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The 2009 Winner of the Best Finnish Crime Novel: Now Available in English

An abandoned house in Northern Helsinki, a dead body in the garage. Detective Lieutenant Kari Takamäki's homicide team gets a case that looks like a professional hit but they are perplexed by the crime scene.

Takamäki's trusted man Suhonen goes undercover as "Suikkanen," a gangster full of action. In pursuit of the murderer, he must operate within the grey area of the law. But, will the end justify the means?

Following in the footsteps of popular Scandinavian writers, Jarkko Sipila is introducing his critically acclaimed Takamäki series in the United States.

Jarkko Sipila, 45, is a Finnish author and journalist. He has been reporting Finnish crime news for MTV3 TV News and the Helsingin Sanomat newspaper for almost 20 years. He has written 11 novels and co-wrote a TV-series "Detectives Don't Sing" based on the Takamäki-books. The pilot episode drew almost a million Finnish viewers.

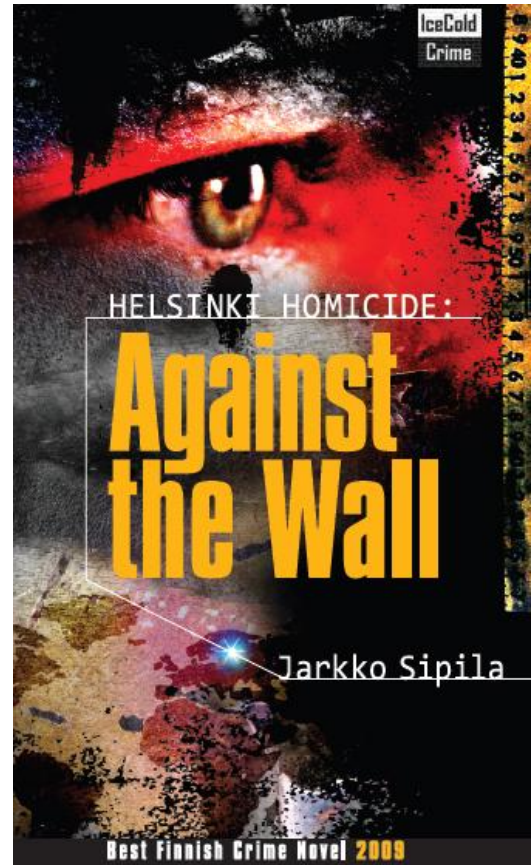
Helsinki Homicide: Against The Wall, the winner of the 2009 Finnish Crime Novel of the Year Award, is the first of Jarkko Sipila's nine Takamäki-novels to be translated into English. Through realistic characters and complex plots, the author discusses current topics surrounding Finnish society and unveils glimpses into his homeland.

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- Online: www.jarkkosipila.com or www.amazon.com
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Helsinki Homicide: Against the Wall

Author: Jarkko Sipila, www.jarkkosipila.com/english.html
Original Title: Seinää Vasten, Gummerus, Helsinki, Finland. 2008.
Translated by: Peter Ylitalo Leppa
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An excerpt from the novel:

Saarnikangas was already at the door and he opened it quickly. Suhonen suspected he had been lurking behind the door, peering out the peephole. A black Metallica T-shirt and tattered jeans draped over his skinny frame. His hair was tangled as usual.

Suhonen stepped past him into the studio, which opened up from the hallway to the left. A beat-up mattress lay on the floor surrounded by a cluttered pile of paperbacks. Next to the balcony door, a TV sat on the floor and a plastic potting table served as a dining table.

"Nice pad," Suhonen said.

"It's practical," Juha remarked. The junkie couldn't stand still, and he paced around the room.

"Quit trotting around and sit down," Suhonen said, pointing to a white plastic chair. Juha obeyed like a scared puppy. Suhonen remained standing a few yards away.

"About Eriksson."

"What about him?"

"What do you really know?"