

PICTURE BOOKS  
ILLUSTRATED FICTION  
FICTION  
THE ICELANDIC CHILDREN'S BOOK AWARD  
SAGAS AND MYTHOLOGY



# CHILDREN'S BOOKS



  
FORLAGIÐ  
*rights-agency*





## ASLAUG JONSDOTTIR

TEXT AND ILLUSTRATIONS

ASLAUG JONSDOTTIR (b.1963) received The Reykjavik Educational Council Children's Book Prize for her work as illustrator in 2000, and was nominated for the Hans Christian Andersen Award same year. Her illustrations have been selected for the IBBY Honor List: *Children's Verses* with text by Bodvar Gudmundsson in 2004 and *The Story of the Blue Planet* with text by Andri Snær Magnason in 2002, for which she received the West-Nordic Children's Book Prize along with the author.



PICTURE BOOK, HARDCOVER

32 pp, 20,5 x 21,5 cm

Sold to:

Denmark (Milik); Sweden (Kabusa);  
Faroe Islands (BFL); Greenland (Milik)  
Chapters in English available

2-6 YEARS

## I Want Fish

Ég vil fisk, 2007

Unnur knows what she wants. She wants FISH! Mum and Dad think they know what Unnur wants and bring her all kinds of fish, but not the right one. *I Want Fish* is a lively, fun book for kids who know what they want!



PICTURE BOOK, HARDCOVER

26 pp, 24,5 x 21,5 cm

Sold to:

Denmark (Milik);  
Sweden (Kabusa);  
Faroe Islands (BFL);  
Greenland (Milik)

Swedish translation available

3-9 YEARS

## Good Evening

Gott kvöld, 2005

When dad pops out to collect mom, a boy is left alone at home, in the sole company of his defenceless teddy bear. But reassuring a teddy bear is easier said than done, especially when it comes to overcoming his fear of being plagued by unwanted guests, such as the Brat, the Scary Goblin, the Time Thief, the Nasty Dog and countless other strange creatures. Aslaug Jónsdóttir's writing and drawings bring her hilarious characters to life and take the reader on a wonderful memorable journey. The play based on the book received the Icelandic theatre awards Gríman for the best children's play in 2008.

- The Bookseller's Prize as the Best Children's Book of 2005
- The Icelandic Illustration Award
- The Reykjavik Educational Council Children's Book Prize
- Nominated for the Nordic Children's Book Award

## The Egg

Eggið, 2003

One stormy night the egg falls out of its nest and rolls away. It narrowly escapes the clutches of a wild cat, tango dancers and a chef, and faces many other mishaps before the shell finally cracks open and the young bird takes to the sky. An original and exciting story, beautifully illustrated.

- Selected and listed on White Ravens: Special mention 2004, at the International Youth Library (IYL), in Munich, Germany



PICTURE BOOK, HARDCOVER

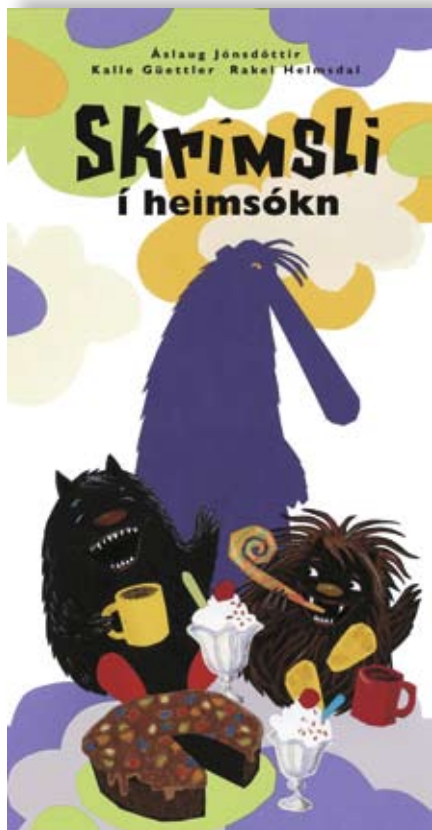
32 pp, 20 x 20 cm

Sold to:

Denmark (Milik);  
Sweden (Kabusa);  
Faroe Islands (BFL);  
Greenland (Milik)

Swedish translation available

3-7 YEARS



ASLAUG JONSDÓTTIR

TEXT AND ILLUSTRATIONS

KALLE GÜETTLER  
RAKEL HELMSDAL

TEXT



RAKEL HELMSDAL lives in Tórshavn in the Faroe Islands. She is an author of children's books, plays and short stories.

KALLE GÜETTLER lives in Häverö in the Uppland province in Sweden. Kalle is an author of fiction for children and teenagers, as well as textbooks and educational material.



## Monster Visit

Skrímсли í heimsókn, 2009

This delightful series is written in partnership between three authors from Iceland, Sweden and the Faroe Islands. It has produced five popular award-winning books, all of which focus on human relations and situations which all children face at some time.

2-6 YEARS

PICTURE BOOK, HARDCOVER  
30 pp, 15,5 x 29,5 cm  
*Sold to:*  
Sweden (Kabusa);  
Faroe Islands (Bókadeildin);  
Denmark (Torgard)



2-6 YEARS

PICTURE BOOK, HARDCOVER  
30 pp, 15,5 x 29,5 cm

## Monster Flu

Skrímslapest, 2008

*Sold to:*  
Sweden (Kabusa); Faroe Islands (Bókadeildin);  
Denmark (Torgard); Spain and South America  
(Random House - Beascoa); Spain, Andorra,  
South America, USA (Random House/Beascoa)

## Monster in the Dark

Skrímсли í myrkrinu, 2007

*Sold to:*  
Sweden (Bonnier Carlsen); Faroe Islands  
(Bókadeildin); Spain, Andorra, South America,  
USA (Random House/Beascoa), Denmark (Torgard)  
English and German translations available

## Big Monsters Don't Cry

Stór skrímsli gráta ekki, 2006

• *The Children's Book Award from the Reykjavik  
Council of Education*

*Sold to:*  
Sweden (Bonnier Carlsen); Faroe Islands  
(Bókadeildin); Denmark (Forlaget Torgard);  
Spain, Andorra, South America, USA (Random House/  
Beascoa)  
English translation available

## No! Said the Little Monster

Nei! Sagði litla skrímslið, 2004

• *The Icelandic Illustration Award*

*Sold to:*  
Sweden (Bonnier Carlsen); Faroe Islands  
(Bókadeildin); Denmark (Carlsen); Spain, Andorra,  
South America, USA (Random House/Beascoa)  
English translation available



## BJÖRK BJARKADÓTTIR

TEXT AND ILLUSTRATIONS

BJÖRK BJARKADÓTTIR (b.1971) received special recognition from the IBBY in the spring of 2006 for her contribution to children's culture, as well as The Icelandic illustration Award the same year for her book *Granny Goes on Summer Holiday*. [www.basta.no](http://www.basta.no)

### Supergranny and the Pirates

Súperamma og sjóræningjarnir, 2009

Granny is getting a bit strange. She dolls herself up in front of the mirror and has her policeman friend round to visit just when she and Oli had been about to watch a crime program. But when the transceiver beeps and the police need Supergranny's help, she returns to normal. Oli and policeman Bert get to tag along, but only Granny knows what to do when the pirate ship heads for shore.



PICTURE BOOK, HARDCOVER  
32 pp, 20,5 x 25 cm

3-7 YEARS



### Darling Dad

Elsku besti pabbi, 2008

Dad is number one on Emilia's list. She has the best dad in the entire world, as funny as a clown, as lithe as a monkey and as strong as a bear. But when dad gets ill, Emilia has to act responsibly and do her bit to help him get well again quickly. *Darling Dad* is a companion volume to the popular *Mom is Best*. The short and simple text is brought to life by the lively and inspired illustrations which make an instant hit with children.

### Mom Is Best

Mamma er best, 2005

Tommy likes sitting in his mom's lap. But when mom develops a balloon belly there's hardly any room for him anymore. This makes him wonder if another type of mom might not be better. Maybe an elephant mom or a fish mom or even a flying dragon mom? But in the end Tommy comes to realise that his own mom is best.



PICTURE BOOK, HARDCOVER  
26 pp, 20 x 20 cm  
Sold to:  
Norway (Skald forlag)  
English and German translations available

1-5 YEARS



PICTURE BOOK, HARDCOVER  
26 pp, 20 x 20 cm  
Sold to: Austria/Germany (Picus Verlag);  
Norway (Skald forlag)  
English translation available

1-5 YEARS





PICTURE BOOK, HARDCOVER  
32 pp, 20,5 x 25 cm  
English and German  
translations available

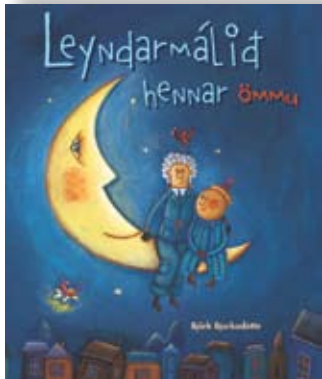
3-7 YEARS

## Granny Goes on Summer Holiday

Amma fer í sumarfrí, 2006

Once granny's house has been freed of thieves and burglars, Granny decides to take a holiday, and needless to say, she takes Oli with her. But once they get to the sunny beach where Granny is supposed to be taking a rest, they realise there is something fishy going on, and Granny and Oli get sucked into an exciting hunt for a pickpocket. An entertaining and sparkling story for all aspiring spies, the third book in the Granny and Oli series.

- *The Icelandic Illustration Award 2006*



PICTURE BOOK, HARDCOVER  
32 pp, 20,5 x 25 cm

3-7 YEARS

## Granny's Secret

Leyndarmálið hennar ömmu, 2003

## Granny and the Thief in the Gallery

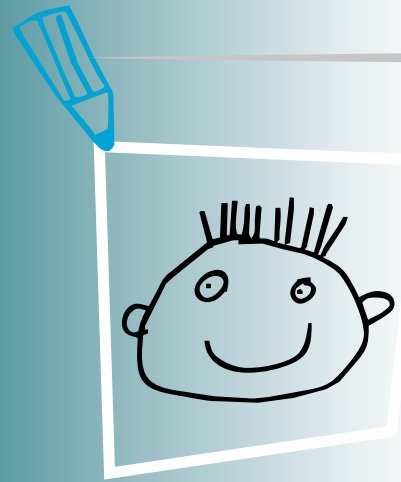
Amma og þjófurinn í safninu, 2004

Oli's grandmother is a Supergranny who flies about at night capturing thugs and thieves. Once in a while Oli gets to go with her, and that's when the fun begins! Bjork Bjarkadottir presents the stories of Oli and his Supergranny in enchanting text and delightful illustrations.



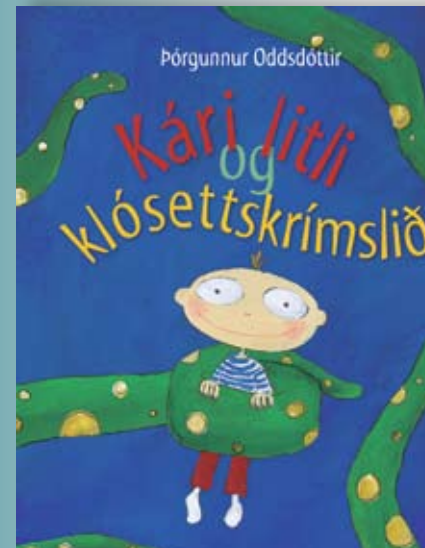
PICTURE BOOK, HARDCOVER  
32 pp, 20,5 x 25 cm  
English translation available

3-7 YEARS



## THORGUNNUR ODDSDOTTIR TEXT AND ILLUSTRATIONS

THORGUNNUR ODDSDOTTIR was born in 1981.  
This is her first book.



PICTURE BOOK, HARDCOVER  
26 pp, 18,5 x 22 cm

4-7 YEARS

## Little Tommy and the Toilet Monster

Kári litli og klósettskrímlið, 2009

Tommy is a brave little boy. There is only one thing that frightens him. THE TOILET MONSTER! And one night he wakes up and needs to pee ... *Little Tommy and the Toilet Monster* is an ingenious story for any child who sometimes has to go to the toilet.





## HALLGRIMUR HELGASON

TEXT AND ILLUSTRATIONS

HALLGRIMUR HELGASON (b.1959) is a writer and artist, one of Iceland's most popular authors. His novel *101 Reykjavik* was nominated for the Nordic Council Literary Prize and he received the Icelandic Literary Prize for The Author of Iceland. This is his first book for children.

[www.hallgrimur.is](http://www.hallgrimur.is)



## The Lady Who Kissed too Much

Konan sem kyssti of mikið, 2009

Everything the kissing lady kisses floats up into the sky – her husband, her children, her house and finally herself. What's to be done?

*The Lady Who Kissed too Much* is a love story for children of all ages.



PICTURE BOOK, SOFTCOVER  
32 pp, 19 x 25,5 cm

FROM 3 YEARS



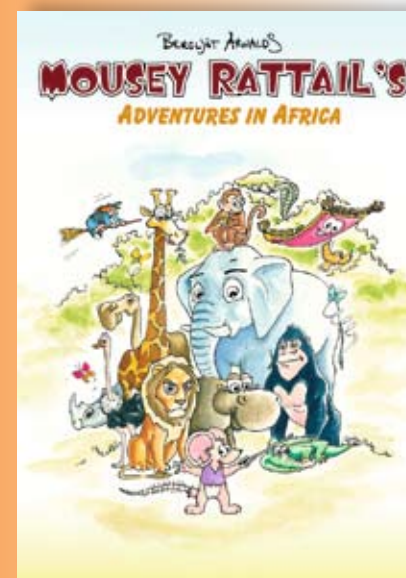
## BERGLJOT ARNALDS

TEXT

NATHAN BAELO  
JUSTIN KASREKA  
DANY SHONGO

ILLUSTRATIONS

BERGLJOT ARNALDS (b.1968) has received numerous awards and recognition for her works. She was awarded the Icelandic AUDUR award for pioneer work and creativity and the Honorary Award from the SPRON Fund for Culture for her books and multimedia DVD's.



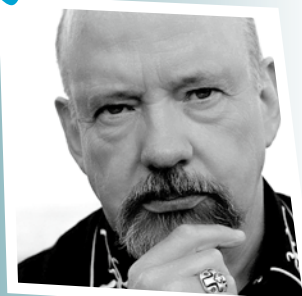
## Mousy Rattail

Gralli gormur, 2007

On her way to a magic conference, the witch gets struck by a lightning and crashes somewhere deep in the forests of Africa. Mousey Rattail, her faithful apprentice, heads off to the rescue. In Africa Mousey gets caught up in fantastic adventures and is helped by many different animals, including giraffes, elephants and a camel. However, not all the animals are friendly – some he needs to watch out for, like the lion, the crocodile and the snake.

PICTURE BOOK, HARDCOVER  
48 pp, 21,5 x 30,5 cm

3-7 YEARS



## OLAFUR GUNNARSSON

TEXT

## ANNA CYNTHIA LEPLAR

ILLUSTRATIONS

OLAFUR GUNNARSSON (b.1948) is among Iceland's best storytellers. With his highly acclaimed trilogy for adults, *Trolls' Cathedral*, *Potter's Field* and *Winter Journey*, he has earned a place among the major realists in Icelandic letters. *Troll's Cathedral* was nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize in 1992 as well as the IMPAC Dublin Literary Award in 1997.

ANNA CYNTHIA LEPLAR (b.1953) is among the best known illustrators and children's book designers in Iceland. She has illustrated books for both Icelandic and British publishers.



## The Fair Flying Whale and Leif the Unlucky

Fallegi flughvalurinn og Leifur óheppni, 2007

The adventure of a flying whale who met Leif the Unlucky, a tiny bird who has strayed from its Florida home to Iceland, and who flies home with the bird on his back. There his friend Linda lives in a house along the coast. When the crocodile Rauðugli is on the prowl, Leif the Unlucky comes to the aid of his friend Linda. A charming story of human and animal relationships.



PICTURE BOOK, HARDCOVER  
18 pp, 21,5 x 27,5 cm

3-7 YEARS



## MARGRET TRYGGVADOTTIR

TEXT

## HALLDOR BALDURSSON

ILLUSTRATIONS

MARGRET TRYGGVADOTTIR (b.1972) is a free-lance literary editor, translator and writer of children's books. She is a member of Althingi, the Icelandic Parliament since 2009. HALLDOR BALDURSSON (b.1965) has illustrated numerous books for children and is also well known for his caricatures.



## The Dragon Who Got Really, Really Mad

Drekinn sem varð bálreiður, 2007

Once there was a dragon who did not know what he wanted to be when he grew up. Then one day he bumped into a funny group of hens that did not lack idea for a future occupation for a dragon. *The Dragon Who Got Really, Really Mad* is a funny fairy tale.



PICTURE BOOK, HARDCOVER  
40 pp, 21 x 21 cm

3-8 YEARS

## The Story of a Stunning Princess And Her Valiant Prince

Sagan af undurföggu prinsessunni og hugrakka prinsinum hennar, 2006

Once upon a time a sweet and beautiful princess is born in a faraway kingdom. Or is she? Are the pictures telling another story? This truly unique book creates an original interplay between the pictures and the text that simultaneously weaves two stories.



PICTURE BOOK, HARDCOVER  
32 pp, 21 x 20 cm

3-8 YEARS

- *The Icelandic Children's Book Award 2006, in the illustrated books category*



**SIGRUN ELDJARN**  
TEXT AND ILLUSTRATIONS

SIGRUN ELDJARN (b.1954) has written and illustrated high on forty children's books. She was the first author to receive the Sogusteinn Children's Book Award for her literary career in 2007, having received up to that point several awards and recognition for her work, among others the City of Reykjavik Children's Book Award three times and nominations to the H.C. Andersen Award, The Nordic Children's Book Award and the West Nordic Children's Book Award.



PICTURE BOOK, HARDCOVER  
26 pp, 20 x 27,5 cm

2-6 YEARS

**Finn Finds a Raisin**

Finnur finnur Rúsínu, 2009

Finn lives on a farm where there are lambs and pigs and chickens. But animals are food, as well! Is it alright to play with your food? Then Finn finds Raisin. But instead of being food, Raisin is a highly engaging playmate. Or isn't that so? A lively and charming tale of the Icelandic countryside.



PICTURE BOOK, HARDCOVER  
40 pp, 24,5 x 21,5 cm  
English translation available

3-8 YEARS

**The Yellow Letter**

Gula sendibréfið, 2006

Walking over the rugged lava field, Logi finds a weird letter. It seems to be a call for help from a mysterious woman. With the help of his friends, both visible and invisible, Logi sets off on a perilous journey over the lava field close to a spitting volcano to save her. An adventurous and stunningly illustrated book from one of Iceland's most popular authors.



**KRISTIN STEINSDOTTIR**  
TEXT

**HALLA S. THORGEIRSDOTTIR**  
ILLUSTRATIONS

KRISTIN STEINSDOTTIR (b.1946) is one of Iceland's best known authors of children's books and has received numerous recognitions for her work. Her first book published in 1987 received the Icelandic Children's Book Award that year. Her book, *An Angel in the Neighbourhood* won the the Nordic Children's Book Award in 2003.

HALLA S. THORGEIRSDOTTIR (b.1965) is an award-winning artist and illustrator. She has illustrated dozens of children's books and received The Dimmalimm Prize for Illustration in 2002 for her artwork in the book *An Angel in the Neighbourhood*.



PICTURE BOOK, HARDCOVER  
40 pp, 20 x 27,5 cm  
Sold to:  
Denmark, Greenland (Milik)

3-7 YEARS

**Who Eats Polar Bears?**

Hver étur ísbirni? 2006

Young Rissa and her family have spent their winter on the western coast of Greenland. There are many animals that can be seen in the sea, but unfortunately no polar bears. Rissa and her sister, Skegla, set off on a long journey to find some. An educational and entertaining story, which shows us how both men and animals live during the winter in Greenland.





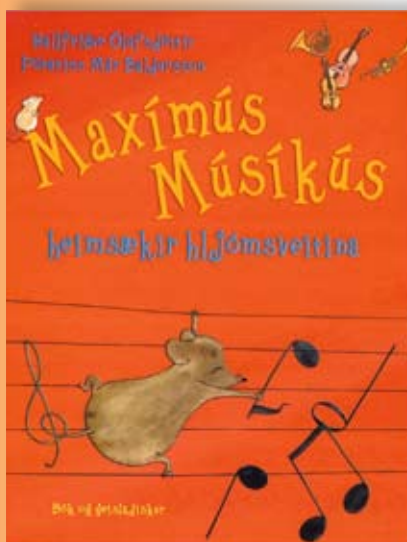


**HALLFRIDUR OLAFSDOTTIR**  
TEXT

**THORARINN M. BALDURSSON**  
ILLUSTRATIONS

HALLFRIDUR OLAFSDOTTIR (b.1964) is principal flautist of the Iceland Symphony Orchestra, mother of two young children and an experienced music teacher.

THORARINN MAR BALDURSSON (b.1977) is a violist in the Iceland Symphony Orchestra. [www.maximusmusicus.com](http://www.maximusmusicus.com)



PICTURE BOOK, HARDCOVER  
48 pp, 21,5 x 26,5 cm  
Sold to:  
Korea (Daekyo);  
Faeroe Islands (Bókadeildin)  
English translation available

4-9 YEARS

## Maximus Musicus Visits the Orchestra

Maxímús músíkús, 2008

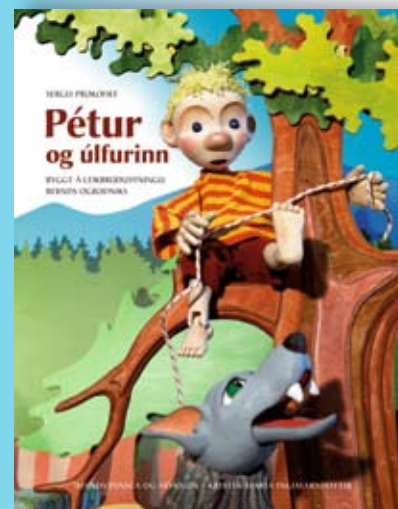
Maximus Musicus really hit the jackpot one day, when he wandered into a concert hall where a symphony orchestra is rehearsing. This lively tale leads the reader into the magical world of music. The musical instruments are introduced one by one, as Maxi's story progresses and readers learn to recognize the sounds each of them produces. The book includes a CD telling the story with animated sound effects and the Iceland Symphony Orchestra plays the passages of music it includes.



**SERGEI PROKOFIEV**  
TEXT

**BERND OGRODNIK**  
PUPPETS

BERND OGRODNIK (b.1961 in Germany) works as a performer, designer, builder, teacher and director. His approach is strongly influenced by his background as a classical musician, illustrator, woodworker and martial artist, and his work has best been described as "food for the soul, not chewing gum for the eyes". [www.figuretheater.is](http://www.figuretheater.is)



PICTURE BOOK, HARDCOVER  
48 pp, 22 x 25 cm

3-9 YEARS

## Peter and the Wolf

Pétur og úlfurinn, 2008

Everyone knows the story of Peter and the wolf. In this splendid work it is retold with illustrations from the popular puppet show of Iceland's foremost puppeteer.





## BRIAN PILKINGTON

TEXT AND ILLUSTRATIONS

BRIAN PILKINGTON (b.1950) is very well known for his brilliant book illustrations. He has written and illustrated many books for children, which have been published in a number of countries.



## I Know a Rhino

Á dýrabaki, 2006

Lots of kids have been on horseback, but what would it be like to sit on the backs of other animals, such as a rhinoceros, giraffe or kangaroo? One day a little boy tries all of these but realises that the best thing of all is to sit on his tricycle. A beautiful story told with colourful pictures and fun verse by Brian Pilkington.

PICTURE BOOK, HARDCOVER  
43 pp, 21 x 20 cm  
German translation available.

2-5 YEARS



## Moonstones and Biscuits

Mánasteinar í vasanum, 2003

The Icelandic Illustration Award 2003  
Amy has a secret friend, a dragon she calls Drekko. He can be as big as Amy wants him to be. And when they are alone he can be HUGE! But when Amy's mum is near, Drekko shrinks and scuttles out of sight. Brian Pilkington excels himself in this wonderful, colourful book about the secret friend every child desires.

PICTURE BOOK, HARDCOVER  
32 pp, 21 x 26 cm  
English and Japanese translation available.

2-5 YEARS



## BRIAN PILKINGTON

ILLUSTRATIONS

## INGIBJORG SIGURDARDOTTIR

TEXT

INGIBJORG SIGURDARDOTTIR (b.1953) studied arts and crafts at the Iceland Academy of the Arts, and Konstfackskolan in Stockholm, Sweden.

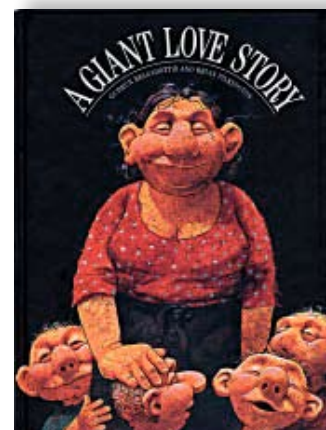
## Flowers on the Roof

Blómin á þakinu, 1985

A funny story of Granny Gunn who used to live in the country in an old farmhouse with grass and flowers on the roof. Then she moved to town with everything she owned. But what should she do with her animals and her flowers? When she got bored, a boy from the neighbourhood helped her move a little bit of the countryside to town.

PICTURE BOOK, HARDCOVER  
24 pp, 20 x 26 cm  
Sold to:  
Korea (Jæum & Moeum Publishing);  
Japan (Sa-e-la Shobo)  
Published in German, French and  
English, by Mal og menning.

4-8 YEARS



## GUDRUN HELGADOTTIR

TEXT (author information on page 37)

## A Giant Love Story

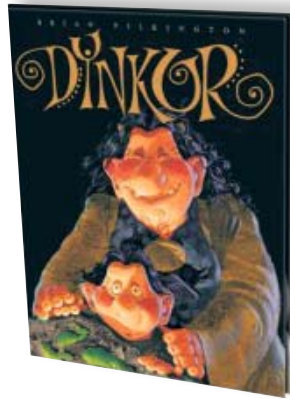
Ástarsaga úr fjöllum, 1981

One of Iceland's most popular children's books. It was first published in 1981 and has since been translated into several other languages. The story gives the reader an unforgettable insight into the magic world of Icelandic legend and folklore. It is an exciting story – filled with love, compassion and humour which appeals to children all over the world.

PICTURE BOOK, HARDCOVER  
32 pp, 21 x 29 cm  
Published in English, German  
and Danish by Mál og menning  
Sold to:  
Norway (Cappelen); Denmark (Sesam);  
Sweden (Opal); Faroe Islands (Nylendi);  
USA (Charolrhoda); Japan (Kaisei-Sha);  
Korea (BIR Publishing);  
Italy (RCS Libri/Fabbri Editori)

3-7 YEARS





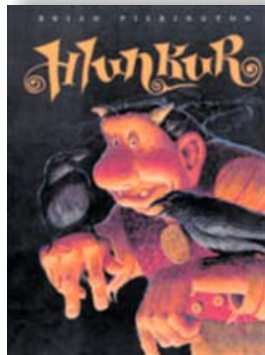
PICTURE BOOK, HARDCOVER  
24 pp, 21 x 26,5 cm  
Sold to:  
France/Canada (Broquet)  
English translation available

3-7 YEARS

## Dyngkur

Dyngkur, 2004

Dyngkur the troll boy is afraid of the daylight and all the curious people who wander by his cave from time to time. But his mother convinces him that there is nothing to fear, and together they venture forth into the wilderness to gather plants and mushrooms. The world outside is nothing like Dyngkur expected it to be – and neither are the people, who appear little and harmless. Brian Pilkington's stories of Icelandic trolls have long been well known and respected nationwide, as well as abroad, and deserve a place at every child's bedside.



PICTURE BOOK, HARDCOVER  
24 pp, 21 x 26,5 cm  
Sold to:  
Denmark (Gad); Korea (Yeo Myung Media);  
France/Canada (Broquet)  
Published in English, by Mal og menning

3-7 YEARS

## Stumble

Hlunkur, 2000

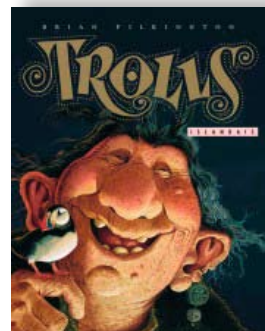
An enchanting tale of a troll who wakes up from a long, deep sleep, in the middle of nowhere. He doesn't know who he is, or what to do. Only two ravens take an interest in him. He follows them, and gradually things become clearer in his mind. In the end he discovers that everybody is welcome somewhere – even trolls!



## Icelandic Trolls

Allt um tröll, 1999

In this stunningly beautiful book, Brian Pilkington brings the amazing world of the trolls to life in an amusing and original fashion. The Icelandic folk legends have been used as a background, but a great deal of new and surprising information has been added concerning the living conditions, traditions and customs of these ancient creatures.



PICTURE BOOK, HARDCOVER  
24 pp, 21 x 26,5 cm  
Sold to:  
France/Canada (Broquet);  
Denmark (Gad); Italy (RCS Libri/  
FabbriEditori); Estonia (Ilo)  
Published in English, German and  
French by Mal og menning

6+ YEARS



PICTURE BOOK, HARDCOVER  
36 pp, 23 x 23 cm  
Paperback

4-8 YEARS

## BRIAN PILKINGTON

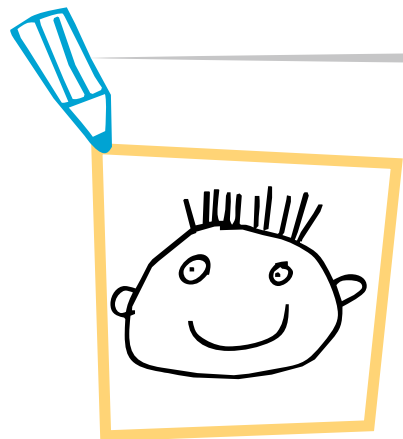
TEXT AND ILLUSTRATIONS

## The 13 Christmas Lads

Jólasveinarnir 13, 2009

In Iceland there isn't just one Father Christmas, there are thirteen Christmas brothers! Before Christmas they visit Icelandic children and sneak something nice into their shoe. Here you can read all about these lads, what each of them likes to do and their favourite foods. Yet again, Brian Pilkington produces an original and entertaining work based on traditional Icelandic tales and folk beliefs.

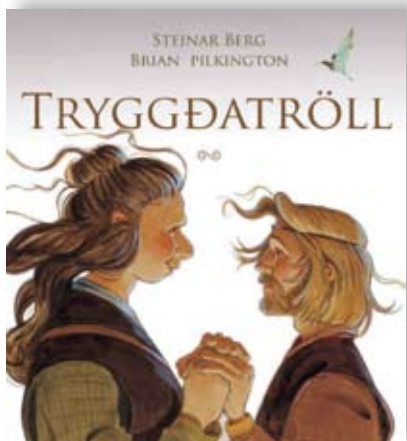




BRIAN PILKINGTON  
ILLUSTRATIONS

STEINAR BERG  
TEXT

STEINAR BERG (b.1952) is well known for his years in the Icelandic music industry as editor and distributor of records. He now runs a farm-hotel in Borgarfjordur, besides writing books for children.



## The last troll

Tryggðatröll, 2007

An enchanting story about the lives of the troll-girl Drifa and a farmer's son, Bergsteinn. As the fate of Diífa and Bergsteinn unfolds, it becomes clear that life brings both happiness and sorrow for men and trolls alike. With its moving story and brilliant illustrations *The Last Troll* will appeal to children of all ages.

HARDCOVER  
40 pp, 22 x 25 cm  
Published in English by JPV Publishing

5-10 YEARS



SILJA ADALSTEINSDOTTIR  
TEXT SELECTION

HALLDOR BALDURSSON  
ILLUSTRATIONS

SILJA ADALSTEINSDOTTIR (b. 1943) has a degree in Literary Studies. She is well known for her translations and literary critique. She is the publishing director for Mals og menning.



FAIRY TALES, HARDCOVER  
216 pp, 19 x 28 cm

5+ YEARS

## And they lived happily ... Icelandic Fairy Tales

Köttur út í myndri – Íslensk ævintýri

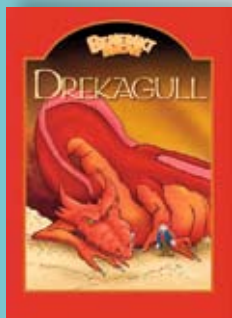
Kings and queens, giantesses and trolls, talking dogs and clever cats, hidden people and an outsmarted devil are only a few of the characters to be found in these stories, all of which were taken from the collection made by folklorist Jon Arnason. Icelanders passed these tales along orally up until Arnason recorded them in the 19th century, but they are a part of the European and Scandinavian legacy, often reminiscent of Grimm's Leosdottir that should appeal to all teenagers.





**OLAFUR GUNNAR GUDLAUGSSON**  
TEXT AND ILLUSTRATIONS

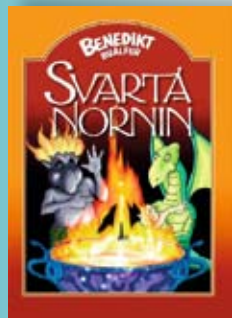
OLAFUR G. GUDLAUGSSON (b.1964) is vastly experienced in design and layout, having worked at numerous newspapers and magazines as well as autonomous work, which includes one of the best known and most popular children's book's characters in Iceland, Benedikt the house elf. [www.alfheimar.is](http://www.alfheimar.is)



**Benedikt the House Elf**  
Benedikt búálfur

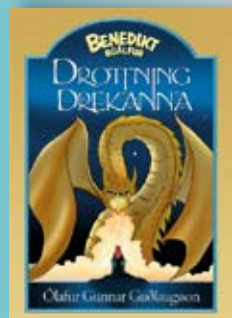
**Dragon's Gold**  
Drekagull, 2007

Benedikt the House Elf is not very happy when he wakes up one morning and can't do any magic at all. But Benedikt is not one to give up easily and so he embarks on a journey to reclaim his magical powers. His friend Dadi the Dragon joins him and they set off on an exciting adventure into unknown territory.



**The Black Witch**  
Svarta nornin, 2006

As Benedikt is sorting through the mail at Didi's place, he comes across a mysterious parcel that he takes with him to the elf world. The contents of the package threaten to unleash a cruel fate on Benedikt and the Elf World, if he and his three little friends, Raggi the Dragon, Ari the Fire Titan and Darri Dewdrop, don't manage to stop it.



**Queen of The Dragons**  
Drottning drekanna, 2004

On their flight around the forest, Benedict the Elf, Didi, and Dudley the Dragon meet a girl who is crying. They haven't a clue who she is – and what's worse, neither does she. They go to Magnus the Magnificent, the wisest elf in the forest, and ask him for advice. Magnus helps them onto the right path – and the adventures that follow are more exciting than any of them could possibly have imagined beforehand.

PICTURE BOOK, HARDCOVER  
17,5 x 24,5 cm

5-10 YEARS



**BRYNHILDUR THORARINSDOTTIR**  
TEXT

**THOREY MJALLHVIT**  
ILLUSTRATIONS

BRYNHILDUR THORARINSDOTTIR (b. 1970) is a lecturer at the University of Akureyri. She is the author of several popular books for children and received the Nordic Children's Book Award 2007 for her retelling of the Icelandic Sagas for children (see page 60).



PICTURE BOOK, HARDCOVER  
160 pp, 14 x 22 cm

5-10 YEARS



PICTURE BOOK HARDCOVER  
160 pp, 14 x 22 cm

5-10 YEARS

**Nonni and Selma**

Nonni og Selma

**Holiday fun**  
Fjör í frínu, 2009



Summer is here and Nonni and Selma plan to have even more fun than during their first school year. They plan on doing what the older children do: build a cabin and a cart, commit a few pranks and in general have as much adventures as possible!

**Fun in the First Grade**  
Fjör í fyrsta bekk, 2007

*Fun in the First Grade* is an engaging book about two children's first semester at school. The boy is disabled and has to use a walker, and sometimes a wheel-chair, but he is a lively and imaginative boy and a great mate. The story is written in cooperation with the CP-organisation in Iceland.





## ANDRI SNAER MAGNASON

TEXT

## ASLAUG JONSDOTTIR

ILLUSTRATIONS

ANDRI SNAER MAGNASON (b.1973) has won the Icelandic literary prize for both fiction and non fiction, his work has been published or performed in over twenty countries and received numerous international awards, amongst them the Janusz Korczak Honorary Award and the West Nordic Children's Book Prize. Magnason has been active in the fight against the destruction of the Icelandic Highlands. [www.andrimagnason.com](http://www.andrimagnason.com)



6+ YEARS



PICTURE BOOK, HARDCOVER

95 pp, 21,5 x 26,5 cm

German translation available.

Sold to:

France (Gallimard); Denmark (GAD);

Sweden (Kabusa); Faroe Islands

(Bókadeildin); Greenland (Atuakkiorfik);

Estonia (Eesti Raamat); Spain (Omega);

Italy (RCS Libri/Fabbri Editori);

Yugoslavia (Izdavačka Kuća Draganic);

Thailand (Image Publishing);

Greece (Patakis);

Korea (Seoul Cultural Publishers);

Romania and Hungary (Koinónia);

Lithuania (Zara); Germany (Leipziger

Kinderbuchverlag);

Finland (Kustannus Oy Pieni arhu);

Norway, audiobook (Karviland);

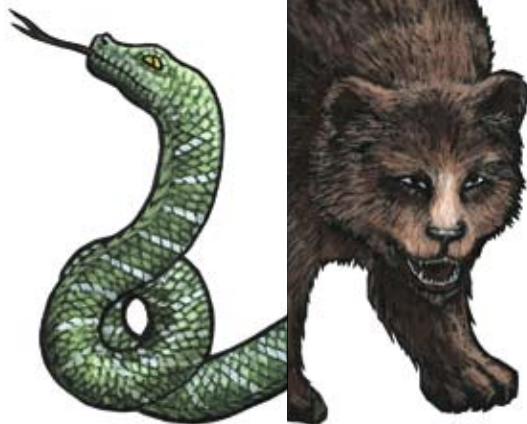
Russia (OM Books)

Translation also available in English,

German, Japanese and Russian.

The play in German, English and

Romanian.



## The Story of the Blue Planet

Sagan af bláa hnettinum, 1999

On a blue planet far out in space there are no adults, only children, who play when they want to and go to sleep when they are tired. Then a mysterious man lands on the planet, and teaches them how to fly when the sun shines, by flicking the dust off butterflies' wings. A perilous adventure ensues, taking the children through dark forests and skies of blue. Their friendship and ingenuity are put to the test as never before. A captivating and subtle adventure that has all the ingredients of a classic. In 2001 The Icelandic National Theatre premiered a play based on the book. The play has been sold to Henschel Schauspiel in Berlin, to Sweden, Bucharest and London and was on stage at Lorraine Kimsa Theatre for Young People in Toronto, Canada, for many weeks, early in 2005 ...

- The West-Nordic Literary Award 2002
- The Janusz Korczak Honorary Awards
- The Icelandic Literary Prize
- Nomination for the Nordic Children's Book Award
- Nomination for the IBBY Award
- The National Theatre Prize for New Plays
- Nomination for The Reykjavik Educational Council Children's Book Prize
- Nominated to the IBBY International Honour List 2001 for Illustrations



## GERÐUR KRISTNY

TEXT

## HALLDOR BALDURSSON

ILLUSTRATIONS

GERÐUR KRISTNY (b.1970) proved herself as one of Iceland's most interesting poets with her first book, and has since then published several books of poetry, as well as short stories, novels and children's books. She received the Icelandic Children's Book Award for *Smart Marta* and the Halldor Laxness Award for her novel *A Boat with Sails and All*.



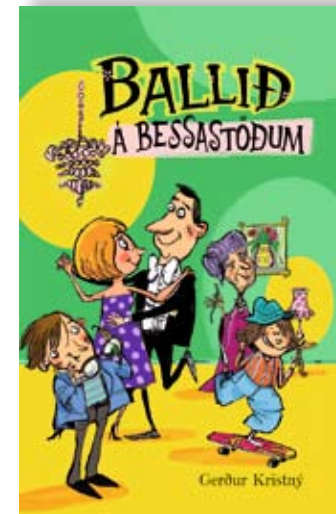
PICTURE BOOK, HARDCOVER  
96 pp, 14 x 22 cm

6-10 YEARS

## The Princess at Bessastadir

Prinsessan á Bessastöðum, 2009

The President has some important guests at his residence, Bessastadir: a king, a queen and a princess! Independence Day approaches, when lots of hard-working people are supposed to be awarded the Falcon Medal. But before the Falcon Medal Party can start, all kinds of things happen, involving waterfalls, old, hard doughnuts, a settlement chicken, a bride and groom and a marzipan ring cake that keeps shrinking ... *The Ball at Bessastadir* was a big hit with readers and critics alike. *The Princess at Bessastadir* is no less lively and entertaining.



PICTURE BOOK, HARDCOVER  
96 pp, 14 x 22 cm

6-10 YEARS

## The Ball at Bessastadir

Ball á Bessastöðum, 2007

*The Ball at Bessastadir* is about a president who is bored at work. He is also lonely – because even though he gets many letters every day he is the only president in the country and can't speak to any other president about presidential stuff. For instance: is it better to wave to children with your right hand or your left? He has no idea!

## GERÐUR KRISTNY

TEXT

## THOREY M. H. OMARSDOTTIR

ILLUSTRATIONS



Illustrated Fiction, HARDCOVER  
140 pp, 14,5 x 21,5 cm

6-10 YEARS

## The Land of Lost Socks

Land hinna týndu sokka, 2006

Thorgeir is dying for a dog. But because of the yellow dog who disappeared long ago, his dream is unlikely to become true – until one day he discovers the Land of Lost Socks. This is the place where old lost things end up, so maybe his dog as well! A mysterious and exciting story by an award-winning author.



## KRISTIN HELGA GUNNARSDOTTIR

TEXT

## HALLDOR BALDURSSON

ILLUSTRATIONS (see author information on page 13)

KRISTIN HELGA GUNNARSDOTTIR (b.1963) has in the past years established herself as one of the most popular writers in Iceland. Since her debut in 1997 she has written many children's books, all of which have been very popular among Icelandic children. For *Ghost trail* Gunnarsdóttir received the West-Nordic Children's Book Award and was nominated for the Nordic Children's Book Prize. Gunnarsdóttir has received and been nominated for the Reykjavik City Children's Book Award and four of her books have been chosen Book of the year by library visitors of 6 to 12 years. She was awarded the Story Stone of IBBY 2009 for her writer's career.

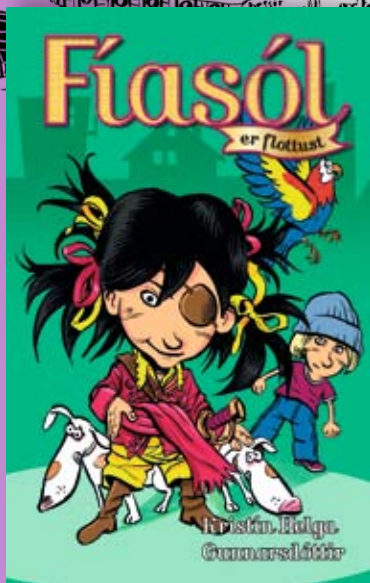
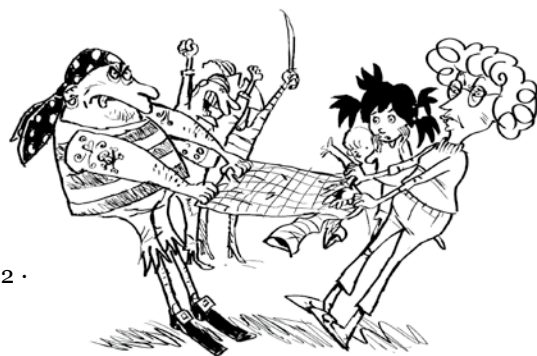


## Fíasól, the Greatest

### Fíasól er flottust, 2008

This collection of stories holds the latest news on *Fiasol*, for example how she got involved in an incredible pirate-nonsense, how she held her own machine-free day and went on a never-ending camping trip. *Fiasol, the Greatest* was a best-seller in Iceland like all the previous books on this inventive girl and her lively family.

- Children's Book Award 2009, chosen by children library visitors



Illustrated Fiction, HARDCOVER  
146 pp, 14 x 21,5 cm

6-10 YEARS



ILLUSTRATED FICTION, HARDCOVER  
110 pp, 14 x 21,5 cm

6-10 YEARS

## Fiasol on the Loose

### Fíasól á flandri, 2006

This sprightly little girl called Fiasol has already enjoyed great popularity in two other books. Once more we follow her on her hilarious escapades in a book that readers of all ages can enjoy. Among other things, she takes part in a game on the internet and gets her own personal servant she can use for a whole day. She soon realises the servant has magical powers – she can make her wishes come true by simply squeezing her finger a little and wishing them. Although she's got to be careful about what she wishes for!

- Children's Book Award 2007, chosen by children library visitors



ILLUSTRATED FICTION, HARDCOVER  
110 pp, 14 x 21,5 cm

6-10 YEARS

## Fiasol at Home

### Fíasól í hosi, 2005

Fiasol is a seven year old joy-bomb, who lives on Green Grove in Grassville. And although bombs are normally bad things, Fiasol is a good one because when she explodes she spreads nothing but joy all around her. Cute little Fiasol happens to know this because she asked her mom, and mom knows almost everything. This is a collection of eight new entertaining stories about Fiasol, each one funnier and livelier than the next. Halldor Baldursson brings Fiasol to life with his brilliant illustrations.

- Nominated for the Bookseller's Prize as the Best Children's Book of 2005.
- Children's Book Award 2006, chosen by children library visitors.



ILLUSTRATED FICTION, HARDCOVER  
110 pp, 14 x 21,5 cm

6-10 YEARS

## Fiasol Feeling so Fine

### Fíasól í fínum máli, 2004

Fiasol is a seven-year old girl with a mind of her own. For instance, she ONLY wants to wear pink clothes, and she has even stolen som candy, although that was only by accident and not something she would ever do again. More often that not, the brilliant ideas that occur to Fiasol conflict with the views of grown-ups. And that can get her into trouble. *Fiasol Feeling so Fine* is a collection of amusing tales of a sprightly little scamp that became an instant hit with Icelandic children.





## BRYNHILDUR THORARINSDOTTIR

TEXT

BRYNHILDUR THORARINSDOTTIR (b. 1970) is a lecturer at the University of Akureyri. She is the author of several popular books for children and received the Nordic Children's Book Award 2007 for her retelling of the Icelandic Sagas for children (see page 61).



FICTION, PAPERBACK  
150 pp, 12 x 20 cm

7-12 YEARS

## The Riddle of Gásir

Gásagátan, 2009

It is June, 1222, and a ship docks at Gásir in Eyjar Fjord. Aboard are two brothers: the 12-year-old Kolsveinn, old enough to avenge his father, and 10-year-old Kalfur who has a mysterious bundle with him. Gásir is a lively place, but not everyone comes there for honourable reasons.

Brynhildur Thorarinsdottir, a lecturer at the University of Akureyri, has published numerous children's books. She was awarded the Scandinavian Prize for Children's Literature for her re-writings of the *Sagas of Njal, Egill and Laxdaela*.



## KRISTIN STEINSDOTTIR

TEXT

## HALLA S. THORGEIRSDOTTIR

ILLUSTRATIONS

(see author information on page 15)



## An Angel in the Neighbourhood

Engill í vesturbænum, 2002

Askur lives with his mother in a block in the west of Reykjavik. Everyone thinks only very ordinary people live there - but he knows better. A werewolf is on the loose, as well as Pippi Longstockings, silverfish and an angel, but to mention a few. A fascinating and original story in which a boy's speculations about life conjure up countless images, and imagination runs rampant. Each page is beautifully illustrated in colour, adding a magical touch to the story.

- The Nordic Children's Book Award 2003
- The Icelandic IBBY Award
- The Icelandic Illustration Award 2002
- The Reykjavik Educational Council Children's Book Prize 2003
- The West-Nordic Literary Award 2004



PICTURE BOOK, HARDCOVER  
98 pp, 20,5 x 21,5 cm

Sold to:

Sweden (Kabusa); Finland (Idun),  
Faroe Islands (Bokadeildin);  
Greenland (Milik); Denmark (Milik);  
Lithuania (Zara); Estonia (Nynorden)  
English, German and Danish  
translations available.

7+ YEARS





## SIGRUN ELDJARN

TEXT AND ILLUSTRATIONS

(see author information on page 14)



ILLUSTRATED FICTION, HARDCOVER  
205 pp, 13,5 x 28 cm  
Chapters in English available.

6-12 YEARS



ILLUSTRATED FICTION, HARDCOVER  
207 pp, 13,5 x 28 cm

6-12 YEARS



ILLUSTRATED FICTION, HARDCOVER  
205 pp, 13,5 x 18 cm  
Chapters in English available.

6-12 YEARS

## The Island of the Sun Bird

### Eyja sólfuglsins, 2008

Ymir and Gunna are supposed to be babysitting Tumi and Maria for a few days before school starts, so the adventures of the summer must be over – or are they? On *the Island of the Sun Bird*, where the sun shines and the inhabitants float around on flying carpets, everything looks to be quite as it should be, but the three-eyed Trina knows better. And she knows where to get help!

## The Island of the Glass Fish

### Eyja glerfisksins, 2007

Ymir and Gunna are still reflecting on the adventure they had on the Island of the Golden Serpent when they stumble on a mysterious metal fragment. The children are sure it is from the Golden Serpent itself and decide to try and return it. *The Island of the Glass Fish* is the second book by Sigrun Eldjarn about the teenagers Gunna and Ymir and the two kids they baby-sit. This is an independent sequel to the book *The Island of the Golden Worm* and it is illustrated by the author like the previous book.

## The Island of the Golden Worm

### Eyja gullormsins 2006

When Ymir and Gudrun decide to sail out to the islet in the middle of the pond with the children they're minding, they've no idea of what a perilous journey they're embarking upon. Suddenly, without warning, the tiny islet turns into the mysterious Island of the Golden Worm where a sorry state of affairs reigns and the strangest things happen. The first story in a new trilogy of adventures by a multi-award winning author, who is known for her unique ability to blend tension with humour.



ILLUSTRATED FICTION, HARDCOVER  
208 pp, 13,5 x 18 cm  
English translation available.

6-12 YEARS



ILLUSTRATED FICTION, HARDCOVER  
240 pp, 13,5 x 18 cm  
English translation available.

6-12 YEARS



ILLUSTRATED FICTION, HARDCOVER  
230 pp, 13,5 x 18 cm

6-12 YEARS

## Heart of Stone

### Steinhjartað, 2005

Siblings Stína and Jonni are expecting a visit from their friend Skafti. But as soon as he steps onto the plane that is supposed to be taking him to the city, a mysterious chain of events is set in motion, and the kids will have to do everything they can to save themselves – and indeed the whole world – from imminent disaster. A breath-takingly exciting book with lively and colourful illustrations by Sigrun Eldjarn.

- Nominated for the Bookseller's Prize as the best children's book of 2005

## The Frozen Toes

### Frosnu tærnar, 2004

Everything's changed at High Hillock now that the curse of the Fog Queen has been lifted. But there is still something strange going on in the country, and so Stina and Jonni head out again on a dangerous mission, now accompanied by young Stevie. Among the magical items they carry with them are three small bottles containing potions of various colors, a yellowed scrap of paper with musical notes written on it, and a pair of striped green pants with innumerable pockets. But will this be enough?

- Nominated for the West-Nordic Literary Award

## The Lost Eyes

### Týndu augun, 2003

Nominated for the Nordic Children's Book Award 2003. Mist and darkness hover over the landscape. Stina and Jonni find themselves trapped in. And when they escape, the wild lava fields and creepy woods do little to cheer them up. It turns out to be a perilous journey and countless questions arise. *The Lost Eyes* is a breath-taking book for both boys and girls, packed with colourful pictures by one of Iceland's most loved children's writers.

- The Bookseller's Prize as the best children's book of 2003



## GUÐRÚN HELGADÓTTIR

TEXT

GUÐRÚN HELGADÓTTIR (b.1935) published her first book in 1974 and has since been one of Iceland's most popular and respected children's authors. From that date onwards she has published over two dozen books. Helgadóttir has received several prizes and recognitions for her work. In 1992 she received the Nordic Children's Book Award for the book *From beneath the Weeds*, in 1994 she received the The Reykjavik Educational Council Children's Book Prize for *Poor Little Things*, in 2005 the book *Different Family* received the Young Readers' Selection Book of the Year Prize and later that year the Jonas Hallgrímsson award for her contribution to the Icelandic tongue.



### Plain Fun

Bara gaman, 2008

Life in Bakkabaer is exactly as it should be. A part from the fact that Tumi is worried that mum doesn't have a boyfriend, and his sister Vildis would really want her to have a bit more money. But little Vala has no worries and neither has mum. She works like mad in her workshop and has no idea that they need a man about the house. *Plain Fun (Bara gaman)* is a riotous family story by one of Iceland's most popular children's authors. The readers are invited to spend the summer with the family in Bakkabaer and it's just plain fun!

FICTION, HARDCOVER  
vantar upplýsingar

6+ YEARS



FICTION, HARDCOVER  
120 pp, 16,5 x 21,5 cm  
English synopsis available.  
Film rights sold.

6-12 YEARS

### Different Days

Öðruvísi dagar, 2003

When the 9 years old Karen Karlotta begins to deliver the early morning newspaper with her brother she gets to know Elisabeth, the strange old woman who goes down to the shore every night and stares out at the sea. Karen finds out that Elisabeth has a dramatic past behind her, and the morning they find a new-born baby on her doorstep they realise that the future might also be dramatic.



FICTION, HARDCOVER  
132 pp, 16,5 x 21,5 cm  
Sold to: Denmark (Klim)

7-12 YEARS

### A Different Family

Öðruvísi fjölskylda, 2004

Karen Karlotta, "still 9 almost 10," continues to tell her story where she left off in *Different Days*. One day her grandmother catches an unlucky thief in the window of her apartment and decides to take him in for a while. From that day things begin to happen that can't be classified as ordinary events in the life of an ordinary family. Or can they?

• Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize 2004



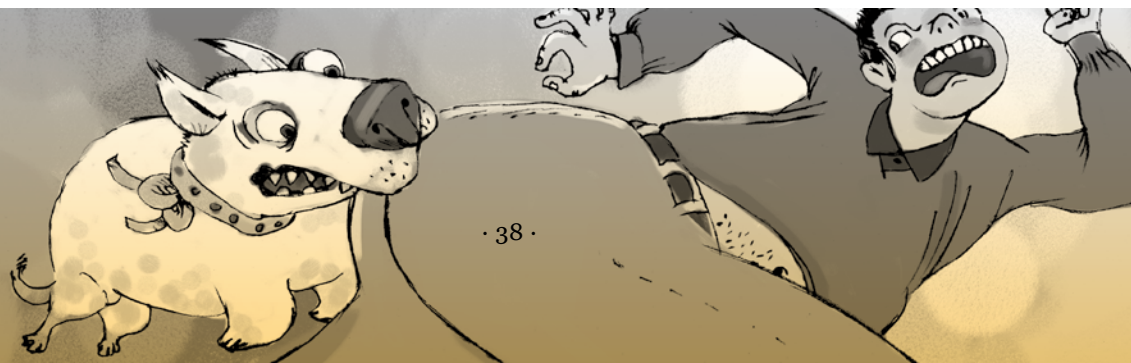
FICTION, HARDCOVER  
132 pp, 16,5 x 21,5 cm

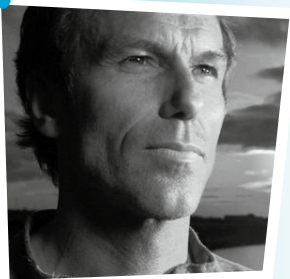
7-12 YEARS

### A Different Story

Öðruvísi saga, 2006

Karen Karlotta is finally ten years old and a great party is thrown to celebrate her birthday. She gets a lot of presents but most exciting is the letter from granddad in England inviting the whole family to come and visit him in October. A busy summer passes and by the time autumn arrives and school starts Karen discovers that no-one has even mentioned the word October all summer. Nothing is ever ordinary with this different kind of family! *A Different Story* is the third and last book in this trilogy by one of Iceland's most beloved children's writer.





## THORGRÍMUR THRAÍNSSON

TEXT

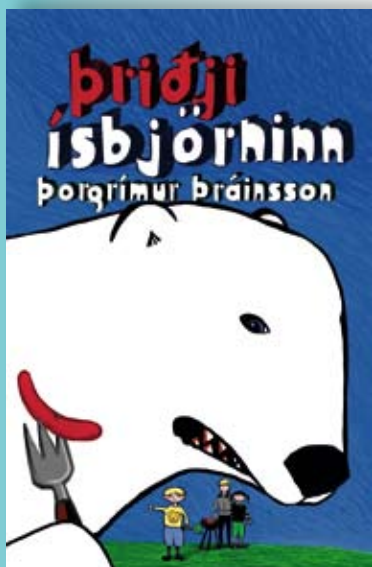
THORGRÍMUR THRAÍNSSON (b. 1959) is an award-winning author and free-lance journalist. His books for teenagers have been extremely popular in Iceland. He received the Reykjavík Educational Council Children's Book Prize in 1991, the Visa Cultural Award in 1992 and the Icelandic Children's Book Award in 1997.



## The Third Polar Bear

Priðji ísbjörninn, 2008

In Iceland everyone is talking about the two polar bears that arrived floating on the ice from the arctic during the summer. "I would love a polar bear for my birthday" thinks Karen as her family is preparing for a trip to the north of the country. Little does she imagine that her three siblings, Bjossi, Loa and Krummi, will have the opportunity of making her wish come true.



FICTION, HARDCOVER

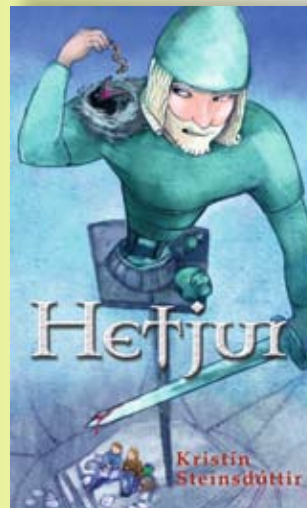
vantar upplýsingar



## KRISTÍN STEINSDÓTTIR

TEXT

(see author information on page 15)



HARDCOVER  
173 pp, 14 x 22 cm

9-13 YEARS

## Heroes

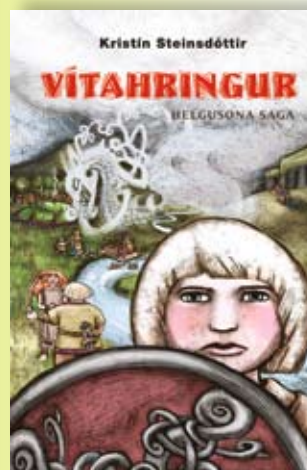
Hetjur, 2009

Thorhallur and his family have just moved to Trondheim in Norway. He doesn't know anyone at school and not even the teacher can pronounce his name right. A long-dead king seems to hover over and pervade everything, as if he were still alive. Why does everyone think it's fun to live abroad? And how in the world is an 11-year old boy from Reykjavik going to survive this ordeal? Kristín Steinsdóttir has received numerous awards for her books. Here she weaves together ancient tales, contemporary events and reflections on what it means to be a hero.

## Vicious Circle

Vítahringur, 2004

*Vicious Circle* takes place in the 10th century and tells the story of Grimkell and his family. Grimkell lives a carefree life with his parents until the day when the family is forced to leave home because of a feud between Grimkell's father and one of his relatives. They settle in Hvalfjord and try to live a normal life despite being surrounded by enemies. *Vicious Circle* is a tale about life in Iceland over a thousand years ago. Slaves, warriors, battles, and magic all come into play, but the book centres on the story of a boy who wants to live a peaceful life and finds that it's easier said than done. *Vicious Circle* was written by Kristín Steinsdóttir, author of *An Angel in the Neighbourhood*, which has received numerous awards and exceptionally warm response following its publication. The book is illustrated by artist Halla Solveig Thorgeirsdóttir, who illustrated *An Angel in the Neighbourhood*.



HARDCOVER  
132 pp, 13,7 x 2 cm  
Fiction

8+ YEARS



## AUDUR JONSDOTTIR

TEXT

## THORARINN LEIFSSON

ILLUSTRATIONS

AUDUR JONSDOTTIR (b.1973) is one of Iceland's most highly acclaimed young writers. She has received numerous awards for her works. Her novel, *The People in the Basement*, received The Icelandic Literary Prize and a nomination for the Nordic Council Literary Prize. [www.jonsdottir.com](http://www.jonsdottir.com)

THORARINN LEIFSSON (b.1966) studied at the Icelandic Academy of Arts. In the same period he worked as a street painter in western Europe. After graduation from art school he worked as an illustrator, billboard painter and graphic designer. He has illustrated several books and newspaper articles. The HC Andersen books, published in 4 northern countries are among his most important illustrations. [www.totil.com](http://www.totil.com)



PICTURE BOOK, HARDCOVER  
101 pp, 17,5 x 24,5 cm  
Chapters in German available.

7+ YEARS

## Total Freedom

Algjört frelsi, 2001

On the first day of the summer vacation, Tinna wakes up craving chocolate. Her mother has just banned her from eating sweets, so there are no goodies in the house. In a fit of a rage, Tinna, Young Granddad and the talking dog Ruffles storm out of the house and start a wild search for Tinna's Dad, who never refuses his daughter anything. Their quest leads the companions into all kinds of adventures. Imaginative story with lively, original colour pictures.

- Shortlisted for the Bookseller's Literary Award 2001.



ILLUSTRATED FICTION, HARDCOVER  
128 pp, 13,5 x 21 cm  
Chapters in English available.

9-99 YEARS



ILLUSTRATED FICTION, HARDCOVER  
128 pp, 13,5 x 21 cm  
Sold to:  
Germany/Austria/Switzerland (LEIV);  
Denmark (Torgard);  
Finland (Idun)

9+ YEARS



## THORARINN LEIFSSON

TEXT

## Grandmother's Library

Bókasafn ömmu Huldur, 2009

Albertina lives in a peculiar world. There are no books and the special educational machines in school only teach about loan interest rates. The Internet has been prohibited for years and the terrible Gold Bank has gained control of most of the world. Finally grownups start to disappear one by one. That's when Grandmother Huld turns up with an enormous library of books and dangerous knowledge. From now on nothing stays the same. Thorarinn Leifsson's debut, *Father's Big Secret*, was extremely well received by critics and has already been published in Denmark and Germany. [grandmotherslibrary.com](http://grandmotherslibrary.com)

## Father's big secret

Leyndarmálið hans pabba, 2007

How long can you keep a terrible secret? This is the question that two siblings ponder in this book, but when their father tries to eat their best friend he goes too far and they decide to tell the police the truth – their father is a cannibal. *Father's Big Secret* is a story about normal children dealing with a very abnormal problem with unforeseen consequences. At the same time the story tackles a very real problem that many children face – when do you have to tell and when should you keep quiet? Thorarinn Leifsson has illustrated numerous books but *Father's Big Secret* is the first book he also pens himself. [fathersbigsecret.com](http://fathersbigsecret.com)



## KRISTJANA FRIDBJÖRNSDÓTTIR

TEXT

KRISTJANA FRIDBJÖRNSDÓTTIR / (b.1976) lauk B.Ed.-gráðu frá The Teachers University of Iceland.

Hún hefur síðan starfað sem grunnskólakennari í Reykjavík ásamt því að vinna að ýmsum félagsstörfum með börnum og unglingum.

á ensku

## Dandelion Violet

Fjóli Fífls

## Napoleon's Sword Sverð Napóleons, 2009

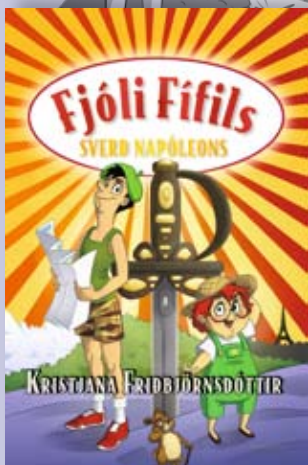
After solving a complicated criminal case, Dandelion Violet is taking a holiday. But he hasn't been in Paris long when a new case comes along. An audacious thief breaks into the city's Military Museum in the middle of the day and steals the sword of Napoleon Bonaparte. The police immediately start their investigation but the Museum Director has more faith in Dandelion Violet and his friends. The question is whether Dandelion is prepared to forfeit his holiday to investigate?

## The Ransom Lausnargjaldið, 2008

Private eye Dandelion Violet is working on a new case. This time he has to save the schoolmaster of the Private Detective School from the clutches of kidnapers. It's a good job that Violet is a master in footprint and finger print detection and scared of absolutely nothing. The ransom which the kidnapers are demanding is nothing less than the necklace of the goddess Freyja, which Sumarlídi has stored away somewhere, if he could only remember where.

## The Shadow Watch Skuggaúrið, 2007

The day after Dandelion Violet graduates from the Private Detective School his first mysterious case lands on his lap. He and his assistants set off on an exotic quest for a gold watch that has been stolen from the World Museum. *Violet Dandelion* and the *Shadow Watch* is the first in this series about the adventures of a hapless detective that will readers laughing uncontrollably.



FICTION, HARDCOVER  
123 pp, 14 x 22 cm

7-12 YEARS



FICTION, HARDCOVER  
158 pp, 14 x 22 cm  
136 pp, 14 x 22 cm



## ROBERT JACKSON

## BUBBI MORTHENS

TEXT

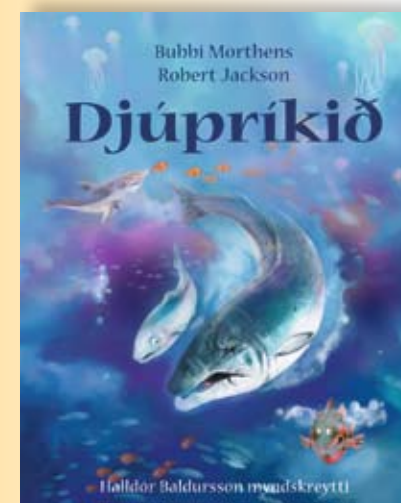
## HALLDOR BALDURSSON

ILLUSTRATIONS

BUBBI MORTHENS (b.1956) remains one of the most prolific and popular Icelandic rock artist.

ROBERT JACKSON (b.1941) has been a full time author since 1969, specialising in military and aviation history.

He has written over 50 books.



PICTURE BOOK, HARDCOVER  
64 pp, 21 x 26,5 cm

Sold to:  
UK (Meadowside); Korea (Burnwoosa)  
English translation available.

8+ YEARS

## Storlax

Djúpríkið, 2004

On a dark night at the end of winter, *Storlax* King of the salmon, calls his relatives together. It is time to embark on the long journey. The odyssey begins deep below the frozen surface of the Arctic Ocean, and the destination is the home waters – the river where all of the Hofsa River salmon were once little fingerlings. Salto and Una are making the trip for the first time. They are excited but a little scared, too. They have heard of all the dangers that await them on the way, and they know that many members of their group will not make it to the journey's end. *Storlax* is a story of intense adventures, endurance and tenacity, unity, nagging fear, and lilted humor. It is told from the viewpoint of expert knowledge no less than of esteem for the salmon and its diligence. Bubbi Morthens and Robert Jackson bring us unforgettable characters that come vividly to life in Halldor Baldursson's splendid illustrations.





## KRISTIN HELGA GUNNARSDOTTIR

TEXT

(see author information on page 30)

- Feisty and well-defined characters
- Amazing Icelandic highlands as a backdrop
- Gripping story of past and present, folk tales and fiction



ILLUSTRATED FICTION, HARDCOVER  
207 pp, 13,5 x 21 cm  
Chapters in English available.  
Full translation available in Danish.

9+ YEARS

## Ghost Trail

Draugaslóð, 2007

Eyvindur and his grandmother live with their two cats in an old house by the lake. Life has been pretty much routine all of Eyvindur's thirteen years, but now strange things are afoot. Along with his mother, whom he is just getting to know after years of separation, Eyvindur heads for the Icelandic highlands where they intend to spend the summer. There a remarkable and compelling adventure unfolds as Eyvindur journeys into the terrain of outlaws, ghosts and, last but not least, gets tangled up in a complicated web of recent events.

- *West Nordic Children's Book Prize 2007*
- *Nominated for the Nordic Children's Book Prize 2009*



ILLUSTRATED FICTION, HARDCOVER  
204 pp, 13,7 x 21 cm  
Chapters in English available.

9+ YEARS

## The Witches from Strandir

Strandanornir, 2003

The annual get-together of departed relatives and friends is coming up at Kolfridur's. As usual, her grandchildren turn up, Ursula and Messiana, ten to twelve apprentice witches, and Valentinus, their big brother, along with his pals from the The Nobodies band. All the other guests are invisible. The party is off to a good start. But something goes wrong. An uninvited spectre makes a sudden and vivid appearance in the living room and doesn't look too friendly. In order to exorcise the ghost, the family has to embark on a bumpy journey in a old camper all the way north to Kolfridur's ancestral magic land of Strandir, and plenty happens along the way. In this powerful book, Gunnarsdottir dips into the inexhaustible well of the Icelandic tales of witches and wizards that have been passed down throughout the ages, since the times of the Sagas. Back then there was some magic going on in Strandir every week. Could that still be the case now?

- *The Icelandic IBBY Award 2004*
- *Children's Book Award 2004, chosen by children library visitors*



## IDUNN STEINSDOTTIR

TEXT

IDUNN STEINSDOTTIR (b.1940) has published books for children and teenagers, as well as a number of books for elementary school and numerous plays for the stage and radio. Her books are characterized by rich imagination, but they are also a realistic description of life of children and their world of ideas. Steinsdóttir has received several awards for her work, amongst them the City of Reykjavik Prize for Children's Literature in 1988 and the Icelandic Children's Books Award in 1991.

### Through the Thorny Hedge

Gegnum þyrnigerðið, 1991

A fantasy set in an imaginary country, with themes of friendship; good and evil. The reader realises though, that the events are comparable with those of our world. The evil emperor in the story puts a magic thorny hedge in the middle of the valley and then divides the valley into east and west. Everybody's hoping to see the hedge disappear and one day unexpected things start to happen. An entertaining and unusual book, full of important insights.

- *The Icelandic Book Award*
- *IBBY Honour List 1992*

kápumynd  
vantar

ILLUSTRATED FICTION, HARDCOVER  
122 pp, 12,5 x 21,5 cm  
German translation available

9+ YEARS



## GERÐUR KRISTNÝ

TEXT

(see author information on page 28)

### Smart Marta

Marta smarta, 2002

Marta is a perfectly ordinary ten year old girl who lives with her mother, meets her father on week-ends, has a best friend, and a fairly routine lifestyle. But after the Christmas holidays her world is turned upside down. Her mom goes abroad on a course, her friend Hekla mysteriously disappears and dad ... yeah, there's something up with him as well. So what does the girl do? Marta realises that life can become bearable again by mixing the strangest elements together, but most important of all - courage. Plenty of courage.

- *The Icelandic Children's Book Award 2002*



FICTION, HARDCOVER  
152 pp, 14 x 21 cm  
English chapters available.

9-12 YEARS

### The Garden

Garðurinn, 2008

Eyja is shocked when she looks through the window in her new flat and sees an enormous cemetery full of gloomy tombs and gravestones just across the street. Talking about neighbours! Still, the situation doesn't get critical until her father buys a brown leather chair. Her parents think the chair is excellent, but Eyja instantly feels that it has brought something unwelcome into her home – something malignant. In her new school Eyja has great fun with her new mates, but best of all is Solvi – the boy who is perhaps a friend, perhaps a boy-friend and perhaps in 10th grade.

- *The Bookseller's Literary Award 2008*



FICTION, HARDCOVER  
152 pp, 14 x 21,5 cm  
English chapters available.  
Sold to:  
Germany (bloomsbury bv);  
Norway (Bokvennen)

12+ YEARS

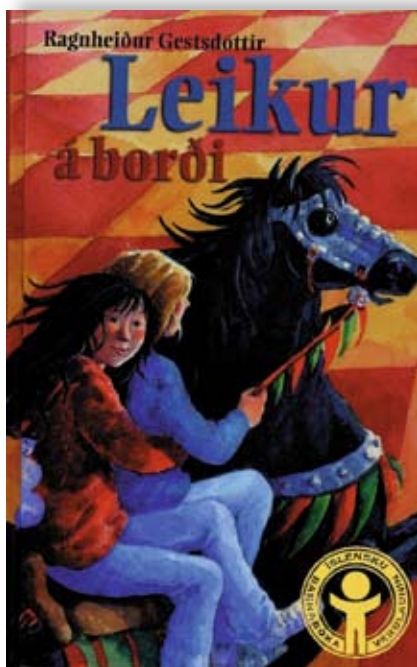




## RAGNHEIDUR GESTSDOTTIR

TEXT

RAGNHEIDUR GESTSDOTTIR (b.1953) is an acclaimed author and illustrator who has established a strong reputation for her books and illustrations. She received the Reykjavik Children's Book Prize in 1999 for her contribution to children's literature and culture.



## A Winning Chance

Leikur á borði, 2000

Soley is an independent-minded and energetic girl, but she has difficulty making friends and her classmates do everything they can to make her life a misery. She hides this from her family, but when a new girl joins her class her life changes sharply and unexpected things start happening. A candid, exciting and carefully told story that strikes a chord in the reader's heart. The story is concerned with bullying, but the author handles the subject with remarkable tact, free of all contentiousness and bitterness. This is primarily a beautiful and memorable story on the value of friendship and tolerance.

- The Icelandic Children's Book Award 2000

8-12 YEARS

FICTION, HARDCOVER  
112 pp, 14 x 22 cm  
Sold to:  
Sweden (Liber AB/Almqvist&Wiksell);  
Thailand (Image Publishing);  
Faroe Islands (Bokadeildin);  
Lithuania (Gimtasis Zodis)  
An English synopsis available and  
translation of two chapters.



## HRUND THORISDOTTIR

TEXT

HRUND THORISDOTTIR (b.1979) has a degree in political sciences and anthropology. She works as a journalist and *The Promise* is her first book.



## The Promise

Loforðið, 2007

*The Promise* was elected the best story in a competition for The Icelandic Children's Book Award in 2007. The committee felt it described in a unique way the feelings of an eleven year old girl who loses her best friend. This book tells the story of the girls' friendship, the shock and the sense of loss when one of them dies. Last but not least the story is about the strange key and the promise Asta makes to her friend and swears by their secret place to fulfil. *The Promise* is a powerful and intimate story which will leave no-one untouched.

- The Icelandic Children's Book Award in 2007

9+ YEARS

ILLUSTRATED FICTION, HARDCOVER  
140 pp, 14 x 21,5 cm





## GUNNAR TH. EGGERTSSON

TEXT

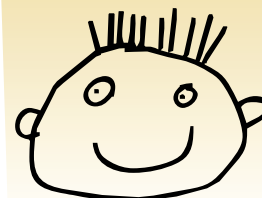
GUNNAR THEODOR EGGERTSSON has a degree in literature and cinema. *The Stone Animals* is his first book.

### The Stone Animals

Steindýrin, 2008

How can a dog turn into a statue? That is somewhat mysterious but exactly what happened: Ring, old Ulf's dog turned into a statue and immediately all the grown-ups in our village behaved as if he'd never existed. And Ring wasn't the only animal to disappear without a trace leaving a stone statue behind. We had to get to the bottom of it. Which is why Erla, Haukur and myself entered Dark-cave on a more adventurous quest than anyone could ever have foreseen. According to the jury of the award this is an exciting and original adventure story inspired in folk-tales and legends, yet unique. *The Stone Animals* is a book that will appeal readers of all ages.

• *The Icelandic Children's Book Award 2008*



## GUDMUNDUR BRYNJOLFSSON

TEXT

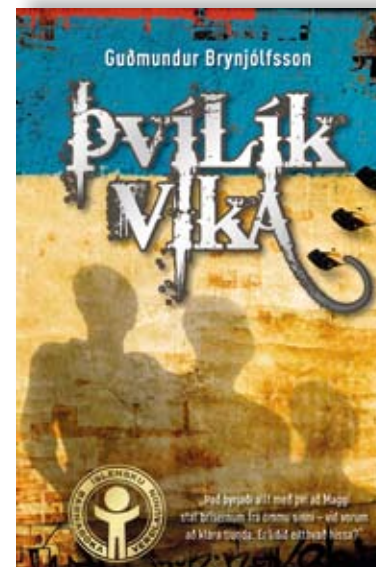
GUDMUNDUR BRYNJOLFSSON (b.1964) has written short stories and plays. *What a Week* is his first book.

### What a Week

Þvílík vika, 2009

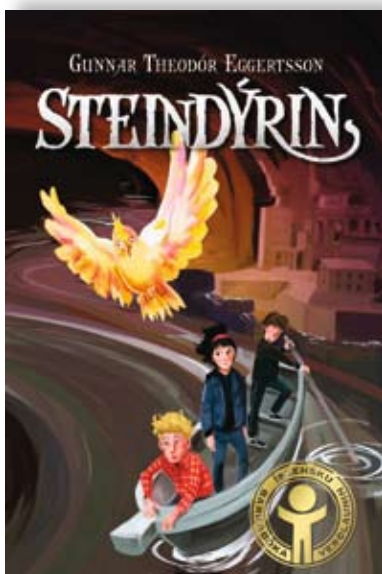
Three 15-year olds have started collecting breezers and beers with a view to thoroughly celebrating their graduation from Compulsory School in a weeks time. However, a lot can change in one week, and things don't exactly turn out as they planned. *What a Week*, a powerful story of present-day teenagers, was selected from a large number of entries to be awarded the 2009 Icelandic Prize for Children's Literature.

• *The Icelandic Children's Book Award 2009*



FICTION, HARDCOVER  
134 pp, 14 x 22 cm

12-16 YEARS



FICTION, HARDCOVER  
198 pp, 14 x 21,5 cm  
English chapters available.

10+ YEARS



## SIF SIGMARSDÓTTIR

TEXT

SIF SIGMARSDÓTTIR (b. 1978) has worked as a free-lance journalist and writer. She is the manager of the publishing house Stílbrot.



FICTION, HARDCOVER  
160 pp, 15,5 x 23,5 cm

12-16 YEARS

## I'm No Drama Queen

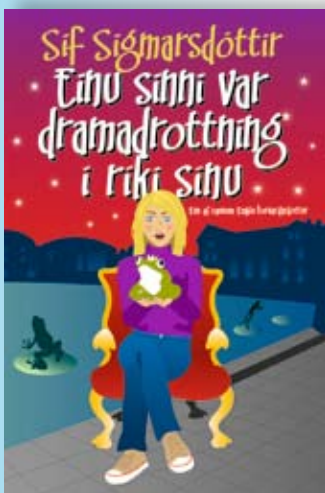
Ég er ekki dramadrottning, 2006

Embla starts blogging the day she finds out that her family is about to move to England. She thinks it's terrible news, she doesn't want to leave her friends and, least of all, a boy in her class that she's had her eye on (although unfortunately the feeling doesn't seem to be mutual). This stirs her to take drastic measures that will have their consequences. A vibrant and entertaining story by a new author.

## Once Upon a Time There Was a Drama Queen

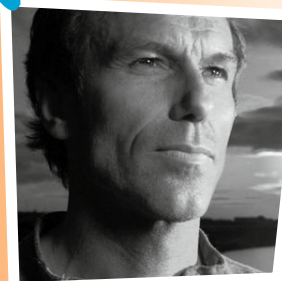
Einu sinni var dramadrottning í ríki sínu, 2007

When Embla learns that her boy friend plans to break up with her, she decides to take action. Determined to make sure that the adventure of her life has a happy ending, despite a temporary setback, she begins her search for a new prince charming. Unfortunately, the rules of fairy tales do not apply to Embla's life. Not only do frogs not turn into princes, but princes do turn into frogs, and neither friendly dwarves nor helpful fairy godmothers cross her path. A terribly funny tale that made a real hit with Icelandic youths.



FICTION, HARDCOVER  
160 pp, 15,5 x 23,5 cm

12-16 YEARS



## THORGRÍMUR ÞRÁINSSON

TEXT

(see author information on page 38)



FICTION, HARDCOVER  
212 pp, 14 x 22 cm

12-16 YEARS

## Naught Naught 9

Núll núll 9

Life follows its accustomed routine for Joel and his friends until Ania turns up. She is unlike anyone Joel has ever met, and after she suddenly sits down at his table in the Blue Pot Café one weird event follows another. And her computer, which has unexpectedly been left in Joel's hands, contains evidence of events which could affect the future of Iceland.



## JONINA LEOSDOTTIR

TEXT

JONINA LEOSDOTTIR (b.1954) has worked as a writer and journalist for decades and has had several recognitions for her work.



FICTION, HARDCOVER  
185 pp, 14 x 21,5 cm

12+ YEARS

## Me and You

Ég og þú, 2009

Kata is going crazy, with missing her boyfriend in Brighton and talks about him all the time. Anna is more reserved about her feelings, and no one knows that she, too, left her heart in England. *Me and You* is the third book about the teenager Anna and her first acquaintance with love. Jonina Leosdottir received the IBBY-in-Iceland Spring Breezes award for the first two, *Kisses and Olives* and *Black and White*, both of which were extremely well received by both readers and critics. These were the first teen books to introduce a main character who is gay.



FICTION, HARDCOVER  
184 pp, 14 x 21,5 cm

12+ YEARS

## Black and White

Svart & hvítt, 2008

*Black & White (Svart & hvítt)* is an independent sequel to *Kisses and Olives (Kossar og ólífur)*. After an eventful summer in England Anna starts secondary school in Reykjavik. In her mind she grapples with many things after her stay in Brighton, but nothing compared to the chaos that reigns in the head of her friend, Kata. Kata can't get Deepak, the Indian boy she met in Brighton, out of her mind, but his parents have arranged his wedding with a girl in India he doesn't even know. It becomes clear that the girls will not get to the bottom of all of this, unless they go back to England and take charge of the situation.

- The IBBY-in-Iceland Spring Breezes Award



FICTION, HARDCOVER  
184 pp, 14 x 21,5 cm

12+ YEARS

## Kisses and Olives

Kossar og ólífur, 2007

In *Kisses & Olives* we follow teen-queen Anna to Brighton, England where she works at a hotel over the summer. There she gets to know many surprising things – new situations and interesting people, but also new feelings she never had before. *Kisses and Olives* is an engaging story by Jonina Leosdottir that should appeal to all teenagers.

- The IBBY-in-Iceland Spring Breezes Award



## RAGNHEIDUR GESTSDOTTIR

TEXT

(see author information on page 48)

### The Sword Bearer

Sverðberinn, 2004

On the night of the accident, on the night they took a break from their game to go and collect Vera from work, Signy had finally found a name for her character. Her name would be Leda. After the accident, Leda – the sword bearer – wakes up in an unknown world with a difficult and dangerous mission to carry out. Meanwhile Signy is in a deep sleep at the hospital and no-one knows if she'll ever wake up again. Ragnheidur Gestsdottir is well known for her excellent and popular children and young reader's books which have received a multitude of awards. The Sword Bearer is a thrilling adventure in which fantasy and reality are ingeniously interwoven; a book no-one will be able to put down until the very last pag.

- *The Nordic Children's Book Award 2005*
- *The Reykjavik Educational Council Children's Book Prize 2005*

### 40 WEEKS

40 vikur, 2001

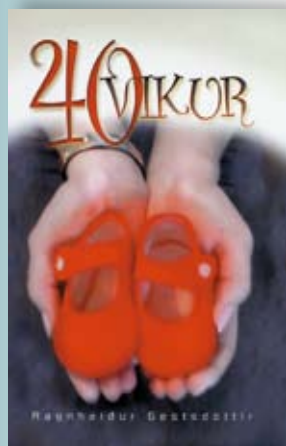
Sunna is 16 years old and goes out with her friends to celebrate the end of her examinations when they finish their compulsory schooling. But she doesn't celebrate quite so eagerly when she discovers some time later that she is pregnant by one of her classmates, a tough guy who hardly speaks to her. Life starts to look different and the carefree years of youth are over. Or are they ...? A realistic story, gripping and warm.



FICTION, HARDCOVER  
230 pp, 23 x 16 cm

Sold to:  
Norway (Damm & Sön);  
Denmark (Sesam)  
English translation available.

11+ YEARS



FICTION, HARDCOVER  
120 pp, 14 x 22 cm

Sold to:  
Hungary (Korona)  
English synopsis available  
and translation of two chapters.

YOUNG ADULT



## VILBORG DAVIDSDOTTIR

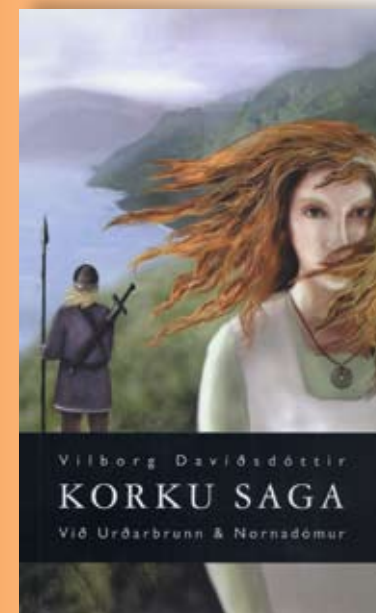
TEXT

VILBORG DAVIDSDOTTIR (b.1965) is the author of popularly acclaimed historical novels, including, among others, The Raven which was nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize. Her novel, Saga of Korka, has received rave reviews and gained the popularity of readers from all age groups. [www.vilborgd.blogspot.com](http://www.vilborgd.blogspot.com)

### Saga of Korka

Korkusaga, 2001

Their name is never mentioned in the Icelandic Sagas. The secret daughters of Norwegian settlers, born to women slaves. Korka is one of them, but she won't accept a life of slavery and fights for a better life. Surprising events and a complicated destiny drive her away from Iceland to Denmark where great events await her in times of conflict. As a reward for her ingenuity she gains her freedom, but freedom can be a hurdle when you have no family and no means. Her future becomes frightening and her mind drifts back to Iceland. Exciting and dramatic tale.



FICTION, PAPERBACK

330 pp, 13,7 x 21 cm

Sold to:  
Faroe Islands (Bokadeildin)  
English synopsis and sample  
chapters available.

YOUNG ADULT



## THORARINN ELDJARN

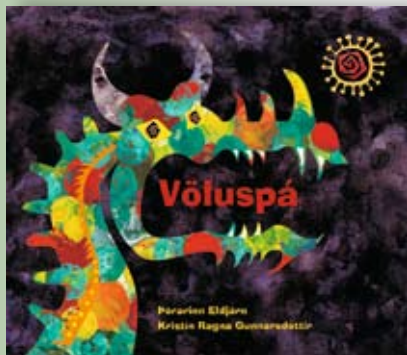
TEXT

## KRISTIN R. GUNNARSDOTTIR

ILLUSTRATIONS

THORARINN ELDJARN (b. 1949) is one of Iceland's most admired authors and the recipient of many awards. He has tackled every genre; he is one of Iceland's most accomplished poets, has published countless children's books, written novels, collections of short stories and scripts and also worked as a translator.

KRISTIN RAGNA GUNNARSDOTTIR is a free-lance illustrator and artist. She has a degree in literary studies and has worked as a graphic designer and teacher. She received the Dimmalimm, the Icelandic Illustration Award in 2008.



PICTURE BOOK, HARDCOVER  
64 pp, 24,5 x 21,5 cm

6+ YEARS

## The Sybil's Prophecy

Völuspá, 2005

In the *Sybil's Prophecy*, a seeress tells us how the world was created, with the first Norse gods and men. Thorarinn Eldjarn and Kristin Ragna Gunnarsdottir have made this famous ancient poem accessible to children of all ages with their playful verse and colourful pictures.

- Nominated for The Icelandic Illustration Award 2005



## INGUNN ASDISARDOTTIR

TEXT

## KRISTIN R. GUNNARSDOTTIR

ILLUSTRATIONS

INGUNN ASDISARDOTTIR (b. 1952) is currently working on her PhD in Norse Mythology. She has worked as a theatre director, literary reviewer and translator and is now working as a free-lance investigator of Norse mythology as well as collaborating in an international project regarding heathen practices in the Nordic countries.



PICTURE BOOK, HARDCOVER  
128 pp, 21,5 x 26 cm  
Chapters in German available

FOR ALL AGES

## Norse Mythology

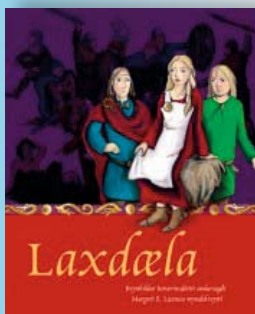
Örlög guðanna, 2008

*Norse Mythology* recounts many of the fascinating myths passed down through the centuries by people in the Nordic countries. These are the most widespread tales of this Northern heritage, telling of the creation of the world, dealings between the gods and Ragnarök, the end of the world, all of them finely illustrated.

- Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize 2008
- The Icelandic Illustration Award 2008



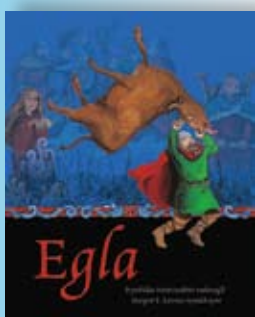
8+ YEARS



ILLUSTRATED FICTION,  
HARDCOVER  
64 pp, 21,5 x 26 cm



ILLUSTRATED FICTION,  
HARDCOVER  
61 pp, 21,5 x 26 cm  
Sold to:  
Sweden (Berghs förlag);  
Norway (Damm & Sön)  
English translation available.  
Also chapters in Danish,  
Finnish, German, Italian,  
Hungarian, Latvian,  
Lithuanian and Russian.



ILLUSTRATED FICTION,  
HARDCOVER  
61 pp, 21,5 x 26,5 cm  
Norwegian translation  
available.

## BRYNHILDUR THORARINSDOTTIR

RETOLD BY

MARGRET LAXNESS

ILLUSTRATIONS

(see author information on page 25)

### Laxdæla Saga Laxdæla, 2007

*Laxdæla Saga* is one of the better known and most popular Icelandic Sagas, for its combination of suspense and romance. This is a wonderful new edition of this classic saga, beautifully retold for children and teenagers, with colourful pictures, the third Icelandic saga to be published in this extremely popular form, the other two being *Egill's Saga* and *Njal's Saga*.

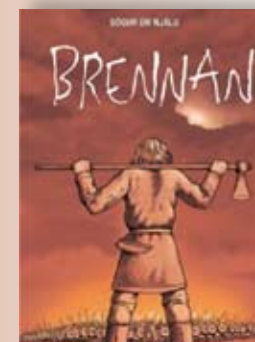
### Njal's Saga Njála, 2002

*Njal's Saga* is one of the most popular Icelandic sagas. This dramatic action-packed family drama has lived with the nation for more than 700 years. Here the story is retold for children between the ages of 8-14, and complemented with useful information about the times and historical background in which it is set. M. Laxness illustrated the book, which also contains over sixty photographs and drawings to improve the reader's understanding.

- *The Icelandic IBBY Award, 2003*

### Egla – The Saga of Egil Egla, 2004

*Egla* – the Saga of Egill Skalla-Grimsson – tells of Vikings and farmers, kings and queens, battles and duels, magic and jewels. Egill grows up in Borgarfjordur and quickly becomes bigger and stronger than other boys. As a grown man, he is a fierce Viking who hires himself out as a soldier for foreign kings and chieftains. But he is also a gifted poet who saves his life by composing and reciting verse. Brynhildur Thorarinsdottir's concise and informative rendition makes this well-known Icelandic saga accessible to children and young readers. The book is lavishly illustrated by Margret E. Laxness and includes dozens of photographs and other works of art.



ILLUSTRATED FICTION,  
HARDCOVER  
64 pp, 20 x 28 cm

8+ YEARS



ILLUSTRATED FICTION,  
HARDCOVER  
64 pp, 21 x 26,5 cm

## EMBLA YR BARUDOTTIR

TEXT

INGOLFUR O. BJORGVINSSON

ILLUSTRATIONS

EMBLA YR BARUDOTTIR (b. 1973) has a degree in Icelandic and has worked as a translator and corrector. Together with Ingolfur O. Bjorgvinsson she received the Reykjavik Educational Council Children's Book Prize in 2004 for *Bloodrain*.

INGOLFUR ORN BJORGVINSSON (b. 1964) studied at the Icelandic Academy of the Arts and has worked as an illustrator and a designer for advertising agencies. Together with Embla Y. Barudottir he received the Reykjavik Educational Council Children's Book Prize in 2004 for *Bloodrain*.

### Blood Rain Blóðregn, 2003

### The Burning Brennan, 2004

### The Hero Hetjan, 2007

### Winter Blood Vettrarvíg, 2005

Stories from the Saga world is an awarded series of thrilling comic books based on the well known *Njal's Saga*. The authors retell this magnificent thousand years old story in a highly modern way that children of all ages and comic book readers will relate to, even if they have never heard of the Sagas. Well-known characters are brought back to life in a completely new light, and thousand year old battles are revived in vivid pictures and words, so that even those who know the story well will feel they are reading it for the first time. Each book tells an independent story and together the books very originally follow the events of *Njal's Saga* backwards.

- *The Reykjavik Educational Council Children's Book prize 2004, as the best Icelandic Children's Book*

Please note that a fund for the promotion of Icelandic literature operates under the auspices of the Icelandic Ministry of Education and Culture and subsidizes translations of literature.

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