



Smilla's Sense of Snow: A Novel

By Peter Høeg

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Smilla's Sense of Snow presents one of the toughest heroines in modern fiction. Smilla Qaavigaaq Jaspersen is part Eskimo but she lives in Copenhagen and keeps to herself. When her six-year old neighbor is killed, Smilla doesn't believe it was an accident and begins her own investigation of a case that even the police don't want to get involved in.

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

In this international bestseller, Peter Høeg successfully combines the pleasures of literary fiction with those of the thriller. Smilla Jaspersen, half Danish, half Greenlander, attempts to understand the death of a small boy who falls from the roof of her apartment building. Her childhood in Greenland gives her an appreciation for the complex structures of snow, and when she notices that the boy's footprints show he *ran* to his death, she decides to find out who was chasing him. As she attempts to solve the mystery, she uncovers a series of conspiracies and cover-ups and quickly realizes that she can trust nobody. Her investigation takes her from the streets of Copenhagen to an icebound island off the coast of Greenland. What she finds there has implications far beyond the death of a single child. The unusual setting, gripping plot, and compelling central character add up to one of the most fascinating and literate thrillers of recent years.

From Publishers Weekly

The title of this quiet, absorbing suspense novel by a Danish author only suggests the intriguing story it tells. After young Isaiah Christiansen falls from a snow-covered roof in present-day Copenhagen, something about his lone rooftop tracks--and the fact that the boy had a fear of heights--obsesses Smilla Qaavigaaq Jaspersen, a woman who had befriended him. Smilla is 37, unmarried, and, like Isaiah, part of Denmark's small Eskimo/Greenlander community. She is also a minor Danish authority on the properties and classification of ice. Her search for what had frightened the boy leads her to uncover information about his father's mysterious death on a secret expedition to Greenland, a mission funded by a powerful Danish corporation involved in a strange conspiracy stretching back to WW II. As related in Smilla's sober, no-nonsense narration, the plot acquires credibility even as its details become more bizarre. While the novel will probably be compared to *Gorky Park*, Høeg has much more to offer, both in terms of his impeccable literary style and in the glimpses he provides of an utterly foreign culture. Its chief virtue, however, is the narrator: Smilla is never less than believable in her contradictions--caustic, caring, thoughtful, impulsive, determined and above all, rebellious. Smoothly translated by Nunnally, this is Høeg's third novel, but the first to appear in English. A dark, taut, compelling story, it's a real find. 40,000 first printing; \$50,000 ad/promo; BOMC selection. Copyright 1993 Reed Business Information, Inc.

From School Library Journal

YA-A compelling and suspenseful adventure about a solitary 37-year-old Greenlander, an unemployed glaciologist who lives in Copenhagen. Smilla Jaspersen is caught between the pull of her Inuit roots and the restrictions and demands of the modern industrial world. The story begins when her six-year-old neighbor falls from a snow-covered roof, and it is declared an accidental death. She and the boy were close friends, and she was keenly aware of his abnormal fear of heights. This, together with her keen Inuit understanding of snow, causes her to doubt that it was an accident. When she questions the local authorities they are not interested, and she begins to make inquiries on her own. Her investigation takes her from shipyards, corporate headquarters, and the dark back streets of the Danish capital to a secretive voyage along the icy Greenland coast. Mysterious characters, violent encounters, and an intriguing puzzle propel the story along. The final scenes rapidly accelerate in action and suspense. It's a rare thriller that has such a strong, fascinating female protagonist, but this book also excels in story and characterization. It's a winner. *Penny Stevens, Fairfax County Public Library*,
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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Dee Alaniz:

Why don't make it to become your habit? Right now, try to prepare your time to do the important act, like looking for your favorite publication and reading a reserve. Beside you can solve your long lasting problem; you can add your knowledge by the book entitled Smilla's Sense of Snow: A Novel. Try to face the book Smilla's Sense of Snow: A Novel as your pal. It means that it can to become your friend when you truly feel alone and beside regarding course make you smarter than ever. Yeah, it is very fortunated for you personally. The book makes you a lot more confidence because you can know every little thing by the book. So , let's make new experience and also knowledge with this book.

Tracie Berry:

This Smilla's Sense of Snow: A Novel book is simply not ordinary book, you have after that it the world is in your hands. The benefit you obtain by reading this book is definitely information inside this guide incredible fresh, you will get facts which is getting deeper anyone read a lot of information you will get. This kind of Smilla's Sense of Snow: A Novel without we comprehend teach the one who examining it become critical in imagining and analyzing. Don't be worry Smilla's Sense of Snow: A Novel can bring any time you are and not make your bag space or bookshelves' grow to be full because you can have it with your lovely laptop even cell phone. This Smilla's Sense of Snow: A Novel having very good arrangement in word in addition to layout, so you will not feel uninterested in reading.

John Thornton:

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Hayden Wolfe:

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