

**ISABELLE ALONSO**

## **LA PEAU DE L'OURS**



Date : 17/01/2024

Pages : 213

Format cm : 13 x 21

Prix : 17.9

EAN : 9782268109961

## The Bearskin: Why I'm Still a Leftist

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Publisher : Éditions du Rocher

Category : Humanities and Non-Fiction

Genres : Essay - Political Sciences

Keywords : Capitalism - Feminism

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The polar bear, symbol of the climate crisis, and the yellow vest, symbol of the social crisis, must remain at the heart of left-wing activist struggles.

The bearskin is what the capitalist model sells us, and what it seeks to profit from when it doesn't have it, what is at our disposal without our being entitled to it. It's what we, with our instincts as inveterate plunderers, reap from a Nature not ours to take. And, as in the fable, it represents fallacious reasoning that leads to the bitterest disappointment. The polar bear is a symbol of the climate crisis, just as the people of the Left are victims of the social crisis and the difficulties parties have in putting forward strong proposals. Will left-wing ideals and social cohesion disappear at the same speed as the melting ice pack? It's hard to be a left-winger and stay one, too. Over the course of thirty-some short, corrosive, funny, and incisive chapters, ranging in topic from the environment to public services and consumerism, Isabelle Alonso highlights the perverse effects of a world where everything is market and profit. She denounces the bankruptcy of the Left, her political family, and declares the need for it to rebuild itself.

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