

# Munhakdongne Publishing Group

## Rights Guide 2025

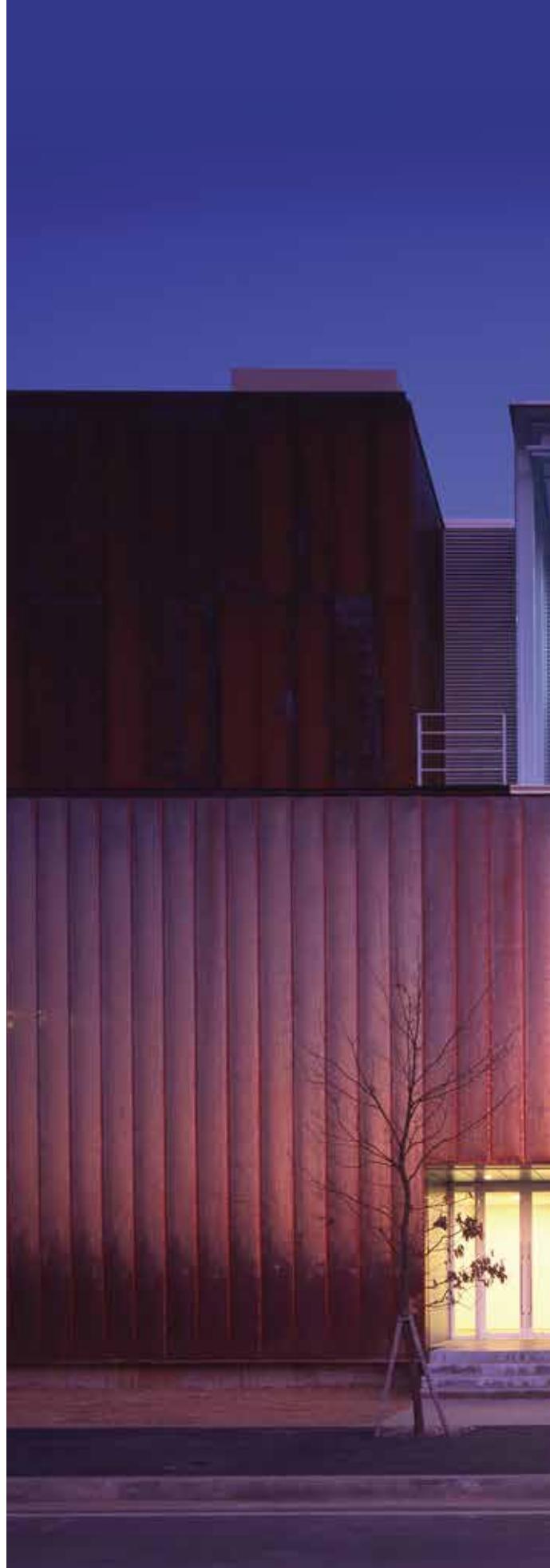
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## About Us

Munhakdongne Publishing Group started with publishing literature, and now we present a wide variety of publishing areas including history, philosophy, science, economics, education, art, comics, and life-style. Munhakdongne Publishing Group currently consists of 10 imprints and subsidiaries, publishing 500 new books every year.

Through Munhakdongne Novel Award and Munhakdongne New Author Award serving as a gateway for young authors, we have been discovering the best writers in Korea including Kim Young-ha, Eun Hee-kyung, Cheon Myeong-kwan, Kim Un-su, Cho Nam-joo, and Chang Kang-myung. By awarding writers with Young Author Award and Kim Seung-ok Literary Award, we encourage writers on their work, while striving to present great Korean literary works overseas.

Munhakdongne Publishing Group makes great books that touch readers' hearts with original plans and precise editorial skills.

## MUNHAKDONGNE PUBLISHING GROUP

**Munhakdongne** \_ Contemporary & World Literature

**Gyoyudang** \_ Humanities, History, Philosophy, General Non-fiction

**Geulhangari** \_ History, Philosophy, Science, Psychology

**Namu's Mind** \_ Mind & Body, Religion, Ecology

**Nanda** \_ Fiction, Poetry, Essays

**Dal** \_ Narrative Non-fiction, Travel Essays

**Artbooks** \_ Art & Design, Fashion, Life-style

**Elixir** \_ Mystery, Thriller, Fantasy, Science Fiction

**Yibom** \_ Essay, Photography

**Econ** \_ Business, Investing

**Taste books** \_ Cookbook, Health, Life-style

**Storyseller** \_ Essay, Comic, Novel



## Munhakdongne The Quarterly

Launched in the winter of 1994, Munhakdongne The Quarterly has provided writers with an arena to present their latest works. Munhakdongne aims at fostering a conductive environment for literary writing and the promotion of dialogue among writers and critics. Most important movements of contemporary Korean literature have been conceived through this magazine. Also, many talented young writers debuted in Munhakdongne. The magazine has established itself as the trend-setter of the Korean literary scene.



## Mysteria

Munhakdongne launched a new magazine in the summer of 2015, Mysteria (Mystery + Hysteria), a bimonthly magazine for mystery fans published by Munhakdongne's mystery brand "Elixir". In addition to articles and columns related to mystery and thrillers, Mysteria offers readers a variety of entertaining reads, including short stories by prominent authors such as Joyce Carol Oates, Donald E. Westlake, William Irish, Shirley Jackson, Honobu Yonezawa, and more.



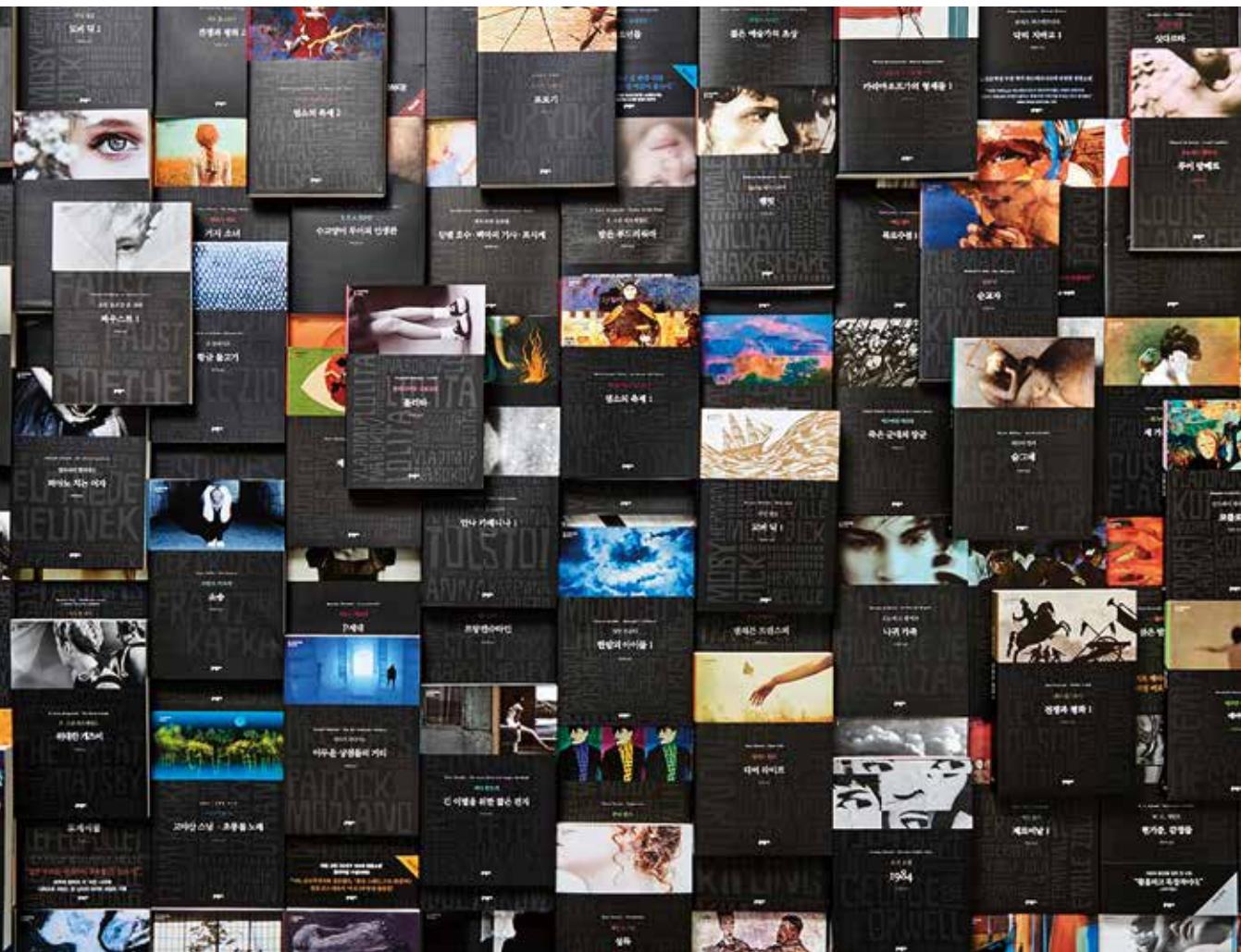
## The Munhakdongne Korean Literature Collection

The Munhakdongne Korean Literature Collection was released in commemoration of the 20th Anniversary of Munhakdongne's establishment. The main criterion for selection into this collection was based on the book's success in making Korean literature shine over the 20 years with Munhakdongne and its readers. This collection will continue to expand with a variety of genres and authors from all generations and it will bear the role of connecting the uniqueness of Korean literature and the universal characteristics of World literature. From this collection, Korea will find the past, the present, and the future of modern literature.



## Munhakdongne Korean Classics Collection

Munhakdongne Korean Classics Collection is a collection of Korean classic literary works translated into contemporary language, selected by the best scholars in Korea. We publish this collection in two versions: “contemporary Korean translation” and the “original text.” The “translation” version tries its best to provide readers with the easy, understandable language of today. The collection definitely includes folk literature well-known to Koreans, also general classic works from each historical era. After a scrutinized comparison between variations, altered through the long history of Korea, we confirmed the original text and made footnotes based on all-inclusive research, putting great effort into every word, to complete the contemporary text. Through this series, Munhakdongne hopes to reinvent our classics, introduce them to a wide range of readers—for the works to be inherited creatively, and stand firm as an asset of world literature.



## Munhakdongne World Classics Collection

Beginning with Leo Tolstoy's *ANNA KARENINA* to Gustave Flaubert's *MADAME BOVARY*, we have a selection of 267 books as of August 2025 for our World Classics Collection and beyond. The series includes eternal classics such as George Orwell's *1984*, Goethe's *FAUST*, and Albert Camus's *THE STRANGER*, as well as masterpieces written by Nobel Prize-winning authors like Mo Yan's *THIRTEEN STEPS*, Oe Kenzaburo's *THE BEAUTIFUL ANNABEL LEE WAS CHILLED AND KILLED*, Elfriede Jelinek's *THE PIANO TEACHER*, J.M.G. Le Clezio's *THE GOLDEN FISH*, and Mario Vargas Llosa's *THE FEAST OF THE GOAT*. We also have notable contemporary fiction books in this collection, books that have been great inspirations to the world from various countries. With our modern editing skills and smart design sense, we will continue to add book by book, carefully selecting pieces, and building a collection that will be remembered for its richness and fine quality.



## Anthology of Award-winning Young Authors (16 volumes)

Celebrating its fourteenth year since 2010, the Munhakdongne Young Author Prize has been a steadfast platform, with a strong belief in the power of literature to capture the trends and syndromes of our society. Its anthology, which features short fictions by authors who are less than 10 years from their literary debut, presents seven selected works each year. As of 2025, the prize has introduced a total of 76 promising young writers, and has served as a bridge between readers and emerging literary talent.



### **Munhakdongne Collection of Poems (239 volumes)**

Munhakdongne collection of poems launched in January 2011—239 volumes published as of August 2025. The series aims to open a whole new paradigm of reading and writing Korean poems. The collection includes poems of a comprehensive extent of poets, from leading to budding, and attempts to take the most adventurous step in the history of Korean poetry. The Munhakdongne collection will continue to carry on the experimental walking to create unprecedented visions of Korean poetry.

*Fiction*

# HAN KANG

Winner of the 2024 Nobel Prize  
in Literature

BLACK DEER (1998)

MY NAME IS SUN FLOWER (2002)

TEAR BASKET (2008)

GREEK LESSONS (2011)

THE WHITE BOOK (2016)

WE DO NOT PART (2021)

THE ESSENTIAL HANKANG (2022)



# PARK WAN-SUH

THE LAST THING I HAVE (1999)  
THAT WOMAN'S HOUSE (1999)  
UNEXPECTED REUNION IN THE EVENING (1999)  
HIS LONELY, LONESOME NIGHT (1999)  
THE SUMMER OF BETRAYAL (1999)  
WE TEACH SHAME (1999)  
A LONG DAY (2012)  
FOR THE LONGING (2013)  
A GENEROUS DINNER TABLE (2014)



Born in 1931 in Gaepung, Gyeonggi-do. She was a student of Korean Literature at Seoul National University School of Humanities, but her studies were interrupted by the Korean War. In 1970, at the age of 40, she won the novel contest at Women DongA with THE NAKED TREE, and from then she created numerous masterpieces until her passing in 2011.

PARK WAN-SUH's writing endows appropriate narrative rhythms and three-dimensional meanings to ordinary, everyday materials, coming into fruition of colorful yet elegant literary crystals. This miracle of such alchemical transformation has been the driving force behind the accumulation of a rich linguistic repository that is unparalleled in the history of Korean literature. Throughout her literary career, PARK WAN-SUH has not only been a skilled storyteller and a brilliant folklorist who has faithfully served as a mirror of the times, but also a seeker of truth who earnestly approached the meaning of life.

She is the author of countless works, including WE TEACH SHAME, THE SUMMER OF BETRAYAL, MOTHER'S STAKE, WARM WAS THE WINTER THAT YEAR, WHO ATE UP ALL THE SHINGA, WAS THAT MOUNTAIN REALLY THERE?, FRIENDLY MS. BOK-HEE, and A LONG DAY. She is a recipient of the Korean National Literature Award (1980), the Yi Sang Literary Award (1981), the Republic of Korea Literature Prize (1990), the Lee San Literary Award (1991), the JoongAng Culture Prize (1993), the Hyundae Munhak Award (1993), the Dong-in Literary Award (1994), the Hahn Moo Sook Literary Award (1995), the Daesan Literary Award (1997), the Manhae Prize (1999), the Inchon Award (2000), the Hwang Sun-Won Literature Prize (2001), and the Ho-am Prize in the Arts (2006). In 2006, she was awarded the Honorary Doctorate of Literature from Seoul National University.

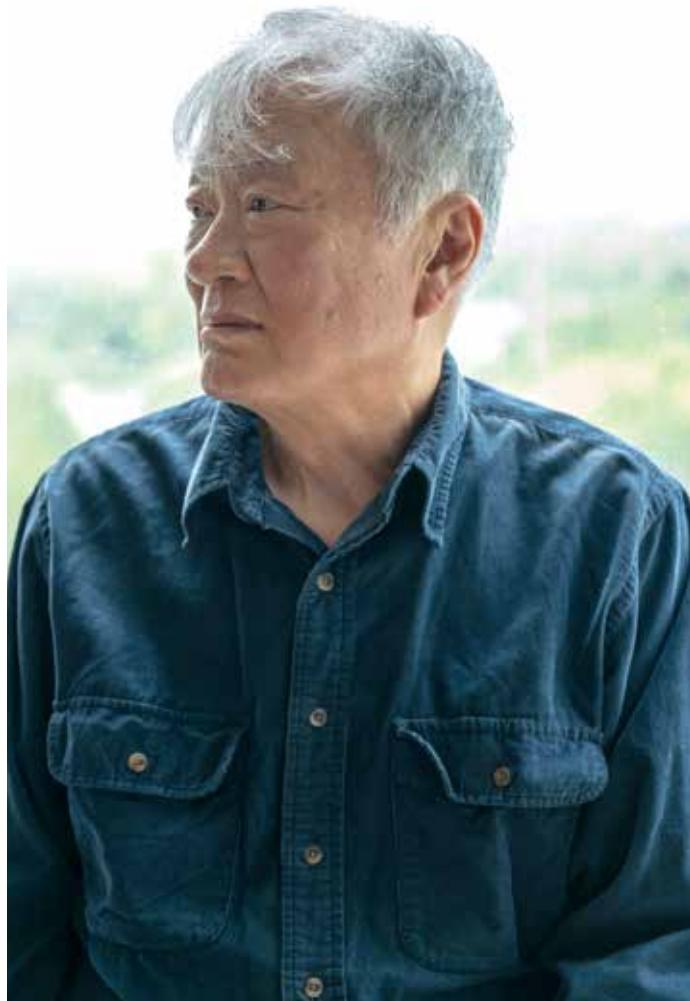


# HWANG SOK-YONG

SHIM CHONG (2007)  
EVENING STAR (2008)  
A FAMILIAR WORLD (2011)  
THE CHILDREN OF MORAENMAL (2013)  
AT DUSK (2015)  
THE PRISONER (2017)



# KIM HOON



SONG OF THE STRINGS (2012)

SONG OF THE SWORD (2012)

BOILING RAMEN (2015)

WRITING WITH A PENCIL (2019)

ALONE, FAR AWAY (2022)

HARBIN (2022)





# CHEON MYEONG- KWAN

WHALE (2004)

MARISA THE JOLLY MAID (2004)

MODERN FAMILY (2010)

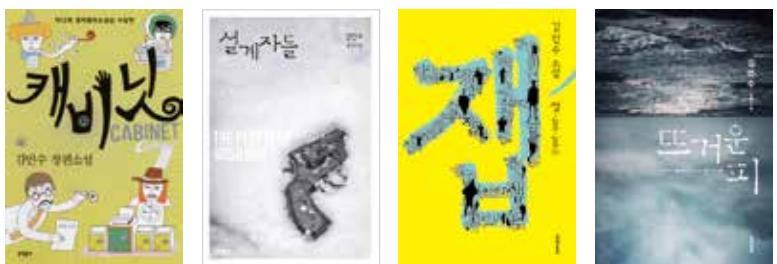




# KIM UN-SU

THE CABINET (2006)  
THE PLOTTERS (2010)  
JAB (2013)  
HOT BLOODED (2016)

Kim Un-su made his debut as a writer in 2002 through the Jinju News Fall Literary Contest with short stories, 'Easy Breezy Writing Class' and 'Dan Valjean Street' and the 2003 Dong-a Ilbo New Writer's Contest with his mid-length novel 'Farewell, Friday.' His first full-length novel THE CABINET received the 12th Munhakdongne Novel Award. THE PLOTTERS is currently being hailed as the new noir literary fiction and has been sold in 20 countries.

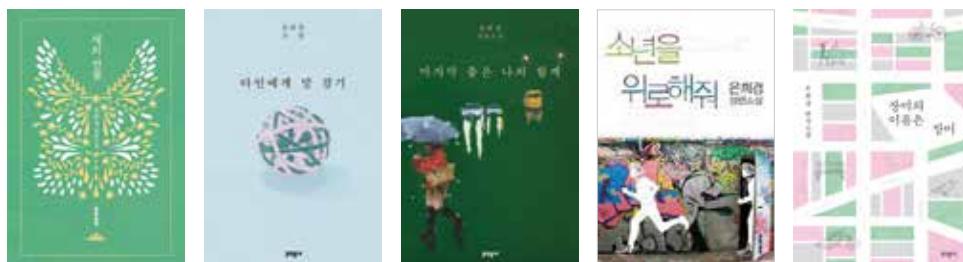




# EUN HEE-KYUNG

A GIFT OF A BIRD (1995)  
TALKING TO A STRANGER (1996)  
SAVE THE LAST DANCE FOR ME (1998)  
COMFORT THE BOY (2010)  
THE NAME OF A ROSE IS ROSE (2022)

Eun Hee-kyung is one of the major forces of contemporary Korean literature. She made her literary debut when her novella 'Duet' won the Dong-a Ilbo New Writer's Contest in 1995. That same year, she received the 1st Munhakdongne Novel Award with A GIFT FROM A BIRD, a full-length novel. Also, she has received several Munhakdongne Novel Awards, the Dong-in Literary Award, and many other prominent literary awards.





# KIM YEON-SU

TWENTY YEAR OLD (2000)  
THE END OF THE WORLD, GIRLFRIEND (2009)  
WONDERBOY (2012)  
MI OF APRIL, SOL OF JULY (2013)  
IF WAVES ARE THE SEA'S DUTY (2015)  
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY LOVE, SUN-YOUNG? (2015)  
I AM A GHOSTWRITER (2016)  
WHEN I WAS STILL A CHILD (2016)  
THE LAST OF SEVEN YEARS (2020)  
A FUTURE AS ORDINARY AS THIS (2022)

Kim Yeon-su made his debut as a junior in college when his first poem was published in the summer issue of 'Writers World.' His novels include 'Walking While Pointing to The Mask' (1994 Writers World Literature Prize), 'Good-Bye, Yi sang' (2001 Dongseo Literary Award) and 'Route 7'. Also published are short story collections, entitled I AM A GHOSTWRITER (2005 Daesan Literary Award), WHEN I WAS STILL A CHILD (2003 Dong-in Literary Award), TWENTY YEAR OLD (2000), and THE END OF THE WORLD, GIRLFRIEND (2009).



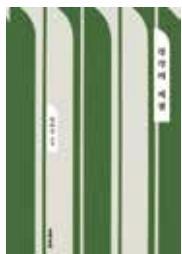


# KWON YEO-SUN

NICHE OF GREEN (2007)  
RED FRUITS IN MY GARDEN (2010)  
SAY IT'S NOT YET (2020)  
SEASONS OF ITS OWN (2023)

With 1996 novel THE BLUE OPENING, she won 2nd prize for the Sangsang Literary Award. She also released the short story collections THE VIRGIN SKIRT, PINK RIBBON DAYS, RED FRUITS IN MY GARDEN, THE NUTMEG FOREST, THE STILL FAR WORDS, and HELLO, DRUNKARD, and novellas LEGATO, HOUSE OF CLAY FIGURINES, and LEMON, and essay collection WHAT DO WE EAT TODAY?

She won the Oh Yeong-su Literary Award, Yi Sang Literary Award, Hankook Ilbo Literary Award, Dong-lee Literary Award, Dong-in Literary Award, Lee-hyo Literary Award, and the Kim Yu-jeong Literary Award.





# KIM AE-RAN

SUMMER OUTSIDE (2017)  
ONE OF THEM IS A LIE (2024)  
THEY SAID ANNYEONG (2025)

She studied playwriting at Korea National University of Arts and made her literary debut in 2002 with the short story "No Knocking in This House," which won the Daesan University Literary Award for Fiction. In 2013, she became the youngest recipient of South Korea's most prestigious literary honor, the Yi Sang Literary Award. She has also been awarded the Hankook Ilbo Literary Award, the Lee Hyo-seok Literary Award, the Munhakdongne Young Author Award, and the Dong-in Literary Award. Her story collection RUN DADDY RUN won the Prix de l'Inaperçu in France in 2014.





# CHOI EUN- YOUNG

SHOKO'S SMILE (2016)

SOMEONE WHO CAN'T HURT ME (2018)

BRIGHT NIGHT (2021)

EVEN WITH A VERY FAINT LIGHT (2023)

Choi Eun-young, who sold over 250,000 copies of SHOKO'S SMILE, 170,000 copies of SOMEONE WHO CAN'T HURT ME and 200,000 copies of THE BRIGHT NIGHT returns with her new collection of short stories. She was selected as a promising young writer by readers who will lead the future of Korean literature.

She made her debut in 2013 with Writers World New Author Award. She has written short collections SHOKO'S SMILE and SOMEONE WHO CAN'T HURT ME, novel BRIGHT NIGHT, and short novel 'Even If I Don't Try'. She has won the Heo-gyun Literary Award, Kim Jun-seong Literary Award, Gu-sang Literary Award for Young Authors, Yi Haejo Novel Literature Prize, Hankook Ilbo Literary Award, Daesan Literary Award, and the 5th, 8th, and the 11th Munhakdongne Young Author Award.





# PARK SANG- YOUNG

THE TEARS OF AN UNKNOWN ARTIST,  
OR ZAYTUN PASTA (2018)  
I WANT TO BE ONE-DIMENSIONAL (2021)  
ON TRUST (2022)

He started his career as a writer upon winning the Munhakdongne New Author Award with his work 'Looking for Paris Hilton'. He was also awarded the 9th and 10th Munhakdongne Young Author Award, and he was longlisted for the 2022 Booker Prize International. He is the author of THE TEARS OF AN UNKNOWN ARTIST, OR ZAYTUN PASTA, a collection of short stories, LOVE IN THE BIG CITY, LIE LIKE LINES, ON TRUST and others.





# CHUNG SE-RANG

HAN-A FROM EARTH (2019)  
I MISS YOUR SNAGGLETOOTH (2019)  
FROM SISUN, (2020)  
SEOL JA-EUN, RETURN TO GEUMSEONG (2023)  
SEOL JA-EUN, CHASING THE FLAME (2025)

She was born in 1984 in Seoul. 'Dream, Dream, Dream' in the monthly magazine Fantastic in 2010 was her debut work, and she received the 2013 Changbi Prize in Fiction for THIS MUCH CLOSE and the 2017 Hankook Ilbo Literary Award for FIFTY PEOPLE. Other books of Chung include MEET ME AT THE ROOFTOP, I MISS YOUR SNAGGLETOOTH, and THE SCHOOL NURSE, AHN EUN-YOUNG.

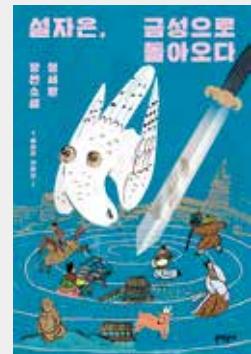


## SEOL JA-EUN SERIES

Chung Serang, author of the national bestseller From Sisun, and School Nurse Ahn Eunyoung, which was adapted into a Netflix Original Series, returns after a three-year hiatus with “Seol Ja-eun” series, a historical mystery adventure set during the reign of King Shinmun of Unified Silla.

### #1 SEOL JA-EUN, RETURN TO GEUMSEONG

The story unfolds when “Seol Ja-eun,” formerly Mi-eun, who studied abroad pretending as her dead brother Ja-eun, returns to Geumseong from the Tang Empire. On her way home with the duty of raising up her family, a muder occurs on the ship, and Seol Ja-eun teams up with Mok In-gon, a man from a ruined nation Baekje, to solve the case, gradually moving toward the deepest part of Geumseong, the royal palace.



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### #2 SEOL JA-EUN, CHASING THE FLAME

Seol Ja-eun, a female detective in male clothes in Unified Silla, teams up with Mok In-gon, a sidekick from Baekje with a dexterous hand, to solve cases and becomes a royal secret agent selected by the king. Seol Ja-eun, Chasing the Flame is about a series of arson attacks in Geumseong, the capital of Silla. What was thought to be the work of a madman mesmerized by fire turned out to have a huge and brutal truth behind the arson. Seol Ja-eun, Chasing the Flame contains a total of three episodes, including the titular story, “Seol Ja-eun, Chasing the Flame.”



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## LEE HEEJOO

A writer who is known to illustrate the exact shape of the heart. She debuted by winning the Munhakdongne College Fiction Prize for her novel *PHANTOM PAIN*. Her publications include *HOLY BOY*, *MY ANGEL*, and *WORLD OF LOVE*. She received the Munhakdongne Young Author Award and the Lee Hyo-seok Literary Award Grand Prize in 2025.

## CREAMYNAL LOVE

**CREAMYNAL LOVE** is the first collection of short stories in nine years from Lee Heejoo, a rising young writer garnering attention both in Korea and internationally. This collection features her unconventional short stories, which bluntly reveal the ugliness of human desires and break the conventional patterns of idealizing and embellishing emotions like love. Still, her prose remains obsessively rich, fluent, and elegant. The protagonists in this collection want to be best friends forever (BFF) with the boy she likes and create a world of reversed genders where she is the creator ('0302♡'); make an ideal virtual human using her good-looking friend but get furious when her friend messes up the perfect concept she intended her creation to represent ('Mayumi'); are eager to be recognized as the 'best wife material' by a womanizer and despise another 'wife' before realizing that she is actually their dead daughter who used to love the 'wife' (mom) she thought she loathed ('Love Of My Life'); or fall in love with somebody while playing online games but learn that the relationship can never happen as they have an intense conflict in their sexual orientations apart from their biological genders ('Exhale From The Beach Map'). This collection is a tribute to all hopeless love stories.



PAGES 400  
PUBLICATION DATE  
September 2025 (TBD)



**HOLY BOY** (2021)  
**PHANTOM PAIN** (2016)

# GU BYEONG-MO

This is a new full-length novel by Gu Byeong-mo, the author of THE OLD WOMAN WITH THE KNIFE. The story features a woman who can read others' minds by touching their wounds, reflecting critically on what it means to 'know another' in the face of its true impossibility. This story reveals the multi-layered relationship between a girl with a special ability and a man named Moon Oen, who tries to manipulate her while acting as her teacher, father, and lover. Moon Oen, who possesses massive wealth and power, gives a new name to the orphan girl and builds a grand mansion to keep her from others. The story unfolds as the narrator, a reading teacher, appears at the mansion. Each of them possesses their own misery and secrets. They distrust and act hostile toward each other, yet remain obsessed with learning about the others. The obsession eventually drives them to a catastrophe.



## CUTTING WOUND

This is a new full-length novel by Gu Byeong-mo, the author of THE OLD WOMAN WITH THE KNIFE. The story features a woman who can read others' minds by touching their wounds, reflecting critically on what it means to 'know another' in the face of its true impossibility.

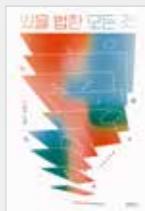
Seemingly inspired by PYGMALION, the play by Bernard Shaw, this story reveals the multi-layered relationship between a girl with a special ability and a man named Moon Oen, who tries to manipulate her while acting as her teacher, father, and lover. Moon Oen, who possesses massive wealth and power, gives a new name to the orphan girl and builds a grand mansion to keep her from others. The story unfolds as the narrator, a reading teacher, appears at the mansion. Each of them possesses their own misery and secrets. They distrust and act hostile toward each other, yet remain obsessed with learning about the others. The obsession eventually drives them to a catastrophe.



PAGES 350

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EVERYTHING THAT COULD BE (2023)



## CHUNG HAN-AH

Chung Han-ah is the author of full-length novels, *THE INTIMATE STRANGER*, *LITTLE CHICAGO*, and *SEA OF THE MOON*, as well as the short story collections *LIQUOR* and *VANILLA*, *ANNIE*, and *SMILING FOR MYSELF*. She has won many literary awards, including the Munhakdongne Writer's Award, Kim Yong-ik Fiction Literary Award, Han Mu-sook Literary Award, Kim Seung-ok Literary Award shortlist, and the Shim Hun Literary Award. *THE INTIMATE STRANGER* has been sold to China, Japan, Russia, Taiwan, and Thailand, and was adapted as Anna in the Coupang Play TV series.

### THE END OF MARCH

*THE END OF MARCH* tells the story of March Lee, a successful actress diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease, who attempts to reclaim her life inside a virtual reality that reconstructs her memories of the past. On her sixtieth birthday, after sudden weight changes, strange occurrences begin disrupting her daily life. She sees ghosts in her house, and as her past memories grow hazy, she becomes increasingly confused and visits a neurological clinic, where she is offered custom virtual reality (VR) therapy.

But at some point, reality and virtual reality start to intertwine. In the apartment building where she lives, she begins encountering herself at different ages on different floors. On each floor different versions of March live, like her abused childhood self, her self at the peak of her acting career, and her grief-stricken self after losing her son. The present-day March converses with these past selves, confronting emotions she had never fully resolved.

Yet memory is never perfect; distortions and forgetfulness intertwine to reveal new truths. The novel poses a fundamental question, does reclaiming the past truly lead to happiness? It explores memory, identity, and the meaning of life, ultimately suggesting that rather than clinging to the past, one should fully embrace the present moment.



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LIQUOR and VANILLA (2021)  
*THE INTIMATE STRANGER* (2017)  
*LITTLE CHICAGO* (2012)  
*SMILING FOR MYSELF* (2009)  
*SEA OF THE MOON* (2007)

# LEE KI HO

He made his literary debut by winning the Hyundae Munhak New Writer's Contest in 1999. He is the author of the collections of short stories, *CHOI SUNDUK: FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT, I KNEW IF I STAYED AROUND LONG ENOUGH, SOMETHING LIKE THIS WOULD HAPPEN, WHO'S DOCTOR KIM?, KANG MIN-HO, THE FRIENDLY CHURCH-GOER*, the novels *AT LEAST WE CAN APOLOGIZE, A WORLD HISTORY OF SECOND SONS*, the novellas *CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE FIRE AT MOKYANG*, and the short novels *UNBOTHERED MOST OF THE TIME, WHAT WE LEARN IN THE CRADLE IS CARRIED TO THE SUMMER, EVIDENTLY A LOVE STORY, and DO NOT CLOSE YOUR EYES*. He received the Lee Hyo-seok Literary Award, the Kim Seung-ok Literary Award, the Hankuk Ilbo Literary Award, the Hwang Sun-won Literary Award, the No Gun Ri Peace Prize, and the Dongin Literary Award.



## SHORT AND UNDISPUTED LIFE OF DELIGHTFUL LEE SI-BONG

The protagonist 'Lee Si-seub' is in his 20s and still searching for his life path. One day, he discovers that his Bichon Frisé pet dog, Lee Si-bong, is descended from one of the most prestigious purebred dogs, once raised by the Spanish royal family. A breeder company, 'Ancien House', approaches Lee Si-seub, trying to convince him to sell his dog. He strives to find the correct answer: Is keeping him the right thing for the royal dog, Lee Si-bong? Lacking confidence in his own ability to provide for the dog, Lee Si-seub sends Lee Si-bong to Ancien House but soon comes to regrets it. He begins chasing down 'Jeong Chae-min', the CEO of Ancien House, to bring back his precious family member. During the journey, a magnificent and tumultuous tale of the Bichon Frisé family unfolds, tracing its origins from Spain and France to South Korea, where it finds its way to Lee Si-seub.

Some animals receive boundless affection from humans, while others are brutally killed by people. This story uses a pet dog as one of its main characters, allowing us to reflect on the relationship between 'non-human' animals and 'non-animal' humans today, when our relationships with animal companions are more valuable than ever. Instead of our judgments on others' happiness based strictly on our standards, this novel reminds us of the truth—that others cannot measure one's happiness.



PAGES 528  
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July 2025  
ISBN 9791141610869



**KANG MIN-HO, THE FRIENDLY CHURCH-GOER (2018)**  
**I KNEW IF I STAYED AROUND LONG ENOUGH, SOMETHING LIKE THIS WOULD HAPPEN (2006)**



## KIM KITAE

He began his literary career by winning the 2022 Dong-a Ilbo New Writer's Contest for his short story 'Heavy And Tall'. He received the Munhakdongne Young Author Award in 2024.

### THE INTERNATIONALE OF TWO PEOPLE

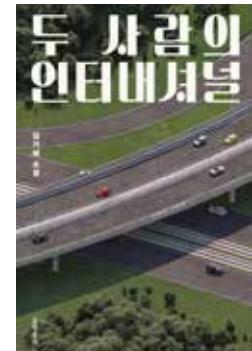
THE INTERNATIONALE OF TWO PEOPLE is the first collection of stories by Kim Kitae, showcasing emerging literary sensations and critical minds in Korean literature of the 2020s.

Kim gained widespread recognition after his debut, receiving the Munhakdongne Young Author Award and being shortlisted for the Yi Sang Literary Award. He precisely depicts the politics and inequality that infiltrate our daily lives, the sense of helplessness and dignity of individuals, and their hope for community.

The nine stories in the collection have unique settings and characters, while they all illustrate how these 'normal people' question and feel about contradiction and absurdity in society. Characters may make appearances in a reality show, be obsessed with K-pop stars, experience frustration in teaching at a school, or form relationships within an online community. All of them stand firm and persevere as they struggle to make sense of their lives.

There are no grand declarations or overt optimism in these stories. Instead, the author employs a subdued and understated style to capture life's details and raise questions. As he asked, "Are our lives wasted that much?", we ask the same question to ourselves. His work is not 'political literature', but literature that opens a door to empathy and contemplation by presenting the reality in detail for people living political lives.

THE INTERNATIONALE OF TWO PEOPLE detects diverse identities and feelings among those living in Korea, while carefully tapping into the subtle possibility of calling ourselves 'we'. It serves as a beacon of Korean literature, portraying individuals' lives as solid and warm, despite the fragmented views and circumstances in society.



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ISBN 9788954697941

# CHO YE-EUN

She started her literary career after being shortlisted at the 2nd Golden Bough Time-Leap Literary Award with the short story 'Overlap Knife, Knife', and the Grand Prize at the 4th Kyobo Story Contest with the novel SHIFT in 2016. Authored short story collections COCKTAILS, LOVE AND ZOMBIES, and TROPICAL NIGHT, full-length novels THE NEW SEOUL PARK JELLY MASSACRE, SNOWBALL DRIVE, TEDDY BEARS NEVER DIE, FINS IN THE MOUTH, and GHOST OF ENEMY'S HOUSE; a serial novel THE TOWN OF STITCHED EYES; short novels WAITING FOR HIGH TIDE and TURN ME INTO A TOMATO; a novelette CRESCENT MOON ENDING CLUB.



## A CHEESE STORY

A CHEESE STORY is the 3rd short story collection by Cho Yeeun, consisting of seven stories released over 3 years since 2022 about people struggling to form their lives while comingling with strange creatures. Despite the abandoned and rotten scars of the past and the current fear threatening our daily lives, which make us overwhelmed on the border of reality and fantasy, characters in her stories remain steadfast against the fate that awaits them. They might have been forced to fit into the rigid framework of society; however, they keep provoking and agitating themselves, trying not just to stay compressed or flattened in there. They focus on the echoing voice from within, striving to get familiar with invaders breaking defensive barriers. By doing so, they transform themselves little by little. "It comes down to cheese. These are stories of beings relentlessly penetrating each other's lives, reforming each other."

Horrors in our daily lives, such as unstable residence and family problems, are portrayed through bizarre, brutal scenes in the beginning. The author casts a delicate light on protagonists whose safety is being threatened or who are on the verge of being marginalized, and keenly highlights how they protect and recover their identities. When these characters feel completely lost, on the immediate risk of collapse, the author offers them strong motivations. They may seem peculiar or grotesque; however, readers do not perceive them as horrible, as the author reflects her deep compassion and consideration in them. Like perfect cheese aged in the darkest and gloomiest place secluded from the outside world, these characters with wounds would stay in their sanctuaries until they are prepared to start all over again.



PAGES 356  
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## PARK SUN-WOO

Debuted in 2018 with JAEUM & MOEUM which won the New Writer's Prize. His novels include 'In the Same Place' and 'Wait for the Sun.'

### THROUGH THE DARKNESS

Winner of the 30th Munhakdogne Novel Award

'I,' an editor at a publishing house in his thirties, is exhausted from the daily overtime and weekend work. Despite the stress, he is hesitant to change jobs after experiencing sexual harassment and exclusion at his last position at a trading firm. Having been ostracized since his school days for not being manly enough, he struggles with his identity, unable to belong to himself as a gay man. He begins writing novels while in graduate school for art, debuting with a work featuring a gay protagonist. However, as an editor who knows the reality of the publishing industry, he feels the limitations of an industry that prioritizes sales over the art of literature. Nevertheless, believing that writing is 'the act of writing oneself,' he finds intimate resonance and literary communion with students in his creative writing classes.

In his relationship with his mother, another axis of his life, understanding and misunderstanding intersect despite their decades spent living together. His two coming-out attempts dismissed and his depression ignored, it is only when he hears the story of his mother's past suicide attempt that the two finally share the same breath alongside profound emotions. 'I' finally accepts that he and his mother are two unmatched puzzle pieces and begins to accept her as she is. All the while questioning why he must keep living, he discovers small hopes within the darkness and manages to live through another day.



PAGES 255

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RIGHTS SALES

Taiwan(Complex Chinese)

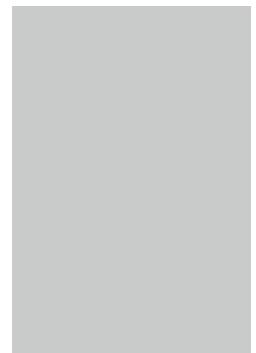
# KIM MELLA

She debuted as a writer by winning the JAEUM AND MOEUM New Writer's Prize in 2014. Her publications include *TWICE AT LEAST*, *DREAM OF ME*, a full-length novel *HIGH SENSE OF NON-EXISTENT FLOOR*, a novelette *BOOK OF JOY*, and an essay collection *CRUSHING HEART*. She won the Moonji Literary Award, the Lee Hyo-seok Literary Award, the Lee Hochul Literary Prize for Peace Special Prize, the 12th, 13th, 14th Munhakdongne Young Author Awards, and the 15th Munhakdongne Young Author Award Grand Prize.



## RHYTHM NANBADA

RHYTHM NANBADA is the second full-length novel by Kim Mella, who recently gained extraordinary attention by sweeping Korea's major literary awards, including the Munhakdongne Young Author Award Grand Prize, the Lee Hyo-seok Literary Award, and the Lee Hochul Literary Prize for Peace Special Prize. In a quiet seaside village, a young woman in her 20s, 'Euljoo', makes her living by running a strawberry farm, hiding a tragic past about her family. One day, another woman catches her attention. The woman has short hair one day and long hair the next as she walks by the beach. After this stranger moves out of town, unsettling rumors spread, suggesting that the death of a man last summer was related to her. What secret is she hiding? RHYTHM NANBADA unfolds the dilemmas surrounding hatred and minority issues, utilizing interesting settings and an immersive story switching between purity and passion, much like a calm wave that suddenly becomes wild.



PAGES 560  
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DREAM OF ME (2022)

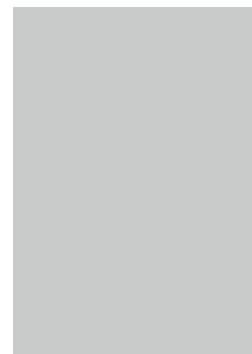


## JEONG YI HYUN

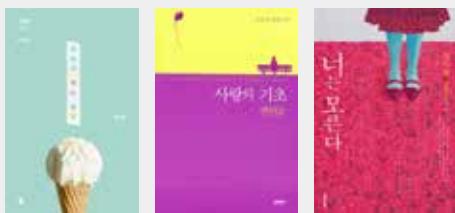
Her publications include short story collections *ROMANTIC LOVE AND SOCIETY*, *TODAY'S LIE*, *AGE OF VENIGN VIOLENCE*; full-length novels *SWEET CITY OF MINE*, *WHAT YOU NEVER KNOW*, *FOUNDATION OF LOVE: A COUPLE'S STORY*, *BYE, MY EVERYTHING*; mid length novels *TO ALL UNKNOWN GODS*; a novel *HONESTLY A GOOD PERSON*; and essay collections *BALLOONS*, *FAREWELL, OUR MELTING POINT*, *THERE CAME A BABY DOG*. She won the Lee Hyo-seok Literary Award, the Hyundai Munhak Award, and the Today's Young Artist Award.

### JEONG YI-HYUN'S FOURTH SHORT-STORY COLLECTION

Jeong Yi-hyun, a writer known for depicting the solitude and desires of modern-day people with a sleek touch, presents her new novel after a 9-year hiatus. She captures the contradictory aspects of society through her detailed research on social structures, delicately revealing the inner battles of the torn people in these nine short stories. It is fascinating to see 'Amid Light' featuring the moment of friendship between 'An-hee', whose high-school student son is accused of sexual harassment, and 'Mi-ryung', once a commercial model in the spotlight, who has been suffering from others' stereotypes. Also featured is 'Sentiment Of Line', which presents the dilemma 'T' faced one day as a caregiver to a child at home and a doctor feeling uneasy about a performance evaluation at work, when 'T' discovered a medical loophole that could have been detected. Jeong incorporates contemporary societal issues, such as illegal immigrants('About Aunt'), 'No Kids Zone'('The Only Child'), dating violence('Orbit Of Acceleration'), and exam leaks('Buying People'), into her stories, leading readers to contemplate their own values. Rather than judging ordinary people, she highlights their complex inner selves and contradictions. These stories also keenly address contemporary issues affecting women in Korean society.



PAGES 320  
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TBD



THE TEMPERATURE WE MELT AT (2017)  
FOUNDATION OF LOVE (2013)  
WHAT YOU NEVER KNOW (2009)

# KIM JI-YEON

She started her literary career by winning the Munhakdongne New Writer's Prize in 2018. Her publications include a short story collection *YOU DON'T MEAN IT*, a full-length novel *RED HOOD*, and a mid-length novel *SMELL IN THE BEGINNING*. She won the Kim Man-jung Literature Award New Writer's Prize, and the 12th, 13th, and 15th Munhakdongne Young Author Awards.



## A SOMEWHAT FAILED ROMANCE

**A SOMEWHAT FAILED ROMANCE**, the second short story collection by Kim Ji-yeon, demonstrates the reality of today's young generation, where critical factors of life such as love, labor, debt, and youth are deeply entangled, in a direct style with subtle humor. Her characters grapple with the aftermath of breakups, unemployment, debt, and financial liability. She tells stories of people who still connected through debt after ending their romantic relationships, and about a layoff leading to a breakup, highlighting that we can hardly separate our emotions from the reality of economic situations.

The characters in these stories are not broken. They continue to strive to hold onto meaning in the face of failure, even while feeling that their lives are a bit 'doomed'. 'Give Up', 'Debt Companion', and 'A Long End' feature complicated sentiments of love, money, relationships, and liability, all intertwined in different settings, expanding our views from individual troubles to structural problems in society. These stories specifically highlight topics such as the COVID-19 pandemic, rental scams, and local workers to raise questions about the current system behind the 'somewhat failed romance' of these people.

The collection continues to explore the mysteriousness and incompleteness of life. 'Without Affection' and 'Accurate Secret' feature characters striving to maintain their everyday lives by shutting off their emotions and feeling incomplete, exploring the gaps between reality and emotion. The last story, 'I Drink Citron Tea And It Tastes Bittersweet', compares the bittersweet, warm yet messy reality to citron tea, portraying the author's deep affection for life, which 'is a little doomed but still goes on'.



PAGES 336  
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## KIM SEONG-JOONG

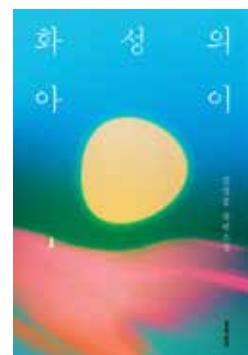
She made her debut as a writer when she received the JoongAng New Writer's Prize in 2008. Her novels include COMEDIAN, BORDER MARKET, EDDIE OR ASHLEY, full-length novel CHILD OF MARS, and mid-length novel ISLA. She won the Hyundae Munhak Award in 2018, the Kim Yong-ik Novel Prize in 2021, and the first, second, and third Munhakdongne Young Author Awards.

### CHILD OF MARS

Out of the twelve test animals frozen and launched into space, only Lu survives. Waking up on Mars, she is greeted by Laika, the first living being in space, now passing time on Mars as a ghost dog. With the chatty yet cynical Laika and a scrapped Mars rover, Deimos, Lu begins to carve out her life on this strange planet. Soon, they learn the hidden truth: Lu was sent to Mars pregnant. As programmed, she dies giving birth to a baby, Maiya. Maiya, the 'child of Mars,' is raised by Laika and Deimos, building an ecosystem on a planet without any living elements. Wells form, emerging into lakes. Mars gradually fills with the energy of life. Then, a human Earthling girl with no eyelids arrives—Kina. Suddenly encountering other human beings on Mars, Maiya is left at a crossroads between threats and choice.

This novel cannot be simply labeled as science fiction. Maiya and all other characters, from a ghost dog to a robot, a human girl, and even ghost fleas, have their narratives that guide each chapter, demonstrating how a single world can evolve when diverse beings come together. It appears to be an entertaining fairy tale; meanwhile, it teaches us about the power to move on, embracing all feelings of solitude, loss, and hopelessness.

CHILD OF MARS crosses thin lines of human and non-human, the dead and the living, reality and fantasy, gracefully capturing 'the connecting moments between distinctive beings'. Kim Seong-joong presents her first full-length novel in 16 years, delivering the message: Never stop laughing, even in despair. Have trust that "We can manage to love somebody even when utterly devastated."



PAGES 256  
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BORDER MARKET (2015)

# SIM YUN-KYUNG

She began her literary career by winning the 2002 Hankyoreh Literary Award for her autobiographical coming-of-age novel *MY BEAUTIFUL GARDEN*. She received the Moo Young Literary Award in 2005 for *ALTAR OF THE MOON*, and the Lee Hochul Literary Prize for Peace in 2021 for *ETERNAL HERITAGE*. She has written the full-length novels *THE LOVE OF YI HYEON*, *LOVE RUNS*, *LOVE FILLS*, *SEOL*, a serialized novel *PEOPLE OF SORABOL*, and an essay collection *MY BEAUTIFUL GRANDMA*.



## THE GREAT LIGHT

One day, Gyu-ah, who runs the New York-style wine bar 'King's Point' in Seongsu, receives a mysterious call. The caller demands to rent out the entire venue, offering a large sum of money. Here enters Jay Kang, a renowned Korean American entrepreneur in the biotech industry. He used to be known as Kang Jae-woong, a fellow member of Gyu-ah's college folk music club 'Tal,' before his sudden disappearance. Gyu-ah and Jae-woong maintain a secretive relationship, while Jae-woong continues to his penthouse and the wine bar as venues for private parties.

One day, Jae-woong asks Gyu-ah for a favor: "Help me meet Yeon-ji again."

Yeon-ji is Gyu-ah's cousin and happens to be an old crush of Jae-woong's.

When Gyu-ah wanted to drop out of college a long time ago, her family asked Yeon-ji to change her mind. In the process, Yeon-ji unexpectedly fell in love with Jae-woong, but he vanished. After all these years, Jae-woong is back as one of the world's most famous and wealthy individuals.

He now says, "Before I could love her... I had to gain several things. It just took me a while."

These three, reunited in the penthouse loft, find themselves confronting the eerie silence of old, buried memories. Conflict and tragedy are inevitable. His desire for Yeon-ji, a dark past, and tangled relationships reveal hidden truths amid the party's wild spiral. On a late summer night above Olympic Boulevard, Yeonji clutches a yellow dress to her chest, sobbing as it quickly turns a blood-red.



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ETERNAL HERITAGE (2021)  
ALTAR OF THE MOON (2014)  
LOVE FILLS (2013)  
LOVE RUNS (2012)  
THE LOVE OF YI HYEON (2006)



## SEO SOO-JIN

Seo Soo-jin began her career by winning the Hankyoreh Literature Prize in 2020. She has a collection of novels, GOLD RUSH, a full-length novel, KOREAN TEACHER, A KIND NEIGHBOR, OLLYANDER, and a novella, YUJIN AND DAVE. She won the Munhakdongne Young Author Awards.

### EVEN IF I'M NOT THE MOTHER

In-woo never thought about having a child, even after getting married. However, upon persistent convincing from her husband, who says he wants a child who looks like In-woo, and pressure from her mother-in-law, she resolves to get pregnant. Unexpectedly, it is not easy to get pregnant, and the couple spend 8 years receiving infertility treatments. Finally, after an excessive surgery, In-woo is left barren. After bemoaning her situation on an infertility forum, she receives a note from a surrogacy broker. Ignoring her husband Ji-suk's objections, she decides to have a baby through a foreign surrogate.

In-woo heads to Bangkok for a surrogacy contract. She meets a surrogate at an infertility clinic and signs a contract, and, returning to Korea, she continues to doggedly advise the surrogate. She pays for the surrogate's rent and cost of living, even going so far as to hire a housekeeper. As the baby grows within the surrogate's belly, In-woo's obsession toward both the baby and the surrogate grows alongside it. Around this time, Thailand's surrogacy industry comes under global media criticism. Afraid of getting investigated by the government, brokers, clinics, and surrogates all hide underground. As all contact is cut off, In-woo becomes anxious and afraid that her child might be lost, ultimately deciding to fly to Thailand. Will In-woo indeed be able to find her baby?



PAGES 282

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# KIM BON

She made her debut by winning the 2020 Munhakdongne New Writer's Prize.



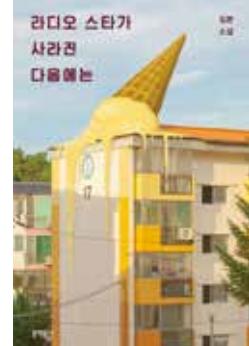
## AFTER THE RADIO STAR IS GONE

AFTER THE RADIO STAR IS GONE is a collection of stories that interweaves two seemingly disparate keywords, 'Retro' and 'family', allowing us to navigate into the root of the 'self' at the verge of the new millennium during the transition from analog to digital. An unnamed uncle vanished without a trace, a mother losing her footing, and voice actor colleagues at the radio station, as well as other characters in this story, are always left behind. Readers recall their memories as they recognize those empty grounds they were pushed out of.

From 'After The Radio Star Is Gone', where the main character traces recollections of her uncle who vanished under the authoritarian government, to 'A Night Rather Asleep', where the main character learns how to embrace the past by listening to the voice of an animation, stories in this collection call back forgotten or lost memories.

Stories by Kim Bon prompt us to reflect on ourselves and our past through family, the closest of strangers. They are 'House Of Tomorrow', which portrays days of youth dreaming of a 'house' and 'future' during the trip to America with mom; 'Snake Is Chasing', a coming-of-age story of a character who discovers the self and breaks away from a 'family' community; and 'The Mist Descends', which meticulously captures feelings we can't define within the boundary of 'ordinary family'. The final piece in this collection, 'The Future of Sook-hee', features two women across generations in parallel, allowing us to contemplate the relationships between their names, fate, the past, and the present.

AFTER THE RADIO STAR IS GONE is a silent yet truthful tribute to those names we have missed, but we must now remember. It is the first story collection from a young writer with fresh perspectives, reviving forgotten times, and carefully listening to the stories of people left behind.



PAGES 424

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# HAN SANG-WOON

Novelist and screenwriter. He authored martial arts novels YANG GAK-YANG, RUTHLESS MARTIAL WORLD, SPECIAL FORCES MARTIAL WORLD, FOUR SEASONS OF MARTIAL WORLD, a police novel INDIFFERENT AND CHIC, 'mystery boy chase' series KING OF THE GAME and BOYS' NIGHT, a short story collection BORA'S SUITCASE, and full length novels INFLUENZA, NON-MAINSTREAM LOVE BLUES, DEAR MY ENEMY. He is the original author of the movie 'Memory of My Romance', a Netflix series 'Newtopia', the screenplay adaptor of 'Into the White Night' and 'Youth Police', and the screenplay writer of TV series 'Texas Hits', 'Perfect Spy', 'Good Wife', 'Watcher', and 'Happiness'.

## DATA HEIR

This new novel by Han Sang-woon, DATA HEIR, begins when the CEO of large conglomerate 'Moo-il Group' falling into a coma after being attacked. When his brain is digitized into a program using bioengineering technology, a variety of characters, including his three children, the chief secretary, and the housekeeper, become entangled in a fierce battle over his massive inheritance. This novel tells a familiar inheritance story through a science-fiction premise, weaving in unpredictable narratives and variations of the psychological thriller genre.

Jin-hyuk, the chief secretary, who is after the president's slush fund, knows his data inside-out and attempts to take over its distribution. He notices that there has been a recent update to the will and plans to find out what that change is from the digitized president. Meanwhile, he seeks to use Yeo-ok, the most vulnerable child, to aggravate the power struggle. Yet Sang-yun, the housekeeper, unexpectedly hinders the Jin-hyuk's plot, driving the story to a far more complicated and unforeseeable path.

This novel poses a fundamental question about the identity and existence of human beings: Can we regard the president as 'alive' when he only exists as a set of data? Are the people around him using the technology to heal their wounds or to unleash their desires? DATA HEIR merges science fiction-like imaginations and insights on human psychology to create exquisite narratives that ask readers what 'being human' means.



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INFLUENZA (2012)

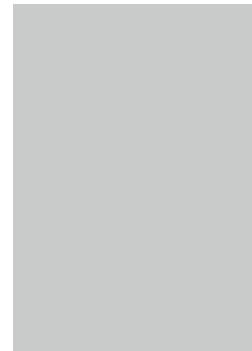
# OH HYEON-JONG

She was born in 1973 in Seoul, South Korea. She studied social welfare at Ewha Women's University and got a doctoral degree in Creative Literature at Myeong Ji University. She began her writing career by winning the Literature and Thought New Writer's Award for her short story 'Addiction' in 1999. She authored short story collections SIREN, TASTE OF APPLE, I WAS THE KING AND THE CLOWN, full-length novels YOU ARE A WITCH, THE ADVENTURE OF THE BOND GIRL MIMI, TIME TO LEARN A FOREIGN LANGUAGE, HOLY SNOBS, SWEET AND COLD, A LONG TIME AGO, THE ASSASSIN'S BLADE.



## A LONG TIME AGO, THE ASSASSIN'S BLADE

Jeong carries one objective in life: revenge. When Jeong encounters a man who collects stories about revenge, she tells him the following tale: After an assassin fails to murder the Yeom Dynasty chancellor, he attempts to protect his family by carving off his facial skin and swallowing it. The target of his assassination attempt, a chancellor with absolute power, lives in a labyrinth of 40 rooms, sleeping in a different room every night to protect himself from attacks. As the chancellor commits great evils to survive inside the labyrinth, the chancellor's stepson's hatred of his stepfather gradually builds. The chancellor's concubine 'Simyon,' whose tongue was cut out, writes down the story so that the assassin's children can know their father's fate. When the truth, that the storyteller Jeong is really the assassin's daughter, is revealed, readers realize this revenge drama was a story within a story, building a grand narrative about stories. This novel's charm lies in its fierce exploration of human nature, its insistence that 'Revenge is for those who want to restore their lives yet can't do so.'



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TBD



I WAS THE KING AND THE CLOWN (2017)  
TIME TO LEARN A FOREIGN LANGUAGE (2009)  
TASTE OF APPLE (2008)  
THE ADVENTURE OF THE BOND GIRL MIMI (2007)

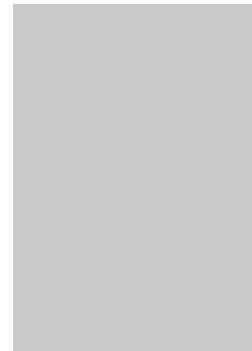


## BAEK OHN YU

She started her career as a writer by winning the 2017 MBC Children's Fiction Award for her children's novel JEONGGYO. Her publications include the full-length novels YUWON, PEPPERMINT, and A WORLD WITHOUT MANNERS. She received the Changbi Prize for Young Adult Fiction, the Today's Writer Award, and the 16th Munhakdongne Young Author Award Grand Prize in 2025.

### BAEK OHN YU'S FIRST SHORT-STORY COLLECTION

The first collection of short stories by Baek Ohn Yu, who has been in the spotlight since winning the Changbi Prize for Young Adult Fiction and the Munhakdongne Young Author Award for her first full-length novel, YUWON. The collection includes eight short stories, among them 'Half of a Half of a Half', the winner of the 16th Munhakdongne Young Author Award Grand Prize in 2025. Her stories feature emerging 'young carers' by voicing a granddaughter caring for her grandmother ('Dependency Vs. Entrustment'); friendship gone sour after a series of deficiencies and wounds, followed by distrust and conflict of interest as consequences ('Revive'); hidden scars of a teenager who survived a social tragedy and the story of her family ('The Place I Should Be'); and a story of a three-generation family—a grandmother, her daughter, and her granddaughter to portray another side of caregiving and family, and the hope for forgiveness ('Half Of A Half Of A Half'). These stories showcase the fundamentals of Baek's universe, which has been established through her full-length novels. They also skillfully represent the delicate and dark side of human nature. This collection comprehensively exhibits the hallmarks of her work: reliable prose and story development, vivid characters, and the delicate unfolding of complicated situations.



PAGES 320  
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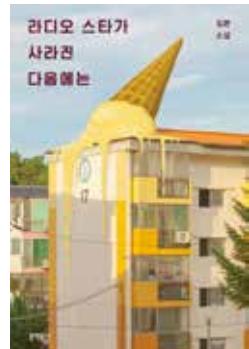
# LEE HYUN-SU

Born in Yeongdong, Chungcheongbuk-do in 1959, she won the 1992 Chungcheong Daily News New Writer's Prize and debuted in 1997 by winning the Munhakdongne New Writer's Prize. Her publications include full-length novels *THE WOMAN FROM THE HOUSE ON THE ROAD*, *NEW TALES OF GISAENG*, *4 DAYS, VANISHED DAY*, short story collections *TARO*, *THE ROSE TREE CUPBOARD*, and an essay collection *GORUMET FOR THOSE WHO KNOW*. She received the Moo Young Literary Award, Hahn Moo-Sook Literary Prize, and Song Soon Literary Award. A full-length novel, *NEW TALES OF GISAENG*, was translated into French, German, and Russian. *Le Monde* in France reviewed her work and released an article about it. She served as the chairperson of the Women's Rights Committee and the Chairperson of the Novel Division at the Association of Writers for National Literature (AWN).



## MY LAST JOSEON

This novel recounts the life story of Ban Seok-ho, an eunuch of King Gojong, the last king of the Joseon Dynasty. Seok-ho was castrated at age five after a dog bite, after which he becomes a eunuch, raised as a foster son of Nam Su-joong, the head eunuch from the Hyoja-dong family. During his training, Seok-ho grows up with fellow eunuch Yoon like brothers until, suddenly, Yoon is falsely accused of the murder of Park Yoo-boong, a close aid to the regent Heungseon. Seok-ho then learns the cruelty of power and the conspiracies underlying the palace. Meanwhile, King Gojong allies with Heungseon's opposers and deliberately strengthens his sovereign authority. He takes advantage of Choi Ik-hyeon's appeal to dismiss Heungseon, promotes relatives from his maternal side to restore sovereignty, and announces his actual rule as the emperor of the Korean Empire after the Agwan Pacheon incident, an internal exile to the Russian legation. The power play initiated by the death of Park Yoo-boong seems to have come to an end, only to meet another tragedy: the Japanese colony. Seok-ho dedicates himself to serving King Gojong for the remainder of his life, an observer to the collapse of the Joseon Dynasty.



PAGES 170  
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TBD

# SEO MI-AE



Having spent her teenage years loving books more than her friends, she eventually decided to have a career in writing. In college, at the age of 20, she won the Annual Spring Literary Contest with her poems and debuted as a poet. After graduating, she began her career as a broadcasting writer.

When she turned 30, she got down to writing screenplay and mystery novels, winning the Annual Spring Contest for her short story with the rather radical title, '30 Ways to Kill Your Husband'. For the next three decades, she wrote across a variety of media, including screenplays for TV series, films, and mystery novels, specializing in mystery thrillers. She prefers Miss Marple to Sherlock Holmes and is more interested in criminal psychology than murder tricks. This taste in detective novels is also fully encapsulated and reflected in her works.

She won the Grand Prize at the 2009 Korean Detective Literature Award with her novel THE GARDEN OF DOLL, and several of her works have been adapted into TV series, films, and plays, including 'Happy Killers', '30 Ways to Kill Your Husband', and 'Her Secret Hobby'.

THE ONLY CHILD (2018)  
THE NIGHT YOUR STAR DISAPPEARED (2018)  
EVERY SECRET HAS A NAME (2021)



## WHAT I LACK, EVERYTHING I LACK

The final piece of the Hayoung Chronicle, read in 16 countries

The latest story by Seo Mi-ae, the master of Korean mystery-thriller novels

Seo Mi-ae, the master of Korean mystery-thriller novels, showcases the last piece of the glorious trilogy, 'Hayoung Chronicle'. Following the THE ONLY CHILD and EVERY SECRET HAS A NAME, WHAT I LACK, EVERYTHING I LACK continues the series' central question: 'Is evil innate or acquired?' The 'Hayoung Chronicle' has made its mark on the Korean mystery novel. Now, WHAT I LACK, EVERYTHING I LACK is finally released.

The 11-year-old girl from THE ONLY CHILD and the high school girl Hayoung from EVERY SECRET HAS A NAME appear as Na Yoo-jin in this novel. Hayoung, who exploited 'death' to rescue her stepmother and baby, starts to face the voice from within, which has been inciting her to murder at last.

Hayoung, who has left everything behind in Korea, arrives in New York and begins living with another Korean international student, Sena. Sena's mother, Han, offers to pay for Hayoung's rent and New York's cruel cost of living in exchange for Hayoung telling her everything about Sena's life. As soon as Hayoung gets used to living with Sena, someone in their vicinity dies—the boyfriend of Sena's friend. Hayoung notices Sena has scars on her wrist in relation to the murder. That is when she realizes Sena is like her, someone who uses 'death' as a tool.

Sena resembles Hayoung's past, the one she wanted to escape so much. Hayoung runs away again and gives herself a new name, Lee Ga-in, but she cannot get rid of her past, when she killed people without a second thought, as well as the voice from within. Ga-in makes a glamorous debut and runs into Sena at her exhibition. Her gut tells her that it's finally time to say goodbye to her past.



PAGES 352

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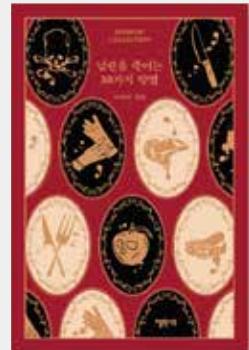
ISBN 9791141609610

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To be made into a Film

## SEO MI-AE COLLECTION SERIES

Marking the 30th anniversary of the debut of SEO MI-AE, a master of Korean mystery thrillers, Elixir has published SEO MI-AE COLLECTION (three-volume) series. This is a special commemorative edition of SEO MI-AE's short stories, which are known for their sharp insights into reality and chilling narratives that penetrate the comfort of everyday life. Including her debut story, '30 Ways to Kill Your Husband', as well as the stories that have been adapted into films—'Her Secret Hobby' and 'Happy Killers'—, the book is organized to allow the reader to follow the trajectory of the author from her earliest works to her latest. We hope you enjoy this series as an opportunity to explore the world of SEO MI-AE's fiction that she has established on her own over the course of three decades.



PAGES 500

PUBLICATION DATE

September 2024

ISBN 9791141607265

· To be made into a Film  
(‘Murder Concerto’)

### VOL 1. THIRTY WAYS TO KILL YOUR HUSBAND

A collection of short stories by SEO MI-AE, written during the writer's early period. This volume includes works published between 1994 to 2010, including her debut story, '30 Ways to Kill Your Husband', and 'Murder Concerto', which was exported to France.

CONTENTS: '30 Ways to Kill Your Husband', 'The Man Looking into a Mirror', 'One Ugly Mouse', 'Murder Concerto', 'Technique of Her Own', 'Happy Killers', 'Two Spoons', 'Seoul Rhapsody', 'Asking for Secrets', 'Borderline', 'How to Get Rid of a Smell', 'The Devil Lives in the Jungle'



PAGES 512

PUBLICATION DATE

September 2024

ISBN 9791141607272

### VOL 2. HER SECRET HOBBY

A collection of short stories by SEO MI-AE, from her short story first published in 2011 to her most recent work. This volume includes 'Her Secret Hobby,' which was adapted into a film, and 'The Magnolia is in Full Bloom', which was named the 2011 Mystery Fiction of the Year.

CONTENTS: 'The Magnolia is in Full Bloom', 'Now No One Cries', 'A Cruel Choice', 'The Time of Drift Ice', 'Come Back, Gretel', 'The Trajectory of Stars', 'Her Secret Hobby', 'Family Portrait of the Rose Garden', 'Trick or Treat' , 'Regardless, Happy Ending', 'I Didn't Mean to Kill', 'My Dear Girlfriend'



PAGES 312

PUBLICATION DATE

September 2024

ISBN 9791141607289

### VOL 3. A CROW FUNERAL

A collection of SEO MI-AE's novellas. This volume includes 'The Reason Someone Dies' (2016), 'A Crow Funeral' (2021), and 'Thoughtful Revenge Like This' (2021).

## JEON MIN-HEE

Jeon Min-hee is inarguably the most famous Korean genre writer in Asia. All of her completed book series have been translated into other languages and exported overseas, receiving great acclaim. According to data from Tokyo Korean Cultural Center, CHILDREN OF RUNE was the best-selling Korean novel of all time in Japan, as of 2013. In 2007, she held an book signing event in Taiwan to celebrate the release of the collector's edition. Two of her books have been adapted into online games, and are available in the United States, Russia, Europe, China, and Japan.



# CHILDREN OF RUNE SERIES

Jeon Min-hee's CHILDREN OF RUNE series, which has led the way in Korean fantasy literature with its beautiful worldbuilding, unique characters, smooth writing style, and deep emotions, is a trilogy consisting of Part. 1 "Winterer (7 volumes in total)", Part. 2 "Demonic (9 volumes in total)," and the ongoing adventure of Part. 3 "Blooded (8 volumes in total as of now, new volumes forthcoming with the 9th volume as the finale)."

## PART 1. WINTERER

Winterer is the first part of the series and follows the arduous journey of Boris, a young boy who suddenly loses his family and faces a harsh world with only a sword to rely on, the secrets behind his sword, "Winterer", and the people he meets along the way, including Lanziee, Nauplion, Isolet, Endymion, and so on.

## PART 2. DEMONIC

It follows Josua, the "demonic" of the Arnim family, who is born with immense talent and a miserable fate. The story follows the adventures and growth of Josua, a devilishly talented and beautiful genius, along with his party, Maximin, who is both quirky and fun, and Riche, who is energetic but delicate.

## PART 3. BLOODED

It centers on Charlotte, a princess who struggles against the secrets surrounding her missing brother, and deals with the power of "Blooded." Charlotte was one of the characters who briefly crossed paths with Boris in Part. 1, and her introduction as a new protagonist piqued readers' curiosity from the first volume. In Part. 3, Maximin, a fan-favorite from Part. 2, who starred alongside Josua, will once again play the lead role alongside Charlotte. The scale is even bigger than before, and each new volume is surely generating a lot of buzz.

## BLOODED: VOL. 8

In Blooded Volume 8, Charlotte and Maximin approach the secret of a promise from long ago: the end of Iron Face, and the end of the world. After a while, they return to 9 Strudel Street, where the small, trivial troubles of the restored café Floraison and their old friends from Acornville await Maximin...



PAGES 344

PUBLICATION DATE

May 2025

ISBN 9791141600082

RIGHTS SALES

Russia (Part 1. Winterer)

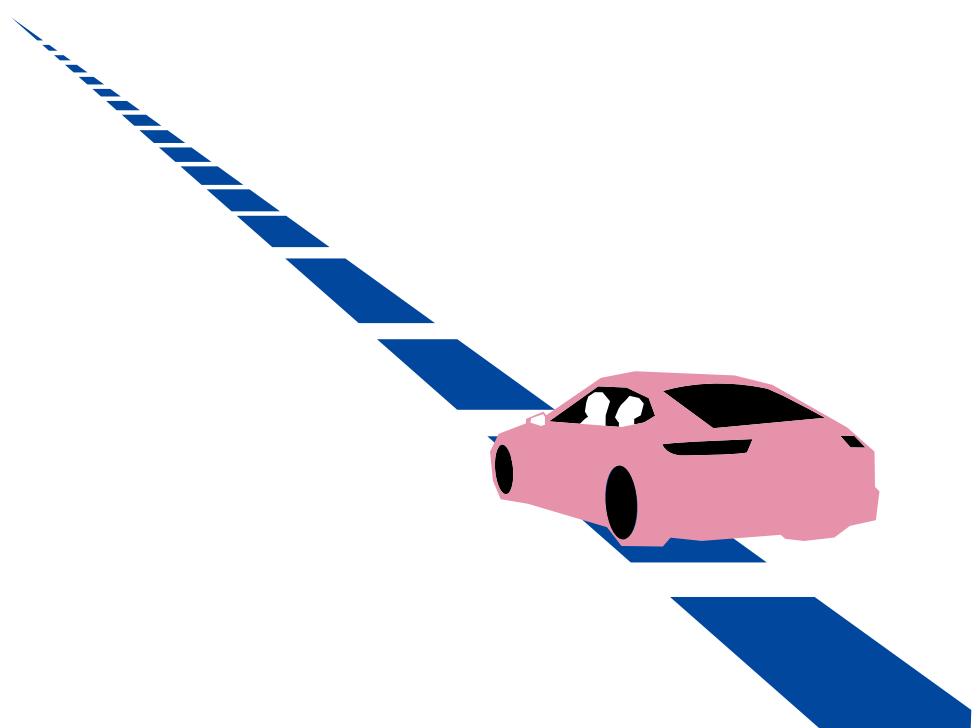


## JEONG HAEYEON

Jeong Haeyeon has published novels including DOUBLE, THE DAY OF KIDNAPPING, THE PLACE OF FLAMINGO, and WHO WAS KILLED. She has also contributed to anthologies such as THOSE THINGS; GUIMUN HIGH SCHOOL, THE SUSPICIOUS FESTIVAL; and THE MOST DANGEROUS PLACE YOU'VE EVER BEEN, HOME. In 2023, THE DAY OF KIDNAPPING was adapted into a TV drama broadcast on ENA.



MAN WHO CAN'T EAT (2023)



## THE DUO

A new page-turner from Jeong Haeyeon, who has garnered the attention of readers and critics with her “The Day Series”, including a thriller that includes a shocking twist, THE PLACE OF FLAMINGO, and the dramatized THE DAY OF KIDNAPPING. A crime thriller with a humorous tone, the book features the double protagonists of Na Hyung-jo, a quick thief, and Kim Hyung-rae, a cunning con artist.

The two shared a cell in Uijeongbu prison, where they friendly referred to each other as “Kim Hyung” and “Na Hyung,” and even promised to try their hand at getting big money once they were released. Na Hyung-jo, who was released on parole two months earlier, prepares to close a “big deal” with Kim Hyung-rae, and the two reunited as a “duo” are about to start their criminal activities together.....

A seasoned storyteller, Jeong Haeyeon creates a familiar premise for crime content lovers, and then skillfully shatters readers’ expectations. The story of Na Hyung-jo, who was once referred to as “Korea’s Lupin,” and Kim Hyung-rae, who was a large-scale investment fraudster, and the situations that unfold in front of them is a fast-paced read. If you’re expecting a standard criminal buddy movie, you’ll be in for a very different surprise, but you’ll definitely enjoy the constant explosion of events and the twists and turns that keep you on the edge of your seat. Add in the chilling development at the climax, unique to Jeong Haeyeon’s writing, and you will have a thriller worthy of summer reading.



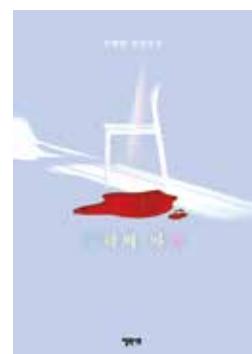
PAGES 312  
PUBLICATION DATE  
July 2024  
ISBN 9788954658164

## THE PLACE OF FLAMINGO

“I never thought this happiness would last forever;  
But I also never thought things would end like this.”

A new book by Jeong Ha-yeon, a writer devoted to the thriller genre for nearly a decade, gripping readers every time with stories long and short.

THE PLACE OF FLAMINGO starts with a man throwing away a dead body in a lake. Just the prologue—starting with the sentence, “The lake swallowed the body of Da-hyeon,” and ending with the sentence, “But, who murdered Da-hyeon?”—is intriguing enough to grasp the readers’ attention. But this novel is not a “twist-and-turn mystery” that rushes only for the plot twist. It is the well-structured storyline and multi-dimensional characters that make the plot twist shine in the end, on the excitement built throughout the story.



PAGES 336  
PUBLICATION DATE  
July 2021  
ISBN 9788954681155

RIGHTS SALES  
Thai, Taiwan(Complex Chinese), Indonesia

# LEE SO-MIN

Born in April, the cruellest month. Studied theatre at University. Made her debut by winning the 3rd Elixir Mystery Grand Prize for ETERNAL NIGHT

## THE MURDER OF IDOL

Kyung Kun-a, the main vocalist of the famous boy group ROME, is found dead in a bizarre presentation during a concert, drawing public attention to this 'idol murder case'. A death exhibited as art amplifies the shock. A newbie detective with the Seoul police, Shin Ri-ae, takes on the case and faces the fact that one of the suspects is her closest friend from school, whom she idolized in the past.

As she delves into the case, she gets closer to the dark and entangled reality of the glamorous K-pop industry, where people are excessively idolized and lose their identities, and the violence behind the craze. Then she realizes that she was also keeping her 'idol' of the past and the present inside. Recognizing the case as a mirror of her story, she finally faces her identity as the case takes a new turn.

Ri-ae becomes aware that the boundary between her and the killer was thinner than she thought, and understands how blind obsessions can lead to destruction. Both Ri-ae and the murderer are fighting against the disconnect between the ideal and the real, and the case heads towards the ending as Ri-ae chooses to destroy the illusion inside her.



PAGES 376  
PUBLICATION DATE  
July 2025  
ISBN 9791141609542

## ETERNAL NIGHT

"To find one piece of solace among uncountable pains"  
The 3rd Elixir Mystery Grand Prize winner

ETERNAL NIGHT is a story that delves into the truth about an incident that occurred at an art high school, and was highly praised by the Mystery Grand Prize judges for its immersive storytelling, characterized by engaging plots and stable characters.

One day, Eun-ji, a ballet teacher at the art high school, becomes hospitalized after a sudden accident. Her older brother Eun-ho hears the news and hurriedly flies back home, and finds out that there was another teacher who died from a similar accident earlier this year. Eun-ji, filled with fear, keeps mumbling nonsensically that 'Giselle' would kill her. Eun-ho, trying to find the truth behind the accident, sneaks into the school under the pretext of reporting on passionate art school students. What awaits him is an entirely different kind of darkness from what he expected.



PAGES 480  
PUBLICATION DATE  
August 2020  
ISBN 9788954673884

# PARK HARU

Born in Masan, lives in Seoul, grew up in Jeju, and her heart's home is Gallifrey. She debuted by winning the first Elixir Mystery Grand Prize for PURE DETECTIVE KIM JAE-GUN AND DANCING MARIONETTE. She plays guitar in the band TELEME—an all-around entertainer who spreads her unique world of work across music and literature.

## INNOCENT DETECTIVE KIM JAE-GUN SERIES

**INNOCENT DETECTIVE KIM JAE-GUN AND DANCING MARIONETTE**

**INNOCENT DETECTIVE KIM JAE-GUN AND ISLAND OF SUPERNATURALS**

Supernaturals, secret organization, and unexplainable incidents—these are the types of cases Kim Jae-gun handles. Declaring himself 'a transcendent detective,' Kim only responds to extraordinary cases that transcend the limits of common sense. In reality, most of the cases that come into his detective agency are simple investigations of affairs. One day, when a woman visits the office asking him to find her missing brother, Kim Jae-gun reluctantly begins an investigation. Once he realizes that a mysterious figure named Marionette is involved in the case, Kim Jae-gun becomes entangled in a puzzle beyond reality. His journey to track down an intangible person slowly turns into an adventure that crosses the boundaries of common sense.

Even more peculiar events await readers in the sequel, INNOCENT DETECTIVE KIM JAE-GUN AND ISLAND OF SUPERNATURALS.

Kim Jae-gun and his assistant Park Ma-gon receive a mysterious invitation, making a trip to the remote 'Guru island' in the middle of a storm. Because a Superpower contest with a huge reward is held on this island, unusual participants gather in Guru. The storm intensifies as their fierce competition continues, and their manor experiences a power outage. Soon, the situation takes a turn. Mysterious figures on an isolated island and inexplicable events provide a ground for Kim Jae-gun to show off his whimsical and unfounded reasoning ability.

The INNOCENT DETECTIVE KIM JAE-GUN series fluently blends comic book imagination along with the fun of classical detective fiction. An odd detective, Kim Jae-gun, and an aloof assistant, Park Ma-gon, exchange a delightful banter, keeping the story light even in tense situations. Densely populated foreshadowing and twists guide readers to a fabulous but unexpected series of events.



PAGES 396

PUBLICATION DATE

August 2020

ISBN 978895467390



PAGES 368

PUBLICATION DATE

March 2025

ISBN 9791141608293



PAGES 404

PUBLICATION DATE December 2024

ISBN 9791141607449

## 7 MINUTES

A 40-minute drive from Incheon, the decrepit port city of Nokdung is a place where rural laid-backness and unbridled violence coexist. On a hot summer night, a body is brought to Nokdung City Hospital. The corpse belongs to Han Chil-gyu, a professional brawler who made his living by picking fights with tourists near Nokdung Harbor. At the plead of his son, Han Hye-sung, the police begin to investigate the people involved in his death. Han Hye-sung, the son of Han Chil-gyu, is starkly different from his father. Bong Jinho, a high school student nicknamed “the crackhead,” is connected to all sorts of crimes in Nokdung. Chairman Yoon has been ordering Han Chil-gyu to do all his dirty work under the guise of “taking care of him.” And Min Jiwook, a biology teacher, has long been a victim of Han Chil-gyu’s violence. The various characters surrounding the case unfold against the backdrop of a dingy harbor city, and the vivid details—drawn from the author’s own experiences—add great pace to the story. This is the debut novel from the Grand Prize winner of the 6th Elixir Mystery Prize, and it presents a full-blown harbor noir with a diverse cast of characters.

## CHOI DEUL-PAN

Novelist. Choi Deul-pan studied economics. He is a fan of Michael Connelly and a fan of all detective novels regardless of if he read them before, never read them, or haven’t even discovered them. Even during his short career in finance and law, he’s had a dream to write a mystery novel for a long time. He won the 5th Elixir Mystery Grand Prize with his novel 7 MINUTES.

## THE LAST BOY

Winner of the 4th Elixir Mystery Award

THE LAST BOY is the first novel by Raymond Joe, a writer who sold over 700 thousand copies of self-help books including VICTOR THE FOOL. The protagonist “Ba-ram” is left alone after his mother’s death, and becomes a mobster to work for his acquaintance “Baek-gi” the boss. Baek-gi was the most beautiful, attractive, and scary person Ba-ram has ever met. After two years being the right-hand man of Baek-gi, Ba-ram meets “Young-seon.” Young-seon makes him feel something indescribably affectionate and overwhelming. But on one night, he loses them both. Out of the blue, Ba-ram hears the news that Baek-gi disappeared after murdering Young-seon. With their boss gone missing, the gang breaks up and members have to find their ways; while Ba-ram starts his search alone to figure out the truth behind the death and the missing of two people...

The work basically follows the rules of hard-boiled novels: a male protagonist living in a cruel world, his hopeless tragic love, the truth brutal enough to destroy his world, dry description and emotionless perspective throughout the novel, and so on. But in the midst of Korean Noir, roughly said to be “gangster novels,” THE LAST BOY can be read as a “hard-boiled coming-of-age novel” depicting a teenage main character sticking firmly to his naive resolution that he “will not kill anyone.”



PAGES 544

PUBLICATION DATE August 2021

ISBN 9788954681032

## RAYMOND JOE

Raymond Joe is an active video and content author-director, and also a bestseller author of VICTOR THE FOOL, POWER OF RELATIONSHIP, and more, selling over 700 thousand copies. VICTOR THE FOOL was made into a play and a musical, and was even published in another edition for children. POWER OF RELATIONSHIP is the first self-help book to be made into a series. THE LAST BOY is his first novel, showing his strength as a storywriter; the work was awarded with the 4th Elixir Mystery Awards.



PAGES 316

PUBLICATION DATE August 2020

ISBN 9788954673891



## THE OTHER MAN

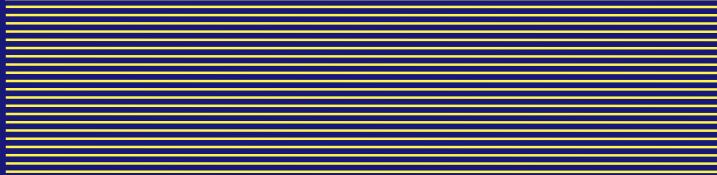
Winner of the 3rd Elixir Mystery Award

Yeon-ji grew up plain and lived an exemplary life. And now she is a normal office worker for a moderately large company. She is seeing someone who is one of her colleagues. When this romantic relationship is about to start, she received a photo at her office. It is a picture of Yeon-ji and her group of friends from the university's literary club taken 12 years ago. Yeon-ji's date encourages her to find out who sent the photo. From that point on, Yeon-ji's life begins to unfold in a completely different way. In fact, Yeon-ji has a lot of secrets. She is hiding what happened 12 years ago in the literary club, who she loved in the past and who she loves now. The truth of the unexpected death in the past is revealed.

## JUNG EUN-SOO

While writing for screenplay, Jung Eun-soo completed this novel and won the Elixir Mystery Prize. Mystery writers she respects are Conan Doyle, Agatha Christie, and Keigo Higashino.

# Children's Books





PAGES 52

PUBLICATION DATE June 2025

ISBN 9791141602352

## SPARKLE

The texture of the season, tightly woven by oil pastels, colored pencils, and poetic sentences, awakens our senses like sparkles. The sun's rays lie on the nape of our necks, the midday silence, and the smell of lazy air. Our senses fully perceive the summer landscape where the bubble gum foil transforms into an origami crane and a caterpillar climbs up a rain-washed leaf. In this time of pause, where familiar things suddenly feel alienated, boys and girls collect and cherish those sparkles one by one, and grow up like sun-drenched, lush trees. By the time the breeze feels pleasantly cool, what memories will summer have left with them, as they greet each other with bright smiles, embracing the sparkles of those times? Here are some memorable moments of a sparkling summer shared by you and me.

## MOONJINA

She dreams of collecting tiny stories, refining and sharing them with many others. Her picture books include LOOKING FOR THE LAND OF SILENCE, TOAST WITH CHERRY JAM, and SUMMER LIGHT. She was selected in the 2024 White Ravens for MONDAY MORNING.

## HOW WE SHARE CAKE

Wisdom from the experiences of five siblings and the history of love shared by family.

The story starts with this sentence—"There are five of us." On the next page, we come across five different faces, and we can immediately recognize who "us" refers to. This "us" is those who consider what they have in hand to get what they want; who fight their best battles to protect their own precious belongings; and who would rather give up and share everything from tears to laughter. With Kim Hyo-eun's characteristic warm touch, this book welcomes us as a whole.



PAGES 72

PUBLICATION DATE June 2022

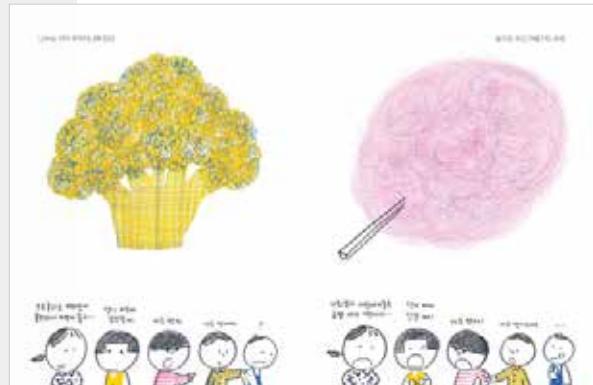
ISBN 9788954699983

### RIGHTS SALES

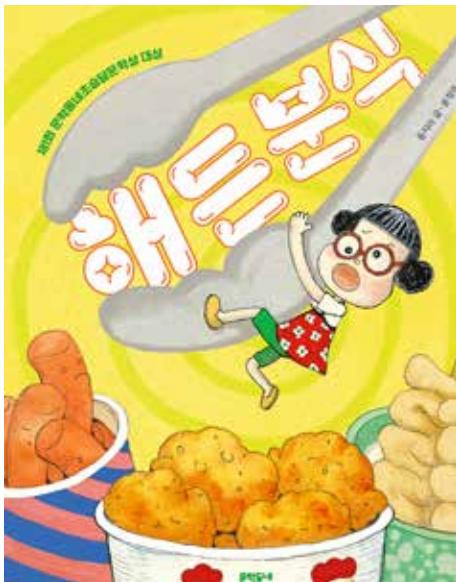
China(Simplified Chinese), Japan,  
English(World), Taiwan(Complex  
Chinese), Italy

## KIM HYO-EUN

She studied textile design at college. Her picture book *I AM THE SUBWAY* was selected as "The Best Illustrated Children's Book of 2021" by New York Times, and won the World Illustration Awards in Children's Books; this title also won the 3rd Lotte Publishing Culture Award 2020, the KOPUS Best Edited Book Award 2017, and so on. Books with illustrations by Kim include *NINE-YEAR-OLD DICTIONARY* series; *THAT'S MY HAT*; children's poetry *BEANS, YOU'RE DEAD*; *MATCHMAKING DRAGONFLIES*; picture book *A BABY ON A TRAIN*; *ON A RAINY DAY*; *THE PLACE WE WALK BECOMES THE ROAD*; *I'M SLEEPY*; and more.



I AM THE SUBWAY (2016)



## SUNNY SNACK

Winner of the 1st Munhakdongne Early Reader's Literature Award

A Sweet-and-Savory, Beyond-Your-Imagination Transformation Fantasy!

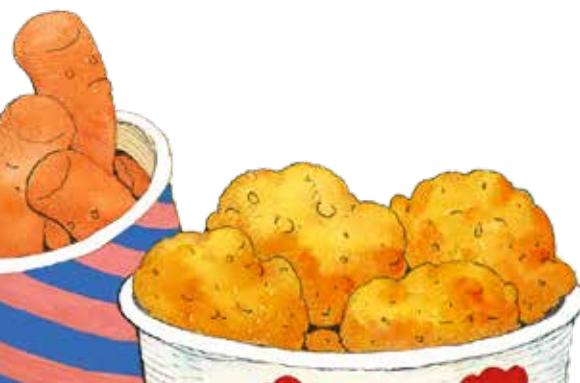
On a drizzly monsoon afternoon, Kang Jeong-in, the second daughter of SUNNY SNACK, realizes her umbrella is missing. She immediately suspects her friend, Kim Banchan, and places a curse on the umbrella: "Whoever opens it will turn into the thing they hate the most!" But instead of cursing Kim Banchan, the spell backfires—on Jeong-in herself! She transforms into none other than sweet and spicy Korean fried chicken—the very dish she swore never to look at again after her tear-filled birthday party last Sunday.

SUNNY SNACK has been praised for beautifully depicting "a sense of security in the world and trust in family." This thrilling transformation fantasy is packed with heart-racing twists and playful suspense, while also capturing a child's natural and joyful growth in their own space.

PAGES 88

PUBLICATION DATE October 2024

ISBN 9791141608316



### DONG JI-AH (Writer)

She keeps the fairy tales she loved at age ten close to her heart. She writes because there are so many things she cherishes. She began her literary career by winning the Grand Prize in the 1st Munhakdongne Early Reader's Literature Award with SUNNY SNACK.

### YOON JEONG-JOO (Illustrator)

She has illustrated numerous children's books, known for her vibrant and unique artistic style. She has both written and illustrated books such as THE FRUIT HUT; THE NIGHTMARE THIEF; and THE KKONG KKONG KKONG Series.

## KIND PEANUTS HOTEL

Winner of the 2nd Munhakdongne Early Reader's Literature Award

Peanuts Hotel on Peanuts Island is known for its hospitality; however, 'Nuts', who works at the hotel, tries to avoid guests. Everyone thinks he is unfriendly because he is aloof and rarely smiles. Peanuts Island, always packed with visitors, will go on hiatus for a year. Mount Peanuts, the island's most popular tourist destination, is taking time off to preserve its ecosystem. All visitors left, and the staff of the Peanuts Hotel went on vacation. Nuts is happy as he realizes he is the only one left in the hotel, but he gets frustrated when Mr. Polchak, the hotel's special guest who never came out of his room, suddenly appears. Mr. Polchak asks Nuts to go hiking on Mount Peanuts with him and be his friend. Can Nuts get through the crisis?

Nuts is not good at expressing his emotions, leading to a misperception that he is unkind. Children who strive to recognize their feelings and manage interactions with others often face challenging situations. The story suggests that understanding others' feelings can be challenging for anyone, and that treating others with genuine care and affection can foster strong friendships.

PAGES 104

PUBLICATION DATE September 2025 (TBD)

### **YIM GO-EUL (Writer)**

She won the 1st Hyundae Munhak MiraeN Youth Literary Award for WISH I COULD MELT IT. Her publications include children's books RUMBLES AND CRASHES FOR ME and GOGIO THINKING WHETHER IT'S A CHICKEN.

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### **KIM GYU-AH (Illustrator)**

She draws comics and illustrations. She illustrated HOME OF A PENCIL, CLASSROOM OF THE NIGHT, WHEN YOU FOLLOW A SPARROW, SHADOW THEATRE, PUZZLE OF YOU AND ME, SUMMER KID, and FLY, MACKAREL!. She received the Bologna Ragazzi Award 2023 Special Mention in Comics for SHADOW THEATRE.



PAGES 160

PUBLICATION DATE February 2025

ISBN 9791141608880

## THE DAY THE DOOR DISAPPEARED

Winner of the 25th Munhakdongne Children's Literature Award

Our house has been sealed shut—like a giant delivery box! A thrilling escape adventure of two siblings trapped in what should be the safest place of all.

One morning, two siblings wake up to a bizarre surprise—their front door and windows have completely vanished, replaced by solid walls! With no way out, their only link to the outside world is a glitchy video-streaming site called iTube.

Without their mom, alone in their sealed-up home, they try to make the best of it—cooking their first-ever batch of instant noodles, tidying up, and even sharing their adventure online through videos. This fun and fast-paced story highlights the dual nature of modern disasters—where real-time crises unfold on social media, shaping how we experience them. Even in extreme situations, children find ways to play, adapt, and hold onto optimism.

### KIM EUN-YOUNG (Writer)

She has worked as a copywriter and a metaverse storytelling writer. She also ran STRANGE FOREST, a shop that sells objects embedded with stories. She received the 25th Munhakdongne Children's Literature Award for THE DAY THE DOOR DISAPPEARED.

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### MAE (Illustrator)

She studied illustration at Arc AC and actively participates in the artist collectives SAPA and VACANCE, creating independent publications. She has illustrated many children's books and has also written and illustrated works such as MY FRANKENSTEIN; UNKNOWN TERRITORY.  
@terrapinisisland



## CUP NOODLES CAN NEVER GO SOGGY

Niningchi, who came to Earth on a spaceship to learn origami but strives every second to prove he is an ordinary kid so he can stay at school without troubles; Lee Jiyu, who feels like crying over her sick mom and her missing rabbit; Oh Seulki, who can't tolerate soggy noodle soups; and Jeong Sojung, who has waited for someone to tell her that a child trying hard to be happy didn't do anything wrong—these are portraits of 12-year-old kids illustrated by an author who is on their side, who does not rush to judge their feelings. The collection consists of six stories in various styles, including everyday life, science fiction, fantasy, and horror. The work won the Grand Prize in the 26th Munhakdongne Children's Literature Award unanimously, receiving such praise as “a fairy tale with imagination we've never seen before” and “not a vague and irresponsible happy ending—a sense of solidarity and deep affection for children's present and future runs through the story.”

PAGES 144

PUBLICATION DATE August 2025 (TBD)

ISBN 9791141612306

### KIM JIWAN (Writer)

She wants to write stories that children can resonate with. Won the 26th Munhakdongne Children's Literature Award for CUP NOODLES CAN NEVER GO SOGGY, the 20th Ma Hae Song Literary Award for a children's fiction ISLAND, and the 14th Jaeum and Moeum Youth Literary Award for SOONIL MIDDLE SCHOOL BRASS BOWL CLUB.

### KIM JIHYOUNG (Illustrator)

She studied printmaking at college and illustration at HEAR(Haute École des arts du Rhin) in Strasbourg, France. She wrote and illustrated MICRO TASTE OF PLASOUP and was selected for the 2022 Bologna Illustrators Exhibition.



PAGES 160

PUBLICATION DATE June 2025

ISBN 9791141610623

## IF MY SISTER WERE A BUTTERFLY

Winner of the 25th Munhakdogne Children's Book Award

After his older sister Meali dies in a tragic waterslide accident, eleven-year-old San is left to navigate grief, guilt, and school on his own. Deaf in his left ear from a past accident, San used to rely on Meali, who always walked on his left to shield him. Now, classmates avoid him, whispers about the viral video of Meali's fall haunt the hallways, and even his best friend Dan-Bi acts distant. At home, San removes his hearing aid—and begins to hear Meali's voice coming from her cowboy hat, asking him to complete a list of small wishes she never had the chance to fulfill.

With the help of Doona, the friend who was with Meali the day of the accident, San begins completing Meali's unfinished tasks: returning her library book, feeding an alley cat, delivering a Secret Santa gift. Along the way, San uncovers truths about his family—like a mysterious note that might have come from the father he never knew—and faces the grief his mother hides behind silent protests at the water park. He also confronts his own regret about the fight he had with Meali the morning she died.

To honor his sister, San throws her a 13th birthday party in her favorite place—the library—surrounded by friends, classmates, and his mother. There, he learns Meali had forgiven him and even bought him a gift before her death. For the first time, San allows himself to cry. Though Meali is gone, her presence lingers in the memories, the objects she left behind, and the butterfly they once released together. As San walks to school the next morning, he presses thirteen footprints into the ground—one for each year of Meali's life—and listens, just in case her voice calls out again.

### CHOI HYUN-JIN (Writer)

Choi Hyun-Jin was born in Changwon, Gyeongsangnam and currently resides and writes in Anyang, Gyeonggi. She debuted in 2017 with “Pitter Patter,” which won the Korean Ilbo’s annual literary contest for best fairytale. She was also awarded the 25th Munhakdogne Children’s Book Prize for *IF MY SISTER WAS A BUTTERFLY* and the 18th Changbi Young Adult Book Prize for *SPARKLE*.

### MORUTORI (Illustrator)

Morutori is a picture book author who also works in illustration and animation. Morutori has drawn and written *WAITING FOR YOU IN SIXTH PERIOD* and *POP! BUBBLE GUM*.

## FINDING MY HAHA

Since Sangi was a baby, a stuffed hippo doll has always been by his side. The hippo doll is named Haha, with his big mouth beaming with a smile half the size of his face. Whenever he burst into tears at kindergarten, Haha comforted him with a big smile. Now that Sangi goes to elementary school, he must go to school every day without Haha.

Then, on the day of the entrance ceremony, Haha suddenly disappeared! They had gone to sleep together the previous night and even shared a blanket. Sangi followed traces of Haha under the blanket and found an open grassland at the end of it.

Sangi encounters various animals, from an elephant, a meerkat, a gnu, to a monkey. He asks them, "Hi, have you seen Haha? He is a hippo, with a blue body, shiny eyes, and a smiling mouth."

Can Sangi find the tiny hippo in the vast grassland and return home together?

Sangi makes friends with wild animals in his adventure to find his lovey doll and advances.

This is a story for young kids who are facing 'the moment of being a child,' sending them sweet encouragement.

PAGES 136 (TBD)

PUBLICATION DATE Second half of 2025 (TBD)



NOT KUNG-PU, DDONG-PU (2017)

## CHA YOUNG-AH (Writer)

She has been a TV screenwriter for a long time. She won the 17th Munhakdongne Children's Literature Award for NOT KUNG-PU, DDONG-PU, and authored a children's book, SILLY WHISKERS AND ME.

## DANA (Illustrator)

She studied illustration in New York and is drawing illustrations in various fields. She has illustrated a children's poem, AN INTERVIEW WITH MR. KILLER WHALE, and a children's fiction CHINESE RESTAURANT 'STRANGE STORY'.



PAGES 176

PUBLICATION DATE February 2025

ISBN 9791141608873

## WAEK-WAEK WAS THERE

Winner of the 15th Munhakdongne Young Adult Literature Award

Ever since I returned from there, I started remembering. The child who once had the empty desk in the middle of our classroom.

A year has passed since the accident. As a survivor, Yeon-seo feels like simply being alive is a punishment in itself. One sleepless night, she follows an eerie “Waek-waek” sound and finds a boy staring up at the surface from beneath a sewer grate. ‘Who is he? Why is he there, eyes shadowed like hers, watching the world above?’

Whenever reality becomes too overwhelming, Yeon-seo returns to the sewer to meet the boy she names Waek-waek. And as she does, memories she had buried deep within begin to surface—the child who once had the empty desk in the middle of our classroom.

Through the pain of both victims and survivors of a social tragedy, WAEK-WAEK WAS THERE explores the meaning of memory and what it means to truly grieve. Praised for its deeply moving portrayal of loss and remembrance, the novel won the 15th Munhakdongne Young Adult Literature Award.

## LEE ROA

She was born in Chungcheongbuk-do, South Korea. She won the 15th Munhakdongne Young Adult Literature Award for WAEK-WAEK WAS THERE and contributed the short story “Kim Min-su(Undergraduate Student)” to the horror anthology HORROR.



PAGES 168

PUBLICATION DATE January 2024

ISBN 9788954695916

## NAME STICKER

Winner of the 15th Munhakdongne Young Adult Literature Award

“So, you mean if you write your name on this sticker, put it on the plant pot, and wish for something, it comes true?”

“The ethics of the perspective inherent in the work is definitely outstanding. It is because the author has the decent, respectful attitude not only toward readers who will read it but also toward teenagers as the main character of the work,”\_A jury comment

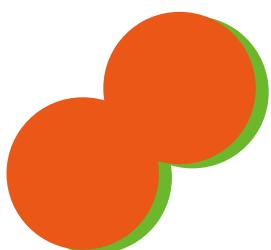
One day, middle school student Eun-seo hears a strange story from Kang Min-gu, whom she is not very close to. The reason why Lee Jae-wook cannot sleep these days and the reason why Yang Soo-hoon’s grades, who was good at studying, are plummeting is all because of himself. How should Eun-seo accept Mingu’s sudden confession that he wants to use that the power for Eun-seo now. He says that if you write your name on a small name sticker, put it on a plant pot, and beg for something, it will come true.

NAME STICKER tells a story of Eun-seo and Min-gu staring at each other’s deficiencies side by side and living with a good mind in their not so good days. It seems to be proceeding with a light step, but suddenly gives a deep touching. The writer, Hwang Bo-na, meets with young readers for the first time with the fascinating features of characters and delicate witty sentences.

Various settings reflect society’s attitude toward different and minorities, such as various forms of families, gender stereotypes, and prejudiced views of jobs. The real virtue of this title is that those settings fit into the story ordinarily not just exhibiting or consuming them.

## HWANG BO-NA

Born in 1987 in Seoul. She won the 14th Munhakdongne Young Adult Literature Award for her first novel, NAME STICKER.





PAGES 208

PUBLICATION DATE March 2025

ISBN 9791141609641

## AT EVERY ALLEY'S END, THE CHELSEA HOTEL

Clumsy feelings, a summer with the three of us, a dizzying vanilla-scented day filled with butterflies and pain

At Chelsea Hotel, where people who've been damaged or lost something cross paths, the nights carved themselves into me like comfort while I ached from emotion.

LP Bar 'Chelsea Hotel' sits in the back alleys of Jongro. Unlike Manhattan's Chelsea Hotel, that legendary artists' haven, this place, with its crumbling sign and regulars who will hug people crying willy-nilly, doesn't care about your degree or job— just what music's playing. A bottle-stacking artist, a writer who can't debut, someone holding onto a lost love, an unknown theater actor...

Rock-young grew up here, raised by a band's vocalist and guitarist for parents, lulled to sleep by rock and metal, soundtracked by regulars' stories, always starting with 'When Rock-young was little...' But she doesn't want a life like Chelsea Hotel or its dreamers—she wants 'a real job,' a life grounded in reality, not the dreamlike lives of Chelsea Hotel's patrons. Grades comes first, everything else can wait until he gets into college.

Then one night at a study cafe, he runs into Jiyu, and Rock-young's steadily advancing life derails from its orbit.

## JO WOORI

Jo Woori won the BIR Blue Fiction Award for her young adult novel *I DON'T WANT TO TURN TWENTY ANYWAY*, the Sakyejul Literature Prize Grand Prize for *OH, LOVE*, and the Changbi 'Good Children's Books' Manuscript Competition Grand Prize for her full-length children's book *THE WORLD OF 4x4*. She has published young adult novels including *MEETING IN DREAMS*, *AN ABSURD AND INCOMPREHENSIBLE 1,831-DAY REPORT ON SADNESS*, and *THE PRIVATE LIFE OF APPLES*.



PAGES 176

PUBLICATION DATE August 2024

ISBN 9791141607135

## BOUNCY BALL: THE INCIDENTS IN THE STATIONERY STORE

“Just throw it! First throw it and then think!”

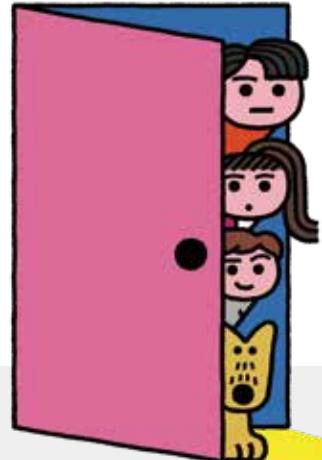
A stationery store, short on customers but long on incidents, is open again today.

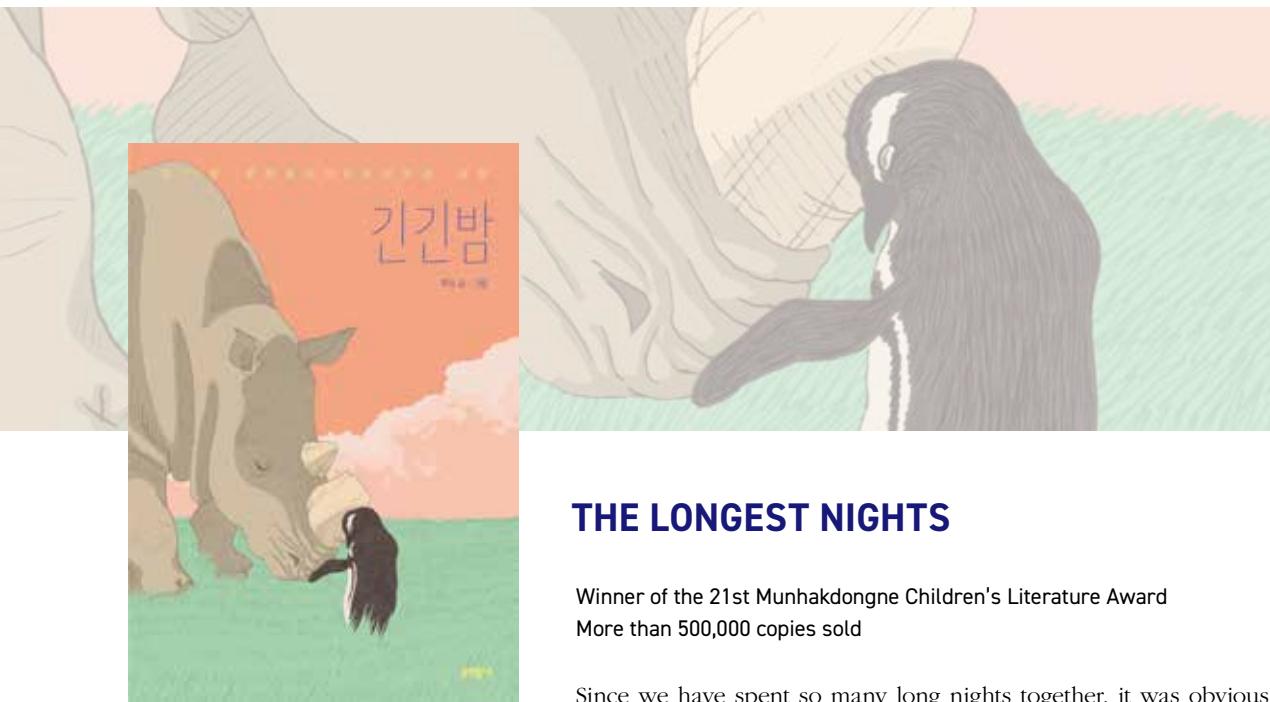
A colorful story of bouncy fun and mystery.

Ri-ra who is an elementary student that throws bouncy balls, Hana who is a middle schooler overflowing with a sense of justice, and Dong-woo who is an abrasive high schooler meet daily at the stationery store. The store is owned by Young-wook, a former detective known as Miss Marple. A coded message left by a dead mother, the twisted fates of a pair of twins, a missing child case in the sea, a dog suffering from insomnia due to trauma. All these events begin to converge... As the children and Young-wook face one incident after another, they support each other through their individual losses and pain. And like a bouncy ball, they search for themselves while uncertain where they are meant to land.

## KANG I-RA

A mystery lover, traveler, yoga practitioner, and novelist. Her short story BOLIVIA STAMP won the 24th Silla Literature Award and her short story RAT won the 2016 Kookje Newspaper Shinchun Literary Award. In 2019, her short story SNOWBALL was nominated for the Hyun Jin-geon Literary Award. Other works include the short story collection BOLIVIA STAMP and WELCOME MUNRAE.





PAGES 144

PUBLICATION DATE February 2021

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RIGHTS SALES

Taiwan(Chinese Complex), China(Chinese Simplified), Japan, Thailand, Türkiye

## THE LONGEST NIGHTS

Winner of the 21st Munhakdongne Children's Literature Award  
More than 500,000 copies sold

Since we have spent so many long nights together, it was obvious to be called 'we'.

A small, but great bond of love.

Norden, a White Boulder Rhinoceros raised in a herd of elephants, and a young penguin Chiku, born out of an abandoned egg. The journey of two different beings from head to toe becoming 'us' and walking through the long night to the blue sea.

THE LONGEST NIGHTS is a story of love, solidarity, and dignity of life. It is an encouragement for children entering a new world. It gives readers a belief that countless miracles have gathered to create 'me' and the courage to face the world in front of them.

## LULY

Studied art theory. She won the 21st Munhakdongne Children's Literature Award for THE LONGEST NIGHTS and the 26th BIR Golden Goblin Award (Picture Book) for THEY COULDN'T MAKE IT TO BREMEN AFTER ALL. She is the winner of 2023 Korean Picture Book Award for MEPHISTO.



## LANE 5

Winner of the 21st Munhakdongne Children's Literature Award

A children's fiction portraying the love and dreams of thirteen-year-old athletes in the swim team and the healthy development of the body and heart.

A children's book sparkling like water, portraying the dreams and love of thirteen-year-old athletes in the swim team. The story revolves around Kang Na-ru, the star athlete in lane 5, which symbolizes second place. It splendidly portrays the healthy growth of the mind and body, introduces readers to a confident and independent young female protagonist, and depicts the children's struggles with love and their dreams in a sincere and well-balanced manner.

PAGES 240

PUBLICATION DATE February 2021

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RIGHTS SALES

Taiwan(Chinese Complex), China(Chinese Simplified), Japan

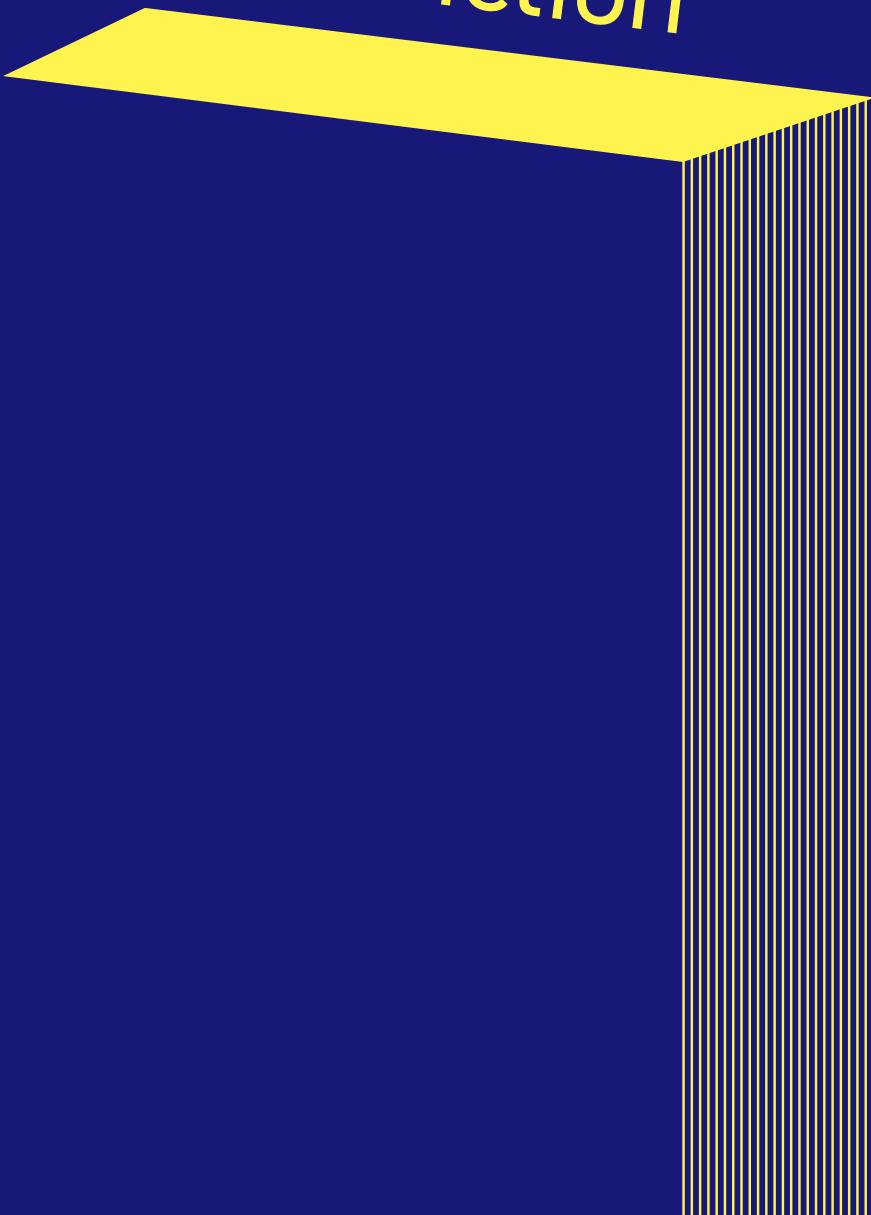
### EUN SO-HOLE (Writer)

She began her writing career after receiving the 21st Munhakdongne Children's Literature Award, Grand Prize with her book, LANE 5.

### NOH IN-KYUNG (Illustrator)

She studied Visual Design at Hongik University before studying fine art in Italy. She won the BCBF Selected Illustrator in 2012 for her book SOSO CANCELLINA as well as the 2013 BIB Golden Apple Award for her book MR. TUTTI AND 100 WATER DROPS.

# Non-Fiction



## TWO WOMEN LIVING TOGETHER



PAGES 320

PUBLICATION DATE

August 2024

ISBN 9791194184027

RIGHTS SALES

UK, US, Japan

"For Ms. Kim and Ms. Hwang, who say they are not romantically involved with each other or anyone else, the solution is to redefine the concept of family. Their 2019 book, "Two Women Living Together," has become a best seller, and their subsequent weekly podcast, "Two Women Talking Together," attracts hundreds of thousands of listeners— giving voice to South Koreans, especially women, who have challenged the traditional family structure by forming cohabiting unions outside of marriage." —New York Times

In the summer of 2024, the stories of two Korean female writers and podcasters were spotlighted in the New York Times. Kim Hana and Hwang Sunwoo, who are outspoken about forming a "DIY FAMILY" in the form of cohabitation, not marriage or blood ties, were reported as symbols of the changing Korean family structure, pioneers of a new form of life without the burden of tradition or old customs, and influencers on women of their time.

The two women, dreaming of a life neither alone nor married, found each other as incredibly compatible, stable housemates while looking for better housing conditions. They ultimately decided to live together in a nice apartment. However, the two women, who had thought themselves to be similar but in reality had completely different tendencies and lifestyles, immediately fall into chaos the day they move in...

Under one roof, two women and four cats gather to form a new molecular formula of W2C4, as unexpected and turbulent events unfold like dramas in their lives.

### KIM HANA

Born in Haeundae, Busan, she has lived in Seoul since 19 years old, through a variety of housing styles. She simultaneously welcomed the stability and the rough waves that came with living alongside Hwang Sunwoo. These days, she considers herself a reader, writer, listener, and talker. Her major books include TALKING ABOUT TALKING and GOLDEN BELLS.

### HWANG SUNWOO

Born in Gwangalli, Busan, she left the sea at the age of 18 for Seoul. After moving several times within the Mapo-gu neighborhood when she lived alone, she settled into a spacious house with Kim Hana as a two-person household. She has worked for 20 years in magazine publishing and interviewing, the majority of this time spent at the fashion magazine W KOREA. She has written COURAGE TO SAY I LOVE YOU and the collection of letters, IF YOU DO YOUR BEST, YOU DIE (co-authored by Kim Honpi).





## YSRA

A Writer with 15 years in the workforce. She has a firm grasp on reading between the lines. From magazine reporters to freelance workers, literature professors, publishing house CEOs, and corporate representatives, she has exchanged thousands of emails. She has developed her strength by reading and writing countless emails, from ones so brilliant to give chills, pathetic enough to make her fists clench. She has written the novel THE AGE OF THE FILIARCH, the essays DAILY YSRA, I BECOME MY MOTHER'S FACE WHEN I CRY, DILIGENT LOVE, LIFE THAT ENDS, and interview collections WITH A FRESH HEART and CREATION AND JOKES and a co-authored letter collection THERE IS A MISUNDERSTANDING BETWEEN US.

THERE IS A MISUNDERSTANDING BETWEEN US (2021)

DILIGENT LOVE (2020)

NOTHING BUT LOVE AND FREEDOM (2019)

I BECOME MY MOTHER'S FACE WHEN I CRY (2018)



## WRITING EMAILS THAT CHANGE YOUR LIFE

An author who pioneered her territory using only emails aimed directly at readers, without any requests or invitations from established institutions. She didn't need a literary debut, critical recognition or praise, or a hefty salary. It was enough just to email, a medium to endlessly relay her heart and words to 'just one person.'

Ysra, who transformed the field of Korean literature with the daily newsletter "Daily Ysra" establishing a 'writer-reader direct service system' for a monthly subscription fee of 10,000 won, tells her story about changing her life by email. The declaration of such a confident creator and worker includes Ysra's work and life skills that receive work, refuse, maximize the stakes that suit her values, and sometimes kneel and apologize artistically in the face of something wrong, and attract the hearts of numerous others toward her to achieve a "new world." It is a useful liberal arts must-read for freelancers, office workers, creators, and aspiring students, and is a literary book containing the world's most beautiful letters and daily writings left by Ysra while communicating with others.



PAGES 280  
PUBLICATION DATE  
June 2025  
ISBN 9791194184331

## THE AGE OF FILIARCH

"Daughter in charge of the family" indicates women who financially support their families while aiming to upturn the world.

"It is now the age of these daughters."

Representative essayist of our time, YSRA, who started out writing a series of daily emails to readers titled DAILY YSRA and directly appealed to readers without adhering to a prescribed path or system, comes out with her first novel. A girl who is raised in a house reigned by the grandfather grows up to reign her family herself. In an age when it's difficult to be brave and difficult to be self-made, the daughter makes a living with her own writing and takes charge of the family's financial situation as the new head. Though beautiful and refreshing things occur which would never have happened in a patriarch's home, the head daughter also makes some of the same mistakes as the patriarch grandfather did. This story is not full of incitements to raze down the patriarchy or simply a satire of it. The daughters reflect endlessly and think about the patriarchs who raised and developed them, their mothers who lived subservient to their husbands, and the labor of those who use their bodies to work. Though Sra wants to live as a head daughter more reasonable and excellent than any patriarch, she wonders if the age of the head daughter is truly better than the age of the patriarch for her mother Bok-hee. Can Sra's head daughter revolution truly make everyone happy?



PAGES 316  
PUBLICATION DATE  
October 2022  
ISBN 9791198744470

RIGHTS SALES  
Taiwan(Complex Chinese),  
Japan, Italy, World English



## CHOI JIN-YOUNG

Choi Jin-Young has been publishing fiction since 2006. She debuted as a writer through Silcheon New Writer's Prize, winning the 15th Hankyoreh Literary Award in 2010 for her novel *THE NAME OF THE GIRL WHO PASSED YOU BY*. Choi has received numerous other literary awards including the Manhae Literarure Prize, the Baek Sinae Literary Prize, and the Sin Dong-yup Literature Prize. She is the author of the novels *UNFINISHED SONG*, *WHY DIDN'T I DIE?*, *HUNGER*, *TO THE WARM HORIZON*, *DEAR SISTER*, and *DREAM OF BECOMING MYSELF*, as well as the short story collections *THE TOP* and *WINTER VACATION*.

### A CERTAIN SECRET

"I put off hate. So I could love more."

HUNGER novelist Choi Jin-young's first collection of essays, which contain the 'secrets' of all of her novels, begins with a seasonal letter written in Ongpo-ri, a small village in Jeju, and goes on to contain the quiet truths of life, love, and growth. These letters, written every season to help a lover's roastery cafe, are a kind of 'mind-farm diary' meant to record the sense of time in which the author lives and the determination of emotions she felt across the seasons. This flow of seasons is not just a cycle of nature, but a process of becoming an adult, and it is also a proof of the self that grows little by little while enduring every day.

The work is full of questions and enlightenment, born from the feelings of hurt and recovery, misunderstanding and understanding, longing and love. From the feeling of compassion— 'Why does your pain feel like mine?'— to the confession—'If you can't do love, it's better not to do it, but if you can't help it, you want to do it well'— this book does not avoid the complexity of emotions, but rather stays by your side and looks at it slowly. After all, *A CERTAIN SECRET* is a book that calmly shares the many bonds of a relationship, of living with one person deeply in love. It is a quiet and sweet record that wants to share the smile which asks, 'Do you remember that summer?', sometime in the distant future.



PAGES 384  
PUBLICATION DATE  
October 2024  
ISBN 9791194171140

# LEE OK-SEON

Born in Jinju in 1948. After a three year stint as a professor in Jinju, she left the academy and moved to Busan with her 1-year-old son for her husband's professorship. Ever since, she worked tirelessly as a homemaker, as the phrase 'career-interrupted woman' not even existing during her times. House work also fit her tastes. After having her child Kim Hana, she wrote a baby book, VICTORY NOTE, containing the records from her birth to her fifth birthday.



VICTORY NOTE (2022)



## HAPPY ADULT

HAPPY ADULT is the book that captures the new kind of adult we've been waiting for— Lee Ok-Seon. With a witty yet grounded gaze on the world, she boldly declares, "Hey, you damn kids!" while mixing humor with her unique life philosophy: "Never become famous." Unburdened by society's expectations or outdated traditions, the 76-year-old Lee Ok-Seon proclaims, "This moment right now is the most carefree and best time of my life." She offers a refreshing kind of freedom, that "it's okay not to try your best," and comforting reassurance, that "living half-heartedly is perfectly fine." Her words are light yet never shallow, and her seemingly trivial accounts of daily life strike at the core of what really matters.

Lee Ok-Seon's sharpness is her way of upholding the boundaries and standards of her life. As her daughter, author Kim Hana, once described her, she is "a sharp-tongued grandmother who sets you free." Her words come from a seasoned instinct that refuses to tolerate nonsense, from biting remarks like "There are women whose lives were ruined by the wrong men, but none whose lives were ruined because they didn't meet any," to her resolute stance of "Enough with ancestral rites." Lee Ok-Seon breaks down long-standing customs and reclaims her life on her own terms. Her advice to not take life too seriously peels away the burdens of adult life like a satisfying scrub.

HAPPY ADULT creates a new narrative on what it means to age. Lee Ok-Seon embraces later life without fear as a golden age, continuously learning, laughing, and taking care of herself with joy. What began as a parenting diary has grown into her own version of a 'golden age,' told in writing that is simple and modest, yet deeply resonant. With her cheerful attitude and clear mind, she reflects on life in a way that presents not a tired figure of old age, but a happy adult— a refreshing new role model for us all.



PAGES 248  
PUBLICATION DATE  
August 2024  
ISBN 9791194184034

RIGHTS SOLD  
Taiwan(Chinese Complex),  
China(Chinese Simplified),  
Japan

## LIFE LESSONS FROM GRANDMA GOETHE

Jeon Young-ae, an internationally renowned German literary scholar and an honorary professor at Seoul National University, shares her in-depth insights on the essence of life. She has contributed to numerous research projects and translations on Goethe and his work, and she now runs a YouTube channel, 'Grandma Goethe TV', to share her simple life with others. For us living in this world, where we truly need comfort rather than fleeting sensations, the book suggests the idea of 'living a good life.' The author, who has faithfully maintained a proper balance of research, translation, and gardening, reminds us of the actual values of harmony, love, and being slow.

She sends us warm yet in-depth insights on major life agendas, including achieving our goals, persevering through hardship, raising children, and accepting death. She discusses coexisting instead of competing, focusing more on the process than the outcome, and several other fundamental truths of life that are so obvious yet challenging to put into practice. These messages gently accompany us, offering an opportunity to rest and find courage for those who are losing their true selves while pursuing immediate achievements.

Now that translating Goethe's complete works is her ultimate goal in life, she wants to convey the hope that 'we can still learn' through the words and life of Goethe. We discover the truth that we can renew our lives at this very moment by witnessing her embrace of 'living is learning'— never stopping to move forward.



PAGES 228  
PUBLICATION DATE  
December 2024  
ISBN 9791141608453



## JEON YOUNG-AE

She is called 'Grandma Goethe' more than 'an honorary professor at Seoul National University' and 'Goethe scholar.' She runs the Yeobaek Academy in Gangcheon-myeon, Yeoju of Gyeonggi Province, setting up a 'Goethe Village' to encourage people to dream bigger. She is busy working as a gardener for the spacious and beautiful garden during the day, and as a scholar translating all of Goethe's works at night. Globally recognized as a Goethe scholar, she is the first Asian woman to win the Goethe Gold Medal from the Weimar Goethe Society in 2011. She won the 2020 Women's Creation Award from Samsung Happiness for Tomorrow Awards, the 3rd Reiner Kunze Award in 2021, and the 11th Li Mirok Award from the Korean-German Society in 2022. She translated over 70 masterpieces, including FAUST by Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, METAMORPHOSIS by Franz Kafka, and DEMIAN by Hermann Hesse.



DREAMED AND LOVED AS CLEAR AS SUN (2021)  
THE POET'S HOUSE (2015)

## WILD

From penguins on glaciers to magpies in downtown, and luminous squids living in the abyss — the author, an outdoor biologist who has been following traces of animals living, intensively explores animal behaviors in this book, WILD. The author tells us that any places that animals show up, including Antarctica, the Arctic, tropical islands, and even roadside trees in our town, can reveal secrets of science. From secrets lying within animal behaviors unveiled by cutting-edge technologies such as drones and bio-logging, to how they mate, sleep, and communicate, the book tells us vivid stories of living elements.

The book is not a simple list of fascinating information about animals. How can observers truly understand animals while keeping a certain distance from them? Scientists observing and analysing animals living and their behaviors continuously think about how far humans should get involved. The book makes us reflect on our attitudes toward nature while providing fresh perspectives on wild animals, asking questions about responsibility in building a relationship with a research target, feeling helpless in watching how wildlife collapses, yet making tenacious efforts to record and testify no matter what.

WILD invites readers to scenes full of vitality, to the complicated journey of exploring scientific observation, ethical reflection, and emotional disturbance. It earnestly demonstrates that learning about animals is not different from understanding humans.



PAGES 432

PUBLICATION DATE

July 2025

ISBN 9791169092104

## LEE WON-YOUNG

Outdoor biologist and animal behavioral researcher. Makes a living by observing and keeping records of animal behaviors and their evolutionary process incorporated. Studied magpies and received a doctoral degree in the Behavioral Ecology and Evolution Laboratory at Seoul National University. Now he observes animals in Antarctica and in the Arctic as a senior researcher at Korea Polar Research Institute (KPRI). He wishes to grow old as he watches birds living in a house with a garden. Authored I GO TO ANTARCTICA IN SUMMER, BIRDS FLYING IN THE WATER, PENGUINS WALK ON THE PENGUIN'S TRAIL, and PENGUINS' SUMMER.



IN SUMMER, I GO TO THE ARCTIC (2017)





## NAM KOONG-IN

After graduating from Korea University's medical school, Nam Koong-In worked at Korea University Hospital as an emergency medicine specialist. He currently works as an assistant clinical professor at the emergency department of Ewha Womans University Medical Center, telling stories about the world he sees in the emergency room in television programs, schools, libraries, and public lectures.

This book is the product of the author's many attempts to guide readers into a practical and intuitive medical world—the answer to the countless questions received from patients in the ER. After 17 years of meeting patients, he has realized that 'a person's body is nearly a perfect universe, containing miraculous healing powers.'

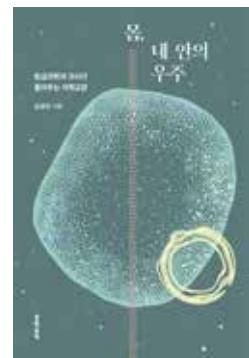
Nam Koong-In's other books include *THERE IS NO MAYBE*, *ONE NASTY DAY*, *DAYS AT PEACE*, and more.

### THE BODY: THE UNIVERSE INSIDE ME

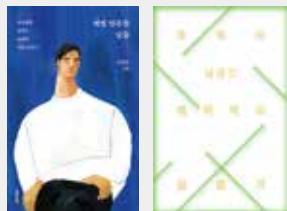
Emergency medicine specialist Dr. Nam Koong-In's new book, *THE BODY: THE UNIVERSE INSIDE ME*, provides a clear and informative medical humanities lens into the often complicated and dense world of medicine. The author opens each chapter with a story based on real clinical experience and focuses on each of the body's internal organs, starting with the digestive system and the heart, all the way to the central nervous system, guiding the reader's interest and understanding. Each depiction of a tense ER situation, a patient's grumbles of pain, and subsequent diagnoses and treatments unfold vividly, immersing the reader like a medical drama.

This book's popularity comes not only from the wisdom of a doctor, but from the author's inclusion of his deep philosophical thoughts. Declaring that a person's body 'is already a complete, perfect universe,' he emphasizes the mechanisms of life conservation and healing abilities, accumulated over hundreds of years of evolution. He relays this message: our bodies endlessly repair and operate while we are unaware, and a doctor's role is to trust and respect the body's abilities.

This one book will make you realize how truly unknown and wonderful our taken-for-granted bodies are, as well as how to live while continuing to love and care for them.



PAGES 516  
PUBLICATION DATE  
June 2025  
ISBN 9791141609597



DAYS AT PEACE (2020)

IF ONLY IT WERE NOT EVEN FUN (2017)

ONE NASTY DAY (2017)

THERE IS NO MAYBE (2016)

# SEO IN-HO

A visually impaired software engineer. He unexpectedly lost his sight completely after undergoing surgery to treat congenital glaucoma complications when he was an 8-year-old kid who was into computer games and comics. Frustrated for a while, he recovered from the setback, as he could continue studying using Braille books his mother had made for him and kept practicing the piano to win a prize in an admission competition. He learned computer skills, won a prize in a Microsoft Word competency competition for the visually impaired, and competed in an international chess competition.



## I'M CODING MY DREAM

The first essay by Seo In-ho, a visually impaired software engineer, recounts his story of losing his sight at the age of 8 and learning to navigate the world through other senses, taking on challenges and breaking barriers. This ordinary boy, who loved to play computer games with his friends, was not deterred by the unexpected visual impairment. He memorized Braille music scores to play piano, sought admission to an international high school, became an exchange student at a college abroad, and traveled around the U.S., where he confronted the world step by step. Google Korea hired him after three application attempts, and he currently works there as a software engineer.

He learned coding using a screen reader, believing the difference was not with his eyesight but with 'how to' accomplish things, and has gone beyond biases and institutional gaps through his efforts. He demonstrates that being a person with disability does not mean one should bear with discomfort, but rather that one should be able to understand one's circumstances and to ask for any necessary help proactively. The book illustrates the life of a visually impaired person through real-life examples, envisioning how ableist society should transform and how technologies play a role in this process.

He dreams of a world where differences are not treated as discrimination, a society where anybody can make their dreams come true in their own way. The book is not merely a success story of a person with a disability; it teaches us the courage and attitude to have autonomy in our lives.



PAGES 216

PUBLICATION DATE

September 2024

ISBN 9791141607432



## KIM JAE-CHUL

Kim Jae-chul is the founder of Dongwon Group and Korea Investment & Finance Holdings. After graduating from a fisheries university, he began his career as an unpaid trainee navigator on Korea's first tuna fishing vessel, the Jinam-ho. In 1969, he founded Dongwon Industries, and in 1982, acquired Hanshin Securities, forming the basis for Korea Investment & Finance Holdings. In 2008, he led the acquisition of StarKist, making Dongwon the world's leading tuna canning company. Under his leadership, the group expanded into logistics, livestock, ready-to-eat meals, battery materials, and packaging, securing top market share in several sectors. In the public sector, he chaired the Yeosu Expo bid committee and received Korea's highest civilian and industrial honors: the Rose of Sharon Medal and the Gold Tower Order of Industrial Service Merit.

### HOW TO CROSS LIFE'S WAVES

Here is one man. Born into poverty with many siblings, he chose a maritime fisheries university over Seoul National University and began his life at sea on a deep-sea fishing ship. Confronting death regularly, he would ask himself: "How are you going to live from now on?" His answer—"This life, which could've been swept away by a wave, let's live it confidently and honorably. No point in living small."—became a lifelong compass. From the ocean's dangers to the equally brutal world of business, he fought daily battles. Running a company often felt like standing one thin sheet of metal away from hell. Yet each time, he turned back to the three words that carried him through: Challenge, Passion, Curiosity.

This is the story of Kim Jae-chul, founder and honorary chairman of Dongwon Group and Korea Investment & Finance Holdings. From unpaid trainee navigator to company leader, his life has been a series of determined responses to change and adversity. What makes his challenges remarkable is their sustainability—his ability to constantly adjust his mindset and methods to a shifting world.

How to Cross Life's Waves is not a self-congratulatory memoir nor a rigid guide to success. Instead, it captures Chairman Kim's restless questioning, relentless attempts, and hard-won insights—a message of "heart-racing challenges" for young people and workers alike. In an era where "working less, earning more" is idealized, this book offers a living testimony to the enduring value of effort, courage, and purposeful living.



PAGES 240

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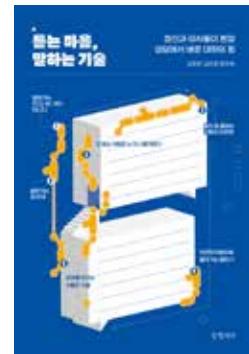
ISBN 9791141609832

# LISTNING BY HEART, SPEAKING WITH SKILL

LISTNING BY HEART, SPEAKING WITH SKILL is a book written by psychiatrists who share their counseling experience to tell us that the key to speaking is in 'listening by heart'. They emphasize that speaking is building a relationship, a relationship is built on hearts, and that being able to listen and understand the counterpart's emotions and context leads to excellent conversations. Psychiatrists are trained to decipher non-verbal messages and hidden signs beyond verbal communication, thereby equipping them with the skills to listen to the unspoken feelings of patients and people they encounter in their daily lives.

Three authors, specialized in different fields — child and adolescent development, college students, and organizational conflict management — suggest emotional conversation skills and situational discourse strategies they have applied in their field experiences in a balanced manner. They elaborate on detailed communication methods by occasion, such as active empathetic listening and questioning for those who need comfort, and clarifying question skills for those who are battling suicidal impulses. They particularly describe in detail how listening can influence somebody else's feelings and lead to conversations that build trust.

The book strongly suggests that communication methods should differ depending on our roles and relationships. It presents discourse strategies for various social identities, including family, friend, lover, and colleague, portraying the distinction between emotionally driven and result-driven conversations. Authors explain that communication is a dual process of reading others' needs and recognizing one's own needs, and that people can build an in-depth relationship and be satisfied with it when communicating. The book is a playbook on the essence of conversation; truly understanding others and repairing relationships.



PAGES 296  
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ISBN 9791169093101

## KIM HYO-WON

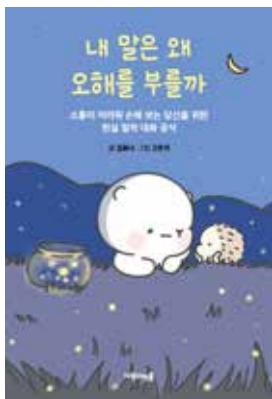
Professor in the Department of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry at Asan Medical Center in Seoul. Conducts family treatment and psychiatric treatment at the Stress Psychotherapy Center. Professor in the Department of Psychiatry, University of Ulsan College of Medicine, who developed and operates a communication training program for medical students. Authored ALL CHILDREN ARE SENSITIVE, TIME TO GROW MOM'S HEART, and PARENTING COUNSELING CENTER: DEVELOPMENT; and co-authored WHEN CHILDREN MEET SOCIETY and LEARNING BRAIN, GROWING HEART.

## KIM EUN-YOUNG

Professor in the Department of Medicine and a psychiatrist in the Mental Health Center for students and school staff at Seoul National University. Researching and treating university students' mental health and stress at work. Developed education and training programs on character and leadership for medical school students, including 'Empathy and Communication'. Teaches health communication at graduate schools of medicine. Lectures on leaders' mental health for 'Mental Quarantine' program by SERICEO, Samsung Economic Research Institute. Co-authored REACHING TO YOUR HEART.

## JUNG DOO-YOUNG

Professor in the Department of Biomedical Engineering and a psychiatrist in the Graduate School of Health Science and Technology, Ulsan National Institute of Science & Technology (UNIST). His office researches digital technology that can help people with various mental health problems, prevent and take advanced measures to address those problems before they develop into serious illnesses. He co-authored ROBUST MIND, FLEXIBLE LIFE.



PAGES 348

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ISBN 9791190457385

## WHY MY WORDS ARE MISUNDERSTOOD

'Forgettable people miss the details, but magnetic people master them!'

Kim Yun-na, the communication expert whose 2017 bestseller WORD CONTAINER taught 500k readers how to transform their speaking habits through self-reflection, is back with 50 'warm and effective communication lessons.' This book is designed for office workers who feel they're losing out due to awkward communication or who hold back their words to avoid conflict, as well as college students and new graduates who want to be welcomed and valued wherever they go.

People who maintain the appropriate distance to avoid unnecessary misunderstandings, win over even difficult personalities, and communicate important messages tactfully find popularity wherever they go. What's their secret? The crucial point lies in the 'details of conversation.' Charismatic communicators know the awkward points of dialogue and cleverly sidestep them. Furthermore, they use warm and competent words to move others. When conversations flow smoothly, life's difficulty level decreases accordingly.

This book tackles real-world scenarios, presenting 'nuanced communication techniques' immediately applicable to daily life and business situations alongside engaging Instagram comics. Each situation is examined for its context and emotions, providing expert solutions for communicating your thoughts clearly—without misunderstandings or appearing weak. 'Nuanced speaking' follows the same principles as foreign language learning, requiring consistent practice. By memorizing the words and phrases introduced in the book and using them repeatedly in real situations, you'll experience the amazing transformation of how completely different treatment comes from just one change in speaking style. Let's remember: forgettable people miss the details, while magnetic people master them.

## KIM YUN-NA

Director of 'Communication & Mind Lab'. She majored in Human Resource Development at Hanyang University Graduate School of Education and received her PhD in coaching psychology from Kwangwoon University's Department of Industrial Psychology. From 2010 to present, she has continued giving lectures on the theme of 'communication with self and others' at numerous companies and media outlets, while also conducting one-on-one coaching at the Communication & Mind Counseling Center. She is a bestselling author with over 500K copies sold of WORD CONTAINER, LEADER'S WORD CONTAINER, MOM'S WORD CONTAINER, I STILL DON'T KNOW MYSELF OVER 30 CONVERSATION SCENARIOS, I BELIEVE IN YOU, WISE WORD LIFE, WAYS TO SPEAK TO A HURTFUL FRIEND, and more.

## GO EUN-JI

Author and illustrator of the Instagram Comic 'Healing Bear' With 170,000 Fanatic Followers

Go Eun-ji majored in child psychology counseling at Sookmyung Women's University and attended the same university for graduate school. 'Healing Bear' was born from her experience working as a psychotherapist. Currently, she creates various content, including Instagram comics and emoticons. Her book I HOPE YOUR DAY IS WARM has been published in 7 countries including China, the Philippines, and Germany, while YOU LIVED WELL TODAY has been published to 5 countries including Thailand, Taiwan, and Vietnam.



## IF YOU LOVE AGAIN

This book is a collection of essays on love that the author has been writing for more than a decade, selecting and reorganizing the ones with most responses from his work as a mental care specialist and counselor to idols and trainees, teaching psychology and taking care of their mental health with over 1,000 counseling sessions.

When love is accompanied by wisdom, reflection, and gratitude for what exists beyond the apparent sensory responses—for example, the process of enchantment and boredom, loss and recovery, and growth—it becomes clearer and more true to itself. In that sense, this book will help you open your eyes to the truth and find your way through the myths, doubts, and fears about love that you have been blind to, avoiding, repressing, and ignoring.

In his career of studying and teaching psychology, he has often observed that, as in all other fields, those who love more do not necessarily know more about love, and those who know more do not practice love as much as they know. Only those who strive to learn and practice what they have learned can move forward on a better path. In that way, this book is both a warm consolation and a sobering advice to those who say, “Love is hard,” but are determined to solve the problem of love with love. The cutting remarks about love at the beginning of each chapter add to the insight and fun.

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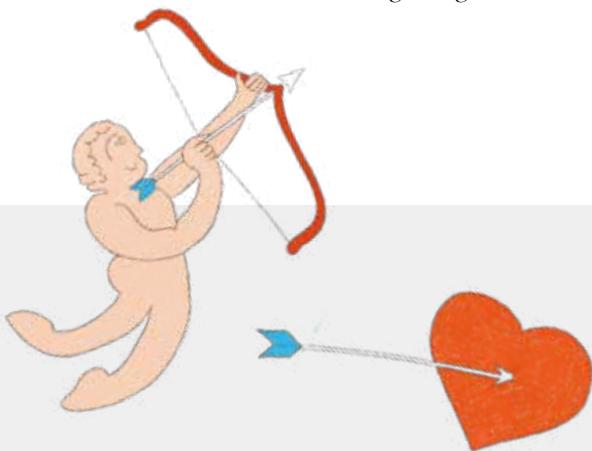
PUBLICATION DATE

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ISBN 9791190457309

RIGHTS SALES

Japan, Thailand, Indonesia,  
Russia



## JOO HYUN DUK

CEO of MentalCare. He majored in History at Chung-Ang University and Political Science and Diplomacy at Yonsei University. He studied social psychology in Yonsei University graduate school, where he developed the “MALPS (Me As a Love Partner Scale)” to measure romantic relationship between lovers. He served as Secretary for Policy in the 17th National Assembly and taught psychology at universities. He has delivered more than 2,000 lectures at various companies, government offices, institutions, hospitals, and schools. To date, he has provided psychological education and counseling for idols and trainees more than 1,000 times as a mental care advisor at Big Hit Entertainment, JYP Entertainment, Source Music, and WakeOne.



## INVISIBLE WORKERS

INVISIBLE WORKERS persistently digs into the truth of 'precarious work', a newly emerging term in the widespread digital transformation and platform economics. Customer service agents, freelancers, dawn delivery drivers, bogus self-employed workers, and other unconventional groups of workers appear independent, enjoying the benefits of free labor. At the same time, their job security and salaries are volatile, with no guaranteed minimum social security.

Professor Lee Seung-yoon, the author, views the spread of non-standard work as an issue rooted in social structure, rather than a simple economic phenomenon, delving into the discrepancy in mechanisms and institutions behind it.

Beginning with detailed examples that vividly depict problems associated with precarious work, such as double poverty, industrial accidents, and fake sole proprietorships, the book exposes how individuals who fail to achieve worker status are pushed out of the social safety net and left isolated. Precarious work is not limited to a few specialized job categories. It is becoming one of the basic forms of labor in all types of work, leading to even more serious discrepancies in existing legislation and institutions due to fast-paced labor market changes.

The book also dedicates a separate chapter to the precarious work issues among the young generation in particular, presenting sharp insights on how class and generation intersect. It hints that the reality hidden behind the generational discourse is extreme polarization, which is driving a new form of class restructuring in the younger generation of workers. The author suggests the 'melting labour' concept to explain the blurring boundaries of employment when our systems are still rigid, and that our perspectives on labour must change.



PAGES 248  
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## LEE SEUNG-YOON

She is a professor in the Department of Social Welfare at Chung-Ang University. She received a doctoral degree in social policy at the University of Oxford, where she conducted research comparing the welfare states and irregular workers of Northeast Asia. She won the Barnett Prize (Best Paper of the Year Award) from the University of Oxford, as well as the Asia PhD Award, which is the Award for Best Dissertation in Public Policy and Management in Asia, presented by APPAM (Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management). She lectured as an assistant professor of Social Policy at Kyoto University in Japan and as an associate professor of Social Policy at Ewha Womans University.

Her main areas of focus are welfare states and labor markets, precarious work, income support policies, institutionalism, and comparative research methodology. She published 70 articles and works, including a book, *VARIETIES OF PRECARITY: MELTING LABOUR AND THE FAILURE TO PROTECT WORKERS IN THE KOREAN WELFARE STATE* (in English, 2023), which was in the global spotlight. She is sharing her research outcome as a speaker at multiple conferences and seminars, and received the Best Alternatives Research Award from the Society of Social Welfare for Critiques and Alternatives.

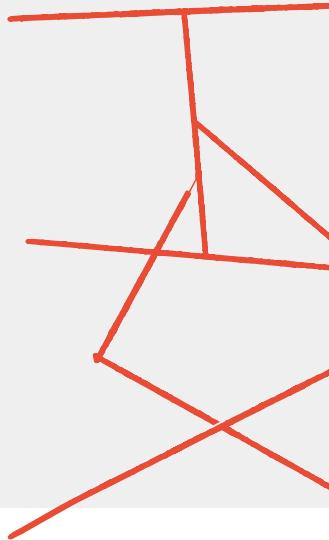
## THE MAID

So Young-hyeon's *THE MAID* is a deep exploration into the history of the gendered, low-status laborer, encapsulated in 'the maid,' from the Japanese Imperial Period through the Korean War and the Industrial Age until our present day. Through the author's archival work, which features newspaper articles, literary works, and social discourse, the maid is revealed to be not only a simple matter of unlucky personal occupation, but a social existence, constructed from the complex formulations of class, gender, colonization, and modernity. Even after the abolishment of the caste system, 'the maid' continues to exist everywhere in our society, changing out various names, such as nanny, housemaid, caregiver, babysitter, and more. In doing so, *THE MAID* exposes the raw underbelly of a new 'class,' made possible by the capitalist system and neoliberal working environment of today.

This book empirically reviews how 'the maid' came to be socially stigmatized as a criminal and dangerous existence. Although the maid is often denounced as a 'morality wrecker' due to reports of theft, infanticide, and abortion, she is also located inside the violence of societal institutions, such as poverty, sexual violence, and lack of access to birth control. Casting light on why these women could have made no other choice, So Young-hyeon blurs the boundaries of 'perpetrator' and 'victim' that surround the maid. Transcending conventional ideas about female crimes, So expands our idea of the maid by demonstrating the intersection of violent structures, such as class and gender. *THE MAID* does not merely reconstruct the past. Instead, just like current foreign housekeepers and temporary female caregivers, the book once again interrogates the inequalities of our present day through 'the life of the maid.' Taking the question 'How can we transcend the boundaries of inequality while respecting each other?' as its central concern, this book begins to search for an answer by staring straight into the history, labor, emotions, and pain of forgotten subjects. A cutting critique interrogating what society erases and what it reveals, *THE MAID* is a powerful naming ceremony for those who have been silenced, whose names we continue to search for.



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## SO YOUNG-HYEON

Researcher of Korean literature. Literary critic. After working as a researcher at Sungkonghoe University's East Asian Research Institute and Yonsei University's Korean Studies Research Institute, she now works as a professor at the Translation Academy of the Korea Literature Translation Institute. She has edited volumes for The Center of Literature and Art, Author's World, 21st Century Literature, Literary Webzine, and The Metaphor of the Webzine.

She has authored the books *GENDER AT THE PROTEST*, *FOREST OF NIGHT OWLS*, *THE AGE OF THE WORKING CLASS*, *DIVIDED SENSATIONS*, *THE BIRTH OF LITERARY YOUTH*, and *THE PRIME YEARS OF WANDERING YOUTH*, as well as co-authored the books *#LITERATURE\_IS\_DANGEROUS*, *SCENES FROM THE WORLD OF LITERARY CRITICISM AND HUMANITIES FORMATION*, *SOCIETY OF SENSIBILITIES*, *THE HISTORY OF LITERATURE AFTER THE HISTORY OF LITERATURE*, *THE HUMANITIES OF EMOTIONS*, etc.

# THE BLOOMING ART MUSEUM SERIES

## BLOOMING ART MUSEUM SPRING SUMMER

## BLOOMING ART MUSEUM FALL WINTER

The BLOOMING ART MUSEUM series, the first art book series primarily featuring 'flower paintings' by art historian Jeong Ha-yoon, gently draws readers closer to art by presenting blooming and withering flowers in different seasons. The series opens doors to the joy of art appreciation through 'flower paintings', which anyone who perceives art as too difficult can easily resonate with. As we view these paintings, we can intuitively sense that they are beautiful, without needing to read any commentary or critique, and we are finally ready to appreciate them fully.

The book takes a unique approach to other art books, focusing on the great artists of all time and their masterpieces. It begins with readers' feelings when they read the book and prompts them to ask simple yet fundamental questions, such as "I wonder who painted this?" and "I'm curious why he/she painted this flower?" to gain a closer understanding of art history. 340 flower paintings from four seasons are displayed on a beautiful, large plate that resembles a painting book, capturing readers' attention. Concise yet in-depth commentaries elaborate on every aspect of the paintings, including the people depicted, social context, and the historical context of that time. Familiar flowers, such as roses, magnolias, chrysanthemums, and wildflowers, are beautifully presented as a pleasant surprise, seamlessly inviting art into readers' daily lives.

The BLOOMING ART MUSEUM series enables everyone to appreciate art that uses flowers as a medium, a gentle way to connect art with our lives. Every page I turn, our mood lightens and our troubled minds ease. The book is the kindest invitation to those who are eager to love art or who strive to feel art more closely.



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## JEONG HA-YOON

Modern Art Historian. After majoring in Painting at Ewha Womans University and Art History in the same University's Graduate School, she earned a doctoral degree in Chinese Modern Art History at California State University, San Diego. She is teaching Fine Arts History at Ewha Womans University after returning to Korea. She is also a writer.

Her publications include FOR THOSE WHO STARTED MOM TIME, A CURTAIN CALL FOR KOREAN MODERN ART, and WOMAN'S ART MUSEUM. She participated in a garden art museum project, where she saw numerous gardens and flowers, and began paying real attention to flowers, which she had previously thought were merely decorative backgrounds in paintings. Then Henri Matisse's quote, "There are always flowers for those who want to see them," came to her mind. She has since begun researching flower paintings and showcases her findings in this series, offering readers fresh perspectives on appreciating these works of art.



FOR YOU, EMBARKING ON MOTHERHOOD (2018)

# THE CHRONICLES OF MY IMPULSE BUYING

THE CHRONICLES OF MY IMPULSE BUYING is a real record of a maximalist who brings individuals' taste and memories back to life in this age of homogenization under trends. The author asks, "What do I truly love?" in a world where everybody has similar-looking mobile phones, cars, clothes, and even poses in front of cameras. He tries to explore himself by taking a closer look at oddly endearing things he's collected. A candle holder in a unique shape, a weirdly curved chair, an exotic rug—all his collections are far from ordinary. This essay follows his record of purchasing such items to understand how such collections shaped his taste and how, in turn, his taste reshaped him.

The book consists of two chapters. Chapter 1 features stories about the collections he currently possesses, including numerous trial-and-error tales from his shopping adventures for the right things he truly loves, as well as his favorite places to shop for special items and his shopping philosophy. Chapter 2 focuses on stories of selective pieces to recall his memories from the past. Objects of the past, such as the then-popular brand jeans he adored back in his high school days, novels he used to secretly read alone, as well as the seasoned taste and good planning sense he gained through his reporting experiences, have all come together to make him whole today. Those objects remind him of feelings and memories that were once so familiar but have since faded.

"Do not let the world overtake you. Fill your world with your stuff.", the author says, believing that one cannot be truly 'me' until then.



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ISBN 9791141610487



## KIM DO-HOON

Reporter, writer, and critic.

He worked for the weekly film magazine Cine21, the men's fashion magazine GEEK, and the online media outlet HuffPost Korea. His publications include essays: A STRANGER, LET'S TALK ABOUT ROMANCE NOW, and CAN I RECALL MY MOVIE REVIEWS?



## MY HOBBY IS CHATTING, MY HUSBAND IS JAPANESE

For author Kim Iram, 'chatting' transcends a simple hobby or method of communication—no, the word summarizes her entire life. Living in Japan away from her home, she could connect with people whenever she was lonely or estranged through an online chatting app. These trivial connections transformed into dating, marriage, and even writing a book. At some point, these digital conversations became part of her daily routine, and one day, the stories laid out neatly on a white screen were turned into the Brunch Book Grand Prize. As Kim Iram puts it, "chatting is me." Through these conversations and records, she has lived grabbing solidly onto herself.

This book vividly portrays the author's realistic journey of dating and marrying her Japanese husband, as well as their journey to understand each other. When they first started dating, she often put down her husband's actions with the simple phrase, 'He's like that because he's Japanese.' Rather than the essence of 'that person,' everything was blanketed with the filter of a label: 'Japanese.' The more time they spent together, however, she began to realize: the most important thing in a relationship between two lovers should be their 'positions of understanding.' Although nationality and culture are certainly important, the resolution of conflicts is ultimately up to each of the two people, to open their hearts and approach each other. For this husband and wife, their cultural differences no longer became a wall to overcome, but just another way to laugh and enjoy getting to know each other even deeper.

MY HOBBY IS CHATTING, MY HUSBAND IS JAPANESE transcends its status as simply an international couple story, instead filled with portrayals of accepting and understanding each other's differences while maintaining love. Japan and Korea, garlic and ramen, politics and even growing succulents—the story of two people with different backgrounds coming together to share their own cultures and make a new life. Rather than being afraid of differences, this book quietly but firmly conveys the fact that we can only reach each other when we face each other, laugh, and share our own stories.



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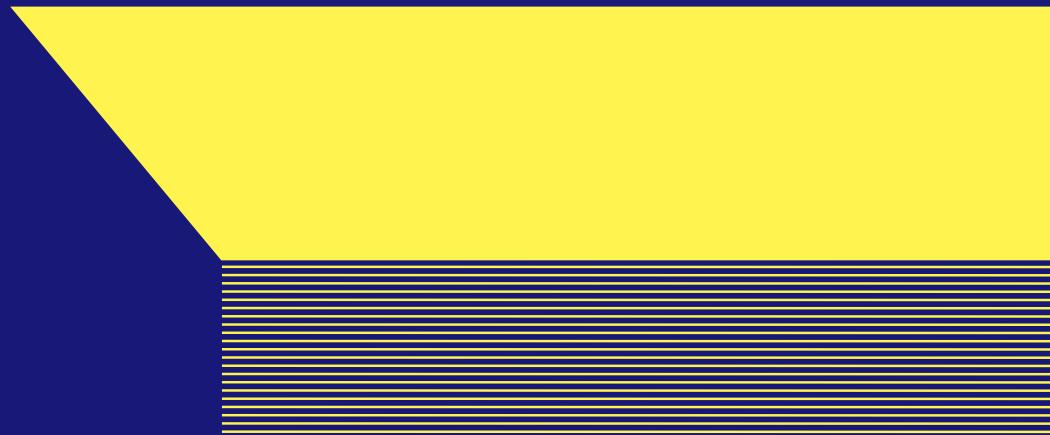
ISBN 9791158161941



### KIM IRAM

Kim Iram majored in Japanese literature at Dankook University and started living in Japan for the second time in 2012. Now, she laughs, cries, eats, drinks, and writes with her husband in a quiet rural village. MY HOBBY IS CHATTING, MY HUSBAND IS JAPANESE won the 12th Brunch Book Grand Prize (General Category).

# Webtoon Comics



## UNPLUGGED BOY 1, 2

UNPLUGGED BOY, the quintessential 90s romance manhwa capturing teenage love and coming-of-age. The nuanced emotions of youth—too complex to be reduced to a cliched ‘school youth drama’—unfold through the distinct personas of our 5 main characters. Hyun-gyeom, who might seem carefree but secretly cries over his parents’ fights. Ji-yul, who agonizes over becoming someone worthy of Hyungyeom. Lee-rak, the lonely delinquent tormented by suicidal impulses, and Go-ho, the class president who falls into a one-sided love for him. Even the arrogant Myeong-myeong, suffering from a love impossible to be fulfilled. The conflicting feelings of yearning for and fearing a pure heart intensify into fierce whirlwinds as they fall deeper in love. UNPLUGGED BOY contains the complete, radiant distillation of emotions emerging from a tempestuous adolescence.

Cheon Kye-young rose to prominence in the Korean romance manhwa industry with the bold direction, powerful dialogue, unsurpassably charming characters, and sophisticated story development of ‘UNPLUGGED BOY.’ When the work was serialized in the 1990s, hip-hop and idol culture had taken root into popular culture. By actively incorporating these elements into the comic and participating in contemporary culture with readers, UNPLUGGED BOY achieved explosive popularity. Countless memorable lines, such as ‘When I’m sad, I dance hip-hop,’ continue being quoted across generations to this day. Munhakdongne’s newly released revised edition of UNPLUGGED BOY maintains the essence of the 1997 first edition while featuring a fresh design capturing Hyun-gyeom’s pure spirit.



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## CHEON KYE-YOUNG

Born December 10, 1970. Won the grand prize at the 2nd Wink New Manhwa Artist Contest in 1996 with the short story ‘Talent.’ Has won the Our Manhwa of Today Award three times for AUDITION (1999), GIRL IN HIGH HEELS (2010), and LOVE ALARM (2022). Currently active across various fields including published manga, webtoons, and web novels.

## PUNJAISEE TOON: GRANDMA DASHING THE MOMENT VOL 1, 2

One day, the author's mother develops Alzheimer's disease. She was a novelist and professor who was always cheerful and vigorous. The moment her mom's memory begins to fade and things slowly start to fall apart, the author, Um Yoo-jin, the daughter, starts drawing cartoons in an attempt to capture vanishing memories. Numerous followers resonated with the cartoon series 'Punjaisee Toon,' posted on Instagram, which featured a woman's life and her positive attitude towards the illness. The series developed into the book 'Grandma Dashing the Moment.'

The 'Grandma' in the book can travel instantly to her youth, childhood, and back to the present, with a 'Pow!' While her memory keeps flickering like Christmas lights, 'Grandma' lights up the doctor's office, homes, and readers' hearts with her signature jokes and humor.

Readers sometimes laugh and sometimes cry as they witness how she makes laughter out of her illness, instead of hiding or covering it. Followers supported her with numerous cheering messages as the author serialized the cartoon on Instagram.

This book, however, is not a cool superhero's story. It also features stories of a family looking after 'Grandma,' who is slowly losing her memories. "Mom, it's okay to forget everything, because I remember them," says the daughter, and all family members support each other in their own ways to go through hardship. GRANDMA DASHING THE MOMENT shows us that, although we cannot avoid illness, we can keep living through the power of love, humor, and solidarity. It is a heartwarming family essay and a delightful, touching time-travel story.



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RIGHTS SALES  
China(Simplified Chinese)

## UM YOO-JIN

Studied Visual Design at Ewha Womans University, and illustration at Kingston University Graduate School in England. Capturing small and big moments of change in ordinary days gives her pleasure. She is particularly drawn to laughter and is interested in the relationships formed between people who share a similar appearance. She illustrated THREE DUCKS & A PHILOSOPHER; CHOICE OF LOVE; and GOING TO THE WOODS; and published picture books in England, including PEEPO FAIRIES; PEEPO PIRATES; and SAMMY SNAIL. She currently draws PUNJAISEE TOON on Instagram and works as a freelance illustrator in the field of publishing and broadcasting.

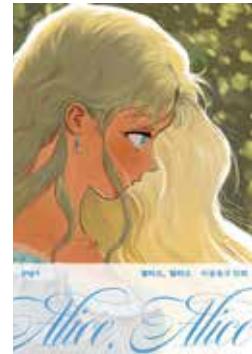


WHERE ARE YOU GOING, PUNJAISEE? (2022)  
PUNJAISEE FROM THE AILEN WORLD (2022)

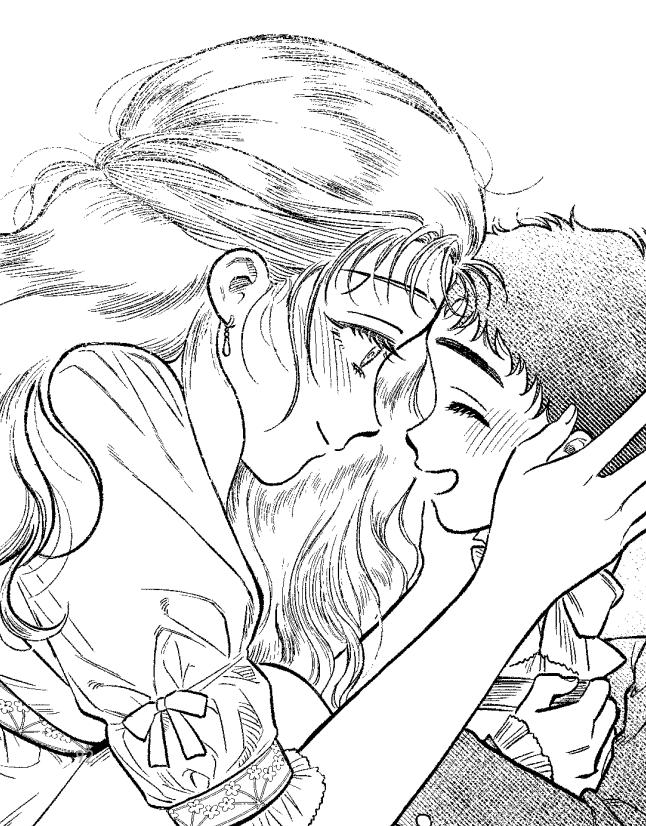
## ALICE, ALICE

Love and separation, death and reunion—these stories melt our hearts with their universality. The author, primarily known for self-published works, releases a new book this autumn titled ALICE, ALICE, a story of love, death, and reunion. The author showcases her unique and lovely imagination in her works, ranging from school dramas and strange stories to teen romance and derivative works with distinctive interpretations. What stands out with these cartoons is their aesthetic style, characterized as 'teen romance cartoons.' Characters with a soft and sentimental drawing style and delicate touches vividly express their emotions of joy, sadness, happiness, and lament, showing the true colors of the romantic comics genre.

Most romantic cartoon readers expect a happy ending. Instead of the usual romantic and heart-fluttering stories she typically draws, the author features the deep sorrow and agony of the female character who lost her loved one and wants to fall in love again ('Alice, Alice'). In the second short comic, 'I Will Wait For You', the character also loses another loved one, her dog, and has a strange encounter in a place with no ties. The author drew these comics thinking about irrational emotions initiated by death and cognitive distortion that followed her cat's death. Readers will burst into tears and find comfort in reading 'Alice, Alice,' which explores the irrationality and agony of inevitable death, and 'I Will Wait For You,' which illustrates how we let the agony pass by us.



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## 2009

Cartoonist. Publishing works on a self-publishing platform. Working on various short works and personally published CHIZURU IS BACK series. Participated in the 3rd volume. Young Cartoonist Short Work Collection WHEN THIS LETTER ARRIVES with 'Read The Letter For Me!'. Named after the favourite cartoonist, ONE.

## DONDEN

DONDEN follows the experiences of Inchan, a woman living alone in Japan, as she names various Japanese words, such as zen (a unit for chopsticks), goryosho (acceptance), and donden-gaeshi (a slang of the rearranging table setting in the banquet hall). Inchan, who went to Japan dreaming of becoming an animator, has a part-time job at banquet halls, where she experiences triple barriers as a woman, a foreigner, and an irregular worker. She strives to be a 'good person' in a foreign country; however, what she receives in return is often indifferent responses or misperceptions. As she realizes she is an absolute 'stranger' in this country, she wants to draw doodles of her uneasy yet vivid feelings.

The protagonist of the second short story is 'Auditor Park', an elementary school student and self-proclaimed communist. She starts a fight with a boy who insulted a housekeeper and creates conflicts with grown-ups as she pursues equality and justice. Soon, however, she encounters more complex conflicts as she confronts patriarchy. She experiences growing pains when she feels the gap between her ideals and reality, especially as she finds herself the daughter of a boss, and thus is treated specially by Mr. Hwang, who is extremely careful with her.

These two short stories feature essentially different characters and backgrounds to illustrate the multi-layered discrimination and confusion that women confront in our society, as well as their journey to finding their true selves. The author critically yet cheerfully demonstrates the complexities of an individual's inner self and the outer world.



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## MANRIP

Illustrator and animator.

## A SUMMER WITH KURO

Ever since the author met her pet dog, Kuro, at a street vendor's stand, the two have lived side-by-side. One day, when Kuro turned 16 years old, she exhibited symptoms of nausea and vomiting before being diagnosed with end-stage kidney disease. The doctor told the author that Kuro wouldn't be able to recover and that she must now prepare herself for an unexpected goodbye. He continued consulting with other veterinarians in hopes of saving Kuro. At the same time, she slowly became exhausted by the snowballing medical expenses and the around-the-clock care he had to provide.

The burden continued to increase as she became more financially strained, faced conflicts with her family, and others remained apathetic. Now that she always prioritized Kuro, her life was falling apart. Doctors gave different diagnoses and hopes every time, and she lost all hope. Finally, the author asked Kuro, "Kuro, what do you want?" Since then, she has only cared for Kuro's needs, enduring day to day to spend her last summer together with her pet dog.

A SUMMER WITH KURO is an essay comic where the author calmly portrays his journey of saying goodbye to his beloved pet dog. It features moments of life and death, from caregiving to death, funerals, and pet loss, offering quiet solace and empathy to those who live with pets.

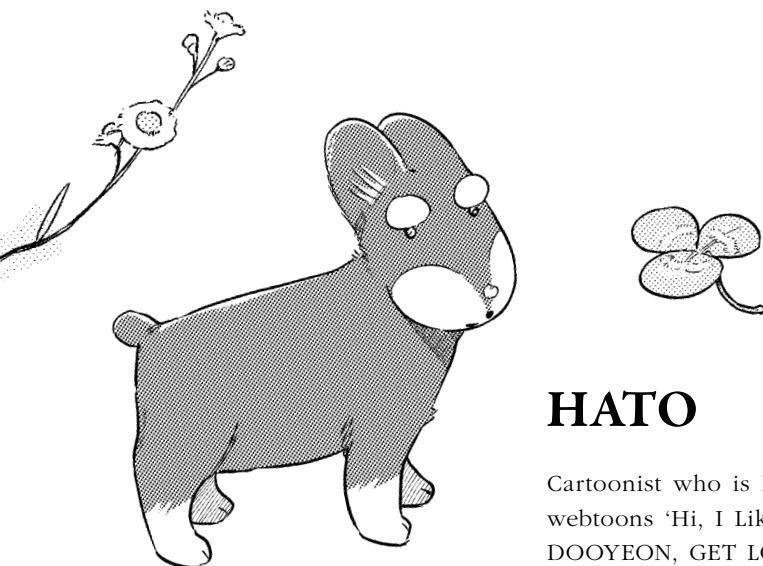


PAGES 248

PUBLICATION DATE

June 2025

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## HATO

Cartoonist who is highly interested in sustainability. Serialized webtoons 'Hi, I Like You', 'My Foolish Girlfriend', short comics DOOYEON, GET LOST, 'The World Is A Big Chunk of Lie'(from anthology EARLY DAYS).

## ON MY WAY TO MEET MY MOTHER

Koo Jung-in, author of FEELING EMPTY, presents her new picture book, ON MY WAY TO MEET MY MOTHER, which features a reunion between a mother and daughter who have been hurting each other for a long time. Sun-young, who declared DINK (Dual Income, No Kids), unexpectedly gets pregnant and decides to visit her mother for the first time in two years. On her way to meet her mother, she encounters memories of the past at every subway stop, along with a range of complicated emotions: resentment, hatred, sadness, sympathy, and love.

The book follows the journey of an individual who attempts to reconcile with her emotions by confronting the emotional wounds inflicted by her mother. It transcends a story of family reunion, as it shows how a woman, who is also a mother, reflects on her life. This story calmly yet intensely describes a range of emotions surrounding family relationships, particularly a mother-daughter relationship, which is probably the closest yet the most difficult to understand. It shares deep empathy and comfort with those who have similar emotional wounds.

The author highlights the complexities and nuanced emotions of family relationships in depth, utilizing her uniquely minimalist drawing style and refined lines. She makes this universal topic special by adding delicate touches to it, and the book stirs readers' emotions with the sincere story she shares from her heart.



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ISBN 9791141601928



## KOO JUNG-IN

Was an editorial designer, now a cartoonist living in a rural seaside village in Jeju Island, a daughter of a mother and a mother of a daughter. Wrote and illustrated FEELING EMPTY and TIME TO TELL SECRETS. FEELING EMPTY was chosen for the 2022 Book of Bucheon.



PAGES 300

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PAGES 328

PUBLICATION DATE  
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ISBN 9788954688826

## ANATOMY OF MEMORY 1-2

ANATOMY OF MEMORY is a domestic thriller that begins with the story of Ji-an, a housewife who lost her husband in a fire and was named as the primary suspect. She appears to be ordinary and vulnerable; however, her seemingly too-perfect alibi and indifferent attitude make her even more suspicious to the police. Then the second suspect, Hye-jung, appears, revealing she had an affair with Ji-an's husband, and the boundary between truth and lie blurs even further. Ji-an reacts calmly to Hye-jung's appearance, as if she knew everything. That's when she rewinds her memory, and readers are left to retrace her steps to find clues about the truth.

The book follows the traces of Ji-an's memory, delving into how vulnerable and distorted an individual's memory can be. Ji-an's confessions about her life reveal how she was unable to escape from her husband, who forced her to have three children, and how she had to manage the frustration she felt as a person to have everything focused on her family.

The truth gradually coming to light is a modern interpretation of a classic fairy tale, THE FAIRY AND THE WOODCUTTER, in the most dreadful and saddest version. The fairy's resolution to live in 'a world with no woodcutter' is seen as the bitterness and record of existence, not as a revenge.

The truth is gradually revealed through layered, repeated scenes, which become the most chilling and sorrowful modern interpretation of the classic fairy tale THE FAIRY AND THE WOODCUTTER, where the fairy's determination to dream of 'a world with no woodcutter' is not depicted as simple revenge. Rather, the tale serves as a record of the bitterness of existence and survival.

## ADD AUGUST

Serialized 'Anatomy of Memory' on Peanutoon, a webtoon service platform, from 2020 to 2022.

## IN SUMMER

First Korean Winner of the 16th Japanese International Comic Award

Selected Excellent Cartoon by Korea Manhwa Contents Agency

Two dramas about friendship, sometimes reckless and sometimes affectionate.

“What I’m working on is recording the landscape of everyday life clearly as possible that will one day disappear or possibly has already disappeared.”

From author’s words

A collection of cartoons about the moment when an accidental encounter turns into a magical fate. Joo-Chan, who is trying to find the soul of a cat that has left for heaven, and Ji-soo, a mysterious girl who followed him. Harry, who went on a trip after losing a friend she loved, and Chi-e who looks like her dead friend. The main characters, who have experienced the loss of their precious ones, accidentally meet a new relationship and begin to open up their hearts. The grass in the backyard of the apartment complex, which is presented with warm watercolor paintings, and the scenery of Okinawa Beach give the book a more mysterious color.



PAGES 180

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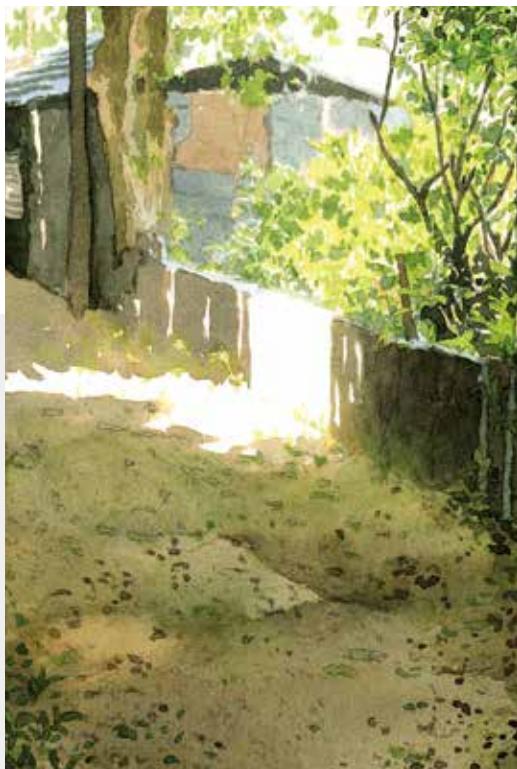
ISBN 9788954673099

RIGHTS SALES

French(World),

Taiwan(Complex Chinese),

China(Simplified Chinese)



## SEONG RYUL

Author of IN SUMMER. First Korean Winner of the 16th Japanese International Comic Award.

## BOOK OF REVELATIONS

In a city, a large-scale apartment complex is under local construction. Pastor Min-chan who received a call to evangelize came down and is leading a small church. One day, when Yang-lae seeks out the church, he initially welcomes the visitor as a new believer, but when he finds out that Yang-lae was an ex-convict, he kicks him out of the church in anger. On boxing day, Min-chan finds out from his wife the news that his son went missing from his nursery. Right in front of Min-chan appears a revelation that the one who kidnapped his son is Yang-lae...

Pastor Min-chan, who is trying to commit murder in obedience to the revelation of a god, Detective Yeon-hee, who is possessed by the apparition of her dead sister and is pursuing the suspect, and Yang-lae, who is trying to repay the violent assaults that his parents inflicted upon him. The conflicts and confrontations of the characters, who have all been given a revelation, will eventually end in catastrophe.

Serialized in 2022 on the Kakao webtoon Kakao page, BOOK OF REVELATIONS is a mystery/thriller comic with incidents set in Korea's provincial towns and churches. As demonstrated in Yeon's and Choi's previous work HELBOUND with their observational skills and keen eyes as backdrop, the two authors pose philosophical questions regarding 'religion' and 'human nature.' How come human beings try to believe and rely on things so blindly? Why do people need revelation to guide and lead them? Does absolute evil truly exist? The good and evil of characters cross dizzyingly and offer readers much confusion and thrill.



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## HELLBOUND 1,2

One day, in the middle of Seoul, one man receives a "hell notice"—An unknown being appears suddenly and tells his or her name, the fact that he or she is going to hell, and the remaining time and then disappears. And when the time comes, the reapers of hell come to tear and burn the recipient of the "hell notice". It is no use running.

It is God's sentence to humans, like a natural disaster. To deal with this surreal reality, people ask each other to repent, and society gets confused. In this chaotic and turbulent world, there is a figure who identifies and organizes the new laws of the world. Chairman Jeong Jin-soo of the New Truth Conference. He has kept track of the case of "hell notice" and warned people to live by justice. Is he a prophet who represents God's message? Or is he a cult leader? A story of hell that people created on earth, in the fear of hell.



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## YEON SANG-HO

Animation director, filmmaker, and producer. He graduated from the painting at Sangmyung University. He is the only director to be invited to the Cannes International Film Festival for both live-action and animation, and he holds the distinction of being the first director to be consecutively selected by Cannes for back-to-back films with *TRAIN TO BUSAN* and *PENINSULA*. He has written the story for the comic *HELL* and the screenplay for the drama *FREAK*.

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## CHOI GYU-SEOK

Cartoonist. He graduated from the comic studies at Sangmyung University. He made his debut in 1998 at Seoul Media Group Comic Contest. He has won the Short Story Award at the Seoul International Cartoon & Animation Festival, the Excellence Award at the Korea Cartoon Awards, the Grand Prize in the Children and Youth Category at the Korea Publishing Culture Awards, and the Today's Our Cartoon Awards and has been honored with the Bucheon International Comics Award for *IT'S TOO HARD TO CRY* in 2011 and *AWL* in 2018. A master in the lineage of Korean realistic comics, his works have been translated and published in many countries including the United States, Europe, and Japan.

## TOMATO, KNIFE, AND A KISS

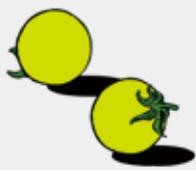
TOMATO, KNIFE, AND A KISS is the first short comic collection by cartoonist Angram, featuring five short comics.

The characters in each story are put to the test in their own way. A girl who suspects her boyfriend may be an alien and wants to find out the truth ('100 Brix'); an office worker who is swayed by the judgment from those around her for being "serious" (Ms. Hyeji, who Doesn't Want to Be Serious); parents who are trying to decide whether to tell their child a heavy truth ('The Dinosaur's Child'); an accountant struggling with the disposition of a large amount of gold in a world where the value of gold has plummeted ('Rusty Gold and an Old Dragon'); and women who are forced to embrace with "love" even the most nightmarish of partners ('Tomato, Knife, and A Kiss').

The author's debut comic as well as their representative work, THE PROFESSOR WHO READS LOVE STORIES, is a webtoon that explores the selfish and vulnerable side of humanity through the lens of a relationship destroyed by lies, and has been shed a new light to great acclaim even after its finale. angram's comics feature human beings who wander due to the absurdities of life, sometimes worse because of its uncertainty. Their comics are serious, contemplative, and not light-hearted, as they ponder the nature of life and humanity. At a time when "light-heartedness" is considered a virtue in comics, the certain gravitas of angram's work is a rare commodity. We look forward to reading their stories as a valuable addition to the establishment of comics as a creative medium, rather than something consumed as snack culture.



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## ANGRAM

Angram made her debut with THE PROFESSOR WHO READS LOVE STORIES; this is her first full-length publication. First posted on the author's blog in 2016, her work started serial publication on a webtoon platform BomToon in 2018, and was completed with 52 episodes. An Gram, being a Psychology major, pierces through the unchanging law of human relations with this work, showing deep understanding on the human mind and strong storytelling skills.

Twitter @an\_gram\_gram

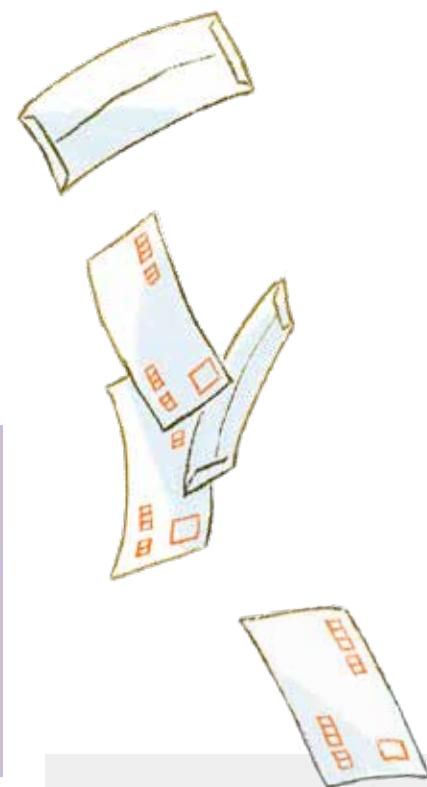
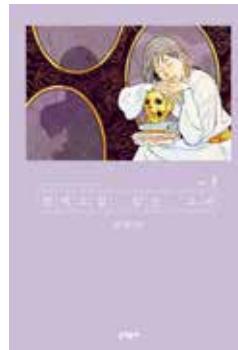
Website <https://www.angram.net/>

# THE PROFESSOR WHO READS LOVE STORIES 1-5

“Don’t we all have a secret—a secret, kept for a long time, to carry on with life.”

A meek, mild university professor “Jun-woo” is in his midlife, living with his daughter “Je-kyung.” The fact that Jun-woo enjoys reading love stories was kept a secret until one day, the novel he was reading goes on a long break and he sends a fan letter to the writer on a whim. The writer “Sung-min” was stuck on her story when she receives Jun-woo’s letter. She reaches out to Jun-woo for help. During their meeting, the two are reminded of a book and the name of an author in the past, and Jun-woo, without deeper thoughts, tells Sung-min his secret...

This drama webtoon tells the story of a father and daughter, each keeping a secret from the other, their conflict and reconciliation. The characters lie to each other, for their own good. They endure the guilt of their lies, pretend they are at peace, and live lonely lives—but everything is unveiled by accident.



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RIGHTS SALES World French

· To be made into a TV series





PAGES 224

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December 2021  
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## PURGATORY FUNERAL CAKES 1, 2

"We wish you well through the wild purgatory... Leave behind all your sorrow and pain of this lifetime in the soil of the Purgatory."

"Yeon-ok Dang". A cake bakery for the one and only funeral cake, specially customized to grieve the dead with love and longing. Those who sent away their loved ones to the land in between life and death, the Purgatory, head to Yeon-ok Dang to tell chef Mago and her ghost assistant Miro what the dead loved or liked, and what memories they shared. She listens to their stories and bakes a warm-hearted cake full of good luck, hoping the dead to safely reach the door leading to next life.

This omnibus story of bidding farewell to loved ones first received great attention on the crowdfunding platform "Tumblbug," reaching an incredible funding rate of 4,400%. It was then made into a publication with new episodes. The writer-illustrator Sanho is here to leave a mark in readers' heart with a strong, touching story using only two colors: red and black.



PAGES 256

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### RIGHTS SALES

Taiwan(Complex Chinese), Japan, United States (World English), Vietnam, Russia,

Türkiye, Ukraine

· To be made into a TV series

## SANHO

Sanho is a cartoonist and an illustrator. Majoring video art in college, she fully uses her experience of writing storyboards to stand strong on the ground of stories; and by growing her roots deep down in that ground with impressive illustrations, she came to us with her original work, PURGATORY FUNERAL CAKES.





