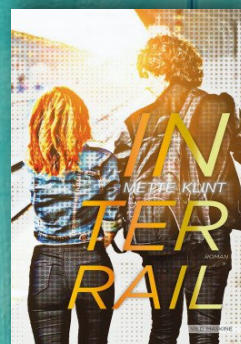
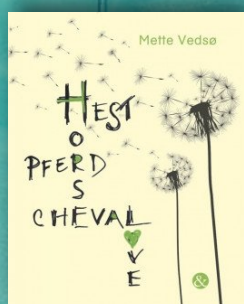
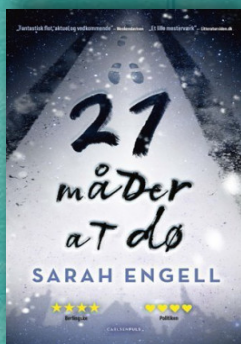
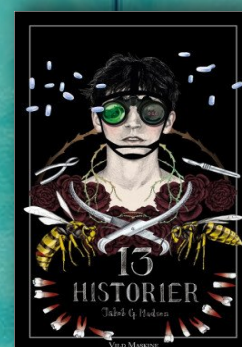
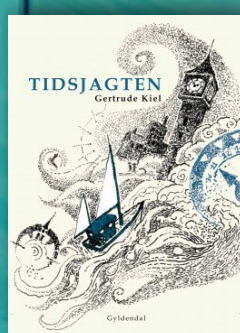
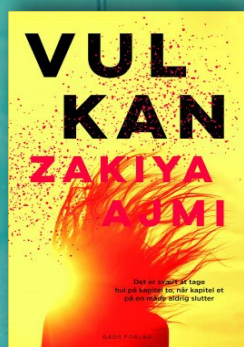
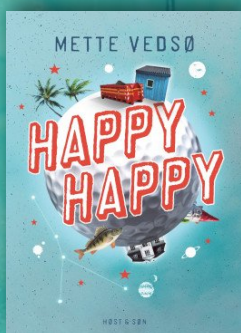
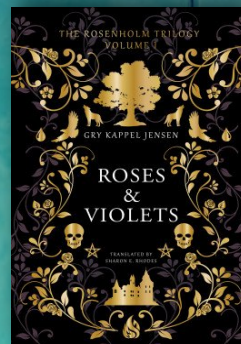
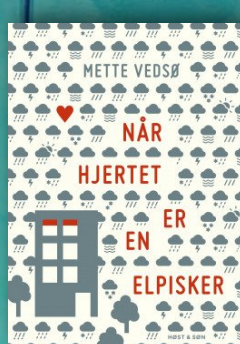




# YA and Tween Highlights

Autumn 2023





Michela Elk



## All I Remember

### Alt hvad jeg husker

Well-written psychological suspense novel by promising young writer.

**Michela Elk** (b. 1991) is a graduate from the Manuscript School for Children's Fiction in 2023. She is drawn towards telling those stories that become alive in the meeting between darkness, hope and everyday magic.

## SYNOPSIS

*I can remember the pulsating rhythm of the ground and your running steps and your hand that slipped out of mine. I can remember when you jumped. That I remember.*

*All I Remember* is a psychological drama where the truth continuously shows itself from different angles.

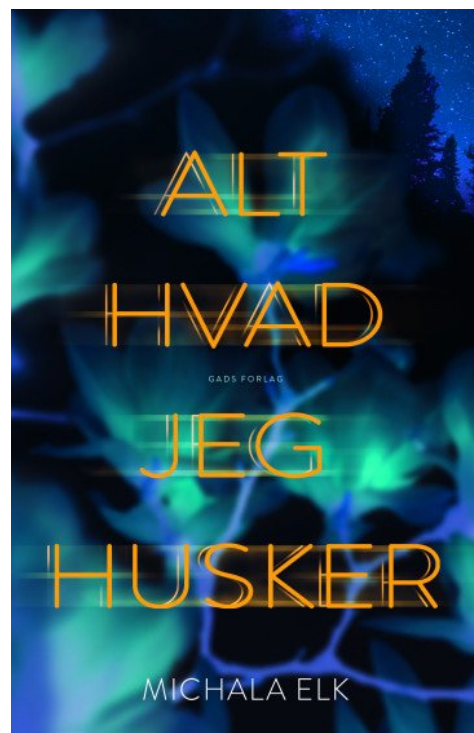
Freja has lost her best friend, Malou, who jumped out in front a train. While the police investigate the death, Freja returns to her everyday life where everyone is puzzled about why Malou took her own life. As the only witness, Freja gets a lot of questions that force her to think about the night when Malou died. And about their friendship in the time leading up to her death.

The more she remembers, the more she doubts how well she actually knew her friend. And as the police dig deeper and deeper, there are several inconsistencies.

What actually happened with Malou on the tracks?

## REVIEWS

"Well-written, authentic and intense book which carries a constantly vibrating undertone, making the reading experience very exciting and compelling. A succesful youth novel with a great plot and a surprising twist at the end. Comes warmly recommended." – (Library Review (Lektørdtalelse))



Original Language: *Danish*

Original Publisher: *Gads Forlag*

Published: *September, 2023*

270 pages

Category: *Children's Books*

Sub-category: *YA*

Genre: *Realism*

Available material: *English sample*

## Territories Handled

World except: Danish

Lars Daneskov



## Fatal Outcome

### Med døden til følge

A psychological thriller for 12+ about mourning and longing and about the obligation to continue living, even when someone close to you dies.

**Lars Daneskov** (b. 1963) is a journalist and author and has written about 30 books in a variety of genres, for both children and adults.

## SYNOPSIS

The dead boy's room is on the second floor at the end of the hallway. When Liva has friends over, that is always what they want to see.

This was where her older brother, Victor, lived and behind the closed door, the room looks exactly like it did on the day when he died three years ago. The family is stuck in that moment in time, savouring every detail of their memory of him.

Until Liva discovers the imprint of a body on his otherwise meticulously made bed and makes the nerve-wrecking discovery that he has disappeared from his class photo from back then.

Victor is no longer among them. But perhaps that is in fact precisely what he is.

*Fatal Outcome* is a book about the living not being able to let go of their dead, and the dead not being able to let go of their living. It is an important book about a topic that would have been unbearably tough if it was done 1:1, but which - wrapped in the suspenseful outer frame of the ghost story - becomes a welcome opportunity to talk about mourning and how we deal with it.

Check out Danish publisher, Gutkind's, extra material for the book [here](#).

## REVIEWS

"Inside this horror story for children is a beautiful tale about longing and the mourning process... Deadly Outcome is a scary and reflected story about what happens to the relatives when a child dies ... The genre suits him ... the language is concrete and beautiful" – (Five stars in Jyllandsposten. )

"A gripping and compelling psychological thriller about loss and sorrow. And then it is a ghost story which will make you think after you finish reading." – (Library Review (Lektørudtalelse – Dansk Biblioteks Center))



Original Language: *Danish*

Original Publisher: *Gutkind*

Published: *September, 2022*

173 pages

Category: *Children's Books*

Sub-category: *Tween*

Genre: *Horror*

Themes: *Loss/Grief, Family, Courage, Love, Growing up*

Film Rights: *Babel-Bridge*

Theatre Rights: *Babel-Bridge*

Available material: *English sample of chapters 1-2, 14-15 and summary*

## Territories Handled

World Rights (Babel Bridge)

Mette Vedsø



# When the Heart is a Hand Mixer

## Når hjertet er en elpisker

Winner of the *Danish Ministry of Culture's Children's Book Author Prize 2018* has written yet another powerful tween novel, which has been included in *The White Ravens 2020*.

**Mette Vedsø** (b. 1968) studied chemistry and biotechnology, then trained at the Writer's School for Children's Literature. Since 2010, she has written several critically acclaimed children's books, including picture books and tween novels. Her work is suffused with an implicit understanding for children, especially the slightly displaced ones with big hearts – her observations and writing are moving, subtle and poetic.

## SYNOPSIS

Mette Vedsø has written yet another moving and thought-provoking tale, giving voice to a child in distress. She has previously written about friendship, coming-of-age and horses in her award-winning novel, *Hest Horse Pferd Cheval Love* and *Liv, Life, Leben, Vie, Love*, and about a boy from a socially deprived home who gets a chance at a new beginning in *Far from the White House*. Now she is back with a glimpse into the life of a high-achieving teenage girl struggling with anxiety.

*When the Heart is a Hand Mixer* is included in **The White Ravens 2020**. Here is what they write:

*During English class, Pi suddenly collapses. Everything goes black; dizziness; boom. At the hospital, she is diagnosed with anxiety disorder. Her parents, well-off workaholics for whom high performance and success are everything, only want the best for their daughter. They arrange therapy after therapy, so that she can cope with »the crisis« as quickly as possible, go back to school, and function well. Yet that doesn't work. Pi takes the time she needs and makes friends with three extraordinary people in her apartment block: Gillian Brown, an elderly lady, plus Bianca and her daughter, Vicky, all three of them street-wise, warm-hearted, and imperfect. Pi gets to know different ways of living and realizes that she is perfectly okay the way she is; and at some point, so do her parents. Pi, who tells her own story, is curious, clever, and a good observer. She is definitely no sociophobe, but rather open-minded and helpful. The four inhabitants of the house quickly become very close, and Pi benefits more from this closeness than from any school lesson.*

## REVIEWS



Original Language: *Danish*

Original Publisher: *Høst & Søn*

Published: *October, 2019*

151 pages

Category: *Children's Books*

Sub-category: *Tween*

Genre: *Realism*

Themes: *Friendship, Belonging/Identity, Fear & Anxiety*

"When the Heart is a Hand-mixer, this is typical Mette Vedsø , top grade and more [...] you get so happy from the humour, optimism and eye for the baroque, which suffuse the book [...] Everything fits together, so that those who need it will get literary oxygen and quirky occurrences as a bonus" – (4 hearts in *Politiken*)

"Very beautiful and recommendable novel which you don't feel like putting down. The reading experience stays with you for a long time after the book is finished" – Sanne Mendel (Official reader for the libraries (lektørualelse))

## TERRITORIES HANDLED

World Rights (Babel Bridge)

## TERRITORIES SOLD

Catalan: [Pages editors](#), Italian: [Il Castoro](#), Lithuanian: [Terra Publica](#), Polish: [Wydawnictwo Widnokrąg](#), Serbian: [Odiseja](#), Slovene: [Miš Založba](#).



Gry Kappel Jensen



## Roses & Violets: the Rosenholm trilogy (1)

### Roser og violer: Rosenholm trilogien (1)

*Roses & Violets* is the first book in the bestselling YA trilogy, which is now also going to reach an English- and German speaking audience in 2023.

**Gry Kappel Jensen** is the author of the bestselling YA fantasy series, *Rosenholm*, published in Germany, Italy, Poland and US.

## SYNOPSIS

Four girls from very different backgrounds are making their way to the mysterious Rosenholm Boarding School from different corners of the country. The one thing they have in common is the strange offer they have received to apply for a place at what will turn out to be a school for magic, deeply embedded in Nordic mythology, nature magic and shamanism. The girls have been invited to apply for a reason that is as yet unknown to themselves, but already during the unorthodox application tests, it becomes apparent that a spirit is trying to establish contact with the girls. It turns out that a young girl was murdered under mysterious circumstances in the 1980s and the killer was never found. Her spirit is still haunting the place, and she is now urging the four girls to bring justice and find the killer. But someone is keeping an eye on them and it quickly becomes clear that their lives are in danger.

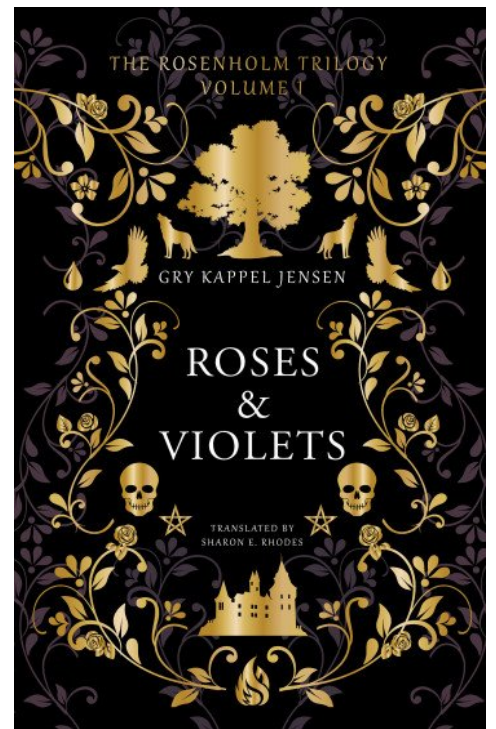
Aimed at 14+, *Roses & Violets* is on one level a classic coming-of-age tale, about identity, friendship and (forbidden) love. On another level, it is an original fantasy novel, full of magic, romance and mystery, bound to thrill teenagers and YAs alike, also internationally.

### Translation of full review from Weekendavisen:

“Steal like an Artist” is the name of a popular handbook for creative souls. All stories ever told were inspired by other stories, the author Austin Cleon claims. Nothing is completely original. But what do you do if you want to write something that hasn’t been read before?

The art is to be inspired by a lot of different things, Cleon thinks. And to mix the ingredients until the dish tastes like something else.

Take for example *Roses & Violets*, the first volume in a Danish series about a group of young people who attend a mysterious boarding school for magic. Every book in the series covers an entire school year and the story is part crime and part everyday drama in the school hallways. Does it sound familiar? A bit



Original Language: *Danish*

Original Publisher: *Turbine*

Published: *May, 2019*

348 pages

Category: *Children's Books*

Sub-category: *YA*

Genre: *Fantasy*

Themes: *Love, Friendship, Belonging/Identity, Growing up*

Film Rights: *Nepenthe Film*

Available material: *Full professional English translation + detailed synopsis in English (incl. spoilers)*

Harry Potter-like, maybe? I think so, at least.

But the author Gry Kappel Jensen is not only inspired by JK Rowling's books. The magic, they study at the castle-like boarding school, draws on Nordic mythology, Viking rituals and much more. And the main characters of the novel are girls who are just as preoccupied by the Twilight-attractive boys at the school as they are by magical mysteries. Kappel Jensen has stolen like and artist and *Roses & Violets* tastes of something new.

The main characters are the four girls Kirstine, Victoria, Kamille and Malou who are room-mates at Rosenholm – the name of the boarding school – but they couldn't be more different. Kirstine is dyslexic and has extremely religious parents. Victoria is beautiful, sad and rich. Kamille grew up in the woods with her hippie mum. And Malou is a sarcastic high achiever with a dark past.

The four have each their magic speciality which cleverly emphasise issues that girls might struggle with in their everyday lives. Victoria is for example able to see spirits, which makes her highly strung and ruins her sleep. And Malou is a blood magician: she releases her powers by cutting herself. Together the four girls need to solve a murder mystery. More you do not need to know.

On the other hand, I am happy to reveal that *Roses & Violets* is a page-turner. With four sympathetic main characters at the wheel, the tale races towards its sufficiently unpredictable culmination. Which of course leaves an open end to be dealt with in the sequel.

*Roses & Violets* is not original, but it is captivating, well-written and constantly entertaining."

## REVIEWS

"Sensuous and masterful" – (4 hearts in *Politiken*)

"Captivating, well-written and constantly entertaining" – (*Weekendavisen*)

## TERRITORIES HANDLED

World except: Danish

## TERRITORIES SOLD

English (World): Arctis US, German: Arctis, Italian: Gallucci Editore, Polish: Zielona Sowa.

Synne Kristine Eriksen



## The Silent Three: The Guardian (1)

### De tre tyste: Beskytteren (1)

Synne Kristine Eriksen's fantasy trilogy, *The Silent Three* is a sublime reading experience, absolutely on par with the big established writers within the genre. Packed with atmosphere, layers of meaning and the most beautiful, flowing language, this series is truly un-put-downable. *The Guardian* is the first book in the trilogy.

**Synne Kristine Eriksen** is a true storyteller - her writing envelops you and stays with you for a long time after you have put her books down. In her series, *The Silent Three*, she does what J.K. Rowling and George R.R. Martin did so convincingly before her: creates a universe that is completely her own, just lying there ready for you to dive in.

## SYNOPSIS

*An ancient forest. A bell that splinters. A boy who has lost something precious.*

Sigurd lives a quiet life in the Forest, far away from the Jarl's court. He chops wood. He hunts. He is careful to stay inside when darkness falls.

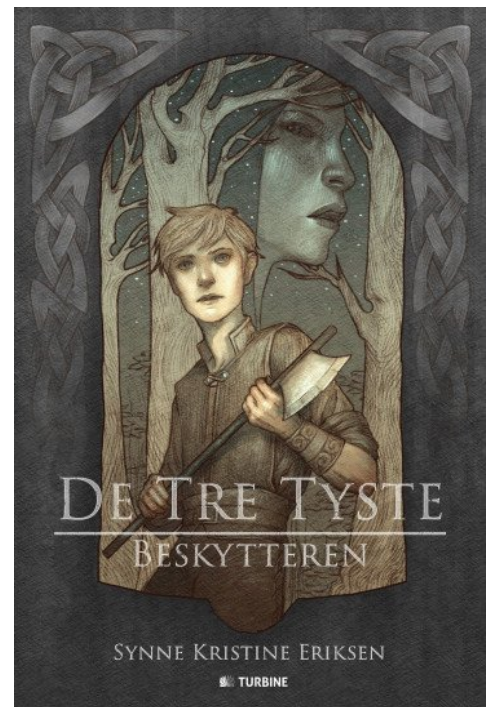
The Forest is ancient and full of dangers, but Sigurd's little hut under the oak tree is a safe haven. Sigurd does not know why it is so; he just knows that it is. Until one morning, when everything changes.

Sigurd's beloved sister Svanhild disappears, and he must leave the Forest home he shares with her and his grandmother to embark on a quest to find her. But Sigurd is soon swept up in events that are bigger than him. Political intrigue and secret plans, warmongering and murder, and greatest of all, the invasion of the Forest by a dark power that threatens everything he knows.

When he encounters Myrhat, a strange Forest creature and one of the mythical Bellmakers, he realises that there is something very sinister about his sister's disappearance. Together, Sigurd and Myrhat must journey through the Forest, slowly unravelling the truth about the darkness that is seeping through it, and about Sigurd's own past.

## REVIEWS

"A solid plot in a complete, compelling, medieval universe" – (*Fyens Stiftidende*)



Original Language: *Danish*

Original Publisher: *Turbine*

Published: *November, 2016*

312 pages

Category: *Children's Books*

Sub-category: *YA*

Genre: *Fantasy*

Themes: *Love, Friendship, Belonging/Identity, Loss/Grief, Family, Growing up*

Available material: *Danish original, English sample translation.*

## Territories Handled

World Rights (Babel Bridge)

## Territories Sold

Polish: Czarna Owca



"Here's an author with something urgent to say " – (*Weekendavisen*)

Mette Vedsø



## Happy Happy

This *White Raven* 2022 book is a modern comedy of errors for 12 to 15-year-olds, about class differences, grasping the moment, daring to dream and standing up for yourself.

**Mette Vedsø** (b. 1968) studied chemistry and biotechnology, then trained at the Writer's School for Children's Literature. Since 2010, she has written several critically acclaimed children's books, including picture books and tween novels. Her work is suffused with an implicit understanding for children, especially the slightly displaced ones with big hearts – her observations and writing are moving, subtle and poetic.

### SYNOPSIS

Happy Happy is a novel about 13-year-old, Ubbe, who is accidentally given a super expensive golf set and in a mix-up starts frequenting the golf club in the liebhaver part of town. Ubbe is dead set to keep this a secret to his dad. Because Ubbe and his dad live in the ugliest house on the West Road with 44 bus lines in the front garden and his dad thinks golf is only for "rich pigs".

Mette Vedsø writes with warm humour about class differences, about daring to be true to yourself and putting your foot down – even if it hurts the people you love the most.

Included in [The White Raven Library 2022](#).

### REVIEWS

"Happy Happy is a soft form of social realism, a modern comedy of errors, where the reader is allowed to laugh about the characters" – (Weekendavisen)

"Mette Vedsø writes like only Mette Vedsø can. The book is intimate, warm and humorous" – (Library review)



Original Language: *Danish*

Original Publisher: *Gyldendal*

Published: *January, 2022*

144 pages

Category: [Children's Books](#)

Sub-category: [YA](#)

Genre: [Realism](#)

Themes: [Belonging/Identity](#), [Friendship](#), [Family](#), [Growing up](#)

Available material: *English sample and English synopsis*

### Territories Handled

World except: Danish

### Territories Sold

German: [Thienemann-Esslinger Verlag](#)

Lithuanian: [Terra Publica](#)

Slovene: [Mis Založba](#)

Zakiya Ajmi



## Volcano

### Vulkan

A superbly well-written debut novel, about finding yourself and the right person to love.

**Zakiya Ajmi** is a widely celebrated debut author. She was nominated for the Nordic Literature Council's Children's Book Prize in 2022 and shortlisted for the Cultural Ministry's Children's Book Author Prize.

## SYNOPSIS

Nominated for the [Nordic Literature Prize](#) in 2022 and shortlisted for the Danish Cultural Ministry's Children's Book Author award 2021, bright young star, Zakiya Ajmi, has written an evocative tween novel about Anna, who is trying to start afresh with her mum, after her parents have had a violent break-up. They have spent some time at a crisis center, but have now got a flat of their own in another city.

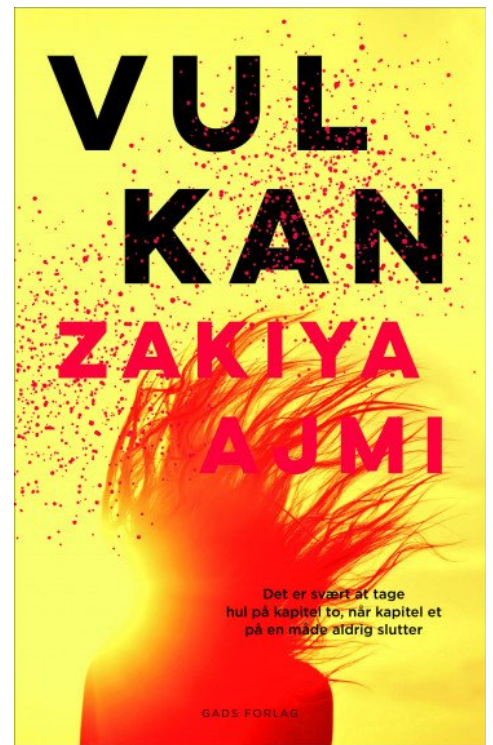
The novel is a love story, but as Anna has experienced in her short life, love between people can be expressed very differently. The love between her parents developed into something scary. For Chili, Anna's new friend at school, the love she feels for her boyfriend, Oscar, overshadows everything. But is it reciprocated? For Anna, her meeting with Idris becomes very special, but it is hard for her to find her way on the path to love, when she keeps getting entangled in other people's relationships. Anna wants to start afresh, but it can be hard to start chapter two, when chapter one in some way never ends.

Here is what the Nordic Literature Council wrote about the book:

*Volcano is a youth novel that explodes in many ways. Not only in the language, but also in its original structure which changes the traditional chronology by beginning and ending the book with Chapter Two. It is a rootless and insistent tale about place and displacement - told in its very own way. Dialogues, text messages and perplexed thoughts are mixed in an original composition, where not only what happens inside oneself, but also inside the middle of the earth, has its significance for the the characters in the book. Everything in the novel is about to explode.*

(...)

*Volcano is a social-realistic YA novel, narrated in a raw, poetic and whimsical way. A story about tripping and getting back up on your feet. There are hints at the traditional Bildungsroman in its classic structure here, with a close look at the feeling of belonging, Anna is homeless, a kind of nomad in her own life, and restlessness is a driving force both positively and negatively. Zakiya Ajmi has a rare and honest identification with a credible narrator that fortunately never becomes neither moralising or didactic. It is said that you learn from your*



Original Language: *Danish*

Original Publisher: [Gads Forlag](#)

Published: 2020

176 pages

Category: [Children's Books](#)

Sub-category: [YA](#)

Genre: [Realism](#)

Themes: [Love](#), [Growing up](#)

Film Rights: *Babel-Bridge Literary Agency*

Available material: *Full English sample translation, Full French sample translation*



*mistakes, but what you perhaps learn most of all in this novel is to say sorry - and mean it.*

*The YA novel, VOLCANO, is most certainly a volcano. You are in every possible way branded by the energy in every single sentence and the particular vulnerability of the words that creeps in and stays with you. Zakiya Ajmi is a writer who wants to achieve something with her narrative. She wants to shake the old world so we can have a new one, in which we are able to talk about all the things we usually omit to discuss.*

**Part of Books from Denmark, Autumn 2021 (chosen by the Danish Arts Foundation).**

## REVIEWS

"As an avid reader, it is a pleasure to glide through so many good sentences and funny imagery (..) a wild and original youth tale about life after a crisis center (...) a glowing portrait of young bewilderment and will (...) This is a book that wants to do a lot, and succeeds" – (5 hearts in *Politiken*)

"...an in turn well written and captivating youth novel about violence and boundary setting, but also about budding love and about finding oneself (...) there is a lot to take away and reflect yourself in for readers from approximately 13 and up " – (*The Learning Centre*)

## TERRITORIES HANDLED

World except: Danish

## TERRITORIES SOLD

Faroese: Bókadeild Føroya Lærarafelags, Italian: Camelozampa, Norwegian: Samlaget, Slovene: Zalozba Mis, Swedish: Berghs.

Gertrude Kiel



# The Time Chase

## Tidsjagten

A philosophical adventure about the mysteries of time and its many shapes and meanings.

**Gertrude Kiel** is a Danish author of international caliber, who writes engagingly about big universal topics.

## SYNOPSIS

*This is a detective story. A murder mystery. But it's a rather different one. The killer is already known, you see. The problem is to find the killer and measure out a proper punishment. For the killer is time itself, and this is the story about a boy named Otto, his bird Virgil and their best friend Ana, and the strange journey they embark on together to find and kill time.*

*The Time Chase* is set in an anachronistic world full of gothic melancholy, seafarers, mermaids, clockmakers and pirates – and death, of course, loves to play chess.

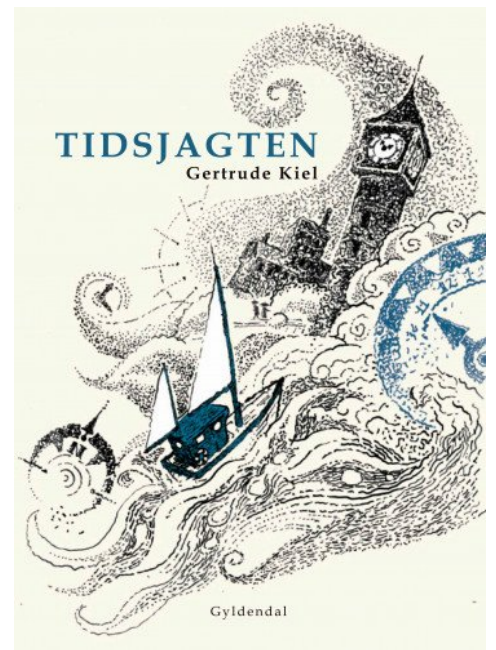
By taking our sayings about time literally and exploring them, the protagonists of the story learn that measuring time is only a means to understanding it, but doesn't really affect time itself. They also learn, that without time, there would be no meaning in our world at all.

Besides being a story of time, it is also a story about life and death, loss and coping with it; a story about friendship and especially a story about choosing your own path and trusting your gut feeling, even when it leads you to act against the current of normal convention.

## REVIEWS

"It takes a writer of calibre to keep track of the incredibly influential nature of proverbs about time in our part of the world, as well as science-based information about e.g. the speed of light and the qualities of the chronometer. Gertrude Kiel has it all completely under control. And without revealing too much, the ending of the novel will unlikely disappoint the reader." – (4 hearts in *Politiken*)

"There is suspense and horror and dizzyingly strange passages such as the one about Sander, whose unhappy love story is saved in the house as a painful frozen moment" – (4 stars in *Jyllandsposten*)



Original Language: *Danish*

Original Publisher: *Gyldendal*

Published: *2012*

344 pages

Category: *Children's Books*

Sub-category: *Tween*

Genre: *Adventure*

Themes: *Loss/Grief, Growing up, Belonging/Identity, Friendship, Curiosity*

Film Rights: *Babel-Bridge Literary Agency*

Theatre Rights: *Babel-Bridge Literary Agency*

Available material: *Detailed synopsis in English + professional Italian translation (upon request)*

## Territories Handled

World Rights (Babel Bridge)

## Territories Sold

Italian: Gallucci Editore

Ditte Wiese



## ...and then I Drown

### ...og så drukner jeg

This is a powerful YA novel by the author of the acclaimed *Province Piss*, in which she once again proves her ability to give a voice – or rather a megaphone – to young people, so that focus can be placed on what they fight against nowadays.

**Ditte Wiese** coins the challenges of young people perfectly in her powerful novels, which are also optioned for film.

## SYNOPSIS

*"Quick as a flash, cold shower, pony tail, beta blockers, coffee, green smoothie bowl on SnapStory and Instagram, car, psychology exam, A+, hug Miriam, change clothes, more beta blockers, car, parking, head on the wheel. And then deep breaths..."*

Do your utmost, or you're a loser! This is the mantra of 18-year-old, Josephine, who tries to be as perfect and successful as her friends.

She has made a meticulous plan for her life: she has chosen a sensible degree, the right boyfriend and the correct diet. It is good and it is perfect. But something is stirring in her. Small waves of something wrong, which pushes her and keeps her awake. It drills into her brain and makes noises. Makes her forget things. Makes her forget to breathe.

What is wrong with her? Why can't she just stick with the plan?

The pressure is so big that Josephine is drowning. She doesn't dare to shout for help, because if she cannot manage everything, she is nothing.

**Selected for possible nomination by IBBY Denmark in the category: "Outstanding Books for Young People with Disabilities 2023".**

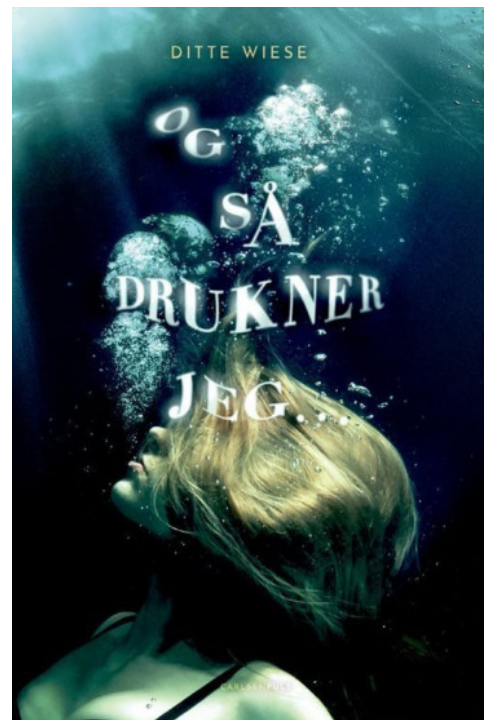
**Winner of the Mofibo Award for Best YA novel 2020.**

**Shortlisted for The Readers' Book Prize 2020.**

## REVIEWS

"A tsunami in book form (...) heart-breaking" – (4 hearts in *Politiken*)

"A painfully honest and engaging tale " – (*Folkeskolen* (Industry magazine for schools))



Original Language: *Danish*

Original Publisher: *Forlaget Carlsen*

Published: *June, 2019*

344 pages

Category: *Children's Books*

Sub-category: *YA*

Genre: *Realism*

Themes: *Belonging/Identity, Growing up, Fear & Anxiety*

Film Rights: *F-Film*

Theatre Rights: *Babel-Bridge Literary Agency*

Available material: *Danish original, English sample translation and detailed synopsis in English.*

## Territories Handled

World except: Danish

## Territories Sold

Estonian: *Paike ja Pilv*



Jakob G. Madsen



## 13 Stories

### 13 historier

Thirteen short stories that will make your hair stand on end. A completely normal day and a completely innocuous situation will turn into a nightmare for the protagonists of the collection.

**Jakob G. Madsen** is the author of 13 excellent, underplayed horror stories for the 10+ audience.

## SYNOPSIS

Brilliant underplayed horror with a strong sense of suspense and surprise.

*A young girl with low self esteem is lured into a new shop on a side street with the most mesmerizing mannequin heads on display. She will never be the same again after that experience.*

*A boy is pressured by some older boys into climbing dizzying heights of a tree to pick up his lost football. On the branches high high up, he meets someone he will never forget again.*

*A gamer decides to ignore his mum and switches on his computer late at night for another round. The problem is only that damn wasp which seems to have entered his room. Severely allergic, he needs to keep an eye on it...*

The stories exist in individually published hardcover editions of 48 pages each with about 13 illustrations. The text has been treated so that it is easier to read and is aimed at reaching a different audience.

The stories furthermore exist as cinematic audio books, complete with original music and sound effects.



Original Language: *Danish*

Original Publisher: *Vild Maskine*

Published: May, 2018

164 pages

Category: *Children's Books*

Sub-category: *Tween*

Genre: *Horror*

Themes: *Bullying, Anger, Belonging/Identity, Jealousy, Suffering, Courage*

Available material: *English sample translation*

## Territories Handled

World Rights (Babel Bridge)

Sarah Engell



## 21 Ways to Die

### 21 måder at dø

Dubbed *the strongest Danish YA novel of the last 10 years* and a bestselling title on Carlsen's list, this compelling novel - which remains highly topical - has been launched in an updated edition.

**Sarah Engell** is one of the most popular YA writers on the Danish scene, coining perfectly what it is like being young today, with no trace of moralisation or judgement. She is currently nominated for the Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award.

### SYNOPSIS

How quickly can you be demoted from the most popular girl in the class to a social loser, excluded and frowned upon by everyone?

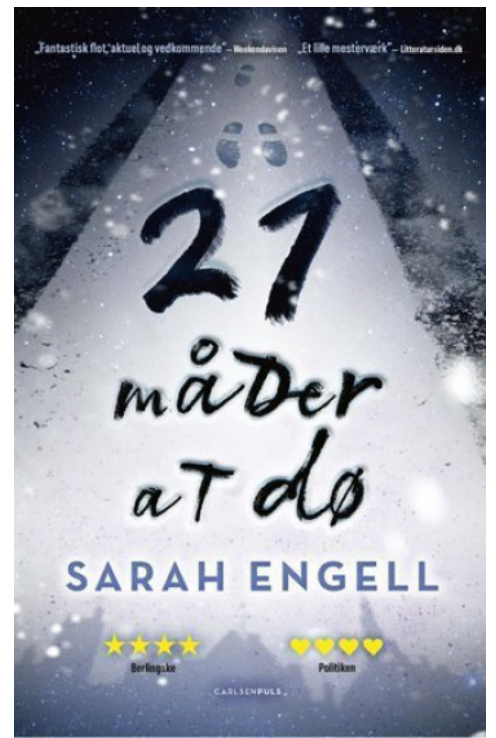
In the bat of an eye, Stella learns, when she falls out with her best friend, Amalie. In no time, Amalie makes the whole class turn against Stella and she stops at nothing: Facebook-harassment, sms threats and grotesque YouTube clips. Stella is defenceless and can do nothing but watch as her hate page gets more and more likes and Amalie's attacks get more vicious by the minute. A consolation is Filippa, who is the only one in class who stays in touch with Stella, but how useful is a friend who does not dare to see you when others are looking?

Stella feels herself slowly dying inside. Making music, which meant everything to her before, no longer soothes her and the few people she still trusts are disappearing, one after the other. So what's left fighting for? Nothing! All there is left is to chose one of the 21 ways she has listed. 21 ways to die...

### REVIEWS

"A fantastically impressive, current and involving novel that deserves to be read, not just by young people, but also by people who work with them on a daily basis" – (Weekendavisen)

"It needs to be spelt out in maximum capital letters that Sarah Engell has written the best YA novel of the century" – (Folkeskolen (Industry magazine for schools))



Original Language: *Danish*

Original Publisher: *Forlaget Carlsen*

Published: *February, 2014*

336 pages

Category: *Children's Books*

Sub-category: *YA*

Genre: *Realism*

Themes: *Bullying, Friendship, Belonging/Identity, Jealousy*

Film Rights: *Toolbox Film*

Theatre Rights: *Babel-Bridge Literary Agency*

Available material: *Danish original, English sample translation*

### Territories Handled

World except: Danish

### Territories Sold

Bulgarian: *Emas*

Macedonian: *Sakam Knigi*

Polish: *Foksal*

Mette Vedsø



## Hest Horse Pferd Cheval Love

Winner of the *Danish Ministry of Culture's Children's Book Author Prize* and shortlisted for the *Nordic Literature Prize for Children's Books*, this gem of a novel is not really about girls and horses, but rather a stunningly executed portrayal of growing up and finding your identity.

**Mette Vedsø** (b. 1968) studied chemistry and biotechnology, then trained at the Writer's School for Children's Literature. Since 2010, she has written several critically acclaimed children's books, including picture books and tween novels. Her work is suffused with an implicit understanding for children, especially the slightly displaced ones with big hearts – her observations and writing are moving, subtle and poetic.

### SYNOPSIS

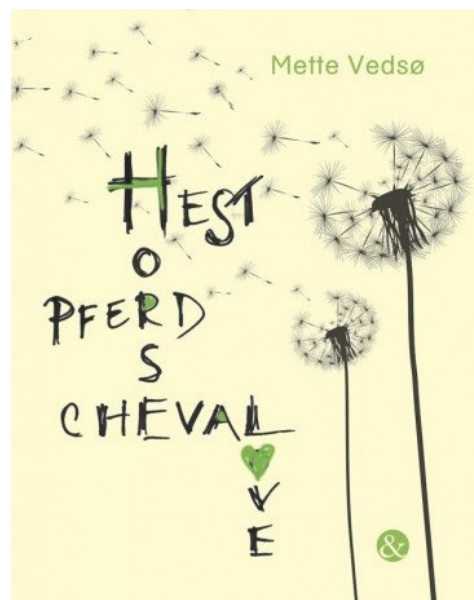
Naja and Taxa are from very different backgrounds and would never have met if it wasn't for their common interest in horses. Despite their differences, the girls become best friends, but when Taxa starts to be interested boys and the older girls from the neighbouring institution, their friendship starts to fall apart.

Poetically spiced with beautiful illustrations of dandelion seeds blowing in the wind, this novel has several layers and is not only about friendships among girls and their love of horses. It is just as much a coming-of-age novel about the discovery of the sometimes rough and uncertain world outside the safe bubble of childhood.

### REVIEWS

"It is incredibly how much Mette Vedsø can say with a few well-placed words" – (*Politiken*)

"The best children's book of the year – which parents can also learn from" – (*Litteratursiden*)



Original Language: *Danish*

Original Publisher: *Jensen & Dalgaard*

Published: *August, 2017*

128 pages

Category: *Children's Books*

Sub-category: *Tween*

Genre: *Realism*

Themes: *Friendship, Belonging/Identity, Growing up*

Available material: *English sample and synopsis*

### Territories Handled

World Rights (Babel Bridge)

### Territories Sold

Faroese: BFL

Swedish: Raben & Sjogren



Kristina Aamand



# If Words were my Weapon

## For enden af din pegefinger

Nominated for the *Deutscher Jugendliteratur Preis* 2019 - "Preis der JugendJury" - and translated into German and Swedish.

**Kristina Aamand** is a Danish writer of children's and adult fiction, especially acclaimed for her YA writing.

## SYNOPSIS

A raw and gripping YA novel about falling in love with the wrong person and the price we sometimes have to pay for following our heart.

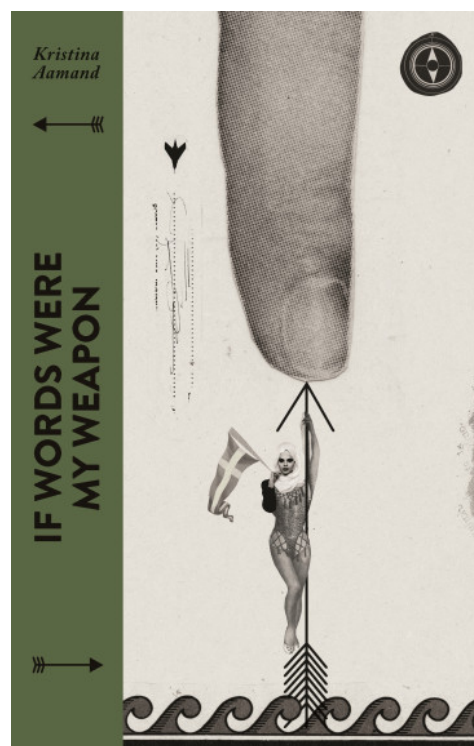
17-year-old Sheherazade feels caught between her mother's expectations of her as a good Muslim girl and her classmates, who live very different lives. Trying to keep her head above water, she writes fanzines about the refugee experience in Denmark - her mum would rather that she became a doctor.

Sheherazade is her father's daughter, but when he is hospitalised, it gets harder for her to cope with the pressure and when she meets Thea, suddenly a new world opens up. Sheherazade falls in love, but is she willing to pay the price?

## REVIEWS

"Kristina Aamand accompanies her young protagonist in an elegant and eloquent manner in her compact novel (...) With her refined and authentic style of writing, the author emphasises the direct manner of the young Muslim woman and offers a differentiated view of her confusing reality (...) Like a red thread through the narrative, the impressive collages (zines), made of pictures and words, creatively connect emotions and thoughts. This many-faceted coming-of-age story encourages individuality and self-esteem." – (The German *JugendJury* committee)

"The fact that young Sana Bakkoush was the central character of the last season of the successful Norwegian TV series *Skam* is a clear indicator that times are changing. This also holds true for literature. People are finally starting to tell the stories of those who have so far been given little attention: girls from Muslim families. *Skam*'s Sana and Sheherazade, the protagonist of this multicultural novel, show how difficult it is for a girl or a woman to negotiate life between two conflicting worlds: family life ruled by traditional values and the completely different customs and norms of the outside world. Their lives are minefields. Sheherazade manages to strike a balance between both; yet when she falls in love with a girl – Thea, the daughter of a well-off, leftist intellectual family – everything starts toppling over. Kristina Aamand narrates this story with a knack



Original Language: *Danish*

Original Publisher: *Forlaget Carlsen*

Published: *November, 2016*

250 pages

Category: *Children's Books*

Sub-category: *YA*

Genre: *Realism*

Themes: *LGBT, Love, Belonging/Identity, Family, Growing up*

Film Rights: *Babel-Bridge Literary Agency*

Theatre Rights: *Babel-Bridge Literary Agency*

Available material: *Danish original, English sample translation, detailed synopsis in English, German and Swedish translations.*

for self-irony and a clear socially critical edge." – (*The White Raven Prize* committee)

## TERRITORIES HANDLED

World Rights (Babel Bridge)

## TERRITORIES SOLD

German: Dressler, Italian: Camelozampa, Serbian: Urban Reads, Swedish: Natur & Kultur.

Mette Klint



## Interrail

It goes straight to your heart! Mette Klint's simple, honest depiction of two young people who have left their old lives behind and meet coincidentally on a train in Europe. A Danish YA take on the movie, *Before Sunrise*.

Author of beautifully coined coming-of-age novel, full of nostalgia for the times when we could travel freely...

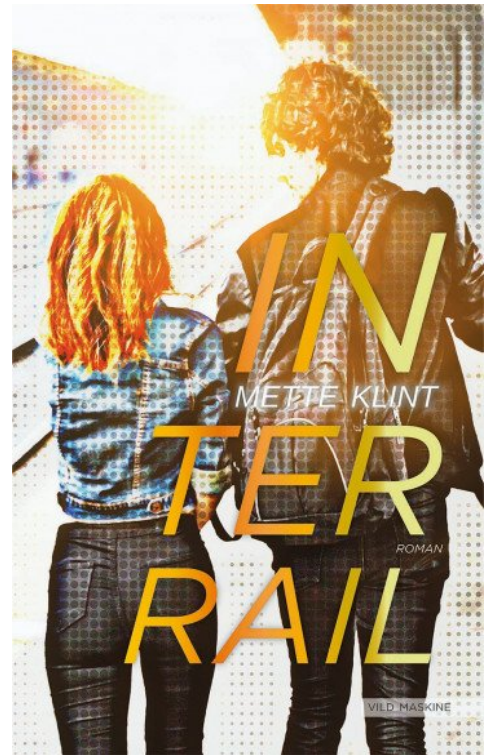
### SYNOPSIS

Junuz is leaving a turbulent year behind him; a year where he has got himself into life-threatening situations and destroyed relationships. He jumps on a train with an interrail ticket, nurturing a vague plan to seek out his father's roots on the Balkan.

Helena is crying after having parted with her boyfriend on the station platform. She is heading off to Italy to spend time with her Italian family for a month. But is it really an excuse to get away from the stifling life she has created for herself?

In the train, Junuz and Helena's seat reservations are right opposite each other and all she wants to do is disappear into the novel she has brought along. But then Junuz starts asking questions, annoying questions...

*Interrail* is a youth novel about courage, moral and ethics - about daring to take a chance to do something you believe in. Topics such as human trafficking and the war in Kosovo are intertwined with more classic youth book themes, such as identity, responsibility, love and family.



Original Language: *Danish*

Original Publisher: *Vild Maskine*

Published: *June, 2019*

229 pages

Category: *Children's Books*

Sub-category: *YA*

Genre: *Realism*

Themes: *Love, Courage, Friendship, Belonging/Identity, Curiosity*

Available material: *Sample translation in English.*

### Territories Handled

World Rights (Babel Bridge)



Sarah Engell



## The Moment You Doubt

### Det øjeblik du tvivler

*"This is #MeToo on wheels. And Sarah Engell oversees it with her falcon eye and embraces it with measured warmth. No violins. But power".*

**Sarah Engell** is one of the most popular YA writers on the Danish scene, coining perfectly what it is like being young today, with no trace of moralisation or judgement. She is currently nominated for the Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award.

## SYNOPSIS

Vigga is a talented skater; a young woman in a predominantly male sport who is used to standing up for herself. She spends all her spare time training intensively to prove that she is just as good as her male peers. That is until she meets William: he is handsome, he is cool and he is sharp. He sees beyond Vigga's armour and wants to do all he can to look after her. Also when she starts receiving threatening messages. And Vigga needs all the support she can get in what is to become the most challenging time of her life: who is the person behind the anonymous messages, who can she trust?

A powerful story - based on real stories of young women who urged the author to write their tale - about how quickly you can lose grip of your life - even if you are strong-minded and used to standing up for yourself.

## REVIEWS

"This is #MeToo on wheels. And Sarah Engell oversees it with her falcon eye and embraces it with measured warmth. No violins. But power." – (5 hearts in *Politiken*)



Original Language: *Danish*

Original Publisher: *Forlaget Carlsen*

Published: *June, 2020*

368 pages

Category: *Children's Books*

Sub-category: *YA*

Genre: *Realism*

Themes: *Love, Bullying, Belonging/Identity*

Film Rights: *Monday Scripted*

Theatre Rights: *Babel-Bridge Literary Agency*

Available material: *Danish original, English sample translation and detailed synopsis in English.*

## Territories Handled

World Rights (Babel Bridge)