

really don't know

Juvvá Pittja

Juvva Pittja's debut work of fiction lets the reader into the poetic world of a young Sámi man, in which he reflects on life, his dreams and the difficulties faced by many young Sámi adults today, required as they are to navigate with equal facility both in the Sámi world as well as in that of the majority culture.

True enough, the book does start with the words "I don't actually know ...", but as the reader continues, he/she finds that this young poet does actually have quite a lot to say.

The poems deal with love and the loss of love, with life's finest and saddest moments, with a young person's achievements and struggles in life. Sámi identity is a central theme that the writer emphasizes in his poems, such as e.g. the Sámi's struggle against repression. He also writes about the challenges and problems that human activity in the form of mining, hydro-electric projects, construction of roads etc. has created for reindeer-herding.



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Juvva Pittja was born and raised as part of a reindeer-herding family in Swedish Sápmi (the land of the Sámi). In addition, he has trained as an artist and the poems are illustrated with author's own artwork.