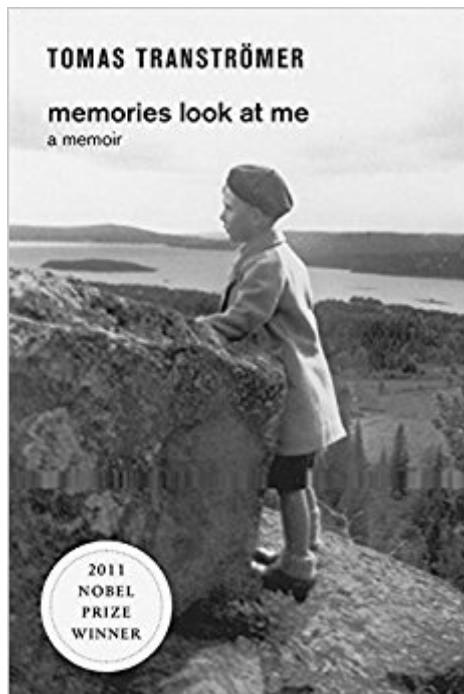


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Memories Look At Me: A Memoir



Synopsis

Tomas TranstrÃ¶mer's touching memoir. Written a few years after Transtromer suffered a stroke that left him unable to speak, *Memories Look at Me* is Tomas TranstrÃ¶mer's lyrical autobiography about growing up in Sweden. His story opens with a streak of light, a comet that becomes a brilliant metaphor for "my life" as he tries to penetrate the earliest, formative memories of his past. This childhood life unfolds itself slowly in eight glistening chapters that gradually reveal the most secret of treasures: how TranstrÃ¶mer discovered poetry.

Book Information

Paperback: 64 pages

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Customer Reviews

"Like so many great poets before him, TranstrÃ¶mer is forever reminding us that the world is not what it appears to be; that with mindfulness and close attention, you might get a glimpse of something vast and strange." - John Freeman, NPR's Monkey See
"The Nobel prize to Mr. TranstrÃ¶mer is a momentary defeat for ideology and a great victory for poetry." - Michael Moynihan, The Wall Street Journal
"Through his condensed, translucent images, TranstrÃ¶mer gives us fresh access to reality." - The Nobel Prize Committee

Robin Fulton, a Scottish poet and longtime resident of Norway, has been translating TranstrÃ¶mer for over thirty-five years.

In 1993, at the age of sixty-two and two years after a serious stroke, Tomas TranstrÃ¶mer

penned this little memoir about his youth: an only child with a divorced mother, World War II (which, as they lived in Stockholm, he observed at a distance), museums and libraries, studious pursuit of entomology, grammar school, and then Latin secondary school. It is readily understandable how the serious lad TranstrÃ¶mer grows up to be a Nobel laureate poet. Although it has its charms, the truth is that *MEMORIES LOOK AT ME* is a slight book, probably of little interest except to those who are so enamored with TranstrÃ¶mer that they want to devour everything by and about him. I will say that reading it summoned up many memories from my own boyhood -- something of value to no one other than myself. The book closes with a poem entitled "Memories Look at Me". It and the precious cover photograph of six-year-old Tomas surveying a rugged Scandinavian landscape are the most noteworthy things in the book.

This is a lovely little book especially if one is a lover of Tomas Transtromer.. I confess that I wished the book had been longer with more of his interesting and delightfully told memories. It is a joy to enter and experience the childhood of this wonderful man.

Transtromer is quirky and interesting so I enjoyed the book which came early and in great shape.

Beautiful book, written with such honesty and compassion.

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