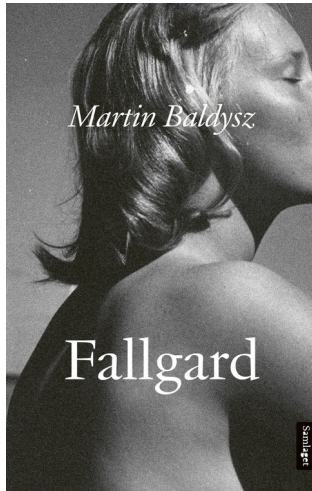Martin Baldysz

BEYOND THE SHALLOWS

Original title: *Fallgard*
Publisher: Samlaget, 2024
Category: Fiction
Pages: 154

AWARDS
NORLA Selected Title Spring 2024

Beyond the Shallows is a book about daring to take one's own path or conforming to the safety of the community. Will life be easier beyond the shallows?

An intimate and sensory portrait of a young girl in a transitional period, where both she and the society around her are undergoing significant changes. Ingeborg's childhood is turning into a memory, and the uncertainty of the future and new emotions looms heavily over her. Ingeborg yearns beyond the protective shallows that surrounds the island, but there is also another longing burning within her. Is it the kindred spirit she finds in Olaug, who lives on the other side of the island, or is there something deeper and more profound between them, something that will make life with others on the island impossible?

The strain of feeling like a stranger in a closed island community in the early 1960s, where the direction of life is mostly predetermined from birth, is more burdensome and isolating than in today's society. Thus, the core of the novel lies in the unspoken. This is not a historical novel meant to showcase another era. Another era is utilized to make us, as humans, more visible.

This is a good novel about cruel desire, in the true sense of the word.

Klassekampen

This is a fine and sensitive depiction of island life sixty years ago. A story about a small group of people who live extremely isolated from the outside world.

Bok365

Baldysz writes beautifully and is skilled at creating atmosphere.

Klassekampen, on *The Cairns*

Martin Baldysz

Martin Baldysz debuted with the novel *Winter Crawings* (*Vintertrang*) in 2013, and is also the author of the historical series *Breaking Waves*. In 2022, his novel *The Cairns* was published to critical acclaim. *Beyond the shallows*was published in 2024. *The Silence Beneath* is the first book in his new historical crime series.