Ida Hegazi Høyer

The Surgeon
Kirurgen

Genre: Fiction
Category: Novel
Publisher: Tiden
Year: 2022
Pages: 267
ISBN: 9788210058219
English sample translation available



Photo: Svein Finneide

The talented surgeon Henrik Wold has organized his life around his career and is now aiming for the department's chief position. Life is quite simple for Henrik – until a young patient develops inexplicable complications after a standard procedure. For the first time in his professional life, he feels insecure, and the pressure evolves around him, both at work and at home. What happens when someone who pictures himself as invincible makes a mistake? What is revealed when the façade starts to crack? When does the surgeon's pragmatic cynicism turn into destructiveness? And what is a human life worth?

With a brilliant take on human psychology, and a trained eye for comic interactions, Ida Hegazi Høyer takes us along on a two-week downhill journey in Henrik Wold's life.

Nominated for the Listeners' Novel Prize 2022



'A razor-sharp portrait of a young surgeon's crushing fall.'

Dagsavisen

'Hardly have I seen weirder, more delicious sentences on a book page this past year.'

Klassekampen

'... teeming with phrases so precise that they shine like bright steel.'

Dag og Tid

'A highlight this year.'

Morgenbladet

Ida Hegazi Høyer (b. 1981) made her debut in 2012 with the novel *Under the World* and quickly became a leading voice in contemporary Norwegian literature. In 2015 she was named one of Norway's 10 most promising young writers by the newspaper Morgenbladet. In 2016, her novel *Forgive Me* won the EU Prize of Literature. She is the author of 7 novels and one collection of stories. Her books have been translated into 11 languages. *The Surgeon* was nominated for the Listeners' Novel Prize 2022.

Foreign sales
Danish (Straarup & co.)

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Interview
Read our interview with the author here

Cecilie Enger

A Minute's Silence

Ett minutts stillhet

Genre: Fiction
Category: Novel
Publisher: Gyldendal Norsk Forlag
Year: 2023
Pages: 192
ISBN: 9788205577077
English sample translation available

As a young woman, Åsta Petersen-Cooper left Norway with a desire to put her former life behind her. She brimmed with dreams of an international lifestyle of language, literature and fascinating conversations, and of a happiness in which she could both love and be loved. She's now 73, living in Warsaw, and in a faltering marriage with a British diplomat. She suffers a stroke which seriously impairs her ability to speak. All she's left with is the Norwegian of her childhood, which no one around her understands, and far too much time to wonder why life never turned out the way it was meant to.

A Minute's Silence is a novel about recognition and identity, about which memories live within us and which ones disappear, and about wanting to escape from your own background – and perhaps also from yourself.



'Captivating! (...) Following Cecilie Enger's writings is a joy, this time she delivers a moving novel with characters we believe in and a story that draws us in. (...) well written, well thought through, a fascinating universe well executed.'

VG, 5 out of 6 stars

'Cecilie Enger writes compellingly about the despair, anger and bitterness of losing one's grasp of language and one's ability to speak.'

Dagbladet, 5 out of 6 stars



Photo: Julie Pike

Cecilie Enger was born in 1963, and has studied history, Norwegian and journalism. Her first novel *Necessity* was published in 1994 and was warmly received by critics. Her big break came with *Mother's Gifts* in 2013, which sold internationally and earned her the Booksellers' Prize that year. She is perhaps best known for biographical and historically-inspired novels as well as strong portraits of female characters.

Awards and nominations (selected): Cecilie Enger has been awarded the 1994 Nota Bene Cultural Prize and her novel *The Henriksen Brothers* earned her a Brage Prize nomination in 2000. In 2007, she won the Neshorn (Rhinoceros) Prize, awarded by the daily Klassekampen for the book of the year. The following year she was awarded the Amalie Skram Prize for best female fiction writer, and in 2013 she won the Norwegian Bookseller's Prize 2013 and was shortlisted for the 2013 Critics' Prize for *Mother's Gifts*.

Foreign sales
Serbia (Albatros plus d.o.o)

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Interview
Read our interview with the author here

Zeshan Shakar

They Call me the Wolf

De kaller meg ulven

Genre: Fiction
Category: Novel
Publisher: Gyldendal Norsk Forlag
Year: 2022
Pages: 240
ISBN: 9788205566385
English sample translation available



Photo: Erika Hebbert

Aren't they supposed to have more, I remember thinking. They were from here after all, Norwegian-Norwegians – shouldn't they own stuff? All the stuff I saw other people's parents and grandparents owning. Shouldn't they have the same stuff? Not even a cabin? At least one without any electricity or water in a place where no one else wants a cabin, like in the middle of the woods. They didn't even have that. I asked my mother about it. She looked annoyed. All she said was, 'That's just how it turned out.'

A man is visiting his father, who is moving to Pakistan. His father doesn't want to grow old in Norway and his small apartment needs to be emptied.

The chore awakens memories from the man's own childhood and youth, thoughts about his relationship with his own children, and reflections on his parents' story – a story that began long before he was born. What are they really leaving behind?

They Call Me The Wolf is a wise and moving examination of culture, history, family, identity and masculinity. It's a novel about being a man from two countries, about having a mother from Finnmark and a father from Pakistan. It's about being a parent, about the housing market, and about childhood. And it's about survival and being hungry like a wolf.



'Outstanding storyteller!'

Guri Hjeltnes, VG

'They Call Me the Wolf will remain a work of reference in Nordic literature for many years to come.'

Esthi Kunz, Gutkind

'The touch and gaze in They Call Me the Wolf assure the reader that this authorship has much more to offer in the future.'

Bernhard Ellefsen, Morgenbladet

Zeshan Shakar (b. 1982) grew up in Oslo. He holds a degree in political science and also studied economics at BI Norwegian Business School. Shakar has worked in various government ministries and directorates and currently works at Oslo City Hall. For his first novel, *Tante Ulrikkes Street* (2017), he was awarded the Tarjei Vesaas Debutant Prize. The book sold over 150,000 copies. His second novel, *Yellow Book*, was released in 2020.

Shakar received the Oslo City Artist Prize and the Neshorn (Rhinoceros) Prize. In 2022, he was nominated for LO's Literature Prize for Workers' Literature. For *They Call Me the Wolf* (2022) he was awarded The Bookseller's Prize

Foreign sales
Denmark (Gutkind), Sweden (Bazar/Bonnier)

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Interview
Read our interview with the author here

Jonny Halberg

Revelation to John

Johannes' åpenbaring

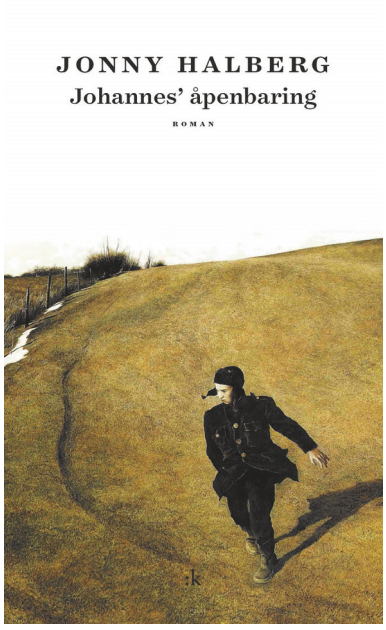
Genre: Fiction
Category: Novel
Publisher: Kolon
Year: 2023
Pages: 238
ISBN: 9788205518476
English sample translation available



Photo: Ann Kristin Aas

Former stand-up comedian John Kaupang travels back to the island of Skatøy to bury his father. His father, a beloved doctor, hanged himself at his office. There were many years of hostility between John and his father, and letters appear during the preparations for the funeral that his father wrote about his life on Skatøy. John begins to investigate what his father really got up to and who he was behind his irreproachable humanitarian façade. His son eventually sets his sights on a man he doesn't know who is ruled by forces he refuses to divulge. Meanwhile, the funeral is approaching. John has a strained relationship with his family and other islanders – relationships that only become more difficult following his father's death.

Revelation to John is a novel about people who switch between rejecting and clinging on to one another, and about what you should have known – and may never know – about those closest to you.



'It's a pleasure to note that Jonny Halberg is back. We have to hope that there's more in the works.'

Leif Ekle, NRK

'The plot, the conflicts, the expressed confrontations and the unspoken tensions between the characters are told in such a way that all you can do is turn the next page.'

Inger Bentzrud, Dagbladet

Jonny Halberg (b. 1962) made his debut with the short story collection *Transition to Tertiary* in 1989. Halberg had his breakthrough with the novel *The Deluge* (2000), for which he received a number of awards.

Together with Pål Sletaune he has written the scripts for the feature films *Junk Mail* and *You Really Got Me*. In 1998, he was co-editor of the journal *Vagant*.

Halberg is a critic for the newspaper *Morgenbladet*. He is also one of the initiators and organizers behind the Møllebyen Literature Festival in Moss, which features international guests

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Interview
Read our interview with the author here

Anders Totland

A Prayer for Jacob Juul

Til jord skal du bli

Genre: Fiction
Category: Novel
Publisher: Samlaget
Year: 2022
Pages: 250
ISBN: 9788234009716



Photo: Atle Helland

Jacob Juul goes from being a retired priest to a widower, grandfather, and murderer in just a couple of days. It all becomes too much to handle at once for Jacob Juul. In just a few days, he goes from being a retired priest with a good moonshine-business enjoying his retirement, to a widower and new grandfather to a 7-year-old girl. And if that wasn't enough, he also becomes a murderer. Now he has a dead debt collector in the booze stash in his shed that he has to get rid of and a criminal conspiracy he must save himself and grandchild Isabella Donnatina from. Luckily, a lifelong career in the Church of Norway has prepared him to face most situations with calmness and optimism. As Jacob himself says: "It is incredible what experiences through more than 40 years of visiting private homes to plan christenings, weddings, and funerals can teach you." A tragicomic noir from deep in the Norwegian forest.



'A Prayer for Jacob Juul is a wonderfully quirky, entertaining, and exciting story. This novel begs to be made into a movie!'

- Publisher Håkon Kolmannskog, Samlaget

'Through this glorious chaos of literally bloody seriousness, the important things in life still emerge (....) about values and what one spends time on.'

- Bømlonytt

Anders Totland is an author, social scientist, cook, and journalist. He is an award-winning young adult writer. His first novel for adults, *Winter Tones*, was published in 2019. *A Prayer for Jacob Juul* is his second novel.

Foreign sales
Denmark (Straarup & Co.), Serbia (Odiseja), Slovenia (KUD Sodobnost)

Film rights optioned by Paradox, Norway

Previous titles
The new Norwegian Children's Literature Prize for his first novel, Angel in the Snow, 2016
Nominated for the Ministry of Culture's Award, best non-fiction 2017 – The Norwegian Slave Trade

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Interview
Read our interview with the author here

Lars Ramslie

The Mountain, the Gun, the Lake (The Illuminated Border of Memory)

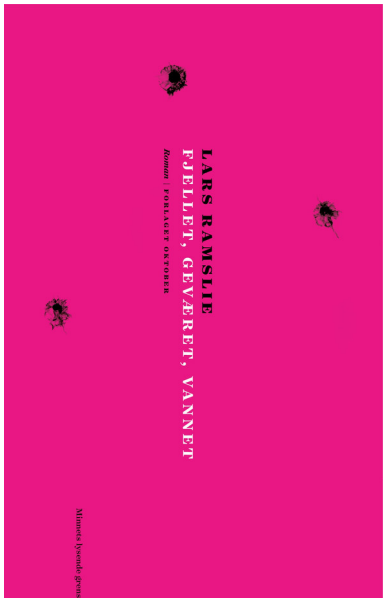
Fjellet, geværet, vannet (Minnets lysende grense)

Genre: Fiction
Category: Novel
Publisher: Oktober
Year: 2023
Pages: 150
ISBN: 9788249526406

It's the summer of 1983. For once, nine-year-old Lars spends the holidays with his father, who left the family years earlier and who has led a messy, self-destructive existence ever since. They have travelled to the farm on the west coast, where his father grew up – the farm that his father lost when he was disinherited. One day Lars' father tells him that they're going up in the mountains, without saying why or where. They walk without water and have very little food, but each of them carries a gun. Several times the father disappears, before appearing again. Frightened, tired and confused, the boy is unable to understand what's going on. Is it a test? Or is his father trying to teach him something?

With great tenderness, Ramslie portrays a father who is lost in his role as a father, and a boy trying to find out who he will be. It's a dark, mesmerizing story of love and attachment in the most precarious of circumstances.

Winner of the 2023 Oktober Prize
Nominated for the 2023 Brage Prize



'Ramslie has finally reached the eye of the hurricane ... a stunningly talented, deeply moving work, as truly weighty books should be.'

Dagbladet, 6 of 6 stars

'(...) an intensity that takes your breath away. A large part of the story is about a hike towards a mountain top, through forests and marshes – and if you're not sweaty before surrendering to this description, you will certainly be. (...) perhaps the most heart-wrenching story of love and betrayal I have ever read.'

Dagsavisen



Photo: Hugo Ryvik

Lars Ramslie (born 1974) is one of the most distinctive and unique voices in Norwegian contemporary literature. He made his debut in 1997 with the novel Biopsy, for which he was awarded the Tarjei Vesaas First Book Prize. In 2004 Ramslie was voted one of Norway's 10 best writers under 35 by the Norwegian Festival of Literature and Morgenbladet. His books have been translated into English, Russian and Finnish. The Mountain, the Gun, the Lake is his seventh novel.

Foreign sales
France (Editions Paulsen), The Netherlands (Oevers)

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Interview
Read our interview with the author here

Brynjulf Jung Tjønn

White, Norwegian Man

Kvit, norsk mann

Genre: Fiction
Category: Poetry
Publisher: Cappelen Damm
Year: 2022
Pages: 96
ISBN: 9788202766610
English sample translation available

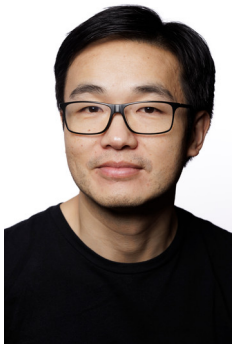


Photo: Adrian Nielsen/NORLA

what do you want to be

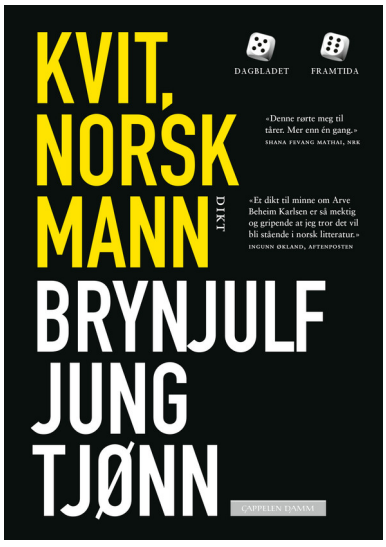
when you grow up?

I want to be

a white, Norwegian man

White, Norwegian Man is a touching and important book about a subject many experience every day – namely racism. In this poetry collection the author Brynjulf Jung Tjønn depicts his own experiences of racism. Brynjulf Jung Tjønn was adopted from South Korea to Norway as a child and has always noticed that he looks different, as he puts it himself. With the pandemic – and the awareness around racism and Asian hate – he got new and painful perspectives about his own background and upbringing. *White, Norwegian Man* is about Norway and the racism many ignore, both the hidden type and the visible one. And not to mention the lonely human who hopes for understanding and finding somewhere to feel at home.

Winner of the Critic's Award 2022
Nominated for the Youth Critic's Award 2022



‘What a clenched fist of a book this is! .... Among the most powerful things I’ve read. Everyone should read it.’

- VG, six/six stars

‘Poetic protest against racism. ... one poem in particular is so compelling and gripping I think it will remain forever in Norwegian literature ... a wistful, vital and necessary contribution to contemporary literature.’ -

Aftenposten

Brynjulf Jung Tjønn (b. 1980) made his literary debut with the novel *I came to love* in 2002. He has since published a number of books for both children and adults. His novel for Young Adults *You are so Beautiful*, won the Brage Prize in 2013.

Foreign sales
Denmark (Straarup & co) – pre-empt, Serbia (Presing Izdavaštvo)

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Interview
Read our interview with the author here

Hilde Rød-Larsen

Diamond Nights
Diamantkvelder

Genre: Fiction
Category: Novel
Publisher: Aschehoug
Year: 2022
Pages: 252
ISBN: 9788203394478
English sample translation available

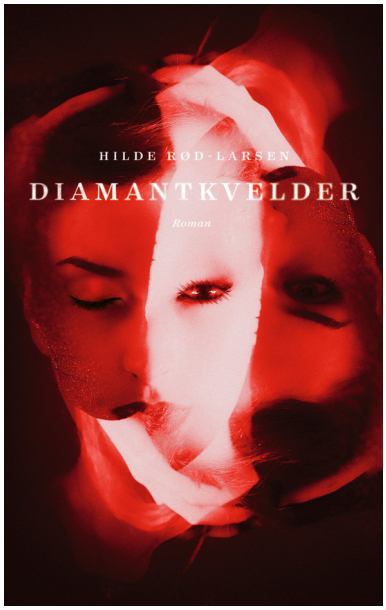


Photo: Tine Poppe

Agnete is in control. Her days have a set rhythm, her body obeys commands, she has a job that she enjoys. She is married for the second time and has a daughter that is on the brink of adulthood. Then one day, her hair starts to fall off. On an early autumn morning her husband goes on a long work trip abroad that will keep him away until Christmas. She is alone in their Oslo flat with her daughter. Agnete has the time and space to try to find the words for what her body has been trying to tell her for a while.

In flashes and fragments, she looks back at herself as a young student in London. At how she longed to be seen and loved for who she truly was. At how for all those years she got lost in a darkness disguised as light.

Diamond Nights is a story about a life, seen through the prism of a toxic relationship that started when the narrator was young and lasted for many years. It is a novel that probes into the stories we tell ourselves about ourselves – stories that enable us to live our lives, and stories that lead us astray.



'Elegantly constructed novel about trauma and abuse.'

- Dagsavisen

'Rød-Larsen reveals an impeccable artistic self-confidence.'

- Klassekampen

'It is its exploring cautiousness and strong composition that makes Diamond Nights outstanding.'

- Jyllands-Posten (Five stars)

'A beautiful story about reclaiming power (...) "Diamond Nights" is a wise book. A self-reflective travel into the realisation of truth (...)'

Politiken, five hearts

Hilde Rød-Larsen (1974) is a Norwegian editor and translator. She has translated Alice Munro, Jhumpa Lahiri, Elizabeth Strout, Miriam Toews amongst others. She has a BSc in Sociology and an MSc in Development Studies from the London School of Economics and lives in Oslo with her family. Her first novel *Sommertid* (Summertime), was published by Aschehoug in 2019. *Diamond Nights* is her second novel.

Foreign sales
Denmark (Gutkind), Germany (Ullstein)

Previous titles
Sommertid (Summertime), Aschehoug (2019)

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Interview
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