

Gaute Heivoll

The Five Seasons

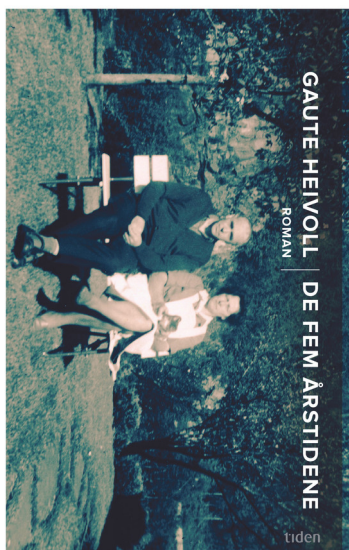
De fem årstidene

Genre: Fiction
Category: Novel
Publisher: Tiden
Year: 2014
Pages: 208

In the autumn of 2012 Gaute Heivoll gets to see his grandfather's many film recordings from the spring and summer of 1978. He sees his grandmother, his young parents and, not least, himself as a newborn baby. The most prominent feature of the films, however, is the garden, which his grandparents cultivated with great love and tenderness.

He wants to paint. When he retires, he shall finally have time. He has spent 34 years working as a train conductor on the Oslo-Stavanger line, during which period he has covered a distance equal to 59 circumnavigations. But now he is heading home. To his painting. To his garden. To her. But the coming year turns out quite differently than he expected.

In *The Five Seasons* Heivoll brings back a lost world that is small in circumference, but which lacks nothing in terms of abundance and wealth. This is a novel about keeping badgers and moose at bay, about providing sufficient water for the flowers, about love and companionship. It is a novel about dying, but even more so about life - about the fragility of life, about holding on to life, about trying to find and create meaning even as death approaches.



"touches the reader's heart and
whispers something about what's
important in life ... powerful"

***** (6/6 stars)

Fædrelandsvennen

"Heivoll at his very best ... a
successful, bittersweet and stirring
novel"

***** (5/6 stars),

VG



Photo: Paal Audestad

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.

Awards

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

Previous titles

Over det kinesiske hav (*Across the China Sea*), novel 2013
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

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