

Merethe Lindstrøm

Days in the History of Silence

Dager i stillhetens historie

Genre: Fiction
Category: Novel
Publisher: Aschehoug
Year: 2011
Pages: 215
English edition available

An elderly woman thinks about her former housekeeper, a woman her and her husband were close to for a period of time, before abruptly dismissing her. Everyone but she and her husband question what happened. The couple has silently agreed to not discuss their past. While he becomes more and more closed up, she tries to break out of the isolation and silence, for instance by speaking to a priest.

The novel is about the love between two people who have made important choices that define their entire existence, just to realize that some things can't be omitted. The past not only resurfaces, it has been there all along.

Awarded the Nordic Council Literary Prize 2012 and the Norwegian Literary Critics' Prize 2011.



'Merethe Lindstrøm shows the suggestive power of a writer who has faith in her material. The result is a little masterpiece of a book (...) Through an elegant, epic technique of cuttings, she creates a textual mosaic of a life that deserves a multitude of readers.'

Dagbladet

'Stylish and clever. Lindstrøm is not only an outstanding, but also an intelligent, stylist.'

Dag og Tid

'Something as rare as an author it is essential to read.'

Aftenposten



Photo: Ellen Lande Gossner

Merethe Lindstrøm made her debut in 1983 with a collection of short stories, and has since published a number of short stories, novels and a children's book.

Her novel *The Stone Collectors* (1996) won her two awards, and she was also nominated for the prestigious 2008 Nordic Council's Literary Prize and the Norwegian Critics' Award for her short story collection *The Guests*.

In 2008, she was awarded the Dobloug Prize for her entire literary work.

Foreign sales

Bulgaria, Croatia, Denmark, Estonia, Faroe Islands, France, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, India/Malayalam, Macedonia, Portuguese, Serbia, Sweden, UK and USA

Awards

The Dobloug Prize 2008

Previous titles

Selected:

Gjestene (The Guests), 2007

Barnejegeren (The Child Searcher), 2005

Ingenting om mørket (Nothing about the Dark), 2003

Natthjem (A Shelter for the Night), 2002

Stedfortrederen (The Substitute), 1997

Steinsamlere (The Stone Collectors), 1996

Svømme under vann (Swimming under Water), 1994

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