



### Darkroom

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 English available



**Mette Karlvik**

Photo: Tove K. Breistein

## Darkroom

Hundred billions of cells split, rest, split again. It happens everywhere, all the time, when space bodies collide, when people meet, and in the darkroom, when split filters create a single print. These are elements that come together in the story of the darkroom; the story of a father, his daughter and their family. In the darkroom, they make images from film. Images from adolescence, about times changing a family and society. And all the time human beings are being created and born. People coming to life as cells split. People dying as cells split malevolently. *Mørkerom* (*Darkroom*) is a story about belonging and about losing and missing that one glance that used to see you, and that fixed you to a film.

Through photography and memories, “Mette” tries to reconstruct the life of her father. From beginning to the day he died. With him, dies the sympathetic eyes that made her proud of whom she was, and that reminded her of the good in life. May she find back to herself through telling the story?

*Darkroom* is a novel about being seen and learning to see. It thematises memory, identity and family relations. The language is suitably sensitive, moulding out a story about beloved ones as mirrors in which one sees oneself, and about making art from darkness.

*"Darkroom" is a highly personal book about the father - daughter relationship, about losing somebody who not only sees you for what you are, but also for what you might become... "*

Eivind Myklebust, Klassekampen

*Mette Karlvik has written an original and tender novel about a father and daughter - relationship (...). "Darkroom" is both a complex and moving story about family relations and the importance of being seen with love and understanding.*

Turid Larsen, Dagsavisen

### Mette Karlvik

Mette Karlvik's literary debut was in 2005 with the novel *The Window in the Dining Hall Overlooks the Fjord* (*Vindauga i matsalen vender mot fjorden*) for which she was awarded the prestigious Tarjei Vesaas debutant prize. In 2012 she received the Booksellers grant, Stig Sæterbakken's memorial award and Skien municipality's artist grant. The novel *Being Björk* (*Bli Björk*, 2011) was nominated for the Brage Prize. Karlvik's writing is characterised by a unique world-view, with a perspective ranging in scope from microscopic sensations to global issues, often expressed through a single gesture or phrase.