



**Brigitte Kronauer**

## **Der Scheik von Aachen**

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A Novel

(approx. 408 pages)

Anita Jannemann is willing to go the full distance for the love of her life, Mario. She quits her job in Zurich and moves back to her hometown of Aachen. There she regularly visits her elderly aunt Emmi. Anita is shocked when her aunt declares with harsh certainty, “You don’t love Mario at all.”

A cleverly written and entertaining novel about what happens to us when we venerate or demonise others.

The antique dealer Marzahn offers Anita a job after she returns to Aachen. He is a deeply cynical person which is why he’s so fascinated by Anita’s effusive naiveté when it comes to the amateur mountain climber Mario. He obsessively tries to explain to her what love is in all its various shades from tragedy to absurdity. Even the stories based on Wilhelm Hauff’s cycle *The Sheik of Alessandria and His Slaves*, which Anita reads to her aunt every Saturday afternoon, all seem to revolve around the same topic. But only indirectly, as Anita connects Emmi with a taboo in her family which began with a death...

A book about homecoming and discovering that home is the birthplace of all story-telling.

#### **The Author:**

Brigitte Kronauer was born in Essen in 1940. Since 1971 she has been living in Hamburg as a freelance writer. Brigitte Kronauer has received several awards, including the Fontane Prize of the city of Berlin, the Heinrich Böll Prize of the city of Cologne, the Hubert Fichte Prize of the city of Hamburg, and one of the most important literary prizes in Germany, the Georg Büchner Prize.

#### **Summary:**

- A vibrant, cross-generational novel
- The latest major novel by the Büchner Prize-winning author