

Ida Hegazi Høyer

Black Beach

Fortellingen om øde

Genre: Fiction
Category: Novel
Publisher: Tiden
Year: 2015
Pages: 220
English sample translation available

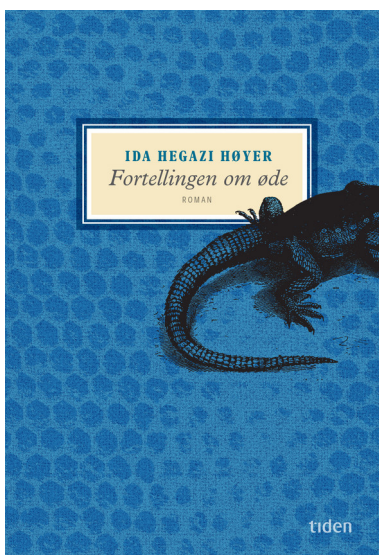
«In the middle of the only ocean, in the darkest depths, in the strongest light, in the growing blue and living gap, the earth crust has torn and burst, rumbled and risen, throwing its innermost scorching hot upwards, outwards – forming an island.»

This is the beginning of the strange and deeply fascinating story about Carlo the dentist, who pulls out all his teeth and leaves a comfortable life in interwar Europe for a reclusive life on the deserted island Floreana in Galápagos archipelago. In his vanity, Carlo starts writing idyllic letters about his black and unfriendly paradise; letters that are found and published in magazines, far away in Europe.

It doesn't take long before Carlo has unwelcome visitors in the form of an adventurous couple, inspired by his letters, and social friction soon ensues on the little island. And as if these struggles were not enough, an eccentric baroness settles on the beach with her male harem. The struggle for existence is tough, and the island has a mindset of her own. She is a tough lady, watching her helpless and foolish guests, setting up traps. Death will soon accompany the inhabitants in mysterious ways.

In her fourth novel, inspired by real events, in the 1930s known as the Galápagos scandal, Ida Hegazi Høyer has created a society in miniature, vibrant with sensuality, conflict and mild humour.

Winner of the European Union Prize for Literature (EUPL) 2015.



'Black Beach is an uncommonly good novel. The story, the language and the people that populate it. Everything works.'

VG (5 out of 6 stars)

'Morgenbladet named her one of Norway's best authors under the age of 35 in May, and this book proves how deserved that selection was in all respects. Black Beach can and should be her definite breakthrough – internationally as well.'

Dagbladet (5 out of 6 stars)



Photo: Paal Audestad

Ida Hegazi Høyer (b. 1981) has Danish-Egyptian ancestors and her roots in Lofoten, in the north of Norway, but grew up in Oslo. Høyer has studied sociology and worked in a clothing store, she now basically writes full time. Her debut, *Under the World*, was published in autumn 2012, followed by *Out* in 2013 and *Forgive Me* in 2014.

In August 2014 she was the recipient of Norway's Bjørnsonstipendium, awarded to a prominent young talent. In 2015 she was winner of the European Union Prize for Literature (EUPL – reserved for works of fiction by European emerging authors, regardless of age). She has been named one of the ten best young Norwegian writers by *Morgenbladet*.

Foreign sales

Bulgarian (MATCOM), Danish (Silkefyret), German (Residenz Verlag), Hungarian (Noran Libro Publishing House)

Awards

The European Union Prize for Literature (EUPL) 2015
Bjørnsonstipendiet 2014

Rights holder

Oslo Literary Agency
Henrik Francke
henrik@osloliteraryagency.no
www.osloliteraryagency.no