

Camara Lundestad Joof

I TALK ABOUT IT ALL THE TIME



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I Talk About It All The Time is a testimony, an appeal, and a self-examination. Camara Lundestad Joof was born in Norway to a Norwegian mother and a Gambian father. The book depicts how the racism she constantly experiences infects her days and controls her thoughts.

I call one of my girlfriends.

Did the man in the bar call me a coon when I didn't want to give him my number? That time we had agreed to drink beer, but we ended up drinking tequila instead?

She becomes quiet.

No. He called you a nigger.

Thank you, I say. Thank you so much for remembering.

She ransacks her memory. What if she misremembers something? How can someone believe her then? How many details does one have to remember in order to appear credible? Does she believe herself? And can anyone ever free themselves from the question of skin colour?

The book is now in its fifth print run.

I talk about it all the time speaks straight to my heart. It tears and shudders my skin and stirs my emotions.

VOKS Magazine



Impressively, she brings out the complexity and nuances in her experiences. Strongest impression is probably the text about an elderly woman who hit her when she, as a child, wore a traditional national costume on Norway's Constitution Day. Joof handles this sore memory with a steady hand and puts the limelight on the woman's silent girlfriend. She neither intervened nor protested. Expressed and visible racism is easy to be against, instead Joof often focuses on the small comments, the neglect and the silence. It's a very strong read and an impressive debut!

Dagbladet

Camara Lundestad Joof

Camara Lundestad Joof is a Norwegian-Gambian documentary performance artist, playwright and author. She is currently a house playwright at Nasjonalteateret (The National Theatre). She recently received the prestigious Hedda Award for Best Stage Text in 2022 for her play *They Must Birth to Us or Fuck Us to Love Us*. It was also nominated for Production of the Year.

