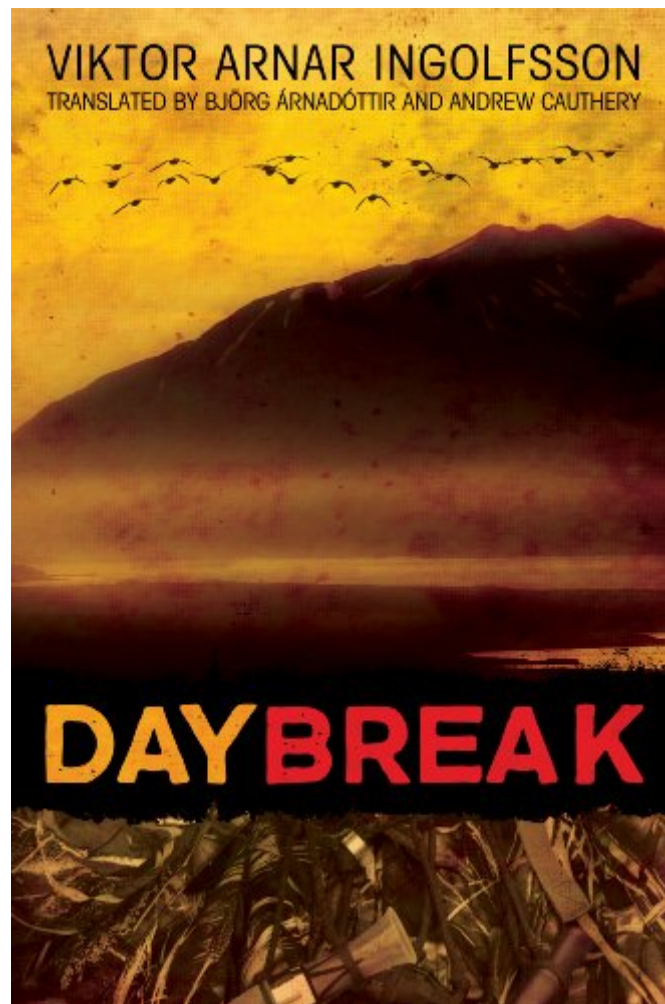


The book was found

Daybreak



Synopsis

When the shotgun-blasted body of a goose hunter is discovered, the police believe they have a list of suspects who may have wanted the victim dead, from his young wife to the caretaker of his property. But then a second body, another hunter, is found with a similar fatal wound. And then a third. As the pattern emergesâ"all goose hunters, all shot at the break of dawnâ"Reykjavik policemen Gunnar and Birkir face the terrifying possibility that a serial killer is stalking the idyllic Icelandic countryside. Gunnar and Birkir set a trap for the one they call âthe Gander,â but it quickly becomes a wild goose chase as the murderer plays some tricks of his own. With the clock running out and the discovery of another body all but guaranteed, the cops must determine if there is a thread connecting the victims or if the killings are all part of a twisted game.

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Customer Reviews

Goose hunting in Iceland is now part of my repertoire of knowledge. Who'd have thought? Viktor Golfasson, the author of 'Daybreak', has written a fascinating, suspenseful novel. I have been a lover of mysteries my entire life and have read everything fit to print, I kid you not! This novel kept

my interest from the first page, the last chapter was so filled with tension I could feel my heartbeat accelerating.'The Violent Crime Unit' in Reykjavik houses some of the most interesting of characters. Gunnar Mariuson and Bikir Hinriksson are two of them. Gunnar is older and a long time policeman, tall and overweight, advanced to Detective. Bikir is of Asian descent, slim and short in stature. These two unlikely people are best friends and partners in the division. They like each other, Gunnar is more outgoing, drinks a lot, probably an alcoholic, and does most of the talking. Bikir is a runner and thinker. Good combination. I came to like both of these characters, but if pushed, would say Bikir is my favorite. Someone is killing hunters, goose hunters. Out in the rural Rea, the country, someone has killed three hunters. The rifle is known, and the last murder has a witness. The trajectory to get to the murderer is one I would never in a million years have guessed. I have read every mystery/thriller/police procedural, and I have read it all. This novel was so different and fascinating to me. I loved the characters, the country, the description of the area, the questions and answers that must be provided to keep the killer from killing again. This type of writing is so superb that it separates this mystery from every other. I have read a previous novel by the author, 'House of Evidence', and found it excellent. This novel, however, surpasses that in every way.

"Daybreak" is the fourth novel and the third Scandinavian mystery/police procedural by the Icelandic author Viktor Arnar Ingolfsson. The crime novel was the basis for the 2008 Icelandic television series HUNTING MEN. It follows on the heels of the author's House of Evidence, which won the Glass Key Award, given by the Crime Writers Association of Scandinavia. (I read and favorably reviewed this novel on its own webpage.) Then there was The Flatey Enigma, which was nominated for the same award. (Mind you, I am not at all sure that Iceland is considered part of Scandinavia, but the country's language is Old Nordic, and the Scandinavian literary critics seem to consider it so.) At any rate, this new crime novel has now been translated from the Icelandic into English by Bjorg Arnadottir and Andrew Cauthery. The work, like its author, is largely located in Reykjavik, capital of Iceland, that little-known to outsiders, sparsely populated, extreme northern country. The shotgun-blasted body of a wealthy goose hunter has been discovered on his farm in the remote countryside: it appears he was shot at daybreak. The police believe they have a list of the usual suspects who may have wanted the victim dead, from his young wife to the hostile caretaker, the former owner of this property. Then second and third bodies are found, both also goose hunters, with similar fatal wounds, shot at the break of dawn.

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