

BONNIER RIGHTS FINLAND

RIGHTS GUIDE AUTUMN 2018

FICTION & NARRATIVE NON-FICTION

Katja Kettu

Rose is Gone

A wild and lyrical epistolary novel about love, unfulfilled dreams and finding your roots by bestselling Finnish author, Katja Kettu.

Ettu wakes up at his home on a Minnesota reservation one day to find his beloved Rose is gone. At the police station, it turns out that Rose is not the only thing he's missing; he's lost all the past thirty-five years that she has been missing from his side.

The story of Rose's disappearance and Ettu's decline is narrated by their adult daughter Lempi. Half-Ojibwa, half-Finn, Lempi struggles with the inevitable conflict of her own identity – too white on the reservation and too Indian off it. Lempi pieces together the fragments of the kaleidoscopic canvas of her life: childhood recollections of her mother's presence; the bitter, episodic stings of adolescence; nostalgia and the distant roots in the distant homeland of her Finnish grandparents. Gradually, she comes to understand how memory sustains our identity, experiences, and worldview – as well as the healing power of oblivion.

With echoes of Karen Blixen and Gabriel García Márquez, *Rose is Gone* is a sweeping narrative suffused with a reality-transcending hope: a love story that sparks into flame, telling a tale, rich in prose with unfettered imagination, of a reality that is more hopeful than those of many others' in today's world.

Praise for Katja Kettu:

'Engaging and magnetic.'

—Turun Sanomat, on *Hawk Moth*

'Undoubtedly one of the most interesting novels of the season.'

— Helsingin Sanomat, on *Hawk Moth*

'A juxtaposition of brutal and tender moments evoking the stark and rapidly shifting paradoxes of a world at war.'

— Gordon Slater, Words without Borders, on *The Midwife*

Katja Kettu (b. 1978) is renowned for the powerful and unique linguistic style in her work. Her breakthrough novel, *The Midwife* (Kättilö, 2011) won the Runeberg and Kalevi Jäntti prizes, and was translated into over 20 languages and adapted into a feature film. Kettu's recent works include *Hawk Moth* (Yöperhonen, 2015), which has sold 40,000 copies in Finland alone, and an illustrated non-fiction collaboration documenting American Indians of Finnish descent, *In the Land of the Finndians* (Fintiaanien mailla, 2016). She lives in Helsinki.



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French: Actes Sud

Germany: Ullstein

Norwegian: Pax

Polish: Świat Książki

Swedish: Albert Bonniers

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WSOY, Finland

October 2018

284 pages

Material

Finnish Edition

English Sample 100 pp due late October

Synopsis

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Tommi Kinnunen

The Glass River

Instant bestseller — 20,000 copies sold

Acclaimed Finlandia Prize-nominee Tommi Kinnunen returns with a three-day novel about a community of glass workers picking up the pieces in the aftermath of the war.

The Tyynelä family has grown up in the shadows of the glassworks. Jussi, the eldest of the three siblings, is moved from pillar to post around different menial jobs at the factory as others work their way up in the ranks. But he sees the world around him differently, its detail and sharpness more acutely than those around him.

Jussi's sisters are consumed by their own lives and worries. Helmi works at the factory and is filled with nostalgia for the past. Irascible Raili remembers her former life in Helsinki, living in the belief that to get ahead in life, one must simply set one's mind to it. But the war has changed everything.

With his unmistakable style and lyrical prose, Kinnunen portrays the microcosm of the glassworks, the destinies of its people and the shape of their emotions and relationships with one another in the aftermath of the war. A beautifully-drawn portrayal of forgotten women and men with stylistic and thematic echoes of John Steinbeck and John Williams.

"Kinnunen shows himself to be the best we have..."

– Helsingin Sanomat

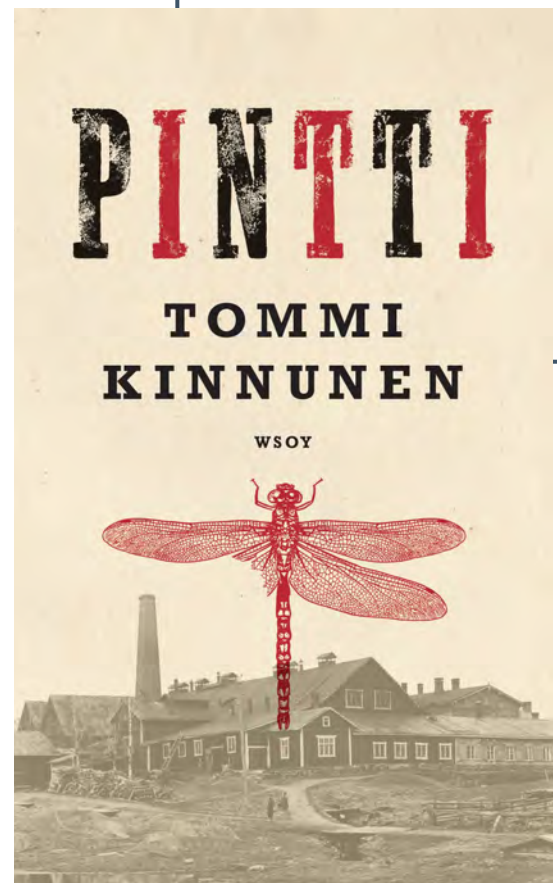
"Exceptionally rich and refreshing."

– Aamulehti

"Reminiscent of the village of Maconda in One Hundred Years of Solitude"

– Oma aika

Tommi Kinnunen's (b. 1973) first two novels, *Where Four Roads Meet* (WSOY, 2014) and *The Light Behind the Eyes* (WSOY, 2016) were published in Finland to critical and commercial success. Both titles were shortlisted for the prestigious Finlandia Prize for Fiction and received prizes and nominations for multiple literary awards. Kinnunen's works have been translated into over 20 languages to date.



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Norway: Pax

Options
Contact agent for full list of options
World English rights available

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Material
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Synopsis
Letter from the Author

Film & TV Rights
Rights available

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Simo Hiltunen

Freefall

A taut standalone thriller by the acclaimed author of *In Sheep's Clothing*

Hiltunen's inimitable storytelling takes readers to dizzying heights and the darkest depths of human guilt.

Journalist Lauri Kivi has much to be grateful for. A successful career reporting on serious crime, he has finally come to terms with his own difficult childhood and recently got to know his grown-up daughter, Ava, a promising young singer.

But dark clouds gather on the horizon. Researching a piece on unsolved disappearances – including that of Amanda, one of Ava's predecessors, – Kivi finds himself unearthing facts behind Amanda's disappearance that will threaten not only himself but also Ava. Will he be able to save both Ava and himself, before it's too late?

Freefall is a novel about guilt, sense of self, and the forces of evil that rage inside ourselves.

Praise for *In Sheep's Clothing*:

'Nail-bitingly exciting'

— Libelle, The Netherlands

'A classic Scandinavian thriller.'

— Thrillzone.nl, The Netherlands

'The novel is a broad-based, carefully constructed study of evil.'

— Helsingin Sanomat newspaper, Finland

'In Sheep's Clothing is one of the year's most important and interesting debuts, and may well be the best.'

— Turun Sanomat newspaper, Finland

Simo Hiltunen (b. 1977) is a journalist and visual producer from northern Finland. His debut novel *In Sheep's Clothing* was published in 2015 to great acclaim.



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Option Publishers

Czech Rep.: Bookmedia

France: Fleuve

Germany: Aufbau

Netherlands: De Boekerij

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420 pages

Material

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Synopsis

Author Letter

Film & TV Rights

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Anja Snellman

The Village of Dreams

An atmospheric novel about unexpected friendship and the enduring strength of women.

Agave lives in solitude, in a remote village high up in the mountains of Crete. With her donkey, hens, cats and dogs, the ninety-three-year-old woman keeps to herself, until the day she happens upon an injured foreign woman on one of the goat trails on the hillside. Inviting Monika into her home to recuperate, Agave and the young woman's friendship grows over the summer, revealing their own dissecting stories and tales of Europe, the decades of excess, of luxury and ruin and acts of love and cruelty.

Bestselling author Anja Snellman returns with an assured and evocative novel of women's fiction, reminiscent of Kristin Hannah's *The Great Alone* and a must-read for those who loved *The Island* by Victoria Hislop.

'Snellman writes accurately and sensuously, with expert mastery.'

— Savon Sanomat newspaper

'A flowing, warm-hearted novel about time, its passing and stopping, the rush of it, and the quiet peacefulness of routine.'

— Anna magazine

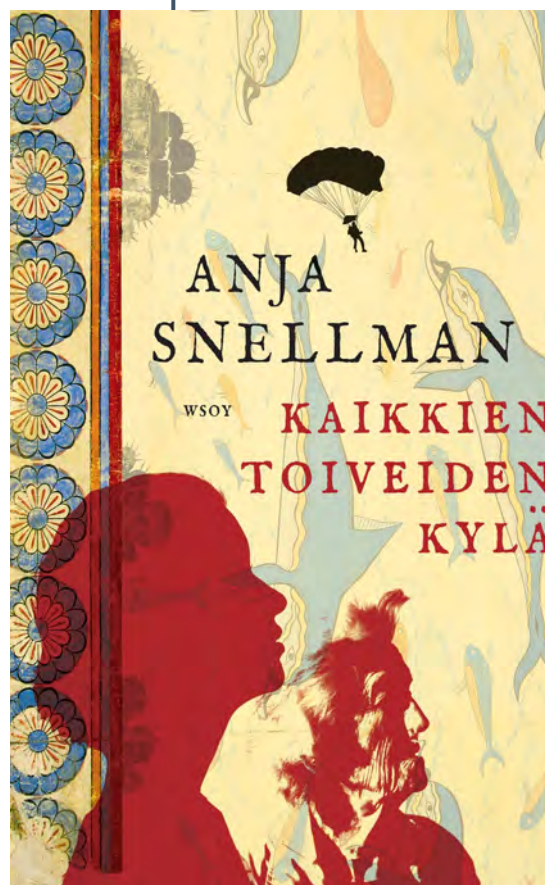
'The subject may expose Anja Snellman to an even wider readership, who will enjoy this beautifully written book that is expressive but to the point.'

— Hämeen Sanomat newspaper on *Surrendering*

'Her mastery of language, together with the exceptional courage with which she meets her subjects head on, and the often provocative beat of her prose have earned her a permanent place among major writers in the world of Finnish contemporary literature.'

— World Literature Today

Anja Snellman (b. 1954). A chronicler of today's society and humanity in general, Snellman is recognised for her virtuosic use of language, bold sensuality, dark humour, keen eye for the absurd, and a touching compassion for her characters. Snellman's bestselling novels have been published in 20 languages.



Rights Sold

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Synopsis
Letter from the Author

Film & TV Rights

Rights available

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Satu Vasantola

(Never) Going Back

A startling depiction of life-changing journeys of no return by a rising star in Finnish fiction.

From a rural, working-class childhood to a career at one of Helsinki's most prestigious law firms, Susanna's path in life has been longer than the miles alone indicate. Fatima's journey to the doors of a Helsinki police station and, eventually, onto Susanna's living room floor has been even more arduous: she has had to leave a child by the wayside and a husband behind in Iraq. Martta has never left her birthplace, yet she has been left behind, forced to surrender her loved ones, one by one: her firstborn on the doorstep of the vicarage, her husband to war and then to drink, her son to Sweden, her daughter to an unhappy marriage. All she has left is her great-grandson Luca, a boy who can't seem to find his place in the world.

(Never) Going Back is a deft portrayal of individual lives uprooted and inexorably entwined across time and space. With bold, lyrical strokes, Satu Vasantola draws compelling portraits of today's broken families and the struggle to survive in contemporary rural life. The narrative of an immigrant family reframes a Finnish family's story, stretching a local canvas into a global backdrop. While solidly anchored in a changing Finland, *(Never) Going Back* perceptively depicts a changing Europe and a changed world. After all, the essence of life is universal. No matter who or where we are, we all have to stop from time to time to gaze up at the stars.

Over 5,000 copies sold in Finland

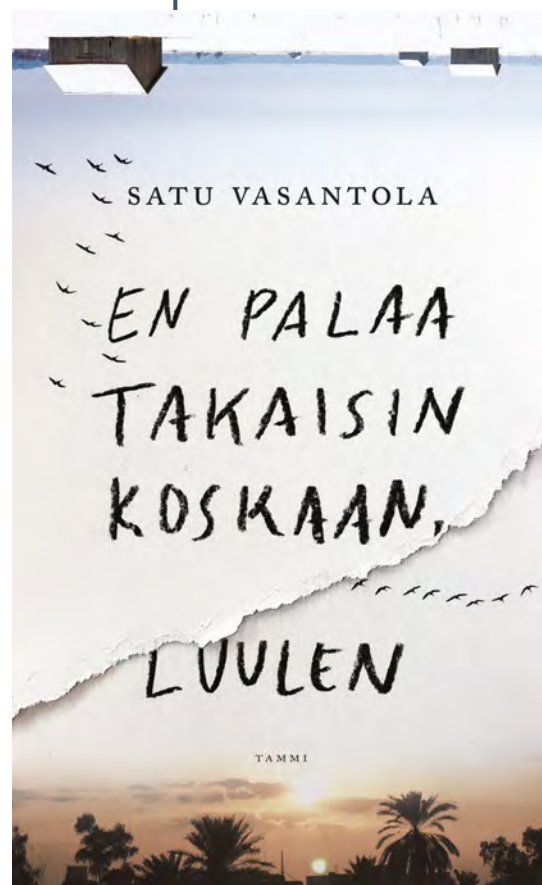
'The novel highlights in an excellent way how climbing the social ladder is not so much about material growth, but rather a transformation of one's mental sphere of life. (...) The voice-driven expression in this debut is convincing in its precision.'

— **Helsingin Sanomat newspaper**

'A splendid depiction of humanity – of love, hate, jealousy and forgiveness. (...) Vasantola's novel is a controlled, precise package. (...) The most enjoyable aspect of the event-filled novel is its well-drawn, multi-faceted characters.'

— **Aamulehti newspaper**

Satu Vasantola (b. 1965) is an award-winning features editor of the Sunday supplement of Helsingin Sanomat, Finland's largest daily newspaper. *(Never) Going Back* is her debut novel.



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Letter from the Author

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