Maria Parr
Åshild Irgens (ill.)

Oskar and Me, And All the Places We Are

Oskar og eg

Genre: Children and Young Adult
Category: Novel (Vol. 1 i a series)
Publisher: Det norske Samlaget
Year: 2023
Pages: 196
ISBN: 9788234011450
English sample translation available

New children's book from Norway's literary superstar

In *Oskar and Me* we meet older sister Ida and her little brother Oskar. Ida is eight years old and is the narrator of the book, but the wild and headstrong Oskar of five years plays the main role in her stories. Ida tells about longing for a trampoline, about river safaris in the spring sun and missing vampires in the autumn darkness. About cabins that are smaller than one remembers and cupcake kiosks that are nicer than expected, about change and loss. And about play pretend and real life.

Maria Parr has written a fast-paced and warm read-aloud story about growing up and seeing life in a different light than one did before. *Oskar and Me* is a tribute to everyday life, to sibling relationships and to all the places we are.

"At the end of July, Oskar got his school bag. In a way, I thought it would make him more school-like, but basically the opposite happened. Oskar just absolutely had to have a bag designed for 10-year-olds and upwards. He looked like a turtle.
- Isn't it a bit big, I whispered to mum.
- No, it´s Oskar who is small, said mum with a sigh."

The book is illustrated by Åshild Irgens.

Winner of the Brage Prize 2023. The White Ravens 2024. Premio letteratura ragazzi
Nominated for the Norwegian Booksellers' Prize 2023, the Nordic Council Children and Young People's Literature Prize 2024, Premio Strega Ragazze e Ragazzi 2025, category 8+ and the Basque LLibreter prize 2025

"Maria Parr's new children's book is pure gold – and Parr consolidates her position as one of the best children's book authors in Norway."

VG

"The book is like a box of candy with everything that is good: familiar scenes, new expressions and a multitude of images, both in the language and in the illustrations."

Bergens Tidende

Photo: Det norske samlaget

Maria Parr (b. 1981) has master's degree in Nordic languages and literature. She is the author of Waffle *Hearts* (*Vaffelhjarte*), *Astrid the Unstoppable* (*Tonje Glimmerdal*) and *The Goalie and the See* (*Keeperen og havet*). She has won several literary awards both in Norway and internationally, including the prestigious Brage Awards for best children's book and the Critic's Association Prize. All her novels have been dramatized for stage in Norway and abroad. Her books are sold to more than 35 countries.

Åshild Irgens (f.1976) is educated at the Academy of Fine Arts in Oslo and the School of Visual Arts in New York. Irgens has illustrated a number of children's books including Maria Parr's *Tonje Glimmerdal/Astrid the Unstoppable*. She has won the Italian literary prize Premio Samarelli for her illustrations in *Tonje Glimmerdal/Astrid the Unstoppable*.

Foreign sales
Belgium, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Faroe Islands, France, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Russia, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine

Previous titles
Storebror (Bigbrother), 2020
Keeperen og havet (The Goalie and the See), 2017
Tonje Glimmerdal (Astrid the Unstoppable), 2009
Vaffelhjarte (Waffle Hearts), 2005

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Interview
Read our interview with the author here

Ingunn Thon

Perfectly Imperfect
Full bajas

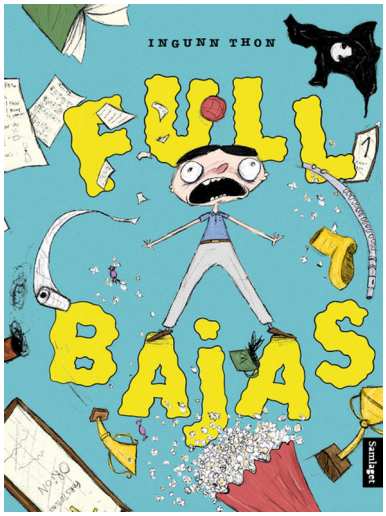
Genre: Children and Young Adult
Category: Illustrated Children's Book
Publisher: Det norske Samlaget
Year: 2023
Pages: 140
ISBN: 9788234010309

Photo: Pernille Walvik

Orion Sigerstad is perfect. He is so perfect that he has never used a rubber in his entire life because he never misspells. He doesn't even know where the principal's office is because he has never misbehaved. And he plays the flute so perfectly that he will be the youngest student ever at the Exceptional Music Conservatory. All he needs to do is to prove it at the concert! But on the day of the concert, Orion wakes up and has become a complete buffoon. Instead of saying good morning nicely to his parents, he yells at them. He writes "PEE" as the answer to a math task and he throws a ball at the gym teacher. Maybe the worst part is that he doesn't play a single correct note on the flute. Orion doesn't understand what is happening to him. Can he fix it in time for the important concert?

This is a story about how to be perfectly imperfect. The book is illustrated in b/w by Maja Kjellstad Aanonsen.

Nominated for the 2024/2025 Avid Reader Award (Bokslukerprisen)



Ingunn Thon (b. 1986) is an author of children's books. Her debut, *Ollis*, was shortlisted for the prestigious 2021 CILIP Carnegie Medal (UK) and for the 2018 Premio Strega (Italy) and published in 11 territories. Thon works as a script writer and puppeteer in The Norwegian Broadcasting Corporation. She has also worked as a children's tv-host and a radio reporter. She has a degree in creative writing and journalism, and studies at Screenwriting School at New York Film Academy. Thon lives in Oslo, Norway.

Maja Kjellstad Aanonsen (b. 2000) is an illustrator with a bachelor's degree in animation. She lives in Oslo, Norway.

Foreign sales
Catalan (Nórdica Libros), Danish (Straarup & co.), Sinhalese (Dedunna Book), Slovene (Založba Zala), Spanish (Nórdica Libros)

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Interview
Read our interview with the author here

Håkon Marcus

Feral
Villdyr

Genre: Children and Young Adult
Category: Fantasy (Vol. I in a 4-book series)
Publisher: Aschehoug
Year: 2023
Pages: 358
ISBN: 9788203399008
English sample, summary and wordlist available

Photo: Agnete Brun

Håkon Marcus (b. 1989) has a master's degree in creative writing and literature from the Norwegian Institute for Children's Books and a bachelor in Art Direction. Feral is his debut. Marcus lives in Oslo, Norway.

Foreign sales
Danish (Straarup, 2-book deal in auction), Estonian (Varrak), French (PKJ-Pocket Jeunesse), German (Ars Edition), Italian (De Agostini), Swedish (Bonnier Carlsen, 2-book deal in auction), Ukrainian (The Old Lion Publishing House)

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Interview
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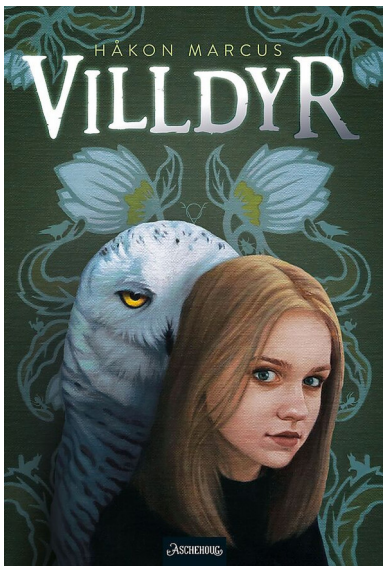
Hiderunners are wild animals that can take human form. They live among us in secrecy, while they fight for territories, power, and wilding – the ancient power that compels nature to obey them. Embla knows nothing of this. She has enough to deal with: a new school, an insufferable older sister, and parents who always interfere. When mysterious things start to happen around her, Embla discovers that she has a crucial role to play in the dangerous power struggle between the animal clans. Together with her new hiderunner friends, Embla soon finds herself braving a magical wilderness fraught with danger. She must uncover her true identity, before a dark order of owl witches can catch her in their razor-sharp talons.

Feral went straight in on the bestsellerlist!

First volume in a new fantasy 4-book series for middle grade readers.

Winner of the 2024 Aschehoug Children's Book Prize and the First Book Prize by the Norwegian Children & YA Authors' Association
Nominated for the 2024 ARK Children's Book Prize and the 2024/2025 Avid Reader Award (Bokslukerprisen)



'It's a dash of *Nevermoor*, a touch of *Hunger Games*, but ultimately, it's pure *Feral*.'

Barnebokbloggen.no

'extraordinary (...) fresh and smart'

Dagbladet, 5/6 stars

'Finally a showdown with the classic children's fantasy hero. This debut novel is equally good when it celebrates and opposes Harry Potter. Håkon Marcus' debut bubbles with the joy of writing.'

Aftenposten

'Suprisingly clever twist'

Klassekampen

'a story of high standard'

Periskop

Heidi Marie Vestrheim

Jenny Fender

Jenny Fender

Genre: Children and Young Adult
Category: Novel
Publisher: Gyldendal
Year: 2023
Pages: 208
ISBN: 9788205565906
English sample translation available

Photo: Jan Khür

Jenny and Signe are neighbours, best friends, AND they're playing a concert together at this year's summer festival in the village. This is going to be the best summer ever!

But the news arrives just before the summer holidays start with a bang: Signe is moving – far, far away. Jenny is devastated. What's going to happen with the band and the concert now? And what happened about being the bestest best friends in the whole wide world? Can you really be best friends with someone who lives miles away?

One day, someone moves into Signe's house! Someone with a rock'n'roll hairdo, tight pants and a drum kit in the basement. Someone who's irritatingly cool, who makes yummy smoothies and makes Jenny's head spin. Someone called Sara, who's moved all the way from Oslo.

This is going to be the worst summer ever...or is it?

Nominated for the 2024/2025 Avid Reader Award (Bokslukerprisen)

"It smells of cotton candy, fabric softener and salty fjords when Heidi Marie Vestrheims makes her novel debut with a charming coming-of-age story from cider county. Jenny Fender is a cheerful, lovely summer novel sharing qualities with the classics."

Bergens Tidende

Heidi Marie Vestrheim (b. 1977) comes from Øystese and lives in Oslo. She is a TV and radio presenter, musician, songwriter and author. Vestrheim has a two-year authorship course at the Norwegian Children's Book Institute. *Jenny Fender* is her first children's book.

Foreign sales
Denmark (Turbine)

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Interview
Read our interview with the author here

Line Halsnes

Cool Rescue Rides

Tøffe kjøretøy

Genre: Children and Young Adult
Category: Picture Book (Series)
Publisher: Cappelen Damm
Year: 2023
Pages: 56
ISBN: 9788202751272
Full English sample translation available

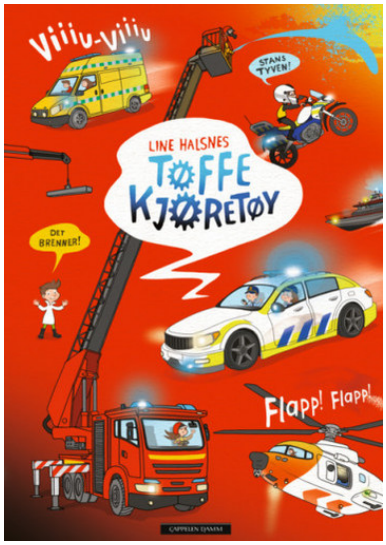
Photo: Jan Alsaker

Line Halsnes (1981–) trained in illustration at the Norwich School of Art and Design. She is a partner in the working collective Kobolt Design. *Båten mellom stjernene* was her first picture book.

After the successful *Cool Machines* and *Cool Dinosaurs* – here comes *Cool Rescue Rides*!

Children love cool vehicles – and in this book you will find seven of the coolest emergency vehicles: fire engine, ambulance, police car, rescue helicopter, police motorcycle, lifeboat, and tow truck. In addition to this you get a closer look at the first aid kit – a very important part of all the seven vehicles.

Drivers Ida and Hans tell us all about the different emergency vehicles, and we get to come along on a mission. It's important to get somewhere quickly in order to help, and luckily all these vehicles have blue lights and sirens!
Line Halsnes is an expert at drawing vehicles and machines with all the correct and important details. She takes the young readers seriously, and shows exactly how the vehicles look both inside and out. Her drawings are colourful, detailed and accurate, and readers big and small will gain new knowledge from this book. It's also a book suited for multiple re-reads!



Foreign sales
Belgium, Denmark (Gyldendal), Poland (Mamania), Russia (AST Publisher)

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Interview
Read our interview with the author here

Neda Alaei

On One Condition

På én betingelse

Genre: Children and Young Adults
Category: Young Adult Novel
Publisher: Gyldendal
Year: 2023
Pages: 188
ISBN: 9788205572652
English sample translation available

"If I tell the truth then everything is gonna be alright. That's the condition, right?

Tell us about what happened at the party yesterday," the investigator says, and I breathe in, not knowing where to begin, thinking about my mum, then I finally open my mouth to explain."

Yousef's life is centred around rules – at home, at school, and among his group of friends. But he's a constant let-down to his mum, the child protection service has already got a foot in the door, and among his mates, Yousef is well on his way to becoming an outsider.

But Yousef believes he can fix all this. Until a party in Stovner changes everything.

Winner of the 2024 Norwegian Youth Literature Award ("Uprisen")

'With the narrator Yousef, whom the story is filtered through, Neda Alaei has written forth a convincing 16-year-old in a tricky situation. [...] On one condition is a story that is realistic, but also hopeful. [...] Neda Alaei has written a kind and sympathetic book, supportive and informative.'

NRK

'Believeable and engaging. [...] Believable insight in the everyday life of a youth who finds life to tough.'

Barnebokkritikk.no

Photo: Julie Pike

Neda Alaei (born 1991) grew up in Moss and lives in Oslo. She graduated in Writing Studies from the Norwegian Institute of Children's Books in 2017. She is a trained child welfare officer and her day job is as a milieu therapist working with young people.

This isn't us (2019) was her first novel, for which she received the Ministry of Culture's Debutant Award, the Book Blogger Award and the U Prize.

Previous titles
Catching Air, 2021
This isn't us, 2019

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Interview
On One Condition">Read our interview with the author here

Alexander Istad
Espen Meling Sele (ill.)

The Dynamite Dudes and the Buzzkiller

Gutta Krutt & Gledesdreperen

Genre: Children and Young Adult
Category: Ill. Novel (Vol. I in a series)
Publisher: Cappelen Damm
Year: 2023
Pages: 392
ISBN: 9788202711993
English sample translation available

The Dynamite Dudes – Alex, Nikk and Proffen – attend the world's best school with the world's best head teacher and their lives are really quite enjoyable. One day when they arrive at school, the head teacher announces that he's going on a long holiday with his husband. But the dudes need not worry! The head teacher has hired an incredibly talented substitute named Lars-Rune Simonsen. It doesn't take long after Lars-Rune arrives before strange things start happening at the school. The teachers behave weirdly, almost like robots. The children stop laughing and playing during recess. The Dynamite Dudes even notice an 8-year-old who's reading The Financial Times! Something is very wrong.

The dudes decide to take the matter into their own hands, but that turns out to be easier said than done. Because who is following them through the streets of town? What's really going on at school? And what happens when one of the brothers disappears without a trace?With the help of an old map of the underground tunnel system under the town, the chemistry kit they got for Christmas and Nikk's large online following, the Dynamite Dudes unravel a plot bigger and more dangerous than they could ever imagine.

The Dynamite Dudes and The Buzzkiller is the first book in a funny and totally crazy series. The book is easy to read and illustrated throughout, perfect for readers of the Treehouse series by Andy Griffiths.

Nominated for the 2024/2025 Avid Reader Award (Bokslukerprisen)

Photo: Maria Kleppe Vihovde

Alexander Istad (b.1978) has a bachelor in film art from The Surrey Institute of Art and Design in Farnham, and is also a photographer. The Dynamite Dudes and the Buzzkiller is his debut novel.

Espen Meling Sele (b.1992) is an illustrator with experience from marketing and film production.

Foreign sales
Danish (Turbine forlaget)

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Interview
Read our interview with the author here

Kjersti Synneva Moen

Seize the Fucking Day

Grip den føkkings dagen

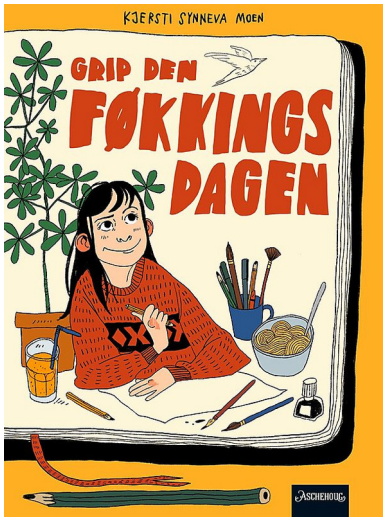
Genre: Children and Young Adult
Category: Young Adult Graphic Novel
Publisher: Aschehoug
Year: 2023
Pages: 200
ISBN: 9788203396977

Photo: Agnete Brun

Amalie is moving away from home to a studio apartment she'll share with her best friend. Amalie has been accepted at the art class at high school and is finally starting a new and adult life. But nothing turns out as she expected. She is no longer the best in class at drawing and mum calls every single day being sad. And the one person that Amalie had counted on disappears just when she needs her the most.

A story about feeling lonely for the first time in life, about understanding the meaning of clichés, and about becoming your own best friend.

Winner of the 2023 Pondus Prize, the 2023 the Ministry of Culture's Best Graphic Novel Prize, the 2024 The Year's Most Beautiful Books (the Norwegian Designer's Guild's Visual Prize)
Nominated for the 2023 Best Graphic Novel and the First Book Prize (the Norwegian Children & YA Authors' Association Literary Prize)



"(...) a distinguished graphic novel artist has arrived."

erikvalebrokk.no

"(...) a new strong contribution to the rich variety of graphic novels in Norway (...) Amalie's story will hit many teenagers and those who have been a teenager."

Dagens Næringsliv

"(...) there's a deep warmth in the way Moen looks at the world."

Klassekampen

Kjersti Synneva Moen (b. 1995) is an illustrator and a cartoonist. Seize the Fucking Day is her first graphic novel. Moen grew up in a small place in the middle of Norway, now she lives in Oslo, Norway.

Foreign sales
Danish (Straarup), Latvian (Zvaigzne), Macedonian (Strange Forest Publishing)

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Interview
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