

# International Rights Spring 2024



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LITERARY AGENCY

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# Madame Nielsen

## LAMENTO

### Original title

Lamento

### Original publisher

Grif, 2020  
174 pages

English sample  
translation available

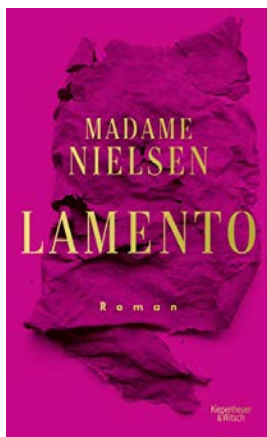


**German**  
Kiepenheuer & Witsch  
**French** Notabilia  
**Norwegian** Pelikanen  
**World English** Prototype



The Prix Transfuge 2023  
for Best Scandinavian  
novel

[French book trailer](#)



**"A novel with the beauty of an  
opera in flames"**

—L'Obs

**"Lamento is a song, carried by a  
burning language, splendid and  
heart-rending, by a implacable  
rhythm."**

—Le Courier

How does infatuation become love? And when does the fire go out?

An artist's novel and a romance novel, or better: a lament about the impossibility of reconciling the magic of infatuation with everyday life.

LAMENTO begins with a fire, and the fire permeates the entire novel. The narrator, a writer, meets a playwright and theater producer, also very young, at the premiere of one of her plays. They fall in love abruptly and from then on spend every minute together, completely untouched by the outside world. But when they finally marry, have a child and everyday life stifles the passion, the love turns destructive. The woman fights for every minute she can write, while the man turns more and more to his art and turns his back on everyday family life. Ultimately, everything breaks down, and the question remains: How does love turn to hate? In this short novel, Madame Nielsen manages the feat of writing very concretely and stirringly vividly about a passionate and ultimately painful love, and thus about love itself.

"A 192 pages first-person-told suggestion of how it may have been to be married with the man, she once were. A genuinely sorrowful book, both self-obsessed and self-tormenting"—Information



**Madame Nielsen** is a novelist, artist, performer, world history enactor, composer, chanteuse – and multi-gendered. Born as Claus Beck-Nielsen in 1963 in Aalborg, Denmark, she is the author of numerous literary works. A pioneer of „performative biographism“ and “Scandinavian autofiction” the artist declared the death of Claus Beck-Nielsen in 2001, published *Claus Beck-Nielsen (1963–2001) – A Biography*, followed by *The Suicide Mission* and continues to work as Madame Nielsen. *My Encounters with The Great Authors of our Nation* was nominated for The Nordic Council Literature Prize and *The Endless Summer* became a great success in Germany and was published in English by Open Letter in 2018. Her work has been translated into nine languages so far.

Denmark



**"Lamento is the  
story of a love at first  
sight that consumes  
everything in a feeling  
of exhilaration in a  
contagious reading."**

—Libération

**"Nielsen, the great  
Danish author, finds  
a beguiling language  
for love, hate and  
everything in between."**

—Welt am Sonntag

# Helge Bille

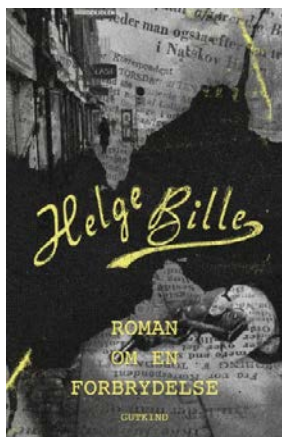
# THE STORY OF A CRIME

## Original title

Roman om en forbrydelse

## Original publisher

Gutkind Publishers, 2024  
192 pages



**"A labyrinthine detective story about the enigmatic Helge Bille, who changes his identity and tries to unravel a crime in the past. For readers of existential and extraordinary crime novels."**

—Danish Public Library Association

**"This is wild, experimental fiction that flouts convention and serves up existential truths from the dark."**

—Litteratursiden.dk

Helge Bille grew up in the 1970s, among other places with his grandparents west of Faaborg. There was only a single shelf meter of books, all worn cheap editions of Agatha Christie, Maria Lang and, not least, Georges Simenon. Adulthood brought a meeting with the banking world and sporadic taxi driving. In 2002, Bille moved to Nørrebro, where he began writing what became, in a way, the novel of his life, THE STORY OF A CRIME.

Denmark

While renovating his apartment, Helge Bille finds seven parts of a German military pistol wrapped in seven pages of a danish newspaper from December 30, 1949.

He took the name Helge Bille from the sign that hung on the front door when he moved in. But who was Helge Bille, who is Helge Bille? Was he a freedom fighter? Or a guardsman? A story is connected to the gun, but which one?

Clues and motives interweave and fade into the unknown, while a possible story about Helge Bille slowly emerges, a story about a crime, a story that is in a sense the author's own.

"It is a novel with a distinct existential mission: How does life shape itself into meaningful patterns or the opposite? How do people stage and execute their identities, accentuated by the crisis of crime? It is a story about the interaction between the passage of time, the problematic nature of identities and the sense of reality, which always balances between the given, the thought, the desired."

—Jyllands-Posten



**"Helge Bille writes with exemplary fluency. No one else combines the genuine border-seeking with this playful passion; no one else breaks down and builds up in one and the same movement as he does; no one else narrows and expands the world with such sovereignty."**

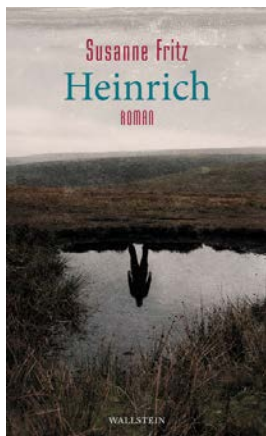
—Weekendavisen

# Susanne Fritz

# HEINRICH

Original title  
Heinrich

Original publisher  
Wallstein, 2023  
211 pages



**“Her prose is enormously musical, artfully rhythmic and full of intense images. In this way, she succeeds impressively in making the intricate paths of memory visible in the form of narration.”**

—WDR3 Lesestoff

Heinrich is a creative mind, successful architect and entrepreneur. At his drawing table, he develops pioneering ideas. He comes from a troubled background: As the only child of a divorced woman and a member of the German minority, he grows up in the poverty-stricken quarter of a small Polish town. When the Germans invade in the fall of 1939, the young man was offered opportunities for advancement, which end in war service and Russian captivity. In 1949 he arrives in West Germany, where he starts a family and succeeds in a dizzying career. His unloved background, however, haunts him beyond his successes.

The story begins with an accident: a large mirror shatters. As a motive, the broken pieces reflect the process of remembering itself, its instability and its unreliability. Memory fragments become narrative fragments. Susanne Fritz combines dream and memory, chronicle and fiction. It is about nothing less than the human enigma: what can we know about the other, what about ourselves? How much do our origins and childhood shape us, and is there a second life beyond the past experiences?

A personal novel in search for the father's traces, that reflects the fragmentary process of remembering a parent. Following the widely discussed documentary exploration of her mother's life and trauma in *They Left us War and Silence* (2018), Susanne Fritz focuses again on the family's history shaped by war.

*“Researching and writing my mother's story was such an intensive process that I concentrated entirely on her fate. Moreover, my inquiries to archives about my father's person and family showed almost no results. So I put his story aside for the time being. It was clear to me that I would have to approach it in a completely different way: Not documentary, but fictional, playful, experimental. The character of Heinrich came into being when I tried to remember my father, but I'm not telling about my father.”*



Susanne Fritz is a theater director, pianist and author of short stories, novels, dramatic and essayistic texts. Her personal search for her mother's traces, *They Left us War and Silence* (2018), was widely reviewed and nominated for the German Book Prize. She has received various prizes and fellowships, including the Albrecht Lempp Fellowship in Krakow in 2020, and was a fellow of the Atelier Mondial in Paris in 2021.



**“And so, among the many father books published in recent years, “Heinrich” has become one of the most idiosyncratic and interesting. “**

—WDR3 Lesestoff

**“In terse, crystalline sentences, Susanne Fritz flies after her Heinrich. The rhythm is driving and probably due to the music.”**

—Ö1 Morgenjournal

**How Susanne Fritz speculatively composes this biography, how she consciously uses the helplessness of the next generation as a stylistic device and thus triumphs over the darkness of the past is an impressive piece of literature.”**

—Südkurier

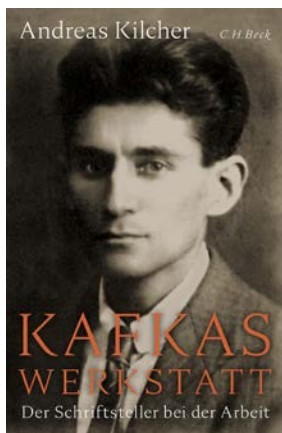
# Andreas Kilcher KAFKA'S WORKSHOP

## Original title

Kafkas Werkstatt.  
Der Schriftsteller bei  
der Arbeit

## Original publisher

C.H.Beck, 2024  
256 pages,  
30 illustrations



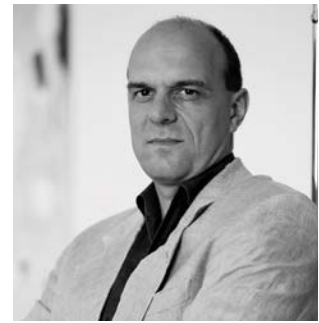
**For the 100th anniversary of  
Kafka's death in 2024:**

**A new book by Andreas  
Kilcher, who brought us  
*Kafka's Drawings***

Like few others, Kafka's texts present difficulties of interpretation: ambiguous, enigmatic, even absurd and obscure they appear. This essay does not aim to resolve this difficulty, but to make it understandable by examining the way these texts are written. It is formally about a glimpse behind the scenes in Kafka's workshop: We look over the writer's shoulder as he works.

At the centre of this essay is a decisive observation: Kafka reads by writing. He is by no means a writer who is distanced from reality, who puts ciphered dream messages on paper in lonely nights. Rather, he proves to be a highly attentive reader who processes what he reads. This means for Kafka's texts that they are not to be understood as homogeneous works, but as complex entities in which what is read is visibly as well as invisibly interwoven into what is written.

Kafka's texts are in dialogue with the great conversations of his time, whose hidden, uncanny aspects they highlight: the unconscious of psychoanalysis, the commodity of Marxism, the diaspora of Zionism, the ghost of occultism, and so on. This is shown in the essay by examples, especially one of his most enigmatic texts: *The Cares of a Family Man* – about the most curious figure with the equally curious name *Odradek*.



Andreas Kilcher is a Professor of Literature and Cultural Studies at ETH Zurich. He has held visiting professorships at Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Tel Aviv University, Princeton University and Stanford University. He has published widely on Kafka and German-Jewish literature.



**"The more you move  
through this book, the  
more drawing and writing  
seem to exist for  
Kafka on a single and  
intricate plane, and it  
begins to change all  
the usual perspectives."**

—Adam Thirlwell, Times Literary Supplement on *Kafka's Drawings*



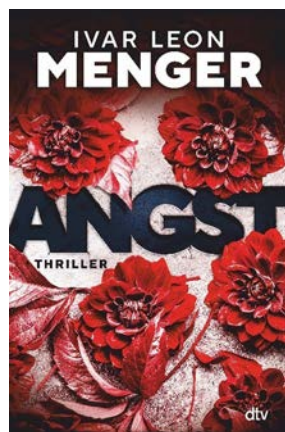
# Ivar Leon Menger

## FEAR

Original title  
Angst

Original publisher  
dtv, 2023  
448 pages

World English, Scandinavian, Dutch, Italian, Greek, Baltic and Hebrew rights represented by the Blake Friedmann Agency



**A new psychological thriller from the bestselling author of *What Mother Won't Tell Me***

**10'000 copies sold in one month**

**"FEAR has got everything that makes a top thriller: suspense, sophistication and a dash of genius."**

–Linus Geschke

*"Every night has its children. Creatures like him who creep around lit-up houses in search of prey. Using the telephoto lens from a safe distance. Once a month the shadow appropriated a new territory. An area he didn't know, a new street. He became seriously addicted. Until he saw Mia. And stayed forever."*

A young actress slips into the most dangerous role of her life...

Mia Richter, a young upcoming actress from Berlin, has had many romantic dates in the past. But this time it is different. The admirer from the museum, with whom she has only been out once, does not accept that she is not interested in him. He stalks her day and night. Until suddenly the corpse of a friend is found on the canal bank. Mia immediately suspects who the killer is. But the police do not believe her. So she starts to investigate on her own to prove his guilt. But to do so, she must slip into the most dangerous role of her life: the stalker's lover ...

Something about Viktor is not right, Mia senses it on their first date in a noble Berlin restaurant on the roof of the Chancellery. In the days that follow, strange things happen that at some point can no longer be explained by coincidence. Mia's initial unease gives way to a paralyzing fear. But then she decides to turn the tables. A deadly game begins ...

**Ivar Leon Menger** is a prize-winning writer for radio and Audible. He was born in Darmstadt, Germany in 1973. He studied graphic design and worked as a copywriter, designer, scriptwriter, director and guest lecturer at the TU Darmstadt. His radio play series *Monster 1983* and *Ghostbox* are among the most successful productions on Audible. He has received over 30 awards, including Best Short Film in Germany (Berlinale 2002), a Golden Record (for *Die drei Fragezeichen und der große Dreitag*, 2011) and Best Radio Play 2019 (1st place Audience Award for *Ghostbox*). In 2022, his thriller debut *When the Stranger Came* was published.



**"Ivar Leon Menger once again skilfully targets the hopefully strong nerves of the readers with this new psychological thriller."**

–Mainhattan Kurier

**"Suspensefully laid out, a good read!"**

–leselupe.de

**"A thriller that has it all."**

–Magazin Kölleifornia

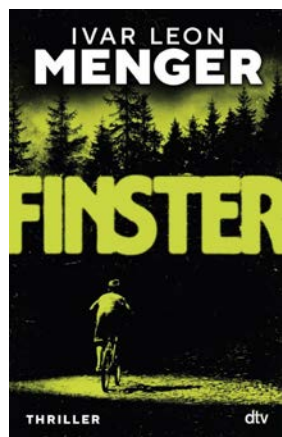
# Ivar Leon Menger

## DARK

Original title  
Finster

Original publisher  
dtv, 2024  
384 pages

World English, Scandinavian, Dutch, Italian, Greek, Baltic and Hebrew rights represented by the Blake Friedmann Agency



*It Happened in Broad Daylight meets Stranger Things*

**A multi-perspective thriller, mysterious, full of twists and turns and unpredictable!**

The Detective: failed.  
The village: under suspicion.  
The hunt begins anew.

Phil Collins, Chernobyl, stonewashed jeans: the world of the eighties comes back to life in Ivar Leon Menger's new psychological thriller, his darkest, a page-turner that is guaranteed to give you goosebumps!

Katzenbrunn, May 1986: A thirteen-year-old boy disappears from the fairground without a trace. It's not the first time. For years, children have repeatedly been reported missing in the small village. Hans J. Stahl, a retired detective inspector, decides to resume the investigation into his unsolved case and continue it privately. He returns to Katzenbrunn, which is best known for its psychiatric hospital. As he follows up on the few clues of this cold case, another boy disappears. Stahl is running out of time.

**Ivar Leon Menger** is a prize-winning writer for radio and Audible. He was born in Darmstadt, Germany in 1973. He studied graphic design and worked as a copywriter, designer, scriptwriter, director and guest lecturer at the TU Darmstadt. His radio play series *Monster 1983* and *Ghostbox* are among the most successful productions on Audible. He has received over 30 awards, including Best Short Film in Germany (Berlinale 2002), a Golden Record (for *Die drei Fragezeichen und der große Freitag*, 2011) and Best Radio Play 2019 (1st place Audience Award for *Ghostbox*). In 2022, his thriller debut *When the Stranger Came* was published.



**"This thriller seduces you. It comes along wonderfully smoothly, then grabs you by the neck, scares you and keeps you awake!"**

–Bernhard Aichner, *Woman Of The Dead*, Netflix



# Ivar Leon Menger

## WHAT MOTHER WON'T TELL ME

### Original title

Als das das Böse kam

### Original publisher

dtv, 2022  
240 pages  
59'000 words

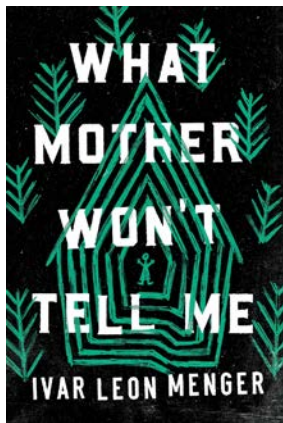
English translation by  
Jamie Bulloch  
available



English (NA)  
Sourcebooks  
English audio (NA)  
Dreamscape  
French Belfond  
Czech Grada  
Romanian Trei  
Greek Psichigios  
German audio Audible  
Im rights sold to GLISK/  
Federation Entertainment



World English, Scandinavian,  
Dutch, Italian, Greek,  
Baltic and Hebrew rights  
represented by the Blake  
Friedmann Agency



The subject of a 10-publisher German auction and was acquired by dtv in a six-figure two-book deal. Over 25,000 copies sold in first two weeks of sale in Germany.

Raised on a remote island, a young woman soon realizes the most dangerous strangers are the ones in the bedroom across the hall...

Deep in the forests of Nordland, in a cabin on a small island, Juno has lived in almost complete isolation since early childhood. She has only Mother, Father, and her little brother Boy for company. They live in constant fear. Because danger lurks on the other side of the lake, seeking them out - Strangers, as they call them, who want to take revenge on their father and destroy the family.

They live safely, under seven strict commandments. Until everything changes. When Juno is spotted by a Stranger she sets in motion a chain of frightening events and, in an increasingly threatening new reality, starts to suspect that more than a few secrets have been kept from her. She doesn't know her parents at all, and she doesn't know herself. But whoever Mother and Father are, they'll do anything to keep Juno to themselves.

This taut, psychological thriller is perfect for fans of Abigail Dean's *Girl A* and Adrian McKinty's *The Chain*.

[Watch the book trailer on YouTube](#)



"Ivar Leon Menger has written a suspense novel of rare beauty. Thoughtful and elegant and wonderfully distinctive"

—Melanie Raabe

"Menger's story brings all the menace of classic fairy tales into the modern world. The tension ratchets up and never lets go. This is an intoxicating novel, well worth the sleep you will lose as you read 'just one more chapter'."

—Clémence Michallon, internationally bestselling author of *The Quiet Tenant*

"Menger skillfully doles out disturbing reveals, maintaining expert tension without lingering in ambiguity for too long. This deliciously creepy puzzle box is bound to keep readers hooked."

—Publishers Weekly

"A heart-stopping, surprising, lyrical and thrilling read."

—Sharon Short, author of *Trouble Island*

"This debut novel should come with boold pressure pills. Readers will be rapt as they race to the end and to find out who survives this nightmare that's effectively mixed with a fairytale motif"

— First Clue

Thomas Sparr

# “I WANT TO LIVE ON, EVEN AFTER MY DEATH.”

## The Biography of Anne Frank’s Diary

### Original title

“Ich will fortleben, auch  
nach meinem Tod”.  
Die Biographie des  
Tagebuchs der  
Anne Frank

### Original publisher

S. Fischer, 2023  
336 pages



French Calmann-Lévy  
Italian Einaudi  
Dutch Prometheus  
Romanian Humanitas  
Brazilian Record  
Portuguese Porto Editora  
Spanish Acantilado



**The untold story of Anne Frank’s  
world-famous diary fills a void in  
the narrative about Anne Frank**

**“Sparr has selected striking  
episodes from the vast material  
of Anne Frank’s reception. As if in  
a flash, we see something of her  
life written on again and again.”**

—Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

Anne Frank dreamed of one day becoming a famous writer. Her father Otto Frank, who was the only family member to survive the war, wanted to make this wish come true for his daughter and made the publication of Anne’s diary his life’s work. In 1947, *Het Achterhuis* came out in the Netherlands, and the first German edition was published in 1950. Today, the diary is one of the most widely read books in the world; the impact it has had since the post-war period is unparalleled and unbroken. But the story of its success is marked by obstacles and setbacks – and is largely unknown. Thomas Sparr knowledgeably unravels how it came about, how it was distributed, how it is received around the world, and why it continues to grip us today.



Thomas Sparr was born in 1956 in Hamburg, Germany. He studied literature and philosophy in Hamburg, Marburg and Paris. From 1986 to 1989 he had several lectureships at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and the Leo Baeck Institute in Jerusalem. From 1990 to 1998 he directed the Jüdischer Verlag and from 1999 to 2004 he worked as editor in chief of the Siedler Verlag. He now lives in Berlin and works as editor-at-large for the Suhrkamp Verlag. He is the author of *Todesfuge*, a biography of the Paul Celan’s famous poem, *German Jerusalem* and *Hotel Budapest, Berlin*.



**“Anyone who thinks  
that everything has al-  
ready been said about  
Anne Frank’s diary will  
be proven wrong by the  
meticulous research of  
literary scholar Thom-  
as Sparr.”**

—WDR3

**“insightful and brilliant  
(...) an astonishing  
and thought-provok-  
ing, also exciting and  
occasionally entertain-  
ing foray through the  
history of the diary’s  
reception”**

—rbb Kultur

# Péter Nádas

# HORROR STORIES

Original title  
Rémtörténetek

Original publisher  
Jelenkor Kiadó, 2022,  
463 pages



German Rowohlt  
World English FSG  
Italian La nave di Teseo  
Croatia Fraktura  
Sweden Bonnier  
Romanian Pandora  
Slovenian Beletrina  
Danish Sisyfos  
French Noir Sur Blanc



**"No writer in Europe today has dealt more eloquently with the obligations and moral conundrums of memory, private and collective."**

—The New York Times

**"It is high time that Péter Nádas finally received the Nobel Prize for Literature."**

—SWR2

Ten years after *Parallel Stories* comes a powerful new novel, an unexpected and unparalleled late work and masterpiece.

Péter Nádas' new novel is an unexpected gift. With powerful language and many voices, he tells the life of a village by the river with all its inhabitants: there are the big farmers as well as the day labourers, the priest and the evangelical pastor, a mentally handicapped girl, a young mother, the shepherd of the village, the teacher, a woman who decades before fell irrevocably into disgrace, a baker possessed by the devil, plus uprooted aristocrats and the Grandes Dames on a country outing. A panopticon of characters driven by envy and malice. And around the people of the village: ghosts.

In the course of a few days, we encounter various versions of misery, weakness, dependence and violence, in a world reminiscent of Céline and Chekhov, where language turns into its opposite, the inability to speak, where raw greed and sudden magnanimity alternate, while demonic driving forces chaotically control people's lives. At the same time, the narrative flows calmly, in broad arcs, gathers more and more places and actors, and carries us towards an all-encompassing disaster with no prospect of rescue.



Péter Nádas, born in Budapest in 1942, is a photographer and award-winning writer. Until 1977, Hungarian censorship prevented the publication of his first novel *End of a Family Story*. He is the author of *A Book of Memories* – "The greatest novel written in our time, and one of the great books of the century" (Susan Sontag) and of *Parallel Stories* – a masterpiece internationally celebrated as "War and Peace" of the 21st century, and most recently, *Shimmering Details*, his memoirs. Among others, Nádas was awarded the Austrian State Prize for European Literature (1991), the Kossuth Prize (1992), the Leipzig Book Prize for European Understanding (1995) and the Franz Kafka Literature Prize (2003). In 2014 he was awarded the Würth Prize for European Literature and the Berman Prize 2022. Péter Nádas lives in Gombosszeg.



**"HORROR STORIES builds tension in a maddening way, unravelling layers of sin in a world violent in language, physicality and sexuality, which, to make it really disturbing, is also a terribly entertaining read, an addictive binge read."**

—Könyves Magazin

## About HORROR STORIES

Susan Sontag said about Péter Nádas' *A Book of Memories* that „It is one of the great novels of the 20'th century.” According to the *New York Times* „no writer in Europe has dealt more eloquently with the obligations, and moral conundrums of memory, private and collective.”



**“Péter Nádas is the great surveyor of European landscapes of souls in the 20th century.”**

—Die Zeit

After his monumental 1200 pages memoir, *Illuminated Details* (FSG will publish in 2023) which is a Freudian-Proustian associative recollection of the writer's past, and was considered by critics the crown jewel of the oeuvre, Nádas, expectant of the literary Nobel-prize for at least a decade now, doesn't cease to surprise us. His new novel, *HORROR STORIES* is said by many to be just what we have all been waiting for.

*HORROR STORIES* has got everything from the toolkit of Nádas's narrative expertise: the virtuosity of dramaturgy (suspense, crime, surprising plot twists), all the elements that hold the reader captive, along with the shocking scenes of taboo breaking

corporeality and aggression. The novel is rich and complex, yet easier to access than the earlier works of Nádas as the narrative threads untangle and meet, and this provides the reader with the feeling of a proper ending. *HORROR STORIES* will surely win some new admirers for the author, as it is a genuine Nádas-experience, yet easier to read.



**“Nádas writes in an almost liquefied language. In a rhythm with a beat of words that make a world out of sync tangible and perceptible.”**

—Neue Zürcher Zeitung

*HORROR STORIES* does deal with issues of poverty, but not in the social-realist sense. Nádas's anthropological monitoring apparatus has received an ethnographic filter, his vocabulary broadened with vernacular registers, with a wide range of special Hungarian swearwords, but only to demonstrate that he knows everything about man regardless of the place and historical period. Although the world depicted is unsettlingly accurate the subject of Nádas's analysis is not merely sociological: he continues to speak about man in the universal sense - avoiding the traps of false humanism and using his always bold and blasphemous voice.

The plot takes place in the 1960's in an unnamed Hungarian village. There isn't one plotline, rather a stream of consciousness, the polyphony

of the collective conscience of the village in which the omnipotent narrator jumps from one character to another: Róza the epileptic maid, the elderly and lonely Teréz, once a servant of aristocrats who sees ghosts, Imre, the bedeviled, gigantic son of the village's short stature prostitute Törpíke, the helpful and jovial village priest father Jónás, the disabled boy genius Misike who lives in a wheelchair, and the beautiful city girl he fancies, the psychology student and future teacher Piroska, who quickly gets intertwined in the spider web of romantic emotions and animalistic instincts, constantly menaced by a young man's urge to kill. And although the story doesn't unfold this way, it still ends with a series of blood-curdling deaths.



**“A novel as powerful as the Danube on whose banks it is set. The narrative voice of Péter Nádas absorbs everything that happens in a small Hungarian village, all the voices, all the prejudices, all the violence and all the superstitions. The way Nádas moves from character to character and from voice to voice, making them all merge into one powerful and violent collective speech, is simply unique.”**

—SWR2



# COLD CREMATORIUM

reporting from the Land of Auschwitz

"COLD CREMATORIUM is an indispensable work of literature, and an historical document of unsurpassed importance. It should be required reading."

—Jonathan Safran Foer

"A timely reminder of man's inhumanity to man - especially for the young generation."

—Jung Chang, international bestselling author of *Wild Swans*

"An immensely powerful and deeply humane eyewitness account of the horror of the camps. Through vivid descriptions of what he saw and experienced there, Debreczeni confronts the reader with the hell that the Holocaust was; not as something general belonging to history, but as a particular, concrete and devastating reality."

—Karl Ove Knausgaard, author of *My Struggle*

"József Debreczeni was a journalist and a poet and he brings the skills of both to this remarkable work. *Cold Crematorium* will awe you with the acuity of its observations and the precision and beauty of its language. It should be read by everyone wishing to understand the cruelty and barbarism of the Shoah, but also the indomitable spirit of its survivors."

— Ehud Barak, Former Prime Minister of Israel

"Brilliantly written, meticulously translated, *COLD CREMATORIUM* offers us access into the dark world of the Holocaust that is distinct in its power and poignancy. As one who has explored that world for some half a century, I came away tutored and moved. Debreczeni has much to say, more to teach!"

—Michael Berenbaum, former United States Holocaust Museum Project Director, author of *The World Must Know: The History of the Holocaust*

József Debreczeni



# József Debreczeni

# COLD CREMATORIUM

Reporting from the Land of Auschwitz

## Original title

Hideg Krematórium

## Original publisher

Testvériség-Egység, 1950

English translation by  
Paul Olchvály available  
(60,000 words)



English NA St. Martin's Press

English UK: Jonathan Cape

German Fischer

French Stock

Spanish Debate

Catalan La Magrana

Dutch Arbeiderspers

Italian Bompiani

Hungarian Jelenkor/Libri

Brazilian Companhia das Letras

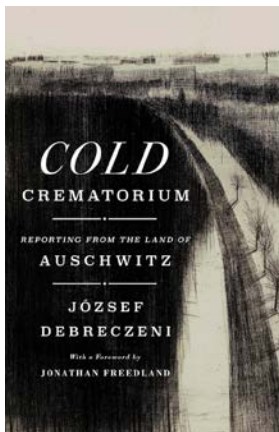
Finnish Like

Portuguese Bertrand Editora

Czech Euromedia

Romanian Trei

Russian Eksmo



**"A treasure... Debreczeni's memoir is a crucial contribution to Holocaust literature, a book that enlarges our understanding of 'life' in Auschwitz."**

—Wall Street Journal

A breath-taking discovery – a lost masterpiece of Hungarian literature.

COLD CREMATORIUM is an exceptional, literary piece of narrative non-fiction, a chronic from "the Land of Auschwitz" as Debreczeni coins it, written under the immediate impression of what he had experienced, rendered in superb language and sober tone avoiding any sentimentality, thus making for a truly haunting reading experience. One reviewer called it *"the harshest, most merciless indictment of Nazism ever written."* Its quality as an eye-witness account as well as a literary piece is immeasurable. In a cold, almost emotionless, analytical style Debreczeni examines the true nature of the camps, the mechanisms of slavery, the camps' social order, and the ways in which it constantly stripped people of their humanity. There is no familiarity, no comfort, no community, no heroism. *"Selfishness rules the primeval forest of filth and lice."*

Published originally in Hungarian in 1950 in Novi Sad, Yugoslavia, this shattering account is one of the first – maybe even the first work Holocaust literature published in communist Eastern Europe, moreover, openly acknowledging the specificity and enormity of the Nazi genocide against the Jews.

Now, more than seventy years after its first publication, Paul Olchvály's translation of this short and powerful book is poised to draw the attention of critics and find a worldwide audience spanning the general readers and academia alike.



József Debreczeni was the pen name of József Bruner, a prolific Hungarian-language writer and journalist in the Yugoslav region of Vojvodina and in Hungary. He was born in Budapest in 1905 and died in Belgrade in 1978. Debreczeni's works include novels, poetry collections, and plays. He was an editor of the Hungarian daily *Napló* and of the illustrated weekly *Únnep*. After the war he was a contributor to the Hungarian media in the Yugoslav region of Vojvodina, both for the daily *Magyar Szó* and for Radio Novi Sad, as well as leading Belgrade newspapers. Debreczeni was awarded the Híd (Bridge) Prize, the highest distinction in Hungarian literature in the former Yugoslavia.



**"As immediate a confrontation of the horrors of the camps as I've ever encountered. It's also a subtle if startling meditation on what it is to attempt to confront those horrors with word... Debreczeni has preserved a panoptic depiction of hell, at once personal, communal and atmospheric."**

—New York Times

**"By the end of his remarkable set of observational writings, the word 'worse' has lost all meaning."**

—The Guardian

# Dror Mishani

# CONVICTION

## Original title

Emuna

## Original publisher

Achuzat Bayit, 2021  
272 pages

German sample  
translation available



English (UK) Riverrun  
German Diogenes  
French Gallimard  
Italian e/o

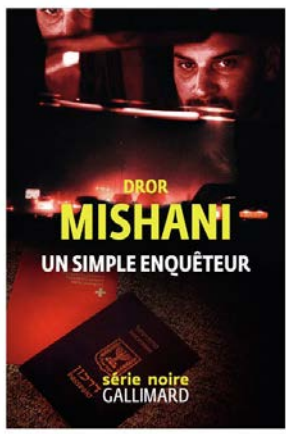
## Option Publishers

English (US) Europa Editions  
English (CA) Anansi  
Spanish Anagrama  
Catalan Grup Editorial 62  
Korean Bookrecipe  
Croatian Fraktura  
Greek Keimena Books  
Dutch Arbeiderspers  
Chinese (TWN) Ecus



Dror Mishani is an international bestselling crime writer, screenwriter and literary scholar, specializing in the history of crime fiction. His bestselling Inspector Avraham series (*The Missing File*, *A Possibility of Violence*, *The Man Who Wanted to Know*) was translated into more than 20 languages. They were shortlisted for the CWA international dagger award and the Grand Prix de Littérature Policière and won the prestigious Martin Beck award for best crime novel translated to Swedish and the Grand Prix du meilleur Polar de lecteurs de Points. A successful French cine movie (*Fleuve Noire*) and an Israeli TV series are based on the Inspector Avraham series. Its recent US adaptation is *The Calling*, a Peacock TV series, directed by Barry Levinson (*Rain Man*) and produced by David E. Kelley (*Big Little Lies*). Mishani's stand alone thriller *Three* was again an international bestseller, received the Prix Mystère de la Critique and is longlisted for the CWA Crime Fiction in Translation Dagger. An HBO TV adaptation of *Three* is in development.

Israel



**"A book that unfolds with an eerie, deliberate power; one to savour."**

—Martin Walker

**"Another jewel in the crown of a brilliant series"**

—Irish Independent

**"Mishani has succeeded again in following in the footsteps of his idols Simenon and Mankell."**

—WDR

Both investigations began on the same day. One seemed domestic, almost banal: a newborn is found in a bag outside a hospital and the woman who left it there is captured after a few hours. The second investigation appeared stranger and more intriguing: a Swiss tourist disappeared from a beach-hotel near Tel-Aviv, and a quick inquiry showed he had been using a fake passport and at least two names. Can he be a Mossad agent like his daughter claims? And is he in danger?

Inspector Avraham Avraham, wishing to outgrow his usual cases of domestic violence, is indifferent to the one, and seduced by the other. Soon he understands he made a wrong choice, as both investigations spiral into a maze of violence and deception, leading to Israel's darkest secrets – and threatening to put Avraham in conflict with the most powerful men in the country, who technically don't even exist.

CONVICTION is a successful synthesis of the emotionality of the previous Avraham cases and the fast-paced, highly suspenseful standalone novel, *Three*. Once again, Mishani delivers an almost unbearably tense story, both thrilling and emotionally involving. It is yet another triumph.

Dror Mishani proves once again: he is the indisputable spiritual heir of Georges Simenon (*Le Monde*).



**"The psychology of the characters, the sense of atmosphere, the skillful construction: Mishani delights us once again."**

—Le Figaro

**"The detective story is an art of manipulating the reader. And Dror Mishani is a master of this art."** —FranceInter

Dror Mishani

# WINDOW WITHOUT A VIEW

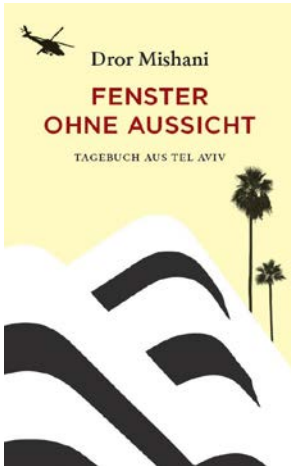
An Unheroic War Diary

**Original title**

Fenster ohne Aussicht.  
Tagebuch aus Tel Aviv

**Original publisher**

Diogenes, 2024  
150 pages



provisional cover

**"The big picture was never my thing. I'm interested in the little pictures, the little stories, the little people. This is what I want to tell."**

—Dror Mishani

Lack of imagination is deadly. If one does not dare to imagine it, there can never be peace.

With the terrorist attack by Hamas on Israel on October 7, 2023, everything suddenly changed also for the writer Dror Mishani. Between air raid alarms, discussions with his teenaged children at the kitchen table, volunteer work in salad fields and the attempt to live something resembling everyday life and to write in times of war, Dror Mishani records in these "writings from the safe room" how the Gaza war is changing Israeli society and his family – and holds on to the belief that suffering on both sides must stop.

Based on a long-read magazine piece this is the unheroic war diary of the bestselling Israeli author Dror Mishani. A searching and searing, multilayered and very well constructed text, reflecting the political in the personal – moving, sensitive, empathic with quiet anger but without hate.

*Don't invent anything, don't make anything up - just look closely and describe the image as you see it, the image of the murder of all against all, the image of the fire inferno that indiscriminately devours and consumes life. The image of a place that takes its own life.*

*And suddenly the view from my window disturbs me. The ruin that used to be the Museum of Independence. This is exactly how I saw Tel Aviv in my imagination, at the beginning of the war, which has just been interrupted.*

*And starting again the next day.*



**"A great text that reveals the complexity and contradictions!"**

**"A shimmering, captivating, disturbing piece of contemporary history!"**

**"These words leave me in silent admiration for the attempt to wrap a multi-layered perspective of human survival in a form of hope. I am deeply impressed."**

# Cătălin Partenie

## GOLDEN BURROW

Original title  
Vizuina De Aur

Original publisher  
Polirom, 2020  
176 pages



German Hoffmann &  
Campe  
Spanish Impedimenta  
Brazilian DBA Press

Original English  
manuscript available



Longlisted for the  
prize of the Festival  
international du premier  
roman 2021  
Traian Olteanu Prize  
Liviu Rebreanu Prize



Cătălin Partenie is a Romanian-Canadian philosopher, teaching at the National School of Political Studies in Bucharest. He studied at the Universities of Oxford, Glasgow, Heidelberg, and Québec. He is the editor of *Plato. Selected Myths* (Oxford's World Classics) and *Plato's Myths* (Cambridge UP). His short story *Gudrun* has earned an Honorable Mention at the Frank McCourt International Contest and has been published in *The Southampton Review*. *THE GOLDEN BURROW* is his first novel.



**"A moving and funny novel that speaks about the liberating power of music, even under tyranny. It is very difficult to signal any fault, it is a book close to a masterpiece."**

—La Razón

**"Cătălin Partenie tells a wonderfully tender coming-of-age story with light, anarchic humour."**

—NDR

*We would play every single day, Paul on drums, me on guitar. Then Oksana came in. She liked what we played. Then Paul left. I stayed. What about you? What would you choose? Music? Or freedom?*

Bucharest, 1988. Nicolae Ceaușescu's darkest years. Paul, a first-year philosophy student, wants to play the drums in a rock band but is expelled and ends up as the guard of a forgotten depot of a theatre. He spends all his time there with his girlfriend Oksana (a waitress who just finished high school) and his best friend Stefan (a first-year high school student who plays the guitar). Using stage furniture and props, Oksana builds inside the depot the interior of a home. They call it 'The Golden Burrow' and there they have the time of their lives. Oksana is pregnant but is afraid to tell Paul.

In April 1989, without telling anything to anyone, Paul swims across the Danube and defects. He is caught by the Yugoslavian authorities but can emigrate to Canada. However, in December he returns to Bucharest secretly, just after Ceaușescu has fled his headquarters. In the chaos that follows he is shot dead in front of Muzica, the city's biggest record store.

Almost 30 years later, Paul's son Victor contacts Stefan and asks him to write down all that he can remember about his father. Stefan, however, is an unreliable narrator, and Victor will have to imagine for himself what kind of man his father was.

A funny, heart-breaking, but ultimately uplifting story about the power of rock 'n roll behind the Iron Curtain.



**"A journey through time that seems timeless"** —Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

**"Catalin Partenie writes with a disarming sincerity."**

—omiedesemne.ro

**"This book can be read in many ways, in many keys, although its main theme is universal: music as a way to build up a strong friendship. I would also recommend it to young people."**

—Deutschlandradio Kultur

**"A tragicomic story from Ceausescu's final years, (...), a mixture of memoir, coming-of-age novel (...), a strong, late literary debut."**

—Frankfurter Allgemeine Sonntagszeitung



# Cătălin Partenie

# PLATO AND US

## A Dialogue

Original manuscript in English  
34'000 words



Illustration by George  
Anghelescu to the first chapter  
of PLATO AND US

PLATO AND US is an original, out-of-the-box fictional dialogue about Plato's *Republic* and our world. It is both philosophical and literary; it offers the reader an engaging but not simplified introduction to Plato's *Republic*, and the experience of doing philosophy, instead of being lectured about Plato and philosophy.

Five friends meet for dinner in Paris, and soon enough they set out by discussing whether Plato's *Republic* is a comedy or a tragedy. On the face of it, Plato argues that only reason is capable of solving all the injustices. In discussing whether the *Republic* is a comedy or a tragedy, the five characters of PLATO AND US come to a somewhat different conclusion: justice can be achieved only by an alliance of reason and love. And this is what Plato ultimately expects from his readers: critical engagement with what he says. PLATO AND US is addressed to readers with no background in Plato but with an interest in philosophy and the current global problems.



**"I have read it with much pleasure; it is clear and instructive, it mixes the serious and the playful, and – so far as I am aware – it is original both in conception and in execution."**

– Jonathan Barnes (Fellow of the British Academy and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, Professor Emeritus of Ancient Philosophy at Oxford, Geneva and Paris Sorbonne)

**"It is very stylishly crafted, with a nice balance of seriousness and wit; the characters are strongly etched; and the dramatic construction is well sustained. The dialectic between pro and contra – as well as the tragedy/comedy theme – is stimulating for the reader. There are lots of clever, thought-provoking modern threads woven into the discussion."**

– Stephen Halliwell (Fellow of the British Academy and the Royal Society of Edinburgh, Wardlaw Professor Emeritus of Classics, St Andrews University, UK)



# Aris Fioretos

# THE THIN GODS

## Original title

De Tunna Guardana

## Original publisher

Norstedts, 2022  
500 pages



German Hanser

English translation  
sample available



**“An elegant novel about rockstar Ache Middler, an Apollinian figure in a Dionysian sphere, a (fairly) clearheaded artist among much wilder colleagues, which brings him success and misfortune in equal measure. The story is brittle and beautiful. Fioretos has always been a masterful narrator.”**

—Expressen

*“I feel a strong and sinewy liberation in writing about people from other circumstances, whose experiences I have not had, perhaps cannot have. The satisfaction I get from learning what is foreign to me is that much deeper. Literature about myself? No, thank you. I want out of my skin.”*

Ache Middler – aging rock musician in exile, ill of health – receives a letter from the woman he spent a night with twelve years ago. It’s the second time she’s writing, now as then about the daughter she had. The woman asks him to examine himself “inside and out”. In twenty letters to his unknown child, Ache describes proud dreams. The years of hunger. His recklessness. What happens if everything in life can become art? Is loneliness the price of independence? How do you live with a past that doesn’t go away?

A novel about longing and vulnerability, nerves and electricity, *The Thin Gods* takes us from an imaginary Alaska to downtown New York, from Thatcherite London and Berlin after 9/11 to a refugee camp on Europe’s south-eastern edge, and possibly to both hell and heaven. This is the life-story of a person set aflame.

The 1970s punk scene in downtown New York is well-chronicled and much adored. *The Thin Gods* is the untold story of someone who, untempted by Dionysian excesses, sides with Apollo, searching for that elevation which alone makes art worthwhile.



Of Greek and Austrian extraction, Aris Fioretos was born and raised in Sweden. Apart from fiction and essays, he has published studies on Friedrich Hölderlin, Paul Celan, and Nelly Sachs, and translated early works by Paul Auster, ten novels by Vladimir Nabokov, and contemporary poetry by Jo Shapcott and Jan Wagner. Among numerous international awards – e.g. Swedish Radio’s Nobel Prize, the Jeanette Schocken Prize, the Kellgren and Essay Prizes of the Swedish Academy – Fioretos has received the Order of Merit from the Federal Republic of Germany. From 2004 to 2007, he was Sweden’s cultural attaché in Berlin, between 2012 and 2019 vice president of the German Academy. Since 2022, he is also a member of the Akademie der Künste in Berlin. He has received several fellowships, e.g. from The Getty Center, DAAD Künstlerprogramm and American Academy, both in Berlin, as well as All Souls College, Oxford. He lives in Stockholm with his wife, who is a gallerist, and his daughter.

Sweden



**“This fall’s Big American Novel is Swedish.”**

—ETC Nyhetsmagasin

**“THE THIN GODS is vibrating with the ecstasy of rock’n’roll.”**

—Dagens Nyheter

## Five questions for Aris Fioretos

*Tell us about your new novel!*

It must have been in 1976. At that time there was a program on Swedish radio Sunday nights between ten and midnight. For a couple of hours, the two broadcasting anarchists, Kjell Alinge and Janne Forssell, mixed staggering prattle with music. One night they played an unknown New York band that had just released their first single. The group was called Television, the song "Little Johnny Jewel." I was blown away. This was feeling and electricity, this was night and neon and subtle chutzpah. The next day I exchanged kronor for dollars and sent the bills in an envelope to Ork Records. A couple of weeks later I was the proud owner of a record with a blood red label but no proper cover. Since then I must have played Television's records thousands of times. Theirs was the first music to make me realize that, in art, things could be combined that I thought didn't go together: coolness and nerves, serenity and transcendence. The novel is my belated thanks for this insight – twenty letters from an aging rock star to his unknown daughter, with an epilogue as long as a man's hope for redemption.

*Who is the main protagonist, Ache Middler?*

Born 1949 in Delaware. Twin. Still, a loner. Early aficionado

of thunderstorms and fire. Uninterested in drugs, but open to artistic forms of expansion. Lover of poetry and perfect sanity. Citizen of Alphabet City on Lower Manhattan. Frontman of The Apollo Boys, later of Transmission. Escapee from heaven. Left his band in 1978. Lived for a few years in London in the 1980s, and much longer in Berlin after 9/11. Experiences love – first with Trish Kelly, who, like him, seeks to blend rock with poetry, later with Edie, who has problems with her eyesight and always wears sunglasses, finally with the German-Turkish visual artist Ona, whom he calls Why and cannot live without. Ache commits many mistakes, almost always because he feels his independence is being threatened. Only late in life, after something he should never have done, does he change and seek to make amends.

*The thin gods, who are they?*

An early reviewer of Transmission, reminiscent of Patti Smith, who also reviewed concerts before her career as a musician took off, believes that the band members are "thin gods alike." She probably means they are of that lanky sort with limbs like string beans and skin the pale sheen of the moon. But before Ache's Jewish bubbe dies, she tells her grandson that people you love but lose – relatives, friends, partners – instead of disappearing live on in thinner spheres. Sometimes you feel them at the temples, fluttering. Possibly the figures in the book's title are a bit of both – deceased yet undead beings with a special sense of electrified ether.

*So this is a novel about sex, drugs and rock'n'roll?*

Oh, my protagonist merely happens to be a rock musician. The book is really about being an artist and what happens when you sacrifice everything for your work. It examines the vexed business of keeping the flame alive in a windy world.

*So no sex or drugs, and just a little rock'n'roll?!?*

Rest assured, the novel gives plenty of room to various ways in which minds may be expanded. But I didn't want to portray a world familiar enough from countless accounts in papers and glossy magazines, and lately also from biopics. What interested me was the life of a man who, although boyish in many ways, grows old in a culture devoted to youth and its exuberance. It's about feeling invisible but having a spine, about Ache's "masculine material", as a person close to him puts it, as well as that vulnerability without which art oddly enough cannot survive. Apart from that, there are thunderstorms and car crashes and much fire. There are even some stairways to heaven.



**"The novel is intense, beautiful, melancholy and written with great feeling for the music and literature that play such big roles in the life of its protagonist. 5 out of 5!"**

—Bibliotekstjänst

# Catalin Dorian Florescu

# THE FIRE TOWER

Original title  
Der Feuerturm

Original publisher  
C.H.Beck, 2022  
335 pages



Romanian Humanitas



**"Florescu follows with his latest novel the concept of all his previous novels: to tell adventurous, exciting stories that are captivating from the first sentence to the last."**

—Die Furche

**"A vivid journey through time and Bucharest."**

—Kleine Zeitung



The story of a family over five generations  
A novel about friendship, love and a treacherous betrayal  
A great social and urban novel from Bucharest

Prizewinning author Catalin Dorian Florescu has written a lucid multi-generational saga of a family of firemen in Bucharest, spanning over a century of Romanian history, and emphasising the relentless march of history, shifting perspectives and a sense of resilience through time. With a sweeping range of characters and events and its motif of the fire tower refracted through multiple timeframes, Florescu's novel is reminiscent of Seehalter's *Ein Ganzes Leben*, William Golding's *The Spire* and Koestler's *Darkness at Noon*.

When it was constructed in 1892, Bucharest's Fire Tower was the tallest building in the city. In 1989, during the uprising against the communist dictatorship, it is long gone, but it was witness to an eventful century. Victor Stoica, whose family has provided fire-fighters and lived by the tower for generations, is the first to break with this tradition. But his life, scarred by a treacherous betrayal, is nevertheless all about the tower. Victor, victim of repression, who had to go through hell, experiences in 1989, against all expectations, that it is possible to hope for freedom and happiness after all.

In his captivating novel, Catalin Dorian Florescu tells of the vicissitudes of history, of family and friendship, betrayal and love, of the power of resilience and of the changing, colorful and at times sad life in this metropolis. Featuring five generations of Stoicas and a wealth of unforgettable characters, with quiet humor, incorruptible and yet always sustained by hope, THE FIRE TOWER is a great, stirring reading experience.

Florescu's fluid and evocative prose captures the arc of history and its impact on individuals, interleaving betrayal, cynicism, humour and humanity.

Catalin Dorian Florescu was born in 1967 in Timisoara, Romania, where he spent his childhood and youth. In 1982 he and his parents managed to escape from Romania into permanent emigration in Switzerland – he now is a Swiss citizen. He studied psychology and worked for several years as psychotherapist in drug rehabilitation. His first novel *Time of Wonders* received great critical acclaim and several prizes, including the Chamisso-Förderpreis, the Anna-Seghers-Preis and the Hermann-Lenz Scholarship. His novel *Jacob Decides to Love* was awarded the Swiss Book Prize 2011. He lives in Zurich.



**"A moving and stirring novel, which impressively brings the center of Europe into view for the West, especially in times of war in Ukraine"**

—Frankfurter Allgemeine

**"Catalin Dorian Florescu has once again written a captivating novel in which research and fiction are combined in colourful images."**

—Sächsische Zeitung

**"You will get carried away by this narrator - let's hope he will never stop telling stories."**

—Neue Zürcher Zeitung

# Christian Haller

## CLEARING MISTS

### Original title

Sich lichtende Nebel

### Original publisher

Luchterhand, 2023  
128 pages



**Danish** Jensen & Dalgaard



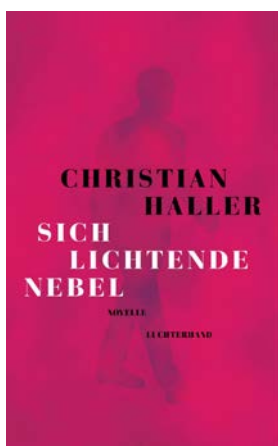
Winner of the Swiss Book Award 2023

20'000 copies sold



**Christian Haller**, born in 1943 in Brugg, is a Swiss "novelist of the highest rank" (*Neue Zürcher Zeitung*). He studied zoology at Basel University and for several years headed the department of social studies at the Gottlieb-Duttweiler-Institute. He also looked after the estate of Swiss philosopher and writer Adrien Turel. Haller has written and published over 12 novels and several novellas and short stories and poetry collections. He has been awarded many literary grants and has spent time writing in Berlin and Bucharest. In 2006 he has been awarded the Aargauer Literaturpreis, in 2007 the Schillerpreis and in 2015 the Kunstpreis des Kantons Aargau. He lives in Laufenburg/Switzerland.

Switzerland



**A novella about Werner Heisenberg and the creation of a new world.**

**"This is a magnificent book. A masterpiece. Christian Haller shows us, succinctly, what literature can do."**

—SRF 1 Literaturclub

Copenhagen 1925: A man appears in the cone of a lantern's light, disappears again into the darkness, and reappears in the light of the next lantern. Where has he been in the meantime? For the observer of this scene, Werner Heisenberg, it leads to the development of a theory that will eventually result in a completely new view of the world: quantum mechanics. The man in the dark himself knows nothing of the role he has played in the discovery of new physical laws - he is trying to cope with the loss of his wife and giving his life a new direction. Christian Haller, who continues to narrate these two lifelines linked by chance, turns the story into a lucid literary conundrum about grief and loneliness, the limits of our knowledge, and the question of how the new comes into our world.

**"Literature and physics are rarely as close as they are here. Christian Haller captures this closeness in a decidedly delightful, clever way."**

— Keystone-SDA



**"Who are we, who were we, who will we be? Haller asks this over and over again, inventing reflector figures who say 'I' for him."**

—Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

**"Christian Haller's story plays a philosophical game in which much is not what it seems. Facts and imaginations overlap."**

—NZZ



# Peter Stamm

## IN A DARK BLUE HOUR

### Original title

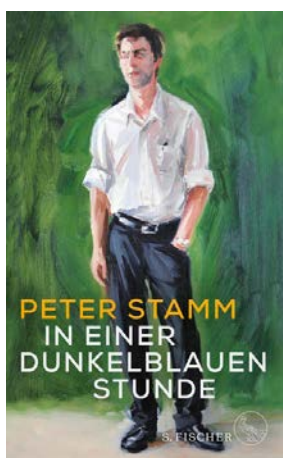
In einer dunkelblauen Stunde

### Original publisher

S. Fischer, 2023  
256 pages



World English Other Press  
French Christian Bourgois  
Spanish Acantilado  
Catalan Quaderns Crema  
Turkish Tudem



**"In a subtly sophisticated novel, the writer as voice and as person takes a step back behind the text. It is not the artist but his work that takes centre role."**

—Süddeutsche Zeitung

**"For a quarter of a century Stamm has been describing in an unobtrusive, almost transparent language what is hidden in unspectacular existences."**

—Tagesanzeiger

A novel about a writer and the secrets of his life.

For days, documentary filmmaker Andrea and her team have been waiting for Richard Wechsler in his hometown in Switzerland. During the first shootings in Paris, the famous writer had not wanted to reveal much about himself and now the whole film threatens to fail. In the small streets and alleys of the village, Andrea searches for traces of Wechsler's life, contrary to the agreement. But it is not until she starts reading his books again that she discovers a clue to a childhood sweetheart who might still be living in the small town. A childhood love that influenced his whole life and that no one ever knew about.



**Peter Stamm**, born in 1963, had his international breakthrough with his debut novel *Agnes* in 1998. Since then, his books have been translated into more than 30 languages. In 2013 he was on the shortlist for the International Booker Prize. Stamm's writing has been compared to Chekhov and Camus as well as American storytellers such as Raymond Carver, Richard Ford and Ernest Hemingway. Peter Stamm has been awarded several prizes, such as the Friedrich-Hölderlin-Prize (2014) and the Swiss Book Award (2018).



**"It is a playful book, labyrinthine in construction, with as much comedy and irony as no other work by this author to date. A profound reading pleasure."**

—SWR

**"Stamm [is a] gifted player of the game with literary identities, builder of double bottoms and a brilliant explorer of human possibilities."**

—Die Welt

**"Of great comic lightness"**

—Neue Zürcher Zeitung



# Switzerland

On the one hand yes, on the other hand you can't or shouldn't know everything about a fictional character either. Every person needs a secret. In the best case, one can make this secret perceptible in writing and preserve it without revealing it. That would perhaps be the most beautiful task of the writer: to make us feel the richness of a character without exposing it.

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## THE ARCHIVE OF FEELINGS

### Original title

Das Archiv der Gefühle

### Original Publisher

S. Fischer, 2021  
256 pages



French Christian Bourgois  
World English Other Press  
Spanish Acanilado  
Catalan Quaderns Crema  
Italian Casagrande  
Turkish Tudem  
Slovenian LUD



**"A gently told, melancholically colored novel that asks big questions without grand gestures – a gem."**

—Rainer Moritz, Neue Zürcher Zeitung

**"Of such stylistic grace, Peter Stamm is a master of the middle tone and the floating melancholy."**

—Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

**"The first sforzando in the chorus of corona novels, which succeeds in bringing the social psychopathology of the past year and a half to a poetic term."**

—Deutschlandfunk



## WHEN IT GETS DARK

### Original title

Wenn es dunkel wird

### Original Publisher

S. Fischer, 2020  
192 pages



World English Other Press  
Spanish Acanilado  
Catalan Quaderns Crema



**"Resolute laconicism from an experienced narrator and effortless artistry that impresses."**

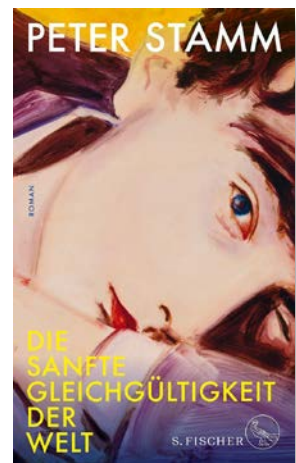
—Frankfurter Rundschau

**"Stamm drills worm holes in everyday life. These stories begin quite harmlessly and stage feelings at turning points in life."**

—Deutschlandfunk Kultur

**"A Peter Stamm short story is still among the most remarkable things you can read."**

—SRF 2



## THE SWEET INDIFFERENCE OF THE WORLD

### Original title

Die sanfte Gleichgültigkeit der Welt

### Original publisher

S. Fischer, 2018  
160 pages



World English Other Press  
French Christian Bourgois  
Spanish Acanilado  
Catalan Quaderns Crema  
Swedish Thoren & Lindskog  
Czech Albatros  
Italian Casagrande  
Croatian Fraktura  
Greek Kastaniotis  
Chinese Shanghai 99  
Korea Moonji Publishing  
Turkish Paloma Yayinevi  
Uzbek Akademnashr  
Albanian Aleph Klub  
Russian Aletheia  
Georgian IBIS  
Armenian Mashtots  
Farsi OFOQ  
Ukrainian VBookXX



**"Excellent. This amorphous tale folds in on itself, becoming a meditation on how memory can distort reality. Fans of Julian Barnes will love this."**

—Publishers Weekly

# KAFKA LES DESSINS



LES CAHIERS • DESSINS

Andreas Kilcher (Ed.)  
**FRANZ KAFKA:  
THE DRAWINGS**  
With an Essay by Judith  
Butler

**Original title**  
Franz Kafka: Die Zeichnungen

**Original publisher**  
C.H.Beck, 2021  
368 pages



World English Yale UP  
French Cahiers dessinés  
Italian Adelphi  
Spanish Galaxia Gutenberg  
Dutch Athenaeum  
Polish Wydawnictwo Literackie  
Japanese Misuzu Shobo  
Chinese Citic  
Georgian Ibis  
Korean Munhakdongne Publishing  
Hebrew Blima Books



**"Kafka, this absorbing book shows, was both artist and art-lover: inspired by Asian art, he explored line in defiance of gravity, drawing as a counterpoint to script. An intriguing volume, with Butler's essay as the highlight."**

—Katie Trumpener, Yale University

MADAME NIELSEN

# DAS MONSTER



Kochverlag  
P.O. Box 100

Madame Nielsen  
**THE MONSTER**

**Original title**  
The Monster

**Original publisher**  
Gyldendal, 2018  
220 pages



German Kiepenheuer & Witsch  
French Notabilia (rights reverted)  
Spanish Minúscula  
Norwegian Pelikanen



**There is no comparable literary substance so addictive in contemporary literature."**

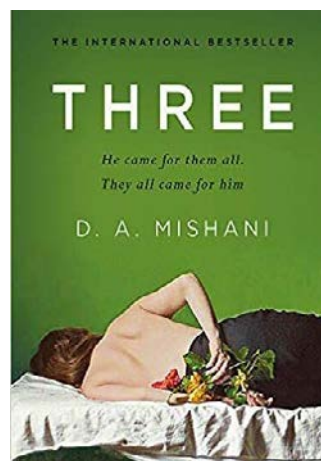
—ZDF, Das Literarische Quartett

**"An irresistible experiment."**

—WDR 5

**"Madame Nielsen, or whoever she is, can write so that I sometimes levitate from the couch. It takes many exceptional authors to make one Madame, so dear reader, just let yourself get invaded."**

Weekendavisen



Dror Mishani  
**THREE**

**Original title**  
Shalosh

**Original publisher**  
Achuzat Bayit, 2018  
245 pages



English (UK) Quercus/riverrun  
English (US) Europa Editions  
English (CA) Anansi  
German Diogenes  
French Gallimard  
Italian e/o  
Spanish Anagrama  
Catalan Grup Editorial 62  
Korean Bookrecipe  
Croatian Fraktura  
Greek Keimena Books  
Dutch Arbeiderspers  
Chinese (TWN) Ecus  
Russian Text  
Film and TV rights sold



Prix Mystère de la Critique

Longlisted for the CWA Crime Fiction in Translation Dagger

Shortlisted for Grand Prix de Littérature Policlière

Shortlisted for the Sapir Prize

13 weeks the #1 bestseller in Israel

26 consecutive weeks a top-twenty Spiegel-bestseller in Germany, 80'00 copies sold



**Susanne Fritz**  
**THEY LEFT US WAR  
 AND SILENCE**

**Original title**  
 Wie kommt der Krieg ins Kind

**Original publisher**  
 Wallstein, 2018  
 268 pages



Nominated for the German  
 Book Prize



**“A very personal book, but  
 at the same time highly  
 elucidating and politically  
 topical.”**

—Deutschlandfunk Büchermarkt

**“It’s hard to imagine how a  
 contemporary work of litera-  
 ture could reach more deep-  
 ly into the heart of current  
 discourse than this one.”**

—Süddeutsche Zeitung

**“For those who want to  
 know the past in order to  
 understand the present.”**

—Der Standard

**“Susanne Fritz’s touching  
 and insightful book shows  
 how deeply injuries to our  
 parents and grandparents  
 are inscribed in our genes  
 and souls.” —MDR Kultur**



**Christian Haller**  
**THUNDER AND  
 LIGHTNING**  
 A Brief History of the Light  
 in which We Place Ourselves

**Original title**  
 Blitzgewitter

**Original publisher**  
 Matthes & Seitz, 2022  
 108 pages



**“Haller traces light through  
 the centuries like a ray  
 catcher with a preserving  
 jar, across the twin forces  
 of relativity theory and  
 quantum physics and into  
 the networked production  
 machinery of contemporary  
 social media. In this way, the  
 history of technology inter-  
 twines with human self-ex-  
 ploration, physical findings  
 with philosophical musings  
 to form a dense narrative  
 web that attempts to capture  
 nothing less than light itself.  
 As old as the question of  
 light is, the insights are fresh  
 and entertaining thanks to  
 their aphoristic brevity and  
 linguistic clarity. Reading  
 this thought-provoking  
 essay, one can follow the  
 light as it constantly shapes  
 the way we look at ourselves  
 and the way we relate to  
 each other.”**

—Die ZEIT



**Thomas Blubacher**  
**WEIMAR UNDER PALM  
 TREES: PACIFIC PALI-  
 SADES**  
 The Invention of Hollywood  
 and the Legacy of German  
 Exile

**Original title**  
 Weimar unter Palmen  
 — Pacific Palisades

**Original publisher**  
 Piper, 2022  
 272 pages



World English Brandeis UP  
 Translation rights controlled by  
 Piper Verlag



**“An immensely rewarding  
 read.”**

—Neue Zürcher Zeitung

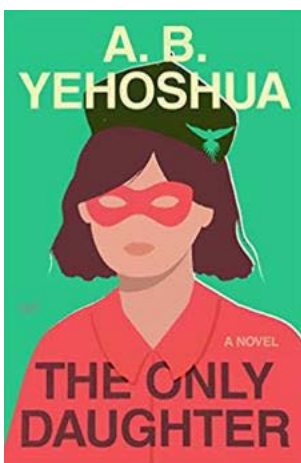
**“An astonishing panorama  
 of different art movements  
 of the 20th century and their  
 mutual influences.”**

—Büchermagazin

**“A very vivid description of  
 lives in exile under palm  
 trees.”**

—Börsenblatt





**A.B. Yehoshua**  
**THE ONLY**  
**DAUGHTER**

**Original title**

Habat Hayechida

**Original publisher**

Hakibbutz Hameuchad, 2021  
165 pages



English (US) HarperVia  
English (UK) Halban  
Italian Einaudi  
French Grasset



**"A wise, masterfully understated work by one of Israel's towering literary figures."** –Kirkus Reviews (starred review)

**"Israel's premier storyteller, has given us a mature masterpiece of modest proportions – fresh, surprising, polished in its every detail."**  
–Dan Miron, Ha'aretz

**"Free of cynicism but imbued with a heartfelt and optimistic view of humanity – in other words, a book filled with feeling and moral values."**

–The New York Times



**Otto de Kat**  
**THE HOUR OF THE**  
**ELEPHANT**

**Original title**

Het Uur van de Olifant

**Original publisher**

Van Oorschot, 2021  
224 pages



German Schöffling & Co.



**"Otto de Kat always succeeds brilliantly in condensing great historical events into impressive little masterpieces."** –Aargauer Zeitung

**"Fascinating characters and an intriguing novel about the psychological consequences of warfare."** –NRC Handelsblad

**"An inspired novel"**

–De Volkskrant

**"Beautiful, crystal-clear prose, a pageturner"**

–Medish Contact



**Ari Folman & Lena Gubermann**  
**WHERE IS ANNE FRANK?**  
A graphic novel based on the new animated motion picture by Ari Folman

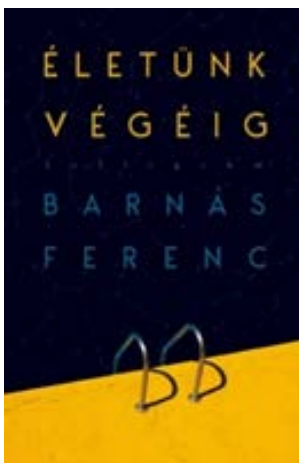


French Calmann Lévy  
English (NA) Pantheon  
English (UK) Viking  
German S. Fischer  
Dutch Prometheus  
Italian Einaudi  
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Hebrew Kinneret  
Brazil Record  
Portugal Porto Editora  
Slovenian Morfemplus

**Watch the official movie trailer**

[www.wherisannefrank.com](http://www.wherisannefrank.com)





**Ferenc Barnás**  
**TO THE END**  
**OF OUR LIVES**

Original title  
Életünk Végéig

Original publisher  
Kalligram, 2019  
455 pages



German Schöffling & Co.



Winner of the Milán Füst Prize 2019

"Best book of the year" 2019 in Hungary

Shortlisted for the AEGON Prize

Shortlisted for the Libri Prize



**„Barnás can be counted as one of the most important writers in Hungary.”**

—Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

**“The sheer number of microcosms being set into motion: virtuosic.”**

—Rvizononline

**“Ferenc Barnás is a legend among those who know him.”**

—László Krasznahorkai



**Nir Baram**  
**THE WORLD IS A**  
**RUMOR**

Original title  
Haolam hu shmua

Original publisher  
Yediot Books, 2021  
262 pages



Dutch De Bezige Bij



**“A dazzling portrait of youth and love on the one hand, and fatherhood and love on the other. Baram’s ability to crack open the nature of human existence, the fascinating plot, the combination of Israeli reality and a world of mystery – are just part of the book’s power. It is a contemporary and original masterpiece.”**

—e-vrit, critic’s choice, Anat Einhar

**“Baram is a first-rate writer. And he is a sorcerer, a master in portraying complicated and complex relationships. An exciting book that deals with the most complex issues, and is still very readable.”**

—Yediot Ahronot



**Ron Leshem**  
**WHEN WE WERE**  
**BEAUTIFUL**

Original title  
Yafim Kemo Shehayanu

Original publisher  
Kinneret-Zmora Bitan, Dvir, 2020



German Rowohlt Berlin



**“An exquisite novel. Leshem has the rare ability to write with breathtaking authenticity and the result is a significant work of literature. Rich with empathy, written by a confident author, dramatic and astonishing. You will sink in the ocean of Leshem’s creation and never want to come up for air.”**

—Makor Rishon

**“A sumptuous book, full of surprising twists, painfully beautiful emotions, drama and poetry.”**

—Die Presse

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