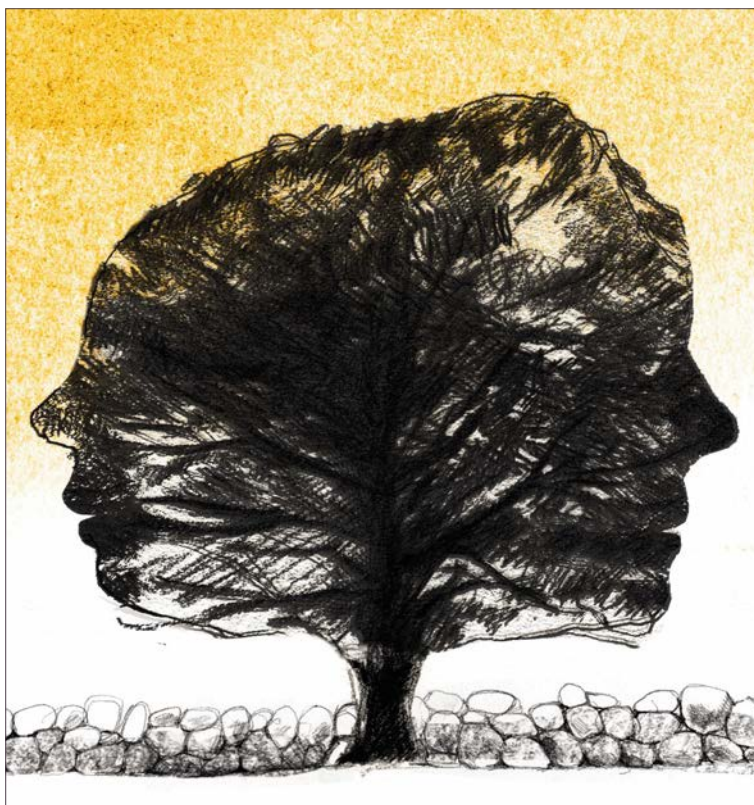


OSLO LITERARY AGENCY

RIGHTS LIST



SPRING 2018

FICTION AND NON-FICTION

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

Oslo Literary Agency was established in 2016, transforming from the in-house Aschehoug Agency to an agency representing authors from any publisher.

In addition, Oslo Literary Agency carries full representation of Norway's largest publisher of literary fiction, Forlaget Oktober.

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Katharina Vestre and Linnea Vestre (ill.)

The First Mystery. The Story of You - Before You Were Born



Foreign rights sold: World English (Profile Books), Swedish (Atlantis), Danish (Turbine), Polish (Zysk), Italian (Mondadori), Rumanian (Publica), Hungarian (Cser), French (Flammarion), Dutch (Ambo/Anthos)

An exciting and astounding visual story about our creation (...) she has an incredible ability to explain complex phenomena in an understandable and appetising way
- Dagbladet

Katharina Vestre

Katharina Vestre (b. 1992) is a Doctoral Research Fellow at the Department of Biosciences at the University of Oslo. *The First Mystery* is her literary debut. The book is illustrated by her sister Linnea Vestre (b. 1993).



Photos: Hildur Augustsdottir

Det første mysteriet. Historien om deg - før du ble født
Aschehoug, 2018

Popular science
150 pages

The First Mystery tells the story of you (and me and everyone), from conception to birth, from the first primitive cell divisions – until nine months later, when we fight our way out of an overly narrow opening as ready-made human children.

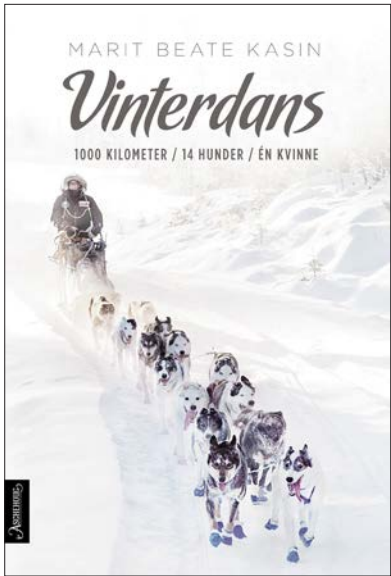
Did you know that the expression ‘The rabbit died’ (indicating that a woman is pregnant) stems from pregnancy tests during the 1920s, where the doctors injected the woman’s urine into a rabbit and later studied the changes in its ovaries; Or that the tiny male sea worm ‘Bonellia viridis’ spends his entire life inside the much larger female, as her personal sperm donor.

These are two of the numerous strange facts you’ll find in *The First Mystery. The Story of You - Before You Were Born*, where Katharina Vestre tells us all about the miraculous process that takes place inside a mother’s womb. *The First Mystery* is popular science, history of science, storytelling and public education at its best. Charming, entertaining, fun, accessible, inclusive and knowledgeable.



Marit Beate Kasin

Winter Dance



Foreign rights sold: German (DuMont)

An exciting and astounding visual story about This book should be hailed an instant classic in the Norwegian wilderness prose. A heart-warming read. Helge Ingstad would be proud
- *Dagbladet*

Has the suspense of crime literature
- *Bladet Hundekjøring (Dog Sled Racing)*

Marit Beate Kasin

Marit Beate Kasin (b. 1983) is a dog sled racer and a journalist. In 2008 she started the kennel Winter Dance. She has participated in the extreme Finnmarksløpet sled dog race three times. In 2015 she ended up as the best rookie. In 2016 she became the Norwegian champion, and she was the overall winner in 2016 and 2017 combined.



Photo: Dominique Fleischmann

Vinterdans
Aschehoug, 2018

1000 kilometres. 14 dogs. 1 woman.

The Finnmark Race is one of the toughest dog sled races in the world. Marit Beate Kasin has participated three times. In *Winter Dance* she tells the story from within, giving a vivid, exhilarating account of how the contestants fight with themselves, the forces of nature and their competitors for six days and nights over thousand kilometres in some of the most demanding and remote mountain areas north in Norway.

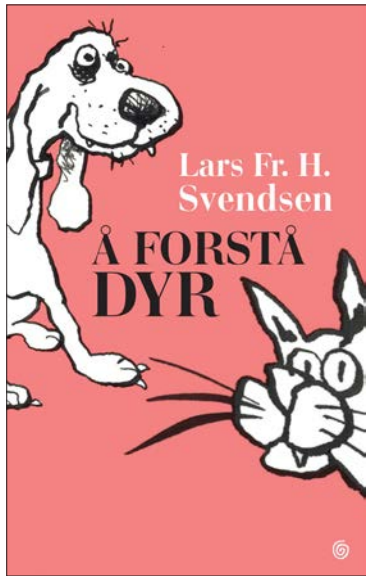
Winter Dance also tells Kasin's own story, from being a newbie in long distance dog sled racing, to become Norwegian champion and overall winner in Europe's longest sled dog race. It is a life in storm and silence, close to nature and close to the dogs, with their different fascinating personalities.

Winter Dance is first and foremost a book about living simple and dreaming big, about the interaction between humans and animals, about the forces of nature and the forces in ourselves, and how extreme situations and challenges makes us stronger.

Nature/adventure
210 pages

Lars Fr. H. Svendsen

Understanding Animals



Lars Fr. H. Svendsen

Lars Fr. H. Svendsen (b. 1970) is a doctor of philosophy and professor of philosophy at the University of Bergen. He is also an internationally bestselling non-fiction author, with a unique ability to communicate difficult contemporary and international topics in a straightforward way. Svendsen has received several prizes for his works, and his books have been translated into more than 25 languages.



Photo: Sturlason

Å forstå dyr
Kagge, 2018

What would your dog say if it could talk? Most of us assumes that a dog is happy when it wags the tail, or that the cat is happy when it meows and curls up on your lap. But how does the animals we surround us with think? And can we understand them?

Lars Fr. H. Svendsen has written a book about understanding animals, with examples and discussions from the history of philosophy. From the French philosopher who feel shame when he stands naked in the bathroom and the cat looks at him, to the philosophical questions whether animals can be lonely.

Understanding Animals is an informative, entertaining and witty book about animals and whether it makes sense to describe our animals with human characteristics.

Popular science/philosophy
130 pages

Henrik Svensen

Stone by Stone



The Earth 252 million years ago: a planet in crisis. Huge volcanic eruptions. Animals and plants dies, a destroyed ozone layer and a sour and lifeless sea. That's how it was. On the Earth. Before us. But how do we know?

Henrik Svensen collects stones, studies them in a microscope, looking for something that can solve one of the biggest questions in science today: why did 90 percent of life on Earth at that time, disappear during the greatest mass destructions in history?

In his search for answers, Svensen meets academic celebrities' and academic enemies, unpredictable Russians, South African farmers and an eager double. The events of the past are untangled, millions of years compressed into something tangible, something that could provide answers to what can happen with a planet that stands on the threshold of Anthropocene, our own age.

Henrik Svensen

Henrik Svensen (b. 1970) has a PhD in Geology from the University of Oslo (2000), followed by studies in History of ideas. He is currently working as Research professor in geology at the University of Oslo. His earlier books *The End Is Nigh – A Human History of Natural Disasters* (2006) and *In High Places* (2011) are sold to several countries.



Photo: Private

Stein på stein
Aschehoug, 2018

Popular science
240 pages

Alf Ketil Walgermo

A Rough Guide to the Bible



Walgermo's combination of humility and respect for the original text, and his bold contemporary reading of it, is just liberating, enlightening and engaging
- VG

Alf Ketil Walgermo

Alf Kjetil Walgermo (born 1977) is an author, journalist and literary critic. He has previously written seven books, including books for children and YA. Alf Kjetil Walgermo is today the culture editor of the Norwegian daily Vårt Land.



Photo: Agnete Brun

Røff guide til Bibelen
Samlaget, 2017

Religion
384 pages

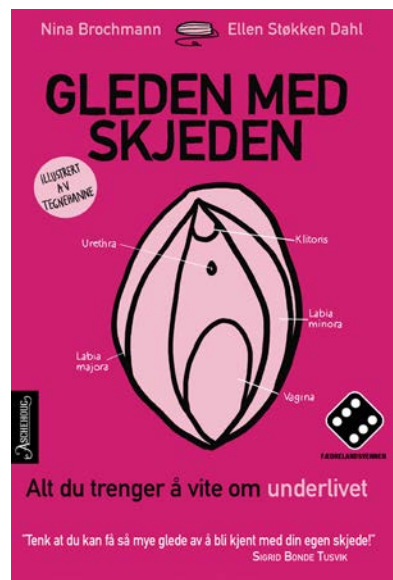
This is the book for all who need to brush up on their knowledge about the Bible, and for those who never opened it.

The Bible is the world's best-selling book of all times. It is both a sacred text and a literary triumph. It is the starting point for two world religions and a cornerstone in the western literature and civilization. Is it possible to understand our own history, language and culture, if we don't know the Bible?

Alf Kjetil Walgermo has written a knowledgeable and accessible guide to the Bible. With a curious mind and educational sense, he takes the reader along into the most important and influential book ever written.

Nina Brochmann & Ellen S. Dahl

The Wonder Down Under



Sold to 34 languages

Finally, you can learn everything you didn't get to in sex ed.

You think you know your own genitals? Think again! In *The Wonder Down Under* you learn the truth about the clitoris' inner life, the menstrual hormone dance and whether the vaginal orgasm really exists. The book helps you understand how different types of contraception work in the body, what a "normal" vagina looks like and what the clitoris really is.

The book quite simply gives women the knowledge they need to make wise choices about their sexual health.

Nina Brochmann og Ellen S. Dahl

Dr Nina Brochmann (a qualified doctor) and Ellen Støkken Dahl (a final-year medical student) have for several years worked as educators in sexual health, advising teenagers, sex workers and refugees. In 2015, they started the blog Underlivet (The Genital Area), which fast became one of Norway's most popular health blogs. Seeing the obvious demand for more information about the female body and frustrated by the amount of medical misconceptions and shame that surrounds female sexuality, they wrote *The Wonder Down Under*. This book has taken the world by storm and is currently being translated into 34 languages.



Photo: Anne valeur

Gleden med skjeden
Aschehoug, 2017

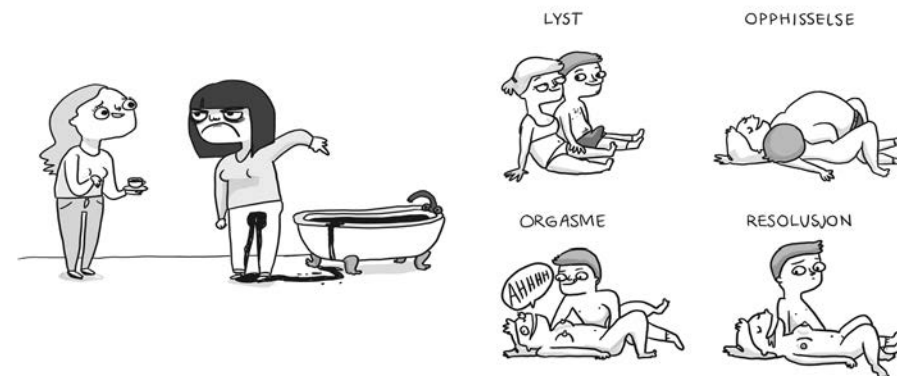
Popular science/sexual health
320 pages

Dahl and Brochmann crush myth after myth, all in a language that is both factual, easily understandable, engaging, uplifting and witty at once. This is simply brilliant.

- *Fædrelandsvennen*, 6 out of 6 stars

The Wonder Down Under is set to do for the vagina what *Guilia Enders' Gut* did for our digestive system a few years ago.

- *Stylist*



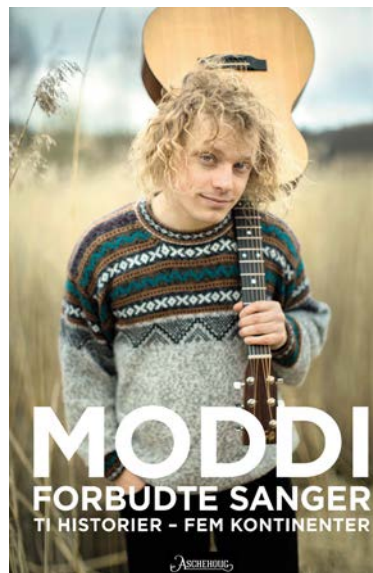
Foreign rights sold:

American English (Quercus US), Arabic (Dar Al-Muna), Braz. Portuguese (Compahnia das Letras), British English (Yellow Kite/Hodder/Hachette), Bulgarian (Bard), Catalan (Columna/Destino/Planeta), Chinese complex (Morning Star), Chinese simplified (PRH China), Croatian (Znanje), Czech (Omega), Danish (Peoples Press), Dutch (Uitgeverij Luitingh-Sijthoff), Estonian (Pegasus), Finnish (Otava), French (Actes Sud), German (Fischer), Greek (Patakis), Hebrew (Modan), Hungarian (Cser), Icelandic (Forlagið), Italian (Marsilio), Japanese (NHK-Publishing), Korean (Open Books), Latvian (Zvaigzne), Lithuanian (Alma Littera), Polish (Sonia Draga), Portuguese (Porto Editora), Romanian (Trei), Russian (Eksmo), Slovakian (Slovart), Spanish (Grijalbo/PRH Spain), Swedish (Forum), Turkish (Epsilon), Ukrainian (Vivsyanka)



Pål Moddi Knutsen

Unsongs - Ten untold stories about censorship and music



Foreign rights sold: German (Nautilus)

A scheduled gig in Tel Aviv in the Spring of 2014 changed Pål Moddi Knutsen's life forever. After experiencing a cross fire of criticism and realizing that playing in Israel was not a matter for the faint hearted or seemingly a simple gesture in the name of music, he decided to cancel the concert.

The cancellation lead him to discover how politically powerful a simple song can be and that the world was full of artists who had been imprisoned and silenced for their songs, even killed. And so, a journey began over five continents, through Chile, Israel, Mexico, Vietnam, Lebanon and other countries, where he met artists who had written songs that mattered.

In *Unsongs* we meet 10 destinies behind the songs, who all have faced censorship, persecution and violent suppression. This book is a tribute to the power of music in a time when most people shun the idea of music as a political tool. Moddi, however, shows us that political music can be as dangerous as a shotgun.

Pål Moddi Knutsen

Pål Moddi Knutsen (b. 1987) is a Norwegian musician and author, and a political and social activist. His music has been described as a blend of folk music and pop, although he refers to himself as a singer and storyteller. Moddi is widely recognised for his interpretations and translations of other artists, such as Vashti Bunyan and Pussy Riot. *Unsongs* is his first book.



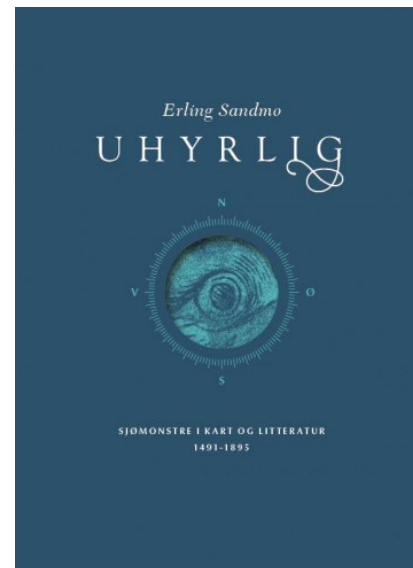
Photo: Aschehoug

Forbudte sanger - Historier fra fem kontinenter
Aschehoug, 2017

Music/politics
287pages

Erling Sandmo

Monstrous - Sea Monsters in Maps and Literature 1491-1895



Foreign rights sold: German (Nagel & Kimche)

Gigantic sea snakes, multi-eyed ocean pigs or fish the size of elephants: Sailors of the past had to prepare for the worst when they travelled the seas. History professor Erling Sandmo has dived into the archives of the National Library and found a series of spectacular stories of encounters with sea monsters. This delightful little book brings us images of a variety of monsters from old maps and books, together with Sandmo's insightful, fascinating essays on their origin, meaning and eventual disappearance.

"The occasion for this little book is to gather a few monsters between these pages. That is what I have attempted to do here, all the while conscious of the paradoxical nature of the endeavour. Per definition, a monster necessarily transgresses boundaries and categories, disrupting systems and sowing anxiety within the established order, before vanishing into darkness the moment we try to pin it down and bind it within our definitions.

Nevertheless, that is my goal. I hereby present twenty monsters, or more precisely, sea monsters. My criteria for inclusion are twofold: first, they must at one time in history have been considered true monsters, and second, the source material must be available in the collections at the National Library of Norway."

Erling Sandmo

Erling Sandmo

Erling Sandmo (b. 1963) is professor of history at the University of Oslo, researcher at the national library, author and critic. He has written a number of books and articles on criminal violence, historical method and classical music, to name a few, and is an established music critic.



Photo: Universitetsforlaget

Uhyrlig - Sjømonstre i kart og litteratur 1491-1895
Nasjonalbiblioteket, 2017

Cultural history
95 pages

Malin Stensønes

To Serve and Protect - Delta Norway



The work of Delta Norway, from everyday life to July 22nd 2011, when the terror hit.

Europe has in recent years been subject to a number of rough terror attacks. Charlie Hebdo and the Bataclan in Paris, bomb attacks in Brussels, knife attacks and shootings in public places, cars plowing into crowds, are all parts of the same threat picture. The ones to combat these threats are first and foremost the European contra terror forces. Delta Norway is part of a European network of such forces, at the same time as it is the Norwegian police force's main measure against serious and organized crime.

For the first time one of the contra terror forces has opened up. For more than two years' Malin Stensønes were allowed inside to follow Delta Norway in their work.

In this book, we follow Delta Norway in everyday life, during recruiting, training, exercises, patrol service and sharp operations, and for the first time members of the force tells in detail about their actions July 22nd 2011, when the terror hit Norway.

Malin Stensønes

Malin Stensønes (born 1968) is a Norwegian politician and author. Today she holds the position as chairman of the board of the Norwegian Defence Research Establishment.



Photo: Aschehoug

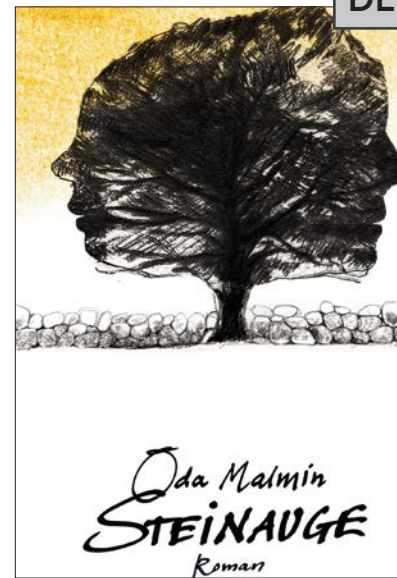
På vår vakt - Beretninger fra politets beredskapstropp
Aschehoug, 2017

Non-fiction
356 pages

Oda Malmin

Steinauge

DEBUT



They say you cannot choose your family, but growing up in Jæren, on the flat, windy, sparsely populated outskirts of Norway, you cannot choose much else, either.

Elderly cousins Ingeborg and Randi have been friends since before they could walk, but did they ever really choose each other? Ingeborg was never going to be a farmer, but she did. Randi moved away and was never going to come back, but she did. When Randi is seriously ill, they are both forced to look back at their life and relationship, and secrets emerge that threaten to change everything.

Steinauge is a story of adolescent love leading to a dangerous game of dare, of rebellion and tradition, of deepfelt love of animals and physical labor and of the difficult task of actually talking to the people closest to you.

A striking literary talent with a very distinct voice that we are very proud to introduce to the world.

Oda Malmin

Oda Malmin was born in Stavanger in 1987. She has a Master's Degree in Nordic Languages, works for Samlaget Publishing House and lives in Oslo. *Steinauge* is her debut novel.



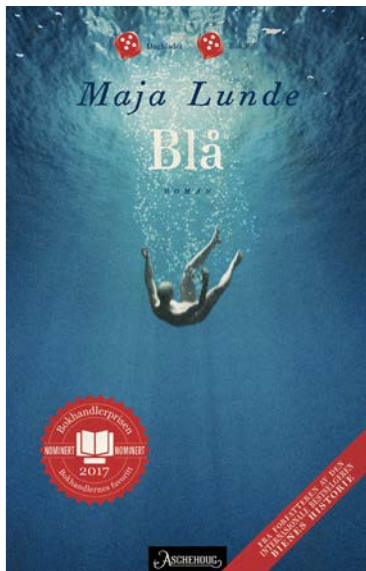
Photo: Oda Berbye

Steinauge
Aschehoug, 2018

Novel
189 pages

Maja Lunde

Blue



16

The History of Bees:
Sold to 32 territories
The most sold book in any genre in Germany in 2017, with 500 000 copies sold.
Winner of the Norwegian Booksellers' Award

Blue:
Sold to 15 territories

Maja Lunde

Maja Lunde (b. 1975) is a Norwegian author and screenwriter. She lives with her husband and three sons in Oslo. *The History of Bees* (2015) is her first adult novel. It received massive attention when it was first presented at the London Book Fair (Spring 2015), and was sold to seven languages before the book was launched. Her second novel *Blue* was launched in October 2017.

Blå
Aschehoug, 2017

Novel
370 pages

Photo: Oda Berbye

Maja Lunde swept the world off its feet with her debut novel *The History of Bees*. Now she is back with another magnificent and gripping story about people and water.

2017: Signe is close to 70, but sets out on a hazardous ocean journey, all alone and carrying a strange load, to confront the man she once loved.

2041: David feels too young to be a father, but has to flee alone with his young daughter through a drought ridden Southern Europe, where there isn't enough water for all anymore. Everything changes the day they discover an abandoned sailboat in a deserted garden far away from any shore.

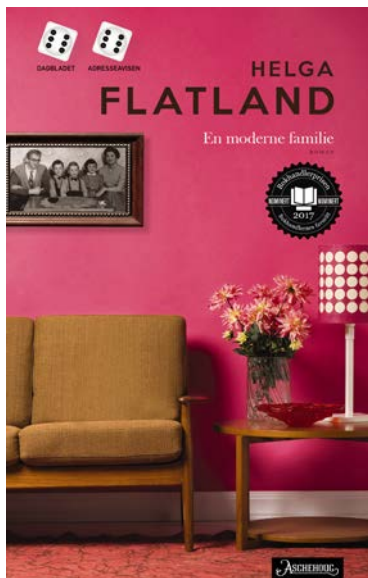
Blue is the second, stand-alone novel of the four books in Lunde's planned Climate Quartet, that is already sold in its entirety to major territories.



17

Helga Flatland

A Modern Family



Foreign rights sold: UK/World English (Orenda), Sweden (Polaris), Germany (Weidle), Denmark (Turbine), Bulgaria (Perseus)

«We're leaving each other»

A quiet earthquake occurs as siblings Liv, Ellen and Håkon, along with their partners and children, are gathered around the dinner table somewhere on the outskirts of Rome to celebrate Dad and Granddad Håkon's 70th birthday.

Shock and disbelief follow, as the three grown children tries to cope with their parent's decision. Not only does it affect their relationship as siblings, it echoes through the homes they have built for themselves, as well as forcing them to them reconstruct their shared narrative about their upbringing and family history.

Helga Flatland masterfully conducts this story, voiced in turn by Liv, Ellen and Håkon, with rare psychological insight, humor and an almost filmatic narrative drive. *A Modern Family* is a novel that will make you look at the people closest to you just a little more thoroughly.

Helga Flatland

Helga Flatland (b. 1984) is already one of Norway's most awarded and widely read authors. She has written four novels and a children's book. Of her trilogy *Stay if you can, leave if you must* the Danish Extrabladet wrote: "Each novel on its own is a stylistic masterpiece that could, but shouldn't be read separately. Together they form a phenomenal story."



Photo: Niklas Lello

En moderne familie
Aschehoug, 2017

Novel
239 pages

Flatland has perfected her literary style, and this novel hits the bull's eye. And, she is funny, too. With this book, Flatland demonstrates, once again, her impressive skills in describing the modern human being – or rather, a modern family. (...) Cements her position as one of our most important, younger authors

– *Dagbladet*, 6 out of 6 stars

There is a hint of Ingmar Bergman in this portrayal of a completely normal family, it delves deep and wrenches your heart.

– *Adresseavisen*, 6 out of 6 stars

Once again, Helga Flatland proves that she is an unusually wise and sharp observer of people, of how we act, and interact, of our traumas and coping mechanisms. Her prose is crystal clear and unpretentious, spiced up with drips of humor.

– *Dagsavisen*

Buckle up and enjoy this novel – a roller coaster of a read. Intense emotions, highs and lows, and the events that set them in motion are vibrantly and insightfully described. Hope, razor-sharp irony, suffocating jealousy and heartfelt unity, characterize this so-called modern family, that on the outside is so well-polished and old-fashioned that no one gets to stay indoors on a sunny day and everyone eats pancakes for breakfast at everyone's birthday.

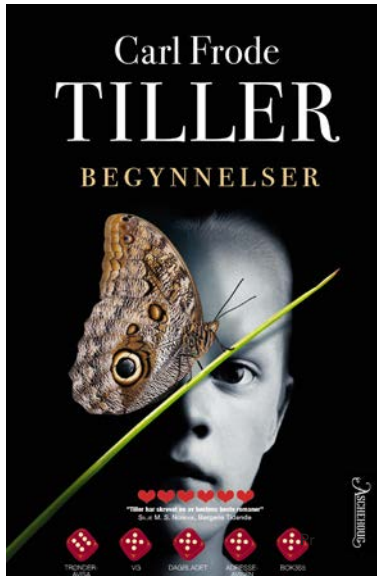
– *Bok365.no*

A Modern Family is an important novel, adresssing the challenges of interaction with the ones close to you in a way that every reader can relate to

- NRK

Carl Frode Tiller

Beginnings



Foreign rights sold: Germany (BTB Random House), Denmark (Rosinante)

Nominated to the 2018 Nordic Council Literature Prize

Life can only be understood backwards; but it must be lived forwards, Søren Kierkegaard wrote. *Beginnings* is the story of one man's life, told from end to start, from suicide to birth. To better cast light on the ever recurring question of why life turned out just the way it did?

Terje is a father and a husband, a son, a brother and an environmentalist. Pained by his shortcomings when it comes to interacting with the ones closest to him and wrestling with the notion that his activism and efforts on a local scale just might be useless in the face of a global catastrophe.

A gripping and highly original novel about choice, freedom and determinism.

Carl Frode Tiller

Carl Frode Tiller (b 1970) is admired for his instantly recognizable, furious prose and his ability to create vivid, complex characters. In 2005 he was named one of the 10 best Norwegian writers under 35. In 2006, *The Slope* was named among the 25 most important Norwegian novels from the last 25 years. In addition to his novels, Tiller has written three plays and a number of short stories and short prose. His books have been translated into 22 languages, and has won every major Norwegian Literary award.



Photo: Therese Alice Sanne

Begynnelser
Aschehoug, 2017

Novel
343 pages

Beginnings by Carl Frode Tiller has it all: A fascinating composition, black humor, moving scenes, psychological depth, poetic features (...) An Ibsen's Brand for our time.
- *Aftenposten*

Dark glowing fiction art (...) Tiller is best in this country when it comes to describing extremely uptight, desperate and despairing characters.
- *NRK*

Heartbreaking and psychologically poignant (...) Hardly any other Norwegian author makes such convincing and merciless use of the trivial and banal in everyday conversations to reveal deep human relations.
- *Dagsavisen*

How fortunate we are to have an author like Carl Frode Tiller's view on human nature.
- *Dagens Næringsliv*

One of the fall's best books, with an unmistakably Tiller-ish signature.
- *Bergens Tidende*

His nature scenes has a hint of the language and imagery of Jon Fosse (...) a novel on the very top shelf of this author's body of work.
- *Morgenbladet*

Gøhril Gabrielsen Arrival



Foreign rights sold: Germany (Suhrkamp Insel)

This short novel has it all: exquisite storytelling, a perfect plot and a fantastic portrait of a woman. Quite simply a wonderful novel (...) The ending surpasses every crime novel I have read this year.

- Adresseavisen, six out of six stars

At one of the northernmost outposts of Norway, a scientist arrives to spend the winter in a deserted, old fisherman's cabin, finishing a research project.

Her toddler daughter is with her ex-husband in the south. All alone, surrounded by endless snow and the petulant forces of nature, she is awaiting her lover to join her.

As the weeks pass, and her lover lingers, the remoteness she has sought starts to feel less like a refuge and more like a threat.

The rational thinker is drawn towards the irrational, her loneliness gives way for a disturbing presence, something dark and unknown, moving outside or inside herself.

Creeping suspense in an elegant wrapping ... Gabrielsen once again demonstrates her impressive, accurate prose.

- Dagsavisen

Gøhril Gabrielsen

Gøhril Gabrielsen (b 1961) grew up in Finnmark and lives in Oslo. She made her debut in 2006, and has since published five novels. She was awarded Aschehoug's debutant prize in 2008, the Tanum Women's writers prize in 2010 and the Amalie Skram Prize in 2016. Her third novel *Dizzying Opportunities* was published in English by Peirene Press under the title *The Looking-Glass Sisters* in 2015..



Photo: Per Are Løkke

Ankomst
Aschehoug, 2017

Novel
170 pages

Jan Kjørstad Berge



Foreign rights sold: Denmark (Rosinante), Sweden (Atlantis), Germany (Septime)

In *Berge*, Jan Kjørstad dismantles some of the biggest myths, traumas and archetypes in recent Norwegian history. The result is one of his strongest novels he's ever written. I dare to name Berge a certain winner of the 2017 book fall.
- VG, six out of six stars

Probably this year's most important Norwegian novel. - Hamar Arbeiderblad, six out of six stars

On a warm day in August 2008, Labor Party minister Arve Storefjeld and several members of his family, are found murdered in their family cabin at Blankwater, in the Nordmarka forest. Five people with their throats slit.

Journalist Ine Wang has felt out of touch lately. But the Storefjeld murders changes everything. Judge Peter Malm lives a withdrawn life and attends his hobbies in happy solitude. The last thing he wants is attention drawn to himself because of a case Nicolai Berge was head over heels in love with Gry, Arve Storefjeld's daughter, for years. Then she broke up with him. Now she is dead.

Berge is a story of horrible events, told from three different points of view. A journalist, a judge and an ex-boyfriend. Without touching upon the July 22nd attack in Norway, Berge is a novel that would not have been written without it.

Jan Kjørstad

Jan Kjørstad occupies a prominent place in contemporary Norwegian literature. He made his debut as a writer of fiction in 1980, and has since written a number of novels, short stories and essays. His trilogy *The Seducer* (1993), *The Conqueror* (1996) and *The Discoverer* (1999) was hailed as a monumental contribution towards renewal of the art of novel writing in Scandinavia, and was awarded the Nordic Council's Prize for Literature.



Photo: Mimsy Møller

Berge
Aschehoug, 2017

Novel
378 pages

Roskva Koritzinsky

I Have Not Yet Seen the World

24



Foreign rights sold: Sweden (Lindelöws), Denmark (Batzner)

Nominated to the 2018 Nordic Council Literature Prize

A middle aged man, working in drug rehabilitation, leaves his wife and children after falling in love with a teenage client. A single woman returns from work one day, to find that an entire litter of puppies have gone missing. A girl writes a love letter to her boyfriend, seven months after his death.

The final story, where a daughter writes to her father, is world class. Sore and painful, revealing and near.
- VG

Extreme precision (...) Everything she writes seems significant, no metaphor is well-used or cliché, rather they appear as striking as they are dark. «I Have Not Yet Seen the World» is dense like poetry. This is a thoughtful project with an admirable abundance of literary energy.
- *Fædrelandsvennen*, six out of six stars

Roskva Koritzinsky

Roskva Koritzinsky (b. 1989) made her debut with the short story collection *In Here Somewhere* in 2013, for which she received Aschehoug's Debutant Prize and was nominated to Tarjei Vesaas' Debutant Prize. In 2016 she was selected as one of the first authors in New Voices, NORLA's development programme for new literary talents.



Photo: Håkon Borg

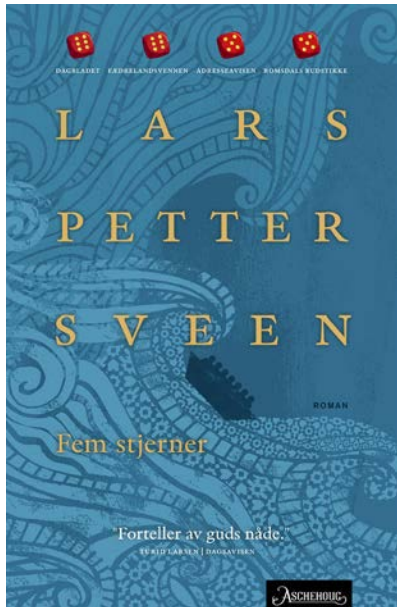
Jeg har ennå ikke sett verden
Aschehoug, 2017

Short stories
94 pages

Lars Petter Sveen

Five Stars

25



Named one of Norway's ten best authors under 35 by Morgenbladet (2015)
P.O. Enquist Prize (2016)
Sult Award (2015)
Jan Roar Leikvoll Memorial Award (2015)
Nynorsk Literature Award (2014)
Mads Wiel Nygaard Legat (2014)
Tarjei Vesaas Debutant Prize (2008)
Aschehoug Debutant Prize (2008)

Five young people fleeing through an unknown world.

Aisha and Said are child soldiers, but manage to escape from the camp outside Mogadishu. Later they meet Isir, Aaliyah and Khadar who is also on the run. The five decide to stick together and try to make it to Europe. But how do you survive in a world where you are unwanted by all?

This is the story about those who loose all and flee to nothing, but also about hope, commitment and friendship. And of who you become when no one knows you are.

A raw and heartbreaking story told by a god-given storyteller (...) a solid and vital literary work about people in a disastrous situation.
- *Dagsavisen*

Masterful on the refugee crisis ... Sveen writes with great authority about one of the most burning issues of our time ... *Five stars* is not just timely, it has the narrative drive of a thriller.
- *Dagbladet*, six out of six stars

Lars Petter Sveen

Lars Petter Sveen was born in 1981. He made his debut with the short story collection *Driving from Fræna* in 2008, and got his big breakthrough in 2014 with his third novel *Children of God* for which he was awarded the prestigious P.O. Enquist Prize in 2016. The book is sold to the US, France, Denmark, Sweden, China and Bulgaria. Sveen was named one of Norway's ten best authors under 35 by Morgenbladet in 2015.



Photo: Tine Poppe

Fem stjerner
Aschehoug, 2017

Novel
256 pages

Toril Brekke

We All Loved Your Mother



... an exemplary, historic novel. Simple, subdued and old-fashioned prose, an easy and entertaining read ... An impressive and thorough research, and a solid literary hand-craft. Congratulations, Brekke!
- Dagbladet on *The Promised Land*

-Who's my father? Agathe asks several times, but no one ever answers.

Set in Oslo during the 50s, in the nicer areas of town, Agathe lives with her grandparents and her uncle Jannik who dreams of becoming a sailor. And her mother, a woman who doesn't really see her child, but is lost in her longing for other places, like the stages of Berlin, London or Paris. Little Agathe is left to herself and she is the one to discover that the handicapped boy next door both can walk and talk – and loves music. One day everything changes. Agathe is torn away from the beautiful life she knows and moves with her mother and the new family to a working class suburb, where she has to hide that she can read and play instruments.

We All Loved Your Mother is a coming of age novel, and a hymn to those living in the shadows of others, who still manage to find a place in the sunlight.



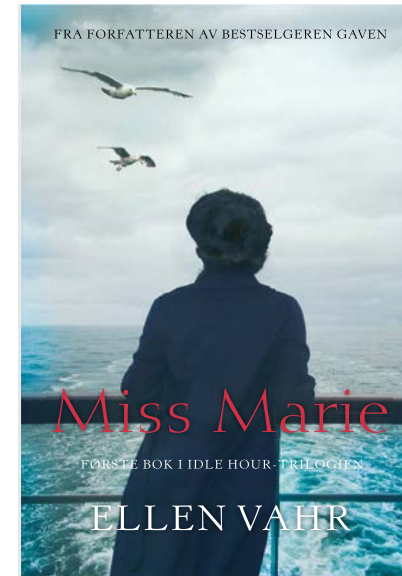
Photo: Tine Poppe

Alle elsket moren din
Aschehoug, 2017

Novel
350 pages

Ellen Vahr

Miss Marie – Idle Hour Trilogy, Book 1



Based on a true story: As in her debut novel, *The Gift*, *Miss Marie* is about one of the author's foremothers. This time Vahr's grandmother is the inspiration for a strong fictional character who has to find her own path in life - and dare to walk it.

A young woman leaves everything behind to serve as a maid for the Vanderbilts.

WW1 rages throughout Europe, and in Christiania, Norway, baker family Thoresen is not able to obtain flour. One day a letter arrives from two aunts in America offering their oldest daughter Thea Marie a position as maid for the wealthy Vanderbilt family on Long Island in USA. If Thea accepts she would not only have to say farewell to her dream of developing the bakery, but also part with her boyfriend Hans, the reliable young tailor friend who has spoken of marriage. In order to help her family, 17 year old Thea travels across the Atlantic to a life she could never have imagined.

In the country manor Idle Hour, the class differences Thea had seen at home appear small. Thea is faced with a secret that she has to bear in order to keep things from falling apart. When the Vanderbilts are threatened by a scandal, Thea is not only confronted with the question of what she believes is right, but who she is and what freedom means to her.



Photo: Pernille M. Walvik

Ellen Vahr

Ellen Vahr (b. 1963) is Anne Brannfjell's great-great-grandchild. She works as a professional life coach and has previously published *The Power of Dreams* (2011) and *Risk Your Life* (2013). Her first novel, *The Gift*, was published in 2016 and sold for publication to Germany.

Idle Hour
Aschehoug, Autumn 2018

Novel
350 pages

Katrine Wessel-Aas

The Winther Family



The Winther Family is a lush series and a Norwegian historical “feel good” drama. An intoxicating, enthralling and riveting journey in time, place and position.

Cecilia Winther is Trondheim’s leading socialite. She lives a comfortable life of luxury on Market Street. Here she has created the perfect home and the perfect family together with her husband Karl. The other city women follow eagerly everything she says and does. But a new day is dawning, old traditions and wealth are on the verge of collapse. Summer 1898 is a turning point for Cecilia. Her oldest son moves back home with his new wife. Ellinor is new rich, liberal and frightfully modern. She questions everything in Cecilia’s life. And suddenly Cecilia feels she is losing her grip on everything and has to fight to save the family harmony.

The Winther Family is the first in a series, the sequel, *If you want me*, is to be launched in June 2018.

Katrine Wessel-Aas

Katrine Wessel-Aas (b. 1970) worked as a journalist and editor for many years, but is now a novelist full-time. She grew up in Trondheim and has always dreamed of writing a period novel from there. Katrine has also written an historical novel series from Kristiania in the 1800s.



Photo: Nora Ristvedt

Familien Winther
Pitch, 2018

Novel
300 pages

Aslak Nore

Wolfsangel



Foreign rights sold: Denmark

Book of the year
- VG

A great novel.
- Dagbladet

Aslak Nore

Aslak Nore (b. 1978) is an author, editor and runs the popular crime blog OP-5. Nore has written several acclaimed non-fiction books, among others *God Is Norwegian* (2007), about Norwegian soldiers abroad. In 2012 he had his non-fiction debut, *A Norwegian Spy*, an adventure packed spy-novel which the critics praised.



Photo: AKAM1K3

Ulvefellen
Aschehoug, 2017

Thriller
350 pages

Winner of the Riverton Prize 2018

An extraordinary thriller about a man determined to change the course of the second world war.

A disillusioned and regretting veteran injured on the Eastern front, Norwegian Henry Storm is the unlikeliest of heroes. Getting to know secret about a German “wonder weapon”, he decides to go back to Germany, to uncover the mystery, and redeem himself.

Werner Sorge is an officer in the German security service whose investigations cross paths with the secret rocket program and Storm. To find the Norwegian spy he employs his own secret weapon: A beautiful and troubled Polish woman turned into a German agent.

Can Storm get his game-changing intel out of the Reich? Will Sorge bait him into the Wolfsangel trap?

Based on historic events, *Wolfsangel* is a rejuvenation of suspense classics like Ken Follett’s *Eye of the Needle* and Philip Kerr’s Berlin trilogy.

Trude Teige

The Patient



Nominated for the Booksellers' Prize 2017

Suspenseful and well-written
- *Fædrelandsvennen*

Psychiatry goes astray in this stylish,
well-composed crime novel
- *Aftenposten*

Trude Teige

Trude Teige (b. 1960) is one of Norway's most recognized journalists, through her work as political reporter, news presenter and TV-host. In 2009 she wrote her first crime, featuring the TV-journalist Kajsa Coren. For the novel *The Girl Who Stopped Talking*, Teige was nominated to the Bookseller's Award. Her books have been sold to Germany and Russia.



Photo: Oda Berby

Pasienten
Aschehoug, 2017

Thriller
350 pages

Never forgive, never forget.

He calls himself Croesus and has been a patient at the Norwegian mental institution Dikemark for 50 years. Before he dies, he whispers: - they kill patients here.

One of the few who managed to talk to Croesus, is Julia, the daughter of a brain surgeon who works at Dikemark.

Some years later Julia disappears without a trace, and when journalist Kajsa Coren is summoned to find out what happened, she is thrown into a maelstrom that includes psychiatric research, an undiscovered Edvard Munch-painting and neglected children.

Soon Kajsa's employer is found murdered, and the investigation reveals that he was not who he said he was.

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Kathleen Rani Hagen

Fundamentals of Plant Diversity

DEBUT



At a garden party for the students at an agricultural university, she falls wildly and suddenly in love. Peter from Liverpool has disheveled hair and a leather jacket, and it's impossible not to think about him. She studies botany and tells Peter everything she knows about plants, about moss and lichen and parasitic hyphae growing on the roots of certain trees.

Fundamentals of Plant Diversity is a novel about everything that grows, about a love that overshadows everything else and about how difficult it is to find the right words.

Both the will this novel shows to experiment with the form of the story, by weaving in botanical information, and the desire it has to challenge our views on humans and nature, are in my mind the strengths of this novel ... The botanical details are only loosely related to the events that unfold, but they make up an important part of the cognitive context for the love affair at the center of the story
- BLA

Kathleen Rani Hagen

Kathleen Rani Hagen (b. 1988) was born in Stavanger and lives in Ås in Norway. She studies genetics and evolution, works as a book reviewer in Fædrelandsvennen and writes a long-running blog about literature, politics, environmental issues, biology and feminism.

Fundamentals of Plant Diversity is her first book.

Grunnleggende plantediversitet
Forlaget Oktober, 2018

Novel
220 pages



Photo: Pernille Marie Walvik

WHEAT

The first time I see him, I don't know anything about grasses, I only know that there are many different species that are still unfamiliar to me, species growing in the woods only a stone's throw from here, or in ditches along the side of the road and in the field below that, which I pass every day on my way to the university. I don't even know what variety of corn it is growing there in the field, I have a feeling this is something I should know. In that particular moment it is hard to tell anyway, it's nothing but sprouts growing there on these May-days. They look like grass, one might be tempted to say, and one would not be wrong, because all of the variations of corn that humans have cultivated belong to Poacea, the grass family. Wheat and oats, rice and maize. One of the factors by which these species can be classified as grasses is that they have nodes running up along their stems. Because of these, the grass is able to keep growing even if it has been grazed upon; when the predators of grass, the grazing animals – cattle, horses and sheep – eat the grass, it grows back again from its nodes. In fact, grasses grow better after having been nibbled, this is a defence mechanism – instead of allowing itself to be overrun by the creatures of the plains, grass has turned the creatures' grazing to its advantage. Grass grows and grows over everything, just imagine the great pampas in Argentina – plain after plain of grass for herds of cattle, cattle that will be made into beef, grass as far as the eye can see.

Translated by Becky L. Crook

Eirik Ingebrigtsen

White Book Dark Winter



A shocking book on the aftermath of war and about a hatred that still lives. It's also a beautiful portrait of the solidarity between two brothers, and about the love for an unknown father
- *Vårt Land*

Isa is a 14 year old boy from the little town Gjakova in Kosovo. He is half Serb, the son of an unknown Serbian soldier. Isa has grown up with his mother Deborah and his stepfather Reza, a veteran from the Kosovo war, who has never accepted the idea of having a bastard son in his house. Isa sticks with his three years older brother Shkodran, who is the only one who can protect him against Reza.

The story of *White Book Dark Winter* is acted out within the space of one day, when Isa Shkodran and Reza are out in the forest with a workteam of war veterans to cut down trees for firewood. The extreme cold is ever present in this concentrated, poetic story about the relationship between two brothers and about how hard physical labour can keep the memories of war at bay.

A powerful story of how war keeps on living in the language, in memory and in "this damned blood"
- NRK P2

Eirik Ingebrigtsen

Eirik Ingebrigtsen (born 1975) was born in Os, and made his debut with the novel *Creature* in 2001. He has since published a number of acclaimed novels. In 2013, he was awarded the Sult Prize, an annual award given to an outstanding younger writer. In 2016 he won the Nynorsk Literature Prize for the novel *Nails from Falling Boards*.



Photo: Finn Ståle Felberg

Kvit bok mørk vinter
Forlaget Oktober 2018

Novel
128 pages

Line Madsen Simenstad

Queen Maud Land



A mother who hides her boy in a secret country. A father lying in bed, swelling before death. A sister who knows everything there is to know about love.

The five stories in this collection are all marked by great distance between the characters. Line Madsen Simenstad writes in sober, clean-cut prose about loneliness and rejection, about trembling attempts of approaching others and sudden moments of tenderness.

Line Madsen Simenstad

Line Madsen Simenstad (b. 1985) is a journalist, living in Oslo. *Queen Maud Land* is her first book.



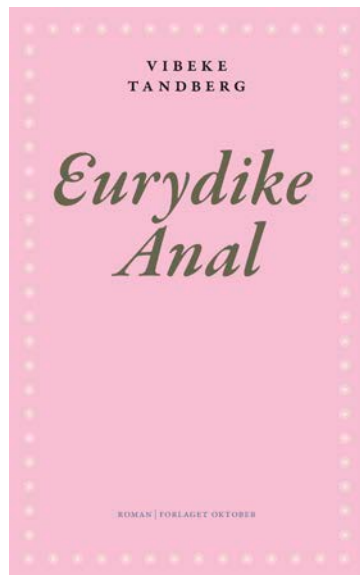
Photo: Linda Bournane Engelberth

Dronning Maud Land
Forlaget Oktober, 2018

Short stories
121 pages

Vibeke Tandberg

Eurydice Anal



A man sits in a bar, struggling to remember a name that keeps slipping away from him. He tries to recall the encounter with a woman who has partly disappeared from memory, and whose name mixes with the names of a book he is reading. He might have talked to her recently, but it might also be a long time since they met. The narrative moves from the bar to an aircraft cabin to an operating table and to an apartment he most has most probably never visited. In detailed, flowing prose, Vibeke Tandberg explores the unclear boundaries between memory and forgetting, and between your own and other's memory.

Eurydice Anal is a distinctive, enigmatic novel, where danger arises from forgotten things that suddenly flare up, before fading away.

Vibeke Tandberg

One of Norway's most influential visual artists on the contemporary scene, Vibeke Tandberg (b. 1967) made her literary debut in 2012 with *Beijing Duck*. Her subsequent novels have affirmed her position as an imaginative writer with a voice and a vision that set her apart in contemporary Norwegian literature.



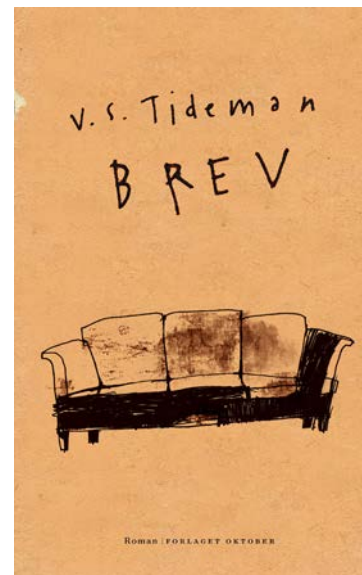
Photo: Maria Berggren

Eurydice anal
Forlaget Oktober, 2018

Novel
110 pages

V.S. Tideman

Letters



Letters is a novel about an intense and all-consuming loss, in the shape of a love letter. The writer is a man, alone in his flat in Berlin. The receiver, a woman. She is all he wants, all he can think of, but she isn't there. He writes to endure the two or three months they will be apart. He wants to fill every hour with writing. He writes about his longing for her, for her body. He writes about alcohol, tobacco, lack of food, lack of money. His gaze is directed inwards, into himself, towards his own past and towards the reunion between the two that will come.

Letters is a dark, at times desperate novel, written in raw, immediate prose.

V. S. Tideman

V. S. Tideman (b. 1980) made his debut in 2009 with the novel *kock-mania inc.* *Letter* is his fourth book.



Photo: Iris Schober

Brev
Oktober, 2018

Novel
200 pages

Rune Christiansen

Fanny and the Mystery in the Grieving Forest



Foreign rights sold: Denmark (LESEN),
France (Notabilia)

Shortlisted for the Brage Prize 2017

A level rarely reached in Norwegian
contemporary literature ... deserves not
only literary prizes but also an audience
far greater than the Norwegian
- *Dag og Tid*

Fanny is a young orphaned girl who tries to live as best as she can, alone on the outskirts of a small town. The days go by performing simple chores: getting to school, repairing the gutter, chopping wood and keeping the weeds at bay. But beyond these sorry conditions, there is the fairy tale, full of stubborn conceptions and possibilities. Through Fanny's distinct approach to the world, this seemingly simple story becomes a simile about friendship, independence and transgression.

Fanny and the Mystery in the Grieving Forest is a both hopeful and deeply disturbing novel and another masterpiece by a unique writer.

A magnificent novel ... gripping, poetic and thought-provoking ... incredibly wise and beautiful
- VG, 6/6 stars

A thoughtful, aesthetically outstanding novel about the small and big questions in life
- *Aftenposten*

Christiansen at top form ... He offers greater darkness, more barbs and shows if anything more inventive imagery and stylistic sophistication than ever before
- *Dagsavisen*

Rune Christiansen

Rune Christiansen (b. 1963) has been an important figure in Norwegian literature ever since his debut in 1986. In addition to several books of groundbreaking poetry, he has published a string of acclaimed novels. Hailed by critics as his best novel so far, *The Loneliness in Lydia Erneman's Life* (2014) won the Brage Prize, and was shortlisted for both the Critics' Prize for fiction and the P2 Listeners' Novel Prize.



Photo: Baard Henriksen

Fanny og mysteriet i den sørgende skogen
Forlaget Oktober, 2017

Novel
224 pages

Merethe Lindstrøm

North



Foreign rights sold: Denmark (Gyldendal),
France (Cambourakis), Sweden (Weyler)

Hordes of people are on the move, chased from their houses, their villages, their camps. A young boy has escaped the marching crowds. He walks alone, following his compass north, his shoulderblades protruding like wings that have been cut off. He carries with him the gaze of the others, their definitions of him, together with his hunger, his poverty and his degradation.

Along the way he gets a companion, one who also carries a secret. A kind of understanding arise between them, as they walk together through territories full of both beauty and destruction.

North is a dark novel which still contains light. It is a story with traces of fables and myths buried deep in our collective mind.

Luminous, powerful prose ... a very beautiful and intense book
- *Dagsavisen*

A deeply upsetting novel about outsiders on the run ... razor sharp prose
- *Adresseavisen*

Merethe Lindstrøm

Merethe Lindstrøm (b. 1963) made her debut in 1983 with a book of short stories, and has since published a number of volumes of short stories, novels and a children's book. In 2008 she was nominated to Nordic Council's Literature Prize and the Norwegian Critics' Prize for her short story collection *The Guests*. In 2011 *Days in the History of Silence*, she was awarded both the Nordic Council Literature Prize and the Critics' Prize.



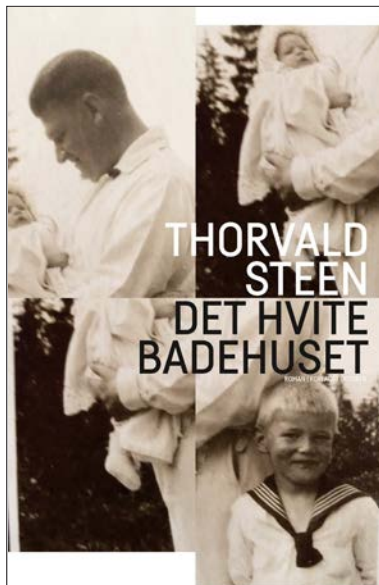
Photo: André Løyning

Nord
Forlaget Oktober, 2017

Novel
220 pages

Thorvald Steen

The White Bathhouse



Foreign rights sold: Denmark (Turbine), Faroe Islands (Sprotin), Sweden (Heidrun), UK/US (Seagull)

Very powerful ... Steen tells a universal story of generational conflicts, shame and concealment
- Adressavisen

It is just before Advent. He receives a phone call from an unknown woman claiming that she is his cousin. There's never been much talk of the family on his mother's side. He has never known the name of his grandfather. Now he discovers new truths and relatives he never knew about, and with them difficult questions come up. He lives with an inherited illness that has forced him into a wheelchair. Is the secrecy in the family connected to the chromosome abnormality he has inherited? Will what he has found out about his grandfather give him insight into his own life?

The White Bathhouse is a story of origins, shame, concealment and the costs of being honest.

Thorvald Steen transforms personal experience to high quality fiction ... In a rich, complex text where elements close to reality are used with careful craft, Steen tells a revealing and frighteningly topical story of the fear of being different, of contempt and self-contempt. It should find its way to many readers
- Aftenposten

Thorvald Steen

Thorvald Steen (b. 1954) made his literary debut in 1983, and has subsequently published a wide range of novels, plays, collections of poems, books of short stories, children's books and essays. He had his breakthrough with the historical novel *Don Carlos* in 1993, and has since won great acclaim at home and abroad for his inventive historical novels, which often address political and ethical issues that are as relevant today. His works have been translated into 27 languages.



Photo: Per Maning

Det hvite badehuset
Forlaget Oktober, 2017

Novel
180 pages

A voice on the radio says that the Northern Lights will be visible from parts of eastern Norway tonight. I've never seen the Northern Lights before, they're supposed to look like green flames licking across the night sky. I check Wikipedia on my mobile phone. In the olden days our ancestors regarded the Northern Lights as omens of famine and plague. I replace the phone in the inside pocket of my blue knitted jacket.

With one hand, I draw the curtain aside. I work the wheelchair forwards to take a look out of the living-room window. The sky is black. Not so much as a star in sight. Most people on the planet have never seen the Northern Lights and they seem to manage perfectly well.

During the past year I've become increasingly dependent on a wheelchair. I've accepted it; the wheelchair can at least compensate for the helpless condition of my legs. A year ago I was falling so frequently that my wife, Sunniva, was worried I'd start breaking my arms and legs. It's happened before. If I fall, I can't get up without help. It's hard to admit that the muscle-wasting disease has got to a stage where a wheelchair is the only safe option.

I search for an English biography of Napoleon Bonaparte on the bookshelves. Could I have lent it to someone?

My mobile rings.

I thought it was in silent mode. I try to switch it off, I fumble, and let the call through.

'Who is it?' I enquire tetchily.

'I've been trying to get hold of your mother,' a woman's voice says. 'She's not answering. Is there something the matter with her?'

'I think you've got the wrong number,' I say, about to cut her off.

'Would you tell your mother that one of her relations is dead?'

She comes out with a name that doesn't mean anything to me.

'My condolences,' I say, without really understanding the connection.

'He was well over ninety.'

'It's sad all the same,' I say.

'Well, that's what happens, losing someone is never easy.'

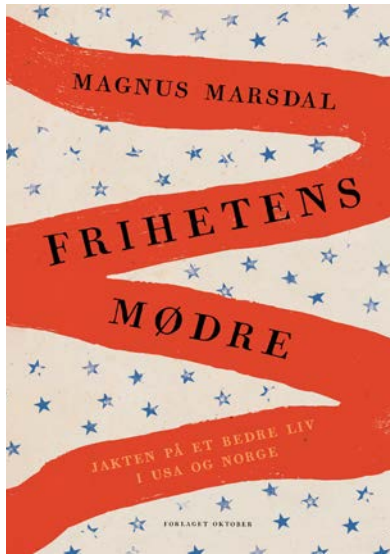
'But who are you?' I ask.

There's a pause before she answers.

Translated by James Anderson

Magnus E. Marsdal

Mothers of Freedom – The Struggle for a Better Life in US and Norway



Two sisters grow up together on a crofter's farm on a windswept island off the coast of Northern Norway. While Sanna, Magnus Marsdal's great-grandmother, remains in Norway, as part of the generation that "built the country", her sister Lina emigrates to America.

The Mothers of Freedom is a fascinating story of freedom, the defining concept of the political culture of the West. Starting with the lives of the poor farmer's daughters Sanna and Lina, Marsdal explores the conditions of freedom in Norway and in the USA. Where will you find the greatest individual freedom: In the Scandinavian welfare state or in the land of the free?

100 years after Lina's emigration to America, Norway has become the promised land for hundreds of thousands of people looking for a better life. What kind of society does the woman who cleans Marsdal's house meet? And what is our responsibility to defend the freedom we inherited from those who built the country?

Magnus E. Marsdal

Magnus E. Marsdal (born 1974) has worked as a journalist and has been the leader of Attac Norway.



Photo: Finn Ståle Felberg

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