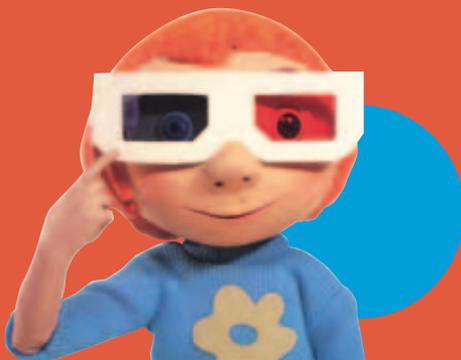




# CHILDREN'S BOOKS FROM ESTONIA



# ESTONIAN CHILDREN'S LITERATURE CENTRE

The Estonian Children's Literature Centre was established in 1933.

## Archives Library collects

- children's books and children's periodicals published in Estonian and in Estonia;
- world's classics in children's literature and awarded books in their original languages;
- reference books, monographs, journals and other materials on children's literature;
- illustrations of children's books.

## Specialised Information Centre

- creates databases and provides information to researchers of children's literature, translators, publishers, teachers, students and other interested persons.
- performs research on Estonian children's literature.

## Development and Training Centre

- organises conferences, workshops, lectures;
- conducts surveys among readers;
- publishes materials on children's literature.

## Major projects

- Nukits Competition (Young Reader's Choice Award);
- Raisin of the Year Award;
- exhibitions;
- creative contests.

## Treasury of Children's Literature and Art Gallery

The Treasury gives an overview of the Estonian children's book through the ages.

Illustrations of children's books from Estonia and foreign countries can be admired in the gallery.



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PIRET RAUD

# Emma Loves Pink

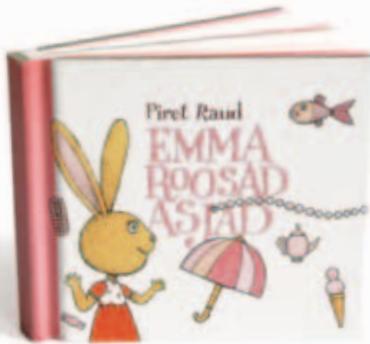
ILLUSTRATED BY THE AUTHOR

TAMMERRAAMAT, 2010

ISBN 978-9949-449-65-1

85x98 MM

56 PAGES



The book is dedicated to all the little girls who love the colour pink. Emma is a little hare, who loves only pink things. She has lots of them - a pink cup, pink hair-bands, pink slippers and a pink tooth-brush. Even a pink mobile phone and an aquarium filled with pink fish. But this is not enough for her. She would like everything to be pink - even the sky through the window and the moon and the stars.

At Emma's birthday everything is pink, of course. Except the present from her friend, Ferdinand the Frog, which has a green cabbage. At first Emma is disappointed, but after taking a bite she understands that maybe, after all, green is just as good as pink.

„Emma Loves Pink” by Wingedchariot is also available as an electronic book on the iPhone, iPod touch and iPad.

#### Award:

2010 5 Best Designed Children's Books, Special Prize of the Estonian Children's Literature Centre

Piret Raud was born in 1971 in Tallinn, Estonia. She comes from a family of writers - her father was a writer, her mother is a writer, and both of her brothers are writers, too. Surprisingly, she chose the path of a graphic artist at first, but before long came back to her roots, and has become one of the most renowned children writers and illustrators in Estonia. She has written 7 books and illustrated more than 40 titles. Her books have also been published in English and German.

[piretraud.edicypages.com](http://piretraud.edicypages.com)



PIRET RAUD

# MISTER BIRD'S STORY

ILLUSTRATED BY THE AUTHOR

TAMMERRAAMAT, 2009

ISBN 978-9949-449-41-5

HARDBACK

256x207 MM

39 PAGES



Mister Bird lives in a large forest along with his hardworking friends who are happy and content building nests and singing in the choir. However, Mister Bird finds this kind of life too boring and ordinary, and leaves the forest in order to experience something different. He tries in turn being a pillow, a hedgehog, a snowman, a carrot, and a fox, and finds in the end that a bird's life isn't that bad after all.

The true value of this humorous picture book lies in its beautiful illustrations. The pictures, in Indian ink and watercolour, are imaginative and often surprising; they contain warmth and will make the little reader laugh.

#### Awards:

- 2009 5 Best Designed Children's Books, Certificate of Merit, Special Prize Golden Book
- 2009 Raisin of the Year Award



SIGNE ORA

# RIDDLE ME, RIDDLE ME, LITTLE LEENU!

ILLUSTRATED BY KATRIN EHRLICH

PÄIKE JA PILV

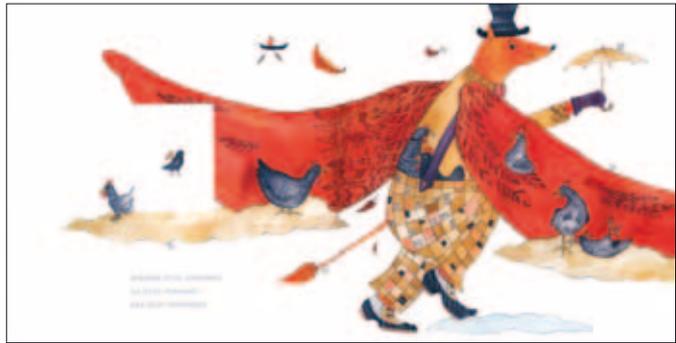
WWW.PAIKEJAPILV.EE

ISBN 978-9985-9997-4-5

HARDBACK

260x260 MM

34 PAGES



The book describes one evening when little Leenu cannot go outside to play because it is raining. So she suggests that her mother, father and grandmother start playing a game of riddles. And even though she asks them simple riddles about wild animals, her family comes up with completely unexpected answers. Leenu learns the folk names of the animals of her homeland. Excitement is added by little opening windows, letting the reader know which animals can be found on the following pages. So the riddles are not only educational but also fun!

#### **Award:**

- 2008 Põlvepikuraamatu konkurs (The Knee-High Book competition), 1-2 place
- 2010 5 Best Designed Children's Books, Certificate of Merit and special prize 'Golden Book' of the National Library of Estonia



Signe Ora was born in 1973 on the island Hiiumaa and grew up in Tartumaa. She has studied Estonian language and literature, and works as a language editor at an advertising agency. Her first stories were dedicated to her little daughter; a lot of inspiration came from the book shops in London where she lived for couple of years. So far she has written four books for the youngest of children.

Katrin Ehrlich was born (1969) and brought up in Tallinn. She has studied graphic art at the Estonian Academy of Arts and Danmarks Designskole. She has illustrated more than 10 children books and received awards for her work.

#### **Awards:**

- 2006 Põlvepikuraamatu konkurs (The Knee-High Book competition), 1 place for illustrations of „Uncle Eedi”
- 2008 Põlvepikuraamatu konkurs (The Knee-High Book competition), 1-2 place for illustrations
- 2010 5 Best Designed Children's Books, Certificate of Merit and special prize 'Golden Book' of the National Library of Estonia



AGE 0-3

6

EEVA PARK  
**THE STRONGEST DAD**

ILLUSTRATED BY KAIA RÄHN  
NYNORDEN, 2010  
ISBN 978-9985-9982-6-7  
CARDBOARD BOOK  
155x155 MM  
14 PAGES

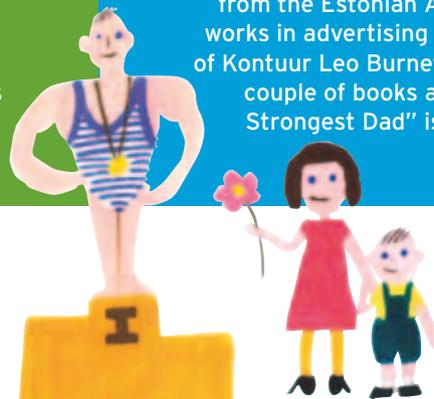


This is a book for the smallest members of the family. It tells an encouraging story of a little baby boy who can perform little tricks together with his dad. It is a warm and affectionate book with colourful illustrations, which is already a favorite book with a great number of Estonian children.



Eeva Park was born into a family of writers in 1950. She has written poems, short stories, and novels, and received several awards for her writings. „The Strongest Dad” is her first book for children.

Kaia Rähn was born in 1969. She graduated from the Estonian Academy of Arts and works in advertising as Creative Director of Kontuur Leo Burnett. She has designed couple of books and catalogues, „The Strongest Dad” is her first illustrated children’s book.



ENO RAUD

# RAGGIE

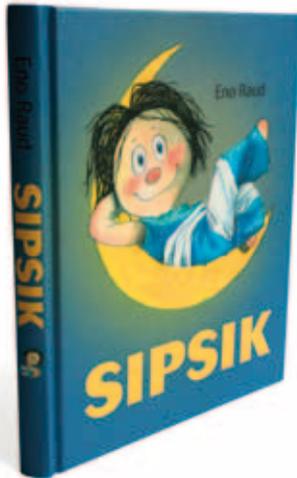
ILLUSTRATED BY EDGAR VALTER

TAMMERRAAMAT, 2010

ISBN 978-9949-449-47-7

200x240 MM

112 PAGES



Cheerful rag doll Raggie is the favorite of many generations of Estonian children. Six-year-old Mart makes the doll as a birthday present for his younger sister Anu. The doll, sewn with love and affection, comes to life, and becomes the best friend as well as best playmate for the little girl. Together they feed the birds, gather mushrooms and go to the seaside. Raggie fights with wasps, becomes a television presenter, and goes to the moon in a rocket made of a shoe box. The atmosphere of the stories is warm and friendly. The lessons of courage, caring and honesty will strike home subtly and inconspicuously.

*Raggie* was first published in 1962 and the book has been translated into English, German, Russian, Finnish, Latvian and other languages.



Eno Raud (1928-1996) is one of the best known and loved children's writers in Estonia. He published more than 50 books of stories and poems. His books are distinguished examples of fantasy and good humour. His best works are the story of the rag doll, Raggie, and fantastic four-part-story of three slightly eccentric fellows - Halfshoe, Mossbeard and Muff ("Naksitrallid", *The Three Jolly Fellows*). His children books have been translated into more than 30 languages.

Edgar Valter (1929-2006) was a graphic artist, illustrator, cartoonist and children's writer. He illustrated more than 250 books, many of them counted amongst the classics of Estonian children literature. Amongst his own books the most important is "Pokuraamat" (1994), which was included in the IBBY Honour List.



"Raggie, what do you think about flying to the Moon?" asked Anu.

"It may as well be the Moon," said Raggie.

But it was day-time and there was no Moon in the sky. So the three of them settled down to wait for the night to come.

The night came, but there was still no Moon. So they went to bed.

At night Mart woke up and the very first thing he saw was the Moon. The Moon was large and shone straight into the window. Pushing bed-clothes aside Mart jumped up and went to Anu's bed.

"Get up," he said to Anu, "the Moon is in the sky."

Anu woke up at once. Together they roused Raggie. Then they put Raggie into the rocket and went to the balcony, trying to avoid making noise. The night was chilly and they had only their night-gowns on, but they didn't care.

"We must give him a good acceleration," Mart said.

"Yes," said Anu. And then she added: "Good bye, Raggie, dear."

Mart took a run and flung the rocket moonwards. Then they returned to their room and went to bed.

/---/

"What does it look like on the Moon?" Mart asked.

"There are mountains and valleys there," Raggie said, "but no trees or grass or flowers or anything. And no sea or lake or river. There is no water whatsoever. There are no human beings there and of course there are no animals on the Moon."

"But, is it true that it is very easy to jump and run on the Moon?" Mart asked.

"So it is," said Raggie. "One could jump to the roof of a house if there were any houses there."

Anu and Mart were very glad that now they knew what it was like on the Moon. They took Raggie to their room and put him to bed in the play-corner.

*Translated by Ursula Põks*

AINO PERVIK

## A PICNIC AT RISTINEEME

SERIES OF "TALES OF TIRILINNA"

ILLUSTRATED BY ANU KALM

TAMMERRAAMAT, 2008-2010

ISBN 978-9949-449-73-6

HARDBACK

135x202 MM

80 PAGES



Tales of Tirilinna tells about the lives of the children of a small seaside town. Max, Jüri, Jaap, Roosi and Reti are in the first grade of the Tirilinna school and are inseparable. The exciting events of "A Picnic at Ristineeme" begin with a picnic basket that is given to the children as a present. They decide to have the picnic at Ristineeme. It is a small peninsula on the Baltic Sea, where, centuries ago, pirates led by the local lord of the manor lured passing ships to run aground and robbed them. According to legend, the stolen treasure is hidden right here at Ristineeme. The children engage in furious battle with the pirates, fight a stray dog over the contents of the picnic basket and to top it all, find the hidden treasure of the lord of the manor - a large cauldron full of silver coins. The expected turmoil ensues - rescue services, archaeologists, tedious media attention and of course, the finder's fee that makes the children's secret wishes come true.

"Tales of Tirilinna" is for children who have just learned to read. Other books from the series: "A Garden Party at the Rose Garden", "School Starts in Tirilinna", "Crocodile", "If You See a Chimney Sweep" (all 2009).



Aino Pervik (born 1932) is one of the most influential authors of modern Estonian children's literature. Professional writer since 1967, she has written 47 children's books as well as prose and poetry for adults. Her best-known children's books are "Kunsmoor" (*Old Mother Kunks*), "Arabella - mereröövli tütar" (*Arabella - the Pirate's Daughter*), and the Tirilinna series. She has won many major prizes, including three times winner of the national annual award for children's literature. Her works have been translated into English, German, Japanese, Lithuanian, Russian and other languages, and repeatedly staged for theatre and adapted for the screen.

Anu Kalm (born 1960) is graphic artist, illustrator, and teacher of arts. Since she graduated from the Estonian National Institute of Arts, she has had many exhibitions as a graphic artist, both solo and group exhibitions in Estonia and abroad, and she has illustrated more than 20 children books. She currently holds the position of the Vice President of Estonian Association of Artists.





„Laevamehed kihutasid vale märgutule peale müraki karidele,” ütles Jaap. „Kui laevad hukkasid, siis oli vana krahv oma mees-  
tega jaol. Nad viskasid laevamehed merre ja rõõvisid laevad paljaks. Krahv oli muusos juberikas.”



„How do you mean?” asked Jaap  
 „Well, when somebody wants to go for a picnic, the Seahorse makes up a basket full of goodies to take along,” said Roos.  
 „Do they really?” asked Max.  
 And he inquired:  
 „What’s in the basket?”  
 „Sandwiches and snacks and drinks and ...” said Roos.  
 „Cake and buns. Whatever you want.”  
 „Great!” said Jüri.  
 And he asked:  
 „How much does it all cost?”  
 „As always,” said Roos. „It depends what you order.”  
 „All right,” said Jüri.

„But here’s the news,” said Roos, „Arsa will pay for us! We can get a picnic basket for free! For the five of us. If we want one, that is.”  
 Arsa was Roos’s dad and the owner of the Seahorse cafe.  
 „Do we want one?” asked Reti.  
 „Definitely!” they all shouted together.  
 „When?” asked Max.  
 „Whenever we want,” said Roos.  
 „Maybe Saturday?” asked Max.  
 „Maybe Saturday,” replied Roos. „The day after tomorrow.”

*Translated by Miriam McIlfrack-Ksenofontov*

JUHANI PÜTTSEPP

# STORIES OF A SMALL WOLF

ILLUSTRATED BY LIISA MURDVEE

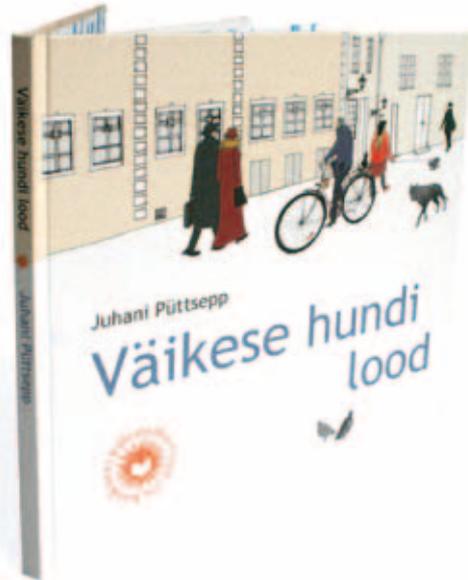
PÄIKE JA PILV, 2009

ISBN 978-9985-9997-0-7

HARDBACK

217x216 MM

32 PAGES



Little wolf tells her cub about her life and the differences between wolves and people.

Baby wolves do not go to the kindergarten or wear nappies, nor do they need to change their clothes, but they play and dance like all children. Little wolves also have their very own home as children do, but a very different home. Baby wolves miss their parents just like humans – this is why they howl. Whereas fairy tales usually depict wolves as mean and bloodthirsty characters, this book aims to make children sympathetic to wolves and teaches them to understand nature better. The artist has not stopped at merely illustrating the text but also offers witty additional interpretations with her illustrations.

#### Awards:

- 2008 Põlvepikuraamatu konkurss (The Knee-High Book competition), 1st and 2nd place
- 2009 5 Best Designed Children's Books, special prize of the jury for young illustrator

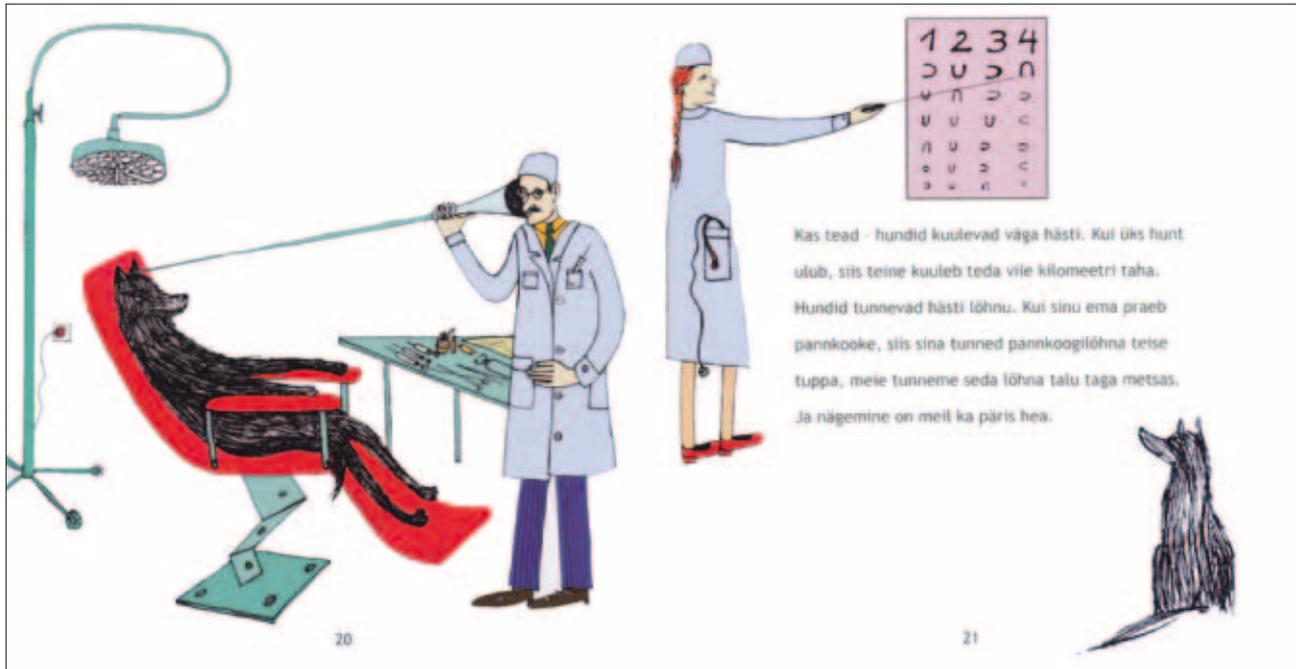


Juhani Püttsepp (1964) is a biologist, working at the Estonian University of Life Sciences, a journalist specializing in nature, and a children's writer. He has written eight books for children. He has also written for the stage.

Liisa Murdvee (1980) studied textile art at Tartu Art College. So far, she has illustrated two books for children.

#### Awards:

- 2008 Põlvepikuraamatu konkurss (The Knee-High Book competition), 1st and 2nd place
- 2009 5 Best Designed Children's Books, special prize of the jury for young illustrator



My name is Little Wolf. I will turn six months old soon. While you go with your mother to the daycare, I track down the legendary speckled forest butterfly or munch on a mushroom to see how it tastes.

You have your own home, your own room or a bed, your own pillow and blanket, your own house or a farm, and your own street.

My home is well hidden in the forest or near a bog, close to a valley or a river. My room is a den. I do not have a blanket, but I certainly have a pillow. When I go to sleep,

I curl up into a ball and put my head on top of my soft tail.

Have you dreamed that you are a wolf? I dreamed one time that I was a person and went to an art exhibit. There was a picture of a wolf and Little Red Riding Hood at the exhibit. Little Red Riding Hood was quite pretty. The wolf was drawn with his teeth bared and a nasty face. I did not like that at all. Would you like it if you were drawn with such a nasty face?

*Translated by Adam Cullen*

LEELO TUNGAL

# THE SANTA CLAUS WHO WAS AFRAID OF KIDS

ILLUSTRATED BY ANNE LINNAMÄGI

TAMMERRAAMAT, 2010

ISBN 978-9949-449-86-6

HARDBACK

170x200 MM

64 PAGES



Is it possible that an otherwise generous Santa Claus could come to good children without any presents? If you place a slipper ten times the size of your own slipper on the window sill, will the elf bring you more sweets? Is a mousetrap really the best way to catch an elf? How can you reassure Santa Claus who is frantically afraid of children from all his trials and tribulations with extraordinarily naughty children? Are the Christmases of rich families always rich and the Christmases of poor families always poor? Reading Leelo Tungal's humorous and genial Christmas stories provides children with answers to these and many other Christmas-related questions. The book contains six stories.



Leelo Tungal (1947) is a poet, children's writer, translator and Editor-in-Chief of the children's magazine *Hea Laps* (Good Child). She has written more than 70 books for children and young people, both prose and poetry. Her work is characterised by optimism, direct communication with the reader, smooth storytelling and wittiness. She has received many honours and awards, including the Children's Literature Award of the Cultural Endowment of Estonia in 1997, the K. E. Sööt Children's Poetry Prize in 1995, 2000 and 2007, and the Nukits Children's Choice Award in 1992, 1994 and 2006.

Anne Linnamägi (1966) graduated from the Estonian Institute of Arts as a graphic artist. She has illustrated and designed many text books, children books and works of fiction. She has received many honours and awards for her work.





Santa Claus brought Peter an elf last winter, though it was only a toy. The elf's hat was sewn onto its head and stitches could even be seen coming from its beard. Pictures of elves could be found on postcards and from books; they were even shown on television, and sometimes Peter dreamed of an elf that said his name was Sulbert. Life had taught Peter that if Sulbert the Elf appeared in his dream, then he had to head quickly to the bathroom or else things would turn out quite badly.

However, Peter wanted to speak one-on-one with a real elf. An elf is certainly an honest, frank individual. One would certainly say without holding back, where he gets those candies, apples and tangerines that await Peter in his stocking every morning before Christmas.

No one - not even Peter's father - could tell the boy whether elves have families, and if they do, then whether even tinier elves bring candy to put in their children's stockings.

Peter had an even greater number of questions about Santa Claus that he wanted to ask an elf. Do Santa's reindeer have names, and does Santa say „nuu" and „pruu" to them like Peter's grandfather says to his horse Yass? Does Santa Claus sleep in his coat, or does he wear pajamas at night? Does Santa carry a staff, and what kind of tree is it made of? What do Santas eat, and how quickly do they grow?

Oh, Peter had many questions crowding his head, and an elf would have been able to answer them without a doubt. Yet it was very hard to find an elf...

*Translated by Adam Cullen*

ANDRUS KIVIRÄHK

# POO AND SPRING

ILLUSTRATED BY HEIKI ERNITS

PUBLISHING HOUSE VARRAK, 2009

ISBN 978-9985-3-1972-7

HARDBACK

170X245 MM

96 PAGES



*Poo and Spring* is the most popular children's book in Estonia from the past two years. The book consists of two- or three-page stories where protagonists from the everyday world suddenly find new ways to interact. Do you know what happens when a dog turns yellow in autumn and sheds his hair? Naturally, he will have new green hair in spring. Or what will happen when poo and dandelion meet in the spring? Everything that can happen in the kindergarten happens in this book, too. The most mundane, everyday things will come alive and have a life of their own.



Andrus Kivirähk (1970) is the most prolific and powerful figure on the Estonian literary scene today. He can easily switch from one style to another, producing short stories, newspaper columns, dramatic texts, children books and scenarios for TV. He has written seven books for children; all of them are still in print and widely read.

Heiki Ernits (1953) graduated from Tallinn Pedagogical Institute as a teacher of art and manual training. He has worked as a photographer, art teacher, art director and film director, made commercials, designed book covers and layouts, and illustrated numerous publications as well as children's books. To date he has made 14 animated films.



## SPOON THE PIRATE

Spoon decided to become a pirate.

„Enough of this boring life!” he declared. „I’m fed up lying around in this drawer! I’m going to be a scary one-legged pirate. Ahoy! Isn’t that a plate appearing over there? I’m off to rob it!”

And indeed, a large white plate had appeared on the table, brim full of soup. Swimming peacefully in the soup were meatballs, potatoes and peas. Not one of them had the slightest idea of the awful danger that threatened them!

Spoon slipped quietly under the rim of the plate and peered out. Just then two potatoes sailed past him chatting.

„What a lovely warm soup!” revelled one. „So nice for a swim!”

„Isn’t it just!” said the other. „And so quiet! Not a single wave. Really nice and calm!”

„Ah-ha!” bellowed Spoon and dived head-first into the soup. „Wrong, my sweet potatoes! There’s nothing calm here! Look at me, here I come, the fearful pirate! You can’t escape from me!”

Panic broke out in the soup: potatoes, meatballs and peas tried to get away from Spoon and swam round and round screaming. Spoon went roaring after them. A couple of fat meatballs tried to put up a fight, but Spoon outsmarted the agitators.

„Better give in voluntarily!” he shouted. „I’m a brave pirate and I’ll get you anyway!”

*Translated by Miriam McIlfratrick-Ksenofontov*

LEELO TUNGAL, PEEP PEDMANSON  
**TALES OF MIRIAM**

THE FIRST ESTONIAN CHILDREN'S BOOK WITH 3D ARTWORK

EDITED BY MAIT LAAS

ILLUSTRATED BY IVIKA LUISK

EESTI PÄEVALEHT, 2009

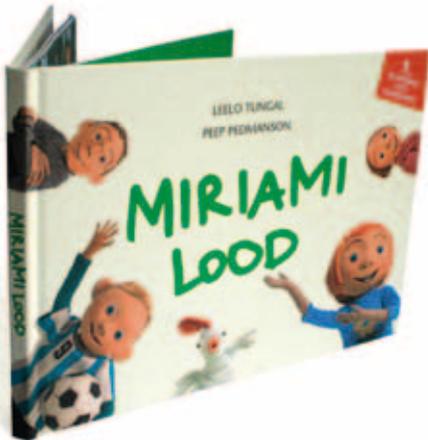
ISBN 978-9949-452-15-6 (BOOK)

ISBN 978-9949-452-16-3 (FILM)

HARDBACK

260x187 MM

88 PAGES + DVD



Six year old Miriam is a strong-minded girl, whose imagination and desire to be by herself lead to all kinds of funny situations and adventures. In addition to Miriam's father and mother and little brother, her family also includes her great friend, the hen. Grownups say that it is not really a pet but a toy and that everything that happens to it is Miriam's fantasy. Miriam does not agree.

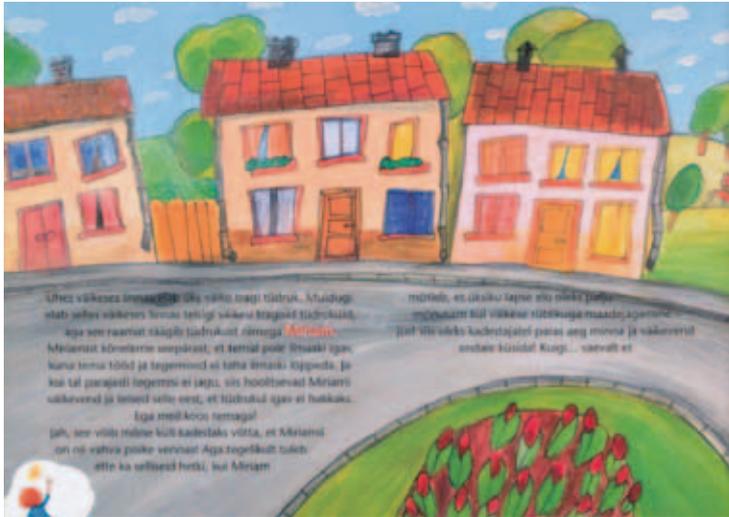
All four stories are based on the animated films from the Nukufilm puppet animation studio. Nearly half of the 140 illustrations (60 to be precise) are 3D images and in order to view these the book comes with 3D glasses. The book also comes with a DVD of the world's first digital 3D stop-animation puppet film *Miriam's Picnic* (filmistuudio Nukufilm 2007, duration 5 min).



Leelo Tungal (1947) is a poet, children's writer, translator and Editor-in-Chief of the children's magazine *Hea Laps* (Good Child). She has written more than 70 books for children and young people, both prose and poetry. Her work is characterised by optimism, direct communication with the reader, smooth storytelling and wittiness. She has received many honours and awards, including the Children's Literature Award of the Cultural Endowment of Estonia in 1997, the K. E. Sööt Children's Poetry Prize in 1995, 2000 and 2007, and the Nukits Children's Choice Award in 1992, 1994 and 2006.

Peep Pedmanson (1963) graduated from Tartu University as a journalist and later took courses on directing and scriptwriting at Goskino (the State Committee for Cinematography during the Soviet period) in Moscow. He has written for journalistic publications as well as published caricatures. He has made great number of animated and documentary films.





In a small town lives a small, spunky girl. Of course, other small spunky girls live in the same small town too - however this book is about a girl named Miriam.

We speak about Miriam because she is never, ever bored, since her list of activities and things to do never seems to end. And when she does run out of things to do at any moment, Miriam's little brother and other people make sure that the girl never becomes bored.

We won't get bored with her either!

True, the fact that Miriam has such a swell tiny brother certainly might make some people jealous! However the kinds of moments do come up when Miriam thinks an only child's life would be much more pleasant than squabbling

with a little scoundrel - right then would be the perfect time for those jealous people to go and ask to have her little brother for themselves! Although... Miriam would hardly want to actually give up her little brother... and on top of that, Miriam and her little brother also have a mother and a father who naturally care for both their children the exact same.

Sometimes Miriam really feels that her little brother is spoiled too much. Now and then it seems to her little brother that Miriam is allowed to do much more than he is. However our tiny characters play together nicely, for the most part. And that is how it should be!

*Translated by Adam Cullen*

PIRET RAUD

# TOBIAS, SECOND GRADE

ILLUSTRATED BY HILLAR METS

MUSTVALGE, 2010

ISBN 978-9949-2142-6-6

HARDBACK

145X200 MM

108 PAGES



Tobias is a boy like any other. He is eight years old and he has many good friends. He goes to school where he is in the second grade, and everybody in his class is special. Uku owns a pig called Nossu and his parents have long hair. Linda practices ballet and knows the meaning of the word "autograph". Gregor is smart though he likes to quarrel. Kirill is from Belarus and Pekka is from Finland. Otto loves food and Robert likes cars. Villu is so modest that all the other kids forget that he even exists.

The book consists of 20 separate stories, each depicting the daily life at school as seen through the eyes of Tobias: "Club", "Costume Party", "Winter Blue", "Project", "Slippery Man", "Visiting Kirill", "Saving Nossu" and other stories are written with genuine warmth and humour.

#### Awards:

2010 Nominee of the Children's Literature Award of the Cultural Endowment of Estonia



Piret Raud was born in 1971 in Tallinn, Estonia. She comes from a family of writers - her father was a writer, her mother is a writer, and both of her brothers are writers, too. Surprisingly, she chose the path of a graphic artist at first, but before long came back to her roots, and has become one of the most renowned children writers and illustrators in Estonia. She has written 7 books and illustrated more than 40 titles. Her books have also been published in English and German.

Hillar Mets (1954) is a well-known Estonian caricaturist and illustrator who works at *Eesti Päevaleht*, an Estonian daily newspaper. He has illustrated numerous children's books, textbooks, non-fiction books, and all the covers of the Estonian editions of the Terry Pratchett novels. He has received many awards at various cartoon competitions.



„After the long summer holiday it was a bit strange to be back at school again. Luckily, we did not get very much homework at the start, and in the first classes we talked about all sorts of things more than we studied.

„The first week of September is meant for getting used to school,” said the teacher, Liina Laks, and I think she was absolutely right. For example, the whole business of getting up early and going to school is really hard to get used to.

That’s why when the teacher told us in art class to paint a picture of the loveliest day of summer, I felt like drawing myself lazing the day away in bed. But I did not do it because everybody else had far more interesting ideas.

„I’m painting the sea and palm trees,” said Paris. „Mum and I went south.”

„We went to America,” said Gregor. „I’m doing skyscrapers.”

/---/

I looked glumly at the black splotch in front of me. Erik was right: the messed up picture was as dark and gloomy as night. All of a sudden I remembered one August night when Dad woke me up and took me outside to see the night sky. It was definitely one of the loveliest days of the summer, even though it was not actually daytime. Dad and I watched the stars falling and Dad said that it was a meteor shower or the Perseids.

I dipped a fine paintbrush in yellow paint and made lots of yellow dots on the black picture. It turned out pretty well. At the bottom of the picture I wrote in the same yellow paint: „Star shower on an August night. Make a wish and it will come true.”

At the end of the class we had to show our pictures to the teacher. When it was my turn the teacher said:

„This picture is just like a true work of art. Five plus!” Then she thought for a moment and added:

„After seeing these stars, I wish for myself, for you and for all of us a great school year.”

*Translated by Miriam McIlfratrick-Ksenofontov*

AINO PERVIK

# IN A SMALL QUAINT TOWN

ILLUSTRATED BY JÜRI MILDEBERG

TÄNAPÄEV, 2009

ISBN 978-9985-62-842-3

HARDBACK

150x195 MM

83 PAGES



These nicely absurd little pieces about the strange characters of a small town have been penned by the hand of a master. The names of the characters alone speak for themselves: mister ColdSweat, Mister CareFull, Miss PutOn, Mister OverThere Back Row, Miss SobPie, Mister Clumsy, Mister CrammerHead, Mister BlockHead and many other such characters. The multilayered stories are suitable for both children and grownups. Children can find joy in the super-extendable nose of the mayor, Missis RubberHead, and the tragi-comic mishaps of the chronic optimist Mister NoHarmDone. More insightful readers, however, will see distorted depictions of themselves and their friends and acquaintances. Surely we all know a Miss SpoilSport, who gives a direct appraisal of birthday presents that have been chosen for her with love and care, by declaring that she already has stuff like that in piles lying in her cupboard? Or a Mister AvidReader, who devours both the Estonian constitution and food labels with equal passion and who leaves large jam stains on all the books he has gone through?

#### **Award:**

2009 Nominee of the Children's Literature Award of the Cultural Endowment of Estonia

Aino Pervik (born 1932) is one of the most influential authors of modern Estonian children's literature. Professional writer since 1967, she has written 47 children's books as well as prose and poetry for adults. Her best-known children's books are "Kunksmoor" (*Old Mother Kunks*), "Arabella - mereröövli tütar" (*Arabella - the Pirate's Daughter*), and the Tirilinna series. She has won many major prizes, including three times winner of the national annual award for children's literature. Her works have been translated into English, German, Japanese, Lithuanian, Russian and other languages, and repeatedly staged for theatre and adapted for the screen.

Jüri Mildeberg (1965) started his career as a painter and graphic artist, and has developed international renown in both of these fields. Every year his solo exhibitions are displayed in various locations around the world from Finland to Japan. His first experiment in the field of illustration was *The Canterville Ghost* (1991). He has illustrated approximately 20 books. He was included in the IBBY Honour List 2008 for his illustrations for *Ruttu tuttu! (Hush-a-By Baby!*, *Bedtime Stories by Estonian Fathers*, 2005).

#### **Awards:**

1999, 2005, 2006, 2008  
5 Best Designed Children's Books, Certificate of Merit  
25 Best Designed Books, Certificate of Merit



- MISS DINKYDELIGHT -

Miss DinkyDelight was delighted from morning to evening and from evening to morning. Everything simply delighted her all the time. And she did not keep her delight all to herself. She always shared it with others.

Miss DinkyDelight always woke up really early in the morning. She simply could not bear to sleep in on a beautiful morning. In summer Miss DinkyDelight even went out before sunrise and skipped happily round the streets of her little home town. Delightedly and cheerily she trilled:

„THE TRUMPETS ARE BLOWING, WAKE UP SLEEPY-HEADS!”

Miss DinkyDelight had a lovely strong voice, lovelier and stronger than a trumpet. It was enough to wake even the dead.

Miss DinkyDelight wanted the other town-dwellers to see how lovely the early morning hours are and how

beautifully the rising sun gilds the roofs of the houses. She wanted everyone to leap out of bed and come and share her delight in the lovely morning.

The town-dwellers woke with a start on hearing Miss DinkyDelight's song. For some reason they were not delighted at all. Not in the slightest. Some even opened their windows and shouted all sorts of nasty things at Miss DinkyDelight. It was simply offensive, but Miss DinkyDelight did not let anyone spoil her delight. Actually, she did not even hear what they shouted at her. Miss DinkyDelight kept on chanting:

„TRALALEE, TRALALAA, WAKE UP SLEEPY-HEADS!” until the whole town was awake at dawn already.

Only then was Miss DinkyDelight delighted and content. No one had missed the lovely early morning hours, everyone got to delight in the sunrise!

*Translated by Miriam McIlfratrick-Ksenofontov*

KRISTIINA KASS

# PEETER AND I

ILLUSTRATED BY AUTHOR

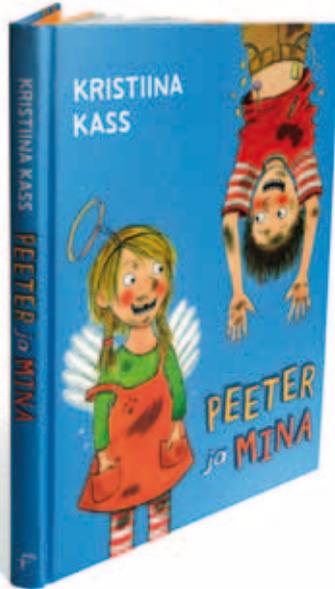
TÄNAPÄEV 2009

ISBN 978-9985-62-838-6

HARDBACK

170x235 MM

120 PAGES



Her name is Inge. But since she is so tiny, with long fair hair, and everybody thinks she looks so lovely, she is called Angel by almost everybody. Angel has an older brother Peeter who is not as angelic as his sister. He is full of little tricks and ploys, and wherever he is, something will happen. This is guaranteed!

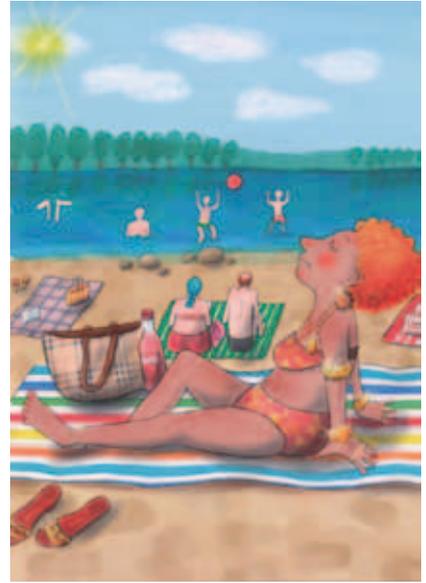
Those two play tricks on absolutely everybody. Not only on their own parents and friends but also on complete strangers - at the beach, for example, or at the park where they play the age-old wallet trick. Nobody knows what will happen when those two little tikes decide to help their mother, or even worse - to help the lovely neighbour. By the end of the book one thing is certain - in this household, secrets will never stay secret for long.



Kristiina Kass (1970) is the daughter of a children's writer and a feuilletonist. This is certainly clear from her books - they are very funny and full of little hoaxes and tricks. She graduated from Helsinki University and lives in Finland with her two daughters. She writes and illustrates her own books, and translates from Finnish to Estonian. She has published six books for children.

**Award:**

2010 Children's Literature Award of the Cultural Endowment of Estonia, for *Nõianeiu Nõbinina*



## PEETER AND I DRY LEAVES

In autumn there are fallen leaves all over the place. It is great fun collecting such lovely leaves. At least as long as they are still colourful and have not shrivelled up and all turned the same ugly brown colour. My mother does not like those shrivelled up leaves either. She hates it when they crumble all over the carpet or on the bed.

But Dad is really reasonable about it.

„Just let the children enjoy the autumn colours,” he says to Mum. „What harm does a little mess do, don't get upset about it.”

But Mum says that Dad can clean up that little leaf mess himself next time, then he will see what a fun job it is to get down on your knees on the floor and fish out all the rubbish from the carpet pile with your fingers.

Luckily, Peeter and I got exactly the same homework assignment at the same time. We had to collect different

tree and shrub leaves, dry them between books and then stick them into our exercise books. That way they would not crinkle up or crumble to pieces.

Peeter announced that he was planning to collect leaves from at least fifty trees because the teacher said that the more species you collect, the better. I did not really believe that Peeter would be able to get even half that number. Or he would have to go somewhere abroad where there are other kinds of trees than in Estonia.

„No need to go very far,” Peeter announced. „Round here there are lots of different kinds.”

It was only the next day that I understood what Peeter had in mind. When I got home from school, I had a whole bunch of maple, rowan, birch and other tree leaves, which I intended to put between some books. But Peeter had not collected a single leaf.

*Translated by Miriam McIlfatrick-Ksenofontov*

KÄTLIN KALDMAA

# FOUR CHILDREN AND MURKA

ILLUSTRATED BY ANGELIKA SCHNEIDER

HERMES, 2010

ISBN 978-9949-9087-2-1

HARDBACK

244x220 MM

80 PAGES



Murka is gargantuan and frightful. Murka looks as much like a wolf as possible, but he is actually a very kind dog, and does not mind at all when the children, all four of them, want to ride on him. The four children are the big sister Maarit, the middle girl Märta, little Miia, and the nest egg, Oskar, and they will be spending the summer with their grandmother. At grandma's they can eat almost everything with sugar, wolves lurk behind every bush, and an adventure can happen even in the middle of the day. Grandma's house is like a witches' hovel; there is a great rye field next to it where small children can easily get lost. The children find country life exciting and dangerous, but it also offers them plenty of joy and unaccustomed freedom. A two hour walk to the nearest shop is a memorable venture, a thunderstorm with a waterspout on the other hand is a frightening experience. They even experience such a rare phenomenon as ball lightning. Throughout all these extraordinary events, the reader is introduced to the everyday life of that period and interaction between children. The contents of the story can be summarized simply: a happy childhood.

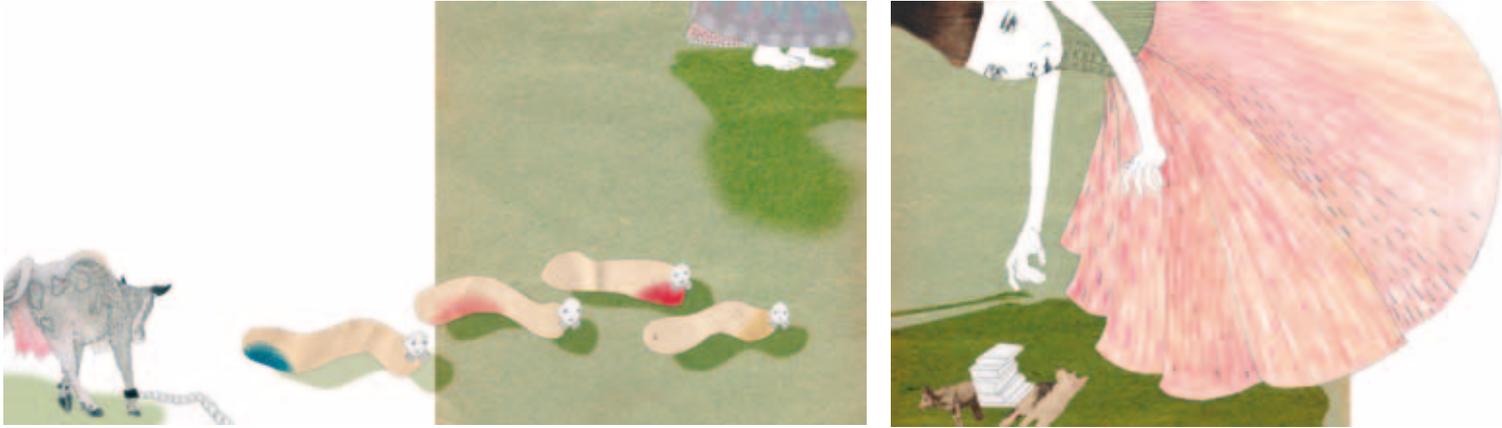


Kätlin Kaldmaa (1970) grew up in a family of zootechnicians. She is a poet, translator and critic. She has translated more than twenty works of world's best literature from the British Isles to Latin America. *Four Children and Murka* is her first book for children.

Award:  
2008 Nominee of Tallinn University  
literature award

Angelika Schneider (1973) is a graphic artist, graduated both from Tartu Art College and the Estonian Academy of Arts. She has designed more than 80 books and has illustrated two children's books. Her book designs have received a number of awards.

Award:  
2010 25 Best Designed Books,  
Certificate of Merit



The biggest child is Maarit. She is so big already that she is almost as tall as Granny and she goes to school. Sometimes she is five years older than the next oldest, sometimes only four years older. Then the next oldest child feels that she is already awfully big. Maarit is the oldest, the big sister. That sometimes makes her very annoying because she thinks that big sisters should talk smart all the time and teach the little ones, as if she knew everything and they knew nothing at all. Maarit has short hair and dimples. The other children do not have dimples and are envious sometimes. But then they start playing their own games and forget about it. Maarit is clever too. When Mum tells her to do something and goes out, she always gets the little ones to do it. And she had an awfully nice pink pleated skirt that the little ones are not allowed to touch.

/---/

The youngest girl and the third child is Miia. The most interesting thing about her is that she has a squint and one eye sees differently. She has already been to hospital twice for operations and then people could go and visit her in Tartu. And she has glasses and sometimes she has to put a plaster on one of the lenses. The children do not understand why, but the doctor in the big grey building says so and doctors know everything. Miia adores tomatoes, especially Mum's pickled tomatoes. Miia is very brave and very strong as well. If some other child is not able to lift some stone or log, Miia can. Even though they are not twins and there is exactly a year-and-a-half between them, Miia and Märta often wear almost the same kind of clothes. It is always so that Märta has a blue dress and Miia a red one, and Märta would like a red dress sometimes, but then Mum says that you are older so you get the blue dress. The children just do not see any logic in that.

*Translated by Miriam McIlfatrick-Ksenofontov*

MIKA KERÄNEN

# THE HIDDEN SILVER TREASURE CHEST

SERIES "ESTONIAN CHILDREN'S CRIME STORIES"

ILLUSTRATED BY MARJA-LIISA PLATS

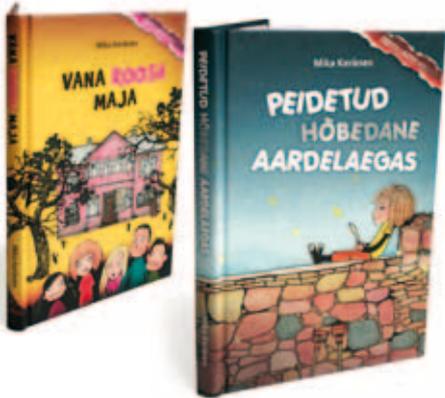
JUTULIND, 2009

ISBN 978-9985-9891-7-3

HARDBACK

145x210 MM

118 PAGES



Ten years old Mari and her four friends have founded a secret society for investigating mysterious cases. Mari's grandfather finds an unopened letter in a book, explaining about some treasure hidden in the Tartu Botanical Garden during World War Two. The children have to use only a few leads to determine where the treasure can be found. In the course of their investigations, they look for the old city wall, get to learn some Latin and the history of the Students Society and find out which games were played by the slum children of Tartu eighty years ago. When in a tight spot, a sharp wit and quick legs come to their rescue. Their search is successful and the treasure they find has great cultural and historical significance.

The author sets his popular series of children's crime stories in Supilinn, in the university town Tartu - a slum of little wooden houses known for its special milieu, and his characters are based on his own children and their friends.

Other books from the series: "The Stolen Orange Bicycle" (2008) and "The Old Pink House" (2010).

Award:

2009 Children's Literature Award of the Cultural Endowment of Estonia



Mika Keränen (1973) is a completely new breed of a writer - he is a Finnish-Estonian author, writing crime novels for Estonian children. He studied horticulture in Finland, and Estonian language and literature in Estonia, and in addition to children books, has published one book of poems. The second book of the series has also been published in Finnish.

Award:

2009 Children's Literature Award of the Cultural Endowment of Estonia

Marja-Liisa Plats (1984) is an illustrator of the younger generation. She graduated from Tartu Art College as a photographer, and has illustrated circa 20 children's books.

Award:

2007 5 Best-Designed Children's Books, special prize of the jury for young illustrator



„Of course I know about the war;” interrupted Mari.

“It’s good that you do,” said Granddad. He continued, „But I was fumbling around and the Mathiesen book just slipped out of my hand onto the floor. And the dustjacket around the book became untucked on one side. And under the dustjacket there was a slip of paper staring out at me. I took a closer look, it was the edge of an envelope. I pulled it out - and on it I saw my mother’s name: Linda Haljandi. And the envelope was unopened. No-one had ever found it or opened it.”

„Oh!” said Mari. The story was getting really exciting!

„So I opened the envelope straight away. It had a letter inside dated 1944 from my uncle, Kristjan. Kristjan Rimmelgas.”

„What was in the letter?”

„It wished his sister, my mother, a happy birthday and said that he was planning to flee Estonia. And that the fortune was hidden in the botanical garden.”

„The fortune?!” shrieked Mari.

„Shh! Don’t shout like that,” soothed Granddad, looking around excitedly. Fortunately there were no ears flapping nearby.

„Fortune?!” whispered Mari.

„Yes.”

„But where? What fortune?”

„I have no idea what fortune. My uncle was no prince or sheikh with gold bullion to bury. Yet he must have had something to hide from the war and the communists.”

„But where exactly did he hide it?”

„That too is unclear. All the letter says is that the fortune is in a chest and is buried in the botanical garden at the gate in the city wall.”

„But where is the gate?”

„Aha! If I knew that, I would have unearthed it already long since. But I don’t know which gate in the city wall he had in mind. Part of the old Tartu city wall does run through the botanical garden, the part where we had a rest, but that can’t be it. There’s no gate there. I’ve been looking into it a bit, but no-one knows anything about any gate in the part of the city wall that runs through the botanical garden. What a story! Now you know why I was resting on the wall. I was collecting my thoughts and unravelling the secret!”

„How exciting!” said Mari. “A real secret!”

*Translated by Susan Wilson*

KÄRT HELLERMA

# SENSITIVE EARS

ILLUSTRATED BY RETI SAKS

AJAKIRJADE KIRJASTUS, 2010

ISBN 978-9949-47-612-1

HARDBACK

200X230 MM

64 PAGES



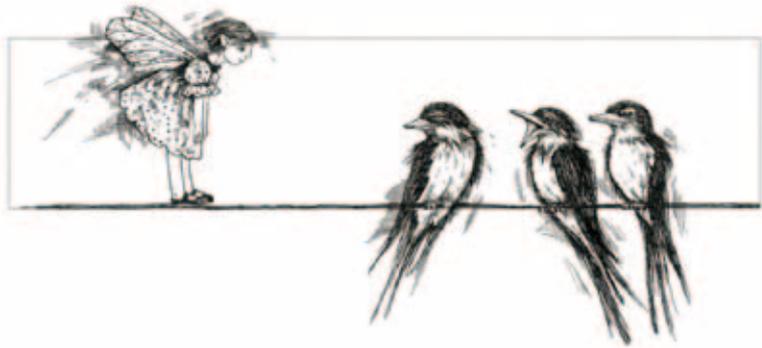
*Sensitive Ears* is a book, full of contradictions. Here we meet Kairiin, a little girl, whose ears are so sensitive, they cannot bear the slightest noise or disturbance. So the little girl goes through life with pillows over her ears and fear in her heart. If drilling starts next door or loud music thumps through the walls, Kairiin will be very seriously ill. And then there is Teodor, a little boy, who by contrast cannot bear silence. The more noise, the better, and when electricity is off, and there is no TV, no radio or no computer games to play, his parents have to scream and yell and play-fight to keep their son healthy. And then Teodor's family moves to live upstairs, above Kairiin... What an irony, what a world.

When Kairiin is sent to the countryside to an old relative, she almost miraculously finds help. What will happen to Teodor when he accidentally ends up at the same old farmhouse?



Kärt Hellerma (1956) is a novelist, travel writer and critic. She graduated from Tartu University, and worked as a journalist before becoming full time writer. Amongst other books she has published three novels. *Sensitive Ears* is her first book for children.

Reti Saks (1960) is a graphic artist, sculptor, and illustrator. She has appeared at more than 50 personal exhibitions and more than 40 international exhibitions, and won many awards for her work. She has illustrated and designed many children books and poetry collections.



When Kairiin woke next morning, the windows seemed bigger and the room itself lighter. And the fly that was walking over Kairiin's blanket did not make an intolerable buzzing when it flew off, but a perfectly bearable buzzing.

Straight away she remembered the crafty lamb and the playful Nässu, who did not want to hear about Kairiin's sore ears.

Perhaps I do have the most normal ears in the world, thought Kairiin and stretched.

„So, you woke up,“ came a familiar growl from the kitchen floor.

Nässu, lying on the carpet, thumped his tail in greeting, without making any effort to get up.

„Good morning, city girl!“ he barked lazily.

Kairiin scratched him a bit behind the ear.

„You really slept long, lazybones!“ growled Nässu and stretched out his other ear for Kairiin to scratch.

When Kairiin had eagerly eaten up the portion of porridge that had been keeping warm on a corner of the stove and stepped out into the yard, Liisbet stopped weeding the flowerbeds, washed her hands at the well and they went to the meadow to see the lambs just like the morning before.

The little lamb saw them coming from afar and ran up to them bleating.

„Baa-baa, here I am, here I am! Take me with you! I want to eat and play!“

Liisbet brought the little lamb into the farmyard again for a while and Kairiin fed it. The lamb stubbornly tried to get into the house and eyed the flowerbeds, but instead of a going-inside and flower-eating game, they played a leaping and jumping game.

The game itself was simple: first Kairiin would jump up high, then the lamb would do it. Sometimes they would jump at the same time to see who could jump higher. From a distance it looked like hopscotch or the high jump, but it was not really either. Thump, thump. Thud, thud. It was a great game and they both enjoyed it.

„Let's play planes!“ suggested Kairiin, when they got tired of leaping and jumping.

„What's a plane?“

„A plane flies. It has wings.“

„I can't fly! And I don't have wings either.“

„Neither do I, but so what!“

„Then you can't fly!“

„I can so. Look, like this!“ Kairiin spread out her arms and went wheeling round the yard, with the lamb skipping after her.

„Oh, children, children!“ said Nässu shaking his head reproachfully, as he followed their antics from where he lay on the steps.

*Translated by Miriam McIlfratrick-Ksenofontov*

KASPAR JANCIS

# AN ADVENTURE AT SALAMANDER

ILLUSTRATED BY AUTHOR

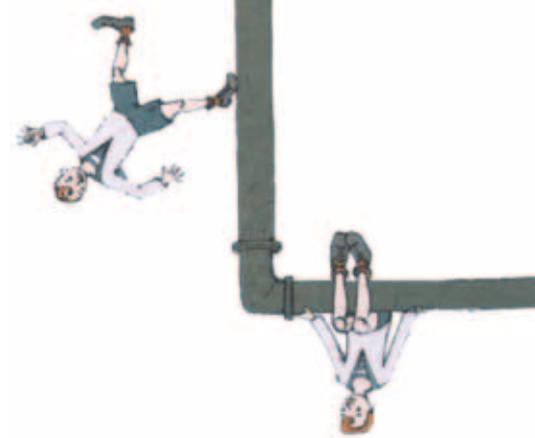
MENU KIRJASTUS, 2010

ISBN 978-9949-9049-7-6

HARDBACK

169x245 MM

96 PAGES + CD



Morten Viks is an ordinary seven-year-old-boy who hates playing the piano, collects cockroaches and wasps in his pencil case and dreams of becoming a sea captain like his father. One fine spring day, Morten's toy sailboat leaves the harbour, manned by a company of insects. Next the events take an almost Kafkaesque turn. The stream turns into the sea, the toy boat becomes a real sailboat, the insects become repulsive yet strangely familiar human-like creatures. Morten Viks himself is the captain of this ghost ship, but unfortunately holds no authority over his crew. The reader will find Morten's fight for survival rather comical but would not want to be in the protagonist's shoes. Morten, in turn, will find his experiences very useful in the future.

This book with its quirky design is supplemented by a CD with songs by Kaspar Jancis, performed by the band Kriminaalne Elevant (Criminal Elephant).

#### Awards:

- 2010 25 Best Books, Certificate of Merit
- 2010 5 Best Designed Children's Books, Certificate of Merit
- 2010 Nominee of the Children's Literature Award of the Cultural Endowment of Estonia



Kaspar Jancis (born 1975) is a director of animated films, musician, composer, scenographer and lyricist. He became interested in comics and writing as a child. He has been a creative member of many rock groups. He has studied filmmaking at Tallinn University and Turku University of Applied Sciences (Finland). His films have received many international awards. *An Adventure at Salamander* is his first children's book.



He sat sighing beside the barrel on the wet floor and looked up at the ceiling, perplexed. The only opening into the outside world was beside the sewage pipe on the ceiling of the hold. In spite of the fact that he was as tiny as a midget, he would not have got through the crack from which weak dusty light was seeping into the hold. And besides, there was no way of climbing up to the ceiling.

As if to prove that the law of gravity cannot be defied, Morten jumped with both feet against the wall of the barrel. Boom!

Lo and behold, a miracle! Morten's feet stayed put on the wall just as if he was standing on the floor.

The wall had suddenly turned into the floor, the floor and the ceiling into walls.

Morten took a couple of cautious steps. Creak! Crack! To his great surprise he moved even further away from the floor. Oh-ho!

Morten ventured further. Soon he was practically under the ceiling. This was terrific! Walking on the wall as if it was the floor. Morten started to run. Soon he was pattering across the ceiling, then the wall, then the floor again, the wall, the ceiling, the floor... Several laps like this. Yippee! It felt indescribably exciting.

Enchanted by his own unbelievable powers, the boy could almost have forgotten that he was the imprisoned captain of a ship in danger of sinking.

„Of course there's nothing weird about walking on the walls and ceiling," thought Morten, when he finally grew tired of scooting around.

„I'm smaller than a fly now, and flies, like all other insects, can move around equally well on ceilings, walls and floors." Panting, he sat down on the sewage pipe to rest.

*Translated by Miriam McIlfatrick-Ksenofontov*

IVAR SOOPAN

# GOOD BAD BOYS

ILLUSTRATED BY OTT VALLIK

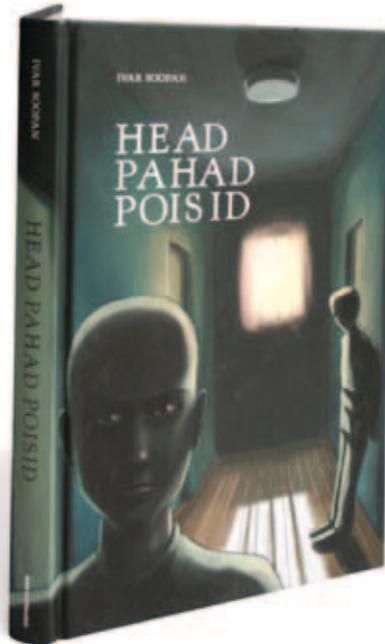
EESTI PÄEVALEHT, 2009

ISBN 978-9949-452-32-3

HARDBACK

145x215 MM

156 PAGES



Rain, the leader of the town gang, causes a car accident and ends up at juvenile prison. To stay strong in this harsh environment takes both spiritual and physical strength. Supporting this young man is the local police officer as well as his friends. At the same time two teenage boys, Jan and Silver, build a two-floor tree house in the forest near the village. There is almost nothing criminal involved in their activities, except for “borrowing” some of the building material. How is it possible that these two worlds collide? The book has a strongly optimistic undercurrent, events develop quickly and turbulently and the tension remains strong right until the final pages.



Ivar Soopan (born 1971) is a journalist and writer. As a reporter for the Estonian daily Eesti Päevaleht he travelled constantly to crisis centres throughout the world. He has written a travelogue of his experiences in Iraq during the war there. *Good Bad Boys* is his second book for children, and is a logical follow-up to his first children's book, *All Boys Do Not Grow Up*. Books by Ivar Soopan are great favourites with Estonian boys.

Awards:

2009 Nukits Young Reader's Choice Award, 3rd place

The moss below the treetops was soft and moist. Lush ferns grew on both sides with leaves that stretched over the heads of the boys sitting on the understory. Jan and Silver eyed up their handiwork, which rose up powerfully between four trees, at least four meters high.

„I'd like to go to New York sometime," Jan daydreamed in a loud voice. „There are high and narrow buildings that rise up to the clouds over there too."

„Our hut doesn't reach the clouds," retorted Silver.

„Well, yes, but almost. One can still dream," snapped Jan.

„Go ahead and dream. Let's go climb onto the roof instead - there are loads of cooler views from there," Silver proposed, and stood up from the moss.

The boys climbed to the first story up a half-meter-long ladder, and then onto the second floor along a walkway fastened to the inner wall of the hut. Silver unhinged the shutters and looked out onto the forest floor. The windows were narrow like the arrowslits of old castles.

Jan had already slipped up through the hatch from the second floor and stood on the roof's veranda, which was ringed by a railing. Strong gusts of wind made the trees sway, and the hut lurched back and forth. Jan felt like he was in a raft on the sea. Nails holding the planks together at their joints screeched.

Silver's head appeared through the hatch. „Incredible, right?"

„Nobody has had such a hut around where we live," stated Jan proudly. „You could live here at ease in summer. Maybe we could move here for a few nights?"

„We could make do, but being here definitely wouldn't be super-luxury," Silver affirmed.

„I don't know what kind of extravagance you expect, but I think I'll try staying here for one night. Are you coming too?"

Silver hesitated. „I don't really care to sleep here at night. It's nicer to be at home."



„Whatever you say. In any case, I'm going to take a quilt from home, a bit of food and candles and will give it a try," said Jan.

*Translated by Adam Cullen*

KADRI HINRIKUS

# WHEN MOTHERS WERE LITTLE

DESIGNED BY INGA HEAMÄGI

EESTI EKSPRESSI KIRJASTUS, 2009

ISBN 978-9949-444-32-8

HARDBACK

246X174 MM

96 PAGES

ТЕЛЕВИЗОР „СЕВЕР“

(выпуск 1933 г.)



These stories are about the childhood of two mothers. They were born in the 1930s in the Republic of Estonia, went to school during World War Two and graduated from high school when their homeland had become the Estonian Soviet Socialist Republic. It was a time of upheaval. In the course of the five years of war they saw how first the communists came to power, then the fascists and then the communists again, and lived through horrendous air raids. However, despite everything they were like young girls throughout - they played, studied and joked with their teachers. There is little fantasy in these stories; the author mostly relates the childhood memories of her mother and her lifelong friend. The appearance of the book reminds one of a photo album; the design draws upon contemporary photographs, postcards, notebooks etc.

#### Awards:

2009 Nominee of the Children's Literature Award of the Cultural Endowment of Estonia



Kadri Hinrikus (born 1970) is a news anchor on Estonian national television, a TV journalist and a writer. She graduated from Tallinn Pedagogical University as a theatre director. She has worked as a news editor for both television and radio. *When Mothers Were Little* is her third book for children.

Inga Heamägi (born 1961) has graduated from Tallinn Institute of Arts as a graphic artist. She has worked at advertising agencies, and taught students at Estonian Academy of Arts. She has designed and illustrated more than 30 books.



Eeva's mother has reached a decision. She is taking her daughter out of the city to stay with relatives in the country at Kiisa.

They set off early in the morning. It is chilly weather. There is no alternative but to go on foot. It is a long way to walk, but staying in town during another air raid would be too risky. Oh how difficult this road will be, she thinks, gazing at Eeva, who keeps plodding on with little steps, the melting snow sticking to her boots. She feels so sorry when she sees that thin form next to her. So small, wrapped up in a thin brown coat, a bundle in her hand.

A lot of people are moving out of town. A caravan of large suitcases and bags winding like a slow snake.

Eeva is a tough walker.

„Let's go faster, let's go faster," she spurs her mother on from behind. It's a long way ahead. If only my daughter can hold out, she frets.

„That child can really walk," remarks an unknown companion. „Doesn't she get tired?"

Eeva just snuffles and scurries on staring steadily ahead, watching every step. She is impatient to get to the countryside, away from the city, away from those nasty bombs, away from the horses lying dead by the roadside, not seeing anything anymore yet seeing the travellers off with their wide-open eyes. Eeva does not dare look at

them. She also wants to keep away from those weeping and exhausted refugees who are all taking this road together. She thinks about Ingi. It would be so good to have Ingi with them, to be going to the country together. There is a big yard there, great for playing, and a swing. Aunt Marta would bake bread in the kitchen and Albert, the farmhand with the big moustache, would carve them wooden dolls. Eeva raises her eyes from the ground and squints in the early spring light. „Albert," she shouts suddenly. „Look, Mum, Albert's coming!"

Eeva starts jumping for joy. Sure enough, Albert is approaching in the distance, the horse trotting quickly in front of the cart. They wave and call out to Albert. And the farmhand reins the horse up. Albert lifts the little girl up and places her carefully on the hay in the cart. Albert's moustache tickles Eeva. Albert helps her mother into the cart too, puts a thick blanket over them and says:

„Marta and Meelis sent me straight into town this morning. We wondered if you were alive. And if the house was still standing."

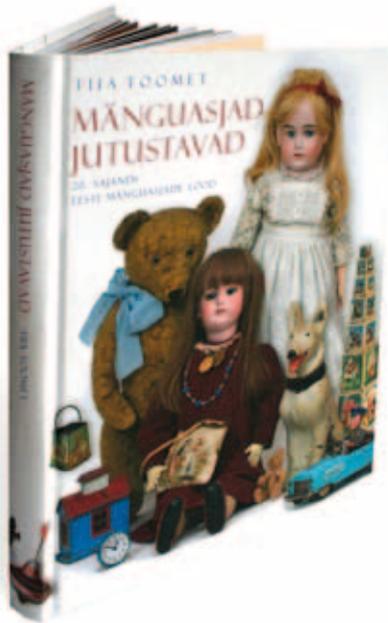
Mother replies and explains something to Albert. Eeva sinks into the soft hay and stares up at the blue sky.

„I'm awfully tired," she says. Then sleep comes.

*Translated by Miriam McIlfratrick-Ksenofontov*

TIIA TOOMET  
**TOYS TELLING STORIES**

DESIGNED BY TIJU ALLIKVEE  
TAMMERRAAMAT, 2010  
ISBN 978-9949-449-60-6  
217x276 MM  
256 PAGES



This album, complete with a rich selection of photographs, mostly tells the stories of some toys which have been donated to Tartu Toy Museum, the Children's Museum of Tallinn and toys belonging to various individuals. Old dolls, teddy bears, rocking horses and tin soldiers bear the appearance of their time, reflecting the ideals of beauty and educational principles of the day. The 20th century was not easy on Estonia and therefore, in addition to cheerful stories, the toys of this period also have many grave and sad tales to tell. Dolls and teddy bears have gone through air raids and fires with their little owners, and many have taken the road of a war refugee or been to Siberia with the deported. Especially moving is a story of a father who hid in the cellar for ten years after the end of the war, and carved a miniature version of their pre-war home for his daughter who thought him long dead.

**Awards:**

2010 25 Best Designed Books, Certificate of Merit



Tiia Toomet (born 1947) is a children's writer, poet, prose writer, and a director of Tartu Toy Museum. She graduated from Tartu University as a historian and Tallinn Institute of Arts as textile artist. She has written approximately 20 children's books - fairy tales, short stories etc. Many of her books are inspired by exhibits at the Toy Museum.

Tiju Allikvee (born 1948) is a book designer and illustrator. She graduated from Tallinn Institute of Arts, and has worked as head of design department at publishing house Kunst. She has designed and illustrated more than 280 books.





At the end of 1939, when the over-seventy-year-old Lady von Huene left Estonia with the other Baltic Germans, she left a childhood doll to a young newlywed Estonian woman who had a little daughter called Tiiu. It was a little doll with a porcelain head and body and had been made in Russia. The von Huene family owned Lehtse manor, and we can imagine that the doll's first life was spent in those parts in the last quarter of the nineteenth century. What her name was and what games were played with her will probably remain a secret for ever.

In January 1944 Tiiu's mother gave her the doll for her fifth birthday. Tiiu named her Mari and that was the beginning of the doll's second life. But quite soon there was an accident. At the time of the air-raid in March 1944, Tiiu and her mother fled to stay with friends in Nõmme and they took Mari with them. In Nõmme some boys Tiiu played with dropped the doll out of the window and the porcelain body broke. A dexterous old man

they knew made Mari a new wooden body with moving hands and legs. But the old man was a bit of a character and as a joke he also carved breasts on the doll. The Barbie generation had not been born yet, and Tiiu was embarrassed by the doll and did not dare play with it until, at her mother's request, the craftsman cut Mari's breasts off.

Then the flat and wooden-chested Mari became Tiiu's favourite doll; she sewed so many clothes for her that Mari's fashion collection would have been the envy of any 1940-50s lady. The doll's dresses and blouses were decorated with embroidery and ribbons, the cardigans had knitted patterns, the black plush winter coat was finished with white edging and the hat with tassels. Mari's clothes also included underwear, stockings, slippers and a dressing gown.

*Translated by Miriam McIlfratrick-Ksenofontov*

