

Isola, Anna-Maria - Larivaara, Meri - Mikkonen, Juha (eds.)

Everyday Experiences of Poverty

An anthology

(Orig. "Arkipäivän kokemuksia köyhyydestä")

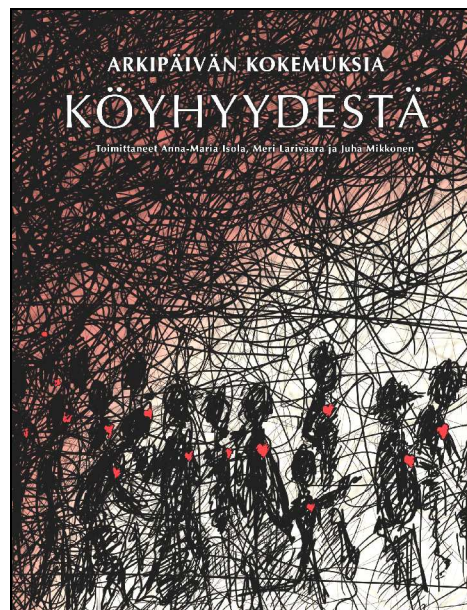
Avain Publishing Company. Otava Printing, Keuruu 2007.

Language: Finnish

Cover: Ville Terämä. Layout: Mona-Lisa Kulmala

Price € 20. 350 pages. ISBN 987-952-5524-49-9

The book was published on 18th of August 2007.



Back Cover

"Low-waged, unemployed, retired, the debtor, the single parent, a student ... and poor?"

What it is to be a poor in today's Finland?

The writing contest "Everyday Experiences of Poverty" was partaken of by 850 writers, who each had their own unique story on poverty in Finland. About one tenth of the texts were selected for this anthology. Stories reflect a wide range of trends and life experiences, with the result that poverty has become a permanent condition for many in contemporary Finland.

The writings reflect coping with the everyday life, precise monthly budgets and the shame caused by poverty. Stories deal with how demanding everyday life is, when there is no money for food, clothing or basic commodities.

Often people talk about poverty by using only figures and statistics. In this book the poor themselves will tell their stories. Life stories are the subjective realities of the poor and are not interpreted by researchers, experts or politicians.

Poverty is a phenomenon which easily hides from the more favoured part of the society. This anthology wishes to bring the poor and the people who are better off in the society to a better understanding of each other.

Adjunct Professor of Social Medicine, Dr. **Ilkka Taipale**, has written the foreword to the book.