

Literature
Center

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from
Iceland*

Icelandic
Literature



About the author

Einar Már Guðmundsson is a novelist, shortstory writer and poet, one of the most widely translated Icelandic authors born in the postwar period. Guðmundsson has received many awards and distinctions for his books, such as the Norwegian Bjørnson Prize, the Scharnberg Memorial Award in Denmark, The Karen Blixen Medal, and The Giuseppe Acerbi Literary Prize in Italy. In 2012 Einar Már Guðmundsson received the Swedish Academy's Nordic Prize, dubbed "The little Nobel", for his contribution to literature.

Among previous titles

- *Englar alheimsins* (e. *Angels of the Universe*)
- *Íslenskir kóngar* (e. *Icelandic Kings*)
- *Þítlaávarpið* (e. *The Beetle Manifesto*)
- *Fótspor á himnum* (e. *Footprints on the Heaven*)

Foreign sales of previous titles

- Denmark; Norway; Sweden; Finland; Faroe Islands; Greenland Germany/Switzerland/Austria; UK; The Netherlands; Italy; Lithuania; France; Spain; Portugal; USA; The Czech Republic; Poland; Serbia; Turkey; China; Estonia; Bulgaria; Hungary; Spain (in Galician); Korea; Latvia; Slovenia; Russia; Brazil; Albania; Egypt.

Awards and nominations for *Hundadagar* (e. *Dog Days*)

- Awarded the Icelandic Literary Prize 2015 for *Hundadagar*



About the author

Jón Kalman Stefánsson's novels have been nominated three times for the Nordic Council Prize for Literature and his novel *Summer Light, and then Comes the Night* received the Icelandic Prize for Literature in 2005. In 2011 he was awarded the prestigious P.O. Enquist Award. He is known for his trilogy consisting of *Heaven and Hell*, *The Sorrow of Angels* and *The Heart of Man* translated into numerous languages worldwide. *The Sorrow of Angels* was longlisted for the Independent Foreign Fiction Prize 2014.

Among previous titles

- *Himnaríki og helviti* (e. *Heaven and Hell*)
- *Harmur englanna* (e. *The Sorrow of Angels*)
- *Hjarta mannsins* (e. *The Heart of Man*)
- *Fiskarnir hafa enga fætur* (e. *Fish Have No Feet*)

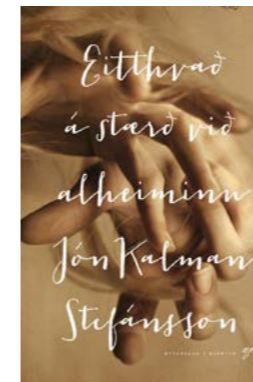
Foreign sales of previous titles

- Albania; Arabic; Brasil; Bulgaria; China; Croatia; Czech Republic; Denmark; France; Germany; Greece; Hungary; Israel; Italy; Netherlands; Norway; Poland; Portugal; Romania; Slovakia; Spain; Sweden; Turkey; UK; USA.

- Awards and nominations for *Eitthvað á stærð við alheiminn* (e. *Around the Same Size as the Universe*)
- Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize 2015

Around the Same Size as the Universe Eitthvað á stærð við alheiminn

Jón Kalman Stefánsson



About the book

Jón Kalman Stefánsson is one of Iceland's most beloved writers who is renowned for his novels. *Around the Same Size as the Universe* is an independent sequel to his novel *Fish Have no Feet*, which was published in 2013. Readers continue to follow Ari, who returns to the area where he grew up after being away for years - but this story is also about his mother and grandmother - a story of generations, a story of a society that went through great transformation in the last century.

The sorrow over what was and also what could have been weighs heavily on the characters and taints the narrative, yet there is always hope, and it is perhaps most evident in fiction - speculations on the nature and purpose of literature runs through the whole story. Jón Kalman Stefánsson has a unique, lyrical style that is often piercing in its beauty and melancholy.

Author

Jón Kalman Stefánsson (b. 1963)

Original title

Eitthvað á stærð við alheiminn

English working title

Around the Same Size as the Universe

Genre

Novel

Pages

355

Publisher

Bjartur, 2015

Sold to

Gallimard (France); Piper Verlag (Germany); Typotext (Hungary); Iperborea (Italy); Press (Norway); Ambo Anthos (The Netherlands); Cavallo de Ferro (Portugal); MacLehose Press (UK).

Rights

Copenhagen Literary Agency

Contact

Monica Gram, monica@cphla.dk

English sample translation available

Einar Már Guðmundsson *Dog Days* Hundadagar

About the book

"No, there is no need for lies.

There is no obligation to lie in novels. Here, reality gains wings and flies around the world." That is how the narrator of *Dog Days* describes what he is doing to his readers. It is as if he stands before them and tells the tale; conjuring up long gone events and people, referring to this and that, sometimes explaining, sometimes even comparing them to the present, but often leaving the reader to interpret the meaning.

The story is about the life of the Danish Jørgen Jørgensen who seized power in Iceland for one summer in the late 18th century. Jørgensen was quite a character, an adventurer, traveller, coxswain, king, war correspondent, gambler, spy, prisoner, writer, and finally a police officer in Tasmania where he died. The novel lends Jørgensen's life and character mythological dimensions. Another protagonist is the reverend Jón Steingrímsson, often called the Pastor of Fire, another legendary figure in Icelandic history, and Einar Már weaves even more historical characters into this fantastical narrative.

Author

Einar Már Guðmundsson (b. 1954)

Original title

Hundadagar

English working title

Dog Days

Genre

Novel

Pages

342

Publisher

Mál og menning /

Forlagið, 2015

Sold to

People's Literature Publishing House (China); Lindhardt & Ringhof AS (Denmark); Sprotin (Faroe Islands), Btb (Germany).

Rights

The Forlagið Rights Agency

Contact

Úa Matthíasdóttir, ua@forlagid.is and Valgerður Benediksdóttir, vala@forlagid.is

English sample translation available

**About the author**

Gunnar Helgason is a popular actor and well known for all kinds of entertaining material for children which has enjoyed great popularity for some years. Amongst other things he has directed a popular children's program on Icelandic State TV. He received the IBBY Spring Winds award 2013 for his contribution to children's culture in Iceland. All his books in the *Great Football Adventure* series are written with advice from Reykjavík Child Services as well as the Icelandic Football Association. The stories about the footballer Jon Jonsson have been mainstays on Icelandic bestseller lists for the past years.

Previous titles by the author

- The *Great Football Adventure* series (4 books)
- Awards and nominations for *Mamma klikk!* (e. *My Crazy Mom*)
- Icelandic Literary Award 2015 in Children and YA category

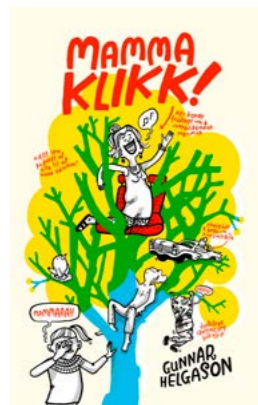
**About the author**

Þórdís Gísladóttir is, among other things, a poet and a translator. She has written three books about the friends Randalín and Mundi and received the Icelandic Booksellers Prize and the Icelandic Women Literature Prize for her first book about Randalín and Mundi. Þórarinn M. Baldursson has illustrated her books about Randalín and Mundi. He is an illustrator of children's books and a violist in the Icelandic Symphony Orchestra.

Among previous titles

- *Randalín og Mundi* (e. *Randalín and Mundi*)
- *Randalín og Mundi í Leynilundi* (e. *Randalín and Mundi in a Secret Grove*)
- Foreign sales of previous titles
- *Randalín og Mundi*: Pongráckiado (Hungary)
- Awards and nominations for *Randalín, Mundi og afturgöngurnar* (e. *Randalín, Mundi and the Zombies*)
- Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize 2015 in Children and YA category
- Nominated for the Icelandic Women's Literature Prize 2015 for Children and YA Books

Gunnar Helgason

My Crazy Mom
Mamma klikk!**About the book**

Stella is a twelve-year-old girl who will do anything to fit in and be what she believes a normal teenager should be, but her mother, who Stella thinks is completely bonkers, keeps getting in her way. Stella has two brothers, whom she tries to enlist to change their mother the opera singer, so that she'll at least be slightly 'normal' before Stella's 13th birthday party. The story is therefore about a classic teen problem - the fear of standing out, and the author manages to tackle that in an unusual and innovative way.

The narrative and style is light and playful, and the colourful characters get up to all sorts of antics. Stella's conflict and worries over her family, friends, and the opinion of others, is described with great insight, and soon the reader starts to realise that perhaps it's actually Stella who is not quite 'normal'. And bit by bit she learns to appreciate the people around her and see things in a different light.

Author

Gunnar Helgason (b. 1965)

Original title

Mamma klikk!

English working title

My Crazy Mom

Genre

Children's Book 9+ years

Pages

192

Publisher

Mál og menning /

Forlagið, 2015

Rights

The Forlagið Rights

Agency

Contact

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ua@forlagid.is and

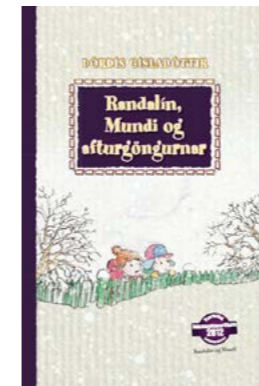
Valgerður Benediktsdóttir,

vala@forlagid.is

English sample translation

available

Þórdís Gísladóttir

Randalín, Mundi
and the Zombies
Randalín, Mundi
og afturgöngurnar**About the book**

Randalín, Mundi and the Zombies is the third book by author Þórdís Gísladóttir and illustrator Þórarinn M. Baldursson about best friends, Randalín and Mundi. The warm and vivid narrative about this lovely and funny pair and their adventures is a pleasure to read.

The story takes place just before Christmas, Randalín and Mundi are waiting for festive snow and all the adventures it entails. Randalín lives with her father in Reykjavík, but he is going to spend the holidays with his husband abroad so Randalín's mother, who is studying film makeup in London, comes home. The children get to join her on a film set in the north of the country, where she is working as a makeup artist on a zombie movie. And the kids get to play extras in the film.

This is a wonderful and imaginative children's book, and the simple and clever illustrations are a great contribution to the reader experience. The author has a knack for tackling frightening issues, whether they involve rat pizzas or zombies, in an easy-going manner full of subtle humour. The protagonists' adventures and experiences inspire interesting conversations between children and adults.

Author

Þórdís Gísladóttir (b. 1965)

Original title

Randalín, Mundi og

afturgöngurnar

English working title

Randalín, Mundi

and the Zombies

Genre

Children's Book +6 years

Illustrations

Þórarinn Már Baldursson

Pages

100

Publisher

Bjartur, 2015

Rights

Bjartur Publishing

Contact

Guðrún Vilmundardóttir,

gv@bjartur.is

English sample translation

available



About the author

Hallgrímur Helgason started out as a painter and has held over 30 exhibitions. His best known books are *101 Reykjavík*, which has appeared in 16 languages and inspired a movie released in 2000 to international acclaim, and *The Hitman's Guide to House Cleaning*. The latter is Helgason's only book written in English and has been sold to 15 countries. It became a bestseller on amazon.com in 2012. Hallgrímur's novel *The Author of Iceland* received the Icelandic Literary Prize in 2001. *The Woman at 1000°*, from 2011, was Helgason's third book to be nominated for the Nordic Council Literature Prize. His latest work is the autobiographical *Seasick in Munich*, simultaneously published in Icelandic and German and was picked as one of "The Ten Best Books of 2015" in Die Zeit.

Among previous titles

- *101 Reykjavík*
- *Rokland* (e. *Stormland*)
- *Höfundur Íslands* (e. *The Author of Iceland*)

Foreign sales of previous titles

- Croatia; Czech Republic; Denmark; France; Germany; Hungary; Italy; South-Korea; Lithuania; Macedonia; The Netherlands; Norway; Poland; Russia; Spain; Spain (Catalan); UK; USA.

Awards and nominations for *Sjóveikur í München* (e. *Seasick in Munich*)

- Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize 2015



About the author

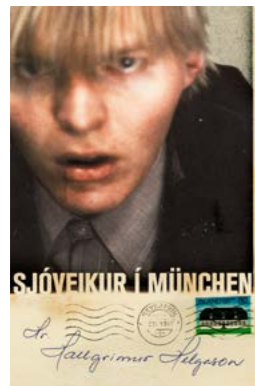
Hildur Knútsdóttir volunteered in Guatemala after graduating from college and travelled through Latin America. After that she spent a winter in Berlin and lived in Taiwan for a year, studying Chinese at Chengchi University, Taipei. This is her second novel for children, but she has also published a novel for adults.

Previous titles by the author

- *Spádómurinn* (*The Prophecy*)
- Awards and nominations for *Vetrarfrí* (e. *Winter Break*)
- The Icelandic Women's Literature Prize 2015 for Children and YA Books
- Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize 2015 for Children and YA Books

Hallgrímur Helgason

Seasick in Munich *Sjóveikur í München*



About the book

Hallgrímur is a popular and established visual artist, poet, and writer. *Seasick in Munich* is his first biographical work, relating the story of when he, in his early twenties, left home to study art in Munich, Germany. His time abroad is not a bed of roses but after numerous humiliating events and shipwrecks the young man finally returns home, a bit worse for wear but all the wiser. The author paints a tragicomic painting of a young man who fluctuates between an immense inferiority complex over the lack of culture in his homeland and disappointment over Europe.

Hallgrímur is a master story teller whose style is vibrant, playful, sharp and witty - and this time around he excels in harnessing these skills to enhance the narrative. The book is hilarious yet brutal, as the author neither spares himself nor others in this brilliant memoir.

Author

Hallgrímur Helgason (b. 1959)

Original title

Sjóveikur í München

English working title

Seasick in Munich

Genre

Novel

Pages

325

Publisher

JPV / Forlagið, 2015

Sold to

Klett Cotta (Germany); Lindhardt & Ringhof (Denmark)

Rights

Andrew Nurnberg Associates

Contact

Eleonoora Kirk, EKirk@nurnberg.co.uk

[English sample translation available](#)

Hildur Knútsdóttir

Winter Break *Vetrarfrí*



About the book

Winter Break is a thriller for kids and adults alike. It is a page turner that you'll find hard to put down. Our story starts with Bergljót who is on her way to school the day before the winter break. She's looking forward to her days off, and especially to the party being planned for Year 10. Her parents are planning a romantic getaway and Bergljót and her brother, Bragi, will be staying with friends.

But a change of plans takes Bergljót and Bragi off to the summerhouse with their dad while their mum has to stay at home for work. Bergljót is upset, sure that she is in for a very dull time, but when her brother and father go for a game of football on a nearby field they walk into a horrific scene; boys on the football field are vomiting and dropping dead one after the other. It soon becomes evident that this is no ordinary plague.

Winter Break is Hildur Knútsdóttir's third novel. It is superbly penned, bloody and brutal, the characters are complex and believable, and the gruesome plotline is well executed, like a horrible waking dream.

Author

Hildur Knútsdóttir (b. 1984)

Original title

Vetrarfrí

English working title

Winter Break

Genre

Children's / YA Book

+ 11 years

Pages

210

Publisher

JPV / Forlagið, 2015

Rights

The Forlagið Rights Agency

Contact

Úa Matthíasdóttir, ua@forlagid.is and Valgerður Benediktsdóttir, vala@forlagid.is

[English sample translation available](#)



About the author

Bergún Íris Sævarsdóttir is an illustrator and songwriter who has worked on many books for both children and adults. She was nominated for the Nordic Council Children and Young People's Literature Prize 2014 for *My friend, the wind*, her first book as both author and illustrator.

Previous titles by the author

- *Vinur minn, vindurinn* (e. *My friend, the Wind*)
- *Sjáðu mig, sumar!* (*See me, summer!*)



About the author

Gerður Kristný proved herself as one of Iceland's most interesting poets with her first book, and has since then published several books of poetry, as well as short stories, novels, and children's books. She received the West-Nordic Children's Literature Prize and the Icelandic Booksellers' Prize for her novel *The Garden* and The Icelandic Children's Literature Prize for *Marta Smarta*. She has also earned great acclaim for her books for adults, including the Icelandic Literature Prize 2011 for her poetry book *Blood Hoof* which was also nominated for the Nordic Council Literature Prize 2012.

Among previous titles

- *Garðurinn* (e. *The Garden*)
 - *Ballíð á Bessastöðum* (e. *The Ball at Bessastadir*)
 - *Bátur með segli og allt* (e. *A Boat with Sails and All*) – Novel
 - *Blóðhófnir* (e. *Bloodhoof*) – poetry
- Foreign sales
of previous titles
- Germany; Sweden; Denmark; Finland; Norway; UK.

Bergrún Íris Sævarsdóttir *Building Bridges* Viltu vera vinur minn?



About the book

Bergrún Íris Sævarsdóttir has over the past few years been making waves as an illustrator and children's book author. *Building Bridges* is a book for the youngest generation and is exquisite in every way. It tells the tale of a lonely, little bunny who longs for a friend. As the bunny is a resourceful little thing, she decides to build a bridge over the river in the hopes of finding a playmate on the other side.

Bergrún's text is simple while creating room for discussion between adults and young listeners. The illustrations are lovely and fun, and suit the subject matter perfectly, such as the illustration depicting the bunny's loneliness, where she sits sadly on one side of a see-saw - every child knows that it takes two to play on the see-saw. But the author does not neglect to show how solitude can sometimes be both necessary and nice - for instance to enjoy a good book.

Author

Bergrún Íris Sævarsdóttir (b. 1984)

Original title

Viltu vera vinur minn?

English working title

Building Bridges

Genre

Children's Books /
Picture Book

Pages

24

Publisher

Bókabeitan, 2015

Rights

Bókabeitan

Contact

Birgitta Hassell,
birgitta@bokabeitan.is

[English sample translation available](#)

Gerður Kristný

Doll Dúkka



About the book

Kristín Katla is ten years old and still plays with dolls, or at least with a specific type of doll popular with her circle of friends. Before long it becomes evident that these dolls are highly unusual; the girls want to own dolls that look like them, but the likeness between the dolls and their owners starts to become uncanny.

The author is a renowned poet and writer who has also published a number of popular children's books. *Doll* is an unusual, well written, and riveting story of a girl who has recently lost her father in an accident. Unfortunately, her doll does not offer the comfort she was hoping for, and on top of that, Kristín Katla must help her friend who has become consumed by her own doll.

The narrative starts of quite innocently but a tickling horror bubbling underneath breaks through to the surface as the story unwinds. Linda Ólafsdóttir's black and white illustrations are a fantastic complement to the atmosphere of the story.

Author

Gerður Kristný (b. 1970)

Original title

Dúkka

English working title

Doll

Genre

Children's Book 8+ years

Illustrations

Linda Ólafsdóttir

Pages

108

Publisher

Mál og menning /

Forlagið, 2015

Rights

The Forlagið Rights

Agency

Contact

Úa Matthíasdóttir,
ua@forlagid.is and
Valgerður Benediktsdóttir,
vala@forlagid.is

[English sample translation available](#)



About the author

Ólafur Jóhann Ólafsson was born in Reykjavík in 1962 and later studied physics as a Wien Scholar at Brandeis University. Among works by Ólafur Jóhann are *Absolution* (Pantheon, 1994), *The Journey Home* (Pantheon, 2000), and *Walking Into The Night* (Pantheon, 2003), as well as a collection of short stories, *Valentines* (Pantheon, 2007). His books have been published to critical acclaim in more than twenty languages. He is the recipient of the O. Henry Award and the Icelandic Literary Award, was shortlisted for the Frank O'Connor Prize, and has twice been nominated for the IMPAC Award. He is the Executive Vice President, International and Corporate Strategy, of Time Warner and lives in New York.

Among previous titles

- *Málverkíð* (e. *Restoration*)
- *Aldingarðurinn* (e. *Valentines*)
- *Slóð fiðrildanna* (e. *The Journey Home*)
- *Höll minninganna* (e. *Walking into the Night*)
- *Fyrirgefning syndanna* (e. *Absolution*)



About the author

Kristín Ómarsdóttir lives in Reykjavík and writes poetry, novels, short stories, and plays. She received The Women's Literary Award in 2008 for her book of poetry, *Sjáðu fegurð þína* (*See Your Beauty*), which also was nominated for two other prizes. In 2005 Kristín received the Icelandic drama award, Gríman, for her play *Segðu mér allt* (*Tell me Everything*). Her novel *Elskan mín ég dey* (*I'll Die, My Love*) received the DV Cultural Prize for Literature in 1998 and was nominated for The Nordic Council Literary Prize in 1999 and her play, *Ástarsaga 3* (*Love story 3*), (1997), was nominated for the Nordic Council Drama Award.

Among previous titles

- *Hér* (e. *Children in Reindeer Woods*)
 - *Milla* (e. *Milla*)
 - *Hjá brúnni* (e. *By the Bridge*)
 - *Elskan mín ég dey* (e. *I'll Die, My Love*)
- Foreign sales of previous titles
- Denmark; Finland; France; Sweden; USA.

Ólafur Jóhann Ólafsson

The Return Endurkoman



About the book

Over his long and successful career, Ólafur Jóhann Ólafsson, has tried his hand at just about everything - novels, poetry, plays, and short stories. *The Return* is the story of the half-Icelandic doctor Magnús Colin who is studying new technology to communicate with coma patients. When he tries to make contact with a young, strange woman, the doctor starts to wonder about his own personal relationships, with the living and the dead.

Ólafur skilfully plays around with the Colin's fragmented memories that line up erratically, keeping readers constantly on their toes. This narrative method, in addition to a narrator who seems to become increasingly less reliable as the story unwinds, evokes both curiosity and tension. But it's not only the doctor's memories that are of interest, for the author also poses pressing questions about the nature of memory, self delusion and denial, and how big a role these things play in the creation of the self.

Author

Ólafur Jóhann Ólafsson
(b. 1962)

Original title

Endurkoman

English working title

The Return

Genre

Novel

Pages

389

Publisher

Veröld, 2015

Rights

Veröld Publishing

Contact

Pétur Már Ólafsson,

pmo@bjartur.is

[English sample translation available](#)

Kristín Ómarsdóttir

The Wanderer Flækingurinn



About the book

The narrator, Hrafn, in Kristín Ómarsdóttir's novel, is a mute outsider and drug addict in contemporary Reykjavík. He dreams of having a child and teaching that child everything about love, but as he lives in a world of drug abuse and petty crime his dream seems highly unlikely.

Hrafn is an unusual and charming narrator who watches the world with enthusiasm and openness. He is separated from the world, mainly because of his muteness, and he paints the dark side of life in vibrant and bright colours. The reader gets to know colourful characters who constantly dally with death and despair, but Hrafn manages to make that existence seem beautiful and normal.

Kristín Ómarsdóttir is well known for her poetry, plays, and novels, and has throughout her career created a very personal and fantastic textual world. *The Wanderer* is the closest she has gotten to realism in her novels, describing the cold and cruel reality of the underworld in a very beautiful and charming way through the protagonist who, due to his disability, is even more of an outsider than others.

Author

Kristín Ómarsdóttir
(b. 1962)

Original title

Flækingurinn

English working title

The Wanderer

Genre

Novel

Pages

365

Publisher

Mál og menning /

Forlagið, 2015

Sold to

Jensen & Dalgaard

(Denmark)

Rights

The Forlagið Rights

Agency

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Valgerður Benediktsdóttir,

vala@forlagid.is

[English sample translation available](#)



About the author

Bragi Ólafsson's novels are undoubtedly among the most original and remarkable Icelandic stories of recent years. Ólafsson's novel *The Ambassador* received the 2006 Icelandic Booksellers' Prize and was nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize and the Nordic Council Literature Prize in 2008. bragi.funksjon.net

Among previous titles

- *Hvildardagar* (e. *Time Off*)
 - *Gæluþýrin* (e. *The Pets*)
 - *Sendiherrann* (e. *The Ambassador*)
- Foreign sales of previous titles
- Argentina; Denmark; Egypt; France; Germany; Italy; Lithuania; Macedonia; Sweden; Turkey; USA.



About the author

Auður Jónsdóttir is one of the most accomplished authors writing in Icelandic today. Four of her books have been nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize, and it was awarded to her for the novel *Fólkið í kjallaranum* (e. *The People in the Basement*). She has been nominated twice for the Nordic Council Literature Prize, in 2005 for *Fólkið í kjallaranum* (e. *The People in the Basement*) and 2014 for *Ósjálfrátt* (e. *Secretaries to the Spirits*). jonsdottir.com

Among previous titles

- *Fólkið í kjallaranum* (e. *The People in the Basement*)
 - *Vetrarsól* (e. *Wintersun*)
 - *Ósjálfrátt* (e. *Secretaries to the Spirits*)
- Foreign sales of previous titles
- Denmark; France; Germany; Sweden.
- Awards and Nominations for *Stóri skjálfti* (e. *Grand Mal*)
- Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize 2015
 - Awarded the Icelandic Bookseller's Literary Prize 2015 for fiction

Bragi Ólafsson

Narrator Sögumaður



About the book

This short and highly entertaining novella tells the story of a man who calls himself G. He is standing in line at the post office when he spots a contemporary who he has always disliked and who he now believes to be involved in drug trafficking. G decides to follow the man and this leads to an interesting pursuit around the centre of Reykjavík. During this chase the author paints a tragicomic picture of an anti hero who "came out of his mother and has never gone any place since".

The story takes place on a rainy day in June while the FIFA World Cup is going on in Brazil, and the reader is taken around a familiar setting of down-town Reykjavík, while also travelling back and forth in time, revealing bit-by-bit the root of the animosity between the two characters.

Bragi Ólafsson has developed a unique style reminiscent of Mid European narrative, it is fascinating and an important part of the narrative's driving force; the polite yet ambiguous hesitations, quaint subordinate clauses, fresh and innovative use of words and assembling of sentences.

Author

Bragi Ólafsson (b. 1962)

Original title

Sögumaður

English working title

Narrator

Genre

Novel

Pages

171

Publisher

Mál og menning /

Forlagið, 2015

Sold to

Actes sud (France); Open

Letter (USA)

Rights

The Forlagið Rights

Agency

Contact

Úa Matthíasdóttir,

ua@forlagid.is and

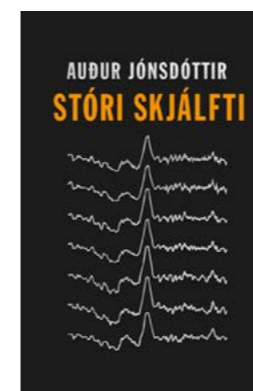
Valgerður Benediktsdóttir,

vala@forlagid.is

English sample translation available

Auður Jónsdóttir

Grand Mal Stóri skjálfti



About the book

This latest novel by prize winning author, Auður Jónsdóttir, starts out with the main character Saga waking up after an intense epileptic seizure. Her memory is shattered, but as she comes to her senses she realises that her three-year-old son is missing. And the shock induces another serious seizure.

In this powerful novel, Auður tackles memory; the memory that the main character loses in part and has to make a great effort to piece back together, and also the memories of an entire family, the memories that are allowed to dwell on the surface and the memories that are suppressed.

The narrative is streamlined and fascinating from the first dramatic opening scene. The reader goes through Saga's desperate search for the facts in her life, and senses her joy and fears as the picture becomes clearer - revealing that perhaps all is not as it should be.

Gran Mal is a powerful and riveting novel, where the well crafted and flowing narrative effortlessly moves between thought and reality, past and present, and underneath it all are interesting and profound ideas about what it means to be a person living in community with others.

Author

Auður Jónsdóttir (b. 1973)

Original title

Stóri skjálfti

English working title

Grand Mal

Genre

Novel

Pages

298

Publisher

Mál og menning /

Forlagið, 2015

Rights

The Forlagið Rights

Agency

Contact

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Valgerður Benediktsdóttir,

vala@forlagid.is

English sample translation available

Center

*debutants,
new icelandic
crime fiction,
special mention,
recently sold
abroad &
awards*

Icelandic

Literature



About the authors

Ragnhildur Hólmgeirsdóttir was born in 1988 in Reykjavik. During her teenage years, she sought out countless horror movies that left her with a fascination for the macabre and a firm belief that every protagonist should be hiding a dark secret from the past. Although she has a degree in history and specializes in the Middle Ages she keeps academia and fiction separated. Because when you don't have to consider an actual time or place, a storyline can go anywhere...

Awards and nominations

- Nominated for the Icelandic Women's Literature Prize 2015.
- The Icelandic Bokseller's Literary Prize 2015 for Children's Books.
- Nominated for the Reykjavík Children's Literature Prize for the best children's book.
- Nominated for the Nordic Council Children and Young People's Literature Prize 2016.

Ragnhildur
Hólmgeirsdóttir

City of Bronze
Koparborgin



About the book

The ambiguous, yet carefully constructed setting of *Koparborgin* (e. *City of Bronze*) resembles an Italian city of the Renaissance. The fishermen live in huts and boats on the lagoon beyond the walls, but above the village is another and even more mysterious city where the ominous authorities dwell. When the plague sets on the village, the people of the city set fire to the village, killing all survivors of the plague. Young Pietro barely manages to escape with his life but is visited by a witch in his dreams who cures him and assigns him a task that is more forbidding than the plague. In the almost deserted city Pietro is offered sanctuary at the Exchange House, which has been occupied solely by children for the past three

centuries, but when they come under threat they must embark on a journey through a world marked by witchcraft, danger, and death in the citadel.

This debut novel is a smart, exhilarating, and riveting tale for fans of fantasy fiction of all ages. Critics have praised this juicy, and at times dark, story that despite everything has a fairly good ending.

Author
Ragnhildur Hólmgeirsdóttir (b. 1988)
Original title
Koparborgin
English working title
City of Bronze
Genre
Fantasy fiction / YA / Children's book
Pages
314

Publisher
Bókabeitan
Rights
Bókbeitan
Contact
Birgitta Hassell,
birgitta@bokabeitan.is
English sample translation available

debutants

**About the author**

Halldóra Kristín

Thoroddsen was born in Reykjavík in 1950. She is educated as a teacher and visual artist. *Tvöfalt gler* (e. *Double Glass*) is Halldóra's first novel but before she has written three books of poetry, *Stofuljóð* (e. *Living Room Poems*), *Hárfínar athugasemdir* (e. *Exact Observations*) and *Gangandi vegfarandi* (e. *Pedestrian*) and two collections of short stories, *90 sýni úr minni mínu* (e. *90 Samples from My Memory*) og *Aukaverkanir* (e. *Side Effects*).

Awards and nominations

- Awarded the Icelandic Women Literature Prize 2015 for fiction.

**About the author***Skínandi* (e. *Glow*) is Birta

Thrastardóttir's first book, but she also creates graphic short stories and cut-out animations. Her 60s inspired drawings are simple, yet rich in texture and her narrative is often a harmony between mundane realism, surrealism and humour. Birta studied animation at Central Saint Martins in London and has an MA degree in Sequential Design and Illustration. She lives and works in Brighton, UK.

Halldóra Kristín Thoroddsen

Double Glass *Tvöfalt gler*

**About the book**

This debut novel of Halldóra Kristín Thoroddsen, a published author of three books of poetry and two collections of short stories, tells a story of a woman who has lost her husband. To everyone's surprise, herself included, she finds love again, and despite illness and death that inevitably mark old age, life blossoms. This is not a traditional love story, it is a multi layered story of the vibrant inner life of a person who society has in a way dismissed and put out to pasture. Halldóra has a unique way with words and is a master at writing between the lines. The subtle text flows easily but the undercurrent is strong and takes a firm hold of the reader. The book is simultaneously lyrical and down to earth, tragic and comic, and even

though it may seem unassuming at first glance, it tells a much larger story than the number of pages imply.

AuthorHalldóra Kristín
Thoroddsen (b. 1950)**Original title**

Tvöfalt gler

English working title

Double Glass

Genre

Novel

Pages

79

Publisher

Kind / Sæmundur

Rights

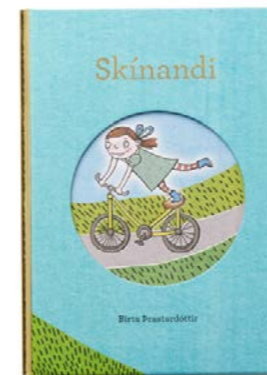
Sæmundur

ContactBjarni Harðarsson,
bjarnihardar@gmail.
com**English sample
translation available**

2015

Birta Prastardóttir

Glow *Skínandi*

**About the book***Skínandi* (e. *Glow*) is a

remarkable and exquisite book for the youngest readers. Birta Prastardóttir is not only the author of the text and illustrations but also designs the book from beginning to end. The result is a comprehensive, intelligent, and beautiful work of art.

This is a story about Aurora, who one night finds a glowing star that has fallen from the sky. When Aurora takes a bite out of the star she immediately starts shining. At first she is pleased with this transformation but when people start gathering around her she becomes shy and afraid. Disaster strikes when Aurora is kidnapped by a circus mistress who intends to make her a part of the show, but help comes from a surprising direction.

This beautiful book gives adults the opportunity to discuss issues such as courage, fear, and attention with children. The illustrations are clear-cut, yet playful and full of details that children enjoy.

AuthorBirta Prastardóttir
(b. 1976)**Original title**

Skínandi

English working title

Glow

GenreChildren's Book /
Picture Book**Pages**

36

Publisher

Crymogea

Rights

Crymogea

Contact

María Rán

Guðjónsdóttir,

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**English sample
translation available**

debutants



About the author

Arnar Már studied Icelandic literature at the University of Iceland and later German literature at the University of Cologne. After trying his luck in different areas, as a sailor, translator and a caretaker in a nursing home, he then became a guide at the Laxness-museum. For the past 10 years Arnar Már Arngrímsson has taught Icelandic language and literature in his hometown at Akureyri Junior College (Menntaskólinn á Akureyri). *Sölvasaga unglings* (e. *The Saga of Sölvi the Youth*) is his first book to be published.

Awards and nominations

- Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize 2015 in Children and YA category.
- Nominated for the Nordic Council Children and Young People's Literature Prize 2016.

Arnar Már Arngrímsson

The Saga of Sölvi the Youth Sölvasaga unglings



About the book

Sölvi is a teenage boy who is finishing secondary school but he has lost all interest in his studies, becoming more and more isolated in a world of computer games and pornography. His parents are reeling from the financial crash and the family is about to break up when Sölvi's parents decide to send him away for the summer, without his smartphone and access to the Internet, to stay with his grandmother on a farm in the countryside.

Sölvi is appalled and defiant, but in the isolation of the countryside he faces different challenges. He has to work and also to find new ways of recreation in a strange environment where he gets to know his father's past, music, and books, his grandmother, the farmer on the neighbouring farm, and an interesting teenage girl.

This debut novel is written by a teacher who is very familiar with the modern teen world, its complications, aggravations, and stimuli. This is a candid, honest, and skilfully written novel that speaks both to young people, who know this reality, and older readers.

Author

Arnar Már Arngrímsson (b. 1972)

Original title

Sölvasaga unglings

English working title

The Saga of Sölvi the Youth

Genre

YA

Pages

255

Publisher

Sögur

Rights

Sögur

Contact

Tómas Hermannsson,
tomas@s

ogurutgafa.is and

Heiða Þórbergs

heida@sogurutgafa.is

English sample

translation available

2015

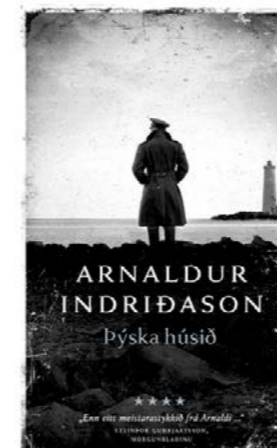


About the authors

Arnaldur Indriðason has the rare distinction of having won the Nordic Crime Novel Prize two years running. He is also the winner of the highly respected and world famous CWA Gold Dagger Award for the top crime novel of the year in the English language, *Silence of the Grave*. Indriðason's novels have sold over ten million copies worldwide, in 40 languages.

Arnaldur Indriðason

The Travelling Salesman Þýska húsið



About the book

A travelling salesman is found murdered in a small Reykjavik apartment, shot in the head with a pistol. The police quickly set their sights on the foreign soldiers on every street corner that summer of 1941, soldiers whose interactions with the locals—especially the local women—have been creating a great deal of trouble. *The Travelling Salesman* is Arnaldur Indriðason's nineteenth book. Flovent and Thorson, partners on the Reykjavik police force during the Second World War, were previously introduced in Arnaldur's award-winning book *The Man from Manitoba*, published in 2013.

This newest novel tells the story of their first case: the Icelandic-Canadian soldier Thorson is a novice at criminal investigations, while Flovent is more experienced—the only person, in fact, on the city's detective force.

Author

Arnaldur Indriðason
(b. 1961)

Original title

Þýska húsið

English working title

The Travelling
Salesman

Genre

Crime Fiction

Pages

332

Publisher

Forlagið

Rights

Forlagið Rights Agency

Contact

Úa Matthíasdóttir,

ua@forlagid.is

and Valgerður

Benediktsdóttir

vala@forlagid.is

English sample

translation available

new icelandic

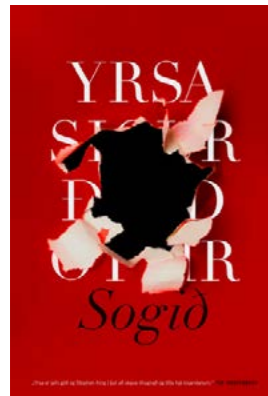


About the author

Yrsa Sigurðardóttir is a bestselling Icelandic crime author of the award-winning Thóra Gudmundsdóttir series and several stand-alone thrillers. Sigurðardóttir made her crime fiction debut in 2005 with *Last Rituals*, which has been translated into more than 30 languages.

Yrsa Sigurðardóttir

The Vortex Sogið



About the book

Twelve years after the rape and murder of a young girl in Hafnarfjörður, a time capsule is unearthed in Reykjavík. In the capsule are ten-year-old letters from school children, describing what they think Iceland will be like in 2016. But among the letters is also an unsigned message listing the initials of people targeted for murder. Shortly after the capsule's discovery, two severed hands are found floating in a hot tub in the middle of the city. The hands show signs of having been removed while the victim was still alive. Yet the police have received no missing person reports, and likewise no rumors of missing hands have surfaced. But when the first mangled body does turn

up, it is soon followed by another, and it becomes evident that the letter from the time capsule is not to be taken lightly.

Author

Yrsa Sigurðardóttir
(b. 1963)

Original title

Sogið

English working title

The Vortex

Genre

Crime Fiction

Pages

459

Publisher

Veröld

Rights

Salomonsson Agency

Contact

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com

English sample

translation available

crime fiction



About the authors

Ragnar Jónasson lives in Reykjavik and works as a lawyer and teaches copyright law at the Reykjavik University. He has worked in TV and radio, including as a news reporter for the Icelandic National Broadcasting Service. Ragnar has written five novels and his *Dark Iceland Series* translation rights are sold to 11 countries. In addition UK Production Company On the Corner has acquired the TV Rights for the *Dark Iceland series*. Ragnar has also translated 14 Agatha Christie novels into Icelandic and had several short stories published in both German and Icelandic literary magazines.

Ragnar Jónasson

Hulda's Last Case – Book 1 Dimma



About the book

First book in The Hulda Series - set in Reykjavik and the Icelandic Highlands. The Series is told chronologically reverse: The first book focuses on Hulda's final case, with the series subsequently focusing on her earlier cases. Hulda is asked to leave work a couple of months before her due retirement, to make room for a new and younger detective. She is asked not to take on any new cases, but gets a chance to look at one older case before bowing out. She picks a recent dormant case of a Russian asylum seeker in Iceland, a young woman, who was found dead on the southwestern shores of Iceland. Her death was probably a homicide, but it was not pursued very thoroughly by Hulda's colleagues. The reader is also told a story of a couple

travelling in the magnificent but sometimes terrifying Icelandic highlands, a trip which ends in a horrible death, with possible links to the death of the asylum seeker, indicating that Hulda may be on the path of a serial killer, who may not stop at two killings, with Hulda putting her own life at risk.

Author

Ragnar Jónasson
(b. 1976)

Original title

Dimma

English working title

Hulda's Last Case –
Book 1

Genre

Crime Fiction

Pages

263

Publisher

Veröld

Rights

Copenhagen Literary
Agency

Contact

Monica Gram,
monica@cphla.dk

English sample

translation available

new icelandic



About the author

Lilja Sigurðardóttir is an Icelandic crime-writer and playwright. Her first novel, *Steps* (*Spor*), was published in 2009 and later translated into German and published by Rowohlt in 2011. Her second novel, *Forgiveness* (*Fyrirgefning*), was published in 2010. In 2013 she debuted as a playwright with the stage-play *Big Babies* (*Stóru Börnin*). The play received great acclaim by the critic and was prolonged on stage until 2014, winning the Icelandic Theatre Prize Gríman as Best play of the year.

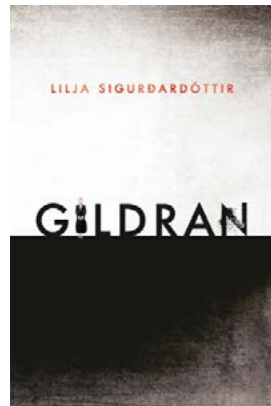


About the authors

Sólveig Pálsdóttir studied at the Drama Academy of Iceland and has a BA degree in literary studies from the University of Iceland. She has acted in several productions at the National Theatre of Iceland and with independent theatre groups, besides participating in radio and television plays, in dubbing and other jobs related to the stage. Finally she has considerable experience in creating programmes for radio. Since 1996 Pálsdóttir has dedicated herself to teaching in secondary school. In recent years she has flirted with drama again, acting in short films and popular television series.

Lilja Sigurðardóttir

Trapped Gildran



About the book

Sonja, an attractive single mother in her thirties is an imaginative, albeit unwilling cocaine-smuggler. Her main adversary, Bragi, an almost-retired customs officer, knows all the tricks in the book after decades of experience. Not only must Sonja think of new and increasingly daring ways to outwit her nemesis, she must also find a way to get out of the trap. All this while keeping her secret safe from her ex-husband and her lover, a former high-level bank executive who is under prosecution after the Icelandic financial crash. A financial-crime and drug smuggling story, *Trapped* is also a love story between two women, who have to face their destiny in the aftermath of a nation's financial and social collapse. An original and sexy Nordic crime novel with a suspenseful

plot, lovable characters and a fantastic setting in Iceland's scenic capital during the winter of 2010–2011, full of ghostly abandoned, half-built buildings and dusty with ash from a volcanic eruption.

Author

Lilja Sigurðardóttir
(b. 1972)

Original title
Gildran

English working title
Trapped

Genre
Crime Fiction

Pages
344

Publisher

Forlagið
Rights
Forlagið Rights
Agency

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and Valgerður
Benediktsdóttir,
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**English sample
translation available**

crime fiction

Sólveig Pálsdóttir

Pure Flekklaus



About the book

A devastating fire in a respectable company in mid-eighties Reykjavik leaves a young woman dead. Two youths are seen fleeing the scene but the case is never solved. Decades later Detective Guðgeir Fransson travels to Sweden to recuperate after a serious illness. His stay in the idyllic Småland will have unforeseen consequences. Could his Swedish host be connected to a cold case in Iceland? *Flekklaus* (*Pure*) is Sólveig Pálsdóttir's third novel. Her previous works, *The Actor*, and *The Righteous Ones*, have been praised by critics and readers alike. They have both been published in Germany.

Author

Sólveig Pálsdóttir
(b. 1959)

Original title
Flekklaus

English working title
Pure

Genre
Crime Fiction

Pages
223

Publisher

Forlagið

Rights

Forlagið Rights Agency

Contact

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and Valgerður

Benediktsdóttir,

vala@forlagid.is

**English sample
translation available**

new icelandic



About the author

Stefán Máni was born and raised in a small fishing village in Iceland. He dropped out of school at seventeen and worked in the fishing industry and as a construction worker. After losing his job he started to write. In 2006 his novel *Skipið (The Ship)* became a bestseller and was translated into nine languages. He has published more than fifteen novels that all share the harsh, cold, loneliness of Icelandic nature that mirrors the people populating his novels. The stories often take place in the grey area between good and evil, full of suspense and adventure.

Stefán Máni

The Bull Nautið

About the book

On release from prison Rikki sets out to discover the fate of his girlfriend Hanna. He goes to the farm where she grew up; he meets with her brother Oscar and her parents. Hanna had died two years previously. Rikki knows this. What he does not know is where she had hidden the drugs and the jewelry, stolen goods he and Hanna had stolen from Hanna's earlier fiancé Anton, a ruthless drug dealer. Anton had even beaten Hanna to within an inch of her life in an attempt to force her to reveal its hiding place. The goods he and Hanna had wanted to sell for lots of money so they could escape their shabby life in Reykjavik. Rikki befriends Oscar, a mentally challenged young man. Perhaps he knows something ... While searching

for the truth about Hanna's last days, Rikki and Oscar find another well-hidden secret - a family tragedy that Oscar is finding extremely hard to deal with.

Author

Stefán Máni

Original title

Nautið

English working title

The Bull

Genre

Crime Fiction

Pages

234

Publisher

Sögur

Rights

Gudrun Hebel at

Agentur Literatur

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agentur-literatur.de

English sample

translation available

FICTION

ALBANIA

Ombra GVG Publishing House
Hallgrímur Helgason
Konan við 1000°

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Guitank Publishing
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Andri Snær Magnason
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Planeta

Sjón
Rökkurbýsnir

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Oddný Eir Ævarsdóttir
Jarðnæði

Unity International

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Arnaldur Indriðason
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Einar Már Guðmundsson
Hundadagar

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Mýrin, Grafarhögn, Röddin, Kleifarvatn, Vetrarborgin, Harðskafi, Myrká, Svörtuloft, Furðustrandir and Reykjavíkurnætur (10 titles).

CROATIA

VBZ
Sjón
Skugga-Baldur

CZECH REPUBLIC

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Jón Gnarr
Indjáninn
Sjóræninginn

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Gyldendal

Ófeigur Sigurðsson
Öræfi

Løvens forlag

Jón Atli Jónasson
Börnin í Dimmuvík

Sisyfos

Guðbergur Bergsson
Þrír sneru aftur

Lindhardt & Ringhof AS

Einar Már Guðmundsson
Hundadagar

Lindhardt & Ringhof AS

Hallgrímur Helgason
Sjólveikur í München

Jensen & Dalgaard
Kristín Ómarsdóttir
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Kamp Knox

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La Martinière

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Náttblindá (Dark Iceland Series)

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Sögumaður

Métailié

Lilja Sigurðardóttir
Gildran

Métailié

Eiríkur Örn Norðdahl
Heimska

Métailié

Guðbergur Bergsson
Þrír sneru aftur

Métailié

Arnaldur Indriðason
Þýska húsið

Zulma

Auður Ava Ólafsdóttir
Upphækkuð jörð

Actes sud

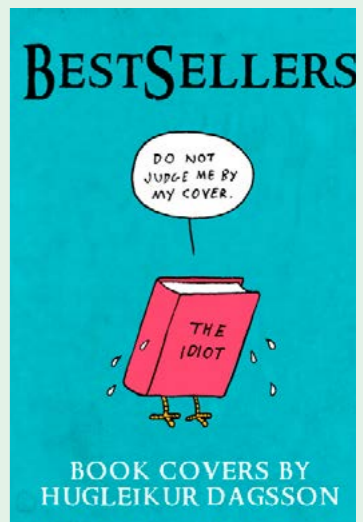
Yrsa Sigurðardóttir
Kuldi

Heimdal Editions

Ljósvefninga saga

Zulma

Soffía Bjarnadóttir
Segulskekka



crime fiction

recently sold abroad

GERMANY
Verlag C.H. Beck
Kristín Steinsdóttir
Vonarlandið

Piper Verlag
Jón Kalman Stefánsson
Eitthvað á stærð við alheiminn

btb
Einar Már Guðmundsson
Hundadagar

Bastei Lübbe
Arnaldur Indriðason
Kamp Knox Þýska húsið

S.Fischer Verlag
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Náttblinda (Dark Iceland Series)

btb
Einar Kárason
Skálmöld

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Englaryk

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Gunnlaðar saga

Lindhardt og Ringhof/
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Halldór Laxness
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Illska

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Animus
Arnaldur Indriðason
Myrká Furðustrandir

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Kalachuvadu
Halldór Laxness
Brekkukotsannáll

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Iperborea
Jón Kalman Stefánsson
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Marsilio Editori
Ragnar Jónasson
Snjóblinda (Dark Iceland Series)
Náttblinda (Dark Iceland Series)

Ugo Guanda
Arnaldur Indriðason
Kamp Knox

JAPAN
Tokyo Sogensha
Arnaldur Indriðason
Kleifarvatn

Shogakukan
Ragnar Jónasson
Snjóblinda (Dark Iceland Series)
Náttblinda (Dark Iceland Series)

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Bookplaza
Ragnar Jónasson
Snjóblinda (Dark Iceland Series)
Náttblinda (Dark Iceland Series)

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Ósjálfrátt

Arab Scientific Publishing
Einar Már Guðmundsson
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Arab Scientific Publishing
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Afturelding

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MACEDONIA
Kostova Antolog
Oddný Eir Ævarsdóttir
Jarðnæði

Tri
Arnaldur Indriðason
Grafarþögn

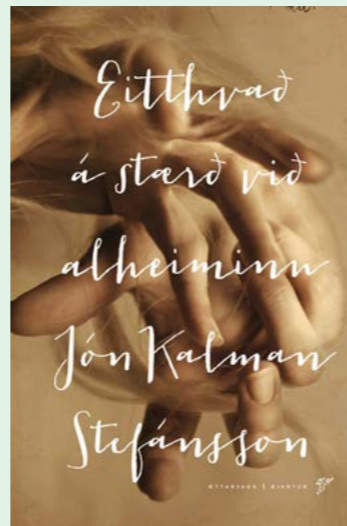
Shkupi
Arnaldur Indriðason
Mýrin (Albanian)
Grafarþögn (Albanian)

Ikona
Bragi Ólafsson
Sendiherrann Gæludýrin

THE NETHERLANDS
Querido
Arnaldur Indriðason
Þýska húsið

Ambo Anthos
Jón Kalman Stefánsson
Eitthvað á stærð við alheiminn

NORWAY
Press
Jón Kalman Stefánsson
Eitthvað á stærð við alheiminn



Cappelen Damm
Arnaldur Indriðason
Kamp Knox

Kagge
Yrsa Sigurðardóttir
DNA Sogið

Font
Lilja Sigurðardóttir
Gildran

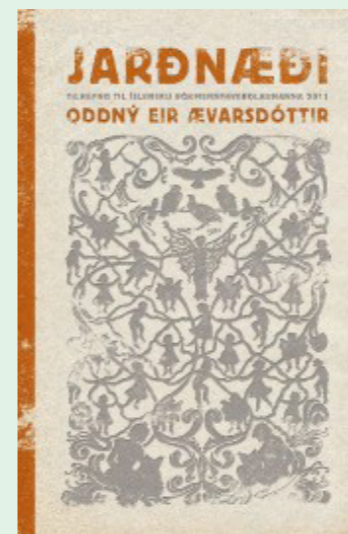
Det Norske samlaget
Gunnar Gunnarsson
Aðventa

Orkana
Sjón
Mánasteinn

POLAND
Wydawnictwo Amber
Ragnar Jónasson
Snjóblinda (Dark Iceland Series)
Náttblinda (Dark Iceland Series)

International House
Integra
Alda Sigmundsdóttir
The Little Book of Icelanders

Helion
Viktor Arnar Ingólfsson
Flateyjargátan



Foksal
Arnaldur Indriðason
Myrká Harðskafi

PORTUGAL
Cavalo de Ferro
Jón Kalman Stefánsson
Eitthvað á stærð við alheiminn

ROMANIA
Trei
Yrsa Sigurðardóttir
Kuldi

SERBIA
Booka
Arnaldur Indriðason
Röddin

Heliks
Oddný Eir Ævarsdóttir
Jarðnæði

Heliks
Ófeigur Sigurðsson
Öræfi

Geopoetika
Sjón
Mánasteinn

Dereta Doo
Hallgrímur Helgason
The Hitman's Guide to Housecleaning

SLOVAKIA
Artforum
Jón Kalman Stefánsson
Fiskarnir hafa enga fætur

SLOVENIA
Cankarjeva Založba
Sjón
Skugga-Baldur Mánasteinn

SPAIN
Rinoceronte
Sjón
Mánasteinn (Galician)

Nórdica libros
Sjón
Mánasteinn

Penguin Random House / Mondadori
Yrsa Sigurðardóttir
Kuldi

Funambulista
Jón Gnarr
Indjáninn

Madrikenian
Ófeigur Sigurðsson
Skáldsagan um Jón

SWEDEN
Rámus
Eiríkur Örn Norðdahl
Heimska

Norstedts
Arnaldur Indriðason
Skuggasund Þýska húsið Petsamó

TURKEY
Andante
Ragnar Jónasson
Snjóblinda (Dark Iceland Series)
Náttblinda (Dark Iceland Series)

Oblomov
Bragi Ólafsson
Gæludýrin

Iletisim Yayinlari
Halldór Laxness
Sjálfstætt fólk

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
Kalima
Ragnar Jónasson
Snjóblinda (Dark Iceland Series)
Náttblinda (Dark Iceland Series)

UNITED KINGDOM
Harvill
Arnaldur Indriðason
Skuggasund Þýska húsið

Oneworld Publications
Hallgrímur Helgason
Konan við 1000°

MacLehose Press
Jón Kalman Stefánsson
Eitthvað á stærð við alheiminn

Orenda
Ragnar Jónasson
Myrknætti

USA
Algonquin Books
Hallgrímur Helgason
Konan við 1000°

Thomas Dunne / Picador
Arnaldur Indriðason
Skuggasund Þýska húsið

St. Martin's Press
Ragnar Jónasson
Snjóblinda (Dark Iceland Series)
Náttblinda (Dark Iceland Series)

Open Letter
Bragi Ólafsson
Sögumaður

Open Letter
Guðbergur Bergsson
Tómas Jónsson metsölubók

Phoneme Media
Magnús Sigurðsson
Tími kaldra mána

Restless Books
Oddný Eir Ævarsdóttir
Jarðnæði

Deep Vellum
Ófeigur Sigurðsson
Öræfi

Dalkey Archive Press
Eiríkur Örn Norðdahl
Illska

CHILDREN AND YOUNG ADULT

BRASIL
Morro Branco
Andri Snær Magnason
Tímakistan

CANADA
Les éditions les Malins
Huginn Þór Grétarsson
Kaninan sem fékk ALDREI nóg (French)

spring 2015 – spring 2016

recently sold abroad

CZECH REPUBLIC

Argo
 Áslaug Jónsdóttir, Kalle
 Güettler and Rakel
 Helmsdal
Nei! Sagði litla skrímslið
Stór skrímsli gráta ekki

DENMARK

Forlaget Torgard
 Þórarinn Leifsson
Maðurinn sem hataði
börn

Turbine forlaget
 Lani Yamamoto
Stína stórasæng

FINLAND

Myllylahti
 Huginn Þór Grétarsson
Herra T og kjúklingurinn
hans sem heitir Asni

GERMANY

Arena Verlag
 Marta Hlín Magnadóttir
 & Birgitta Elín Hassell
Rökkurhæðir 4: Ófriður

GUATEMALA

Amanuense
 by Sigrún Danielsdóttir.
 Illustrations: Björk
 Bjarkadóttir
Kroppurinn er kraftaverk

HUNGARY

Pongrác Kiado
 Þórdís Gísladóttir
Randalín og Mundi

Pongrác Kiado
 by Kristín Steinsdóttir.
 Illustrations: Halla
 Sólveig Þorgeirsdóttir.
Engill í Vesturbænum

Betűtészta
 Sæunn Kjartansdóttir
Fyrstu 1000 dagarnir

Pozsonyi Pagony
 Jónína Leósdóttir
Upp á líf og dauða

ITALY

Terre di mezzo
 Lani Yamamoto
Stína stórasæng

JAPAN

NHK
 Andri Snær Magnason
Tímakistan

SERBIA

Pčelica
 Huginn Þór Grétarsson
Myrkfælna tröllið
Fíðrildavængir

Bestseler doo
 Kristín Helga
 Gunnarsdóttir
Fíasól í fínun málum

SLOVENIA

Malinc
 by Kristín Steinsdóttir.
 Illustrations: Halla
 Sólveig Þorgeirsdóttir.
Engill í Vesturbænum

Sodobnost
 Huginn Þór Grétarsson
Fjörugt ímyndunarafl
(Slovenian, English and
Norwegian)

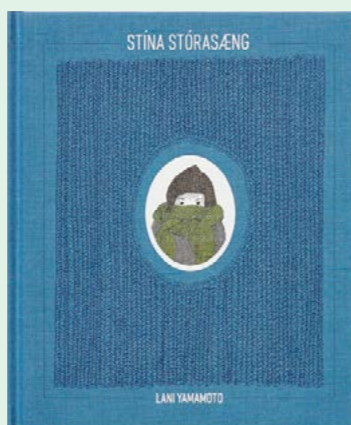
SOUTH KOREA
 BookGoodCome
 Lani Yamamoto
Stína stórasæng

SPAIN
 Babulinka Books
 Lani Yamamoto
Stína stórasæng (Catalan)

Nórdica libros
 Lani Yamamoto
Stína stórasæng (Spanish)

TURKEY

Can
 Bryndís Björgvinsdóttir
Flugan sem stöðvaði
stríðið



UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
 Hudhud
 Áslaug Jónsdóttir, Kalle
 Güettler and Rakel
 Helmsdal
Nei! Sagði litla skrímslið
Stór skrímsli gráta ekki
Skrímsli í myrkrinu
Skrímsli í heimsókn
Skrímslakisi

AlFulk
 Brian Pilkington
Lubbi lundi

AlFulk
 Brian Pilkington and
 Ingibjörg Sigurðardóttir
Blómin á þakinu

UNITED KINGDOM
 V&A Publishing
 Lani Yamamoto
Stína stórasæng

NON-FICTION**FAROE ISLANDS**

Sprotin
 Héðinn Unnsteinsson
Vertu úlfur

GERMANY

Knesebeck Verlag
 Ragnar Axelsson
Andlit norðursins
(Photography)

ITALY

EDT
 Steingrímur
 Sigurgeirsson
Vín – umhverfis jörðina á
110 flöskum

POETRY**NORWAY**

Nordsjöforlaget
 Gyrðir Eliasson
Poetry collection 1983-
2012

SWEDEN

Sadura förlag
 Gerður Kristný
Drápa

SWITZERLAND

Edition d'en bas
 Andri Snær Magnason
Bónusljóð (French)

**The Icelandic Literary Prize 2015****Fiction**

Hundadagar (e. Dog Days) by
 Einar Már Guðmundsson
Publisher
 Mál og menning/Forlagið

Children's and Young Adult Books

Mamma klikk! (e. My Crazy Mom) by Gunnar Helgason
Publisher
 Mál og menning/Forlagið

Non-fiction

Þegar siðmenningin fór
 fíandans til, Íslendingar og
 stríðið mikla 1914–1918 (e.
When Civilization Went to
Hell. Icelanders and the Great
War, 1914 – 1918) by Gunnar
 Þór Bjarnason
Publisher
 Mál og menning/Forlagið

The Icelandic Bookseller's Literary Prize 2015**Fiction**

Stóri skjálfti (e. Grand Mal) by
 Auður Jónsdóttir
Publisher
 Mál og menning/Forlagið

Teenagers and Young Adult Books

Skuggasaga: Arftakinn (e. Shadow Saga – The Heir) by Ragnheiður Eyjólfsdóttir
Publisher
 Vaka – Helgafell/Forlagið

Children's Books

Koparborgin (e. City of Bronze) by Ragnhildur Hólmgeirsdóttir
Publisher
 Bókabeitan

Mamma klikk! (e. My Crazy Mom) by Gunnar Helgason
Publisher
 Mál og menning/Forlagið

Non-fiction

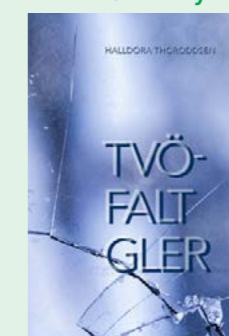
Stríðsárin 1938–1945 (e. The War Years 1938–1945) by Páll Baldvin Baldvinsson
Publisher
 JPV/Forlagið

Biography

Munadarleysinginn (e. The Orphan) by Sigmundur Ernir Rúnarsson
Publisher
 Veröld

Poetry

Frelsi (e. Freedom) by Linda Vilhjálmsdóttir
Publisher
 Mál og menning/Forlagið

The Icelandic Women's Literature Prize 2015**Fiction/Poetry**

Tvöfalt gler (e. Double Glass) by Halldóra Kristín Thoróddsson
Publisher
 Kind/Sæmundur

Children's and Young Adult Books

Vetrarfrí (e. Winter Break) by Hildur Knútsdóttir
Publisher
 JPV / Forlagið

Non-fiction

Heiður og huggun (e. Honour and consolation. Funeral poems, funeral elegies and consolation poems in seventeenth-century Iceland) by Þórunn Sigurðardóttir
Publisher
 The Árni Magnússon Institute for Icelandic Studies

The DV – Newspaper Cultural Prize for Literature 2015

Frelsi (e. Freedom) by Linda Vilhjálmsdóttir
Publisher
 Mál og menning/Forlagið

The DV – Newspaper Cultural Prize for Non-fiction 2015

Heiður og huggun – Erfiljóð, harmljóð og huggunarkvæði á 17. öld (e. Honour and consolation. Funeral poems, funeral elegies and consolation poems in seventeenth-century Iceland) by Þórunn Sigurðardóttir
Publisher
 The Árni Magnússon Institute for Icelandic Studies

The Hagþenkir Non-fiction Prize 2015

Stríðsárin 1938–1945 (e. The War Years 1938–1945) by Páll Baldvin Baldvinsson
Publisher
 JPV/Forlagið

Icelandic Literature Awards 2015**spring 2015 – spring 2016**



About the authors

Bergsveinn Birgisson's first novel, *Landslag er aldrei asnalegt* (e. *Landscape is Never Silly*), was published in 2003 and was nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize. In 2009, Bergsveinn published a research-based novel called *Handbók um hugarfar kúa* (e. *A Manual on the Mentality of Cows*). Bergsveinn's bestselling novel *Svar við bréfi Helgu* (e. *A Reply to Helga's Letter*) was published in 2010 to strong critical reviews. It was nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize and the Nordic Council's

Literature Prize, and was selected as Booksellers' Best Novel of the Year. It has been translated into several languages, received nominations and prizes abroad and sold more than 30.000 copies in France alone. In 2013 Bergsveinn published in Norwegian his nonfiction book, *Den svarte vikingen* (e. *The Black Viking*), nominated for the prestigious Norwegian Brageprisen for best nonfiction book. Bergsveinn lives in Norway where he teaches medieval Nordic literature at the University of Bergen.

Saga of Geirmund the Black-Skinned Geirmundar saga heljarskinns: íslenzkt fornrit

Bergsveinn Birgisson

About the book

In the old Saga's, Geirmund the Black-Skinned was described as the most noble of the Nordic settlers of Iceland. He ruled a great kingdom yet his story was never scripted on vellum by the great Icelandic writers of the 13th century, unlike the sagas of his famous contemporaries - or was it?

The writer and scholar, Bergsveinn Birgisson, has researched Geirmund's story and published a popular academic work on Geirmund in Norway in 2013. Now, he publishes a story said to be the long lost Saga of this remarkable settler. The story is told in the style of the Icelandic Sagas, with the short and concise language typical of the genre, and accompanied by an extensive preface where the manuscript is analysed in line with classic academic writings in the field.

This is a book written with great skill and an admirable knowledge of the form of the old Sagas. This is a compelling, humorous, and multi layered tale of interesting and fickle people. Critics have called it "a true accomplishment."

Author

Bergsveinn Birgisson
(b.1971)

Original title

Geirmundar saga
heljarskinns:
íslenzkt fornrit

English working title

Saga of Geirmund the
Black-Skinned

Genre

Literary Fiction

Pages

185

Publisher

Bjartur

Rights

Bjartur

Contact

Guðrún
Vilmundardóttir,
gv@bjartur.is

English sample
translation available

special mention



About the author

Jón Gnarr (b.1967) was diagnosed with severe mental retardation, learning difficulties, and ADHL as a child. In late 2009 Jon Gnarr formed the Best Party with a number of other people with no background in politics. The Best Party, which is a satirical political party that parodies Icelandic politics and aims to make the life of the citizens more fun, managed a plurality win in the 2010 municipal elections in Reykjavik, and Gnarr became Mayor of Reykjavik.

Jón Gnarr

The Outlaw Útlaginn

About the book

The Outlaw is the third instalment in the unorthodox fictional autobiography of Jón Gnarr. *The Indian and The Pirate* chronicle the author's childhood in Reykjavik, where the unusual boy had trouble finding his feet and experienced the world differently from most others. In this final volume of the trilogy, Jón writes about his youth from the age of fourteen to nineteen with disarming sincerity and the sense of humour that made him one of Iceland's most popular comedian.

Right after his confirmation the teenager is sent off to boarding school in an isolated fjord. It is a place where unruly teenagers from the city mix with children from nearby farms and villages. The protagonist is a tough punk rocker who does not readily conform to a group, has no interest in the studies,

but uses his sharp wit and humour to survive in a rough and merciless environment. The narrative is tragic-comic but also cruel and merciless at times; a coming of age story about a young man who seems to be on a destructive path, but manages to find a way to survive and blossom.

Jón Gnarr, punk rocker and popular comedian, made the world press when he was elected mayor of Reykjavik in the wake of the financial crash of 2008.

Author

Jón Gnarr (b.1967)

Original title

Útlaginn

English working title

The Outlaw

Genre

Literary fiction

Pages

384

Publisher

Forlagið

Rights

Forlagið Rights

Agency

Contact

Valgerður

Benediktsdóttir,

vala@forlagid.is and

Úa Matthíasdóttir,

ua@forlagid.is

English sample

translation available

special mention





About the authors

Stefán Máni was born and raised in a small fishing village in Iceland. He dropped out of school at seventeen and worked in the fishing industry and as a construction worker. After losing his job he started to write. In 2006 *The Ship* became an international bestseller and was translated into nine languages. He has published more than fifteen novels that all share the harsh, cold, loneliness of Icelandic nature that mirrors the people populating his novels. The stories often take place in the grey area between good and evil, full of suspense and adventure.

Stefán Máni

The Long Night Nóttin langa

About the book

A story of young people in modern Iceland who seem quite ordinary, but share the common plight of being werewolves. All over the world, werewolves have formed support networks, and the main characters, Alexander and Védís, have dedicated their lives to teach other people with the werewolf gene how to control their wolf urges.

The existence of werewolves is now threatened by a dangerous enemy - the black clad extreme group Caput, set on hunting all werewolves to extinction. The group is on its way to Iceland, where the werewolf gene first emerged.

A riveting story for fans of fantasy fiction, *The Long Night*, is an independent sequel to *Wolf Heart*, which was published in

2012 and that has been a part of the curriculum in upper secondary schools in Iceland. Stefán Máni is an established and popular writer, and with this series he has created a world of mysterious forces and exciting events.

Author

Stefán Máni (b. 1970)

Original title

Nóttin langa

English working title

The Long Night

Genre

Fantasy fiction / YA

Pages

215

Publisher

Sögur

Rights

Gudrun Hebel at

Agentur Literatur

Contact

Gudrun Hebel,

gudrun.hebel@
agentur-literatur.de

[English sample translation available](#)

special mention

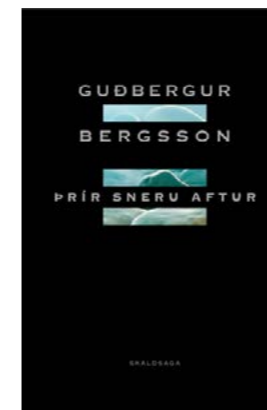


About the author

Guðbergur Bergsson is one of Iceland's leading writers, the first author to win the coveted Icelandic Literary Prize twice, first in 1991 for the widely acclaimed *The Swan* and then in 1997 for the first volume of his biographical novel *Father and Mother and the Mystery of Childhood*, which was also nominated for the Nordic Council Literature Prize in 1992. Bergsson has been named Doctor Honoris Causa by the Department of Foreign Languages of the University of Iceland.

Guðbergur Bergsson

Three Turned Back Þrjú sneru aftur



About the book

In an isolated place where nothing happens, rumors of struggles and strife in the surrounding world begin to filter through. Before long, the sequence of events has made its way there, and modernity arrives. The results are in equal measure unforeseen and dramatic. With unerring instinct, the author portrays a society at a crossroads, humanity's unceasing struggle to survive, the grapple with ignorance and apathy, truth and lies, stupidity and greed. Circumstances may change, yet history constantly repeats itself. Generations come and go, yet family patterns will not be ignored; we cannot escape ourselves.

Author

Guðbergur Bergsson
(b. 1932)

Original title

Þrjú sneru aftur

English working title

Three Turned Back

Genre

Novel

Pages

214

Publisher

Forlagið, 2014

Rights

Forlagið Rights

Agency

Contact

Úa Matthíasdóttir,

ua@forlagid.is

and Valgerður

Benediktsdóttir

vala@forlagid.is

[English sample translation available](#)

*Icelandic works nominated for the
Nordic Council Literature Prize 2016*

**About the author**

Jökulsdóttir is from Reykjavik and was born in 1958. Her first poetry collection was published in 1989, and she has since released further poetry collections as well as novels for children and adults, short stories, and plays, and produced dance works and performances. In 2015, the poetry collection *Ástin ein taugahrúga. Enginn dans við Ufsaklett* won the Fjöru Prize (The

Icelandic Women's Literature Prize) and the newspaper DV's readers' prize. Jökulsdóttir publishes her books herself. She says this is the only way that she can decide everything with regard to the final design. She has not previously been nominated for the Nordic Council Literature Prize.

Love – a nervous wreck. No dancing at the fishing rock
Ástin ein taugahrúga. Enginn dans við Ufsaklett

Elísabet Kristín Jökulsdóttir

**About the book**

"Why doesn't she leave him?" we might ask when we hear about a woman in an abusive relationship. Of another woman we might say, "Why did she get involved with him? He's known for being violent." But the answers to these questions are not straightforward. Elísabet Kristín Jökulsdóttir tries to answer them herself in her poetry collection *Ástin ein taugahrúga. Enginn dans við Ufsaklett* (in English "Love – a nervous wreck. No dancing at the fishing rock"), which in a sincere and candid manner tells the story of violence and love in a relationship.

Author

Elísabet Kristín Jökulsdóttir (b. 1958)
Original title
Ástin ein taugahrúga. Enginn dans við Ufsaklett

English working title
Love – a nervous wreck. No dancing at the fishing rock

Genre
Poetry
Pages
87

Publisher

Viti menn, 2014.

Contact

Elísabet Kristín Jökulsdóttir,
ellastina@hotmail.com

Icelandic works nominated for the Nordic Council Literature Prize 2016

**About the author**

Ragnhildur Hólmgeirsdóttir

was born in 1988 in Reykjavik. During her teenage years, she sought out countless horror movies that left her with a fascination for the macabre and a firm belief that every protagonist should be hiding a dark secret from the past. Although she has a degree in history and specializes in the Middle Ages she keeps academia and fiction separated. Because when you don't have to consider an actual time or place, a storyline can go anywhere

...

Ragnhildur Hólmgeirsdóttir

City of Bronze
Koparborgin

**About the book**

The ambiguous, yet carefully constructed setting of *Koparborgin* (e. *City of Bronze*) resembles an Italian city of the Renaissance. The fishermen live in huts and boats on the lagoon beyond the walls, but above the village is another and even more mysterious city where the ominous authorities dwell. When the plague sets on the village, the people of the city set fire to the village, killing all survivors of the plague. Young Pietro barely manages to escape with his life but is visited by a witch in his dreams who cures him and assigns him a task that is more forbidding than the plague. In the almost deserted city Pietro is offered sanctuary at the Exchange House, which has been occupied solely by children for the past three centuries, but when they come under

threat they must embark on a journey through a world marked by witchcraft, danger, and death in the citadel.

This debut novel is a smart, exhilarating, and riveting tale for fans of fantasy fiction of all ages. Critics have praised this juicy, and at times dark, story that despite everything has a fairly good ending.

Author

Ragnhildur Hólmgeirsdóttir (b. 1988)

Original title

Koparborgin

English working title

City of Bronze

Genre

Fantasy fiction / YA / Children's book

Pages

314

Awards and nominations

- Nominated for the Icelandic Women's Literature Prize 2015.
- The Icelandic Bokseller's Literary Prize 2015 for Children's Books.
- Nominated for the Reykjavík Children's Literature Prize for the best children's book.
- Nominated for the Nordic Council Children and Young People's Literature Prize 2016.

Icelandic Works Nominated for the Nordic Council Children's and Young People's Literature Prize 2016



About the author

Arnar Már studied Icelandic literature at the University of Iceland and later German literature at the University of Cologne. After trying his luck in different areas, as a sailor, translator and a caretaker in a nursing home, he then became a guide at the Laxness-museum. For the past 10 years Arnar Már Arngrímsson has taught Icelandic language and literature in his hometown at Akureyri Junior College (Menntaskólinn á Akureyri). *Sölvasaga unglings* (e. *The Saga of Sölvi the Youth*) is his first book to be published.

Awards and nominations

- Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize 2015 in Children and YA category.
- Nominated for the Nordic Council Children and Young People's Literature Prize 2016.

The Icelandic Literature Center is a government-funded office. The role of the Center is to raise awareness of Icelandic literature, both in Iceland and abroad, and to promote its distribution.

Foreign publishers of Icelandic books can apply to the Icelandic Literature Center for translations subsidies. Authors, publishers and organizers of literary events can apply for support for Icelandic authors travelling abroad in order to promote their work.

Furthermore, the Center supports the publication of Icelandic works of literature and the publication of literary works translated into Icelandic – as well as the advancement of literary culture in Iceland.

Arnar Már Arngrímsson

The Saga of Sölvi the Youth *Sölvasaga unglings*



About the book

Sölvi is a teenage boy who is finishing secondary school but he has lost all interest in his studies, becoming more and more isolated in a world of computer games and pornography. His parents are reeling from the financial crash and the family is about to break up when Sölvi's parents decide to send him away for the summer, without his smartphone and access to the Internet, to stay with his grandmother on a farm in the countryside.

Sölvi is appalled and defiant, but in the isolation of the countryside he faces different challenges. He has to work and also to find new ways of recreation in a strange environment where he gets to know his father's past, music, and books, his grandmother, the farmer

on the neighbouring farm, and an interesting teenage girl.

This debut novel is written by a teacher who is very familiar with the modern teen world, its complications, aggravations, and stimuli. This is a candid, honest, and skilfully written novel that speaks both to young people, who know this reality, and older readers.

Author

Arnar Már Arngrímsson (b.1972)

Original title

Sölvasaga unglings

English working title

The Saga of Sölvi the Youth

Genre

YA

Pages

255

Publisher

Sögur

Rights

Sögur

Contact

Tómas Hermannsson,
tomas@s

ogurutgafa.is and

Heiða Þórbergs

heida@sogurutgafa.is

English sample

translation available

Icelandic Works Nominated for the Nordic Council Children's and Young People's Literature Prize 2016



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