

Gyldendal Norsk Forlag 2019 352 pages Original title: *Udyr* ISBN: 9788205525375

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Kristine Tofte

Beast

A story full of magical realism, tension and drama.

Amund is tired of school and feels like a loser. One Friday in June, his teacher sends him to a remote farm, to see whether a work experience placement might be something he would enjoy. Amund is sceptical, but luckily Ida also turns up at the rundown farm. She's the prettiest girl at school – and she knows a thing or two about animals.

But the animals at Bru Farm turn out to be anything but the usual domestic animals – and many outsiders suddenly begin to show an interest in these incredible beings. Before the week is over, Amund and Ida will have to protect them from being shipped off and experimented on – or killed.

A fantastical and vivid story about what happens when two completely ordinary young people suddenly find themselves in the starring roles in a wager between the very real Norse gods Odin, Thor and Loki – and their animals.

Beast is a cornucopia of a book, comprising drama, tension and humour – a topical, original and funny tale about modern technology, the search for eternal life, fanaticism and the courage to stand up for oneself.

The book is an out-and-out page-turner... 5 out of 6 stars -вокз65

Kristine Tofte

Kristine Tofte (b. 1970) is an author and psychologist, and lives in Stord. She has enjoyed great success with her *Song for Eirabu* fantasy series. *Beast* is her first book for young adults.



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