

OSLO LITERARY AGENCY

Spring 2021 **News and highlights**

Picture books
Graphic novels
Middle grade
YA
Illustrated non-fiction

News fall 2021

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OSLO LITERARY AGENCY

KJERSTI ANNESDATTER SKOMSVOLD Illustrator MARI KANSTAD JOHNSEN **BEDTIME FOR BO**

Original title: *Dyrene sover* • Picture book for readers 2 years and up • Publisher: Aschehoug 2021
pages: 72 • words: 700 • format: 25 X 34 • full English • publ.date: May 2021

NORLA's selected title spring 2021

Everyone must sleep. The giraffe, the parrot, the walrus, and Bo.

The sea otter sleeps on the open sea, holding hands so they don't drift away from each other, the meerkats sleep in clusters to keep warm. *Bedtime for Bo* is a book about little Bo who doesn't want to go to bed and his mother who tells stories about how the animals sleep to guide Bo from supper, to bathing, to brushing his teeth, to bed and to finally falling asleep.

Bedtime for Bo is a charming and beautifully illustrated good night story. A picture book perfect for reading aloud for curious children.

Bookfilm: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8qFHjVA26vo&feature=youtu.be>

Kjersti Annesdatter Skomsvold (b. 1979) made her literary debut in 2009 with the novel *The Faster I Walk, The Smaller I Am*, which was awarded the prestigious Tarjei Vesaas First Book Prize 2009, nominated for the Booksellers' Prize 2009 and the P2 Listeners' Prize, and shortlisted for the International IMPAC Dublin Literary Award 2013, and sold for translation into more than 25 languages, and received massive attention when it was launched in USA and UK in the fall of 2011. Skomsvold writes fiction, poetry, and children's books. *Bedtime for Bo* is her first picture book.

Mari Kanstad Johnsen (b.1981) is an awarded and acclaimed visual artist, children's book author and illustrator. She has a degree from Oslo National Academy of the Arts and Konstfack, University of Arts, Crafts and Design in Stockholm. In 2012, Kanstad Johnsen's illustrations in a picture book was on the American magazine Flavorwire's list "The 20 Most Beautiful Children's Books of All Time". In 2017 she was honoured "special mention" at the international Bologna Ragazzi Awards. Mari Kanstad Johnsen has illustrated for several newspapers and magazines, including The New York Times.

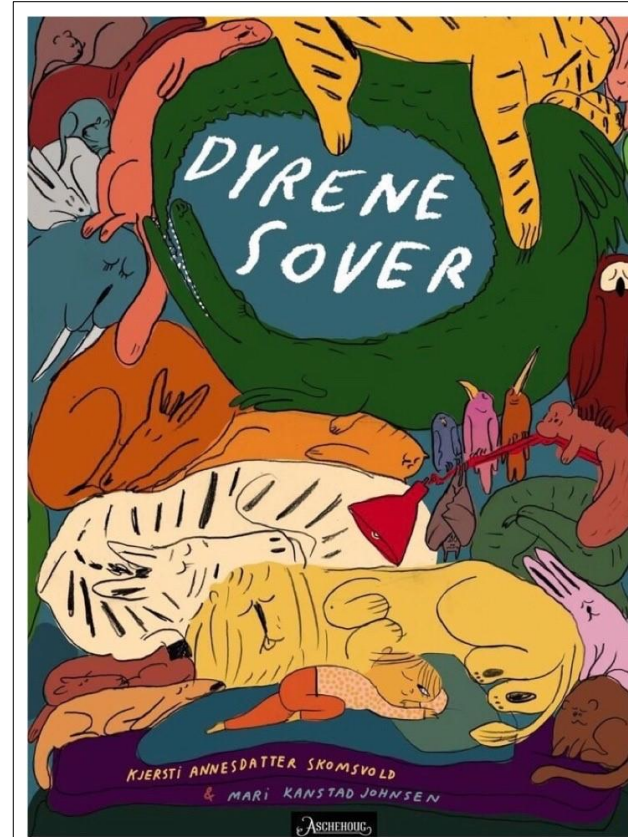


Photo: Erika Hebbert and Agnete Brun

Foreign rights:
Danish (Turbine)
French (Cambourakis)
Polish (Zygzaki)
Korean (Booklight)

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KRISTOFFER CEZINANDO KARLSEN Illustrated by CHARLIE ROBERTS **ALPHA BEAT**

Original title: *Bokstavene* • Picture book for all ages • Publisher: Aschehoug 2020
pages: 118 • format: 23 X 31 • English excerpt

A poetic play with letters

This book is not a classic ABC, it's neither a traditional book with rhymes. *Alpha Beat* is an innovative poetic play with the letters in the alphabet. Artist Cezinando's unique style in writing creates an adventure for each letter.

Illustrated by Charlie Roberts.

- Bestseller
- Glowing reviews

Perfect pop star poetry. (...) Exceptionally beautiful (...)
R for recommended, recommended, recommended!
Aftenposten

Extraordinarily successful
NRK

This book is for cool people, regardless of age.
Periskop.no



**Awarded diploma
Best Illustrations 2021
Children's Books**

The GRAFILL's Visual Prize The Year's Most
Beautiful Books (the Norwegian Designer's Guild)



Photo: Maria Pasenau

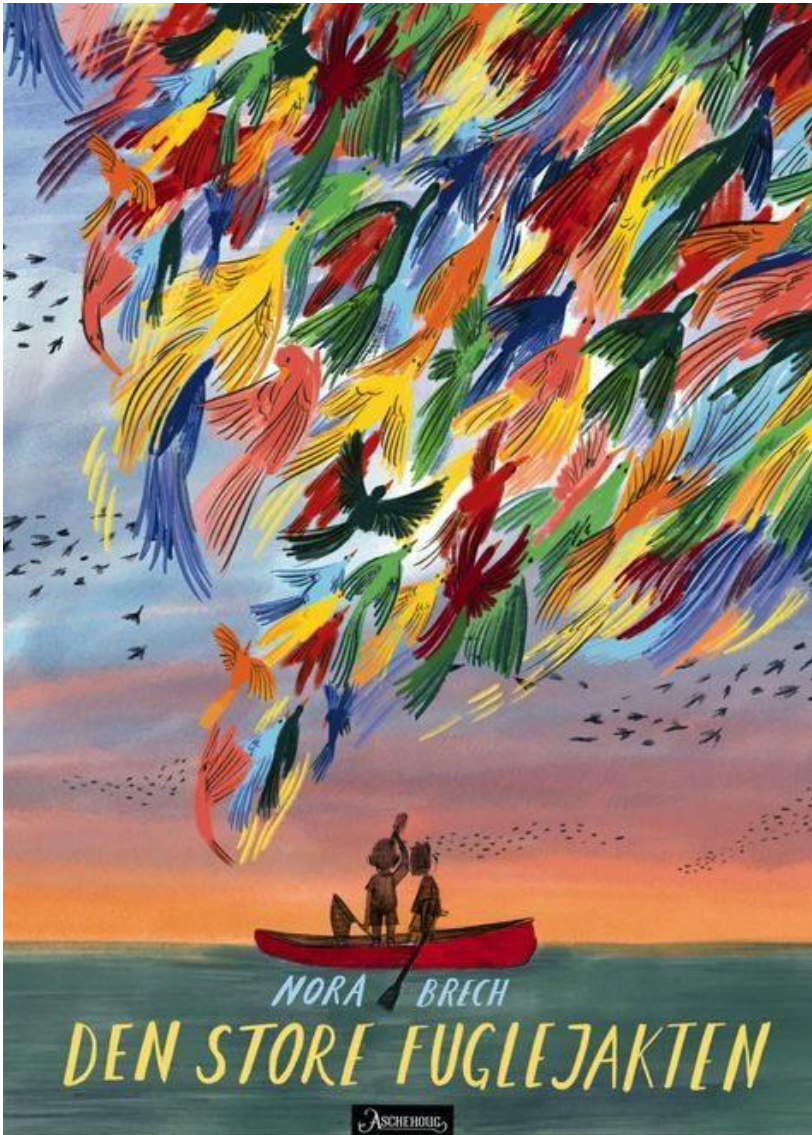
Kristoffer Cezinando Karlsen (b. 1995) is an acclaimed and award-winning music artist and songwriter. *Alpha Beat* is his first book.



Photo: Galleri Magnus Karlsson

Charlie Roberts, born 1983 in Kansas, USA, lives and works in Oslo, New York and Los Angeles. His works borrow from art-historical and pop cultural sources, and his fearless approach to subject, style and technique has resulted in a unique expression that spans from ancient Egyptian and Byzantine painting to hip-hop. Charlie Roberts is educated at Emily Carr Institute of Art and Design, Vancouver, Canada and Kansas University, USA.

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NORA BRECH THE MAGICAL BIRD HUNT

Original title: *Den store fuglejakten*
Picture book 3 years and up • Publisher: Aschehoug 2020
pages: 48 • words: 360 • format: 23 X 31 • full English PDF

A celebration of imagination and a tribute to nature.

Two children travel by riverboat through a spectacular forest where fantasy birds live.

An unpretentious story, but the project in general is imaginative, exciting and aesthetic to be verge on the sublime. The book has an intense appeal to both young and old readers, made by an artist with distinctive character and integrity. The Magical Bird Hunt is a book of international stature.
Klassekampen

Foreign rights:

Bulgarian (Znatsi)
Catalan (Editorial Juventud)
Chinese (simplified) (Dangdang Kids)
Danish (Turbine)
Korean (Gesunamu)
Portuguese (Alfarroba)
Romanian (Katartis)
Russian (Polyandria)
Serbian (Prometej)
World English (Floris Books)
World Spanish (Editorial Juventud)

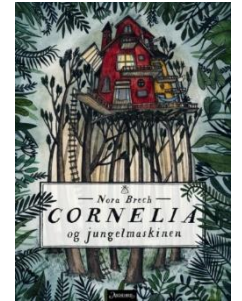


Photo: Stine Friis Hals

The acclaimed artist **Nora Brech** (b. 1988) has a degree in art drawing. Her illustrations have earned numerous prize nominations. Brech's picture books are published in 15 countries.

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ELIN HANSSON

EVERYTHING THAT RHYMES WITH GRO

Original title: *Alt som rimer på Gro* • Middle grade • Publisher: Aschehoug 2020
pages: 250 • words: 43700 • English extended summary

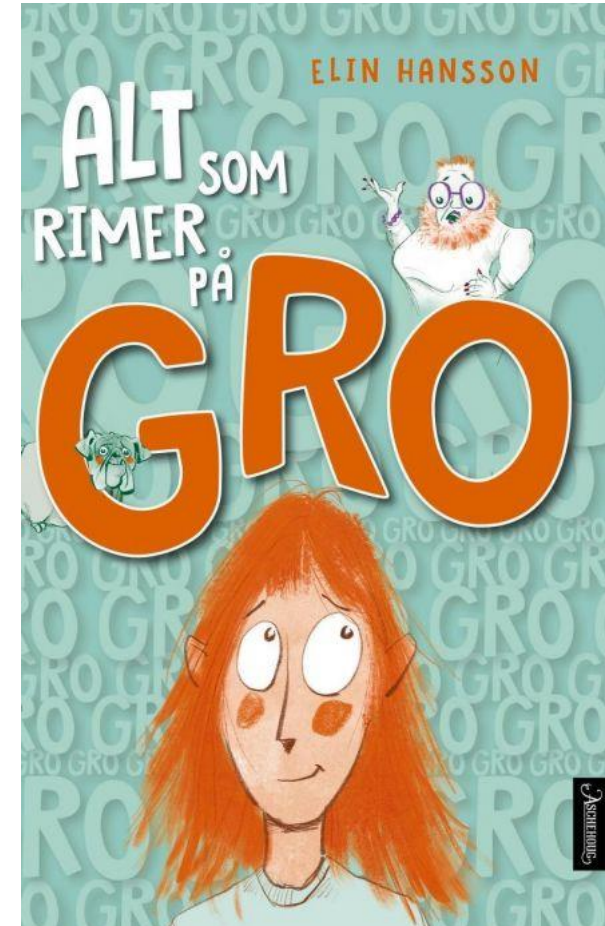
A wild comedy of pugs, love affairs and stage fright.

Gro is very good with words. She has always ghost-written the messages her best friend Mina sends her crushes. Gro has never been in love. That is until a new boy, Josh Johanson, starts in her class. He immediately gets the part as Balder in the school play “Balder’s Death”. When Gro gets the part as Balder’s mother, she’s afraid the battle is lost. Luckily Gro’s grandmother knows a thing or two about love.



Elin Hansson (b. 1985) is a journalist and a photographer. She has a degree in creative writing from The Norwegian Institute for Children’s Books.

Photo: Stine Friis Hals



Foreign rights: Swedish (Lilla Piratförlaget)

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Prince Charming - NORLA's selected title spring 2021



Praise for *The Heir*:

This book must be a hit! Feelgood, humorous royal goodies and teenage issues. The Heir is a kinderegg of a young adult book. (...) The end is like a fairy tale happy ending, until the last sentence. I jump in my chair – and literally scream for a follow up. The authors must hurry up. I can't understand otherwise than the book will be a hit.

Cathrine Krøger, Dagbladet, 5 out of 6 stars

The Heir is a social wet dream of a young adult book. It's Gossip Girl meet Crown Princess Mette Marit's past, meet little Marius as a teenager, meet the tv series SKAM.

Oda Faremo Lindholm, VG, 5 out of 6 stars

The YA The Heir is a modern Cinderella story from the tv series SKAM's neighbourhood. No wonder publishers were fighting to win the book.

Anne Cathrine Straume, NRK

RANDI FUGLEHAUG and ANNE GUNN HALVORSEN

The YA series ROYALTEEN

THE HEIR #1

PRINCE CHARMING #2

ON THE THRONE #3 (tbp June 2021)

The Heir – Nominated for the 2020 YA Prize

Have you ever thought about what princes and princesses talk about during breakfast? And have you ever wondered what it's like to deal with teenage issues when you're part of the country's royal family? Well, this is the books for you!

In the Royalteen series we follow the royal twins, prince Karl Johan and princess Margrethe, and their friends at high school. The series is a portray of young peoples struggle and joys and todays pop culture.

Bookfilm: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S-r8CWFVFiM>

Praise for *Prince Charming*:

Second book in the Royalteen series is like a home-alone party, that entirely takes place on young people's conditions. (...) You become a greedy reader when both prose and content are in place. Each chapter of Prince Charming is like a small bite of chocolate, and while eating it, your only thought is to devour the whole of it.

Bok365, 5 out of 6 stars



Photo: Agnete Bruun

Randi Fuglehaug t.r.(b. 1980) is a journalist, editor and author of several books for children and adults, fiction and non-fiction.

Anne Gunn Halvorsen t.l.(b. 1984) is a journalist and a critic. She has written several non-fiction books for adults.

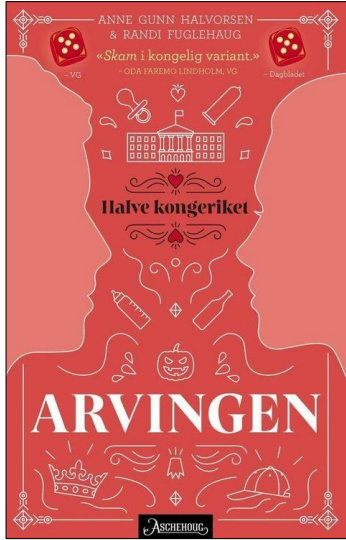
Foreign rights:

Bulgarian (Perseus)

Danish (Gyldendal)

Film rights: tba

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Original title: *Arvingen* • YA • Publisher: Aschehoug 2020
pages: 270 • words: 62,000
Material: full English ms, English extended summary,
Norwegian ms, English reviews, Norwegian ms

Nominated for the 2020 YA Prize

The Heir (first book):

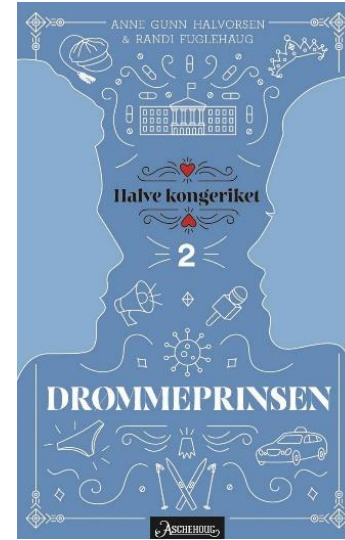
When prince Karl Johan, Kalle amongst friends, and newcomer Lena start to develop warm feelings for each other, Lena is charmed but also sceptic, for many reasons. Party prince Kalle is a regular figure in the tabloids and the gossip blogs – one of them was run anonymously by Lena herself, until she was exposed. Lena is painfully aware that dating the future king might put them both in an impossible situation and she has not told Kalle or anyone else about her even bigger secret, which is also the reason why she moved from her hometown. The 14 months old kid at home is not her baby brother. He is her son.

He carries a nation on his shoulders.

She carries a baby on hers.

Can there be a future for the King-to-be and the secret teenage mom?

A modern love story about living with your mistakes,
conquering your fears and breaking the internet.



NORLA's selected title spring 2021

Original title: *Drømmeprinsen* • YA • Publisher: Aschehoug 2021
pages: 208 • words: 56,300
Material: English extended summary, English excerpt, Norwegian
ms and review

Prince Charming (second book):

Last year's prom ended in major drama for Princess Margrete. She doesn't dare telling anyone about what happened that night with her being hospitalized. As the problems pile up not only for her, but for the whole royal family, she's desperate to share everything with a boyfriend. Which creates a new problem: Who can the princess date?

A modern love story about losing control and finding yourself,
and that also real princesses kiss many frogs to find a prince.



Original title: *På tronen* • YA • Publisher: Aschehoug 2021
pages: tbc • words: tbc
Material: Norwegian ms in May

On the Trone (third book):

When a video goes viral TikTok star Tess is praised for her fight against racism. The video shows Tess beating a popular male music artist, and she becomes a national favourite and public debater. But does a 17-year-old from a wealthy Gambian family really know what she's talking about? And what happens when she falls in love with the guy she accused of being a racist?

A modern love story about the longing to be seen, the risk of not
see for looking, and that it is tough at the top in the world of
celebrities.

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NINA BROCHMANN and ELLEN STØKKEN DAHL

Illustrated by MAGNHILD WINSNES

THE BOY BOOK. ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT PUBERTY

Original title: *Gutteboka. Alt du trenger å vite om puberteten*

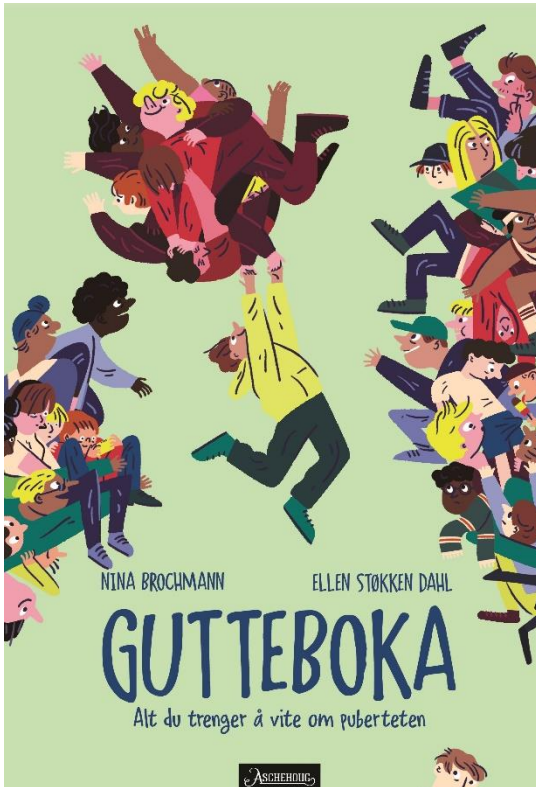
Non-fiction for readers 10 years and up • Publisher: Aschehoug 2021

color illustrations • format: 14 X 21,5 • final ms July • Publ.date: August 2021

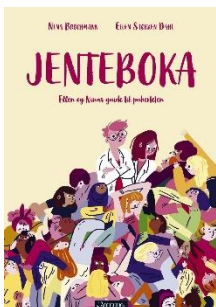
The Boy Book - a follow up to bestselling **The Girl Book**:

- Foreign sales to 17 territories
- Winner of the 2019 Ministry of Culture's Non-Fiction Prize
- Winner of "GOLD non-fiction for Children & YA 2020" – The GRAFILL's Visual Prize
- The Year's Most Beautiful Books (the Norwegian Designers' Guild)
- Selected title White Raven 2020 list
- No 1 bestseller
- Glowing reviews
- Topic: Sexual health, puberty.

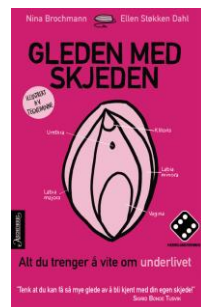
Nina Brochmann and **Ellen Støkken Dahl** are medical doctors who have worked for several years advising young people, refugees and sex workers on matters of sexual health. Their first book *The Wonder Down Under* (2017) became an international bestseller and cultural phenomenon with their message of empowerment through scientific knowledge. With their second book, *The Girl Book*, Brochmann and Dahl are equipping a new generation to make informed choices about their bodies and sexual well-being. *The Boy Book* will be published fall 2021.



Foreign rights: Danish (Straarup&Co), Russian (Exmo)



Sold to 17 territories



International bestseller sold to 36 territories



Photo: Anne Valeur

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HANNAH MILEMAN
illustrator NORA DÅSNES
THE WINNIE board book series

WINNIE WANTS TO BAKE

WINNIE WANTS TO GO TO THE LOO

Original title: *Vesle vil også bake* and *Vesle vil også gå på do*

Board books for 2 years and up • Publisher: Aschehoug 2021

pages: 32 • words: • format: 18,5 X 18,5 • full English PDF shortly • publ.date: March and September 2021

New board book series

The world is full of new and funny things to explore for little Winnie. Sometimes it's too high or too steep. Sometimes it's hard and scary. Wendy isn't convinced that Winnie can manage all the things she can. But Winnie is quite smart. Winnie isn't too little to do anything!

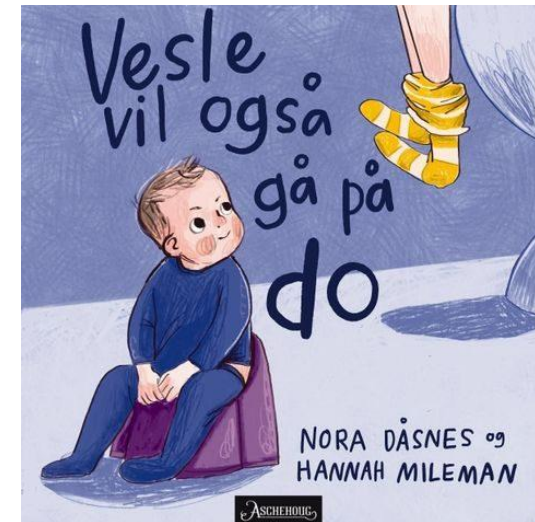
The Winnie board book series are warm and humorous in text and illustrations. The youngest readers can recognize themselves in the character Winnie and his small dilemmas and great emotions.

Nora Dåsnes (b. 1995) is a graphic designer. She has a degree in illustration and animation from Kingston University, London. She lives in Oslo, Norway. Her debut graphic novel *Cross My Heart and Hope to Die* is sold to 8 territories.



Photo: Oda Berby

Hannah Mileman (b. 1995) is an author, illustrator and designer. She has studied at Kingston University, London. Mileman lives currently in London. The series about Winnie is her debut.



Foreign rights: Danish (Turbine)

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HEGE ØSTMO-SÆTER OLSNES

THE RIOT AND BEARSLEY SERIES

RIOT AND BEARSLEY DRAWS

RIOT AND BEARSLEY PLAY HIDE AND SEEK

RIOT AND BEARSLEY GO BERRYING

RIOT AND BEARSLEY GOES TO THE BEACH

Original title: *Rot og Bjørne* • Picture book 2 years and up • Publisher: Aschehoug 2021, 2020, 2019
pages: 32 • words: 200 • format: 18,5 X 18,5 • full English PDF

A funny and familiar series about two friends who are not always in agreement.

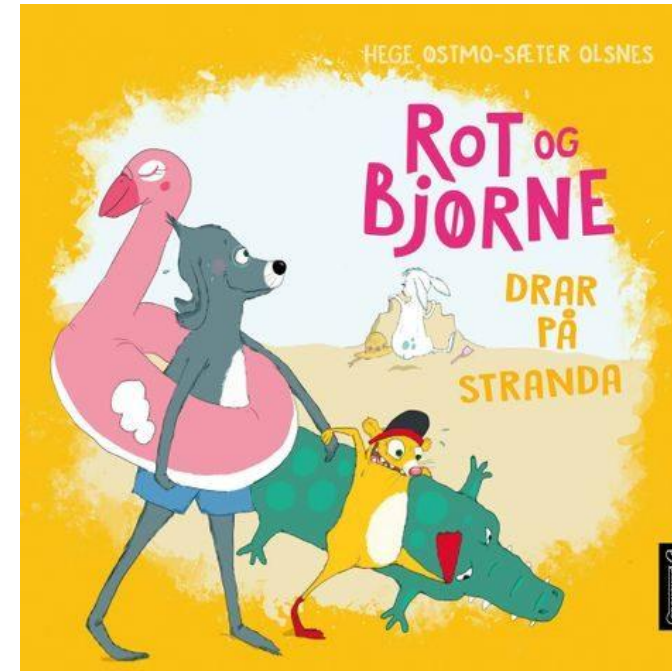
Riot and Bearsley are going to the beach. They are not alone. What happens when Bearsley wants to play with Lu? Is Riot willing to wait for the sandcastle to be finished before he goes swimming? And is it so that the three of them can play with a bathing toy at the same time?

Riot and Bearsley are best friends with completely different personalities. While Riot is impatient, enthusiastic and full of ideas, Bearsley is pensive, precise and concerned with following the rules. Obviously, it is not always easy for them to agree on things.



Hege Østmo-Sæter Olsnes (b. 1989) has a degree in theatre education and works at the theatre and teaches drama. She grew up at the island Sotra on the west coast of Norway, not far from Bergen.

Photo: Stine Friis Hals



Top entertainment for the 2- and 3-year old.
Bergens Tidende, 5 out of 6 stars



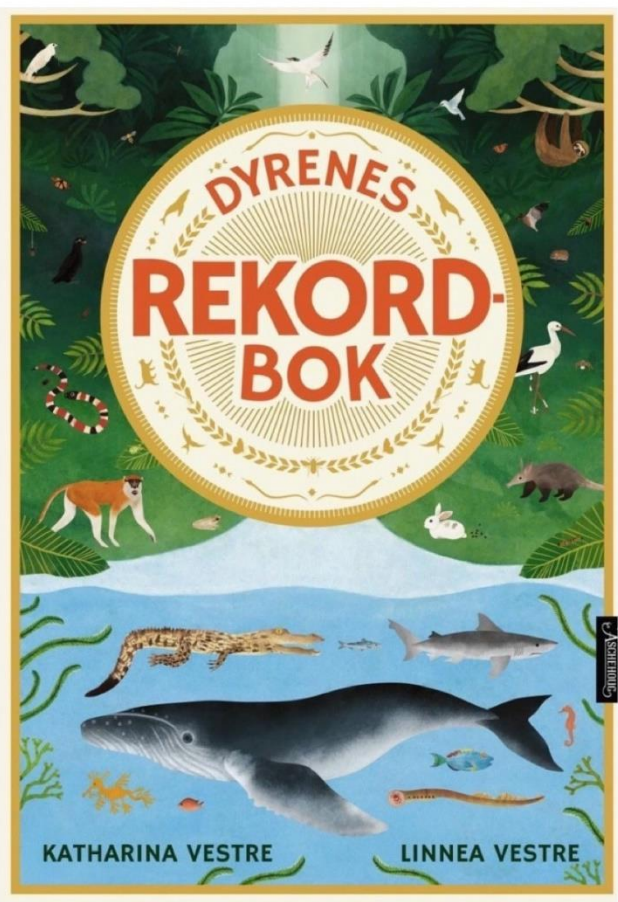
Foreign rights: Danish (Turbine)

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NORLA's selected title fall 2020



Photo: Hildur Augustdottir



KATHARINA VESTRE and LINNEA VESTRE THE ANIMAL BOOK OF RECORDS

Original title: *Dyrenes rekordbok*

Non-fiction for readers 5 years and up • Publisher: Aschehoug 2020

color illustrations • pages: 90 • words: 17,300 • format: 24 X 34 • full English PDF

**Edutainment for everyone who wants to learn about
the most fascinating animals on earth.**

Bookfilm: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=as_euWuFJnU

Foreign rights:

Chinese simplified (Post Wave)

Danish (Gyldendal)

Dutch (Querido)

Faroese (Bókadeild)

Greek (Potamos)

Polish (Zysk)

Russian (Exmo)

Swedish (Lilla Piratförlaget)

Turkish (Domingo)

World Spanish (Biblos / Minamenau)

*... my five-year-old is glued to the book
from the first record (...) and has come
dragging with it several times, in the
touching way children come dragging
with books.*

Klassekampen

Katharina Vestre (b. 1992) is a Doctoral Research Fellow at the Department of Biosciences at the University of Oslo. Her debut, the popular science book, *The Making of You. A Journey from Cell to Human* (2018), is translated into 23 languages.

Linnea Vestre (b. 1993) has studied at the Art Academy in Oslo. She works as a designer, photographer, Illustrator and visual artist.

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**Nominated for the
2020 Norwegian Book Award
(Brage Prize)**

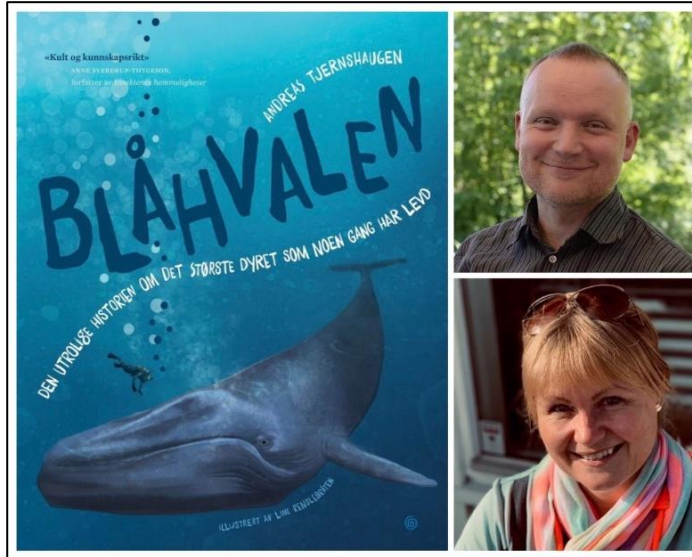


Photo: Kathrine Gramnæs and Knut Petter Meen

ANDREAS TJERNSHAUGEN (b. 1972)
Illustrator LINE RENSLEBRÅTEN (1980)

THE BLUE WHALE

The Incredible Story of the Biggest Animal That Has Ever Lived

Original title: *Blåhvalen. Den utrolige historien om et største dyret som noen gang har levd*

Non-fiction for readers 8 years and up • Publisher: Kagge 2020

color illustrations • pages: 88 • words: 9,600 • format: 21 x 26 • full English ms

A narrative non-fiction that tells the story of a whale mother and her whale kid.

NORLA's selected title spring 2020

Foreign rights:
Danish (Straarup & co.)
Korean (Yeoyoudang)
Lithuanian (Briedis)
German (dtv/Hanser)
Russian (Paulsen)



Photo: Oda Berby

NORA DÅSNES (b. 1995)

CROSS MY HEART AND HOPE TO DIE

Original title: *Ti kniver i hjertet*

Graphic novel for middle grade readers 9 years and up • Publisher: Aschehoug 2020

color illustrations • pages: 250 • words: 8,700 • format: 17 x 24 • full English PDF

A heartwarming story of friendship, falling in love for the first time and figuring out what is cool when you start seventh grade. The graphic novel questions «How do you know that you are in love?»

LGBTQ topic

Bookfilm:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yOEDMlfkXs8>

NORLA's selected title spring 2020

**Winner of the 2020
Ministry of Culture's Literary Prize
Graphic Novel**

**Awarded
Gold Best Illustrations 2021
Children's Books**

-The GRAFILL's Visual Prize
The Year's Most Beautiful Books
(the Norwegian Designer's Guild)

Winner of the 2020 Pondus Prize

*This is smart art of storytelling
from first to last page.*
From the jury's statement

Foreign rights:

Danish (Turbine)

French (Casterman Jeunesse)

German (Klett Kinderbuch Verlag)

Italian (Mondadori)

Korean (Gimm-young)

Spanish - Latin America and North America

(Planeta Mexico)

Spanish - Spain (RBA Libros)

Swedish (Alfabeta Bokförlag)

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Fall 2021 highlights

Look out for:

Maja Lunde and Lisa Aisato: **THE WIND MAKER** (Original title: *Vindmakeren*)

For readers 9 years and up • full English ms fall 2021 • tbp 2022

This is third title and the summer book, in the quartet series about the year's seasons

following the winter book ***The Snow Sister*** (published in 30 territories)

and the spring book ***Lilly and the Sunkeeper*** (sold to 11 territories).

Fourth title, the fall book, will be published 2024. All titles are stand alones!

Graphic novels:

Nicolai Houm and Luis Guaragna: **CHILDREN OF EMPYREAN**

new graphic novel series, material spring 2021 • 2 volumes tbp 2022 (readers 9 years and up)

Nora Dåsnes: **MISSED CALLS** (readers 13 years and up)

Dorte Wahlstad: **I DON'T WANT TO BE HERE** (readers 6 years and up)

Middle grade novels:

Harald Rosenløw Eeg: **THE BOY IN THE DARK**

YA:

Torun Lian: **THE MEANING OF ATLAS**

Kathrine Nedrejord: **THERE IS NO TRUTH**