

Therese Tungen

ONCE THEY WERE WOLVES



Original title: *Ein gong var dei ulvar*

Publisher: Samlaget, 2017

Category: Fiction

Pages: 266

AWARDS

Therese Tungen was awarded Aschehoug's debut scholarship for 2017, and in 2018 she received the Bjørnson scholarship.

Once they were Wolves is a collection of short stories about people who are confronting something new and unknown in their lives. The stories explore what happens when people are being pushed hard, by others, by themselves, by the unexpected ways life might take.

The first sentence in the book sets the scene immediately: "It had been raining for ten days. Thunder filled the air. The houses around him were dark and empty, and the moisture clung to his skin and made breathing difficult. Perhaps Inger-Marie and he were the only ones left in the village."

Once they were Wolves came out in March 2017, and has already gotten much attention and critical acclaim, comparing her to Norwegian giants such as Olav Duun and Merethe Lindstrøm as well as classic masters of the short story, like Poe and Chekhov.



«Her stories are long, but still concentrated. They stop exactly when they should. As if the writer lures the reader to the edge of a cliff, and then disappears, leaving the reader to herself.»

Brynjulf Jung Tjønn, VG



«We have been given a new, exciting short story writer. She can be mentioned along Merethe Lindstrøm ...».

Vigdis Moe Skarstein, Adresseavisen

«The strength in Tungen's short stories are ... that they push through the barriers of social realism ... it is well-written, brave and original ...»

Live Lundh, Vårt Land



Wellwritten, focalized and nerve-racking on animals, death, time and lifechanging situations

Stavanger Aftenblad

Therese Tungen

Therese Tungen is the principal of Samlaget's Writers' School. A former editor at Samlaget and literary critic for *Morgenbladet* and *Klassekampen*, she made her acclaimed debut with *Once They Were Wolves* (2017), followed by *Love and What Resembles It* (2019), nominated for the 2020 EU Prize for Literature. In 2022, she published the highly praised *Turn Around: Edvin's Book*.

