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Petter Brevik

Across the Road

Across the Road is a three-part novel. The book starts with its narrator and protagonist – a resourceful young man from the Westside of Oslo – being diagnosed with a serious genetic illness, and his subsequent attempts to meet with family and friends in a half-hearted attempt to escape his condition.

Along the way, he is told the story of his father – a man he never knew and from whom he inherited the disease.

Across the Road is a disquieting account about heritage, illness and social decline. At the same time, there is something unfathomable about the text – a desire to express the inexpressible, and to find answers to questions that are difficult to answer: Is there such a thing as "fate"? Is it possible to communicate your innermost feelings? Can one free oneself from heritage and become someone else? The novel is a journey towards death, a waiting room in purgatory, and the narrator's language is sober and industrial – stripped of enriching adjectives. Peter Handke is a clear influence, as well as William Faulkner, Franz Kafka, Stig Sæterbakken, and Dante.

Petter Brevik

Petter Brevik (b. 1994 in Lillehammer) now living in Oslo. He made his fiction debut with a contribution in the debutant's anthology 'Signaler' in 2017.



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