



Middle Grade highlights

Spring 2023



Sophie Souid Thomas Hjorthaab



Kitty Poo I

Møgmis: Hævnen er sød og stinker af fisk

Hugely popular new graphic novel series, about a life and death pet war between a boy and his cat. A bestseller in Denmark and winner of several awards, the series is sold in eight translation markets so far. There are currently six books in the series and a 7th planned for Christmas 2025.

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.



Original Language: Danish Original Publisher: <u>Gads Forlag</u> Published: October, 2022 88 pages Category: <u>Graphic Novels</u> Sub-category: <u>Children</u>

Available material: Short English sample available. Furthermore, full translations into French and Italian.

SYNOPSIS

Why do adults have children? Ziggie thinks he has found the answer: they do it so that have someone to blame for everything. But if the adults are not completely heartless, they choose to have more than one child, so the children can blame each others – also known as "sibling love". Unfortunately, Ziggie's parents only had him, so he has to put up with all kinds of more or less unreasonable accusations.

He is therefore exceedingly happy when he gets a cat. Because cats are not able to tell on you and CutiepieRonaldo is the obvious scape goat for all the things that Ziggie would otherwise bear the brunt for alone.

However, when CutiepieRonaldo one day mistakes Ziggie's bed for the cat tray, it becomes the kick-off for a war on life and death between Ziggie and Kitty Poo – CutiepieRonaldo's new nick name.

Kitty Poo is not prepared to forgive Ziggie for all the unreasonable accusions and with the help from the other pets in the neighbourhood - the conflict shy fighting dog, Killer Karen; the incredibly gluttonous, Peter Pug, and the deceased, Ooze Mouse – Kitty Poo starts a bloody revenge plan which will do Ziggie in, once and for all.

The graphic novel, KITTY POO: REVENGE IS SWEET AND REEKS OF FISH is a crazily funny tale about a teenager and his cunning cat caught in an eternal rivalry.

Winner of The Best Graphic Novel of the Year Award by The Copenhagen Libraries, as well as the Orla Prize 2023 in the category "The Book that made me wet my Pants with Laughing".

Both the first and second books were nominated for the Ping Prize.

The fourth book is currently nominated for the Orla Prize.

REVIEWS

"Exceptionally well-suited to hilariously funny read-aloud moments with small children, but will also work as a laugh-out-loud reading experience for grownups." – (The Literature Page (Litteratursiden))

"Damn, it's a good book! Unpretentious and funny. My daughter is well-covered in terms of read-aloud book moments. She rates Shitty Kitty highly." – (Serieland (online comic book review platform))

TERRITORIES HANDLED

World except: Danish

TERRITORIES SOLD

Dutch: <u>Uitgeverij Blauw Gras</u>, Faroese: <u>BFL</u>, Finnish: <u>Otava</u>, French: <u>Jungle</u> <u>(Steinkis)</u>, Italian: <u>Il Castoro</u>, Norwegian: <u>Gyldendal Norsk</u>, Polish: <u>Nowa Baśń</u>, Swedish: <u>Berghs Förlag</u>.

Gry Kappel Jensen



Venja (1) - The Pact Venja (1) - Pagten

Suspense, adventure and magic for readers from 8 years up. *The Pact* is the first book in an easy-read series comprising 6 books by the author of award-winning YA series, *The Rosenholm Trilogy*.

Gry Kappel Jensen is the author of the bestselling YA fantasy series, Rosenholm, published in Germany, Italy, Poland and US.

SYNOPSIS

Venja lives in a big, old castle in the forest with her strict father and a small handful of servants. Her only friend is the nanny, Inge – but Inge has disappeared. One day she sneaked out of the park and into the Forbidden Forest and since then no one has seen her. Venja is firmly determined to find Inge again, even if all other people at the castle pretend that she has never existed. In her search for Inge, Venja chances upon many more mysteries than she could have imagined, but fortunately she receives help from an unexpected direction.

New easy-read fantasy series by Gry Kappel Jensen with illustrations by Andreas Erstling. At the back of each book are fact sheets, as well as a drawing templates, if the reader feels like drawing one of the characters from the book.



Original Language: Danish Original Publisher: <u>Turbine</u> Published: September, 2022 110 pages Category: <u>Children's Books</u> Sub-category: <u>Middle-Grade</u> Genre: <u>Easy Read</u> Themes: <u>Courage, Friendship</u> Available material: English sample upon

Territories Handled

World except: Danish

request.

Territories Sold

Faroese: Bókadeild Føroya Lærarafelags

Swedish: Nypon

Cecilie Eken



Silver Bloom

Sølvblomst

Fantasy and the realistic everyday life meet in this novel about a boy who is made responsible for a magic plant girl with unpredictable powers.

Cecilie Eken is an award-winning author who writes with beauty and imagination in a language that encompasses both the every day and the poetical. Her works tackle the big themes of life: parents and children, friendship, love, and finding our place in the world and a sense of connectedness. She has been nominated for the prestigious <u>Astrid Lindgren</u> <u>Memorial Award</u> in 2023, 2024 and 2025.



Original Language: Danish Original Publisher: Gutkind Published: October, 2021 170 pages Category: <u>Children's Books</u> Sub-category: <u>Middle-Grade</u> Genre: <u>Fantasy</u> Themes: <u>Friendship, Belonging/Identity,</u> <u>Environment, Growing up</u> Available material: English sample **Territories Handled**

World except: Danish

Territories Sold

French: Hélium

Italian: Editrice Il Castore

SYNOPSIS

Jonas and his best friend, Simon, have a secret den in the big, overgrown garden on the other side of the woods. One day, Jonas spots the owner, an elderly lady, being taken away in an ambulance and she doesn't return. Her house with the many potted plants is empty and locked up. But it seems as if someone is still in there. Someone who needs help.

Silver Bloom has been a hit with readers since it came out in 2002. It is an atmospheric and poetic tale about friendship, change and the magical power of nature and it is the prequel to the new standalone novel, *Night Bloom*, published for the first time in 2021. The book can be read from 10 years up.

REVIEWS

"An incredibly beautiful and precious tale... rarely have I read a book where a character has moved me so deeply... a fantastic tale about friendship, despair and the wonderful world of nature" – (Literature for Danish teaching (Litteratur til danskfaget))

"A piece of climate literature without any wagging fingers" – (Pædagogen.dk)

Sarah Engell Signe Kjær





The Golden Clock Gulduret

A thought-provoking story about seeing the beauty in the ordinary.

Sarah Engell is one of the most popular YA writers on the Danish scene, coining perfectly what it is like being young today, with no trace of moralisation or judgement. She is currently nominated for the Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award.

Signe Kjær knew she wanted to draw books from the age of seven. Today, she has illustrated over 30 books and in 2021 she was awarded the Ministry of Culture's Illustrator Award.



Original Language: Danish Original Publisher: <u>Forlaget Carlsen</u> Published: November, 2022 64 pages Category: <u>Children's Books</u> Sub-category: <u>Middle-Grade</u> Genre: <u>Realism</u> Film Rights: Babel-Bridge Theatre Rights: Babel-Bridge Available material: English sample upon request

Territories Handled

World except: Danish

Territories Sold

Dutch: De Vier Windstreken

SYNOPSIS

The everyday is my favourite day. That's what grandpa used to always say. But Sophia is tired of the boring old everyday with homework, rainy weather and the same old fare for supper. When she turns ten years, she luckily gets a very special and magical birthday present which can help he skip all the boring bits. From now on, every day will be a party. Glittery clothes, cakes, gifts! Sophia feels like the queen of life. But things derail completely and suddenly Sophia is all alone in the world.

REVIEWS

"A magical tale, beautifully composed in a smooth and delicious language, which mesmerizes from start to finish." – (Børn og Bøger (Children and Books))

Anne Sofie Hammer Me & Milla: Short Sofie Lind Mesterton Leash





Mig & Mille: I kort snor

The second instalment in the new illustrated middle-grade series in the Tom Gates/Wimpy Kid vein, starring two feisty, funny girls. Sold at auction to B. Wahlstrøms in Sweden and optioned by Mangschou in Norway, who are publishing the first book in the autumn this year.

Anne Sofie Hammer is one of the most popular Danish children's books writers, and author of the bestselling series about Villads from Valby.

Sofie Lind Mesterton is an illustrator and visual storyteller, with a degree from the Royal Danish Art Academy's School for Design.

SYNOPSIS

Milla and Milla – the two friends with identical names and sense of humour – have enough on their plate. There is Jonas and his girlfriend, Luna, who they simply have to prank. There is the dog, Bobby, who has to learn to play dead. And there is a bathroom that has to be filled with balloons, so Milla's mum has to go and pee in the garden.

So when Milla's mum announces that she has to go to London on a work assignment, and that Milla's grandmother will look after her meanwhile, it is a complete and utter shock. Milla's grandmother is not only a posh lady with golden jewellery and pink nail varnish, she is also a lady with A LOT of rules.

The friends only see one way out of it: they have to prank Milla's grandmother! 'Cause is it really that important if the soap smells of roses or tomatoes? If you eat carrots or crisps? But what exactly is Milla's grandmother up to when she disappears into the nearby park all the time in her high-heeled shoes?

Option publishers include: Dutch (De Fontein), Finnish (Otava), Icelandic (Forlagid), Italian (Il Battelo a Vapore), Norwegian (Cappelen Damm & Mangschou), Swedish (B. Wahlstroms).

TERRITORIES HANDLED

World except: Danish

TERRITORIES SOLD

Finnish: Otava, Icelandic: Forlagid, Norwegian: Mangschou, Swedish: B.



Original Language: Danish Original Publisher: Gutkind Published: October, 2022 164 pages Category: <u>Children's Books</u> Sub-category: <u>Middle-Grade</u> Genre: <u>Humour</u> Themes: <u>Friendship, Curiosity,</u> <u>Imagination</u> Film Rights: Babel-Bridge

Theatre Rights: Babel-Bridge

Available material: English sample and summary for the first book in the series.

<u>Wahlströms</u>.

Nicole Boyle RødtnesOxygen Hunt (1) -



Survival

Iltjagt: Overlevelse

Survival is the first book in the exciting series, Oxygen Hunt, aimed at children aged 9-12, set in a world in which every breath of air costs money.

Nicole Boyle Rødtnes (born 1985) is a popular Danish children's book and YA writer

SYNOPSIS

In a bleak future, every breath costs money. Only the rich can afford quality oxygen. The poor have to make do with poorer oxygen, which slowly makes them sick. The siblings, Liam and Alex, have had to fend for themselves since an accident killed their father and sent their mother to the hospital. They struggle to get enough money for oxygen for themselves and the ventilator that keeps their mother alive. But in the hunt for money and oxygen, they get caught up in a lifethreatening game...

Survival is the first book in the series, Oxygen Hunt.

The second book in the series won the <u>Orla Book Prize 2024</u> in the category "The Book I Could Not Put Down".



Original Language: Danish Original Publisher: <u>Alvilda</u> Published: November, 2021 168 pages Category: <u>Children's Books</u> Sub-category: <u>Middle-Grade</u> Genre: <u>Fantasy</u> Themes: <u>Courage</u>, <u>Friendship</u>, <u>Family</u>, <u>Suffering</u>, <u>Loss/Grief</u>, <u>Environment</u>, <u>Disability</u>

Available material: English sample.

Territories Handled

World except: Danish

Sophie Souid Emilie Rubæk Holm





Sun over Inner City (1)

Sol over indre by og historien om en ilder

The Story about a Ferret is the first book in the series *Sun over Inner City* about the girl, *Sun*, who has a mind of her own and a heart of gold.

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

Emilie Rubæk Holm is an experienced freelance artist and illustrator with a Master's Degree focused on Visual Communication from The Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts.



Original Language: Danish Original Publisher: <u>Forlaget Carlsen</u> Published: November, 2022 40 pages Category: <u>Children's Books</u> Sub-category: <u>Picture Books (5-8 years)</u> Genre: <u>Humour</u> Film Rights: <u>Babel-Bridge</u> Theatre Rights: <u>Babel-Bridge</u> Available material: <u>English sample upon</u> request

Territories Handled

World except: Danish

SYNOPSIS

Sun would really like a pet and especially a dog. Mum says that they are not allowed to have pets in their flat. But Sun has the same relationship to rules as she has to the dentist. And new shoes that at too tight... So, if she is not allowed to OWN a dog, then she can just BORROW one... and forget to give it back again. Sun makes a plan and it will no doubt work out woofingly well, because Sun does not stop at anything. It's one of the things she has from her dad, Donor.

Thorbjørn Petersen Herman Ditte Mårdøn Smet







SYNOPSIS

Thorbjørn Petersen Rufus the Fox

Den om Rufus

Charming Danish graphic novel, nominated for the 2022 Nordic Council's Children and Young People's Literature Prize.

Thorbjørn Petersen is a cartoonist and illustrator with a BA in graphic storytelling from The Animation Workshop.

Herman Ditte is the joint pen name for Thomas Vium and Silja Lin, who are both graphic storytellers and graduates from the Animation Workshop.

Mårdøn Smet is an experienced illustrator and author and teaches at The Animation Workshop.



Original Language: Danish Original Publisher: <u>Gads Forlag</u> Published: June, 2021 56 pages Category: <u>Graphic Novels</u> Sub-category: <u>Children</u> Available material: English sample

Territories Handled

World Rights (Babel Bridge)

Territories Sold

Italian: <u>Sinnos</u>

The first autumn storm shakes the trees in the street, and inside, Rufus snuggles in his best armchair while sipping his tea - with two pieces of sugar in it. The storm warns of something unforeseen and dangerous.

Soon, the most bizarre events will bring the comfortable city fox far from his safe armchair and his warm living room. As far from home as he has ever been before...

The Nordic Literature Council wrote in their motivation:

"Are we products of nature or culture? This well-known dichotomy is the focal point of this charming and amusing picture story of the fox, Rufus, who lives in the city, but one night, strays into the forest where he meets a bunch of wild foxes. Before long, a "wild and foreign feeling" takes root in Rufus who runs around playfully without clothes – quite without missing his flat, armchair and hot cup of tea. (...)

The will of the work is its own, yet the narrative manages to accommodate readers of all ages and gives them something they did not know they wanted. It's a question of going along with the story's own unique premise and allowing yourself to be absorbed by a universe that balances razor-sharp between nature and that which is cultivated – by a fox. Or is it the other way around?"

Kim Fupz Aakeson Signe Kjær





Hans Christian Andersen - a life of ups and downs and lots of adventure

Hans Christian Andersen et liv med modgang, medgang og en masse eventyr

A new exciting biography about Hans Christian Andersen for children aged 6+ by the successful author/illustrator duo Fupz and Kjær (see The Children's Bible).

Kim Fupz Aakeson is an award-winning, best-selling writer of children's books.

Signe Kjær knew she wanted to draw books from the age of seven. Today, she has illustrated over 30 books and in 2021 she was awarded the Ministry of Culture's Illustrator Award.

SYNOPSIS

Hans Christian Andersen was a master storyteller! We all know the fairy tales about the Ugly Duckling, the Emperor's New Clothers and Clumsy Hans. But did you know that Hans Christian Andersen actually wanted to be an actor? Or that he had a teacher who called him a toilet poet? Or that he never went travelling without a long rope?

Hans Christian Andersen had a lot of tales to tell, but there is also quite a lot to be told about him.

REVIEWS

"A serious and reable biography. Imaginative and fabulating in its illustrations." – Alice Buchhave Nørlem (Folkeskolen (industry magazin for teachers))



Original Language: Danish Original Publisher: <u>Forlaget Carlsen</u> Published: June, 2022 96 pages Category: <u>Children's Books</u> Sub-category: <u>Middle-Grade</u> Genre: <u>Non-fiction</u> Available material: English sample available upon request

Territories Handled

World except: Danish

Territories Sold

Bulgarian: Vakon

Kim Fupz Aakeson Signe Kjær





The Children's Bible: the Book of Books for Children

Børnenes Bibel: Bøgernes Bog for Børn.

60 of the most important Bible stories from the Old and the New Testament, brilliantly retold by Kim Fupz Aakeson with beautiful illustrations by Signe Kjær. Here's a book that both children and their parents will enjoy.

Kim Fupz Aakeson is an award-winning, best-selling writer of children's books.

Signe Kjær knew she wanted to draw books from the age of seven. Today, she has illustrated over 30 books and in 2021 she was awarded the Ministry of Culture's Illustrator Award.



The Bible is a cornucopia of unforgettable stories and regardless of whether we believe them or not, they remain an important point of reference for us to this day. There are stories of brothers who cannot get on. There are stories of kings who are scared of ruling. There are stories about war, about skinny cows, about trumpets that can break down walls, about a country where milk and honey float. But most important probably, the Bible is about love.

The Children's Bible is the prefect gift book for all ages and important book to read aloud because it will spark conversations about all the important aspects of life.



Original Language: Danish Original Publisher: <u>Forlaget Carlsen</u> Published: September, 2021 304 pages Category: <u>Children's Books</u> Sub-category: <u>Middle-Grade</u> Available material: English sample translation

Territories Handled

World except: Danish

Søren Jessen



The Fish Girl

Fiskepigen

An **IBBY Honour** nominee - an absolutely stunning graphic novel on the highly current subject of flooding and climate change - aimed at reading aloud for 10+ or reading alone for 12+.

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

SYNOPSIS

In a house on a hilltop, the autistic boy, Frede, and his older sister are home alone. A violent storm has hit their area and all land around them has been washed away by flooding, leaving their hilltop house on a small island in the sea. They are without electricity and light, waiting for their parents to find them.

Fred's sister does everything in her power to create an illusion that everything is normal – to protect her fragile younger brother. She plays with dinosaurs, makes a cozy camp underneath the dining table, bakes pancakes on the gas fire and tells a fairy tale of a girl who lives in the sea.

At the same time, she is worried and scared. Where are their parents? Will the water rise further? And how does she make the old generator in the outhouse work, so that she can create light and signal to the helicopter above that they are alive and waiting?

The book provides a beautiful and moving point of departure for a dialogue on climate change and on the importance of caring for each other when the going gets tough. There is a strong sense of hope and community in the story and the stunning illustrations provide a complete extra layer of meaning for this pearl of a story.

Check out the IBBY Honour List Online Exhibition here.

REVIEWS

"An eerie, intensely well-wrought and -written novel (...) the way that Søren Jessen mixes text and images is simultaneously elegant and fiercely anchoring you in the present." – (Børn & Bøger (Children and Books magazine))

"The Fish Girl is an outstandingly beautiful publication, in which the illustrations – on land, in the ocean and in the air – contribute to a unique experience." – (Bogbotten.dk)



Original Language: Danish Original Publisher: Gyldendal Published: March, 2020 116 pages Category: <u>Graphic Novels</u> Sub-category: <u>Children</u> Genre: <u>Realism</u> Themes: <u>Environment, Courage, Family</u>

Available material: English sample translation

Territories Handled

World except: Chinese Complex, Chinese Simplified

Territories Sold

Italian: <u>Camelozampa</u>

Kim Fupz Aakeson Rasmus Bregnhøi





Mogens & Mahdi -Seriously!

Mogens & Mahdi - Seriøst!

Mogens and Mahdi is a prize-winning and acclaimed comic book series from Denmark capturing the friendship of two 9-year-old boys spot-on. Translated into German, Norwegian and Swedish.

Kim Fupz Aakeson is an award-winning, best-selling writer of children's books.

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



Original Language: Danish Original Publisher: <u>Forlaget Carlsen</u> Published: August, 2021 120 pages Category: <u>Graphic Novels</u> Sub-category: <u>Children</u> Available material: English sample of the first book + full German translation

SYNOPSIS

In *Mogens and Mahdi* - *Seriously!* hormones have made their appearance on the scene. What's happening when Asta comes near?! Is the friendship between Mogens and Mahdi going to survive the class party, the Christmas procession and the horror movie sleep-over?

Fupz and Bregnhøi have created a feisty cocktail of laugh-out-loud moments and "boys will be boys" tales and as usual humour, sweetness and the seriousness of life are tied together in the most original and hilarious way.

Territories Handled

World Rights (Babel Bridge)

Territories Sold

German: Klett Kinderbuch

Tore Leifer Anja Gram





Münchhausen: the Baron's (almost) true tales

Münchhausen: Baronens (næsten) sande eventyr

A refreshing, funny new take on Baron von Münchausens tall tales, tweaked for the age group 6+, and colourfully illustrated.

Tore Leifer has written a wonderful new version of Baron von Münchhausen's fabulations.

Anja Gram is an experienced Danish illustrator.

SYNOPSIS

In this new book about Baron von Münchausen's stories, he has been given a bunch of grandchildren (in reality he was childless) and is telling them stories in front of the fireplace. Thus the scene is set for children and childish souls to be mesmerized and entertained by stories of cannon ball travel, horses on church towers and deers with cherry trees growing out of their heads.



Original Language: Danish Original Publisher: <u>Gads Forlag</u> Published: October, 2021 96 pages Category: <u>Children's Books</u> Sub-category: <u>Middle-Grade</u> Genre: <u>Humour</u> Available material: English sample

Territories Handled

World Rights (Babel Bridge)

Territories Sold

Dutch: Van Goor

Gertrude Kiel Gunvor Rasmussen





Tales from the Sky: Science Stories for Children

Hvad himlen kan fortælle os: videnskabshistorier for børn

In the tradition of *Sophie's World*, this book offers insight into a topic that is normally not easily accessible to children. Sold in translation to 11 languages at this point.

Gertrude Kiel is a Danish author of international caliber, who writes engagingly about big universal topics.

Gunvor Rasmussen produces dreamily beautiful illustrations using water-colours.

SYNOPSIS

If there is one thing that children and scientists have in common, it is their curiosity. Curiosity about the world around us, our role in it and the meaning of it all.

William is nine years old and fed up. It is school holiday and his parents are away on work trips; he is deposited at his mad aunt's place and she has absolutely no clue about kids. But crazy aunt Gudrun knows a thing or two about science and the week at her place turns out to be filled with stories of exciting people, funny anecdotes and fascinating machines.

Shortlisted for "Wissensbuch des Jahres 2022" (Knowledge Book of the Year) by <u>Wissenschaft Magazine</u>

REVIEWS

"From the pile (of knowledge books for children) especially one book stands out. It is Gertrude Kiel's science book, TALES FROM THE SKY (...) A boy called William has to spend a week at his grumpy star-gazing aunt's place. During the course of those days, we are taken around the entire solar system and all the big names. For example Einstein." – Steffen Larsen (Politiken) (Bogforum Magazine)

TERRITORIES HANDLED

World Rights (Babel Bridge)

TERRITORIES SOLD

Bulgarian: Iztok-Zapad, Chinese Complex: Yuan-Liou, Chinese Simplified: United



Original Language: Danish Original Publisher: Character Publishing Published: August, 2018 251 pages Category: <u>Children's Books</u> Sub-category: <u>Tween</u> Genre: <u>Historical</u> Themes: <u>Curiosity</u> Film Rights: Babel-Bridge Literary Agency Theatre Rights: Babel-Bridge Literary Agency

Available material: English sample, full Chinese, German, Italian and Spanish translations. Sky, Estonian: Varrak, German: Hanser Verlag, Italian: Gallucci Editore, Korean: BIR Publishing, Polish: Czarna Owca, Romanian: <u>Humanitas</u>, Serbian: <u>Odiseja</u>, Spanish (World): Siruela.