

Åshild Eidem

# Playing for Gaza

## Spillet om Gaza. Krigerne, smuglerne og aktivistene

Genre: Non-Fiction  
Category: Current Affairs  
Year: 2012

Most people have a certain degree of awareness about Gaza. This awareness tends to be dominated by two potential versions: Palestinians as victims, and Palestinians as terrorists.

Young journalist Åshild Eidem has lived in Gaza for several months, and in her debut book she portrays Palestinians as participants, and to speak with – and not simply about – those who devote their lives to obstructing peace.

She has followed four people, each representing different elements within the small and explosive society. She meets a range of individuals: smugglers who have earned millions by importing weapons and luxury cars through tunnels that exist between Gaza and Egypt, the military leader of Hamas who works as a policeman during the day and a warrior during the night, and a warm father who teaches his children to fire kalashnikovs and hides missiles beneath his living room sofa. She also meets Umm Nidal, one of Hamas' best-known female figures, and a member of parliament who has sent three of her sons to a martyr's death.

By weaving together these individual stories, this book reveals the reality behind the news stories in a society brimming with contrasts and extremes, and which influences news broadcasts across the world.

Cappelen Damm 2013  
290 Pages

English sample translation available



Åshild Eidem is a journalist who specialises in covering topics relating to the Middle East. She has lived in Jerusalem and Tehran, and has worked for the weekly newspaper Morgenbladet and the largest newspaper in Norway, Aftenposten.

Playing for Gaza (Spillet om Gaza) is her first book.

**Rightsholder**

Cappelen Damm Agency  
NO-0055 Oslo  
Tel: +47 21 61 65 00  
foreignrights@cappelendamm.no  
www.cappelendamm.no

