

Scandinavian children's literature

Tutor: Dr Alaric Hall

Workshop Outline

We'll take a close and critical look at what Scandinavians say about their culture through their children's literature. The class will read and discuss children's literature from across Scandinavia, including work by Hans Christian Andersen (Denmark), Astrid Lindgren (Sweden), and Tove Jansson (of Moomin fame, Finland). How has the region's culture changed over time, and does children's literature express national difference within Scandinavia? How has children's literature assimilated and responded to folklore? How have progressive Nordic politics been promoted--or are children's texts fundamentally conservative? Texts for study will be provided on the day, but participants are welcome to bring their own experiences of Scandinavian literature to the discussion as well.