

A Glimpse Through Their Eyes: *The Sunshine Children* by Christopher Crocker

Crocker, Christopher W. E. *The Sunshine Children*. Reykjavík: Hin kindin, 2023. 145 pages. ISBN: 978-9935-916-55-6.

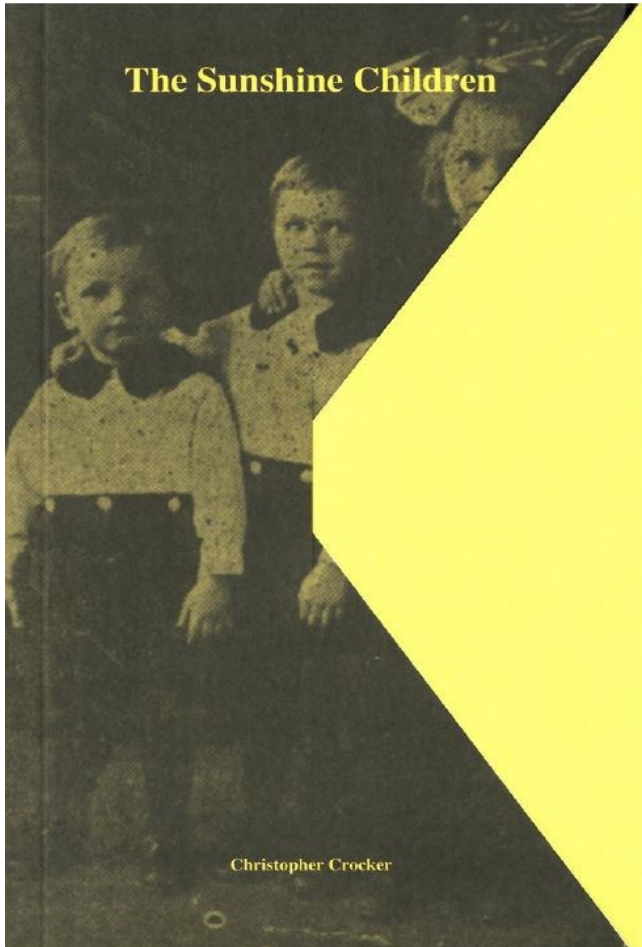


Figure 1: Front cover of *The Sunshine Children*

The Sunshine Children, written by Christopher Crocker, gives a unique overview of the Icelandic language press in Manitoba by shining light on the publications aimed towards or written by the children of the time. This overview includes how the children's publications were related to the regular periodicals to which they were attached, explores the target audience, and shows how the views of the editor shaped these children's newspapers.

The book cover itself, designed by Ólafur Þór Kristinsson and Helgi Páll Melsted, won an award for Book Cover Design from Félag íslenskra teiknara. *The Sunshine Children* is available for purchase through Bóksala stúdenta (University of Iceland book store) or the New Iceland Heritage Museum in Gimli, Manitoba.

Katrín Níelsdóttir is editor-in-chief of Icelandic Connection, in addition to being the Icelandic Special Collection and Rare Book Librarian at the University of Manitoba Libraries.

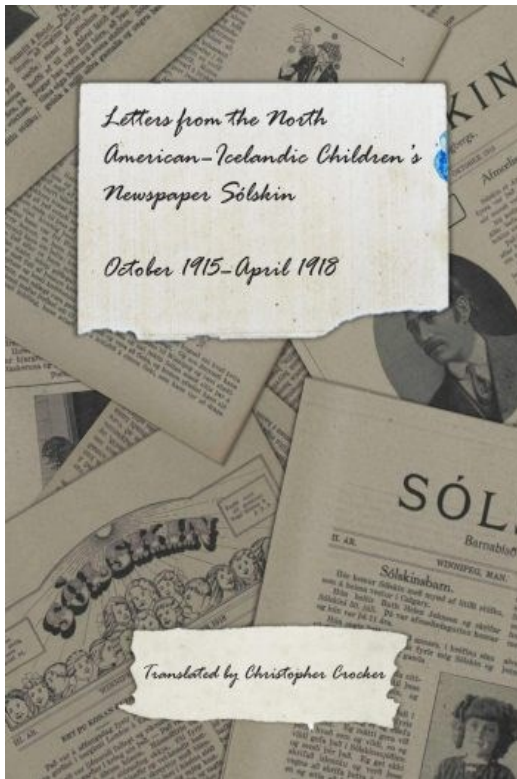


Figure 2: Cover from the book *Letters from the North American-Icelandic Children's Newspaper Sólskin*

The children's letters have been added to an Open Educational Resource through Press-books making them publicly available to read or work with. *Letters from the North American-Icelandic Children's Newspaper Sólskin* is a collection of 155 letters that were sent to the editor of the Winnipeg Icelandic language newspaper *Lögberg* from children of various ages, between October 1915 and April 1918. The letters are grouped by publication year and within these groups you can find the names and dates of each submission with both the original Icelandic text as well as the English translation.

The Icelandic and English texts on each page are a useful resource for Icelandic language students as they can compare the language used in Icelandic to an English equivalent.

On a historical note, it is intriguing to see the values and priorities of the young Icelandic speaking population in North America during these times. The topics range from their favorite pets to more serious topics such as the war. While the use of Icelandic language has declined in North America since the last century when these letters were written, with the English translation decedents and historians now have an open window through the eyes of the Sunshine Children.

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