



Illustrated  
Children's  
Fiction



Pauliina Vanhatalo (b. 1979) is a writer who has published numerous novels, autofictional works and popular fiction. *Kerttu the Pincher* is her first children's book. Anna Emilia Laitinen (b. 1983) has illustrated numerous books, many of them for French and Italian publishing houses. She is a winner of the Finnish Illustration Association's Kaiku Prize. *Kerttu the Pincher* is the fifth children's book she has illustrated.

Pauliina Vanhatalo & Anna Emilia Laitinen (illustrations)

## *Kerttu the Pincher*

*Kerttu K has two hands and ten fingers,  
and at the tip of each finger is a long nail.*

Kerttu thinks her family is mostly completely boring: her mother, her father, and her brother too. No one listens to her, understands her or pays her enough attention. But Kerttu has her methods: when she isn't noticed, she pinches people!

In the end the rest of the family has had enough, and Kerttu loses her lovely long nails. She is very cross – but luckily her mum understands the reason.

Pauliina Vanhatalo's first children's book bears the message that we all have our own inner worlds, which need space and which make us unique. Anna Emilia Laitinen's water-colour illustrations are tender and charming.

*“There's something I should have told you,” Mum says, wiping the tears from Kerttu's cheek.*

*It sounds like a secret. And maybe it is, a bit, for Mum tells her that there is another world inside everyone. It is a world of imagination, thinking, planning, dreaming and play. Memories are kept there. That's where you look for answers to questions. And it's where dreams come from.”*



*Nipistäjä-Kerttu*

S&S, 2019, 46 pp.

### READING MATERIAL

Finnish original, English translation

### RIGHTS INFORMATION

Helsinki Literary Agency  
info@helsinkiagency.fi

