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**Jostein Gaarder**

## *Sophie's World*

### Sophie's World

An absorbing, original and fascinating book for everyone who wishes to know more about the history of our own culture, interwoven with the history of western philosophy and the imaginary story of Sophie and Hilde. In order to solve the mysteries that are a part of *Sophie's World*, we need an understanding of European philosophy. Who is Hilde Møller Knag? Why does Sophie keep coming across Hilde's things? Why does she receive Hilde's mail? The story ends in Hilde's garden in the small town of Lillesand on the south coast of Norway. Or does it? Perhaps this is where it begins? Through her perusal of letters from a mysterious philosopher, Alberto Knox, who initiates her into the ideas of Europe's great thinkers, Sophie gradually acquires the knowledge she needs to solve the mysteries surrounding her. The book has subsequently appeared as a CD-ROM and been made into a musical, board game, film and television series.

"A marvellously rich book. Its success boils down to something quite simple – Gaarder's gift for communicating ideas"  
(The Guardian)

"Challenging, informative and packed with easily grasped, and imitable, ways of thinking about difficult ideas"  
(Independent on Sunday)

"A terrifically entertaining and imaginative story wrapped around its tough, thought-provoking philosophical heart"  
(Daily Mail)

## Jostein Gaarder

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In 1991, when Jostein Gaarder wrote *Sophie's World* he believed that a novel on the history of philosophy would appeal only to a specialist readership. In 1995 the book was the most sold novel in the world.



To date *Sophie's World* has been translated into 64 languages and has sold over 50 million copies. Jostein Gaarder's other works, both his children's books and adult novels such as *The Solitaire Mystery*, *Through a Glass, Darkly*, *Vita Brevis*, *The Ringmaster's Daughter*, *The Orange Girl*, *Anna. A Fable About The Earth's Climate And Enviroment*, and *The Puppeteer*, have proved hugely popular and been published around the world.

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