

JUSTEIN GAARDER

ASCHEHOUG

www.aschehoug.no



A black and white portrait of a middle-aged man with a full, light-colored beard and long, wavy hair. He is looking directly at the camera with a slight smile. He is wearing a light-colored, possibly white, button-down shirt. The background is dark and out of focus, showing some foliage.

In 1991, when Jostein Gaarder wrote *Sophie's World*, he believed that a novel on the history of philosophy would appeal only to a specialist readership. In 1995 the book was the most sold novel in the world.

To date, *Sophie's World* has been translated into 55 languages and has sold over 30 million copies. An unknown number of pirate editions also exist. Jostein Gaarder's other works – both his children's books and adult novels – have proved hugely popular and been published in a host of countries.

Gaarder's profound personal commitment and great fund of knowledge have inspired readers all over the world to think and ask questions about ourselves, our place in history, and the world around us.

Contents:

| | |
|--|----|
| Sofies verden (Sophie’s World) 1991 | 6 |
| Kabalmysteriet (The Solitaire Mystery) 1990 | 8 |
| I et speil, i en gåte (Through a Glass, Darkly) 1993 | 9 |
| Appelsinpiken (The Orange Girl) 2003 | 10 |
| Julemysteriet (The Christmas Mystery) 1992 | 11 |
| Diagnosen (The Diagnosis) 1986 | 12 |
| Vita Brevis (Vita Brevis) 1996 | 13 |
| Maya (Maya) 1999 | 14 |
| Sirkusdirektørens datter (The Ringmaster’s Daughter) 2001 | 15 |
| Barna fra Sukhavati (The Children from Sukhavati) 1987 | 16 |
| Froskeslottet (The Frog Castle) 1988 | 16 |
| Bibbi Bokens magiske bibliotek (Bibbi Bokken’s Magic Library) 1993 (with Klaus Hagerup) | 16 |
| Hallo? Er det noen her? (Hello? Is There Anybody Here?) 1996 | 16 |
| De gule dvergene (The Yellow Dwarves) 2006 | 16 |
| Sjakk Matt (Checkmate) 2006 | 17 |
| Non-fiction | 18 |
| Bibliography and foreign sales | 19 |
| Awards and Decorations | 23 |

Sophie's World

(Sofies verden)

First published: 1991

An absorbing, original and fascinating book for anyone who is interested in the history of our culture, interwoven with the history of western philosophy and the imaginary story of Sophie and Hilde. In order to solve the mysteries that are a part of Sophie's world, we need an understanding of European philosophy.

Who is Hilde Møller Knag? Why does Sophie keep coming across Hilde's things? Why does she receive Hilde's mail? The story ends in Hilde's garden in the small town of Lillesand on the south coast of Norway. Or does it? Perhaps this is where it begins? Through her perusal of letters from a mysterious philosopher, Alberto Knox, who introduces her to the ideas of Europe's great thinkers, Sophie gradually acquires the knowledge she needs to solve the mysteries surrounding her.

The book is a story for teenagers, a thriller and a history of philosophy all in one.

“A marvellously rich book.
Its success boils down to something quite simple
– Gaarder's gift for communicating ideas”

THE GUARDIAN

- The world's best selling fiction title in 1995
- More than 30 million copies sold world-wide
- Translated into 55 languages

“Challenging, informative and packed with easily grasped, and imitable, ways of thinking about difficult ideas”

INDEPENDENT ON SUNDAY

“A terrifically entertaining and imaginative story wrapped around its tough, thought-provoking philosophical heart”

DAILY MAIL

“Seductive and original ... *Sophie's World* is, as it dares to congratulate itself, «a strange and wonderful book»”

TIMES LITERARY SUPPLEMENT

“An Alice in Wonderland for the 90s ... philosophy's answer to Stephen Hawking's *A Brief History of Time* ... this is simply a wonderful, irresistible book”

DAILY TELEGRAPH

“Remarkable ... what Jostein Gaarder has managed to do is condense 3000 years of thought into 400 pages; to simplify some extremely complicated arguments without trivialising them... an extraordinary achievement”

SUNDAY TIMES

“A whimsical and ingenious mystery novel that also happens to be a history of philosophy ... What is admirable in the novel is the utter unpretentiousness of the philosophical lessons”

WASHINGTON POST

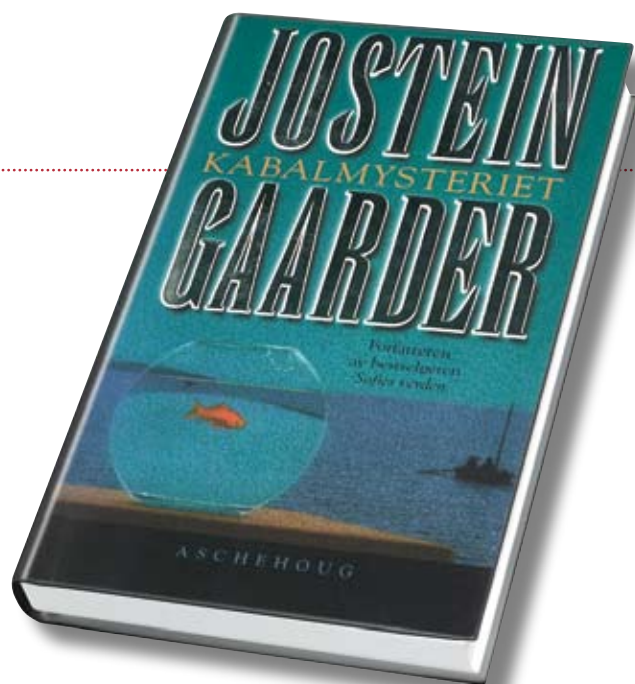


The Solitaire Mystery

(Kabalmysteriet)

First published: 1990

The Solitaire Mystery is built up like a Chinese puzzle. The frame story is about twelve-year-old Hans Thomas who, with his father, motors down through Europe in search of his mother. She left the family eight years before in order to «search for herself». On the way mysterious things begin to happen: a dwarf turns up and presents Hans Thomas with a magnifying glass. The dwarf gives his father directions to a small Alpine village, Dorf, where Hans Thomas discovers the extraordinary «Bun-book», a tiny book in the middle of one of the buns from the village bakery. Hans Thomas uses the magnifying glass to read the «Bun-book», and this takes him back to a shipwreck in 1790 and an island of living patience cards. In a singular way, the story in the «Bun-book» and the truth Hans Thomas and his father confront, are bound together.



“A sparkling injunction to be forever humorous, optimistic and above all curious, this is a book of marvels”

INDEPENDENT ON SUNDAY

“Elegant, thought-provoking and funny”

DET FRI AKTUELT

“Enchanting, unpredictable, absorbing fun. This novel is another offbeat delight, ontology masquerading as an ingeniously constructed fairy tale”

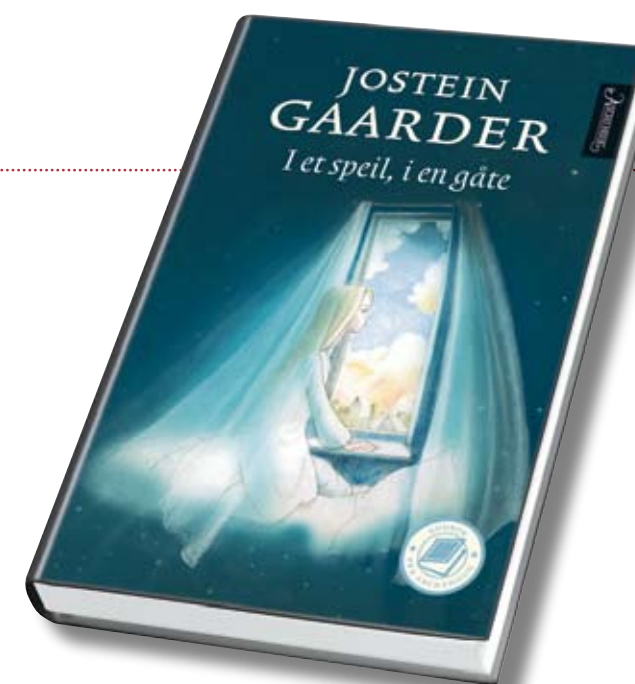
PUBLISHERS WEEKLY

Through a Glass, Darkly

(I et speil, i en gåte)

First published: 1993

Cecilie is ill and has no chance of getting well. Everyone is busy celebrating Christmas, but she is too weak to join them. She confides her thoughts to the Chinese notebook given to her by a doctor at the hospital. One day she discovers that when she is alone in her room she can see an angel. She and the angel, Ariel, begin to converse. Cecilie tries to induce the angel to reveal some of Heaven's secrets and Ariel tells her of life's many puzzles and about the place of the world in the grand scheme of things; in return, Cecilie teaches him what it is like to be human. The conversations between the two evolve into a meeting between Heaven and Earth, into an attempt to determine both what life is all about and what it is like – and also about what it is like 'on the other side'.



“... one long declaration of love for life and for the possibilities and talents of each single individual”

WEEKENDAVISEN

“So profound, so moving, so poetic and beautiful”

JYLLANDSPOSTEN

The Orange Girl

(Appelsinpiken)

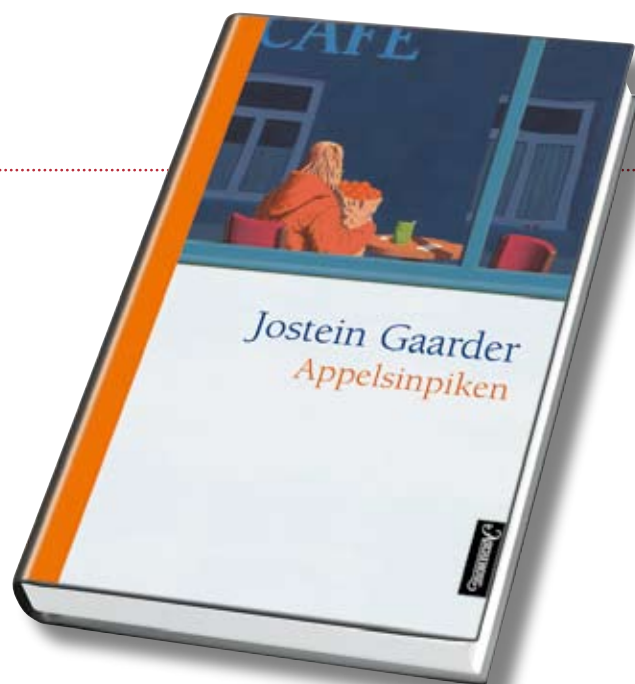
First published: 2003

“My father died eleven years ago. I was only four then, I never thought I’d hear from him again, but now we’re writing a book together.”

To Georg Røed, his father is no more than a shadow, a distant memory. But then one day his grandmother discovers some papers stuffed into the lining of an old red pushchair. The pages are a letter to Georg, written just before his father died, and a story, *The Orange Girl*.

But *The Orange Girl* is no ordinary story – it is a riddle from the past centering around an incident in his father’s youth. One day he boarded a tram and was captivated by a beautiful girl standing in the aisle, clutching a huge paper bag of luscious-looking oranges. Suddenly the tram gave a jolt and he stumbled forward, sending the oranges flying in all directions.

Since that day, his father became obsessed with finding the identity of the Orange Girl, and now, from beyond the grave, he is asking his son to help him solve the puzzle...



“A whimsical, thought-provoking story, with more than one surprise in store”

GOOD BOOK GUIDE

“It should be read by all”

VOGUE

“... makes you cry without feeling that you’ve been tricked ... a youth novel with a bold approach to the really big questions; life and death”

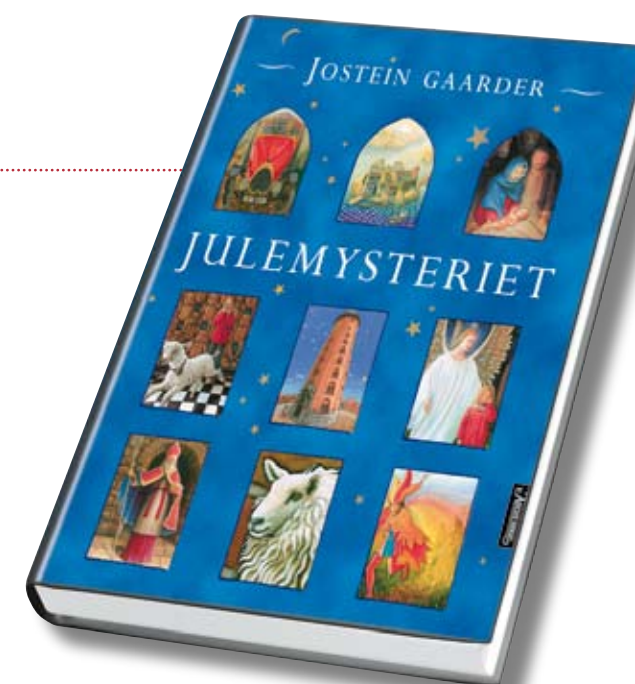
DAGBLADET

The Christmas Mystery

(Julemysteriet)

First published: 1992

In an out-of-the-way bookshop Joakim comes across a magical Advent calendar, which enables him to follow Elisabeth’s journey to Bethlehem. Her odyssey, which takes her through Europe and Asia Minor, is also a journey through history. Who has made this strange calendar? Can it be the mysterious flower seller in the marketplace? Do the brief notes on the scraps of paper inside the calendar refer to the Elisabeth who disappeared from the town many years ago? Perhaps. But there is another Elisabeth too, the one in the picture taken in front of St Peter’s in Rome. Can it be the same Elisabeth as the girl who got lost in the throng when she and her mother were out doing their Christmas shopping? On his journey, which takes him all the way back to the stable in Bethlehem, Joakim is introduced to European culture and history. Ecclesiastical history is interwoven with myths and legends, making the book a fascinating read.



“A skilful and lasting achievement, with all the elements of a perfect Christmas tale”

THE TIMES

“Anyone who enjoyed Jostein Gaarder’s philosophical bestseller *Sophie’s World* ... will relish *The Christmas Mystery*”

SUNDAY TIMES

“A gentle wise gem of a book”

THE INDEPENDENT

“Compelling reading”

DAILY TELEGRAPH

The Diagnosis and Other Short Stories

(Diagnosen og andre noveller)

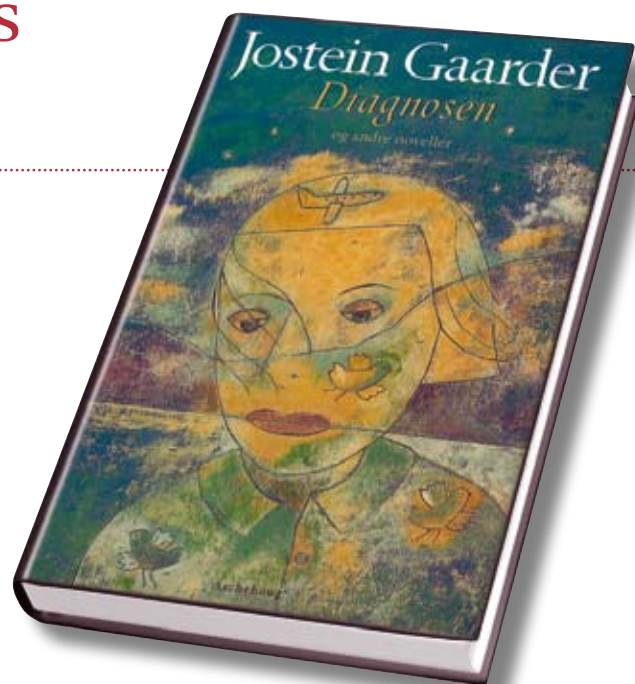
First published: 1986

“The world is very old, they say. But it seldom lasts more than a hundred years. We are the ones who grow old.”

With these words Gaarder sets the tone for the collection, which was his literary debut. The stories deal with ordinary people who have been uprooted from their daily lives and pushed to the brink. The stories touch on existential subjects, questions and ideas to which the author returns in subsequent novels.

The collection comprises eleven short stories. They are woven together by short, thought-provoking sketches.

This book may be regarded as a kind of overture to Gaarder’s subsequent writing, even though the stories have down-beat perspectives – in sharp contrast to his later novels.



Vita Brevis

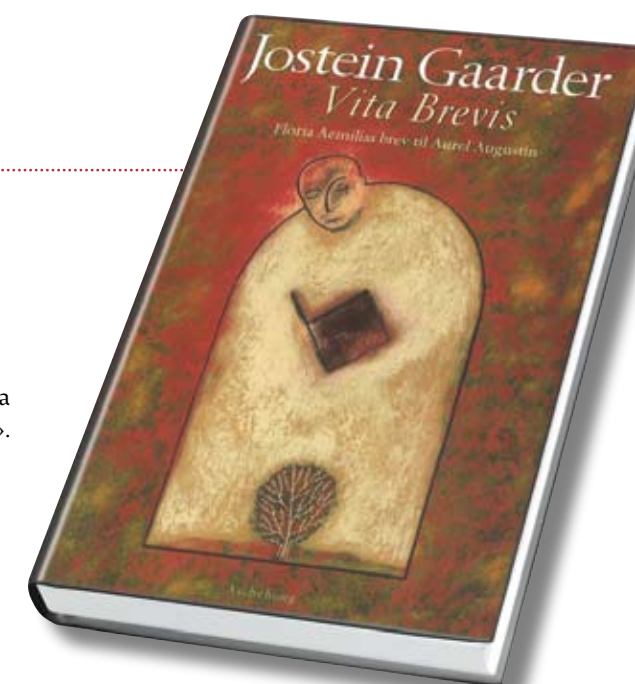
(Vita Brevis)

First published: 1996

In his Confessions the church father, Augustine, mentions that for many years he lived with a mistress whom he loved deeply and who bore him his one and only child.

Their relationship ended when Augustine embarked on a pious life of celibacy for «the sake of his soul’s salvation». In *Vita Brevis*, which is subtitled *Floria Aemilia’s Letter to Aurel Augustine*, Jostein Gaarder has furnished this mistress with a name, a voice and a physical presence. He calls her Floria Aemilia and pens the letters to Augustine, just as she might have written them after reading his confessions some twelve years after they split up.

In the frame story, Jostein Gaarder transports himself to a second-hand bookshop in Buenos Aires where he unearths a sheaf of papers in handwritten Latin which may, he believes, be the letters to the venerable church father from his former mistress. *Vita Brevis* is Jostein Gaarder’s «translation» of Floria’s letters to Augustine in which she chides him for his faithless attitude to sensual love. Life is too short, Floria says, to spurn the beautiful things of God’s creation, and she is merciless in her criticism of Augustine’s chosen path – an austere God-fearing one. This is an ardent book, and a fine homage to worldly life and love.



“Sheer enjoyment from beginning to end – an outstanding paean of praise to life, but also a book that is full of both bitter and unrestrained irony”

ARBEIDERBLADET

“... a different and challenging novel ... a courageous attempt to approach the philosophy and thought processes of late Antiquity, the cultural foundation of western society”

DAGBLADET

Maya

(Maya)

First published: 1999

How can two lovers be reconciled to a lost eternity? Frank, a Norwegian evolutionary biologist, is ensconced in a hotel room in Madrid, where he is writing a letter to his estranged wife, Vera, to tell her of his meeting with a peculiar Spanish couple, Ana and José. To make Vera understand how much this encounter has meant to him, he has to begin by telling her of the time he spent on Taveuni in the Fiji Islands in January 1998.

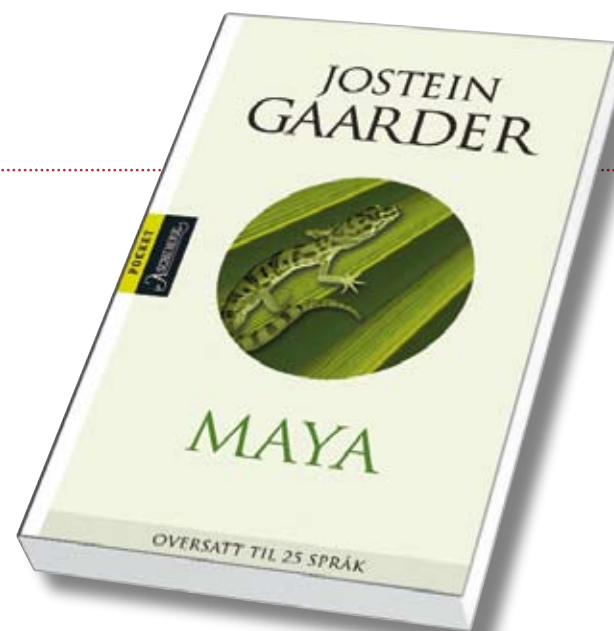
The story really begins with the Big Bang, when the universe was created, but it also begins with what Vera wrote to Frank on a postcard from Barcelona in 1992. Equally, the story begins on the quayside in Cádiz one winter day in 1790, when a five-year-old boy sells a pack of cards to a German sailor. It may also be said that the story begins when John loses Sheila and is no longer able to write. Gaarder asks himself how it can take four billion years to create a human being but only a few seconds to die. How can people possibly reconcile themselves to the thought that life will one day come to an end? He also wonders whether the process of evolution that culminated in human consciousness was purely a matter of chance. Maya is the story of Adam's lack of wonderment at his own existence.

“The best-selling author of *Sophie's World* returns with another wonder-filled philosophical expedition ... this time going into the realm of the meaning of life and love. Gaarder's enthusiastic and surreal unravelling of ideas is temptingly absorbing”

THE SCOTSMAN

“A weighty novel of ideas, written to instruct as well as entertain”

DAILY MAIL

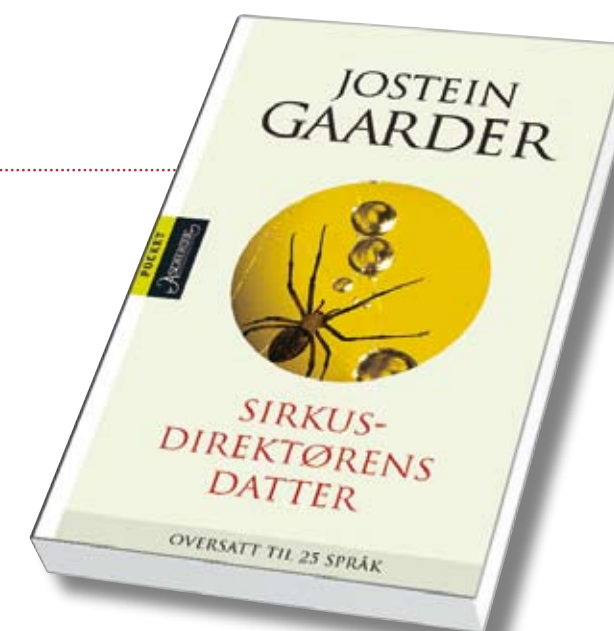


The Ringmaster's Daughter

(Sirkusdirektørens datter)

First published: 2001

A tautly written satire centred on man's follies and enduring vanity, this book further attests to Jostein Gaarder's command of baffling, cunningly contrived intrigues that lend themselves to a wide range of interpretations. This time the protagonist is Petter, a strange, friendless child who prefers his own company and his own imaginary world. Even when he grows up his imagination continues to run riot, but he cannot bear the thought of publishing the stories he writes under his own name. He abhors publicity and being made a fuss of. This prompts him to launch Author Aid, a scheme designed to provide stories for authors suffering from writer's block. Though highly successful at first, it soon proves to be a death trap...



“A masterful mixture of fantasy and reality... a simply wonderful read”

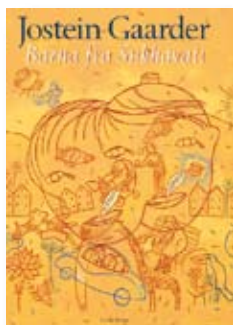
SHE

“The Ringmaster's Daughter confirms [Gaarder's] status as one of Scandinavia's finest literary exports and as a novelist and story-teller of outstanding caliber”

HERALD

“A brilliantly conceived and sparkling idea, and a fabulous gambol with the literary scene and the relationship between mankind and the world.”

DAGSAVISEN



The Children from Sukhavati

(Barna fra Sukhavati)

First published: 1987

In the land beyond everything, Sukhavati, live the twins Lik and Lak, a boy and a girl. They have never been born so they have no navels. They want to travel to Earth and visit mankind. Finally, Lik and Lak are faced with the inhuman choice between eternal life in Sukhavati, or a mortal one on Earth.



The Frog Palace

(Froskeslottet)

First published: 1988

This is the story of Kristoffer Poffer and his exciting adventures in a faraway land somewhere beyond the arch of the sky. Imbued as it is with both humour and wonder, the book plays delightfully with words and phrases; but it also deals with grief and yearning in a warm and wise way.



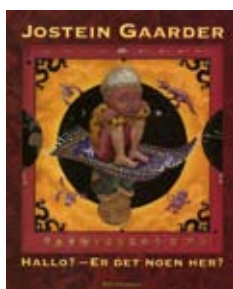
Bibbi Bokken's Magic Library

(Bibbi Bokkens magiske bibliotek)

First published: 1993

Written by Jostein Gaarder and Klaus Hagerup

Their quest for the magic library takes Nils and Berit on a journey through the world of books. It all began thousands of years ago when written letters first saw the light of day...



Hello? – Is There Anybody Here?

(Hallo? – Er det noen her?)

First published: 1996

Eight-year-old Joe is waiting alone at home for the birth of his sibling when he sees something fall from the sky. It's Mika, from the planet Eljo, hanging by the seat of his pants in Joe's apple tree. The importance of questioning everything, from what's a pancake to religious beliefs, makes this gentle story fun to read as well as eye-opening.



The Yellow Dwarves

(De gule dvergene)

First published: 2006

One day when Arild comes home from school, the house is empty. He goes out into the streets, but it's dead quiet everywhere. No-one to be seen; no sign of life. Except a weird, little yellow creature sitting on the kerb, throwing a dice and mumbling to himself. Arild doesn't know it yet, but this is the beginning of the strangest day of his life.

Checkmate

Riddles, fairytales and stories.

(Sjakk matt)

First published: 2006

Contemplating existential questions is the common thread linking all of Jostein Gaarder's works, and his treatment of universal topics engages readers of all ages. Now, to mark that 20 years have passed since Gaarder made his debut as a writer of fiction, Aschehoug Publishing House has asked him to assemble a book of some of the highlights of his authorship.

Checkmate is a collection of riddles, fairy-tales and stories that demonstrates just why Jostein Gaarder's books are read all over the world. It reveals the depth and originality of books such as *The Diagnosis*, *The Solitaire Mystery*, *Sophie's World*, *The Christmas Mystery*, *Through a Glass, Darkly*, *Vita Brevis*, *Maya*, *The Ringmaster's Daughter* and *The Orange Girl*. In addition there is a newly written essay entitled *Is Consciousness a Cosmic Coincidence?* For readers who are new to Jostein Gaarder *Checkmate* can be read as an introduction to his authorship; for all those who have already been enriched and enthused by Gaarder's literary universe it will shed new light on familiar passages.



“**Checkmate shows Gaarders' originality and cognitive resilience. The book should be read by those who need a push towards thinking a little more. And by those who simply like good stories.**”

DAGBLADET

Non-fiction

1982 **Christianity**
(Kristendommen)
By Victor Hellern, Henry Notaker and Jostein Gaarder. Gyldendal

The World’s Religions
(Verdens religioner)
By Victor Hellern, Henry Notaker and Jostein Gaarder. Gyldendal

1983 **«Allahu Akbar» God is the Greatest. A Book About Islam**
(«Allahu akbar» Gud er størst. En bok om islam)
By Jostein Gaarder and Inger Margrethe Gaarder. Cappelen

1984 **The Philosophy of Life and Ethics**
(Livssyn og etikk).
By Victor Hellern, Henry Notaker and Jostein Gaarder. Gyldendal

1989 **The Book of Religions. The Religions of the World. Christianity. The Philosophy of Life and Ethics**

(Religionsboken. Religionene i verden. Kristendommen. Livssyn og etikk).
By Victor Hellern, Henry Notaker and Jostein Gaarder. Gyldendal

1990 **Ethics and Philosophy of Life in Social Science**
(Etikk og livssyn i samfunnslære).
By Victor Hellern, Henry Notaker and Jostein Gaarder. Gyldendal

Bibliography and foreign sales

Diagnosen (The Diagnosis) 1986:

Brazilian Portuguese (Companhia Das Letras),
Chinese - complex characters (Triumph Publishing, Taipeh),
Dutch (Fontein), German (Hanser), Greek (Livani), Japanese (NHK - Publishing),
Russian (Amphora), Spanish (Siruela).

Barna fra Sukhavati (The Children from Sukhavati) 1987:

Catalan (Empúries/Grup 62), Chinese (Triumph/Taipeh), Dutch (Fontein),
Italian (Salani), Portuguese (Presenca), Spanish (Siruela).

Froskeslottet (The Frog Castle) 1988:

Bengali (Shoishab), Brazilian Portuguese (Companhia Das Letras),
Catalan (Empúries/Grup 62), Czech (Euromedia), Chinese (Triumph/Taipeh),
Danish (Høst & Søn) , Dutch (Fontein), English (Orion, London), Faroese (Bókadeildin),
German (Hanser), Italian (Salani), Japanese (NHK - Publishing), Korean (Hyonam),
Portuguese (Presenca), Russian (Raduga), Spanish (Siruela), Swedish (Rabén & Sjögren),
Thai (Matichon).

Kabalmysteriet (The Solitaire Mystery) 1990:

Albanian (Onufri), Arabic (Dar Al-Muna), Bengali (Shoishab),
Brazilian Portuguese (Companhia Das Letras), Catalan (Empúries/Grup 62),
Chinese - complex characters (Triumph Publishing),
Chinese - simplified characters (Writers’ Publ. House), Croatian (Znanje),
Czech (Albatros) , Danish (Høst & Søn), Dutch (Fontein),
English (Orion, London /Farrar, Straus & Giroux, New York), Estonian (Koolibri),
Faroese (Bókadeildin), Finnish (Tammi), French (Seuil) , German (Hanser),
Georgian (Nectar), Greek (Livani), Hungarian (Pesti Szalon), Icelandic (Edda),
Italian (Salani), Hebrew (Schocken), Japanese (NHK - Publishing) , Korean (Hyonam),
Kurdish (Avesta), Latvian (Zvaigzne), Polish (J. Santorski), Portuguese (Presenca),
Romanian (Editura Univers), Russian (Amphora Publishers), Slovak (Sofa),
Slovenian (Zalozka Obzorja), Serbian (Geopoetika) , Spanish (Siruela),
Swedish (Rabén & Sjögren), Thai (Ruan Boon), Turkish (Pan).

Sofies verden (Sophie’s World) 1991:

Albanian (Onufri), American English (Farrar, Straus & Giroux), Arabic (Dar Al-Muna), Armenian (Zangak-97), Bengali (Shandesh), Bulgarian (Danyam Yakov), Brazilian Portuguese (Companhia Das Letras), British English (Orion Books), Catalan (Empúries/Grup 62), Chinese - simplified characters (The Writer’s Publishing House), Chinese - complex characters (Triumph) , Croatian (Znanje), Czech (Albatros), Danish (Høst & Søn), Dutch (Fontein), Estonian (Koolibri), Faroese (Bókadeildin), Finnish (Tammi), French (Seuil), Georgian (Sulakauri), German (Carl Hanser Verlag), Greenlandic (Atuakkiorfik), Greek (Livani), Hebrew (Schocken), Hindi (Rajkamal Prakashan), Hungarian (Magyar Könyvklub), Icelandic (Edda), Indonesian (Mizan), Italian (Longanesi), Japanese (NHK-Publishing), Korean (Hyonam), Latvian (Zvaigzne), Lithuanian (Tyto Alba), Macedonian (Tri Publishing Centre), Malay (Institut Terjemahan Negara Malaysia), Malayalam (DC Books), Persian (Manoocher), Polish (J. Santorski), Portuguese (Presenca), Romanian (Ed. Univers), Russian (Amphora), Saami (Davvi Girji), Serbian (Geopoetika), Sinhalese (Vidarshana), Slovak (Sofa), Slovenian (Zalozba), Spanish (Siruela, Madrid /Editorial Patria, C. Mexico, Ediciones Especiales/Cuba), Swedish (Rabén & Sjögren), Swahili (Mkuki na Nyota), Thai (Kobfai), Tigrinya (Hdri Publ.), Turkish (Pan), Ukrainian (Litopys), Urdu, Vietnamese (Ho Chi Minh-City’s Publishers and Alpha Books). Adapted into films, theater plays and musicals.

Julemysteriet (The Christmas Mystery) 1992:

Bengali (Shoishab), Brazilian Portuguese (Companhia Das Letras), Catalan (Empúries/Grup 62), Chinese - complex characters (China Times Publ., Taipeh), Czech (Karmelitanske Naklaadatelstvi), Danish (Høst & Søn), Dutch (Fontein), English (Orion, London/Farrar, Straus & Giroux, New York), Estonian (Sunday School Union), Faroese (Bókadeildin), Finnish (Tammi), Georgian, German (Hanser), Greek (Livani), Hungarian (Magyar Könyvklub), Italian (Salani) , Japanese (NHK - Publishing), Latvian (Nordik), Polish (J. Santorski), Portuguese (Presenca), Romanian (Ed. Univers), Russian (Raduga and Amphora), Spanish (Siruela), Swedish (Rabén & Sjögren), Thai (Komol Keenthong).

Bibbi Bokens magiske bibliotek
(Bibbi Bokken’s Magic Library) (with Klaus Hagerup) 1993:

Brazilian Portuguese (Companhia Das Letras), Catalan (Empúries/Grup 62), Dutch (Fontein), German (Carl Hanser Verlag), Greek (Livani), Indonesian (Mizan), Italian (LOnganesi, Milan), Japanese (NHK - Publishing), Korean (Hyonam), Polish (J. Santorski), Portuguese (Presenca), Spanish (Siruela).

I et speil, i en gåte (Through a Glass, Darkly) 1993:

Albanian (Onufri), Brazilian Portuguese (Compania Das Letras), Bengali (Shoishab), Chinese - complex characters (Triumph Publishing), Danish (Høst & Søn), English (Orion Books), Catalan (Empúries/Grup 62), Czech (Albatros), Dutch (Fontein), Finnish (Tammi), French (Seuil), German (Carl Hanser Verlag), Greek (Livani), Hungarian (Animus), Icelandic (Edda), Indonesian (Mizan), Italian (Salani), Japanese (NHK - Publishing), Korean (Hyonam), Polish (J. Santorsk,i), Portuguese (Presenca), Romanian (Ed. Univers), Russian (Amphora), Serbian (Fidelis), Slovak (Sofa), Slovenian (ValeNovak), Spanish (Siruela), Swedish (Rabén & Sjögren), Thai (Komol Keenthong), Turkish (Pan), Ukrainian (Litopys). Film option sold to Zentropa Film, Denmark.

Vita Brevis 1996:

Albanian (Onufri), American English (Farrar, Straus & Giroux), Brazilian Portuguese (Companhia Das Letras), British English (Orion Books), Bulgarian (Hemus), Catalan (Empúries/Grup 62), Chinese – complex characters (Triumph Publishing), Czech (Odeon), Danish (Høst & Søn), Dutch (Fontein), Estonian (Kupar), Finnish (Tammi), French (Seuil), Georgian (Nectar Publishing), German (Carl Hanser Verlag), Greek (Livani), Hungarian (Park Publishing), Icelandic (Edda), Italian (Longanesi), Japanese (NHK-Publishing), Korean (Hyonam), Polish (J. Santorski), Portuguese (Presenca), Russian (Amphora), Serbian (Geopoetika), Slovak (Sofa), Spanish (Siruela), Swedish (Rabén & Sjögren), Thai (Matichon), Turkish (Pan), Ukrainian (Litopys).

Maya 1999:

Bengali, Brazilian Portuguese (Companhia Das Letras), English (Orion), Catalan (Empúries/Grup 62), Chinese - complex characters (Triumph Publishing), Chinese - simplified characters (Writers’ Publ. House), Croatian (Znanje), Danish (Forum), Dutch (Fontein), Finnish (Tammi), French (Seuil), Georgian (Nectar Publishing), German (Hanser), Greek (Livani), Hebrew (Schocken), Indonesian (Mizan), Italian (Longanesi), Japanese (NHK - Publishing), Korean (Hyonam), Lithuanian (Vaga), Polish (J. Santorski), Portuguese (Presenca), Serbian (Geopoetika), Slovak (Sofa), Spanish (Siruela), Swedish (Norstedts), Turkish (Pan).

Sirkusdirektørens datter (The Ringmaster’s Daughter) 2001:

Albanian (Onufri) Brazilian Portuguese (Companhia Das Letras), Catalan (Empúries/Grup 62), Chinese (Triumph), Czech (Euromedia), Danish (Forum), Dutch (Signature), English (Orion), Finnish (Tammi), French (Seuil), German (Hanser), Greek (Livani), Hebrew (Kinneret-Zmora), Hungarian (Magyarkönyklub), Indonesian (Mizan), Italian (Longanesi) , Japanese (NHK -Publishing), Korean (Ire Publishing), Latvian (Apgads Atena), Lithuanian (Alma Littera), Polish (J. Santorski), Portuguese (Presenca), Russian (Amphora Publishers), Serbian (Geopoetika), Slovak (Sofa), Spanish (Siruela), Swedish (Norstedts), Turkish (Pan).
Film option sold to Kristine Knudsen and Tom Streuber, Germany.

Appelsinpiken (The Orange Girl) 2003:

Albanian (Onufri), Arabic (Dar Al-Muna), Brazilian Portuguese (Companhia Das Letras), Bengali (Sandesh), Catalan (Empúries/Grup 62), Chinese- simplified characters (Jieli Publishers), Chinese - complex charcaters (Triumph), Croatian (Znanje), Czech (Albatros), Danish (Forum), Dutch (Signature), English (Orion), Estonian (Koolibri), Faroese (Bókadeildin), Finnish (Tammi), French (Seuil), Georgian (Nectar Publ.), German (Carl Hanser Verlag), Greek (Livani), Hebrew (Kinneret/Zmora), Hindi (Rajkamal Prakashan), Hungarian (Animus), Icelandic (Edda), Indonesian (Mizan), Italian (Longanesi), Japanese (NHK- Publishing), Korean (Hyonam), Latvian (Zvaigzne), Lithuanian (Alma Litera), Macedonian (TRI Publishing Centre), Malay (ITNMB), Polish (J. Santorski), Portuguese (Presenca), Romanian (Ed. Univers), Russian (Amphora), Serbian (Geopoetika), Slovenian (ValeNovak), Spanish (Siruela), Swedish (Rabén & Sjögren), Thai (Matichon), Turkish (Pan), Ukrainian (Litopys).
Film option sold to Aksel Helgeland AS, Norway.

Sjakk Matt (Checkmate) 2006:

German (Carl Hanser Verlag), Indonesian (Mizan), Italian (Longanesi), Korean (Hyonam), Spanish (Siruela).

De gule dvergene (The Yellow Dwarves) 2006:

Danish (Forum), German (Hanser), Polish (Santorski), Spanish (Siruela)

Awards and Decorations

1990

- The Norwegian Ministry of Cultural Affairs’ award for The Solitary Mystery
- The Critics’ Prize for books for children and young adults for The Solitary Mystery

1991

- Sonja Hagemann’s prize for children’s books for Sophie’s World

1993

- The School Librarians’ Union Literature Prize for The Solitary Mystery, Sophie’s World and The Christmas Mystery
- LUCHS 84 for Sophie’s World (a German prize awarded by Die Zeit)
- “La Menzione” in Premio Europea di Letteratura Giovanile for The Solitary Mystery (Italy)

1994

- Deutscher Jugendliteraturpreis for Sophie’s World
- Fortuna bookstore’s honorary award
- Wettergren’s Children’s Book Acorn for the authorship (Sweden)

1995

- The Bancarella Award for Sophie’s World (Italy)
- The Flaiano Award for Sophie’s World (Italy)
- La Vanguardia Award for Sophie’s World (Spain)

1996

- Elected the “Peer Gynt” of the year by the Norwegian Parliament
- Buxtehuder Bulle, Jugendbuchpreis for Through a Glass, Darkly (Germany)
- El Arcebispo Juan de San Clemente’s Prize for Literature for Sophie’s World (Spain)
- International Board on Books for Young People, Polish division, for The Solitary Mystery
- Le Prix des Libraires for Sophie’s World (Canada)

1997

- Bergen International Festival Poet
- Jugendbuchpreis, Jury der jungen Leser, for Through a Glass, Darkly, (Austria)
- Premio Internazionale Fregene for The Christmas Mystery (Italy)
- Premi de Literatura Protagonista Jove, for The Solitary Mystery, (Catalonia, Spain)

2002

- The Brage Honorary Prize, for the authorship

2003

- Norwegian Language Prize for The Orange Girl

2004

- The Willy Brandt Prize

2005

- Appointed Commander of the Royal Norwegian Saint Olav’s Order
- Awarded an Honorary Degree at Trinity College, Dublin