

Lars Mæhle

The Country Beneath the Ice: The Book of Death

Landet under isen. Dødeboka

Genre: Children And Young Adults
Category: Young Adult Novel - Series
Publisher: Samlaget
Year: 2014
Pages: 592

In this second book about the country beneath the ice, Leo Rubin, the chosen one, is faced with a gruesome challenge: He must travel from his homestead Smalvik to Karnak, the temple at the southernmost end of the country beneath the Ice. He has to get there by solstice, the longest night of the year. There, he has to make an impossible choice: Death – for himself or for his friend. It is the secret sect, the Order of the Sun Temple that is behind this? And the sect's leader, the ruthless Hathor, is hiding somewhere in Smalvik.

The sect is preparing for doomsday, together with a growing army of vicious caped cats. But first they have to get hold of The Book of Death. This is the protocol that contains the answers to the mystery of death. Hathor will stop at nothing to get hold of the book. But who is she? Can inspector Jerstad disclose her identity? Can Leo manage the impossible mission in the land beneath the ice? And can they find The Book of Death in time?

The Book of Death is a captivating fantasy story wherein the ancient Egyptian religion forms the backdrop. The book is a sequel to Mæhle's great success in 2009, *The Country Beneath the Ice* (*Landet under isen*). This novel was awarded the Ministry of Culture's Literary Prize for best children's book, UPrisen (Young reader's prize) and Fabelprisen, and it was also nominated for Brageprisen (the Norwegian book prize). The jury of the Ministry of Culture's Prize said: "Ever since talk began of the so-called 'fantasy wave' within books for children and young adults, we've been waiting for the big, Norwegian fantasy novel. It's arrived."



Photo: Tove K. Breistein

Lars Mæhle made his debut with the youth novel *Keeperen til Tunisia* (*Tunisia's Goalie*) in 2002. The award-winning film Liverpool's Goalie (2010) is based on this book.

Mæhle has written several books for children and young adults, and his great breakthrough was with the fantasy novel *Landet under isen* (*The Country Beneath the Ice*) in 2009. Some of his children's novel are translated into Danish and German.

In 2013 his first crime for adults: *Den mørke porten* (*The Dark Gate*). Translation rights are sold to Germany and Italy.

Previous titles

(Selected)

Den mørke porten, 2013
Landet under isen, 2009
Harry Houdinis elefant, 2008
Harry og Ivar i Junaited Statesen, 2007
Krølle-Knut grev seg ned til Kina, 2006
Narnia-draumar, 2005
Den vesle kjempeboka, 2004
Harry og Ivar finn opp krutet, 2003
Keeperen til Tunisia, 2002

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