



# **Graphic novels**

Autumn Highlights 2024



# Sophie Souid Thomas Hjorthaab





# Kitty Poo - Hold on to your Cat and your Glasses! A Space Kidnapping!

## Møgmis - hold på kat og briller! En space kidnapping!

A super entertaining, slightly grotesque and rather creepy graphic novel/comic about friendship and enmity. Teenage Sivert and his cunning cat, Kitty Poo, love each other. Or at least love to hate each other.

**Sophie Souid** is an award-winning Danish children's book author known for her great humourous writing.

**Thomas Hjorthaab** is a well-known Danish children's book illustrator whose art style is known to be funny, punk and bursting with emotion.

# SYNOPSIS

Kitty Poo is despondent and depressed. It only has one life left and its selfconfidence is low because its otherwise ingenious revenge plan against Ziggie has still not succeeded.

Kitty Poo's mood is not made better by the fact that Ziggie has started making cat memes on his phone and can't be pulled away from the screen.

So to punish Ziggie - and get some attention - Kitty Poo decides to run away from home.

The fifth volume in the hilarious comic strip about teenager Ziggie and his Kitty Poo.

The first book in the series won the Orla Prize 2023 in the category "The Book that made me wet my pants with laughter", as well as the Best Graphic Novel of the Year 2023 Award. The series has been nominated for the Ping Prize twice.

Thomas Hjorthaab was shortlisted for the <u>Danish Cultural Ministry</u>'s 2024 Children's Book Illustrator of the Year Award.

Option publishers include: Dutch (Blauw Gras), Faroese (BFL), Finnish (Otava),



Original Language: Danish Original Publisher: <u>Gads Forlag</u> Published: October, 2024 88 pages Category: <u>Graphic Novels</u> Sub-category: <u>Children</u> Genre: <u>Humour</u> Available material: English sample of the

#### **Territories Handled**

World except: Danish

first book.

French (Jungle, Steinkis), Italian (Il Castoro), Norwegian (Gyldendal Norsk), Polish (Nowa Basn), and Swedish (Berghs).

#### John Kenn Mortensen



# Sticky Monsters III Klæbemonstre III

The third installment in John Kenn Mortensen's STICKY MONSTERS series, including over hundred new monsters drawn on post-it notes.

John Kenn Mortensen, the Danish cult illustrator, celebrated by fans around the world for his incredibly detailed illustrations of monsters.

#### SYNOPSIS

John Kenn Mortensen has done it again! Drawn over 100 new monsters on postit notes. It started in 2012 with STICKY MONSTERS and MORE STICKY MONSTERS. In STICKY MONSTERS III, each section on the book has a short text, such as "An open eye for love" or "Some books are never read to the end".

#### REVIEWS

"Mortensen's drawings are quite wonderful. The yellow sticky canvas is transformed, the monsters come to life, each with their own personality. And oh, how many monsters and so many types: forest monsters, ghouls, ghost monsters, continental monsters, furry monsters, twin monsters, tentacled monsters, fish monsters, invisible monsters and a single human monster .... It is an incredibly fine concept. Each one completely individual and irrepressible. The monsters are cute at the same time as sinister, and often have a slightly Victorian vibe – tentacles and tweed." – (Naked Literature Magazine)

"I've probably already seen more monsters than most do in their whole life, but I'm still none the wiser as to why some monsters work and others don't. I know even less about why certain monsters push a special button at the back of my brain, evoking all kinds of half-forgotten dreams and feverish imaginings from my earliest childhood. What I do know is that John's monsters absolutely hit the spot." – (Geek Culture)



KLÆBE MONSTRE III JOHN KENN MORTENSEN Fabrenbeit

Original Language: Danish Original Publisher: Fahrenheit Published: September, 2024 112 pages Category: <u>Graphic Novels</u> Sub-category: <u>Crossover</u>

#### **Territories Handled**

# Line Malling Schmidt The Last Smilodon



# Den sidste sabeltiger

An adventurous and imaginative picture book/graphic novel hybrid about the unlikely friendship between a smilodon and a caterpillar.

**Line Malling Schmidt** is a Danish author and illustrator of children's books.

#### SYNOPSIS

The smilodon sleeps in its den, but wakes up when a natural disaster hits the earth. It is alone and can't find its family. Luckily, it meets the caterpillar, who has a bright outlook on life and always has a cheeky quip. Together they set out to search for smilodon's relatives, even though the caterpillar has problems of its own.

Along the way, not just one, but two miracles happen.

#### REVIEWS

"A tribute to nature's ability to survive, but also to imagination and the imaginary power of the child... The Smilodon is brightly coloured, almost screaming in its choice of colours ... a slightly old-fashioned and very endearing artwork style ... Schmidt's [...] images of animals and landscapes are fascinating. The seriousness is countered by the playful style" – (Weekendavisen)

"An imaginative and very atmospheric tale ... The dialogue between the caterpillar and the smilodon is humorous and the illustrations are very special." – (Dansk Bibliotekscenter, Danish Library Centre)



Original Language: Danish Original Publisher: <u>Vild Maskine</u> Published: August, 2024 44 pages Category: <u>Graphic Novels</u> Sub-category: <u>Children</u> Available material: English sample.

#### **Territories Handled**

## Jeppe Sandholt



# Eagle

#### Ørn

An epic coming-of-age novel in the graphic novel format - full of heart, soul and humour. A total page-turner in a very accessible language.

Jeppe Sandholt (b. 1982) is a Danish animator and illustrator with a Bachelor of Arts in Character Animation from The Animation Workshop, Viborg, Denmark.

# SYNOPSIS

Thor is a soft-spoken boy with an over-powering father. He is quite lonely and usually lets others take the lead. At school he is an easy target for the bullies. That all changes one day when he finds an eaglet, who is dependent on him to survive. Now, Thor gets to be in charge for a change. But eagles are not so easy to tame...

Winner of the Danish comic book prize, <u>the Ping Prize 2024</u>, in the category "Best children's book comic".

Nominated for <u>the Nordic Council Children and Young People's Literature Prize</u> 2025.

Film Rights are under option with First Lady Film.

#### REVIEWS

"EAGLE is about family, friendship and first love and it is one of those amazing books that everyone can get something out of. It is a really gorgeously illustrated tale, and with its 842 pages it is apparently one of the longest graphic novels ever in Denmark. However, you should not be put off by the epic format, because the book is more show than tell, with relatively little text in the form of direct speech and sound words. It makes the book very easy to read, without compromising on the exciting and dramatic plot." – (Litteratursiden (The Literature Page)

"Jeppe Sandholt has written and illustrated a tribute to imagination in all its complex variations. It is humorous, touching, and strikingly original. When you have an eagle as your confidant, you're never alone. A modern fable cast into a fragmented, pixelated, and nearly (de)constructed world, where the animal still helps us understand ourselves and one another. The animal goes – or flies – its own way, just like Jeppe Sandholt does himself. In doing so, he sticks to precise storytelling and his own determination, with a visionary agenda: never to forget the untamed in the midst of the streamlined." – (The Nordic Literature Council)



## FAHRENHEIT

Original Language: Danish Original Publisher: Fahrenheit Published: October, 2023 842 pages Category: <u>Graphic Novels</u> Sub-category: <u>Children</u> Film Rights: First Lady Film Available material: English sample upon request

#### **Territories Handled**

# Sabine Lemire Rasmus Bregnhøi





# Kurt is apparently not quite dead

# Kurt er vist ikke helt død

A stand-alone graphic novel by author/illustrator duo behind the popular MIRA - and MOGENS AND MAHDI series. The difficult conversation about death, served with a good portion of humour to the target group 6+.

**Sabine Lemire** (b. 1974) is a graduate of the Danish Design School and The *Duperré* School of Applied *Arts* i in Paris. Short-listed for Deutscher Jugendbuch Preis 2019 with MIRA.

**Rasmus Bregnhøi** is a hugely popular and award-winning Danish illustrator, who was short-listed for the *Deutscher Jugendbuchpreis* in 2019.

# SYNOPSIS

Dea's hamster, Kurt, does not want to do anything. Normally, he is full of beans, but now he is neither blinking nor waving his paw. Sven claims he is not moving at all. Dea is not quite sure...

At the church yard, they run into a strange man, who is also called Kurt. He looks a bit dead, but he is full of good stories, about the exciting life and death of the animals he has known through the years.

But why is he going on about that in the first place? There's nothing wrong with Dea's Kurt, or is there?

<u>"Menzione Speciale"</u> of the Bologna Ragazzi Award 2025 in the category "Comics Middle-Grade"

Shortlisted for the <u>Danish Cultural Ministry</u>'s Children's Book Writer of the Year 2024 Award.

#### REVIEWS

"This unique and thought-provoking comic book masterfully blends humor and sincerity to explore the concept of death for young readers. The story follows Dea, whose hamster, Kurt, has been flattened in a bicycle accident. While Dea hopes Kurt is still alive, her friend Sven remains doubtful. Their search for answers leads them to a cemetery, where they meet a mysterious man—also named Kurt—who shares fascinating stories about the lives and deaths of various animals. The playful yet expressive drawings and witty dialogue lighten the weight of the topics, adding a touch of absurdity. This reinforces the book's



Original Language: Danish Original Publisher: <u>Gads Forlag</u> Published: March, 2024 64 pages Category: <u>Graphic Novels</u> Sub-category: <u>Children</u>

Available material: *English sample upon request*.

#### **Territories Handled**

World except: Danish

#### **Territories Sold**

Italian: <u>Sinnos</u>

Swedish: Berghs Forlag

engaging and thoughtful approach, encouraging open discussions about loss and grief." – (Bologna Ragazzi Award 2025 ("Menzione Speciale" - Comics Middle Grade)

#### Søren Jessen



# Kafka's Heart

# Kafkas hjerte

A graphic novel about Franz Kafka's life and the run-up to his life as an author by the author/illustrator behind the graphic novel based on "*Metamorphosis*".

**Søren Jessen** is an award-winning Danish author/illustrator of children's books and graphic novels.

## SYNOPSIS

I wake up in the dark with the delightful sensation of a knife in my heart.

When Franz Kafka met the Berliner, Felice Bauer, on August 13, 1912 and fell madly in love, it was the beginning of an incredibly productive period in his writing career. But it was also the beginning of a deep divide between love and the urge to write. A divide that at times almost tore Kafka apart and which influenced him for much of his short life.

#### REVIEWS

"Kafka's Heart is a tale of fear and trepidation, regret and love that truly touches the heart." – (Weekendavisen)

"It's creative, it's inspiring and at the same time very beautiful and complete." – (Pio (online newspaper)



Original Language: Danish

Original Publisher: Fahrenheit

Published: May, 2024

134 pages

Category: Graphic Novels

Sub-category: <u>Adult</u>

Available material: English sample upon request

#### **Territories Handled**

## Rebecca Bach-Lauritsen Charlotte Pardi





# Mum - a roar, a song, a sigh

# Mor - et brøl, en sang, et suk

A visual description of the special bond of love between mother and child. It is made up of 30 statements on what Mum is – for example a roar, a song, a sigh – accompanied by a onepage illustration. It was created in close collaboration between author, Rebecca Bach-Lauritsen, and illustrator, Charlotte Pardi.

**Rebecca Bach-Lauritsen** (b. 1976) is an award-winning Danish author and radio journalist, whose previous books were translated into several languages.

**Charlotte Pardi** (b. 1971) has won the Danish Cultural Ministry's Illustrator Prize on several occasions and is loved for her gentle appealing artwork.



Mum is a hand in the dark.

Mum is an akwardly long hug.

Mum is a blow and a nudge.

MUM is a book for everyone who is or has a mum.

#### REVIEWS

"A lovely depiction of all the different and many-facetted bonds between child and mother... you cannot help but smile and feel the warmth in - yes, the heart by this poetic little publication." – Heidi Mørch / Lektørudtalelse (Danish Library Centre (Dansk Bibliotekscenter)

"A book for the heart with space to make your own interpretations ... a lovely and gentle occasional book and a loving message for a mum-to-be, your own mum, someone who has lost a mum or you, who is yourself a mum." – Line Hoffgaard (The Literature Page (Litteratursiden)



#### Original Language: Danish

Original Publisher: Gutkind Published: April, 2022

64 pages

Category: Graphic Novels

Sub-category: Crossover

Available material: English sample upon request

#### **Territories Handled**

#### John Kenn Mortensen



# The Nightmare Factory

# Mareridtsfabrikken

Stunning nightmare drawings alongside darkly comical poems - John Kenn Mortensen is at his best in this gem of a book.

John Kenn Mortensen, the Danish cult illustrator, celebrated by fans around the world for his incredibly detailed illustrations of monsters.

# SYNOPSIS

34 short poems accompanied by the most elaborate drawings of all sorts of creepy nightmares we might have.

The frame story is a house at night, out of the darkness emerge two scary figures who enter into the house, pick up a sleeping boy and carry him - bed and all - out of the house. Then the different dreams start. Have a look here:

"I have caught myself a real nuisance of man He is blind but has one eye that works on his left hand"

"Behind my granny's summer house, there is a secret path There lies an extra-terrestrial who could really do with a bath"

"Under my seat on the bus to school lies a bearded man who says he died in a pool"

"Oh, I really hope that I am spinning a tale I believe there is a living thing underneath my nail".

## REVIEWS

"It was my recent good fortune to be introduced to the work of John Kenn Mortensen and my even greater fortune to be privileged to publish this work by turns, playful, funny, wicked, stunningly imaginative, and, of course, masterfully rendered, like a combination of Edward Gorey and Bernie Wrightson, but every bit his own man." – Gary Groth (Publisher of Fantagraphics)



Original Language: Danish Original Publisher: Fahrenheit Published: November, 2020 104 pages Category: <u>Children's Books</u> Sub-category: <u>Middle-Grade</u> Genre: <u>Horror</u>

Available material: English sample

#### **Territories Handled**

World except: Danish

#### **Territories Sold**

English (World): Fantagraphics

# Stine Spedsbjerg



# **Growth Pains**

#### Voksenværk

A graphic novel about life as a woman, seen through StineStregen's vulnerable, funny and sharp pen.

The artist, **StineStregen**, has earned herself lots of fans with her original, recognisable illustration style.

## SYNOPSIS

What happens when you start to get a grip on education and working life - and everyone around you take the plunge with couplehood and children? And how do your surroundings react when you actually don't wish to have children?

StineStregen handles sensitive topics in her usual suprior balance between vulnerabilty and humour.



GADS FORLAG

Original Language: *Danish* Original Publisher: <u>Gads Forlag</u>

Published: September, 2023

144 pages

Category: Graphic Novels

Sub-category: Adult

#### **Territories Handled**

World except: Danish

#### REVIEWS

"What I love the most about the book, is the main character's solidarity, love and eagerness to understand other women's situation." – (Kristeligt Dagblad)

"It is a moving and engaging book. StineStregen gets into all angles of being voluntarily childless. There is a caring approach to both those with and without children, but at the same time a sense of sharp societal satire." – (Lektørudtalelse (Library review))