

Edvard Hoem

# The Midwife

## Jordmor på jorda

Genre: Fiction  
Category: Novel  
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English sample translation available

In 1821 Edvard Hoem's great-great grandmother, Marta Kristine Nesje, took the long walk from the North-Western coast of Norway to Oslo to become a midwife. At the time she had two children, the youngest having barely turned one. When she finished her training, she walked back, and started practicing her vocation as a midwife in the villages and rural districts of the Romsdal Fjord for more than 50 years. Distrust in the first midwives was strong, leading to consequences for both Marta and her family.

There is always a price to pay for those who follow their calling. Based on historical facts, Hoem makes Marta come alive with great poetic power. This is the story of a cotter's daughter who didn't want to take her husband's name and who refused to be affected by village gossip. It is also the story of the emergence of the important midwife profession.

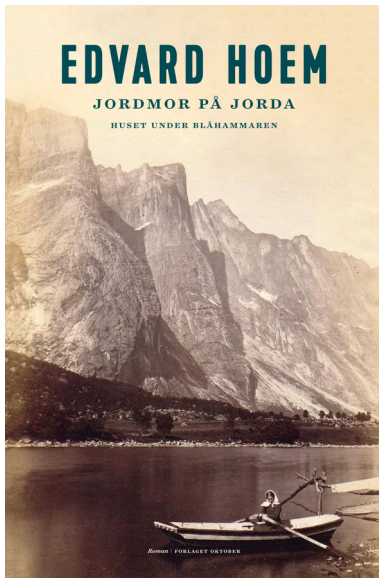


Photo: Paal Audestad

Edvard Hoem has been one of Norway's leading literary writers since his breakthrough with the Critics' Prize winning novel *The Ferry Crossing* in 1974. He hit a new career peak in the 2010s with his epic family saga set in North America and Norway in the decades around 1900.

#### Foreign sales

Czech (Mlada Fronta), Danish (Hovedland), German (Urachhaus), Hungarian (Polar Könyvek)

#### Previous titles

Selected:

Lives Others Have Lived (Liv andre har levd), 2017

A Land No One Has Seen (Land ingen har sett), 2016

Your Brother on the Prairie (Bror din på prærien), 2015

Haymaker in Heaven (Slåttekar i himmelen), 2014

Mother's and Father's Story (Mors og fars historie), 2005

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