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

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.
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 Prize Sogusteinn in 2013. Thorarinn Eldjarn received the cross of the Order of the Falcon for his contribution to Icelandic literature.

SIGRUN ELDJARN (b.1954) has written and illustrated high on forty children’s books. She was the first author to receive the IBBY Iceland Prize Sogusteinn for her literary career in 2007, having received up to that point several awards and recognition for her work, among others the Reykjavik Children’s Literature Prize three times and nominations to the H.C. Andersen Award, The Nordic Council Children's Literature Prize and the West–Nordic Children and Young People's Literature Prize. Sigrun Eldjarn received the Cross of the Order of the Falcon for her contribution to culture for children in Iceland.

Forget-me-not
Gleymmérei

Here is an absolutely delightful picture book with stunning illustrations and wonderful bunch of silly and charming poems for the youngest readers.
Kristin Maria Ingimarsdóttir (b. 1962) studied art and animation, first in Iceland and later in the USA, where she lived between 1984–1994. After a return to Iceland, where she lives now, she has worked on making animation, illustration and graphic design as well as teaching.

Carnival of the Animals
Karnival dýranna

A beautiful book based on Camille Saint-Saëns’ musical composition of the same name, with colourful pictures by Kristin Maria Ingimarsdóttir and lively poetry by Thorarinn Eldjarn. The book comes with a CD of the music performed by an Icelandic chamber group.
Madcomhere
Óðhalaringla

Madcomhere is a fun and peculiar creature who comes to life in three of Thorarinn Eldjarn’s hilarious books of poetry with stunning illustrations by his sister Sigrun Eldjarn: Madfly, World Ring and Comet. In Madcomhere life as we know it is turned utterly on its head and goes wild; cars turn into sofas on wheels, fire hydrants wear plimsolls, and cows hover over ice in a skating dance, to mention but a few incidents. Madcomhere is a poetry book that all lovers of original and fun verse will delight in.

- Honorary Award from The Reykjavik Educational Council (Madfly)
- Nomination for the Nordic Council Children and Young People’s Literature Prize (Madfly)

“This is a delight to read.”
KILJAN NATIONAL TV
Enter this wonderful collection of nonsense poems that will delight children and adults alike with their creative wordplay and funny rhymes.

This lovely book contains sixteen amusing poems by Thorarinn Eldjarn, each under its own metre. His sister, Sigrun Eldjarn, illustrates the book with vibrant oil paintings. The book is accompanied by a CD where Bara Grimsdottir chants the poems to Icelandic rime-songs.
The Seasons
Árstiðirnar

The illustrated verse and poetry of siblings Sigrun and Thorarinn Eldjarn has enjoyed great popularity in Iceland over the years. This is a hugely entertaining addition to their collection. The book evokes everything from the summer sun, sleet, snow men and Christmas, autumn, birds, and cold spells in the spring.

“This book will be enjoyed by readers of all ages; you couldn’t make a better choice.”

MORGUNBLADID DAILY

Wordy Birds and Navel Lint
Fuglaþrugl og nafnahrafl

For over two decades, Thorarinn and Sigrun Eldjarn’s books of poetry have delighted Icelandic children of all ages. Wordy Birds and Navel Lint holds 21 new and lively poems on all manner of things: various birds as well as a scarecrow; horses, dogs and pirates; knights, lions and dragons – not to forget the navel lint, which no poet has deigned to explore before.

“This book deserves a place among the greatest works of art when an inventory is made, one of the most gratifying collections which the valley of Svarfadardalur has given to us over the decades. May they long continue to echo and rhyme.”

FRETTATIMINN WEEKLY
Hafsteinn Hafsteinsson
ILLUSTRATIONS

Bjarki Karlsson
TEXT

HAFSTEINN HAFSTEINSSON (b. 1984) studied illustration at the Willem De Kooning Academy in Rotterdam. His first book, No One Saw the Dog, was nominated for The Nordic Council Literary Prize for Children’s and Young People’s Books 2017.

BJARKI KARLSSON (b. 1965) is a linguist and best selling poet.

But We Are Friends
En við erum vinir, 2018

The dog and the cat are best friends, having embarked on many an adventure together. When they finally return to Earth, they discover a mysterious place full of strange, tall creatures who think that dogs and cats are enemies.

Hafsteinn Hafsteinsson’s widely acclaimed No One Saw the Dog was nominated for the Reykjavik Children’s Book Award and the Nordic Council’s Children and Young People’s Literature Prize. But We Are Friends is a new story about the same characters, this time exploring the meaning of friendship.
No One Saw the Dog
Enginn sá hundinn, 2016

The children are delighted when they open one of their Christmas presents and discover a frisky puppy hidden inside. But the following year, their gifts are even more exciting. When all the presents have been opened, no one seems to see the dog anymore. And so, he has to take matters into his own paws! No One Saw the Dog is a delightful story told in verse that parents and kids will enjoy reading together again and again. The Icelandic Dr. Seuss!

- Nominated for The Nordic Council Literary Prize for Children’s and Young People’s Books 2017
- Nominated for the Reykjavik Children’s Literature Prize for the best illustrations 2016
BODVAR GUDMUNDSSON (b.1939) is a prolific writer of drama, poetry, novels, and children’s books, although he is best known as a novelist. He has done numerous translations of writers such as Roald Dahl and Heinrich Böll. He was a teacher and guest lecturer at the University of Bergen but has since then moved to Denmark, where he is living and writing.

ASLAUG JONSDOTTIR (b.1963) received Reykjavik Children’s Literature Prize for her work as illustrator in 2000, and was nominated for the Hans Christian Andersen Award same year. Her illustrations for The Story of the Blue Planet with text by Andri Snaer Magnason were selected for the IBBY Honor List in 2002 and she received the West-Nordic Children’s Book Prize and the UKLA Award for this title along with the author. She has been nominated to the 2015 Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award for her work.

Children’s Verses
Krákkakvæði

These amusing poems for children present many strange and unforgettable characters: A king that sails in a tub on the China Sea, the grandmother who does not understand magic of computer games, the cat Drat, countless dogs in Parliament, and Dan’s grandfather who all want to ban. The colourful adventure world of the poems is rendered in stunning illustrations.
Wordsmith
Ljóðpundari, 2018

Wordsmith is a brilliantly fun children’s book of poetry. Here you can read about a clever horse, friends Urg and Surg, an elephant in a china shop, and a stick-straight banana. You'll also find a ridiculous riddle and a bunch of names you can read both backward and forward.

- Icelandic Booksellers’ Prize - Children’s Book of the Year 2018
- Nominated for the Reykjavik Children's Literature Prize for the Best Illustrations 2019
KRISTIN R. GUNNARSDOTTIR ILLUSTRATIONS

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 Dimmalimm, the Icelandic Illustration Award, in 2008.

The Sybil’s Prophecy
Völsápá

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.

- Nominated for The Icelandic Illustration Award 2005

Havamal – The Words of Odin
Hávamál

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.

- Selected for the 2014 IBBY Honour List for the illustrations