

SYNOPSIS

Jarmo Stoor: *Motel*

Original title: *Motelli*

Publisher: Into Kustannus, 2015

Jarmo Stoor wrote his novel *Motel* after four years owning the motel known as “The Fur Tannery,” located along a former major highway. A sentence from the beginning of the book, “This is where the normal world ends,” is an apt description of the motel, its distinctive residents, and the colorful coincidences that occur one hot summer in Kempele, a small town near Oulu.

The book’s main character, Timo, agrees to manage the motel while in a drunken haze and has no clue what he’s in store for.

“I smell regret on its way,” declares the diminutive Garden-Elf Granny time and time again in motel’s hallway – and she’s usually right.

Stoor’s deeply human novel is also a coarsely humorous book about the state of Finnish society.

Book review quotes:

“Jarmo Stoor, a writer from Oulu, knows how to turn the tragic twists and strange turns of his own life into well-crafted fiction.”

—*Kaltio* magazine

“What I got: a human and fun book that I really enjoyed reading. The description of *Motel* in [the publisher’s] catalog was certainly interesting, but I couldn’t have guessed how fantastic Stoor’s humor and way of telling the story would be.”

—*Suomi lukee* blog

“Stoor’s story has the taste and smell of a dreadful life that’s been warmed occasionally by a gleam of the sun of friendship and love.”

—*Lapin kansa* (Rovaniemi)

“*Motel* was an experience! Author Jarmo Stoor has left out any old, worn-out phrases and offers us a new, wild motel life. There were plenty of unpredictable events, and the unbridled pace continued to surprise. The book kept my interest the whole way through. It was fun to read!”

—*Sateenvarjoton* blog

“Stoor is always worth reading. All kinds of love are possible – that’s one of the ‘teachings’ of Jarmo Stoor’s excellent novel.”

—*Karjalainen* (Joensuu)