



Blood in the Veins. Amalie Skram and Her Time

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Merete Morken Andersen

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Amalie Skram (1846 -1905) was a Norwegian author and feminist whose naturalist writing gave voice to a woman's point of view. In Norway, she is frequently considered the most influential female writer of the Modern Breakthrough. Her more notable works include a tetralogy, *Hellemysrfolket* (1887–98) which portray family relations spanning four generations.

Amalie Skram demanded three things of an author's work: to show the truth, write with compassion, and attempt to understand.

In this ambitious biography, Merete Morken Andersen takes Amalie Skram at her word. Through five subjects – freedom, family, love, madness and death – she interweaves letters, journals, novels and paintings to create a polyphonic collage, which shifts between different narrative techniques and voices.

Andersen includes the writing of Skram's contemporaries to portray her world within a bigger picture.

Merete Morken Andersen

Merete Morken Andersen is an associate professor of creative non-fiction at the University of Southeast Norway. She has published both fiction and creative non-fiction books. In 2002 she won the Norwegian Critics' Prize for her novel *Oceans of Time*, which also was awarded the Amalie Skram Prize in 2003. Her most recent book is *The Writing Book* (2008).