



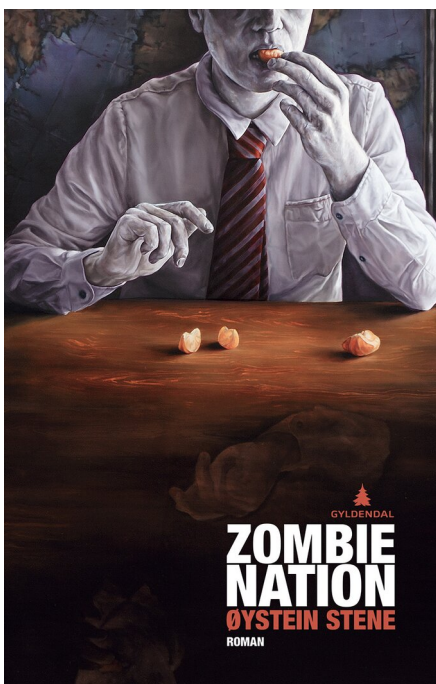
PHOTO: JULIE PIKE

Øystein Stene is a writer, a playwright and an instructor.

His previously published novels are *Master of Patience* (2003), *The Bearer of Shame* (2006) and *The Necromancer* (2011). He has written and directed stage plays and feature movies, and he teaches at The Oslo Academy of Theatre.

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"Remarkable ... Stene's novel can't be compared to simple entertainment movies. *Zombie Nation* performs the unique feat of being a smart and original depiction of the living dead ... written in fine, vivid prose, without a single dull point."

\*\*\*\*\* (5/6 STARS) - VG

VG

"an allegorical novel of international class ... Stene manages to portray an alternative world which is obviously intended as a commentary on our own, without insisting and without for a second letting go of the

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Øystein Stene

FICTION  
NOVEL

Zombie Nation

*Zombie nation*

Gyldendal 2013

312 Pages

English sample translation available

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In the middle of the Atlantic Ocean lies an island that American and European intelligence services have strived to keep secret ever since World War 1. All official drafts have been manipulated, and any merchant vessel that approaches is sunk, the ocean floor has been restructured – they'll do anything to make sure no one ever learns about the island.

One day, late in the winter of 1989, Johannes van der Linden arrives on the island. He is not quite sure where he was transported from or where he has arrived. He has come to work in the settlement's archives. It rains endlessly, the food is flavorless, sleep eludes him, everything seems to be drained of value or meaning. Slowly it dawns on Johannes that the island is populated by the living dead. And also that he appears to be one of them. Is there a way out of this non-existence?

*Zombie Nation* is a different conspiracy theory, a gothic horror story and an existential zombie tale. It is about our own inertia, about our lack of concern for one another, about the death of culture. But even more than that, it is about the possibility of life, even for the dead.

Praise:

"Remarkable ... Stene's novel can't be compared to simple entertainment

entertainment element ... an  
inventive and clever novel ...  
constructed in such a solid way  
that the suspense is maintained."

*Dagens Næringsliv*

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