

## **Essi Kummu: Death of the Bear**

Original title: Karhun kuolema

Publisher: Tammi, 2010

Even as a child Stella used to have conversations with the spirits, and she knew her heart belonged to just one.

She is the bride of a bear.

One day, to the terror of the villagers, the bear finally appears behind Stella's front door. The fight between life and death begins.

*Death of the Bear* is a story about leaving and belonging. It is an intensely sensual depiction of what it feels like to stand on the line between permissible and forbidden – and to eventually give yourself a permission to say yes instead of no.

“The narration in Essi Kummu’s second novel appeals to the senses. The fragrance of the forest, the prickle of pine needles and a warming smile give wings to the flow of this story so permeated in death. -- Kummu writes like many other young women of today: physically, sinfully and visibly breaching boundaries.”

– Aamulehti