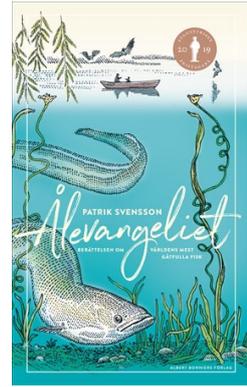


International Praise

THE GOSPEL OF EELS

by Patrik Svensson



“An account of the mysterious life of eels that also serves as a meditation on consciousness, faith, time, light and darkness, and life and death... [Svensson] warns that if we are to save this fascinating creature from extinction, we must continue to study it. His book is a highly readable place to begin learning. Unsentimental nature writing that sheds as much light on humans as on eels.”

— **Kirkus Reviews**

“What an amazing book. About eels! — a haunting and extraordinary creature. When Eugenio Montale wanted a metaphor for the revival of Europe after World War II, he found it in a glimpse of a gold-brown eel in a muddy Ligurian stream, and when Rachel Carson wanted to convey to her readers the intricacy of the relationship between salt and fresh water, she imagined the migration of eels. Patrik Svensson explores both their mystery and the science that has brought them into focus in the last few decades and made them seem a vivid indicator species for the health of our planet.”

— **Robert Hass, author of *Summer Snow***

“A wonderful read. The story of the eel is one of the most fascinating on the planet, but equally fascinating is the story Patrik Svensson tells so well here about the mysteries of being.”

— **Bernd Heinrich, author of *Mind of the Raven***

“Without a doubt, the most delicious natural history book of the decade. Svensson’s prose effortlessly undulates between his own personal experience and a thousand years of scientific inquiry. But it’s his call to conservation — not just of this noble eel but of our memories both personal and cultural — that truly elevates this remarkably poignant work.”

— Mark Siddall, Curator and Professor, American Museum of Natural History

“With lyricism and sharp clarity, Patrik Svensson lets us in on the secret dream-like world of the eel. As we move deeper into a book that intertwines beautiful nature writing with a moving memoir of a quiet father and a loyal son—as well as healthy doses of philosophical thought from Aristotle to Freud—we get to know one of Earth's most unknowable creatures and revel in a life so different than our own.”

— David Gessner, author of *All the Wild That Remains*