

The Hamburger Princess

Saia Stueng

Hamburger is my prince, my dream prince. With a full belly I get to my feet, feel how the hamburger in my stomach moves around in response to my own movements. In the mirror I see a fat, dark-haired and ugly hamburger princess.

Saia Stueng has written *The Hamburger Princess*, a novel for young adults. The novel is about Máren, a 17-year old high school student. At school, she has to deal with the other girls in her class, while at the same time dreaming of the school's Casanova. In the evening, she derives strength from her relationship with Máhtte.

The feeling I have at this present moment is a strong one.

I, *Máren*, a 17-year old high school student, elephant and hamburger princess, have gone and fallen in love with an old man.

Saia Stueng's novel deals with the complexity and multi-faceted nature of life, and Máren experiences both adversity as well as love's tender touch. The book contains elements of dark humour, in which sexuality, abuse of power, bullying and love go hand in hand.



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Saia Stueng (born 1993) grew up in Karasjok and has, for several years now, been engaged in social issues, both as a politician and a journalist. She has a Master's degree in language and literature from UIT – The Arctic University of Norway in Tromsø.

She has completed the creative writing courses both of the Norwegian Sami Parliament as well as the Sami Writers Association.

Saia Stueng has published numerous short stories and is a frequent contributor as a newspaper columnist. The Hamburger Princess is her debut novel and the first book in a trilogy. Her second book The Hamburger Princess – Destiny time was published in the spring of 2023. This book has been nominated for the Nordic Council's prize for 2024 in the "children's – youth literature" category.

"Dark humour, coarse language and taboos." Ávvir (sami newspaper)