

Saga

L I T E R A R Y A G E N C Y

RIGHTS GUIDE FALL 2026





About Saga Literary Agency

Merete Pharo runs Saga Literary Agency. She has a degree in history and North American studies, and has worked many years in the book trade.

I look forward to hearing from you.

General inquiries: rights@samlaget.no



Illustration from *The Mystery of the missing Mushrooms* by Marianne Gretteberg Engedal

About

Saga Literary Agency is an independent in-house literary agency for children's books published by Det Norske Samlaget. Det Norske Samlaget is one of the oldest publishing houses in Norway, still remaining independent. It was established in 1868 with the purpose of publishing high quality literature in New Norwegian. Det Norske Samlaget has always taken great pride in their children's books, and Saga Literary Agency pays credit to a long-standing tradition of developing the best books for the most important audience — children and young adults. Det Norske Samlaget publishes approximately 100 titles each year, within the genres children's books, adult fiction, non-fiction and educational books, and is the proud publisher of Jon Fosse, Olav H. Hauge, Maria Parr, Elena Ferrante and Patti Smith amongst others.

Please contact us for further information and sample material. We cooperate with NORLA for translation and production support.



The Lucy-series Ida Eva Neverdahl Empowering and funny picture books for toddlers

Lucy is a confident, inventive and irresistibly charming girl who believes she can do anything. This time, she has decided to become a celebrity. The only problem? She does not know enough people to become famous.

Luckily, Lucy is an expert at attracting the neighbourhood cats. Armed with fish, balls of yarn and plenty of cuddles, she sets out to become a celebrity among cats instead. But when the other animals grow jealous and start fighting for attention, Lucy's plan threatens to spiral out of control. Can she still achieve her dream?

Created by one of Norway's most original and distinctive visual storytellers, **Ida Eva Neverdahl**, the Lucy series combines bold, vibrant artwork with warmth, humour and boundless imagination. Following the critically acclaimed Floke trilogy, Neverdahl brings her unique visual style to younger readers in a delightful series starring a heroine whose optimism and self-confidence know no limits.

A funny, colourful and heartwarming picture book-series for energetic preschool readers. The series consist of two books, The Circus and The Cat Celebrity.

Format: 18x18 cm
Pages: 50
English sample translation

Ida Eva Neverdahl (b.1993) is author of graphic novels and illustrator. She has made online comics and series for more than a decade under the name @jellyvamps on Instagram with a large international audience.







The Mystery of the Missing Mushrooms Marianne Gretteberg Engedal

A wonderfully absurd and hilarious picture book from one of Norway's most original and distinctive creators.

Meet Jotten, Jotto, and Larsen. They live in a small village where mushrooms are essential for survival. But one day, while out foraging, they discover that every single mushroom has disappeared. Someone has stolen all the mushrooms. What will they eat now?

As hunger grows, Jotten becomes so desperate that he threatens to eat Larsen. Alarmed, Larsen seeks help from the village doctor. She is usually kind, calm, and reassuring, but this time she seems nervous and distracted. What is going on? And what is causing the mysterious smoke rising from the ground, carrying a truly terrible smell?

The Mystery of the Missing Mushrooms is a funny, wildly imaginative picture book about fear, loneliness, friendship, and the importance of having enough mushrooms. Inspired by an idea that came to Marianne Gretteberg Engedal during the pandemic, the book explores what it feels like to be afraid of something we do not fully understand. This makes it an excellent springboard for meaningful conversations between children and adults about fear, uncertainty and resilience. At the same time, it is a playful, captivating story packed with humour, suspense and intricate details that encourage repeated reading and close observation.

Marianne Gretteberg Engedal (b. 1986) is a multi-award winning and critically acclaimed illustrator, visual artist and author. She holds a degree from the Art Academy in Bergen (KMD). She made her debut with *The Sausage Burglar* in 2019, a book that has since been translated into several languages, including Chinese. Instagram: @skinkeape

Format: 26x21cm

Pages: 56

English sample translation



DET BYRJAR MED AT JOTTEN EIN DAG KJEM HEIM FRÅ
SANK UTAN EIN EINASTE SOPP.
«ALL SOPPEN VÅR ER VEKK», SEIER JOTTEN.



DET VERT FOR DUMT.



FASTLEGEN VERKAR STRESSA
OG UKONSENTRERT, MEN
DET ER IKKJE SÅ RART,
HO ER NOK SVOLTEN, HO OGSÅ.
I EIN FEI SET HO EIN DUGELEG GIPS
PÅ HUVUDET TIL LARSEN.



ALL LIMINGA
HAR GJORT
JOTTEN EKSTRA
SVOLTEN.

KANSKJE VI BERRE
MÅ ETE LARSEN.

VI SKAL IKKJE
ETE LARSEN!

UHELDIGVIS HAR LARSEN FÅTT
DET EINE ØYRET I KLEM
I GIPSEN, SÅ HAN HØYRER
BERRE DET JOTTEN SEIER,
OG IKKJE DET JOTTO SEIER.

FØR JOTTANE VEIT ORDET
AV DET, ER LARSEN VEKK.



LARSEN SPRING ALT HAN KAN.
NO VEIT HAN IKKJE KVA HAN
SKAL VERE MEST REDD FOR.
RØYKEN?

RISTINGA?

NABOANE?

JOTTEN OG JOTTO??

HAN SNUR SEG STADIG FOR Å SJEKKE
OM DEI KJEM ETTER HAN MED
KNIV OG CAFFEL.



MEN KVAR SKAL HAN TA VEGEN?

FASTLEGEN!
HO ER SNILL.

LARSEN KAN IKKJE HUGSE
AT DET PLEIDDE Å VERE SÅ
BRATT OPP TIL FASTLEGEN,
ELLER SÅ KLUMPETE OG
SPREKKETE. OG STINKETE!



Photo credit: Sara Sanderud



Stella Tells the Truth (Mostly) Helene Guåker and Oda Valle (ill.)

With Christmas just around the corner, Stella is not looking forward to the holidays. This year, she and her mother will have to celebrate on their own, as Stella's best friend and close neighbour is away visiting family for the season. To Stella, a Christmas for two simply isn't enough.

Then she comes up with an idea: what if they rented out her bedroom to a tenant? It could solve two problems at once, bringing in extra money as well as some much-needed company. Without telling her mother, Stella begins searching for the perfect lodger. But finding the right tenant proves harder than she imagined. Before long, she encounters a parade of unusual candidates, including people with ferrets and surprisingly loud hobbies.

As Stella's worries and anxieties begin to grow, she starts writing down her thoughts in an old, forgotten book at the library. One day, she discovers that someone has written back. But who is the mysterious pen pal?

Stella Tells the Truth (Mostly) is a heartwarming story about a young girl's resourcefulness when money is scarce. Above all, it is a story about loneliness, friendship, community, and finding the confidence to be yourself.

Guåker has written an honest and engaging portrait of growing up with limited means while discovering the true meaning of belonging. *Stella Tells the Truth (Mostly)* is a stand-alone sequel to the critically acclaimed *Stella Faces It*.

The book is beautifully illustrated by the talented Oda Valle.

Helene Guåker (b. 1983) is an author and poet and has written books for both adults and YA. She has been nominated for the Brageprize for two of her YA novels and is a critically acclaimed writer.

Format: 15x20 cm

Pages: 236

English sample translation available





Photo credit: Julia Marie Naglestad

31 Days in October

Guro S. Auganes and Bård Sletvold Torkildsen(ill.)

Odin is counting down the days until the scariest night of the year: Halloween. Only 31 days left.

But it is not vampires, zombies, or witches that keep him awake at night.

Odin has agreed to perform a solo at the school Halloween concert, and to make matters worse, he has been assigned a group presentation in class. He hates group projects. And who would want to work with him anyway? Weird, quiet, lonely Odin.

Meanwhile, strange things are happening in the village. A mysterious figure in a cape has been seen luring children into the woods with candy. Could it be connected to the old legend of the witch who kidnapped and ate children?

By a twist of fate, Odin's school project is about witches. As he and his classmates dig deeper, they find themselves drawn into a real-life mystery. Someone is watching them. Someone who always seems to be one step ahead.

As Halloween draws closer, Odin must uncover the truth before the villain's gruesome plan is carried out.

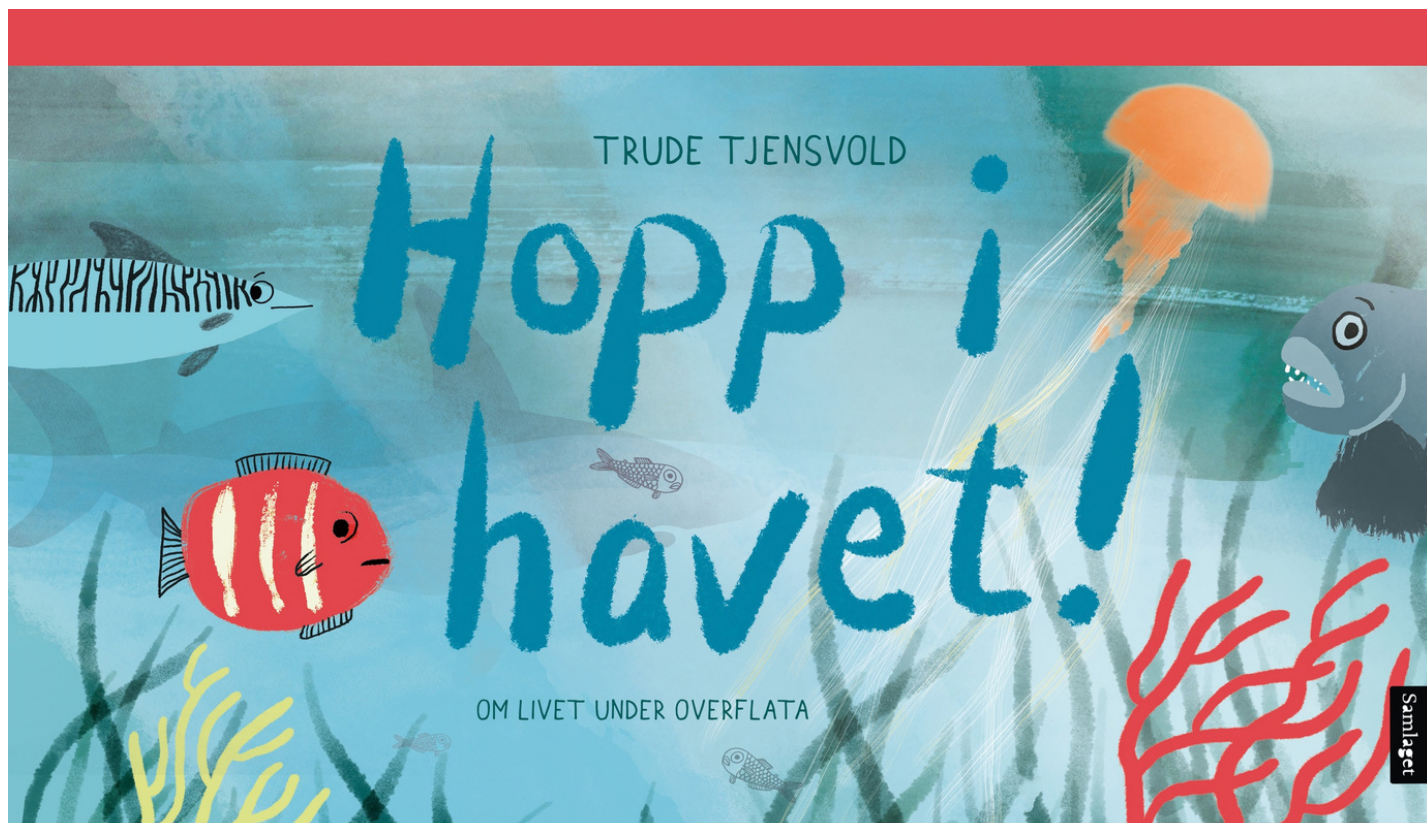
31 Days in October is a chilling, exciting, and humorous countdown novel for young readers eagerly awaiting the spookiest time of the year. Illustrated by the talented **Bård Sletvold Torkildsen**.

31 Days in October is **Guro S. Auganes'** second book aimed at middle grade readers.

Format: 15x20 cm

Pages: 170

Illustrations in black and white



Dive In! On life under the surface

Trude Tjensvold

To the bottom of the sea and up

What lives beneath the surface of the ocean? Which creatures survive on the seabed, and how deep can the ocean be?

Author and illustrator **Trude Tjensvold** takes readers on a journey below the waves, alongside fish, coral reefs, octopuses, and countless other marine creatures. Discover ghost fish and giant whales, and learn about submarines, underwater volcanoes, shipwrecks laden with gold and treasure, and even the resting places of spacecraft.

Filled with fascinating facts and richly detailed illustrations, ***Dive in!*** explores the strange and often unfamiliar wonders of the ocean, from the Arctic seas to the waters of Australia. Dive in and discover the bizarre, beautiful, and captivating world beneath the surface.

Trude Tjensvold creatively reimagines the picture book format, taking readers on an unforgettable journey through the ocean depths, from the surface to the bottom of the Mariana Trench and back again. A depth scale running alongside each spread allows readers to follow their descent and ascent in real time. Packed with fascinating facts and accompanied by vibrant, immersive illustrations, this visually striking nonfiction title combines learning with discovery. An ideal book for curious children aged 6 to 9 who are eager to explore the wonders hidden beneath the sea.

Format picture book: 17x29 cm

Pages: 56

Trude Tjensvold (b.1964) is an author, illustrator and graphic designer. She has written multiple picture books, a graphic novel for YA, a novel for middle grade and two non-fiction books.



First Touch

Monica Laupsa



Football is everything to fifteen-year-old Tuva. She dreams of becoming a professional goalkeeper and works tirelessly to make that dream come true. On the pitch, she excels, but if she wants to get into an elite sports high school, she needs to improve her grades.

Things seem to be falling into place until Sara joins both her class and her football team. Sara has an unsettling effect on Tuva, in the classroom as well as on the field. For the first time, Tuva finds herself developing a crush, but she can't figure out what Sara wants from her. Does Sara feel the same way, or is Tuva imagining it all?

As her feelings grow stronger, Tuva struggles to keep her focus on the goal she has worked towards for years: earning a place at an elite sports school and pursuing her football career.

First Touch is **Monica Laupsa's** debut novel, an engaging story about first love, coming out, prejudice, identity, and, above all, football.

Pages: 140

13+ years

They Can't Reach Us Hilde Myklebust



Hilde Myklebust is finally back with another unforgettable novel for young readers, a story that is sure to leave a lasting impression.

Ever since Dima and her family moved into the house next door from a reception centre, she and Jenni have been inseparable. Now they are starting tenth grade and are looking forward to their final year of lower secondary school. New friendships, exciting parties, and endless possibilities lie ahead. The future feels bright and full of promise. But something is wrong at Dima's home.

Her father, usually cheerful and full of life, has become serious and distant, and Dima is certain that her parents are keeping something from her. When the truth finally comes out, it shatters both girls: Dima and her family are being deported.

Jenni is devastated and furious. She cannot accept the injustice of what is happening. Together with friends, family, and the local community, she sets out to fight for Dima and her family, refusing to give up without a struggle.

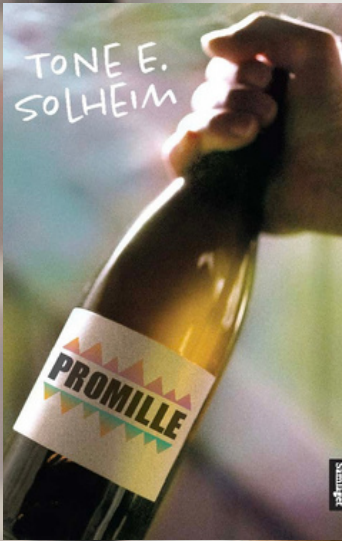
They Can't Reach Us is a powerful and moving story about friendship, belonging, and finding the courage to stand up for what is right.

Hilde Myklebust is a poet and children's author who has written books for both adults and young readers. Her critically acclaimed YA novel *Splintered* was nominated for both the Brage Prize and Uprisen. The novel has also been published in Germany, where it was nominated for the Buxtehuder Bulle.

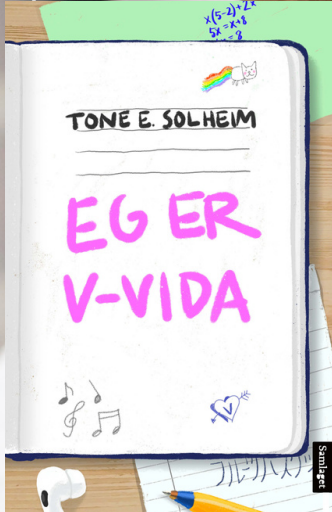
Pages: 285

Under Pressure

Tone E. Solheim



By the same author



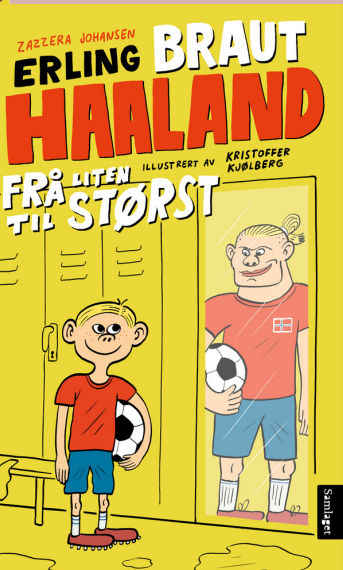
Markus is fifteen years old, and he has everything under control. He has good friends, good grades, and a cute girl he texts with all day. At home, however, things are starting to fall apart. And nobody can find out. Not his friends. Not his classmates. No one can know about his mother's hidden beer cans and wine bottles. And least of all, no one can know what happened last year. His younger sister hasn't noticed the change. His father insists everything is fine and that their mother is doing much better. According to everyone around him, Markus has nothing to worry about. But they don't know the truth.

Markus is convinced that if he doesn't take responsibility, everything will collapse once again. As he struggles to keep his family together, he must also navigate his friends' expectations about partying and drinking, while doing his best to protect both his family and himself.

With ***Under Pressure***, **Tone E. Solheim** has written a warm and insightful novel about responsibility, peer pressure, alcoholism, and the fear of losing control.

Under Pressure is a stand-alone sequel to ***I Am V-Vida*** (2024). *Under Pressure* is Solheim's third novel for young people.

Pages: 221



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