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FOKSAL GRUPA WYDAWNICZA

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FOKSAL GRUPA WYDAWNICZA



BUCHMANN

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GW FOKSAL IN NUMBERS (2011 – 2021)



340 000 books sold in 2021 (fiction and nonfiction)



570 248 books sold in 2021 (children's literature)





500 Polish writers

Translation rights sold for III titles





Film rights sold to 18 titles

10 years in publishing



8274 published titles



6 major imprints



Over 800 new publications annually



60 000 000 books sold

BESTSELLERS

Zygmunt Miłoszewski

(b. 1976) is a top-selling Polish novelist and scriptwriter. He achieved international success with his crime trilogy starring prosecutor Szacki, and his work has been adapted for cinema and television. His first novel, a horror story called *The Intercom*, was published in 2005 to high acclaim. In 2006, his novel for teenagers, *The Adder Mountains*, appeared. Major success came in 2007 with the publication of *Entanglement*, the first in the trilogy of crime novels that have gained him a popular following in Poland and abroad. In 2010 *Entanglement* was published in English by Bitter Lemon Press, and in 2011, a Polish movie based on the novel was released with the same title. In the same year, a sequel called *A Grain of Truth* was published, became an instant bestseller and earned Miłoszewski a place on the shortlist (of three) for the prestigiousPolityka' Passport award given annually to writers under the age of 40. In 2012 it was published in English translation by Bitter Lemon Press, and in 2015 the Polish movie version was released, with a screenplay co-authored by Miłoszewski and director Borys Lankosz. Meanwhile, in 2014, *Rage*, the third and final part of the trilogy featuring Prosecutor Szacki as the main protagonist, had won him the Polityka' Passport. *Rage* was published in English by AmazonCrossing in 2016.

All three of these crime novels have appeared in more than 40 editions in 18 languages. In Poland alone they have jointly sold over a million copies. Outside Poland, Miłoszewski's greatest success has been in France, where the Szacki trilogy has sold altogether more than 100,000 copies, and the author has won or been shortlisted for numerous literary prizes including the *Prix du Polar Européen*, awarded to the best European crime novel. All three novels have been adapted for radio dramatization and broadcast by BBC Radio 4 in the UK.

Between crime novels, in 2013 Miłoszewski wrote *Priceless*, a fast-paced art heist thriller that sold 200,000 copies in Poland, won several awards and has so far been published in six foreign languages. In 2017 it was published in French (winning the Transfuge prize), and in 2018 in English, by AmazonCrossing. It is now being adapted for the screen by Netflix. His next novel, a romantic "what if?" story, *Will You Still Love Me Yesterday?* (2018), sold over 150,000 copies within 12 months and won three "Book of the Year" awards. It was published in French translation in 2019 by Fleuve Éditions, an imprint of the Editis publishing group.

Miłoszewski is also a screen writer. As well as co-authoring the screenplay for A Grain of Truth, he co-authored a Polish television series called *The Prosecutor*.

He speaks excellent English and has often spoken at literary events in the UK and US.



ENTANGLEMENT

2008 HIGH CALIBER AWARD for the best crime novel in Poland!

Entanglement is an exceptionally fine combination of criminal tale and psycho–logical thriller. One fresh Sunday, on 5 June 2005, prosecutor Teodor Szacki begins an investigation into a strange case. In a central Warsaw monastery one of the participants of an unconventional therapeutic group is murdered while they are playing the roles of members of their families. Was the murderer someone from the group? If so, should we look for a motive among them or among the people they played during the therapy? The prosecutor believes only a thorough knowledge of the life of the deceased, who was apparently boring and colourless, and his past, will let him discover the motive and thus the murderer. Meanwhile, there are family secrets which cannot be disclosed with impunity; they are protected by powers stronger than family. The novel's trump card is the main character: a man whose youthful face is in contrast to his completely grey hair. A good husband and father, dreaming of an adventure that would turn his ideal life upside down.

Rights sold:

Germany, UK, Czech Republic, Ukraine, Croatia, France, Turkey, Macedonia, Slovakia, Spain, Italy, Japan, Romania, Russia, (except of Romania and Russia, rights are available again).

A GRAIN OF TRUTH

2012 HIGH CALIBER AWARD for the best crime novel in Poland!

Sandomierz is a picturesque town full of churches and museums. Meanwhile, early one morning in spring, a woman's naked body is found outside a former synagogue. Someone has slashed her throat open – and it looks as if they did it with the enormous razor found lying nearby. Quite by chance, public prosecutor Teodor Szacki just happens to be on the scene. How come? Six months earlier he broke up a gang of sex traffickers who had a drop-off point in this town. On a wave of short-lived fame, Szacki decided to move there permanently from Warsaw. But a few months after separating from his wife and daughter, and leaving the big city behind, he knows he has made a mistake. So the cadaver outside the synagogue is a chance to put an end to his small-town ennui. Szacki conducts the investigation with the help of an ageing policeman and a reluctant lady prosecutor. Gradually he discovers the subtle ins and outs of local society, the town's past history, and who is connected to whom. In his efforts to solve the mystery he investigates a love triangle, an ancient Jewish ritual and some Nazi symbols.

In his latest detective novel Zygmunt Miłoszewski takes us to the Polish equivalent of Twin Peaks, where the scenery is coloured by present-day emotions and desires, as well as events from the seemingly distant past.

Rights Sold: UK, Czech Republic, Russia, Israel, Ukraine, Macedonia, Slovakia, Germany, France, Belarus, Spain, Italy, Croatia, Greece, Japan, (Except of Romania and Russia, rights are available again).







RAGE

Prosecutors and police officers don't like domestic violence. They prefer "real" crimes such as murder or theft. Then everything is clear from the very start, and the only problem is to figure out who committed the crime. But as for terror at home, taking place in a private sphere between four walls – they treat it with scorn. They don't like these cases, in which one person's words are weighed against another's in court. They don't like the victims of domestic violence, who withdraw their testimony overnight.

On November 25th, 2013, prosecutor Teodor Szacki is summoned to the ruins of a bunker near a former German public hospital. During roadworks, an old skeleton has been found Little does he know that what appeared to be the end of a routine procedure was, in fact, the beginning of the most difficult case in his career as a prosecutor. A case which would strip him of legal distance, force him to make binding decisions and turn out to be the last investigation of prosecutor Teodor Szacki.

Rage is a crime novel presenting a mystery set against a background formed by a serious social problem . While staying within the principles of the genre, the author changes the rules of the game he plays with the reader – and instead of pondering over the murderer's identity, we try to guess who was killed, and why.

Unfortunately the author – as resolutely as Sir Arthur Conan Doyle in his own time – has announced the end of his protagonist's adventures!

Rights sold: UK, Czech Republic, Russia, Israel, Ukraine, Macedonia, Slovakia, Germany, France, Belarus, Spain, Italy, Croatia, Greece, Japan, (Except of Romania and Russia, rights are available again).



PRICELESS

Priceless is a thriller about an attempt to recover the most valuable work of art to has gone missing during the Second World War, Raphael's Portrait of a Young Man (known as the male equivalent of the Mona Lisa). Before the war the painting hung in a museum in Krakow, but near the end of the conflict it disappeared in extremely mysterious circumstances. In the novel, the Polish government finds out where the painting is, but as it has no possibility of getting it back in a legal way, it sends a special task force to steal the masterpiece back for Poland. This four-person team consists of: a woman who works for the Foreign Ministry's department for the recovery of lost art; a man who is an art dealer; a retired special services officer; and a Swedish female thief, specially released from jail for this purpose. These four are the book's heroes.

Raphael's painting turns out to be just a small part of a much bigger mystery, involving a mythical collec–tion of 19th-century Impressionist paintings and some historical secrets whose exposure would disturb the balance of the world's superpowers.

Under the guise of a thriller, *Priceless* is an erudite story about the role played by works of art in national memory, about the enigmas of art looting during the Second World War, when everyone stole from everyone, and about how to this day the owners are still trying to recover their property. In Poland alone there are still about 60,000 masterpieces missing, worth some 20 billion dollars.

Rights sold: Czech Republic, Ukraine, Spain, Croatia, (except of Romania and Russia, rights are available again).



THE INTERCOM

The first day in the new home of the newlywed couple Agnieszka and Robert begins rather discouragingly: they stumble into a headless body lying on the blood-stained staircase in a block of flats. Strange voice speak on the intercom, the people living in the building are haunted by the oddest dreams and hallucinations. The horror mounts as the building literally locks up, trapping its powerless inhabitants inside.

Is all this but a case of collective hysterics, or is the place haunted? Three individuals attempt to solve the puzzle: Agnieszka, whose husband increasingly gives in to the dark forces lurking in the building; Wiktor, an alcoholic journalist struggling with his traumatic past; and Kamil, a high-school student estranged from his parents. What will they find out about the terrible building and about themselves?

Fast-paced, with its provocative, Bulgakovian dark humour and a carefully constructed atmosphere reminiscent of a Stephen King novel, The Intercom combines the best features of a gripping work of fiction, a horror story and a thriller.

Rights sold:Germany, The Netherlands, Slovakia, Italy, Except of Italy rights are available again

Igor Brejdygant

(b.1971), he is a novelist, screenwriter, director, and photographer. He wrote screenplays for the Polish feature films *Palimpsest* (dir. Konrad Niewolski), *Prosta historia o morderstwie* (dir. Arkadiusz Jakubik), and to TV series *Paradoks*, *Zbrodnia*, *Belle Epoque*, *Ultraviolet*, *Szadź*, *Erynie*, *Otwórz oczy*, *Rysa*, and *Układ*. He studied Film Production at the National Film School in Łódź. Brejdygant also directs documentaries and TV series, including *Szaleńcy Pana Boga* series for Religia TV, *Handlarze* for TTV, and TVP2 series *Paradoks*. He wrote several crime novels that were warmly received by the readers and critics alike: *Paradoks* (2016), *Szadź* (2017), *Rysa* (2018), and *Układ* (2019).





Check the sample translation here:

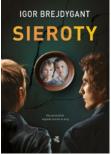


THE WIND

Early spring in the Tatra Mountains. The speeding foehn wind takes the breath away, knocks people off their feet and blurs the mind. Agnieszka and Piotr Markowski, Zakopane's most famous couple, set off from a hostel at Morskie Oko lake towards the Szpiglasowa pass. An avalanche descending from the Miedzina ridge to the lake shore shrouds the metre-long layer of ice in thousands of tons of snow. Wawrzyniec is almost certain that seconds before the avalanche, he heard a strange, hollow rumble like the sound of an explosion... Meanwhile, the chance of finding the two hikers is decreasing by the minute. Was what happened merely an unfortunate twist of fate?

Igor Brejdygant's *The Wind* depicts a Zakopane far-removed from the tourist image: murky, on the border of winter and spring, life and death. The mystery of the Markowskis' accident forces Wawrzyniec to confront his own past. An amalgamation of unrest and passion constantly throws spanners in the works and lays false trails.





ORPHANS

It's been 12 years since the Piotrowski siblings lost their parents. The brutal murder took place at night, at their own home; as a result, Ania and Marcin ended up in a Catholic-run orphanage. The police never managed to find the murderer, so years later, the brother and sister decide to look for justice where others have failed to give it to them. And yet, family secrets turn out to be more dangerous than anyone could have expected.

17 BESTSELLERS





Check the sample translation here:



THE CRACK

Never before have the old sins cast shadows that long

In modern-day Warsaw, a homeless alcoholic dies. DCI Monika Brzozowska has a feeling there is more to this case than just hobo wars. Further murders with similar M.O. confirm her suspicions. As the investigation unfolds, it turns out the old sins of the victims are connected to the mistakes of youth Brzozowska is guilty herself. The DCI, who suffers from bouts of amnesia, becomes entangled in a dangerous game, forcing her to look back and face the demons of her own past once again. As it turns out, they have never really gone away.

The Scratch is an exciting combination of a crime novel and psychological thriller in which the suppressed painful memories turn out to be the hardest riddle waiting to be solved. And while told by a man, it is a convincingly-spun story of a woman trying her best to find her footing in a patriarchal world of the police world while fighting the fears that consume her to save herself. Will she be able to make it through, despite the long shadows of her past sins?



THE SYSTEM

Commissioner Monika Brzozowska is struggling to recover mentally after she killed her husband, a paid assassin, in self-defence. The situation is made all the more difficult by the fact that her superiors have made her take indefinite leave. Regrettably, commissioner Brzozowska ends up returning to a pernicious habit that once nearly killed her. Meanwhile, witnesses who were meant to help the police bring a paedophile ring to justice are beginning to disappear. Everything points to the fact that it's the dangerous and influential men getting their kicks from playing with minors who are trying to hush up the case. Over time, it turns out that things are much more complicated, and being the executioner doesn't rule out being the victim.

Jakub Szamałek

was born in 1986 in Warsaw. He is a novelist and principal writer at the CD Project Red (publisher of *The Witcher* video games). Szamałek studied at the University of Oxford and holds a PhD in Mediterranean Archeology at the University of Cambridge. He was awarded the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation scholarship.

He was listed as one of Eastern and Central Europe's Young Leaders (New Europe 100) by the Res Publica Foundation, Google, and "Financial Times". Szamałek is an author of a crime trilogy about the Athenian detective Leochares. This series earned him the Wielki Kaliber Readers' Choice Award (2011, *Kiedy Atena odwraca wzrok* [*When Athene Looks Away*]), and the Wielki Kaliber Award (2016, *Czytanie z kości* [*Bone Reading*]). In collaboration with Maria Pawłowska, he published a children's book *Kim jest Ślimak Sam?* [*Who Is Sam the Snail?*], introduced to the Hall of Treasures of the Children's Books Museum in Poland. In January 2018, W.A.B published his second bestselling novel *Cokolwiek wybierzesz* [*Whatever You Choose*], the first in the *Hidden Web* series. The second book, *Kimkolwiek jesteś* [*Whoever You Are*] was published in October 2019. *Gdziekolwiek spojrzysz* [*Anywhere You Look*] is the final instalment of the trilogy.

Check the sample translation here





HIDDEN NETWORK. 1, YOU KNOW WHO.

By the time you realise what's going on, it might be too late ...

There's been a road accident in Warsaw. Ryszard Buczek, leading actor in a popular children's programme, has died. Everything points to the fact that he lost control of his vehicle. But Julita Wojcicka, a gossip site journalist, has grounds to believe that someone helped the celebrity to depart from this world. The young, inexperienced journalist launches her own investigation. She quickly realises that the truth about the TV star's death is more frightening than anyone could have imagined.

Rights Sold: France, Russia



HIDDEN NETWORK 2. YOU KNOW WHO

November 2018. KandyKroosh, camgirl from Mińsk Mazowiecki, is strangled in front of thousands of Internet users.

Julita Wójcicka takes over the investigation started by Emil Chorczyński, in order to reveal the identity of an elusive admin managing the child porn forum. Among the material she receives there is a file that clearly does not match the rest. It is an article about the death of the camgirl, accompanied by a short note: "check it out."

Julita Wójcicka picks up the trail, which leads her on a route she never expected to follow – out of the country, towards political plotting, secret meeting of hackers and... a mortal threat. It turns out that in a world where everything can be found online, nothing can remain secret.

"Whoever you are" is a story about the price you have to pay for following your ambitions and about determination bordering on obsession. This book also proves that in the 21st century such things as privacy, anonymity or free choice are not to be taken for granted. Whatever we do on the Internet is registered and may be used against us.

Rights Sold: France



EVERYWHERE YOU LOOK

2020. Journalist Julita Wójcicka continues an investigation started by Emil Chorczyński. In Żelazna Góra, a disastrous copper mine spill alarms the local community. A team of malware analysts comes across a mysterious virus. In the meantime, the journalist discovers that a group of criminals she's been closely following became interested in... library collections. All those events seem to have one thing in common: artificial intelligence.

Malcolm XD

is the most unknown man in Poland and a local internet legend. He wrote viral short stories, one of which, about an old fishing fanatic, was even made into a short film. His debut book, *Emigration*, became an instant bestseller and was met with critical acclaim. Soon after, to honour his most dedicated fans and the lovers of analogue literature, he published his best and most popular online stories in a collection titled *Pastrami*. In the first phase of lockdown, he embarked on a charity project where he brightened other peoples' isolation with his *Covid Chronicles*, but he underestimated the scope of the situation and came up with a story too short to last for the duration of the pandemic. During his author meetings, he prefers to remain anonymous,

so he sits inside a vending machine. He does his interviews online. There are people who maliciously insist that Malcolm XD is a hive personality.

Check the sample translation here



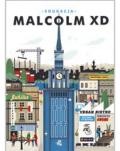


EMIGRATION

The debut novel of the most unknown author in Poland. Over the past few years, Malcolm XD has published dozens of short stories online, which have attracted over 2 million readers. He wrote a now-cult story, *The Angler's Father (Ojcu węd-karzu)*, which was even adapted for the screen (the script for Fanatic [Fanatyka] was written by Malcolm XD himself; the film was directed by Michał Tylka and featured actors including Piotr Cyrwus, Marian Dziędziel, Jan Nowicki and Anna Radwan). It was the world's first full-fledged film adaptation of an online story. *Emigration* is a book about a young man who, after graduating from a provincial high school, decides to go to the UK to earn some money. In the manner characteristic of an 'online story', it talks about one of the most important Polish social phenomena of recent decades, which has not yet been presented in detail in Polish literature. This is a story about growing up in provincial Poland, an adventure-filled journey to London and the life of an emigrant. About truckers, Gypsy campervan dealers, anarchist squatters, recidivists hiding from the Polish justice system, Russian oligarchs, the impoverished English aristocracy, losers and go-go clubs.

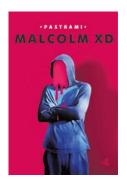
Get ready to see the legend of the Polish Internet in analogue version.





EDUCATION

Education, the story of Malcolm and Stomil takes off where it ended in his debut book *Emigration*. The lads leave the UK without backpacks filled with \pounds_{50} notes, but at least they make it. Upon their arrival in Warsaw, they are forced to fight an unfair battle with the Polish Education System and the so-called University of Adult Life. They struggle to find their footing and get jobs in the harsh job market reality. They tried all kinds of jobs, from delivering homoeopathic supplements to secluded – literally and metaphorically – middle-class estates, to selling EU-funded office equipment and accidental attempt to sell Poland by a group of dodgers from a reprivatisation mafia.



PASTRAMI

Malcolm xD is the most unknown man in Poland and his first novel is a great success on the Polish literary market. It has won the recognition of the readers and critics alike. For all the "paperback" readers, who haven't had a chance to read the texts that Malcolm xD has published online so far, we have prepared an anthology of his best pastas. The anthology includes the story of an old man – a passionate angler, Territorial Defense Forces, the Pathologist, Pauline and many others. The collection has the foreword by Sylwia Chutnik and an introductory pasta by Malcolm xD himself.

Movie Rights Sold to one of the stories "Fanatyk" (you can watch the movie on Netflix)



WAY TO GO, MA'AM

Check the sample translation of first book in series, here:



Spry and unrelenting pensioner Zofia Wilkońska dies and goes for an interview in a place that seems very much like purgatory. Having answered a handful of trivial questions, she stands in the queue towards the exit. However, an accidental ticket mix-up takes Zofia far from where she was supposed to go. While at it, the industrious old lady joins a declining Good Deed Production Team, already scheduled to be closed down. Not that she's so altruistic: she has her reasons. Soon, Zofia recruits a team of famous deceased to help her: TV militiaman Stanisław Borewicz, legendary actress Danuta Szaflarska, and General Jaruzelski. Meanwhile, the woman she ended up swapping tickets with finds Zofia and begins to blackmail her...

Jacek Galiński – winner of the short story competition in the International Crime Festival Wrocław 2017. The author of the best-selling crime comedies about Zofia Wilkońska. Winner of the 2019 Literary Hultaj title. He was nominated for the Grand Prix of the Warsaw Criminal Festival 2019.





RED EARTH

In 2020, young Marcin Tilszer – the son of THAT Tilszer, the famous reporter who journeyed all over Africa, sets off to follow his father's footsteps in Uganda.

However, Marcin never makes it to Gulu, the place of his father's most beautiful – and admittedly, the most life-threatening – adventure.

The reporter is forced to drop his most recent investigation and leave his editorial team to look for his son. But in Africa, nothing is quite as it seems: all paths seem to lead nowhere, and some decisions made 25 years ago have unforeseen consequences.

Marcin Meller is one of the most accomplished Polish journalists. Apart from his years-long experience as the editor-in-chief at Playboy, Meller is known as the TV host at Drugie Śniadanie Mistrzów, co-author of the best-selling book Gaumardżos and the author of essay collections Sprzedawca arbuzów and Nietoperz i suszone cytryny.



Check the sample translation here



THE LITTLE PRINCESS

The Little Princess is an inspiring and touching book that helps readers to recognise a whole range of emotions, make their own decisions, listen to their own voice, and choose relationships that are good for them. A book that not only teaches children how to grow up to be smart adults, but also teaches adults how to become smarter adults – for themselves and their children.

The title character meets Amelia Earhart, the legendary American pilot who disappeared in mysterious circumstances. But before they give each other a mutual lesson in sisterhood, the protagonist takes a trip through space in an attempt to better understand her beloved flower – and encounters many bizarre and beautiful characters along the way. Through the Princess's journey, readers experience a wonderful adventure that will give them courage and inspire them to spread their wings. In addition, we finally find out what really happened to Amelia Earhart, who went missing during her pioneering flight over the Pacific...

Karolina Lewestam is a Polish journalist, writer, and university lecturer. She has a PhD in philosophy from Boston University and has lectured at Northeastern University and the University of Warsaw, among others. She is a prolific opinion writer for the Polish press, including a long-running weekly op-ed column for a leading daily, and is an editor at Pismo, a monthly opinion magazine. She has received five nominations for Grand Press, the leading journalism award in Poland, for her opinion writing. Besides *The Little Princess*, she has a forthcoming book of quirky philosophical essays on parenting due for release in early 2022. She has previously published academically in English. The main character of The Little Princess bears an eerie resemblance to her middle child, Matylda.

Rights sold: Czech Republic, Ukraine

FICTION

Zyta Rudzka

Zyta Rudzkais an author and playwright. Her books include *White Negatives, The Mikvach* and A *Brief Exchange of Fire* (W.A.B. 2018). The last one was shortlisted for the Nike Literary Award 2019, recognised as one of the ten best Polish books of the decade by "Polityka" weekly, and awarded the Gdynia Literary Award. Her latest novel, *Soft Tissues* (W.A.B. 2020), received the Literary Award of the Capital City of Warsaw and was chosen as one of the ten best books of the year by "Książki" bimonthly. Her plays, including *Cold Buffet* and *Sugar Bra*, have won the Gdynia Drama Award and the Gold Remi at the Worldfest Independent Film Festival in Houston.



Check the sample translation here:



DOCTOR JOSEF'S BEAUTY

A new edition of an extraordinary novel by one of Poland's most interesting writers, winner of the Gdynia Literary Award, author of *A Brief Exchange of Fire* and *Soft Tissues*, which has captivated literary critics and readers alike.

"Doctor Josef's Beauty" is a bold, strong and uncompromising story about the old age of those who were children during the Holocaust, as well as a bold and unusual take on the essence of the body, which both redeems and betrays. Zyta Rudzka's novel touches on the most difficult topics – and it does so ruthlessly, but also with humour. It simultaneously outrages and seduces; above all, it leaves no one indifferent.

Rights sold: USA, Serbia



Check the sample translation here:





Check the sample translation here:



BRIEF EXCHANGE OF FIRE

Zyta Rudzka's new novel is a surprising melange of lustful sensuality and tragi-comical musing on creative work, gender, and the passage of time. Brief *Exchange of Fire* is a battleground for the eternal struggle of Eros and Thanatos, man and woman, poet and the world.

Roma Dąbrowska is a poet, daughter, wife, lover, mother – a woman. The roles she came to play in her life all come together in the face of approaching death. As she wanders, hauntingly, across the world of the living, the old poet's consciousness returns to the most important people and events in her life. It is something of a summary of her creative self. Who was she? A wild and passion–ate lover, a poet who loved words, an unfulfilled mother of a brilliant daughter who left the nest too early? Grotesque figures return in the protagonist's frenetic visions – former enthusiasts of her work, ex-husbands, her own mother. Roma reflects on her womanhood, her creative work, the passing of time, while at the same time missing the delights of the sensual world, which she all but deserted.

Rights sold: Serbia

SOFT TISSUES

He is an ageing paediatrician, a decent diagnostician if he says so himself, but he no longer enjoys his work; he is tired and grumpy. His wife – an ophthalmologist, cheating on him for years. His father – a village doctor, suffering from Alzheimer's who in his old age decided to marry a Ukrainian woman fleeing the war. And there is the mysterious woman, to whom this novel is addressed.

Zyta Rudzka's latest novel is about dying, growing old, and about the false appearances that allow us to keep up our guard even as we're falling apart on the inside. Nicely clothed, our hair neatly pruned, we want to show that we've been around, determined not to let the world know how desperate we really are. *Soft Tissues* is a book about the repetitiveness of fate and about our inability to escape it. But it's also about love – the hard, rough love between a man and a woman and the son's love for his father; and about the fact that perhaps, in the end, love is the only thing that matters.

This short novel is deeply rooted in language – sparse, strange, distinct, sharply reflecting the internal entanglement of its characters. It's a linguistic masterclass, perfectly pinning down the emotional turmoil that cannot be precisely named and addressed.

Maciej Płaza

is a writer and translator; he holds a PhD in humanities. He wrote a book on Stanisław Lem, and in 2012, he received the Literatura na Świecie award for his translations of H.P. Lovecraft's short stories. His debut short story collection *Skoruń* (W.A.B. 2015) earned him the Gdynia Literary Award 2016 and the Kościelski Award (2016). The book was also shortlisted for Nike 2016 Award and longlisted for the Gombrowicz Award. His novel *Robinson w Bolechowie* [*Robinson in Bolechów*, W.A.B. 2017] received the ANGELUS Central European Literature Award 2018.



Check the sample translation here:



GOLEM

The year is 1910. On one crisp morning, a vagabond comes to a small, poor shtetl. Although not old yet, he seems weathered with life and hard work, maimed and deaf. He finds shelter at the home of the local tzaddik, who sees in him something others do not: a 'spark of the ancient light'. The mysterious man's arrival coincides with the events that, once again, will disturb the brittle ethnic balance of the town – the events that accompanied the lives of European Jews for generations, culminating in the 20th century. This time, however, they will end very unexpectedly.

In the Jewish tradition, Golem is a mythical creature bestowed a human shape but no soul – and it has been a fascinating trope for centuries. Maciej Płaza uses it to immerse his readers in the world of a Podolian shtetl of the early 20th century. Here, Kabbalah and messianic themes are counterbalanced with a realistic description of the Chassidic culture and customs. And Maciej Płaza, one od the greatest stylists of the Polish prose, shows that he is more than capable to breathe new life in the legendary Golem and all that surrounds it.



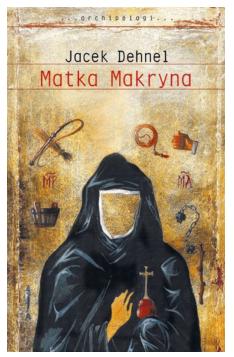
Check the sample translation here:



ROBINSON IN BOLECHÓW

Robert comes back to Bolechów after a three-year absence and a failed marriage. His mother is dead. After his return, Robert renews his contact with Monika and Franciszek. Flashbacks present the relationship between the characters: Robert and Monika had known each other since childhood and are both scarred by provincial morality; Robert had not known his father, while Monika's family had broken up. Monika's father Franciszek, a man with a dark past (resettled to Bolechów from after the World War II), had fallen in love with Robert's mother Łucja.

That day, the hubbub in the town was louder than ever, though with a frosty undertone. Single shots were fired in the night, you could hear laughter and screaming, occasionally a woman's piercing cry. The tanks left the following morning. A couple of days later, father with a group of armed men got on a sleigh and went to the forest. They came back after dark, lighting the way with torches. Father talked quietly with mother until late at night. After that, armed carts left the town every couple of days.



MOTHER MACRINA

Mother Macrina is the story of an unusual female swindler whobecame famous throughout Europe in the mid-19th century. Charismatic and graced with the gift of story-telling, she presented herself as a modern-day martyr, tortured by Russians for refusing to convert to Orthodox Christianity. Skillfully playing on people's religious and patriotic emotions, she exerted a great influence on Polish Romantic poets and powers abroad; in France she drove crowds to hysteria, at the Vatican she won over two successive popes, she performed miracles and uttered prophecies, to finally die as a venerable prioress in a convent in Rome.

Jacek Dehnel (b. 1980) – poet, translator, writer and painter. The author of several poetry collections, two collections of short stories: A Collection (1999) and The Marketplace in Smyrna (W.A.B. 2006), a novel Lala (W.A.B. 2006) and the novellas Balzakiana. In 2005 Jacek Dehnel received the Kościelski Award for the poetry collection Parallel Lives and in 2006 "Polityka", the prestigious weekly magazine, awarded Lala with a special prize. He has translated poems by Osip Mandelstam and W.H. Auden. In 2008 his translation of Philip Larkin's poetry entitled Collected was published. In 2011 W.A.B. published his novel Saturn and in 2013 a collection of essays The Junior Accountant. Articles About Books, Reading and Writing. Mother Macrina was published in 2014.



Check the sample translation here



PHANTOM DOSES

When they meet, she's a resident at the Hospital for Children with Neuroses, Speech Impediments and Personality Disorders. He is the hospital's director who also happens to be a nationally famous psychiatrist, known in all of the People's Republic of Poland. They get married; he becomes her mentor and teacher. But over time, Alzheimer's disease begins to gnaw at his mind, and so the tables start to turn.

The book explores issues such as the nature of self and consciousness, but above all, it tells a tale of the loss of identity and escaping another person's dominance. The process – an establishment of the woman's 'self' is presented in the opposition to her husband's mental deterioration.

While the subject might be challenging to some, the author presents it in the form of a sophisticated grotesque. The readers will enjoy its intertextuality, the wide scope of contexts and the masterful smoke-and-mirrors game of truth and fiction. It is brimming with all kinds of references, from Eastern philosophy to French literature.

Wojciech Chamier-Gliszczyński (b. 1983) - made his debut in 2004 as a poet in the Szczecinbased journal Artefakt. In 2015, he was nominated in the Henryk Bereza Literary Competition for Read in the typescript. Finalist of the Pracownia Prozy project during the Station Literature 23rd Festival in 2018 and the Pracownia Opowieści project during the Station Literature 24th Festival in 2019. His short story Forbidden to play football was published in 2019 in the literary magazine biBLioteka and published by Biuro Literackie. For the book Portrait of Dogs, he was nominated for the ArtRage 2020 Literary Award. Lawyer, legal advisor by profession.



Check the sample translation here

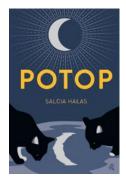


SANATORIUM

Facing a rebellion from her own body, Kama ends up at a spa resort in Ciecho–cinek. The sanatorium turns out to be a place full of traps, rituals and secrets, and despite her best efforts, our heroine can't understand the rules that govern the spa world. Everything in this story takes place in the mysterious space between health and illness, between the spa's daily life and its dark recesses, and between what could happen and what actually happens.

Rights Sold: Sweden, Serbia, Georgia

Barbara Klicka (born 1981) is a poet. In 2012, she published the volume *Same same*, which was nominated for the Silesius Wrocław Poetry Award. She received this prize in 2016 for her poetry book *Nice*, for which she also received the Gdynia Literary Prize in the same year. She is the author of the play *Rudiments* (Elementarz), directed by Piotr Cieplak at the National Theatre in Warsaw



THE FLOOD

In Gdynia's Beijing, there are three people who Know. One of them even Talks. But Beijing is falling apart, falling into the ground. There are more and more mysterious craters. Halina predicts a flood. The Beast will awaken and emerge from the depths. Dreamers will have to dream their dreams. The wolf pups have been born.

Anyway, they're trying to close down Beijing, Zoshka's got depression, and a cat has got stuck in a window.

The flood is coming.

The Flood is a daring prose poem saga about the end of the world. Magical realism from the Polish favelas. It is the story of three women who know more. They're not trying to prevent the world from falling apart, but focusing on what's closer. On Zoshka's depression and their neighbours' problems. However, they can talk about the coming flood – just not on TV, because they'll be called crazy.

Salcia Hałas was born in Przemyśl and lives in Gdynia. She has a bloke, a child, a dog and two chinchillas. She spends her time on writing, street art and plants. Her debut novel *Roast for Amfa* (Pieczeń dla Amfy) won the Gdynia Literary Award (2017) and was nominated for the Witold Gombrowicz Literary Prize (2017).

Rights sold: Sweden, Serbia



CHILDREN

Children is a boyish coming-of-age story set in a small town, in the shadow of parents who still remember the communist times. It's a story of growing up surrounded by omnipresent plastic, aggressive adverts, and the overpowering expectation to become someone. To be someone in a fake world that rejects those who are different or crazy. It's a story of a compulsive need to escape. And of the traumas that mark you for life. It's a story of the end of childhood, of the first conscious attempts to reconcile with the past and its impact on our here and now.

Paśnik also offers us a window to the world of the earliest years of today's twenty- and thirtysomethings from Poland, raised in the times of growing capitalism and prosperity, with their grey-screened computers, omniscient Internet, supermarkets, and skipping school to hang out in the shopping-mall cinemas.

Jacek Paśnik (born in 1997 in Łódź) studies Architecture and often trips over pavement tiles on block housing estates. He writes for several websites and magazines, including "Popmoderna", "Szum", "Stoner Polski", and "Wizje". He also runs a fan page Dzieci Neo (fb.com/dziecineostrady).

Maciej Marcisz

(b. 1988)He has been working in the publishing industry for almost a decade, and at W.A.B. publishing house for two years. Along with his friend, he runs a reading club in Warsaw's Ochota district. He's a member of the SEXEDPL foundation board. He didn't finish his master's at the University of Warsaw nor the National Film School in Łódź. He comes from a small town and lives in Warsaw. *Family Tapes* is his first novel.



FAMILY TAPES

Marcin Malys is 30 years old, with 63,000 zlotys of debt and a vague vision of his own future When his father decides to disinherit him and donate his fortune to charity, Marcin decides to get his inheritance back. To change his father's opinion, he has to win over his mother, sister and brother, who decided to forget about him forever.

From a hilarious story about attempts to deal with adulthood, *Family Tapes* turns into a moving family saga. It is a story of the magical and terrible power of money, the birth of the nouveau riche's fortunes, a toxic sense of uniqueness and the consequences of manipulating memories. It's about the things we'll never find out about someone else's family, and about a certain VHS tape



A BOOK ABOUT FRIENDSHIP

Kasia, Michał and Dorota have known each other forever. Their friendship has stood the test of time, surviving relocations to distant cities and even increaingly divergent paths in life. But when a carefully hidden secret is leaked in the group chat, their future relationship hangs in the balance. Should you fight for a waning friendship for the sake of the good old days? Or should certain things be left to die? Were our parents right when they said that by a certain age, we'd be able to count our true friends on one hand?

A Book about Friendship is a novel about bonds stronger than love, vocation and the disappointments of adulthood. About who our nearest and dearest have made us want to be, and about the everyday compromises that distance us from how we think of ourselves, until we become completely unrecognisable. About the great unknown which is our life – until it ceases to be so.

It is a journey through the formative experiences of three friends – first loves, nights spent talking and reading, shame and acceptance, historical events and music festivals. It's a story about the voices of friends that stay in our heads even after they have long since disappeared from our lives.



THE STORY YOU ALREADY KNOW

Can one drunken phone call to an ex be enough to change your life? Maybe yes, maybe not. It doesn't seem like it, at least not this time.

Ever since she was a little girl, Jana was always told that she can be anything she wants. And so she decided to be an interior designer and abroad. Ludwik was just a teenager when he lost his father and financial security. He's hoping to find some stability in the haven of academia where his career is about to start. As for Krzysiek, he realised early on that he is not going to enjoy many privileges with his social background – still, he is determined to build a life for himself and to be the one who calls the shots no matter what. In a nutshell: it's him, her, and their gay friend. And it may sound just like some story you already know...

Powszednia historia is an anti-family saga in which the characters with their simplified, boiled-down stories are just an excuse to explore the journey made by several generations. It's a journey fueled by the age-old urge to escape one's circumstances – and this was the very journey that led Jana, Ludwik and Krzysiek to the streets in one of the large towns in post-communist Europe. And it goes just as it usually does: History merges with pop culture while small promises of happiness hit the hard wall of real life.

Sebastian Nowak (born 1991) - a boy from Radom, has been living in Krakow for over a decade. A graduate of Polish philology as well as cultural studies and media knowledge. In 2021, he was among three people from around the world selected by Milan City of Literature UNESCO to participate in the residency program for representatives of the book market. *Powszednia Historia* is his novel debut.



IS IT A DREAM?

A disturbing and dark tale of love, friendship and mismatch ... A story in which the border between dream and reality ceases to exist. How a deeply hidden secret can turn out to be deadly. Łucja, a seemingly ordinary eighteen-year-old girl, spends her time meeting friends, studying and endless conflicts with her parents. However, it soon becomes apparent that her problems are very different from those of a "normal teenager". Since she was a child, she has had extremely realistic dreams that are hard for her to distinguish from reality. Everything gets even more complicated when one night she meets a mysterious boy who turns her life upside down.

Natalia Klewicz (b. 2000) - Polish singer, songwriter, currently active in the music duet Twenty, student of journalism and theater lover. At the age of 16, she started her adventure with the media in the music and television project My3, during which she released four albums and hosted a TV program on Polsat TV. Is it a dream? this is her debut novel.



HEART FULL OF SCORPIONS

Warsaw, 1960. A dark city is rising from ruins. Jacek is 16 years old and has a head full of stories. He wears Lee jeans, a white undershirt, and, always, wistful gazes of many girls. He looks almost like James Dean, he can talk like James Dean and... he feels a bit like him, too, surrounded by a pack of boys from his district – on the streets, at school and football field. Until one night, Nina walks into a room crowded with sweaty bodies, filled with cigarette smoke, rock'n'roll music echoing with the sound of clinking bottles. The girl, who came to Warsaw from the USSR, doesn't look like a schoolgirl and doesn't act like one, either. There's probably an older boyfriend waiting for her back home, a jazzman or an actor. At the same time, in the four walls of a certain bachelor apartment just as thick with cigarette smoke, some people are playing a game the partying teenager do not and cannot know about. They have no idea that its outcome will decide not only their fates, but also the future of the Polish People's Republic.

Wojciech Engelking (born in 1992) – novelist and journalist. He wrote several novels, including *Człowiek znikąd* [A Man From Nowhere]. He writes for "Newsweek"; his essays were also published in "Tygodnik Powszechny", "Kultura Liberalna", and "Pismo" magazines. He is also an author of several academic papers on law and politics. He lives in Warsaw.

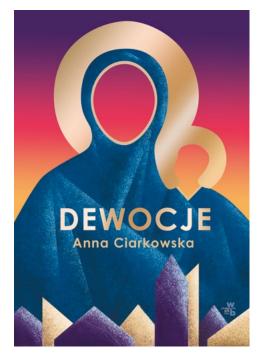


ALL MY HOMES

When her husband retires from his job as a test pilot – meaning that he is no longer a threat – and her second (and last) child leaves the family nest, her world as she knew it, precarious as it was, falls apart. She has learned to live in a constant state of fear and anxiety, and so now, she has to establish a new order. She decides to begin with finding a new home that could become a safe haven to help her and her husband learn to adapt to a changed reality. However, their efforts to grow accustomed to new places always end with failure. They keep deconstructing one home after another, slowly realising that they must find the order they seek within themselves.

Grażyna Jagielska wrote a novel that is deep, wise and, at times, surrealistic – about the challenges of having to constantly learn how to live together while dealing with almost-obsessive efforts to find oneself and one's inner peace. 'Nothing scares me as much,' says the narrator, 'as the things that are limitless and inexplorable, but I never stop looking.' It is also a story of the causative power of women and the change of the gender order.

Grażyna Jagielska (born in 1962) holds a degree in Journalism, is a passionate traveller, and makes a living as a writer and translator. She wrote several novels (incl. *The Correspondent* [Korespondent], *Stitch* [Fastryga], *Nasty* [Płaskuda]), a number of translations (J.G. Ballard, Fay Weldon, Joanna Trollope), and a famous memoir *Love Made of Stone* [Miłość z kamienia].



SANCTIMONIES

Sanctimonies is a confession of one life that, miraculously, begins to encapsulate other lives and the unconscionable sins that linger at the very bottom of one's conscience. It's a story of guilt, regret, and fear. This confession doesn't come with a relief brought by the full forgiveness; instead, this story shows it's not about the one who makes the miracle happens, but for whom it happens.

Welcome to the Provincial Catholic Poland: where there is a cross hanging above the door, bedsheets are starched and tablecloths white, where there is chicken soup on Sundays and confession on Fridays. And there is a Holy Mary figurine behind the glass cupboard panes.

This could have happened everywhere for there are mothers and fathers everywhere, just as there are shopkeepers, mailwoman, aunt Jadwigas, religious instruction teachers, and balding parsons. And miracles can also happen everywhere. This could have happened to anyone, but it happened to her, even though she didn't do anything special to deserve such a miracle. She just kept on living like everyone else in her village, her fate allocated to her fairly by the Providence, observing Sundays and holidays, with the body of Christ and regret her sins, with the soul-refining suffering, and with her God, who punishes all evil. Perhaps all she did was to pray in a more genuine way, perhaps she begged for God's grace more than others did. Maybe she wasn't as frightened of eternity and she believed more than anyone else that every human can become a saint.

Nike Award nomination

Anna Ciarkowska Polish Language and Literature graduate, she found her true calling in poetry. She is an avid reader and draughtswoman, a collector of memories and experiences, a hypersensitive and tender gatherer of micro-stories. She loves long walks, sharks, and sickly-sweet white coffee. Ciarkowska is also an author of bestselling books Seeds [Pestki]and Boys I loved [Chłopcy, których kocham].



ON THE OTHER SIDE OF CLOUDS

Two brothers, both pilots, are thrown into the mayhem of war – and by the cruel twist of fate, are forced to fight opposite each other. Two sisters, granddaughters to one of them, have to face the challenges of today's world and navigate their love life.

Both storylines weave into a saga that keeps its readers invested in all its characters, both contemporary and historical. It shows us that the beacon of hope shines through the darkness of war while also exploring the challenges we all face in today's world. An emotionally charged story that keeps us guessing which one of the two brothers was Magda and Wiktoria's grandfather and how their story unfolded – and on top of that, it debunks several stereotypes, especially those around our ideas of war.

Tomasz Betcher Educator, sociotherapist, practitioner of Solution Focused Therapy. I was born in 1981. For over a decade he has been working with young people and children who are in a difficult life situation. In his texts, he uses both his imagination and professional experience.



HOTEL OF DREAMS COME TRUE

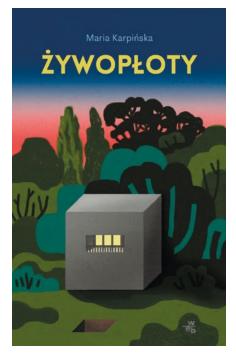
Encouraged by her fiancé, Anka takes out a loan and buys a hotel. However, rather than a brilliant investment, the shabby Grodzisko hotel turns out to be an endless cash drain. Meanwhile, her two-faced partner vanishes into thin air before Anka goes bankrupt. More desperate than ever before, Anka spends her last money on an ad, promoting the ramshackle castle as a quirky holiday destination for all those who enjoy a unique atmosphere and unusual holiday experiences.

As it turns out, the prospect of an eccentric getaway attracts several visitors, including hikers who enjoy trailing the steps of the first Piasts, a deeply-spiritual yogini, and an elderly couple who, once upon a time, spent their honeymoon at this very hotel. And there is also David, an author who turns out to be just as unpleasant as he is famous, looking to get out of writer's block.

Still, that's not enough for the hotel to survive. With the financial disaster looming over her shoulder, Anka needs to decide whether she wants to continue her fight for the decrepit building, herself, and the feeling slowly budding in her heart. And to do it all, she will have to decide what is it that she really wants from life – will Grodzisko turn out to be the place where her dreams come true?

Justyna Drzewicka she is a Polish philologist by education. She obtained an MBA diploma and graduated from the University of Warsaw, studying literature for children and youth. Her debut with the youth fantasy series *Niepowszedni*, distinguished in its categories, among others a nomination in the plebiscite Book of the Year 2016 Lubimyczytac.pl and the title of the Best Book of the Year awarded by the jury of the Granice.pl portal.

HEDGEROWS



Hedgerows is a story of a man whose identity is built solely on the narrative process – he exists only when he tells stories, and so his own story is spun like the history of the world, filled entirely by him. 'You are the story you tell' is the book's motto, and the main character takes it very literally, becoming a man-book, man-history, man-time, whose passing is measure as the history of the world: from the beginning of a century to the 1970s.

In her decades-spanning, polyphonic debut, Maria Karpińska presents us with the lives of so-called ordinary people, those everyday characters that seem to have nothing unusual about them – and that's exactly what makes them fascinating. Seemingly uninteresting, unexciting topics – such as a memory of teenage holidays with an accidentally-made friend, decorating one's first apartment or digging a grave for a dog – become an excuse for communicating the truth about the human condition, fate, fleetingness, memory, and above all: love and death. Those intimate, tender stories are permeated with a gentle air of peaceful, intelligent reflection on how we change and grow emotionally with age.

Maria Karpińska was born in 1988. She is an author of numerous articles, short stories, literary and opera reviews. Her texts, signed also under a surname Karpińska, were published in a number of magazines, including "Res Publica Nowa", "Czas Kultury", "Teatr", "Mała Kultura Współczesna", "Znak", "Nowe Książki", "Twórczość", and "Przekrój". *Hedgerows* is her first book.

CRIME / THRILLER

Małgorzata Oliwia Sobczak

is a writer from Gdańsk who lives in Sopot. A cultural specialist and journalist by education, she is the author of the postmodern fairy tale *Mali, Boli and the Ice Queen* (published in 2015 – her literary debut) and the novel *She and the House that Dances* (published by Novae Res). She's a member of the Kochamy Żuławy (We Love Żuławy) Association. On a day-to-day basis, she carries out scientific research and development work in the social sciences and humanities. Her creative work combines existential notions with magical realism. She is inspired by Ibero-American literature (Julio Cortázar). *Red* is the first volume of her criminal series *Colours of Evil.*



Check the sample translation here



COLOURS OF EVIL: RED

Two crimes, twenty years apart. One thing in common: Tri-City beach hiding more than one dreadful secret. Parties late into the night in the actors' club, lots of alcohol, drugs, Monte Cassino cemetery at night, the power of romantic love from the past, an unhappy marriage, unsolved family problems, a wish for quick money – what exactly was the story behind the murders of two mysterious women, similar in appearance, whose faces were brutally mutilated by the murderer? This is the mystery that the protagonists are about to probe.

It is a very successful first attempt at a crime story by Małgorzata Oliwia Sobczak. The author aptly portrays the Tri-City milieu of organised crime, lawyers and doctors. We can see great attention to detail when portraying the local environment, perfectly constructed criminal intrigue and a uniquely dark atmosphere.

CRIME



COLOURS OF EVIL: BLACK

Following the Skalpel case, prosecutor Leopold Bilski is banished from Sopot to the Kartuzy office. Even though he was acquitted, he went against standard procedure during the investigation. Bilski doesn't take this demotion very well. Meanwhile, Ania Górska passes her exams with flying colours and starts work as an independent prosecutor. Her first serious case is the disappearance of a thirteen-year-old girl. One of the clues leads to Kartuzy.

Writer Julia Sarman returns to Kartuzy to face her dark past after many years of absence. She's a widow raising her young son alone. She's also hiding a murky secret, and since her arrival in Kartuzy, disturbing things have been happening.





COLOURS OF EVIL: WHITE

One winter's morning, a law student jumps from the window of a tenement house in Sopot. Marks on her body indicate that the young woman was restrained and strangled before her death. The prosecutor who arrives at the scene, Leopold Bilski, has recently returned to the Tri-City after a case in Kartuzy. The clues point to the clubbing scene, where shady desires are entangled with secrets deeply rooted in the past.

This is the third volume of the dark series Colours of Evil.



RUSTLE

Journalist Alicja Grabska is commissioned to test out a new mobile app called Place to Rest, which leads her to mysterious locations around the Tri-City area. During one of her 'forays', she discovers the body of a murdered woman. The investigation conducted by detective Oskar Korda leads to a dark world full of secrets in which the past can never be forgotten.

Magdalena Majcher

(b. 1990) author of well-read novels with an extensive social background. She began writing after the birth of her second child, proving to herself and others that motherhood does not interfere with self-realization and making dreams come true. She made her debut in 2016. She is a full-time writer, she has devoted her professional life to books. She believes that the most important question she must answer her readers is not "what happened?" "why did it happen?". She loves to weave historical and psychological threads into the plot. She likes non-obvious solutions. A graduate of English and Spanish Philology, she is in love with everything that is Spanish: language, culture, monuments, landscapes, weather, literature, series and the soccer team.



LITTLE CRIMES

In a small Mazovian village, police find the remains of a newborn child. Soon, more baby skeletons are discovered in the area. Their alleged mother Lidia Gładoch vanished into thin air. Someone reported anonymously to the police, someone else saw the woman's rounded belly – but once the police starts investigating the case, they are grasping at straws. It seems that everyone turned a blind eye to whatever happened at the Gładoch household, and nobody knows a thing. The investigation is led by an experienced prosecutor Sławomir Rybus, and the media pick up on the case straight away. The whole country is buzzing about the gruesome finding in Wrotnów but the local community still refuses to acknowledge any of it. Lidia's family also keep their lips sealed. Will the prosecutor manage to break the code of silence? And once the truth comes to the surface, will it still be so easy to label the real culprit?

Inspired by real-life events, *Little Crimes* is a novel that reads just like life itself: here, not one thing is ever black-and-white.

43 TRUE STORY



STRANGER

Weronika has a dark secret that gave shape to her entire life. Under the tranquil mask of a librarian, she hides the mistakes and sins of her youth. She never planned to have children and never considered herself mother material, but as fate would have it, she ended up meeting Hubert and his daughter Oliwia.

Nine years later, Hubert leaves her for another woman, and overnight, Oliwia and Weronika go back to what they always were: just two strangers. Or maybe not? Perhaps becoming a mother isn't always just about biology?



THE STRONGEST CONNECTION

Nothing in Ania's life foreshadowed the upcoming tragedy: she fell in love, had a fairytale wedding and a beautiful baby girl, everything she always dreamed of and always strived for. "She always wanted to have a family", say her friends now. They use the past tense because Ania is dead. She was murdered by the person she loved most.

Michalina never expected her tragedy to be discussed by the whole nation. She was a regular woman, mother, wife, and grandmother – until one day, her life fell apart. Michalina's beloved daughter Ania vanished into the thin air. After many months of unrelenting search and hope it became clear that Ania was never coming back.

Inspired by the true story of Anna Garskaya and her other Michalina, *The Strong*est Connection is a portrait of motherly love and a tale of an almost-perfect crime.



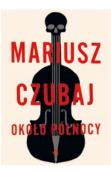
THE WORST HOME

When private investigator Łucja Buchta is alerted of her little sister's disappearance, she immediately goes back to Namysłów. She wants to be in her hometown and help to find Karolina.

This is not the first time the teenager has disappeared. Karolina was known to spend nights away from home, which is why the local police initially shrug it off. However, the sisters' mother has a feeling that this time, something is wrong.

As the hours pass, Łucja is starting to believe it, too. Just a few conversations with Karolina's friends are enough to make sure that not everyone is telling the truth. Still, the worst might be lurking right next to them – at their old family home.

Lucja is not good with people and has a difficult character. Now, she's realising that her personality might be her greatest obstacle in getting to the truth. But above all, she will have to deal with the paralysing dread she feels at the very thought of going back to the family home. But even overwhelmed by fear, she will do whatever it takes to find out what really happened to Karolina.



AROUND MIDNIGHT

Spring 1969, Warsaw. The day after the funeral of a brilliant jazz pianist, young actress Wanda Winiarska is murdered. She's not the first girl to have disappeared recently, and she won't be the last. Double-bassist Tadeusz Janczar – a self-confessed 'man without a posting', marked by his wartime and post-war past – undertakes a private investigation. Some claim that an imitator of Karol Kot (the Kraków-based serial killer executed in 1968) is operating in the capital, and leads point towards the jazz community and 'Hybrids' club. The case also attracts the attention of military intelligence. But who's really behind the death of the young star?

Around Midnight is a jazzy roman noir set against the backdrop of Warsaw – smoky clubs, unfiltered cigarettes and pure vodka. Featuring the dense aura after March 1968 and the most prominent figures of Polish culture from that time.

Mariusz Czubaj (b. 1969) author of crime novels, cultural anthropologist, academic professor specializing pop culture, winner of the Great Caliber Prize (2009). Lives in Warsaw. He is the author among others of *21:37* (2008), *Before Kill Again* (2012), *Lulluby for a Murderer* (2011), and *The Fifth Beatle* (2015). *The Girl with a Cigarette Lighter* is his latest crime story with Rudolf Heinz, the profiler.



PEEPHOLE

Laura is raising her son alone. One day, seemingly insignificant information triggers an avalanche of events.

Some friends disappear unannounced, others take their own lives, someone appears from the past, and Laura quits her job without thinking, only to receive a dream job offer straight after. Laura has the impression that she is starting to see her life as if through a pane of glass, as the discovery of new secrets leads to even bigger mysteries. Could it have something to do with her work – database analysis and influencing the behaviour of Internet users? Is someone actually controlling us? If so, who? And more importantly, why? And what does the MoreThanHeart dating app have to do with all this?

Magdalena Witkiewicz the author of several dozen novels for adults and children, she was interested in the topic of big data before it even became popular. For several years, she worked as an analyst creating econometric models and carrying out data analysis.

She had her own marketing company, and for a while she ran it and wrote novels at the same time. Today, her professional life revolves around her books, which have sold tens of thousands of copies.

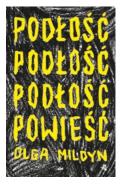
The novel Cherries Always Come in Twos was named Book of the Year 2017 by Lubimyczytac. pl. She has received nominations in this popular vote on many occasions for various titles: First on the List; Hey, What's Up; We'll Meet Again Someday; The Bura Brigade and the Secret of the Library; and Letters Full of Dreams.



TRAPPED IN SLEEP

Weronika is a young English teacher seeing her students at home. For years, she's been suffering from narcolepsy, and her daily life is interrupted by two hour-long naps. Without them, she would struggle to function: their purpose is to stop her from falling asleep suddenly, which can be very troublesome. Not wanting anyone to find out, she keeps the details of her condition to herself. Still, someone manages to learn about her weakness and use it against her... One day upon awakening, Weronika discovers the body of a girl in her apartment. Shocked and traumatised, she struggles to recover from that experience. Who is the mysterious guest visiting her home? What is really happening there? And how does it all connect to the death of a young woman Weronika found there?

Alicja Sinicka is a writer from Oława, a tender and open-minded interlocutor, a mother and a supportive wife facing new challenges. Her work is characterized by brilliant intrigues woven from secrets and symbols. She finds her best in domestic noir novels, which in her performance are an exciting mix of thriller and romance.



VILE

On average, II people die on the Polish roads daily. But when Franciszek Złotowski and his two children travel in one car, there is a chance for resurrection. They become a posthumous event, a news story that ends up in papers and news outlets where they get to live a whole new life. But first, they have to lose it: just like Andżelika Złotowska, murdered in her bed on the very same day. Suddenly, the family of five is irreparably broken by one vile act and just several kilometres. This book is a vessel of grief. A story from various parts of Poland – about sorrow, anguish, everyday misfortunes and misery, misplaced trust and chicanery, greed and human malice. Finally, it is a story of goon intentions and honest efforts of Kasia, the journalist, and Mira the policewoman – the efforts that are not welcome in the community. Olga Mildyn's book is a monumental work of lyrically fictionalised reporting debut that leaves the reader shaken to the core.

Olga Mildyn is an award-winning reporter and journalist, working with TVN24 and "Duży Format". Vile is her debt novel.



Check the sample translation here



THE COLLIDER

At the Large Hadron Collider, the core of the world's largest nuclear research facility, someone commits a crime that horrifies all of Switzerland and the scientific community. Just one day after presenting the results of the search for the Higgs boson, a discovery expected to become the greatest scientific sensation of the 20th century Noah Majewski, a brilliant physicist of Polish origin, dies. Majewski's secret project he called the Rule of Coincidence might change the world as we know it forever. On top of it, Majewski's notebook containing the priceless mathematical equation vanishes in thin air. Whoever finds it could have the power to control billions of human lives. Charismatic police inspector Danielle Hauser leads the investigation into Majewski's mysterious death and the disappearance of his notebook. When Noah's sister and his friend also vanish, Danielle sets off to find them. But she's not the only one...

Joanna Łopusińska was born in Krakow in 1984. She studied Fine Arts and Egyptology. Joanna now lives in the United Kingdom, where she works as Project Administrator at the University of Oxford. In 2020, she received the Krakow UNESCO City of Literature Award. Her first novel Death and Margaret [Śmierć i Małgorzata], was a well-received debut. The second book, titled The Collider [Zderzacz], was plotted around the unpublished discovery of a Polish scientist. For her research, the author spent several weeks in Switzerland and CERN.



FURY

Tuesday, II:45 a.m. In four regions of Poland, four completely unrelated persons go on a furious rampage and start killing random strangers in the streets. Later, during the questioning, they are unable to explain why they did it. Uncompromising commissioner Konrad Tajner leads the investigation, trying to discover the links between a corporate worker bullied by her boss, a priest fighting some serious accusations, an overworked doctor and a depressed schoolteacher.

Marcel Moss is a pen name of a mysterious author whose bestselling novels Nie odpisuj [Don't respond] and Don't look [Nie patrz] sparked heated online disputes on important social issues such as physical and psychological abuse, online bullying, digital loneliness and anonymousness.

Tomasz Żak

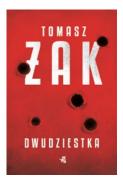
(born in 1987) has lived a life of many trades: he was a journalist, real estate agent, trader, customer happiness manager, singer in a hardcore punk band, and city councillor. He could easily obtain one PhD in meme studies and another in Polish rap, if he says so himself. His friends describe him as a one-man band with a big mouth. Right now he runs an e-commerce company together with his girlfriend, and during his free time, he chases the state of euphoria induced by running or weightlifting. Whenever he's not asleep, he's reading or playing video games (too much).



THIRTY

Modern-day Poland. In a small provincial town well past its best times, a man is murdered on his thirtieth birthday. As it turns out, the victim was Tomek, son of the local mayor – a man who rules with an iron fist and is blindly obsessed with his position. And it seems significant that the man was stabbed exactly thirty times.

Investigation takes off, involving the local journalist, a policewoman with shadowed past, and Tomek's friends, who enjoy illegal substances and intense experiences. Everything is taking place right before the elections, making those in power increasingly ruthless about protecting their own interests. Only one thing is certain: after the brutal murder of a prominent politician's son, everyone in town will sleep with one eye open for a long time. The only question remaining is whether anybody was able to sleep peacefully before the tragedy.



TWENTY

Dominik Wierzbicki is twenty years old, outspoken and wildly ambitious. To make ends meet while studying, he's working at a sensationalist tabloid "News!". Dominik always celebrates his birthday on holiday: this time, he chooses Thailand. While on the Koh Yao Yai island, he can hear a lot of Polish spoken around him, but when he sees a guy being thrown out from a bar while yelling 'Do you know who the f*ck I am?!', he knows full well the best thing he can do at that moment is taking a picture.



THE GIRL WHO CLAPSY

Two young men travel to the middle of nowhere to see a house that one of them has unexpectedly inherited from his mother. A mother whom he never met because he was put up for adoption.

Time seems to stand still in the small town. The collapsing buildings and broken windows, the locals who blend in with their surroundings and never sober up - it's all very real. When the newcomers try to ask for directions to the house, they encounter a conspiracy of silence and a wall of resentment. To make matters worse, their car breaks down and it looks like they'll be forced to spend the night in the scary house where they've ended up. A scary house inhabited by a young girl who claps.

Tomasz Kozioł has worn multiple hats over the years. He started out studying mathematics and physics, before switching to the humanities. He chose one of the few non-technical faculties at the Warsaw University of Technology. He began his professional life as an editor, then temporarily became an accountant, and eventually evolved into an analyst.



A VERY COLD SPRING

It's Sunday like any other in modern-day Stockholm when a man accidentally finds an abandoned Volvo left on a supermarket parking lot. Inside, he discovers the body of an old lady, her mouth stuffed with scrunched newspaper. But who would want to kill eighty-year-old Greta Sjöwall, a wealthy and respected citizen known for her goodwill and charity work?

Criminal inspectors Jens Vikander and Björn Fågel from the Nacka Strand police station begin investigating several leads in the case. The most promising one follows the trail of young Afghan refugees who were frequent guests at Greta's home. Ewa, a Polish woman who has been caring for Mrs Sjöwall since not long ago, also has some secrets she would rather keep to herself.

The case becomes even more difficult to untangle in the light of an increasing crisis within the Swedish police forces. Soon, it becomes clear that Greta's murder was just the first of a series of deaths... And that modern, culturally diverse Stockholm still echoes with its past.

Katarzyna Tubylewicz is an author, culture expert and Swedish literature translator (including Majgull Axelsson novels, Jonas Gardell's trilogy on AIDS in Sweden *Don't Ever Wipe Tears Without Gloves*, and Niklas Orrenius's reportage *Shootings in Copenhagen*, for which she was shortlisted for the Ryszard Kapuściński Award). Tubylewicz is an author of a collection of feature writing on Sweden *Moralists* [Moraliści], three novels: *Own Places* [Własne miejsca], *Peers* [Rówieśniczki], and *Marcel's Last Novel* [Ostatnia powieść Marcela], and city guide Stockholm. *A City Thrumming With Silence* [Sztokholm. Miasto, które tętni ciszą].

Małgorzata Starosta

(b. 1982) is a Wrocław-based writer, graduate of Polish Studies and Ethnology. She debuted in 2020 with her comedy-crime trilogy *Pruskie baby* (Pruskie baby, Wesela nie będzie!, Kwestia czasu). In 2021, Starosta published the first part of her new series W Siedlisku (Szczęśliwy los). Her first Agata Śródka book *It's all wine's fault* [Wina wina] was published in September 2021. In 2011, she received an honourable mention in the University of Gdańsk literary competition for her short story *Where is my husband*? [Gdzie jest mój mąż?]. Her novel *It's all wine's fault* [Wina wina] won the 'Moc śmiechu' competition for the best comedy novel.





IT'S ALL WINE'S FAULT

The situation became more complicated once the cake was murdered. To Agata Śródka, the message was clear: 'Watch out'.

When Agata Śródka – a recent divorcee, restaurateur and celebrity – decides to set up a vineyard in a hotel palace, the last thing she expects is for that adventure to take her right amid murderous intrigue. The list of victims quickly expands to include Agata's ex-husband, a young rival, and an elderly lady. And it's a close shave for Agata herself, too.

As streams of exquisite wine flow, so do secrets kept hushed for years. Not everyone turns out to be who they said they are, and the investigators are getting lost in a tangle of lies and secrets. The legend of a Cistercian Order awakens and, unexpectedly, reveals the real wish of the winemaker, thus helping to reveal the murderer – even though it's really just the wine's fault.



TSARINA'S SECRET

Agata Śródka – the celebrity restaurateur – was invited to be a guest juror on a TV talent show finale in which the competitors are asked to create an edible replica of a Fabergé egg. It just so happens that Agata's school friend Katarzyna Jakimiuk – also known as Tsarina – asks her to come over to a palace hotel she's renovating and help with the grand opening. Accidentally, both occasions overlap – so Agata, in a truly entrepreneurial spirit, decides to kill two birds with one stone and invite the TV crew to the Roztoka residence. Meanwhile, police find a man's body in the palace garden...

From the very beginning, we know who killed the mysterious man whom the palace owner called fondly Maksymilian (I say, his ribs made him look like a Maksymilian!), and the events leading to the discovery of several identities. That of the victim, and that of the killer, already arrested by the police. How will the story unfold for the characters in this brilliant follow-up to *It's all wine's fault* [Wina wina]?

Wojtek Miłoszewski

(b. 1980) is a Polish novelist and screenwriter, best known for his bestselling thrillers with a pinch of political fiction: *Invasion* [Inwazja], *Paint* [Farba], *Opposition* [Kontra], and the reader-favourite Cracow-based retro crime novel Kastor [Kastor, W.A.B. 2018]. He was a co-writer of several TV series, including The Border for HBO Europe, Signs for AXN, and Prokurator for TVP 2, awarded the Polish Film Awards for the Best Television Series in 2015.



Check the sample translation here



FARBA DETERMENT

INVASION

Eastern Europe, present times. Vladimir Putin annexed the entire territory of Ukraine, to which Western Europe reacted only... by expressing its anxiety and indignation. However, the Russian leader is not bothered by that and he soon makes the next move, and crosses the borders of Poland.

War erupts in Poland without any warning. Millions of people must abruptly adapt to a completely new reality. They include Roman Gurski, a former paratrooper, who returns to the country to enlist, Henryk Wojnarowicz, a rich gardener, who makes a fortune on food trade during the war, and Michał Barański, a former teacher from Katowice, whose principal goal is to ensure the security of his family.

The war, described from three points of view, is a crucible of contradictory emotions experienced by millions of inhabitants of the country torn apartby the fire of war. It is a tale of great villainy and unimaginable cruelty, but also of the great power of love and of the fight to retain the remnants of optimism and humanity.

Rights sold: Ukraine

PAINT

The continuation of *Invasion* [Inwazja].

Poland is losing the war against Russia. The occupiers are launching a Russification campaign and striving to control all areas of Poles' lives. Will Captain Roman Gurski be able to gain the advantage in the unequal battle between the poorly armed Polish underground and the well-equipped and trained Russians? Will Zenon Marczak find his stepsister, Danuta Wojnarowicz, who so mercilessly mutilated him during the war? Will Michal Baranski's family, separated by the ravages of war, ever reunite? Will the countries of the West, led by the US, decide to react and free Poland from the yoke of the newly created Russian Empire?

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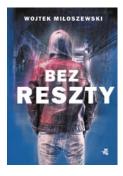


OPPOSITION

The continuation of the bestselling novels *Invasion* and *Paint*. Vladimir Putin, who has called himself a Tsar and decided to re-establish the Russian Empire, has gone too far. The new president of the United States, Mike Pence, doesn't intend to wait for the Russian ruler's totalitarian plans to devour the rest of Western Europe. US troops launch an attack, aiming to destroy the imperial army.

The heroes of the previous volumes, thrown into the whirlwind of ongoing events, must face new, blood-curdling dangers. As usual, the front sees brutal, heavy fighting. The whole world is counting on a swift US victory. However, Russia proves to be a difficult opponent, and victory for the West is not so certain.

Moscow, the capital of the Russian Empire, becomes an extremely dangerous place following the start of the American offensive. People from across the large agglomeration are fleeing from the ravages of war.



NO CHANGE

Early 1990. The people of Cracow are divided. Some are losing money at a frightening pace while others become rich overnight. A new gang appears in town, elbowing its way to the top with monstrous brutality. Organised crime and amphetamine trade pose new challenges for the police, freshly emerging from the old militia structures. Chief of Police Kastor Grudziński is forced to handle the changes in the provincial headquarters and, above all else, he has to convince his superiors the police needs to introduce new operational methods. The system previously used by the militia is no longer sufficient for targeting and breaking down organised crime groups. His task becomes even more challenging when a new case emerges – there is a series of child murders happening in Cracow. Will Chief Grudziński manage to adapt to the new reality, and will it ever be possible for him to get his personal life back on track?

Once again, Wojtek Miłoszewski paints an engrossing and fascinating picture of the criminal underbelly of Cracow. Black humour, unexpected plot twists, and intriguing crime puzzle make his new novel impossible to put down!

ΝΟΝΓΙΟΝ

Włodzimierz Borodziej

is an eminent historian, a professor at the University of Warsaw, and editor-in-chief of the series "Polish Diplomatic Documents", published by the Polish Institute of International Affairs. He has been connected to the Historical Institute at the University of Warsaw, although he was on leave between 1991 and 1994. In the period 1999–2002, he was Vice-Rector of the University of Warsaw. He was the chairman of the scientific council at the Centre for Historical Research in Berlin, as well as units of the Polish Academy of Sciences (PAN), and a member of the Committee of Historical Sciences at PAN.

Maciej Górny

has a post-doctoral degree and is a lecturer at the Tadeusz Manteuffel Institute of History at PAN in Warsaw. His books on the Marxist-Leninist historiographies of the region after 1945 have been translated into several languages (including English and German). He also works on the topic of World War I from the history of ideas perspective. His books *The Great War of the Professors. Lessons About Man (1912–1923)* and *Drafters of the Homelands. Geographers and the Borders of Interwar Europe* deal with the involvement of scientists in politics. He is editor-in-chief of "Acta Poloniae Historica".



OUR WAR: EMPIRES 1914–1918, NATIONS 1917–1923

In Eastern Europe, the Great War was created by the empires and fought by the people, many of whom lost their lives. The longer it lasted, the harder it was to imagine how it would end and whether peace would come at all. Nobody predicted that almost everything would change.

Our War describes this huge change in many areas. The authors cover new tactics for conducting military operations, workers' strikes and revolts, women's rights, culture, politics, and the struggle for independence for the nations of Central and Eastern Europe and the Balkans. All is described in an accessible way – sometimes witty, and always based on rarely utilised sources.

In the authors' words, "the book is about a great transformation, about its win-ners and losers. It visits a mysterious plane crash with a political leader on board and the conspiracy theories surrounding the accident. It also looks at the mechanisms of the brutalisation of political life and the fear of refugees, about the growth of xenophobia, and about scientists eager to get involved in political battles. No, it's not about the Poland and Europe of today. All of this took place exactly 100 years ago..."

The emphasis on the overwhelming nature of war places this book within the latest trend in military history, dealing with such problems as gender and the fate of the civilian population. And yet, unlike many contemporary historians working in this field, the authors do not disregard the real acts of war.

Jesse Kauffman, "Contemporary European History"

Rights sold: Italy, UK, Czech Republic, Germany



LIGHTNING. The Story of Wanda Traczyk-Stawska, the Warsaw Uprising Soldier

In 2018, she supported the parents of children with disabilities who protested against the government's neglect. She actively participated in the Women's Strike movement and stood up against the inhumane treatment of refugees trapped at the Polish-Belarusian border. She insists that people who are in danger should never be left to their own devices.

Wanda Traczyk-Stawska is a fighter, a living legend, and a moral authority. During the Warsaw Uprising, she fought as a shooter and liaison officer for the Guarding Units of the Secret Military Printing Works at the Home Army's Bureau of Information and Propaganda. After the war, she studied psychology and devoted all of her professional life to working with children with disabilities. Why does she consider herself a soldier rather than a soldieress? How did the Uprising affect her and her worldview? And why does she keep on fighting?

In a conversation with Michał Wójcik, Wanda Traczyk-Stawska answers those and many other questions. What emerges is a nuanced and colourful portrait of an extraordinary woman.

Michał Wójcik is historian, journalist. He worked in Radio Zet, "Przekrój" -, and was the editor-in-chief of "Focus" and "Focus History" magazines. He co-created the *Blyskawiczny Program Historyczny* on TVN Warszawa and the series "Was / was not" on Discovery.



THE BEST CITY IN THE WORLD. Rebuilding and Reconstruction of Warsaw 1944-1949

The Best City In the World is a book about enthusiasm and optimism – about coming up with the idea of the 'best city in the world' on the ruins of the old order, and about the architects from the Capital City Reconstruction Office who, when designing a city of their dreams, helped to build a totalitarian state.

After the failure of the Warsaw Uprising, the city once known as Paris of the North turned into an ocean of rubble. It took a lot of imagination to look at the stumps of tenement houses and plan the fast route to revival. And yet, the decision to rebuild Warsaw was made almost immediately. The task looming ahead of the architects and builders was immense.

Even though the rebuilt Old Town became the showcase example of the postwar reconstruction of Warsaw, the rest of the city was never going to go back to its former shape. Instead, it was to become a perfect modern metropolis.

Grzegorz Piątek (born in 1980) – a historian and architecture critic, Warsaw history researcher, graduate of the Faculty of Architecture at the Warsaw University of Technology, publicist, curator of exhibitions and architectural projects. Piątek wrote a biography of Stefan Starzyński, titled *Sanator: kariera Stefana Starzyńskiego* [Sanationist: The Career of Stefan Starzyński] and co-authored numerous publications about Warsaw, including *Warschau. Der thematische Führer durch Polens Hauptstadt* (with J. Trybuś, 2009).

Marta Grzywacz

studied at the Faculty of Law and Administration at the University of Warsaw. As a journalist, she worked in the press, radio and television (as a former reporter and TV news anchor). Grzywacz conducted hundreds of interviews with people from the world of science and culture. She also worked as a historical columnist. Since 2012, she's been working with Gazeta Wyborcza and Newsweek. In 2017, she published her first book – a fictionalised historical reportage *Treasure Protector. Karol Estreicher On the Hunt For the Lost Works of Art* [Obrońca skarbów. Karol Estreicher w poszukiwaniu zagrabionych dzieł sztuki.], published by PWN. In 2017, it was chosen the Best Historical Book in the vote organised by histmag.org and granice.pl, and in 2018, it was shortlisted in the Best Popular Science Book category at the 22nd Science & Popular Science Book Fair in Poznań.



OUR LADY OF RAVENSBRÜCK. The Story of Johanna Langefeld

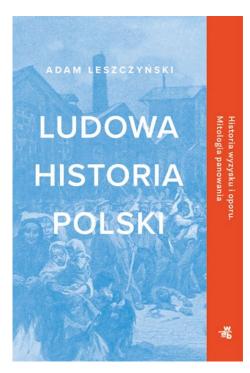
Our Lady of Ravensbrück. The Story of Johanna Langefeld is a historical reportage, attempting to reconstruct the biography of one of the most secretive and controversial female guards of the Nazi concentration camps in Ravensbrück and Auschwitz, who, with the help of her former prisoners, managed to avoid sentencing in the Auschwitz trials. In her book, Grzywacz also looks for answers to the question: How come the victims saved their oppressor?

November 24th, 1947. The Supreme National Tribunal gathers in the main hall of the National Museum in Cracow to prosecute forty Auschwitz war criminals. The trial is observed closely by the former prisoners, as well as the Polish and American media. One by one, the accused come in. However, someone is missing - Johanna Langefeld, who was supposed to be the 'guest of honour' at the trial because of her prominent role in Heinrich Himmler's scenario. She was the one to organise the first women's concentration camp in Ravensbrück, and then the next one, in Auschwitz-Birkenau. Under her supervision, the Ravensbrück camp became the exemplary prison for thousands of innocent women, later turning into a site of their slow extermination. Meanwhile, Langefeld escaped. Several years later, there will be rumours that someone helped her - rumours so improbable it will be hard to even consider them. Could it really be that Johanna Langefeld was released from the Montelupich Prison by the former Ravensbrück prisoners? Could it be that the victims chose to save their oppressor? Such things don't happen. Marta Grzywacz talked to the last prisoners alive and to the people who knew Langefeld, went through stacks of almost-unobtainable documents and letters, and created a fascinating portrait of the woman who was one of the most mysterious and controversial figures in the Nazi structures.



SCARS The Real Story of the 'Rabbits of Ravensbrück'

Scars. The Real Story of the 'Rabbits of Ravensbrück' is a story of the Nazi cruelty, the will to survive, and the bravery of women – young Polish resistance movement activists, subjected to torturous pseudo-medical experiments in the concentration camp by Lake Schwedt. It's also the story of women's rebellion and solidarity among prisoners from various countries; a story of doctors at Hitler's service and of a certain American philanthropist who decided to help the victims of Nazi experiments heal the scars left on their bodies and souls.



THE PEOPLE'S HISTORY OF POLAND

The People's History of Poland is the story of the things lied about or repressed in the collective memory in Poland. It is the story of the 90 per cent of the Polish society, of the poor and uneducated, of those who were expected to work hard and listen to the elites – from the early days od Poland's existence up until today.

The main topic of the book is power – the power of those on top of the society – and of the social institutions, serving elites to take over whatever the people have produced. Therefore, it isn't simply the story of serfdom and corvée, but also of the social relationships in the factories and the 19th-century offices. It is the history of the people, not the history of a nation: the author isn't interested in the wars and uprisings as much as he is in their aftermath – how their successes and failures shaped and changed the relationships between the people who lived in Poland: Poles, Jews, Ukrainians, and other minorities.

It is also the history of ideas – the ideas that justified the power executed by the liege over his subjects, or by the factory-owner over the labourers. The elites conjured up numerous explanations for their status – explanations that changed over time, and so the author examines those changes. At the same time, there was a dispute on emancipation and equality, but the supporters of those ideas in Poland were usually in the minority.

Finally, it is the history of rebellion and resistance – sabotages at work, acts of rebellion against the lieges, factory strikes. There were many such movements in Poland, often carried out with extreme cruelty – as well as the acts of violence executed commonly in everyday life.

Adam Leszczyński — historian, sociologist, and journalist. He is a professor at the University of Social Sciences and Humanities in Warsaw. He is the co-founder of the OKO.press platform and a team member of the "Krytyka Polityczna". In the years 2005-2017, he wrote regularly for the "Gazeta Wyborcza" daily newspaper. Leszczyński is the author of several acclaimed non-fiction books, including *Stigma. Africa and AIDS* [Naznaczeni. Afryka i AIDS (2003)], and *Saviours of the Sea* [Zbawcy mórz (2013)]. He also wrote a number of academic books on the social history of the *People's Republic of Poland* and on the problems of peripheral modernisation (*Leap Into Modernity* [Skok w nowoczesność], 2013)], 2013) and developmental politics. His articles were published in a number of magazines, "Polityka", "Newsweek", "Krytyka Polityczna", as well as "The Guardian" and "El Pais".



AFGHAN REBEL GIRLS

Afghan Rebel Girls is a story of Afghan women and their fight for independence. The author shows their way to becoming famous politicians, artists, and activists. Włodek spoke to women to whom participating in their country's modernisation was a family tradition, but also to those who had to stand up even to their parents to fight the stereotypes and limitations forced upon them by the patriarchy and a very particular understanding of tradition.

Ludwika Włodek is a sociologist, reporter, and lecturer at the Faculty of the Oriental Studies at the University of Warsaw. She wrote several books, including *Great. About the Iwaszkiewicz family* [Pra. O rodzinie Iwaszkiewiczów]; *Just cross the river* [Wystarczy przejść przez rzeke]; *Andrzej Mróz. A wonderful story* [Andrzej Mróz. Cudowna, cudowna historia]; and Four *banners, one address. Stories from Spisz* [Cztery sztandary, jeden adres. Historie ze Spisza]. Her reportage collection *The worse children of the Republic. About Algerians in France* [Gorsze dzieci Republiki. O Algierczykach we Francji] earned Włodek nominations to the Beata Pawlak Award, to the Grand Press Award, and to the Travelery 2020 Award.



I DO HAIRING, OR HOW TO CONSCIOUSLY AND EFFECTIVELY CARE FOR YOUR HAIR

Over 50.000 copies sold.

Twist extraction, henning, OMO, silicones, SLS, – is a small chance that these concepts are already familiar to you. Maybe you even have friends who are overwhelmed by the fashion for hairing. Most likely, however, you associate OMO with washing powder, and silicones with bathroom renovation. But don't worry about it, really. Or maybe you already have your first contact with *hairing*? If so, thanks to this book you will consolidate and systematize your knowledge!

Agnieszka Niedziałek studied American studies at the University of Warsaw, but it was the beauty industry that became her true calling. Agnieszka Niedzialek is considered to be one of the best hair specialists in Poland. It was she who came up with the term *hairing*. For years, she has been helping many women to properly take care of their beauty by running, among others, the blog wwwłosy.pl, as well as the YouTube channel of the same name. Her Instagram account, where she also provides hair advice, is already followed by over 146,000 people! In addition, Agnieszka Niedzialek runs an online store and has created her own brand of hair cosmetics.



