuosmanen attached to direct.

In the early 1980s, journalist Markus Siltanen relocates with his young family from Helsinki to East Berlin to work as a foreign correspondent. Vilja, his daughter, spends her childhood immersed in the East German way of life and thinking, until the family eventually returns to Finland. Over time, Vilja's memories of her childhood dissolve, much like the country itself.

In 2011, after her father's death, Vilja finds a bundle of letters addressed to 'Erich' from someone in Berlin called 'Margot', with whom her father evidently had had a passionate relationship with. Vilja decides to try and track down this Margot and returns to Berlin. The transformed city still bears some memories for her but the most important pieces seem to be missing. Her search for Margot, rips open everything she thought she knew about her parents and her childhood.

With a propulsive narrative and rich detail that immerses the reader into the East Berlin before 'die Wende', this is an accomplished, suspenseful European novel that evokes stylistic comparisons to both Ian McEwan and Sarah Waters by a gifted storyteller from the Nordics who truly captures the essence of why we should read at all.

'I am amazed by Meri Valkama's ability to connect an entire nation's right to its past to a clock-ticking plot about an individual discovering her true self. The volume of pages is enormous, but not at all too much. (...) [This novel] appeals to the emotions and should be translated into other languages immediately.' – Antti Majander, *Helsingin Sanomat*

'Yours, Margot is a skilfully narrated, elegant work that pulls the reader in in a way that is impossible to resist. (...) Reading this novel is truly an experience.' – Anni Saari, *Keskipohtaanmaa*

'Yours, Margot is a laudable work, but as a debut novel, it is exceptionally so. It is skilfully crafted and well-grounded. Valkama knows how to power the story so that anyone who wants to will be hooked.'
– Tommi Melender, *Suomen Kuvalehti*

Meri Valkama (b.1980) is a Finnish journalist, writer and deputy city councillor based in Helsinki. She spent part of her childhood in East Berlin and, later on as an adult, on a scholarship at the Freie Universität Berlin, where she researched and produced documentaries about journalists who had worked for the former German republic. *Yours, Margot* is her debut and she is currently working on a second novel.



Rights sold

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Johanna Venho

The Autumn Book

An atmospheric novel about Tove Jansson's final days on the island of Klovharu

'She stands in her nightdress on the open veranda and sniffs the breeze. Seaweed and salt – such is the smell of freedom.'

An island, the sea, a mist-grey and straw-yellow autumn. Maria, a young eco-activist, writes a letter to Tove Jansson and ends up on the island of Klovharu, where the 77-year-old artist lives. Jansson has just published a new collection of short stories and, with her beloved Tooti, is preparing to bid goodbye to the rugged island where they have spent almost thirty happy summers. When Maria finally meets Tove, a world lived for art opens up to her— of rebellion, solace, adventure, and mischievous laughter, as well as universal topics of creativity, friendship and mother-daughter relationships. 'It would have been impossible to be both a good artist and a good wife', Tove says.

Set over three days alternating between the 1940s and 1990s, *The Autumn Book* is an affecting part-*Künstlerroman* about a young woman and the aging artist in the autumn of her life, told in Venho's inimitable style. A must-read for any fans of Tove Jansson.

Over 10,000 copies sold in Finland to date

'I am a big fan of Tove Jansson. [...] The book aspires to convey melancholy, an atmosphere of departure and farewell. It is a wonderful reflection on artistry. Johanna Venho is also a poet, and one can tell. The language is beautiful and meticulous.' **Krista Kosonen, *Me naiset* magazine**

'Venho renders the individual linguistic registers of her subjects and the prevailing views of the times with breathtaking accuracy.' **Helsingin Sanomat newspaper**

'... an incredibly clear and identifiable portrayal of letting go and hope; of mothers and daughters, idols and fans, and how the best stories that are woven together come back to the beginning.' **ET magazine, Finland**

Johanna Venho (b. 1971) is one of the most prominent poets of her generation in Finland and an acclaimed novelist. Her first work of biofiction, *The First Lady* (WSOY, 2018) was nominated for the Finlandia Prize and became a national bestseller. Johanna has a Master's in Comparative Literature and is also an active literary collaborator, having worked as an editor-in-chief for a poetry magazine, as a literary critic, translator, and teacher of creative writing. Her poetry and children's books have been published in Czech, English, French, German, Hungarian, Italian, Polish, Spanish, Swedish and Slovakian. @johannavenho.fi



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