

Erik Martiniussen

The War against Bacteria: A health disaster and how to fight it

Krigen mot bakteriene. Helsekrisen som truer oss og hvordan vi kan løse den

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700,000 people die from antibiotic-resistant bacteria across the world every year. In the United States, resistant bacteria require three times as many human lives as HIV/AIDS.

The World Health Organization warns: Without antibiotics, medical science is going to be set back 100 years in time. Not only will we be powerless against treating infections, without antibiotics, even simple surgery becomes impossible. By year 2050, 10 million people will be at risk every year. The biggest health disaster the world has seen is right at your doorstep. Still, it is almost not talked about.

The War against Bacteria tells the story Directors of the pharmaceutical industry, hospitals and meat industry don't want you to hear. It is a shocking tale of how the pursuit of profits has driven Big pharma to dispense antibiotics as if it were vitamins, and of how the meat industry systematically has undermined information.

But it is also a really old story of how animals and bacteria have evolved in a delicate balance over the course of hundreds of thousands of years and how our unrestricted antibiotic consumption is now bringing this balance out of play.

So, is there any hope? An old cure, preserved by some dedicated doctors and nurses in Georgia, is about to be rediscovered, and this can change the history of medicine.

So, is there any hope? An old cure, preserved by some dedicated doctors and nurses in Georgia, is about to be rediscovered, and this can change the history of medicine – again.



'If you don't think the corona pandemic is frightening enough, Erik Martiniussen convinces with a highly up-to-date book about the growing danger of resistant bacteria.'

Dagens Næringsliv

'Page-turner about the silent plague. The impressive book is scary reading, but no dystopia (...) He impresses with his clarity, thoroughness and the huge amount of substance – and not at least the linguistic clarity that makes the book easily readable for everyone.'

Dagbladet, 6 out of 6 stars



Erik Martiniussen (1975) is a Norwegian feature journalist and author. Martiniussen specializes in narrative journalism and has written for several Norwegian newspapers. Martiniussen is concerned with ecology, climate and environmental issues and has covered several of the UN climate summits. He previously worked for the Bellona Environmental Foundation.

Martiniussen has previously written the book Greenhouse Effect (2013) – in which he argues that there are major mistakes in Norwegian climate quota purchases. Reviewer Espen Stueland referred to the book as "Something as rare as a page turner on climate."

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