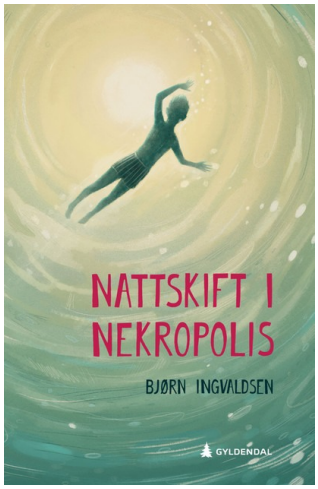

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Bjørn Ingvaldsen

Nightshift at the Necropolis

This is one of the author's darkest and strongest novels. Well-formulated, insistent and powerful on how wrong things can go when adults put themselves first.

Some people work in the daytime; others work at night. Max's mother is a night worker. At night she sits in her office in the cellar; she sleeps during the day. Max is left alone. He goes to school and plays sport, and sometimes he visits his father at the weekends. But when he's at home, he's all alone.

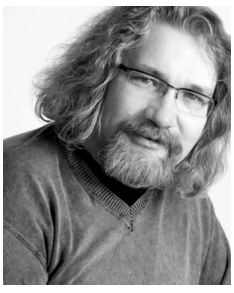
Out in the garage is Grandad's old sports car: an MG. It's not often that anyone drives it, but one day Max and his Grandad find empty wine bottles inside. It's not only work that Max's mother is do-ing. She dreams too. About traveling, about meet-ing someone, and being recognised for her work. Max's mother is a death researcher. She works where the dead are: the churchyard, the burial grounds, the necropolis. In the dark. That's why she works night shifts.

Ingvaldsen gives us a multi-layered story, and shines a light on issues of the day. Max moves us to the core. Politicians, parents, people working at schools and in child welfare, fellow humans: the story concerns us all!
- Hardanger Folkeblad

Nightshift at the Necropolis is an unassuming and stirring story in which a sequence of small betrayals ends up as a great catastrophe.
- Dag og Tid

Nightshift at the Necropolis is a showdown with every father who should have tried harder.
- Bergens Tidene

Bjørn Ingvaldsen



Bjørn Ingvaldsen (b. 1962) made his debut in 1995 with a collection of short stories for adults. Since then he has written several books for children and adults. His books for children have been translated into Danish, French, German and Italian.