# JON Besettende W FOSSE EIT NYTT NAMN

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#### AWARDS

Among other prizes: 2023 Nobel Prize in Literature Longlisted for The 2020 Booker International Prize 2017 European Poetry Prize of the City of Münster, Germany 2016 Willy Brandt Prize 2015 Nordic Council's Literature Award, for Trilogy 2014 European Prize for Literature 2010 International Ibsen Prize 2007 Deutsche Jugendbuch Preis

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#### Jon Fosse

## A New Name: Septology VI - VII

Asle is an aging painter and widower who lives alone on the southwest coast of Norway. His only friends are his neighbor, Åsleik, a traditional fisherman farmer, and Beyer, a gallerist who lives in the city. There, in Bjørgvin, lives another Asle, also a painter but lonely and consumed by alcohol. Asle and Asle are doppelgängers – two versions of the same person, two versions of the same life, both grappling with existential questions.

In this final instalment of Jon Fosse's *Septology*, the major prose work by 'the Beckett of the twenty-first century' (Le Monde), Christmas is approaching. Tradition has it that Åsleik and Asle eat lutefisk together, but this year Asle has agreed for the first time to celebrate Christmas with Åsleik and his sister, Guro. On Christmas Eve, Åsleik, Asle, and the dog Bragi take Åsleik's boat out on the Sygnefjord. Meanwhile, we follow the lives of the two Asles as younger adults in flashbacks: the narrator meets his lifelong love, Ales; joins the Catholic Church; starts exhibiting with Beyer, and can make a living by trying to paint away all the pictures stuck in his mind. After a while, Asle and Ales leave the city and move to the house in Dylgja. The other Asle gets married too, but his wedding ends with a sobbing bride and is followed soon after by a painful breakup.

Jon Fosse takes his writing to places where no other Norwegian author can follow him. - Sindre Hovdenakk, VG

Septology reeks of greatness. ... Jon Fosse has done it again. The series will remain a pre-eminent work in Fosse's oeuvre, and, dare I say, in the Norwegian canon. ... a depiction of growing up, of becoming an artist, a story about love and friendship, about loneliness and longing. - Ulla Svalheim, Vårt Land

A beautiful final volume about art, yearning, and passion. Jon Fosse concludes his masterpiece Septology with outstanding novelistic art. – 6 stars (out of 6) - Gro Jørstad Nilsen, Bergens Tidende

### Jon Fosse

Jon Fosse is widely considered one of the world's most important living writers. Born in 1959 in Strandebarm, a small village in the western part of Norway, he lives today in the Grotten, an honorary residence, as well as in Hainburg, Austria, and Frekhaug, Norway.



Fosse has received numerous prizes, both in Norway and internationally, and he is mentioned increasingly often as a likely contender for the Nobel Prize. He has currently finished a major seven-volume work of what he calls "slow prose". Septology consists of three volumes: *The Other Name: Septology I – II* was published in 2019 to international praise and longlisted for the Booker International Prize. *I Is Another: Septology III – V* was published autumn 2020 and *A New Name: Septology VI – VII* in September 2021.



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