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## Susanne Walström Black Lava Fairy Tale Edited by Susanne Walström Text by Hildur Knútsdóttir Translated by K.B. Thors Translated by Elisabeth Wennö

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The Icelandic horse played a major role in Norse mythology. Among other things they helped the gods conquer nature. In return, the very strong carriers were endowed with supernatural powers. Today, when riding with a herd of loose horses across the Icelandic landscape it's like traveling thousands of years back in time, or to another galaxy in a movie set in an indeterminate future. In recent years, photographer Susanne Walstrom has returned to Iceland many times to document the poetic interaction between horses and nature. In **Black Lava Fairy Tale** time ceases and the saga commences; a saga in which all humans have dismounted and the horses are on their own. Arctic winds, lava burning under hoofs and new unknown dangers — are the gods still their guardians?