



**Knife. A Search for the Artistry and Craftsmanship of the Norwegian Knife**

Original title: Kniv. Håndverk, tradisjon og den norske folkesjela  
Publisher: Kagge, 2019  
Genre: Non Fiction  
Pages: 206 pages  
English sample



**Thomas Winje Øijord**  
Photo: private

## *Knife. A Search for the Artistry and Craftsmanship of the Norwegian Knife*

The traditional Norwegian sheath knife, the *tollekniv*, has always been a part of national identity and is held in high esteem by the international knife community. The sheath knife is at once the perfect tool for opening packages and for gutting a bull elk should – this knife can also protect you from ghosts and subterranean creatures, heal wounds and cure illnesses.

Perhaps Øijord doesn't explain how to sew a traditional rawhide knife sheath or laminate steel in a forge. But he does entertainingly explain the art of knifemaking. To discover the value he sets out on a journey throughout Norway to meet with master artisans and document the making of a utility knife of the finest order.

*Knives* is an illustrated literary presentation of the sheath knife's history and areas of use – a beautiful and fascinating glimpse of an ancient and hand-crafted piece of Norwegian culture.

### **Thomas Winje Øijord**

Thomas Winje Øijord is a writer and photographer. His literary debut was in 2003 with the critically acclaimed *Hatten og andre forstyrrende momenter* ("The Hat and Other Disruptive Elements"). In 2007 his novel *Kongeriket Norge* ("The Kingdom of Norway") was published. In addition to ghost-writing Erik Jensen's *På innsiden*, he has co-authored two thrillers with Jensen: *Attentatet* ("The Assassination") (2016) and *Skjulte Djevlø* ("Hidden Devils") (2018). He has also written and illustrated several fact books for children, most recently *Hva skal du bli?* ("What do you want to be when you grow up?") (2016).