NORTHERN STORIES

Tore Kvæven

RED DUST I



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The year is 2060. Australian Lieutenant General John Arnheim and his elite soldiers lie hidden behind tangled roots and broad ferns. They are in the enemy's domain, pursued by advanced bloodhounds.

John Arnhem has built his career and his life on a world-changing war that has lasted for 17 years. At the heart of the defence effort is Arnhem's special unit, The Queens Hunters. The victory he once thought he would experience seems more distant than ever. Only a small city in the northwest is still managing to hold their grounds against the enemy. And at the same time he realizes that the price he himself pays is about to become too high. Amidst the unrelenting brutality of war, nature endures – full of suffering, but also vitality. While humans manoeuvre towards their own demise, the wild horses do as they've always done: follow the herd and instinct, doing what they can to survive.



It takes mental strength to read Tore Kvæven's dystopian science fiction novel, *Red Dust.* Because in 2023 we live in a dangerously tense time. Bloody wars are taking place in countries not far from us, and I, like many others, am worried about world peace. Kvæven's novel does not remedy the unrest, to put it mildly.

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An exceptionally imagery-rich and beautiful novel.

Fædrelandsvennen

The novel has elements of both science fiction, dystopia, and war thriller, and although Kvæven evidently shares the linguistic and soul-searching ambitions of narrower quality literature, he can write genuinely exciting action scenes.

Tore Kvæven

Tore Kvæven (b. 1969) made his debut in 2011 with *Hard Is the Law of My Land*. He received the most prestigious literary award Brageprisen in 2018 for his novel *When the land darkens*. Kvæven works as a school teacher and sheep farmer. In 2022, he received the prestigious Stig Sæterbakken Memorial Award.

