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**To Scandinavia with Love, or, It's complicated:
Linguistic Border Dynamics in Contemporary Swedish and Finland-Swedish Literature**

Contemporary Nordic literature is an arena where linguistic borders are contested, transgressed, and re-drawn – not only between national languages, but within them as well. Both fiction and poetry make literary use of Scandinavian languages, Finnish, Sámi languages, English, Farsi, or Sinhala; as well as of dialects, multilingual slang, and jargon, for a multitude of purposes. Power asymmetries between languages and kinds of language are exposed, questioned and explored in aesthetically innovative ways. Often, matters of translation, belonging, and conflicted emotions lie at the heart of these works.

Literary multilingualism studies today are characterized by an increasing awareness of the dynamics of linguistic borders and its impact on literary texts and their readers. Literary texts contesting and crossing linguistic borders demand that readers participate and engage in readerly work that encompasses the translational, sensorial, and affective. Moreover, there is a need within literary studies for a multi-level approach to literary multilingualism, which considers not only linguistically heterogeneous texts and *œuvres*, but also the reception of multilingualism in the literary field.

With these theoretical developments in mind, the key note lecture explores a selection of 21st century Finland-Swedish and Swedish literary works where multilingualism is not only a central textual feature, but also of utmost thematic importance. The dynamics of literary multilingualism concerns, for example, the simultaneously intimate and painful entanglements of Scandinavian languages, the pluricentricity of Swedish and the tragi-comic processes of translation that it causes, or the fraught diversity of a linguistic minority. As a result, contemporary Swedish and Finland-Swedish literature brings questions of coherence and fragmentation to the forefront and work through them both thematically and aesthetically, offering not solutions, but new perspectives.

Bio: Julia Tidigs is university lecturer and associate professor in Nordic literature at the University of Helsinki. She is currently a research fellow in the project "The History of Swedish Children's Literature Research and Criticism in Finland" (Åbo Akademi University). She has published extensively on theoretical, aesthetic, and historical aspects of literary multilingualism.