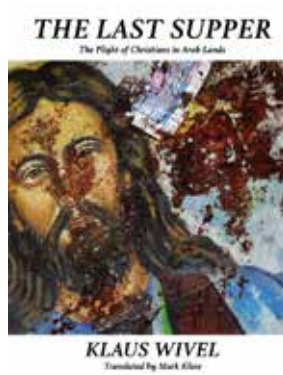
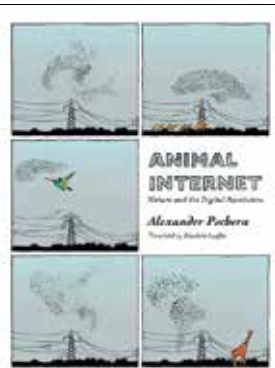




New Vessel Press 2015-16



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The 6:41 to PARIS

JEAN-PHILIPPE
BLONDEL



TRANSLATED BY
ALISON ANDERSON



The 6:41 to Paris

by Jean-Philippe Blondel / France

Translated by Alison Anderson

FICTION

November 2015

5 1/4 x 8 | 153 pp

Trade Paper US \$14.95 | CAN \$18.50

978-1-939931-26-9



“A terrific read. Jean-Philippe Blondel writes masterfully about the astonishing private realm, with two alternating monologues that echo one another.”

— *L'Express*

“A fine book, in wonderfully precise and sensitive language, unpretentious and full of small truths.”

— *Die Presse*

“Funny, wise and conciliatory.”

— *Stern*

Cécile, a stylish 47-year-old, has spent the weekend visiting her parents in a provincial town southeast of Paris. By early Monday morning, she's exhausted. These trips back home are always stressful and she settles into a train compartment with an empty seat beside her. But it's soon occupied by a man she instantly recognizes: Philippe Leduc, with whom she had a passionate affair that ended in her brutal humiliation 30 years ago. In the fraught hour and a half that ensues, their express train hurtles towards the French capital. Cécile and Philippe undertake their own face to face journey—In silence? What could they possibly say to one another?—with the reader gaining entrée to the most private of thoughts. This is a psychological thriller about past romance, with all its pain and promise.

Jean-Philippe Blondel was born in 1964 in Troyes, France where he lives as an author and English teacher. His novel *The 6:41 to Paris* has been a European bestseller.

Brilliant psychological thriller constructed like an intensely intimate theater performance, a high-wire act of emotions on rails.

OBLIVION

SERGEI LEBEDEV

TRANSLATED BY ANTONINA W. BOUIS

Oblivion

by *Sergei Lebedev / Russia*

Translated by *Antonina W. Bouis*

FICTION

January 2016

5 1/4 x 8 | 300 pp

Trade Cloth US \$24.95 | CAN \$30.99

978-1-939931-25-2



“An important book about where Russia is today, with poetic descriptions and unforgettable images evoking that nation's often elusive attempts to understand its dark past. I stand in awe of both the author and translator.”

—Jack F. Matlock, Jr., former U.S. Ambassador to the Soviet Union

“A monomaniacal meditation on memory and forgetting ... Lebedev's magnificent novel has the potency to become a mirror and wake-up call to a Russia that is blind to history.”

—*Neue Zürcher Zeitung*

“Sergei Lebedev opens up new territory in literature. Lebedev's prose lives from the precise images and the author's colossal gift of observation.”

—*Der Spiegel*

“The beauty of the language is almost impossible to bear. The novel luxuriates in poetic language.”

—*Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*

In one of the first 21st century Russian novels to probe the legacy of the Soviet prison camp system, a young man travels to the vast wastelands of the Far North to uncover the truth about a shadowy neighbor who saved his life, and whom he knows only as Grandfather II. What he finds, among the forgotten mines and decrepit barracks of former gulags, is a world relegated to oblivion, where it is easier to ignore both the victims and the executioners than to come to terms with a terrible past. This disturbing tale evokes the great and ruined beauty of a land where man and machine worked in tandem with nature to destroy millions of lives during the Soviet century. Emerging from today's Russia, where the ills of the past are being forcefully erased from public memory, this masterful novel represents an epic literary attempt to rescue history from the brink of oblivion.

Sergei Lebedev was born in Moscow in 1981 and worked for seven years on geological expeditions in northern Russia and Central Asia. Lebedev is a poet, essayist and journalist. His first novel, *Oblivion*, has been translated into many languages. Lebedev is currently at work on his third novel.

This masterful novel represents an epic literary attempt to examine a very troubled Russia.

ON THE RUN WITH MARY



JONATHAN BARROW

On the Run with Mary

by Jonathan Barrow / England

FICTION

November 2015

5 1/4 x 8 | 129 pp

Trade Paper US \$14.95 | CAN \$18.50

978-1-939931-24-5



“A masterpiece by a young genius, fated to die shortly after he had completed it.”

— A.N. Wilson, author of *Victoria: A Life* and *Tolstoy: A Biography*

“The headlong energy and happy perversity of *On the Run with Mary* makes one admire much of what Barrow did, and wonder with sorrow at what he might have done.”

— Sam Lipsyte, author of *The Ask* and *Home Land*

“A unique masterpiece from a bizarre mind. To say it's Lewis Carroll meets Jean Genet ... would be to belittle its farcically-filthy originality.”

— Nicholas Haslam, author of *Redeeming Features*

“One of the most extraordinary, original—and funniest—books I have ever read. Subversive, satirical, like a farcical, erotic, animal-human animated film.”

— Jonathan Gathorne-Hardy, author of *Kinsey: Sex the Measure of All Things*

Shining moments of tender beauty punctuate this story of a youth on the run after escaping from an elite English boarding school. At London's Euston Station, the narrator meets a talking dachshund named Mary and together they're off on escapades through posh Mayfair streets and jaunts in a Rolls-Royce. But the youth soon realizes that the seemingly sweet dog is a handful: an alcoholic, nymphomaniac, drug-addicted mess who can't stay out of pubs or off the dance floor. In a world of abusive headmasters and other predators, the youth discovers that true friends are never needed more than on the mean streets of 1960s London, as he tries to save his beloved Mary from herself. *On the Run with Mary* mirrors the horrors and the joys of the terrible 20th century. Jonathan Barrow's original drawings accompany the text.

Jonathan Barrow was born in 1947, north of London. His promising career as a writer and artist was cut short when he was killed at age twenty-two in a car crash alongside his fiancée, two weeks before they were to be married. The manuscript of this book was discovered in Barrow's office drawer the day after his death.

Peter Rabbit meets Marquis de Sade, as a youth and his troubled talking dog romp through posh London streets.

THE LAST WEYNFELDT



MARTIN SUTER TRANSLATED BY
STEPH MORRIS

The Last Weynfeldt

by Martin Suter / Switzerland

Translated by Steph Morris

FICTION

February 2016

5 ¼ x 8 | 300 pp

Trade Paper US \$14.95 | CAN \$18.50

978-1-939931-27-6



“*The Last Weynfeldt* is a must-read ... Once started, you will not stop reading until the end. You will probably forget to eat, not answer text messages and miss your stop on the bus.”

— *Süddeutsche Zeitung*

“There is charm, irony, and undeniable elegance in Martin Suter's novels, who is probably one of the best contemporary authors.”

— *Le Nouvel Observateur*

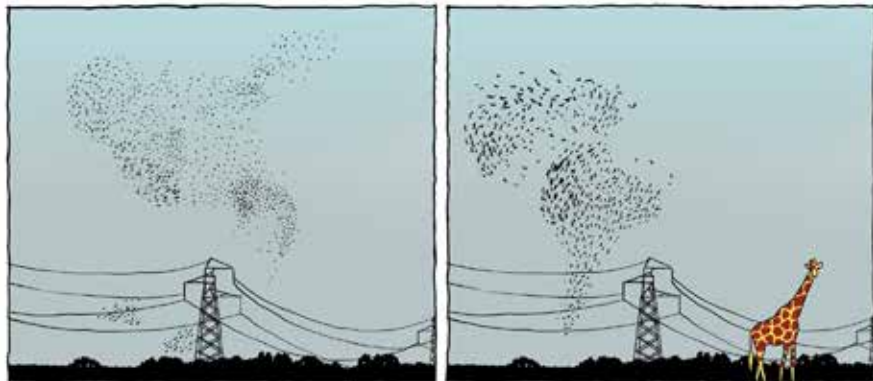
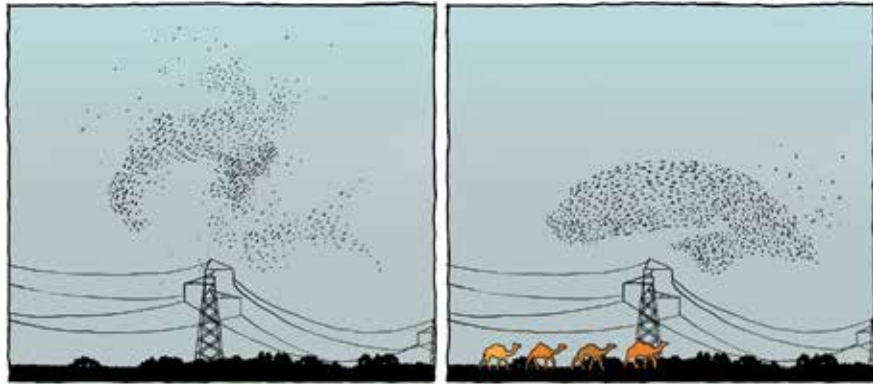
“Out of the art market, art, and the art of living, Martin Suter spins and weaves a highly intriguing, highly elegant, cool web.”

— *Die Welt*

Adrian Weynfeldt is an art expert in an international auction house, a bachelor in his mid-fifties living in a grand Zurich apartment filled with costly paintings and antiques. Always correct and well-mannered, he's given up on love until one night—entirely out of character for him—Weynfeldt decides to take home a ravishing but unaccountable young woman. The next morning, he finds her outside on his balcony threatening to jump. Weynfeldt talks her down and soon finds himself falling for this damaged but alluring beauty and his buttoned up existence comes unraveled. As their two lives become entangled, Weynfeldt gets embroiled in an art forgery scheme that threatens to destroy everything he and his prominent family have stood for. This refined page-turner moves behind elegant bourgeois facades into darker recesses of the heart.

Martin Suter, born in Zurich in 1948, is a novelist and screenwriter. He has written a dozen novels, many of them best-sellers in Europe and translated into 32 languages. Suter lives with his family in Zurich.

A refined page-turner about the international art market that probes the darker recesses of the heart.



ANIMAL INTERNET

Nature and the Digital Revolution

Alexander Pschera

Translated by Elisabeth Lauffer

Animal Internet: Nature and the Digital Revolution

by Alexander Pschera / Germany

Translated by Elisabeth Lauffer

NON FICTION

Spring 2016

5 1/4 x 8 | 130 pp

Trade Paper US \$14.95 | CAN \$18.50

978-1-939931-33-7



“An original book that goes against the trend to stubbornly keep nature and technology divided from one another.”

— *Der Spiegel*

“*Animal Internet* is one of the most interesting books that I've read in recent years.”

— *Bavarian Radio*

“What Pschera describes sounds futuristic but it's already widespread reality ... Pschera's book is not just popular science: he describes not only the status quo, but also thinks about an ongoing transformation.”

— *Wired.de*

Some 50,000 creatures around the globe—including whales, leopards, flamingoes, bats and snails—are being equipped with digital tracking devices. The data gathered and studied by major scientific institutes about their behavior will warn us about tsunamis, earthquakes and volcanic eruptions, but also radically transform our relationship to the natural world. With a broad cultural and historical perspective, this book examines human ties with animals, from domestic pets to the soaring popularity of bird watching and kitten images on the web. Will millennia of exploration soon be reduced to experiencing wilderness via smartphone? Contrary to pessimistic fears, author Alexander Pschera sees the Internet as creating a historic opportunity for a new dialogue between man and nature.

Alexander Pschera, born in 1964, has published several books on the Internet and media. He studied German, music and philosophy at Heidelberg University. He lives near Munich where he writes for the German magazine *Cicero* as well as for German radio.

In the wake of the Internet's profound impact on society, an exploration of how a new digital revolution will transform human ties with the natural world.

THE LAST SUPPER

The Plight of Christians in Arab Lands



KLAUS WIVEL

Translated by Mark Kline

The Last Supper: The Plight of Christians in Arab Lands

by Klaus Wivel / Denmark

Translated by Mark Kline

NON FICTION

Spring 2016

5 1/4 x 8 | 250 pp

Trade Paper US \$16.95 | CAN \$20.99

978-1-939931-34-4



“Revealing, shocking, and well-researched reading.”

— *Jyllands-Posten*

“Wivel journeys to the West Bank, Gaza, Egypt, Lebanon and Iraq to investigate for himself the conditions of the Christian minority in this part of the Islamic world. The reality Wivel confronts ... illustrates one of our time’s greatest human rights violations.”

— *Berlingske Tidende*

“Klaus Wivel has written an essential book about the Christians in a hot Arab Spring”

— *Information*

“With *The Last Supper*, Klaus Wivel has delivered a quite simply overwhelmingly pertinent book ... *The Last Supper* should lead to a larger debate and self-reflection ... over the neglect of a contemporary persecution that hasn’t yet been given a name.”

— *Weekendavisen*

In 2013, alarmed by scant attention paid to the hardships endured by the 7.5 million Christians in the Middle East, journalist Klaus Wivel traveled to Iraq, Lebanon, Egypt, and the Palestinian territories on a quest to learn more about their fate. He found an oppressed minority, constantly under threat of death and humiliation, increasingly desperate in the face of rising Islamic extremism and without hope that their situation will improve, or that anyone will come to their aid. Wivel spoke with priests whose churches have been burned, citizens who feel like strangers in their own countries, and entire communities whose only hope for survival may be fleeing into exile. With the increase of religious violence in the past few years, this book is a prescient and unsettling account of a severely beleaguered religious group living, so it seems, on borrowed time. Wivel asks, Why have we not done more to protect these people?

Klaus Wivel is a Danish journalist who has been the New York correspondent for *Weekendavisen*, one of Denmark’s most prestigious newspapers. He has written on a wide range of topics, with a focus on Israel-Palestine and the Middle East. He lives in New York with his wife and three daughters.

*A journey through the Middle East, investigating the often-overlooked
plight of the beleaguered Christian minority living there.*

GUYS LIKE ME



DOMINIQUE FABRE

"AN AUTHOR WHO LAYS BARE THE ESSENCE OF PARIS."
— LA QUINZAINE LITTÉRAIRE

TRANSLATED BY HOWARD CURTIS

Guys Like Me

by *Dominique Fabre / France*

Translated by *Howard Curtis*

FICTION

Available Now

5 ¼ x 8 | 144 pp

Trade Paper US \$15.99 | CAN \$17.50

978-1-939931-15-3



"Fabre's unexpectedly touching novel has a laugh of its own behind its low-key, smoothly translated narrative voice ... The city it evokes isn't the Paris of tourists but of local people."

— *The New York Times*

"Fabre is a genius of these nuanced, interior moments ... The story Fabre tells is that of every one of us: looking for meaning in the mundane, moving through our lives, our interactions, as if through the fabric of a dream ... How do we live? it asks to consider. And: What does our existence mean?"

— *The Los Angeles Times*

"Readers will take pleasure in this well-told tale with a satisfying ending."

— *Publishers Weekly*

Dominique Fabre, born in Paris and a life-long resident of the city, exposes the shadowy, anonymous lives of many who inhabit the French capital. In this quiet, subdued tale, a middle-aged office worker, divorced and alienated from his only son, meets up with two childhood friends who are similarly adrift, without passions or prospects. He's looking for a second act to his mournful life, seeking the harbor of love and a true connection with his son. Set in palpably real Paris streets that feel miles away from the City of Light, *Guys Like Me* is a stirring novel of regret and absence, yet not without a glimmer of hope.

Dominique Fabre, born in 1960, writes about people living on society's margins. He is a lifelong resident of Paris. His previous novel, *The Waitress Was New*, was also translated into English.

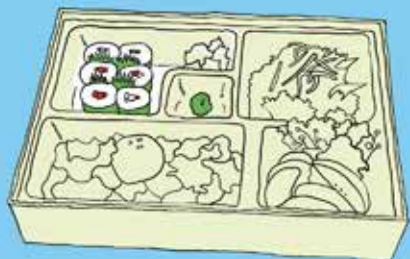
An ode to Paris as rarely seen — a minutely-observed tale about searching for love and a new lease on life.

I CALLED HIM NECKTIE

MILENA MICHIKO FLAŠAR



TRANSLATED BY SHEILA DICKIE



I Called Him Necktie

by Milena Michiko Flašar / Austria

Translated by Sheila Dickie

FICTION

Available Now

5 1/4 x 8 | 129 pp

Trade Paper US \$15.99 | CAN \$17.50

978-1-939931-14-6



“The best of the best from this year’s bountiful harvest of uncommonly strong offerings ... Deeply original.”

— *O, The Oprah Magazine*

“A spare, stunning, elegiac gem of a book. Milena Michiko Flašar writes with a poet’s clarity of language and vision, probing deeply below the surfaces of familiar Japanese stereotypes ... to tell a compassionate and insightful story of dysfunction, despair and friendship.”

— Ruth Ozeki, author of *A Tale for the Time Being*

“The quiet reflection of this jewel of a novel is revelatory, redemptive and hypnotic until the last word.”

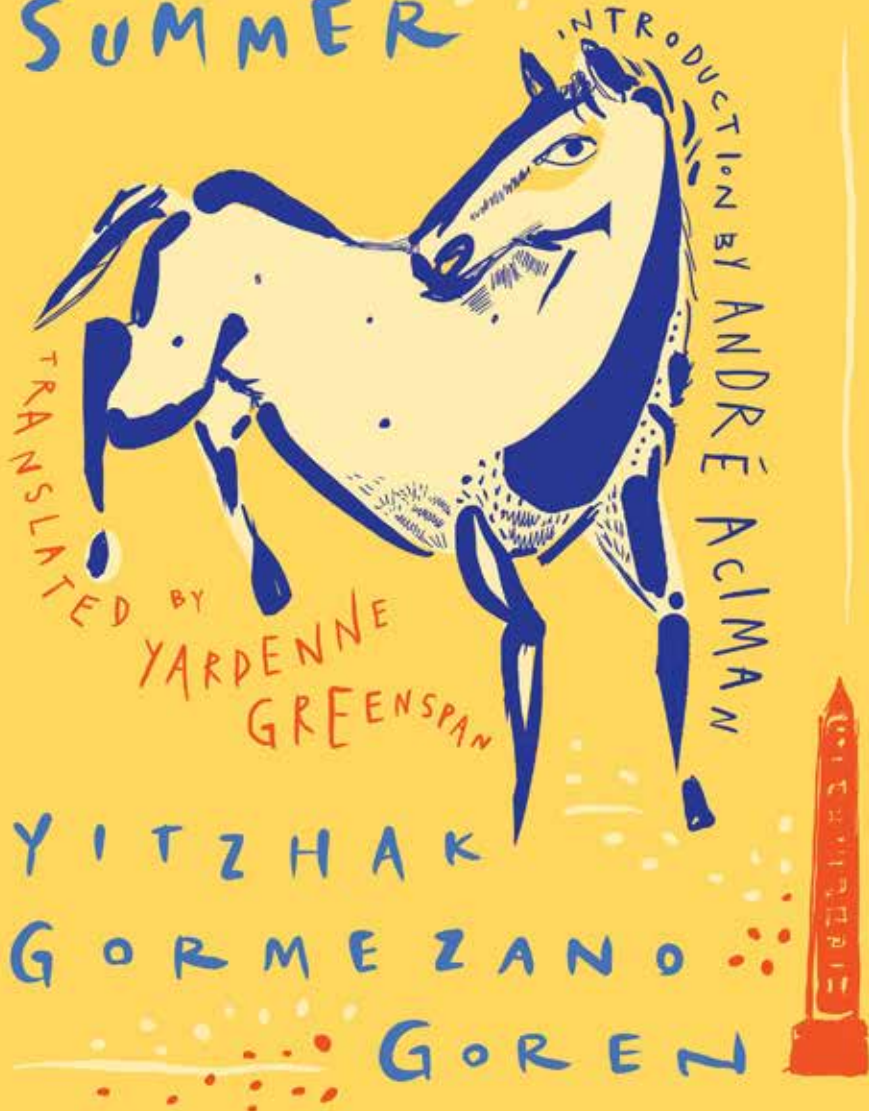
— *Kirkus Reviews*

Twenty-year-old Taguchi Hiro has spent the last two years of his life living as a hikikomori—a shut-in who never leaves his room and has no human interaction—in his parents’ home in Tokyo. As Hiro tentatively decides to reenter the world, he spends his days observing life around him from a park bench. Gradually he makes friends with Ohara Tetsu, a middle-aged salaryman who has lost his job but can’t bring himself to tell his wife, and shows up every day in a suit and tie to pass the time on a nearby bench. As Hiro and Tetsu cautiously open up to each other, they discover in their sadness a common bond. Regrets and disappointments, as well as hopes and dreams, come to the surface until both find the strength to somehow give a new start to their lives. This beautiful novel is moving, unforgettable, and full of surprises. The reader turns the last page feeling that a small triumph has occurred.

Milena Michiko Flašar was born in 1980, the daughter of a Japanese mother and an Austrian father. She lives in Vienna. *I Called Him Necktie* won the 2012 Austrian Alpha Literature Prize.

This is the Japanese Catcher in the Rye for the twenty-first century.

ALEXANDRIAN SUMMER



Alexandrian Summer

by Yitzhak Gormezano Goren / Israel

Translated by Yardenne Greenspan

With an Introduction by André Aciman

FICTION

Available Now

5 ¼ x 8 | 170 pp

Trade Paper US \$15.99 | CAN \$17.50

978-1-939931-20-7



“*Alexandrian Summer* is a return to a mythical past, to a lost paradise that was not really a paradise but that, being lost, has, over the years, acquired all the makings of one.”

— André Aciman, author of *Out of Egypt*, *Call Me by Your Name* and *Harvard Square*

“A powerful novel ... Alexandria—sensual and enchanting—shimmers in these pages.”

— Dalia Sofer, author of *The Septembers of Shiraz*

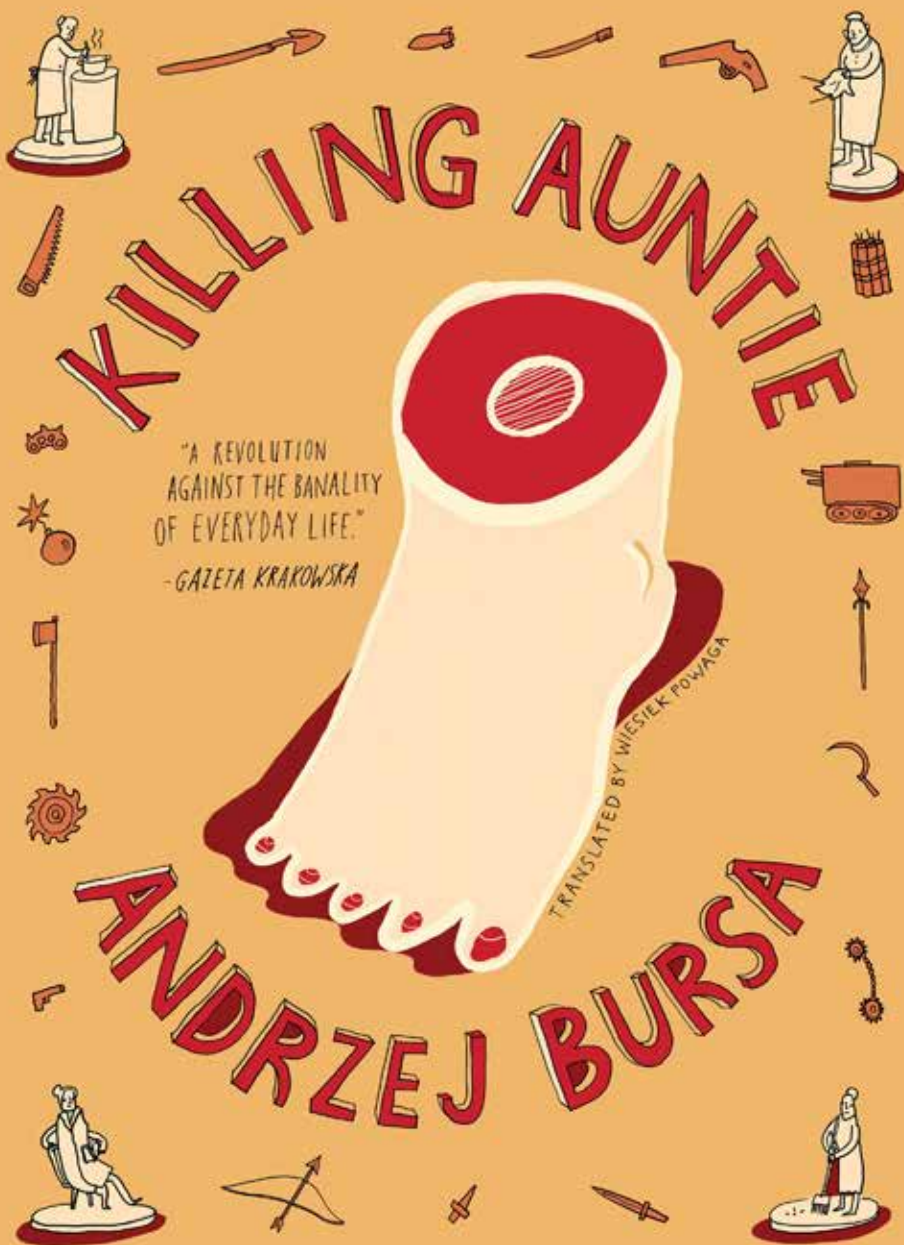
“Alexandria, a lush paradise by the sea, comes to antic, full-bodied life ... Gormezano Goren’s characters are vividly depicted as they grow up or grow older in a city of conflicting loyalties, riven by resentment, ready to revolt. Readers will be transported.”

— *Publishers Weekly*

Alexandrian Summer is the story of two Jewish families living their frenzied last days in the doomed cosmopolitan social whirl of Alexandria just before fleeing Egypt for Israel in 1951. The conventions of the Egyptian upper-middle class are laid bare in this dazzling novel, which exposes startling sexual hypocrisies and portrays a now vanished polyglot world of horse racing, seaside promenades and elegant nightclubs. Hamdi-Ali senior is an old-time patriarch with more than a dash of strong Turkish blood. His strapping elder son, a promising horse jockey, can't afford sexual frustration, as it leads him to overeat and imperil his career, but the woman he lusts after won't let him get beyond undoing a few buttons. Victor, the younger son, takes his pleasure with other boys. But the true heroine of the story—richly evoked in a pungent upstairs/downstairs mix—is the raucous, seductive city of Alexandria itself. Published in Hebrew in 1978, *Alexandrian Summer* appears now in translation for the first time.

Yitzhak Gormezano Goren was born in Alexandria, Egypt, in 1941 and immigrated to Israel as a child. He is a playwright and novelist. Goren studied English and French literature at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and Tel Aviv University. In 1982, he cofounded the Bimat Kedem Theater.

Love, lust, and the convulsions of history surge through this dazzling novel about a now vanished cosmopolitan world.



Killing Auntie

by Andrzej Bursa / Poland

Translated by Wiesiek Powaga

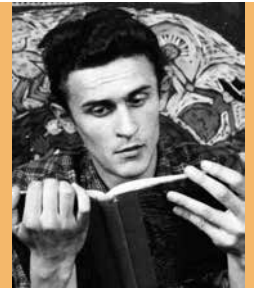
FICTION

Available Now

5 ¼ x 8 | 120 pp

Trade Paper US \$12.99 | CAN \$14.50

978-1-939931-21-4



“Dead at 25 in 1957, the Polish postwar firebrand Andrzej Bursa acquired a reputation as a quick-burning, existentially tormented rebel ... Yet Bursa’s dark humor and deadpan satire—finely captured here by translator Wiesiek Powaga—keep utter bleakness at bay.”

— *The Independent*

“The haunting theme of the novel may bring to mind Dostoevsky, but its macabre originality is strictly that of the author ... Andrzej Bursa emerges from the pages ... as a provocative, interesting, original and highly talented though always angry young man.”

— *World Literature Today*

“A revolution against the banality of everyday life.”

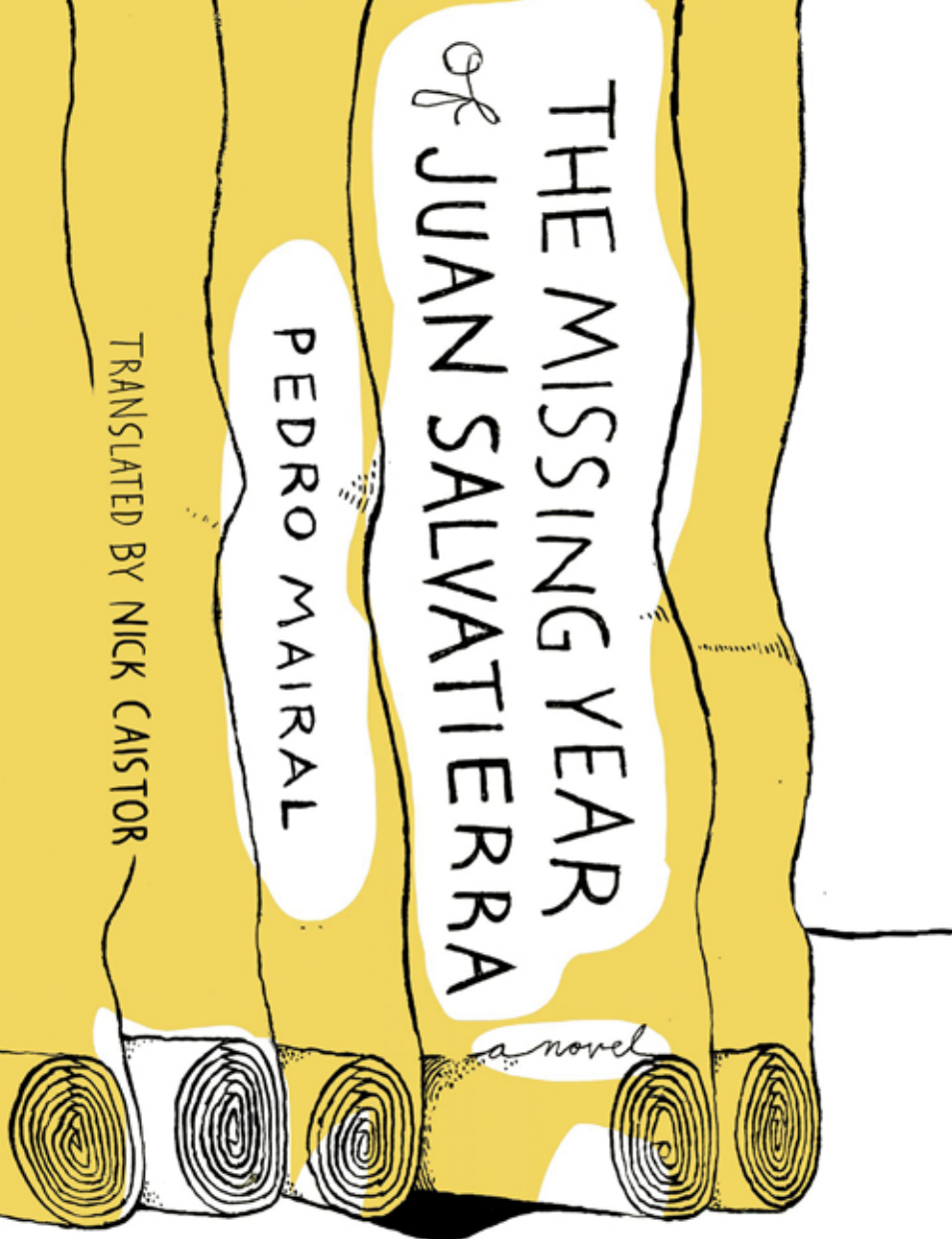
— *Gazeta Krakowska*

A university student named Jurek, with no particular ambitions or talents, finds himself with nothing to do. After his doting aunt asks the young man to perform a small chore, he decides to kill her for no good reason other than, perhaps, boredom. *Killing Auntie* follows Jurek as he seeks to dispose of the corpse—a task more difficult than one might imagine—and then falls in love with a girl he meets on a train. Can he tell her what he’s done? Will that ruin everything?

“I’m convinced—simply—that we are all guilty,” says Jurek, and his adventures with near-sighted relatives, false-toothed grandmothers, meat grinders, and love-making lynxes shed light on how an entire society becomes involved in the murder and disposal of dear old Auntie. This is a short comedic masterpiece that combines elements of Dostoevsky, Sartre, Kafka, and Heller, coming together in the end to produce an unforgettable tale of murder and—just maybe—redemption.

Andrzej Bursa was born in 1934 in Krakow, Poland, and died twenty-five years later of a heart attack. In his brief lifetime he composed some of the most original Polish writing of the 20th century. *Killing Auntie* is his only novel. His brilliant career and tragic early death established him as a cult figure among restless and disenchanting youth.

A hilarious and provocative novel that’s equal parts Crime and Punishment and Annie Hall.



TRANSLATED BY NICK CAISTOR

PEDRO MAIRAL

THE MISSING YEAR
of JUAN SALVATIERRA

a novel

A NEW REPUBLIC BEST BOOK OF 2013

The Missing Year of Juan Salviatierra

by *Pedro Mairal / Argentina*

Translated by *Nick Caistor*

FICTION

Available Now

5 ¼ x 8 | 118 pp

Trade Paper US \$15.49 | CAN \$16.99

978-1-939931-07-8



“Mairal’s quickening prose moves from the ordinary to the opulent ... without skipping a beat.”

— Jed Perl, *The New Republic*

“Mairal isn’t your old college literature professor’s idea of an Argentine novelist.”

— *The Los Angeles Times*

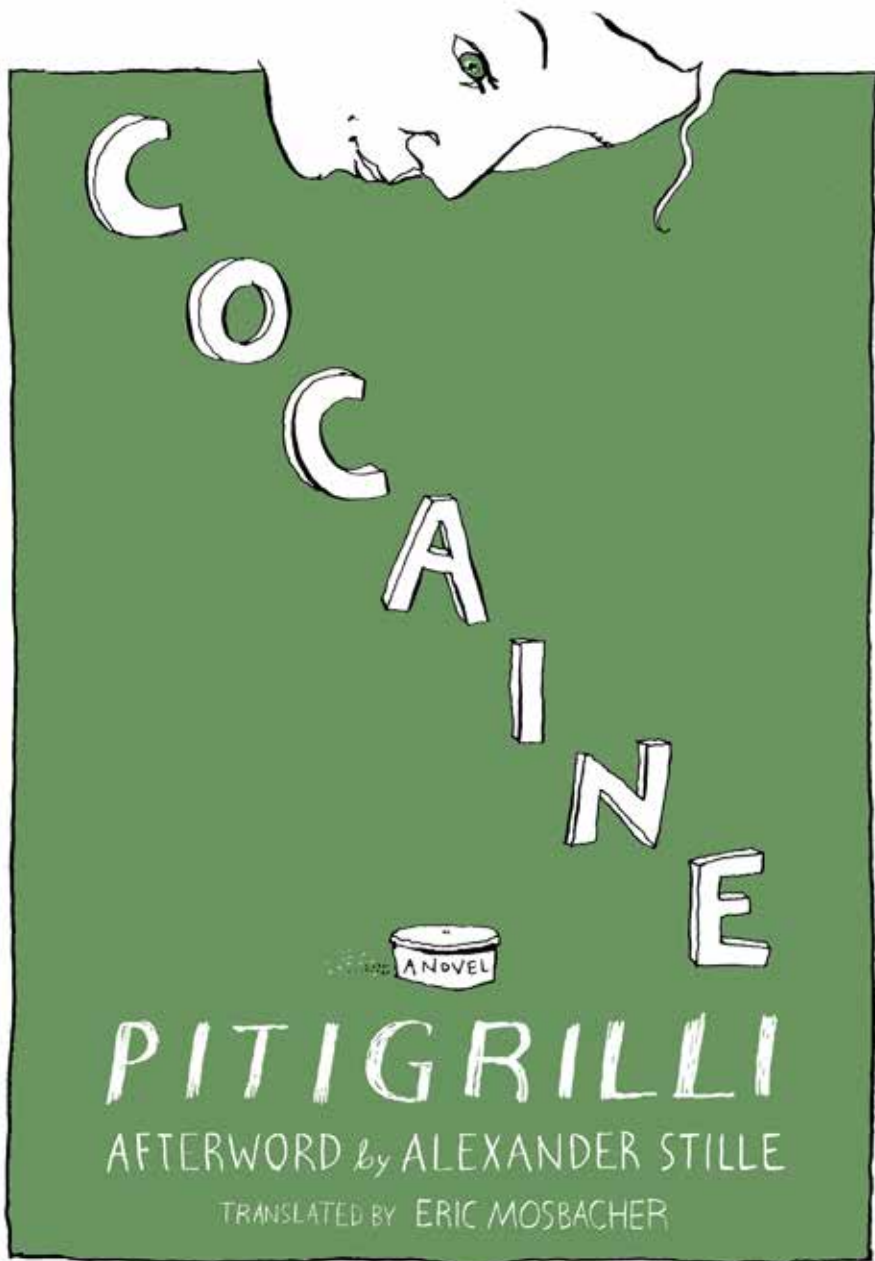
“Affirms Pedro Mairal’s stature as one of the most significant Argentine writers working today.”

— David Leavitt, author of *The Two Hotel Francforts*

At age nine, Juan Salviatierra became mute following a horse riding accident. At twenty, he began secretly painting a series of long rolls of canvas, minutely detailing six decades of life in his village on Argentina’s river frontier with Uruguay. After the death of Salviatierra, his sons return to the village from Buenos Aires to deal with their inheritance: a shed packed with canvases stretching over two miles in length, depicting personal and communal history. Museum curators come calling to acquire this strange, gargantuan artwork but an essential one of its rolls is missing. A search that illuminates the links between art and life ensues, as an intrigue of family secrets buried in the past cast their shadows on the present.

Pedro Mairal, born in Buenos Aires in 1970, is one of the most exciting Argentine novelists of his generation. In 2007 he was included in the Bogotá 39, which named the best Latin American authors.

This story about family secrets and art is a feast of images lingering long after the final page is turned.



Cocaine

by Pitigrilli / Italy

Translated by Eric Mosbacher

With an Afterword by Alexander Stille

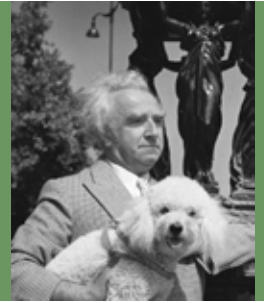
FICTION

Available Now

5 1/4 x 8 | 258 pp

Trade Paper US \$16.49 | CAN \$17.99

978-1-939931-09-2



“Cocaine is a brilliant black comedy that belongs on the same shelf as Evelyn Waugh’s *Vile Bodies* and Dawn Powell’s *The Wicked Pavilion*. Pitigrilli is an acidic aphorist and a wicked observer of social folly.”

— Jay McInerney, author of *Bright Lights, Big City* and *Brightness Falls*

“Pitigrilli was an enjoyable writer—spicy and rapid—like lightning.”

— Umberto Eco

“Pitigrilli is a highly emblematic forgotten figure, a poète maudit of Italy of the 1920s; his cynical comic satire describes the disillusioned world that followed World War I and proved fertile for the triumph of fascism.”

— From the Afterword by Alexander Stille

Paris in the 1920s—dizzy and decadent. Where a young man can make a fortune with his wits ... unless he is led into temptation. *Cocaine*’s dandified hero Tito Arnaudi invents lurid scandals and gruesome deaths, and sells these stories to the newspapers. But his own life becomes even more outrageous than his press reports when he acquires three demanding mistresses. Elegant, witty and wicked, Pitigrilli’s classic novel was first published in Italian in 1921 and charts the comedy and tragedy of a young man’s downfall and the lure of a bygone era. The novel’s descriptions of sex and drug use prompted church authorities to place it on a list of forbidden books. *Cocaine* retains its venom even today.

Pitigrilli was the pen name of Dino Segre, born in Turin in 1893. He worked as a foreign correspondent in Paris during the 1920s, and became equally celebrated and notorious for a series of audacious and subversive books. He died in 1975.

A wicked novel about drugs and sex in 1920s Paris, with nothing left unexplored.



MARJANA GAPONENKO

WHO

"A BOOK LIKE A FANTASTIC PARTY,

IS

UNSHAKABLE AS A CHILD'S FAITH...

MARTHA?

"ASTONISHES TO THE VERY END."

-NEUE ZÜRCHER ZEITUNG

TRANSLATED BY ARABELLA SPENCER

Who is Martha?

by Marjana Gaponenko / Austria-Germany

Translated by Arabella Spencer

FICTION

Available Now

5 1/4 x 8 | 230 pp

Trade Paper US \$16.99 | CAN \$18.50

978-1-939931-13-9



"A sweet, sad, sunny meditation on birds and music and the gentle approach of death."
— John Rockwell, former *New York Times* arts critic and editor

"With layers of inventive language, vividly drawn characters, history, music, birds, love, loneliness, and wisdom, this is a brilliant book, rich and satisfying as a Viennese torte."
— Sy Montgomery, author of *Birdology*

"A book like a fantastic party, as unshakeable as a child's faith ... Astonishes to the very end."
— *Neue Zürcher Zeitung*

In this rollicking novel, 96-year-old ornithologist Luka Levadski foregoes treatment for lung cancer and moves from Ukraine to Vienna to make a grand exit in a luxury suite at the Hotel Imperial. He reflects on his past while indulging in Viennese cakes and savoring music in a gilded concert hall. Levadski was born in 1914, the same year that Martha—the last of the now-extinct passenger pigeons—died. Levadski himself has an acute sense of being the last of a species. He may have devoted much of his existence to studying birds, but now he befriends a hotel butler and another elderly guest, who also doesn't have much time left, to share in the lively escapades of his final days. This gloriously written tale, in which Levadski feels "his heart pounding at the portals of his brain," mixes piquant wit with lofty musings about life, friendship, aging and death.

Marjana Gaponenko was born in 1981 in Odessa, Ukraine. She fell in love with the German language as a young girl, and began writing in German when she was sixteen. She lives in Vienna and Mainz.

A rollicking tale about facing death with verve and style, richly told with great feeling and historical depth.

KILLING THE SECOND DOG



INTRODUCTION
BY LESLEY
CHAMBERLAIN

TRANSLATED by TOMASZ MIRKOWICZ

Killing the Second Dog

by Marek Hlasko / Poland

Translated by Tomasz Mirkowicz

With an Introduction by Lesley Chamberlain

FICTION

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"Hlasko's story comes off the page at you like a pit bull."

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"Spokesman for those who were angry and beat ... turbulent, temperamental and tortured."

— *The New York Times*

"A must-read ... piercing and compelling."

— *Kirkus Reviews*

"His writing is taut and psychologically nuanced like that of the great dime-store novelist Georges Simenon, his novelistic world as profane as Isaac Babel's."

— *The Wall Street Journal*

Robert and Jacob are down-and-out Polish con men living in Israel in the 1950s. They're planning to run a scam on an American widow visiting the country. Robert, who masterminds the scheme, and Jacob, who acts it out, are tough, desperate men, adrift in the nasty underworld of Tel Aviv. Robert arranges for Jacob to run into the woman, whose heart is open; the men are hoping her wallet is too. What follows is a story of love, deception, cruelty and shame, as Jacob pretends to fall in love with her. It's not just Jacob who's performing a role; nearly all the characters are actors in an ugly story, complete with parts for murder and suicide. Hlasko's writing combines brutal realism with smoky, hardboiled dialogue, in a bleak world where violence is the norm and love is often only an act.

Marek Hlasko, known as the James Dean of Eastern Europe, was exiled from Communist Poland and spent his life wandering the globe. He died in 1969 of an overdose of alcohol and sleeping pills in Wiesbaden, Germany.

A hardboiled novel of deception and betrayal in 1950s Israel, where tough men and desperate women all play a role.

ALL BACKS WERE TURNED

Introduction by George Z. Gasyna

TRANSLATED
BY TOMASZ
MIRKOWICZ

*"BLOWTORCH OF A NOVEL.
MATCHLESS AND PRESCIENT!"
— PUBLISHERS WEEKLY*

MAREK HLASKO

All Backs Were Turned

by Marek Hlasko / Poland

Translated by Tomasz Mirkowicz

With an Introduction by George Z. Gasyna

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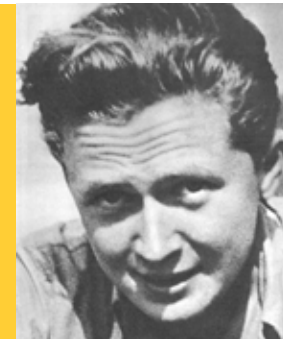
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— Roman Polanski

In this novel of breathtaking tension and sweltering love, two desperate friends on the edge of the law—one of them tough and gutsy, the other small and scared—travel to the southern Israeli city of Eilat to find work. There, Dov Ben Dov, the handsome native Israeli with a reputation for causing trouble, and Israel, his sidekick, stay with Ben Dov's recently married younger brother, Little Dov, who has enough trouble of his own. Local toughs are encroaching on Little Dov's business, and he enlists his older brother to drive them away. It doesn't help that a beautiful German widow named Ursula is rooming next door. What follows is a story of passion, deception, violence, and betrayal, all conveyed in hardboiled prose reminiscent of Dashiell Hammett and Raymond Chandler, with a cinematic style that would make Bogart and Brando green with envy.

Marek Hlasko, known as the James Dean of Eastern Europe, was exiled from Communist Poland and spent his life wandering the globe. He died in 1969 of an overdose of alcohol and sleeping pills in Wiesbaden, Germany.

All Backs Were Turned, set in Israel, is a story of sexual passion, violence, and betrayal, in classic hard-boiled prose.

Some Day



SHEMI ZARHIN

TRANSLATED BY YARDENNE GREENSPAN

Some Day

by Shemi Zarhin / Israel

Translated by Yardenne Greenspan

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"Ardent, salty, whimsical, steamy, absurd ... A wallop to the reader."

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"Extremely moving."

— *Miami Sun Sentinel*

"This thrilling, fresh, and surprising novel ought to draw the eyes of the literati back to Israel."

— *Foreword Reviews*

"Masterful ... haunting ... sublime .. Zarhin's characters are so real they fairly jump off the page."

— *The Jerusalem Post*

On the shores of Israel's Sea of Galilee lies the city of Tiberias, a place bursting with sexuality and longing for love. The air is saturated with smells of cooking and passion. Young Shlomi, who develops a remarkable culinary talent, has fallen for Ella, the strange neighbor with suicidal tendencies; his little brother Hilik obsessively collects words in a notebook. In the wild, selfish but magical grown-up world that swirls around them, a mother with a poet's soul mourns the deaths of literary giants while her handsome husband cheats on her both at home and abroad. *Some Day* is a gripping family saga. Zarhin's hypnotic writing renders a painfully delicious vision of individual lives behind Israel's larger national story.

Shemi Zarhin, born in Tiberias in 1961, is a novelist, film director and screenwriter who has created some of the most critically-acclaimed and award-winning films in the history of Israeli cinema.

A gripping family saga, filled with sex and cooking, which some critics have called the Israeli One Hundred Years of Solitude.



The Good Life Elsewhere

by Vladimir Lorchenkov / Moldova

Translated by Ross Ufberg

FICTION

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978-1-939931-01-6



“A touching and hilarious chronicle about the age-old European yearning for one more chance. A chance that may never come ...”

— Gary Shteyngart, author of *Little Failure* and *Absurdistan*

“Outstanding ... darkly hilarious.”

— *The Wall Street Journal*

“A simultaneously hilarious and heartbreaking tale.”

— *Publishers Weekly*

The Good Life Elsewhere is a very funny book. It is also a very sad one. Moldovan writer Vladimir Lorchenkov tells the story of a group of villagers and their tragicomic efforts, against all odds and at any cost, to emigrate from Europe’s most impoverished nation to Italy for work. This is a book with wild imagination and heartbreaking honesty, grim appraisals alongside optimistic commentary about the nature of human striving. In this uproarious tale, an Orthodox priest is deserted by his wife for an art-dealing atheist; a rookie curling team makes it to an international competition; a mechanic redesigns his tractor for travel by air and sea; thousands of villagers take to the road on a modern-day religious crusade to make it to the promised land of Italy; meanwhile, politicians remain politicians. It is not often that stories from forgotten countries such as Moldova reach us in the English-speaking world. A country where 25 percent of its population works abroad, where remittances make up nearly 40 percent of the GDP, where alcohol consumption per capita is the highest in the world, and which has the lowest per capita income in all of Europe—this is a country that surely has its problems. But, as Lorchenkov vividly shows, it’s a country whose residents don’t easily give up.

Vladimir Lorchenkov was born in Chisinau, Moldova, the son of a Soviet army officer, in 1979. He is a laureate of the 2003 Debut Prize, one of Russia’s highest honors given to young writers, the Russia Prize in 2008, and was short-listed for the National Bestseller Prize in 2012.

A scathing satire and a tragicomic look at the poorest—and drunkest—country in Europe.

FANNY VON ARNSTEIN

DAUGHTER OF THE ENLIGHTENMENT



HILDE
SPIEL

INTRODUCTION
by
MICHAEL Z. WISE

TRANSLATED BY CHRISTINE SHUTTLEWORTH

Fanny von Arnstein: Daughter of the Enlightenment

by Hilde Spiel / Austria

Translated by Christine Shuttleworth

With an Introduction by Michael Z. Wise

BIOGRAPHY

Available Now

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“*Fanny von Arnstein* is fascinating above all as a cautionary tale—and a reminder of our luck at having avoided the excruciating choices that Fanny, and so many Jews like her, had to face.”

— Adam Kirsch, *Tablet Magazine*

“Told with elegance and imagination, this book is indispensable for those interested in the history of culture, the role of women, and the transition of the Jewish community out of the ghetto toward the center of European life.”

— Leon Botstein, President of Bard College

“Hilde Spiel provides both a finely drawn portrait of a defining figure of her era and also of the times themselves.”

— John Kornblum, former U.S. Ambassador to Germany

In 1776 Fanny von Arnstein, the daughter of the Jewish master of the royal mint in Berlin, came to Vienna as an 18-year-old bride, bringing with her the intellectual sharpness and vitality of her birthplace. In her youth, she was influenced by the philosopher Moses Mendelssohn, a family friend who spearheaded the emancipation of German Jewry. She married a financier to the Austro-Hungarian imperial court, and in 1798 her husband became the first unconverted Jew in Austria to be granted the title of baron. Soon Fanny hosted an ever more splendid salon which attracted the leading figures of her day, including Madame de Staël, the Duke of Wellington, Lord Nelson, his lover Lady Hamilton and the young Arthur Schopenhauer.

Spiel's elegantly written and carefully researched biography not only provides a vivid portrait of a brave and passionate woman who advocated for the rights and acceptance of Jews but illuminates a central era in European cultural and social history.

Hilde Spiel was born in Vienna but left for England in 1936 amid rising anti-Semitism. She returned after World War Two and had a distinguished career as a cultural correspondent for the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, *The Guardian* and *The New Statesman*. Spiel wrote novels, works of cultural history and criticism, and translated the works of British writers including W.H. Auden and Virginia Woolf.

Beautifully written account of a major figure in the history of European Jewry, women's emancipation, and cultural patronage.



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