

Tommi Takkunen: *The Future Belongs to Bingo Callers*

Original title: *Tulevaisuus kuuluu bingoemännille*

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When Anni sees Dorkis on the street, she is certain that the village idiot is her father. This is the beginning of Anni's odyssey to find out the truth about her past, but the truth only slips further away, sifting through her fingers like sand in a time glass.

Kristian makes easy money as a babysitter. When he babysits Olga, she wants him to listen to her dead brother's messages on tape with her.

Kati is a one-woman theatre company, if not a circus. Asko is fascinated by her antics until the stage starts spinning so wildly that the picture is reduced to nothing but a line.

The Future Belongs to Bingo Callers is a collection of short stories about people on the verge of change that they find difficult to embrace. It's easy to step inside these stories, but they don't easily let readers go. These everyday stories invite readers in for some relaxing reading, the humor is dark and makes you laugh, but then suddenly the ice breaks and the deep currents of existence are stirred up from the bottom.

The collection includes the following short stories: Dorkis, The Babysitters, Winter, Asko and Kati, Guilt and Innocence, Tricks

Reviews

"It's easy to step inside these stories. They're about such completely ordinary people and places. Even so or perhaps for that very reason, they gradually lead the reader to the central questions of existence: who am I exactly, and what should I do with my life? There is humor throughout, often insightful and dark, but it is also understanding of poor souls. The writing is skilful and meticulous in many ways. The stories grab you and take you along for a ride, not on a monotonous highway, but on a winding village road."

- Turun Sanomat

"The intense mood Takkunen creates with his stories stays with you. There's something bigger at stake beyond the everyday events he narrates, and his descriptive but expressionless narrative style only amplifies that."

- Kaleva

"Takkunen's language is rich, and his text is pleasurable and playful. As the collection progresses, a pinch of strange, magical realism is added in."

- Kaltio

"These are great stories. The impressive stories from this debut author run deep."

- Kotiliesi