

Södertälje in literature

Gunnar Ekelöf

“And the landscape in Hölö-Mörkö is unreal ... at about this time it comes across as improbable yet sound, almost Shakespearean. With its innumerable glades, its prominent patches of scenery-like woodland and its meadows radiating the scent of butterfly orchids, it could serve as the setting for *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, or as the backdrop for the park scenes from *The Merry Wives of Windsor*. It's a truly magical landscape.”

From the novel: *De litterära torpens tid* (The Era of the Literary Cottages), first published in the journal *VI* no. 40 1943, and subsequently in the book *Lägga patience* (Solitaire Game) 1969.

By: Gunnar Ekelöf

About the author: “Syrentorpare” (Lilac Crofters) is a name given to the authors and cultural celebrities who settled and lived in and around Hölö and Mörkö in the 1930s and 1940s. It is said that here, they encountered peace and experiences of beauty that had an impact on their oeuvre. One of them was Gunnar Ekelöf, 1907–68. Others known under this title include Ivar-Lo Johansson, Erik Asklund, Josef Kjellgren, Harry Martinson and Gustav Sandgren.

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