

# OSLO LITERARY AGENCY

Children and Young Adult



RIGHTS LIST

FALL 2022

ASCHEHOUG



## Highlights fall 2022

**Iben Akerlie**  
middle grade novel  
*The Summer Everything Happened*  
a Norla selected title  
(see page 14)



**Nora Dåsnes**  
graphic novel  
for middle grade readers  
*Save Our Forest!*  
a Norla selected title  
(see page 4)



**Maja Lunde and Hans Jørgen Sandnes (ill.)**  
graphic novel  
for middle grade readers  
*Whitebear. The Polar Bear Prince*  
a Norla selected title  
(see page 8)

Cover illustration is the front cover of the graphic novel *Save Our Forest!* by Nora Dåsnes

## Content

Graphic novels  
4 - Nora Dåsnes  
6 - Nicolai Houm & Luis Guaragna (ill.)  
8 - Maja Lunde & Hans Jørgen Sandnes (ill.)  
10 - Michelle Tolo

Picture books  
12 - Irene Marienborg

Illustrated books  
14 - Lisa Aisato illustrates *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens

Children's books  
16 - Mona Berntsen & Thea Jacobsen (ill.)

Middle grade novels  
18 - Iben Akerlie  
20 - Ellen Sofie Lauritzen  
21 - Tyra Teodora Tronstad

Young adult novels  
22 - Randi Fuglehaug & Anne Gunn Halvorsen

# Nora Dåsnes

## Save Our Forest!



Original title: *La skogen leve!*  
 First publication: October 2022  
 Graphic novel • 24,0 cm X 17,0 cm • 229 pp  
 Age: 9 - 12  
 Publisher: Aschehoug  
 Foreign rights: Danish (Turbine), French (Casterman),  
 German (Klett), Swedish (Alfabeta)  
 Reading material: English, Norwegian

When Bao finds out that the adults have decided to turn the forest close to the school into a parking lot, she realizes that she's the one who must act! With her best friends Tuva and Linnea along her side, Bao organizes a protest to save the forest. Do Abdi and the other boys in class really understand why it's so important to save the forest? And how do you make the adults understand the seriousness of the situation when you're 12 years old?

*Save Our Forest!* is a stand-alone story from the same univers as the acclaimed and awarded *Cross My Heart and Hope to Die*.

**Nora Dåsnes has established herself as one of our most important children's book voices.**  
 VG 5/6

**A story about being big enough to understand what needs to be done, but too young to be taken seriously.**

A story about falling in love for the first time and figuring out what is cool when you start seventh grade.

**CROSS MY HEART AND HOPE TO DIE**  
 Publ.: 2020  
 Age: 9 - 12

**MISSED CALLS**  
 Publ.: 2020  
 Age: 13+

Nominated for:  
 the 2022 International Angoulême Comics Festival Awards (France)

the Max und Moritz Preis 2022 (Germany)

Several national awards

... hits right in your heart!  
 Empirix.no



A story about being young in the time after a terror attack.

Awarded  
 the 2022 Nordic Council Children and Young People's Literary Prize

**Nora Dåsnes draws Oslo the way Edvard Munch would have done today.**  
 VG, 6/6 stars

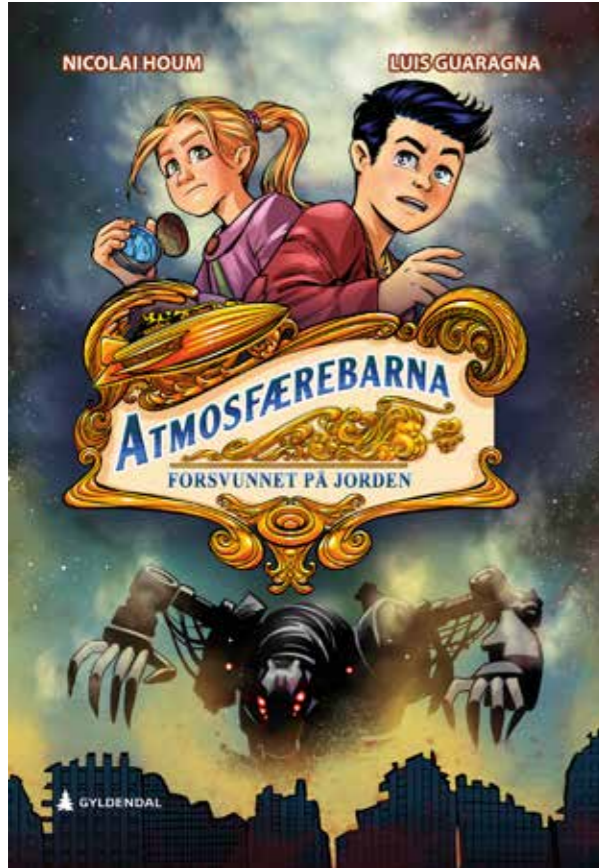


**Nora Dåsnes (b. 1995) is a graphic designer, illustrator, and author. Her praised graphic novels for children and young adults have earned several prestigious awards and international nominations and are published in 10 territories. Nora Dåsnes has a degree in illustration and animation from Kingston University, London. She lives in Oslo, Norway.**

Photo: Agnete Brun

# Nicolai Houm & Luis Guaragna (ill.)

## Children of Empyrean 1. Lost on Planet Earth



Original title: *Atmosfærebarna 1. Forsvunnet på jorden*  
First publication: January 2023  
Graphic novel • 17,0 cm X 24,0 cm • 114 pp  
Age: 9 - 12  
Publisher: Gyldendal  
Foreign rights: Danish (Turbine), Swedish (Berghs)  
Reading material: English, Norwegian

Empyrean is an airship flying high above the Earth, and above the clouds. It's the home of some thousand people. The Earth is too toxic and polluted for humans to live. Besides, there are extremely deadly cyborgs living there. Above the clouds, on Empyrean, live the best friends Akai and Juli. When the airship has to descend to Earth to collect resources, Akai's dog, Nova, suddenly jumps overboard. The lives of Akai and Juli are changed forever when they decide to search for Nova among Earth's dangerous ruins. Down on the ground, they are hunted, and are they really all alone?

**For middle grade readers  
who love  
sci-fi, cyborgs, and adventures**

**A two volume work:**  
*Children of Empyrean 1. Lost on Planet Earth* tbp January 2023  
*Children of Empyrean 2. The Strangers* tbp January 2024



Photo: Monica Francioni

Luis Guaragna (b. 1973) is an Italian-Argentinian cartoonist, illustrator, and game designer. His books are published in Argentina, Brazil, France, USA, UK, and Spain. His recent works include comics with script by the filmmaker John Carpenter and a graphic novel series scripted by Aleksander Kirkwood Brown. Guaragna lives in Tromsø, Norway.



Photo: Paal Audestad

Nicolai Houm (b. 1974) is the author of several acclaimed children's books, novels for adults, a collection of short stories. He has studied creative writing and journalism and works as an editor for children's books. Houm lives in Drammen, Norway.

# Maja Lunde & Hans Jørgen Sandnes (ill.)

## Whitebear, the Polar Bear Prince



Original title: *Kvitebjørn*  
 First publication: September 2022  
 Graphic novel • 25,5 cm X 20,5 cm • 229 pp  
 Age: 9 - 12  
 Publisher: Kagge  
 Foreign rights: Danish (Turbine), German (cbj/PRH)  
 Film rights: Maipo  
 Reading material: English, Norwegian

The adventurous girl Liv and her family live in a drought-ridden queendom ruled by a greedy and unhappy queen. When Liv meets a mysterious white bear she goes with him to his ice kingdom in the mountains. A passionate friendship develops between the two, a friendship that could turn into something deeper. Whitebear is not only a bear but a prince who was once cursed by the witch queen. But the queen's evil spell is closing in on Liv and Whitebear. The fearless Liv, with her charming animal friends by her side, sets out on a journey to confront the queen and save Whitebear. Liv must stand up and fight for what she believes in, for everyone she loves, and for the whole world.

The animated film, scripted by Maja Lunde, is in development.

Based on a fairy tale in the same tradition as *Beauty and the Beast*.

... quite simply an exciting and magnificent story...  
 Hans Jørgen Sandnes has created something outstanding...  
 ... I hope it (the book) will become a classic.  
 Serienett.no

**A grand, heart-warming story for all ages.**

**A story of love, greed, and courage,  
 packed with suspense, humour,  
 and breathtaking scenery.**

Maja Lunde (b. 1975) is the most successful Norwegian author of her generation. Her books are translated into 40 languages and has sold more than 4 million copies. Her children's book, *The Snow Sister*, illustrated by Lisa Aisato, was a record-breaking success, printed in 250,000 copies in Norway, and published in 30 languages. Her novel for adults, *The History of Bees*, won the 2015 Norwegian Booksellers' Prize and was the most sold book in Germany in 2017. She writes books for children, young adults, adults, and script for film and TV. Lunde lives in Oslo, Norway.

Hans Jørgen Sandnes (b. 1979) is an awarded illustrator, animator, graphic novel author, and film director. He has illustrated more than 30 children's books, many of them bestsellers. *Whitebear, the Polar Bear Prince* is the third title he publishes in collaboration with Maja Lunde. Sandnes lives in Sandefjord, Norway.



Photo: Oda Berby



Photo: Atle Holtan

Maja Lunde and Hans Jørgen Sandnes' shared passion for nature runs through the pages in their graphic novel based on *Valemon*, a much-loved fairy tale.

A modern classic that will make readers in all ages want to go out and explore this wonderful world we live in.

# Michelle Tolo

## Ghost Friend 2. Poltergeist



Original title: *Spøkelsesvenn 2. Poltergeist*  
 First publication: April 2022  
 Graphic novel • 24,1 cm X 17,7 cm • 120 pp  
 Age: 6 - 9  
 Publisher: Aschehoug  
 Foreign rights: Danish (Turbine)  
 Reading material: Norwegian

Magnus and Saga are dealing with hungry Poltergeists when they face a new challenge: A hardheaded ghost of a Viking boy is trapped in an ancient coin. Freeing him proves to be difficult task.

*The Ghost Friend* series tells the story about an unique friendship.

**Everyone wants to have a best friend.  
 Magnus' best friend is Saga.  
 She is not an ordinary friend, she is a ghost.**

Praise for *Ghost Friend 1. The First Meeting*:



... vividly and effectively told ... The result is incredibly professional.  
 The artist behind this series knows what children want.  
 Bergens Tidende

... the sweetest children's graphic novel series on the Norwegian market  
 in recent years, both for its illustrations and its story.  
 Serienett.no

Ghost Friend 1. The First Meeting  
 Original title: *Spøkelsesvenn 1. Det første møtet*  
 Foreign rights: Danish (Turbine)  
 Reading material: English, Norwegian



Photo: Oda Berby

Michelle Tolo (b. 1991) is an illustrator and concept designer working with films like "Transformers 5" and "Passengers", games, and commercials for international studios. She worked for several years in London before heading back to Norway. Tolo is a CG artist educated at The Animation Workshop in Denmark. Today she lives in Bergen, Norway.

**Nominated for the Sprøing Prize**

# Irene Marienborg

## Merry Christmas! Says Nora



Original title: *God jul! sier Nora*  
 First publication: October 2022  
 Picture book • 18,5 cm X 18,5 cm • 32 pp  
 Age: 2+  
 Publisher: Aschehoug  
 Reading material: Norwegian

It's december and Nora looks forward to Christmas. Every morning she wakes up early eager to open her Advent calendar. In the kindergarden they're having a Christmas workshop, and Nora is making a supernice star for Grandma as a Christmas present. But when Aldo all of a sudden takes the star with him, Nora wonders what Grandma is going to get for Christmas.

Colourful and joyful stories  
 for the youngest readers



Photo: Niklas R. Lello

Irene Marienborg (b. 1966) is a graphic designer and illustrator, living in Oslo, Norway. She is educated at Parson School of Design in Paris and New York, and at Esmod Oslo (fashion school). Marienborg lives in Oslo, Norway.

The  
 Nora series  
 11 titles



Picture books • 18,5 cm X 18,5 cm • 32 pp  
 Age: 2+  
 Publisher: Aschehoug  
 Foreign rights: Danish (Turbine), Polish (Media Rodzina)  
 Reading material: English, Norwegian

Titles in the series:  
*Merry Christmas! Says Nora*  
*Ouch! Says Nora*  
*Nighty-night! Says Nora*  
*Yuck! Says Nora*  
*A Baby! Says Nora*  
*We Have to Tidy up! Says Nora*  
*Happy Birthday! Says Nora*  
*I Have to Pee! Says Nora*  
*I Want to Bake! Says Nora*  
*It's Raining! Says Nora*  
*Nice Polkadots! Says Nora*

## Meet Nora!

Charming Nora is full of energy! She splashes in puddles, bakes cookies, looks at the stars, goes to the bathroom for the first time, and celebrates her friend's birthday.

The Nora series portray the exciting everyday life situations that are familiar for the youngest readers as well as adults reading the books aloud.

## Lisa Aisato

Illustrates *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens



Original title: *A Christmas Carol*  
First publication: October 2022  
Illustrated book  
Format: 24 cm X 27 cm • 130 pp  
Age: a classic for readers 8 - 100  
Publisher: Kagge  
Foreign rights: Bulgarian (Ciela Norma), Danish (Straarup),  
Polish (Literackie), Slovakian (Tatran)  
Material: full-color illustrations and book design

**#1 bestselling artist  
Lisa Aisato  
illustrates the classic  
*A Christmas Carol*  
by Charles Dickens**

**The original text is  
in the public domain.**

*A Christmas Carol* is as popular today as after it was first published more than 175 years ago. Charles Dickens, through the voice of Ebenezer Scrooge, continues to urge us to honor Christmas in our hearts and try to keep it all the year round. Lisa Aisato portrays Scrooge's transformation in her unique style which touches us to our innermost being.

Lisa Aisato is praised for her sumptuous full-color illustrated books. All of them have been record-breaking sales successes, which are sold to publishing houses throughout the world and have earned several nominations and international awards.

*I have endeavoured in this Ghostly little book, to raise the Ghost of an Idea, which shall not put my readers out of humour with themselves, with each other, with the season, or with me. May it haunt their houses pleasantly, and no one wish to lay it.*  
Charles Dickens



Lisa Aisato (b. 1981) is an awarded, highly acclaimed, and bestselling author, illustrator, and artist. Her books are published in more than 30 territories. The coffee table art book, *All the Colors of Life* (2019), a bestseller printed in 170,000 copies in Norway, is awarded the Norwegian Booksellers' Prize, and hit Der Spiegel's bestseller list spring 2022. *The Snow Sister* (2018), written by Maja Lunde, was a record-breaking success, printed in 250,000 copies in Norway. Aisato runs her own gallery at Hvaler Islands on the South East coast of Norway where she lives.

Photo: Astrid Waller



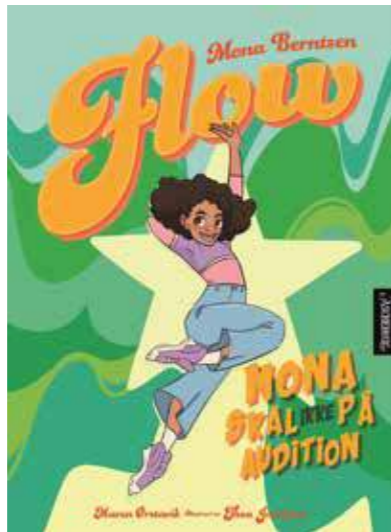
# Mona Berntsen & Thea Jacobsen (ill.)

## The Flow Series



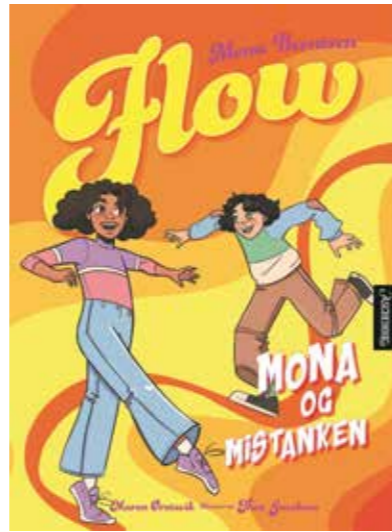
Flow 1.  
Mona and the Dance Dream

Original title: *Mona og dansedrømmen*  
First publication: August 2022  
112 pp



Flow 2.  
Mona is (not) Going to Audition

Original title: *Mona skal (ikke) på audition*  
First publication: October 2022  
144 pp



Flow 3.  
Mona and the Suspicion

Original title: *Mona og mistanken*  
First publication: March 2023  
100 pp

Illustrated children's books series  
Co-author: Maren Ørstavik  
Format: 15,0 cm X 20,5 cm  
Age: 6 - 9  
Publisher: Aschehoug  
Foreign rights: Danish (Turbine)  
Reading material: Norwegian

**The FLOW series  
is about  
Mona who loves to dance!**

**Flow 1**  
Mona's passion in life is dancing. Dancing is all she wants to do. But the dancegirls at school are incredibly stupid and they are mean to Mona's best friend Benji. She could never support them when they ask for her help. Or could she?

**Flow 2**  
Mona finally makes friends with Cornelia, the best dancer at Tiny Studio. But the friendship is at stake when the TV danceshow "The Future Star" have an audition. Mona must make a difficult choice. What is most important: to be the best dancer or to be the best friend?

**Flow 3**  
Only the best dancers at Tiny Studio are invited to join the elite group The Movesters. Mona is one of the lucky ones who get the chance, but she is struggling to find her place. When a mysterious theft happens and her best friend Benji is a suspect, she is forced to make an impossible choice: the dance group or Benji?



Photo: Julie Pike

Mona Berntsen (b. 1990) is a Norwegian-Moroccan dancer. She's a winner of the TV show "So You Think You Can Dance Scandinavia", and works with artists like Justin Bieber, Madonna, Justin Timberlake, and Alicia Keys.



Photo: Axel Jacobsen

Thea Jacobsen is an illustrator and animator. She has a 3D Animation (BaHons) degree from the University of Greenwich in London. Jacobsen lives in Oslo, Norway.

Iben Akerlie

## The Summer Everything Happened



Original title: *Sommeren alt skjedde*

First publication: May 2022

Middle grade novel • 175 pp

Publisher: Aschehoug

Foreign rights: Bulgarian (Tonipress), Danish (Gyldendal), German (Oetinger), Ukraine (The Old Lion)

Reading material: English excerpt, Norwegian

Nora is dreading the summer holidays, which she'll be spending in a small town with her grandmother, whom she doesn't really know. But what happens, is better than Nora could have imagined. She meets Abbas, with the greenest eyes she has ever seen. But why is Abbas scared of the shopkeeper, and why is there one set of rules for Nora, and a different set for Abbas?

*The Summer Everything Happened* is a story about a fateful meeting, a friendship, the difficulty of standing up to injustice, and finally the courage it takes to do so.

### Nominated for the 2022 ARK Children's Book Prize

It is a very good children's book...

She (Akerlie) is an ambitious author that hits the young readers straight in their hearts.

NRK

Iben Akerlie has an indisputable talent for storytelling.

Klassekampen

Akerlie's authorship is warmly humanistic ... a demonstration of the distinction between sympathy and empathy.

Aftenposten



Iben Akerlie (b. 1988) is a bestselling children's book author and one of Norway's leading young actors. Her debut *Lol Lars*, sold in 15 territories, was an instant bestseller, awarded the prestigious ARK Children's Book Prize, nominated for the Norwegian Book Sellers' Prize, the Norwegian Children & YA Authors' Association First Book Prize, and the Book Blogger Prize. Akerlie has a degree in special education. Akerlie lives in Oslo, Norway.

Photo: Oda Hveem

## Ellen Sofie Lauritzen

### Cat NOW! plz



Original title: *Må. Ha. Katt!*  
First publication: October 2021  
Middle grade novel • 203 pp  
Publisher: Aschehoug  
Foreign rights: Danish (Straarup)  
Reading material: Norwegian

Eli is about to start sixth grade, and life sucks. Mom has moved (to "Shitty Stein"), Dad is quieter than ever, Billie doesn't want to be BFFs anymore, and everything is Eli's fault. Watching cat videos on YouTube and looking for cats online seems to be the only thing that helps. While browsing for cats, Eli finds Alf, a five-year-old, broad-shouldered black and white house cat. Can he solve this lame life? And most importantly: Can he become a YouTube star, a catfluencer?

*Cat NOW! plz* is a sore story full of humour and heart, about fragile friendships, cool cats, stupid parents, and the fear of being exposed.

If you're a fan of cat videos, you will love Eli and Alf!

... easily read and gripping  
Vårt Land

... a rock solid debut ... told with vitality,  
humour and warmth  
Periskop

... a book for all cat lovers  
Barnebokkritikk

Ellen Sofie Lauritzen (b. 1985) has for many years worked as a critic and a journalist, today she works in publishing. She is an author of non-fiction books for adults. *Cat NOW! plz* is her debut as a children's book author. Lauritzen lives in Oslo, Norway.



Photo: Agnete Brun

## Tyra Teodora Tronstad

### How to Deal With Stormy Spirits



Original title: *Oppskrift mot ånder som knuser ting*  
First publication: September 2022  
Middle grade novel • 198 pp  
Publisher: Aschehoug  
Foreign rights: Danish (Turbine)  
Reading material: English excerpt and summary, Norwegian

The only thing Henry knows about his dead mother is that she was the best shoemaker in the world and that he and his father never must talk about her. If they do, terrible storms will come and crush everything in the small flat where they live. When the storm one day comes to school, Henry is blamed for the damages the storm causes. And when Henry's father, the famous opera singer whose voice has been poor since the death of Henry's mother, is in danger of losing his job, Henry must find out what his mother is trying to tell them. It requires curiosity and courage, good friends, and a girl with a silver cape, a bird, and a recipe for how to deal with stormy spirits.

**A story about spirits, singing, silence, sorrow, and shoes.**

**Awarded the Norwegian "Riksmålsprisen"  
for excellent prose**

**Nominated for the 2022 Norwegian Book Award (Brage)**

Reminiscent of Astrid Lindgren and Roald Dahl.

Dagbladet 5/6 stars

Exceptionally good. If only every children's book was as effortlessly clear and well written as this book. ...

Her literary voice is fantastic, the rhythm, metaphors, and merry brutality is reminiscent of Astrid Lindgren and Roald Dahl. It's the same with the characters. ...

The ending is beautiful and sweet, with the good moral that ought to be in every children's book. I have no doubt that this book will be a success for fantasy readers in all ages.

Dagbladet 5/6 stars

Tyra Teodora Tronstad (b. 1972) is an author of acclaimed and awarded books for young adults and adults. She is twice awarded, and once nominated for, the Critics' Prize for Best Children's and YA Book. *How to Deal With Stormy Spirits* is her first children's book. Tronstad lives in Oslo, Norway.



Photo: Hans Fredrik Asbjørnsen

# Randi Fuglehaug & Anne Gunn Halvorsen

## Royalteen 5. Royal Blood



Original title: *Halve kongeriket 5. Blått Blod*  
 First publication: November 2022  
 Young adult novel • 230 pp  
 Publisher: Aschehoug  
 Reading material: English, Norwegian

Ingrid's world is turned upside down when she discovers that she's pregnant. She doesn't even know who the father is. It could be Falk, the surfer she left behind in Lofoten, or it could be Crown Prince Karl Johan. Ingrid doesn't dare to tell Karl Johan about the pregnancy. In secret she takes a big decision. The consequences are so hurtful that she starts to party hard in an attempt to escape from it all.

*Royal Blood* is a modern love story about making big decisions without being ready, and about getting a taste for the good life.



Photo: Netflix film poster

### THE ROYALTEEN SERIES:

Winner of the 2020 YA prize

Sold in pre-empts, auctions, and multi-book deals in 13 territories

The film, adapted by Netflix, went straight into the Top 10 in 73 countries

The second film will be streamed on Netflix in 2023 (date tbc)

Original titles: *Halve kongeriket*. #1 *Arvingen* (2020, 270 pp), #2 *Drømmepriinsen* (2021, 208 pp), #3 *På tronen* (2021, 312 pp), #4 *Audiens* (2022, 300 pp), #5 *Blått Blod* (2022, 230 pp), #6 *Dronningen* (2023), #7 *Hoffnarren* (2023), #8 *Kroningen* (2024)  
 Publisher: Aschehoug  
 Reading material: full English ms #1, English excerpt #2, English summaries #1- #6, English reviews #1, Norwegian ms #1- #5

Foreign rights: Bulgarian (Perseus, 6 books), Catalan (Planeta, 3 books), Danish (Gyldendal, 3 books in auction), Dutch (Unieboek, Het Spectrum, 3 books), Finnish (WSOY, 4 books in auction), French (Hachette Romans, 4 books in pre-empt), German (Arena, 3 books in auction), Italian (DeA Planeta, 2 books in auction), Polish (Jaguar Bonnier, 4 books in pre-empt), Romanian (Univers, 2 books), Russian (AST, 2 books), Ukrainian (Ranok, 3 titles), World Spanish (Planeta, 3 books). Film rights: Netflix



**Funny, feel-good royal goodies plus teenage issues. ... I jump out of my chair – and literally scream for a follow-up... This book simply has to be a hit.**

Dagbladet, 5/6 stars, about *Royalteen 1: The Heir*

Anne Gunn Halvorsen (b. 1984) is a journalist and a critic. She has written several non-fiction books for young adults and adults.

Randi Fuglehaug (b. 1980) is a journalist, editor, and author of fiction and non-fiction books for children, young adults and adults.

Photo: Agnete Brun