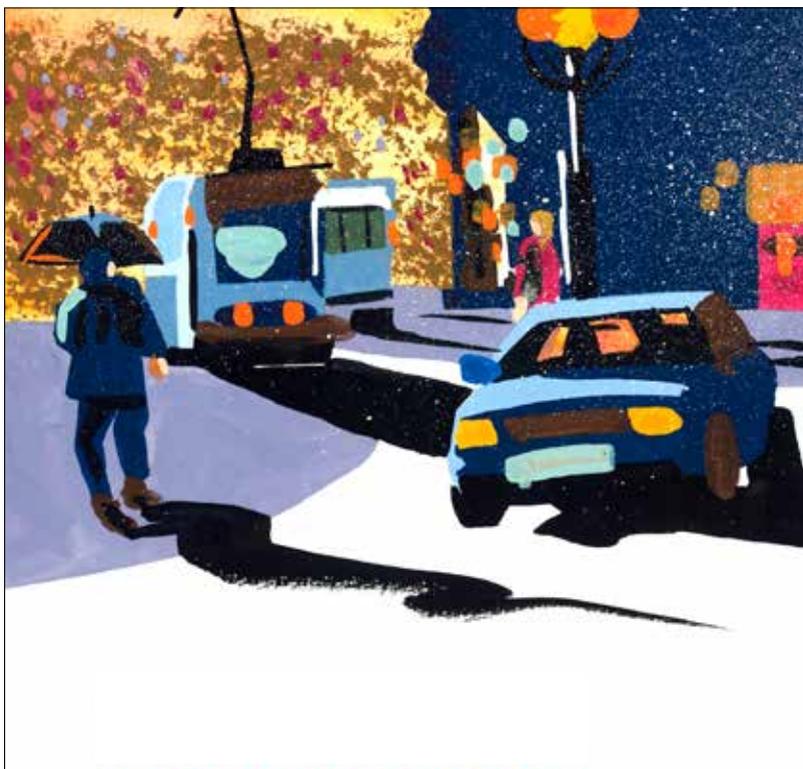


# OSLO LITERARY AGENCY

RIGHTS LIST



AUTUMN 2018

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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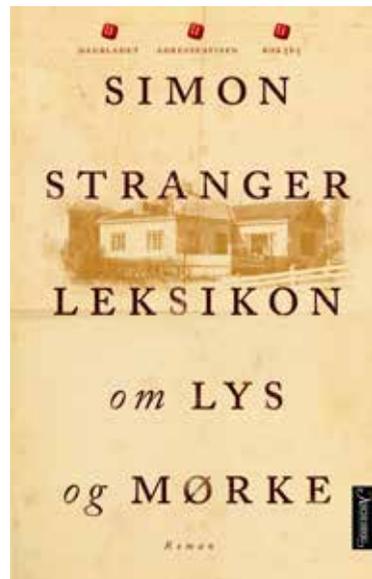
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# Simon Stranger

## 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.



Photo: André Løyning/saffflaske.no

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?

Learning that his wife's mother grew up in the infamous "Bandeklosteret", where the Rinnan group gathered to scheme, feast and torture prisoners in the basement, author Simon Stranger starts excavating the story of the Jewish Kommisar family, both those who lived and those whose life came to an abrupt end. And doing so, he faces humanity at its darkest, personified through a young man whose descent into evil made a crucial, direct and indirect impact on this family's lives.

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.

*Leksikon om lys og mørke*  
Aschehoug, 2018

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.

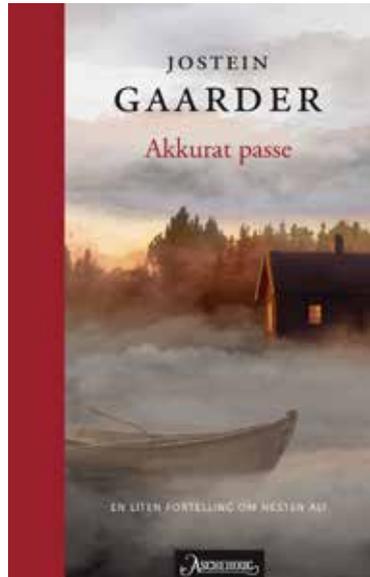
Stranger writes wonderfully, there is no doubt about it. The language is economic, almost ascetic, but flows beautifully. Here are no bombastic metaphors. Stranger goes straight to the core, also emotionally. The contrast between the sober prose (the last few pages are some of the most wistfully dreadful 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 emphatic, and makes me think of an author like Flannery O'Connor."  
- *Minerva*

Foreign rights sold to:  
US (Knopf)  
Denmark (Politikens)  
Sweden (Polaris)  
Germany (Eichborn Verlag)  
Netherlands (Harper Collins)  
Czech Republic (Omega)  
Hungary (Scolar)

## Jostein Gaarder

### Just Right. A Brief History of Almost Everything



#### Foreign rights sold:

Germany (Hanser Verlag)  
Spain (Siruela)  
Greece (Livani)  
Serbia (Geopoetika)

#### 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

On his first day at the University in Oslo, Albert notices a girl, Eirin, in front of the coffee machine. They have never met before. Still, they both startle as they see each other. 37 years later, in April 2009, Eirin is in Melbourne at a Freshwater 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. There are things he must try to understand. 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, it is a simple story of a man and the most crucial decision of his life. But being a Jostein Gaarder novel, it also takes on some of the greatest questions each of us can possibly grapple with. It is also a beautiful love story, with a final, surprising plot twist felt both organic and, well, just right.

*Akkurat passe*  
Aschehoug, 2018

Novel  
135 pages

*... it means a lot to me that I this night am finally able to put into writing the big paradox, the biggest there is, before making my final decision ... Because it seems to me that I am no longer sitting here thinking all alone. More and more, it feels as if I am sitting here thinking and writing on behalf of the universe itself...*

*We live in a «sustainable» universe, and as it turned out, a fertile universe. The basic forces of nature, and a long string of so-called physical constants, was just right for the occurrence of the atoms, the stars and us. The Universe itself is in a Goldilocks Zone, from its very beginning fine-tuned for atoms, molecules, stars and planets. And for creatures like us...*

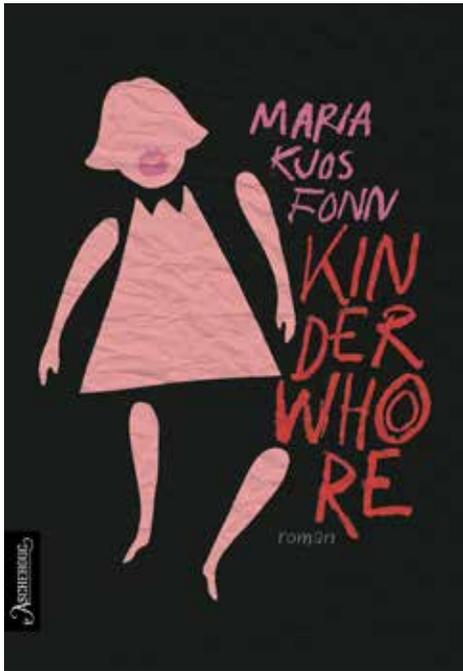
#### From the author:

- If you asked me to describe *Just Right* in three words, I would tell you that this is a short story of life, death and love. And if I had only two, I might just settle for «love story». However, this would not be a book from my hand had it not also been addressing the greatest mystery of all: What is a human? And I think of this book first and foremost as a story, something slightly different from the traditional novel, which is why I decided to include the word in the title. The events unfolding on the page are dramatic, both on an inner and outer level. In my view, however, the plot itself is the driving force in the narrative, and it is my sincere hope that the reader will be completely immersed in the pages in order to find out what will actually happen in the end. Because the outcome will remain open until the very last page, and perhaps even then, a few more questions will remain unanswered.

#### Jostein Gaarder

# Maria Kjos Fonn

## Kinderwhore



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.

Maria Kjos Fonn's first novel is a raw, powerful and important story of sexuality, assault and survival.

"One of the most important books this fall" -Tara

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 received 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

From the reviews:

"Many have written well about the brutality of adolescence. But few have done so better than Maria Kjos Fonn. A powerful novel that will stay with the reader for a long time (...) an unusually talented storyteller"  
- VG

"Kinderwhore is a tough read, but also well narrated, insightful and enlightening. A book about the unfathomable and the real. A novel everyone ought to read"  
- Dagbladet

"Raw, powerful, insistent (...) No one will remain unmoved after reading this novel"  
- Adresseavisen

"Extremely strong about the struggle for – and against – an endurable life after child neglect and assault. Maria Kjos Fonn has written a wise and distinct book, where literary quality of both the language and the composition is very high. A tough read, but mandatory for anyone who think they know something about being a victim"  
- Dagsavisen

"Maria Kjos Fonn's novel makes a deep impact, not just because the story told is so traumatic, but because the content and form are so tightly connected. (...) The result is both beautiful and terrible. Like the books of Stig Sæterbakken, it gives you a sense of defenslessness. Maria Kjos Fonn must never stop writing"  
- Vårt Land

"The horror of adolescence is real, something Maria Kjos Fonn describes with tremendous literary force"  
- Morgenbladet

# Monica Isakstuen

## Rage



From the reviews of *Be Kind to The Animals*:

"A pitch black, stylistically impressive novel, well deserving of the Norwegian National Book Award" - *Gøteborgs Posten*, Sweden

".... merciless, but also surprisingly funny, with an abundance of ideas" - *Morgenbladet*

### Monika Isakstuen

Monica Isakstuen (b. 1976) made her literary debut in 2009, and won the Norwegian Book Award Brageprisen 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

*Rage*  
Pelikanen, Oct 2018

Novel  
228 pages

# Gaute Heivoll

## Song of Sixty-Eight Traitors



"A great read (...) sensuous and evocative. «Song of Sixty-eight Traitors» is a toned-down and nuanced story of community and division, punishment and justice. About loss and love that will never be forgotten – about wars which, for some, never end" - *Dagbladet*

### Gaute Heivoll

Gaute Heivoll (b. 1978) made his debut in 2002, and has written poems, children's books, short stories and novels. In 2010 he was awarded Brageprisen, The Norwegian Literary award, for his novel *Before I Burn*, which is translated into more than 20 languages. *Song of Sixty-Eight Traitors* is his ninth novel.



Photo: Paal Audestad

*Sang for sekstiåtte forrædere*  
Tiden, 2018

Novel  
317 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.

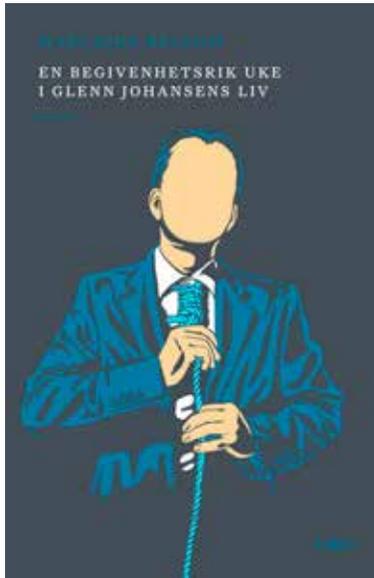
A novel about crime and punishment, guilt and atonement, shame and reconciliation. And about music and its ability to unite what is seemingly impossible to unite.

Andreas is the musical prodigy of his small village and even more people are starting to take note of this child who creates such magnificent music. Music that for a short while manages to soften the painful divide caused by the war. And by the list.

For there is a list, on the counter of Gerhard Andersen's store. It has sixty-eight names on it. Sixty-eight members of the Norwegian Fascist Party Nasjonal Samling, in a society of just a few hundred souls. Amongst them, Andreas' father Sigvald, teacher, sexton and Church singer. Andreas cannot tell if his father has changed since becoming a party member. Still, everything feels different. Neighbour stands against neighbour, old school-friends who once stood shoulder to shoulder in front of the preacher at their confirmation, now look at one another with anger and distrust. The tension is rising. Then, on the night before Christmas, eight of the men in the village are arrested.

## Mari Kjos Hellum

### An Extraordinary Week in the Life of Glenn Johansen



"The novel for everyone who misses Er-lend Loe at his finest. Light and entertaining about accepting yourself as you are (..) perfect for a lazy, summer day at the beach" - *Dag og Tid*

One Sunday evening in April, after having thought things through thoroughly, Glenn Johansen tries to hang himself in his garage. Unfortunately for Glenn, a rafter breaks, and he ends up mildly bruised on the floor next to his shabby Toyota Avensis. What now?

Professionally, Glenn has stagnated as a mid-level executive in a medium-sized business. He is childless and newly separated from Anita who has already moved on. Except for his interest in WW2 books and movies, little seems to give him much joy. Still, could it be that something in him has changed, after all?

*An Extraordinary Week in The Life of Glenn Johansen* is a funny, sharp, surprising and philosophical novel about the largest and silliest question of all: The meaning of life.

From the reviews:

"There is no doubt in my mind that Mari Kjos Hellum has written one of the most solid debut novels of 2018, a book that will be read and loved by many." - *Morgenbladet*

"Glowing (...) A fabulous debut novel!" - *Fædrelandsvennen*

**Mari Kjos Hellum**

Mari Kjos Hellum (b. 1975) has an MFA in literature, and now teaches at the Østfold University College. *An Extraordinary Week in The Life of Glenn Johansen* is her first novel.



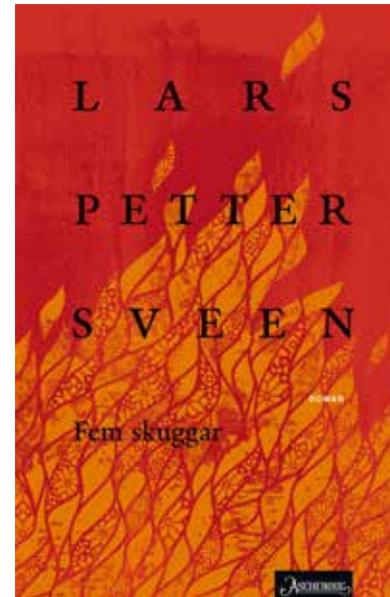
Photo: Paal Audestad

*En begivenhetsrik uke i Glenn Johansens liv*  
Tiden, 2018

Novel  
120 pages

## Lars Petter Sveen

### Five Shadows



Aisha, Said, Isir, Khadar and Aaliyah. Five young people who've fled Somalia, through Africa and across the Mediterranean. Now they have reached Europe and are heading north, looking to start a new life and trying to craft new stories of whom they are and where they came from. The kind of stories the new world wants to hear. But who are you really, when no one knows who you are?

*Five Shadows* is a stand-alone sequel to the author's critically acclaimed 2017 novel *Five Stars*.

From the reviews of *Five Stars*:

"A raw and heartbreaking story told by a God-given storyteller"- *Dagsavisen*

"Masterful (...) written with great authority about one of the most burning issues of our time (...) not just timely, it has the narrative drive of a thriller" - *Dagbladet*

"An almost explosive reading experience" - *Fædrelandsvennen*

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)

**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



Photo: Tine Poppe

*Fem skuggar*  
Aschehoug, 2018

Novel  
253 pages

## Helene Guåker

### All Secrets Farewell



In this bold collection Helene Guåker tackles sexuality, feminism, longings, vulnerability, boundaries and honesty

"The language is rough, brutal and at times discomfoting, and addresses intimate issues like shame, harassment and abuse." 5 out of 6 stars, *Hamar Arbeiderblad*

«.. carnal, visual and confronting» - *Klassekampen*

*somebody  
is peeing  
in the apartment next door.  
in the apartment above me  
around me, peeing everywhere  
pee  
shit  
fart  
belch  
blood running down in toilet bowls  
all over my building  
heavy penises  
spitting out the last drops  
menstruation cups  
collecting blood and mucus and slag  
bleeding  
beating  
dripping  
we squeeze life out of us  
like the world squeezes us out of it  
--  
we stumble into each other  
again and again  
like stones in a quarry  
like the small trees that can't make it without their  
supporting trees  
his wind flows into mine  
i spread wide wings around his branchy body  
and that's how we roll*

Helene Guåker

Helene Guåker (b. 1983) writes in the genres fiction, poetry and YA. She has studied creative writing at Telemark University College as well as Nordic Literature at the University of Agder. Her YA novel *Arc Radiation* (2017) was nominated to The Brage Prize.



Photo: Niklas Lello

*Farvel alle hemmeligheter*  
Aschehoug, 2018

Poetry  
84 pages

## Ketil Bjørnstad

### The Nineties



"Bjørnstad's *The Nineties* fascinates (...) captivates the reader" - *Fædrelandsvennen*

"The Nineties is an impressive memoir ... one of the best books in this ongoing quartet. Ketil Bjørnstad is unstoppable, unabashed. *The Nineties* offers temperature and commitment, love, grief and anger" - *Dagsavisen*

"Impressive punch" - VG

"At its best it is touching and thought provoking"  
-*Dagbladet*

Ketil Bjørnstad

Ketil Bjørnstad (b. 1952) is a pianist, composer and author. His books have been translated into 17 languages and have been bestsellers in Norway, France and Germany. *The Sixties*, *The Seventies* and *The Eighties*, the first three volumes in his autobiographical series of novels *The World That Was Mine*, are all bestsellers and received widespread critical acclaim in Norway.



Photo: Aschehoug

*Verden som var min - Nittitallet*  
Aschehoug, 2018

Novel  
765 pages

**More than 100 000 books sold in Norway!**

The fourth volume of Ketil Bjørnstad's wildly successful autobiographical, literary chronicle about our recent past

A sudden disruption implies a major change in the life of the author. He moves back to Oslo and when meeting C. he tries to put his old life and all the lies behind him.

It is the decade of irony and cruelty. Old truths are put on trial, both at a personal level and in world politics. The USSR dissolves and the Balkan wars break out. Lady Di is killed. President Clinton is brought to court by the Lewinsky-affair and Bjørnstad's publisher William Nygaard is shot.

Together with C. the author leaves for Bangladesh. Later, they settle in the heart of Paris. When Y2K is approaching, the doomsday mood increases in Northern Europe and America.

# Lasse Gallefoss

## Warrior's Peace



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

"If you have not already noted the name Lasse Gallefoss, just do it" - *Klassekampen*

"Sophisticated and surprising" - *Bergens Tidende*

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.

In their hunt for the killer Storm and Robert delve into the secrets of the innermost circles of power in the formerly occupied country. There is the threat of a new war breaking out, a war in which secrets from the past war can get you killed.



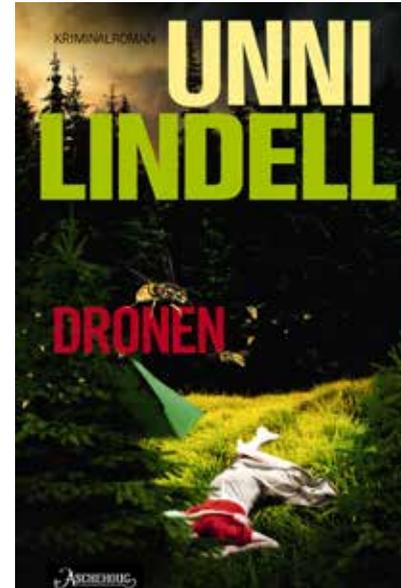
Photo: Raymond Mosken

*Krigernes fred*  
Aschehoug, 2018

Crime fiction  
450 pages

# Unni Lindell

## The Drone



Foreign rights sold: German (Aufbau), Swedish (Piratforlaget), Dutch (Querido)

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

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

"Well composed and intelligent" - *Aftenposten*

"Exciting moments queuing 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

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 in the stand alone-series featuring Marian Dahle.**

## Katrine Wessel-Aas

### Familien Winther



*The Winther Family* is the first book in an elaborate series on the women in and around the Winther family, and follow their lives in the gilded rooms as well as in the busy kitchen – through their dreams and hopes for the future.

The series begins in 1898 and stretches to the first World War. The reader becomes acquainted with the women in the family - among both the gentry and the servants. It is a time when old traditions crumble and social structures change. In addition to fighting to protect the family wealth and status, the characters experience something we all experience or seek in life: true love, sorrow, power, jealousy, despair - and finding happiness. The struggle between the characters' own desires and what is best for the family is a central theme in the story.

The Winther family is a little universe in itself, with its various family members. No one is just nice or just nasty. No one is perfect - not even the main character, Cecilia Winther. She also has her dark secrets to deal with.

*The Winther Family* stands out from the more traditional “women's fiction” that portrays a young heroine's first experiences of love. Our main character Cecilia is a mature woman in her mid-forties.

"A taste of Downton Abbey and Lucinda Riley, and I am having a ball"- Rørvik Libris

"Unforgettable reading," - Liv Gade, Bookinspirator

"Strongly recommended" - Oselios Bok

"Thanks to an exciting cliffhanger, I'm already awaiting the next book" - Bokormen

## Katrine Wessel-Aas

### If You Want Me



The second book in the series about the upper-class family Winther. The story takes place in Trondheim at the end of the 19th Century. Karen Moen dreams of becoming a teacher, but when her father dies she has to go off to work.

She takes a position as a servant in the Winther household. The dream of a different and better life lives on. Through her former teacher she is introduced to a rebellious and antagonistic labourer, Alfred. Karen soon finds herself in a situation where she is ensnared by her loyalty to her employer, her dream of the future - and love.

A horrible revelation about her father's death turns her world up side down. The life of the youngest son in the household, Fredrik Winther is also takes a turn when his older brother dies in a terrible fire Suddenly Fredrik finds himself the heir to the Winther Dynasty, a task which he reluctantly accepts.

The situation does not get less complicated when he falls in love with the beautiful, but poor servant girl, Emma. A girl the family could hardly accept. What will he choose, love or family?

Katrine Wessel-Aas

Katrine Wessel-Aas (b. 1970) worked as a journalist and editor for many years, but now is a novelist full-time. Trondheim is Kathrine Wessel-Aas hometown, and the perfect historical backdrop for the events in *The Winther Family*. This beautiful city with wide streets, tall trees, the river Nid with all its bridges, is the starting point for a story that has been called Norway's answer to *Downton Abbey*... Katrine has also written an historical novel series from Kristiania in the 1800s.



# Content

Forlaget Oktober

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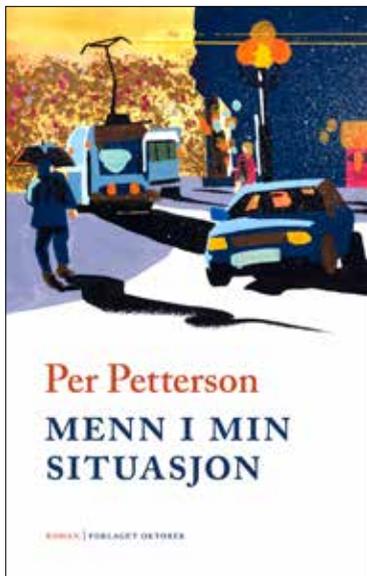
38 - Anne Oterholm

40 - Maria Navarro Skaranger

42 - Tina Åmodt

## Per Petterson

### Men in My Situation



Foreign rights sold: Bulgarian (Znatsi), Danish (Batzler), Finnish (Otava), French (Gallimard), German (Hanser), Dutch (De Geus)

To Arvid Jansen, life has become a question of holding on to a few firm things. He revisits old battlefields around town, gets drunk, meets women and goes home with them, or he drives around in his Mazda, where he also spends the nights when his bed becomes an impossible place to be.

A year has passed since Turid took their three daughters and left. Early one morning she calls him from the closed railway station Bjørkelangen. Arvid picks her up and drives her to her new home in Skjetten. But for once, he refuses to give her what she asks. In the terrace house, there is no trace of their life together. He has been completely wiped out.

Arvid feels that Vigdis, his oldest daughter, sees what kind of man he really is. And that's why she has had to keep him at distance. But at the same time she might be the one who needs him the most.

*Men in My Situation* is a tender, merciless portrait of a life going to pieces.

Per Petterson

Per Petterson (born 1952) made his debut in 1987 and became a world-wide literary sensation with the novel *Out Stealing Horses* (2003). His books have won several international prizes, including the IMPAC Prize and the Independent Foreign Fiction Prize. In Norway he has won the Brage Prize twice, the Critics' Prize twice and the Booksellers' Prize twice. The film adaptation of *Out Stealing Horses*, featuring Stellan Skarsgård, is scheduled for release in 2019.



Photo: Baard Henriksen

*Menn i min situasjon*  
Forlaget Oktober, 2018

Novel  
301 pages

On *I Refuse* (2012):

"A powerful novel that confirms this Norwegian's unique talent. Undoubtedly one of the major Nordic authors of our time"

- *Lire*, France

"Petterson confirms his reputation as Scandinavia's leading realist writer"

- *Kristeligt Dagblad*, Denmark

On *I Curse the River of Time* (2008):

"Candour, sensitivity, humour: the result is singular magic [...] His tender new novel is as masterfully evocative as *In the Wake* and *Out Stealing Horses*, as gentle as *To Siberia*, and as exceptional as all three"

- *The Irish Times*, Ireland

"Per Petterson's novels are novels you wait for. Once again he has written a novel where the dark secrets of life are magically illuminated"

- *Neue Zürcher Zeitung*, Switzerland

On *Out Stealing Horses* (2003):

"Superb Scandinavian noir"

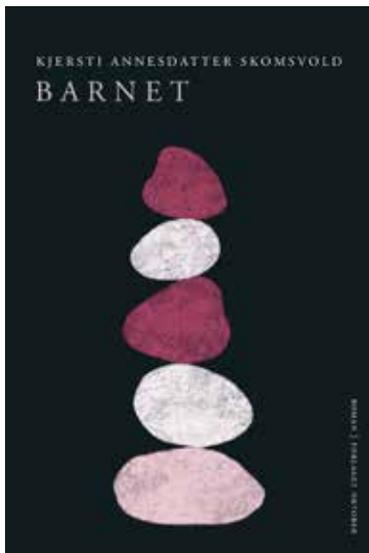
- *New York Times* – *The 100 Best Books of the Decade*

"Novelist Per Petterson's deeply atmospheric writing about his native Norway has rightfully won him numerous critical awards...The bleak subject matter is elevated by the poetry of Petterson's writing, and the quietly unfolding plot acts as a vehicle for his vivid descriptions of the country."

- *Sunday Telegraph*, UK

# Kjersti Annesdatter Skomsvold

## The Child



**Foreign rights sold:** Brazilian Portuguese (Casarão do Verbo), Danish (GRIF), French (Cambourakis), German (Hoffmann & Campe), World English (Granta), Swedish (Sekwa)

This is a love story.

A mother tells her new-born child about the events that led to the child's birth. Her stories are about long-term illness, loneliness and grief. About being afraid to love somebody, and about daring to do so anyway.

The novel explores existence with an unusual vulnerability and an excellent eye for the things that make us able to connect to others, and the things that make it impossible.

"A novel which grows stronger by close reading and which will enrich the reader"  
5/6 stars, - VG

"An original portrait of the artist as a mother ... it's all portrayed with subtle humour and unexpected associations" - *NRK Radio*

"A wonderful, balanced book about the love between mother and child ... She writes beautifully about insufferable physical pain, and grippingly about the relief that only a baby can give"  
5/6 stars, - *Adresseavisen*

Kjersti Annesdatter Skomsvold

Kjersti Annesdatter Skomsvold (born 1979 in Oslo) made a sensational debut with *The Easter I Walk, the Smaller I Am*. The book won the Vesaas First Book Award, was shortlisted for the IMPAC Prize and has been sold to publishers in more than 25 countries. She is the author of four acclaimed novels, a book of poetry and a children's book.



Photo: Agnete Brun

*Barnet*  
Forlaget Oktober, 2018

Novel  
121 pages

Sample translation by  
Kari Dickson

It was a new year, a new beginning, and outside the first rain was falling. I felt like I had a belt strapped around my waist, it tightened, tightened another hole, and was then released, all through the night, through the morning, through the following day. The rain washed away the snow, and the next night I was woken by an ambush, a stab in the back, someone stabbed me in the back as I slept, stabbed so hard that it toppled me, even though I was already lying down.

In the morning, Bo went out, and came back from the bakery with a loaf that cost sixty kroner. I didn't know such expensive bread existed, he said, but if there was ever a time we deserved expensive bread, it's now.

I persisted and persisted, endured stab after stab, the second hand ticked, the long hand ticked, the moon rose again, but still I refused to go. I, who has always been afraid of being too late, was now more worried about coming too early, they had told me I shouldn't come in too early. Sounds from inside my body, like those of a tortured animal, escaped through my lips, and the pains trammelled me more and more. I clung to the light of the moon, I could barely stay standing, or put one foot in front of the other, and finally I realised that if I didn't go now, I would never manage to get there.

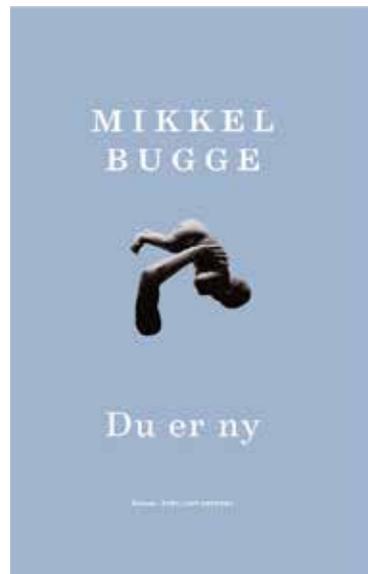
As I was sitting in the taxi throwing up, in the waiting room throwing up, I was actually in the forest. My thoughts were under a tree, gazing up at the crown. The pain ripped through me, I didn't know such pain existed in this world, in heaven, that such pain could inhabit me, it was only in the pain that I existed. Yet I couldn't stand in it, breathe in it, the pain decided over me, I decided nothing.

In the delivery room, the midwife said harshly, the only thing she said was: it doesn't help to scream. I completely lost heart. What would help me then? It upsets me so much when people are angry and harsh, and it wasn't me screaming, the scream was ripped from my throat. I knew that I wasn't going to manage this, that it wouldn't work. But then the forest surrounded me again as another wave of pain drilled through my body, my thoughts fled into the forest, I stood under the tree and everything was light green, all around, beyond, could I not soon get beyond this?

The new midwife was gentle and kind, and asked if it was alright if they injected this, emptied me, and I said do what you like, just get it over and done with. She said that the baby had hair, feel, here, the baby has hair, she asked me to partake in something I wanted no part of. I said no, I don't dare to feel, but then she took hold of my hand. I felt the baby's head, its hair, and only then did I fully understand that a living baby, a real person, was going to come out of me.

## Mikkel Bugge

### You Are New



She gets pregnant with a man she just met. He has strong shoulders that can carry a lot. But the child inside her pushes everything out of position. In between intimacy and desperation, a new reality takes shape.

*You Are New* is a portrait of the dizzying, fragile time before and after the birth of a child.

“A young woman [is] about to give birth, and the reader gets to know the entire intensely overwhelming process in her own words ... as simple as it is ambitious”  
- *Stavanger Aftenblad*, 5/6 stars

“An intense, realistic novel about a young couple and the dizzying, fragile time before and after the birth of a child”  
- *Adresseavisen*, 5/6 stars

“This is a vulnerable story about a very fragile phase in a life which was fragile to begin with ... a beautiful depiction of an experience which is as unique as it is universal”  
- *Dagsavisen*

Mikkel Bugge

Mikkel Bugge (born 1978) is an author and playwright. He made his debut with the acclaimed short story collection *Perimeters* in 2007. His first novel *Go Under Ground* (2010) was nominated for the P2 Listeners' Novel Prize and the Young Readers' Critics' Award. The short story collection *The Rope* (2014) was praised for its inventive approach to the short story and was shortlisted for the Brage Prize.



Photo: Agnete Brun

*Du er ny*  
Forlaget Oktober, 2018

Novel  
208 pages

## Eline Lund Fjæren

### Consumption in September



*Consumption in September* is the story of Espen and Emilie. He is a literary critic in a cultural weekly, she is a young, promising culture journalist at the same paper.

After a party at work, they end up in bed together. From there we follow the two of them separately, learning the story of their relationship from two different perspectives, each with their different understanding of the other. Through an intense, confident prose and an effective use of changing perspective, the novel investigates the self-reflexivity of the social game, asking the question whether Espen and Emilie ever really meet each other as they really are.

*Consumption in September* is a restless, efficient story about desire, gender and longing for love, about fundamental loneliness and a constant gnawing self-consciousness that threatens our ability to open our eyes for other people.

“A dense, elegant study of longing for love in the age of individualism ... The tension and vitality is on the characters' level of reflection, in their expectations towards the other and their critical self-examination ... Fjæren portrays the challenges of intimacy effortlessly and with precision”  
- *Dagsavisen*

Eline Lund Fjæren

Eline Lund Fjæren (b. 1994) lives in Bergen. She made her debut in 2013 with the novel *Young Girl, Adult Male*, which received excellent reviews and which won the Norli Debut Prize and the Oslo Prize. In 2015 she published her second book, *The Clock and the Bed*. The book was shortlisted for Book of the year by Natt & Dag. In 2016 she received the Booksellers' Writers' Grant.



Photo: Isak Okkenhaug Andersen

*Forbruk i september*  
Forlaget Oktober, 2018

Novel  
144 pages

## Marita Fossum

### Singularity



Gulleemor is middle-aged and childless. She has decided to challenge an existence where nothing is at stake. In active empathy with those who are kept on the outside of society or who don't live safely in their homes, she will become a prostitute. Her decision is sped up when she finds an unconscious young man lying in his underpants under a pink rhododendron in an Oslo park. After the ambulance takes off with the unconscious stranger, she tries to find out who he is and what happened to him.

Marita Fossum's seventh novel is written with gusto, wit and great sensibility. It is a shrewd, original novel about a woman who risks the security of her everyday life to open up to the world and to existence itself.

"Witty and energetic ... an entertaining, warm novel about a woman in her search for meaning and community in life"  
- Dagbladet

"A tragicomic story, at times almost farcical, at other times a brutal story of vulnerability and marginalisation ... both good and rare"  
- Klassekampen

Marita Fossum

Marita Fossum (b. 1964) made her debut in 2002 with the novel *The World Outside*. In 2005, she was awarded the Tanum Scholarship for Women. She also became the winner of the 2005 Brage Prize, the national book award, for *Imagine*. For her novel *Dear Shepherd Boy* (2006) she received the Booksellers' Writer's Grant.



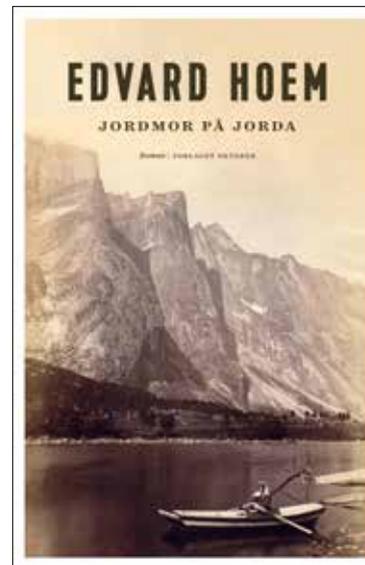
Photo: Finn Ståle Felberg

*Singularitet*  
Forlaget Oktober, 2018

Novel  
144 pages

## Edvard Hoem

### Midwife on Earth



In 1821 Edvard Hoem's great-great grandmother, Martha 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 Martha 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.

\* Author of the bestselling emigrant series - more than 200,000 copies printed in Norway

\* Rights to the emigrant series sold to US and Denmark

Edvard Hoem

Edvard Hoem was born in 1949, and made his debut in 1969. Since then he has published a number of novels, and has been nominated for the Nordic Council's Literary Prize four times. In addition, Hoem has written plays, essays and biographies and has translated seven of William Shakespeare's plays into Norwegian.



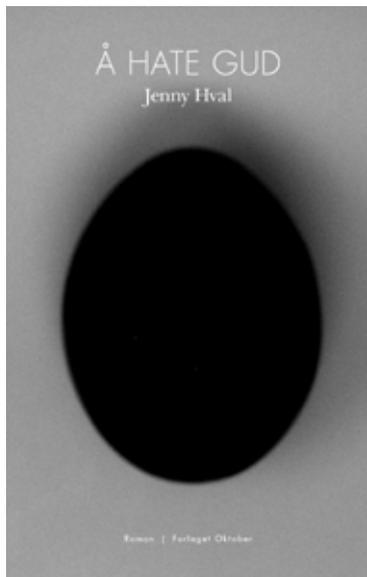
Photo: Paal Audestad

*Jordmor på jorda*  
Forlaget Oktober, 2018

Novel  
300 pages

## Jenny Hval

### Girls against God



*Girls against God* is a novel about magic, writing and art.

The novel starts with the main character's youth in southern Norway in the 1990s, a part of the country known for its deep religiosity and its white wooden houses. A powerful, primitive feeling starts growing within her: A hatred of God. In this hatred, there is a force which stays with her long after she has left behind the classrooms of her childhood and the dark southern forests.

Later we find ourselves in a future, but still recognisable Oslo. Here, a secret network of witches arise, carrying out subversive rituals. At the same time, the narrator is writing a film script, a magical document.

*Girls against God* is an uncompromising, reflective, playful and deeply fascinating novel about black metal and white-painted idyll, about underground movements, magic and rebellion. The narrative, the essayistic and the magical is organically woven together into a literary text that both genre-wise and by virtue of its content refuses to be boxed in.

"As intriguing and impressive a novelist as she is a musician, Hval is a master of quiet horror and wonder."

– Chris Kraus, author of *I Love Dick*

Jenny Hval

Jenny Hval (b. 1980) is a musician, sound artist and writer. She has released two albums as Rockettothesky, and four under her own name, most notably *Apocalypse Girl* (2015) and *Blood Bitch* (2016). She made her literary debut with the novel *The Pearl Brewery* in 2009, and followed up with *Sings with Her Eyes* in 2012. Her first novel will be published in English by Verso Books autumn 2018 under the title *Paradise Rot*.



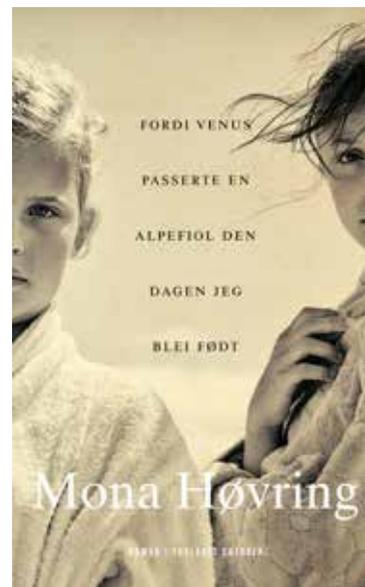
Photo: Baard Henriksen

*Å hate Gud*  
Forlaget Oktober, 2018

Novel  
256 pages

## Mona Høvring

### Because Venus Passed an Alp Violet on the Day I Was Born



In a hotel, high up in a mountain village, two sisters in their early twenties will spend a few winter weeks in peaceful surroundings. Martha has just been discharged from a sanatorium after a nervous breakdown, and Ella follows her to take care of her. But at the hotel, secret encounters take place and new fascinations arise. Through Ella's confidential story, we get a look into the underlying conflicts that have led the two women away from what once was a relationship based on mutual trust and devotion.

Mona Høvring writes with impressive insight about love and confusion. *Because Venus Passed an Alp Violet on the Day I Was Born* is a sharp, sensitive story about jealousy and passion, an original and surprising story about the many distractions of the heart.

Foreign rights sold: Danish (LESEN)

"Mysterious, dark and courageous"  
– NRK

"A shining pearl of a novel"  
– Dagbladet

"A small novel with great power ... one of this year's best books. Personally I rate it higher even than *Camilla's Long Nights*, the fragmentary novel that brought Høvring a nomination for the Nordic Council Literature Prize."  
– Aftenposten

Mona Høvring

Mona Høvring (b. 1962) has previously published six collections of poetry and three acclaimed novels. Her previous novel, *Camilla's Long Nights*, was nominated for the Nordic Council Literary Prize in 2014.



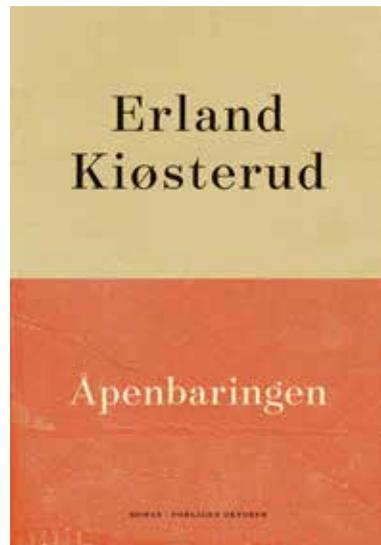
Photo: Agnete Brun

*Fordi Venus passerte en alpefiol den dagen jeg blei født*  
Forlaget Oktober, 2018

Novel  
136 pages

## Erland Kiøsterud

### The Revelation



In *The Revelation*, we meet Christian, owner of a boarding house by the Oslo Fjord. Here he lives with his wife Magda-Marie and the boarding house guests, a large group of homeless people. They are refugees and outcasts, coming from numerous countries and cultures. It's a fragile community, with a potential for conflict.

The parallel to our own times is obvious, but Kiøsterud elegantly manages to put his story in a deeper, more existential context. The novel's story takes place in a not too distant future. From the capital there are reports of a civil war-like conditions, and the idyllic surroundings of the Oslo Fjord are oppressed by an almost apocalyptic atmosphere: There are forces that are working to conquer both nature and culture, and below the surface, a growing silence threatens.

*The Revelation* is a free-standing sequel to *The Work of Hands* (2015)

#### Erland Kiøsterud

Erland Kiøsterud (born 1953) made his debut as an author in 1973 with the novel *Wounds that Never Heal*. He has since written several novels and novel series. Kiøsterud has been awarded the Gyldendal Prize and the Riksmål Society Literature Prize. In 2012, he received the Ypsilon Prize for the novel *Mimina*. His deep-delving novels have won him a special position in Norwegian contemporary literature.



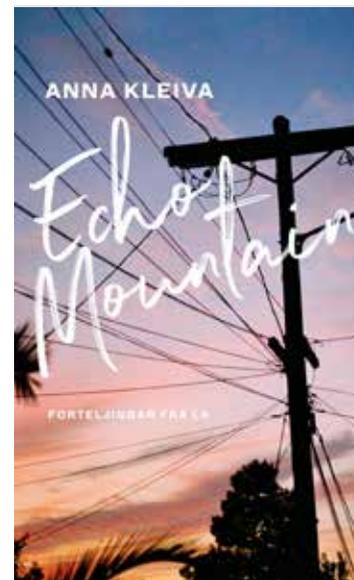
Photo: Finn Ståle Felberg

*Apenbaringen*  
Forlaget Oktober, 2018

Novel  
92 pages

## Anna Kleiva

### Echo Mountain - Stories from L.A.



Los Angeles is the main character in Anna Kleiva's first book of prose, which through different perspectives and styles tries to map and understand this divided, sprawling American city. Travel journals from several encounters with L.A. between 2008 and 2017 are woven together with stories, conversations, and poetic as well as essayistic texts, and a certain Angelena's letter to an unknown person.

*Echo Mountain* is about the city as a dream, myth and fiction, but also about the search for the voices, stories and realities that hide beneath the glittering façade. It's a book about having a love affair with a city, about being attracted and being shut out, but also about seeing and describing: How can you write about a shifting, contradictory reality, that can neither be captured nor limited?

#### Anna Kleiva

Anna Kleiva was born in 1985 in Oslo. She is the author of three collections of poetry, the second of which, *Springs Later* (2014) was awarded the Oslo Prize and the Melsom Prize. *Echo Mountain* is her first book of prose.



Photo: Yngvild Gotaas Torvik

*Echo Mountain*  
Forlaget Oktober, 2018

Novel  
200 pages

## Jon Michelet

### The Warrior Returns - Hero of the Seas 6



*The Warrior Returns* is the sixth and final volume of the epic *Hero of the Sea* series. Halvor Skramstad wakes up in a hospital in New Guinea, having been in a coma ever since a Kamikaze attack on his ship.

The end of the war is approaching in Norway, but in the Pacific Ocean fighting against the Japanese continues unabated. Halvor sails to Okinawa, where both the Japanese and the Americans suffer enormous losses, and numerous allied ships are sunk.

In September 1945, heavily marked by his experiences, he returns to Norway, expecting gratefulness towards him and his fellow surviving merchant seamen. Instead they're met with contempt and mistrust. The merchant seamen fought Norway's war at a great personal cost. Now they must fight a new battle: the battle for the compensation owed them by the secret Nortraship fund. But this time, injustice prevails, and many a disillusioned seamen descend into alcoholism. Perhaps Halvor's only hope of salvation is honest work – and his love for the Irish Muriel.

\* Straight in at #1 in Norway, Sept 2018

\* First print run 40,000 copies

\* 200,000 copies sold of book 1

\* More than 750,000 copies printed of books 1-5

Jon Michelet

In the 1980s and 90s Jon Michelet (1944-2018) was one of Norway's most popular crime writers and an early exponent of what would later be known as Nordic Noir. Two decades later he crowned an already impressive body of work with his bestselling, addictive and important naval epic from WW2.



Photo: Hans Fredrik Asbjørnsen

*Krigerens hjemkomst - En sjøens helt 6*  
Forlaget Oktober, 2018

Novel  
576 pages

## Kathrine Nedrejord

### Transformation



*Transformation* is a novel about returning to everyday life after a brutal rape.

K. is a young, Norwegian writer living in Paris. Early one morning, walking home alone after a night out with friends, she is assaulted and raped outside her apartment building. We follow her in the hours, days and weeks after the event as she deals with the experience, confronting the bureaucracy, spending time with close friends and family in Oslo, and then returning to Paris to resume her normal life.

K. has often made untraditional choices, driven by an open attitude and adventurousness. She has always been the active part in her life, the protagonist of her own story. But the assault forces her into another role, another story, which she doesn't want to be part of.

In a brutal, candid and urgent way, *Transformation* tells the story of a shattering experience, while finding surprising connections to bureaucracy, language and writing. It is a brilliantly composed novel, written with wisdom and warmth.

Kathrine Nedrejord

Kathrine Nedrejord (born 1987) is a Norwegian and Sami writer and playwright. She made her debut with the novel *Transit* in 1987, and followed up with *Crowding* in 2014. She is currently the house dramatist at the National Theatre in Oslo.



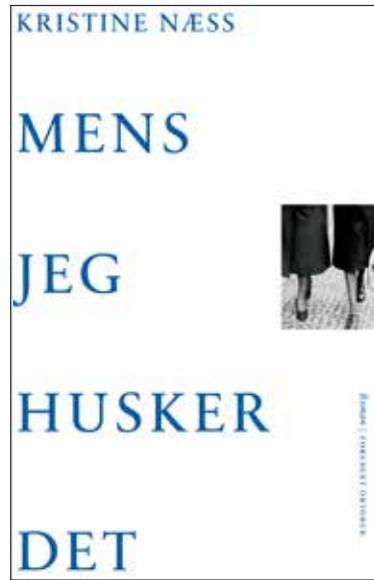
Photo: Kari Live Rønningen

*Forvandlinga*  
Forlaget Oktober, 2018

Novel  
256 pages

## Kristine Næss

### While I Remember



36

"Few writers other than Kristine Næss succeed in getting language so close to life itself; she is one of the very best of our generation."

– Karl Ove Knausgård on *Only Human*

"Wonderfully original, and sparkling in both its theme and its prose ... empathetic and elegant"

5/6 stars, Adresseavisen

Ten years ago, Ingeborg had success with a novel which was praised for its diagnosis of the times. Now she is a part-time office worker in a temp agency, living alone with her dog. Her daughter has moved out and is hard at work putting her political ideas into practice. Ingeborg wants to write a Ph.D thesis on the author Ingeborg Bachmann – but her academic credentials are really not sufficient. What's worse, her friend Kristin is already a respected expert on the subject. Ingeborg longs for friendship and love, but all potential boyfriend candidates are either married, gay or quite simply not that bright.

Ingeborg's response is to think – to think about utopias, about new and estranging technology, about whether the concept of class is still useful, about the mechanics and effects of capitalism, about her childhood and about lust. And she thinks about thinking.

With a satiric, yet deeply empathetic eye for its main character, *While I Remember* is a wonderfully entertaining and stimulating novel about hubris and insecurity, about female self-esteem, and hopeless, attractive men.

Kristine Næss

Kristine Næss (b. 1966) made her debut in 1996 with the collection of poetry *Obladi*. She has since written novels, stories and a book of poetics, and her distinct, personal voice has given her a significant place in the Norwegian literary landscape. She has also edited a literary journal and worked as a critic. In 2015 her novel *Only Human* was nominated for the Nordic Council's Literature Prize.



Photo: Finn Ståle Felberg

*Mens jeg husker det*  
Forlaget Oktober, 2018

Novel  
368 pages

## Anne Oterholm

### Liar



37

Oliver is 24. He has inherited an apartment and some money after his mother, who has died. He travels to Villefranche, letting his ex-girlfriend Emma stay in his apartment while studying for her exams. On the beach he meets Lucy, who works in a clothes store. But it could have been anybody really. They agree to meet for a date the day after. There's no need for Oliver to move slowly.

When he is in Oslo, he works in a computer store. He eats little or nothing, goes for a beer, plays computer games. Drifts around. Sits down here and there, to look at other people, preferably women.

Is what he says ever true? In Oliver's dubious exploration of existence, an intense unease trickles out.

*Liar* is a merciless, unsentimental portrait of a young man.

Anne Oterholm

Anne Oterholm was born in Illinois in 1964 and grew up in a small town outside of Oslo. She made her debut in 1995 with the novel *Nothing Else Than What You Want*, for which she received the Bokklubben Nye Bøkers Prize for Debut Author of the Year. In 1999 she was awarded Tanum's Scholarship for Women, and in 2010 she won the Aschehoug Prize.



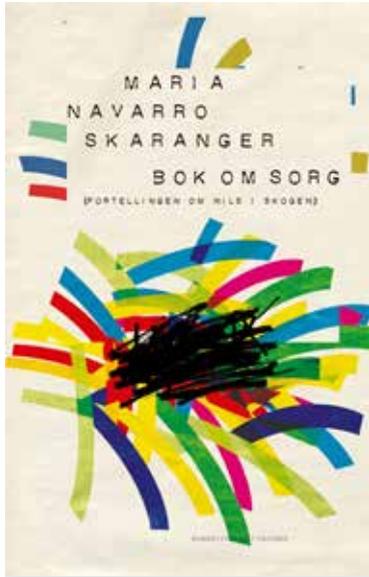
Photo: Pernille Marie Walvik

*Løgnhals*  
Forlaget Oktober, 2018

Novel  
250 pages

## Maria Navarro Skaranger

### Book of Grief (The Story about Nils in the Forest)



*Book of Grief (The Story of Nils in the Forest)* tells the story of the family who is left behind after a young man takes his own life. It's the story of a mother who can't stop crying, about an absent father, about siblings who struggle to understand. Skaranger's second novel is a raw, moving book about responsibility and trying to save a person close to you, about desperation and rage, but also about love, hope and the light that exists after all.

#### Maria Navarro Skaranger

Maria Navarro Skaranger was born in 1994 in Oslo. Her debut novel, *All Foreigners Have Their Curtains Closed*, was sold to Denmark before its Norwegian publication. Skaranger was awarded the Debut Award, and shortlisted for the Tarjei Vesaas' Debut Prize.



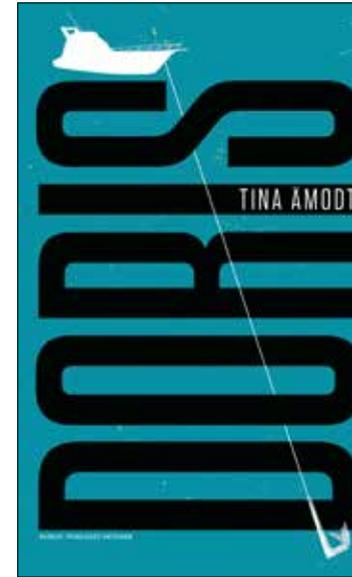
Photo: Pernille Marie Walvik

*Bok om sorg (Fortellingen om Nils i skogen)*  
Forlaget Oktober, 2018

Novel  
200 pages

## Tina Åmodt

### Doris



14 year old Doris and her father Roy Arne Holmås are on holiday somewhere along the west coast of Norway in a 50 ft yacht, also named Doris. Doris and her father have left her mother Bella and the other boats travelling with them, sailing aimlessly around along the coast.

Doris is increasingly frustrated with the situation, and is in opposition to both her parents and life at sea. What she really wants is to get to a place with a proper cell phone signal and to see her thirteen year older flame Jimmy again. What are her unpredictable father's plans? Where are they going? And how long does he want them to be out at sea?

*Doris* is a sharp, humourous and painful portrait of life as a teenager and of a father-daughter relationship out of balance. It is a warm, merciless story of being under constant surveillance and about always being watched by others.

#### Tina Åmodt

Tina Åmodt was born in 1985 on the West Norwegian island of Askøy. In 2010 she made her debut with *Builders' Prose*, which was received with great acclaim. In 2014 she published her first novel, *It Never Gets Light Here*. In 2015 she received the Stig Sæterbakken Memorial Prize.



Photo: Camilla Skibrek

*Doris*  
Forlaget Oktober, 2018

Novel  
254 pages

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