

Ida Lødemel Tvedt

## *Drafts from the Mariana Trench*



Ida Lødemel Tvedt's first book has been hailed by Norwegian critics for its vitality and uncompromising wit. She ranges brilliantly over a wide range of topics: nationalism and solitude, love and rage, milk and makeup, pornography and standup comedy, intellectual posturing and the role of confession in public life. A deeply uncanny portrait of our time emerges, as her encounters with autistic children and her senile grandmother, Kremlin the cockroach and Sebastian the alt-right ideologue, all become occasions for slapstick dialectics and a defiantly lush prose.

The author moves between Norway and New York, using contemporary writers, comedians and strangers as lenses for looking at the relationship between political moods and her own experiences. Chapters shift between differing essayistic modes, from portraits and interviews, to street wanderings and monologues, amounting to a spectacular experiment in ecstatic essayism.

*Ida Lødemel Tvedt's essay debut may be many things, but first and foremost it is staggeringly good.'*

- Kjetil Røed, Vårt Land

*«... a collection of intense, hungry essays.»*

- Ida Vågesether, Stavanger Aftenblad

*There is a soaring in Ida Lødemel Tvedt's debut [...] The combination of knowledge, independent reflection, life experience, sensitivity and imagination renders her capable of going "beyond that anxious, manly babble about the truth and its shortcomings."*

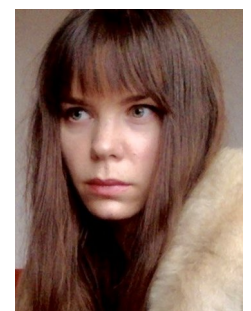
- Frode Johansen Riopelle, Morgenbladet

*"Ida Lødemel Tvedt is a friend of mine. I thought I knew her, until I read this book and realized I hadn't even scratched the surface."*

- Greil Marcus, author, music journalist and literary critic

## Ida Lødemel Tvedt

Ida Lødemel Tvedt (1987) writes essays and reviews for Norwegian newspapers and journals. She splits her time between Berøen and New York, where she has taught essay at *Columbia University* and *The* currently writing reportages for the newspaper *Dag og ud.*



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