

Johan Høst

# The Nation's Gambit

## En nasjon i sjakk

Genre: Fiction  
Category: Crime fiction  
Publisher: Vigmostad & Bjørke  
Year: 2022  
Pages: 426  
ISBN: 9788241955242  
English sample translation available

The prime minister is kidnapped and the terrorist behind the attack has one demand: That the politicians play a chess game where the prime minister's life is on the line. Each piece on the chess board represents politicians, media personalities, business leaders and other influential public figures. Every time the terrorist wins a piece, a person must pay with their life.

Before the first move is made a semi-trailer pulls up outside the parliament building. The sides of the trailer are blown off and sitting on the loading platform is the Prime Minister in a glass cage. The game is on and the game clock is ticking. So does the clock on the bomb display attached around the prime ministers neck.

The parliamentarians are faced with an impossible dilemma. Should they sacrifice the prime minister to save lives? The emergency squad's officer Anton Block is fighting an almost impossible battle against the clock to find the terrorist, stop the killings and save democracy, all while the world is watching every move.

Nominated for the 2022 Norwegian Booksellers' Prize and the 2022 Riverton Prize



'The use of chess in this novel is made with a level of ambition I have never before seen in literature.'

Atle Grønn, International Grandmaster

'A rambunctious successful crime where all the pieces on the board are moved masterly.'

VG - 6 out of 6 stars

'Exquisite, well-stored quality craziness of the noblest brand from debutant Johan Høst.'

Dagens Næringsliv



Photo: Thomas Brun, NTB

Johan Høst (b.1971) debuted with the action thriller *The Nation's Gambit* in 2022. The book good rave reviews in the press and film rights were sold before publication. The book is the first in a planned trilogy. He works as creative director and copywriter for an advertising agency he founded. He is also a former curling player – and four time Norwegian champion in the sport. Høst was born in Denmark, but moved to Norway as a child. He now lives in Lillehammer with his wife and three adult kids.

#### Foreign sales

Bulgarian (ERA), Danish (Peoples Press)

#### Rights holder

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#### Video

[See YouTube for the author's presentation](#)

Kjersti Anfinnsen

# The Last Signs of Love / Moments for Eternity

De siste kjærtegn / Øyeblikk for evigheten

Genre: Fiction  
Category: Novels  
Publisher: Gyldendal  
Year: 2019 / 2021  
Pages: 144 / 112  
ISBN: 9788205524842 / 9788205559394

Two life-affirming novels about love, death and the loneliness of life.

## The Last Signs of Love

Birgitte Solheim has grown so old that all her friends are dead. Frail and alone, she spends most of her time in her apartment in Paris, where she is trapped by physical decline and memories of a long life lived. She has had a demanding career as a heart surgeon in an environment dominated by men, and having a family has never been a priority. Birgitte is a sharp, witty character who is attempting to reconcile her life while taking a final glimpse at people and the world. In spite of her lifetime of wisdom and experience, she refuses to give up on her dream of love.

Awarded the "Havmann" Prize 2020 | "Book of the Year" by subjekt.no

## Moments for Eternity

In Birgitte's experience, love becomes no less demanding even once she reaches ninety. Her life with and feelings for her partner Javiér are just as vivid, even if she is trapped and isolated by physical decline. Her world is limited to the four walls of her home and her daily walk, with little joys and a lot of darkness. Birgitte uncompromisingly reflects on life's worst moments and what remains with her of loss, grief and bereavement in a world that seems more and more alien to her.

## Winner of the "Havmann" Prize 2020

Nominated for the European Union Prize for Literature (EUPL) 2022



'(...) a bitter and painful, but wonderful novel about a couple marked by aging, decline and death – yes, wonderful! Author Kjersti Anfinnsen, 46 years young, extends a hand to the elderly and humanises our experiences. In doing so, she creates an emotional and mental bond between the generations.'

Sissel Gran - on "Moments of Eternity"



Photo: Marius Fiskum

Kjersti Anfinnsen was born in 1975 and lives in Oslo. She took a creative writing course at the Tromsø Academy of Contemporary Art and works as a dentist.

*The last Signs of Love* is her second book.

## Foreign sales

*The Last Signs of Love* is sold to: Austria (Septime), Bulgaria (Izida), Czech Republic (Vetrne mlyny), Denmark (Vild Maskine), France (Mercure de France), Iceland (Kronika), The Netherlands (Ambo Anthos/Loft), Poland (Art Rage), Russia (Polyandria No Age), Serbia (Treci Trg), Slovakia (Brak), Sweden (Flo Förlag)

*Moments for Eternity* is sold to: Austria (Septime), Bulgaria (Izida), Czech Republic (Vetrne mlyny), Denmark (Vild Maskine), France (Mercure de France), Iceland (Kronika), India - Bengali (Sampark Publishing House), The Netherlands (Ambo Anthos/Loft), Poland (Art Rage), Serbia (Treci Trg), Sweden (Flo Förlag)

## Awards

The "Havmann" prize 2020

## Previous titles

It was Green, 2012

## Rights holder

Gyldendal Agency  
foreignrights@gyldendal.no  
<http://agency.gyldendal.no>

## Video

[See YouTube for the author's presentation](#)

Bjarte Breiteig

# The Tøyen Effect

## Tøyeneffekten

Genre: Fiction  
Category: Novel  
Publisher: Forlaget Oktober  
Year: 2021  
Pages: 336  
ISBN: 9788249523955

Mona and Jostein, an idealistic young couple, moved to Tøyen when their son Kalle was little. Shortly after arriving there, they started a neighbourhood café to help build a community in what was then the most notorious borough in Oslo. Slowly but surely a network of neighbours seemed to grow up around the café – people of all ages from widely different cultures, who helped each other and felt responsible for their community.

Ten years on, Jostein has lost his spark and his ability to bring people together is dwindling. Mona wonders whether their son is paying the price for their choices and secretly longs to get away from it all. Everything comes to a head when Jostein fails to return from a trip to Copenhagen, and over one intense day and night we follow Mona as Jostein's disappearance forces her into a reckoning with her family's situation.

*The Tøyen Effect* is a penetrating contemporary novel about building a neighbourhood, finding a foothold for love outside the family, and faith in – and doubt about – the power of community.



'Impressively composed (...) *The Tøyen Effect* isn't just a splendid work of fiction, but a historical chronicle of enormous significance (...) **Read this book! Do it!**

NRK Bok - also chosen for the Best Books of 2021 list

'A shrewd portrait of both the commendable and the petty sides of idealism (...) a remarkably powerful literary read (...)'

Morgenbladet

'This novel about Tøyen is an undetonated bomb.'

Aftenposten



Photo: Baard Henriksen

Bjarte Breiteig (b.1974) made his debut with the short story collection *Fantomsmerter* (1998) which received glowing reviews and immediately established Breiteig as one of our strongest literary voices, a position that has been strengthened with each of his later works of short stories.

In 2003 Breiteig was one of five young authors whose work was included in a collection of short stories published under the title of *Borders* by the European literary project Scrittura Giovani. Each writer's contribution appears in five languages: Welsh, German, English, Norwegian and Italian. His work was featured in Dalkey Archive's *Best European Fiction 2012*. So far, Breiteig's books have been translated to German, French and Czech.

#### Foreign sales

German (Luftschacht Verlag)

#### Awards

Anders Jahre's Award 2004

Aschehoug Debutant Award 1998

#### Previous titles

My Five Years as a Father, 2014

People Have Started Knocking, 2006

Surrogates (short stories), 2000

#### Rights holder

Oslo Literary Agency

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#### Video

[See YouTube for the author's presentation](#)

Therese Tungen

# Turn Around: Edvin's Story

## Snu deg. Edvins bok

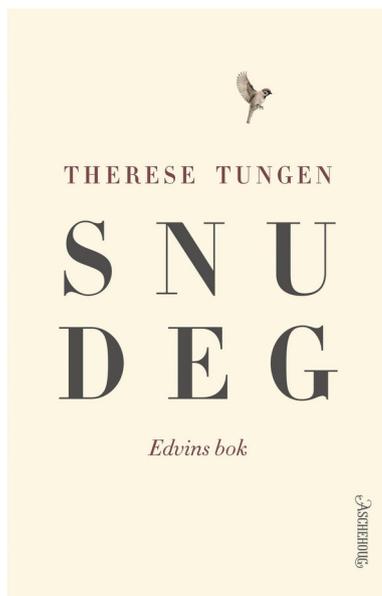
Genre: Fiction  
Category: Novel  
Publisher: Aschehoug  
Year: 2022  
Pages: 262  
ISBN: 9788203378836  
English sample translation available

"I promise. I'll give you Edvin, as he was. But first I have to tell you about the end. "

"This summer is going to be different," she told her children. They traveled to the mountains while her husband stayed in the city to renovate their apartment. Their son Edvin would be turning seven after the vacation and was looking forward to finally getting his own room. Two days before they were set to leave the cabin, Edvin got a headache. A few hours later, he was dead.

A helpless family is left behind. What really happened to Edvin? Where is he now, and how can they manage to continue with their lives after this? *Turn Around* is written by a mother trying to find her way through the chaos after her son died, and an attempt to write about who Edvin really was.

"One early morning, I woke up with a sudden pain in my chest. I had been dreaming. How I was rummaging in the ground, looking for a place where Edvin was not dead, or for a place where they did not know he was dead. I pondered this for a while, and then I realized. I could travel to the end of the world if I wanted. Where I was, Edvin was dead, because I was carrying his death with me."



'Important about grief, magnificent about love. (...) leaves the reader with a deep feeling of love. The road there is almost unbearable.'

NRK

'Intimate, shocking, and beautiful book about losing a child.'

Bergens Tidende

'A powerful, heartbreaking, warm, wise, uplifting and thought-provoking book about a grief that is almost unbearable. (...) for anyone who's ever loved someone.'

Aftenposten



Photo: Tine Poppe

Therese Tungen has worked as an editor for many years, first at the publishing house Oktober, where she, among other things, co-edited Karl Ove Knausgård's *My Struggle*. She is now a non-fiction editor at Det Norske Samlaget.

Her second book, *Love, or Something Like It* was shortlisted for the 2020 European Union Prize for Literature.

#### Foreign sales

German (Kein & Aber)

#### Awards

The Bjørnson Scholarship 2018

Aschehoug's debut scholarship 2017

#### Previous titles

Love, or Something Like It, 2019

Once They Were Wolves, 2017

#### Rightsholder

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#### Video

[See YouTube for the author's presentation](#)

Marit Eikemo

# Team Tuva

## Team Tuva

Genre: Fiction  
Category: Novel  
Publisher: Samlaget  
Year: 2021  
Pages: 174  
ISBN: 9788234006500

### What's wrong with Tuva?

This is the story of Tuva. We meet her through her GP, her psychologist, her lawyer, her personal trainer, her dentist, her carpenter and her bank manager. By virtue of their professions, they each have their own view into her life while also uncovering new aspects: the pains of an ageing body, anxiety for her child, new medicine, mess at home, divorce, the spontaneous idea to buy a local assembly hall, and a simple inheritance settlement that takes an unexpected turn. Though they are spectators of Tuva's life, these people also have their own lives and stories, which we glimpse through reflections into Tuva's everyday life.

*Team Tuva* is a novel about how we meet and see each other and about how we can never get a complete picture of others' lives. Eikemo captures the surprising ways we affect the lives of others, and that perhaps it is the most unexpected people who see us most clearly when disaster strikes.



'Eikemo is a master observer of how we live today. She brings together comically-absurd images with a precision the reader can rejoice over (...) This novel cements Eikemo's position as a central observer of our times and a writer of profound empathy for the fragile characters she uplifts.'

NRK

'Eikemo has emerged as a contemporary storyteller of rank – nynorsk's answer to Nina Lykke – with her love/ hate relationship to new technology, Facebook and online marketplaces.'

VG



Photo: Agnete Brun

Marit Eikemo (b. 1971) has written several critically acclaimed novels and essay collections and has received the Amalie Skram Prize, previously awarded to authors such as Linn Ullmann, Herbjørg Wassmo and Vigdis Hjorth, which applauds her as "a truth seeking author... who writes with great empathy and humility. Through astute observations of everyday life, she uncovers the abstract from the concrete." Her previous novel *A Free and Nonbinding Valuation* was on the Norwegian bestsellerlist for several months.

### Awards

The Amalie Skram Prize  
Årets nynorsk bok  
Samlagesprisen  
Festspilldiker på Dei Nynorske festspela

### Previous titles

Hardanger, 2019, Short stories  
*A Free and Nonbinding Valuation*, 2017, Novel  
*All Inclusive*, 2015, Novel  
*Conversation Waits*, 2012, Novel  
*Ongoing Work*, 2009, Novel  
*Contemporary Ruin*, 2008, Essays  
*Mellom oss sagt*, 2006, Novel  
*Her.no*, 1999, Reportage

### Rights holder

Copenhagen Literary Agency  
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### Video

[See YouTube for the author's presentation](#)

Kjersti Halvorsen

# I'm the One Who Can Help You

## Det er jeg som kan hjelpe deg

Genre: Fiction  
Category: Novel  
Publisher: Cappelen Damm  
Year: 2022  
Pages: 320  
ISBN: 9788202742584  
English sample translation available

Psychologist Edvin works at the Kvervel Palace. He is engaged and soon to be a father for the first time. One day, he gets a new patient, André. Edvin knows him from his childhood but hesitates to tell his boss about their relationship. He is ashamed and unable to say more than 'we went to school together', which really doesn't cover it. Edvin was bullied, and André was the bully. Now they have to deal with each other on a daily basis.

Why did André start taking drugs? Did Edvin have anything to do with what happened? Why was life so cruel to André but kind to Edvin? Or has life been kind to him?

Kjersti Halvorsen writes about complicated topics such as power, addiction, revenge and reconciliation in an entertaining way.



Photo: Anna-Julia Granberg/BLUNDERBUSS

Kjersti Halvorsen (b. 1993) grew up in Lier. She has attended author-studies at the college in Bø and studied psychology at the University of Oslo. She made her debut in 2019 with the novel *Ida Takes Charge*, a book that earned her a nomination to the Tarjei Vesaas debut prize.

**Foreign sales**  
Denmark (Straarup & Co)

**Rights holder**  
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**Video**

[See YouTube for the author's presentation](#)

Sandra Kolstad

# Two Words for Destruction

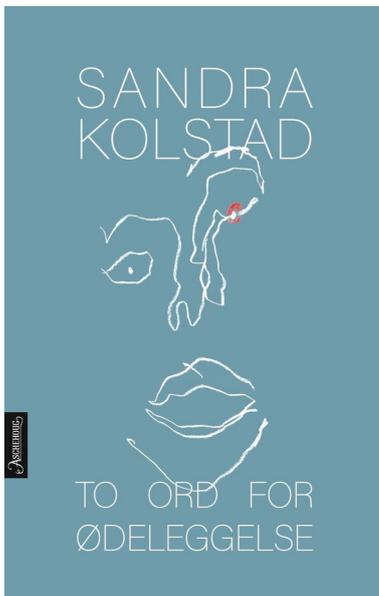
## To ord for ødeleggelse

Genre: Fiction  
Category: Novel  
Publisher: Aschehoug  
Year: 2021  
Pages: 266  
ISBN: 9788203366185  
English sample translation available

Frida meets Nina at a gallery and they fall in love. They quickly become so close that Frida loses sight of where she begins and where she ends. She is on the verge of losing it and existence becomes volatile, but Nina provides structure and defines the boundaries.

*Two Words for Destruction* is a story of breakdown and submission. About how easy it is to disappear within the will of another – and about the devastating experience of having someone tighten their grip only to subsequently let you go.

Winner of Aschehoug's Debutant Prize 2021



'(...) a small wonder of a book (...) luminous, reflected prose about the beauties and horrors of love (...) *Two Words for Destruction* is one of the most beautiful books I have read in a long, long time, about how painful and delightful love can be. I am already looking forward to Kolstad's next book.'

Vårt Land

'Beautiful and insightful about impossible love. Musician and composer Sandra Kolstad delivers with literary confidence, poetic sensuality and introspective maturity in her debut novel.'

Stavanger Aftenblad



Photo: Anne Valeur

Sandra Kolstad is a Norwegian musician, composer, producer, and copywriter. She has released six critically acclaimed albums. Kolstad frequently works in the intersection of music and literature, including as a composer for the performing arts. Her most recent album releases are *Burning Love* (2019) and *Elv på Himmelen* (2019). The latter includes twelve poems by Jon Fosse that she has set to music. *Two Words for Destruction* is her fiction debut.

#### Foreign sales

Denmark (EC Edition)

#### Rights holder

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#### Video

[See YouTube for the author's presentation](#)

Randi Fuglehaug

# Diva Diaries

## Tonedød

Genre: Fiction

Category: Crime fiction

Publisher: Kagge Forlag

Year: 2021

Pages: 354

ISBN: 9788248929208

Martha Tverrberg, a 66-year-old world-renowned saxophonist and controversial feminist is performing this year's commission piece at Vossa Jazz, the annual international jazz festival at easter. In the audience sits Agnes Tveit, who is writing a biography about the jazz diva. Agnes is a fan of Vossa Jazz — if it just weren't for the music. Her thoughts keep wandering off, to how she had broken the engagement with her ex-fiancé after admitting to a one night stand with a journalist colleague. As if this weren't enough, her old love interest, the one who got away, Alexander Kosanovic, is the new director of Vossa Jazz. Agnes knows that she has never wanted Alexander more.

After jamming with her musicians for two hours non-stop, the diva takes a break, only to grab the microphone and give a furious speech about how the whole jazz community is a disgrace because of its ageism and discrimination against women. Then, she picks up her instrument, plays one heart-wrenching wail – and falls to her death on stage.

The police conclude that Martha died from a poisonous powder applied to the mouth piece of her second saxophone and start investigating the death as murder. They soon discover a connection between this case and the death of the former festival director. Was he also murdered? When Agnes Tveit finds Tverrberg's diaries, she discovers several suspects. Soon she gets tangled up in a murder mystery that might put herself in great danger.



Photo: Jon Hunnålvatn Tøn

Randi Fuglehaug is an experienced journalist and editor. She was a US correspondent for Dagbladet in New York and has contributed to several of Norway's most important newspapers and magazines, as well as working in television and hosting the podcast *Fødselspodden*. She has authored both literary children's books and narrative non-fiction. *Alt vel med mor og barn — historier om fødsel* (Samlaget 2018) is her most recent non-fiction title, and the same year she published her latest children's book *Skalla* (Samlaget). She grew up in Voss in Western Norway, but lives in Oslo with her husband and two children.

#### Foreign sales

Denmark (Grønningen 1), France (Albin Michel), Germany (Fischer Verlag), Sweden (Bazar)

#### Previous titles

Wing women, 2020

#### Rightsholder

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#### Video

[See YouTube for the author's presentation](#)

