



I Is Another: Septology III - V

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 Septologien III - V
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Asle, a painter, lives alone in Dylgja, north of Bjørgvin. He has almost no contact with anyone but his neighbour Asleik, a bachelor fisherman and farmer. Another Asle lives in Bjørgvin, also a painter—the two Asles are friends, and doppelgangers in a way, leading two versions of the same life.

While the narrator, the first Asle, is getting his paintings ready for his Christmas exhibition at the Beyer Gallery in Bjørgvin, he finds his friend Asle lying in the snow. This Asle is an alcoholic and has collapsed. Asle brings him to the hospital, picks up and takes care of his dog, and, worried about his friend, drives on snowy roads back and forth between Dylgja and Bjørgvin.

Asle's life in Dylgja is told both in the present and in flashbacks to the past. This second volume of Jon Fosse's *Septology* gives us a glimpse into Asle's life as a boy and a teenager. There are fumbling kisses, smoking and drinking, amateur rock bands and fist fights, a nagging mother and a silent father, life away from home going to high school in the larger town nearby. Beyer the gallerist discovers the young painter when Asle puts on a summer show in his hometown youth center. Meanwhile, the two Asles meet for the first time and soon both get admitted to art school in Bjørgvin. There, Asle meets and falls in love with his future wife, Ales.

Septology is a hypnotic, magnificent novel about the nature of love, art, God, alcoholism, friendship, and the passage of time. There is death in the story, but also what it's like to be alive—the warmth of a dog in your lap, the pleasure of driving alone, how good bacon and eggs can taste.

Septology is going to stand out as a masterpiece within Norwegian, Nordic, and European world literature.

Dagsavisen

Outstanding... Jon Fosse writes like no one else.

VG

Jon Fosse

Nobel Prize-winner Jon Fosse (b. 1959), is widely considered one of the most important writers of our time. For almost forty years, he has written novels, plays, poems, stories, essays, and children's books. His award-winning work has been translated into more than fifty languages and his plays have been staged over a thousand times all over the world.

Awards

Longlisted for the Dublin Literary Award 2021

Nominated for the Norwegian Critics Prize for Literature 2020



Jon Fosse

Photo: Agnete Brun

Jon Fosse grew up in Strandebarne, a small village in the western part of Norway, he now lives in the Grotten, an honorary residence in Oslo, as well as in Hainburg, Austria, and Frekhaug, Norway.

Fosse was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature in 2023 and has received numerous prizes, both in Norway and internationally through the years.