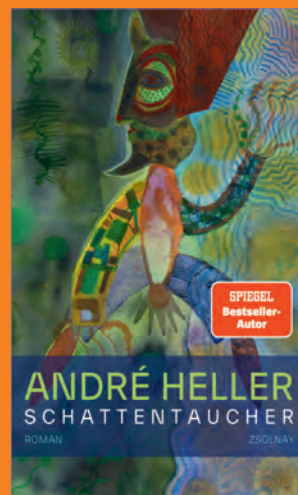


FOREIGN RIGHTS SPRING 2024

ZSOLNAY  VERLAG



Contact: Annette Lechner
Prinz-Eugen-Straße 30
1040 Wien | Austria

phone: +43-1-505 7661 12
mail: annette.lechner@zsolnay.at
<http://foreignrights.hanser.de>



»Compelling
madness of
the highest
calibre.«

Cathrin Kahlweit, Süddeutsche Zeitung

Elias Hirschl

was born in Vienna in 1994, where he lives and works as a writer, slam poet and musician. He received the Reinhard Priessnitz Prize in 2020. His publications include: *Meine Freunde haben Adolf Hitler getötet und alles, was sie mir mitgebracht haben, ist dieses lausige T-Shirt* (2016), *Hundert schwarze Nähmaschinen* (2017) and most recently published by Zsolnay *Salonfähig* (2021).

- Literary, political, prophetic
- »A rigorous and relentless observer who breathlessly takes things to the limit.« Bernd Noack, SPIEGEL ONLINE
- Winner of the Bachmann Prize Audience Award 2022

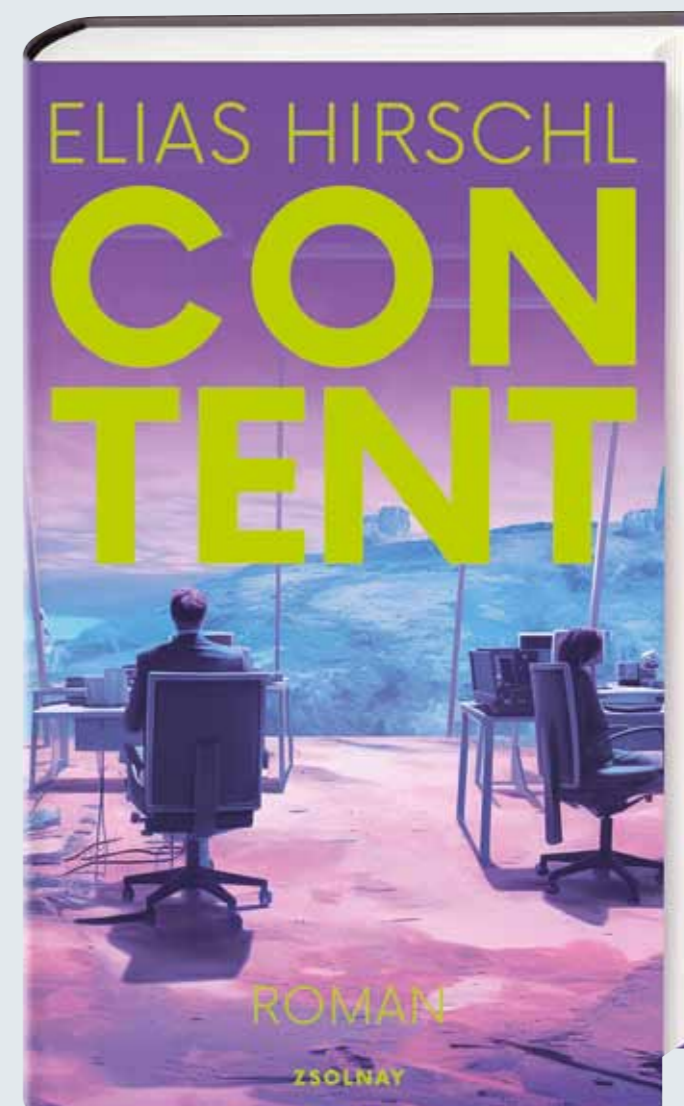
ELIAS HIRSCHL

English sample
translation
available

The world is ending. But until then, the narrator of Elias Hirschl's new novel is forced to hang onto her shitty job, which is soon to be taken over by AI tools. She works at the *Smile Smile Inc.* content farm, where she writes meaningless listicles aimed at baiting clicks. In her spare time, she dates Jonas, who constantly launches new start-ups and tells himself that this time round, he'll hit the big time – until he ends up in a clinic with symptoms of burnout.

Elias Hirschl's spot-on reflections highlight the sense and nonsense of work contexts and relationships in a deindustrialised world. His characters are fascinating, witty, absurd, and very close to real life, especially how in they talk.

With *Content*, Hirschl has once again achieved »a perfect satire of the highest level« (Neue Zürcher Zeitung), this time about the ChatGPT Generation. Political, prophetic and funny, at least until the laughter gets stuck in your throat.



Sales

Selected backlist:

Salonfähig: Croatian (Leykam International)



Elias Hirschl
Content

224 pages
January 2024

»Toxische Pommes is funny online – and as a writer. But these gems of stories that make up a Balkan mosaic, pack a punch with their emotion, absurdity and political narrative. As a whole, they are a huge find.«

SAŠA STANIŠIĆ

»Funny, sensitive, affectionate, self-deprecating, laconic – and sad, but you'll only know that once you stop grinning.«

VERENA ALTENBERGER

»This book has a bone-dry humour and is often quite brutal, and when you've got used to this combination, you'll be taken by surprise by tender melancholy.«

JOSEF HADER

174.000 followers on Instagram +++ 93.500 followers on TikTok

TOXISCHE POMMES





»I don't know whether it hurts more to be pulled from your roots or never to have taken root in the first place.«

In real life **Toxische Pommes** is called Irina. She's in her early thirties and works as a lawyer in Vienna. She has been a comedy hit on TikTok and Instagram, where she has hundreds of thousands of followers and plays to sold-out audiences in the cabaret programme *Ketchup, Mayo & Ajvar*.

• **How to become the perfect immigrant?**

• **»A hilarious, dazzling satire«**

Süddeutsche Zeitung

TOXISCHE POMMES

English sample translation available

The narrator's family escapes to Austria because of the Balkan war when she is still a very small child. They find refuge with a family close to Vienna, but their host, a teacher, demands housework and ›friendship‹ duties in exchange for her hospitality.

So the mother cleans, cooks and waits on the host even though she is a qualified pharmacist. Meanwhile, the girl's father, a trained engineer, can't find work as he doesn't speak German and thus becomes increasingly relegated to the role of father and house husband.

In the second part, the narrator blossoms into the perfect, ultra-integrated immigrant child, complete with citizenship, a university degree and a job in the civil service.

On her path to becoming the perfect immigrant child the wonderfully laconic *Toxische Pommes* parodies Balkan mentality and hipsterism, and exposes everyday microaggressions. A touching, funny novel that speaks from the heart to many people's experiences.



Sales

All rights available

Toxische Pommes
The Perfect Immigrant Child

208 pages
March 2024

»A story
carousel in
61 images –
André Heller's
narrative magic
lantern lights
up the sky over
Vienna.« Josef Winkler



André Heller

was born in 1947 in Vienna. He divides his time between Vienna, Marrakech and travelling. In 2016, his novel *Das Buch vom Süden* was published by Zsolnay and sold more than 100.000 copies. Further publications by Zsolnay include *Uhren gibt es nicht mehr. Gespräche mit meiner Mutter in ihrem 102. Lebensjahr* and *Zum Weinen schön, zum Lachen bitter. Erzählungen aus vielen Jahren* (2020).

- The rediscovery of the debut novel of one of the most versatile artists and writers of our time

- With a text by Josef Winkler

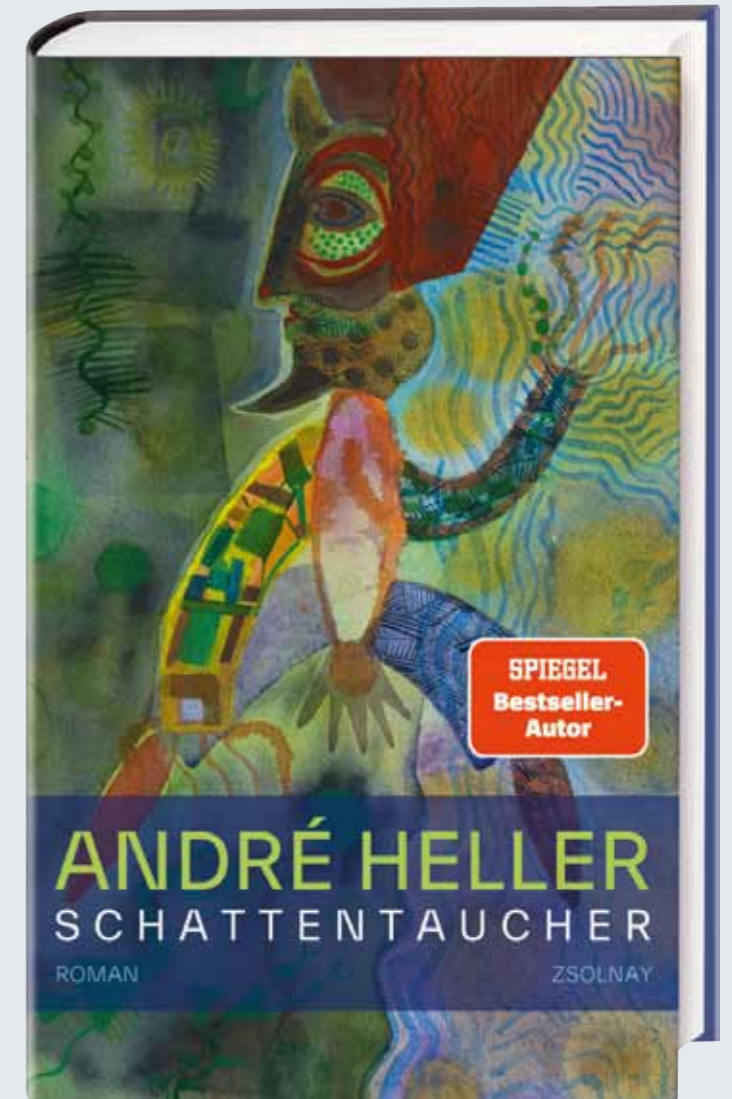
ANDRÉ HELLER

»I know you,« said the man, »you're Mr. Alt, Ferdinand or something. Your father was a meschuggener, a fool, but hardworking . . . your mother was the most famous dancer at Hakoah festivals...«

Nightly strolls, erotic excursions, dreams and fantasies – a novel made up of 61 descriptions that begin in the present tense and reach increasingly further back into the childhood of piano tuner Ferdinand Alt. André Heller pieces them together to paint a portrait of Vienna, his hometown, and at the same time of his protagonist. A magical puzzle of anecdote and autobiography.

»Austria is the greatest country in the world,« said Uncle Schlesinger at supper yesterday. »You've got Mozart and Beethoven, Schubert and Brahms, Ziehrer and Arnold Schönberg. A country of never-ending delights.«

André Heller



Sales

All rights available

André Heller

Shadow Diver

61 Descriptions from
the Life of Ferdinand Alt

176 pages
February 2024



»What distinguishes Glattauer is not only his wit, but also his eye for extraordinary perspectives.«

Tanja Kummer, SRF

Daniel Glattauer

born in Vienna in 1960, is a journalist and writer. His E-mail novels *Gut gegen Nordwind* (2006) and *Alle sieben Wellen* (2009) became international bestsellers and were translated into 40 languages. Further books are *Darum* (2003), *Der Weihnachtshund* (2004), *Ewig Dein* (2012) and *Geschenkt* (2014) and some theatre plays such as *Die Wunderübung* (2014), *Vier Stern Stunden* (2018) and *Die Liebe Geld* (2020).

- Exposing society's double standards
- New novel by the author of the international bestsellers *Gut gegen Nordwind* and *Alle sieben Wellen*
- Filmrights for the production of a series sold

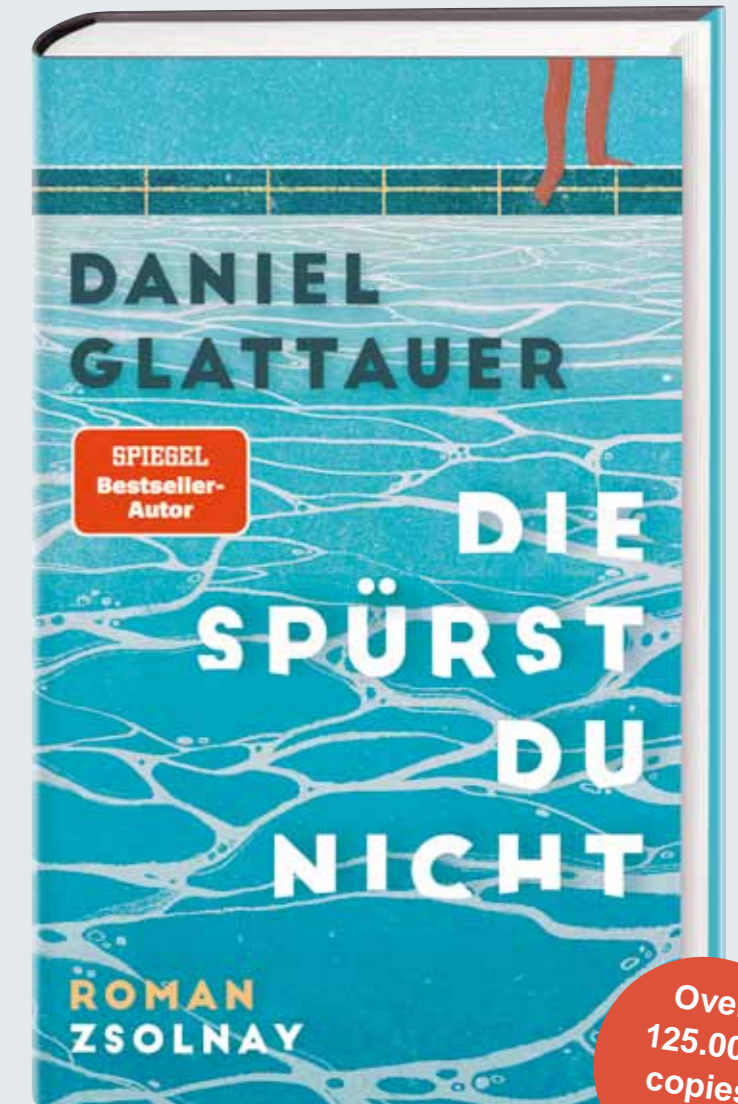
DANIEL GLATTAUER

English sample translation available

Two families, the Binders and the Strobl-Marineks, are treating themselves to a luxury holiday in Tuscany. Engelbert Binder is a charming wine-maker, his considerably younger wife Melanie a failed actress. Oskar Marinek is a cynical humanities scholar, and his wife Elisa Strobl-Marinek is a successful politician for the Green Party. Sophie Luise, the Strobl-Marinek's teen daughter, has brought along a schoolmate to fight the boredom. Her name is Aayana, a child refugee from Somalia. But no sooner has the holiday mood begun with chilled prosecco and antipasti than catastrophe strikes.

You Don't See Them is a novel about relationships in the style we have come to expect from Glattauer. And it's a court drama – a genre he is particularly apt at writing after working for years as a court reporter.

The novel uses many text styles (blog posts, E-mails, comments, newspaper articles and dialogues) and thus presents a 'best-of' in Glattauer's repertoire. Glattauer uses these elements to take a snapshot of morality in a privileged society, exposing its double standards and lending a voice to those who have virtually none.



Over 125.000 copies sold

Sales

Croatia (Hena Com), Italy (Feltrinelli)

Translated into 40 languages



Daniel Glattauer
You Don't See Them

304 pages
March 2023

»Daniel Glattauer's excellently-told novel is revealing and wrestles with prejudices and cultural misunderstandings.«

Irene Prugger, Wiener Zeitung

»Glattauer builds up an almost thriller-like tension and pulls out all the stops in his writing. His characters so lifelike, their circumstances familiar to the reader: school bullying and marital problems, work stress and lack of time. He constantly changes his writing style. The dialogues between characters are particularly brilliant, at times biting and always pointed.«

Ute Krebs, Chemnitzer Freie Presse

»Daniel Glattauer is a shrewd, well-versed, brilliantly gifted entertainer ... as always with Glattauer, I couldn't stop reading.«

Eva Menasse, ZDF Literarisches Quartett

»A great comeback, his fine linguistic wit makes you unable to put the book down.«

Münchner Merkur

»A thrilling family tragedy that dares to tackle big social issues. A gripping read!«

Juli Zeh, ZDF Literarisches Quartett

»A varied and entertaining story you follow almost breathlessly.«

Maren Ahring, NDR Kultur



»Birgit Birnbacher has a fine feeling for people on the margins, for those who have been thrown off track.«

Christoph Schröder, Süddeutsche Zeitung

»She writes with precision and without false pathos.«

Wiebke Porombka, Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung



Birgit Birnbacher

born in 1985, lives as a sociologist and author in Salzburg. Her debut novel *Wir ohne Wal* was published in 2016 and was awarded the literature prize of the Jürgen Ponto Foundation, the Rauriser Förderungspreis and the Theodor Körner Förderpreis. In 2019 she was awarded the Ingeborg Bachmann Prize. Her novel *Ich an meiner Seite* was published by Zsolnay Verlag in 2020 and was longlisted for the German Book Prize 2020.

- A sensitive literary novel about crucial current issues
- The new novel by Bachmann prizewinner Birgit Birnbacher

English sample translation available

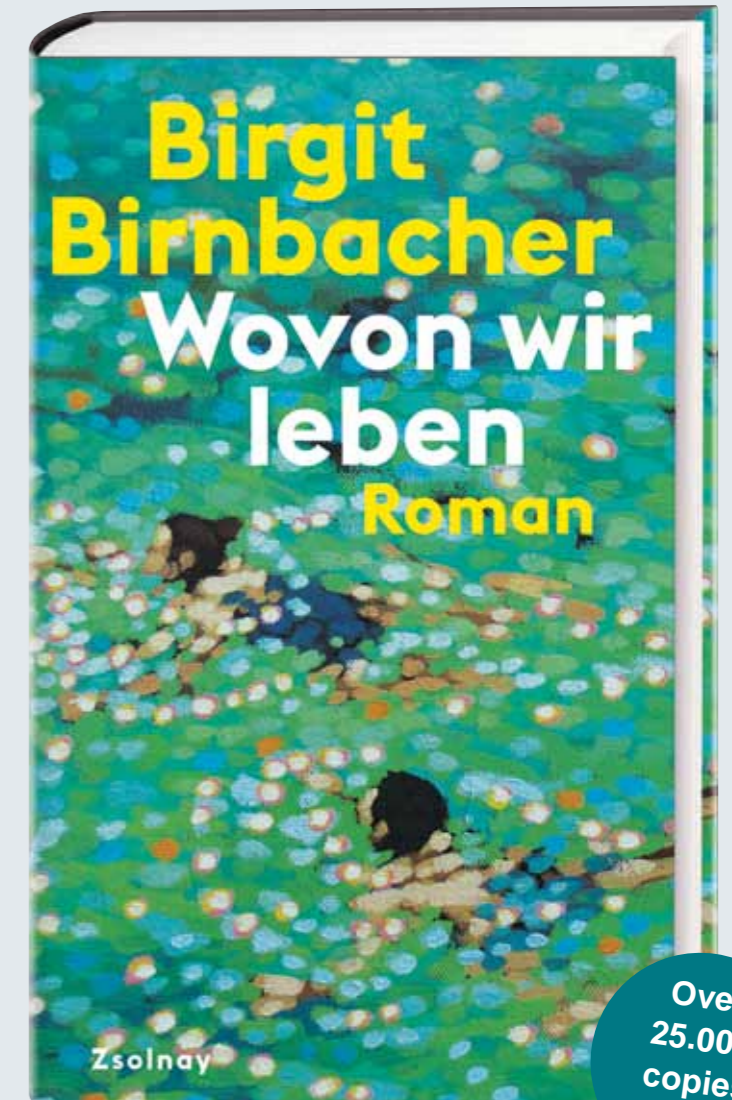
Longlisted for the Austrian Book Prize

BIRGIT BIRNBACHER

A single error catapults Julia from her nursing job back to her former life in the village where she grew up. There, everything seems even worse than she remembers. The factory where half the community used to work has closed. Her father's health is alarmingly fragile, and after years of sacrifice, her mother has left him and her sick brother to make a fresh start. When Julia meets Oskar, who's recovering from a heart attack, she's envious at first. Oskar's income will tide him over for a year and he's making plans. But what does Julia see for her future?

How can we continue to work in a way that's fulfilling? How can we distribute care work fairly? And how do we want to live in a world in which work no longer needs us? Birgit Birnbacher, a master of »unsentimental empathy« (Judith von Sternburg, Frankfurter Rundschau), uses captivating, lyrical language to ask how and from what we want to live. The Bachmann prizewinner is an adept literary narrator who uses everyday language directly, honestly and sensitively.

What We Live On is a novel about work and family, daughters and mothers – and the rift between boundless individualism and romantic love.



Over 25.000 copies sold

Sales

Croatia (Leykam International)



Birgit Birnbacher
What We Live On

192 pages
February 2023



»This
amazingly
short novel
takes your
breath
away.«

Joachim Leitner, Tiroler Tageszeitung

»A wonder-
ful book.«

Myriam Schellbach, HR2 Kultur

»This book
is a godsend.«

Bernd Melichar, Kleine Zeitung

»A moving book
that sticks with
you even when
you set it down.
Birgit Birnbacher
is a quiet but
immensely capti-
vating narrator.«

Frank Pommer, Rheinpfalz

»Thanks to
Birnbacher's
precise eye and
dry humour, a
whole world grows
out of this back-
water. *Wovon wir
leben* is also a
reflection and
sharp analysis
of contemporary
working environ-
ments taken from
real life.«

Martina Läubli, Neue Zürcher Zeitung am Sonntag

»An outstanding example
of contemporary litera-
ture that not only focuses
on its subject but is
linguistically convincing
besides. [...] This novel
should be read with a
pen in the hand; there
is so much to highlight.«

Carsten Otte, Die Zeit online

»Simply
ravishing!«

Gregor Dotzauer, SWR

»Unput-
downable.«

Ariane Heimbach, Brigitte Woman



»I read Eva
Viežnaviec's novel
and recognised
the village where
I grew up. She
brought it back to
life in my soul.«

Svetlana Alexievich

Eva Viežnaviec

was born near Minsk in 1972 and has worked as an author and journalist since 1994. *What Is It You Seek, Wolf?* was awarded the highest prize for prose in Belarus in 2021. Substantial parts of the novel were written during her stay as a Lion Feuchtwanger fellow at Villa Aurore in Los Angeles.

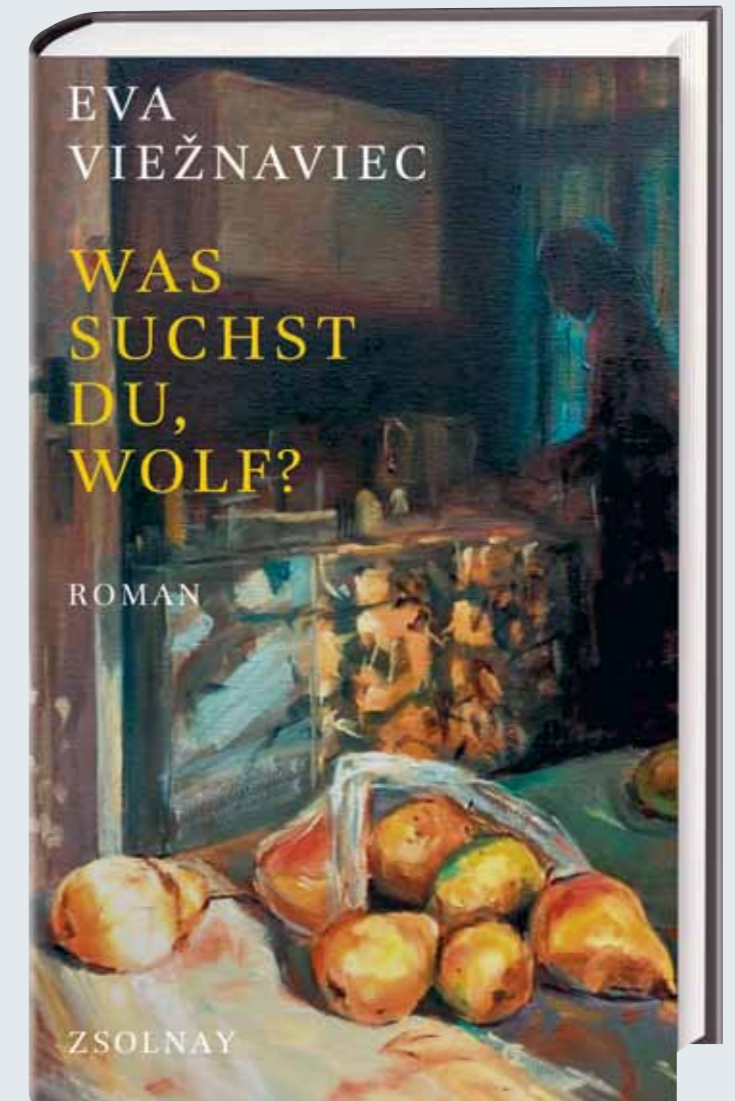
- An epic contained in a small volume
- A tribute to the women of a whole generation

EVA VIEŽNAVIEC

English sample
translation
available

The short novel *What Is It You Seek, Wolf?* by Eva Viežnaviec caused a literary sensation in Belarus and was awarded the country's highest award for prose, the Jerzy Giedroyc Literature Prize, in December 2021.

The book sets off down the road like a modern-day beatnik novel. On an alcohol-fuelled trip, protagonist Ryna travels from Germany to Belarus for her grandmother's funeral. The old lady was a traditional healer who was considered a witch by her neighbours and tried to teach Ryna the »arts« of herbal medicine. Ryna's inner dialogue with her beloved grandmother imperceptibly turns into a monologue. What follows is the intrepid 100-year-old woman's account as a survivor of the First World War, the October Revolution and civil war, collectivisation and Second World War – the entire twentieth century with all its atrocities. The story ends in the present, a time when Ryna has found peace, thanks partly to her grandmother's wealth of experience. Without glorifying events, this melancholic, harrowing book draws hope from the magic of everyday life.



Sales

(Original Belarusian Edition: Pflaumbaum)
Czech Republic (Pavel Mervat), France (Noir sur Blanc), Norway (Existenz), Sweden (Ersatz)

Eva Viežnaviec
**What Is It You
Seek, Wolf?**

(Original Belarusian title:
Па што ідзе, воўча?)
144 pages
February 2023

»In language both visually rich and haunting, Eva Viežnaviec tells of her beloved grandmother and illuminates at the same time a piece of everyday history from Eastern Europe in the 20th century ... A novel that acts as a conversation between the living and the dead, a book full of hope – highly recommended.«

Terry Albrecht, WDR5 Bücher

»Strong and clear like vodka.«

Judith Leister, Neue Zürcher Zeitung

»A literary thunderbolt ... An overwhelming novel, a challenge, a study of man, a history lesson, a psychogram of power and powerlessness – grand, important literature!«

Bernd Melichar, Kleine Zeitung

»In clear, almost harsh sentences, Viežnaviec's densely-woven family story spanning five generations tells of people instead of politics ... This book is a tribute to the women of Belarus, who are an example of how to survive on scorched earth.«

Cornelius Wüllenkemper, Deutschlandfunk Büchermarkt

»The reading develops a force that resonates for a long time.«

Roberta de Righi, Münchner Abendzeitung

»It hits with the force of a sledgehammer ... Powerful and, despite all the brutality, highly poetic. In a concise language, fed with historical details, Viežnaviec succeeds in bringing the monstrous upheavals and darkness in short episodes to life so vividly that the reader becomes dizzy over the course of such a condensed journey through time.«

Ingo Petz, Standard Album



»Our world would be a better place if all journalists were as conscientious, cultured and humanistic as he is.«

Sir András Schiff

Paul Lendvai, born 1929 in Budapest, has lived in Vienna since 1957. He is head of the ORF European Studio and a columnist for the Standard. He has won numerous prizes and awards. His most recent publications are: *Die verspielte Welt. Begegnungen und Erinnerungen* (2019) and *Vielgeprüftes Österreich* (2022).

- **From Helmut Schmidt to Angela Merkel, and from Vladimir Putin to Donald Trump - Why do leading politicians get it often so completely wrong?**
- **Observations of political events and those who drive them at close range**

PAUL LENDVAI

Russia's war, migration, climate change, inflation and a second term of Trump? An apocalyptic mood is in the air again. International secret services and highly funded research institutions are unable to find answers to these dramatic changes in the global balance of power. True, leading politicians have often got it completely wrong. This is clear when we think of assessments of Russia and China's development overseas, as well as Hungary and Poland within the EU. For decades, Paul Lendvai has been observing events and their leading actors – from Donald Trump to Viktor Orbán, Helmut Schmidt to Angela Merkel, and Vladimir Putin to Benjamin Netanyahu. Up close, he sees both the waning power of liberal ideas and the seductive offers of populist autocrats. Only one thing remains constant: hypocrisy.



Sales
All rights available

Paul Lendvai
On Hypocrisy
176 pages
January 2024



»We're in sore need of a writer like this, who sees so clearly, yet has remained enamoured of the world.«

Daniela Strigl, laudatory speech for the Leipzig Book Prize for European Understanding

Karl-Markus Gauß

was born in 1954 in Salzburg, where he still lives and works as an Author. His books have been translated into numerous languages and have received many prizes, including the Prix Charles Veillon, the Austrian Art Prize for Literature, the Johann Heinrich Merck Prize, the Jean Améry Prize and just very recently the Leipzig Book Award for European Understanding 2022. His most recent publications with Zsolnay are *Abenteuerliche Reise durch mein Zimmer* (2019), *Die unaufhörliche Wanderung* (2020) and *Die Jahreszeiten der Ewigkeit* (2022).

• **70th birthday on 14 May 2024**

• **»There's no place not worth exploring because everyone has a secret and a story,« as Karl-Markus Gauß says in his new book**

KARL-MARKUS GAUSS

Miniature scenes from travels that conjure up moments of happiness and amazement. Places where miraculous things happen and dreams have an impact on life. Austrian writer Karl-Markus Gauß talks about the »the woman who eats art« in a Viennese trattoria, a cemetery in Eastern Europe, his father's last cigarette, and the »beauty of ugly cities«. He always sees connections in the tiniest details and shows life as a balancing act between reality and dream. In evocative language, Gauß revisits the topics he is famous for in new and surprising ways. »You travel here and there, on a journey without a set time of arrival, in a mood that suggests that there's no better way to spend these hours.«

(Hannes Hintermeier,
Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung)



Sales

Selected backlist:

Abenteuerliche Reise durch mein Zimmer:

Arabic World (Kanaan), Bulgaria (Black Flamingo), Croatia (Fraktura), France (Noir sur Blanc), Italy (Keller), Serbia (Akademiska)

Karl-Markus Gauß

A Ship Made of Stone

Places and Dreams

144 pages

March 2024



»Charim makes things visible that we all realise but don't fully understand.« Sieglinde Geisel, Westdeutscher Rundfunk

»A spectacular analysis of who we really are – as opposed to who we think we are. We are all narcissists – and we can't change that until we understand it. A must-read.« taz FUTURZWEI

Isolde Charim

was born in Vienna, studied philosophy in Vienna and Berlin, and works as a freelance journalist and columnist for the taz and the Falter. In 2006, she received the City of Vienna's journalism prize. Her book *Myself and Others. How Pluralisation Changes Us All*, for which she received the Philosophical Book Prize 2018 was published by Zsolnay. In 2022, she received the Austrian State Prize for Cultural Journalism.

• Up-to-date analysis

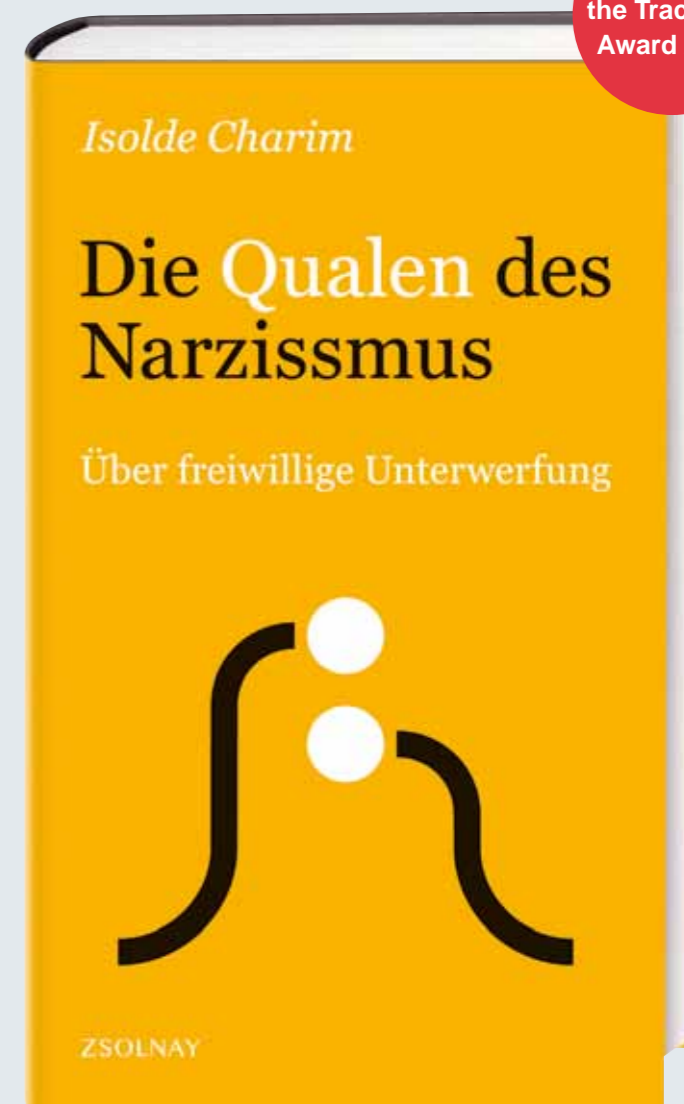
• Gets to the bottom of the division of society

• One of Austria's most important intellectual voices

ISOLDE CHARIM

Winner of
the Tractatus
Award 2023

Why do we surrender to circumstances? Or in Spinoza's words: How is it that »people fight for their servitude as if it were for their salvation«? This question must be asked over and over again – but especially in times of crisis and uncertainty. The answer today is surely: that Narcissism is a social requirement of every individual: You must become more than you are – you must become your ideal. But what does it mean for society if an anti-social principle becomes the dominant ideology? Isolde Charim explains with impressive clarity why we voluntarily submit to the »Agonies of Narcissism.«



Sales

China (Simplified) Beijing Imaginist Time Culture, Czech Republic (Kalich), Korea (Minumsa), Netherlands (Athenaeum/Polak & Van Gennepe), Spain (Bauplan)



Isolde Charim

The Agonies of Narcissism

On Voluntary Submission

256 pages
September 2022