



YA and Tween

Autumn Highlights 2024



Michela Elk



All I Remember Alt hvad jeg husker

Well-written psychological suspense novel by promising young writer.

Michela Elk (b. 1991) is a graduate from the Manuscript School for Children's Fiction in 2023. She is drawn towards telling those stories that become alive in the meeting between darkness, hope and everyday magic.

SYNOPSIS

I can remember the pulsating rhythm of the ground and your running steps and your hand that slipped out of mine. I can remember when you jumped. That I remember.

All I Remember is a psychological drama where the truth continuously shows itself from different angles.

Freja has lost her best friend, Malou, who jumped out in front a train. While the police investigate the death, Freja returns to her everyday life where everyone is puzzled about why Malou took her own life. As the only witness, Freja gets a lot of questions that force her to think about the night when Malou died. And about their friendship in the time leading up to her death.

The more she remembers, the more she doubts how well she actually knew her friend. And as the police dig deeper and deeper, there are several inconsistencies.

What actually happened with Malou on the tracks?

REVIEWS

"Well-written, authentic and intense book which carries a constantly vibrating untertone, making the reading experience very exciting and compelling. A succesful youth novel with a great plot and a surprising twist at the end. Comes warmly recommended." – (Library Review (Lektørudtalelse))



Original Language: Danish	
Original Publisher: <u>Gads Forlag</u>	
Published: September, 2023	
270 pages	
Category: <u>Children's Books</u>	
Sub-category: <u>YA</u>	
Genre: <u>Realism</u>	

Available material: English sample

Territories Handled

Leonora van Deurs



Botai -Shadowtraces

Botai - Skyggespor

Impressive well-researched historical debut novel, written while the author was still a teenager.

Leonora van Deurs is a student of Mathematics at the University of Münster (Germany). She started work on her debut novel at the age of 15 and finished it when she was 18 years old.

SYNOPSIS

5500 years ago something happened that changed the history of mankind forever. The Botai people tamed the horse.

In *BOTAI: Shadowtraces*, we follow three young people on their individual quests. Quests that will change their destinies forever.

Set on the Eurasian steppe, the Botai people live a life in a pact between nature and horses. But a dark shadow is looming. A curse, also called a minwri, is spreading decease and death.

Nakou is a nomad and part of the Yamnaya people. She has lost her family to the curse and is therefore forced to flee to the Altai Mountains where she is to be married against her will.

Jalqi sets out on a dangerous journey to find the shiny stones that can make the curse go away and rescue his people.

Lyez is making his away alone over the never-ending steppe to find his father, but a fateful meeting awaits him.

This is a compelling novel about a people that is not widely known. Leonora van Deurs' writing is based on concrete historical facts, and her vast scientific background knowledge, on genetics and language among other things, is outstanding.

REVIEWS

"A masterpiece!" – (Tidsskriftet Børn & Bøger (the Magazine Children & Books))

"Well-written and well-crafted historical narrative that captivates from the first page to the last. The story of the Botai people comes to life in such a well-told way that you can almost smell the smoke from the fire and hear the sound of the horses' hoofbeats. An impressive work by the young debut author Leonora van Deurs." – (Dansk Bibliotekscenter (Danish Library Centre))



Original Language: Danish Original Publisher: <u>Vild Maskine</u> Published: January, 2024 320 pages Category: <u>Children's Books</u> Sub-category: <u>Tween</u> Genre: <u>Historical</u>

Available material: English sample by Paul Russell Garrett + timeline/synopsis in English of the entire novel

Territories Handled

Jonas Kleinschmidt Earth to Chloe



Earth to Chloe

Jorden kalder Chloe

A new intense youth novel about human existence, generational divides, anger and hope.

Jonas Kleinschmidt is a Danish author who has written several critically acclaimed books for children and young people, including the YA novels, The Boys and The Angels over Copenhagen.

SYNOPSIS

Chloe lives in the bunker, Trident Rock, with her father and the other lucky few who were proviliged and wealthy enough to secure a place in safety when war and global environmental catastrophes hit. In many ways, Chloe lives a normal teenage life. She goes to school, does her homework and goes to the cinema with her best friend, Millie. She does not want for anything - except of course for the world outside, which may be gone forever.

One day, Chloe discovers a fly. A fly is life! But neither Chloe's father, nor Millie, are interested in hearing about it. Only when Chloe meets Theo, does she realise that she is not alone with her thoughts.

Is the life they lead, far below the ground, actually a real life? And can the price for survival perhaps become too big?

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



Original Language: Danish Original Publisher: <u>Turbine</u> Published: October, 2024 275 pages Category: <u>Children's Books</u> Sub-category: <u>YA</u> Genre: <u>Realism</u> Themes: <u>Growing up, Love, Friendship,</u> <u>Family, Environment</u>

Available material: English sample upon request.

Territories Handled

Lars Daneskov



Fatal Outcome

Med døden til følge

A psychological thriller for 12+ about mourning and longing and about the obligation to continue living, even when someone close to you dies.

Lars Daneskov (b. 1963) is a journalist and author and has written about 30 books in a variety of genres, for both children and adults.

SYNOPSIS

The dead boy's room is on the second floor at the end of the hallway. When Liva has friends over, that is always what they want to see.

This was where her older brother, Victor, lived and behind the closed door, the room looks exactly like it did on the day when he died three years ago. The family is stuck in that moment in time, savouring every detail of their memory of him.

Until Liva discovers the imprint of a body on his otherwise meticulously made bed and makes the nerve-wrecking discovery that he has disappeared from his class photo from back then.

Victor is no longer among them. But perhaps that is in fact precisely what he is.

Fatal Outcome is a book about the living not being able to let go of their dead, and the dead not being able to let go of their living. It is an important book about a topic that would have been unbearably tough if it was done 1:1, but which wrapped in the suspenseful outer frame of the ghost story – becomes a welcome opportunity to talk about mourning and how we deal with it.

Check out Danish publisher, Gutkind's, extra material for the book here.

REVIEWS

"Inside this horror story for children is a beautiful tale about longing and the mourning process... Deadly Outcome is a scary and reflected story about what happens to the relatives when a child dies ... The genre suits him ... the language is concrete and beautiful" – (Five stars in Jyllandsposten.)

"A gripping and compelling psychological thriller about loss and sorrow. And then it is a ghost story which will make you think after you finish reading." – (Library Review (Lektørudtalelse – Dansk Biblioteks Center))



Original Language: Danish Original Publisher: Gutkind Published: September, 2022 173 pages Category: <u>Children's Books</u> Sub-category: <u>Tween</u> Genre: <u>Horror</u> Themes: <u>Loss/Grief, Family, Courage, Love, Growing up</u> Film Rights: Babel-Bridge Theatre Rights: Babel-Bridge

Available material: English sample of chapters 1-2, 14-15 and summary

Territories Handled

World Rights (Babel Bridge)

Gry Kappel Jensen



In the Dark Forest

I den mørke skov

New fantasy fairytale by bestseller author, Gry Kappel Jensen.

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

SYNOPSIS

At the outskirts of the wood, Ava lives with her little sister, Linn, and their dad. The small family is struggling to keep afloat, and Ava dreams of a life which is not all about fight for survival.

One day, their dad announces that they are going to move to the big town and he leads his daughters into the middle of the dark wood where they camp for the night. When the girls wake up, their dad has disappeared. Soon Linn starts having visions of children walking among the trees, and when Linn subsequently disappears, Ava suddenly sees two girls in the fog. They lead her to a house in the wood, where the mysterious woman, Nebula, lives. Is Nebula perhaps a witch? And why does she not want Ava to see Linn, but keeps the little sister locked in her room?

Ava is dead-set on freeing Linn, so they can escape Nebula's house together.

In the Dark Forest is the first volume in a fantasy series, *The Fairytale Sagas*, aimed at readers 12+. The books are inspired by old fairytales and *In the Dark Forest* is thus inspired by *Hansel & Gretel* by the Brothers Grimm.

So far, there are three books planned. They all take place in the same time and setting, but each has a different main character.

Volume two, *Blood*, *Snow and Soot*, will come out in 2025 and is inspired by *Snow White*.



Original Language: Danish Original Publisher: <u>Turbine</u> Published: September, 2024 270 pages Category: <u>Children's Books</u> Sub-category: <u>Tween</u> Genre: <u>Fantasy</u> Themes: <u>Growing up, Courage,</u> <u>Belonging/Identity, Family, Suffering</u>

Available material: English sample.

Territories Handled

World except: Danish

Territories Sold

Dutch: <u>Uitgeverij Clavis</u>

German: Carlsen Verlag

Italian: <u>Gallucci</u>

John Kenn Mortensen



Land of the Midnight Sun: The Iron Mountain and the Moon Island

Midnatssolens rige: Jernbjerget og Måneøen

This is the second book in the trilogy about "The Land of the Midnight Sun". The book is richly illustrated in John Kenn Mortensen's characteristic style, which gives the story an edge and invites the reader into a marvellous world full of quirky characters. A book full of humour, friendships, excitement and of course bit of creepiness!

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

SYNOPSIS

Alice is trapped in the Ruler's castle. Timme and Said are lost in an unknown darkness. Lasse is on his way to the Iron Mountain, where he will be turned into a monster. Together with the sorcerer Ivan, Alice is now doing everything she can to save her friends. But something big and dangerous lurks in the background. A dark prophecy of the Great Armageddon...

The third and final book in the series is scheduled for publication in 2025.

REVIEWS

"Even though we are in the world of monsters and misfortune, there is a strong focus on friendship and charity. John Kenn Mortensen's sublime artwork give us an idea of what we're up against and show us that monsters come in many guises. He trusts children and their ability to embrace such a scary story, and perhaps his twisted worlds are not so far removed from the world we live in?" – (Litteratursiden)



Original Language: *Dutch* Original Publisher: <u>Alvilda</u> Published: November, 2023 272 pages Category: <u>Children's Books</u> Sub-category: <u>Middle-Grade</u> Genre: <u>Fantasy</u> Available material: English sample of the

Territories Handled

World except: Danish

first book.

Zakiya Ajmi



Pop Sisters: Lin (4) Popsøstre: Lin (4)

Shame (Original title: Skam) meets The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants. Four girls about to enter teenage life - set out to create their own band, Pop Sisters.

Zakiya Ajmi is a widely celebrated debut author. She was nominated for the Nordic Literature Council's Children's Book Prize in 2022 and shortlisted for the Cultural Ministry's Children's Book Author Prize.

SYNOPSIS

In the four books, we get a glimpse into the lives of the four girls - Kioli, Viola, Samantha and Lin - we see their personal development - and we see how their friendship is put to the test. Because the question is if friendship is more important than fame...

Every book is told from the point of view of one of the girls - this is Lin's story:

Pop Sisters have made it through to the talent show Stardust, but Lin has other things on her mind. She's angry at her self-absorbed parents who have just divorced. It's as if the friends in Pop Sisters don't quite understand what Lin is going through. However, the mysterious and rebellious Tina does, and she pulls Lin in a different direction. Lin drifts further away from the girls in Pop Sisters and suddenly finds herself a little too alone ...

A sweet, funny and thought-provoking series for tweens about friendship, identity and courage.

The first book is currently nominated for the Writer's Prize (Skriverprisen) - a prize given by the Danish Children's & Educational Ministry every year.

REVIEWS

"This is a wonderful new series about four friends who make the band Pop Sisters. The series is (...) about girlhood, identity, expectations, friends and unity. There are many issues in the four books that readers will recognise from their own lives." – (Lektørudtalelse (Library review)

"I predict that the series will be a hit with girls, as in addition to (IMPORTANTLY) being well-written for the target audience, it also has a great layout with small and large illustrations." – (@*litteratur_til_danskfaget*)



Original Language: Danish Original Publisher: <u>Forlaget Bolden</u> Published: October, 2023 132 pages Category: <u>Children's Books</u> Sub-category: <u>Tween</u> Available material: English sample of the first book upon request

Territories Handled

World except: Danish, Faroese, Norwegian, Swedish

Territories Sold

Norwegian: Vigmostad & Bjørke

Swedish: Berghs Forlag

Gry Kappel Jensen



Roses & Violets: the Rosenholm trilogy

Roser og violer: Rosenholm trilogien (1)

Roses & Violets is the first book in the bestselling YA trilogy, which is now also going to reach an English- and German speaking audience in 2023.

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

SYNOPSIS

Four girls from very different backgrounds are making their way to the mysterious Rosenholm Boarding School from different corners of the country. The one thing they have in common is the strange offer they have received to apply for a place at what will turn out to be a school for magic, deeply embedded in Nordic mythology, nature magic and shamanism. The girls have been invited to apply for a reason that is as yet unknown to themselves, but already during the unorthodox application tests, it becomes apparent that a spirit is trying to establish contact with the girls. It turns out that a young girl was murdered under mysterious circumstances in the 1980s and the killer was never found. Her spirit is still haunting the place, and she is now urging the four girls to bring justice and find the killer. But someone is keeping an eye on them and it quickly becomes clear that their lives are in danger.

(1)

Aimed at 14+, Roses & Violets is on one level a classic coming-of-age tale, about identity, friendship and (forbidden) love. On another level, it is an original fantasy novel, full of magic, romance and mystery, bound to thrill teenagers and YAs alike, also internationally.

Translation of full review from Weekendavisen:

"Steal like an Artist" is the name of a popular handbook for creative souls. All stories ever told were inspired by other stories, the author Austin Cleon claims. Nothing is completely original. But what do you do if you want to write something that hasn't been read before?

The art is to be inspired by a lot of different things, Cleon thinks. And to mix the ingredients until the dish tastes like something else.

Take for example *Roses & Violets*, the first volume in a Danish series about a group of young people who attend a mysterious boarding school for magic. Every book in the series covers an entire school year and the story is part crime and part everyday drama in the school hallways. Does it sound familiar? A bit



Original Language: Danish Original Publisher: <u>Turbine</u> Published: May, 2019 348 pages Category: <u>Children's Books</u> Sub-category: <u>YA</u> Genre: <u>Fantasy</u> Themes: <u>Love, Friendship,</u> <u>Belonging/Identity, Growing up</u> Film Rights: Nepenthe Film

Available material: Full professional English translation + detailed synopsis in English (incl. spoilers) Harry Potter-like, maybe? I think so, at least.

But the author Gry Kappel Jensen is not only inspired by JK Rowling's books. The magic, they study at the castle-like boarding school, draws on Nordic mythology, Viking rituals and much more. And the main characters of the novel are girls who are just as preoccupied by the Twilight-attractive boys at the school as they are by magical mysteries. Kappel Jensen has stolen like and artist and *Roses & Violets* tastes of something new.

The main characters are the four girls Kirstine, Victoria, Kamille and Malou who are room-mates at Rosenholm – the name of the boarding school – but they couldn't be more different. Kirstine is dyslexic and has extremely religious parents. Victoria is beautiful, sad and rich. Kamille grew up in the woods with her hippie mum. And Malou is a sarcastic high achiever with a dark past.

The four have each their magic speciality which cleverly emphasise issues that girls might struggle with in their everyday lives. Victoria is for example able to see spirits, which makes her highly strung and ruins her sleep. And Malou is a blood magician: she releases her powers by cutting herself. Together the four girls need to solve a murder mystery. More you do not need to know.

On the other hand, I am happy to reveal that *Roses & Violets* is a page-turner. With four sympathetic main characters at the wheel, the tale races towards its sufficiently unpredictable culmination. Which of course leaves an open end to be dealt with in the sequel.

Roses & Violets is not original, but it is captivating, well-written and constantly entertaining."

REVIEWS

"Sensuous and masterful" - (4 hearts in Politiken)

"Captivating, well-written and constantly entertaining" – (Weekendavisen)

TERRITORIES HANDLED

World except: Danish

TERRITORIES SOLD

English (World): Arctis US, German: Arctis, Italian: <u>Gallucci Editore</u>, Polish: <u>Zielona Sowa</u>.

Boris Hansen



Silent Worlds (1) The Invisible War

Tavse verdener (1) Den usynlige krig

Silent Worlds is an ambitious techno-thriller about fictional realities - and about technology that can change people. There are a total of four books in the series and *The Invisible War* is the first installment. The second and third book have won the prestigious Danish award, *Best Fantasy Novel of the Year*, two years in a row, in 2023 and 2024. Boris is the only author to have achieved that.

Boris Hansen (b. 1981) is award-winning Danish writer of fantasy and sci-fi and script writer on the much-anticipated new game, *Out of Words* (Epic Games, 2026 release).

SYNOPSIS

Inception meets *Blade Runner* in Boris Hansen's sci-fi fantasy thriller, set in a near future where you can travel into books as if they were physical realities - and change them from the inside.

For Olivia Alby, being a fiction agent is not exactly a dream job. She and her teammates are tasked to travel into books and protect their protagonists and plots from intruding agents. It's a dangerous job and on top of that, she's stuck on a dysfunctional team with a bunch of untrained individuals, who have little in common. The only consolation is that the pay is good, and Olivia needs the money, if she's ever going to realise her dream of escaping her past.

But when a mission goes wrong, Olivia and her teammates are drawn into a global conspiracy. The world's biggest governments and corporations have realized that when books can change people, there is incredible power potential in being able to change books. Unidentified enemies have big plans to abuse fictional technology, and to unravel who they are up against, Olivia and her team are forced to learn to collaborate. Throughout the four tomes that make up the *Silent World* series, we follow Olivia and her team travelling in and out of the fictional worlds of books in search of answers...

With humour, suspense and great empathy, Boris Hansen tells a story about corrupt governments, fantastic books and unique friendships.



Original Language: Danish Original Publisher: <u>Forlaget Carlsen</u> Published: May, 2021 624 pages Category: <u>Children's Books</u> Sub-category: <u>YA</u> Genre: <u>Fantasy</u>

Available material: English sample of the first book and synopsis in English of the entire series

Territories Handled

Mette Vedsø



When the Heart is a **Hand Mixer**

Når hjertet er en elpisker

Winner of the Danish Ministry of Culture's Children's Book Author Prize 2018 has written yet another powerful tween novel, which has been included in The White Ravens 2020.

Mette Vedsø (b. 1968) studied chemistry and biotechnology, then trained at the Writer's School for Children's Literature. Since 2010. she has written several critically acclaimed children's books, including picture books and tween novels. Her work is suffused with an implicit understanding for children, especially the slightly displaced ones with big hearts her observations and writing are moving, subtle and poetic.



Original Language: Danish Original Publisher: Høst & Søn Published: October, 2019 151 pages Category: Children's Books Sub-category: Tween Genre: Realism Themes: Friendship, Belonging/Identity,

Fear & Anxiety

SYNOPSIS

Mette Vedsø has written yet another moving and thought-provoking tale, giving voice to a child in distress. She has previously written about friendship, comingof-age and horses in her award-winning novel, Hest Horse Pferd Cheval Love and Liv, Life, Leben, Vie, Love, and about a boy from a socially deprived home who gets a chance at a new beginning in Far from the White House. Now she is back with a glimpse into the life of a high-achieving teenage girl struggling with anxiety.

When the Heart is a Hand Mixer is included in **The White Ravens 2020**. Here is what they write:

During English class, Pi suddenly collapses. Everything goes black; dizziness; boom. At the hospital, she is diagnosed with anxiety disorder. Her parents, welloff workaholics for whom high performance and success are everything, only want the best for their daughter. They arrange therapy after therapy, so that she can cope with »the crisis« as quickly as possible, go back to school, and function well. Yet that doesn't work. Pi takes the time she needs and makes friends with three extraordinary people in her apartment block: Gillian Brown, an elderly lady, plus Bianca and her daughter, Vicky, all three of them street-wise, warmhearted, and imperfect. Pi gets to know different ways of living and realizes that she is perfectly okay the way she is; and at some point, so do her parents. Pi, who tells her own story, is curious, clever, and a good observer. She is definitely no sociophobe, but rather open-minded and helpful. The four inhabitants of the house quickly become very close, and Pi benefits more from this closeness than from any school lesson.

REVIEWS

"When the Heart is a Hand-mixer, this is typical Mette Vedsø, top grade and more [...] you get so happy from the humour, optimism and eye for the baroque, which suffuse the book [...] Everything fits together, so that those who need it will get literary oxygen and quirky occurrences as a bonus" – (4 hearts in *Politiken*)

"Very beautiful and recommendable novel which you don't feel like putting down. The reading experience stays with you for a long time after the book is finished" – Sanne Mendel (Official reader for the libraries (lektørudtalelse))

TERRITORIES HANDLED

World Rights (Babel Bridge)

TERRITORIES SOLD

Catalan: <u>Pages editors</u>, Italian: <u>Il Castoro</u>, Lithuanian: <u>Terra Publica</u>, Polish: <u>Wydawnictwo Widnokrąg</u>, Serbian: <u>Odiseja</u>, Slovene: <u>Miš Založba</u>.

Nicole Boyle Rødtnes The Death of the



White Widow

Den hvide enkes død

The Death of the White Widow is the second book in a dramatic dystopian YA trilogy set in the city of Viduana.

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

SYNOPSIS

In the city of Viduana, men and woman live strictly separated. All crimes are punished hard. But not everyone is prepared to let themselves be oppressed...

The inhabitants of Viduana are shaken after the brutal punishment of Elias. An uprising is brewing and when the widows increase their iron grip on the city, they only make more enemies...

We continue to follow the three main characters:

Clara is pregnant but keeps it a secret, because she wishes to get the child out of the city. If her plan is revealed, it will cost her her life.

Silas has killed Jastar in self-defence. But the other men in the quarter turn against him. Because you cannot kill one of your own, without being punished.

Elias is hanging in the Circle of Shame, severely injured. He has lost everything and plans revenge against the widows.

Welcome to Viduana, where love is forbidden and every attempt to escape is punished with death.



Original Language: Danish Original Publisher: <u>Alvilda</u> Published: November, 2020 440 pages Category: <u>Children's Books</u> Sub-category: <u>YA</u> Genre: <u>Dystopia</u> Themes: <u>Love, Courage, Growing up,</u> <u>Suffering</u>

Available material: English sample oof the first book.

Territories Handled