

Arne Svingen

The Ballad of a Broken Nose

Sangen om en brukket nese

Genre: Children And Young Adults
Category: Novel
Publisher: Gyldendal
Year: 2012
Pages: 207
English edition available

The Ballad of a Broken Nose is a wonderful novel that fortifies Arne Svingen's position as one of Norway's foremost writers for children and adolescents.

The main character's name is Bart. He is 13 years old and lives with his mother in an apartment building that could use some restoration work. But Bart doesn't think that adopting a negative attitude makes life any better. He attends boxing classes because his mother wants him to toughen up, and he has a secret hobby. The book also introduces us to Ada, who can't keep a secret, Geir, whose knees are oddly bent, and a number of other persons who have or will have a place in Bart's life. *The Ballad of a Broken Nose* is about hitting – and not hitting. It's also about singing without anyone hearing you. The book will make you laugh. It will make you feel uneasy. And it will make you laugh again. But most of all it touches upon the important days in life, days when everything seems to happen at once and nothing will ever be the same again.

Winner of the Ministry of Culture's Awards for Children's Literature Fiction Prize, 2012.

Awarded the French/Belgian Prix Libbylit Romans Ados 2015.



'(...) an unusually exciting and funny story about an unusually sad teenage life. The language and characters are highly realistic, and the book is packed with striking one-liners and singular events.'

Dagbladet

'... addresses difficult subjects with a gentle hand and understated humor.'

Publishers Weekly (US)

'down to earth and honest (...) guaranteed reading pleasure.'

Alliteratus (Germany)

'Bart's depth and the beauty he finds in his world are winning and moving. Lovely and profound.'

Kirkus Reviews



Photo: Sigbjørn Sigbjørnsen

Arne Svingen has written many books for children, adolescents and adults. His breakthrough as a writer of thrillers came with *Silent Screams* (2001). He was awarded the Brage Prize for his adolescent novel *Black Ivory* in 2005.

Foreign sales

Azerbaijan (Parlaq Imazalar), Bulgaria (Emas Publishing House), Czech republic (Albatros Media a.s), Denmark (ABC Forlag), Egypt (Dar Kahn), France (Magnard Jeunesse), Georgia (Sulakauri), Germany (Bastei Lübbe), Hungary (Kolibri Children's Books), Russia (Albus Corvus), Slovenia (Zalozba Zala), South Korea (Arumbook), Spain (incl. Catalan rights), Sweden (Bonnier Carlsen), USA (Simon & Schuster)

Awards

The Brage Prize 2005 - for *Black Ivory*

Previous titles

SELECTED PREVIOUS TITLES:

Fluesommer (Fly Summer), 2013

Litt av en plan (Some Plan), 2011

Svingens mørke verden (Svingen's Dark World -series), 2012-2013

Rightsholder

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