

Ingvild H. Rishøi

# Brightly Shining

## Stargate. En juleforetelling

Genre: Fiction  
Category: Novel  
Publisher: Gyldendal Norsk Forlag  
Year: 2021  
Pages: 132  
ISBN: 9788205539334  
English translation available

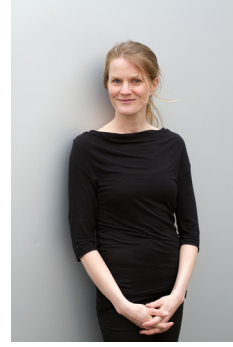


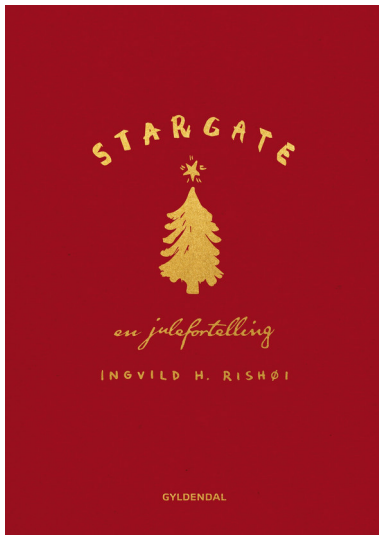
Photo: Ekko von Schwichow

"I didn't name you Ronja so that you could grow up in Tøyen," Ronja's dad tells her.

But Tøyen is where they live – Ronja, her dad, and big sister Melissa. Christmas is coming. Dad has lost yet another job, which is why Melissa has no choice but to go out and heave Christmas trees around, Ronja has to sell seasonal garlands and sheafs, her father needs to go out to the Stargate pub, and December is all about wet mittens, commissions, and beer. But also about three wise men, a star, and a forest.

*Brightly Shining* is a Christmas story for our time: magical realism in a Christmas tree outlet in Tøyen.

Nominated for the 2021 Brage Prize, the 2021 Literary Critics' Prize and the 2022 Young People's Critics' Prize



'This tender novel does exactly what it promises: shines brightly despite the darkness.'

Oprah's Favorite Things (US)

'As the story unfolds, your heart aches for the girls — but also for all of us in this world we've built, where money too often means more than kindness. [...] An emotionally packed little gem.'

The New York Times (US)

'*Stargate* is a wonderful book, so delicate, so Rishøi-esque; even though it's a serious story, it feels light and poetic, almost like a fairy tale by H.C. Andersen, and that just about says it all about Rishøi's skill.'

Arild Batzer, Publisher Batzer & Co. (Denmark)

Ingvild H. Rishøi (b. 1978) made her literary debut in 2007 with *Do not Erase*, a short story collection which introduced her as a promising new voice in Norwegian literature. Her second collection, *The Tale of Mrs Berg* (2011), was shortlisted for the prestigious Brage Prize. In 2014, Rishøi received widespread acclaim and popular recognition for the short story collection *Winter Stories*, which won the Critics' Prize for best adult fiction as well as the Brage Prize for best work of short fiction. Rishøi's debut novel, *Brightly Shining* (2021) was instantly deemed a modern classic, solidifying her position as one of the Nordic's most revered literary voices. In May 2024, Ingvild H. Rishøi was awarded the very prestigious Dobloug Prize by the Swedish Academy, for her contribution to Norwegian literature.

#### Foreign sales

Arab World (Hayat Publishing), Croatia (Neolit), Czech Republic (Dobrovsky), Denmark (Batzer & Co.), Estonia (Tänapäev), France (Mercure de France), Germany (DuMont Buchverlag), Greece (Metaixmio), Hungary (Polar Könyvek), Iceland (Benedikt), Italy (Iperborea), Korea (Dasan Books), The Netherlands (Koppertnik), North Macedonia (Antolog Books), Poland (Znak), Romania (Casa Cartii de Stiinta), Russia (AST), Serbia (Imprimatur), Slovakia (Tatran), Slovenia (Mladinska Knjiga), Spain (Galaxia Gutenberg), Sweden (Flo Förlag), Türkiye (Is Kultur), UK (Grove Press), US (Grove Atlantic)  
Film/TV rights: Motlys. The film is to be released in the autumn of 2025.

#### Awards

The Dobloug Prize 2024  
Kulturhuset Stadsteaterns Internationella litteraturpris 2019  
Book Blogger's Prize 2015  
Brage Prize 2014  
Critics' Prize 2014  
P.O. Enquist Prize 2013  
The Hunger Prize 2012  
The Unified Norwegian Language Prize 2011

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