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The Lofoten islands in Norway are as isolated and forbidding as they are majestic. In this true story, two friends, the author and the eccentric artist Hugo Aasjord, set out onto the icy waters surrounding the islands. Their quest: to pursue the infamous Greenland shark—a massive creature that can grow to twenty-six feet in length and more than a ton in weight—from a tiny rubber boat.

But the shark is not known for its size alone: its meat contains a toxin that, when consumed, has been known to make people drunk and hallucinatory. Together, the two men tackle existential questions, survive the world's most powerful maelstrom, and, yes, get drunk, as they attempt to understand the ocean from every possible angle, drawing on poetry, science, history, ecology, mythology, and their own, sometimes intoxicated, observations.

*Text: Barnes & Noble*



**Morten Andreas Strøksnes** (born 30 November 1965 in Kirkenes, Finnmark) is a Norwegian historian of ideas, journalist, photographer and author.

After studies in Oslo and Cambridge, Strøksnes joined Morgenbladet, where he worked as an editor and journalist until 2004.

Havboka - or The art of catching a giant shark from an inflatable boat on a large ocean through four seasons was published in the autumn of 2015 and won the Brage Prize in the category for non-fiction. Strøksnes also received the Critics Award for best non-fiction book for adults in 2015. 21 countries have secured the rights to the translation. The book alternates between reportage and essays and contains discussion of the changing representation of the sea in mythology and cultural and scientific history.

*Text and picture: Wikipedia*