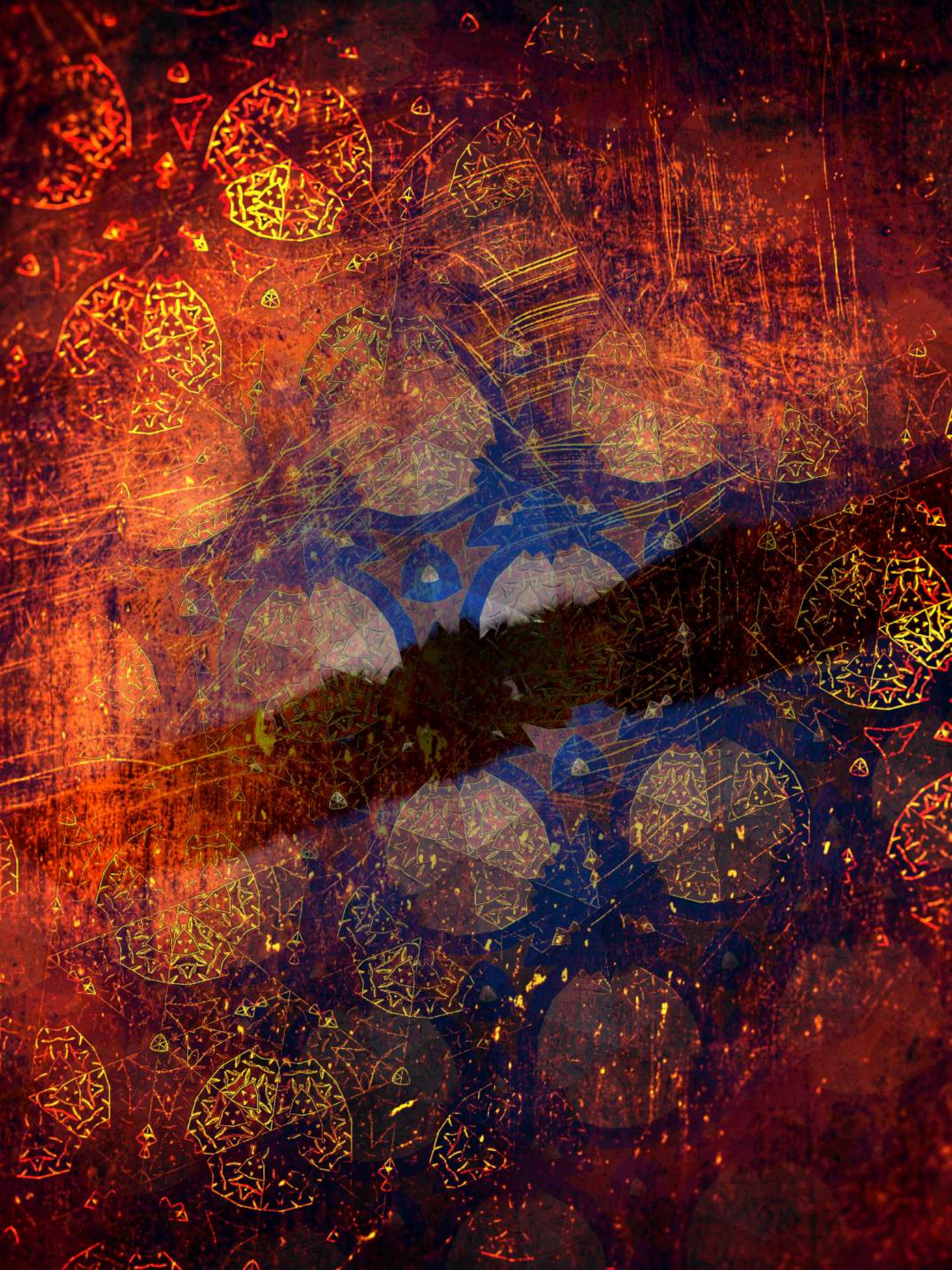




THE 13th TALE FROM THE NORTH

by Simo Sakari Aaltonen





The 13th Tale from the North by Simo Sakari Aaltonen. The moral right of the author has been asserted. Cover art by Simo Sakari Aaltonen.

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A Valentine

Tales from the North is a series of compositions for two pianists and pianos. I published the first set of 12 — *Book I* — as sheet music in July 2024.

I completed this *13th Tale* the day before my birthday in late October 2024, in time for Halloween. This 130-bar story is indeed dark, one of horror, but also of something more. That something made me decide to share this sheet music on Valentine's Day 2025. It will also be included in one of my future books.

As with my other *Tales from the North*, there are no markings for dynamics. I believe the music itself suggests appropriate choices.

The piece is in two sections, separated by a section break: a long slow burn, or maybe descent or deterioration, then the main events.

I can imagine this piece working equally well, for different reasons, if played either with or without the first section, so that possible performance or recording choice has my blessing for all future performers.

Happy Valentine's Day!

—Simo Sakari Aaltonen, Tampere, 14 February 2025

The 13th Tale from the North

(A Standalone Tale)

By Simo Sakari Aaltonen

♩ = 53

Pn. 1

Ped.

Pn. 2

Ped.

5

Pn. 1

Pn. 2

9

Pn. 1

Ped.

Pn. 2

Ped.

8vb-----

13

Pn. 1

Pn. 2

Ped.

Ped.

Ped.

8vb

Ped.

Ped.

Ped.

17

rit.

a tempo ♩ = 33 = 71

Pn. 1

Pn. 2

Ped.

Ped.

8vb

Ped.

Ped.

Ped.

20

Pn. 1

Pn. 2

Ped.

Ped.

Ped.

8vb

Ped.

23

Pn. 1

Pn. 2

Ped.

8vb

This system contains measures 23 through 26. Pn. 1 (Piano 1) has a melodic line starting in measure 23, featuring a sharp sign. Pn. 2 (Piano 2) has a long bass note in measure 23, with a pedal point (Ped.) indicated below. A dashed line labeled '8vb' indicates an octave shift in measure 24. The system ends with a repeat sign in measure 26.

27

Pn. 1

Pn. 2

Ped.

This system contains measures 27 through 30. Pn. 1 (Piano 1) has a melodic line starting in measure 27, featuring a sharp sign. Pn. 2 (Piano 2) has a long bass note in measure 27, with a pedal point (Ped.) indicated below. A dashed line indicates a continuation of the bass line. The system ends with a repeat sign in measure 30.

31

Pn. 1

Pn. 2

This system contains measures 31 through 34. Pn. 1 (Piano 1) has a melodic line starting in measure 31, featuring a sharp sign. Pn. 2 (Piano 2) has a long bass note in measure 31, with a pedal point (Ped.) indicated below. A dashed line indicates a continuation of the bass line. The system ends with a repeat sign in measure 34.

46

Pn. 1

8va

8va

Ped.

Pn. 2

Ped.

50

Pn. 1

Ped.

Pn. 2

Ped.

54

Pn. 1

Ped.

Pn. 2

Ped.

8vb

58

Pn. 1

Pn. 2

Ped.

Detailed description: This system covers measures 58 to 60. Pn. 1 (Piano 1) has a treble staff with a melodic line starting on a half note G4, followed by eighth notes A4, B4, C5, D5, and a half note E5. The bass staff has a whole note chord of G2-B2-D3 in measure 58, and a half note G2 in measure 59, with a 'Ped.' marking below. Pn. 2 (Piano 2) has a treble staff with whole rests. The bass staff has a whole note chord of G2-B2-D3 in measure 58, followed by a half note G2 in measure 59, and a half note G2 in measure 60, with a 'Ped.' marking below.

61

Pn. 1

Pn. 2

Ped.

15ma

8vb

Detailed description: This system covers measures 61 to 64. Pn. 1 (Piano 1) has a treble staff with a melodic line starting on a half note G4, followed by eighth notes A4, B4, C5, D5, and a half note E5. The bass staff has a half note G2 in measure 61, followed by a half note G2 in measure 62, and a half note G2 in measure 63, with a 'Ped.' marking below. Pn. 2 (Piano 2) has a treble staff with whole rests. The bass staff has a half note G2 in measure 61, followed by a half note G2 in measure 62, and a half note G2 in measure 63, with a 'Ped.' marking below. A '15ma' marking is above the treble staff in measure 63, and an '8vb' marking is below the bass staff in measure 63.

65

Pn. 1

Pn. 2

Detailed description: This system covers measures 65 to 68. Pn. 1 (Piano 1) has a treble staff with a melodic line starting on a half note G4, followed by eighth notes A4, B4, C5, D5, and a half note E5. The bass staff has a half note G2 in measure 65, followed by a half note G2 in measure 66, and a half note G2 in measure 67, with a 'Ped.' marking below. Pn. 2 (Piano 2) has a treble staff with whole rests. The bass staff has a half note G2 in measure 65, followed by a half note G2 in measure 66, and a half note G2 in measure 67, with a 'Ped.' marking below. Time signature changes from 6/4 to 4/4 are indicated in measures 67 and 68.

69

Pn. 1

Pn. 2

Ped.

8vb

73

Pn. 1

Pn. 2

8va

77

Pn. 1

Pn. 2

$\text{♩} = 105$

93

Pn. 1

Pn. 2

8vb

97

Pn. 1

Pn. 2

Ped.

8vb

101

Pn. 1

Pn. 2

$\text{♩} = 120$

Ped.

105 *8va*

Pn. 1

Pn. 2

Ped.

Ped.

8va

109 *8va*

Pn. 1

Pn. 2

Ped.

Ped.

Ped.

8va

$\bullet = 125$

113

Pn. 1

Pn. 2

Ped.

Ped.

Ped.

$\bullet = 120$

$\bullet = 95$

127

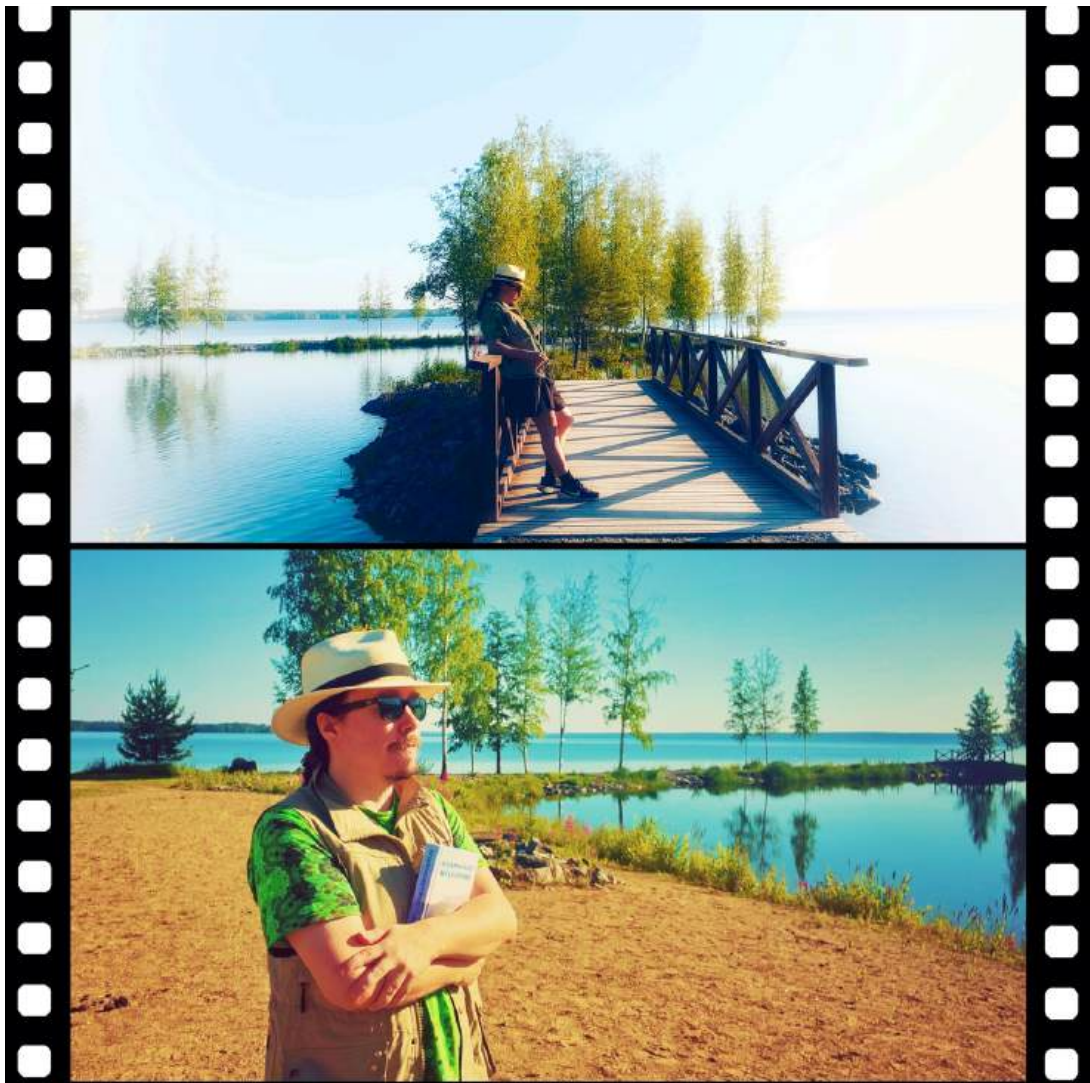
Pn. 1

Pn. 2

The musical score consists of two systems, Pn. 1 and Pn. 2, starting at measure 127. Pn. 1 features a treble staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a bass staff. The treble staff contains a half note F#, a quarter note G, a half note A, a half note B, and a half note C, with a slur over the last two. The bass staff contains a half note F, a half note G, a half note A, and a half note B, with a slur over the last two. Pn. 2 features a treble staff with four whole rests and a bass staff with a half note F, a half note G, a half note A, and a half note B, with a slur over the last two. A dashed line is positioned above the Pn. 1 staff. A flower-like symbol is located below the Pn. 2 staff at the end of the system.

**ABOUT
THE AUTHOR
(2025)**

**SIMO SAKARI
AALTONEN**
—WRITER & COMPOSER—



simosakariaaltonen.com

*Finnish writer, composer, filmmaker, visual artist, podcaster.
Has lived in Finland, Iceland, Paris, and the UK.*

BOOKS

Art & Love (*series, 2020–*)

At Dawn: Early Short Stories (*2022, Large Print Edition 2024*)

An Iceland Symphony, Op. 1: A Theatrical Symphony
for All Ages (*sheet music, 2021, 2nd Edition 2024*)

Land of Youth & Beauty: Early Poems (*2022, Large Print
Edition 2024*)

Tales from the North, Book I (*sheet music, 2024*)

What Now with Simo (*series, 2020–*)

You Never Know What You'll See in the Haunted
Garden (*limited series, 2019–*)

MUSIC

Early Music Archive (*2023 album*)

“In the Fog, Deep” (*2024 single*)

“Land of Youth & Beauty” (*2023 single*)

Passages Dark and Light (*2022 album*)

Passages Dark and Light II (*2024 album*)

Tales from the North, Book I (*2023 album*)

“That Dark, Dark Night” (*2024 single*)

The 13th Tale (*2024 album*)

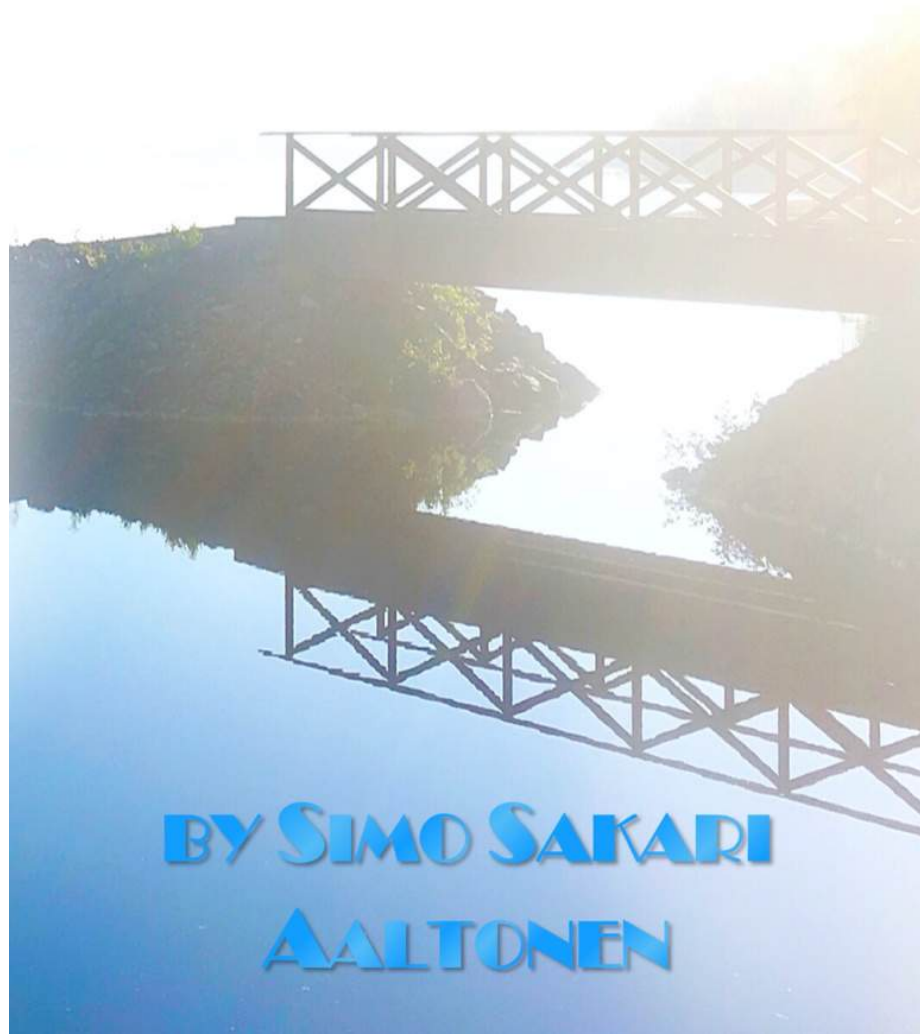
Official site: simosakariaaltonen.com

Bandcamp: simosakariaaltonen.bandcamp.com

Podcast hosting site: rss.com/podcasts/simo

YouTube: www.youtube.com/@SimoSakariAaltonen

AT DAWN: EARLY SHORT STORIES



This book collects my short stories so far. Written over a period of many years, they explore many fields:

Prose poetry, youthful night adventure, introspective science fiction, philosophical horror, chaptered dream exploration, humorous biographical detective fiction, seafaring sequel to one of a very young H. P. Lovecraft's stories, fragments...

This is the earliest harvest of my short fiction writing, from the dawn of my life. The stories were written when I was still looking for my most special things and the truest desires of my secret heart.

Having since found them, my future writings will mostly be very different. So while some of the stories in this collection feature strands I may develop further in those future stories, others will be the only ones of their kind I'll ever write.

But now, my fellow dreamer, it's dawn. The world is young again...



LAND OF YOUTH & BEAUTY: EARLY POEMS

by Simo Sakari Aaltonen

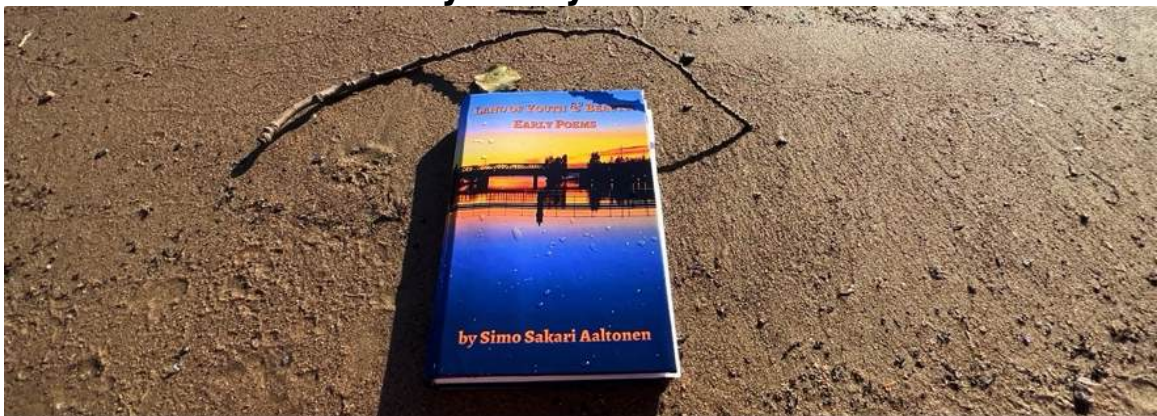
This book collects my poems so far. Written over more than two decades, they explore life in all its hues, dark and light and the rainbow in between:

*A marionette's dream, a pair of sonnets, a bayou
tragedy, whirling donuts, nocturnes and nightmares,
encounters in the dark and in sunlit moments...*

*Above and through all of it shimmers the greatest thing
of all: the Land of Youth & Beauty — the magic theatre
we enter when we love and feel truly loved.*

*“This happened when the world was young and love
could never die, when the skies flamed every morning
and it rained every night...”*

Land of Youth & Beauty: Early Poems — Lake Presentation



*A short film (12:36) viewable on my official YouTube
artist channel and my official site. The soundtrack was
later released as my first single, “Land of Youth &
Beauty”.*

FILM



My early filmed works (2015–) are featured on my YouTube channel and embedded on my official site.

With few exceptions, these short works were conceived and executed entirely by me: writing, directing, cinematography, lighting, music, sound recording and engineering, featured art, editing, occasional acting, and everything else needed.

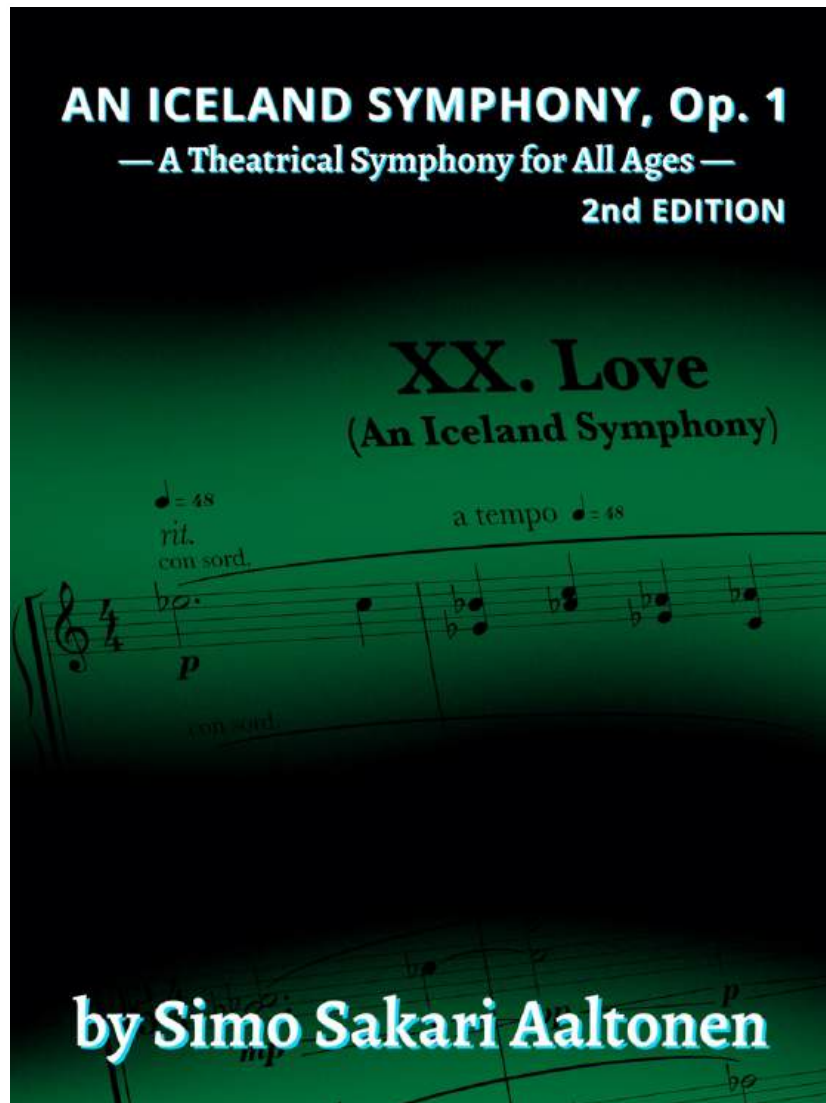
I look forward to working with actors in the future with my coming works in this field. You can find my full credits and these works listed on IMDb. I also actively continue with my screenwriting.

simosakariaaltonen.com
youtube.com/@SimoSakariAaltonen

MUSIC



From the bleakest dark to the brightest light, my music explores the full range of human experience. Behind it strives a soul hoping to reach likeminded others out there. You can buy all my released music on Bandcamp — where you can also read the detailed sleeve notes — and you can find it on numerous download and streaming platforms.



An Iceland Symphony is a musical composition of 21 sections involving theatrical elements. Its performance calls for musicians of all ages from the youngest to the oldest. This book includes the full sheet music complete with performance instructions. The 2nd Edition represents a meticulous revision of all the presentational aspects: layouts, use of space, clarity, readability.

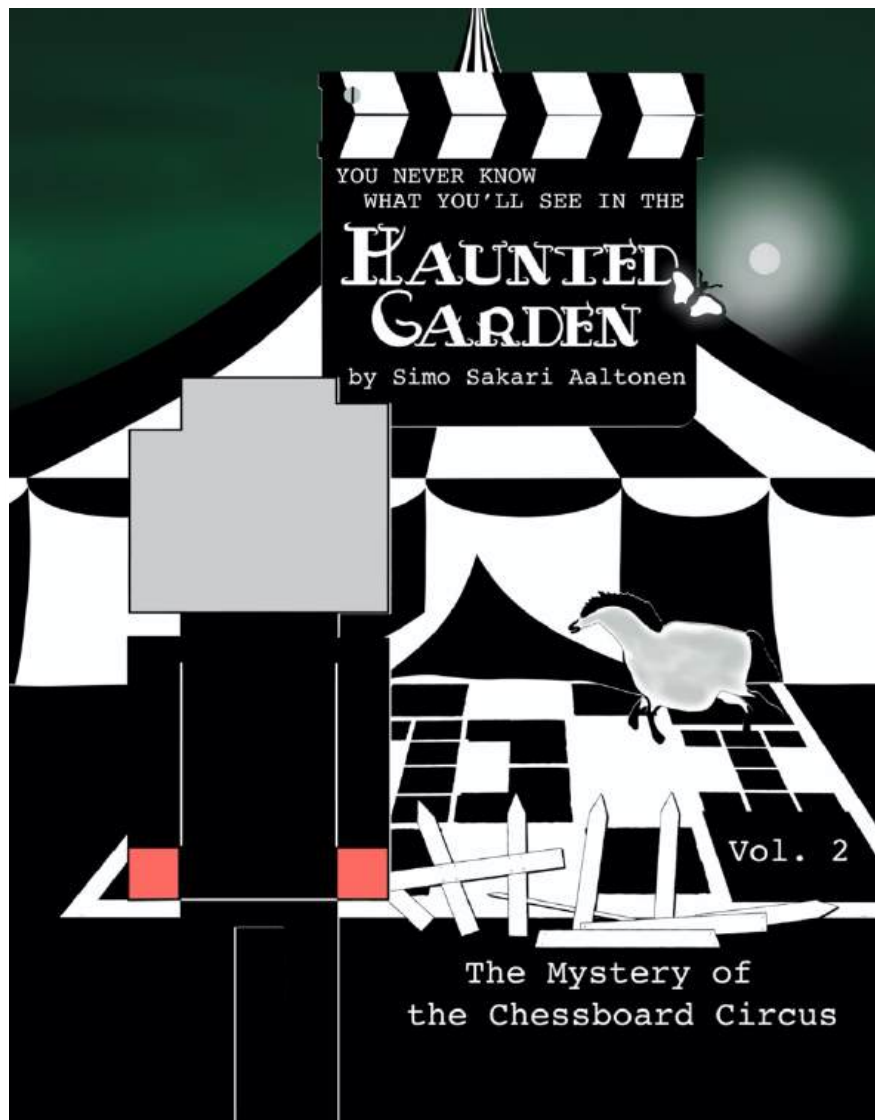


The first in a series of books with each volume featuring 124 sharp chapters on things and people that have brought warmth and meaning into the author's life and that he wants to help others discover.

A light, refreshing treasury of appreciations, thoughts, anecdotes, memories, observations, dreams, recommendations, love letters, and humorous asides, all crafted to nourish and maybe even inspire the reader's own creativity.



You Never Know What You'll See in the Haunted Garden *is a 3-part graphic novel featuring Rex the former game actor, Pregnant Horse of the Lascaux caves, and Alannah the butterfly. Vol. 1 introduces us to the mysterious Haunted Garden in Iceland with a series of visions.*



Vol. 2: The Mystery of the Chessboard Circus *involves our heroes in an adventure where the visions find form in a series of events. And as with the first volume, clues to the future already await discovery in this, our second journey into the dream world known as the Haunted Garden. Vol. 3...?*

— Season 3 —
WHAT NOW



WITH SIMO

**by Simo Sakari
Aaltonen**

This podcast is my central outlet for thoughts, feelings, passing fancies, memories, dreams, appreciations, and more.

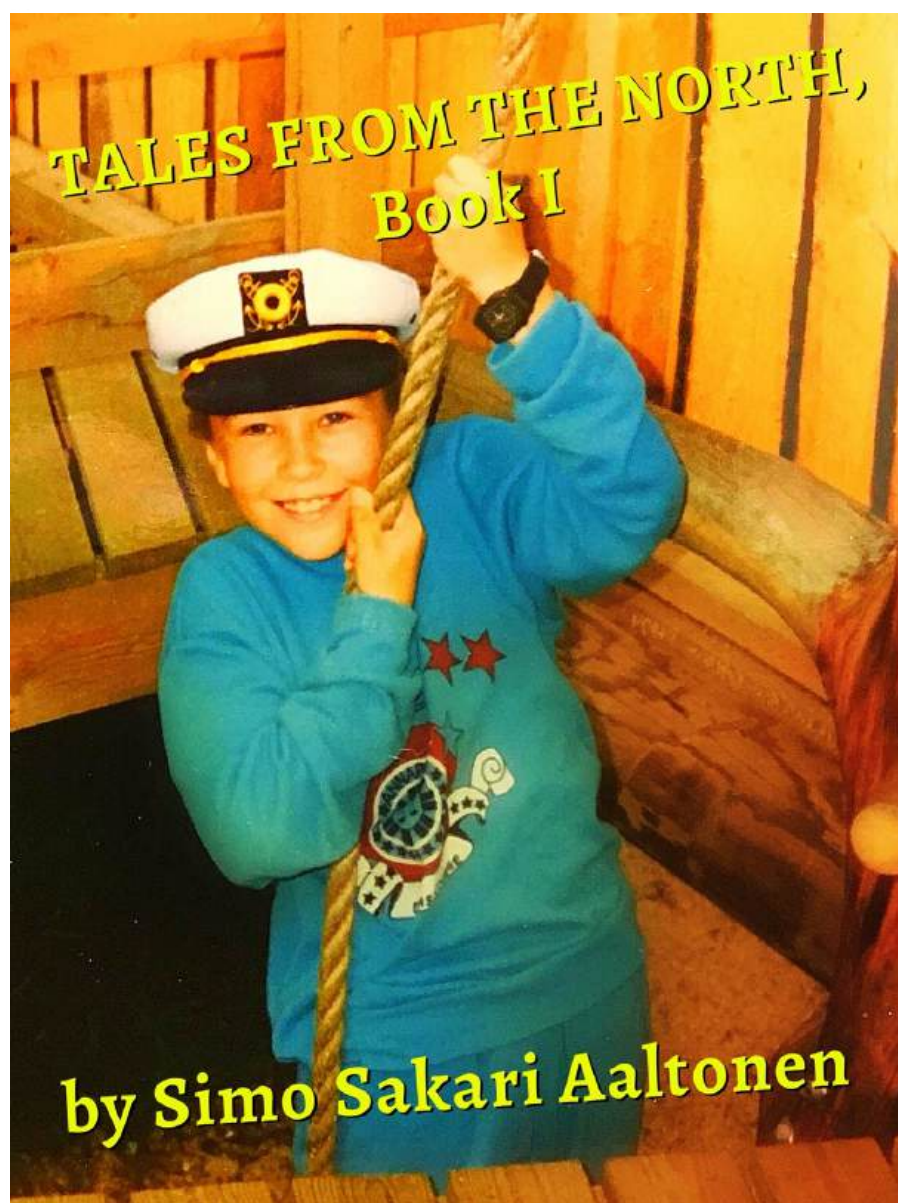
Maybe a better metaphor would be a flickering campfire after a long day out in the wild — or in the inner wild. Or perhaps a random book with a flashlight under the blanket in a beautiful summer cottage, somewhere in eternity.

I record every episode extemporaneously, transcribe them afterwards, and eventually collect each season into these printed volumes. Part journal, part memoir, part musings on art and life, part strange humour, and part me reaching out to other souls out there.

Every edition brings the more than 40,000 words of each season onto the printed page, for reading or leafing through at your own pace. This also makes the podcast available in its entirety to everyone with any hearing loss.

Unedited, unexpurgated, and with an introduction, a table-of-contents summary in the style of old books, and a few footnotes in every volume.

—Simo



Tales from the North, Book I is a set of 12 piano duets for two pianists and pianos. The pieces cover a wide range of moods, styles, and approaches using the composer's timeless musical language. 130 pages with a 10-page introduction.

