

Ole Thorstensen

Diary of a Carpenter
En snekkers dagbok

Pelikanen forlag 2015
220 Pages
English sample translation available

NON-FICTION
DIARY



PHOTO: CHRISTINA OTTOSON ØYGARDEN

Diary of a Carpenter is the story of a loft. Simple but brilliant. Following the moment from when the carpenter receives the first phone call asking to submit tenders, to when the attic is ready for occupation. It is heavy lifts, tiles in the fingers and blood, sweat and frustration. But the book is also full of joy and pride towards craftsmanship.

At the same time, this is a book about work and identity. It is a story told from the other side of consumerism, here we have the producers view on the customer.

It is also a story about the Norwegian society, and will therefore be an important contribution to the debate about manual labour.

The carpenter Ole Thorstensen (b. 1965) makes his debut as an author with a story about how he spends his days, a story about work and identity and a tribute to manual labour. Thorstensen is a trained carpenter, and has worked about 25 years in the construction industry.

FOREIGN SALES

Chinese (complex - Locus Publishing), Chinese (simplified - United Sky), Croatia (Fraktura), Denmark (People's Press), France (Gaïa Editions), Germany (Btb/Random House), Hungary (Typotex), Italy (Rizzoli), Japan (X-Knowledge Publishers), The Netherlands (Lebowski Publishers), Poland (Wydawnictwo Literackie), South Korea (Sallim Publishing Co.), Spain (Alfaguara/Penguin Random House), Sweden (Albert Bonniers Förlag), UK/Commonwealth (Maclehose Press), US (Penguin US)

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'The book is just as solid as the craft that he describes.'

Dagbladet

'Thorstensen perfectly describes how a job at the home of a private customer looks from his perspective. (...) so rich in descriptions of all pleasures related to mastering a craft. (...) The result is a nice mix of sociology, philosophy – and not to mention ethics.'

Klassekampen