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PICTURE BOOKS
ILLUSTRATED
FICTION
YOUNG ADULT

New
Children’s
books

Forlagid Rights Agency
BIRGITTA HAUKDAL  (b.1979) is a celebrated pop singer who has represented Iceland in the Eurovision song contest. The Lara-series is ever popular and now counts ten titles.

Lara in the Countryside
Lára fer í sveitina, 2019

Lara is a cheerful child who loves learning new things. Her stuffed animal Leo is with her every step of the way, and together they have all sorts of adventures.

One hot summer day, Lara goes with her friend Atli to visit his grandparents. They are farmers who have fixed up an old turf house to show to tourists. In the countryside there are many interesting things to see and there are lots of fun things for Lara the animal lover to do.

New Year’s Eve with Lara
Gamlárskvöld með Láru, 2019

Lara is a cheerful child who loves learning new things. Her stuffed animal Leo is with her every step of the way, and together they have all sorts of adventures.

New Year’s Eve is one of the most festive nights of the year. Lara’s family goes to a delightful party and after dinner everyone goes to see the bonfires. Leo disappears suddenly in the crowd of people, and Lara sets off to find him again.
SIGRUN ELDJARN
TEXT
SIGRUN ELDJARN (b.1954) has written and illustrated high on fifty children’s books. She was the first author to receive the IBBY Iceland Prize Sogusteinn for her literary career in 2007, having received up to that point several awards and recognition for her work, among others the Reykjavik Children’s Literature Prize three times and nominations to the H.C. Andersen Award and The Nordic Council Children’s Literature Prize. Sigrun Eldjarn received the Cross of the Order of the Falcon for her contribution to culture for children in Iceland.

Victoria in a Jiffy
Sigurfljóð í grænum hvelli, 2019

One day, a flying green lizard appears in Victoria’s garden in need of a little help. Afterwards, she’s ready to help Victoria save the earth that too many people have been treating badly.

Victoria in a Jiffy is award-winning author Sigrun Eldjarn’s third book about this helpful super-girl.
AEVAR THOR BENEDIKTSSON (b.1984) has become popular for his entertaining children's books and programmes, on television and radio. He has won awards for scripts and stage plays as well as a recognition for his work in science and education. His book Your Very Own Fable won the Icelandic Bookseller Prize and the Children's Book Prize as the best children's book of the year. In 2017 he was selected for the Hay Festival's Aarhus 39 List – A Collection of the 39 Best Emerging Writers for Young People from Across Europe. aevarwritesbooks.com

BERGRUN IRIS SAEVARSDOTTIR (b.1985) received the IBBY Iceland's Children's Literature Prize 2016 for her contribution to children's culture in Iceland.

The Extremely Dangerous Alphabet
Stórhættulega stafrófið, 2019

Do you think that letters are just lines on a page? Well then just wait until you get to Alphabet street!

Violet is having a hard time learning her letters. Actually, she thinks that anything to do with reading sounds frightful! One day she decides to hold a yard sale and happens to pass by a curious street. Could it be that the houses there look like letters of the alphabet? And why are the people who live there so odd?

The Extremely Dangerous Alphabet is a quirky and entertaining little book by Aevar Thor Benediktsson, masterfully illustrated by Bergrun Iris Saevarsdottir.
Hey you!

Have you heard about Mr. Halli?

How he just disappeared one day and how no one knew where he went?

No? You haven’t?

Well then keep your eyes peeled dear reader, because this is a story for you.

Sólberg7 daydreams about becoming a rapper and forgets to listen to his teacher; Melkorka Marsibil wants nothing more than to sing and dance; and Artúr sees the world in pictures when letters start to fly around. None of this is popular in school, and one morning all three are sent directly to the resource room – where there’s a new teacher, Mr. Halli. He is unlike any other teacher the kids have ever met. The worst is that he soon disappears, as if he has simply gone up in smoke!

The Fantasticals by Kristjana Fridbjornsdottr is a story you’ll have no trouble speed-reading through, since it’s both funny and exciting. On top of that, there are lots of great pictures by cartoonist Halldor Baldursson.
AEVAR THOR BENEDIKTSSON
TEXT
EVANA KISA
ILLUSTRATIONS

AEVAR THOR BENEDIKTSSON (see author information on page 4)

EVANA KISA is a much sought after Icelandic cartoonist who is perhaps most known for her work on Lazytown. She has also published an artbook in the US and Europe. She is the illustrator behind all the “Your Very Own”-titles. evana.deviantart.com

The Gingerbread House
Piparkökuhúsið, 2019

The Gingerbread House is all about a scrumptious house made of gingerbread and sweets, a cheerful gingerbread man, a horrible witch, a pair of prisoners — and YOU. Because you decide what happens!

Just remember, if you don’t like how the story ends, you can always try again – there are more than ten different endings!

The Haunted House
Draugagangur, 2019

The Haunted House is about a spooky house and its eccentric inhabitants: stirring ghosts and slumbering spirits, mysterious dolls, spoiled milk – and YOU. Because you decide what happens!

Just remember, if you don’t like how the story ends, you can always try again – there are more than ten different endings!

SOFTCOVER
72 pp
14 x 21 cm
English translation available
ARNDIS THORARINSDOTTIR (b.1982) is an Icelandic writer and translator. She has a degree in comparative literature from the University of Iceland and a postgraduate degree in Writing for Performance from Goldsmiths College, University of London. Thorarinsdottir has written six books for children and published short stories and articles in various Icelandic magazines.

SIGMUNDUR BREIDFJORD (b.1985) is an Icelandic Art Director and Illustrator based in Canada. He co-founded the indie game development company Porcelain Fortress and has illustrated numerous children’s books.

The Underpants Spies
Nærбукснанёзнарнир, 2019

In Boxerville life still revolves around underpants. In the old factory, every day is full of fun under the firm hand of Granny Lena. Now that she’s on vacation however, something mysterious is going on. A woman who claims to be a custodian locks Gutti and Olina outside. When they’ve finally broken their way in, they notice that various things are missing, like Snaefridur the mother rabbit, and the framed lace underpants that were sewn for a king long ago. The friends clearly need to figure things out!

*The Underpants Spies* is the independent sequel to *The Underpants Factory* by Arndis Thorarinsdottir and was warmly received when it came out at Christmas 2018.
An Unexpected Conclusion
Óvænt endalok, 2019

Warning! This book contains everything dangerous from all the other books – and more!

In Aevar the Scientist’s adventure books for children, Aevar has tricked dinosaurs in the highlands, dealt with artificial intelligence, made contact with aliens and been victorious over a superhero version of himself. But though all of those stories had happy endings, there’s nothing to say that these oddball opponents can’t return!

This is the final book in Benediktsson’s extremely popular series that has been nominated for an Icelandic Literature Prize, a DeBary Children’s Science Book Award, and an In Other Worlds award. With this book, Benediktsson fulfills his promise to tens of thousands of Icelandic children who took part in his reading challenges five years in a row, and who read collectively over 330,000 books.

Previous titles in the series:
ATTACK OF THE DINOSAURS
ATTACK OF THE ALIENS
ATTACK OF THE ROBOTS
ATTACK OF THE SUPERHEROES
SIGRUN ELIASDOTTIR TEXT
SIGMUNDUR BREIDFJORD ILLUSTRATIONS

SIGRUN ELIASDOTTIR (b.1978) lives in Borgarfjordur and enjoys the company of people and animals. This is the first book she has written for children, but she also once published a book about her grandfather.

SIGMUNDUR BREIDFJORD (see information on page 7)

The Search for Spring
Leitin að vorinu, 2019

One year, spring doesn’t come to North Island. Clumsy Hugo and tough-guy Alex undertake a long journey to get to the bottom of the problem. Danger follows them every step of the way and they will need both courage and ingenuity when they have to battle ice dragons, sea demons, giant zombie wolves – and a seriously bad-tempered unicorn.

The Search for Spring is a thrilling and hilarious new fantasy for eight to twelve year old readers. This is the first book of three about these unlikely friends and their adventure to save their home.

HARDCOVER
144 pp
14 x 21 cm
Sumarlidi og Soldis have moved with their parents into a basement suite to be with the asylum-seeker Karitas. They devour the many books they find there to discover what life was like in the old days when people had phones and computers and bicycles. But in between the books are also hidden high-tech messages from the future! The bad guys in Heidardalur valley haven’t forgotten anything and send spies to find out what’s going on down in the basement.

_The Copper Egg_ is the continuation of _The Silver Key_ which won the Icelandic Literature Prize for Children’s literature, and which was also nominated for both the Reykjavik Children’s Literature Prize and the Nordic Council Children and Young People’s Literature Prize.
THORVALDUR THORSTEINSSON (1960-2013) was one of the most versatile and productive artists in Iceland. He wrote several plays, for stage, radio and television and published books for both children and adults and received awards both for visual arts and writing.

LINDA OLAFSDOTTIR (b.1978) holds a BFA degree from the Icelandic Academy of Arts and an MFA degree in Illustration from the Academy of Art University in San Francisco. lindaolafsdottir.com

Betterby
Blíðfinnur, 2019

Betterby enjoys living in his little house. The forest is buzzing with life and the adventures are endless. The forest-dwellers are an extremely varied group; many are kind and playful, but some are mischievous and even evil.

Betterby’s world is the incomparable creation of Thorvaldur Thorsteinsson which first came out in four books from 1998 to 2004 and was very well recieved. This volume contains all the stories about Betterby with new illustrations by Linda Olafsdottir.

In each of the books, Betterby undertakes hazardous journeys that test his courage, ingenuity and friendship.

- Reykjavik Children’s Literature Prize 1998 for the Children’s Book of the Year 1998 (My name is Betterby)
- The Icelandic Booksellers’ Prize 2000 for the Best Children’s Book of the Year (Are you Betterby?)
- Nominated for The Nordic Council Children and Young People’s Literature Prize 2002 (for the Betterby books)
- The Icelandic Booksellers’ Prize 2002 for the Best Children’s Book of the Year (Betterby – the Journey to Targia)
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. In the past few years Helgason has published several extremely popular children's books, including the five-book series *The Great Football Saga* and the four-part series about Stella and her family. *My Bonkers Mum!* won him the Icelandic Literature Prize and the Children's Choice Book Prize has been bestowed upon him six times. In this book, Helgason creates a brand new, exciting literary world in which it is easy to get lost. [gunnarhelgason.co.uk](http://gunnarhelgason.co.uk)

The Dream Snatcher

*Draumaþjófurinn*, 2019

In Harbour-land everything is as it should be, and the rats know their role in life: Collectors collect food, Spies spy, Battle rats keep enemies away, and Eaters eat and enjoy themselves. At the top of the pack is Captain Tusk who controls them all. But one day her daughter, Giant-Ears Mainchild Gorgeous Rat-fairy stages a revolt and the story takes an unexpected turn, following our hero into the City where danger lurks behind every corner and exotic rats run wild. The Dream Snatcher himself is sent to rescue her – or die trying!
Battle in Barcelona
Barist í Barcelona, 2019

Football buddies Jon, Ivar, and Skuli have arrived at FC Barcelona’s Football Academy. The aim is clear: get an offer to stay on with the team or secure a contract with another major team. It doesn’t hurt that Rosa is in Barcelona at the same time, competing with the National Under 16 team.

Life couldn’t get any better – well, if it wasn’t for the mysterious Catalanian and the secret that Jon has to keep.

THE GREAT FOOTBALL STORY... RETURNS!

Battle in Barcelona is an independent sequel to The Great Football Story by best-selling author Gunnar Helgason. His previous books Football Fury on Volcano Island, Free Kick Fantasy, Offside in Reykjavík and Goal Kick in Gothenburg, all received great reviews and a popular movie and television series were made based on the first of these books.
Your Very Own Video Game
Þinn eigin tölvuleikur, 2019

A BOOK THAT WORKS LIKE A COMPUTER GAME — YOU DECIDE WHAT HAPPENS NEXT!

Your Very Own Video Game is the sixth book in one of the most popular children’s series in Iceland in the past few years. The previous titles have won and been nominated for several awards.

Your Very Own Video Game is different than other books. Here, you are the hero and you control the action. You are sucked into a dangerous video game and in order to get back home you must fight an army of zombies, escape flesh-eating plants, tame a dragon and win a national game of football — among other things!

• Over 110 different endings
• Endings include everything from eternal happiness to sudden death
• Adventurous fun for all children
BRYNHILDUR THORARINSDOTTIR  (b.1970) is a prolific and multi-award winning author of books for children and teens. She lectures at the Faculty of Education at the University of Akureyri and is the head of the Children’s Literature Centre. Brynhildur grew up in the Breidholt neighborhood.

Miss Football
Ungfrú fótbolti, 2019

“Gerda?” Asked Ninna as we strolled home from the corner store. “Do you think there will ever be football practice for girls?”

I rolled the ball ahead of me while I thought about it. Of course I hoped that one day girls would be allowed to practice football, but I thought it was unlikely.

In the summer of 1980, nothing is more important to friends Gerda and Ninna than football and more football. When the sports association in town rejects these two talented thirteen year-old athletes because football practice is for boys only, they form their own football team, challenging a society that has not given girls the same opportunities as boys.

Miss Football is an entertaining and optimistic story for 11 to 15 year-old readers about friendship, solidarity, and determination. The Breidholt neighborhood serves as a backdrop for the story – it is buzzing with children and full of half-built houses. There are countless opportunities to have an adventure during a summer when television stations go on hiatus and the first female president in the world is elected.
The Secrets of the Abandoned House
Rannsóknin á leyndardómum
Eyðihússins, 2019

People say that someone still lives in the abandoned house even though Rolf was carried out in a coffin last year.

Gudjon G. Georgsson has just moved to Swanby and has the abandoned house on his mind. His friend Milla never saw her neighbor Rolf, the richest man in the village. He was an unfortunate, bad-tempered man who didn’t seem to like other people, since he was rarely seen out of doors. But one day, a mysterious wooden box appears on the steps of the library along with a letter from Rolf giving the villagers three clues – and an opportunity to discover the secrets surrounding his life and treasure. It will be dangerous, and certainly not easy, but it’s a good thing that Gudjon and Milla are on the same side.

The Secrets of the Abandoned House by Snaebjorn Arngrimsson won the Icelandic Children’s Literature Prize in 2019. As with all the best children’s books, it is hard to put down.
KRISTIN HELGA GUNNARSDOTTIR (b.1963) has in the past years established herself as one of the most popular writers in Iceland. Her title *Be Invisible - the Story of Ishmael’s Escape* was nominated for the Nordic Council Children and Young People’s Literature Prize. Gunnarsdottir has received and been nominated for Reykjavik Children’s Literature Prize and four of her books have been chosen Book of the Year by library visitors of 6 to 12 years.

The Iceland Mountain Factory
Fjallaverksmiðja Íslands, 2019

Although the seven newly graduated mountaineering students cram themselves into the same car outside the highschool in Hofn, they are each going their own way. Fate takes them all to the same old army barrack near Jokulsarlon Glacier Lagoon, however, where they found The Iceland Mountain Factory – a utopian society where nature takes precedence. In this free state they instruct and build, cook, knit, brew, love and dream; and their lives are streamed live online, where more and more people are watching. One day, however, Emma is found with life-threatening injuries in the lagoon, and everything changes. Will her friends ever know what happened to her?
HILDUR KNUTSDOTTIR
TEXT

HILDUR KNUTSDOTTIR (b.1984) has garnered widespread attention and awards with her books *Winter Dark* and *Winter Frost*, which have been translated into several languages and are being turned into a television series. *The Witch* is the sequel to *The Lion*, which won the Reykjavik Children’s Literature Prize and was nominated for the Icelandic Literature Prize. Knutsdottir has written many popular books for young adults and garnered much critical praise.

The Witch
Nornin, 2019

Alma Khan doesn’t know why she, a nineteen year-old employee in a greenhouse in Hellisheidi heath, has been offered a job in the private greenhouse of the world-famous Dr. Olga Ducaróva. She thinks it might have something to do with her grandmother Kria, who knew Ducaróva from their infamous expedition to Mars. When Alma finally meets the mysterious Indra, her life is turned irrevocably upside down. The year is 2096 and nature is unpredictable. The old downtown core has been fenced off and rotted houses lean along the shoreline. One of them was owned by Alma’s grandmother, but no one understands why it is so important to her.
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