



Cappelen Damm 1998
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Gert Nygårdshaug

Gotvin's Geometry

Reverend Gotvin Soleng is a resident of a small mountain community in Norway. After completing his studies he returns home with virtue and faith intact; and becomes the local vicar.

Gotvin is passionate about science, and has started to doubt miracles. It is this doubt which inspires him to do his first trip abroad, to Santiago de Compostela, where the Virgin Mary recently has materialized in the skies – to great satisfaction for the visiting pilgrims, and horrifying for a group of Japanese tourists.

During this journey Gotvin's Christian faith begins to fail, and he also loses his long time accumulated virginity.

On the train down to Santiago he is sitting in the passenger compartment with a woman who is going to change his life. After this meeting, he can not recognize himself. He, who came to break out in a sweat just by the smell of a woman (while the smell of freshly caught salmon makes him smile), resistlessly lets himself seduce in the park outside the city's municipal swimming pool. His seductress is not just anybody – she is a paleo-archeologist, university employee and a specialist in the quaternary period and the neanderthals. She gives him a drawing, which cryptic content she is asking him to decipher. It turns out to show a number of Viking castles in Denmark (which are all on the same latitude!).

So lively and imaginative that it could make John Irving blush with envy

- Dagbladet, Norway

Gert Nygårdshaug has confirmed his position as one of our greatest novelists in time. Deep and bold thoughts, bubbly humor and great perspective entertains us in this novel(...) he daringly throws himself out in the peculiarities of our existence – in Nygårdshaug's well-known, charming style

- Østlendingen, Norway

Fantastic and dangerous narrator! Gert Nygårdshaug writes about the great questions of existence. Read it!

- Fyns Stiftstidende, Denmark

(...)from quantum physics to love scenes depicted so beautifully they give you tears in your eyes, and you chase through the book obsessed with the desire that it never end

- Informationen, Denmark

Gert Nygårdshaug

Gert Nygårdshaug was born in Tynset, the mountains of Norway. Since his literary debut in 1966, he is the author of nearly 40 books, both novels for children, poetry and fairytales- together with literary works, thrillers and crime novels.



The trilogy of Mino (Mengele Zoo, The Heaven's Flower Tree and The Basin of Aphrodite) earned him immense recognition from critics and the public. Nearly 400,000 copies sold in Norway, and elected Norway's favorite novel in the Norwegian international literature festival in Lillehammer in 2007.

His crime novels where the main character is the chef and cryptologist Fredric Drum, also make Nygårdshaug appear regularly on the bestseller lists in Norway. Concerned about the environmental cause, Gert Nygårdshaug fights for the preservation of rainforests, especially the Amazon, where he has spent much time.