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#### AWARDS

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The Norwegian Silver Dagger Award  
(Sølvkniven) 2025

#### OTHER TITLES

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The Crime Series:  
Traitors (2024)  
Kleptocracy (2022)  
Blood is Thicker Than Water (2021)  
Slaughter (2019)



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Espen Skjerven

## *Nothing to Hide*

Oscar is fifty years old and works as a teacher. He lives a good and harmonious life with his wife Maria and their son Erik. Just before the Easter holiday, the principal asks him to speak with a student at the school who has started wearing a wig. Oscar feels taken aback, because he has never shared his own story with anyone at the school. He lost his hair at the age of seven and wore a wig for many years.

During the holiday, Oscar also comes across an article about a new, promising medicine – a treatment the state will not support financially. All of this stirs something within him. He feels a need to put his emotions into words – feelings he has hardly shared with anyone.

*The book is recommended to everyone (6/6).*

- Anne Lise Johannessen, [Hverdagsnett.no](http://Hverdagsnett.no)

*An incredibly beautiful book (6/6)*

- [alicesfavoritebooks](#), [bookstagrammer](#)

*A brilliant fiction debut (5/6)*

- Kjell Magne Gjørseter, [bokblogger.com](http://bokblogger.com)

*“Espen Skjerven writes with such playful ease and skill about a vulnerable subject he knows everything about.”*

- Vigdis Maria Andreassen, [bookstagrammer](#)

*"A truly beautiful, tough, and tender read with compelling characters."  
(5/5)*

- [anettesbokhylle](#), [bookstagrammer](#)

*"...the pages fly by in this lovely story."*

*"I warmly recommend the novel to both young and adult readers."*

- Mariann Tokle, [blogger](#)

*“The book is written with honesty, vulnerability, humor, and courage...I was pulled right into the story.”*

- Ingunn Westerbø, [bookstagrammer](#)

*“A wonderful and educational novel that I really enjoyed.” (5/6)*

- Hilde Sæther, [bookblogger](#)

## Espen Skjerven

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Espen Skjerven works as a district court judge at Sør-Rogaland District Court. He has a background as a prosecutor in the national investigative units Økokrim and Kripos, as well as a business lawyer/litigator.



*Nothing to Hide* is Skjerven's first work of fiction. Skjerven himself experienced losing his hair as a child, and although the story is fictional, it is inspired by his own experiences.

Skjerven has written four books in the crime series about police officer Tom Grayston: *Slaughter* (Slakt 2019), *Blood is Thicker than Water* (Blød er tykkere enn vann, 2021), *The Kleptocracy* (Kleptokratiet, 2022), and *Traitors* (Svikere, 2024).

*Traitors* won the Norwegian Silver Dagger Award (Sølvkniven), for best release of 2024.

Book reviewer Tor Hammerø in the newspaper Nettavisen reviewed the *Kleptocracy* and wrote: "Espen Skjerven has taken a giant step up into the Norwegian crime literature elite."



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