

## Jostein Gaarder

FICTION

### The orange girl *Appelsinpiken*

2003  
175 Pages

"My father died eleven years ago. I was only four then, I never thought I'd hear from him again, but now we're writing a book together."

To Georg Røed, his father is no more than a shadow, a distant memory. But then one day his grandmother discovers some papers stuffed into the lining of an old red pushchair. The pages are a letter to Georg, written just before his father died, and a story, The Orange Girl.

But The Orange Girl is no ordinary story – it is a riddle from the past and centres around an incident in his father's youth. One day he boarded a tram and was captivated by a beautiful girl standing in the aisle, clutching a huge paper bag of luscious-looking oranges. Suddenly the tram gave a jolt and he stumbled forward, sending the oranges flying in all directions.

Since that day, his father became obsessed with finding out the identity of the Orange Girl, and now, from beyond the grave, he is asking his son to help him solve the puzzle...

"A whimsical, thought-provoking story, with more than one surprise in store"  
(Good Book Guide)

"It should be read by all" (Vogue)

"A modern fairytale" (Heat)

In 1991, when Jostein Gaarder wrote *Sophie's World*, he believed that a novel on the history of philosophy would appeal only to a specialist readership. In 1995 the book was the most sold novel in the world.

To date *Sophie's World* has been translated into 53 languages and has sold over 25 million copies. An unknown number of pirate editions also exist. Jostein Gaarder's other works, both his children's books and adult novels such as *The Solitaire Mystery*, *Through a Glass, Darkly*, *Vita Brevis* and *The Ringmaster's Daughter* have proved hugely popular and been published in a host of countries.

Gaarder's profound personal commitment and great fund of knowledge have inspired readers all over the world to think and ask questions about ourselves, our place in history, and the world around us.

#### SELECTED TITLES

*Kabalmysteriet*, 1990.  
*Sofies verden*, 1991.  
*Julemysteriet*, 1992.  
*Bibbi Bokkens magiske bibliotek*, 1993 (with Klaus Hagerup).  
*I et spel, i en gåte*, 1993.  
*Vita Brevis*, 1996.  
*Maya*, 1999.  
*Sirkusdirektørens datter*, 2001.  
*De gule dvergene*, 2006.

#### RIGHTSHOLDER

Aschehoug Agency  
P.O. Box 363 Sentrum  
NO-0102 Oslo  
Tel: + 47 22 40 03 58  
Fax: +47 22 20 63 95  
epost@aschehougagency.no  
www.aschehougagency.no

"...makes you cry without feeling that you've been tricked... a youth novel with a bold approach to the really big questions; life and death." (Dagbladet)

"...a love-story of the classical sort" (VG)

"This book will captivate young and old readers alike with its gripping style and exciting, bittersweet story..." (Aftenposten)

"A little miracle of a novel..." (Kristeligt Dagblad, Copenhagen)

Aschehoug 2003