

Ida Fjeldbraaten

Koster

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 NORLA Selected Title

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English sample translation available

Oda Bakken loses her job as a copywriter in the advertising industry, and is contacted by a former client who wants to give her an assignment: to write a biography of Lina Ebbel, multi-millionaire and founder of the natural cosmetics brand "Linné AS". Oda accepts the assignment and travels to Koster, the Swedish archipelago where the old lady lives, to write the book. But the assignment will prove more difficult than Oda first thought, as the old lady mixes the story of herself as a young sickly girl at the sanatorium at Ekenäs and as a botanist who developed the cosmetic products at Koster, with outrageous tales and macabre stories. What is true and what is not? And what is a truth? Does something have to be credible to be true?

Throughout the story, the Koster archipelago serves as a backdrop. At first glance, Koster offers the perfect Swedish summer idyll, but as the holiday guests return home, the restaurants close, and we learn more about the history of both the island and the old woman, an uncomfortable underworld of pig births, experimentation on humans, female hormones extracted from urine, and jealous husbands, creeps in.



Photo: Anna-Julia Granberg

Ida Fjeldbraaten works as a copywriter in the advertising industry and runs the publishing house Teori & Praxis. Her literary debut *Wolverine* came in 2020 to critical acclaim, and was nominated to the P2 Listener's Prize. Ida Fjeldbraaten received The Bookseller Stipend in 2021.

Previous titles

The Lives of Others, 2024
Wolverine, 2020

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