

KAROLIINA KORHONEN

MATTI IN THE WALLET

"MATTI KUKKAROSSA" AND OTHER ADVENTURES
IN FINNISH LANGUAGE NIGHTMARES

ATENA

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OTAVA
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FOREWORD

I HAVE ALWAYS BEEN INTERESTED IN THE FINNISH LANGUAGE – ITS ORIGINS, ITS DEVELOPMENT AND, ESPECIALLY, ITS PECULIARITIES. PROVERBS, IDIOMS, AND SAYINGS ARE PARTICULARLY CLOSE TO MY HEART. THOUGH SHORT, THEY CONTAIN A SURPRISING NUMBER OF INSIGHTS INTO FINNISH CUSTOMS, HISTORY, AND CULTURE. YET, IF YOU START TO THINK ABOUT THEM LITERALLY OR TRY TO TRANSLATE THEM INTO ANOTHER LANGUAGE, YOU COME ACROSS MANY HUMOROUS ODDITIES. THIS LITERAL WAY OF THINKING IS WHAT GAVE BIRTH TO THE IDEA FOR THIS BOOK. “MATTI IN THE WALLET” SHOWS YOU WHAT FINNISH PROVERBS LOOK LIKE WHEN THEY ARE TAKEN LITERALLY.

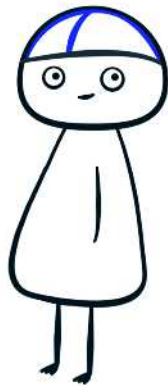
EVEN THOUGH A NUMBER OF THE PROVERBS IN THIS BOOK HAVE EQUIVALENTS IN OTHER LANGUAGES, I HAVE TRIED TO INCLUDE THOSE THAT ARE COMMON IN FINLAND WHILE ALSO BEING UNIQUELY FINNISH.

KAROLIINA KORHONEN

HOW TO READ THIS BOOK:

THE SAYING IN FINNISH

HERE IS LITERAL TRANSLATION OF THE SAYING



AND THE SAYING IS EXPLAINED HERE

POSKETON

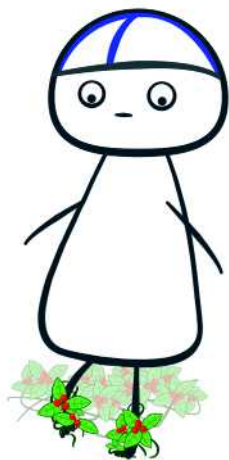
CHEEKLESS



NONSENSICAL, BIG, UNBELIEVABLE

TAKERTUA LILLUKANVARSIIN

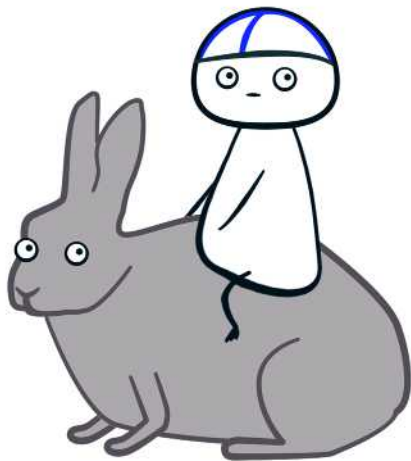
TO GET STUCK ON STONE BRAMBLE STALKS



TO PAY ATTENTION TO NONESSENTIAL DETAILS

EI TÄSSÄ JÄNIKSEN SELÄSSÄ OLLA

WE'RE NOT SITTING ON A RABBIT'S BACK



TO NOT BE IN A HURRY

SILLÄ SIPULI

THAT'S AN ONION



THAT'S IT! ALL DONE!