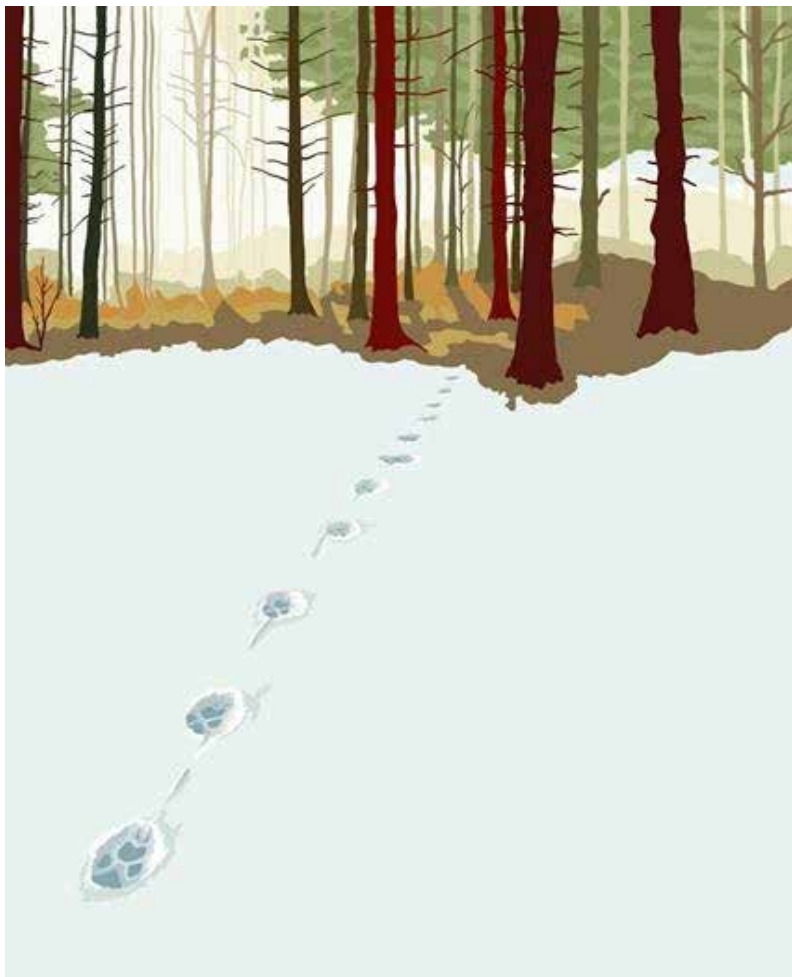


# OSLO LITERARY AGENCY

RIGHTS LIST



FALL 2018

NON-FICTION

# OSLO LITERARY AGENCY

Oslo Literary Agency is Norway's largest 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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Oslo Literary Agency, Sehesteds gate 3, P. O. Box 363 Sentrum, N-0102 Oslo, Norway  
[osloliteraryagency.no](http://osloliteraryagency.no)

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# Reidar Müller

## Howling in the Woods

The History of the Forest and the Man Who Came Looking for the Grey Wolf



A predator, mythical and debated, is lurking around in the Scandinavian woods.

At first the author just wants to get close to it. Then his search becomes an obsession.

The forests of folklore are the homes of strange, supernatural creatures. But worldly beasts have also aroused wonder and fear. None more so than the wolf. Reidar Müller, an otherwise sober naturalist, becomes deeply fascinated with this mysterious animal of prey. He learns from experienced woodsmen how to track the wolf, and is drawn ever deeper into the woods. Until he finds himself standing alone in the wilderness, howling to the Grey Wolf.

While searching for the wolf, the author explores the history of the forest; its plants and animals, its evolution and myth, and how it has and hasn't changed over millions of years.

Reidar Müller

Reidar Müller (b. 1971) has a doctorate in geology and is associated with University of Oslo as a researcher. He is also an educated journalist and has written regularly about natural science in the Norwegian national newspaper, Aftenposten. His book *This Is What Became Norway* (2014) aroused excitement among reviews and the public. The book was reprinted several times, making the author a sought after speaker.



Photo: Harald Medbøe

*Skogens historie*  
Aschehoug, 2018

Nature/popular science  
370 pages



## Gjert Ingebrigtsen and Frode Saugestad

### How to Raise a World Champion



*Raising a World Champion* is a story which takes us inside the genius and madness of Team Ingebrigtsen. It provides unique access into the grand ideas and the small details that made three of Gjert Ingebrigtsen's sons some of the world's best runners.

Gjert Ingebrigtsen is a man swimming against the current, a man who measures his sons' lactic acid every ten minutes and laminates their training schedules so they cannot be tampered with.

Gjert himself grew up the son of a poor single mother. The contrast between his own childhood and his adult life where, together with his wife Tone, he strives to build a solid home for their seven children, while single-handedly creating what is perhaps the greatest success in the history of Norwegian sports, is remarkable.

But Gjert also talks about the reverse side of the medal. The father-son relationships are put to the test by his tough regime. Goals and results bind them together today, but what will those be worth in the long run?

Gjert Ingebrigtsen and Frode Saugestad

Gjert Ingebrigtsen (b. 1966) is a self-educated athletics trainer and father of seven, living in Sandnes, Norway. He works as a logistic manager when not training his sons to go for gold.

Frode Saugestad (b. 1974) is an author, writer and marathon runner.

## Kari J. Spjeldnæs

### Skiing is Being - An Attempt to Explain My Passion



7

Kari J. Spjeldnæs has always gone skiing, like many Scandinavians do in the winter; on Sundays and during winter holidays, throughout her childhood and into adult life where she finds herself going skiing whenever she can.

When her husband becomes seriously ill, it becomes imperative for her to try to explain to him why she goes skiing, what she loves about it, what it does to her. She wants to go beyond the clichés of sparkling sun and virgin snow, to give her partner who doesn't share her passion an understanding of this ever more important side of her life.

With skis under our feet, we can break geographical, physical and mental boundaries. We can explore nature and ourselves while gliding through wild winter landscapes where we would otherwise sink down in deep snow for every step.

Sweeping through literature and landscape, ski history, what skiing has meant to women in particular and the author's own skiing experiences the reader is invited on a joyous, thought-provoking and personal wintery journey.

Kari Spjeldnæs

Kari J. Spjeldnæs (b. 1966) is Publishing Director at Aschehoug Publishing House, Oslo. She has an M. Phil. in Literature and has been working in the book industry for more than thirty years. She is married to Thomas Hylland Eriksen, Professor of social anthropology and author of many books. They have two adult children.



Photo: Kyrre Lien



## Katharina Vestre and Linnea Vestre (ill.)

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



Foreign rights sold to 18 territories

"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

"... it's the sort of warm, curious, brilliantly clear and humane science writing that I absolutely love."  
Ed Lake, Profile Books

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.



Foreign rights sold to:

American English (Greystone), British English (Profile Books), Czech (Omega), Danish (Turbine), Dutch (Ambo Anthos), Estonian (Tänapäev), French (Flammarion), German (btb), Hungarian (Cser), Italian (Mondadori), Korean (Gimmyoung), Lithuanian (ALLO), Polish (Zysk), Romanian (Publica), Russian (Eksmo), Spanish (CatalanPlaneta), Swedish (Atlantis)

## Henrik H. Svensen

### Stone by Stone



“The book is entertaining, educational and exciting. After reading it, you will better understand how volcanos and the emission of gasses impacts life on our planet. In addition you are given insight into the life of a researcher.”  
- Klassekampen

“ A riveting good story”  
Aasne Jordheim, Forskerforum

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.



*Stein på stein*  
Aschehoug, 2018

Popular Science  
240 pages

“... this book is so entertaining, exciting and insightful that I would almost call it a page turner”  
- *Dagbladet* (5 out of 6 stars)

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 H. Svensen writes at his best in non-fiction of international dimension. The readers of the Norwegian National Brage BookAward should definitely show an interest” - *Vårt Land*

## Lars Fr. H. Svendsen

### Understanding Animals



Foreign rights sold: British English (Reaction), Croatian (TIM), Danish (Klim), German (Römerweg), Italian (Guanda), Turkish (Redingot)

“Understanding Animals is the type of book I have been wanting to read for a long time, I just realised it when I got it. I like both cats and philosophy – this was a joy to read – de luxe” - *Vårt Land*

“Svendsen isn't just a clear mind and well bespoken. He is witty.” - *Dagbladet* (5 out of 6 stars)

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

Popular science/philosophy  
130 pages

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?

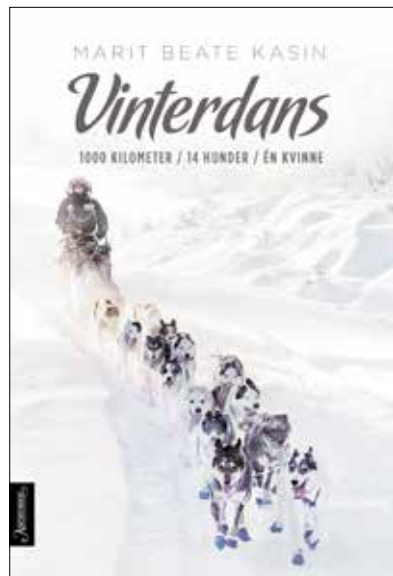
Lars Fr. H. Svendsen has written a book about understanding animals, with examples and discussions from the history of philosophy. From the French philosopher who feel shame when he stands naked in the bathroom and the cat looks at him, to the philosophical questions whether animals can be lonely.

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

“Philosopher Lars Fr. H. Svendsen has written an intelligent book on dogs and cats: Can we understand the animals?”  
- *Aftenposten*

## 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

Nature/adventure  
210 pages

1000 kilometres. 14 dogs. 1 woman.

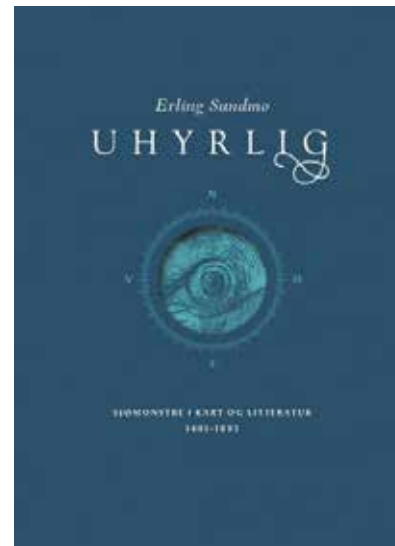
The Finnmark Race is one of the toughest dog sled races in the world. Marit Beate Kasin has participated three times. In *Winter Dance* she tells the story from within, giving a vivid, exhilarating account of how the contestants fight with themselves, the forces of nature and their competitors for six 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.

## Erling Sandmo

### Monstrous – Sea Monsters in Maps and Literature 1491-1895



Foreign rights sold: German (Nagel & Kimche)

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 - Sjømønstre i kart og litteratur 1491-1895*  
Nasjonalbiblioteket, 2017

Cultural history  
95 pages

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.

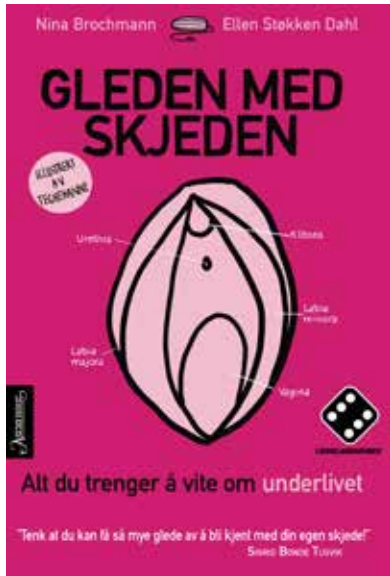
Nevertheless, that is my goal. I hereby present twenty monsters, or more precisely, sea monsters. My criteria for inclusion are twofold: first, they must at one time in history have been considered true monsters, and second, the source material must be available in the collections at the National Library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

- Erling Sandmo



# Nina Brochmann & Ellen S. Dahl

## The Wonder Down Under



### Sold to 35 territories

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 and 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 35 languages.



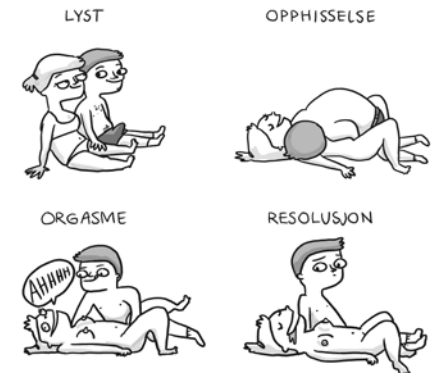
Photo: Anne Valeur

*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), Slovenian (Mladinska) Spanish (Grijalbo/PRH Spain), Swedish (Forum), Turkish (Epsilon), Ukrainian (Vivsyanka)





## OSLO LITERARY AGENCY

Even Råkil, Rights Director  
Film&TV Rights & Non-Fiction  
even@osloliteraryagency.no

---

Annette Orre, Agent  
Literary Fiction  
annette@osloliteraryagency.no

---

Ingrid Schibsted Jacobsen, Agent  
Fiction and Non-Fiction  
ingrid@osloliteraryagency.no

---

Henrik Francke, Agent  
Forlaget Oktober / Literary Fiction  
henrik@osloliteraryagency.no

---

Evy Tillman, Agent  
Children & Young Adults  
evy@osloliteraryagency.no

---

Evin Sigrun Kalef, Contract Manager  
evin@osloliteraryagency.no