



Comics

Teemu

Comics

“Can anybody hear me?”

Tiitu Takalo: *Memento Mori*



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Brilliant, exciting and often very funny.

Club aVoir-aLire

Excellent ... unstoppable, merciless, and funny!

Kirjavinkit

Ville Ranta

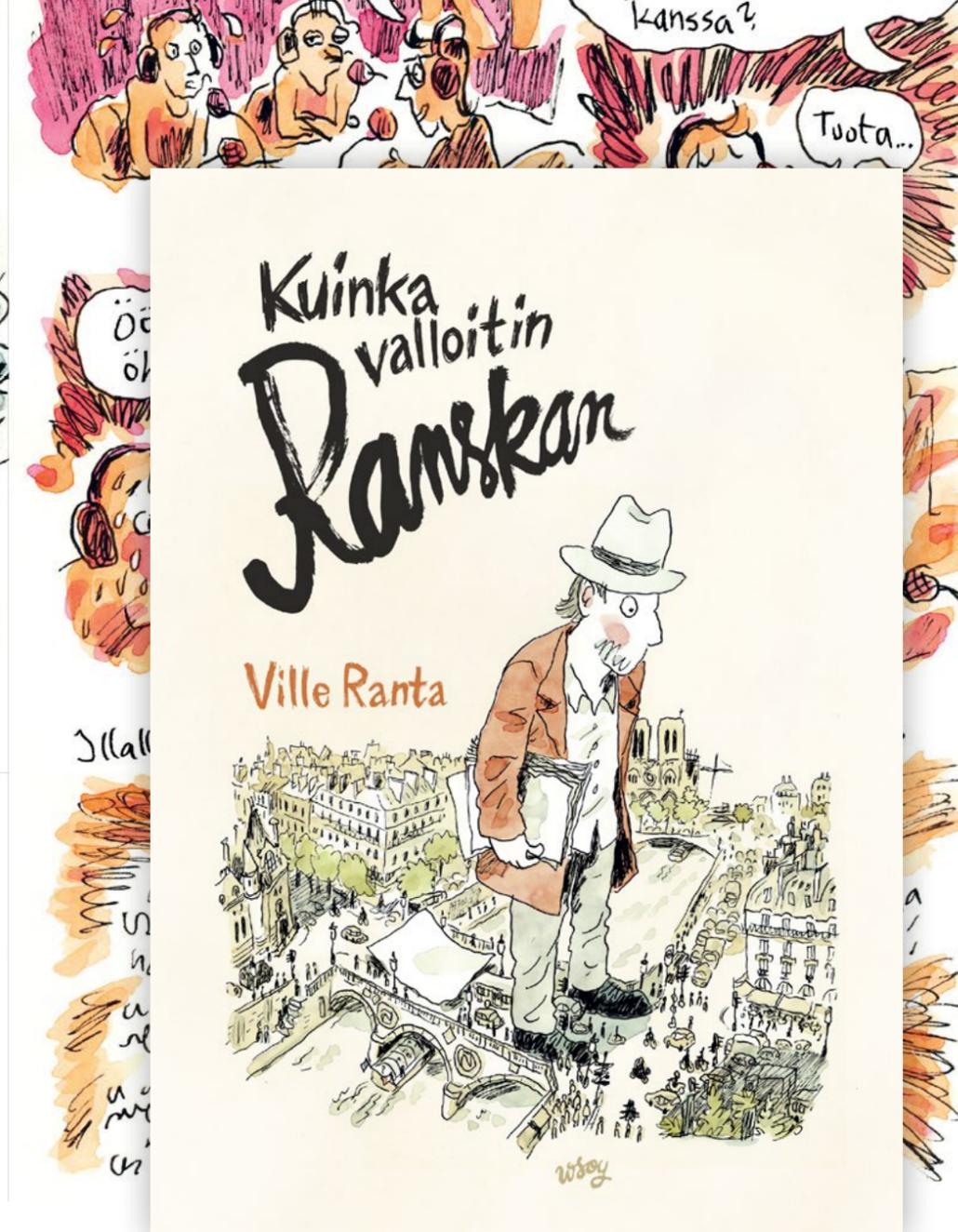
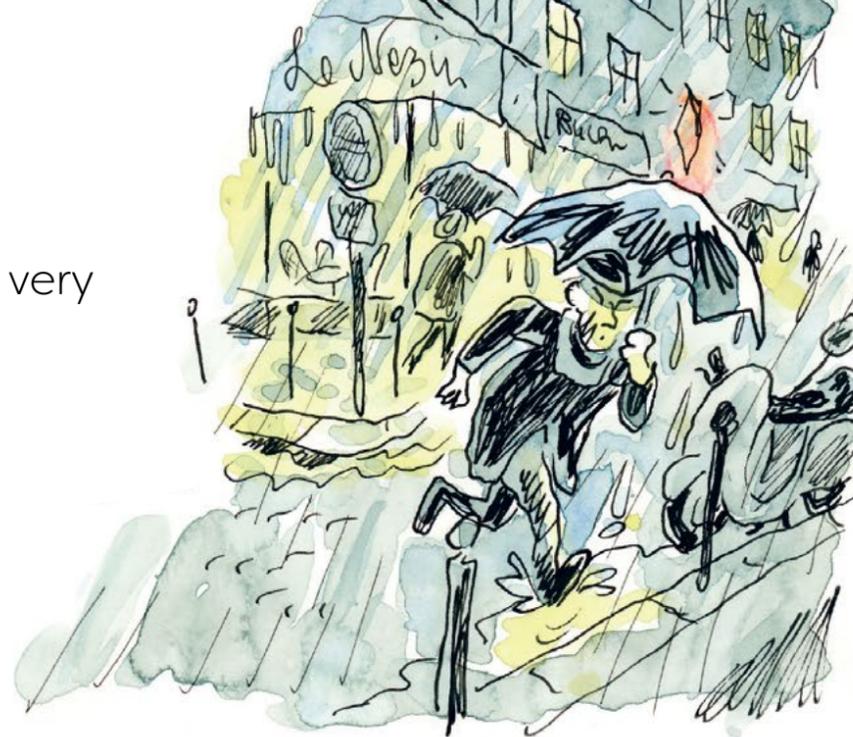
How I Conquered France

A funny, ironic, profound, and slightly melancholic story of an artist obsessed with success.

Ville is a young comic book author full of ambition who has just started a promising career, with a few books to his credit and a bit of notoriety in his home country. He only dreams of one thing: to see his work published in France, the promised land of comics, that of the authors he admires, where happiness and success are within reach of any talented artist. One day, Ville's dream finally seems about to come true: one of the most popular authors in France offers to collaborate with him on an album that will be published by a major French publisher. Happiness and success seem to be close at hand, and Ville rushes to Paris to seize the opportunity. But once there, things do not go exactly as he imagined, and Ville soon realizes that all that glitters isn't gold...

Irony, humor, and a good dose of self-deprecation punctuate the pages of this strongly autobiographical tale in which Ville Ranta depicts, with remarkable frankness, the adventures of an artist in the almost obsessive pursuit of success and fortune. Between the lines, Ranta does not fail to evoke the difficult, and sometimes downright impossible, relationship between creativity and commercial success, while painting a vitriolic portrait of the world of publishing.

Ages: 16+ | Size: 175 x 247 mm | Pages: 168 | Colors: 4/4 | Rights sold: French



Comics



Ville Ranta (b. 1978) is an internationally renowned graphic novelist and one of Finland's best-known cartoonists. Ranta has authored several graphic novels and albums that have been translated into various languages including Swedish, French, and German. His expressive style and satirical, contemplative narrative are distinctive, easily recognizable, and awarded many times over. Ranta's works are particularly well known in France, where he has received the National Order of Merit of the French State. In Finland his numerous accolades include, e.g. the Finnish State Prize, the Puupäähattu Award, and the Finlandia Prize for Comics.

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A beautiful graphic novel ... quirky, surreal and funny!

Comixtrip

A hilarious pastiche of medieval fables by an iconoclastic Finnish author.

The Inrocks

More than a simple pastiche of a tale, Ville Ranta manages to create a decadent and endearing world, where the failings of society are humorously dissected.

Liberation



Ville Ranta The King Loses His Head

A quirky, surreal, and hilarious graphic novel about manhood and resisting change.

A castle in decay, a mother on the verge of death, three superficial daughters and a demanding mistress; this is the daily life of a king who spends all of his time ruling his kingdom, just as his ancestors have done for centuries. The only problem is, nothing seems to work anymore! The castle is crumbling to a ruin and, without any servants to help him, the king has to fix the leak in the ceiling on his own. His court has been slowly diminishing for years: nowadays it consists exclusively of members of his own family, and even they don't know how to behave themselves. It's not long before the king becomes completely overwhelmed by the feeling that no one respects him, he is misunderstood and, worst of all, he is unloved. All this must not prevent him from freeing princesses from vengeful dragons and from seeking metaphysical answers to his existential problems.

The absurdity of power, the difficulty of desire, and the addiction to new technologies are all themes tackled with playfulness and Monty Pythonesque humour in this wonderful romp from the Finnish master of the graphic novel format.

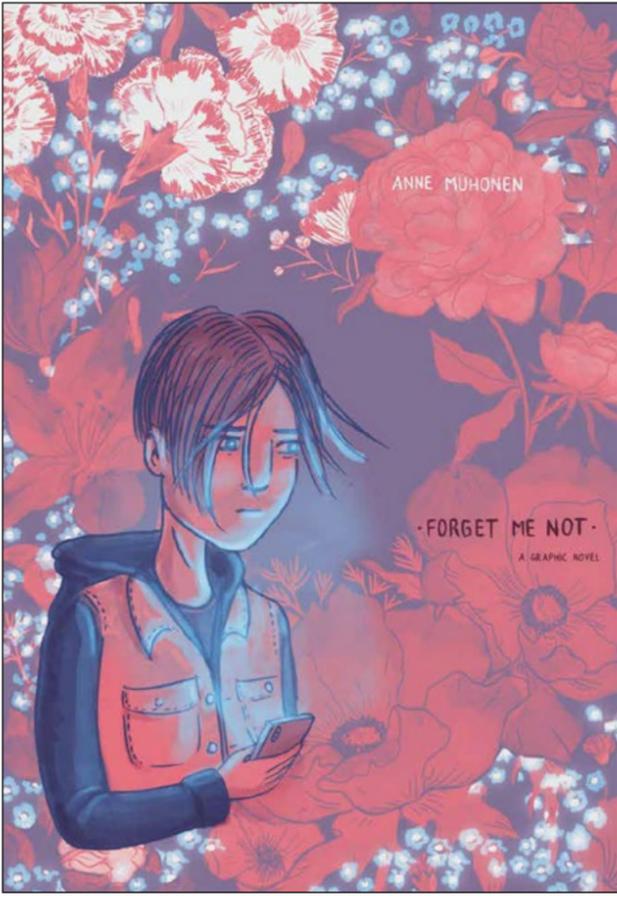
Ages: 16+ | Size: 175 x 247 mm | Pages: 184 | Colors: 4/4 | Rights sold: French



Comics



Ville Ranta (b. 1978) is an internationally renowned graphic novelist and one of Finland's best-known cartoonists. Ranta has authored several graphic novels and albums that have been translated into various languages including Swedish, French, and German. His expressive style and satirical, contemplative narrative are distinctive, easily recognizable, and awarded many times over. Ranta's works are particularly well known in France, where he has received the National Order of Merit of the French State. In Finland his numerous accolades include, e.g. the Finnish State Prize, the Puupäähattu Award, and the Finlandia Prize for Comics.



Anne Muhonen Forget-Me-Not

A beautiful tale about a florist who reluctantly takes a teenage intern to her flower shop. As they slowly get to know each other, they realise they might have more in common than they first thought, and the florist has to confront her own past.

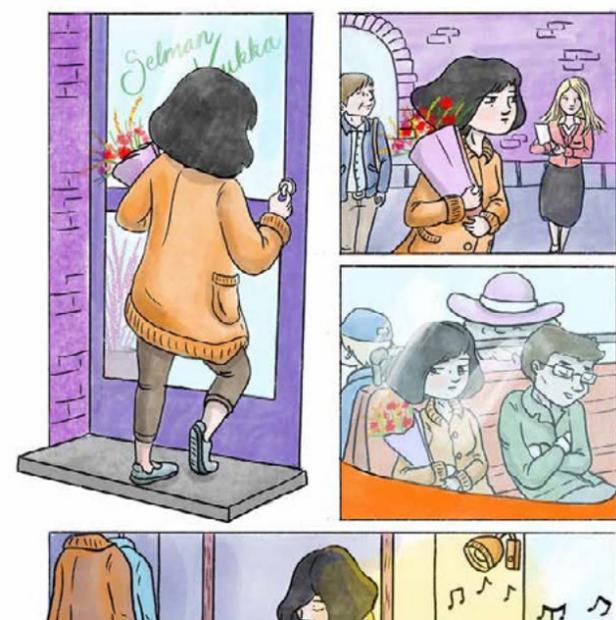
Hilla works in a flower shop. She enjoys her work amidst beautiful flowers and lets customers visit the flower shop like a library, sensing colors and scents. When her ex, who works as a school counselor, asks Hilla to take in Eero, one of his students, as an intern, she reluctantly agrees.

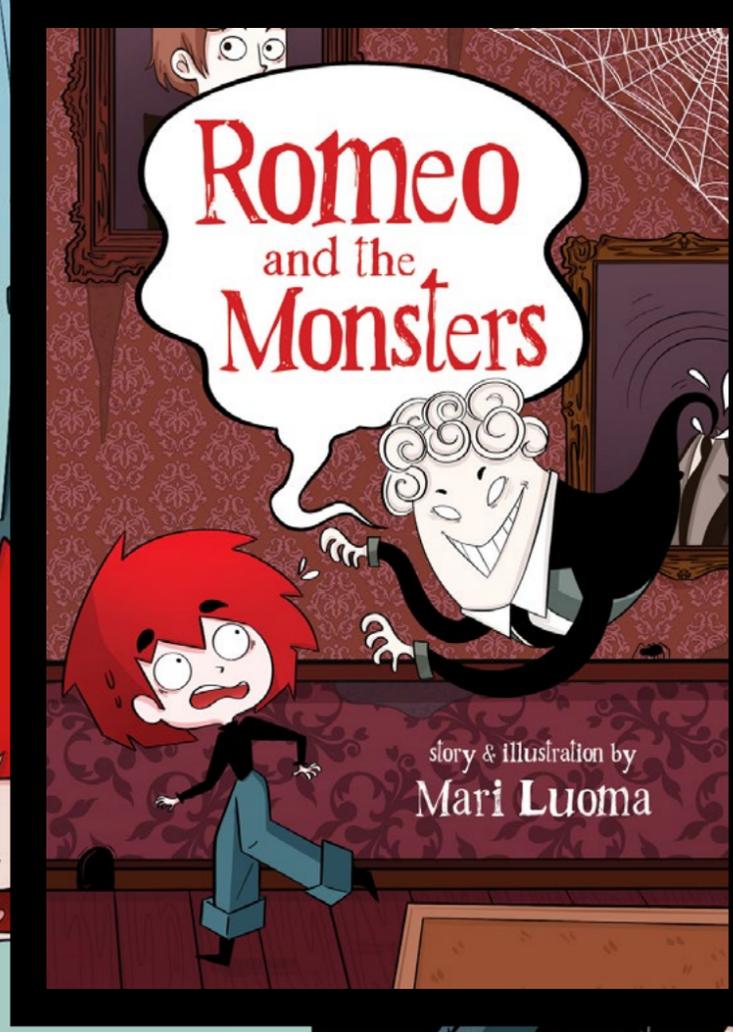
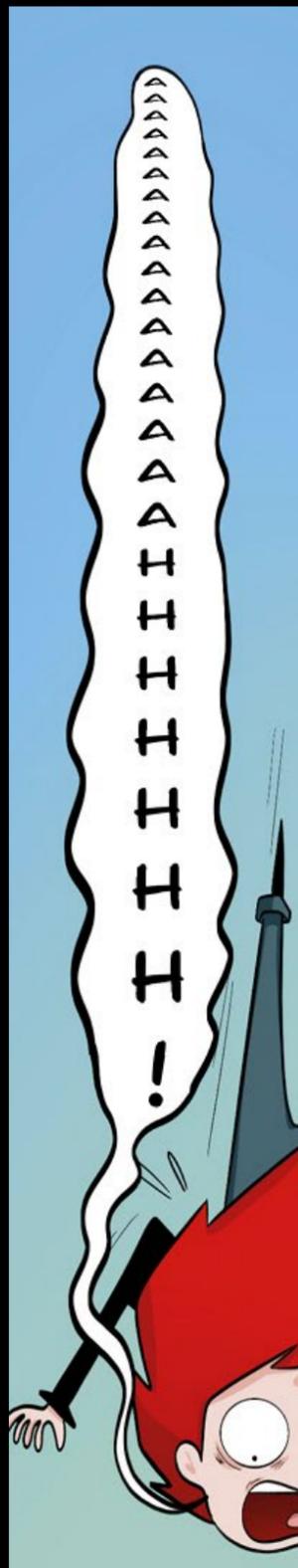
Looks like Eero's life is not going anywhere. He hangs out with the wrong crowd and his parents do not seem to care. However, the two develop a warm and meaningful bond between them when they begin to realise that they are not that different after all.

With beautiful art and careful nuances Anne Muhonen is able to highlight a the characters' vulnerabilities. *Forget-Me-Not* is a beautiful story about the importance of being seen and noticed. Everybody needs someone to trust.



Anne Muhonen loves telling stories through pictures, and has worked as a freelance illustrator for over 20 years. Besides comics and children's book illustrations, Muhonen likes to broaden her visual boundaries with photography and mural paintings.





Mari Luoma
Romeo and the Monsters

First book in a brand new graphic novel series for middle grade readers..

Welcome to the Manor of Monsters! When Romeo Addison turns 12, he will be sent to a private school in a large handsome mansion, as per his great-great-great-granduncle's last will and testament. The first young man from the Addison family to graduate with honours from the school shall inherit all of the uncle's sizeable property.

But the manor is a strange place, where the teaching staff includes zombies, a ghost and a werewolf. Luckily, Romeo's clever cousin Jillian also goes to the same school. Together, the cousins begin to unravel the wild secrets of the family estate...

Romeo and the Monsters is a spine-tingling, hair-raising blend of adventure and comedy.

Ages: 9+ | Colors: 4/4 | Size: 148 x 210 mm | Pages: 74 | Original language: Finnish | Rights sold: Finnish



Mari Luoma is an illustrator and comic artist. She mainly illustrates children's books and advertising materials for her work and designs funny characters for various media.

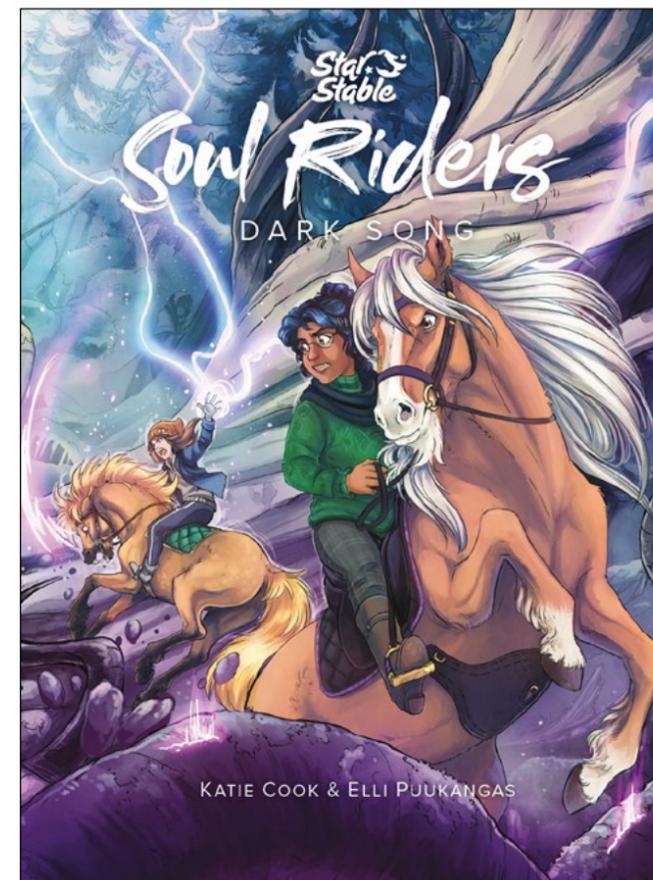


Katie Cook – Elli Puukangas
Dark Song
 A Soul Riders graphic novel

Meet the Soul Riders in a standalone adventure gloriously brought to life by the distinguished comics writer Katie Cook and the brilliant upcoming artist Elli Puukangas! 150 pages of epic moments, old legends and wonderful artwork!

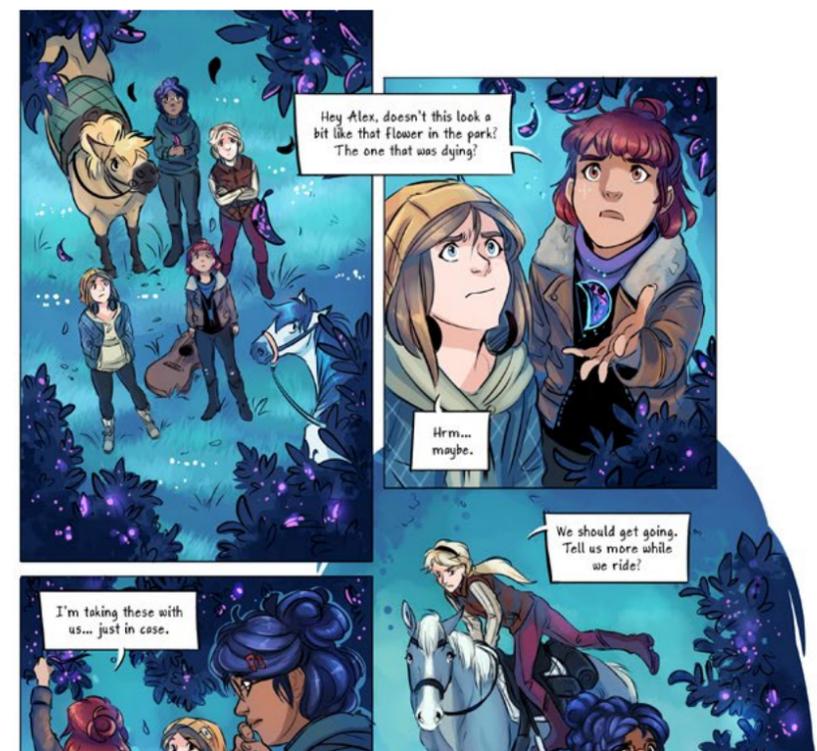
When the Soul Riders are sent out on a mission to meet with their druid friends, they come to realise all is not well in the area. As Linda has a horrible vision of barren forests and great havoc, the girls know they are needed to save the land around them from destruction. What is wrong with the mysterious tree in a deep, dark forest that seems to be corrupting things around it? Could it somehow be the source of all evil and if so, who has used dark magic to make the tree behave this way? The Soul Riders swear to solve the mystery, but can they trust all their new companions? Someone close to them has scary plans of their own...

Ages: 8+ | Genre: Horses, fantasy | Colors: 4/4 | Size: 175 x 235 mm | Pages: 160 | Original language: English | Rights sold: Swedish



Katie Cook is a writer and a comics artist with years of experience in the industry. She is the creator of the weekly webcomic *Nothing Special* and worked as one of the primary writers on *My Little Pony Friendship is Magic* for several years. Katie has also done projects for *Star Wars* and major comics publishers like *Marvel* and *Boom!*.

Elli Puukangas is a brilliant young artist who's no stranger to horses either at work or at home. She's the creator of the popular web comic *Tistow*. Originally from Finland, Elli now lives in Kent, UK.



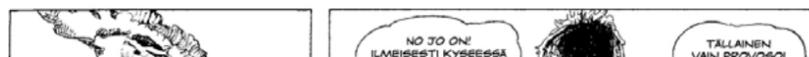
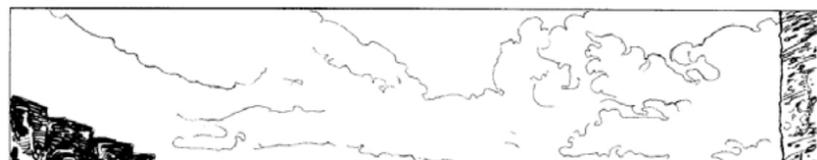
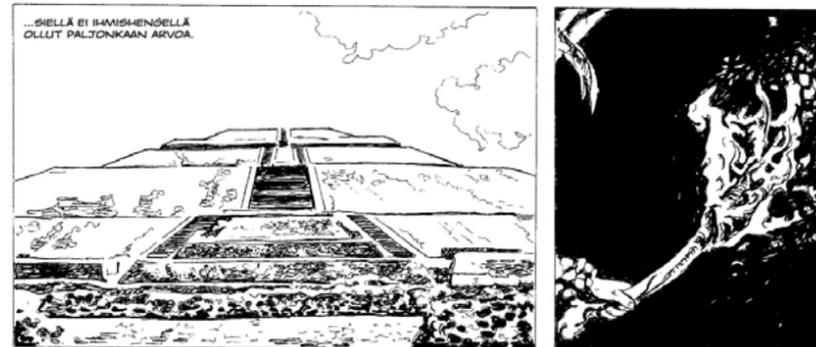


Hannu Leimu
Forsaken

A stunningly beautiful graphic novel which sucks you in right from the very first panels.

Father and son wander across a desolate country ravaged by civil war in search of the son's mother, who has been kidnapped by human traffickers. The dystopian, deserted land is an inconsolable sight, and the remaining few survivors cling to survival with their last strength. Nobody is safe in this world where the insanity and cruelty of war are on full display every single moment. No one can be trusted, and death lurks around every corner. The world seems to be coming to an end, but humanity is left one tiny morsel of hope: love.

Pages: 150 | Original language: Finnish



Hannu Leimu was born and lives in Kokkola, Finland. Leimu grew up drawing and painting. He now focuses on drawing and writing graphic novels. *Forsaken* is his debut graphic novel.

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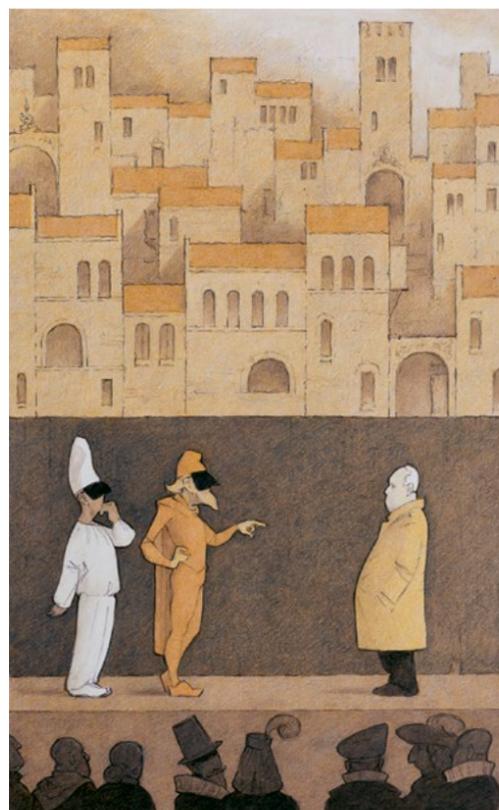
I like the slow pottering about, letting the image evolve, giving it depth and background. I want to create a credible history and milieu for the story. It is often the case that the stage is the main focus and the actual event is only an insignificant aside. The characters are small and irrelevant. They themselves realise their secondary role as they stand in the corner of the picture, with their backs to the spectator, or lurk in the shadows. Instead of active agents, they are silent participants – just like I am myself.

Mikko Metsähonkala

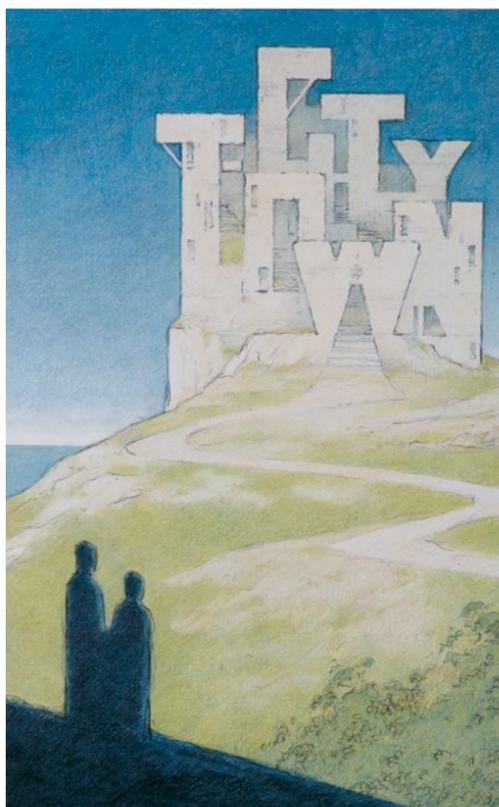
Mikko Metsähonkala **In Other Wor(l)ds**

In Other Wor(l)ds is a book which defies all classification. It's not exactly a comic, nor is it an art book. It is something in between, aphoristic cartoons perhaps.

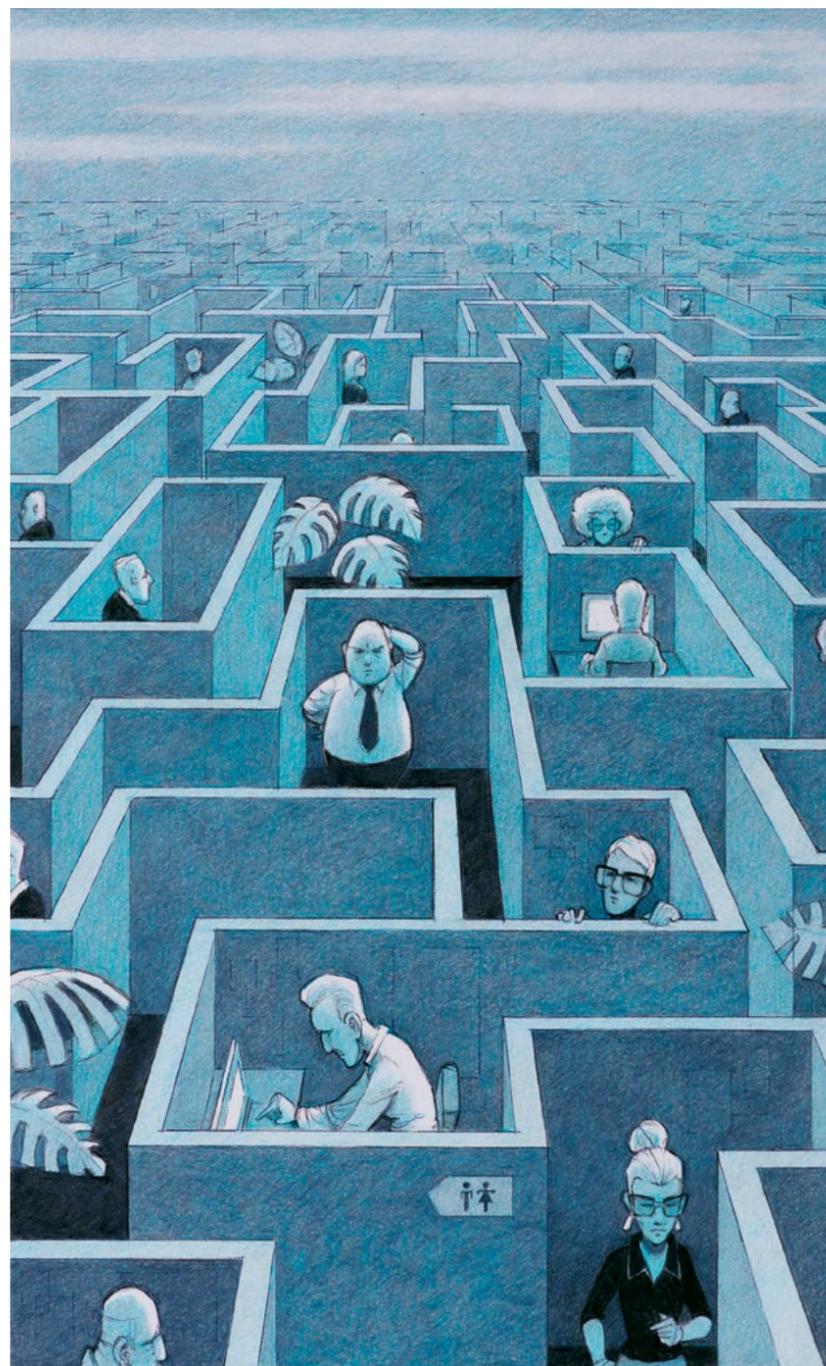
Accompanied by one or two sentences of the most gnostic kind, architect Mikko Metsähonkala's illustrations speak volumes. The images in the book are basically single-frame comics - a bit like Gary Larson's *The Far Side*. Topics in Metsähonkala's illustrations range from history and natural sciences to arts, myths, and everyday life. Humour is based on the mundane and sublime, fairy tale and the real world.



The stock characters of Commedia dell'arte were the hilarious Pulcinella and the Italian merchant Pantalone. However, the biggest applause was always reserved for Anderson, the Swedish policeman.



The utopian community of semioticians was self-sufficient in staple foods. Surplus sugar beets, turnips, and connotations were sold to nearby towns and villages.



Work atmosphere at Minotaurox PLC was filled with negativity. The boss ate his subordinates regularly, and nobody could ever find their way to the meeting room.

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A fluent union of image, word, and story, where all the elements complement each other. This is a classic and full-bodied fairy tale featuring a great antihero, and a coming-of-age story all in one package.

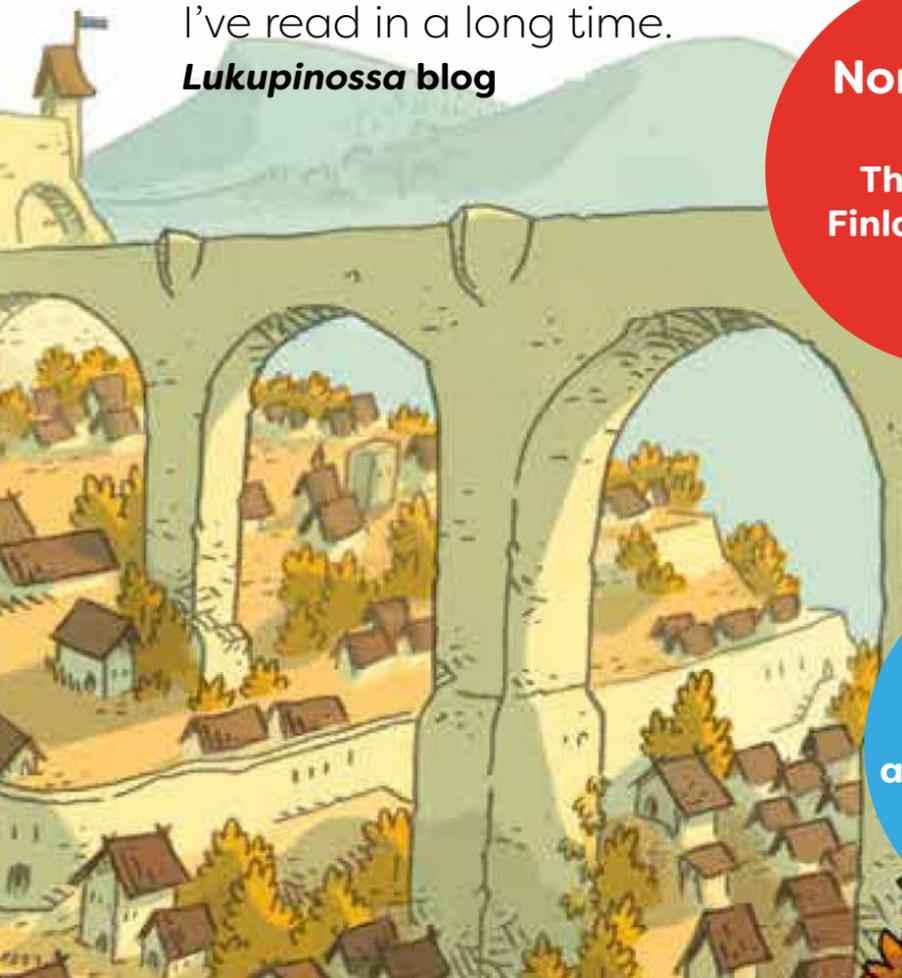
The jury of the Comics Finlandia Prize

An epic adventure.

Kaleva newspaper

One of the most original comics I've read in a long time.

Lukupinossa blog



Janne Kukkonen
Lily the Thief
The Treasure of the Three Kings

Brave and resourceful Lily dreams of proving her skills to the Guild of Thieves and being acknowledged as a master thief. By chance, she gets mixed up in a battle between ancient kings and forgotten gods. But isn't saving the whole world from destruction asking a bit much from a little thief? Janne Kukkonen's delightful fantasy adventure will enchant children and adults alike.

Ages: 9+ | Size: 165 x 245 mm | Pages: 280 | Colors: 4/4 or b/w | Rights sold: Finnish, French worldwide, English worldwide, Italian, Czech, Russian, Polish Worldwide

Winner of
the Comics
Finlandia
Prize 2017!



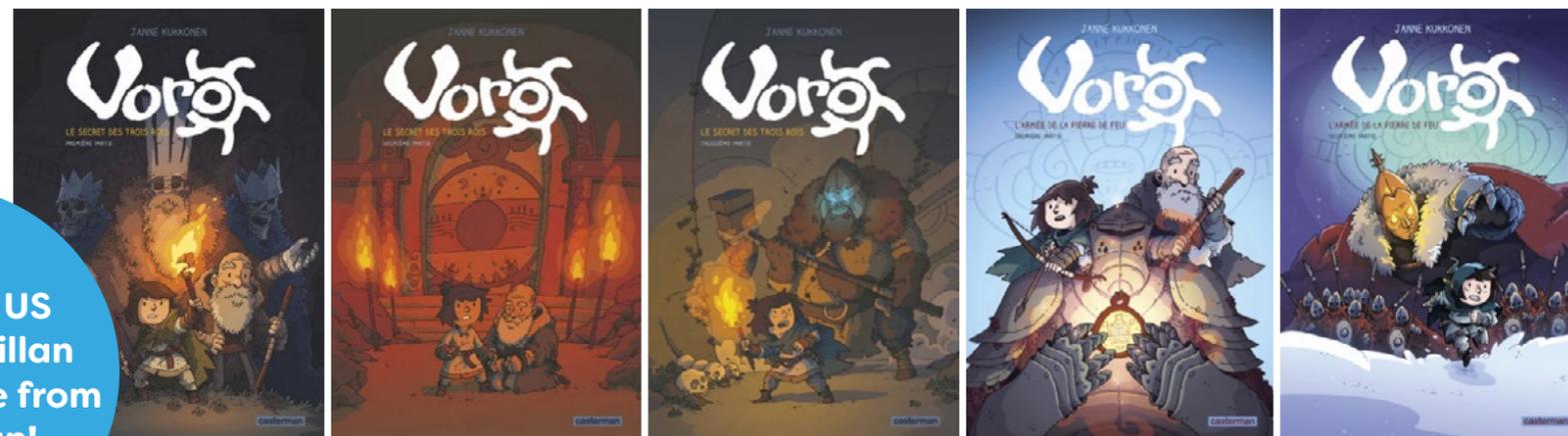
Optioned for
TV by Why Not
Animation!

Nominated
for!
The Comics
Finlandia Prize
2020

The Legion of Brimstone

Lily the little thief is tasked with assembling the talisman of the Legion of Brimstone—a mythical and potentially dangerous item. But as war draws near, Lily soon learns that she isn't the only one searching for the powerful talisman. The foolhardy thief and her master find themselves caught in another web of mysteries and adventure.

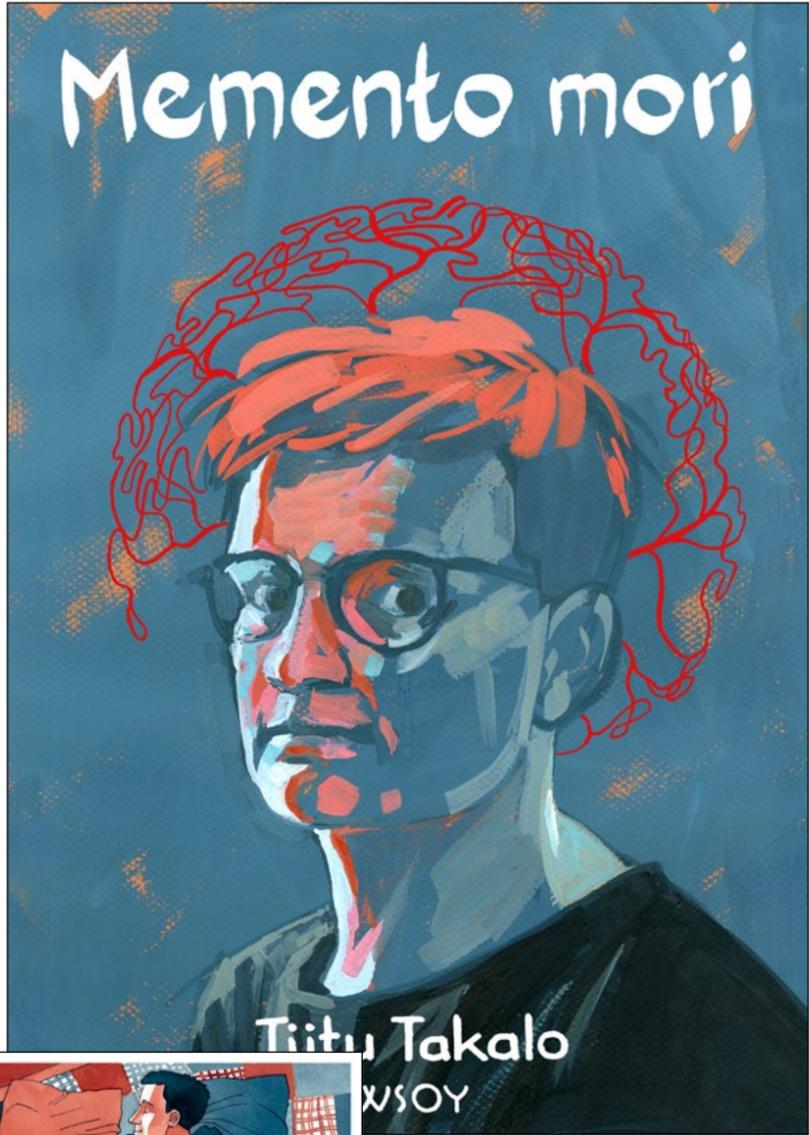
Out in the US
from Macmillan
and in France from
Casterman!



Comics
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Janne Kukkonen is an animation director who has also made music videos and short films. *Lily the Thief* is his first graphic novel.



Tiitu Takalo
Memento mori
 An autobiographical graphic novel about life, art, the search of happiness, and surviving a cerebral hemorrhage at the age of 38.

In *Memento mori*, Tiitu Takalo, one of the greatest graphic novelists from Finland, describes her sudden and unexpected cerebral hemorrhage and the long process of recovery. It is a dramatic story about a life turned upside down overnight: a ruptured cerebral aneurysm, the days spent in an intensive care unit, and the long road to recovery which leads the artist to reflect on her current and past life.

Far more than a story of survival, *Memento Mori* is a philosophical and psychological journey told with exceptional honesty and compassion. It is a sublime graphic novel from a master of the medium and, ultimately, a celebration of life.

Pages: 232 | Colors: 4/4 | Rights sold: French, Polish, World English



French cover



Photo: Emilia Anundi

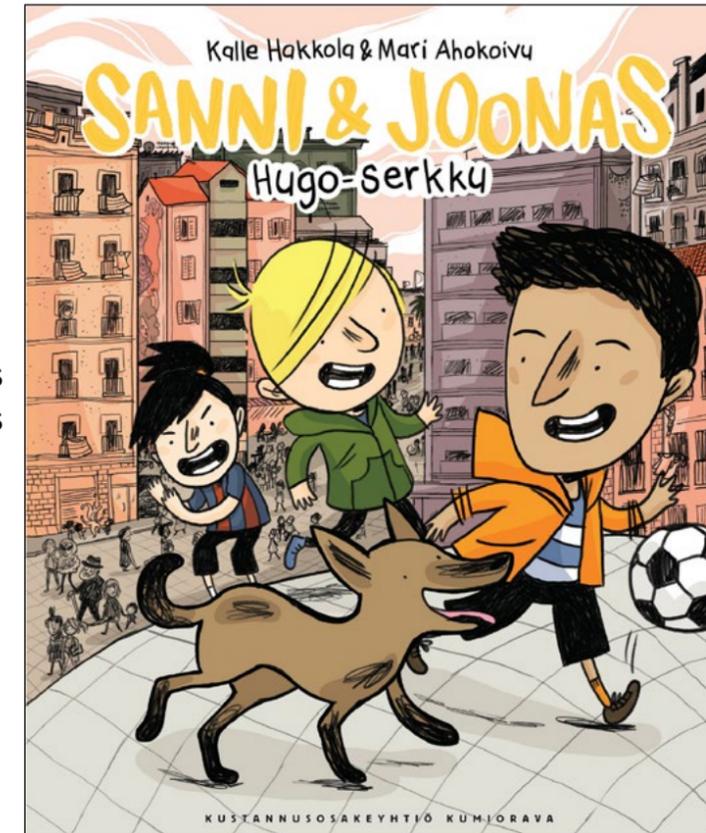
Tiitu Takalo is the winner of the Finlandia Prize in comics. She has received the prestigious Puupäähattu Award as a recognition of her work in comics, and her previous works have been published in several languages.

Kalle Hakkola and Mari Ahokoivu
Sanni & Joonas
Cousin Hugo

Five-year-old Sanni and seven-year-old Joonas are siblings on holiday in Spain. They spend their days in the sun together with their cousin Hugo. While Sanni plays football on the beach, Joonas and Hugo roam the streets of Barcelona and sneak into the Park Güell, where they meet some famous people, go on an imaginary adventure, and discover a lost key to a treasure vault.

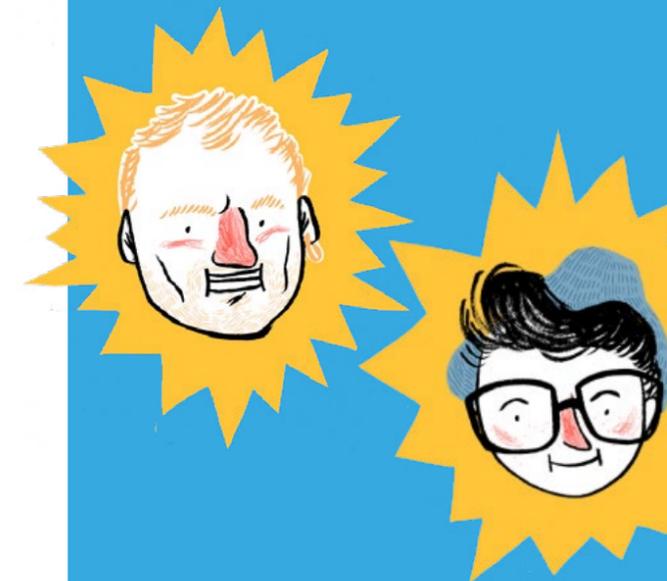
Sanni & Joonas is a children's comic about sibling rivalry, and, ultimately, family and friendship. It is a warmhearted, diverse comic which celebrates the wonderful imagination of children and endless summer days.

Size: 200 x 250 mm | Pages: 72 | Colors: 4/4



Also available: Strip comics and short stories starring Sanni and Joonas!

Comics



Kalle Hakkola is a Finnish author who has also worked as a director of the Helsinki Comics festival. Kalle has also worked widely in different fields of culture and art. He lives and works in Finland.

Mari Ahokoivu (b. 1984) is a Finnish Illustrator and a comic artist who loves to draw cute and scary things. She draws comics for adults and for kids and has been published in Finland as well as abroad.

mariahokoivu.com

66

★ Fluidly rendered in inky black and white washes; accents of color leap off the page as the translation by Aronpuro flows smoothly.

Publishers Weekly (starred)

★ Painful yet unforgettable... [this] Finnish fairy tale sees the damage that gods, mothers, and daughters are willing to inflict upon one another, all under the guise of love.

Booklist (starred)

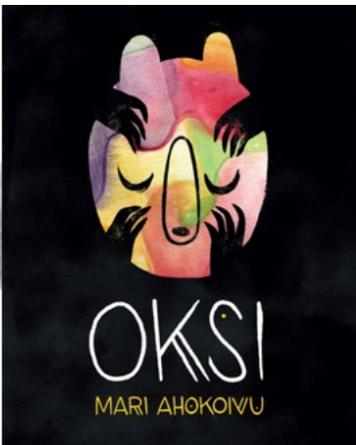
★ Rich. Radiant. Arresting. A breathtaking exploration of generational connection and the ways that damage can pass down from mother to daughter as easily as love.

BCCB (starred)

Best Comics of the Year
Comics Beat
The Comics Journal



US cover



Mari Ahokoivu **Oksi**

Based on Finnish mythology that recognizes the bear as the king of the forest, *Oksi* is a unique and epic graphic novel that is already being hailed as a masterpiece.

A bear mother has given birth to her new cubs. One of them, however, is different. She looks more like a flame than a bear, and is bullied by her siblings. Even the mother is at a loss with the strange newcomer. But deep down, the mother has her own task to overcome: she has to grow out of the shadow of her own mother, the resentful goddess Emuu, mother of all animals. Drawing references both to the deep layers of Nordic mythology and stories ranging from *Prometheus*, *The Ugly Duckling*, and *Spirited Away* by Hayao Miyazaki, *Oksi* is a breathtaking magnum opus by an extraordinary Finnish artist.

Size: 176 x 220 mm | Pages: 380 | Colors: 4/4 | Rights sold: World English



Comics

Nominated for
The Helmet Prize 2019
The Botnia Prize 2019



Photo: Antti Ahokoivu

Mari Ahokoivu (b. 1984) is a Finnish Illustrator and a comic artist who loves to draw cute and scary things. She draws comics for adults and for kids and has been published in Finland as well as abroad.

mariahokoivu.com

“

A cinematic story with a touch of humor. In addition to the clever concept, the themes include fatherhood, discrimination, and prejudice.

The jury of the Comics Finlandia Prize

Quantum mechanics, cunning photo comics, and a likeable loser protagonist got hitched with Philip K. Dick and had a baby that was named *Aperture*.

Johanna Sinisalo, author of *Not Before Sundown*

Aperture is a one-of-a-kind experience you will want to read again and again.

JP Ahonen, author of *Perkeros* and *Belzebubs*

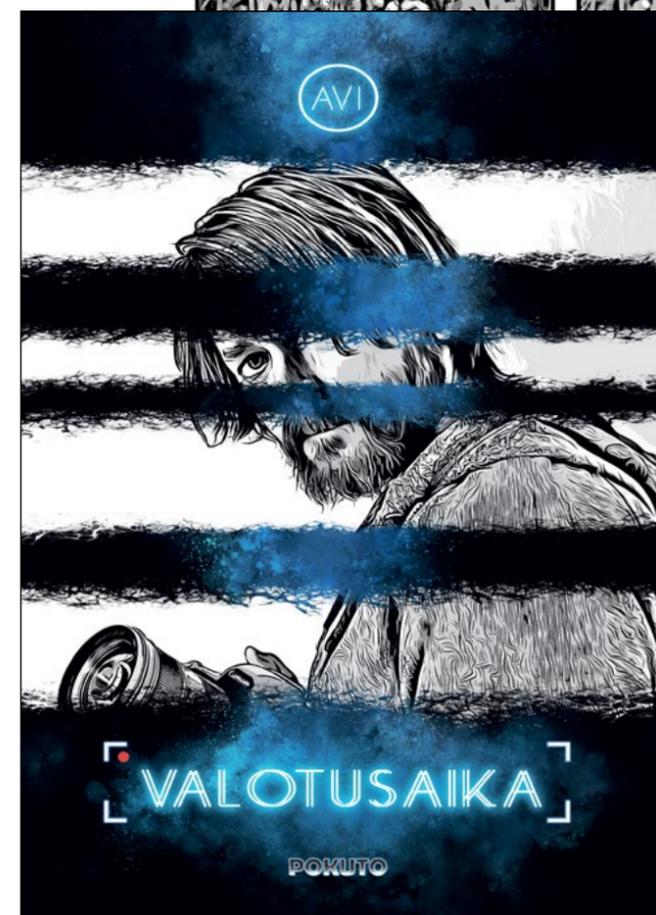
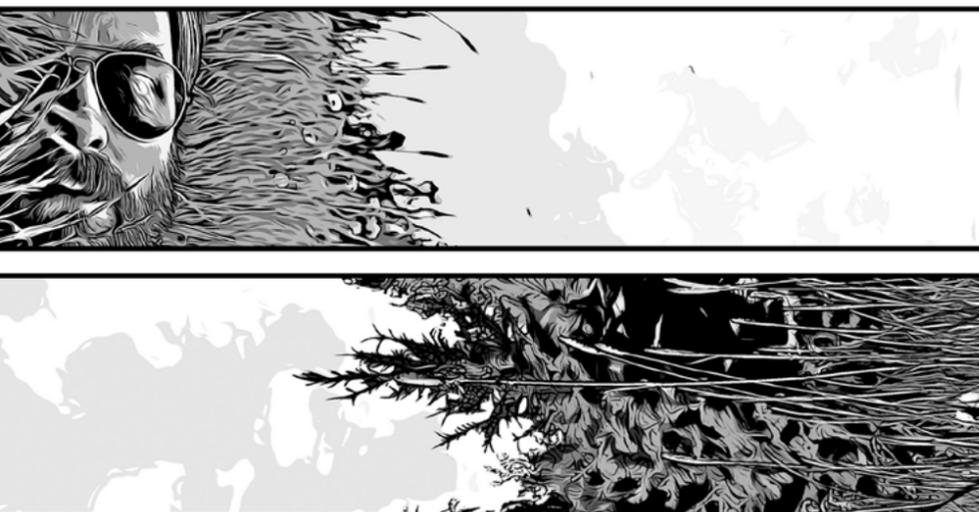


**Avi Heikkinen
*Aperture***

Jamo is a loser. Divorced and penniless, he lives his life as a small-time crook when he chances upon a camera that can be used to shoot the past. Struggling to forgive himself for the mistakes he has made in his life, Jamo uses the camera to search for a young woman who has recently gone missing. Finding unlikely allies in a half-deaf ex-policeman and a sarcastic AI-enhanced pig plush toy, Jamo uncovers secrets that will forever change his life.

Aperture is a unique photo comic shot entirely on location and post-processed into a mind-bending graphic novel which pushes the boundaries of the medium. It is a buddy-cop adventure with a sci-fi twist that is sure to resonate with anyone who has ever wished they could change the past.

Size: 170 x 240 mm | Pages: 232 (with self ends) | Colors: b/w



Comics *Fe*

Nominated for!
The Comics Finlandia Prize 2020!



Avi Heikkinen is an award-winning comics artist and a screenwriter. Also an avid lover of cinema, whose goal is to capture that “movie magic” in his comics.

“

An interesting interpretation of a classic work. The style and colors fit the concept impeccably.

The jury of the Comics Finlandia Prize

A glorious retelling of *Moby Dick*! *The Whale* is a masterful book.

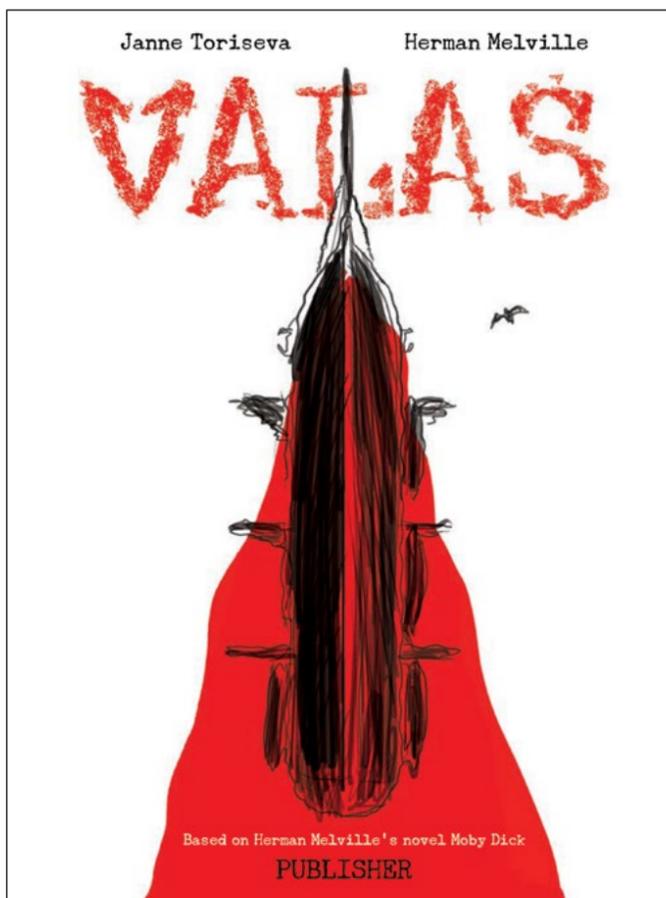
Suomen Kuvalehti magazine

Janne Toriseva

The Whale

The Whale is a bold graphic novel adaptation of Herman Melville's classic, *Moby Dick*. Like the book, the album tells a detailed story of the harsh life of a whaler in the 19th century and the sailors who lose themselves out on the open seas. When their continued misfortunes start to suggest the sailors are cursed, Ahab, blinded by his thirst for revenge, steers his ship toward disaster. *The Whale* draws a strong analogy between the past and the present when it asks if men are ever capable of listening to nature's warnings.

Ages: 12+ | Pages: 198 | Colors: 4/4 | Rights sold: Spanish, Finnish



A striking retelling of *Moby Dick*

Comics *Te*

Nominated for!
The Comics Finlandia Prize 2020

Janne Toriseva is a comics artist and writer whose previous work includes the long-running strip *Oswald*, which has been sold internationally.

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All other writers in this genre have just had the bar set very high.

Patrick Hayes, Sci-Fi Pulse

Skies of Fire could be one of the greatest independent comics produced to date.

Wolf's Gaming blog

If you like steampunk, or any good adventure story, I'd highly recommend this book.

Fanbase Press



Skies of Fire

Imagine if a kingdom did not hold a navy but a vast fleet of airships. *Skies of Fire* is a beautifully illustrated graphic novel about massive airships and their duels on the high skies.

Skies of Fire takes the reader inside the fictional Aquilan Empire, a kingdom roughly analogous to post-WWI Great Britain. The Aquilans maintain a vast fleet of airships to defend their colonies and trade routes. In the center of the Empire lies a monstrous, never-ending storm called the Expanse. When the notorious raider Delmonte destroys a key trading port, the king has no choice but to order someone to fly inside the Expanse to take him down. His emissary is a force of nature herself: the tenacious Captain Helen Pierce, who's soon to discover the depths of her new mission.

Ages: 12+ | Size: 200 x 280 mm | Pages: 8 x 36 | Colors: 4/4 | Rights sold: English worldwide



Skies of Fire was started as a Kickstarter project and is quickly gathering international praise. The rich and lavish story world was created and written by **Vincenzo Ferriero** and **Ray Chou** and illustrated by **Pablo Peppino**.

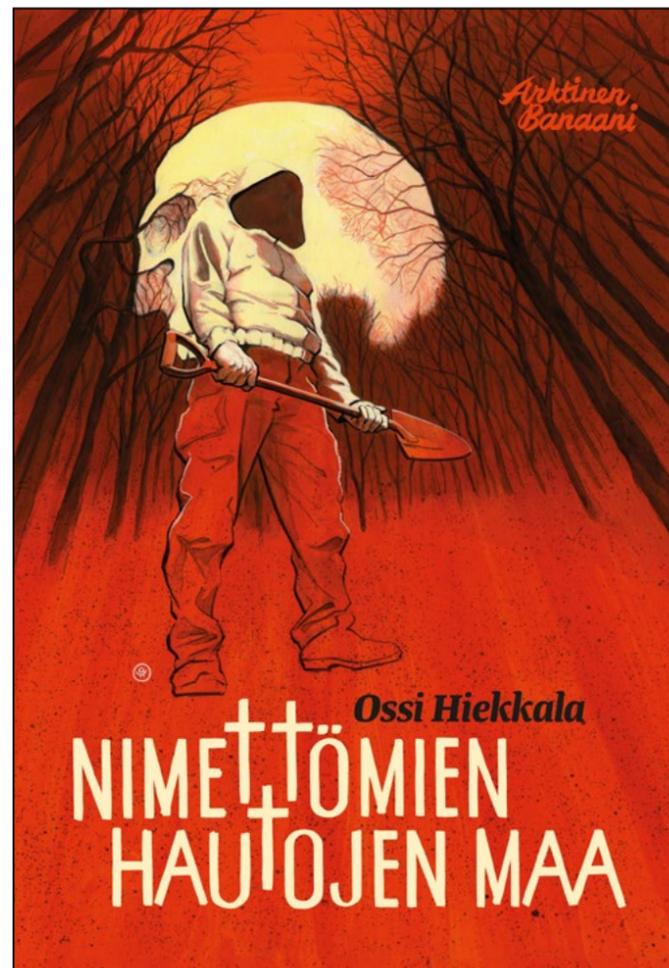
“

A promising debut! Hiekkala connects the action to everyday life, making his stories plausible and authentic.

Helsingin Sanomat newspaper

Fascinating entertainment! There's tension in the dialogue, and Hiekkala knows when to throw sudden, brutal action into the mix.

Hyllyy comics blog



Ossi Hiekkala **The Land of Unnamed Graves**

Chilling Finnish Noir at its best in a collection of crime stories that will chill you to the bone.

The Land of Unnamed Graves is the debut graphic novel by the very talented artist Ossi Hiekkala. It consists of three hard-boiled crime stories, each with a refreshing Nordic flavor and a cool surprising twist. The stories deal with revenge, the laws of the jungle faced by criminals, and twisted family drama.

Ages: 16+ | Size: 165 x 245 mm | Pages: 64 | Colors: 2/2 | Rights sold: Finnish



**Nominee of
the Comics
Finlandia
Prize 2017!**



Ossi Hiekkala is a Finnish artist who has also studied illustration in Japan for several years. *The Land of Unnamed Graves* is his first graphic novel.

66

Hugo Piette's pen fits the strip format perfectly. A beautiful graphic success!

Une Case en Plus
comics website

Funny, with a great rhythm!

Men's Up magazine



Lewis Trondheim and Hugo Piette **Happy Birds**

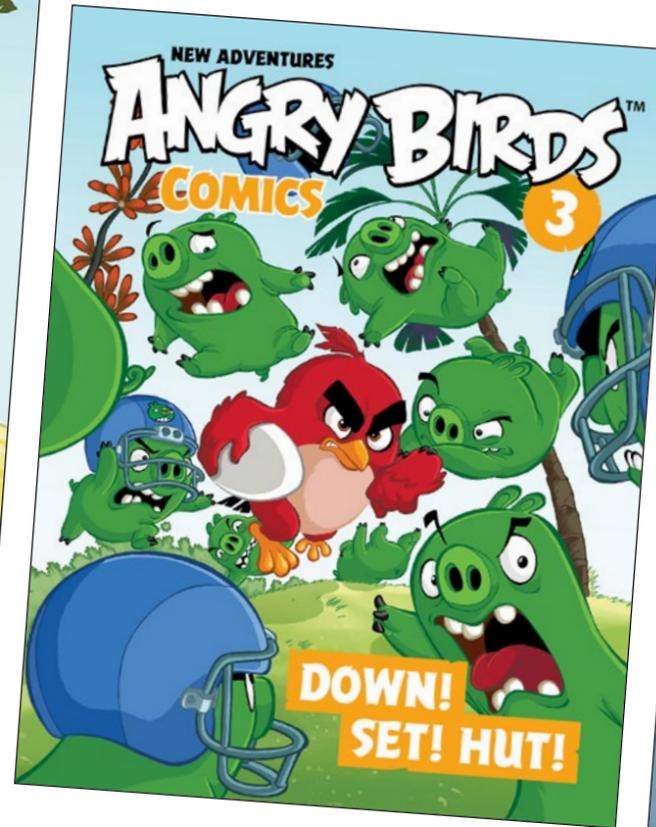
What happens when a young man called Pekko gets the job of his dreams at a very familiar-sounding game company? Can he become a social media phenomenon just by accident? And will he ever win the heart of the young lady working on the fourth floor?

A hilarious strip by the French comics superstar Lewis Trondheim and the brilliant Belgian artist Hugo Piette.

Ages: 8+ | Strip size: 65 mm x 190 mm | Pages: 99 one-row strips | Colors: 4-color strip | Language: French (30 strips in English) | Rights sold: French, Finnish

Comics
Fe

Lewis Trondheim is a French comics superstar, while **Hugo Piette** is a brilliant artist and colorist from Belgium. *Happy Birds* is their first collaboration.



ANGRY BIRDS MOVIE ALBUMS

Dozens of pages of adventures available, starring all your favorite birds and piggies! The series of five albums is based on *The Angry Birds Movie* world and features brand-new stories, with illustrations from the esteemed likes of Giorgio Cavazzano and Cèsar Ferioli!

Ages: 8+ | Size: 216 x 279 mm | Pages: 5 x 48 | Colors: 4/4 | Rights handled by Mediatoon, sophie.castille@mediatoon.com



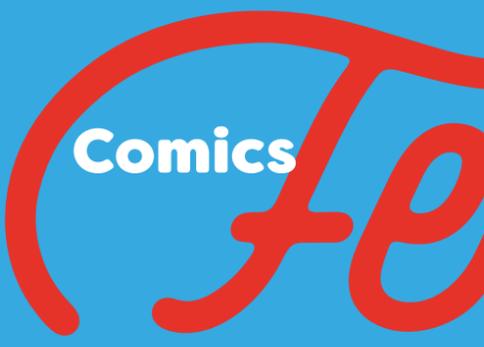
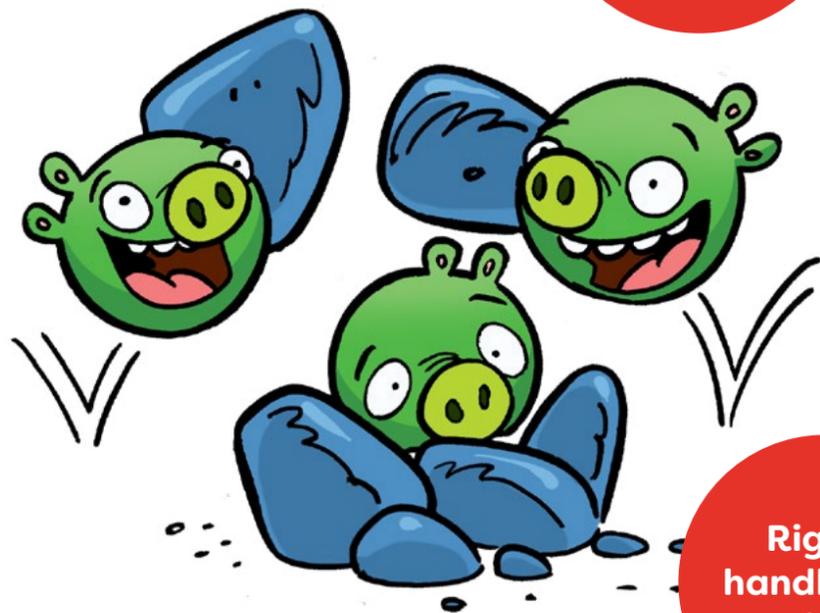
ANGRY BIRDS COMICS

Choose your favorites from hundreds of pages of fun and angry adventures that are set to go down as classics of the genre. There are 15 *Angry Birds* albums in the collection, featuring artwork from Giorgio Cavazzano and Marco Gervasio, among others.

Ages: 5+ | Size: 216 x 279 mm | Pages: 15 x 48 | Colors: 4/4 | Rights handled by Mediatoon, sophie.castille@mediatoon.com

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