



Manifest forlag 2020
123 pages
Original title: *Vi puster fortsatt*
ISBN: 9788283421071

 NORLA's Selected Titles

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Manifest forlag
Kamilla Simonnes
kamilla.simonnes@manifest.no
+47 41690051
<https://manifest.no>

Yohan Shanmugaratnam

We still breathe



This book is a time capsule. About racism and roots and the transformation both me and Norway have gone through over the last decades. From 9/11 to the right-wing terrorism of Anders Breivik at Utøya in 2011, to the killing of George Floyd. It's also a story about forbidden love, friendship and hope. Do whatever you want with it. The rest is up to you.

*'In a genuine, funny and thought-provoking story about his family's life, Shanmugaratnam connects his own multicultural experiences in Sri Lanka, Japan and Norway to overreaching world events. (...)
Shanmugaratnam reveals that being "the other" is always a product of the broader surroundings.'*

-- Zeshan Shakar, writer

'A short masterpiece on racism.'

-- Hilde Østby, writer

Yohan Shanmugaratnam

Yohan Shanmugaratnam is a Norwegian journalist and non-fiction writer. His first book *Vi puster fortsatt* (We still breathe) (2020) about racism and roots was listed as one of the ten best books of the year by the newspaper *Aftenposten* (the second largest newspaper in Norway). In 2021 Shanmugaratnam and photographer Line Ørnes Søndergaard published the book *Bruddet* (The Split) at Forlaget Press. The documentary about a town in England during Brexit won the Bookstore Association's prize for best non-fiction. His latest book is *Hjertet i to* (Heart in two), a critically acclaimed portrait of the Norwegian rap group Karpe. It was published by Bonnier Norsk Forlag in 2022. Shanmugaratnam, who has a MA degree in human geography from the University of Oslo, has worked for the daily *Klassekampen* since 2004. He was born in Jaffna, Sri Lanka, where his father is from, and spent parts of his childhood in his mother's native country Japan.



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