Maria Kjos Fonn

Margaret, Are You Grieving

Margaret, er du i sorg

Genre: Fiction
Category: Novel
Publisher: Aschehoug
Year: 2024
Pages: 184
ISBN: 9788203453205

Photo: Agnete Brun

Margaret is six years old when her mother takes her own life. She gets help from her father, her imagination, and various children's games to push away the grief and shock, but the pain doesn't disappear. It's just hidden away.

As an adult, Maria begins to study medicine, and faced with illness and death, her childhood trauma is revived. She has always been able to rely on her childhood fantasies to help her cope, but now they change form and become more unpredictable. They no longer lead her away from, but straight into the pain, and things start to crack.

Margaret, Are You Grieving is an honest and fearless portrait of a young woman who is drawn towards life and death simultaneously. The book won the Riksmål Prize, an award given to a literary work with outstanding prose.

Winner of the 2024 Riksmål Prize
Nominated for the European Union Prize for Literature 2025

'A powerful novel about suicide, grief, and guilt, and the path into madness. In a crystal-clear, elegant prose, the novel revolves around losing oneself [...] It is strong, it is eerie and captivating, the language vibrates both elastically and tensely, making the serious text soar. [Fonn's] eye for human imperfection and strength is sharp and investigative. [...] Young Maria Kjos Fonn is well on her way into an important literary career with her novels about addiction, outsiders, and now about death and life in a deeply probing manner.'

Adresseavisen, 6/6 stars

'Maria Kjos Fonn is on her way to becoming a significant figure in Norwegian literature.'

Stavanger Aftenblad, 5/6 stars

Maria Kjos Fonn (b. 1990) is one of the most powerful young literary voices in Norway. Her first novel *Kinderwhore* was nominated for the Norwegian Book Prize (the Brage Prize). Her first children's book, *Memoria*, was published in 2022.

Kjos Fonn is also a frequent op-ed writer on issues like politics, feminism and society. She lives in Oslo.

Foreign sales
Arabic (Saray for Culture & Arts), Danish (EC Editions), Hungarian (Polar Könyvek), Serbian (Prometej)

Awards
Nominated for the Brage Prize 2018
Nominated for the P2 Listeners' Novel Prize 2018 & 2020
Aschehoug Debut Grant 2014
Winner of the Tarjei Vesaas' Debut Prize 2014

Previous titles
Memoria, 2022 (Children's novel, ill. by Skinkeape)
Heroin Chic, 2020
Kinderwhore, 2018

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Interview
Read our interview with the author here

Kristin Vego

Fading Light

Sent på dagen

Genre: Fiction
Category: Novel
Publisher: Gyldendal Norsk Forlag
Year: 2024
Pages: 144
ISBN: 9788205597099
English sample translation available

How do I go about describing this time? The small pockets of time where there were no other witnesses: It's these I want to pick up, like jellyfish, and hold to the light. See the filaments inside.

Johanne rents a room in a white house in the countryside. Almost without noticing, she slips into a relationship with Mikael, the man who lives there. It develops into a love lasting a lifetime. With the relationship comes Mikael's daughter, his ex-wife, and the characteristic landscape surrounding them. Seventeen years later, Johanne sits in the house alone, beginning to pen down their story as the days grow shorter and autumn turns to winter.

Fading Light is a novel about the cycles of the female body, about the fear of losing the one you love, and about appreciating the here-and-now fully; a delicate and powerful exploration of the threads that tie us to a place and to each other.

'A remarkably good novel. [...] especially the ability to write forth a characteristic atmosphere and mood, a mellow elegy of a time and a relationship that has faded to dust, makes an impact. Descriptions of the ways that humans and nature interact is another literary vein that makes Vego's novel stand out.'

Morgenbladet

'Hitting the nail on the head with her first novel. [...] In her first novel, Danish-Norwegian Kristin Vego (32) demonstrates an unmistakable talent for both atmosphere and suspense. *Fading Light* is packed with effortless literary references as well as gorgeous metaphors [...] Melancholy, absolutely, but Kristin Vego's descriptions of passing time and changing seasons are more than anything brimming with beauty.'

Aftenposten

Photo: Birgit Solhaug

Kristin Vego (f. 1991) is a Danish-Norwegian author from Aarhus, Denmark, living in Oslo. She made her debut in 2021 with the short story collection *Look Your Last on All Things Lovely*. The book was published in Danish in 2022. For her debut, she was awarded the Tarjei Vesaas Debut Prize in Norway and the Bogforum Debut Prize in Denmark. Vego is a former editor of the literary magazine Vagant and a literary critic in Dagbladet Information. *Fading Light* is her first novel.

Foreign sales
Denmark (Turbine), Germany (Suhrkamp/Insel)

Awards
The Tarjei Vesaas Debut Prize
The Bogforums Debut Prize

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Interview
Read our interview with the author here

Johan B. Mjønes

Spuria

Spuria

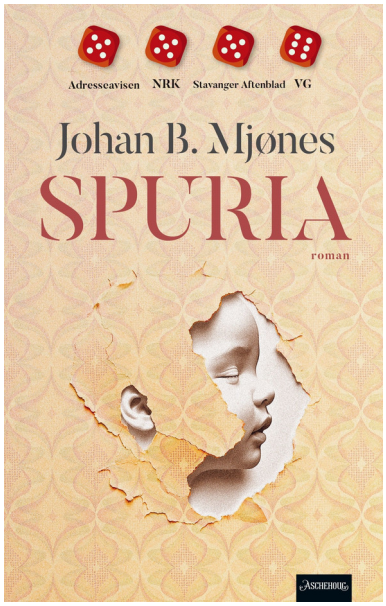
Genre: Fiction
Category: Novel
Publisher: Aschehoug
Year: 2025
Pages: 245
ISBN: 9788203455759

A novel about time, secrets, and the tyranny of gossip.

Kristin has turned 87, and there is no time left to feel ashamed, and no time left to hesitate either. When her husband of more than 60 years finally dies, she must find the child she gave up for adoption. In order to track down the little boy she gave birth to when she was only 16, she has to reveal what she has never shared with anyone. Why did she have to give up the child? And how has it shaped her life?

On the cribs in the maternity wards until well into the 1970s, a V for 'viv' (wife) was written if the mother was a married woman. If the mother was unmarried, an S for 'Spuria' was written, a latin word meaning false or illegitimate. Mother and child were marked from the very beginning.

Nominated for the 2025 Norwegian Booksellers' Prize



'Absolutely beautiful! Mjønes is an exciting author who has published several acclaimed books, but with *Spuria*, he should achieve a major breakthrough. [...] a well-written and important story about domestic adoption and the stigmatization of mothers and children as illegitimate.'

VG, 6/6 stars

'[...] The memories come and go, almost in a single sentence, in the same way that Jon Fosse can operate with time and shifts in consciousness in his books.'

NRK, 5/6 stars

'A beautiful novel about old age and longing. [...] A story about something as simple, complicated, and human as grief, longing, and love.'

Adresseavisen, 5/6 stars

Photo: Agnete Brun

Johan B. Mjønes grew up in Orkanger in the Trondheim Fjord and lives in Oslo. He has a degree in comparative literature and made his debut with the novel *Terminal Velocity* in 2009. Mjønes has published a number of novels, young adult novels, and children's books. In 2018, he received the Mads Wiel Nygaard's Endowment for his acclaimed novel *Home*.

Foreign sales
Azerbaijani (Sabat), Hungarian (Polar Könyvek)

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Interview
Read our interview with the author here

Guri Idsø Viken

Crash
Krakk

Genre: Fiction
Category: Novel
Publisher: Aschehoug
Year: 2025
Pages: 399
ISBN: 9788203455445

Photo: Agnete Brun

Guri Idsø Viken (b. 1979) has a degree in comparative literature and works as a journalist, social commentator and political advisor. She made her debut with *Magnhild – A Novel about Sex, Drunkenness and Public Administration*, written together with Inger Johanne Sæterbakk.

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Interview
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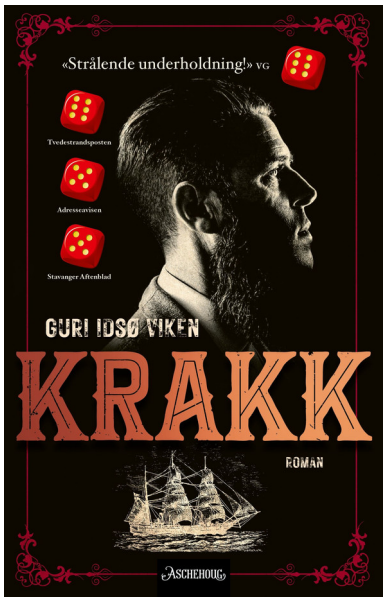
Arendal, 1885. The sailing ships are unloading goods in the harbor. The crystal chandeliers are polished. The townspeople are looking forward to the annual masquerade ball.

The wealthy heir Axel Herlofson has built an empire as a bank manager and ship owner and owns half of the businesses in the town. For the people of Arendal, he is the road to prosperity. His addiction to opium, gambling and younger men is not as well known.

The young accountant Thomas Berntzen sits in the bank manager's neighboring office and is completely at his mercy. When he finds errors in the accounts, he becomes afraid of losing both his job and his true love. The only person he can share his worries with is Agnes Mercier. The elegant woman from Paris runs the dress salon in the city, but hides both her scandalous past and Axel's debauchery. Then the web begins to unravel.

Old ideals fall for new ideas. The best families turn out to be the worst, and no one knows the truth about each other. *Crash* is a magnificent novel about love, betrayal and class struggle, based on the true story of the fraud that changed Norway.



'Brilliant entertainment based on real events! *Crash* is a real powerhouse of entertaining and exciting ingredients. Opium smoking and gay sex in the attic, betrayal and fraud involving staggering amounts of money. [...] Without barbs, but with lots of energy and smart transitions [...] Viken proves to be an excellent writer. [...] Even the erotic scenes are well done!'

VG, 6/6 stars

'A masterpiece'

Tvedestrandsposten, 6/6 stars

'Fascinating [...] the characters are treated with a kind of compassion and tenderness [...] I would certainly like to read more from this author'

Adresseavisen, 5/6 stars

Sigbjørn Skåden

Backwoods Fable

Planterhaug

Genre: Fiction
Category: Novel
Publisher: Cappelen Damm
Year: 2025
Pages: 192
ISBN: 9788202855130
English sample translation available

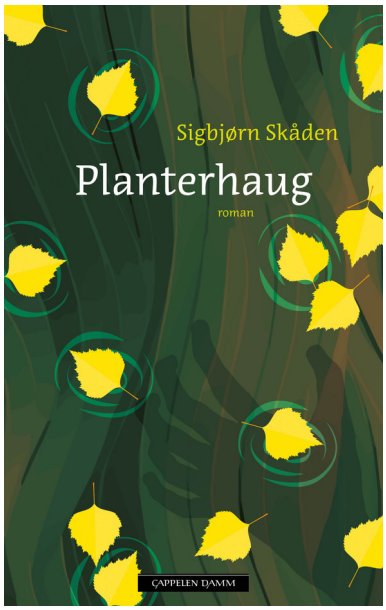
When the old drunkard Nilsen dies in the Norwegianized sami village Planterhaug, once known as Láŋtdievvá, no one suspects anything criminal. Yet, the following autumn Inspector Huuva from the Oslo Criminal Police arrives in the village to investigate the death.

Huuva is determined to uncover the truth about the village and find out about his father's fractured family history. Through his investigation, Huuva discovers that something Evil is haunting in the village, and the case propels him deep into the soul of Planterhaug. But is he truly uncovering new truths, or is he merely treading water in a place where secrets have long been silenced?

Backwoods Fable is a novel about identity, about what it means to be Sami, and about the search to find home – whatever that may be. It is both a deeply serious and deeply humorous novel about nature, culture and belonging.

The book was simultaneously published in Norwegian and in Torne Sámi, under the title *Láŋtdievvá*, both written by Skåden himself.

Winner of the 2026 Nordic Council Literature Prize
Nominated for the 2025 Brage Prize



'Skåden is a poet, it shows. The novel is full of fine, delicate and atmospheric descriptions. [...] a creepy, subtle and remarkable novel with many layers and connections, which perhaps only reveal themselves to the reader after the book is closed.'

Stavanger Aftenblad, 5/6 stars

'Blood, betrayal and chess in Sápmi - *Backwoods Fable* mixes dark Nordic crime and Sami folklore into a meaty and original story with a lot of mystery and even more guts.

Dagsavisen

'Twin Peaks, Troms -
The burlesque and the sorrowful come together into something unlike anything else I've read.'

Photo: Knut Åserud

Sigbjørn Skåden (b. 1976) is a Sámi author who lives in Tromsø. He made his debut in 2004 in the Sámi language with Skuovvadeddjiid gonagas, for which he was nominated for the Nordic Council's Literature Prize. *Watch Over Those Who Sleep* was his first novel in Norwegian, published in 2014. This received rave reviews and The Havmann Prize. He has published both poetry and novels.

Foreign sales
Bulgaria, Germany, Italy, Sweden

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Interview
Read our interview with the author here

Klassekampen

Emely Benedicte Kahrs

Who By Friday

Hvem på en fredag

Genre: Fiction
Category: Novel
Publisher: Cappelen Damm
Year: 2025
Pages: 208
ISBN: 9788202822026
English sample translation available

Photo: Anna-Julia Granberg/Blunderbuss

Who by Friday is a novel about wanting and not wanting, love between friends, a stupid mistake, a mother's troubled heart, painful loss and intense longing.

Nelly takes a day off one Friday in April. Her friends Gry, Unni, Mari and Ellinor are coming for dinner. Nelly wants to spend the day choosing flowers, wine and food, going to yoga and calling the man she sometimes sleeps with. But she is uneasy. It's a changeover day, Linda is supposed to be going to her father's, and apparently Grandma has had a bad fall. In addition, Nelly has forgotten something she should have remembered. How firm is the ground beneath her feet at this point in her life? Is she losing Linda? Will she die alone?

The spring evening is surprisingly warm. Her friends arrive, clink glasses of bubbly and smoke on the terrace. The evening is heating up.

Emely Bendicte Kahrs (b. 1975) was born in Bergen and lives in Oslo. She's an architect and author. Her debut, *Gallop for the Black Horse*, came in 2017, and since then she's published several novels and a poetry collection.

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Interview
Read our interview with the author here

Ellen Sofie Lauritzen

Men Falling
Menn som faller

NORLA Selected Title

Genre: Fiction
Category: Novel
Publisher: Cappelen Damm
Year: 2025
Pages: 368
ISBN: 9788202800161
English synopsis available

Journalist Selna Bru wakes up on her fortieth birthday to surprising news: the renowned author RT Remi is dead. He collapsed on the street and died instantly. To Selna, this is an unexpected – and satisfying – birthday present.

It is because of Remi that Selna hasn't left her shitty flat in months, after having been accused of plagiarism in an article that was supposed to be her big break. She's at rock bottom, without a job, without a boyfriend, without a future. All she has is her cat, Boris.

For many years, RT Remi ran an exclusive literary club in Oslo known as The Cave. There, in a back room, he allegedly drugged and raped five women. Despite protesting his innocence, Remi was convicted of the crimes and sentenced to prison – before he appealed and was acquitted of all charges.

And now, he's dead.

Selna is contacted by the legendary editor Beatrice James with an offer: to write a true crime about Remi's life and death, and about the side of the culture industry that Remi belonged to – that allowed these crimes to happen, and which we, according to Beatrice, are still living in post-MeToo. But there is a tight deadline: according to Beatrice, Remi's unfinished memoir about the accusations, Victim, will be published posthumously by a competing publisher.

This is Selna's second chance, and her opportunity to have her revenge on Remi. But she will soon discover that RT Remi wasn't who he purported to be. And perhaps Selna herself isn't so innocent, either.

'an exuberant, Sex and the City-esque story [...] It is equally a cheerful mockery of the media industry and how publishers disregard ethical objections in their desperate quest to launch the most scandalous celebrity books.'

Morgenbladet

'[...] the novel is good, as it never simplifies or trivialises, rather it problematises, while it is takes meetoo completely seriously.'

Samtiden

Photo: Lina Hindrum

Ellen Sofie Lauritzen (b. 1985) is a journalist and a literary critic, and has also worked in the publishing industry. She has written a non-fiction book and a children's book, and made her fiction debut in 2025 with *Men Falling*.

Foreign sales
Denmark

Previous titles
Snakkes til uka, 2017
Dødsårsak: kvinne, 2014

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Interview
Read our interview with the author here

Jan Ove Ekeberg

Legionnaire. The Barbarians from the North

Legionær: Barbarene fra nord

Genre: Fiction
Category:
Publisher: Kagge Forlag
Year: 2025 - Due August
Pages: 400
ISBN: 9788248940050
English sample translation available

Prepare yourself for a riveting story.

Early in the fourth century, the Roman Empire was struck by a fresh outbreak of unrest. The vast global empire, with its thousands of towns and fifty million inhabitants, was coming apart at the seams. Civil war loomed. There was strife further north, too, in the region close to the outer edges of the world known to the Romans as Scandinauia. People there made a decent living out of iron sales to the Romans. But the relentless work of burning charcoal and smelting iron from bog ore yields poor returns when ships' cargoes are stolen and menfolk killed. Now, the people of Scandinauia are forging the iron into weapons of their own. The charcoal burners and iron smelters are preparing for war.
Four fascinating characters stand in the centre of this dramatic historical novel – three of them fictional, the last one historical. Nithijo – a young man from the kingdom of Rygir in South-West of Norway. Urd – a young woman, raised by the old shaman, from the kingdom of Öland in the Baltic Sea. And Gaois – second in command in the army of the Jutes in Denmark. The fourth and last character we meet, is the young Constantin, son of the emperor. Soon their tracks cross and new unexpected connections are made.

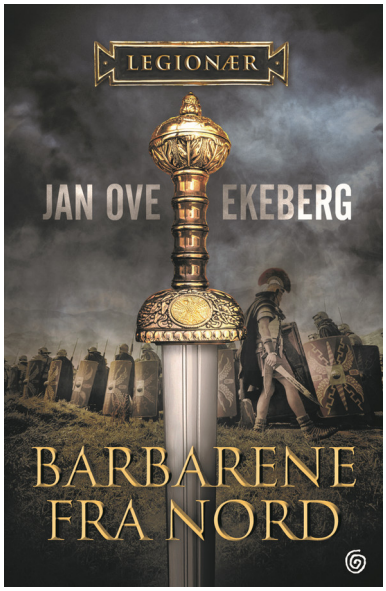

Photo: Celina Øier

Jan Ove Ekeberg (b. 1954) lives in Fredrikstad, journalist and till recently; head of TV 2 Financial News. Today he is a fulltime author. He has written several non-fiction books, children's literature and several historical suspense novel series. His first series, *In Times of Swords* (three volumes), is set in the 12th century. His second series, *The Last Viking King* (five volumes) tells the story of Harald Hardrada and is set in 11th century. In his new series, *Legionnaire*, the story is set in Scandinavian Roman era, in the 4th century. Jan Ove Ekeberg has recently published a first volume of a graphic novel-series called *Hardrada* together with illustrator Nils Axle Kanten.

Foreign sales
Denmark (Politiken Forlag), Germany (W. Heyne Verlag), Sweden (Tukan Förlag)

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