

# Growth Of The Soil Knut Hamsun

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*Mothwise* Knut Hamsun 2019-12-06 "Mothwise" by Knut Hamsun (translated by W. J. Alexander Worster). Published by Good Press. Good Press publishes a wide range of titles that encompasses every genre. From well-known classics & literary fiction and non-fiction to forgotten—or yet undiscovered gems—of world literature, we issue the books that need to be read. Each Good Press edition has been meticulously edited and formatted to boost readability for all e-readers and devices. Our goal is to produce eBooks that are user-friendly and accessible to everyone in a high-quality digital format.

*Growth of the Soil* Knut Hamsun 2010 The story is epic in its magnitude, in its calm, steady progress and unhurrying rhythm, in its vast and intimate humanity. The author looks upon his characters with a great, all-tolerant sympathy, aloof yet kindly, as a god. A more objective work of fiction would be hard to find. Hamsun won the Noble Prize in 1920 for this book.

**Growth of the Soil** Knut Hamsun 2007-09-25 The epic novel of man and nature that won its author the Nobel Prize in Literature, in the first new English translation in more than ninety years A Penguin Classic When it was first published in 1917, *Growth of the Soil* was immediately recognized as a masterpiece. Ninety years later it remains a transporting literary experience. In the story of Isak, who leaves his village to clear a homestead and raise a family amid the untilled tracts of the Norwegian back country, Knut Hamsun evokes the elemental bond between humans and the land. Newly translated by the acclaimed Hamsun scholar Sverre Lyngstad, Hamsun's novel is a work of preternatural calm, stern beauty, and biblical power—and the crowning achievement of one of the greatest writers of the twentieth century. For more than seventy years, Penguin has been the leading publisher of classic literature in the English-speaking world. With more than 1,800 titles, Penguin Classics represents a global bookshelf of the best works throughout history and across genres and disciplines. Readers trust the series to provide authoritative texts enhanced by introductions and notes by distinguished scholars and contemporary authors, as well as up-to-date translations by award-winning translators.

*The Last Joy* Knut Hamsun 2003 *The Last Joy* is the final part in Hamsun's Wanderer Trilogy. With its richly varied contents, this work combines the lyricism of Hamsun's *Pan* (1894) and the epic scope of his Nobel prize-winning *Growth of the Soil* (1917). The middle-aged narrator of this story is a Hamsun double, who leaves the wild, where he has lived in a turf hut, for a tourist resort and, later, the city, where he contacts Miss Torsen, a beautiful young school teacher he met at the resort. He follows her sexual escapades, including rape, with the intense, vicarious interest of a voyeur.

*Det Vilde Kor* Knut Hamsun 2019-02-27 This work has been selected by scholars as being culturally important, and is part of the knowledge base of civilization as we know it. This work was reproduced from the original artifact, and remains as true to the original work as possible. Therefore, you will see the original copyright references, library stamps (as most of these works have been housed in our most important libraries around the world), and other notations in the work. This work is in the public domain in the United States of America, and possibly other nations. Within the United States, you may freely copy and distribute this work, as no entity (individual or corporate) has a copyright on the body of the work. As a reproduction of a historical artifact, this work may contain missing or blurred pages, poor pictures, errant marks, etc. Scholars believe, and we concur, that this work is important enough to be preserved, reproduced, and made generally available

to the public. We appreciate your support of the preservation process, and thank you for being an important part of keeping this knowledge alive and relevant.

**Look Back on Happiness** Knut Hamsun 2009-08 Knut Hamsun was a major Norwegian author who received the Noble Prize for Literature for his novel *Growth of the Soil* in 1920. Hamsun's writing makes excellent use of symbolism. Hamsun saw man and nature united in a strong bond that could almost be considered mystical. *Look Back on Happiness* begins, "I have gone to the forest..... Not because I am offended about anything, or very unhappy about men's evil ways; but since the forest will not come to me, I must go to it. That is all. I have not gone this time as a slave and a vagabond. I have money enough and am overfed, stupefied with success and good fortune, if you understand that. I have left the world as a sultan leaves rich food and harems and flowers, and clothes himself in a hair shirt."

Knut Hamsun Ingar Sletten Kolloen 2009 This biography of one of the twentieth century's most important and neglected writers captures the restless and enigmatic spirit of Hamsun and provides a major reassessment of his work.

*Hunger* Knut Hamsun 2021-01-01 *Hunger* is a novel by the Norwegian author Knut Hamsun published in 1890. Parts of it had been published anonymously in the Danish magazine *Ny Jord* in 1888. The novel has been hailed as the literary opening of the 20th century and an outstanding example of modern, psychology-driven literature. *Hunger* portrays the irrationality of the human mind in an intriguing and sometimes humorous manner.

Growth of the Soil Knut Hamsun 2007-09-25 The story of an elemental existence in rural Norway.

**As You Were** Elaine Feeney 2020-08-20 Discover this unforgettable, darkly funny novel about the power of friendship and the heartbreak of family life - shortlisted for the Rathbones Folio Prize 2021. 'AMAZING' Marian Keyes 'BEAUTIFUL' Douglas Stuart 'FABULOUS' Kevin Barry 'THRILLING' Nicole Flattery \_\_\_\_\_ Sinéad Hynes is a tough, driven, funny young property developer with a terrifying secret. No-one knows it: not her fellow patients in a failing hospital, and certainly not her family. She has confided only in Google and a shiny magpie. But she can't go on like this, tirelessly trying to outstrip her past and in mortal fear of her future. Somehow, Sinéad needs to seize the moment, and maybe then she can learn to be free...

\_\_\_\_\_ An Evening Standard, Observer and Daily Telegraph Book of the Year An Observer Best Debut 2020 Winner of the Dalkey Book Festival Emerging Writer Award Winner of the McKitterick Prize 2020 Winner of the Kate O'Brien Award 2021 Shortlisted for the Irish Book Awards Novel of the Year 2020 'Extraordinary... This is writing that often reaches into your heart' Evening Standard 'Exhilarating...gloriously full of life' Irish Independent 'Feeney's voice is at once fresh and sharp, with an eye for comedy' Observer

**Literature, 1901-1967** Horst Frenz 1999

<http://www.worldscientific.com/worldscibooks/10.1142/3738>

Under the Autumn Star Knut Hamsun 2018-06-27 Under the Autumn Star Knut Hamsun In Under the Autumn Star, Nobel prize-winning author Knut Hamsun writes a novel magically permeated with the air and light of fall. The narrator, Knut Pedersen (Hamsun's real name) first joins forces with Grindhusen, a man blessed with the faith that "something will turn up," and later with Lars Falkenberg, whose dubious talents include the tuning of pianos. Knut and Lars fetch up as workmen on the estate of Captain

Falkenberg (no relation to Lars), with whose wife each falls or fancies himself in love - though this does not prevent either from doing "night duties" in other quarters. In time, Knut is laid off and, in futile pursuit of the woman with whom he is by now helplessly infatuated, finds himself sucked back into the city life he had fled. We are delighted to publish this classic book as part of our extensive Classic Library collection. Many of the books in our collection have been out of print for decades, and therefore have not been accessible to the general public. The aim of our publishing program is to facilitate rapid access to this vast reservoir of literature, and our view is that this is a significant literary work, which deserves to be brought back into print after many decades. The contents of the vast majority of titles in the Classic Library have been scanned from the original works. To ensure a high quality product, each title has been meticulously hand curated by our staff. Our philosophy has been guided by a desire to provide the reader with a book that is as close as possible to ownership of the original work. We hope that you will enjoy this wonderful classic work, and that for you it becomes an enriching experience.

*The Growth of the Soil* Knut Hamsun 2015-05-03 Awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1920 "for his monumental work, *Growth of the Soil* a grand, sweeping saga of sacrifice and struggle. This epic tale recaptures the world of Norwegian homesteaders at the turn of the 20th century. Rich in symbolism, it continues to resonate with modern readers." He insisted that the intricacies of the human mind ought to be the main object of modern literature, to describe the "whisper of the blood, and the pleading of the bone marrow". Hamsun pursued his literary program, debuting in 1890 with the psychological novel *Hunger*.

**The Road Leads on** Knut Hamsun 2003-07-01

[Knut Hamsun, Best Novels](#) Knut Hamsun 2017-08-21 Knut Hamsun (1859 - 1952) was a Norwegian author, who was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1920. Hamsun's work spans more than 70 years and shows variation with regard to the subject, perspective and environment. He published more than 20 novels, a collection of poetry, some short stories and plays, a travelogue, and some essays. Hamsun is considered the "leader of the Neo-Romantic revolt at the turn of the [20th] century", with works such as *Hunger* (1890), *Mysteries* (1892), *Pan* (1894), and *Victoria* (1898). His later works-in particular his "Nordland novels"-were influenced by the Norwegian new realism, portraying everyday life in rural Norway and often employing local dialect, irony, and humour. In this book: *Pan* Translator: William W. Worster *Growth of the Soil* Translator: William W. Worster *Hunger* Translator: George Egerton

**Dreamers** Knut Hamsun 2012-02-14 Ove Rolandsen, the telegraph operator in an isolated fishing village in northern Norway, is a man of sudden passions, a cheerful rogue fond of girls and alcohol. He constantly hatches ambitious schemes to the despair of his fiancée, Marie, housekeeper at the vicarage. When a plan to manufacture glue from fish waste lands him in trouble, is his feckless career over or could fortune, for once, be on his side? Knut Hamsun is recognised as one of the greatest literary figures of the twentieth century. He was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1920 for *Growth of the Soil*.

**Enigma** Robert Ferguson 2010-07 The beginning of Robert Ferguson's introduction is arresting. 'If they've heard of him at all, people tend to know two things about Knut Hamsun: that he wrote *Hunger*, and that he met Hitler. Those who know a little more know that in *Hunger*, *Mysteries* and *Pan*, he produced novels that have had a decisive effect on European and American literature of the twentieth century. Ernest Hemingway tried to write like him; so did Henry Miller, who called him 'the Dickens of my generation'; 'never has the Nobel Prize been awarded to one worthier of it.' Thomas Mann wrote in 1929. Hermann Hesse called him 'my favourite author'. Russian writers like Andre Bely and Boris Pasternak read him keenly in their youth, and Andre Gide thought him arguable superior to Dostoevsky. They all read him - Kafka, Brecht, Gorky, Wells, Musil. Rebecca West described him as the possessor of 'qualities that belong to the very great - the completest omniscience about human nature'. And Isaac Bashevis Singer stated that Hamsun was quite simply 'the father of the modern school of literature in his every aspect - his subjectiveness, his fragmentariness, his use of flashbacks, his lyricism'. Singer, in his foreword to *Hunger*, goes on to say

that 'The whole modern school of fiction in the twentieth century stems from Hamsun.' Yet in discussions of the history of modern literature, Hamsun's name is rarely mentioned. His reputation, which probably reached its height around 1929 with the world celebrations of his seventieth birthday, was in ruins by the end of the Second World War. Alone among the major European writers, he had supported Hitler. Brazenly alone, he had hailed his rise and bemoaned the fall of the epitome of spiritual tyranny in recent history.' What a subject, and in this, the first biography, Robert Ferguson brilliantly gets the measure of this awkward, paradoxical writer, or, as he calls him 'a multiple paradox, a living riddle; a human question-mark'. 'Enigma is scholarly, very readable, warm, intelligent, shrewd, refreshingly unpretentious, invaluable, essential. A magnificent achievement.' Martin Seymour-Smith, *Washington Post* 'Enigma is simply a pleasure to read. When Ferguson writes of the demonic muse that haunted Hamsun throughout his life, we glimpse something profound about the creative act of writing, and we come very close to the exalted emotion that every writer feels - or hopes to feel. Indeed, the highest praise that can be bestowed on Ferguson's work is to declare that *Enigma* is one of the most moving, inspiring and exciting books on the subject of writing that I have ever encountered.' Jonathan Kirsch, *Los Angeles Times* 'Robert Ferguson's is the first full length English biography of Knut Hamsun and no one could have done a more expert job.' John Carey, *Sunday Times*

**Lady Audley's Secret** Mary Elizabeth Braddon 1862

**Growth of the Soil (Hardcover)** Knut Hamsun 2018-05-28 *Growth of the Soil*, Knut Hamsun's Nobel Prize winning novel, is an abiding classic of Scandinavian literature. At the time it was published, the literary world was in the throes of shifting to a modernist style. Popular novels were set in the contemporary present, with technological and societal advancements forming part of the narrative backdrop. *Growth of the Soil* openly displays the conflicts between the old traditions of agrarian society, and the ever-mounting wonders and conveniences offered by modern society. The farmer Isak scarcely acknowledges the values of modern living. Illiterate but capable of carrying out the business of running a farm, he has physical strength and works with his hands. Although initially amazed by Isak's prowess - his wife Inger, who came into contact with modern society when imprisoned for killing her infant due to its birth defect, return to the home much less impressed by the country life.

*On Overgrown Paths* Knut Hamsun 1999 The great confessional memoir of the Nobel-prize winning Norwegian novelist, Knut Hamsun.

**Mysteries** Knut Hamsun 2006-08-08 In a Norwegian coastal town, society's carefully woven threads begin to unravel when an unsettling stranger named Johan Nagel arrives. With an often brutal insight into human nature, Nagel draws out the townsfolk, exposing their darkest instincts and suppressed desires. At once arrogant and unassuming, righteous and depraved, Nagel seduces the entire community even as he turns it on its head—before disappearing as suddenly as he arrived.

**A Wanderer Plays on Muted Strings** Knut Hamsun 2018-06-30 *A Wanderer Plays on Muted Strings* Knut Hamsun Related to and sometimes paired with Hamsun's *Under the Autumn Stars*, this beautifully lyric fiction picks up with the same characters as the other book, but is set in time six years later. The central character of the former novel, Knut Pedersen (Hamsun's real name), is more an observer in this work. His former friend Grindhusen has grown from stubborn independence to a shifty and vacillating man; and his companion Lars Falkenberg has dwindled into a small land-holder with a perpetually pregnant wife from whom he is deeply estranged. These two comedians play out a tragi-comedy that is painful through the very irony and humaneness with which Hamsun paints his figures. We are delighted to publish this classic book as part of our extensive Classic Library collection. Many of the books in our collection have been out of print for decades, and therefore have not been accessible to the general public. The aim of our publishing program is to facilitate rapid access to this vast reservoir of literature, and our view is that this is a significant literary work, which deserves to be brought back into print after many decades. The contents of the vast majority of titles in the Classic Library have been scanned from the original works. To ensure a high quality product, each title has been

meticulously hand curated by our staff. Our philosophy has been guided by a desire to provide the reader with a book that is as close as possible to ownership of the original work. We hope that you will enjoy this wonderful classic work, and that for you it becomes an enriching experience.

*Growth of the Soil* Knut Hamsun 2016-05-17 This work has been selected by scholars as being culturally important, and is part of the knowledge base of civilization as we know it. This work was reproduced from the original artifact, and remains as true to the original work as possible. Therefore, you will see the original copyright references, library stamps (as most of these works have been housed in our most important libraries around the world), and other notations in the work. This work is in the public domain in the United States of America, and possibly other nations. Within the United States, you may freely copy and distribute this work, as no entity (individual or corporate) has a copyright on the body of the work. As a reproduction of a historical artifact, this work may contain missing or blurred pages, poor pictures, errant marks, etc. Scholars believe, and we concur, that this work is important enough to be preserved, reproduced, and made generally available to the public. We appreciate your support of the preservation process, and thank you for being an important part of keeping this knowledge alive and relevant.

*Wayfarers* Knut Hamsun 2012-07-09 As the modern industrialised world begins to encroach on a small, isolated coastal town in northern Norway the effect is devastating. For young Edevart, uprooted from his simple origins, it brings progressive alienation from the old traditions; for August, the lying, charming scoundrel, it means opportunities that will threaten the stability of an unspoiled community. With comic irony and a haunting power, Hamsun charts the slow disintegration of the old way of life in a magnificent novel that provides brilliant insights into human nature: the visiting skipper who is lured to his death by Ane Marie because, hurtfully, he did not make advances to her; the old watch seller who is as ready to cheat himself as he is to swindle others; the poignant, painful love affair between Edevart and the barefoot Lovise Magrete. Written seven years after Hamsun received the Nobel Prize for literature, *Wayfarers* is a masterpiece by one of the great novelists of the twentieth century.

*On Over-grown Paths* Knut Hamsun 1967 Memoir written from 1945 to 1948 by the novelist when he was interned on suspicion of treason.

*Growth Of The Soil* Knut Hamsun 2019-06-24 This book is a result of an effort made by us towards making a contribution to the preservation and repair of original classic literature. In an attempt to preserve, improve and recreate the original content, we have worked towards: 1. Type-setting & Reformatting: The complete work has been re-designed via professional layout, formatting and type-setting tools to re-create the same edition with rich typography, graphics, high quality images, and table elements, giving our readers the feel of holding a 'fresh and newly' reprinted and/or revised edition, as opposed to other scanned & printed (Optical Character Recognition - OCR) reproductions. 2. Correction of imperfections: As the work was re-created from the scratch, therefore, it was vetted to rectify certain conventional norms with regard to typographical mistakes, hyphenations, punctuations, blurred images, missing content/pages, and/or other related subject matters, upon our consideration. Every attempt was made to rectify the imperfections related to omitted constructs in the original edition via other references. However, a few of such imperfections which could not be rectified due to intentional/unintentional omission of content in the original edition, were inherited and preserved from the original work to maintain the authenticity and construct, relevant to the work. We believe that this work holds historical, cultural and/or intellectual importance in the literary works community, therefore despite the oddities, we accounted the work for print as a part of our continuing effort towards preservation of literary work and our contribution towards the development of the society as a whole, driven by our beliefs. We are grateful to our readers for putting their faith in us and accepting our imperfections with regard to preservation of the historical content. HAPPY READING!

*Wanderers* Knut Hamsun 1929

*Mysteries (Knut Hamsun)* Knut Hamsun 1971 *Mysteries* is a classic of European literature, one of the seminal novels of the twentieth century. It is

the story of Johan Nagel, a strange young man who arrives to spend a summer in a small Norwegian coastal town. His presence acts as a catalyst for the hidden impulses, concealed thoughts and darker instincts of the local people. Cursed with the ability to understand the human soul, especially his own, Nagel can foresee, but cannot prevent, his own self-destruction.

*Hunger* Knut Hamsun 2003-11-17 A modern classic about a penniless, unemployed young writer, this powerful, autobiographical novel paints an unforgettable portrait of a man driven to the edge of self-destruction by forces beyond his control.

*Knut Hamsun Remembers America* Knut Hamsun 2003-05-01 When Americans remember him at all, they no doubt think of Knut Hamsun (1859–1952) as the author of *Hunger* or as the Norwegian who, along with Vidkun Quisling, betrayed his country by supporting the Nazis during World War II. Yet Hamsun, winner of the Nobel Prize in 1920 for his novel *The Growth of the Soil*, was and remains one of the most important and influential novelists of his time. *Knut Hamsun Remembers America* is a collection of thirteen essays and stories based largely on Hamsun's experiences during the four years he spent in the United States when he was a young man. Most of these pieces have never been published before in an English translation, and none are readily available. Hamsun's feelings about America and American ways were complex. For the most part, they were more negative than positive, and they found expression in many of his writings—directly in his reminiscences and indirectly in his fiction. In *On the Cultural Life of Modern America*, his first major book, he portrayed the United States as a land of gross and greedy materialism, populated by illiterates who were utterly lacking in artistic originality or refinement. Although the pieces in this collection are not all anti-American, most of them emphasize the strangeness and unpleasantness, as the author saw it, of life in what he called Yankeeland. Arranged chronologically, the pieces fall into three categories: Critical Reporting, Memory and Fantasy, and Mellow Reminiscence. The Critical Reporting section includes articles that appeared in Norwegian or Danish newspapers soon after each of Hamsun's two visits to America and that give his views on a variety of American subjects, and includes an essay devoted to Mark Twain. Memory and Fantasy comprises narratives of life in America, most of which are presented as personal experiences but which actually are blends of fact and fiction. Mellow Reminiscence includes later and fonder recollections and impressions of the United States. The pieces in this collection provide variations on a theme that runs through much of American history—European criticism of American ways. They give vivid, at times distorted, pictures of life as it was in the United States. They tell us something about the development of the worldview of a man who became a great writer, only to jeopardize his reputation by defending the Nazi oppressors of his own people. *Knut Hamsun Remembers America* will appeal to anyone interested in the history of American civilization or, more specifically, in the history of anti-Americanism.

*The Ring is Closed* Knut Hamsun 1966

*Growth of the Soil* Knut Hamsun 2015-08-08 This work has been selected by scholars as being culturally important, and is part of the knowledge base of civilization as we know it. This work was reproduced from the original artifact, and remains as true to the original work as possible. Therefore, you will see the original copyright references, library stamps (as most of these works have been housed in our most important libraries around the world), and other notations in the work. This work is in the public domain in the United States of America, and possibly other nations. Within the United States, you may freely copy and distribute this work, as no entity (individual or corporate) has a copyright on the body of the work. As a reproduction of a historical artifact, this work may contain missing or blurred pages, poor pictures, errant marks, etc. Scholars believe, and we concur, that this work is important enough to be preserved, reproduced, and made generally available to the public. We appreciate your support of the preservation process, and thank you for being an important part of keeping this knowledge alive and relevant.

*Tales of Love and Loss* Knut Hamsun 2011-01-01 Twenty stories ranging over every imaginable human emotion and situation, *Tales of Love and Loss* is a

treat for all lovers of great writing. Knut Hamsun published only three collections of short stories during his lifetime and abandoned the form entirely after 1906. Most of these stories are translated into English for the first time and this is the first publication for them outside Norway. Providing a fascinating commentary on the novels Hamsun was writing at the time and with forebodings of his much later work these stories are indispensable.

*The Women at the Pump* Knut Hamsun 2012-07-09 In their gossiping at the pump the women express the poetry, the tawdriness and, above all, the sheer vitality of life in Hamsun's small coastal town. A birth (where did those brown eyes come from?); a marriage (shotgun?); a death in strange circumstances (the victim flattened by a barrel of whale oil); the up-and-down career of the town's leading citizen and philanderer; the elderly spinster's pregnancy; the sinking of the steamship that is the town's pride and joy. Above all, talk centres on the doings of Oliver Andersen and the large family that he and his wife contrive to create despite growing suspicions that his mysterious accident at sea has deprived him of more than a leg... *The Women at the Pump* overflows with a prodigality of invention and sardonic humour typical of Hamsun's work at its best. First published in 1920, the year Hamsun won the Nobel Prize for Literature, it has a universal quality that transcends time and place. Hamsun's women live on the Norwegian coast but their soulmates flourish in every small community around the world.

**Shallow Soil** Knut Hamsun 2022-08-15 DigiCat Publishing presents to you this special edition of "Shallow Soil" by Knut Hamsun. DigiCat Publishing considers every written word to be a legacy of humankind. Every DigiCat book has been carefully reproduced for republishing in a new modern format. The books are available in print, as well as ebooks. DigiCat hopes you will treat this work with the acknowledgment and passion it deserves as a classic of world literature.

*Growth of the Soil* Knut Hamsun 1920

*Knut Hamsun* Hanna Astrup Larsen 2022-09-15 The following book is a biography of Knut Hamsun, written by Hanna Astrup Larsen. Hamsun was a Norwegian writer who was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1920. He pioneered psychological literature with techniques of stream of consciousness and interior monologue, and influenced authors such as Thomas Mann, Franz Kafka, Maxim Gorky, Stefan Zweig, Henry Miller, Hermann Hesse, John Fante, and Ernest Hemingway.

*Victoria* Knut Hamsun 2005-11-29 The Nobel Prize winner's poetic, psychologically intense portrayal of love's predicament in a class-bound society. A Penguin Classic Set in a coastal village of late nineteenth-century Norway, *Victoria* follows two lovers whose yearnings are as powerful as the circumstances that conspire to thwart their romance. Johannes, a miller's son turned poet, finds inspiration for his writing in his passionate devotion to *Victoria*, a daughter of the impoverished lord of the manor, who feels constrained by family loyalty to accept the wealthy young man of her father's choice. Separated by class barriers and social pressure, the fated duo hurt and

enthrall each other by turns as they move toward an emotional doom that neither will recognize until it is too late. For more than seventy years, Penguin has been the leading publisher of classic literature in the English-speaking world. With more than 1,800 titles, Penguin Classics represents a global bookshelf of the best works throughout history and across genres and disciplines. Readers trust the series to provide authoritative texts enhanced by introductions and notes by distinguished scholars and contemporary authors, as well as up-to-date translations by award-winning translators.

**Independent People** Halldór Laxness 2010-09-30 The great Icelandic novel by the Nobel Prize-winning novelist Halldór Laxness 'There are good books and there are great books and there may be a book that is something still more: it is the book of your life' *New York Review of Books* First published in 1946, this is a humane, epic novel set in rural Iceland. Bjartus is a sheep farmer determined to eke a living from a blighted patch of land. Nothing, not merciless weather, nor his family, will come between him and his goal of financial independence. Only Asta Solillja, the child he brings up as his daughter, can pierce his stubborn heart. As she grows up, keen to make her own way in the world, Bjartus's obstinacy threatens to estrange them forever. Written by the Nobel prize-winner dubbed the 'Tolstoy of the North', this is a magnificent portrait of the eerie Icelandic landscape and one man's dogged struggle for independence. 'I defy anyone to finish Halldór Laxness's *Independent People* without wetting the pages with tears' Jonathan Franzen, *Guardian* 'The greatest Icelandic novel and surely one of the best books of the 20th century' Hallgrímur Helgason, *Guardian*

**Knut Hamsun** Monika Žagar 2011-07-01 Awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1920, Knut Hamsun (1859–1952) was a towering figure of Norwegian letters. He was also a Nazi sympathizer and supporter of the German occupation of Norway during the Second World War. In 1943, Hamsun sent his Nobel medal to Third-Reich propaganda minister Joseph Goebbels as a token of his admiration and authored a reverential obituary for Hitler in May 1945. For decades, scholars have wrestled with the dichotomy between Hamsun's merits as a writer and his infamous ties to Nazism. In her incisive study of Hamsun, Monika Žagar refuses to separate his political and cultural ideas from an analysis of his highly regarded writing. Her analysis reveals the ways in which messages of racism and sexism appear in plays, fiction, and none-too-subtle nonfiction produced by a prolific author over the course of his long career. In the process, Žagar illuminates Norway's changing social relations and long history of interaction with other peoples. Focusing on selected masterpieces as well as writings hitherto largely ignored, Žagar demonstrates that Hamsun did not arrive at his notions of race and gender late in life. Rather, his ideas were rooted in a mindset that idealized Norwegian rural life, embraced racial hierarchy, and tightly defined the acceptable notion of women in society. Making the case that Hamsun's support of Nazi political ideals was a natural outgrowth of his reactionary aversion to modernity, Knut Hamsun serves as a corrective to scholarship treating Hamsun's Nazi ties as unpleasant but peripheral details in a life of literary achievement.