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Demian Vitanza

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En høyaktuell og sjelden bekjennelseshistorie: Norskpakistanske Tariq forteller om sin oppvekst, radikalisering og tiden som fremmedkriger i Syria.

For ett år siden holdt Demian Vitanza skrivekurs i et norsk høysikkerhetsfengsel. Der møtte han en returnert fremmedkriger som ønsket å fortelle om sitt liv. I mer enn ti måneder har Vitanza besøkt fengselet ukentlig og snakket med den innsatte i tilsammen over hundre timer.

"Dette livet eller det neste" er en roman hovedsaklig basert på den innsattes egen historie.

Dette livet eller det neste Details

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Author : Demian Vitanza

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From Reader Review Dette livet eller det neste for online ebook

Helene Barmen says

Denial Vitanza is an author I haven't read before but this was a really pleasant first meeting. His writing is quite verbal and reading goes fast. It has still taken me a while to finish the book as I haven't read that much this summer but every time I picked it back up I got right back into the story.

The narrative is told by Tariq who is serving an eight year prison sentence for having been to Syria. He tells us about his life before during and after his stay. You understand what lead him to go but the most interesting part is the very realistic and real description of what happened in Syria before 2014. We hear about all the different groups, about the war and what it does to people and also about his experience with what was to become ISIS. His views are reflective and he comes across as a real person.

This book is based on a large number of conversations Vitanza had with a real inmate and this is very easy to see. He claims that a lot has been fictionalized but the fact that it is so close to real experiences makes it difficult to read it as a novel sometimes. I assume the inmate didn't want to participate in a non-fiction book but that might have been even more interesting.

Simen Gunerius Jørgensen says

Demian Vitanza tilbragte mer enn hundre timer med en returnert fremmedkriger og syria-farer. Det er til tider sterk kost, men gir også et innblikk i hvorfor en ung rodløs gutt velger å søke seg til radikal islam. "De hater politiet, de hater foreldra sine, de hater staten, de hater det vestlige samfunnet. Først og fremst hater de seg selv. De føler de aldri er bra nok."

Det som er tillokkende er fellesskapet og full identifikasjon med martyr- og helterollen som det muslimske fellesskapet kan tilby.

Forstå meg rett, men man får gjennom historien et rationale for hvorfor noen velger å gå til dette ekstreme ytterpunkt.

Så kommer spørsmålet, skal forlaget BATZER & CO utgi denne boka i Danmark?

Kristina says

1. 07.05.18-08.05.18

Skal skrive om boka på eksamen. Ei annerledes eksamensbok, og den andre Syria-boka jeg leser. Interessant, dog vanskelig da man aldri vet hva fremmedkrigeren snakker sant om og ikke. Godt skrevet av Demian Vitanza.

Eva Ulland says

Fabelaktig! #anbefales

Madelén says

Beautiful ending, and great descriptions. Only issue was that I kind of fell out a bit in the middle of it.

Andreas Ongstad says

Spennende og høyaktuell bok som alle bør få med seg.

Tim Verstraete says

I liked this book ... it felt like the book written by and about Montasser AlDe'emeh. I is about a man in doubt with his self, environment, religion ... decides to go to Syria and again finds that not all is as clear and logical as expected ... good read!

Anne says

It sure has taken me a while to read this book, but I'm glad I stuck with it. I actually received a kindle copy of this book through a Goodreads giveaway, the only one I've won so far.

It wasn't really something I would have chosen to buy but I'm really glad I read it. It gave me a lot of perspective and made me think about things I really hadn't considered before.

Torill Revheim says

Important book

Seth says

Interesting insight

It took me a few chapters to get into the book. I am still not sure how I feel about the interview format where the interviewers questions are not written.

I do think it's from a viewpoint that is rarely discussed which makes it worth the read. The entire time I kept thinking and hoping he'd make the right decision. He doesn't seem to, except in the end. But anyone who has been young and full of passion for anything can identify with his feelings. Although, I kept wishing he'd focus his passions on something other than religion. He's almost there in the end and I finished the book

believing he'd eventually make it there.

Mandy says

In 2015, Demian Vitanza was working in Norway's Halden Prison when he met a young Norwegian-Pakistani man serving a sentence for terrorist activities. Vitanza spent over 100 hours interviewing him, and this remarkably compelling book is a fictionalised account of those conversations. In the novel, the young man is named Tariq Khan. He's been living a very westernised life, partying, drugs, girls, in general enjoying himself, but then gradually this hedonistic life-style starts to pall and he becomes increasingly drawn to the certainties of Islam, eventually becoming radicalized and travelling to Syria to undertake jihad. It reminded me of Asne Seierstad's powerful non-fiction account *Two Sisters*, girls who follow the same trajectory. The novel is in the form of an interview with an unheard interlocutor, and told in Tariq's own words in response to the questions posed and all from his point of view. This is an incredibly effective way into the mind-set of a potential terrorist, to see the conflicts he faces, the decisions he makes and how an ordinary assimilated young man can become disillusioned with what the west offers and how the lure of extremism can take hold. Tariq is a disconcertingly empathetic character, in no way a one-dimensional cardboard cut-out of what we assume a terrorist to be, but someone we can't help feeling some connection with. As the narrative progresses, it becomes increasingly chilling and unsettling, especially knowing that it is based on a true story. Thoughtful and thought-provoking, insightful and balanced, this is an important book which adds to the debate about radicalisation and fundamentalism, and if it humanizes the terrorist, which some readers may object to, at least it shows that there are always more sides to a story than we might at first suppose.

Vilde Baann says

En utrolig spennende bok om Tariq fra Halden. Radikaliseringsprosess, utenforskap, tvil, reisen til Syria, brorskap og opplevelser. Demian gjør fortellingen levende for leseren, og dette er helt klart den beste boken jeg har lest om norske fremmedkrigere hittil!

Lorenzo De Leon says

An important book

This is not an easy book to read. It is about a Muslim man, born in Norway, who leaves to go to Syria to become a jihadist. He is not an easy person to empathize with. That is why we should read it. Spoiler: it is based on real life events.

LINN HUSBY says

Det er kanskje rart å få forståelse for fremmedkrigere. Men denne historien viser at det er hatet mot å være annerledes, de små tingene, en pluss en pluss en, som gjør at noen faller utenfor. Radikalisering er så mangt. For meg fortalte den en svært viktig historie.

Calzean says

A clever way to tell a sad tale of Tariq a Norwegian young man of Pakistan extract who is first a small time drug supplier, than finds Islam and later decides to go to Syria to fight against the Asaad regime. He tells his story whilst in a Norwegian prison.

The story portrays a man who wanted to help the Syrian people but as he was fighting along ISIS/IS types he was, in Norway, a terrorist. What comes through the narrative was the complexity of the various rebel groups, the slow disintegration of their cooperation, the rise of ISIS and the ongoing and complexing brutality of Asaad to his own people.

The narrative sounds as though the author captured Tariq's own voice. It is an effective technique that provides a reality behind Tariq's misunderstood actions against a regime that is completely unable to be understood.

Thanks to Netgalley and AmazonCrossing.
