



INTERNATIONAL
EXCELLENCE
Awards 2020
in partnership with the Publishers Association

ELINA AHLBACK LITERARY AGENCY

SPRING RIGHTS GUIDE 2020: Children's & Young Adult



Happy 2020 from Elina Ahlback Literary Agency!

This spring there are so many adventures awaiting:

Come with **Julia** to **Plush Animal League** headquarters in space where all children are monitored by their stuffed animals in case they need help.

Zoom from space into **Enchanting Planet Earth** and discover our dear planet through amazing maps in ways you never expected.

Discover a new series **Mini Science** that explains even DNA and atoms to even smallest of the family.

Knock on the door of **Miss Swift's Weird and Wonderful House** only to find twelve monkeys, a ghost and some... tigers in the garden! Oh no!

If you have now run far enough, you will soon discover it is snowing. And the snowing will not stop – time for little Nina to help you in the third part of **Little Shop of Nightmares** series.

Join us on a wonderful adventure through the best of Finnish Children's and YA literature in Spring 2020!

If you would like to hear more about our books, feel free to write to us or even better – let's meet in London IRC tables 7D and 7E or Bologna Children's Book Fair – we will be in the Agent's Centre.



Elina



Toomas



Julia



Nicole

SPRING RIGHTS GUIDE 2020: Children's & Young Adult

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Cover image copyright Nadja Sarell from Julia & P.A.L. by Elina Hirvonen

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Julia & P.A.L.

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Julia & P.A.L.

by Elina Hirvonen, illustrated by Nadja Sarell

Toy Story meets The Avengers! The first part of the new exciting middle-grade series where plush animals have super powers.

#adventure #school #plushanimals #agents #nerd #space
#rescuemission #popularity #bullying #friendship

More than anything else, Julia, 10 years, wishes that somebody would like her. She can explain the structure of the universe, but has no idea how to talk to her classmates. What she doesn't know is that she already has her very own best friend – her toy bunny Buck, who in reality is a top secret agent of the Plush Animal League (P.A.L.).

The P.A.L. headquarters is located in outer space where the agents follow children through their monitor, ready to act immediately when their child needs help. And Julia does! Buck turns Julia's bed into a magic flying spacecraft and takes her on a ride through space and time. Buck wants to show Julia that the same things that make her feel out of place among her classmates now, are her unique character strengths that will make her happy and loved in the future. But the P.A.L. has an enemy; the Soldiers of Vombat, an army of forgotten toys. They plot to overtake Plush Animal League and control children's actions and wishes. Julia finds out that she is the only one who can stop the evil plan!

“ A soft-toy agent in the field may initiate transfer of child asset to HQ by activating Sleeping Beauty, where it is necessary to secure the wellbeing of the child under conditions set out in Article 9090.

– Julia & P.A.L. by Elina Hirvonen



JULIA JA PEHMOELÄINTEN MAAILMANNEUVOSTO

Tammi, Fall 2020

Rights sold

FINLAND: Tammi (orig.)

Reading materials

English sample & synopsis



photo: Jarkko Virtanen

ELINA HIRVONEN is a Helsinki based award-winning author and filmmaker. As a child she told herself a bedtime story about flying to space with her plush dog Sisko. Today, Hirvonen takes care of cuddly animals along with her children Anna and Iivar. In addition to writing, she loves reading, dancing and swimming.



photo: Linda Manner

NADJA SARELL is an illustrator from Helsinki. She has studied both dancing and illustrating. When she is not working, Nadja enjoys dancing, teaching different workshops and spotting airplanes with her son. The most beloved plush toy of her childhood is called Luppis, who still lives in Nadja's bedroom with a couple of her friends.

Miss Swift's Weird and Wonderful House

by Magdalena Hai,
Illustrated by Teemu Juhani

Twelve monkeys, a matador ghost and tigers in the garden – Miss Swift's house has everything imaginable, except people. But why does she have three bedrooms ready for children?

#witch #house #monkeys #dog #tigers #ghost #courage #timetravel

Miss Swift lives happily alone in an extraordinary house. And she is not completely alone, she has twelve monkeys, some garden tigers and one ghost to keep her company. But when a little boy appears on her doorstep, before Miss Swift even notices it Pekka and his two cousins are rummaging through her house, looking for their missing dog. And if there's anything Miss Swift despises in this world it is children.

But why does the house have so many bedrooms? And why are the children feeling so home at Miss Swifts house? Is there something she could have forgotten? Miss Swift's Weird and Wonderful House is a new fantasy story for middle-grade readers full of funny details and fast-paced events. Teemu Juhani's illustrations bring the house and its eccentric characters to life.

“ **Magdalena Hai's brilliant humor and storytelling are the perfect match for Teemu Juhani's fantastic illustrations.** – Tugce Nida Gokirmak, Epsilon, Turkey on Little Shop of Nightmares



photo: Toni Härkönen

MAGDALENA HAI is a lover of cross genre fiction and all things strange, and her fiction often combines elements of sci-fi, fantasy and horror. Besides writing Hai, teaches writing and is an active member and editor in the publishing co-operative Osuuskuuma.



TEEMU JUHANI is a Finnish illustrator, comic artist and graphic designer. Born and raised in a land of snow and the Northern Lights, he grew up reading comics, holding a pencil in his hand and dreaming of superhuman powers.



NEITI KYMENEN IHMEELLINEN TALO
Otava, Summer 2020

Rights sold
FINLAND: Otava (orig.)

Reading materials:
English sample & synopsis

Agnes and the Garden of Dreams

by Tuutikki Tolonen

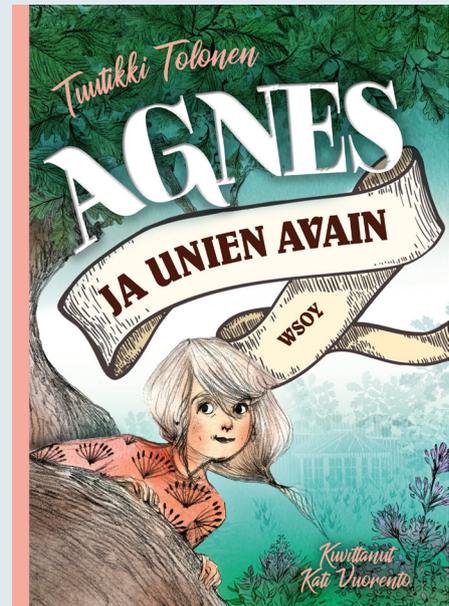
illustrated by Kati Vuorento

A new middle-grade mystery series from a bestselling author! When Agnes finds her own name on a tombstone everything changes. She digs into the mystery that seems to somehow connect with her own life.

#familymystery #summer #moving #boredom #parentsdivorce
#dreams #secret #grandmother

Everything began on that one summer day when Agnes enters through the cemetery gate. She had just moved to a boring new town and left behind her old home and friends. But then something weird happens and her life becomes more exciting than ever!

She finds a tombstone that has the name Agnes on it – and the same birthday as hers! Starting from that day Agnes keeps having dreams of a girl who hides a key in a beautiful garden. And when Agnes stumbles upon the same garden, she knows she must find the key. But what will it open?



AGNES JA UNIEN AVAIN
WSOY, March 2020, 230 pp

Rights sold

FINLAND: WSOY (orig.)
CZECH REPUBLIC: Portál
DENMARK: ABC Forlag
ESTONIA: Eesti Raamat
RUSSIA: Rosman

Reading materials

English sample & synopsis



**BEST
SELLER**

Rights sold to
5 territories
pre-publication!

“**Through this fascinating story you’ll learn how important friendship is and knowing who you really are.** – Aili Saks, publisher Eesti Raamat, Estonia



photo: Mika Nuorva

TUUTIKKI TOLONEN is the author of warm, absurdist middle-grade novels that seamlessly mix the mundane with the fantastic. She has co-authored several children’s books and teaches creative writing. She won the Arvid Lydecken Prize in 2016.



photo: Teemu Kuusimurto

KATI VUORENTO is an illustrator living and working in Helsinki. “In small details there is an infinite magic. I want my illustrations to stir emotion in the audience. I always include approachable characteristics to even the most hardened anti-hero. This is how I mold the characters into personalities with depth and dimensions”.

Monster Nanny Series

by Tuutikki Tolonen, illustrated by Pasi Pitkänen

The Monstrous Mary Poppins. Hollywood feature film in development by Scott Free Productions, Ridley Scott co-producing with Screen Australia and Animal Logic Entertainment attached.

#nanny #kindmonsters #movinghouses #growingup #guestsfromunderground #losingafriend



Film in further development in **Hollywood** by Ridley Scott!



Rights sold in **28 territories**

#1 Monster Nanny



MÖRKÖVAHTI Tammi 2015, 304 pp.

The Hellman children have been sent a nanny to look after them while their mother is at a spa. The only problem? Their nanny is a monster. Grah is hairy, dusty, and doesn't talk. When the siblings discover that other neighborhood kids have been left with similar creatures, they start to wonder where the monsters came from. With the parents away, the kids work together (between bickering) to figure out the mystery of the monsters.

#nanny #kindmonsters #homealone
#momtakesavacation #adventure

#2 Monster Route

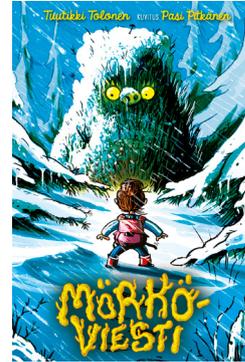


MÖRKÖREITTI Tammi 2016, 284 pp.

The second part of Monster Nanny trilogy. Mimi, 6 years old, has snuck into the monsters' underground world after her monster friend Grah. She travels in their tunnels, led by the odd gate keeper. Back at home, Koby and Halley put their heads together and manage to get in touch with Mimi. But who is the mysterious and frightening ruler of the monster world?

#monsters #underworld #friendship
#adventures

#3 Monster Message



MÖRKÖVIESTI Tammi, February 2020, 250 pp.

In the third part of the Monster Nanny trilogy, the Hellman kids face new troubles. Mom and Dad want to move into a bigger home on the other side of the city. When Mimi finds crumpled leaves with strange markings in her room, they look like messages from underground, but who's delivering them and why? And why does the gate keeper of the underground world appear in their bathroom?

#nanny #kindmonsters #movinghouses
#growingup #guestsfromunderground
#losingafriend

Rights sold:

FINLAND: Tammi (orig. publisher)
AUSTRALIA: Allen & Unwin
BOSNIA: Šahinpašić
BRAZIL: DarkSide Books
CHINA: Beijing Children's Publishing House
CZECH REPUBLIC: Portál
DENMARK: Turbine
ESTONIA: Tiritamm
FRANCE: Editions Robert Laffont
GERMANY: Carl Hanser Verlag

HUNGARY: Tessloff Babilon
ITALY: Salani/Mauri Spagnol
LATVIA: Zvaigzne
LITHUANIA: Nieko Rimto
NETHERLANDS: Luitingh-Sijthoff
NEW ZEALAND: Allen & Unwin
NORWAY: Gyldendal Norsk
OCEANIA: Allen & Unwin
POLAND: Vesper
PORTUGAL: Asa Ediciones/Leya
RUSSIA: Rosman

SLOVENIA: Mladinska knjiga
SPAIN (Spanish): La Galera
SPAIN (Catalan): La Galera
SWEDEN: Rabén & Sjögren
TURKEY: SEV Redhouse Kidz
VIETNAM: Nha Nam
UNITED STATES: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt

Reading materials: English edition of Book 1; English samples of Book 2 & Book 3

Detained

by Salla Simukka

Nobody should be punished for crimes they didn't commit. What about crimes they were going to commit in the future?

#thriller #teenagers #nearfuture #dystopia #YA #LGBTQIA

A startling story of a world where teenagers are getting captured and imprisoned for the crimes they are expected to commit in the future.

"We were captured in the middle of the day, politely, calmly. They didn't intend anyone to be killed. They didn't intend it to become like this. This is our story. These are our voices."

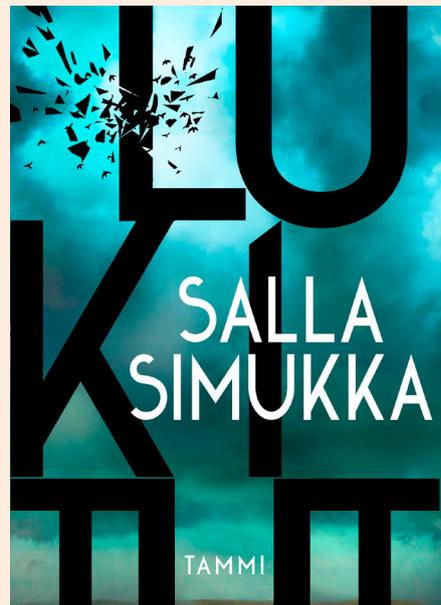
“ Fans of Nesbø and Larsson won't be disappointed!

- Publishers Weekly, Starred review for Simukka's Snow White Trilogy



photo: Hanna Poropudas

SALLA SIMUKKA is Finland's most internationally translated contemporary author. Her *Snow White Trilogy* has been published in 52 territories and film & TV rights sold to Hollywood. She writes books for Young Adults and Children and travels the world talking about her work. Her accolades include the Topelius Prize 2013 and the Finlandia Prize 2013.



LUKITUT

Tammi, June 2020, 200 pp.

Rights sold

FINLAND: Tammi (orig.)

Reading materials

English sample & synopsis



NEW novel by the author of the *Snow White Trilogy* - sold to 52 territories!

Snow White Trilogy

by Salla Simukka

The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo meets Six of Crows – this international bestseller is an edge-of-your-seat thriller that chills to the bone, and not just because of the icy winter setting. Hollywood TV SHOW in development by Zerogravity (Ozark)! Rights sold in 52 territories!

#1 As Red as Blood



PUNAINEN KUIN VERI, Tammi 2013,

It's the coldest winter in decades: the streets of Tampere are frozen and white with snow. And nothing is as red against white snow as blood...

17-year-old Lumikki Andersson goes to a high school of performing arts. She has made it a rule to stay out of things that do not involve her. However, the rule is put to the test on leap day when she finds washed five hundred euro notes hung to dry in her school's darkroom. Soon Lumikki finds herself caught in a tangled web of international drug trafficking.

#YA #girlpower #strongfemalecharacters #mystery #crime #drugmoney #mafia

#2 As White as Snow



VALKEA KUIN LUMI, Tammi 2013, 240 pp

Lumikki Andersson is backpacking in Prague, where the weather is scorching hot. A girl approaches her in a small café and claims to be her step sister. Lumikki's parents seem to be hiding a secret concerning the family's past, so the girl's claim rouses Lumikki's interest. Despite her erratic behaviour, the girl manages to persuade Lumikki to join a religious community.

But the religion of the cult is not pure; and innocence is not as white as snow...

#Prague #stepsister #familysecret #cult

Reading materials: English editions

#3 As Black as Ebony



MUSTA KUIN EEBENPUU, Tammi 2014, 250pp

Lumikki Andersson is set to play the leading role in a modern-day version of Snow White at her high school. As opening night approaches, Lumikki starts receiving notes from a secret admirer whose infatuation soon turns out to be a dangerous obsession. The admirer threatens to turn the premiere into a bloodbath unless Lumikki consents to his demands.

Time is running out, the opening night is just around the corner and Lumikki has to find a way to outwit the stalker with a soul as black as ebony.

#schoolplay #snowwhite #stalker #obsession

Reading materials: English editions

Rights sold: Finland, Albania, Arab World, Argentina Extremo, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Clavis, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Catalan, China, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Faroe Islands, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Israel, Italy, Japan, Korea, Latvia, Lithuania, Macedonia, Malaysia, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey, United Kingdom & Commonwealth, United States & Canada, Vietnam

The Red Abbey Chronicles

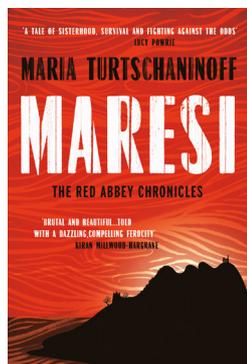
by Maria Turtschaninoff

The Red Abbey Chronicles is a historically-inspired feminist fantasy saga, aimed at young adult audiences.

#trilogy #feminism #magic #monastery #safehaven #education #growingup #findingyourway #growingup #homecoming #letters #education #justice #love



#1 Maresi

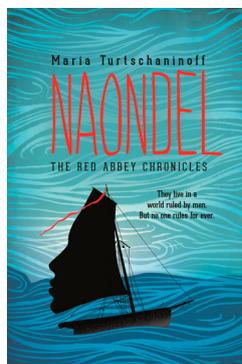


FULL ENGLISH TEXT AVAILABLE

The Red Abbey is a refuge for women and girls, where everyone pursues their own areas of interest. Maresi prefers to spend her time reading and learning. Everything changes when the frightened Jai arrives on the island. She has seen her sister get buried alive for speaking to a young man, and her father and a crew of thugs are after her. Maresi and her friends have to fight to defend both Jai and their community.

MARESI,
Schildts & Söderströms 2014, 180 pp.

#2 Naondel

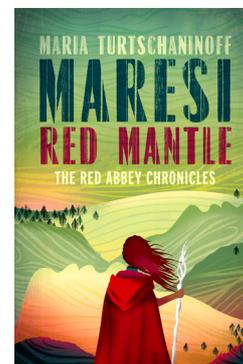


FULL ENGLISH TEXT AVAILABLE

An independent prequel to Maresi, Naondel tells the story of the First Sisters – founders of the Red Abbey. Imprisoned in a harem by a dangerous man with a dark magic that grants him power over life and death, the women must overcome their mistrust of each other in order to escape. But they can only do so at great costs, both for those who leave and those left behind.

NAONDEL,
Förlaget 2016, 400 pp.

#3 Maresi Red Mantle



FULL ENGLISH TEXT AVAILABLE

The third book is an epistolary novel that follows Maresi after she leaves the Red Abbey to establish a school in her oppressed home province of Rovas. The return to her Northern home, and fitting in, is not easy even with all the knowledge she's bringing with her, but she is determined to triumph over the difficulties. However, she does not need to make it alone, for life has yet another surprise in store: love.

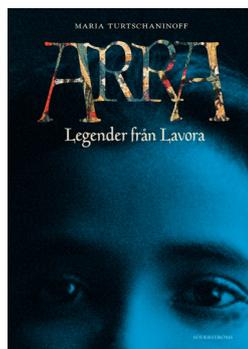
BREVEN FRÅN MARESI,
Förlaget 2018, 300 pp.

Rights Sold: RED ABBEY CHRONICLES
Finland, Finland-Swedish, Belgium, Brazil, Canada (French), China, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Latin America, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Romania, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States.

Reading Materials: English Editions

“ Dark, powerful and original... really stands out in a very crowded YA marketplace... Thrilling, suspenseful and gloriously feminist.

- The Bookseller, UK

by **Maria Turtschaninoff****Arra**

In the very first novel set in Turtschaninoff's unique fantasy world, Arra is a girl so unwanted and unseen by her family that she has turned mute. Instead she becomes skilled at listening to the music of the world and learns to gently collaborate with its magic. As Arra struggles to find her own voice, her destiny becomes entwined with that of her country. When war strikes, only Arra can save the man she loves, the Prince of Lavora.

ARRA - LEGENDER FRÅN LAVORA

Schildts & Söderströms 2009

Rights sold: FINLAND: Tammi (orig.), DENMARK: Turbine

Reading material: English sample and synopsis

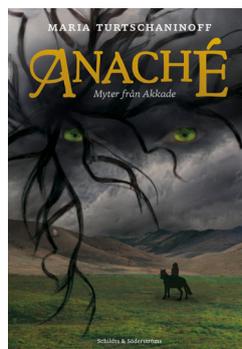
[#prince](#) [#kingdom](#) [#tapestry](#) [#war](#)

“**Arra is a fantastic work of art with integrity and lyrical beauty. The story is engaging and shows the storytelling tradition is alive and kicking.**

– Finlandia Junior Prize jury's report



MARIA TURTSCHANINOFF is known for crafting lyrical, historically inspired fantasy stories starring strong female protagonists, and has been compared to fantasy giants like Ursula K. Le Guin. For her work, Turtschaninoff has received several awards, such as the coveted Finlandia Junior Prize.

**Anaché**

In the second book set in Turtschaninoff's fantasy universe, Anaché grows up in a nomadic tribe with a rigid hierarchical structure. She has trouble conforming to the strict rules of male and female conduct, and is secretly acquiring forbidden knowledge from her brother. After her brother and mother die in a snowstorm brought on by a shaman, Anaché assumes the identity of her brother in order to keep her loved ones with her. When the shaman upsets the balance of the world, Anaché has to discover who she truly is in her own right in order to save her people.

MYTER FRÅN AKKADE, Schildts & Söderströms 2012

Rights sold: FINLAND: Tammi (orig.)

Reading material: English sample & synopsis

[#nomads](#) [#nature](#) [#predictions](#) [#growingup](#) [#hunting](#)
[#horses](#) [#riding](#)

“**Maria Turstchaninoff writes the best fantasy of our time!**

– Helsingin Sanomat newspaper, Finland

Introducing: **Little Shop of Nightmares!**

by Magdalena Hai, illustrated by Teemu Juhani

Nine-year-old Nina does not get scared easily! As she does not have enough money to buy herself a bicycle, she takes up a job in Little Shop of Nightmares which seems like a character of its own! This very successful series includes 3 books so far. Rights sold in 12 territories!



Nina is a clever, 9-year-old girl who goes to work in the Little Shop of Nightmares. During the course of the trilogy, she has to solve a mystery with tickling powder, find the lost teeth of a vampire and discover the reason why suddenly it just doesn't stop snowing. The Little Shop of Nightmares is a mystery full of fascinating and fun characters that make young readers both wonder and laugh!

“ *The Little Shop of Nightmares takes the reader straight into a fantastic world where everything can happen. And it does! It's scary, funny and entertaining. Lots of wonderful details and interesting characters. That's where every child wants to be!* ”

– Lindy Andersen, Publisher, Fontini Forlag, Norway



photo: Outi Puhakka

MAGDALENA HAI is a lover of cross-genre fiction and all things strange, and her fiction often combines elements of sci-fi, fantasy and horror. Besides writing, Hai teaches writing and is an active member and editor in the publishing co-operative Osuuskumma.



TEEMU JUHANI is a Finnish illustrator, comic artist and graphic designer. Born and raised in a land of snow and the Northern Lights, he grew up reading comics, holding a pencil in his hand and dreaming of superhuman powers.

The Little Shop of Nightmares Series

by Magdalena Hai, illustrated by Teemu Juhani



#1 The Terrible Tickling Powder

When Nina, 9 years old, enters The Little Shop of Nightmares in hopes of getting a job, she is greeted by an odd sight: shopkeeper Mr. Kook is rolling on the floor, unable to stop laughing.

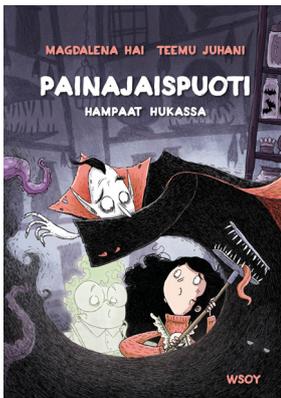
With a little help from a ghost called Paddy, they start looking for the untickling powder to help him, but things are certainly not made easier by Mr. Kook's world-domination-planning pet octopus Squishy McGoo, who is a bit too quick about getting into trouble with rollerblades on its tentacles.

KAMALA KUTITUSPULVERI WSOY 2019, 60 pp

[#easytoread](#) [#ghost](#) [#spooky](#) [#newfriends](#) [#savingmoney](#) [#gettingajob](#)



FULL ENGLISH PDF



#2 Mystery of the Missing Teeth

Nina goes to buy ice cream after her first work day at The Little Shop of Nightmares.

But at the ice cream shop she discovers a vampire - without teeth! Nina decides to help vampire Lucas to find his teeth from Mr. Kook's shop. But for some reason all the vampire teeth seem to have disappeared. It seems like somebody has hidden them on purpose...

HAMPAAT HUKASSA WSOY 2019, 60 pp

[#work](#) [#ghost](#) [#spooky](#) [#vampire](#) [#teeth](#)



FULL ENGLISH PDF



#3 Sticky the Horrible Snowman

Same awesome monsters. New blizzardy trouble. The Little Shop of Nightmares is getting buried in snow! Nina and Paddy are trying to find the cause of the snowstorm, but that's easier said than done. A well-meaning but horribly clumsy snowman keeps getting in their way and stopping their every effort to stop the snowing inside.

HIRVEÄ JUMIMIES Summer 2020, 60 pp.

[#snow](#) [#storm](#) [#stuck](#) [#snowman](#) [#mystery](#)



FULL ENGLISH TEXT AVAILABLE

Rights sold: Little Shop of Nightmares Series. FINLAND: WSOY (orig.), CZECH REPUBLIC: Euromedia, DENMARK: Vild Maskine, ESTONIA: Postimees Publishing, GERMANY: Egmont Schneiderbuch, HUNGARY: Cerkabella, LATVIA: Latvijas Mediji, NETHERLANDS: De Vier Windstreken, NORWAY: Fontini, ROMANIA: Univers, RUSSIA: Teenbooks Publishing / Kompas Guide SWEDEN: Hegas, TURKEY: Epsilon

Introducing: Hilja!

by Heidi Viherjuuri, illustrated by Nadja Sarell

Hilja is an energetic and curious little girl with her three granny friends! For the fans of Astrid Lindgren! The Hilja series has 5 books that follow her adventures in the countryside!

Hilja is a seven-year-old girl who lives in a wooden house that always needs some fixing. Her family consists of her mother, father, little sister Taimi and big sister Veini. Grandpa is also closely involved in the life of the Green House. He helps Dad with the renovation, takes the kids to fish, and tells jokes. Hilja has only seen her grandma in an old photograph. However, there are three ladies in the neighborhood who are making sure that Hilja doesn't have just one grandma but three!



“ Heidi Viherjuuri trusts her young readers to understand a good amount of irony and a very cheeky main character. Wonderful!

- Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger newspaper, Germany



photo: Florian Jung

HEIDI VIHERRUURI is a teacher, children's writer and blogger, who lives in Germany. She grew up in a small village in the Finnish countryside - just like Hilja.



photo: Linda Manner

NADJA SARELL has degrees in dance and illustration, and loves to teach children and adults alike. If Nadja was an animal, she would be a cat living in an old mansion with a large fireplace and a comfy sofa.

Hilja Series

by Heidi Viherjuuri, illustrated by Nadja Sarell



#1 HILJA'S SUMMER IN THE GREEN HOUSE

Hilja is 7 years old, and she loves summer! There's nothing better than the freedom to climb trees, run around, go fishing and make new friends. Prone to adventures, she also gets a chance to catch a thief!

HILJA JA VIHREÄN TALON KESÄ, Mäkelä 2017, 76 pp
[#summer](#) [#adventures](#) [#grandmothers](#)
[#family](#) [#forests](#) [#smalltown](#)

 **FULL ENGLISH TEXT**



#2 HELLO, HILJA HERE

Hilja is starting the first grade. Things are going well: she has practiced reading with the cows at the farm, and school trips are a lot of fun. But Hilja's big mouth gets her into trouble every now and then.

HALOO, TÄÄLLÄ HILJA, Mäkelä 2019, 96 pp.
[#startingschool](#) [#trouble](#) [#firstgrade](#)



#3 ADVENTURE CALLS, HILJA

The long-awaited fall break is here. Hilja and the neighborhood grannies all squeeze into a tiny car and take a trip to the big city. The city is full of things to do, but are the grannies taking care of Hilja - or the other way around?

SEIKKAILU KUTSUU, HILJA, Mäkelä 2018, 100 pp.
[#fallbreak](#) [#trip](#) [#city](#)



#4 HILJA AND THE OPERATION CHRISTMAS MAGIC

Christmas is coming to the Green House! Hilja's sister Veini claims that Christmas is just a publicity trick, but Hilja decides to prove that Christmas is real and magical. A secret operation begins, and it involves making an elf trap, writing lots of secret notes and spying on neighbors. Even Santa is not having it easy - he has to take part in Hilja's lie detection test.

OPERAATIO JOULUN TAIKA,
 Mäkelä 2019, 100 pp.

[#christmas](#) [#secretoperation](#) [#santa](#)
[#isthereasanta](#)

COMING
SOON



#5 HILJA AND THE PERFECT WINTER DAY

Cousin Martti comes to visit Hilja, and it can mean only one thing: a full week of snow fun! Snowball fights, skiing trips, ice-fishing competition and other winter adventures become so wild that Mom needs to put an end to it. But Hilja knows how to make even the most boring day fun!

HILJA JA TÄYDELLINEN TALVIPÄIVÄ, Mäkelä 2020, 100 pp.

[#winter](#) [#siblings](#) [#grandparents](#) [#snowballfights](#)

Rights sold:

FINLAND: Mäkelä (orig.), GERMANY: WooW Books

Reading materials:

Book 1: Full English, Book 2-5: English sample

Sisterland

by Salla Simukka,
illustrated by Saku Heinänen

Alice Through the Looking Glass for the children of today by internationally bestselling author Salla Simukka

#sisterhood #friendship #winter #evilqueen #fantasy

One winter day it starts snowing and never seems to end. Eleven-year-old Alice falls through the snow and ends up in the summery world of Sisterland – in a much-awaited adventure! In the heart of Sisterland lies a wonderful garden full of all kinds of peculiar creatures: wind fairies, dream weavers and asking flowers. And in one tree, on a swing, is Marissa. All Alice has ever wanted is a best friend and now her dream has come true! But the girls have not ended up in Sisterland by coincidence. They must find the queen who rules Sisterland to stop the endless snowfall in their own world.

However, Alice faces her hardest task when Marissa seems to have forgotten about their friendship.

“ **The enticing setting, quirky creatures and humans are entertaining, but the passionate friendship is the story’s heart, providing emotional heft. A girl-centered hero’s journey, at once princess-free and enchanting.**

- Kirkus Reviews, USA



photo: Hanna Poropudas

SALLA SIMUKKA is Finland’s most internationally translated contemporary author. Her Snow White Trilogy has been published in 52 territories and Film & TV rights sold to Hollywood. She writes books for young adults and children and travels the world talking about her work. Her accolades include the Topelius Prize 2013 and the Finlandia Prize 2013.



SISARLA

Tammi 2016, 184 pp

Rights sold

FINLAND: Tammi (orig.)

ARABIC: Arab Scientific Publishers

BELGIUM: Clavis

CHINA: Hunan Juvenile and Children’s Publishing House

ESTONIA: Pegasus

FRANCE: Hachette Livre

JAPAN: Nishimura

LATVIA: Zvaigzne

NETHERLANDS: Clavis

UNITED STATES (World English): Random House

Reading materials

English edition

Weird Weather

by Laura Ertimo, illustrated by Mari Ahokoivu

One of the very first books in the world for children about climate change! This book answers children's tough questions about climate change, and explains how we can all fight against it.

#climatechange #ecology #change #society #sustainability #fossilgnome #climatefairy

Two clever buddies, Lotta and Kasper get tired of their parents' evasive answers about weird weather. They decide to research what climate change is really about. *Weird Weather!* is an accurate but hopeful children's nonfiction title that explains how humans are responsible for climate change and what we can do to ensure a brighter future. It also gives tips on how everyone can make better choices and practice climate-positive skills every day. But climate change won't be beaten with tiny tricks, and that's why this book also encourages talking to children about how to make societal changes, and how working together can change everything. **Stay tuned for the upcoming sequel!**

“ This wonderfully illustrated and rather informative book may be the perfect way to help children (and adults) understand the importance of climate change and realize that if everyone makes one small step in stopping it, our world would be much better and healthier place to live in.

– Vesna Kapuran, Odiseja Publishing House, Serbia



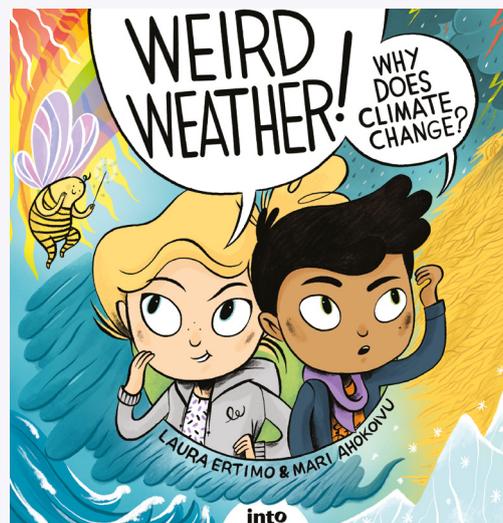
photo: Anna Autio

LAURA ERTIMO is a geographer and author of several non-fiction titles who specializes in the interaction between phenomena, people and nature.



photo: Antti Ahokoivu

MARI AHOKOIVU is an illustrator and a comic book artist. She's been drawing professionally for over 10 years, mainly graphic novels and comics for children. Ahokoivu loves everything cute and scary. She lives and works in Copenhagen.



IHME ILMAT!

Into Kustannus 2019, 48 pp.

Rights sold

FINLAND: Into Kustannus (orig.)
ESTONIA: Avita
HUNGARY: Ciceró Könyvstúdió
ITALY: Mondadori/Edizioni Piemme
LITHUANIA: Obuolys
MEXICO: (Latin American Spanish Rights) Ordinal Books
NORWAY: Aschehoug
POLAND: Amber
SERBIA: Odiseja
SLOVAKIA: Ikar
SPAIN: Astronave
SWEDEN: Rabén & Sjögren
TURKEY: Kolektif

Reading materials

Full English text



**BEST
SELLER**

**Rights
sold to 13
territories!**

Enchanted Planet Earth

Laura Ertimo,
illustrated by Satu Kontinen

**10 stories told through 10 maps —
but the maps are like you've never
seen before!**

#maps #world #geography #ecology #naturalhistory #stories
#nonfiction #fairytales #trees #seas #treasures

There is a planet where plants plan world domination. Where beasts are good, and trees live for thousands of years, collecting memories in their bark. This enchanted place is Earth.

The Enchanted Planet Earth is a children's non-fiction book that also engages adults. Through magical maps it teaches kids about nature, oceans and the history of continents. The stories also provide a context where adults and kids can discuss environmental issues and how people's actions affect nature. Through narratives the book explains the real processes that change our planet and make the Earth habitable.



LUMOTUN MAAN KARTASTO

Kustantamo S&S, Spring 2020, 64 pp.

Rights sold

FINLAND: Kustantamo S&S

Reading materials

English sample



photo: Anna Autio

LAURA ERTIMO is a geographer and author of several non-fiction titles who specializes in the interaction between phenomena, people and nature.

SATU KONTINEN is a graphic designer, illustrator and author whose works include colorful and educational picture books, coloring books and book cover art. She loves painting by hand.

What is Night? & What is Water?

by Laura Ertimo, illustrated by Satu Kontinen

#night #darkness #science #stories #myths #water #element #science #stories

What is Night

What Is the Night? is a literary tonic for insomniacs or those afraid of the dark. Divided into four parts, What is the Night? draws narratives from disciplines including astronomy, nocturnal nature, and the physiology of sleep and dreams. Over four, beautifully illustrated chapters What is the Night? spins a captivating tale of true facts interspersed with myths and legends ranging from how the moon gets its glow to the ancient myths about how night was created.

What is Water

What Is Water? is an eye-opening nonfiction book for the whole family about the most important substance in the world. It examines water from four different perspectives: the planet, nature, the human being and the dive. By popularizing physics, geography and history, we get to know over 60 ways in which water is connected with life on Earth.

“ **What IS the night? Why do I need to sleep? What is the purpose of water in nature? Sometimes even adults cannot answer those questions and that's where the books are really helpful. The illustrations are also very special, playful and even a bit mystical. The books are written with heart and form a complete whole. We really like them!** ”

- Tiina Tammer, Editor, Tammerraamat publishing, Estonia.



photo: Anna Autio

LAURA ERTIMO is a geographer and author of several non-fiction titles who specializes in the interaction between phenomena, people and nature.

SATU KONTINEN is a graphic designer, illustrator and author whose works include colorful and educational picture books, coloring books and book cover art. She loves painting by hand.



YÖ. KIRJA UNESTA JA PIMEÄN SALAISUUKSISTA

Myllylahti 2016, 120 pp.

VESI. KIRJA MAAILMAN TÄRKEIMMÄSTÄ AINEESTA,

Myllylahti 2017, 156 pp.

What is Night

Rights sold

FINLAND: Myllylahti (orig.)

CHINA: CITIC Press

RUSSIA: KompasGuide

ESTONIA: Tammerraamat

What is Water

Rights sold:

FINLAND: Myllylahti (orig.)

RUSSIA: KompasGuide

ESTONIA: Tammerraamat

Reading materials

English samples & synopses

Where Are You?

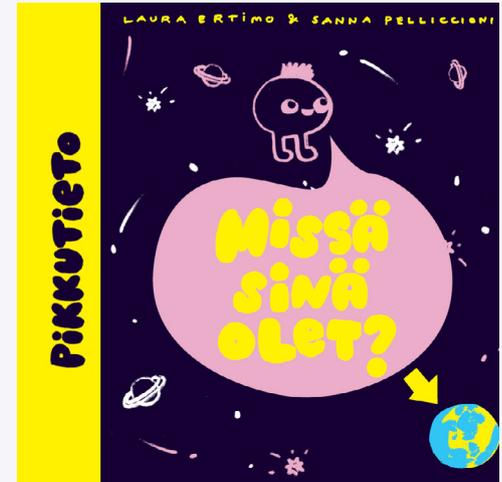
Laura Ertimo,
illustrated by Sanna Pelliccioni

New science series for the smallest in the family!

#nonfiction #universe #space #earth #humans #dna #atoms
#particles #nucleus

Mini Science is a new nonfiction series for the smallest in the family. The series will tackle big science questions with lovely illustrations, and encourages kids to wonder and ask questions. It feeds curiosity and is designed to start conversations about different topics that children might not think about on their own.

In Where Are You? we follow Plop, a little creature who guides us through space to the Earth and from there to the human DNA and finally to the world of atoms. Zooming in all the way from the enormities of space to the minisculness of atoms, we learn a great deal in between.



PIKKUTIETO: MISSÄ SINÄ OLET?

Minerva, March 2020, 20 pp.

Rights sold

FINLAND: Minerva

Reading materials

Full English translation



photo: Anna Autio

LAURA ERTIMO is a geographer and author of several non-fiction titles who specializes in the interaction between phenomena, people and nature.



photo: Paolo Pelliccioni

SANNA PELLICCIONI is an illustrator, graphic designer and author. She is also trained as a biologist.

Little Mouse Series

by Riikka Jäntti

#wildchild #singlemother #classic #bedtimestory

ENGLISH EDITIONS



#1 LITTLE MOUSE - A day in the life of a toddler is a busy one and Little Mouse's is no exception. Between getting dressed, going to daycare, eating dinner and splashing in puddles, Little Mouse has a lot to do ... and a lot to say "no" to!

PIKKU HIIRI, TUULIVIIRI, Tammi, 2015, 48 pp.



#3 LITTLE MOUSE'S CHRISTMAS - Christmas is coming and Little Mouse can't wait for Christmas Eve. Luckily there are all kinds of wonderful preparations to be made, from cooking to choosing the Christmas tree.

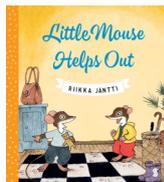
PIKKU HIIREN JOULU TAMMI, 2017, 48 pp.



#5 LITTLE MOUSE'S WINTER - Winter is here and Little Mouse enjoys playing outside. But his fun is interrupted by piano lessons. And why do all the other kids have phones and lots of collectable toy figures? Luckily mom has lots of fun activities that will make him happy again.

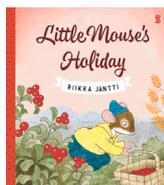
PIKKU HIIRI JA PAUKKUPAKKANEN, Tammi, 2019, 48 pp.

“ **Pitched at children aged up to four, Little Mouse will also delight parents, taking them back to when every day was an adventure.** - The Weekend West, Australia



#2 LITTLE MOUSE HELPS OUT - Little Mouse's friend Pip is coming over to visit. But first, there are chores to do around the house, like cleaning, laundry and cooking lunch. Little Mouse is determined to help Mummy Mouse with all of them.

PIKKU HIIRI SAA VIERAAN, Tammi, 2016, 48 pp.



#4 LITTLE MOUSE'S HOLIDAY - Little Mouse and Mommy Mouse take the train together to the countryside to stay at their cottage on an island, pick berries, warm up the sauna and cook sausages over a campfire under the starry skies. It's a real treat for a little city mouse!

PIKKU HIIREN PUOLUKKARETKI, Tammi, 2018, 48 pp.



#6 LITTLE MOUSE'S SUMMER - The summer holidays are full of fun: going to the amusement park, playing by the beach and visiting the art museum. Buying strawberries and ice cream, and going to the cinema when the weather is too hot. Little Mouse knows that one must enjoy summer, because it doesn't last forever.

PIKKU HIIREN HELLEKESÄ, Tammi 2020, 48 pp.



photo: Veikko Somerpuro

RIIKKA JÄNTTI is a Helsinki-based illustrator and author who has created art for children's nonfiction and fairytale books. In 2009 Jäntti won the Tieto-Lauri nonfiction award for her illustrations in Viidakotanssi (Jungle Dance). She works mainly in pen & ink, watercolor and gouache.



Monster Tournament

by Pasi Pitkänen

Eren has decided to accept Princess Rola's challenge and take part in the Monster Tournament. He finds an egg and hopes that it will hatch into a mighty monster. But when Eren's monster is finally revealed, it looks more like a baby penguin.

Can Eren train it to be his tournament monster, and could it ever beat princess Rola's Storm Snail?

Pasi Pitkänen's incredible adventure story is brought to life by his vivid illustrations. In the spirit of Pokémon and Where the Wild Things Are this is also the story of an ugly duckling and bravery.

HIRVIÖTURNAJAISET, Tammi 2018, 40 pp

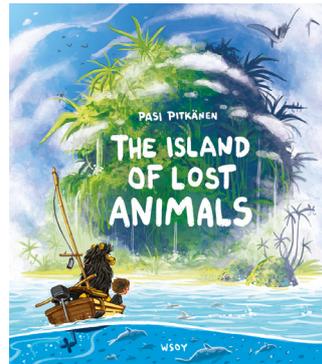
Rights sold: FINLAND: Tammi (orig.), EGYPT: Ink Publishing
RUSSIA: Aurora/ D&A Ltd

Reading material: English translation

#monsters #competition #training #bullying #accident
#helping #savingtheday

“ **The upbeat tone, oddball details, and Pitkänen's humorous b&w cartoons combine to create a strange but entertaining romp that will surprise readers at every turn.**

– Publishers Weekly,
USA on Pitkänen's Monster Nanny series



The Island of Lost Animals

by Pasi Pitkänen

Mathias takes his little sister Jenny to the circus for her birthday. Jenny adores lions; she has dressed up in a lion costume for the occasion and is invited in to the circus ring to pet a lion cub. Suddenly, a monstrous creature bursts through the roof of the circus tent, seizing the lion cub and Jenny!

Mathias and the lion cub's dad set off on a rescue mission, far across the sea to a mysterious jungle island that is home to weird and wonderful creatures. But can Jenny and the lion cub be there, too? And why are the island's inhabitants so peculiar?

A captivating, vibrant adventure story with illustrations for young readers and fans of *The Jungle Book*, *Tarzan* and *Where the Wild Things Are*.

KADONNEIDEN ELÄINTEN SAARI, WSOY 2017 64pp

Rights sold: FINLAND (Original publisher): WSOY
CHINA: Hunan Juvenile and Children's Publishing House

Reading material: English translation

#circus #lions # island #rescuemission



PASI PITKÄNEN is a highly sought-after Finnish illustrator and graphic designer.

photo: Jari Riihimäki

Reading materials and rights enquiries: info@ahlbackagency.com

Princess Rascal Series

by Elina Hirvonen, illustrated by Mervi Lindman



Princess Rascal and Potty Words



Princess Rascal starts pre-school. She's nervous to meet her new classmates and new teacher. She is especially nervous about going to the toilet. When she uses toilet words in the completely wrong situation, she's sure that she is the most embarrassing girl in the world. But a solution for the problem can be found in her secret treasure chest.

PRINSESSA RÄMÄPÄÄ JA VESSASANAT,
Tammi September 2019, 42 pp.

Rights sold: FINLAND: Tammi (orig.)

Reading material: English translation

[#girlpower](#), [#imagination](#), [#preschool](#), [#bathroom](#)

“ **If a child can't stop laughing at potty words, then this book is the best Christmas present. The book made such an impression on the 5-year-old in our family that it was read dozens of times a day for a week.... And in the starring role is Princess Rascal's stunning imagination that rescues her from trouble!**

– Janica Vilen, Turun Seutusanomat, Finland



Princess Rascal



You would think that Rascal is just a little girl, but she's also a princess with many crowns for different purposes: one for important thoughts, one for great adventures, one for peaceful dreams. When Mom gets mad at her, she must find the right crown to calm Mom down.

PRINSESSA RÄMÄPÄÄN TALVITAIKA, Tammi 2017, 42 pp

Rights sold: FINLAND, Tammi (orig.), LITHUANIA: Niekro Rimto

Reading material: English translation

[#girlpower](#), [#imagination](#), [#winter](#) [#tiredmother](#)
[#desperateneedofvacation](#)



photo: Jarkko Virtanen

ELINA HIRVONEN

is a Helsinki-based journalist, award-winning author and documentary filmmaker, has written three highly acclaimed novels for adults and two children's books.



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Grant for printing

up to 1000€ printing cost for Finnish picture books or comics. More info: www.finlit.fi/fili/en/grants/

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