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## AUTHORS

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### Jesper Halle (Norway)

Jesper Halle is an award winning Norwegian playwright. He studied philosophy and literature at the University of Tromsø and Norwegian at the University of Oslo. Since 1984 he has written many works for radio, television, puppetry and the theatre.

### Titles

#### NORA'S CHILDREN

This is an untold story from Henrik Ibsen's

#### THE POLAR BEAR AND I

It is a great day for Mo, he is expecting a visit from his best friend. Suddenly a polar bear wanders in from the corridor behind the kitchen. This complicates things, because the polar bear is a wild animal that does not conform to Mo's boundaries between nature and civilisation. Later that day, Mo's friend Ulrik and his girlfriend Agnes come to visit, they both think that the polar bear is a figment of Mo's imagination. However, as it wanders into the sitting room again, both Mo and his friends have to acknowledge that it is a tangible being and not merely a symbol. They all have their way of dealing with the absurd, wild and uncivilised creature. Half-heartedly, Mo attempts to negotiate; Ulrik wants to fight, whilst Agnes tries to handle it with slyness. A shrewd drama about the unfamiliar and about conforming to the society's terms.

## UNSUCCESSFUL NORWEGIANS

This play is a tragicomic compilation of 24 monologues, as well as a couple of intermezzi, in which a series of people who have somehow failed expectations, tell their stories about, what is often referred to as the world's richest country, Norway. However, the texts could just as well take place in any of the other four Scandinavian countries, as they have many similarities. Throughout the text, Halle has maintained an ironic distance to many of the grotesque and tragic stories, and in this way he has liberated the text from being merely a discourse on Scandinavia, and brings to the play, a lot of comedy.

## THE LITTLEWOODS

A play for adults, performed by adults, about childhood, seen from a child's point of view. Halle describes in individual sequences, eleven children's fantasies of the unknown and the games they play in the