

OSLO LITERARY AGENCY

RIGHTS LIST



SPRING 2019

FICTION / NON-FICTION

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 leading publisher of literary fiction, Forlaget Oktober.

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Klara Hveberg

Lean Your Loneliness Slowly Against Mine



Foreign rights sold:
Germany

"A remarkable novel (...) I was both intrigued and found myself falling in love with Rakel. Klara Hveberg has written a beautiful love story in D minor. I feel a little less lonely with this book on my nightstand."
- VG

Klara Hveberg

Author Klara Hveberg (b. 1974) studied music and literature before obtaining her PhD in mathematics, writing her thesis on fractals, the elusive, incredibly beautiful, geometrical formations who might be as close as you get to art in mathematics. *Lean Your Loneliness Slowly against Mine* is her first novel. The title is a slightly altered line from a poem by the Norwegian author Stein Mehren.



Photo: Agnete Brun

Lene din ensomhet langsomt mot min
Aschehoug, 2019

An unforgettable debut novel about mathematics, classical music and the very thin line between great love and great loneliness.

Rakel has a rare talent for mathematics, and an even greater talent for misunderstandings. She has never mastered the art of making friends, but sees boats kissing on the fjord when everyone else just sees them crossing.

At nineteen, she moves to Oslo to attend university, and meets Jakob. He is her professor, and also working on a novel about Sofja Kovalevskaja, the first woman who became a Mathematics professor. Just as Kovalevskaja was very close to her much older advisor, Rakel and Jakob are instantly drawn to each other and eventually become lovers, although he is married.

In the years to come, Rakel's academic career soars, but her health declines. From her bedside she imagines the life of Sofja while trying to understand her own. With a gaze both naive and mercilessly sharp, she dissects what may be her life's only love story, looking for answers in numbers, music and literature.

Novel
305 pages

From the reviews:

"A delightful history about the many aspects of love, and of the search for beauty in life."
- *Adresseavisen*, 6/6 stars

"A mathemagical debut. This incredibly strong novel makes music out of mathematics and turns life into poetry. Bravo!"
- *Dagsavisen*

"Klara Hveberg has written a truly wonderful history of love. A story told mainly in minor, but with a constant humoristic undercurrent that appears both refined and organic. The book is also packed with well-tuned references to music, literature, mathematics and philosophy."
- *Romsdals Budstikke*, 6/6 stars

From the novel:

On longing:

In order to walk away from someone you love, every organ in the body must be notified. It is not sufficient for the brain to have made up its mind. For the heart can make the body turn around. As can the lips, the uterus, the gut, the neck pit, the earlobes, the eyelids, the popliteals, the toes, the iliac crest, — yes, even the umbilical pit — can make the body turn around. As can the deceitful spaces in-between, where imprints of the loved one may be concealed. The space between nameless toes. The distance between the chin and the throat pit. The space between the labia. Come, my friends. Come with me now. I need you all.

And never look back.

Two lungs moving away. Four ventricles, twelve pairs of ribs, thirty-four vertebral and a tailbone. Two dimples on the lower back. Ten sensitive fingertips. Eight meters of intestines. Four liters of blood. Two square meters of skin. All moving away.

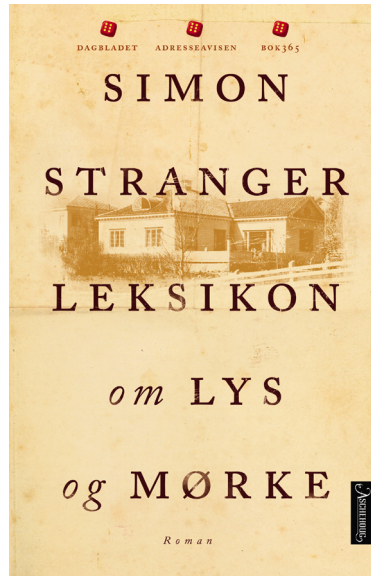
Knowing this: Without him I have no one. Without him I am no one. For without him I don't know who I am. And still forcing oneself to move further away. The spinal chord, the cerebellum — yes, the entire central nervous system — must obey this command: We will move on. And never look back.

On chocolate:

There are two kinds of confectionary lovers. Those who take their time reading the descriptions on the chocolate box in order to find just the right piece. And who spend even more time searching for this particular piece, only to learn, perhaps, that it has already been eaten by someone else. In that case they repeat the process while trying to conceal the disappointment of having to settle for another piece. If the piece they have chosen is still available, they risk having set their expectations for how good it will taste so high, that they will be disappointed none the less. The other kind of confection lovers take a random piece from the box without even looking at it, puts it in their mouth and appears to be enjoying a completely carefree existence. Sometimes people in the first category can infect people in the second through their way of being and thus complicate their lives unnecessarily. Jakob cannot eat confectionary as effortlessly as he could before. This is Rakel's fault.

Simon Stranger

Keep Saying Their Names



According to Jewish tradition everyone dies twice. The first time is when the heart stops beating, and the synapses in the brain shut down, like a city during a blackout. The second time is when the dead person's name is uttered, read or thought of for the last time, after fifty or hundred or four hundred years. Only then, is the person really gone, erased from life on Earth.

Simon Stranger

Simon Stranger (b. 1976) made his debut in 2003, and has since written ten books for children, young adults and adults. His books for children and young adults have been translated into Swedish, Danish, German, French, Dutch, Arabic, Spanish, Korean, Japanese and Kurdish. His latest children's book *Kokotopia* (2018) became an instant bestseller in Norway. *Keep Saying Their Names* is his first novel published by Aschehoug Forlag.

Leksikon om lys og mørke
Aschehoug, 2018

Sold in 17 territories
Winner of the Booksellers Prize 2018
Winner of the Riksmål Prize 2018

A chilling and gripping double portrait of a young man who became a torturist and a family that would have been an entirely different one had Norway not been invaded in 1940.

What turns the bashful shoemaker's son Henry Rinnan from Trøndelag into one of the most hated criminals in Norwegian history; a double agent killing Norwegians for the Nazis? And why would a Jewish family want to move into Rinnan's headquarters shortly after the war, in the house that for many became the very symbol of the atrocities committed during the German occupation?

Spanning over four generations, Simon Stranger skillfully constructs a story consisting of the most beautiful and painful elements of human life in this epic and ambitious novel, pieces that when put together also becomes the history of his own family.



Photo: André Løyning/saftflaske.no

Novel
396 pages

From the reviews:

"A compulsive twist on familiar stories from WW2. Simon Stranger has been inspired by this to write the best novel about the arrest of Norwegian Jews since Steinar Løding's "Erindringens tre (eng: The Tree of Memory)" (1992). Both the story of Rinnan and the story of the Kommisar family, in particular of Ellen and her growing despair about living in "Bandeklosteret", is told in a prose that glows and sparkles and makes this story horribly engaging",
-*Dagbladet*, 6/6 stars

"Riveting and beautiful (...) This book deserves to be read by very many"
- *Bok 365*, 6/6 stars

"Masterly and frightful"
- *Adresseavisen*, 6/6 stars

"Remarkably well-done. Stranger is making a bold move when choosing to write an entire novel about themes every well-read person knows very well. When «Leksikon om lys og mørke» is still such a successful project, the sole reason is the author's literary talent. This novel is intense with a tremendous narrative drive, at the same time as the prose has an almost flowing lightness to it"
- *VG*, 5/6 stars

"As the title more than suggests, Stranger has composed this book with a kind of encyclopedic structure, each chapter starting with a letter. This is no simple task, but it works excellently, even with letters like X, Y and Z. Very little appear superfluous and the high quality of the prose is upheld all the way through till the end.

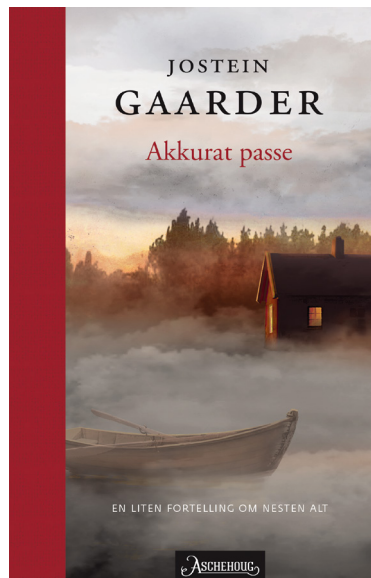
Stranger writes wonderfully, there is no doubt about it. The language is economic, almost ascetic, but flows beautifully. Here are no bombastic metaphors. Stranger goes straight to the core, also emotionally. The contrast between the sober prose (the last few pages are some of the most wistfully dreadful I have read in Norwegian) and the dirty, bloody and macabre gives the at times scandalously violent content a lyrical dimension. It leaves the reader with a sense of pensive unease.

Stranger's descriptions of agony of death and resignation are frightening and sad. The most horrible scenes are cold and observing, yet empathetic, and makes me think of an author like Flannery O'Connor."
- *Minerva*

Foreign rights sold:
USA, Germany, The Netherlands. France, Italy, Spain, China, Denmark, Sweden, Czech Republic, Poland, Portugal, Catalan, Romania, Hungary, Bulgaria, Faroe Islands.

Jostein Gaarder

Just Right. A Brief History of Almost Everything



Foreign rights sold:

Germany, Spain, China, Czech Republic, Greece, Italy, Korea, Serbia, Poland, Ukraine, Romania, Indonesia, Slovakia

On his first day at the University in Oslo, Albert notices a girl, Eirin. They have never met before. Still, both startle as they see each other. 37 years later, in April 2009, Eirin is in Melbourne at a biology conference, and Albert is alone when he receives some truly terrible news from Marianne. Can he go on living with what he knows?

He travels to *The Fairytale House*, the small cabin that has been Eirin's and his safe haven for many years. And grants himself a 24 hour deadline to write down the history of their life together. During the course of this time, he will make the most important decision of his life. And there are things he needs to confess, things that involve Marianne. He will not check out from this planet leaving behind a great lie...

On the surface, this is a simple story of a day in the life of a man. But being a Jostein Gaarder novel, it also takes on some of the greatest questions each of us can possibly grapple with in a beautiful love story, with a final, surprising plot twist.

Jostein Gaarder

Jostein Gaarder's novel *Sophie's World* is the biggest Norwegian literary success in our time, translated into 64 languages and has sold 50 million copies worldwide. Gaarder's other works, both his children's books and adult novels, amongst them *The Solitaire Mystery*, *Through a Glass, Darkly*, *The Ringmaster's Daughter*, *The Orange Girl*, and *The Puppeteer*, have proved hugely popular with readers around the world.



Photo: Kimm Saatvedt

Akkurat passe
Aschehoug, 2018

Novel
135 pages

Maria Kjos Fonn

Kinderwhore



Foreign rights sold:

Germany, Denmark

"A powerful novel that will stay with the reader for a long time (...) an unusually talented storyteller"

- VG

Maria Kjos Fonn

Maria Kjos Fonn (b. 1990) made her debut with the critically acclaimed short story collection *I Have Never Told Anyone About This* in 2014. She was nominated to the Tarjei Vesaas' Debutant Award and recieved the Aschehoug Debutant Stipend for her first book. She lives in Oslo and works as a journalist. *Kinderwhore* is her first novel.



Kinderwhore
Aschehoug, 2018

Novel
231 pages

Nominated to the Brage Prize
Nominated to the P2 Listeners' Novel Prize

Charlotte's mother is always at home, yet hardly ever there. Most of the time she is asleep, heavily medicated in order to remain so. When she is not asleep, she brings home new dads for Charlotte. One of them shows her a glimpse of something else, something better. But too soon, he is replaced by yet another dad.

When Charlotte is 12 something happens, something she cannot possibly take in or process. She starts making use of her mother's pills, happy to learn that there are ways of shutting off your feelings. She establishes a divide between her body and mind, allowing her to take on different sexual roles, like the sedated, passive Doll or the proactive Machine.

A raw, powerful and important story of sexuality, assault and survival.

Monica Isakstuen

Rage



"A pageturner about the unease in the family"- *Morgenbladet*

"Intense, crystal clear and og poetic about a mother losing her composure"
- *Dagbladet*

Monica Isakstuen

Monica Isakstuen (b. 1976) made her literary debut in 2009, and won the Brage Prize (the Norwegian national book award) for her 2016 novel *Be Kind to The Animals*, translated into German, Swedish, Danish, Bulgarian and Albanian. The critic in *Aftonbladet*, Sweden, named the book "The best divorce novel I have ever read". Her 2014 novel *Replay* about pianist Joyce Hatto and "the greatest fraud in classical music" earned glowing reviews.



Photo: Tommy Ellingsen

Rase
Pelikanen, 2018

Novel
228 pages

Norwegian Book Award winning author Monica Isakstuen's new novel explores the protagonist's sudden, uncontrollable anger with the ones closest to her.

Rage is a story about two thinking, talking people who meet, fall in love, have twins and buy an old ramshackle house more or less before they know what hit them. Sitting topless and pinned to her sofa by a giant twin nursing pillow (or rather pillory), the protagonist wonders what is left of the person she presented to her partner a year and two years earlier. How do you love someone so that they really feel it? she asks herself. And am I the sum of my actions or my ideals?

Isakstuen's original prose moves unexpectedly, but organically, between extremely precise and brilliant insights and moments of the most banal self-deception in this funny, urgent and timely novel.

Rage is edited by Karl Ove Knausgaard.

Lasse Gallefoss

Warriors' Peace



"A convincing and intense crime thriller, well composed and well written" - VG

"If you have not already taken note of the name Lasse Gallefoss, do it"
- *Klassekampen*

"Sophisticated and surprising"
- *Bergens Tidende*

Lasse Gallefoss

Lasse Gallefoss (1980) is a director and documentary filmmaker. Several of his series have been nominated for a Gold Frame Award, the Norwegian Emmy, and his latest series *Flight* (2017) won three Gold Frames, among others for best director.



Photo: Vegard Dahle Bergheim

Krigerens fred
Aschehoug 2018

Novel
491 pages

"One of the best books of 2019"
Tom Egeland, VG

World War II is over and the victors govern the country. During the German occupation Storm Steinset was a double agent for the Norwegian Resistance Movement, and his mission is still covert; he gave an oath never to reveal his true activities during the war, even in peacetime. This means he must live with the fact that his colleagues in the Oslo Police Department think he was a Nazi.

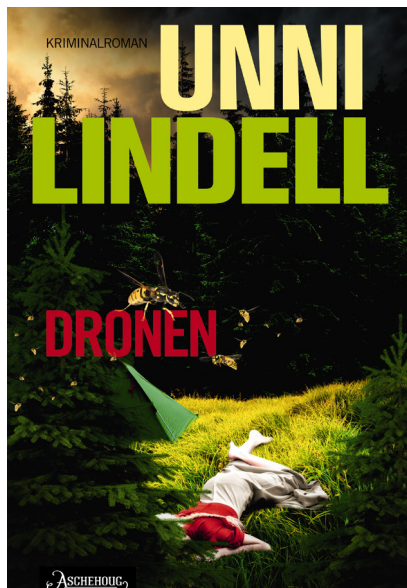
When several policemen who worked for the Nazis during the war were found dead of the same torture methods they themselves used during the war, Storm realises that he too must be on the killer's death list. At the same time he has been assigned to investigate the case.

Storm's partner is the police force's youngest deputy, a rising star Robert Rødberg who dreams of becoming a hero - and despises people like Storm.

Unni Lindell

The Drone

ASCHEHOUG - CRIME & THRILLERS



A man stands in a closed down military camp and sends a drone ut into a dark forest. He is filming. The time is 09.35, Friday, 16th June, 17 degrees celsius, just before sundown. The tops of the pine trees seem to be in flames as the last rays of sunlight create a sharp dividing line of brilliant orange and dark green.

The drone approaches the open area of a rapeseed field. A tent suddenly appears on the drone's monitor. The tent stands exactly where Evie Thorn was stabbed to death five years earlier. And now another woman comes into view. Did she really pitched her tent on the exact same spot? The sun sinks down creating a wide segmented line on the horizon, and disappears. The birds stop twittering. The mans's heart pounds like a hammer against his chest. He has never had a girlfriend. Women should not be out camping alone, not in the dark forest.

The Drone is the second novel featuring **Marian Dahle**.

Foreign rights sold: German, Swedish, Dutch, Greek, Icelandic

"Unni Lindell at her best", 5/ 6 stars, - VG

"Masterful crime", 5/6 stars, - Adresseavisen

"Well composed and intellingent" - Aftenposten

"Exciting moments queing up" - Dagbladet

Unni Lindell

Unni Lindell (b. 1957) is one of Norway's best-selling authors. Her crime mysteries featuring Cato Isaksen and Marian Dahle have been translated into many different languages and have sold close to four million copies in Norway alone. Lindell has won many prestigious prizes for her writing.



Photo: Olav Heggø

Dronen
Aschehoug, 2018

Crime fiction
376 pages

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Maria Sand

A Child Forever



The adults in Mi's family quarrel and make love, leave each other and beg for forgiveness. Every Sunday, her grandfather reads the Catechism in the house in Malurtveien 10, where Mi lives when her actor mother is on tour. Mi's father has set his watch on California time, in case one of the major film studios finally calls.

As an adult Mi is prepared for the worst. She has grown up with stories of fatal accidents that have struck her family, starting with Mi's great-grandmother when she was newly married. You have to watch the cars, mind the water, and never, ever look a stranger in the eyes. But Mi's husband Leo doesn't understand that disaster can strike again at any time. That their two small children are in constant danger.

A Child Forever is a captivating novel about a Catholic family of bohemian actors and writers through four generations, about ill fortune passed on, and about being the one who has taken it on herself to avoid the next disaster.

Maria Sand

Maria Sand was born in Oslo in 1981, and trained as an actor in Rome. She made her literary debut in 2015 with the novel *Hold Your Breath for as Long as You Can*.



Photo: Paal Audestad

There's an IKEA box I shoved under the bed that can hold quite a bit. I filled it with duct tape and canned food – chickpeas, corn, lentils, tuna. I went to the hardware store and got those little masks you can wear over your nose and mouth and put those in there too, plus a few half-liter bottles of water. I put two jugs of spring water behind the cupboard in the basement as well. Leo doesn't see that they're there, but he isn't looking. He doesn't wonder what I'm doing when I'm dragging the big jugs down the cellar stairs. He doesn't say hi when he comes or bye when he leaves, he just sinks down in his chair and eats in silence.

Don't look anyone in the eye, Mom said to me each morning before I walked to school. Just walk straight forward without looking at anyone.

Why? I asked, but she didn't answer, just wrapped my scarf around my neck more tightly and pushed me out the door, afraid I'd be late.

Dad told me about duct tape and the Cold War – that you might have to tape all the windows shut with it, all the little cracks and everything. He said this as he stubbed out his cigarette in the large marble ashtray that was always on his desk. The light from the desk lamp made his eyes even bigger, even darker.

It's important to plug up the cracks properly, he said, and told me about radioactivity and uranium and the big mushrooms that blossom in the sky, that get mixed in the air and rain and settle on our clothes.

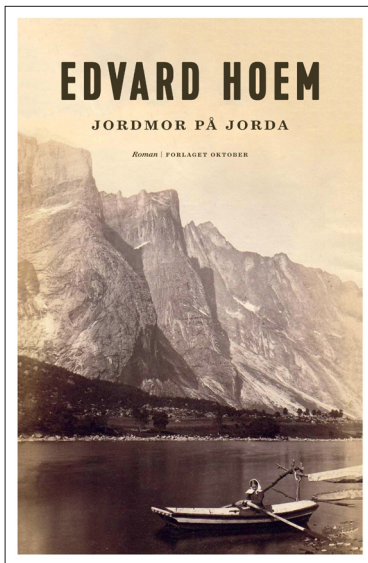
It's important to pay attention, said Dad. Don't mess around in traffic, said Mom. No boots in the boat, said Grandpa. No bags over your head, said Grandma. And in a way they were all talking over one another: *Don't look people in the eye. Don't talk to strangers. Remember the license plate number if someone is driving behind you for too long. Never walk alone in the dark, never, and call as soon as you get there. Do you promise? Do you promise, Mi?*

Of course, I said, looking at them all standing around me – Dad at his desk with the phone receiver between his head and shoulder, cigarette smoking in front of him. Mom with a script in her lap, makeup in her purse, the high boots with fringes that clack when she comes back from evening performances – I'm never asleep then; I always wait for her to come home. Grandpa is in the boat on Lake Mjøsa, pulling in the nets, squeezing the innards out of the fish, reading during morning services, singing louder than everyone in the church. But Grandma just sits silently at the table, her spoon spinning the soup carefully. There is a V between her eyes, a furrow that is never smooth. No one ever asked what she was thinking about, no one asked what she said when she suddenly whispered something so quietly it was impossible to hear her words, but we all knew what was no longer there.

Translated by Olivia Lasky

Edvard Hoem

Midwife on Earth



16

"The novel is full of conflicts, but also a warm love story and a story about the midwife profession in a time of big changes ... With a powerful pen, Hoem portrays Marta Kristine's tribulations and her ability to overcome them. He makes great writing into powerful, illuminating entertainment, without being tempted to use clichés and melodrama."

- *Dagbladet*, 5/6 stars

In 1821 Edvard Hoem's great-great grandmother, Marta Kristine Nesje, took the long walk from the North-Western coast of Norway to Oslo to become a midwife. At the time she had two children, the youngest having barely turned one. When she finished her training, she walked back, and started practicing her vocation as a midwife in the villages and rural districts of the Romsdal Fjord for more than 50 years. Distrust in the first midwives was strong, leading to consequences for both Martha and her family. There is always a price to pay for those who follow their calling.

Based on historical facts, Hoem makes Marta come alive with great poetic power. This is the story of a cotter's daughter who didn't want to take her husband's name and who refused to be affected by village gossip. It is also the story of the emergence of the important midwife profession.

"Hoem is [...] a brilliant storyteller, who effortlessly transforms everyday life into emotionally charged stories ... a beautiful, moving, magnificent book"

- *NRK P2*

Edvard Hoem

Edvard Hoem (born 1949) made his debut in 1969. He has since published numerous novels, and has been nominated for the Nordic Council's Literary Prize four times. Hoem has also written plays, essays and biographies and has translated seven Shakespeare plays. In 2014 he published the first of a multi-volume family saga about the emigration to North America. The four books published so far have sold more than 200,000 copies in Norway. A US edition is due in 2020.



Photo: Paal Audestad

Jordmor på jorda
Forlaget Oktober, 2018

Novel
352 pages

The first thing Marta Kristine could remember from her childhood was a rough crossing. It happened one October day in 1800, the year she would turn seven.

A crowd of people were heading down to the shore at Gjermundnes in Romsdal, men and womenfolk intermingled. All wore homespun clothes of coarse wool. The married women wore shawls or kerchiefs. The children were dressed in the manner of adults, though here and there one sported a coloured waistcoat, a red knitted cap, a blue neckerchief.

It was autumnal, but not cold. The air was clear, the leaves were turning yellow on the hillsides around the fjord. On the highest mountaintops lay newly fallen snow. Everyone could see that a new winter was on its way. The crofters and servants and their children had taken off from work to bid farewell to Anders Knudsen, his wife Karen, and their little daughter Marta Kristine. It was a big day in the lives of those who were leaving. They were moving to Nesje on the other side of the Romsdalsfjord. Anders Knudsen worked as a shoemaker and a butcher and was hardly a wealthy man, but he was hard-working and thrifty and had a cheerful outlook on life. He had bought the house of a retired farmer which lay right by the shore there, from Captain Nicolay Peter Dreyer for the sum of 150 riksdaler.

Marta Kristine, whom they often called just Stina, didn't seem to be grieving that she was about to leave her birthplace for ever. She walked around with a big smile on her face, taking boys and girls by the hand.

'Thanks for having me!' she said, curtsying. 'Thanks for having me!'

They laughed.

'Look at the lass,' they said, 'she doesn't mind at all that she is leaving us! Are we never to hear your happy laughter again?'

No, it seemed the busy little body could hardly get on her way quickly enough. She chattered with a ragdoll she carried under her arm, explaining at length how far they were about to journey.

Translated by Ingvild Burkey

17



NOR is short for the three publishers involved: Natur & Kultur, Oktober and Rosinante.

Widely regarded as the most important playwright since Shakespeare, Henrik Ibsen's position is as strong as ever, with an estimated 150 new productions taking the stage around the world every season. His social dramas in particular, such as *A Doll's House*, *An Enemy of the People*, *Ghosts* and *Hedda Gabler*, are constantly proven to be as relevant - even scandalous - as they were when they were first staged in the late 1800s.

In the Ibsen NOR project, three of today's greatest Scandinavian storytellers have been asked to freely write a novel based on Ibsen's works. The result: three thought-provoking, absorbing novels showing their authors at their very best.

Merete Pryds Helle Nora



Photo: Trine Søndergaard

A Doll's House famously ends with Nora declaring her independence and leaving her husband and children. In *Nora*, Helle goes back in time to explore the roots of Nora's conflict, reimagining the story from her point of view: her marriage as a very young woman to Torvald, her experience of the oppressive demands of society, and her desperate struggle to save her husband after his breakdown.

Merete Pryds Helle had a huge breakthrough with *The People's Beauty* which won both De gyldne laurbær and Politiken's Literature Prize in 2016. The novel has sold more than 100,000 copies in Denmark.

Nora
Rosinante, Autumn 2019

Novel
288 pages

Vigdis Hjorth Henrik Falk



Photo: Agnete Brun

Henrik Falk
Forlaget Oktober, Autumn 2019

Oslo, 2018: The unsuccessful, upper-class stockbroker Henrik Falk returns from his honeymoon, already feeling trapped in his marriage with a conventional, unfortunately pregnant wife, whose main passion is old folk costumes. When Henrik learns that his ex-lover, the artist Tale, has bought his old family home, he is confronted with his own failed aspirations to greatness. *Henrik Falk* is a reinterpretation of *Hedda Gabler* with genders switched and the story set in our time.

One of Norway's most popular novelists, Hjorth reached a peak in her career in 2016 with *Wills and Testaments*, which won both the Booksellers' Prize and the Critics' Prize and became the year's biggest selling novel.

Novel
144 pages

Klas Östergren Hilde



Photo: Viktor Gårdsäter

Berlin, mid-1920s: Hilde Wangel, a Norwegian tourist office employee, suffers a severe anxiety attack in an outdoor cafe. Is there a link to the dramatic events as a youth in her small hometown in Norway decades earlier? In this novel, Östergren gives center stage to the enigmatic support character of *The Lady from the Sea* and *The Masterbuilder*, and puts her life in a wider European cultural context.

Ever since his massively successful novel *Gentlemen* (1980), Östergren has been one of Sweden's leading writers. The author of numerous inventive, entertaining novels and stories, he has also translated several Ibsen plays.

Hilde
Natur & Kultur, Autumn 2019

Novel
250 pages

Bjørn Esben Almaas

The Good Friend



In *The Good Friend* we follow a 11 year old boy during a few autumn months in 1987. The second part of the story takes part in 2013, when the main character has married and himself become a father to two boys.

From August to November 1987, something happens with the boy. He is being pushed around by classmates and other people around him. But there is also something else going on. He becomes evasive and less talkative. He doesn't want to be a boy scout anymore, and doesn't want to go to school. But what has really happened?

As an adult we meet him as everyday family life threatens to slip away from him, and a sudden abyss appears among those closest to him: How do you see your children when you yourself knows so much about the vulnerability of being a child?

Almaas portrays a young boy's sensitivity and innocence with tenderness and compassion. *The Good Friend* is a powerful story that step by step reveals the fragile threads between the child and the adult.

Bjørn Esben Almaas

Bjørn Esben Almaas (born 1975) made his debut in 2001 with the collection of short stories *Costa del Sol* which received great reviews. In 2003 his first novel, *Katzenjammer*, was published. His third novel *Sleep or Speak of Love* was published in 2008. He has also made short films and written movie scripts.



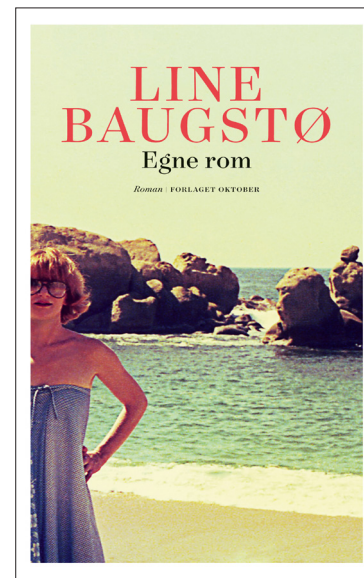
Photo: Lene Sørøy Neverdal

Den gode vennen
Forlaget Oktober, 2019

Novel
160 pages

Line Baugstø

Rooms of Their Own



It's the summer of 1985, and Sigrid feels that she finally has greater freedom. Her ailing father has finally been given a room in a nursing home, and her children have set up their own lives in the capital. But when Sigrid starts cleaning out her childhood home, she discovers that the women of the family have hardly left a trace.

In the previous two novels about Sigrid, Line Baugstø explored women's lives in the 1960s and 70s. The backdrop to *Rooms of Their Own* is the 1980s and the neo-liberal turn. Everything is about individual freedom, but Sigrid can't run away from her responsibility for others. The novels about Sigrid revolve around the sense of duty and longing for freedom, absence and presence, and how relationships in a family are always in a state of change.

Line Baugstø

Line Baugstø (born 1961) published her first book in 1986, the novel *Journey with Yellow Light*. Baugstø has since written numerous novels, short story collections and children's book, as well as non-fiction and plays. *Rooms of Their Own* is her 11th novel.



Photo: Pernille M. Walvik

Egne rom
Forlaget Oktober, 2019

Novel
256 pages

Øyvind Berg

The Rose Novel



On the day that our rose breeder is born, there is a mix-up at the birth clinic. He spends his first years with a Jewish family who calls him Jacob, while his unnatural, dark-haired brother, causes speculations about his mother's fidelity. 5 years later the mistake is discovered and the boys immediately switch families as well as names. The blonde mother's honour is restored, but her love seems to have vanished.

Both boys will have to pay for the mistake throughout their lives. Jacob becomes a poet and more or less settles in among artists of various kind, while our hero dedicates his life to rose breeding, constantly searching for the perfect specimen. But a perfect rose can quickly turn out to be fateful, and when the authorities start taking an interest in the gardener, he has to pack his hundred thousand roses and go into exile.

The Rose Novel is Øyvind Berg's first novel. In a tender playful prose he gives us a dramatic story of origins, about loving that which cannot be held and about the bliss of rose breeding.

Øyvind Berg

Øyvind Berg (born 1959) made his debut with the poetry collection *Directions* in 1982. He has since published numerous collections of poetry and essays, as well as plays and poetry translations. Known for his irreverent, pioneering mix of high and low, he is the recipient of several major literary prizes, including the Brage Prize.



Photo: Monica Larsen

Roseromanen
Forlaget Oktober, 2019

Novel
230 pages

Hans Petter Blad

The Paris Offices - Provenance, Book 3



As a young man, the author Lukas Hørslev discovers Paris. There he establishes what he calls his "Paris offices" – cafes, restaurants, night clubs, parks, casinos and metro stations where he can sit and write.

The novel weaves together Lukas Hørslev's trips to Paris through several decades, creating a literary map of the city, its places and people. It's about Paris the way it shapes him, but also about his turbulent relationship to his childhood friend, the actor Sindre Eggen, about the tension between the author who creates and the actor who interprets reality, and about the meaning of friendship in human life.

The Paris Offices is a study of a city and a culture, an author's guide to Paris and an attempt to understand a life through the lens of a metropolis.

Hans Petter Blad

Hans Petter Blad was born in 1962. Since his debut in 2002 with the novel *In the Shadow of Small Men in the Middle of the Day*, he has published both novels and poetry. *The Paris Offices* is his fifth novel and a freestanding sequel to the novels *Living Biographically* and *A Map of the Realm of Tenderness*.



Photo: Katharina Barbosa

Paris-kontorene - Proveniens, Tredje bok
Forlaget Oktober, 2019

Novel
200 pages

Tron Jensen In the Summer Wind



Henrik is divorced from Mona and father to two adult sons. The youngest one is about to marry, while the oldest, Simon, is an eternal cause of worry for his father.

But on top of mind for Henrik is his plan to pick up a broken friendship. He intends to travel to a classical music festival and see Mogens, the Danish musicologist who taught him how to listen bar for bar. At the time, Schönberg, Berg and Webern were all the rage, while more atmospheric, melodic works were frowned at. Henrik accepted Mogens' teachings without reservations, until that fateful night at a modern art museum, where Norway's musical elite had gathered to sit on the floor, breaking twigs in time with a poetry reading by John Cage.

When his oldest son Simon shows up with a girlfriend, Henrik sees hope, even for him. Let this become an unforgettable summer with Simon!, the slightly desperate music lover thinks to himself. And in the festival town, he finally meets the sharp-tongued professor Mogens again.

Tron Jensen

Tron Jensen (b. 1958) made his debut in 1990 with the novel *The Man Who Loved Chileans*. *In the Summer Wind* is his sixth novel.

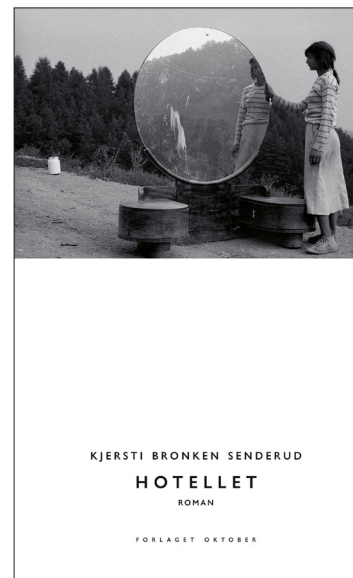


Photo: Finn Ståle Felberg

I sommervinden
Forlaget Oktober, 2019

Novel
192 pages

Kjersti Bronken Senderud The Hotel



"In addition to being an excellent poet, Kjersti Bronken Senderud has also developed into becoming a distinctive novelist. With *The Hotel* she is at her best "

- *Hamar Arbeiderblad*, 5/6 stars

"Senderud's new novel quivers in the field of tension between heaven and earth ... [the story lives on] in the readers' thoughts long after it's finished"
- *Vårt Land*

The hotel is old and remote, surrounded by a garden with a lawn and gravel paths, a pavilion and a pond with water lilies. In the woods behind the hotel, there's a small lake, and further away, the fjord and the beach.

A young girl arrives together with her father and brother, haunted by the death of her mother. The girl observes the other hotel guests. Some are on holiday, others have settled in, perhaps for good. They play pool and croquet, go bicycling in the forest, or smoke and talk softly around the tables in the garden. The hotel seems out of time, a place where all sorrows can find a room.

The girl is intrigued by Lola, the manager's daughter. Lola has little interest in the short term guests, but she does keep an eye on this new girl. And then there is Njål, the receptionist with all the books. It is a summer unlike any other, in a place out of a fairy tale.

The Hotel is a novel about meeting yourself in someone else, about grief and inadequacy and attempts to reconcile, written in luminous, muted prose.

Kjersti Bronken Senderud

Kjersti Bronken Senderud (b. 1971) is a highly regarded poet, who published her first collection of poetry in 1997. In addition to a number of acclaimed poetry collections, she has written a prose collection and our novels. A selection of her poems have been translated into Swedish by Ann Jäderlind.



Photo: Paal Audestad

Hotellet
Forlaget Oktober, 2019

Novel
192 pages

Ingvild Solstad-Nøis Eid



Eid's marriage is over. Together with her teenage daughter Alida, she has moved to a small island community, where everything will surely be different.

Without hesitation she throws herself into her new existence, a keen observer and analyst of other people, of their problems and faults, and of her self and her relationships. Above all she observes Alida, and the two of them together. Eid has clear visions for the future. Alida needs help to find a solid platform, to stand up for herself and get a good life. And a friend.

Eid has the best intentions when she photographs Emma, the girl next door, dancing. She a large print of the photo to Emma, who feels that someone has seen her, for the first time. And Eid's intentions are still good when she invites Emma's father into her house. It looks like a friendship will grow between them, but Emma's mother is less enthusiastic.

Eid is a sharply observed novel about a woman who tirelessly works on filling in the space between reality and ideals.

Ingvild Solstad-Nøis

Ingvild Solstad-Nøis (b. 1973) lives in Tromsø. She made her debut in 2011 with the novel *I Thought It Would be Nice to Come Here*, followed by *Quiet Zone* in 2013.

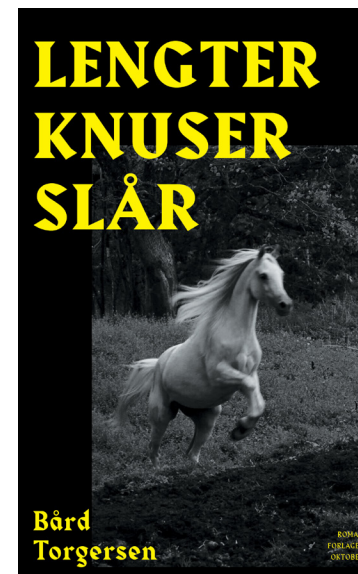


Photo: Yngve Olsen Sæbbe

Eid
Forlaget Oktober, 2019

Novel
200 pages

Bård Torgersen Yearn Crush Hit



"A desperate book on a lost generation ... Torgersen's literary arsenal is like a powder keg. You only need one creative, epic spark to make it all blow up ... The prose is fast-paced, compact, intense ... It hits you like a blow from the axe Einar usually keeps hidden in the arm of his denim jacket. Straight to your skull"

- *Dagbladet*, 5/6 stars

Einar grows up in a poor suburb to Oslo, and spends his time with his unstoppable friend Daniel, roaming around with an axe, breaking in to houses, running away from home. Determined to make a space for themselves in the world, they refuse to bow to anybody. But one day, Einar does something that sets in motion a chain of events that will change lives – and destroy them – forever.

Einar is part of the great countercultural underground that created great changes in the 1970s and 80s. But he is not one of those looking to make a career, to be admired, to stand out. He is one of those who want to destroy, turn Oslo on its head on the night before May 1, make the city his own. One of those who would rather attack than turn the other cheek.

"An intense portrait of an angry young man from the suburb ... one of [Torgersen's] best books ... a complex, intimate, moving and terrifying portrait ... The story is of the darker kind, written with lots of insight and consideration, nicely balanced against the anger and aggressivity in Einar's uncompromising voice"

- *Dagsavisen*

Bård Torgersen

Writer and musician Bård Torgersen (b. 1967) lives in Oslo. Since making his literary debut with the acclaimed novel *Everything Must Go* (2005), he has published several disturbing, surreally funny novels as well as mini collections of poetry, cultivating a unique style that alternates between – or combines – the innocent and the menacing.



Photo: Mona Ødegård

Lengter knuser slår
Forlaget Oktober, 2019

Novel
192 pages

Karen Røise Kielland

Walking with Kølle



Photo: Endre Aalrust

Walking with Kølle is a travelogue about to expeditions to Europe. Karen Røise Kielland walks from the village Hov in south-east Norway to Venice, following the footsteps of the artist, adventurer and walking tourist Catharina Hermine Kølle, who walked the same route in 1841. As far as possible, Kielland follows the same roads. And like Kølle, she gets by without maps, telephone or music.

Walking with Kølle is an illustrated journey through a European cultural landscape. At the same time, the book is a journey in time, through Kølle's diary entries, which work as a historical road map for the author, and through traces of the past in objects, architecture and art. It is an original and fascinating reflection on cultural history and social change, about distance and speed, then and now.

Karen Røise Kielland

Karen Røise Kielland (born 1975 in Oslo) is a stage artist. After graduating from the Academy of Theatre and Dance in Amsterdam, she has both written and coreographed works her own works and performed in the works of visual artists and coreographers. *Walking with Kølle* is her first book.

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