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Yngve Kveine

Sound of Asphalt

SOUND OF ASFALT is a thought-provoking coming of age novel describing the dark sides of the world's richest and happiest country.

We follow a boy facing challenges of many kinds, with his family falling apart, bullying and a city that is becoming bigger and bigger.

This novel describes Norway's capital in the happy 80s and 90s, where Nordic optimism fight the individual's struggle for existence. We get under the skin of a society where oil prices lubricate both social institutions and private wallets, while the development leaves open wounds to many of those who fall outside the streamlined machinery.

A boy tries to find his place- in the family; at school and in general. The main character in the novel experiences it as if there is no room for him in society – until a friend invites him home to his house and puts on a CD he has never heard of before. In the music these guys find someone who can address the meaninglessness they often feel. With Norway's biggest rocker of all ages (Joachim Nielsen) as a musical backdrop, we are drawn into a literary landscape filled with contemporary references and depictions of an environment and an entire generation of ideals. What happens to us during the vulnerable time of becoming adults when the dreams we have prove to be unattainable?

The language is hard and brutal. Sad and funny. Without any sentimental wrapping.

A charming and melanconic novel for all of us who have grown up in Oslo East – and everyone else who wants to know how it was

- Tom Egeland, Author

The debut novel of Yngve Kveine is a text from Oslo East in the eighties and nineties, all the time with the sound of Joke & Valentines as a musical backdrop. Funny. Raw. Touching

- Ingvar Amjørnsen, Author

t seems almost magical what the author is doing here, the words become pictures and we see that's how it has been [...] Like the youth in the book are outsiders, this coming of age novel is also an outsider

- Lillehammer Byavis

This is Lars Saabye Christensen on steroids, it is told by an author who is a master in narrative craftsmanship

- Agderposten

Sound of Asphalt oozes vitality. With Yngve Kveine's pen, it becomes powerful reading

- Geir Tangen, Author

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Yngve Kveine

In addition to writing, Kveine is director of communication at the Norwegian Business School, one of the largest business colleges in Europe. Prior to this he worked as a strategic advisor for several ministers in the Norwegian Ministry of Children and Equality.



Sound of Asphalt, which received excellent reviews and was celebrated by many of his fellow Norwegian authors; is his debut novel.