

## Gaute Heivoll

Across The China Sea  
*Over det kinesiske hav*

Tiden 2013  
256 Pages  
English sample translation available

**FICTION**  
**NOVEL**



PHOTO: PAAL AUDESTAD

With a story based on real events Gaute Heivoll has written a deeply humanistic novel about defenceless individuals, the ties between brothers and sisters and a mother's lifelong love for her child.

Just before the Second World War a couple opens their own care home for the "mentally deficient". In addition to their little family of four – father, mother, son and daughter – their rooms are soon filled with patients: the religious brooder Christian Jensen; the silent Matiassen, forever sitting and rocking to and fro, and Uncle Josef, one of the best-read people in the district. After a while a group of five brothers and sisters also move in. Josef calls them simply "the boobies from Stavanger" but nevertheless they soon become part of this motley family.

The war ends, but those living in the little "madhouse" will have anything but peace. For soon they are to suffer a tragedy that will pursue them for the rest of their lives.

### Praise

"Again Heivoll shows his brilliance as a storyteller ... a powerful, original, deeply moving story ... in long parts this novel is both beautiful and disturbing"  
- Dagsavisen

Gaute Heivoll is a prolific and varied author. He has written novels, short stories, poems and children's books. In 2010 he broke through with *Før jeg brenner ned* (Before I Burn), which won the Brage Prize the same year and was sold to eighteen countries. *is Heivoll's sixth novel.*

### SELECTED PREVIOUS TITLES

*Kongens hjerte* (The King's Heart), novel  
2011  
*Før jeg brenner ned* (Before I Burn), novel  
2010  
*Himmelarkivet* (The Heaven Archive), novel  
2008  
*Doktor Gordeau og andre noveller* (Doctor Gordeau and Other Stories), short stories,  
2007  
*Kjærlighetsdikt på bunnen av elva* (Love Poems at the River Bottom), poetry, 2006  
*Ungdomssangen* (Song of Youth), novel  
2005  
*Omars siste dager* (Omar's Last Days), novel  
2004

### AWARDS

2011: The Hunger Prize  
2011: Southern Norway's Literary Prize  
2010: The Brage Prize  
2009: Sogndalen Literary Prize  
2009: Southern Norway's Literary Prize  
2008: Southern Norway's Literary Prize  
2003: The Tiden Prize

### FOREIGN SALES

Denmark (Rosinante), Slovenia (Zala),  
Sweden (Norstedts), USA - Worldwide  
English rights (Graywolf)

### RIGHTSHOLDER

Gyldendal Agency  
P.O. Box 6860 St. Olavs plass  
NO-0130 Oslo  
Tel: +47 22 03 41 00  
Fax: +47 22 03 42 10  
foreignrights@gyldendal.no  
richard.aaro@tiden.no  
www.tiden.no

