

Agnes Ravatn

## THE GUESTS



Original title: *Gjestene*Publisher: Samlaget, 2022
Category: Fiction
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## **AWARDS**

Shortlisted for The Book Seller Award 2022

## **RIGHTS SOLD TO**

France, Actes Sud Poland, Pauza UK. Orenda Books (World English)

Theatre Rights to Den Nationale Scene, Norway The vacation house wasn't flashy—it was disturbingly perfect. Muted wood, glass, and stone gleamed with quiet elegance, a reminder of lives Karin and Kai could never quite measure up to.

At first, there was nothing to mock, nothing to laugh at—only the faint, prickling awareness that they were out of place.

Reluctantly, they accept the offer to borrow the luxurious house by the Oslofjord. What should have been a brief escape quickly becomes a game of appearances. When they meet the neighbors, a celebrated writer couple, Karin tells a small white lie — and one fib soon multiplies into another. Trapped in a spiral of polite deception and subtle social maneuvering, Karin and Kai must navigate the thin line between charm, ambition, and embarrassment, all while the house watches silently.

It's a well-crafted examination of the pressure to succeed and what success actually entails. ... Ravatn cleverly capitalises on our innate self-doubt that our accomplishments are less than they appear.

Nordic Watchlist, UK

There's prime Nordic noir from Agnes Ravatn, whose The Guests boasts a satisfying vein of psychological intensity. The beleaguered Karin is a strongly drawn character, and this is an economically written study of burgeoning paranoia.

Financial Times, UK



...extremely witty and clever, both thought out and executed. The story, the characters, the time lapses, everything fits perfectly.

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## Agnes Ravatn

Agnes Ravatn is a Norwegian author celebrated for her sharp psychological insight and elegant, suspenseful prose. Her breakthrough novel The *Bird Tribunal* (2013) became an international bestseller, sold to 21 countries, and was later



adapted into a successful stage play. She has since written the acclaimed novels *The Seven Doors* (2019) and *The Guests* (2022), works that confirm her position as one of the most compelling voices in contemporary Nordic literature.