

Bjørn Arild Ersland

Great Occurrences on a Small Scale

Store hendelser i liten skala

Pelikanen forlag 2016

196 Pages

English sample translation available

FICTION
NOVEL



PHOTO: JONAS ERSLAND

What happens when there is no longer any need for you, neither at home, nor at work, and you are the last one to realize?

This is the starting point in the novel *Great Occurrences on a Small Scale* where we meet the librarian Arne Sjølingstad on the same day where he retires involuntarily. But Arne still loves his job, he lives and breathes for the communal projects and he has no plans to give in.

Great Occurrences on a Small Scale is a comical novel with a great seriousness. Through the eyes of the main character, that are more than normally dominated by his enthusiastic view of the job as a communal librarian, a great difference is exposed between life as he would like it to be and life as it turned out.

With great virtuosity, Bjørn Arild Ersland has created a recognizable and identifiable local universe where the movements in the depth of life are detectable in the tiny ripples on the surface of the language.

Bjørn Arild Ersland (b. 1965) is a significant author of books for both children and young adults. He has also written works of non-fiction. With more than 40 books to his name, he has been nominated for a long list of prizes, amongst others the Brage Prize no less than three times. *Great Occurrences on a Small Scale* is Ersland's fiction debut.

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'A lovely piece of work please keep writing novels.'

NRK, Norwegian broadcasting

'What *Stoner* would read like if it was written by Dag Solstad.'

Dagens Næringsliv

'In his protagonist Arne, Ersland has found this spring's warmest and most truthful narrator.'

Littkritikk.no

'Bjørn Arild Ersland writes with an almost devilish humoristic precision.'

Bergens Tidende