

An American Prize-Winning Author in Lund



LUND. Professor **Anthony Grooms**, above left, a prize-winning American author of a number of novels, made a special visit to Lund last July to visit The Lundian's publisher, M. Arthur Diakit . Mr. Grooms had just finished a Fulbright Fellowship teaching creative writing at S dertorn University, one of many Folk High Schools (*Folkh gskolor*) in Sweden.

Anthony is the author of a collection of poetry, *Ice Poems* (1988); a collection of stories, *Trouble No More* (1995), which won the Lillian Smith Book Award in 1996; and a novel, *Bombingham* (2001), which won the Lillian Smith Book Award in 2002. His stories and poems also have been published in Callaloo, African American Review, Crab Orchard Review, George Washington Review, and other literary journals. He is the recipient of the Sokolov Scholarship from the Breadloaf Writing Conference, the Lamar lectureship from Wesleyan College, and an Arts Administration Fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts.

Though the subject matter of his work varies, Grooms's most notable writing focuses on characters struggling with the uncertainty of the civil rights movement. His novel, *Bombingham*, takes place in Birmingham in 1963, during the height of the tumult.

After a wonderful lunch and a great meeting of the minds on literature and the American artistic presence in Sweden, Mr. Grooms returned to Stockholm and then to Georgia where he is a Professor of Creative Writing at Kennesaw University. See his own account of his one year Fellowship in Sweden at: www.kennesaw.edu/english/newsletter/discoveries.html.

See also June Akers Seese's article on Mr. Grooms at www.georgiaencyclopedia.org/nge/Article.jsp?id=h-492

Foreign Students, Researchers and other visitors: Welcome to Lund

LUND is one of the oldest cities in Sweden. It is built on a medieval network of streets and bears a cultural identity provided by old buildings and surroundings that have been preserved for centuries. The City of Lund covers 442.7 square kms and has slightly more than 100,000 residents. More than 130 nationalities live here and the population of those between 20 – 29 is higher than the national average.

Lund is also the home of Lund University, which was founded in 1666 and is Scandinavia's largest university. If you are a foreign student or a guest researcher you will find Lund a charming city, and The Lundian a helpful newsletter. We provide tips and information on where to do your shopping, find restaurants, museums and other services in Lund in English so you can easily find the many places that make Lund Sweden's most enchanting city. You can add your own tips and advice for others by writing us at thelundian@hotmail.com.

And once again: Welcome to Lund!
The Editor.



Election Year Information on Page 8.

Vote for the
Angry Baby
Party

FOREIGN STUDENTS ARRIVE

LUND. THE CITIZENS of Lund opened their hearts and warmly welcomed the largest number of foreign students ever to arrive at one time in Sweden's "biggest little city." Foreign students filled the streets of central Lund and the halls of the AF building with their back-packs, books and thousands of questions to staff and anyone else who just happened to be in their paths. **See the special messages for the foreign students on pages two and three.**

Advice to Foreign Students



Jonas Bodström, Minister for Justice
Photo: Pawel Flato

PLEASE RESPECT the LAWS OF SWEDEN

REGARDLESS OF YOUR CITIZENSHIP, or if you are a student, researcher or a refugee, here are some common-sense things **not to do** in Sweden. Committing some are a criminal offense that is punishable by fine, imprisonment or both. In some cases you could get deported after being punished. So if you know that you can't do the time - don't do the crime!

Do Not smuggle in or use narcotic drugs. Do not drink and drive. The allowed alcohol in your blood when driving is 0.2 promile. With 1.0 promile you will be sent to prison for drunk driving. Do not drive without a license. Do not litter. Do not use racial, ethnic or homophobic slurs to offend someone. Do not get into physical fights, even if you feel you did not start a confrontation. Do not engage in forced sex, i.e., rape. (This goes for females forcing males, too!) It is also a crime to walk around naked, to urinate or defecate in public in Sweden. Do not engage in forgery or fraud, such as a Pyramid or other confidence game. Do not "buy" an obvious piece of stolen property. If you find someone else's property (like an unlocked bike, a watch or a wallet) the law requires you to take or send it to the local police station. The phone number to the local police station in Lund is 046-16 50 00. P.S. If you do get arrested on suspicion of committing a crime in Sweden, there is NO BAIL. The prosecutor has between one and five days to decide to prosecute because the evidence points to a serious crime - or release you if it doesn't. If evidence supports the suspicions, the local court will order you held for an additional 15 days, after which you will have your first hearing. Further investigation means you will be held till trial. A lawyer will be appointed for you by the court if you cannot afford one. Information about driving in Sweden in English is at: www.vv.se.

Check with a lawyer. Most of them speak good English and you'll find them under "ADVOKAT" in the Swedish Yellow Pages.

M. Arthur Diakité, Human Rights Lawyer

Radio AF's International Radio: A Historic Profile of Student Broadcasting in Lund

RADIO INTERNATIONAL is the radio programme for and by foreign students at Lund University. The non-profit station has roots in Sweden's history of local radio broadcasting. 1980 was the first year that local radio stations got their own airwaves, and by 1981 local stations were allowed to operate in Gothenburg, Umeå and Lund. By 1982 Radio Lund was in full swing, and Radio AF was part of the network of radio stations that shared air time.

But it was the remaining members of a group of foreign students who had established Lund's Foreign Student's Organisation (LUFSSO) back in 1972 who kicked off Radio LUFSSO, the first foreign student radio show. Broadcasting in English, Radio LUFSSO established the profile of English language broadcasting in Lund. The two-hour show which was produced by Arthur Diakité offered a variety of local information, news and music – with no sponsors, back then. The show's most talented host during those early days was a young man from Lund

named Tobias Björling, who hosted foreign students as DJs and guests as a regular feature. Radio LUFSSO ended its broadcasting around 1988, but Tobias and a new group of dedicated producers kept the ideals of local radio for Swedish and foreign students in Lund going for some time. One these was Partick Larsson, who went on to produce many other local radio shows in Southern Sweden.



Today's Radio International is sponsored by the International Secretariat at Lund University and a host of other student associations at Lund. It is hoped that all student associations will continue to keep the tradition of giving the foreign student community a radio platform to express opinions, ideas, information – or to just have fun on radio – live. It performs a valuable function in Lund, serves the community and the university well, and has more than 100 thousand listeners.

Stay tuned to Radio AF, 99.1 and 91.9 on your FM dial.
The Editor



Survival Guide Number 101

English - Swedish List of Foods You Might Buy to Survive*

*Originally translated by a foreign student, this list was revised by Elenor Axelsson of English International.

English Name	Swedish Name	Packaging
Dairy Products	<i>Mejeriprodukter</i>	
Eggs	<i>Ägg</i>	6 or 12 pack
Sour cream	<i>Gräddfil</i>	Blue/White Carton
French sour cream	<i>Crème fraiche</i>	Small round tub
Whole milk	<i>Mjöl</i>	Orange/White carton
1,5% milk	<i>1,5% mjölk</i>	Blue/White Carton
Skim milk	<i>Lätt mjölk</i>	Red/White Carton
Buttermilk	<i>Filmjölk</i>	Varied package
Coffee cream	<i>Kaffegrädde</i>	Green/White carton
Whipping cream	<i>Vispgrädde</i>	Red/White carton
Butter/unsalted	<i>Smör/osaltat</i>	Varied package
Butter/extra salted	<i>Smör/extra saltat</i>	Varied package
Margarine for baking	<i>Margarin</i>	Varied package
Liquid Margarine for baking	<i>Flytande Margarin</i>	Yellow plastic bottles
Margarine for table use	<i>Bordsmargarin</i>	Gold package
Extra-salted	<i>Extra saltat margarin</i>	Varied package
Dietary margarine	<i>Extra lätt margarin</i>	Varied package
Cheese spread	<i>Mjukost</i>	Blue/White tub
Mild common cheese	<i>Herrgårdsost</i>	See-through package
Cottage cheese	<i>Keso</i>	White package
Strong/sharp cheese	<i>Stark lagrad ost</i>	See-through package
Fish	<i>Fisk</i>	
Anchovies	<i>Ansjovis</i>	
Salmon	<i>Lax</i>	
Cod	<i>Torsk</i>	
Flounder	<i>Flundra</i>	
Plaice	<i>Rödspätta</i>	
Caviar	<i>Kaviar</i>	
Meat	<i>Kött</i>	
Ham	<i>Skinka</i>	
Liver Paté	<i>Leverpastej</i>	
Salami	<i>Salami</i>	
Liver	<i>Lever</i>	
Tongue	<i>Tunga</i>	
Brawn	<i>Sylta</i>	
Kidneys	<i>Njure</i>	
Ground beef	<i>Nötfärs</i>	
Ground pork	<i>Fläskfärs</i>	
Mixed ground meat	<i>Blandfärs</i>	
Pork chops	<i>Fläskkotletter</i>	
Lamb chops	<i>Lammkotletter</i>	
Beef brisket	<i>Oxbringa</i>	
Inner thigh of beef	<i>Ox innanlår</i>	
T-bone steak	<i>T-bone stek</i>	
Poultry	<i>Fågel</i>	
Chicken	<i>Kyckling</i>	
Goose	<i>Gås</i>	
Turkey	<i>Kalkon</i>	
Game	<i>Vilt</i>	
Moose	<i>Älg</i>	
Rabbit	<i>Kanin</i>	
Venison	<i>Rådjurskött</i>	



Know Your Rights

As a foreign student, researcher or naturalized Swedish citizen, you have rights you may not be aware of. If you want to learn about your basic human rights such as the right to non-discriminatory treatment and/or the right to vote in local elections (if you have a permanent residence permit), ask the foreign student advisor at the International Secretariate.

2006 is an Election Year in Sweden

On September 17th people go to the polls in Sweden to vote for their political party of choice to govern the country, often in a coalition with others, for the next four years. Such a composition of political assemblies in Sweden reflects the composition and political views of the electorate. This year's elections are for the national parliament, county councils and municipal assemblies. They will be held on Sunday, the 17th of September. The complete list of all the parties in this year's election can be found at www.val.se. If you are eligible to vote, make sure you do so. Below is a list of the largest parties in Sweden:

The Social Democratic Party of Sweden (SAP)

The Chairman of the Socialdemocratic Party and the prime minister of Sweden is Göran Persson

The Left party of Sweden

Chairman of the Swedish left party:
Lars Ohly

The Moderat Party of Sweden

Chairman of the Moderat Party:
Fredrik Reinfeldt

The Kristdemocratic Party of Sweden

Chairman: Göran Håglund

The Liberal Party of Sweden

Chairman: Lars Lejonborg

The Center Party of Sweden

Chairwoman of the Centerparty of Sweden:
Maud Olofsson

The Green Party of Sweden

Principal speakers: Maria Wetterstrand och
Peter Eriksson

**To find out if you are eligible to vote or for
information about the parties go to
www.val.se**

SIGHTSEEING IN LUND

Sightseeing tours in English can be arranged for you at the **Tourist Office, Kyrkogatan 11, Lund** (opposite the Cathedral). **Phone: 046 - 35 50 40**

Do Not Miss

**Lund's Culture Night (Kulturnatten) on
Saturday, September the 23rd**

Publish or Perish

If you have an article or opinion that you would like to share with others, send it to thelundian@hotmail.com

We publish pro-bono articles in
Swedish or English.

www.thelundian.com



**DON'T FORGET TO
VOTE IN ON SUNDAY,
17 OF SEPTEMBER**

**Minister of Education and
Culture Leif Pagrotsky**

Photo: Pawel Flato

New Degree Structure for Swedish Higher Education

Starting with the 2007 academic year, Swedish universities are switching to a new degree structure that fully conforms with the Bologna Process, a Europe-wide standardisation drive for higher education. "The reforms of 2007 are some of the most sweeping changes in decades for the Swedish higher education system," said education and culture minister Leif Pagrotsky when announcing the government's decision on June 21, 2006. "These changes will improve the quality and boost the internationalisation of Swedish higher education."

The new degree structure creates three tiers of higher education: A basic level, an advanced level, and a research level, each with minimum requirements for entry. Specific degrees at every level will be defined in terms of the expected results and abilities of students. Universities, too, will describe the goals of individual courses at the basic and advanced levels. Sweden will also switch from its national credit point system to the ECTS credit system, which is the European standard. Forty Swedish credit points equals 60 ECTS.

At the basic level of study, there are two degree options: the "högskoleexamen", achievable after two years of study, and the "kandidatexamen", or bachelor's degree, achievable after three years. At the advanced level of study, there are also two degree options: There is the new degree "masterexamen", for which students are eligible after two years of study at the advanced level. And there is the "magisterexamen", which corresponds to the current post-graduate degree offered by Swedish universities, though it will be limited to one-year study programmes. At the research level of study, students are eligible for a licentiate degree, "licentiatexamen", after two years of research, and a doctorate, "doktorsexamen", after four years of research.

Source: The Swedish Institute

Who Reads the Lundian

LUND receives more guest researchers and foreign students than statistics can accurately show. Though Swedish is clearly the first language of Lund (after all, we are in Sweden), English is definitely the *lingua franca* of the non-Swedish community here. This newsletter is published for them and their Swedish friends who also speak English.

To learn more about Sweden, Lund or The English International Association of Lund, visit our website: **www.thelundian.com** or send us an e-mail: thelundian@hotmail.com

Changing Perspectives

I arrived in Sweden on June 24th, five years ago, the last summer before September 11th would change America's outlook on the world forever. I remember hopping off of the train in Lund and walking in the wrong direction, not having a clue where I was or what sort of adventure was ahead of me. I'd left my life and my home in order to "find myself", to become a better "anthropologist" (the major I was studying at UC Berkeley), and to gain another perspective on the world. Back then I still had the illusion that I was a noble and courageous adventurer and that I would go back after a year having become a better, more important, more exceptional, more employable, and more sophisticated person. I was so naïve.

Within the first six months I did what I later realised was the most stereotypical thing-you guessed it-I met a guy. Although at the time I didn't know that it would cause such a drastic change in my life, it did speed up the language-learning process and help me find a cozy niche from which to explore the Swedish society. But soon my year was almost over and it was time to make some serious decisions. I would stay, I decided. Not just for love or other mushy nonsense (as I tried to convince myself), but for more time to delve even deeper into my understanding of Sweden. I was an anthropologist at heart and felt there was still so much more to learn and experience. I didn't feel I was finished with Sweden yet, but the truth was, Sweden wasn't finished with me.

Over the years, Sweden became me and I became it. It became my normality. You see, after living in a foreign country for a long time, you start to forget what is "normal"-the definition of "normal" becomes adapted to the things you see every day. What was once foreign becomes suddenly, well... not so foreign when it becomes a part of daily life. I am no longer a tourist. After five years of living here in Sweden, these routines look a lot more like life to me than anything else.

Still I sometimes realize just how unusual my life really is. Just for example, how many Americans can meet Iraqis on a daily basis without feelings of fear or animosity? Perhaps not many, but I do. Every day, in fact. A year ago, my boyfriend and I moved from Lund to Malmö and the area where we live is largely populated by immigrants, many of which are from Iraq, among other places, and they've come to Sweden to seek refuge in a place where they can be free to have their own political and religious beliefs, to live and prosper with their families, without the threats of war, poverty, persecution and oppression.

My Swedish boyfriend of almost 5 years works as a physical therapist for the Red Cross' Center for Victims of War and Torture. I know a bit about what his patients have been through...unmentionable horrors that they will carry with them, physically and mentally, for the rest of their lives. One time my boyfriend and his Iraqi group were going out on an excursion and they kindly invited me to come along. I had a great time and felt so welcomed. Another time I sent them a batch of freshly baked chocolate-chip cookies and they were so grateful to me.

In my daily life I come into contact with these people-at the drugstore, the restaurant down the street, at the local

college, in my volunteer work with school-children. I see them as people, like myself. People who love, who hurt, who have ambitions, who have history, who have hope. They are even immigrants like myself! In this parallel universe, that's exactly what I am here. Strange, huh? And I, like them, have to struggle a little bit every day to feel "normal" here, because we wouldn't feel normal anywhere else either. You see? Because when you learn or experience something new, you can't really go back to the way you were before.

I've gone back and visited my family and friends a few times, although lack of funds has made it difficult. And every time I've been there, I haven't really felt the same. I can't "be American" anymore, just like I can never "be Swedish". I will always be something in between, and at the same time, I think, something more than both of these put together. That's what we all are-we who have come from other lands, taking with us pieces of our past and trying to put them into a future where the pieces don't always seem to fit or have a place. That's what we all are, whether we come from a war torn country or a selfish, introverted super-power, and in that we are the same. We see more. We see the world and ourselves more clearly, and we've learned what I believe to be the most important skill of all-to be able to see from different angles simultaneously.

I believe it is essential for all of us to at least try to make our eyes see that which we call "foreign" as something "normal". That's why I think travel and being open-minded is good for the soul and for humanity in general. It's when people get so locked in themselves and their own understanding of the world that racism and intolerance can thrive. People have to continuously work on their ability to look outside of themselves, to change the perspective from which they view things, and to force themselves to try to understand things outside of the rules that they know.

Now I speak Swedish even in my dreams and I see the likelihood of this being the future home of my children. But whether it is or is not, Sweden will still be a permanent part of me. In the same way, I will still have my funny American accent, even after 25, 45, or 65 years, as a reminder of who I once was and the part of me that is always with me. At this present time, I am still trying to make the puzzle pieces of the last culture fit into the spaces made by the new. You see-everything I did to be good and succeed in the US has proved to be nearly useless here, and I know I am not alone in this. My perfect grades, my ambition, getting into Berkeley, learning another language fluently-these things hold almost no value for me here, and instead it is other things that count-things that I have already missed out on or would have to do all over again if I really wanted to complete my puzzle. But I'm happy to know what I now know and hopefully everything else will eventually fall into place. I made a choice, not at all as glamorous as I once thought it would be, but it is my life, and with out it, I wouldn't be me.

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