



The Weight of Snow Crystals

Original title: Vekten av snøkrystaller
Publisher: Forlaget Oktober, 2006
Genre: Novel
Pages: 208 pages
English sample

Foreign rights

Chinese (simplified): Shanghai Translation Publishing House
Czech: Doplnek
Russian: MIC Publishing
Swedish: Norstedts
Turkish: Ithaki



Thorvald Steen

Photo: Trine Hisdal

The Weight of Snow Crystals

The Weight of Snow Crystals is a strong and moving novel about a precocious boy who hides a terrible secret. It is also a painful portrayal of a father and son relationship, and how the ones who are closest to us can fail in offering love and support when we need it the most.

The protagonist is a fourteen year old boy living in Oslo in the sixties. Ski jumping is his great passion, and he has a genuine talent for it. His father, a soft-spoken optometrist, is ambitious on his son's behalf, while his beautiful, but slightly absent-minded mother wishes that he would give up what she considers a dangerous sport. They are a loving and close family.

But something is very wrong with the boy, and he is alone with his doctor when he receives news of his test results; he has a rare muscular disease that will ultimately render him a paralytic. The deterioration can happen quite fast or over time – it is impossible to predict.

The Weight of Snow Crystals tells the story of a boy facing the gravest and most difficult challenge of his life, and having to go the whole distance on his own.

Wonderful, beautiful and shocking.... It is written from the heart, pure and complete. A bull's eye!

Adresseavisen

Twenty points for style. Subdued and dramatic about betrayal and broken dreams. Thorvald Steen's eighth novel, The Weight of Snow Crystals, is one of the most moving youth portrayals I have read.

Bergens Tidende

You read it with increasing commitment ... The Weight of Snow Crystals is a powerful little novel ... you want to read more"

Dagens Nyheter, Sweden

Thorvald Steen

Thorvald Steen's literary career begun in 1983, he has since produced a diverse body of work spanning a variety of genres. Translated into 30 languages so far, Steen has received praise and prizes for the quality of his authorship.