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**Hanne Ørstavik**

## *Love*

*Love* is the story about Vibeke and Jon, mother and son, who have just moved to a small place in the north of Norway. It's the day before Jon's birthday, and a travelling carnival has come to the village. Jon goes out to sell lottery tickets for his sports club, and Vibeke is going to the library.

From here on we follow the two individuals on their separate journeys through a cold winter's night - while a sense of uneasiness grows. *Love* illustrates how language builds its own reality, and thus how mother and son can live in completely separate worlds. This distance is found not only between human beings, but also within each individual. This novel shows how such distance may have fatal consequences..

## Hanne Ørstavik

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With the publication of the novel *Cut* in 1994, Hanne Ørstavik (b. 1969) embarked on a career that would make her one of the most remarkable and admired authors in Norwegian contemporary literature. Her literary breakthrough came three years later with the publication of *Love* (*Kjærlighet*), which in 2006 was voted the 6th best Norwegian book of the last 25 years in a prestigious contest in *Dagbladet*. Since then the author has written several acclaimed and much discussed novels and received a host of literary prizes.



Ørstavik's books arouse strong feelings among readers and critics alike, a fact that greatly contributes to her unique standing. Her works are read and analysed by students of literature at universities in Norway and abroad. In 2008, Oktober publishing house published the anthology *Openings*, containing essays on Ørstavik's books written by Nordic literary critics and academics.

Ørstavik's books have been translated into 22 languages.

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