

Mats Lövström – about myself and my writing

I alternate accommodation between Sundbyberg and Skåne. Nowadays, I am a full-time writer after working for forty years in the information technology industry. Among other things, I was involved in developing one of the first journal systems at Danderyd and led parts of the Riksdag's digitization in the late eighties. Since then, I have had the privilege of participating in many change projects in different roles, ranging from system designer to CEO, both in industry and the public sector.

Writing began at the Skrivarakademin in Stockholm in 2002. The debut "A Simple Upgrade" (now called Maktspel) came in 2015 and the sequel Ingrid in the spring of 2019 (translated into English in 2020). My books are written in a genre I call Fiality (Fiction-based on reality). They draw inspiration from the interior of the IT world and strange things that have happened there. The plan is for the books to hang together in a trilogy about "people in the IT world".

The most important thing about writing for me is to tell amusing stories, which will give you as a reader/listener a few light-hearted hours transferred to another world. The fates, adventures, conflicts and quarrels of the people are the essentials.

But the books also have a more serious purpose. The stories highlight what happens when managers/leaders/politicians/decision-makers let their own interests rule and do not take part in other people's knowledge, experiences, wishes and expressed concerns. With the books, I want to encourage anyone who doesn't think it's possible to influence upcoming and ongoing changes. It is indeed possible, but you have to learn to see through and understand what underlying motivations you're fighting against. And to all you decision-makers who without risk of your own responsibility unleashes projects that do not have an opportunity to land within the planned budget or on time and that in many cases harm the people who could have been helped by the change I will shout. Stop it, dare to listen to others, and have the courage to say no with force if you are not convinced!

Bottom line: I write the books to amuse and also worry. Maybe my crystal ball also gives an important premonition of what it might be like in the future? The novel "A Simple Upgrade", with its inside story about sexual harassment in the it-world, was published in 2015 - two years before #metoo broke.