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Johan Harstad

Red Handler *Collected Works*

Frode Brandeggen (1970 – 2014), an unknown voice to most readers, made his debut in 1992 with the experimental 2000 + page novel *Conglomerate Breath*. It was never reviewed and soon forgotten. He created a new form of genre, writing 15 micro novels about Red-Handler, a protest-oriented crime fiction project aims at confronting genre's weakness and often unnecessary length. As his weapon, he developed a private investigator who is already at the scene or in the immediate vicinity when foul play takes place.

This book for the first time brings together all the 15 micro-novels Brandeggen wrote about Red Handler, and is also equipped with a comprehensive amount of enthusiastic, explanatory, complementary and sometimes strangely digressing endnotes, written in the pen of Brandeggen's closest literary confidant in the final years, German professional annotator Bruno Aigner (1934-). The book about the fictive character Red Handler is the literary talent Johan Harstad's newest project, sprawling with creativity. Watch out – you will be caught red handed!

Red Handler showcases Harstad's riveting creativity and impressive ability of make-believe [...]

- Morgenbladet

A side-project with an irrepressible charm. Wonderfully satirical, about an experimental author whose act of artistic protest consists in writing crime fiction for people who hate to read.

- Aftenposten

*Brilliant, hard-boiled and banal, Johan Harstad's *The Red Handler* is a wonderfully humorous book about an inaccessible, high-culture author who goes into popular crime fiction.*

- Dagens Næringsliv

Johan Harstad

Johan Harstad (b. 1979) made his debut in 2001 with the prose collection *From Here On You Just Get Older*. His first novel, *Buzz Aldrin, What Happened to You in All the Confusion?*, was published in 2005, and was a huge critical and commercial success. Harstad has also written short stories, theatre plays and a YA novel, and has been published in 20 territories. In 2017 he received the prestigious Hunger Prize.



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