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The Girl Who Saved the King of Sweden: A Novel

By Jonas Jonasson, Rachel Willson-Broyles



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The Girl Who Saved the King of Sweden: A Novel By Jonas Jonasson, Rachel Willson-Broyles

Jonas Jonasson's picaresque tale of how one person's actions can have far-reaching—even global—consequences, written with the same light-hearted satirical voice as his bestselling debut novel, *The 100-Year-Old Man Who Climbed Out the Window and Disappeared*.

On June 14th, 2007, the King and Prime Minister of Sweden went missing from a gala banquet at the Royal Castle. Later it was said that both had fallen ill: the truth is different. The real story starts much earlier, in 1961, with the birth of Nombeko Mayeki in a shack in Soweto. Nombeko was fated to grow up fast and die early in her poverty-stricken township. But Nombeko takes a different path. She finds work as a housecleaner and eventually makes her way up to the position of chief advisor, at the helm of one of the world's most secret projects.

Here is where the story merges with, then diverges from reality. South Africa developed six nuclear missiles in the 1980s, then voluntarily dismantled them in 1994. This is a story about the seventh missile . . . the one that was never supposed to have existed. Nombeko Mayeki knows too much about it, and now she's on the run from both the South African justice and the most terrifying secret service in the world. She ends up in Sweden, which has transformed into a nuclear nation, and the fate of the world now lies in Nombeko's hands.



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Editorial Review

Review

“A funny and completely implausible farce about a woman, a bomb and a man’s frustrated ambition to overthrow the king of Sweden... The rest of the world will chuckle all the way through it.” (Kirkus Reviews (starred review))

“In *The Girl Who Saved the King of Sweden*, Jonas Jonasson unfurls a wide, whimsical net that readers will relish being caught up in.” (BookPage)

“A funny and improbable tale with characters from South Africa to Sweden demonstrates how even the most seemingly insignificant people can change the fate of the world.” (Denver Post)

From the Back Cover

A wildly picaresque new novel from Jonas Jonasson, the author of the internationally bestselling *The 100-Year-Old Man Who Climbed Out the Window and Disappeared*

In a tiny shack in the largest township in South Africa, Nombeko Mayeki is born. Put to work at five years old and orphaned at ten, she quickly learns that the world expects nothing more from her than to die young, be it from drugs, alcohol, or just plain despair. But Nombeko has grander plans. She learns to read and write, and at just fifteen, using her cunning and fearlessness, she makes it out of Soweto with millions of smuggled diamonds in her possession. Then things take a turn for the worse....

Nombeko ends up the prisoner of an incompetent engineer in a research facility working on South Africa's secret nuclear arsenal. Yet the unstoppable Nombeko pulls off a daring escape to Sweden, where she meets twins named Holger One and Holger Two, who are carrying out a mission to bring down the Swedish monarchy...by any means necessary.

Nombeko's life ends up hopelessly intertwined with the lives of the twins, and when the twins arrange to kidnap the Swedish king and prime minister, it is up to our unlikely heroine to save the day—and possibly the world. In this wild romp, Jonasson tackles issues ranging from the pervasiveness of racism to the dangers of absolute power while telling a charming and hilarious story along the way. In the satirical voice that has earned him legions of fans the world over, Jonasson gives us another rollicking tale of how even the smallest of decisions can have sweeping—even global—consequences.

About the Author

Jonas Jonasson was a journalist for the *Expressen* newspaper for many years. He became a media consultant and later set up a company producing sports and events for Swedish television before selling it and moving abroad to work on his first novel. He is the author of the internationally bestselling novels *The 100-Year-Old Man Who Climbed Out the Window and Disappeared* and *The Girl Who Saved the King of Sweden*. He lives on the Swedish island Gotland in the Baltic Sea.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Patricia Watts:

This book untitled The Girl Who Saved the King of Sweden: A Novel to be one of several books that will best seller in this year, that's because when you read this publication you can get a lot of benefit on it. You will easily to buy that book in the book shop or you can order it by means of online. The publisher of this book sells the e-book too. It makes you more readily to read this book, as you can read this book in your Smartphone. So there is no reason for you to past this guide from your list.

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Eric Hodges:

The book The Girl Who Saved the King of Sweden: A Novel has a lot of knowledge on it. So when you make sure to read this book you can get a lot of gain. The book was compiled by the very famous author. The writer makes some research previous to write this book. This book very easy to read you can obtain the point easily after perusing this book.

Melissa Cox:

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