

## Skalds childrens books

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**Erna Osland**

*A Children's Guide to World History*

**Lisbeth Dreyer, Per Ragnar Møkleby (ill.)**

*Gjermund the Wren*

**Tanja Markhus (ill.)**

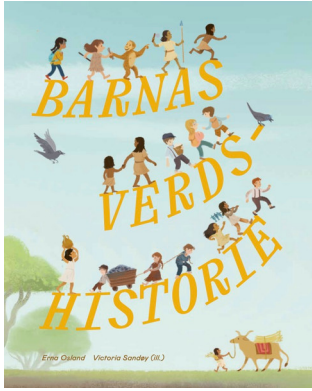
*In the forest*

SKALD FORLAG

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**BOOKS FROM  
NORWAY**

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Skald 2025  
96 pages  
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ISBN: 9788279593720

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Erna Osland

## *A Children's Guide to World History*

What did the world look like to children who lived thousands of years ago?

This book takes young readers through world history – from the children of the Stone Age who went hunting with sharp spears, to the girl who gathered grain along the Nile, and the boy who worked long days in a dangerous factory.

Through vivid stories, we see that our history is not only about kings and great events, but also about the everyday lives of the children who have lived in the middle of it all. History is not only about adults, but also about children and how they have helped shape the world we live in.

Erna Osland has written an ambitious and exciting story about children who have played, learned and lived throughout time. Together with the beautiful and colorful illustrations by Victoria Sandøy, the book is a treasure trove for curious school-age children and provides an engaging first encounter with world history.

*“A Children's guide to World History is an important book that gives children access to history in a way that's pedagogical and politically conscious. It shows how children have been treated throughout history, and how their position has changed in step with technological and societal developments.”*

- Winner of the Brage Prize 2025, from the jury's reasoning

*«Her får barna en bok de kan vokse med.»*

- Maya Troberg Djuve, Dagbladet

## Erna Osland

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Erna Osland (b. 1951) is originally from Høyanger and now lives in Masfjorden. Osland made her debut as an author in 1987 and has since written a number of books for children, young adults and adults.



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Skald 2023  
32 pages  
Original title: *Gjermund Gjerdesmett  
og andre frøykne fuglar*  
ISBN: 9788279593423

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Lisbeth Dreyer, Per Ragnar Møkleby (ill.)

## *Gjermund the Wren and other noisy birds*

We fly and we flap  
coo and crack  
chirp and croak  
trip and pull

then we sit on the stairs  
and roll and troll  
scout in the air  
and long and call

Then we chase around  
sail and wander  
soar and climb  
crash and land

We don't want to go into  
storm or calm  
we are at home in the wind  
we are free and wild

*Gjermund the Wren and other noisy birds* is an imaginative and playful gateway to the close and accessible Norwegian bird fauna for children. Author Lisbeth Dreyer has taken as her starting point quite ordinary birds that live quite ordinary bird lives, but has composed amusing situations in rhyme.

The book conveys the material in a way that both challenges, engages and inspires children to notice the bustling bird life that they have right outside their door, on their way to kindergarten and school.

Per Ragnar Møkleby makes the birds personable, but always grounded in how they actually look and live in nature – so that children can learn about and recognize the birds in the book.

*The book is sure to spark interest in these elusive creatures that fly in flocks, gather in the square, and build nests in trees. The birds live their lives side by side with us, but can still feel distant. The book inspires readers to become more observant of what is happening in nature.*

- Katrine Kalleklev, barnebokkritikk.no

*The book has a presence that engages and inspires. It makes the reader aware and challenges what we already know and know, or perhaps*

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*take for granted, about the birds that surround us. This is a wonderful picture book for the enjoyment of young and old in kindergarten and grades 1–4.*

- Guro Kristin Gjøsdaal, nynorsk bok.no

## Lisbeth Dreyer, Per Ragnar Møkleby (ill.)

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Lisbeth Dreyer is a writer and filmmaker from Bergen. She has made short films, documentaries and children's books. In 2008 she made her debut as a children's book author. She has published several books on Skald, both for children and adults.



Skald 2021  
12 pages  
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Et vrimebok om bier, biller og andre småkryp  
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Tanja Markhus (ill.)

## *In the forest*

*A board book about bees, beetles and other small insects*

In this lively book, illustrator Tanja Markhus takes children on a whirlwind journey among flowers and grass, pine cones and leaves.

Here they meet everything from beetles and ants to bees and butterflies, and can follow the various characters on adventures. Markhus imaginatively draws quirky characters and funny encounters. The book contains no text, so young and old readers can find their own stories here.

*Wonderful, beautiful and important book! Tetiana Kosovska draws so vividly that she gives nature herself. The detailed drawings are so full of stories that one can read the book over and over again and discover something new each time.*

- Svein Olav B. Langåker, prion.no

## Tanja Markhus (ill.)

Tanja Markhus (formerly Tetiana Kosovska, b. 1981) is from Ukraine and lives in Sunde in Sunnhordland. She works as a freelance illustrator and has previously illustrated several children's books for publishers in Switzerland and Germany. This is her first publication in Norway.

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