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Birgit Alm

Finally We Will Laugh

«A spider spins a thread in the window above a stack of bills. There are plenty of spiders, plenty of unpaid bills. Two of them are reminders. There's a debt collection notice on the phone bill, too. I slam the spider with the collection notice, repeatedly, until its body is splattered on the paper.»

Elinor Nor is a single mom and student. Every day is a bitter struggle. A struggle to make money stretch. A struggle to be a good mother to a child growing up in a neighbourhood, where everyone has anything they might ever want. A struggle to hold on to a measly shred of dignity in the face of landlords, neighbours and social welfare officers. The little bit of pride she has left is too difficult to swallow, making it impossible for her to ask for help

«Original, critical, hard-hitting, strong and tender [...] a significant voice in contemporary literature.»

- Hamar Arbeiderblad

«Finally We Will Laugh is the title of Birgit Alm's unpretentious, straightforward, easy to read and likable first novel.»

- Stavanger Aftenblad

«Alm deserves recognition for being one of the very few who brings experience of the relative poverty that actually exists in Norway, into Norwegian contemporary literature.»

- Klassekampen

«This strong debut shows that poverty is an actual issue, not just for dodgy foreigners who can be «radicalised,» but for your average bright pink Norwegian.»

- Dag og Tid

Birgit Alm

Birgit Alm (born 1967) lives in Oslo.
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