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Memories Look At Me: A Memoir



Synopsis

Tomas TranstrÃ¶merâ™s touching memoir. Written a few years after Transtromer suffered a stroke that left him unable to speak, *Memories Look at Me* is Tomas TranstrÃ¶merâ™s lyrical autobiography about growing up in Sweden. His story opens with a streak of light, a comet that becomes a brilliant metaphor for âœmy lifeâ• as he tries to penetrate the earliest, formative memories of his past. This childhood life unfolds itself slowly in eight glistening chapters that gradually reveal the most secret of treasures: how TranstrÃ¶mer discovered poetry.

Book Information

File Size: 655 KB

Print Length: 64 pages

Publisher: New Directions; 1 edition (December 17, 2011)

Publication Date: December 26, 2011

Sold by:Â Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B008PULDGC

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #933,387 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #111 inÂ Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Ethnic & National > Scandinavian #956 inÂ Kindle Store > Kindle Short Reads > 90 minutes (44-64 pages) > Biographies & Memoirs #12667 inÂ Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Biographies & Memoirs > Memoirs

Customer Reviews

In 1993, at the age of sixty-two and two years after a serious stroke, Tomas TranstrÃ¶mer penned this little memoir about his youth: an only child with a divorced mother, World War II (which, as they lived in Stockholm, he observed at a distance), museums and libraries, studious pursuit of entomology, grammar school, and then Latin secondary school. It is readily understandable how the serious lad TranstrÃ¶mer portrays grew up to be a Nobel laureate poet. Although it has its charms, the truth is that *MEMORIES LOOK AT ME* is a slight book, probably of little interest except to those who are so enamored with TranstrÃ¶mer that they want to devour everything by and about him. I

will say that reading it summoned up many memories from my own boyhood -- something of value to no one other than myself. The book closes with a poem entitled "Memories Look at Me". It and the precious cover photograph of six-year-old Tomas surveying a rugged Scandinavian landscape are the most noteworthy things in the book.

This is a lovely little book especially if one is a lover of Tomas Transtromer.. I confess that I wished the book had been longer with more of his interesting and delightfully told memories. It is a joy to enter and experience the childhood of this wonderful man.

Transtromer is quirky and interesting so I enjoyed the book which came early and in great shape.

Beautiful book, written with such honesty and compassion.

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