



SAGENHAFTE BÜCHER

Andri Snær Magnason
Dreamland

Sachbuch



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

written by Andri Snær Magnason

Andri Snær Magnason is an Icelandic writer. He has written novels, poetry, plays, short stories, essays and CD's. His work has been published or performed in more than 20 countries. His novel, *LoveStar* was chosen "Novel of the year" by Icelandic booksellers 2002, it received the DV Literary Award and a nomination to the Icelandic Literary Prize. The rights for the book are already sold to Germany. His children's book, *The Story of the Blue Planet*, was the first children's book to receive the Icelandic Literary Prize and has been published in 18 countries (dt. *Die Geschichte vom blauen Planeten*, Leiv 2007). *The Story of the Blue Planet* received the Janusz Korczak Honorary Award 2000 and the West Nordic Children's Book Prize 2002. The play from the story was performed on the main stage of LKTYP in Toronto in 2005. Andri has collaborated with various artists, mostly with a band called múm. Andri was vice-president of The Icelandic Writers Union, is a board member of The Culture House in Reykjavík and has been active in the fight against the destruction of the Icelandic Highlands. His book *Dreamland – a Self Help Manual for a Frightened Nation* takes on these issues. Dreamland has been published in english and has become a feature length documentary film.

Andri is born in Reykjavik on the 14th of July 1973. He comes from a family of doctors and nurses. His father is a doctor, his mother is a nurse, his sister is a brain surgeon, his brother is a student but his wife is a nurse. Andri is married to a nurse but her sister is a doctor, his mother-in-law is a nurse and her sister too. His great grandfather was a doctor in the West Fjords of Iceland. His grandfather, Björn Thorbjarnarson is married to a nurse from Toronto, he was chief surgeon at the New York Hospital and a professor at Cornell University. Björn wrote the bestseller: *Surgery of the Biliary Tract*, 1975. Andri lives in Reykjavík, he has four children.

DREAMLAND (2007)

Dreamland – A Self Help Manual For A Frightened Nation. With a foreword by Björk.

“*You authors are totally out of touch with reality*”, said the cab driver to Andri Snær Magnason in the first chapter of this unique and ground-breaking work. The author accepts the challenge and takes the reader on a bizarre journey through present day Iceland, with detours to Okinawa Japan, Jamaica and Egypt. Dreamland is a deeply moving book about concerns of our times, knowledgeable and written with a rare passion that touches every reader. Dreamland is fun and activist. It is philosophical, political, full of humour and of amusing angles. It is serious but optimistic. And it has that “something” that singles out those books that find the pulse of their era, be it in Indonesia, Iceland or England.



CRITICS

Rebecca Solnit – The Nation

„Andri Snaer Magnason, whose scathingly funny critique of his country’s politics and society, Dreamland: A Self-Help Guide for a Frightened Nation, was a huge bestseller in this bookish country, told me this week: “In economics, they talk about the invisible hand that regulates the market. In Iceland, the free market became so wild that it was not fixed by an invisible hand, but an invisible guillotine. So, in one weekend, the whole class of our newly rich masters of the universe lost their heads (reputation, power, and money), and all the power and debt of the newly privatized companies fell into the hands of the people again.”

New York Times

“Dreamland,” a devastating polemic that puts Iceland’s environmental issues into a global perspective. The book has sold 18,000 copies — the equivalent, in percentage terms, of 18 million copies in the United States.

National Geographic Magazine

So here they all were, one big unhappy family. The environmentalists were trying to save Iceland. The industrialists were trying to save Iceland. Everyone was trying to save Iceland.” A mental civil war,” somebody called it. A war of dreams.... Dreamland: A Self-Help Manual for a Frightened Nation, a surprise, runaway best-seller exposed the spell...

Vigdís Finnbogadóttir, former president of Iceland

Andri Snær’s Dreamland provokes thought by telling us things we did not know and have therefore not had the opportunity to deliberate or discuss openly.

RECHTE

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