



Cappelen Damm 2011
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Stilton Literary Agency
Hans Petter Bakketeig
Tel: +47 47 67 47 59
hanspetter@stilton.no
www.stilton.no

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Sigrun Slapgard

Paradise Garden

The successful film director Julie Dalgård travels to an old Benedictine monastery, Stift Melk, by the river of Donau. She wants to make a documentary film about the librarian at the Austrian monastery, an old friend of her family. In the monastery's library, one of oldest and most impressive in Europe, she makes a surprising discovery which overturns her film plans. Not only the librarian Kurt Leonard has guarded his secrets from the days of the war, even her own family from Northern Norway is part of this silenced story. Julie continues to investigate, and is deeply affected by what she finds.

A story of forbidden love and family secrets from the second world war.

Sigrun Slapgard

Sigrun Slapgard is a Norwegian writer, international reporter and documentary director. In 2007 she published a biography on Sigrid Undset called «Dikterdronningen». The biography is later translated to several languages. Slapgard has also written books from her work as a war reporter and from her years living in Latin-America, Africa and the Middle-East.



In 2002 her biography about the famous Norwegian war correspondent Lise Lindbæk, «Krigens penn», was awarded the Melsom prize, the book was further nominated to the Brage prize for best non-fiction.

Slapgard has worked as an anchor and made several documentaries for the Norwegian Broadcasting Company. «Paradishagen» is her first novel.

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