



Jordemoder: Poems of a Midwife

Ingrid Andersson

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Introducing something precious to the world is hallowed work, and we imagine Ingrid Andersson derives slightly more pleasure from fulfilling her midwife duties than those of a poet. Her study of German, Swedish, French, and English poetry, in addition to anthropology, at the University of Wisconsin, further roots the many beautiful ideas in this debut collection. She lives in Madison with chickens, dogs, bees, a husband, and a son.

IT TAKES A DOG

*A fellow foreigner plods toward
my outdoor cafe table and kneels
before my two wagging dogs.*

*Leaning forward in his ten-gallon
hat, snakeskin boots and gold
filigree buckle, he whispers to them.*

*I watch as their pink eager tongues
brighten him. Raising himself up,
he winks at me, then drawls:*

*“Sometahmes it takes a dawg
to make the world raht agin,”
and leaves—before I can reach*

*out and catch the Lone Star,
before I can tell him in eager
English, I understand you!*

MATT SUTHERLAND (March / April 2022)

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