



Septology VI - VII: A New Name

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Septologien VI - VII

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Genre: Novel

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English sample

Foreign rights

Danish: Batzer

English (UK): Fitzcarraldo Editions

English (US): Transit Books

French: Christian Bourgois éditeur

German: Rowohlt

Italian: La Nave di Teseo

Swedish: Bonniers

Awards

The Other Name: Septology I - II

longlisted to the DUBLIN Literary

Award 2020

Longlisted to the International Booker

Prize 2020



Jon Fosse

Photo: Tom A. Kolstad

Septology VI - VII: A New Name

Asle is an ageing painter and widower who lives alone on the southwest coast of Norway. His only friends are his neighbour, Åsleik, a traditional fisherman-farmer, and Beyer, a gallerist who lives in the city. There, in Bjørgvin, lives another Asle, also a painter but lonely and consumed by alcohol. Asle and Asle are doppelgängers – two versions of the same person, two versions of the same life, both grappling with existential questions.

In this final instalment of Jon Fosse's *Septology*, the major prose work by 'the Beckett of the twenty-first century' (Le Monde), Christmas is approaching. Tradition has it that Åsleik and Asle eat lutefisk together, but this year Asle has agreed for the first time to celebrate Christmas with Åsleik and his sister, Guro. On Christmas Eve, Åsleik, Asle, and the dog Bragi take Åsleik's boat out on the Sygnefjord. Meanwhile, we follow the lives of the two Asles as younger adults in flashbacks: the narrator meets his lifelong love, Ales; joins the Catholic Church; starts exhibiting with Beyer; and can make a living by trying to paint away all the pictures stuck in his mind. After a while, Asle and Ales leave the city and move to the house in Dylgja. The other Asle gets married too, but his wedding ends with a sobbing bride and is followed soon after by a painful breakup.

Written in melodious and hypnotic 'slow prose', *A New Name: Septology VI-VII* is a transcendent exploration of the human condition and a radically other reading experience – incantatory, hypnotic, and utterly unique.

Jon Fosse

Jon Fosse is widely considered one of the world's most important living writers. Born in 1959 in Strandebarm, a small village in the western part of Norway, he lives today in the Grotten, an honorary residence, as well as in Hainburg, Austria, and Frekhaug, Norway.

Fosse has received numerous prizes, both in Norway and internationally, and he is mentioned increasingly often as a likely contender for the Nobel Prize. He has currently finishing a major seven-volume work of what he calls "slow prose". *Septology* consists of three volumes: *The Other Name: Septology I - II* was published in 2019 to international praise and longlisted for the *Booker International Prize*. *I Is Another: Septology III - V* was published autumn 2020 and *A New Name: Septology VI - VII* will be published in autumn 2021.