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VALGERDUR BENEDIKTSDOTTIR
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Monster Squabbles
Skrímslaerjur, 2012
- Nominated to the Nordic Council Children and Young People’s Literature Prize 2013

PICTURE BOOK, HARDCOVER
30 pp, 15.5 x 29.5 cm
Sold to: Sweden (Kabusa), Faroe Islands (Bókadeildin); Denmark (Torgard); China (Maitian Press)

2-6 YEARS

Monster at the Top
Skrímsli á toppnum, 2010

PICTURE BOOK, HARDCOVER
30 pp, 15.5 x 29.5 cm
Sold to: Sweden (Kabusa), Faroe Islands (Bókadeildin); China (Maitian Culture); Denmark (Torgard) English translation available

2-6 YEARS

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 Snaer Magnason in 2002, for which she received the West-Nordic Children’s Book Prize along with the author.

Kalle Güettler
Rakel Helmsdal

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.

This delightful series is written in partnership between three authors from Iceland, Sweden and the Faroe Islands. It has produced seven popular award-winning books, all of which focus on human relations and situations which all children face at some time.
Monster Visit
Skrímsli í heimsókn, 2009

Sold to:
Sweden (Kabusa); Faroe Islands (Bókadeildin); Denmark (Torgard); China (Maitian Culture)
English translation available

Monster Flu
Skrímslapest, 2008

Sold to:
Sweden (Kabusa); Faroe Islands (Bókadeildin); Denmark (Torgard); France (Circonflexe/Millepages); Norway (Skald)
English and Spanish translation available

Monster in the Dark
Skrímsli í myrkrinu, 2007

Sold to:
Sweden (Bonnier Carlsen); Faroe Islands (Bókadeildin); Denmark (Torgard); France (Circonflexe/Millepages); China (Maitian Culture); Norway (Skald)
English, Spanish 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
• Nominated to Le prix des Incorruptibles, France

Sold to:
Sweden (Bonnier Carlsen); Faroe Islands (Bókadeildin); Denmark (Forlaget Torgard); Spain, Andorra, South America, USA (Random House/Beascoa); France (Circonflexe/Millepages); Norway (Skald; China (Maitian Culture)
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); Finland (Kustannus oy Pieni Karhu); Spain, Andorra, South America, USA (Random House/Beascoa); France (Circonflexe/Millepages); Finland (Pieni Karhu); Norway (Skald); China (Maitian Culture)
English translation available
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. The play based on the book received the Icelandic theatre awards Griman 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

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!
BJORK BJARKADOTTIR
TEXT AND ILLUSTRATIONS

BJORK BJARKADOTTIR (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.bjorkbjarka.no

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.
The Super Granny Series
Súperömmuserían

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. Oli and Supergranny’s exciting adventures are told in enchanting text and delightful illustrations.

Granny Goes on Summer Holiday
Amma fer í sumarfrí, 2006

Granny’s Secret
Leyndarmálið hennar ömmu, 2003

Granny and the Thief in the Gallery
Amma og þjófurinn í safninu, 2004

Supergranny and the Pirates
Súperamma og sjóræningjarnir, 2009
Do as I Do – Happy and the Animals
Gerðu eins og ég: Hvati og dýrin, 2012

Happy is a good puppy even though his curiosity tends to get him into trouble. He knows all sorts of tricks – he rolls over, bends, twists and turns. One day he goes to the zoo with Asa and gets lost. While looking for Asa he has fun showing the animals, which he finds a bit lazy, how to move and shake. Even though the exercises don’t always go to plan Happy knows that the trick is just to not give up. Practice makes perfect!

Movement is important at all stages of life. It improves health and increases well-being. During the first years it is important to encourage children to exercise and make it an intricate part of everyday life. This book is meant to be a good read but also a tool for parents and those who work with children to encourage systematic exercise, development, and bonding. 

Do as I Do has been made into a TV series to encourage exercise in children.
Hún var um það bil að gefast upp þegar hún rak annan fótinn í eitthvað mjúkt. Hún beygði sig niður og hélt fyrst að þetta væri sofnandi hagamús. En þetta var hann. Unginn hennar.


GUDRUN HELGADOTTIR

TEXT (author information on page 27)

ANNA CYNTHIA LEPLAR

ILLUSTRATIONS

ANNA CYNTHIA LEPLAR (b.1953) is among the best known illustrators and children’s book designers in Iceland.

A Little Story About a Lazy Chick

Lítil saga um latan unga, 2010

Little Chick is so happy in his nest with his mummy that he doesn’t ever want to leave it. It is, therefore, very appropriate for his mummy to call him Nestor! And mummy does everything Nestor asks, she finds his favourite worms and insects for him and keeps the nest tidy. One day, however, mummy has had enough. An entertaining tale about being independent.
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 Nordic Children’s Book Award in 2003. Steinsdottir has received the highest order of the Republic of Iceland, the Order of the Falcon, for her contribution to Icelandic literature.

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.

Who Eats Polar Bears?
Hver étur ísbirni? 2006

Young Rissa and her family have spent their winter on the western cost 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.
Maximus Musicus Visits the Orchestra

Maxímús Músíkús heimsækir hljómsveitina, 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.

- The Reykjavik Educational Council Children’s Book Prize 2008
- The Icelandic Women’s Literature Award 2008
- Nominated for the Frettabladid Community Award 2010
Maximus Musicus
Visits the Music School
Maxímús Músíkús trítlar í tónlistarskólan, 2010

Maximus Musicus lives in an old bass in the corner of a large concert hall and enjoys his happy and melodious life. Embarking on an unexpected journey one day, he discovers that children can also play musical instruments, even in concerts! The music-loving Maximus made his début in the book *Maximus Musicus Visits the Orchestra*, and became an instant favourite with young children in Iceland. Now there is a new tale of Maxi and his adventures. The book is accompanied by a CD with the story narrated by actor Valur Freyr Einarsson, while young soloists play the musical chapters of the story accompanied by the Iceland Symphony Orchestra, directed by Daniel Bjarnason.
Maximus Musicus Saves the Ballet
Maxímús Músíkús bjargar ballellinum, 2012

Maximus Musicus is a musical mouse and when he returns one morning after an invigorating walk, some interesting guests are arriving at the concert hall – large groups of children! The youngsters are there to rehearse a ballet with the symphony orchestra and they dance so well that Maxi becomes curious. Where did they become so good? Maxi decides to find out and has a great day at the ballet school. On returning to the concert hall, Maxi manages to save the performance just in time for curtain-up. The story revolves around the music of the Mother Goose Suite by Maurice Ravel with its many different fairy-tale characters: Sleeping Beauty, Tom Thumb, Beauty and the Beast, a Chinese Princess and a Fairytale Garden, as well as Glazunov’s Winter, Tchaikovski’s Sleeping Beauty Ouverture and Pas de deux. The story ends with Fire by Icelandic composer Jórunn Vidar.

“Maximus Musicus Saves the Ballet is a wonderful and imaginative book, fantastically illustrated and a delightful introduction to the world of Ballet. Bravo!”

HELGI TÓMASSON, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR OF THE SAN FRANCISCO BALLET

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.

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.

I Know a Rhino
Á dýrabaki, 2006

TEXT AND ILLUSTRATIONS BY BRIAN PILKINGTON

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.
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.

BETWO
Bétveir, 2012

One sunny day a pink spaceship lands in the garden of Aki and his siblings. Out of it emerges a strange being with two heads who claims his name is Betwo. The being is curious regarding life on Earth, especially regarding a puzzling phenomenon he has observed from outer space. Betwo spends an entire day with the siblings; encounters a lady who sometimes writes stories, gets to know grandpa’s hot cocoa and granny’s woolly socks. Last but not least he gets to know all about the mysterious phenomenon - books - and they do not disappoint him in the least!

Betwo is one of Sigrun Eldjarn’s first titles and played an important role in establishing her as the favourite author of numerous Icelandic children. This is an updated edition with new and fun illustrations by the author.
The Troll and the Raven

Newlyweds Jon and Freyja love each other dearly. Jon is a respectable farmer who works hard from dawn until dusk, but Freyja likes to sleep late and do as little as possible. Freyja is delighted when a mysterious old woman appears and offers to weave wool into cloth for her, but she soon starts to worry about the price she might have to pay. Fortunately Jon always remembers to feed the raven, and the raven rewards Jon’s kindness.

The story of the troll Gilitrutt and the young couple on a farm in the shadow of Mount Eyjafjallajökull is an old Icelandic folktale. This version is based on the popular puppet show by Bernd Ogrodnik, which received the Gríma, the Icelandic Theatre Award, for best children’s show in 2011. Kristin Maria Ingimarsdottir created the illustrations derived from the original play.
A Giant Love Story
Ástarsaga úr fjöllunum, 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.
Dynkur
Dynkur, 2004

Dynkur 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 Dynkur 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.

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.
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
TEXT AND ILLUSTRATIONS

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. A play based on the book premiered in The Icelandic National Theatre in 2001 and has since travelled around the world in theatres in Sweden, Pakistan, Bucharest, London, Berlin, Chicago and Toronto, to name a few.

• 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
• UKLA (UK Literacy Association) Book award 2014. Longlist

ANDRI SNAER MAGNASON
TEXT
ASLAUG JONSDOTTIR
ILLUSTRATIONS (author information on page 4)

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, the West Nordic Children's Book Prize and the Alfred Toepfer Kairos Prize in 2010. Magnason has been active in the fight against the destruction of the Icelandic Highlands.

www.andrimagnason.com

PICTURE BOOK, HARDCOVER
95 pp, 21,5 x 26,5 cm
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France (Gallimard); Denmark (GAD); Sweden (Kabusa); Faroe Islands (Bókadeildin); Greenland (Atuakkiorfik); Estonia (Eesti Raamat); Spain (Omega); Italy (RCS Libri/Fabbri Editori); Yugoslavia (Izdataeka Kuca Draganic); Thailand (Image Publishing); Greece (Patakis); Korea (Tin Drum Publishing); Japan (Gakken); China (Beijing Science and Technology Press); Romania and Hungary (Koinónia); Lithuania (Zara); Germany (Leipziger Kinderbuchverlag); Finland (Kustannus Oy Pieni arhu); Norway, audiobook (Karviland); Russia (OM Books); Turkey (Pegasus Yayinlari); Norway (Commentum); US/UK/Australia/Canada (Seven Stories Press); Brazil/Portugal (Hedra); Taiwan (Commonwealth Publishing); Poland (EneDueRabe)
Translation available in English.
The play in German, English and Romanian.

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BRYNHILDUR THORARINSDOTTIR
TEXT

BERGRUN IRIS SAEVARSĐOTTIR
ILLUSTRATIONS (Author information on page 9)

BRYNHILDUR THORARINSDOTTIR is a lecturer at the University of Akureyri. She has published several exciting books for children, received the Icelandic Children’s Book Award for *The Lion’s Secret*, and the Nordic Children’s Book Award for her retellings for children of three Icelandic Sagas.

The Bluewater Worm
Blávatnsormurinn, 2012

Silver Town School is the most interesting school in the country – or do you know another school that teaches Dragonology and has chocolate for lunch?

Sunny and Flame live in Silver Town in Sunny-fjord. They attend dragon classes, swim in the warm sea and eat cherries right off the trees! The friends experience something new and exciting every day, and now they are about to have the most dangerous adventure of all.

*The Bluewater Worm* is a lively story for children aged 6-9.
GERDUR 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, The Halldor Laxness Award for her novel A Boat with Sails and All and the Icelandic Literary Award for her book of poetry, Bloodhoof.

HALLDOR BALDURSSON  (b.1965) has illustrated numerous books for children and is also well known for his caricatures.

The President, the Princess and the Sleeping Palace  
Forsetinn, prinsessan og höllin sem svaf, 2011

The president is going abroad! The princess’s mother is to be crowned queen and her father is to be crowned king and the president has been invited to the party. But there is something mysterious going on at the palace.

The President, the Princess and the Sleeping Palace is Gerdur Kristny’s third book about these lively characters, who have enjoyed great popularity both in books and on the stage of the National Theatre of Iceland. The story is richly illustrated by Halldor Baldursson.
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, an aggressive chicken, a bride and groom and a marzipan ring cake that keeps shrinking ...

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!

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.
Here is a biography of the happy-go-lucky family dog, Grimm Dandelion, that never hunted birds but would hurt a fly once in a while. Her Greatness and Grumpy chose him from a whole basket full of puppies in a utility room in a farm-house, and he lived with them and their little rascals for the rest of his days. Grimm Dandelion went to Dog Academy. It didn’t do him much good but he did however teach Her Greatness and Grumpy a thing or two, and so much more than they ever managed to teach him. Good friends don’t necessary all walk on two feet. This is a story of the faithful dog who was sometimes dog-tired and bored, but mostly happy as a hound. A book for all animal lovers!
The Fiasol series
Fíasól 2004-2010

Fiasol is a seven-year old girl with a mind of her own who gets into all sorts of exciting adventures and sometimes into trouble. Would you: ... steal a fishing boat? ... eat sugar with pirates? ... camp in your living room? ... keep floor ghosts under your bed? ... store furry devils in your toy box? ... move into a shack with a best friend? ... kidnap a monkey? ... order servants to clean your room? ... celebrate the equipment free day? ... write yourself a fan letter? ... argue with Santa? ... leave home to explore the world and return in a police car? Well, if you are Fiasol you would!

We were going to keep quiet about her adventures, but now it’s time to let the cat out of the bag!

Moe the Prankster
– Cowboy in Arizona
Mói hrekkjusvín – kúreki í Arisóna, 2013

This hilarious book chronicles the 9-year old Moe’s various escapades, along with his best friend and a long dead cowboy from the wild west, called Gun Joe. Moe is kind at heart but gets crazy ideas that sometimes get him into trouble. Therefore others, especially the mothers of the other kids in the street, see him as a naughty bully. In his own opinion, he is a genius.

The author’s style is a playful flow of words and she has a unique ability for placing herself in the world of children.
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 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!

GUDRUN HELGADOTTIR (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. Helgadottir 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 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 Hallgrimsson award for her contribution to the Icelandic tongue.

GUDRUN HELGADOTTIR
TEXT

6+ 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.

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

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.
KRISTIN STEINSDOTTIR
TEXT
(author information on page 11)

HALLA S. THORGEIRSDOTTIR
ILLUSTRATIONS
(author information on page 11)

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
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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
Heart of Stone
Steinhjartað, 2005

Siblings Stina 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
The Art Museum
Listasafnið, 2012

The setting up of The Natural History Museum and The Antiques Museum went well. All that’s left is the top floor where the Art Museum is supposed to be. But the space is a mess and very little to put on display aside from insignificant paintings and ugly statues. Runar’s dad is offered a job abroad and gets his mother to come and finish the job. She recruits help from various places – from unusual friends from near and far, the children in Asgardur, and mysterious natural forces.

The Natural History Museum
Náttúrugripasafnið, 2011

In a dusty shop in New York, Runar is given a mysterious package and asked to take it to Iceland. At the same time his friends receive a strange delivery from a woman they didn’t even know existed. At home in Asgardur preparations for the opening of the Natural History Museum are under way; a stuffed polar bear will be on show, but something exciting is lacking. Something quite unique!

The Antiques Museum
Forngripasafnið, 2010

Runar has just moved to a small village where his father has taken up the post of museum curator. Along with the kids from next door, Runar helps his dad to organise the museum, but then mysterious things begin to come to light.
What awaits them now?

Where will they end up and how will they get through?

What lies ahead of them—that they have no idea about?!

The first book in a awesomely exciting trilogy!

The Runaways on Shadowskerry
Strokbörnin á Skuggaskeri, 2013

Once upon a time Austurhlid and Vesturhlid were peaceful towns where it was good to live in. Now, a war has started and the adults are all behaving very strangely. That’s why the brother and sister Lina and Hringur decide to run away from home on Happadisin, their homemade boat. Their destination is Skuggaker – the creepy island out by the horizon that everybody is afraid of. An exciting story, funny and abundantly decorated.
GUNNAR HELGASON

TEXT

GUNNAR HELGASON (b. 1965) is a popular actor and well known for all kinds of entertaining material for children which has enjoyed great popularity for some years. Amongst other things he has directed a popular children’s program on Icelandic State TV. He received the IBBY Spring Winds award 2013 for his contribution to children’s culture in Iceland. All the books in The Great Football Saga series are written with advice from Reykjavik Child Services as well as the Icelandic Football Association.

Trilogy: The Great Football Saga

Offside in Reykjavík
Rangstæður í Reykjavík, 2013

Heidar Helguson was refereeing the game!!
Heidar Helguson who had been a professional footballer in England for a hundred years was refereeing our game against Tottenham Hotspurs! Could it get any more historic than this? Yes, it could get more historic and it did.

Were you bursting with excitement over Football Fury on Volvano Island? And did your heart sink as you put away Free Kick Fantasy? Then this is the book for you! What happened to Ívar? Is he dead? Did Eivor go professional? Where in the world is Rosa?

Jon Jonsson and his mates from Throttur Football Club have arrived at ReyCup along with boys and girls in third and fourth divisions from all over the country and even from abroad! The tension is incredible, both on the field and off, and the boys discover that the offside rules are complicated, both in football and in life itself.
Free Kick Fantasy
Aukaspyrna á Akureyri, 2012


...The great football adventure ... continues!

Free Kick Fantasy is a thrilling story that Icelandic girls and boys have been waiting for, ever since they finished Football Fury on Volcano Island. Jon Jonsson and his friends continue to fight for victory, both on and off the field. As they say: you lose some, you win some, but you must keep your eye on the ball!

- The number one bestselling children’s novel in Iceland in 2012!

Football Fury on Volcano Island
Viti í Vestmannaeyjum, 2011

A thrilling story about great goal-keepers, doughty defenders, wily wingers, fleet-footed forwards and glorious goals ... but also about other things such as a surly skipper, a corrupt cop, fire-breathing mountains and other even more serious problems that need dealing with in spite of the fact that there is a football tournament going on.

- The number one bestselling children’s novel in Iceland in 2011!
KRISTJANA FRIDBJORNSDOTTIR

KRISTJANA FRIDBJORNSDOTTIR (b. 1976) has a degree from The Teachers University of Iceland. She has worked as primary school teacher in Reykjavik, besides organizing social activities for children and young people. She received the IBBY Spring Winds award 2013 for her contribution to children’s culture in Iceland. Her title *The Travel Log of Olafia Arndis* was selected for the 2014 IBBY Honour List.

“Having read all three books, I now rate Olafia Arndis as one of my favourite fictional characters. A lively, clever girl who truly springs to life on the page.”

MORGUNBLADID DAILY

“Now just go and read my blog, it’ll change your life. I mean it!”

OLAFIA ARNDIS

Olfafia Arndis’s Rules of Life

Lífsreglur Ólafíu Arndísar, 2013

Olfafia Arndis has started blogging. It wasn’t her decision, it was part of a dead boring self-image support project she was ordered to do. But now that she has started she will do it properly, of course! In her blog she writes about all the incredible things she experiences, the extraordinary people she meets (even at the risk of offending some of them), and, last but not least, all sorts of strange rules of life that are sometimes difficult to put into practice.

*Olfafia Arndis’s Rules of Life* is a hilarious story about a rebellious girl whom readers will know from previous titles in the series. *Letters from Flatey Island* earned Kristjana Fridbjornsdottir the Reykjavik Educational Council Children’s Book Prize 2010.
The Travel Log of Olafia Arndis
Reisubók Ólafíu Arndísar, 2012

Two days into the summer vacation, Olafia Arndis’ grandmother appears out of the blue and invites her to come with her on a trip. She says she’s going to travel around in an ancient camper van and visit old friends. At first Olafia is not too keen, but decides to tag along when she is told she can have a brand new tablet computer to keep a travel log. And here we have her travel log, which is not exactly the one her grandmother was expecting!

Olafia Arndis’s Diary
Dagbók Ólafíu Arndísar, 2011

Olafia Arndis is an extremely unlucky girl. No sooner has she escaped from Flatey island (which actually turned out to be more fun than she had expected and in the end not really bad at all) than her parents up sticks and move to Dalvík. Here she starts to write a diary and also to look for work so she can save enough money to pay for the fare to Reykjavík. This very entertaining story is a sequel to Letters from Flatey Island.

Letters from Flatey Island
Flateyjarbréfin, 2010

School is over and all children are happy that the summer holidays have started. Olafia Arndis will stay in Flatey island for the summer, which means she will have to send the home assignments by post to her teacher back in Reykjavík. However, in her letters Olafia Arndis tends to dwell on almost anything rather than the curriculum, as so many things happen to her on the island, even though it has very few houses and hardly any inhabitants.

• The Reykjavík Educational Council Children’s Book Prize 2010
THORGRIMUR THRÁINSSON
TEXT

HALLA S. THÖRGÆIRSDÓTTIR
ILLUSTRATIONS (author information on page 11)

THORGRIMUR THRÁINSSON (b. 1959) is an award-winning author and free-lance journalist. His books for teenagers have been extremely popular in Iceland. He received the Reykjavik Educational Council Children’s Book Prize in 1991, the Visa Cultural Award in 1992 and the Icelandic Children’s Book Award in 1997. Thráinsson was awarded the position of city artist in Reykjavik 2013 for his contribution to children and young peoples culture.

The Kid who Disappeared
Krakkinn sem hvarf, 2012

What is it like to have an insane inventor for a father? Kari usually finds it just fine but the day that the frozen-pipe-experiment goes out of hand, and millions of people laugh at him on YouTube, Kari is hardly the happiest eleven year old on the planet. However, he doesn’t know that his dad is considering considerably more dangerous things in his lab when no-one is looking.

The Kid who Disappeared is a lively and humorous story set in a small village where ghosts run amok, it’s highly dangerous to steal shampoo at the swimming pool, cars drive into the sea in the middle of the night, and it’s best to beware of the unknown.
THORARINN LEIFSSON

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

Grandmother’s Library

Bókasafn ömmu Huldar, 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.

www.grandmotherslibrary.com

- The Reykjavik Educational Council Children’s Book Prize 2009
- Nominated for the Nordic Children’s Book Award
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?

www.fathersbigsecret.com
BRYNDIS BJÖRGVINSDOTTIR

TEXT

BRYNDIS BJÖRGVINSDOTTIR (b. 1982) is an ethnologist by education. She published her first book, Superman Ormar’s Dictionary along with a friend when they were fifteen years of age.

The Fly Who Stopped the War

Flugan sem stöðvaði stríðið, 2011

The houseflies glanced back and forth between the fly on the front page and the commotion of the people. They were all thinking the same thing. No-one in the whole world would be able to explain the goings-on during the night as well as they could. They were the only ones who had seen what happened, with their sophisticated and perceptive housefly eyes. That is why they felt they should try and explain what brought about the end of the war and a housefly ending up on the front pages of all the world’s biggest newspapers.

Kolkex, Hermann Sukker and The Fly are just ordinary houseflies. The sort of flies very few people notice and which hardly ever do anything significant. Until the day they decide to run away from home and seek out the good monks of Nepal.

The Fly Who Stopped the War is an unusual story, both hilarious and deadly serious at the same time; it is about flies, people and war. It was chosen from a large number of scripts that competed for the 2011 Icelandic Children Literary Award.
Gerdur Kristný
TEXT (author information on page 23)

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
- The West Nordic Children’s Book Prize 2010
Ghost Trail
Draugaslóð, 2007

In the deserted highlands two brothers have gone missing in a snowstorm, and Eyvindur Thoruson is determined to find out what’s going on.

Eyvindur, Eyvi to his friends, lives with his grandmother and their two cats in an old house by a lake. Life has been pretty much routine all of his thirteen years so, when Eyvi’s mother turns up out of the blue to invite him to spend the summer in a traveller’s lodge in the highlands, he jumps at the chance. During their journey into Kjolur, terrain of spooky tales of ghosts and outlaws, and the area where the two boys were last seen, Eyvi gets catapulted into a breathtaking adventure.

*Ghost Trail* is an exciting book, abounding with colourful characters, ghost stories, mystery and suspense.

- **West Nordic Children’s Book Prize 2007**
- **Nominated for the Nordic Children’s Book Prize 2009**
- **The Icelandic Women’s Literature Prize 2008**
The Rhyolite Order
Ríólítreklan, 2011

Hrafn has almost finished organizing the community centre’s spring trip to the mountains when he disappears without trace. The youngsters who were planning to go on the trip are devastated – not least his four friends who hang around the community centre most days. In the meantime everything is going haywire in Noí’s home, with elf experts toiling every day to pacify the invisible folk who previously occupied the area. Suddenly the charming Trausti appears out of nowhere, offering to take on Hrafn’s role. On a bright spring morning they set off from school in a coach, but seeds of doubt are everywhere – both on board the coach and amongst those left behind.

*The Rhyolite Order* is a thrilling story, where legendary characters roam at large and it is a good idea to keep a piece of rhyolite in one’s pocket in order to protect oneself from the past.
GUNNAR TH. EGGERTSSON

GUNNAR THEODOR EGGERTSSON (b. 1982) has a degree in literature and cinema. He received the Icelandic Children’s Book Award for his first book, The Stone Animals.

The Stone Creatures
Steinskrípin, 2012

“The land was washed-out and cold as far as the eye could see ... “ Berg wakes up one day and the sun is high in the sky, but everything else is unfamiliar. The world is grey and dull, ruled by the Stone Creatures – terrifying monsters with slimy arms and razor sharp claws ... However, Berg is not alone in the world. A mysterious, cape-clad girl follows him at every turn. She is born into this gritty world and has never known anything but monsters and hardship. They set out on a dangerous journey together with a precious item in a bag – possibly mankind’s only hope to beat the Creatures and reclaim the planet.

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.
HILDUR KNUTSDOTTIR
TEXT

HILDUR KNUTSDOTTIR (b. 1984) volunteered in Guatemala after graduating from college and travelled through Latin America. After that she spent a winter in Berlin and lived in Taiwan for a year, studying Chinese at Chengchi University, Taipei. She has previously published a novel for adults.

The Prophecy
Spádomurinn, 2012

“They simply appear beside children the night after they are born and disappear the night after a person dies.” Sigyn smiled the weariest smile Kolfinna had ever seen. “They are one of the mysteries of life. The wings and the East.”

Kolfinna is fifteen years old and life is full of questions: What is the point of having wings if you can’t use them? What is the threat her parents whisper about out in the shed, when they think she doesn’t hear? And what does it say in the prophecy, which only the adults in the village know?

The Prophecy is a gripping story from an exotic world where mysterious forces seek power and it is the fate of a teenage girl to fight back.
KJARTAN YNGVI BJORNSSON and SNAEBJORN BRYNJARSSON are both born 1984 and have been friends since secondary school. Both are great fans of fantasy fiction. Kjartan has a degree in Literature and is now studying creative writing. Snaebjorn writes for the stage and is currently studying Japanese. *Raven’s Eye* is their first book.

**Dreamsword**

**Draumsverð, 2013**

Near a thousand years ago the seven sages created their seals to imprison the Umberlords, but now they are breaking. The evil wizards are awakening and can once more touch the three worlds. After their pale men and man-eaters decimated the village Vébakki, Ragnar, Breki and Sirja have been fleeing for their lives. Ragnar has discovered that he carries within himself one of the seven seals and with it comes great and terrible magic he must learn to control.

Now their path lies south, into the darkness of the Larvae Swamps and the ruins of Kaernelon, where the bog-witch Hedwig Wurmlord is said to dwell. With the aid of Nanuk, the mysterious hunter from the north, they must face death and seek out Hedwig in the swamps where terrifying monsters await and Sirja begins to hear a familiar song she has never heard before.

*Dreamsword* is the second book in the Three Worlds series, a thrilling saga of blood magic, hidden secrets, and forgotten fiends that threaten all three worlds. The first book, *Raven’s Eye*, won the Icelandic Children’s Literary Award in 2012 as well as the Booksellers Prize for best Young Adult fiction book in the same year.
Almost a thousand years have passed since the Age of Darkness, when the seven sages joined forces and vanquished the Shadows. The dark times are now mostly forgotten. But though human memory has faded, the ancient forces never forget.

The initiation festival is coming soon, the day when the Master of Spells will tell Ragnar, Breki, Sirja, and their peers in the village what their roles and duties are to be. The children should be enjoying their last carefree days in the summer sun, but the future holds different things in store.

The ancient forces that once plunged the world into relentless night have stirred again and their Harpies are afoot. They are seeking something in the village. It is not long before the children are drawn into events that they don’t understand, but soon they realize that their actions will decide the fate of three worlds.

Raven’s Eye is the first book in the Three Worlds series, a thrilling saga of blood-magic, hidden secrets, and forgotten fiends that threaten all three worlds.
When things are looking bad and economists predict a massive financial crisis, Sigrun’s family is lucky - they can crawl into their black boxes and wait for better times. But one day, her box opens and she is confronted by an abandoned city in ruins, with everyone stuck in black boxes waiting for things to get better. Sigrun meets a strange old lady in a house full of children and archaeological artefacts. The old lady tells them a story of a greedy king who conquered the world but yearned to conquer time. With a magical casket, transparent like glass but made of spidersilk, with such a dense weave that even time cannot penetrate the walls, the king can spare his beautiful princess the rainy days, the normal days and the worthless days.

One day a small boy opens the casket and the princess discovers that 20 years have passed, the kingdom is crumbling and the king has gone mad. There seems to be a connexion of some sort between the old woman’s story and Sigrun’s world. She and her friends must find the link, which will hopefully show them how to fix the world.
SIF SIGMARSDOTTIR

TEXT

SIF SIGMARSDOTTIR (b. 1978) is a writer and a freelance journalist. She graduated from the University of Iceland with a BA in history and later attended the University of Reading where she received a MA in children’s literature.

Freya’s Saga: The Wall
Freyju Saga: Múrinn

Will the truth set you free... or imprison you for life?

She wants to know about her past.
He wants to use it for revenge.
The city will kill to keep it secret.
The walled city of Donol is haunted by a decision made a generation ago. When Freya is contacted by an Outsider, who has somehow slipped through the city’s defences, she starts to uncover a family secret she was never meant to learn. But as Freya sets out to discover the truth she is faced with an impossible obstacle: The entire population of Donol. When she is warned that its Leader, Zheng, has sent his Guards to look for her she becomes a fugitive. In a city fenced in with concrete and where no one can be trusted there is only one place to run: Out.

The Wall is the first book in a series called Freya’s Saga, a Dark Tale based on Norse mythology. A dramatic page-turner.
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.
ARNDIS THORARINSDOTTIR
TEXT

ARNDIS THORARINSDOTTIR (b. 1982) has previously published many short stories for children and adults. This is her first novel.

Confessions of a Milk Carton Poet
Játningar mjólkurfernskálds, 2011

It is all-important to make a good first impression. Halla knows this perfectly well! Which is why on the first day at the new school she makes sure her hair is freshly washed and her clothes are carefully chosen. The problem is that the rumour got there before her: She is the drug pusher from the Westside of town and nothing can change that image.

So the only thing is to play along!

- Nominated for the Nordic Children’s Book Prize

THORGRIMUR THRÁINSSON
TEXT (author information on page 38)

Double O Nine
Núll núll 9, 2009

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.

A Matter of Life and Death

Upp á líf og dauða, 2011

It is obvious. Whoever wrote the poem is experiencing a desperate inner struggle and might even have lost the will to live. This is an S.O.S.! But who sent it?

Hronn finds a piece of paper with a very sad poem after a few schoolmates have been to her home to work on a class project. She sets out to find the person who wrote it and lend him, or her, a helping hand, but that is easier said than done. Five of Hronn’s classmates were at her house and she has no way of knowing which one of them left the piece of paper, deliberately or by chance.

Her twin-creep of a brother and her best friend also join the search. But their interest in the mystery soon wears thin, as they get engrossed in something totally different.

A humorous thriller about depression and possible suicide.

Jonina Leosdottir’s novels for young adults have been extremely popular and she received an acknowledgement from IBBY for the trilogy that began with Kisses & Olives. A Matter of Life and Death is a lively and exciting story about a deadly serious matter that many people, sooner or later, encounter.
Me and You  Ég og þú, 2009

Kata is going crazy without her boyfriend in Brighton. She talks about him non-stop. 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.

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

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
VILBORG DAVIDSDOTTIR (b.1965) is the author of popularly acclaimed historical novels, including, among others, *The Raven* and *Audur* which were 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. vilborgd.blogspot.com

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**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.
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. He received the IBBY Iceland Sogusteinn Children's Book Award in 2013.

KRISTIN RAGNA GUNNARSDOTTIR (b. 1968) is a freelance illustrator and artist. She has a degree in literary studies and has worked as a graphic designer and teacher. She received the Dimmalimmi, the Icelandic Illustration Award in 2008.

Havamal – The Words of Odin
Hávamál, 2011

Havamal preserves the words of Odin, who was held supreme among the Norse gods. The poem is preserved in an ancient manuscript made of vellum leaves known as the Royal Book of the Poetic Edda (Codex Regius). Havamal is divided into six parts and Eldjarn revisits the most famous section of this work. The Guest Chapter covers good customs, behaviour and relationships and, among other things, emphasises the cultivation of friendship, appreciation of life’s values and taking care of one’s reputation.

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 (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.

**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 Ragnarok, the end of the world, all of them finely illustrated.

- Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize 2008
- The Icelandic Illustration Award 2008
Brynildur Thorarinsdottir 
RETOLD BY (see author information on page 19)

Margret Laxness 
ILLUSTRATIONS

Margret Laxness (b. 1961) is a children’s book illustrator and graphic-designer.

Laxdaela Saga Laxdæla, 2007

Laxdaela Saga is one of the better known and most popular Icelandic Sagas, for its combination of suspense an 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 Egil’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. Brynildur 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.

• The Nordic Children’s Book Award 2007
  – for the retellings of the three Icelandic Sagas
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 Reykjavík Educational Council Children’s Book Prize in 2004 for Bloodrain.

The Hero Hetjan, 2007
Winter Blood Vetrarvíg, 2005
The Burning Brennan, 2004
Blood Rain Blóðregn, 2003

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 Reykjavík Educational Council Children’s Book prize 2004, as the best Icelandic Children’s Book
VILHELM ANTON JONSSON  

(1978) has a degree in philosophy from the University of Iceland. He is a visual artist and musician, and has hosted a number of popular TV programmes.

Villi’s Science Book  
Víisindabók Villa, 2013

Science-Villi has saved himself and his friends from trouble many times with all kinds of inventions since he is enthusiastically interested in science and his favorite question is: WHY?

In this book, Villi goes far and wide and explains electricity, the sun, rockets, blood, atoms, wind, cryptography and much, much, MUCH more in a simple and fun way. Also in the book there are plenty of great experiments that are easy to do at home.

Villi’s science book is a wonderful way to interest the whole family in our surroundings and the works of wonder that we ourselves and the whole wide world are.
THORSTEINN VILHJALMSSON
JON GUNNAR THORSTEINSSON
TEXT FROM THE ICELANDIC SCIENCENET WEBSITE

THORARINN MAR BALDURSSON
ILLUSTRATIONS (see author information on page 12)

THORSTEINN VILHJALMSSON is a physicist, professor emeritus at the University of Iceland. JON GUNNAR THORSTEINSSON has a degree in literary studies and is the director of the ScienceNet website.

Why do mountains erupt?
Questions and answers about volcanoes
Af hverju gjósa fjöll?, 2011

Why do volcanic eruptions happen?
Do volcanoes always erupt?
Where do most eruptions take place on Earth?
Are there volcanic eruptions in space?
What is so special about the Surtsey and Heimaey eruptions?
What do I need to study to become a volcanologist?
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