

Roy Jacobsen

The Unseen

De usynlige

Genre: Fiction
Category: Novel
Publisher: Cappelen Damm
Year: 2013
Pages: 256
English edition available

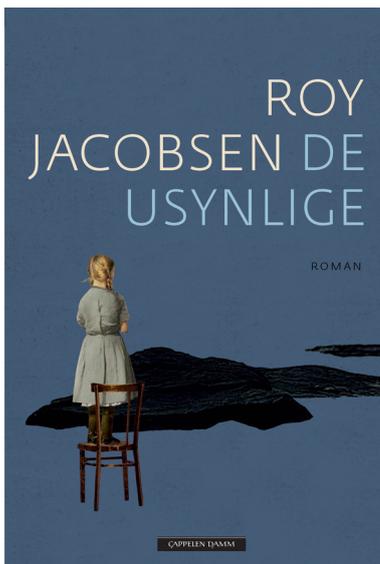
Again, Roy Jacobsen has written a novel about an unlikely heroine, and he does it better than ever before. The invisible is a monument over human courage and life-saving practical and social knowledge.

The novel is set in the first half of the 20th Century on an island on the North-Western coast of Norway (more precisely Helgelandskysten). The island is small, there is only space for the Barrøy family. Life on the island is difficult, and Jacobsen's descriptions of man and nature are breath-taking. Still, there is plenty of light here, even humor. The family's love for their environment is brilliantly communicated. A life somewhere else is unthinkable to them. This is their paradise on Earth.

The family's daily work is a balancing act between refining the riches that wild nature so generously offers, and surviving in the very same wild nature that takes lives.

The Invisible was sold to six countries prior to publication, and went straight to the bestseller list, 5th place first week, 1st place second week. It has received fantastic reviews, and was chosen the book of the month in Bestselgerklubben (major book club).

Longlisted for the Man Booker International Prize 2017



'The quiet island life of a Norwegian family is evoked in sparse, sublime prose.'

The Financial Times

"De usynlige is a modern masterpiece (...) Roy Jacobsen's new book will remain a central novel in Norwegian literature."

Klassekampen

"...Roy Jacobsen at his very best. ... De usynlige is simply a fantastic novel."

Dagbladet



Photo: Fredrik Arff

Roy Jacobsen is one of the most celebrated and influential contemporary writers in Norway, with his four collections of short stories, eleven novels, a biography and a children's book. From his sensational debut in 1982, with the collection of short stories *Fangeliv (Prison Life)*, he has developed into an original, intense and analytical author with a special interest in the underlying psychological interplay in human relationships. Jacobsen's great break-through came in 1991 with the novel *Seierherrene (The Conquerors)* - which gave him a wide audience and excellent reviews

Foreign sales

Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Catalonia, China, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Faroe Islands, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Lithuania, Macedonia, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Republic Of Korea, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey, UK

Awards

SELECTED:

Tarjei Vesaas' Debutant Prize 1982

The Cappelen Prize 1997

The Critics' Prize 1989

The Booksellers' Prize 1991 for *Seierherrene*

The Gyldendal Reward 2006 for *Hoggerne*

Shortlisted for the IMPAC Dublin Literary Award

2009 for *Hoggerne*

The Booksellers' Prize 2009 for *Vidunderbarn*

Previous titles

(SELECTED)

Anger, 2011

Vidunderbarn (Wonder Child), 2009

Marions slør (Marion's veil), 2007

Hoggerne (The Burnt-Out Town of Miracles),

2005

Frost (Frost), 2003

Seierherrene (The Conquerors), 1991

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