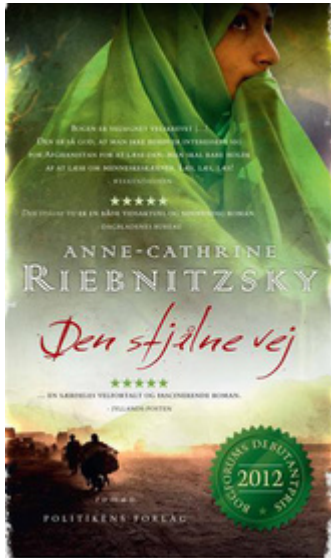


# The Stolen Road

## Den stjålne vej

by Anne-Cathrine Riebnitzsky



In the autumn of 2008 three Afghani lives intertwined in the war.

Malika is the daughter of a famous mullah, and a modern woman trapped in a traditional world. She is secretly running reading-courses for a number of Afghan women in the town of Gereshk, but she is also looking out for the interests of women and children in other ways. One day she finds a boy living the streets, who has been raped by the police. Malika makes a stand against the corrupt police officers of the town, but it's a cause most people consider to be lost before Malika has even begun. At the same time a group of Taliban soldiers capture the engineer Khan. The Taliban wants to kill him in order to stop him building a tarmac road between Kandahar and Gereshk. Khan invokes the help of Allah Himself and challenges the Taliban. Armed with theological arguments and an extensive knowledge of Islam, Khan manages to shift the Taliban soldiers' perception of Islam.

The novel is based on real events.

**Winner of the Debutant Prize 2012**

**Shortlisted for the National Danish Broadcasting Company's Best Novel Award**

**Anne-Cathrine Riebnitzsky** was born in 1974 and graduated from Copenhagen's Writer's School in 1998. Having completed her Foreign Language Officer training in Moscow in 2003, she worked at the Danish Embassy in Russia, before going to Afghanistan in 2007, first as a soldier and then as a Foreign Ministry advisor. In 2010 she was awarded the Anders Lassen Award for "significant military and civilian achievements during deployment".

Her first book was *The Women's War* (*Kvindernes krig*) in 2010, which was a documentary about her work with the Afghan women. The book was shortlisted for Weekendavisen's Literature Prize. In 2012 she published her first novel, *The Stolen Road* (*Den stjålne vej*) for which she was awarded the Debutant Award. This was also nominated for Weekendavisens Literature Prize as well as for the DBC's Novel of the Year Award. *Slaughtered Pigs* (*Forbandede yngel*) was published in 2013 and earned her the Golden Laurels and Politiken's Novel of the Year Award.



#### SPECIFICATIONS

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# Reviews

Well told and fascinating

- **Jyllands-Posten**

A topical and necessary novel

- **Dagbladenes Bureau**

- **Femina**

- **Politiken**

A book so good it's not necessary to be interested in Afghanistan to read it; you just need to like to read about human destinies. Read, read, read!

- **Weekendavisen**