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Sigri Sandeberg

The Fjord - A Long Row Home



The Sognefjord is an elongated sea inlet banked by steep valley walls. The fjord was formed by glaciers over the course of millions of years.

Nature writer Sigri Sandberg is a restless mother of two who lives in several places. Her restlessness is compounded by death and illness in the lives of loved ones and upsetting reports about the state of the planet. She longs for peace of mind. She wonders about what home really is and what it means to belong somewhere.

Sandberg decides to row the Sognefjord, the more than 200 kilometers of the world's longest navigable fjord, in an old wooden rowboat. She starts at the mouth of the fjord, in the area where she lived as a child, and rows inland, toward the farm where she now lives part-time.

Along the way she explains how the fjord was created, describes daily life back when the fjord was the main transport artery and elaborates on wind and currents, and life above and below the water surface. She rows with her husband, her girlfriends, and her mother – on different legs of the journey. She navigates waves and drama but also stretches of calm water and finds time for singing and skinny-dipping.

But if she manages to row the entire length of the fjord, will she find the peace of mind she is looking for?

A Long Row Home (Ro) is a beautiful story about Norway's longest fjord – and an attempt to find home.

Sigri Sandeberg

For over twenty years, Sigri Sandberg has worked for various Norwegian media outlets. She spent several years living on the arctic island of Svalbard and has written fifteen books about nature, wilderness philosophy, climate, and polar regions. Sandberg has published 18 books to date, *An Ode to Darkness* (2019), her previous narrative non-fiction on light – pollution is sold in 10 languages.



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