

Cast

GIPS

by Mathilde Walter Clark



SPECIFICATIONS

Pages: 172

Publication Date: 27. august 2012

Rights sold to

Norway / Vigmostad og
Bjørke

PLEASE CONTACT

Rudi Urban Rasmussen
Literary Agent
rudi.u.rasmussen@jppol.dk
Tel. +45 20 89 31 88

“I’m a trouble maker. That’s what I’ve always been. I make trouble. There is no reason to believe that it will ever change.”

This voice belongs to Nete Plum, 35. She lives in a Copenhagen suburb with her husband, Jan. One day she ‘accidentally’ pours boiling water on Jan and receives a mystic revelation. A few days later she loosens a board on the basement staircase. Small steps. But nevertheless suggesting some form of systematization. And it doesn’t get any better as the weeks go by.

Cast is about Nete, who sometimes accidentally hurts her husband. It is about working in something called ‘The Agency’ – and about longing to stare the Great Mystery of Life straight in the face. It all sounds very serious. And the title *Cast* is not a coincidence. Yet the novel is a funny take on relationships, work and friendship. And like Mathilde Walter Clark’s other books, *Cast* is about the quest for the only thing that really matters in life: your own soul.

Along the way we meet a colourful gallery of characters: bikers who will happily assist Nete for money; drunken Finns who are more interested in Copenhagen’s red light district than Jan’s business ideas; and ‘The Agency’s’ leg-dragging but tango-dancing icelander, Haldor, who teaches Nete about the Andalusian spirit, duende. As Nete’s friend, Pusle, likes to remind her: „Life is an eternal rain of opportunities for wisdom and enlightenment“.

Mathilde Walter Clark (1970) grew up spending winters with her mother in Denmark and summers with her father in the US. She has a Master’s degree in Philosophy from Roskilde University and New York University. In 2004 she published her first novel, *Thorsten Madsen’s Ego*. She was awarded the Carlsberg Foundation “Discovery of the Year” and the prestigious Three Year Scholarship from the Danish Art Foundation. She has been a visiting writer at the International Writing Program (IWP) at the University of Iowa, and at the International Writer’s Workshop (IWW) at Hong Kong Baptist University. She writes critical essays, discusses current cultural matters in a weekly talk show, and has written and hosted a philosophical tv-series for the Danish Broadcasting Corporation.

She has published five works of fiction, her most recent being the novel *Cast* from 2012. Her short stories have appeared in *The Literary Review*, *Iowa Review* and *Absinthe*. She lives in Copenhagen.



Reviews

Hissing scorn and crass humor

- **Jyllands-Posten**

A funny, idiomatic and rhythmic novel

- **Femina**

Mathilde Walter Clark masters the art of describing situations which are so absurd that you are suddenly overpowered by helpless laughter

- **Weekendavisen**

It's entertaining and sharp, and you are in excellent company with "Cast"

- **Dagbladenes Bureau**