

2021

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ANNA HAFTHORSDOTTIR
ARNALDUR INDRIDASON
ASA MARIN
BENNY SIF ISLEIFSDOTTIR
BJORN HALLDORSSON
EINAR KARASON
EINAR LOVDAHL
EINAR MAR GUDMUNDSSON
EIRIKUR ORN NORDDAHL
HALLGRIMUR HELGASON
INGOLFUR EIRIKSSON
ISAK HARDARSON
IMPOSTOR POETS
SIGRUN PALSDOTTIR
STEINUNN SIGURDARDOTTIR
THORARINN ELDJARN

A stirring novel about the complexity of family relationships, trauma and the absence of communication, but also about love and life.

Anna Hafthorsdottir Counting to A Million

Að telja upp í milljón, novel, 2021

On the day her boyfriend leaves her, Rakel's world is turned upside down. The news comes as a shock for Rakel having grown up in difficult circumstances and now being estranged from her family and with few friends. But just before she completely goes to pieces, she gets a surprise visit. 167 pp

Forlagid's New Voices Manuscript Prize 2021

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Anna Hafthorsdottir (b.1988) works as an actress and scriptwriter. *Counting to a Million* is her first novel after having published short stories and poetry. The novel was one of two books that won Forlagid's New Voices manuscript competition in 2021.



„It's not often that books leave their reader so touched and so satisfied at the same time.“

MORGUNBLADID DAILY



Arnaldur Indridason treads a new path with an intriguing story based on actual events and characters. A compelling human drama in a remarkable narrative that is unique among the author's works.

Arnaldur Indridason The King and the Clockmaker

Sigurverkið, historical novel, 2021

An Icelandic clockmaker works on repairing a splendid old astronomical clock in the palace of the king of Denmark. One evening, he is paid a visit by the monarch himself, Christian VII, who is still nominally head of the kingdom, but is considered not to be in full possession of his senses and has been pushed aside by his son and court. During their nocturnal talks, the watchmaker tells His Majesty the sad story of his father and foster mother, who were executed by the order of the previous king, Christian's father.

The King and the Clockmaker is set in the 18th century in both the southern part of the Westfjords in Iceland and in Copenhagen. It tells a complex and tragic story in a powerful and moving exposition of the bitter fates of Icelandic commoners and the authority to which they are subject. 315 pp

English sample translation available

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Arnaldur Indridason (b.1961) has been Iceland's most popular author for decades. He has the rare distinction of having won the Nordic Crime Novel Prize two years running. He is also the winner of the highly respected and world famous CWA Gold Dagger Award for the top crime novel of the year in the English language, *Silence of the Grave*. His books have been translated into over forty languages, and have sold in more than 15 million copies, and have won numerous well-respected prizes and received rave reviews all over the world.

A captivating story set in a distant place where the people are intriguing, nature is beautiful and food is delicious.

Asa Marin Halfway Around the Globe

Yfir hálfan hnöttinn, novel, 2021

She was overcome by sleep as the pill started to work. The last things that ran through her mind before she drifted off were her friend Eva's words: "Have you gone totally mad? You can't just go halfway around the globe trying to chase that scumbag!"

Julia is on a plane en route to Vietnam. She has made a sudden decision to follow a hunch. A feeling. She hopes to be greeted with a proposal. Surely Ari wasn't breaking up with her, with the note he left on the kitchen counter, just before their ten-year anniversary?

320 pp

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Asa Marin (b. 1977) is an elementary school teacher and has travelled around the world as a tour guide. She has previously published the novel *The Path of the Wind – Buen Camino*, about a pilgrimage along the Camino de Santiago, as well as poetry books and short stories. *Halfway Around the Globe* is a fictional travelogue.

"Asa Marin plays her cards well ... the book is well-written ... hilarious in some places."

MORGUNBLADID DAILY (ON THE PATH OF THE WIND)

"Halfway Around the Globe is the perfect summer read!"

KATRIN LILJA, LESTRARKLEFINN

A captivating novel of colorful characters, giant pavlova's, the relationship between people and nature, love and strife.



Benny Sif Isleifsdottir

Depths

Djúpið, novel, 2021

It's 1975, the year of the woman in Iceland, and biology student Valborg has gotten a summer job through a regional development fund to jumpstart the social calendar and increase job opportunities in the fragile, rural community of Djupid with the help of the locals. Valborg is whip-smart but no social butterfly when it comes to dealing with others, and sharing a living space with her coworkers at the local boarding school proves to be a challenge. She comes face-to-face with a reality in which women are expected to make the coffee and wait hand and foot on the men who make the decisions. Even in the midst of the year of the woman. Her summer stay in the Westfjords makes it clear that the individual is no more fragile than the community, and within her are untold depths to be found.

Benny Sif Isleifsdottir has built a reputation for her novels about the working-class women of Iceland and their ceaseless fight for a seat at the table. 314 pp

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Benny Sif Isleifsdottir (b.1970) has written for children as well as adults. She completed a Master's degree in Folkloristics from the University of Iceland in addition to a certificate program in Youth and Community Studies from Saint Martin's College. In 2018 she received an Emerging Writer grant from the Icelandic Literature Center for her first novel. These grants are awarded yearly to assist in publishing novels by authors just taking their first steps into the world of writing, and to encourage them to continue down this path. Her novel, *Daughters*, was nominated for the European Union Literature Prize 2021.

A compelling story about life and death, about the struggle to hold onto memories and make the most of time when time is quickly running out.

Bjorn Halldorsson

Route One

Stol, novel, 2021

We've been talking about going on this camping trip ever since I came home, but I never expected anything to come of it.

Baddi is an aimless young man who returns home to Iceland to care for his terminally ill father, Hordur. A tumor has robbed him of almost everything he once took for granted and father and son now find their roles reversed. Together, they drive out of Reykjavik in an old Suzuki jeep, but their trip is beset with troubles from the start. Hordur is quickly losing his faculties, his memory, and his language, and Baddi is ill-prepared for the circumstances and the responsibility he bears for his helpless father.

This heartfelt, engaging and yet gently humorous narrative shines a light on a dysfunctional parent-child relationship and one son's struggle to cope with an impossible situation – and say goodbye to his father.

195 pp

English sample translation available

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Bjorn Halldorsson (b.1983) studied English and American Literature at the University of East-Anglia in Norwich and has an MFA in Creative Writing from the University of Glasgow. During his studies in Glasgow, he taught creative writing seminars at the university and took part in the city's literature festival, AyeWrite!

Along with working as a writer, translator and journalist, Bjorn has directed panels at festivals such as the PEN World Voices Festival in New York – where he resided from 2016–2019. His short stories have been published by literary journals in Iceland and Scotland and have also appeared in translation in English, German, Italian and Hebrew.

"The book is written in the style of the road novel ... we are reminded of the importance of uttering the unspoken words simmering beneath the surface, in order to come to terms with the death of our parents and to be able to determine the future of our own self."

NATIONAL BROADCASTING SERVICE



The spellbinding story of a devastating flight accident by the far north sea, a fateful rescue mission, and its effects on the people who take part.

Einar Karason Heavy Clouds

pung ský, novel, 2021

... it's like there is a darkness enveloping him, ever since, it's always overcast around him.

The spellbinding story of a devastating accident by the far north sea, a fateful rescue mission, and its effects on the people who take part. On a heavy spring day, he stands on the shore below the town when a large passenger plane appears out of a thick cloud. The people in the windows are waving. Later that day it is reported that the plane is missing.

Farmers set off by boat to search for the plane and the boy goes with them. In a nearby fjord, debris has been spotted in the mountains and a search party goes ashore and ventures up the steep slope, the boy leading, quick on his feet. What he finds at the edge of the ridge is indescribable. But there is one little light of life that he must not let go out.

Karason set a new tone in *Storm Birds*, released in 2018, which enjoyed great success. The Sunday Times named it the best translated fiction of the year 2020, and it won a prestigious Swedish translation award in 2019. In *Heavy Clouds* Karason follows a similar historical path, loosely based on true events. 120 pp

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Einar Karason (b.1955) is a novelist and one of the most popular authors and scriptwriters of his generation; best known for his *Devils' Isle trilogy*. His novel *Fury* (2009) was nominated for the Nordic Council Literature Prize and awarded the Icelandic Literary Prize. Foreign publishers showed tremendous interest in his latest novel *Storm Birds* and the rights have already been sold in several countries.



„Heavy Clouds is a dense and powerful story that shines a light into the depths of the human experience.“

JORUNN SIGURDARDOTTIR, NATIONAL BROADCASTING SERVICE

Einar Lovdahl

In the Midst of the Crowd

Í miðju mannhafi, short stories, 2021

Eight short stories from contemporary life colored with warmth, humor, wistfulness and a candid approach to masculinity: the desperation to grow a beard, cringe-inducing dates and how to humiliate others for fun and sport. The book is Einar Lovdahl's first work of fiction and one of two books that won Forlagid's New Voices manuscript contest in 2021. 112 pp

Forlagid's New Voices Manuscript Prize 2021

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Einar Lovdahl (b.1991) holds a degree in Icelandic from the University of Iceland and has worked as a journalist but is also involved in the music world. A German translation of one of his stories was included in an anthology of Nordic short stories released by the University of Greifswald in 2016. Late winter 2018 saw the release of *Aron - My Story*, the life story of Aron Einar Gunnarsson captain of Iceland's national soccer team, which was recorded by Einar.

*"Truly gripping and sincere writing.
A dazzling debut!"*

ARI ELDJARN

"The eight short stories are neatly written, realistic and touch on contemporary themes that are at the fore these days. ... Lovdahl's debut bodes well, I'd say; he crafts agile prose and has a good command of the short story form. ... The style is effortless and the narratives feel right in their realism ... Most importantly, however, the stories deal with topics that are relevant today and offer unprejudiced examinations of such phenomena as masculinity from multiple perspectives; perpetrators and victims of both sexes, and this revelation or deconstruction of masculinity is well done in my opinion."

GAUTI KRISTMANNSSON, VIDSJA,
ICELANDIC NATIONAL BROADCASTING SERVICE

Stories about communication and masculinity from multiple perspectives, about people facing various manifestations of the "missing piece".

A remarkable portrayal of an era, conjuring up a vibrant picture of society and the spirit of the early 19th century.

Einar Mar Gudmundsson Poetic Criminology

Skáldleg afbrotafræði, historical novel,
2021

New ideas are emerging in the world as the Age of Enlightenment takes hold, even in tiny fishing villages at the edge of civilization. Priests and the local authorities still decide the fate of the working classes, but the people are becoming aware of the injustice in their circumstances and are now poised to take action. In Tangavik, a group has hatched a plan to steal from the rich, but there are other forces at play: a storm surge crushes homes and decimates a community, ghosts return to exact their toll, ill-fated love blossoms against the odds...

Numerous storylines emerge: joy and heartbreak, persecution and liberation, historical insights tinged with the supernatural, dazzling characters and the gamut of human imagination, from beautiful to terrifying — all woven together by the author in a dense and complex web, as he is known to do so well. 232 pp

SOLD TO Denmark (Lindhardt & Ringhof)

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Einar Mar Gudmundsson (b.1954) is one of the most widely translated Icelandic authors born in the postwar period. Gudmundsson has received many awards and distinctions for his books, such as the Norwegian Bjørnson Prize, the Scharnberg Memorial Award in Denmark, The Karen Blixen Medal, and The Giuseppe Acerbi Literary Prize in Italy. In 2012 Einar Mar Gudmundsson received the Swedish Academy's Nordic Prize, dubbed "The Little Nobel", for his contribution to literature.



In Earnest, Eirikur Orn Norddahl works at the threshold of fiction and reality to discuss repudiation, punishment and forgiveness.

Eirikur Orn Norddahl Earnest

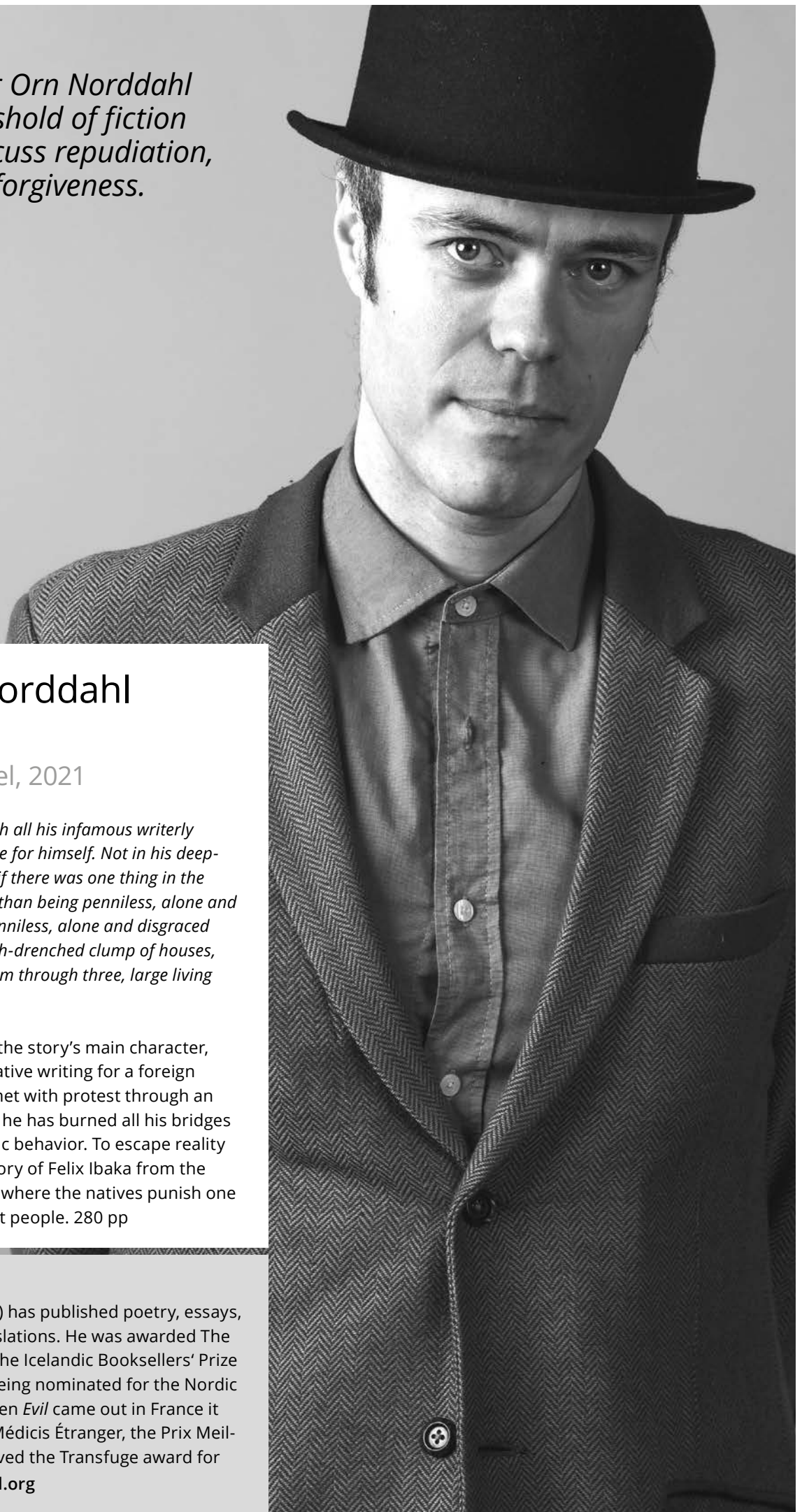
Einlægur Önd, novel, 2021

Eirikur Orn could not have, with all his infamous writerly prowess, imagined a worse fate for himself. Not in his deepest bouts of self-pity. Because if there was one thing in the world that Eirikur hated more than being penniless, alone and disgraced then it was being penniless, alone and disgraced in Reykjavik, that pathetic slush-drenched clump of houses, whose image now assaulted him through three, large living room windows ...

When Eirikur Orn Norddahl, the story's main character, accepts a teaching job in creative writing for a foreign corporation, his decision is met with protest through an anonymous threat. And now he has burned all his bridges through his writing and public behavior. To escape reality he sinks into his work, the story of Felix Ibaka from the fictional country of Arbitrea, where the natives punish one another by throwing bricks at people. 280 pp

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Eirikur Orn Norddahl (b.1978) has published poetry, essays, fiction, a cookbook and translations. He was awarded The Icelandic Literary Prize and The Icelandic Booksellers' Prize for his novel *Evil*, as well as being nominated for the Nordic Council's Literary Award. When *Evil* came out in France it was shortlisted for the Prix Médicis Étranger, the Prix Meilleur Livre Étranger and received the Transfuge award for best Nordic fiction. norddahl.org



Hallgrímur Helgason Sixty Kilos of Knockouts

Sextíu kíló af kjaftshöggum, novel,
2021

The stand-alone sequel to the award-winning novel *Sixty Kilos of Sunshine*. The story begins in Segulfjord in 1906. Gestur Eilífsson and his people move into an old turf house at Eyrin in Segulfjord. The herring-filled summers tumble by thanks to the Norwegians and the chaos that comes with them, but our story's hero finds that the better times plod along far too slowly. He's the 18-year-old breadwinner for a household of five in bitter poverty and life is a slog, but there are moments of brightness as well like the unexpected joy of love. He finally sees a way to a better life when the Norwegian herring kings sweep in with an offer to buy the old Skridujördin land.

With this book Hallgrímur Helgason continues to portray the peculiar journey of Icelanders from dank turf huts to electrified living rooms. The reader is whisked away into a dance on the herring pier under a churning rhythm that echoes in the mind long after the book is closed, as Helgason has, yet again, managed to create a spectacular work of art from the fate of the working poor at the outermost shores of the civilized world.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Hallgrímur Helgason (b.1959) made his debut as a novelist in 1990 and gained international attention with his third novel, *101 Reykjavik*, which was made into a film starring Victoria Abril. Helgason has received the Icelandic Literary Prize two times, for *The Author of Iceland* in 2001 and for *Sixty Kilos of Sunshine* in 2018. He also won the Icelandic Audiobook Award 2021 for his reading of the latter. Three of his novels have been nominated for the Nordic Council Literature Prize. *Sixty Kilos of Sunshine* was selected as "Book of the Year" by the German newspaper Kieler Nachrichten in 2020.



Like a Norwegian herring captain, Hallgrímur Helgason has discovered a gold mine where his relentless knack for fablemaking and his eye for the comical find deeper meaning than usual.

Ingolfur Eiriksson

The Big Book of Self Pity

Stóra bókin um sjálfsvorkunn, novel,
2021

In the wake of a break-up, Hallgrimur sheepishly returns home from studying acting abroad to be admitted to the psychiatric ward. His world has been turned upside down and ghosts haunt his every step. It's from this point that Ingolfur Eiriksson weaves his story, revolving around a millennial couple taking their first steps into adulthood, old family secrets breaking to the surface and a young man struggling to get his life back on track.

Ingolfur Eiriksson attracted a lot of attention with his poetry book *Clone: A Tragi-Comicbook* which turned out to be both a commercial and critical success. *The Big Book of Self-Pity* is his debut novel. 284 pp

The Icelandic Literature Center 2021 Innovation Grant

English sample translation available

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Ingolfur Eiriksson (b.1994) graduated with a BA in Icelandic and comparative literature from the University of Iceland in 2017, going on to earn master's degrees in Literature and Modernity from the University of Edinburgh in 2019 and in Creative writing from the University of Iceland in 2021. His poetry books *Clone: A Tragi-Comicbook* and *Nothing on the Telly* were published in 2021 and 2018, respectively. Ingolfur was a Columnist for the arts and culture radio program *Lestin* in the spring of 2021 and, together with Matthias Tryggvi Haraldsson, translated the Sarah Ruhl play *Dead Man's Cell Phone* and Gertrude Stein's *Doctor Faustus Lights the Lights*. His poetry has been published in *TMM Literary Magazine* and elsewhere.

"The Big Book of Self-Pity follows a young man whose life spirals out of control while he's studying abroad. He simultaneously looks to the past and secrets in his family history that he is trying to solve. The structure is characterized by particularly successful differentiation between time zones, displaying an effortless style marked by subtle humour and ironic undertones."

AWARDS COMMITTEE OF THE ICELANDIC LITERATURE
CENTER 2021 INNOVATION GRANT

*An obsessive, compulsive story
about anxiety and loss, secrecy
and the solace we find in others.*



Isak Hardarson The Warmth of the Wax Museum – Seven Modern Miracle Stories

Hitinn á vaxmyndasafninu – sjö nútímakraftaverkasögur, short stories, 2021

The Warmth of the Wax Museum contains clever, vivacious and concise stories from our present society – sharp and memorable stories about human existence and the ever-long search for truth and happiness.

Modern miracles aren't always spectacular; sometimes it's just an unexpected turn of events, or an unexplained incident, that shines a brand new light on the past, present, and future. Ordinary circumstances suddenly turn into a dream-like adventure and characters find new perspectives that turn their lives upside-down; a different point of view changes everything. 196 pp

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

From the outset, Isak Hardarson's (b.1956) poetry has attracted attention and been highly praised. In 1982 he was awarded a prize for his first book of poetry. More books of poems followed, along with a collection of short stories, a novel and a memoir. For many years Hardarson has also been a prolific translator. He has been awarded a prize from the Icelandic State Radio Writers' Fund; in 2011 his tenth poetry book was nominated for the Nordic Council Literature Prize.



Impostor Poets Oil

Olía, novel, 2021

I stop the car at a red light on Miklabraut. Put on the hazards and turn up the music. As the green light flashes over the street the honking starts and the drivers behind me compete to push their way into the next lane over. The afternoon traffic swells. Dads and moms getting home even later, making yet another excuse at preschool pickup. Losing their grip on invisible time bombs, the order of the day upended. I look straight ahead, push my shoulders back, turn it up a little more. Feel how the music and car horns strain at the back of my neck, feel it in my jaw.

Water and oil are irreconcilable materials, opposites that will never mix together but rather exist in a perpetual state of opposition. The novel *Oil* tells the story of six women who do not conform to their environments, cannot help but break with repeated patterns and the cycle of routine, can do nothing but throw oil on the fire. 182 pp

English sample translation available

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Svikaskald, or Impostor Poets, is a female writers collective based in Reykjavik, Iceland. They are Frida Isberg, Melkorka Olafsdottir, Ragnheidur Harpa Leifsdottir, Sunna Dis Masdottir, Thora Hjorleifsdottir and Thordis Helgadóttir. The collective came together early in 2017 and have since then published three collective poetry collections, two individual poetry collections, hosted various events, writing workshops and seminars for the old and the young alike. For two years now, they have hosted the poetry reading series Svikakvöld, Imposter Nights, every third Thursday of the month in the literary center Grondalshus. svikaskald.com

Difficult women clash against society, expectations, and one another in this vibrant, polyphonic novel by a groundbreaking writers' collective.

A black and white portrait of Sigrun Palsdottir, a woman with long dark hair, wearing a light-colored V-neck top and a necklace with a rectangular pendant. She is smiling slightly and looking towards the camera.

Sigrun Palsdottir

Boudoir

Dyngja, novel, 2021

Flight attendant Teddy gets into a little dispute with a passenger on her last flight at the end of a 35-year career. To regain composure she escapes to the lavatory, but just before she is ready to come out from there the plane loses altitude and she is thrown to the floor where she lies motionless, unable to do much of anything besides listening to the commotion and distress coming from the other side of the door.

Herewith begins the story of this woman's life and all that hides behind the rigid definitions of her profession. Underneath the uniform and silk scarf, the sun-kissed complexion, the red nail polish and the costume jewelry is an astonishing story. It begins in the mid 20th century at a small farm at the edge of the Odadahraun lava field and gradually reaches into the country's highlands. And from there out into space and eventually to the moon. 227 pp

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Sigrun Palsdottir (b.1967) completed a Ph.D in the History of Ideas at Oxford University in 2001, after which she was a research fellow and lecturer at the University of Iceland. Since 2007 she has worked free-lance as a writer and editor.

Her books have been nominated for The Icelandic Literary Prize, Icelandic Women's Literature Prize, The Hagbenkir Non-fiction Prize and The DV Culture Prize. Her book *Uncertain Seas* was chosen the best biography in 2013 by booksellers in Iceland. Palsdottir's novel, *Runaround*, is the Icelandic winner of the European Union Prize for Literature 2021.

Sis's Side is a sharp and unique story about outsiders being given both a voice and a face.

Steinunn Sigurdardottir Sis's Side – A Play in Prose

Systu megin – leiksaga, novel, 2020

Sis lives alone in squalor in a basement, but she is self-sufficient. Like Brosi, her brother and ally in life, she has largely emancipated herself from Mother's domination. Together they have faced the world since childhood but they have each chosen their own path, Brosi within society and Sis outside it. Sis supports herself day-to-day by collecting cans, but when she is offered more security in exchange for her freedom, it is a difficult decision to make.

Steinunn Sigurdardottir's works are unique in their tone and breath. Her stories are both tragic and humorous, realistic and bizarre, and the style is playful and irresistible. Steinunn has created and written about many unforgettable female characters - including the memorable Alda in *The Thief of Time* - and now Sis joins the roster. 181 pp

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Steinunn Sigurdardottir (b.1950) is one of Iceland's most highly acclaimed novelists and poets and has sustained a writing career since 1969, as well as a distinguished career in journalism. She has contributed greatly to the international recognition of contemporary Icelandic literature, being one of the most frequently translated living Icelandic writers. Her first novel, *The Thief of Time* was made into a French feature film and later adapted to the stage by The National Theatre of Iceland. Sigurdardottir's book about President Vigdis Finnbogadottir was an all-time bestseller in Iceland. Her latest book of non-fiction is *Heida, The Mountain Farmer*, a true story that is being published by leading European publishing houses.



Thorarinn Eldjarn gleans knowledge from his curiosity, approaching people and wonders past and present with sensitivity. His creative well is abundant and his humour is never far away.

Thorarinn Eldjarn Coverage

Umfjöllun, short stories, 2021

Thorarinn Eldjarn is nationally known for his artistically styled and concise short stories. *Coverage* contains eight clever, hilarious tales from the workshop of Thorarinn Eldjarn. The stories are from the past and the present, short and long, with memorable characters and varied topics: Retirees working at the folklore museum, a successful 18th century voyage, bobsleighs and car washing, self-talkers and stage performances, Thordur Malakoff og August Strindberg – and a light has been shone on a few things that have been kept secret. 160 pp

ABOUT THE AUTHOR


Thorarinn Eldjarn (b. 1949) is one of Iceland's most admired authors and the recipient of numerous awards. A superb poet, he has tackled every genre, published countless children's books, written novels, short stories, and film and theater scripts, as well as translated fiction for adults and children. Thorarinn's novel *The Blue Tower* was short-listed for the Aristeion Prize for writers and translators of European literature, and was nominated for the Nordic Council Literature Prize and the IMPAC Dublin Award. His work has been translated into fourteen languages, and two works have been adapted for the screen.

thorarinn.eldjarn.is



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BJORK THORGRIMSDOTTIR
BUBBI MORTHENS
EYDIS BLONDAL
HANNA OLAFSDOTTIR
HAUKUR INGVARSSON
INGOLFUR EIRIKSSON
MARGRET LOA JONSDOTTIR
THORDIS HELGADOTTIR



This collection of complex, dreamlike poems will seduce the reader with their depth of feeling.

Bjork Thorgrimsdottir She Who Strews Eyes

Hún sem stráir augum, poetry, 2021

The book hinges on scenes, spaces and memories. The writer approaches events with careful attention, inviting readers on a trip to occupy a space without gravity, to peer into a world that is by its very nature undefinable. The writer plays with language in poetry that is at once layered and dreamlike. This is a lucid world although the landing-place is precarious. 48 pp

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Bjork Thorgrimsdottir (b.1984) studied philosophy and creative writing at the University of Iceland. Her first book of poetry was published in 2013 and she followed it up less than a year later with another one. Thorgrimsdottir received the 2020 Jon ur Vor Poetry Prize for the poem "Augasteinn", which is published in *She Who Strews Eyes*.

Powerful poems and strong imagery put together by a poet who has a message for the world.

Bubbi Morthens Words, Nothing But Words

Orð, ekkert nema orð, poetry, 2021

Icelanders have known and loved poet, lyricist and singer Bubbi for decades; he has written the sincerest love poetry as well as cutting criticism and acute self-critique. In the past few years, Bubbi has published poetry collections that have attracted much attention. He writes about his own tumultuous journey and the big issues that modern society grapples with.

Words, Nothing but Words is divided into three parts; the first contains diverse poems about life and love, words and nature; the second has memorial poems about musicians that have passed and the third contains aggressive and cutting prose poems about people and issues. 60 pp

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Bubbi Morthens (b.1956) is a mainstay of Iceland's music scene and has performed solo and with various bands for over forty years. He is known for his sharp lyrics and energetic performances. *Words, Nothing But Words* is his fifth poetry collection.



A black and white close-up portrait of a woman with dark hair, resting her head on her hand and looking towards the camera with a slight smile.

Eydis Blondal

I Break Down 100%

Ég brotna 100% niður, poetry, 2021

Breakdowns and reconstructions, appearances and substances, oranges and plastic bags – all of these things are related by Eydis through sharp imagery and clever reflections. Eydis Blondal has previously published two poetry collections to great acclaim. 46 pp

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Eydis Blondal (b.1994) was born in Reykjavik. Her first poetry collection, *Tweets and Bast*, was published in 2015 and garnered much attention for its innovative approach, the collection contained poems that had previously been posted on her Twitter account. Blondal was nominated for the Maistjarnan Poetry Prize for her second poetry collection, *No Regard* (2017).



"Eydis Blondal shows that she is a poet that writes directly into the present-day and has a lot to say to readers. I Break Down 100% is a quality work that has strong high points while the well thought-out whole deepens each individual poem's imagery."

RAGNHEIDUR BIRGISDOTTIR, MORGUNBLADID DAILY



Hanna Oladottir Woman on a Walk

Kona fer í gönguferð, poetry, 2021

A woman experiencing difficulties in her life receives an offer she can't refuse: a walking trip along the Camino de Santiago in Spain, a pilgrimage people have been taking for centuries in search of inner peace and answers to life's biggest questions. The trip will be an education for her and coax her mind to follow unexpected paths. 44 pp

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Hanna Oladottir (b.1968) holds a doctoral degree in Icelandic linguistics and works as an assistant professor at the School of Education at the University of Iceland where she researches language and introduces education students to its many wonders. *Woman on a Walk* is her second book of poetry. Her first, *Mutant*, came out in 2019.

"Men Who Love Men is a poetry collection that starts out slowly, but rises steadily, and by the end it reaches the stars."

RAGNHEIDUR BIRGISDOTTIR
MORGUNBLADID DAILY

Haukur Ingvarsson Men Who Love Men

Menn sem elska menn, poetry, 2021

The book of poetry *Men Who Love Men* is a mediation on masculinity. The writer examines the topic from a historical and personal perspective, pondering friendship and love, how emotions form under both internal and external pressures. The poetry is candid and yet operates on a number of levels, both funny and poignant. The book consists of three parallel sections bound together by theme, imagery and a voice that speaks directly to and with the reader. 76 pp

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Haukur Ingvarsson (b.1979) is a writer and editor of journal *Skirnir*. His first book of poetry, *Downfall and Episodes of the Mysterious Mangi*, was published in 2004, followed by a book on the late novels of Icelandic Nobel laureate Halldor Laxness (2009) and the historical novel *November 1976* (2011). For his latest book of poetry, *Ecostentialism* (2018), Ingvarsson won the prestigious Tomas Gudmundsson Literary Prize. Ingvarsson defended his PhD thesis on the reception of American novelist William Faulkner in Iceland in 2020. The thesis will be published by The Icelandic Historical Society in 2021.

Ingolfur Eiriksson (text)
Elin Edda Thorsteinsdottir
(illustrations)
Clone – A Tragi-Comicbook
Klón – eftirmyndasaga (poetry, 2021)

Clone: A Tragi-Comicbook is a hilarious and heartbreaking poem about man's responsibility for life on Earth, and about death and rebirth. In this genre-defying illustrated poetic work, the lives of Salvador Dali and Dolly the Sheep are intertwined with the death of Icelandic Presidential dog Sámur and the extraordinary birth of his clone, Samson Olafsson Moussaief. A story that leaves no one untouched. The author attracted a lot of attention with this book which turned out to be both a commercial and critical success. 80 pp

"The entire poem, or the replica story, Clone is an original, fresh and futuristic work that Icelandic literature enthusiasts should not miss."

RAGNHILDUR THRASTARDOTTIR,
MORGUNBLADID DAILY

"The tragedy and comedy is perfectly balanced in the book of poems Clone: A Tragi-Comicbook ..."


JORUNN SIGURDARDOTTIR, ORÐ UM BÆKUR,
THE ICELANDIC NATIONAL BROADCASTING
SERVICE

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Ingolfur Eiriksson (b.1994) graduated with a BA in Icelandic and comparative literature from the University of Iceland in 2017, going on to earn master's degrees in Literature and Modernity from the University of Edinburgh in 2019 and in Creative writing from the University of Iceland in 2021. His poetry books *Clone: A Tragi-Comicbook* and *Nothing on the Telly* were published in 2021 and 2018, respectively. His poetry has been published in TMM Literary Magazine and elsewhere. In 2021 Eiriksson was awarded the Icelandic Literature Center 2021 Innovation Grant for his debut novel, *The Big Book of Self-Pity*.

Elin Edda Thorsteinsdottir (b.1995) earned a degree in graphic design from the Iceland University of the Arts in 2018 and is currently studying writing at the University of Iceland. She has published four comics and a poetry book. Her comic book *Gombri* was released in 2019 in French by Canadian publisher Éditions Mécanique Générale.





"The collection is visual and dream-like, Jonsdottir creates a comprehensive work, or journey, in these three parts. Memories and reflections characterise the poems, along with new experiences and colourful characters."

REBEKKA SIF STEFANSDOTTIR, LESTRARKLEFINN

Margret Loa Jonsdottir Dream Collectors

Draumasafnarar, poetry, 2021

Marked by rich visual imagery and melancholy, *Dream Collectors* is a collection of poems about lost friends and laughter that can no longer be heard, but also an ode to the living and the travels that lie ahead, where new encounters await and new stories will be written. Solitude and friendship, a lust for life and burning desire in contrast with death, milestones and digressions from the long road, vibrant dreams and adventures that don't always end well; these are powerful poems about a variety of fellow travelers and all that lives and dies.

Margret Loa published her first book of poetry at only 18 years old in 1985. *Dream Collectors* is her eleventh book of poetry. 55 pp

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Margret Loa Jonsdottir (b.1967) studied Icelandic and philosophy at the University of Iceland and philosophy in San Sebastian in Spain, receiving her BA in 1996.

After her first book, *Wolves of Glass*, was published in 1985 she has released several other books of poetry. She has self-published and illustrated many of them. In addition to poetry, she has written fiction, composed sound art and created artist's books.

Margret Loa works with writing, visual art and teaching. Her varied experiences include running a gallery and working as a dosent, editing an arts magazine, working in TV production and leading creative writing workshops. She also engages in poetry translation, especially from Spanish to Icelandic.



Thordis Helgadóttir

Teething

Tanntaka, poetry, 2021

At once innovative and mature, this award-winning poet's debut collection takes the reader on a journey through various stages of being – childhood, motherhood, sisterhood. Her poems are a poignant ode to wandering and getting lost, to growing up and stumbling on one's inner strength. 80 pp

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Thordis Helgadóttir's debut story collection *Emperor Penguins* (Keisaramörgæsir) was published in 2018 to high critical acclaim. In 2021 she won the Jon ur Vor Poetry Prize and in 2019-20 she was The City Theatre of Reykjavik playwright in residence. Her poetry and short fiction have been featured in various publications, including Iceland Review, Michigan Quarterly Review REMIX and Words Without Borders. Helgadóttir is a member of the writers' collective Impostor Poets, who have jointly published three books of poetry and one novel.

thordishelgadottir.wordpress.com



"Helgadóttir's collection is challenging reading. The poems put up a lot of resistance to the reader but at the same time they inspire curiosity. They are poems that you want to read again and again, both to understand them better and to let their impact wash over you again."


RAGNHEIDUR BIRGISDOTTIR,
MORGUNBLADID DAILY

"The poet seizes a wild and fast-flowing stream of words, managing to channel it in an effective way. This provides free rein, but it is a free rein that does not lead the reader astray but rather directly to the heart of the matter, what lies heaviest on the poet's mind."

PRAISE FROM THE JURY OF THE JON UR VOR POETRY PRIZE (TEETHING, BY THORDIS HELGADOTTIR)

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JONINA LEOSDOTTIR
LILJA SIGURDARDOTTIR
STELLA BLOMKVIST
THORARINN LEIFSSON



“Another original voice from Iceland. Jonina Leosdottir brings wit, pace and a fantastic central character to her story-telling.”

ANN CLEEVES

Jonina Leosdottir Deceit

Launsátur, crime novel, 2021

Who slips needles into fruit on a shop counter – and why? Trying to get to the bottom of this mystery, detective Soffia doesn't get much help from her own department as Covid has left the force short-staffed. Her psychologist ex-husband Adam has assisted the police before, and she brings him in to shed light on the psychological angle. The search for the criminal leads this former couple down some unexpected avenues as they follow one lead after another – even though Adam would much prefer to deal with his professional and personal problems in the privacy of his own home.

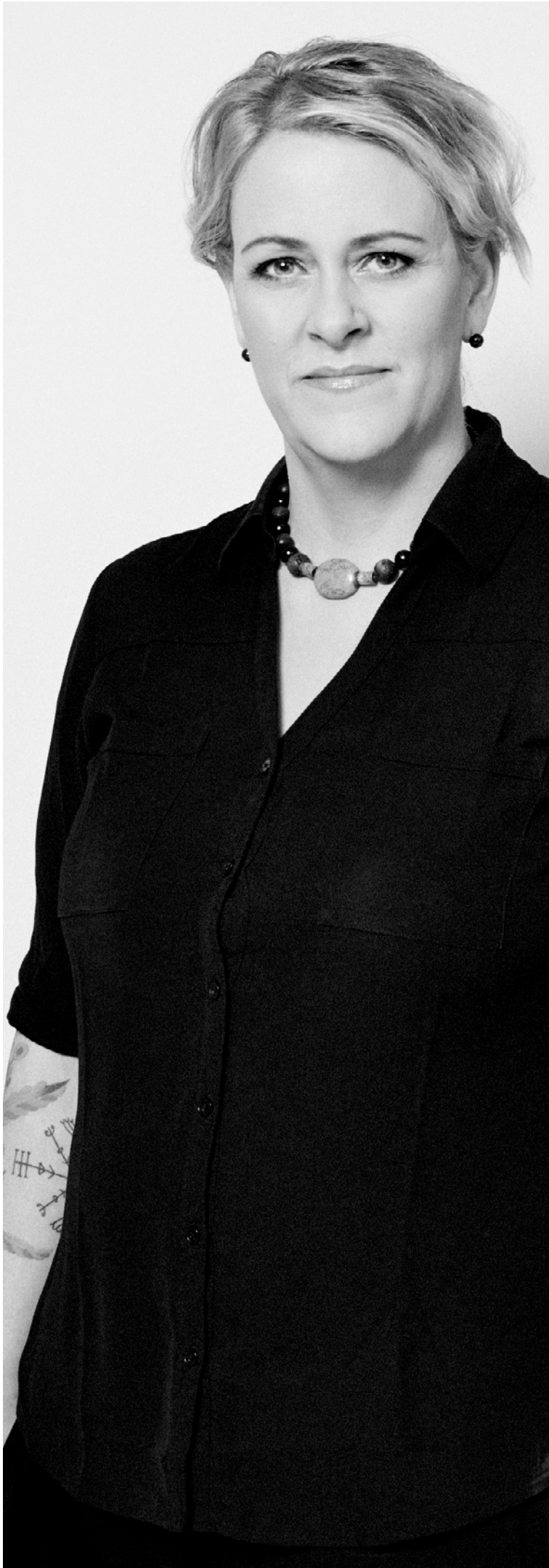
Jonina Leosdottir has built up a devoted following for her novels, not least for her series featuring Edda, who turns detective in her retirement. 307 pp

English sample translation available
Sold to: UK (Corylus)

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Jonina Leosdottir (b.1954) studied modern languages and Latin at college, attended Essex University and graduated from The University of Iceland with a BA-degree in English and Literature. Leosdottir has written crime novels, biographies, novels (for adults and young adults), short stories and plays, and received many awards.
joninaleosdottir.com

In this new novel Leosdottir continues to weave a tangled mystery with an engaging cast of characters, each of whom brings a complex set of their own issues to the story.



A fast-paced and exceptional crime drama with unexpected twists and turns.

Lilja Sigurdardottir White as Snow

The Aurora Series #3

Náhvít jörð, crime novel, 2021

On a white winter morning, an abandoned shipping container is found near Reykjavik. Once it's opened, the horror begins to unfold; inside are the lifeless bodies of five women who have apparently been transported overseas in the container. How can this happen and who is behind it? Police detectives Daniel and Helena arrive at the scene and begin their investigation, meanwhile Daniel's friend Aurora does something else: Her aunt Elin is in a relationship with a Russian man who is eager to wed, but he has a nefarious agenda...


White as Snow is an unsettling story of ruthless criminals and victims of human trafficking - modern-day slaves. Readers will know protagonists Aurora and Daniel from the books *Cold as Hell* and *Red as Blood*, which were both very well received.

313 pp

English sample translation available

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Lilja Sigurdardottir (b.1972) is one of the most popular writers of Icelandic thrillers, having written plays and television scripts in addition to her popular novels. She has won the Icelandic Crime Novel Award for *Cage* and *Betrayal*, and both titles represented Iceland at the Nordic Crime Novel Awards. Sigurdardottir has also been longlisted for a CWA International Dagger Award, one of the world's most prestigious crime fiction awards, Prix du Meilleur Polar at Points and Edinburgh International Book Festival's First Book Award. The film rights to her Reykjavik Noir trilogy (*Snare*, *Trap* and *Cage*) have been bought by Palomar Pictures in California. liljawriter.com



"It is clear that whoever it is knows their stuff when it comes to writing a hardboiled thriller with a plot that twists and turns."

MORGUNBLADID (ON *THE MURDER IN PARLIAMENT*)

Stella Blomkvist Murder at Hulduklettur

Morðið við Huldukletta, crime novel, 2021

Murder at Hulduklettur is the twelfth installment of the quick-witted femme fatale Stella, who is unafraid to take on the most dangerous and powerful adversaries — even as an amorous challenge in the bedroom.

Who can say no to a handsome sum of money? Not Stella Blomkvist, who, without batting an eye, agrees to investigate the murder of the son of a controversial Icelandic financier. The daughter of another stock speculator also turns to her with a mysterious letter from her father who died nine years earlier. And before long our favorite lawyer (in and out of the sheets) finds herself knee deep in fiscal intrigue, betrayal and secrets from the years leading up to Iceland's financial meltdown. 254 pp

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

No one knows who the mysterious Stella Blomkvist really is. The only information given is that Stella writes under a pseudonym. The television series based on the books about Stella stars Heida Reed (Poldark) and has enjoyed a great deal of popularity. Broadcasting rights have been sold around the world.

"Our own hardboiled, wildly clever, bisexual, unabashed, badass, female and decidedly Icelandic Philip Marlowe."

LILJA SIGURDARDOTTIR, WRITER



Thorarinn Leifsson

Killing Tourists

Út að drepa túrista, crime novel, 2021

A sharp and witty crime novel set in the madness of mass tourism. It offers a peek behind the scenes of Iceland's most bizarre industry just before the Coronavirus forced the world into lockdown. Be prepared to embark on a journey with unexpected twists at every turn.

The tour guide Kalmann is exhausted. Tour after tour, year after year he has had to put up with the whims and whining of tourists from all over the world, answer ridiculous questions, and deal with unexpected circumstances. But this last trip to the South Coast of Iceland really takes the biscuit. Not only is one of his clients found dead in his hotel room before they even start out, the murderer is on board the tour bus, a deadly virus looms large, the weather forecast is absolute shit, and there's definitely something not right with the detective the police sent to investigate. 288 pp

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

An established writer and artist, Thorarinn Leifsson (b.1966) has had a side hustle as a tour guide since 2017. Before his debut as an author in 2007, Leifsson worked in visual arts. He has worked in street painting, illustration, billboard painting, and web design. His books for children and adults have been translated into six different languages. He has received excellent reviews and won numerous awards. *Killing Tourists* is Leifsson's first stab at the crime genre. totil.com

"A self-deprecating tourism crime story with a finger on the pulse."

DAGUR GUNNARSSON

"The author's style is fast and confident and rushes forward like a minibus sailing through slush, splashing out in all directions."

PALL ASGEIR ASGEIRSSON

A not-so-classic whodunnit tale in the vein of Agatha Christie, served in short chapters for binge reading, a Fargo-style tongue in cheek journey through the wasteland of the Icelandic winter.

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ESSAY
TRAVELOGUE
CURRENT AFFAIRS
MEMOIRS
HISTORY
LITERARY HISTORY
FOLKLORE
COOKERY
LIFESTYLE
CRAFTS
CARS
BOOKS ON ICELAND

Innovative, moving, and provocative, War & Noise sheds light on how we might fight climate change and natural destruction: by going back to our curious and artistic human roots.

Sverrir Norland War & Noise

Stríð og kliður, essay, 2021

Is the world actually ending? Do we need to rethink society from the ground up? And what will become of the wild things?

A few years ago, Icelandic writer Sverrir Norland lost his ability to tell stories. He found himself despairing in the face of the enormous challenges facing the world: pollution, mass extinction, the takeover of technology, the concentration of wealth in the hands of a select few. In *War & Noise*, Sverrir takes us along for his journey out of that abyss and shows us how he rekindled his greatest passion – that of telling stories – by daring to explore some of the biggest and scariest questions of our times and developing a more optimistic approach toward the demanding work the future asks of us.

SOFTCOVER, 12,5 x 20 cm, 144 pp
English sample translation available

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

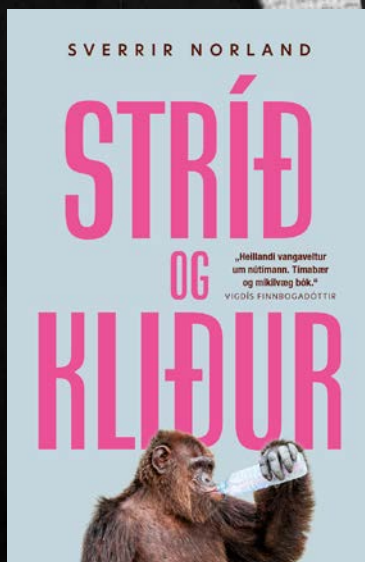
Sverrir Norland (b.1986) has a BA degree in Law and Creative Writing from University of Iceland and a Master's degree in Creative Writing from London's Middlesex University. His poetry, graphic works, short stories, and other writings have been widely published. In recent years he has lived alternately in Paris, Reykjavik, and New York. *War & Noise* is his 11th book.

"Against the biggest challenge of all times, climate disasters, Sverrir Norland introduces his imagination and the readers enjoy it because the author himself has an abundance of it."

SJÓN

"Fascinating speculations about modern society. A timely and important book."

VIGDIS FINNBOGADOTTIR, former President of Iceland





"Incredibly well done, full of insight and well presented [...] a lot of fun!"

THORGEIR TRYGGVASON, KILJAN, NATIONAL TV

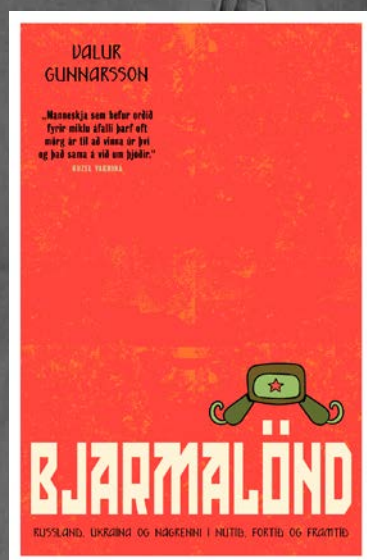
Valur Gunnarsson Bjarmalands

From the Sagas to the Post-Soviet in Russia, Ukraine and Surroundings: A Travelogue

Bjarmalönd. Rússland, Úkraína og nágrenni í nútíð, fortíð og framtíð, travelogue, 2021

The Icelandic Sagas relate of a land far to the east named Bjarmaland, where the sun rises, the end of the Viking World. When writer Valur Gunnarsson poured over maps in his youth, this was subsumed in the vast Soviet Union. But then Reagan met Gorbachev in Reykjavik and soon the USSR was no more. The area was once more open to exploration. In the late 90s Valur finally crossed the landmine-lined border to the mysterious east, during the robber-baron Yeltsin era when everything was permissible and up for grabs. This was to be the first trip of many to the former Soviet Union.

Bjarmalands is an account of these travels, seen from the perspective of being stuck in Kiev for six months in times of war, Chernobyl fires and covid. We meet an assorted cast of characters, from elderly Russian scholars to Americans with hair-implants, and locals including up-and-coming Estonians, conspiracy theorist-minded Belarusian bartenders, late Soviet era gangsters and a Ukrainian girl with dreadlocks who desperately wants to join the army. There are also overviews of the history, cultures and cuisine of the various post-Soviet countries. And vodka. Plenty of vodka.



SOFTCOVER, 14 x 21 cm, 432 pp

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Valur Gunnarsson (b.1976) is an author, journalist and historian. He was the first editor of the English language paper Reykjavik Grapevine in 2003. His novels include *The Eagle and the Falcon* (2017) and *King of the North* (2007), which received excellent reviews. He currently works as a researcher on the Eastern Vikings at the University of Iceland and was chosen to participate in a panel with the Belarusian dissident Svetlana Tikhanovskaya on her visit.

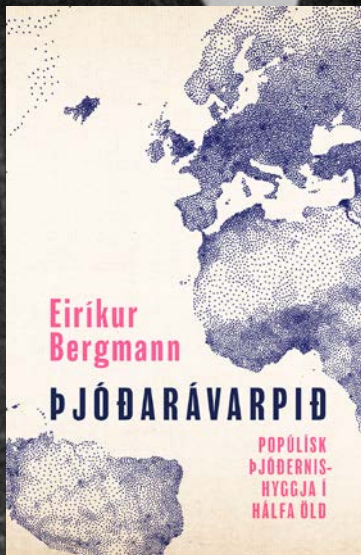


Eirikur Bergmann The National Address – Half a Century of Populist Nationalism

Þjóðarávarpið – popúlísk þjóðernis-
hyggja í hálfra öld, political history/
current affairs, 2021

Nationalism, populism, disinformation, and an avalanche of conspiracy theories have in recent years and decades shaped public debates in the West — and around the world — but their roots lie much deeper. What has caused this shift away from liberal democracy?

Professor Eirikur Bergmann has for many years carried out extensive research into the societal shift away from liberal democracy in the post-war years, to the current manifestations of nationalism and populism. The principal findings of this research have appeared in his books published by the academic press Palgrave Macmillan. In this book Bergmann tells the tale of populist nationalism over the last half century in an accessible prose, and from a personal point of view. On these pages he explains the historical background of these movements in a style that brings many of their main actors vividly to life.



FLEXI COVER, 13,7 X 21 cm, 400 pp

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Eirikur Bergmann (b.1969) received a master's degree in international politics from Copenhagen University in 1998 and was awarded a doctoral degree in political science from the University of Iceland in 2009. He is currently Professor of Politics at Bifröst University in Iceland. He has also been a visiting professor at several European universities. Bergmann's research canters on Nationalism, Populism, Conspiracy Theories, European Integration, Icelandic Politics and Participatory Democracy. He has published numerous scholarly books, chapters, and journal articles on many of these topics. Several of his books have been published internationally, highly praised by the academic community. Bergmann has also for long served as a commentator on politics in both the Icelandic and international media. eirikurbergmann.com

A playful and accessible approach to understanding some of economics' loftier topics that actually affect our daily lives in countless ways.

Eiríkur Asthor Ragnarsson Economics for Ordinary People

Eikonomics – hagfræði á mannamáli,
current affairs, 2021

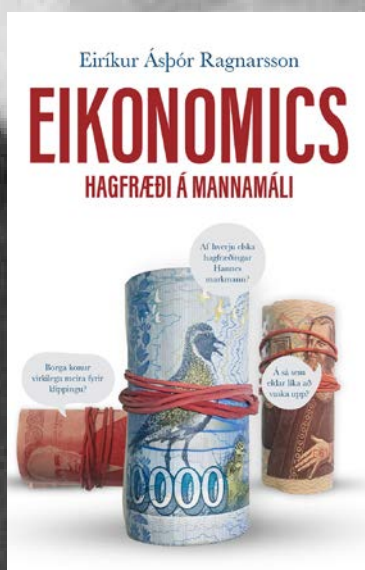
Some have dubbed economics the dismal science, one that drones on and on about price elasticity, policy interest rates, gross national product and Q1 return on equity. But the palace of economics has many rooms and too few have been explored: the economics of Christmas, the economics of partying the house down, the economics of car dealerships and the economics of making moonshine — just to name a few.

In 2017 Eiríkur began writing a regular column for the news site Kjarninn featuring an informative and entertaining take on economics under the heading “Eikonomics”. The column was a hit, widely read and shared on social media, as it cast the spotlight of economics on unlikely topics, bathing the exchanges of everyday life in an entirely new light. These articles are not some arcane cypher of a secret society headquartered in the basement of the central bank but rather fascinating insights relevant to everyday people like you and me. And robot vacuum cleaners.

SOFTCOVER, 14 x 21 cm, 244 pp

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Eiríkur Asthor Ragnarsson (b.1984) studied Economics at The University of Otago in New Zealand, where he completed a bachelors degree in 2010 and a postgraduate degree two years later. He has since worked as an economist in London and Germany for the consultancy company Frontier Economics.





Olafur Ragnar Grimsson Roots – the Origin of Memories

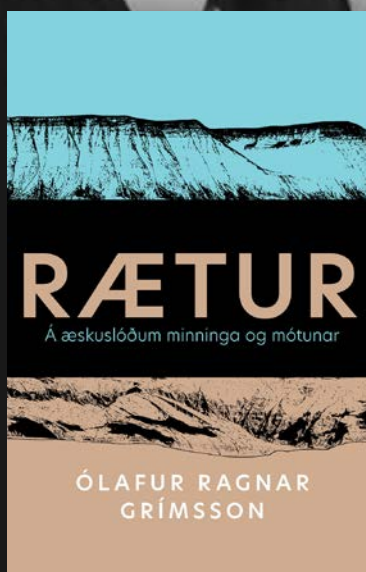
Rætur – á æskuslóðum minninga,
memoirs, 2021

Iceland of the past. The future in the making. The daily life in Isafjordur and Thingeyri. The small neighbourhood in the centre of Reykjavik and the opposites on the West side. Childhood friends in the schools by Lækjargata. Some grew up to be powerful men. The mother in the distance. Difficulties and joyful moments. Influences on a young boy.

This book shows new sides to a former president that many think they know well. What emerges is a comprehensive image, convincing, candid and frank.

In his previous book, the author told stories of famous people in foreign countries. Here, he looks inward and searches for answers to many questions: What determined his path in life? Who shaped him? Where can the inner self be found?

A surprising book that will be read for a long time.



HARDCOVER, 13,7 x 21 cm, 241 pp

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Olafur Ragnar Grímsson (b.1943) was the fifth president of Iceland, between 1996-2016.



Thorunn Valdimarsdottir The Farm Burns – The Last Execution in Iceland

Bærinn brennur – síðasta aftakan á
Íslandi, history, 2021

In 1828 Fridrik Sigurdsson, the son of the farmer at Katadalur, murdered his neighbor, the farmer and doctor Natan Ketilsson, at the victim's farm Illugastadir in the rural Hunavatnssysla region of Northwest Iceland. Natan's housekeeper Sigridur and one of his working women Agnes plotted with Fridrik to kill Natan, encouraging Fridrik and pledging their loyalty and assistance. The three burned Natan's sleeping quarters to cover up the crime, which was committed for financial gain, and then helped hide the stolen goods so they wouldn't be consumed by the blaze.

Regional magistrate Bjorn Blondal convened the district court to hear the case. This book details the interrogations of the accused and his associates, which shed new light on the story and transport the reader into world of one of Iceland's most fascinating murder cases.

HARDCOVER, 15,3 x 23 cm, 349 pp

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Thorunn Jarla Valdimarsdottir (b.1954) is the author of dozens of books, both fiction and non-fiction. She has received a variety of awards and accolades for her work, such as nominations for the Icelandic Literary Prize and the Nordic Council's Literature Prize.

Valdimarsdottir has an uncanny knack for conjuring up bygone times and opening portals into the past in enlightening ways.



"The book offers many (re-) discoveries, is rounded off by atmospheric photos and makes you want more."

JO MOSKON, BUCHKULTUR, GERMANY

Halldor Gudmundsson Land of Stories – A literary journey around Iceland

Sagnalandið – Bókmenntahringferð
um Ísland, Literary History, 2021

Iceland has always been a land of stories and storytelling is probably our most important cultural tradition. Plenty of its places have enthralling tales to tell, which in turn have inspired novels, poems and art of all kinds. This book is a round trip around the country, with thirty stops at such places along the way. Some relate to authors or works of literature, others to folk tales or historical events. It doesn't hurt, either, that they are often set in spectacular locations, as shown in the book with new photos from all the settings. Where a rich cultural legacy and awe-inspiring nature join together – or come into conflict – the stories that emerge are often magical.



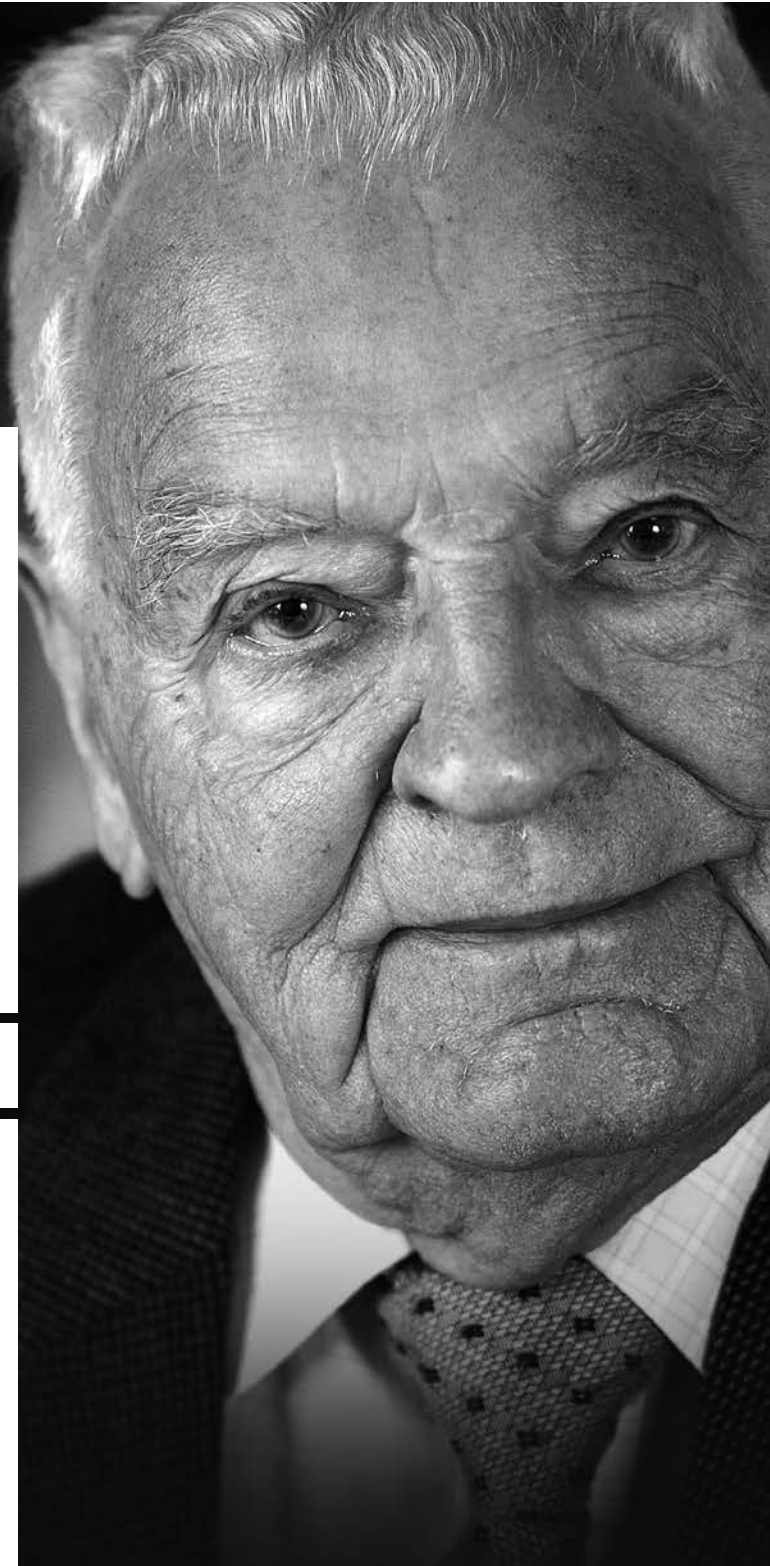
SOFTCOVER, 14,5 x 21 cm, 301 pp

In English

Sold to Germany (Corso Verlag)

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Halldor Gudmundsson (b.1956) is a writer living in Reykjavik. He studied literature at the University of Iceland and then at the University of Copenhagen. For 19 years he worked in publishing, for the longest time as the publisher for Mal og menning. At the same time he continued researching and writing about literature, with emphasis on the works of Halldor Laxness. His biography of Halldor Laxness, which was also published in English, received the Icelandic Literary Prize in 2004. Gudmundsson has been the project manager for a Guest of Honour country at the Frankfurt book fair twice; Iceland (2011), and Norway (2019). gudmundsson.is



Jon R. Hjalmarsson 25 Sagas of Icelanders

25 Íslendingasögur, folklore, 2021

Over the centuries, the Icelandic people have devoured the stories about heroes in the Sagas of the Icelanders. And during that time a number of them have become a kind of close friend of the family. This cherished fondness is, of course, something worth maintaining. National treasure and fount of knowledge Jon R. Hjalmarsson directs readers to various historical areas from the Sagas of the Icelanders and retells a number of remarkable accounts from the stories.

SOFTCOVER, 11 x 18,5 cm, 168 pp

25 Stories about Ogresses and Monsters

25 sögur af skessum og skrímslum,
folklore, 2021

Communication between humans and trolls has declined sharply in recent years, and trade with monsters like ,nykrar', ,marbendlar' and ,fjörulallar' is almost a thing of the past. All the more reason to keep the colourful stories of our former coexistence with such beings alive. Stories about these beings breathe new life into the journey as fantastical images enliven the landscape. Scholar Jon R. Hjalmarsson retells many of Iceland's best-known tales about trolls and monster in his own unique style, allowing the protagonists to emerge vividly.

SOFTCOVER, 11 x 18,5 cm, 128 pp

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Jon R. Hjalmarsson (1922-2018) was a historian and educator and served as a school principal and later as regional administrator of education in south Iceland for many years. He was well known as a broadcaster and as the author of several books on history and related subjects.



Romina Werth, Jon Karl
Helgason (edit.)

Halldor Baldursson
(illustrations)

A Face on a Window — an Annotated Collection of Icelandic folktales

Andlit á glugga – úrval íslenskra
þjóðsagna með skýringum, folklore,
2021

Saemundur frodi, Bukolla, Galdra-Loftur and Gryla are among the many unforgettable folkloristic characters Icelanders have lived with for centuries, leaving their mark on the language and the national spirit. Their stories are not only a window into the reality and world of ideas of centuries past, but a key to unlocking the wonders of Icelandic.

A Face on a Window is a collection of Icelandic folktales and fairy tales with modern spelling and detailed word definitions. The book contains about 60 stories on love and cruel fate, stupidity and resourcefulness, courage and horror. The stories get underway with an informational introduction and intermediate chapters that shed light on the oral histories of the material, its international context and the value of this literature in the cultural-historical context. The publication was edited by Romina Werth and Jon Karl Helgason, and the illustrations are by Halldor Baldursson.

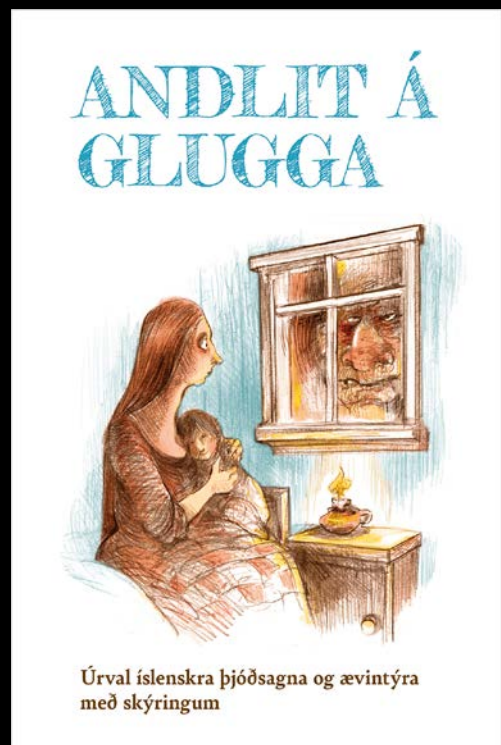


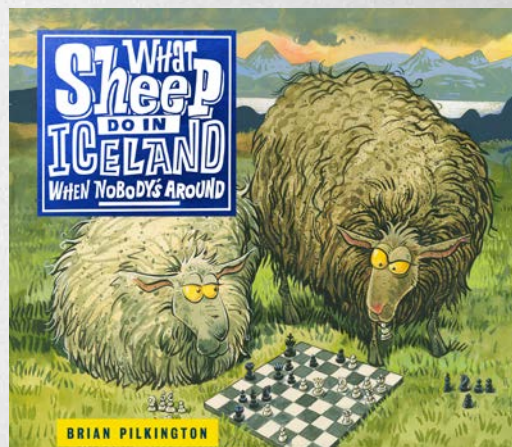
SOFTCOVER, 14 x 21 cm, 272 pp

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Romina Werth (b.1984) is a folklorist and part-time teacher at the University of Iceland. After receiving a degree in fashion design in Berlin, Werth moved to Iceland where she studied Icelandic as a second language, translation studies, and folkloristics in which she holds a master's degree. Currently, Werth is finishing her doctoral thesis on the fairy tale in Medieval Icelandic literature.

Jon Karl Helgason (b.1965) is a professor in the Department of Icelandic and Comparative Cultural Studies at the University of Iceland. His career also includes work as a translator, producer at the Icelandic National Broadcasting Service, and editor for the book publisher Bjartur. He graduated from the University of Massachusetts in 1995 with a degree in comparative literature and has since published academic texts in both Icelandic and English on metafiction, cultural saints and the reception of Old Norse literature. Two of his books have been nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize.





Brian Pilkington What Sheep Do in Iceland When Nobody's Around...

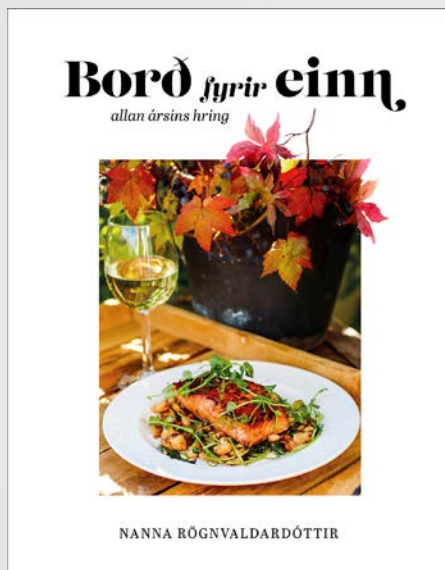
Það sem kindur gera þegar
enginn sér til, folklore, 2021

Every spring, Icelandic sheep are sent into the wilds of Iceland on a three-month summer holiday. There are, though, very few reports as to their activities during this time. Could it be that there is more to these woolly, dull-headed creatures, that stand and stare from the side of the road? Well, it appears there might be! In this book, Brian Pilkington directs his familiar, irreverent style toward sheep behaviour, and reveals their hitherto unknown habits.

SOFTCOVER, 19 x 23 cm, 64 pp

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Brian Pilkington (b.1950) is an English-born Icelandic artist and illustrator, well known for his illustrations of many Icelandic children's books since the 1980s. Pilkington has also illustrated other literature genres. He has written and illustrated many books, which have been published in a number of countries.



Nanna Rognvaldardóttir Table for One – All Year Round

Borð fyrir einn – allan ársins hring,
cookery, 2021

Here are Nanna's recipes for the food she cooks for her solo meals – all year round.

Cooking for one – delicious, healthy, simple and tasty food of all kinds – does not have to mean eternal leftovers and the same meals day after day. Cooking small portions should be easy, especially when more people are living alone and needing recipes that fit their lives.

All recipes in this book are portioned for one person, whether it is everyday food or a fancy meal, casseroles or soups, light dishes, meat, fish or vegetable dishes, desserts, cakes or sides.

HARDCOVER, 28 x 21,5 cm, 240 pp

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Nanna Rognvaldardóttir (b.1957) is well-known in her native Iceland and beyond for her extensive knowledge of Icelandic culinary history and straightforward recipes of all sorts. She has authored a wide variety of cookbooks and received numerous awards.



What does a drowned parrot, a man in a gorilla costume and empty Maryland cookie boxes have in common? You'll never find out – unless you read this book.

Alda Karen Hjaltalin Silja Bjork Bjornsdottir The Life Bible – 50 Life Solutions, Stories and Secrets

Lífsbiblíán – 50 lífslyklar, sögur og leyndarmál, Lifestyle, 2021

The Life Bible is based on Alda Karen Hjaltalin's immensely popular LIFE Masterclass-lectures which have been a huge hit in both Iceland and the United States. In association with Silja Bjork Bjornsdottir, she has now compiled 50 keys to life which have helped her create balance, gain happiness and turn all her dreams into reality. Learn to turn on your self-confidence, discover your core values in life and passions, live by your own standards and last, but not least: learn to ignore the roommate who thinks that there is a sabre-tooth tiger hiding in every corner.
293 pp

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Alda Karen Hjaltalin (b. 1993) has delivered lectures to more than 20.000 Icelanders. In her lectures she imparts the philosophies she has herself adapted to her own life with power and humour. She has given lectures in many of the world's biggest auditoriums and at the Citi Field baseball park in New York. Alda Karen has gathered material for her philosophy from all over, for example from classic self-help studies, psychology, South-African philosophy and of course, her mother.

Silja Bjork Bjornsdottir (b. 1992) has a bachelor's degree in Film studies. More than 200,000 people have seen her TEDx Talk, "The Tabu of Depression". Silja Bjork has also written a book on the same topic.

Helga Valdis Arnadottir illustrated.

"We should probably just acknowledge the genius of a young woman who is ridiculously smart and presentable and say: I am enough."

FRETTABLAÐIÐ DAILY

"An exceptionally accessible and entertaining book for those who are prepared for permanent prosperity."

GUDNI GUNNARSSON, LIFE COACH



The Knitting Society Homecoming Sets

Heimferðarsett, crafts, 2021

It is an old and cherished tradition for newborn babies to receive hand-knitted clothing. The tradition complements the need to dress babies in soft and warm woollen clothing, making knitted homecoming outfits are beloved by new parents. This book includes patterns for sweaters, hats, leggings and other beautiful delicate knitwear for babies. The patterns are for newborns to six-month old babies. *Homecoming Sets* is a new book from the Knitting Society, which previously published popular books of knitting patterns for preschool children; *Kindergarten Clothing* and *Kindergarten Clothing 2*.

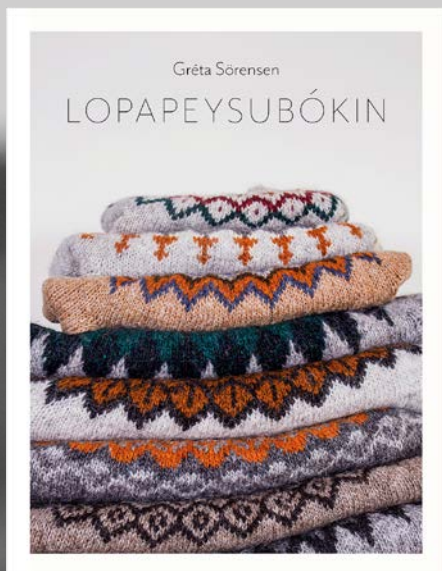
SOFTCOVER, 16,5 x 23 cm, 62 pp

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

The Knitting Society is an all-women collective of seasoned knitters with many years of knitting and pattern design experience.



Is there a little one on the way? Few things are as fun for knitters as creating clothing for infants.



Greta Sorensen Lopi Sweaters' Knitting Book

History, Design, Handcraft, crafts,
2021

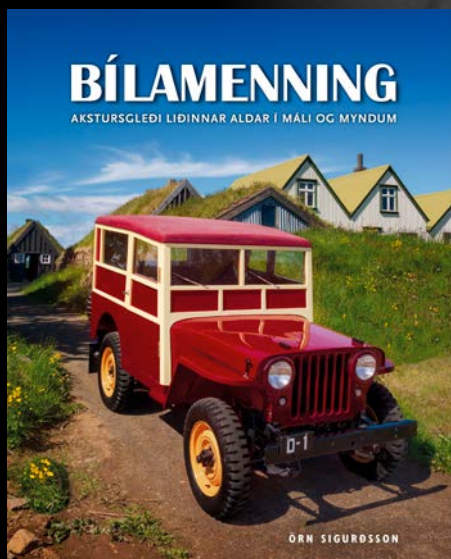
Would you like to knit your own lopi sweater? *The Lopi Sweater – Handcraft – History and Design* offers simple instructions on how to make a lopi sweater and provides design notes for lopi sweaters in all sizes. The book presents, altogether, five sweater designs for toddlers and children and six for women and men. In the book you will find miscellaneous information about the knitting process, the lopi material, the composition of the colours, the finishing and the different types of the Icelandic lopi sweater. The book is well suited for beginners as well as accomplished knitters. Furthermore, it is ideal for those who wish to contribute to the making of this unique cultural heritage by creating their own version of the lopi sweater.

138 pp
In English

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Greta Sorensen has previously published *The Knitting Bible*, which was shortlisted for The Icelandic Women's Literature Prize and has since its publication become increasingly popular. Greta was only a child when she acquired her first lopi sweater knitted by her mother. Since then Greta has knitted lopi sweaters for her children, their spouses and her grandchildren. Greta Sorensen is a professional textile designer, and a teacher of weaving and textiles. Her professional career has mainly been focused on teaching visual arts, handcraft and design.





Orn Sigurdsson Car Culture

Bílamenning, cars, 2021

Car Culture presents 154 chapters dedicated to cars in Iceland and other car loving nations. From workaday cars to police vehicles and fire engines, trucks to limousines, racecars, jeeps, delivery vans and RVs just to name a few. There is also discussion on topics related to cars like service stations, mechanics, car dealerships, campers, toy cars, car collections and expos, not to mention road construction. Icelanders have kept pace with other societies on the thrilling ride of car culture over the years, which is featured in detail throughout this book. Included are over 1200 photographs, many never seen before.

HARDCOVER, 29 x 24 cm, 320 pp

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Orn Sigurdsson (b.1962) has a degree in Geography, Law and History from the University of Iceland. He has been running the cartography division of Forlagid for over twenty years; editing all the division's publications and authoring several of them. Sigurdsson was president of the Classic Car Club of Iceland for ten years. He has accumulated extensive knowledge of Automotive History and has published on the subject.

*A must-have companion
for lovers of cars and the
automotive world.*

Helgi Bjornsson, Thora Ellen Thorhallsdottir In the Realm of Vatnajökull, – A Companion on the Southern Ring Road

books on Iceland, 2021

This book takes you through the region south of Vatnajökull. It is Iceland's most dynamic part and here its natural contrasts are particularly well displayed: lush vegetation and barren deserts, wide plains and high mountains, green grasslands, black sands and white glacier ice. The book is designed as a road guide pointing to important sites on the highway, including interesting detours and short hikes, and covering glaciology, geology and biology and explaining the processes behind the spectacular landscapes. It also relates the region's dramatic history. Its small and isolated farming communities lived in closer proximity to glaciers and endured greater hardship from volcanic eruptions than any other documented human settlements on Earth.

SOFTCOVER, 14,5 x 21 cm, 255 pp
In English

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

The authors are Helgi Bjornsson (b.1942), a world-renowned glaciologist and emeritus research professor at the University of Iceland, and Thora Ellen Thorhallsdottir (b.1954), professor of botany at the University of Iceland. Through decades of research and personal interest, they have a wide knowledge of the region. Both have been recipients of the Icelandic Literary Prize for academic work and both have been awarded the Order of the Falcon for their scientific contribution to Icelandic society.





Ari Trausti Gudmundsson (text)

Ragnar Th. Sigurdsson (photos)

On Fire – Iceland's Youngest Volcano

Umbrot – jarðeldar á Reykjaneskaga,
books on Iceland, 2021

At 20:45 on Friday, 19 March 2021, a volcanic fissure suddenly opened up in Geldingadalir on the Reykjanes peninsula. Considerable seismic activity prior to the eruption had caused serious concern among the population living in the surrounding area. The dormant period on the peninsula that had lasted for over eight centuries was now at an end and it was difficult to predict how things would develop. The spectacular volcanic display in Geldingadalir, close to the most populated area of the country, attracted thousands of visitors who flocked there to marvel at the raw power and beauty of the eruption.

In *On Fire – Iceland's Youngest Volcano*, geophysicist, renowned writer and MP, Ari Trausti Gudmundsson, and award-winning photographer, Ragnar Th. Sigurdsson, combine their skills to present and explain the stunning development and fierce beauty of the 2021 eruption in Geldingadalir (Fagradalsfjall).

HARDCOVER, 24 X 19,5 cm, 96 pp
In English

Lava – A Brief History of Icelandic Volcanoes, books on Iceland, 2021

Iceland is a showcase, laboratory and wonderland for anyone interested in the living nature. Here, the fierce forces are vividly displayed and volcanic activity and related phenomena have become a part of everyday life.

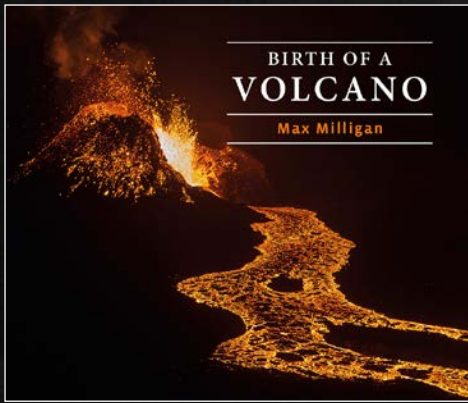
In *Lava – A Brief History of Icelandic Volcanoes*, geophysicist, renowned writer and MP, Ari Trausti Gudmundsson, and award-winning photographer, Ragnar Th. Sigurdsson, combine their skills to present the stunning and fierce beauty of the Icelandic volcanoes as well as explaining what goes on below the surface.

HARDCOVER, 24 X 19,5 cm, 112 pp,
In English

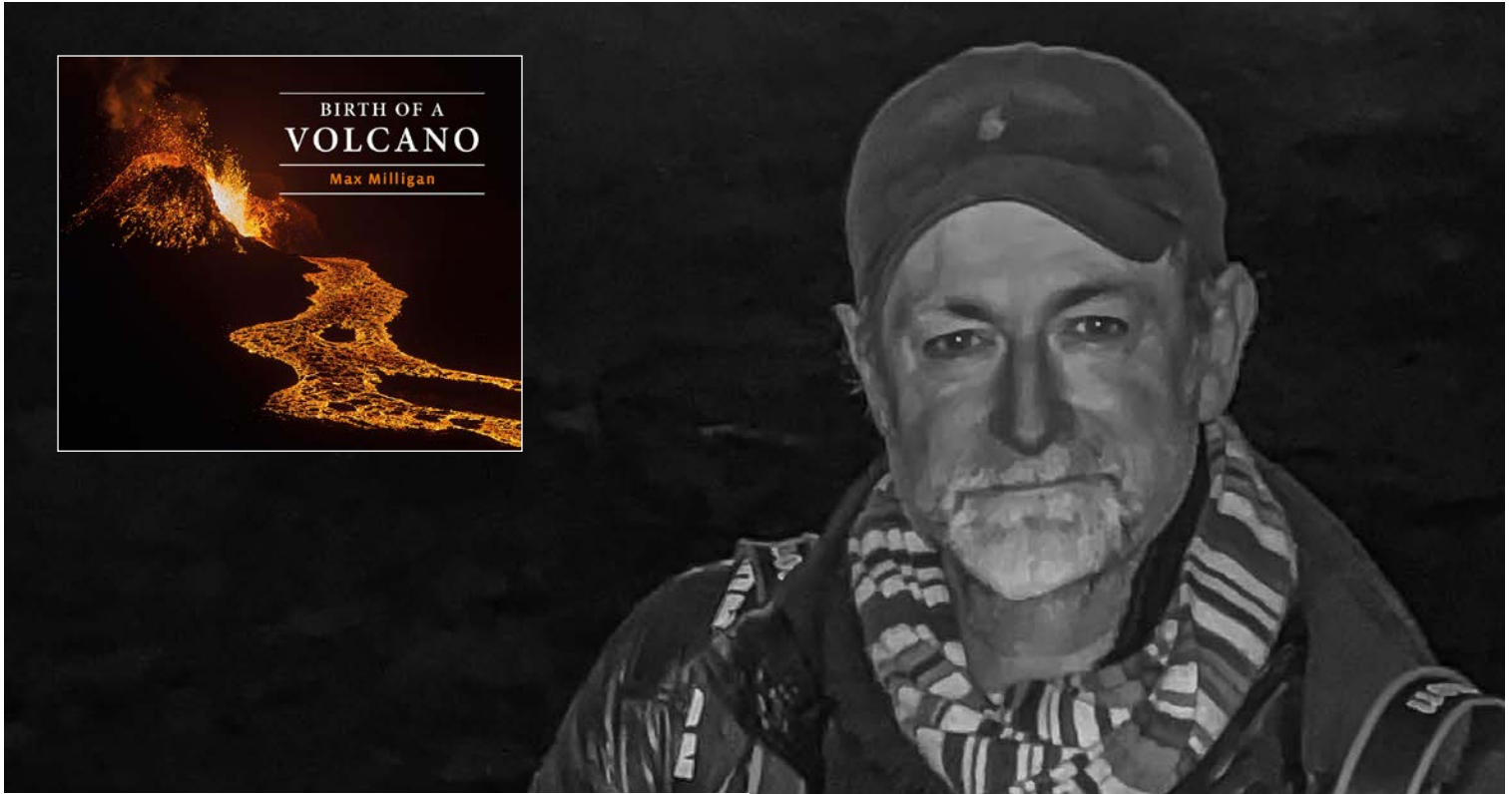
ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Ari Trausti Gudmundsson is a geophysicist and one of Iceland's foremost experts on volcanic activity and volcanoes. He is the author of some twenty books on geology, travelling, and nature, including a comprehensive study of all the volcanic areas in Iceland.

Photographer Ragnar Th. Sigurdsson holds multiple awards for his landscape photography. He is renowned for his ability to capture the raw beauty of Iceland and the Arctic.



BIRTH OF A
VOLCANO
Max Milligan



Max Milligan Birth of a Volcano

books on Iceland, 2021

Once upon a time - 20:45 on Friday, March 19th 2021 to be precise - a fairy-tale volcano was born at Geldingadalur, 'The Valley of the Geldings', by Fagradalsfjall.

So begins the story of this extraordinary natural event. After almost eight hundred years of peace, Southwest Iceland's Reykjanes Peninsula was shaken by a swarm of 50,000 earthquakes and the eruption of the most beautiful and dramatic volcano that Max Milligan had seen in a lifetime of photographing seismic activity. This awe-inspiring spectacle combined the immense powers of creation and destruction: nature's glory in full force. In *Birth of a Volcano*, the world-renowned photographer Max Milligan harnesses natural light and curated moments from the first three months of eruptions to create an exceptional painterly account of this unexpected historical episode.

HARDCOVER, 13,5 x 12 cm, 160 pp
In English

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Max Milligan is a fine art photographer renowned for his painterly eye. This is his 8th book. He has had titles in The Times Top Ten Travel Books of the Year. His photographic works hang in private and corporate collections worldwide and he exhibits, lectures and runs workshops regularly. He is based between Somerset, England and Ollantaytambo, Peru.



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