

SUMMARY

This thesis is called "Valguse Vang," and the objective of this work was to produce graphic illustrations for a number of poems written by poet Anna-Kristiina Pae and, ultimately, to create a book that combines these images and poems. The author of this thesis was responsible for all the graphics and illustrations in the book, as well as the design and production of the final physical copy.

The name "Valguse Vang" translates into English as "Prisoner of Light." As the name suggests, the poems often mention light in some way. However, the main subjects of the poems are Estonian nature, history, and people. The book takes the reader on a journey to the forests and fields of Estonia, telling the stories of trees and plants. It delves deep into one's soul, evoking long-forgotten feelings and memories of a colorful childhood, foggy summer mornings, and early autumn sensations. But the book also acquaints the reader with various problems that exist in the modern world's nature, such as nature not being considered sacred and untouchable, and people becoming disconnected from spirituality, among others.

The book is intended to be a hybrid work of two independent art styles: poetry and photography. While one form of art complements the other, creating a whole new experience for the reader, both visually and imaginatively. The author of this thesis created photographs for the majority of the poems after thoroughly analyzing each one of them. The images were mainly made using analog cameras and various films, some of which were expired and/or intentionally manipulated to achieve interesting and artistic effects. The visual style is ethereal, somewhat mystical, and dreamy. The pictures intentionally include numerous imperfections such as heavy film grain, unnatural colors, and film damage. Most of the pictures were taken using multiple exposure techniques. The images were developed and scanned in several different labs. Additionally, some of the pictures were taken with a digital camera. For some of the poems, the author created digital hand-drawn black and white illustrations, depicting the main subjects or objects mentioned in those poems.

Such a style is something the author had been practicing before the start of this project, and the co-author of the book, poet Anna-Kristiina Pae, found that style fascinating. The mutual appreciation for each other's art led to the creation of this book.

The main goal was not only to create a finished book but also to publish it through a publishing house in the future. However, the goal of this thesis is to at least create the very first copy of this book. The entire project is a profound personal development for the author, both spiritually and in terms of skills. The author learned a lot about her own style, as well as bookmaking, design, and illustration. As the work is a collaboration between two artists, communication skills have also improved tremendously. The author hopes that this work will provide potential readers with artistic enjoyment and also open their eyes to some problems, with the hope of bringing value to their lives.