

Maria Parr
Åshild Irgens

Oskar and Me

Oskar og eg

Genre: Children and Young Adult
Category: Novel
Publisher: Det norske Samlaget
Year: 2023
Pages: 196
ISBN: 9788234011450
English sample translation available

New children's book from Norway's literary superstar

In *Oskar and Me* we meet older sister Ida and her little brother Oskar. Ida is eight years old and is the narrator of the book, but the wild and headstrong Oskar of five years plays the main role in her stories. Ida tells about longing for a trampoline, about river safaris in the spring sun and missing vampires in the autumn darkness. About cabins that are smaller than one remembers and cupcake kiosks that are nicer than expected, about change and loss. And about play pretend and real life.

Maria Parr has written a fast-paced and warm read-aloud story about growing up and seeing life in a different light than one did before. *Oskar and Me* is a tribute to everyday life, to sibling relationships and to all the places we are.

"At the end of July, Oskar got his school bag. In a way, I thought it would make him more school-like, but basically the opposite happened. Oskar just absolutely had to have a bag designed for 10-year-olds and upwards. He looked like a turtle.

- Isn't it a bit big, I whispered to mum.

- No, it's Oskar who is small, said mum with a sigh."

The book is illustrated by Åshild Irgens.

Winner of the 2023 Brage Prize

Nominated for the 2023 Norwegian Booksellers' Prize



"Maria Parr's new children's book is pure gold – and Parr consolidates her position as one of the best children's book authors in Norway."

VG

"The book is like a box of candy with everything that is good: familiar scenes, new expressions and a multitude of images, both in the language and in the illustrations."

Bergens Tidende



Photo: Det norske samlaget

Maria Parr (b. 1981) has master's degree in Nordic languages and literature. She is the author of *Waffle Hearts* (*Vaffelhjarte*), *Astrid the Unstoppable* (*Tonje Glimmerdal*) and *The Goalie and the See* (*Keeperen og havet*). She has won several literary awards both in Norway and internationally, including the prestigious Brage Awards for best children's book and the Critic's Association Prize. All her novels have been dramatized for stage in Norway and abroad. Her books are sold to more than 35 countries.

Åshild Irgens (f.1976) is educated at the Academy of Fine Arts in Oslo and the School of Visual Arts in New York. Irgens has illustrated a number of children's books including Maria Parr's *Tonje Glimmerdal/Astrid the Unstoppable*. She has won the Italian literary prize Premio Samarelli for her illustrations in *Tonje Glimmerdal/Astrid the Unstoppable*.

Foreign sales
Italy, Ukraine

Previous titles
Storebror (Bigbrother), 2020
Keeperen og havet (The Goalie and the See), 2017
Tonje Glimmerdal (Astrid the Unstoppable), 2009
Vaffelhjarte (Waffle Hearts), 2005

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Interview
[Read our interview with the author here](#)