

Literature Center

*books
from
Iceland
2019*

Icelandic
Literature

04–10	<i>Fiction</i>
11–15	<i>Children & YA</i>
16–17	<i>Poetry</i>
18–23	<i>Rights sold</i>
24–27	<i>Debutants</i>
28–31	<i>Crime fiction</i>
32–35	<i>Non-fiction</i>
36–37	<i>Icelandic nominations for the Nordic Council Literature Prize 2019</i>
38–39	<i>Icelandic Literature Prizes</i>

ALBANIA

Albanía

ARGENTINA

Argentína

ARMENIA

Armenía

AUSTRIA

Austurríki

AZERBAIJAN

Aserbaídsjan

BRAZIL

Brasilía

BULGARIA

Búlgaría

CANADA

Kanada

CHINA

Kína

COLUMBIA

Kólumbía

CROATIA

Króatía

**CZECH
REPUBLIC**

Tékkland

DENMARK

DANMÖRK

EGYPT

Egyptaland

ESTONIA

Eistland

ETHIOPIA

Eþíópía

**FAROE
ISLANDS**

Færeyjar

FINLAND

Finnland

FRANCE

FRAKKLAND

GEORGIA

Georgía

GERMANY

ÞÝSKALAND

GREECE

Grikkland

HUNGARY

Ungverjaland

INDIA

Indland

IRAQ

Írak

ISRAEL

Ísrael

ITALY

ÍTALÍA

JAPAN

Japan

LATVIA

Lettland

LEBANON

Líbanon

LITHUANIA

Litháen

MACEDONIA

MAKEDÓNÍA

MEXICO

Mexíkó

**THE
NETHER-
LANDS**

Holland

NORWAY

NOREGUR

POLAND

Pólland

PORTUGAL

Portúgal

ROMANIA

Rúmenía

RUSSIA

Rússland

SERBIA

Serbía

SLOVAKIA

Slóvakía

SLOVENIA

Slovenía

SOUTH KOREA

Suður-Kórea

SPAIN

Spánn

SWEDEN

SVÍÐJÓÐ

TAIWAN

Taívan

TURKEY

Tyrkland

UKRAINE

Úkraína

**UNITED ARAB
EMIRATES**

Sameinuðu arabísku furstadæmin

**UNITED
KINGDOM**

BRETLAND

UNITED STATES

Bandaríkin

Dear reader

Last year was an extremely fruitful year in Icelandic literature and the selection of novels, short stories and poetry books has rarely been as diverse and of such high quality. Many of Iceland's most renowned writers published books this year, but young and interesting writers also made their debut, attracting considerable interest. As always, writers seek inspiration in the present and the tragicomical problems of mundane life are seldom far away. The past, however, seems to be at the forefront of writers' minds because historic fiction has rarely been so popular. Among other topics, we see big issues, such as the self-image of a nation and efforts to silence matters of grave importance, but first and foremost we see stories about people in different times and various circumstances. Man's constant struggle with existence is not limited to time and space, so these tales are just as relevant to readers now as ever.

Please enjoy!

Hrefna Haraldsdóttir

Director of the Icelandic Literature Center

Icelandic literary works are travelling further and wider than ever before and the languages they are being translated into currently amount to around fifty.

Please sign up to receive our newsletter on islit.is.

Hallgrímur Helgason

Sixty Kilos of Sunshine

Sextíu kíló af sólskini



Sharp analysis of the Icelandic national character, wrapped in sparkling word magic



The story takes place in Segulfjörður, an imaginary fishing village around 1900. As a child, Gestur Eilífsson survives an avalanche as if by miracle. The opportunities that a poor and stagnant farming community offers are few and far between. But then comes the herring and following it, the Norwegians. The proletarians get their hands-on money for the first time and everything changes.

Hallgrímur Helgason seeks inspiration in “The Great American Novel” and looks to authors such as Halldór Laxness to tell the tale of how modern times came to Iceland. Alongside he offers a sharp analysis of the Icelandic national character, wrapped in sparkling word magic in a book that some say is his best work yet.

Hallgrímur Helgason (b. 1959) is an Icelandic painter, novelist, translator, and columnist. His first novel was published in 1990 and he came to international fame with his third novel, 101 Reykjavík, which was translated into fourteen languages and made into a film. A father of four, he divides his time between Reykjavík and the island of Hrísey. Hallgrímur is a two-time winner of the Icelandic Literary Prize for The Author of Iceland in 2001 and *Sixty Kilos of Sunshine* in 2018.

Novel
461 pp
Forlagið | JPV 2019

English sample translation available

rights holder
Andrew Nurnberg Associates
info@nurnberg.co.uk

sold to
Germany (Klett-Cotta), Lithuania (Alma Littera)

foreign sales of previous titles
Albania (Ombra GVG), Croatia (Meandar Media), Czech Republic (Albatros), Denmark (Lindhardt & Ringhof/Rosinante), Finland (Otava), France (Actes Sud/Presses de la Cite), Germany (Klett-Cotta), Hungary (Scolar Kiado), Italy (Longanesi/Mondadori/Guanda), Korea (DulNyook), Latvia (Valters un Rapa), Lithuania (Almara Littera), The Netherlands (Meulenhoff Boekerij/De Arbeiderspers), Norway (Cappelen Damm), Macedonia (Antolog), Poland (Słowo/obraz terytoria/Swiat Literacki/Znak), Romania (Art Grup Editorial/Universal Dalsi), Russia (Azbooka/Corpus Books), Serbia (Dereta DOO), Spain (Catalan: Edicions 62), (World Spanish: RBA), (Galician: Rinoceronte Editora), Sweden (Norstedts), UK (Amazon Crossing/Faber & Faber/Oneworld), US (Algonquin/Amazon Crossing/Simon & Schuster)

among awards & nominations

- 2018 & 2001 Awarded the Icelandic Literary Prize
- 2017 RUV Writer's Fund Awards
- 2017 Awarded the Icelandic Translators' Prize
- 2015, 2011 & 2005 Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize
- 2013, 2007 & 1999 Nominated for the Nordic Council Literature Prize
- 2004 Selected Reykjavik City Artist
- 2000 Awarded the DV Cultural Prize

Auður Ava Ólafsdóttir

Miss Iceland Ungfrú Ísland



A multi layered novel armed with colourful characters



In 1963 the farmer's daughter Hekla Gottskálksdóttir travels to Reykjavik determined to become a poet, which is easier said than done when writing is reserved for men only. Hekla meets a man who becomes her boyfriend, the poet and bohemian Starkaður, who is too blinded by his own genius and that of his mates to see her talent. Hekla works in Hotel Borg and writes in secret and confides in no-one except her closest friends, the housewife Ísey and the homosexual sailor Jón John, who both have had their share of misunderstanding and prejudice.

Armed with colourful characters, Auður Ava has written a multi-layered novel about poetry, women's oppression and the absurdity of toxic ideals of masculinity that stifle creativity and the quest for beauty. Even though the circumstances in the book are grim, the text is rich with empathy and subtle humour.

Auður Ava Ólafsdóttir (b. 1958) addresses all the most important questions we, as human beings, must ask ourselves, questions about life, death and love itself, the most important thing of all.

Auður Ava has written novels, plays and poetry and has received various awards for her works such as the Nordic Council Literature Prize and the Icelandic Literature Prize for the novel *Hotel Silence* (Ör, 2016) and was nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize for *Miss Iceland*.

Novel
240 pp
Benedikt | 2018

English sample translation available

rights holder
Éditions Zulma
Amélie Louat
amelie.louat@zulma.fr

sold to
Denmark (Batzer & co), Norway (Pax), Sweden (Weyler förlag), UK (Pushkin Press), USA (Grove Atlantic)

foreign sales of previous titles
Albania (Ombra GVG), Arabic language (Dar al Adab), Brazil (Alfaguara), Bulgaria (Colibri, Culture), China (Xiron Books), Croatia (Ljevak), Czech Republic (Albatros Media), Denmark (Batzer & co), English worldrights (Amazon Crossing), Estonia (Eesti Raamat), France (Zulma), Italy (Einaudi), Israel (Tamir Sendik), Germany (Suhrkamp/Insel), Hungary (Polar), Latvia (Janis Roze), Lithuania (Lithuanian Writers' Union Publishers), Macedonia (Antolog Books), Netherlands (De Bezige Bij), Norway (Pax), Poland (Poznańskie), Portugal (Quetzal/Marcador), Romania (Pandora), Slovakia (Slovart), South Korea (Hangilsa/Jae Seung), Spain (Alfaguara), Sweden (Weyler förlag), Taiwan (Aquarius), Turkey (Nebula/Pinhan), UK (Pushkin Press), USA (Grove Atlantic)

among awards

- 2018 Nordic Council Literature Prize
- 2016 Icelandic Literary Prize
- 2016 Icelandic Booksellers Prize
- 2011 Prix des libraires du Québec
- 2010 Prix de Page
- 2008 DV Cultural Prize
- 2008 Icelandic Women's Literature Prize
- 2004 Tómas Guðmundsson Literature Prize

Einar Kárason

Storm Birds Stormfluglar



A dramatic story about the desperate struggle of a group of Icelandic fishermen against the ruthless forces of nature



Based on a true story of the incredible battle between the crew of an Icelandic trawler with a raging storm by Newfoundland around the middle of the 20th century. The storm raged for about four days and the trawler quickly ices up in the biting frost and violent tempest. The sailors needed to beat the ice off its sides to prevent the ship from sinking from the excess weight. It is a battle of life and death.

Kárason's text is sharp and vivid so that the cold and danger aboard the ship become almost tangible. Even though the story only describes one incident, the feeling for the terror of the sea is very strong in the book and seldom has an Icelandic writer managed to describe such events in such a memorable fashion.

Einar Kárason (b. 1955) is a novelist and one of the most popular authors and screenwriters of his generation; best known for his Devils' Isle trilogy. His novel *Fury* (Ofsi, 2009) was nominated for the Nordic Council Literature Prize and awarded the Icelandic Literary Prize. His latest novel *Storm Birds* has already been sold in several countries.

Novel
125 pp
2018

English sample translation available

rightsholder
Forlagið | Mál & menning
The Forlagid Rights Agency
Valgerður Benediktsdóttir
vala@forlagid.is
www.forlagid.is

sold to
World English (MacLehose Press), Brazil (Intrinseca), China (China Booky), Czech Republic (Albatros), Egypt (Al Arabi), France (Grasset), Germany (Random House/btb), Hungary (Magvető), Italy (Einaudi Editore), Poland (Jagiellonian University Press), Sweden (Thorén & Lindskog AB)

awards & nominations

- 2008 Awarded the Icelandic Literary Prize
- 2010 & 2005 Nominated for the Nordic Council Literature Prize
- 2003 Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize
- 2003 The DV Newspaper's Cultural Prize

Guðrún Eva Mínervudóttir

Love Texas Ástin Texas



Exceptionally strong collection of short stories



Guðrún Eva has been one of Iceland's most popular novelists for years, but here she treads a new path with an exceptionally strong collection of short stories. The stories are connected to a certain extent, they are all told in the first person, from the point of view of women and sometimes the same characters pop up in more than one story. The characterisation as a whole is exceptionally powerful so that the reader becomes fond of the characters and has a hard time parting with them.

The style is low key and the focus is on everyday life with all its ups and downs, hopes and disappointments, joy and sadness but yet the narrative mode is stoic and free of drama. The stories all seem effortless on the surface, but have a subtle effect that leaves no reader untouched.

Guðrún Eva Mínervudóttir (b. 1976) has earned herself a place among Iceland's most talented writers. Her work is fresh, original and exciting, with a well-ordered structure and a flawless narrative mode. In her unique way, Guðrún Eva captures human emotion at the breaking point. She has published a number of novels and short stories, which have been translated worldwide. Guðrún Eva was awarded the Icelandic Literary Prize in 2011 for *Everything With a Kiss Awakens* (Allt með kossi vekur, 2011).

Short story collection
208 pp
Bjartur | 2018

English sample translation available

rightsholder
The Parisian Agency
Alexandra Lefebvre
alexandra@theparisianagency.com

foreign sales of previous titles
Denmark (Art People), Finland (Atena), France, Switzerland, Luxembourg, Canada (Autrement/Tusitala), Germany, Austria, Switzerland (Random House|btb), India (Megha Books), Italy (ScritturaPura), UK, Australia, New Zealand, South-Africa, USA, Philippines (Portobello)

awards & nominations

- 2019 Awarded the Icelandic Women's Literature Prize
- 2016, 2008 & 2000 Nomination for the Icelandic Literary Prize
- 2016 Nomination for the DV Cultural Prize
- 2014 & 2006 Awarded the DV Cultural Prize
- 2011 Awarded the Icelandic Literary Prize

Bergsveinn Birgisson

Vitality Brook Lifandilíflækur



The most original storyteller and stylist in Iceland



It's late in the 17th century and the Icelandic people are struggling after the biggest volcanic eruptions in the world in a thousand years. An envoy is dispatched from Denmark to Iceland in the middle of this desolate period to evaluate the situation which could lead to all Icelanders being migrated to Denmark. He goes to Strandir, one of the most secluded areas in the isolated north west of the country, inspired by the spirit of the Enlightenment, but as his stay in Iceland drags on, his worldview is shaken to the core.

Bergsveinn Birgisson is renowned as the most original storyteller and stylist in Iceland and he demonstrates his skill in this historic novel where the boundaries between reality and imagination are blurred. He pulls the readers back to the 17th century by using the language of the time and surprises them with a powerful twist towards the end.

Bergsveinn Birgisson (b. 1971) holds a doctorate in Norse philology and has an extensive background in folklore, oral histories and lyrical poetry. A true researcher at heart, Birgisson has spent his life studying language and how it represents the truth of the human condition. He currently resides in Bergen, Norway, where he continues to write classical tales. Birgisson's work has been widely recognized through prestigious awards and nominations. Paramount Television and Anonymous Content have acquired the rights to his novel *The Black Viking* to adapt as a television series.

Novel
230 pp
Bjartur | 2018

English sample translation available

rightsholder
Immaterial Agents
Trude Kolaas
trude@immaterial.no

sold to
Germany (Residenz Verlag),
Norway (Vigmostad & Bjørke)

foreign sales of previous titles
Brazil (Globo), Czech Republic (Albatros Media), Egypt (Al Arabi Publishing), Estonia (Varrak), Finland (Bazar), France (Zulma/Actes Sud), Denmark (C&K Forlag/Gyldendal), Germany (Steidl/Residenz Verlag), Hungary (Lira), Italy (Iperborea/Bompiani), Netherlands (Ad. Donker), Norway (Pelikanen), Sweden (Bazar), Spain (Alfaguara), Turkey (Palto), US/UK (Amazon Crossing), Columbia/Argentina (Poklonka)

awards & nominations

- 2018, 2016, 2010 & 2003 Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize
- 2016 Awarded Prix Amphi
- 2016 Nominated for the DV Cultural Prize
- 2015 Longlisted for Dublin Literary Award
- 2014 Awarded Prix des lecteurs Nantais
- 2014 Prix du Cercle de l'Union Interalliée
- 2013 Nominated for Brage award, Norway
- 2012 Nominated for the Nordic Council's Literature Prize
- 2010 Awarded the Icelandic Bookseller's Award

Sigríður Hagalín Björnsdóttir

The Holy Word Hið heilaga orð



A novel about the power of the written word in an online world



A young woman Edda, disappears from her home in Reykjavík, leaving behind her husband and three-day-old child. The police track her to New York, where she vanishes into the crowd. Her brother Einar goes to look for her and needs to face the past where the key to finding Edda is kept.

An exciting sequence of events are set in motion where the author weaves together several threads from the past, present and future. Gradually it becomes clear that Einar's quest is not only about the past, but also is linked to big questions regarding the status of the written word and reading in modern times.

Novel
271 pp
Benedikt | 2018

English sample translation available

rightsholder
Copenhagen Literary Agency
Sophia Hersi Smith
sophia@cphla.dk
www.cphla.dk

sold to
France (Gaia)

foreign sales of previous titles
Czech Republic (Dobrovsky), France (Gaia), Germany (Suhrkamp), Hungary (Cher), Norway (Cappelen Damm), Poland (Wydawnictwo Literackie)

awards & nominations

- 2017 The Icelandic Women's Literature Prize
- 2016 DV Cultural Prize for Literature

Eiríkur Örn Norðdahl

Hans Blær Hans Blær



A harsh picture of a society riddled with sterile gender images, political correctness and the hysterics of social media



Hans Blær is an unadulterated and intolerable transsexual internet troll, who thrives on breaking all boundaries and shocking people on social media. At the beginning of the story they are running away from the police after being caught using dubious experimental methods in an asylum for rape victims. In retrospect we get to know Hans Blær in childhood and find out how they became what they are.

Hans Blær is a disturbing and complex book. The unpredictable Eiríkur Örn Norðdahl paints a harsh picture of a society riddled with sterile gender images, political correctness and the hysterics of social media. The narrative style is original, a first-person account from an unreliable and multi-layered third person narrator who defies the readers relentlessly.

Eiríkur Örn Norðdahl (b. 1978) was awarded the Icelandic Literary Prize and the Icelandic Bookseller Prize for his novel *Evil*, as well as being nominated for the Nordic Council Literature Prize. When *Evil* (*Illska*, 2012) came out in France in 2015, it was shortlisted for the Prix Médicis Étranger, the Prix Meilleur Livre Étranger and received the Transfuge award for best Nordic fiction.

Novel
335 pp
2018

English sample translation available

rights holder
Forlagið | Mál & menning
The Forlagid Rights Agency
Valgerður Benediktsdóttir
vala@forlagid.is
www.forlagid.is

foreign sales of previous titles

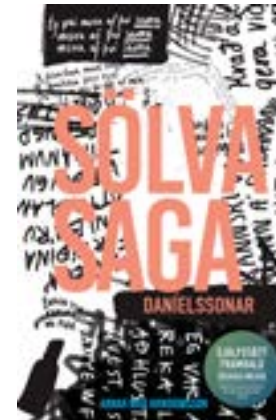
- Croatia (Naklada OceanMore), Denmark (Ordenes By), France/Switzerland/Luxembourg (Métailié), Germany/Switzerland/Austria (Klett-Cotta), Greece (Polis), Spain (Hoja de Lata), Sweden (Råmus förlag), USA/UK/ANZ (Dalkey Archive)

awards & nominations

- 2012 Awarded the Icelandic Literary Prize
- 2012 Awarded the Icelandic Bookseller Prize
- 2014 Nominated for the Nordic Council Literature Prize
- 2015 Prix Transfuge du meilleur roman Scandinave
- 2015 Nominated for the Prix du meilleur roman étranger
- 2015 Nominated for the Prix Médicis étranger

Arnar Már Arngrímsson

The Saga of Sölvi, son of Daniel Sölvasaga Daníelssonar



A vivid picture of the influence of a generation gap on language



Sölvi is nineteen years old, works in a supermarket and harbours a poet inside, even though the battle with words is not always fruitful. Sölvi has had a hard time finding his place in everyday life so he moves to Akureyri to study in a newly founded school there. In Akureyri, a small town in North Iceland, new challenges emerge entwined with the old, as he tries to keep his footing in life and gain confidence as a poet.

Speculation on poetry and playing with words are a big part of Sölvi's story and the author manages exceptionally well to paint a vivid picture of the influence of a generation gap on language. In a way the story is a bildungsroman, but it also raises questions about the challenges facing young people in modern society.

Arnar Már Arngrímsson (b. 1970) studied Icelandic literature at the University of Iceland and later German literature at the University of Cologne. For the past 12 years Arnar Már has taught Icelandic language and literature in his hometown Akureyri. His debut novel *The Saga of Sölvi the Young* (*Sölvasaga unglings*, 2015) won the Nordic Council Children and Young People's Literature Prize in 2016. The sequel, *The Saga of Sölvi, son of Daniel* was nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize.

Novel | YA
264 pp
Sögur | 2018

English sample translation available

rights holder
Winje Agency
Gina Winje
gina.winje@gmail.com
https://winjeagency.com/

foreign sales of previous titles

The Faroeese Islands (Bókadeildin), France (Editions Thierry Magnier), Russia (Samokat)

awards & nominations

- 2018 & 2015 Nomination for the Icelandic Literary Prize
- 2016 Awarded the Nordic Council Children and Young People's Literature Prize

Sigrún Eldjárn

Silver Key Silfurlykillinn



A thrilling story about resourceful siblings and a journey into the unknown



What happens if modern technology suddenly disappears and how would people cope without electricity and computer technology? A terrible turn of events has led to all technology disappearing and the competition over food and shelter is tough. The story can be called a dystopian fairy tale where the reader follows siblings and their father on the search for a better life and for the mother who vanished without a trace. They get assistance from a strange girl and her books become a key factor in the search.

Sigrún Eldjárn is among Iceland's most beloved authors and illustrators of books for children and her works have a special place in the minds and hearts of generations of Icelanders. For this book Sigrún Eldjárn was awarded the Icelandic Literary Prize for 2018.

Sigrún Eldjárn (b. 1954) has written and illustrated high on forty children's books. She was the first author to receive the IBBY Iceland Prize Sogusteinn for her literary career in 2007, having received up to that point several awards and recognition for her work, among others the Reykjavik Children's Literature Prize three times and nominations to the H.C. Andersen Award and the Nordic Children's Literature Prize for her writings for children.

Children | Illustrated
220 pp
2018

English sample translation available

rights holder
Forlagið | Mál & menning
The Forlagid Rights Agency
Valgerður Benediktsdóttir
vala@forlagid.is
www.forlagid.is

foreign sales of previous titles
Hungary (People Team
Millenium)

awards & nominations

- 2018 Awarded the Icelandic Literary Prize
- 2014 & 2013 Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize
- 2014 Nominated for the Icelandic Women's Literature Prize
- 2006 Nominated for the West-Nordic Literary Award
- 2004 Nominated for the Nordic Children's Literature Prize
- 2004 Nominated for the Nordic Children's Literature Prize
- 2007 The Sogusteinn Children's Book Award
- 1998 Nomination for the H.C. Andersen Award

Hjörleifur Hjartarson

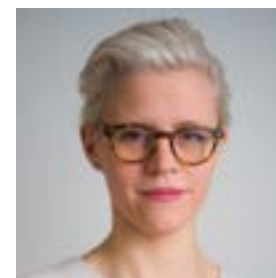
Rán Flygenring

The Story of Dungal Sharp and His Theories About the Nature of the Universe

Sagan um Skarphéðin Dungal sem setti fram nýjar kenningar um eðli alheimsins



This book is one of a kind and a unique collaboration



Dungal Sharp is a housefly who lives in the city of flies, but unlike most of the other flies in the city he is fearless and undertakes a journey to see the world. He soon discovers how huge it is and how small his city of flies is by comparison. Philosophical questions arise as the reader follows Dungal Sharp on his journey about the world view of a fly and the prejudice that come from narrow minded ignorance of other worlds than the one closest to you.

This book is one of a kind and projected in a unique collaboration of the drawings of Rán Flygenring and the poetry of Hjörleifur Hjartarson.

Rán Flygenring (b. 1987) is an illustrator and innovator. Her work includes projects of every kind, such as drawings for books and magazines, graffiti, stamp making and graphic work for weddings, conferences and everything in between.

Hjörleifur Hjartarson (b. 1960) is a qualified teacher who has also made his mark as a writer, translator and musician. He has written texts for museums and theatre shows.

Children | Family | Illustrated
72 pp
2018

rights holder
Angústúra
María Rán Guðjónsdóttir
maria.ran@angustura.is
www.angustura.is

awards & nominations

- 2018 Awarded the Reykjavik Children's Literature Prize
- 2018 Awarded FÍT, the Icelandic Designers Award
- 2018 & 2017 Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize
- 2018 & 2017 Awarded the Icelandic Bookseller's Prize

Ragnheiður Eyjólfsdóttir

The Rats Rotturnar



A suspenseful science fiction novel for young readers

Four teenagers end up in a summer job rebuilding a rusty cabin in the Icelandic highlands where there is no phone connection. Members of the group are one by one subject to a strange illness that some think might be the black death, a plague that killed one third of the nation in the 15th century. The teenagers are taken to a mysterious laboratory where their every move is monitored, their personal information is used against them and they have no way of knowing who can be trusted. Gradually it emerges that them being there is no coincidence.

The Rats is a suspenseful science fiction novel for young – and also older – readers, reminiscent of The Hunger Games. Despite this being science fiction, the content is uncomfortably close to our modern society and its constant surveillance.

YA | Science fiction
273 pp
2018

English sample translation available

rightsholder
Forlagið | Vaka-Helgafell
The Forlagid Rights Agency
Valgerður Benediktsdóttir
vala@forlagid.is
www.forlagid.is



Ragnheiður Eyjólfsdóttir (b. 1984) is an architect by profession. The Rats is her third book. Her first, The Heir, received the Icelandic Children's Literature Award in 2015 as well as the Booksellers' Prize in the young adult literature category, and the sequel, The Underworld, received the Reykjavik Children's Book Award in 2017.

- awards & nominations
- 2018 Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize
 - 2018 Awarded the Booksellers' Prize in the YA literature category
 - 2017 The Reykjavik Children's Literature Prize
 - 2015 Awarded the Icelandic Children's Literature Prize

Hildur Knútsdóttir

The Lion Ljónið



An exciting story where mysteries prevail and tensions are high

Sixteen-year-old Kría just moved from Akureyri to Reykjavík and is starting high school. She leaves behind bad experiences of bullying that she doesn't want anyone to know about. In school she blends in well with the group and makes friends with Elísabet and the mysterious Davíð. When everything seems to be going upwards Elísabet finds an old box in an old cupboard. The friends start investigating the mysterious disappearance of a girl 79 years previously that could possibly be linked with Kría's life in unexpected ways.

The Lion is the first book in a new trilogy by Hildur Knútsdóttir where mysteries prevail and tensions are high. But it is also a realistic and honest tale of friendship, love, trust and betrayal and other stepping stones on the rocky road to adulthood.

YA | Fiction
410 pp
2018

English sample translation available

rightsholder
Forlagið | JPV
The Forlagid Rights Agency
Valgerður Benediktsdóttir
vala@forlagid.is
www.forlagid.is



Hildur Knútsdóttir (b. 1984) has garnered widespread attention with her books Winter Dark (Vetrarfrí, 2015) and Winter Frost (Vetrarhörkur, 2016), which have been translated into several languages and are being turned into a television series. Both books have received several awards and nominations.

- awards & nominations
- 2018 & 2015 Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize
 - 2018 & 2016 the Icelandic Bookseller's Prize
 - 2018 IBBY Honour List
 - 2017 & 2016 Nominated for the Reykjavik Children's Literature Prize
 - 2016 Awarded the Icelandic Literary Prize
 - 2016 Awarded the Icelandic Women's Literature Prize

Steinunn Sigurðardóttir

Poems of the road Að ljóði munt þú verða



A unique voice among Icelandic poets



Poems of the road is Steinunn Sigurðardóttir's tenth poetry book. The author's view of both nature and love give her a unique voice among Icelandic poets: in this book the sun and hope travel together, although darkness and grief linger underneath. The poems in the book are tremendously diverse, from a simple everyday life to deep contemplations about the circle of life and human existence.

Poems of the road can be seen as a sequel to her book Af ljóði ertu komin from 2016.

Poetry
71 pp
Bjartur | 2018

rightsholder
Immaterial Agents
Trude Kolaas Ciarletta
trude@immaterial.no

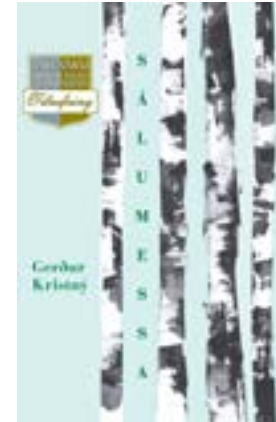
foreign sales of previous titles
China (China International Radio Press), Denmark (Rosinante), Ethiopia, Finland, France, Germany (Hanser Verlag/Rowholt), Holland (Harper Collins), Italy (Mondadori), Macedonia, Norway (Gloria Forlag), Poland (Wydawnictwo Kobiect), Serbia (CLIO), Sweden (Vega), UK (John Murray), USA

awards & nominations

- 2017 Awarded the Icelandic Women's Literature Prize
- 2016 Awarded the Icelandic Booksellers Prize
- 2016 & 2005 Nominated for the DV Cultural Prize
- 2014 Awarded the Jónas Hallgrímsson Prize
- 1995 Awarded the Icelandic Literary Prize
- 1991 Awarded the Icelandic Broadcasting Service Writer's Prize
- 2011, 2009, 2005, 1999 & 1990 Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize
- 1997 & 1988 Nominated for the Nordic Council's Literature Prize
- 1996 Nominated for the Aristeion Award

Gerður Kristný

Requiem Sálumessa



Moving images with links to both ancient and contemporary poetry



In 2003, Gerður Kristný, then editor-in-chief of an Icelandic magazine called Mannlíf, published an article written by a woman who had been brutally sexually abused by her brother and later developed an addiction to drugs. The woman committed suicide around the time when the article was published. Her brother filed charges against Gerður Kristný to the Icelandic Press Associations Ethics committee, who found her guilty of breaching ethic protocol after she refused to apologize for publishing the article.

Requiem is a long poem written in memory of this woman. The narrator is a ghost of sorts, staying with the deceased and reviewing her life. He contemplates her destiny and speculates on what punishment would be appropriate for her tormentor. The poems are to the point, big destiny carved with few words into moving images with links to both ancient and contemporary poetry.

Poetry
87 pp
2018

English sample translation available

rightsholder
Forlagið | Mál & menning
The Forlagid Rights Agency
Valgerður Benediktsdóttir
vala@forlagid.is
www.forlagid.is

foreign sales of previous titles
Denmark (Vandkunsten), Finland (Savukeidas), Germany (Ullstein), Norway (Aschehoug), Sweden (Ariel), UK (Arc Publications)

awards & nominations

- 2018 Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize
- 2010 Awarded the Icelandic Literary Prize
- 2018, 2010, 2008 & 2005 the Icelandic Booksellers' Prize
- 2010 The West-Nordic Children's Literature Prize
- 2010 The Guðmundur Böðvarsson Poetry Award
- 2005 The Icelandic Journalism Award
- 2004 The Halldór Laxness Literature Prize
- 2003 The Children's Choice Book Prize

Fiction

Albania

Aleph Klub
Halldór Laxness
Sjálfstætt fólk

Ombra GVG
Auður Ava Ólafsdóttir
Ör

Shkupi
Yrsa Sigurðardóttir
Ég man þig
Kuldi

Azerbaijan

Alatoran Literature
Magazine
Einar Kárason
Stormur

Alatoran Literature
Magazine
Einar Már
Guðmundsson
Englar alheimsins

Brazil

Intrínseca
Einar Kárason
Stormfuglar

Bulgaria

Roboread
Halldór Laxness
Sjálfstætt fólk

Janet 45
Jón Kalman Stefánsson
Hjarta mannsins

Canada (French)

La Peuplade
Gyrðir Elíasson
Sandárþókin

China

China Booky
Einar Kárason
Stormfuglar

China International
Radio Press
Steinunn Sigurðardóttir
Ástin fiskanna

Xiron Books
Auður Ava Ólafsdóttir
Ör

Croatia

Hena
Einar Már
Guðmundsson
Englar alheimsins

Katai & B (Znanje d.o.o.)
Ragnar Jónasson
Myrknætti
Rof

Czech Republic

Albatros Media
Auður Ava Ólafsdóttir
Ör

Albatros Media
Einar Kárason
Stormfuglar

Albatros Media
Ragnar Jónasson
Snjóblindu

Dybbuk
Gyrðir Elíasson
Koparakur

MOBA
Arnaldur Indriðason
Kleifarvatn
Þýska húsið

OneHotBook (audio)
Yrsa Sigurðardóttir
DNA
Sogið
Aflausn

Zlin
Steinar Bragi
Kata

Denmark

Art People
Lilja Sigurðardóttir
Búrið
Netið

Batzer & co
Auður Ava Ólafsdóttir
Ör
Afleggjarinn
Ungfrú Ísland

Grif
Kristín Eiríksdóttir
Elin, ýmislegt

Gyldendal
Jónas Reynir
Gunnarsson
Millilending

Lindhardt og Ringhof
Yrsa Sigurðardóttir
Brúðan
Gatið

Lindhardt og Ringhof
(Ebook/Audio)
Gunnar Gunnarsson
29 titles

Nyt Dansk
Litteraturselskab
Kristín Marja
Baldursdóttir
Svartalog

Vandkunsten
Gerður Kristný
Smartís

Egypt

Al Arabi
Einar Kárason
Stormfuglar

Al Arabi
Guðmundur Andri
Thorsson
Valeyrrarvalsinn

Al Arabi
Jón Gnarr
Útlaginn

Al Arabi
Lilja Sigurðardóttir
Gildran

Estonia

Eesti Raamat
Auður Ava Ólafsdóttir
Ör



Finland

Aviador Kustannus
Jón Kalman Stefánsson
Fiskarnir hafa enga fætur

Like
Steinar Bragi
Kata

France

An Alarch'h
Jón Kalman Stefánsson
Himnaríki og helvíti

Gaia
Sigríður Hagalín
Björnsdóttir
Hið heilaga orð

Grasset
Einar Kárason
Stormfuglar

Les Editions Noir sur
Blanc
Kristín Eiríksdóttir
Elin, ýmislegt

Métailié
Arnaldur Indriðason
Stúlkan hjá brúnni

Métailié
Lilja Sigurðardóttir
Svik

Zulma
Einar Már
Guðmundsson
Passamyndir

Zulma
Gunnar Gunnarsson
Aðventa

Germany

Bastei Lübbe
Arnaldur Indriðason
Myrkrið veit

btb/Random House
Einar Kárason
Stormfuglar

btb/Random House
Yrsa Sigurðardóttir
Gatið
Brúðan
Aska
Auðnin

btb/Random House
Ragnar Jónasson
Dimma
Drungi
Mistur

Klett Cotta
Hallgrímur Helgason
Sixty Kilos of Sunshine

Residenz Verlag
Bergsveinn Birgisson
Lifandilífslækur

S. Fischer Verlag
Sjón
Rökkurbýsnir
Skugga-Baldur

Hungary

Central Kiadó Csoport
Arnaldur Indriðason
Reykjavíkurnætur

Cser
Sigríður Hagalín
Björnsdóttir
Eyland

Gondolat Kiado
Sjón
CoDex 1962

Magvető
Einar Kárason
Stormfuglar

Polar Könyvek
Kristín Eiríksdóttir
Elin, ýmislegt

Israel

Locus
Sjón
Skugga-Baldur

Tamir Sendik
Auður Ava Ólafsdóttir
Ör

Italy

Einaudi
Auður Ava Ólafsdóttir
Ör

Einaudi
Einar Kárason
Stormfuglar

Federico Tozzi Editore
Sjón
Mánasteinn

Safara Editore
Ófeigur Sigurðsson
Jón

Ugo Guanda
Arnaldur Indriðason
Myrkrið veit
Þýska húsið

Japan

Shogakukan
Ragnar Jónasson
Dimma

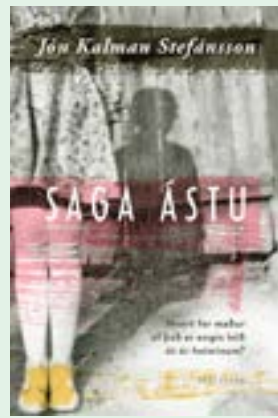
South Korea

Hangilsa
Auður Ava Ólafsdóttir
Ör

Munhakdongne
Yrsa Sigurðardóttir
Ég man þig



Lebanon Arabic Scientific Publishing Arnaldur Indriðason <i>Reykjavíkurnætur</i>	Xander Steinar Bragi <i>Kata</i>	Literackie Steinar Bragi <i>Kata</i>
Dar al Adab Auður Ava Ólafsdóttir <i>Ör</i>	Norway Bokvennen Gyrðir Eliasson <i>Gangandi íkorni</i>	Poznańskie Auður Ava Ólafsdóttir <i>Ör</i>
Thaqafa Arnaldur Indriðason <i>Kamp Knox</i>	Forlaget Press Jón Kalman Stefánsson <i>Saga Ástu</i> <i>Fiskarnir hafa enga fætur</i> <i>Eitthvað á stærð við alheiminn</i>	Wydawnictwo Amber Ragnar Jónasson <i>Dimma</i>
Lithuania Alma Littera Hallgrímur Helgason <i>Sixty Kilos of Sunshine</i>	Gloria forlag Ragnar Jónasson <i>Dimma</i> <i>Drungi</i> <i>Mistur</i>	Wydawnictwo Kobiعة Lilja Sigurðardóttir <i>Svik</i>
Baltos Lankos Jón Kalman Stefánsson <i>Himnaríki og helvíti</i>	Lithuanian Writers' Union Publishers Auður Ava Ólafsdóttir <i>Ör</i>	Portugal 2020 editora Ragnar Jónasson <i>Andköf</i> <i>Dimma</i>
Leidykla Aukso Zuvys Oddný Eir Ævarsdóttir <i>Jarðnæði</i>	Kagge Yrsa Sigurðardóttir <i>Gatið</i> <i>Brúðan</i>	Cavalo de Ferro Jón Kalman Stefánsson <i>Fiskarnir hafa enga fætur</i> <i>Eitthvað á stærð við alheiminn</i>
Lithuanian Writers' Union Publishers Auður Ava Ólafsdóttir <i>Ör</i>	Norway Lydbokforlaget (Audio) Jón Kalman Stefánsson <i>Harmur englanna</i> <i>Himnaríki og helvíti</i> <i>Hjarta mannsins</i>	Quetzal Auður Ava Ólafsdóttir <i>Ör</i>
Macedonia ArtConnect Publishing Kristín Eiríksdóttir <i>Elín, ýmislegt</i>	ArtConnect Publishing Ragnar Jónasson <i>Snjóblinda</i>	Romania Art Grup Editorial Hallgrímur Helgason <i>Konan við 1000°</i>
Magor Publishing Gyrðir Eliasson <i>Steintré</i>	Pax Auður Ava Ólafsdóttir <i>Ungfrú Ísland</i>	Flacara (Crime Scene Press) Ragnar Jónasson <i>Snjóblinda</i>
Skhupi Andri Snær Magnason <i>LoveStar (Albanian)</i>	Vigmotad & Bjørke Bergsveinn Birgisson <i>Lifandilífslækur</i>	Polirom Jón Kalman Stefánsson <i>Saga Ástu</i>
The Netherlands Uitgeverij Volt Arnaldur Indriðason <i>Stúlkan hjá brúnni</i>	Poland Wydawnictwo Kobiعة Steinunn Sigurðardóttir <i>Gæðakonur</i>	Trei Yrsa Sigurðardóttir <i>Ég man þig</i>
	Jagiellonian University Press Einar Kárason <i>Stormfuglar</i>	



Russia Eksmo Steinar Bragi <i>Kata</i>	Sweden Bigarrábok Lilja Sigurðardóttir <i>Gildran</i> <i>Búrið</i> <i>Netið</i>	Orenda Books Lilja Sigurðardóttir <i>Búrið</i> <i>Svik</i>
Eksmo Yrsa Sigurðardóttir <i>DNA</i> <i>Sogið</i> <i>Aflausn</i>	HarperCollins Nordic Yrsa Sigurðardóttir <i>DNA</i> <i>Sogið</i> <i>Aflausn</i>	Pushkin Press Auður Ava Ólafsdóttir <i>Ungfrú Ísland</i>
Heliks d.o.o. Jón Kalman Stefánsson <i>Fiskarnir hafa enga fætur</i>	Norstedts Arnaldur Indriðason <i>Myrkrið veit</i>	Quercus/Maclehose Jón Kalman Stefánsson <i>Sumarljós og svo kemur nóttin</i>
Serbia Heliks Publishing House Gyrðir Eliasson <i>Milli trjáanna</i>	Norstedts (Audio e-books) Arnaldur Indriðason <i>Petsamo</i> <i>Skuggasund</i> <i>Þýska húsið</i>	The Emma Press (World English) Gerður Kristný <i>Smartís</i>
Slovakia Albatros Steinar Bragi <i>Kata</i>	Thorén & Lindskog Einar Kárason <i>Stormfuglar</i>	Wild Pressed Books Þóra Karítas Árnadóttir <i>Mörk – saga mömmu</i>
Artforum spol Jón Kalman Stefánsson <i>Saga Ástu</i>	Weyler förlag Auður Ava Ólafsdóttir <i>Ungfrú Ísland</i>	WF Howes Arnaldur Indriðason <i>Skuggasund</i> <i>Þýska húsið</i>
Spain Alfaguara Auður Ava Ólafsdóttir <i>Ör</i>	Turkey Nebula Auður Ava Ólafsdóttir <i>Ör</i>	Ukraine Vydavnytstvo Sjón <i>Mánasteinn</i>
Editorial Sexto Piso Oddný Eir Ævarsdóttir <i>Jarðnæði</i>	United Kingdom Amazon Crossing (World English) Kristín Eiríksdóttir <i>Elín, ýmislegt</i>	USA Dottir Press Auður Jónsdóttir <i>Stóri skjálfti</i>
Grupo Planeta Espasa Libros Ragnar Jónasson <i>Snjóblinda</i> <i>Dimma</i>	Amazon Crossing (World English) Stefán Máni <i>Svartigaldur</i>	Grove Atlantic Auður Ava Ólafsdóttir <i>Ungfrú Ísland</i>
RBA Arnaldur Indriðason <i>Dauðarósir</i> <i>Synir duftsins</i>	Hodder & Stoughton Yrsa Sigurðardóttir <i>Gatið</i> <i>Brúðan</i>	Vietnam Taodan Books Halldór Laxness <i>Sjálfstætt fólk</i>
Salamandra Jón Kalman Stefánsson <i>Sumarljós og svo kemur nóttin</i>	MacLehose Press Einar Kárason <i>Stormfuglar</i>	



Children & Young Adult

Denmark

Torgard
Hildur Knútsdóttir
Vetrarfri
Vetrarhörkur

Torgard
Kristín Helga
Gunnarsdóttir
Vertu ósýnilegur

Faroe Islands

Bókadeildin
Áslaug Jónsdóttir, Kalle
Güettler & Rakel
Helmsdal
Skrímsli í vanda

South Korea

Woorischool
Gunnar Helgason
Mamma klikk!

Latvia

Liels un maza
Andri Snær Magnason
Sagan af bláa hnettinum

Macedonia

Antolog Books
Andri Snær Magnason
Tímakistan

Antolog Books
Gunnar Helgason
Mamma klikk!

Prozart media
Bryndís Björgvinsdóttir
Flugan sem stöðvaði stríðið

Norway

Skald
Áslaug Jónsdóttir, Kalle
Güettler & Rakel
Helmsdal
Skrímsli í heimsókn
Skrímsli í vanda

Spain

Editora Alvarellos
Áslaug Jónsdóttir
Ég vil fisk! (Galician)

Sweden

Opal
Áslaug Jónsdóttir, Kalle
Güettler & Rakel
Helmsdal
Skrímsli í vanda

USA

Restless Books
Andri Snær Magnason
Tímakistan

Poetry

Argentina

Evaristo Editorial
Sjón
Gráspörvar og ígulker
Söngur steinasafnarans

Germany

Elif Verlag
Sigurður Pálsson
Ljóð muna rödd

Norway

Nordsjöforlaget
Gerður Kristný
Strandir

Poland

e-sagi.pl
Elisabet Kristín
Jökulsdóttir
Ástin ein taugahrúga.
Enginn dans við
Ufsaklett

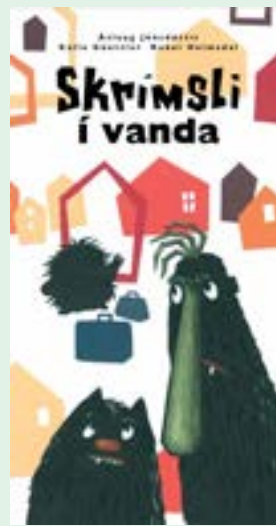
Instytut Kultury Miejskiej
Linda Vilhjálmisdóttir
frelsi

Sweden

Lil'Lit
Linda Vilhjálmisdóttir
frelsi

Ukraine

Krok Publisher
Eiríkur Örn Norðdahl
Óratorrek



Non-fiction

Egypt

Al Arabi Publishing
Bergsveinn Birgisson
Leitin að svarta vikingnum

France

Gaia
Gísli Pálsson
Fjallið sem yppti öxlum

Germany

Hanser Verlag
Steinunn Sigurðardóttir
Heiða - fjalldalabóndinn

Marc Friedrich
Hugleikur Dagsson
The Very Worst of Dagsson

Hungary

Líra Könyv
Bergsveinn Birgisson
Leitin að svarta vikingnum

Italy

Mondadori
Steinunn Sigurðardóttir
Heiða - fjalldalabóndinn

South Korea

Bookrecipe
Unnur Þóra Jökulsdóttir
Undur Mývatns

The Netherlands

Harper Collins
Steinunn Sigurðardóttir
Heiða - fjalldalabóndinn

Ambo Anthos
Unnur Þóra Jökulsdóttir
Undur Mývatns

Norway

Bonnier
Guðrún S. Magnúsdóttir
Jólaprjón

Gloria Forlag
Steinunn Sigurðardóttir
Heiða - fjalldalabóndinn

Samlaget
Prjónafélagið
Leikskólaföt
Leikskólaföt 2

Spartacus
Unnur Þóra Jökulsdóttir
Undur Mývatns

Vigmotad & Bjørke
Bergsveinn Birgisson
Leitin að svarta vikingnum

Poland

Wydawnictwo Kobiect
Steinunn Sigurðardóttir
Heiða - fjalldalabóndinn

Serbia

CLIO
Steinunn Sigurðardóttir
Heiða - fjalldalabóndinn

Sweden

Bonnier
Guðrún S. Magnúsdóttir
Jólaprjón

United Kingdom

John Murray
Steinunn Sigurðardóttir
Heiða - fjalldalabóndinn

USA

Paramount Pictures and
Anonymous Content
(screen rights)
Bergsveinn Birgisson
Leitin að svarta vikingnum



Benný Sif Ísleifsdóttir

Grima Gríma



Iceland's prosperity is based on fisheries and that was especially true fifty years ago, the period in which the book is set. However, the story focuses on another side of fishing, the fishermen's wives who stay behind, looking after home and children. The main character, Gríma, is not your average Icelandic housewife, but a woman who'd rather have nice clothes and fun than tend to the home.

In this book we find a realistic picture of an Icelandic fishing village where everything seems to be going smoothly but secrets are crawling to the surface with unforeseen consequences. This is a thrilling, historical debut that was awarded the Icelandic Literature Center's Grassroot Grant in 2018.

A thrilling, historical debut!



Benný Sif Ísleifsdóttir (b. 1970) holds a M.A. degree in Folkloric Studies from the University of Iceland, as well as a diploma in Youth and Community Studies from Saint Martin's College and a degree in Applied Icelandic Studies. *Grima* is her first novel.

Novel
368 pp
2018

rightsholder
Bjartur
Páll Valsson
pall@bjartur.is
www.bjartur.is

awards

- 2018 The Icelandic Literature Center's Grassroot Grant

Fríða Bonnie Andersen

For Ever and Ever, Love *Að eilífu ástin*



An older man starts researching the mysterious past of his mother who died when he was young, around the middle of the twentieth century. Gradually a picture emerges of her life as a seamstress in Paris where she fell in love with a woman and discovered a more liberal view of homosexuality, love and sex than she was used to from Iceland. When she moves back to Iceland, same-sex love breaches all social norms.

A well written and catchy debut that shows what the consequences of silencing same sex love can be, for all involved.

A well written and catchy debut



Fríða Bonnie Andersen (b. 1964) is a free-lance physiotherapist. She studied creative writing at the University of Iceland and has also completed courses on writing for children and short stories. Fríða Bonnie has also written plays, flash fiction and short stories that have been published in magazines and short story collections.

Novel
276 pp
2018

rightsholder
Bjartur
Páll Valsson
pall@bjartur.is
www.bjartur.is

Birkir Blær Ingólfsson

Stormy Rocks – The People Who Captured the Wind

Stormsker – Fólkið sem fangaði vindinn



An original and thrilling fantasy for mature children

Twelve-year-old Opus lives with his exhausted mother in a small flat on an unnamed island in the North Sea where the winds blow constantly. The richest man in the world has settled down on the island and is building masts by the thousands in order to harness the wind so he can squeeze more hours into the day. That has unforeseen consequences. Opus's life is drastically changed when he is told that he has been chosen by the wind itself to save the world from perishing.

Stormy Rocks is an original and thrilling fantasy for mature children where the greed of man almost becomes his downfall. A beautifully written book, bearing a classic but yet urgent message in these treacherous times of global warming.

YA | Fantasy
257 pp
2018

English sample translation available

rightsholder
Forlagið | Vaka Helgafell
The Forlagid Rights Agency
Valgerður Benediktsdóttir
vala@forlagid.is
www.forlagid.is



Birkir Blær Ingólfsson (b. 1989) is an Icelandic author and scriptwriter who develops and writes scripts for various series. He is a professional saxophone player, has completed a law degree at the University of Iceland and is a part-time journalist for the Icelandic National Broadcasting Service. Stormy Rocks – The People Who Captured the Wind is the winner of the 2018 Icelandic Children's Book Award.

awards
• 2018 The Icelandic Children's Book Award

Pórdís Helgadóttir

Emperor Penguins Keisaramörgæsir



This book reflects the true originality and creativity of its author

Emperor Penguins is a collection of sixteen diverse short stories where realism and fantasy vie against each other in a charming and unique way. Most of the stories echo contemporary problems where mental disease, anxiety, guilt about global warming and domestic violence are prevalent to name but a few.

This book bears witness to the true originality and creativity of its author and is sometimes reminiscent of TV shows like Black Mirror. The style is ironic, poetic and unpretentious. The stories begin and end abruptly and what is unsaid lingers in the air, amplifying the suspense.

Short story collection
156 pp
2018

rightsholder
Bjartur
Páll Valsson
pall@bjartur.is
www.bjartur.is



Pórdís Helgadóttir (b. 1981) holds degrees in philosophy, creative writing and editing from the University of Iceland. Emperor Penguins is her first book, although she has previously published a few poems and short stories in magazines and literary collections.

Yrsa Sigurðardóttir

The Doll Brúðan



Yrsa has a knack for twisting together complicated plots with surprising endings



The head of a home for disadvantaged children is accused of sexually molesting a young boy in his charge, two human right feet are found at the bottom of the ocean and a homeless man is found murdered. Three different cases come to the attention of the police at the same time, which is also the worst season: in the middle of the summer when most of the force is on vacation. Huldar, the policeman, and Freyja the psychiatrist are assigned to the investigation and the cases turn out to be linked in an unusual manner where a doll covered in barnacles with a locket around her neck plays an important part.

Yrsa the engineer has a knack for twisting together complicated plots with surprising endings. This novel has all those hallmarks.

Yrsa Sigurðardóttir (b. 1963) is the author of the award-winning Þóra Guðmundsdóttir series and several stand-alone thrillers, and is to date translated into more than 30 languages. Universally hailed as one of the finest crime writers of our time, Yrsa's new series, about the psychologist Freyja and the police officer Huldar, shows a master storyteller at the top of her game. *The Doll* is the fifth instalment in Yrsa's series about Freyja and Huldar.

Crime fiction
358 pp
Veröld | 2018

English sample translation available

rights holder
Salomonsson Agency
Federico Ambrosini
federico@salomonssonagency.com
www.salomonssonagency.se

sold to
Denmark (Lindhardt og Ringhof), Germany (btb/Random House), Norway (Kagge), UK (Hodder & Stoughton)

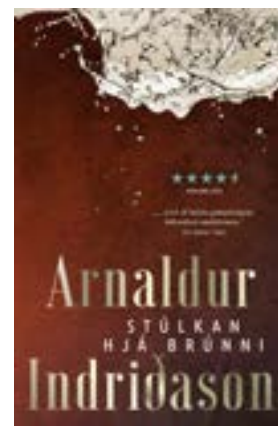
foreign sales of previous titles
Albania (Shkupi), Bulgaria (Emas), Czech Republic (OneHotBook/Metafora), Denmark (Lindhardt og Ringhof), Estonia (Varrak), Finland (Otava), Germany (BTB/Random House), Greece (Metaichmio), Hungary (Animus), Italy (Mondadori), Korea (Munhakdongne/Taurus Books), Latvia (Zvaigzne), Macedonia (Antolog), The Netherlands (Cargo), Norway (Kagge), Portugal (Quetzal/Sonia Draga), Romania (Editura Trei), Russia (Eksmo), Sweden (Harper Collins), Turkey (Koridor), UK (Hodder & Stoughton), USA (St. Martin's Press)

awards & nominations

- 2018 Longlisted for the International Dublin Literary Award
- 2017, 2016, 2013, 2012, 2010, 2009, 2008 & 2007 Nominated for The Drop of Blood
- 2017 & 2016 Shortlisted for LovelyBooks' Der Leserpreis
- 2017 & 2014 Shortlisted for the Petrona Award
- 2016 The Danish Academy of Crime Writers' Award
- 2015 & 2011 Awarded The Drop of Blood
- 2015 The Petrona Award
- 2016 Shortlisted for the Mörda Award
- 2014 & 2011 Nominated for the Glass Key

Arnaldur Indriðason

The Girl by the Bridge Stúlkan hjá brúnni



The plot is enthralling and convincing references to contemporary issues



Konrad, a retired policeman and the protagonist of several previous books by Indriðason, returns. As in some of the previous books, the story takes place in two different time periods. Konrad is asked to help an elderly couple to look for their granddaughter who they suspect is smuggling drugs. Konrad, however, is preoccupied with the fate of his father, who was a fraudulent medium, stabbed to death decades before. An unsolved case about a girl found dead in the Reykjavík Pond in 1961 complicates things even further.

Arnaldur Indriðason shows yet again that he has mastered crime fiction. The plot is not only enthralling, where the history of Reykjavík in the 20th century plays a big part, but he also manages to make convincing references to contemporary issues such as #metoo and give them a historic context.

Arnaldur Indriðason (b. 1961) has the rare distinction of having won the Nordic Crime Novel Prize two years running. He is also the winner of the highly respected 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 13 million copies worldwide, in 40 languages, and have won numerous well-respected prizes and received rave reviews all over the world.

Crime fiction
300 pp
2018

English sample translation available

rights holder
Forlagið | Vaka-Helgafell
The Forlagid Rights Agency
Valgerður Benediktsdóttir
vala@forlagid.is
www.forlagid.is

sold to
France (Métailie), The Netherlands (Uitgeverij Volt)

foreign sales of previous titles
Abu Dhabi (Thaqafa), Armenia (Guitank), Brazil (Companhia das Letras), Bulgaria (Colibri), Catalonia (La Magrana), Czech Republic (MOBA), Croatia (Knjige i sve to), Simplified Chinese (Xinhua), Denmark (Rosinante), Estonia (NyNorden), Ethiopia (Qirtas), Faroe Islands (Sprotin), Finland (Blue Moon), France/Switzerland/Luxembourg/Canada (Métailie), Germany/Switzerland/Austria (Verlagsgruppe Lübbe), Greece (Metachmio), Hungary (Animus), Israel (Keter), Italy (Ugo Guanda), Japan (Tokyo Sogensha), Korea (Open Books), Latvia (Apgads Mansards), Lithuania (Baltos Lankos), Macedonia (Tri), The Netherlands/Belgium/Luxembourg (Uitgeverij Q), Norway (Cappelen Damm), Poland (Foksal), Portugal (Porto Editores), Romania (Trei), Russia (Corpus), Serbia (Booka), Slovenia (Didakta), Spain/Andorra/South and Central America/USA (RBA Libros), Sweden (Norstedts/Prisma), Turkey (Dogan), Taiwan (Crown), Thailand (Pearl), UK/Australia/New Zealand/South-Africa (Random House/Harvill Secker), USA/Philippines (St. Martin's Press/Thomas Dunne Books), Vietnam (Alphabooks)

among awards

- 2016 Honyaku Mystery Award
- 2013 RBA's International Crime Novel Award
- 2008 The Barry Award
- 2008 The Icelandic Crime Novel Award
- 2005 The CWA Gold Dagger Award
- 2005 The Martin Beck Award
- 2003 & 2002 The Glass Key
- 2003 The Swedish Caliber Award

Lilja Sigurðardóttir

Betrayal Svik



Ursula has recently taken on the job of Minister of the Interior in Iceland but is haunted by her previous job in a refugee camp in Syria. In her new job she gets swept into a fast sequence of events where political interests and complicated crimes from the past are intertwined and Ursula realises that she can trust no one. At the same time her private life hangs in a delicate balance and she needs to focus on saving her marriage.

Lilja Sigurðardóttir is one of Iceland's most productive writers of crime fiction and doesn't let her fans down in this suspenseful story straight from contemporary Iceland.

A suspenseful story straight from contemporary Iceland



Lilja Sigurðardóttir (b. 1972) is an award-winning playwright and author of crime novels, with *Snare*, the first in a series, hitting bestseller lists worldwide. The film rights have been bought by Palomar Pictures in California.

Crime fiction
390 pp
2018

English sample translation available

rightsholder
Forlagid | JPV
The Forlagid Rights Agency
Valgerður Benediktsdóttir
vala@forlagid.is
www.forlagid.is

sold to
Poland (Wydawnictwo Kobiiece),
World English (Orenda Books),
World French (Métailie)

foreign sales of previous titles
Czech Republic (Leda), Denmark (People's Press), Egypt (Al Arabi), France /Switzerland / Luxembourg/Canada (Éditions Métailié), Macedonia (Bata Press), Norway (Font), Poland (Kobiece), World English (Orenda Books) Film rights sold to 66 Degrees North/Palomar Pictures

awards & nominations

- 2018 Awarded The Drop of Blood, Iceland
- 2018 Nominated for the Glass Key
- 2018 CWA International Dagger Longlist
- 2018 Longlisted for Prix du Meilleur Polar at Points
- 2018 Cote Caen selection, Top Summer Reads in France
- 2018 Nominated for the First Book Award
- 2017 Thriller of the year, selected by New York Journal of Books
- 2017 & 2016 Nominated for The Drop of Blood

Árman Jakobsson

Exile Murders Útlagamorðin



The Exile Murders is in many respects a typical “whodunit”: A young Swedish tourist is found murdered in a small village in the countryside under unknown circumstances. An experienced team of policemen is sent from Reykjavik to investigate but at first sight there are no clues to be found. One of Iceland's most famous criminal cases is woven into the story and the writer skilfully shows how power and corruption can infect the community.

Árman Jakobsson is a known medievalist and writer, who reveals a new side of himself in this well written and exciting crime novel.

A well written and exciting crime novel



Árman Jakobsson (b. 1970) is a professor in mediaeval Icelandic literature at the University of Iceland. Exile Murders is his first crime novel but he has previously published novels, poetry and academic non-fiction.

Crime fiction
328 pp
2018

rightsholder
Bjartur
Páll Valsson
pall@bjartur.is
www.bjartur.is

Gunnsteinn Ólafsson

Páll Stefánsson

The Heart of Iceland – Pearls of the highlands

Hjarta Íslands – Perlur hálendisins



A remarkable book about the Icelandic highlands



32

The Icelandic highlands are often called the heart of Iceland and this elaborate and special book gives a beautiful insight into this extraordinary territory. Páll Stefánsson is one of Iceland's most beloved nature photographers and he shows why in this book, which contains several new photographs from the highlands' most ravishing pearls of nature. The photos are accompanied by intriguing texts by Gunnsteinn Ólafsson, who has years of experience as a tour guide, and describes the nature, geology, folklore and literature that is connected to each place.

This is a remarkable book that is sure to hit all those who love Icelandic nature straight in the heart.

Gunnsteinn Ólafsson (b. 1962) has operated as a tour guide in the Icelandic highlands and written a book about Iceland for travellers called *The Golden Circle and Blue Lagoon*, as well as writing two books for children.

Páll Stefánsson (b. 1958) studied photography in Sweden and has travelled the world as a photographer taking pictures. From 1982 to 2017 he worked for the magazine *Iceland Review*, both as a photographer and editor. Páll has published over thirty books, exhibited his work in every continent except the Antarctic and now holds the position of Sony Global Imaging Ambassador.

Non-fiction | Photography
190 pp
2018

rights holder
Veröld
Pétur Már Ólafsson
pmo@bjartur.is
www.verold.is

Books from Iceland 2019

Rósa Rut Þórisdóttir

Polar bears in Iceland Hvítabirnir á Íslandi



Unique stories about the coming of polar bears to Iceland



33

This book is a collection of all available sources regarding the coming of polar bears to Iceland, from the settlement of Iceland to the present. The author's father, Þórir Haraldsson, had worked on the book for many years and, when he passed away, his daughter Rósa Rut carried on where he left off.

The stories are in chronological order and some are really thrilling and give a good insight into the unforeseen circumstances when the polar bears suddenly disrupt the quietness of the Icelandic countryside. Sometimes the bears are fought out in the field, but on other occasions they come all the way up to the farms and cause great terror. Many drawings and photos decorate the book, making it one of a kind.

Rósa Rut Þórisdóttir (b. 1972) has been active in the arctic discourse for over a decade. She is an associate scientist at the Stefansson Arctic Institution in Akureyri, Iceland and has a Ph.D degree in anthropology from the University of Paris (Paris 7), specializing in visual anthropology and arctic regions, analyzing anthropological images from the circumpolar area.

Non-fiction
270 pp
2018

rights holder
Hólar
Guðjón Ingi Eiríksson
holar@holabok.is

foreign sales of previous titles
Germany (Südwestdeutscher Verlag für Hochschulschriften),
France (Éditions universitaires européennes)

nominations
• 2018 Nominated for non-fiction prize Hagthenkir

Non-fiction

Ragnar Helgi Ólafsson

My Father's Library Bókasafn föður míns



A wonderfully written, melancholy and thoughtful book



Ólafur Ragnarsson, who was Halldór Laxness's publisher, died in 2008. A few years later, his son, Ragnar Helgi, has to go through his library of 4000 books and find a new place for it. In the beginning he is determined not to open a single book, but he can't resist and soon he is reading avidly and pondering on the value of books and the written word.

A wonderfully written, melancholy and thoughtful book about memories, grief, books and culture in a rapidly changing world. But last and not least, this is a story about the relationship between father and son and what truly matters in life.

Non-fiction
200 pp
2018

rightsholder
Bjartur
Páll Valsson
pall@bjartur.is
www.bjartur.is

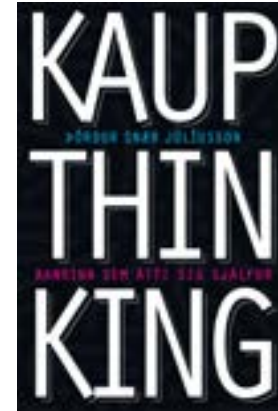
foreign sales of previous titles
France (Éditions Passage(s)),
Germany (Elif Verlag)

awards & nominations

- 2018 & 2017 Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize
- 2017 Nominated for the DV Cultural Prize
- 2015 Awarded the Tómas Guðmundsson Poetry Prize

Þórður Snær Júlíusson

Kaupthinking – the bank that owned itself Kauptinking – Bankinn sem átti sig sjálfur



The inside story of one of the biggest bank fraud in history



The great banking crisis of 2008 was the biggest man-made disaster ever to strike Iceland. The fall of Kaupthing that autumn was the fourth biggest bankruptcy in history worldwide. A few years later, the key administrators of the bank had been sentenced to prison for the most severe economic crimes in the history of Iceland. In Kauptinking the journalist Þórður Snær Júlíusson traces the history of the banking crisis and demonstrates how, through deceit, deception and criminal intent, a group of men could create an illusion of success; an illusion that resulted in tragedy.

This book has been ten years in the making and is based on, among other things, previously unpublished documents, e-mails, phone records and interrogations. Þórður Snær is a skilled researcher and untangles complicated business dealings in a clear and relatable way, revealing the enthralling tale of a bank founded on fraud from day one.

Non-fiction
371 pp
2018

rightsholder
Bjartur
Páll Valsson
pall@bjartur.is
www.bjartur.is

Þórður Snær Júlíusson (b. 1980) is the editor and one of the founding members of the webzine Kjarninn. He holds a BA degree in politics from the University of Iceland and a M.Sc. in European and international politics from Edinburg University. Þórður Snær has worked in the media for 13 years. He won the Journalist of the year award from the Icelandic Press Association in 2009 for investigative journalism and his coverage of the financial crisis has been nominated for the same award three times since then.

Kristín Eiríksdóttir

A Fist or a Heart Elín, ýmislegt



A showcase for the author's skill in describing revealing situations with a dense plot



Elín is a woman just past seventy who works at set design in theatre and movies. The story starts when she receives three boxes which contain various elements from her life and past. Then Ellen, an up-and-coming dramatist, enters her life and she turns out to have played a part in Elín's past, under terrible circumstances. This novel is a masterfully plotted story where the narrative shifts between two women who turn out to be quite similar in many ways.

This novel is a showcase for the author's skill in describing revealing situations with a dense plot. *A Fist or a Heart* is full of powerful symbols and references that add depth and meaning to the text. This is a story of women in art and women in life, with all the cruelty, trauma, joy and revelation that entails.

Kristín Eiríksdóttir (b. 1981) made her mark on the literary scene in a big way with her collection of short stories, *Doris Dies* in 2010. Critics agreed that a new, fully-fledged author had arrived with one of the most significant works of fiction of the year. Her voice is strong and unwavering – one of the most original of her generation.

Novel
182 pp
2017

English sample translation available

rightsholder
Forlagið | JPV
The Forlagid Rights Agency
Valgerður Benediktsdóttir
vala@forlagid.is
www.forlagid.is

sold to
World English
(AmazonCrossing), Denmark
(Grif), France (Notabilia),
Hungary (Polar Könyvek),
Macedonia (ArtConnect)

Foreign sales of previous titles
UK/US (Dalkey Archive Press;
Best European Fiction)

awards & nominations

- 2019 Nominated for the Nordic Council Literature Prize
- 2018 & 2015 Nominated for the DV Cultural Prize
- 2017 Awarded the Icelandic Literary Prize
- 2017 Awarded the Icelandic Women's Literature Prize
- 2014 Awarded the Icelandic Bookseller's Prize
- 2014 Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize
- 2013 Nominated for the Icelandic Women's Literature Prize

Kristín Ómarsdóttir

spiders in shop windows Kóngulær í sýningargluggum



A uniquely original, very powerful and demanding work of poetry



Spiders in shop windows is a uniquely original, very powerful and demanding work of poetry, full of similes and situations that open new dimensions and give us a new view of our world.

Spiders in shop windows has received several awards and nominations. It won the May Star, 2017 Icelandic poetry prize, was nominated for the 2017 Icelandic Literary Prize and is nominated for the 2019 Nordic Council Literature Prize.

Kristín Ómarsdóttir (b. 1962) is the author of seven novels, six short story collections, seven books of poetry, and more than seven stage plays. Her work has been published in English, Danish, German, Finnish, Galician, Swedish and French. Ómarsdóttir has been nominated and has won several awards for her works. She lives in Reykjavik and is currently working on a new novel.

Poetry
93 pp
Forlagið | 2017

rightsholder
Forlagid | JPV
The Forlagid Rights Agency
Valgerður Benediktsdóttir
vala@forlagid.is
www.forlagid.is

foreign sales of previous titles
Albania (Ombra GVG), Denmark
(Jensen & Dalgaard), France
(Le Cavalier Bleu), UK (Carcanet
Press/Partus Press), USA (Open
Letter)

awards & nominations

- 2019 & 2000 Nominated for the Nordic Council's Literature Prize
- 2017 Awarded the May Star, Icelandic poetry prize
- 2017, 2012, 1997 & 1995 Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize
- 2015, 2008 & 1999 Nominated for the DV Cultural Prize
- 2011 & 2008 Nominated for the Gríman Drama Award
- 2009 Awarded the Women's Literature Prize
- 2005 Awarded Gríman, Icelandic Drama Awards
- 2001 Nominated for the Nordic Radio Drama Prize
- 1998 Awarded the DV Cultural Prize
- 1998 Nominated for the Nordic Drama Award

The Icelandic Literary Prize

Fiction

Hallgrímur Helgason
Sixty Kilos of Sunshine
 Sextíu kíló af sólskini
 Forlagið | JPV

Children's and YA Books

Sigrún Eldjárn
The Silver Key
 Silfurlykillinn
 Forlagið | Mál & menning

Non-fiction

Þóra Ellen Þórhallsdóttir, Hörður Kristinsson & Jón Baldur Hlíðberg
The Flora of Iceland
 Flóra Íslands
 Forlagið | Vaka-Helgafell

The Icelandic Women's Literature Prize

Fiction

Guðrún Eva Mínervudóttir
Love Texas
 Ástin Texas
 Bjartur

Children's and YA Books

Kristín Helga Gunnarsdóttir
Fíasól Never Gives Up
 Fíasól gefst aldrei upp
 Forlagið | Mál & menning

Non-fiction

Auður Jónsdóttir, Bára Huld Beck & Steinunn Stefánsdóttir
 Þjáningarfrelsið – óreiða hugsjóna og hagsmuna í heimi fjölmiðla
 Forlagið | Mál & menning

The Icelandic Bookseller's Literary Prize

Fiction

Auður Ava Ólafsdóttir
Miss Iceland
 Ungfrú Ísland
 Benedikt

Non-fiction

Þóra Ellen Þórhallsdóttir, Hörður Kristinsson & Jón Baldur Hlíðberg
The Flora of Iceland
 Flóra Íslands
 Forlagið | Vaka-Helgafell

Young Adult Books

Hildur Knútsdóttir
The Lion
 Ljónið
 Forlagið | JPV

Children's Books

Þórarinn Eldjárn & Sigrún Eldjárn
Wordsmith
 Ljóðpundari
 Forlagið | Vaka-Helgafell

Biography

Þóra Kristín Ásgeirsdóttir
The Lost Cause of Hasim Kahn
 Hasim
 Forlagið | JPV

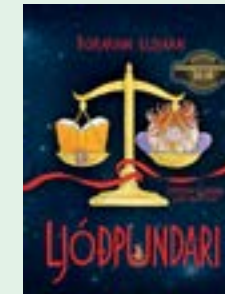
Poetry

Gerður Kristný
Requiem
 Sálumessa
 Forlagið | Mál & menning

The Hagþenkir Non-fiction Prize

Non-fiction

Kristín Svava Tómasdóttir
The Pornographic Moment. Pornography and Obscenity in Iceland in the Times of the Sexual Revolution
 Stund klámsins.
 Klám á Íslandi á tímum kynlífsbyltingarinnar
 Sögufélag



Icelandic Literature Center

promotes Icelandic literature abroad

The role of the Icelandic Literature Center is to raise awareness and support the publication of Icelandic literature, both in Iceland and abroad, and to enable its distribution through translation and travel grants.

We support the translation of fiction, children's and young adult books, non-fiction, poetry, drama and graphic novels.

The Icelandic Literature Center is a government-funded office, founded in 2013.

Grants

Translation grants

- ♦ for foreign publishers to publish a work translated from Icelandic

Nordic translation grants

- ♦ for publishers within the Nordic countries to translate from Icelandic into Nordic languages

Sample translation grants

- ♦ for publishers, agents, translators & authors to translate samples from Icelandic

Reader's report grants

- ♦ for publishers & agents to get professional opinion on Icelandic books

Travel grants for authors

- ♦ for Icelandic authors, foreign publishers or organizations arranging events to support Icelandic authors travelling to promote their works abroad

Translators residential grants

- ♦ for translators of Icelandic literature

Application deadlines

- ♦ translation, sample translation, reader's report & Nordic translation grants | February 15th & September 15th
- ♦ travel grants | January 15th, May 15th & September 15th
- ♦ translators residential grants | October 1st

Icelandic Literature Center

- ◆ distributes approx. EUR 600,000 in grants annually
- ◆ awards grants for 300 projects every year
- ◆ participates in international book fairs
- ◆ organizes events for translators of Icelandic literature and publishers
- ◆ organizes exchange programs for publishers and agents
- ◆ organizes campaigns and efforts in order to promote reading, increase the number of translated titles and support the export of Icelandic literature



**ICELANDIC
LITERATURE CENTER**
MIÐSTÖÐ ÍSLENSKRA BÓKMENNTA

Icelandic Literature Center
Hverfisgata 54
101 Reykjavík
Iceland

+354 552 85 00
islit@islit.is
www.islit.is

📄 islit.is
🌐 icelandiclitcenter
📱 @IceLitCenter