

Erlend Loe
Kim Hiorthøy (ill.)

The Kurt-Series

Kurt

Genre: Fiction
Category: Children's Novels (series)
Publisher: Cappelen Damm
Year: 1994-2010

This series of six titles about the fork truck driver Kurt have been a great success both in Norway and abroad since the first book was published in 1996. The popular stories about Kurt, illustrated by renowned artist Kim Hiorthøy, will raise the reader's eyebrows with their blend of horror and delight.

The Fish (Fisken), 1994, *Kurt Turns Evil* (Kurt blir grusom), 1995, *Kurt, Quo vadis?*, 1998, *Kurt Racks His Brain* (Kurt koker hodet), 2003, *Kurt Turns Holy* (Kurtby), 2008, *Courier Kurt* (Kurt kurér), 2010.

All books are illustrated by Kim Hiorthøy.

In *The Fish* Kurt gets a huge fish. Kurt and his family travel around the world while eating the fish.

In the second book, Kurt turns real evil. It all starts when Kurt receives a reward of fifty million kroner. And money can do things to people – Kurt is no exception.

In *Kurt, Quo Vadis?* he is overcome by an uncountable inferiority complex. Kurt wants to leave a trace behind. He quits his job and decides to vacuum clean the whole world.

In *Kurt Racks His Head* he and his faithful son Bud are hired to polish containers at the docks because almost all the ships go to the brand new harbour nearby. One day they hear noises from one of the containers. A bunch of people appear – looking like they come from all over the place. Kurt has got problems!

Kurt Turns Holy Kurt and his family are on vacation in their truck. But since Kurt thinks that "maps are for wimps", he gets lost and winds up in a river. The river takes them to Kurt City, where members of a cult called the Ping Pong Church live. The sect has just lost their pastor and they appoint Kurt as their new leader.

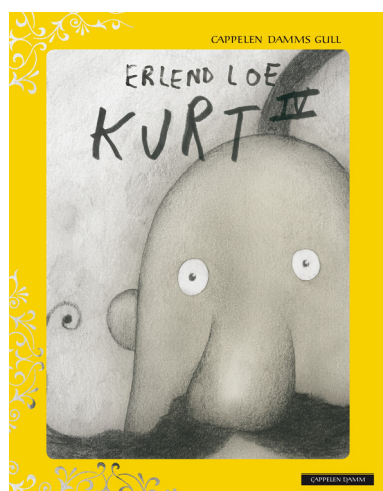


Photo: Chris Johnsen

Loe made his debut in 1993 with the book *Tatt av kvinnen* (*Gone with the Woman*), which was characterised by the critics as "extremely funny and artful". With his second novel *Naiv.Super.* (*Naive.Super.*) he had his great international break through. This unpretentious story about very complicated things was well received by both the readers, especially the young, and the critics.

Erlend Loe has appeared on stage and made short films and music videos. He has been a newspaper critic, a temp schoolteacher and worked in a psychiatric hospital, as well as as film consultant.

His books have been translated into more than 20 languages.

Foreign sales

China, Czech Republic, Denmark, Faroe Islands, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Poland, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Russia, Serbia, Slovenia, South Korea, Sweden, Switzerland (French)

Awards

Norwegian Critics' Prize for *Kurt, Quo Vadis?*
The Prix Tam Tam for *The Fish*.

Previous titles

Tatt av kvinnen, novel 1993.
Maria & José, novel 1994.
Den store røde hunden, children's book 1996.
Naiv.Super., novel 1996.
L, novel 1999.
Detektor, screenplay 2000.
Fakta om Finland, novel 2001.
Doppler, novel 2004.
Volvo Lastvagnar, novel 2005.
Stille dager i Mixing Part, novel 2009.

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