

The Stone Bird

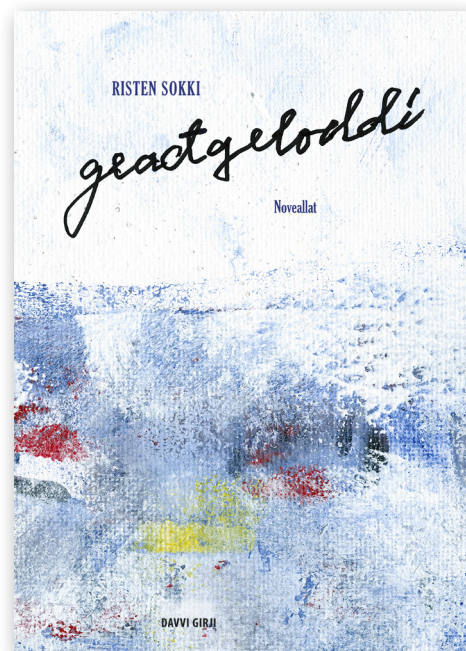
Risten Sokki

The Stone Bird is a collection of short stories originally written in northern Sámi and which consists of 10 short stories based on both historical and present day events.

In this collection, the author, Risten Sokki, dances through the stories all the way from the bow and arrow to today's Sámi Parliament. She stretches the wolfskin out on the wall, smashes the stone bird, takes pity on a child born in autumn and curses those damned adjectives. Afterwards, she visits the fisherman's daughter and once more flies high in the skies under the aurora borealis, before letting herself fall and landing at the base of Gassanjárga (the broad peninsula), where she wonders about the parcel that Postman Hans is delivering and dreams of Állegeađgi*.

The themes dealt with in this collection range from grief, love, death and birth, to abuse, growing up in a children's home and returning to Sápmi (the land of the Sámi) as an adult.

* cavern, jutting crag under which one can shelter



Geađgeloddi

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Risten Sokki was born in Guovdageaidnu, Norway. Today, she works as an advisor and teacher at the Sámi College of Further Education and Reindeer-Herding. Sokki has written a collection of poetry, a children's book, a book on Sámi cooking and food customs as well as a book about the body for nursery-school children. In 1997, she was the Sámi candidate for the Nordic Council's Literature prize with her book of collected poems, "I Twist and Twine the Threads of my Bloodline", and in 2007, she won a writing competition for works for children with her book, "This Strange Life of Mine".