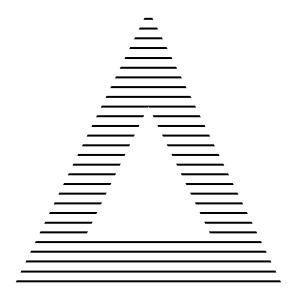


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Zyta Rudzka

This year in Polish literature belonged to Zyta Rudzka.
She published an uncompromising novel, written in what she describes as "military language", and titled "Laugh While You Have Teeth" - a story of Wera, a former men's hairstylist, who is now a widow and hits the town to find an outfit, a pair of shoes and a coffin for her deceased husband, and arrange some vodka for the funeral banquet. An outstanding, engaging trash-odyssey.

GAZETA WYBORCZA

One of the best books published in 2022 according to onet.pl: The author gives us exactly what we expected of her: wonderfully poignant language used to describe what many believe should remain hidden.

IOANNA BARAŃSKA, ONET

The book by Rudzka is the epitome of the impressions and emotions experienced by the fans of literature. This year we got a number of good stories - fictitious and based on real-life events - but when it comes to our own domestic reality, the story of Wera is the absolute number one. I have no idea whether the author will receive the top awards - as she rightly should - but one thing is for sure: Zyta Rudzka won more than you can see. Her courage, impetus, insight, and ability to follow her path without imitating others.

MICHAŁ NOGAŚ, GAZETA WYBORCZA/KSIĄŻKI.

MAGAZYN DO CZYTANIA

My all-times favourite this year is the novel by Zyta Rudzka. BERNADETTA DARSKA

It's the book of the year! Written by Zyta Rudzka. The title itself is intriguing: "Laugh While You Have Teeth."

The story itself is bold, surprising, and engaging.

LESZEK BUGAJSKI, WPROST

The best Polish book in 2022 according to POLITYKA weekly: Rudzka is an extraordinary phenomenon in Polish literature. The sentences in her latest novel are incredibly sharp. The pace imposed by the author is so engrossing that we find ourselves thrown in the midst of a monologue of a jockey's widow. In her story, Rudzka turns the familiar and well-known inside out and introduces her own order of things. IUSTYNA SOBOLEWSKA.



Zyta Rudzka

ONLY THOSE WITH TEETH CAN SMILE



Original — Ten się śmieje kto ma zęby
Première date — 2022
Movie rights — No

Rights sold ———— Czech Republic (2023), Serbia (2023)

USA (2023), Slovakia (2023)

The new novel by Zyta Rudzka stands out because of its unconventional form. Only Those With Teeth Can Smile is a bold linguistic experiment, which will enchant you with its exceptional, uncompromising style. It's a story of a men's hairstylist married to a jockey. Wera and Karol spent their whole lives together. They'd been through rough and smooth. And now Wera is visiting her former lovers to get a pair of coffin shoes for her late husband. And good coffin shoes are hard to get. Rudzka uses her characteristic blunt language and wit to portray a strong and voracious woman, who never gives up.

"My protagonist lost her love, her husband, and her job. She sold whatever she owned at a flea market. But she's invincible. She doesn't wallow in her loss. She refuses to be a miserable widow or a victim. She loves whoever she wants, and she lives the life she chooses. That's what makes her strong. I keep meeting such women every day – and now I wanted to hear them speak." Zyta Rudzka

ZYTA RUDZKA is an author and playwright. Her books include White Negatives, The Mikvach and A Brief Exchange of Fire (W.A.B. 2018). The latter 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.

OTHER TITLES:



2006 (reissued in 2021) Doctor Josef's Beauty **Rights sold to:** Serbia (2022), USA (2022), Switzerland (2009)



2018
A Brief Exchange
of Fire
Rights sold to:
Serbia (2022)



2020 Soft Tissues

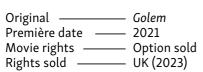
- ★ The book was dubbed the best novel in 2022 by the leading Polish media.
- The novel is witty and uncompromising and was acclaimed by literary critics.
- A story of a contemporary woman, who lives the life she chooses despite poverty and other obstacles.
- ★ Rudzka received a number of awards, including Nagroda Literacka m. st. Warszawy [the Warsaw Literary Award] in 2023 for "Only those with teeth can smile".
- ★ She won Nike Literary Award in 2023 for "Only those with teeth can smile".



GOLEM MACIEJ PŁAZA

Maciej Płaza

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. Maciej Płaza, one of the greatest stylists of Polish prose, shows that he is more than capable to breathe new life in the legendary Golem and all that surrounds it.

NOTABLE INFORMATION

- ★ A vivid story set in a Jewish shtetl. A tale of a fairytale world that used to exist right next to ours.
- ★ A portrayal of life in a Jewish village before the war, pictured with magical realism and perfectly described by Maciej Płaza.
- ★ Golem was one of the 7 titles shortlisted for the 2022 Nike Award.

OTHER TITLES:





2017 Robinson in Bolemchowo

2015 Skoruń

Maciej Płaza

HIGHLIGHT

MACIEJ PŁAZA (born in 1976) 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





Jakub Szamałek

HIGHLIGHT

JAKUB SZAMAŁEK A writer, a scriptwriter for computer games (*The Witcher 3, Blood Wars, Cyberpunk 2077*), he graduated from Oxford University and completed a PhD in Mediterranean archaeology at the University of Cambridge. He received the Gates Scholarship.

He's the author of an acclaimed crime series about Leochares, a detective from Athens, and a bestselling cycle of thrillers titled *Hidden Network*. Together with Maria Pawłowska he published a children's story titled *Who is Sam the Snail*?

His stories have been translated into Czech, French, German and Taiwanese Hokkien.

SZAMAŁEK

Jakub Szamałek

INNER SPACE

Original — Stacja
Première date — 2023
Movie rights — No
Rights sold — US (2023), France (2023)



Four hundred and eight kilometers from Earth there's no one to come to your help.

Ever since Lucy Poplasky came back from her last NASA mission, she's been wanting to go back to the International Space Station. Now, she's finally returning and as the crew's commander no less. However, it quickly becomes clear that this is not going to be a "space business as usual" mission. The tensions between the two host nations, Russia and the United States, deepen with each passing day, affecting everyone onboard. To make matters worse, a sudden and inexplicable rise in ammonia concentration puts the lives of both crews at risk. The six astronauts, packed tightly in cramped, claustrophobic quarters, need to overcome mutual distrust in order to ensure their survival. Soon, however, Lucy starts suspecting that the ammonia leak is no accident but an act of sabotage. Who and why? There are five suspects – and no help on the way.

NOTABLE INFORMATION

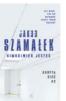
- ★ The last trilogy has sold about 170 000 copies.
- ★ The novel is set on an international space station, which is about to be closed down in 2024.

OTHER TITLES:

The Dark Web series:



2019 Whatever You Choose Rights sold to: Czech Republic (2019), France (2020), Russia (2021) Movie rights: Sold



2019
Whoever You Are
Rights sold to:
France (2021)



2020
Anywhere You
Look
Rights sold
to: France
(2022)

The Dark Web is a crime trilogy written by Polish author Jakub Szamałek. The first two volumes, both published in 2019, are each around 450 pages long and were both nominated for Poland's High Calibre Award for best crime novel. Volume three (published October 2020) is 380 pages long. Impressive sales figures from early 2021 show the separate parts of the trilogy have sold over 71,000 copies in Poland so far. This is the author's second trilogy, following the Leochares detective series set in ancient Greece, for which he won the High Calibre Award in 2011 and 2016. His writing can be likened to the work of Marc Elsberg and Zygmunt Miłoszewski. In terms of themes and style, there are also many similarities between Szamałek's books and TV series such as Black Mirror or Years and Years.



Małgorzata Oliwia Sobczak

RED



Original — Czerwień. Kolory zła tom I Première date — 2019

Movie rights — Sold (the film will be on screens in 2023)
Rights sold — Be the first to buy

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 organized 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.

NOTABLE INFORMATION

- A portrayal of the Tricity world of mobsters, lawyers and doctors.
- A total of 70 000 copies of the trilogy sold.
- One of the most promising authors of Polish crime fiction.

OTHER TITLES:



2020

Black



2021

White





Rustle





2022

2023 Scar

Małgorzata Oliwia Sobczak

HIGHLIGHT

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).





Marta Dziok--Kaczyńska

HIGHLIGHT

MARTA DZIOK-KACZYŃSKA was born in 1987 in Gdansk. She's been living in the United Kingdom since 2006. She used to study history and film at the University of Glasgow in Scotland. She specialised in medieval courtly culture. Since 2013 she's been living in London, and more precisely - Islington. She's living with her husband and two daughters. Since 2008 she's kept a blog called riennahera.com.

In the same year she started a podcast channel titled "Correspondence from London", where she talks about a variety of aspects of life in the UK.



Marta Dziok-Kaczyńska

THE ELVES OF LONDON

Original — Elfy Londynu Première date — 2023 Movie rights — No Rights sold — Be the first to buy

An alternative vision of contemporary London, where elves and people live side by side. Old, powerful elven families used to wage wars on one another, only to conclude a truce for centuries. But old wounds do not heal. On the contrary, they seem to have festered of late'. The city becomes a setting for a backstage fight of conflicted elven aristocracy. Meanwhile, a radical group emerges to herald the superiority of elves over people. The activity of the group is illegal and its members operate underground, but more and more prominent names have joined the movement. A young female elf named Arianrhod infiltrates the terrorist organisation looking for personal revenge. Little does she know that she's putting herself in a grave danger. The radicals know no mercy. She accidentally lands in the midst of war preparations. The organisation is under close surveillance of elven special forces. What will prevail in the end - social responsibility of the officials, or vested interest of the powerful families?

- An adventurous and multifaceted story of racial conflict, obligations, ambitions and life shaded by centuries of history.
- Building a new universe the reader is bound to feel good there and will long for more of the same.
- Dynamic plot in a familiar setting (contemporary London).



Grzegorz Łyś

A COLONIAL CRAZE



HIGHLIGHT

Poland with access to the sea and with a number of colonies – that's the vision of a superpower nourished in the 1920s and 1930s. The idea was coined by the Polish Maritime and Colonial League - an organisation which perceived overseas territories as a way to economic benefits and greater prestige. Also, Polish villages were highly overpopulated, especially in Galicia, and as you know, overpopulation goes with extreme poverty. Acquiring overseas territories could help solve this problem, so the concept was seriously debated by the Polish government. Whether or not Poland could have become a superpower, is the question analysed by the Polish Institute for the Study of Emigration and Colonisation.

"The vision offered by colonial activists was clear and enchantingly simple: we need to persist in our demands for an overseas territory with a suitable climate. It could be a colony, a condominium, or a League of Nations mandate. It could also be a territory within a foreign state or colony, with autonomous administration and freedom to pursue any national activities. Then strong groups of relentless Polish peasants would be relocated to such a territory. Retaining their faith, culture and connection to the Homeland, they would provide Poland with local produce at convenient prices, and buy products manufactured in Polish factories."

Negotiations began with French politicians, in order to explore the possibility to purchase Madagascar or lease a part of this territory. Polish officials also addressed Portugal to enquire whether Polish settlers could occupy Angola. Other options were also explored, such as Cameroon, and the Polish Maritime and Colonial League entered an agreement with the authorities of Liberia, thus gaining the right to lease 50 plantations for Polish settlers. None of these plans came true, though.

"September 1939 put an end to the Polish dream of colonisation. The Holocaust, Iron Curtain, the agrarian reform and abolishing landowners as a social class, coupled with strenuous Soviet-style industrialisation eradicated all these dreams, needs and reasons that justified them.

In the historical account titled A Colonial Craze Grzegorz Łyś offers a dynamic, lively and colourful story of this part of the Polish interwar period. This is a great opportunity to observe the origins of the Polish statehood and social movements.

GRZEGORZ ŁYŚ has nearly 40 years of experience as a journalist, e.g. for "Życie Warszawy" and "Rzeczpospolita". The author of reportage, essays and articles focused on social, economic, historical, and environmental issues, as well as travelling. In 2021 he wrote and published the first Polish biography of a famous anthropologist, Bronisław Malinowski.

NOTABLE INFORMATION

- ★ A story of colonial aspirations of a country that never had any colonies of its own.
- ★ The catchy theme of colonialism.



Paweł Pieniążek

RESISTANCE

Original — Opór
Première date — 2023
Movie rights — No
Rights sold — Taiwan (2023)



HIGHLIGHT

The Ukrainian armed resistance against the Russian invasion has been the focus of attention all over the world. But the success of this movement haven't only rely on the military prowess. An important force has been the grassroots initiative, including minor actions by millions of citizens. Resistance often has taken the form of funds donated to the armed forces, tea brought to the outpost, evacuating civilians or arranging help. Sometimes the best resistance has been staying at home. It was virtually overnight that people of culture, sports performers, IT specialists, real estate agents, healthcare professionals and pensioners had to turn their lives upside down and face the reality of the war, which has become one of the greatest challenges experienced by Europe since the end of World War II. The book focuses on those ordinary people, who found themselves in tragic circumstances and despite the fear and against all odds, are trying to save their country.

PAWEŁ PIENIĄŻEK (born in 1989) – a journalist working for "Tygodnik Powszechny." He provided an account of the events in Afghanistan, Nagorno-Karabakh, Iraq, Syria and Ukraine. He's the author of books titled *Pozdrowienia z Noworosji* [Greetings from Novorossiya], Wojna, która nas zmieniła [The War That Changed Us] and Po kalifacie. Nowa wojna w Syrii [After the Caliphate. A New War in Syria]. He won the 2019 MediaTory journalist award.

- ★ Direct account from the front Paweł Pieniążek was in Ukraine from January to September 2022.
- Showing the reality of the war from the perspective of civilians - ordinary people.

FICTION 16



Barbara Klicka

SANATORIUM



Serbia (2021), Georgia (2021)



Facing a rebellion from her own body, Kama ends up at a spa resort in Ciechocinek. 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.

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.

NOTABLE INFORMATION

- ★ A dreamy, poetic tale a portrayal of the mythical world of the Polish spa in Ciechocinek.
- Witt, ironic style verging on turpism.
- It's the author's first attempt at prose - she is otherwise known as an acclaimed poet (The Silesius Wrocław Poetry Award for the volume titled nice, 2015 The Gdynia Literary Award for poetry in 2016).



Wojciech Chamier-Gliszczyński

PHANTOM DOSES

Original — Dawki fantomowe Première date — 2022 Movie rights — No Rights sold — Be the first to buy



17

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 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 smokeand-mirrors game of truth and fiction. It is brimming with all kinds of references, from Eastern philosophy to French literature.

WOJCIECH CHAMIER-GLISZCZYŃSKI (born 1983) made his debut in 2004 as a poet in the Szczecin-based 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. He is a lawyer, legal advisor by profession.

- ★ An emancipation story of how a woman can break free from an oppressive situation.
- It's written in excellent, fresh language.
- An attempt at tackling difficult topics under the guise of a sublime grotesque, which engages the reader and offers loads of fun.
- In 2015 the author was shortlisted for the award in the "Reading the Typescript" Henryk Bereza Literary Contest. He also reached the finals of the Prose Workshop project during the 23rd Literature Station festival in 2018, and of the Story Lab project during the 24th Literature Station festival in 2019. He was also shortlisted for the 2020 ArtRage Literary Award for the book titled Portrecista psów [Dog Portraitist].

18 ______ FICTION FICTION ______ 19



Maria Janion

WOMEN AND THE SPIRIT OF OTHERNESS

Original — Kobiety i duch inności

Première date —— first issue in 2006, reissued in 2024

Movie rights — No

Rights sold — Be the first to buy

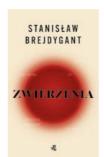
Inspired by feminist criticism, Maria Janion tells her own story of womankind. She wisely chooses her protagonists. They are historical names and symbolic figures, present in cultural texts and in the collective imagination. Meet Maria Komornicka, Lenora, Marianna, Grażyna, Elisabeth Badinter, Izabela Filipiak, or Nicole Müller. Each of them is a distinctive character and an important cultural reference. Janion analyses texts by female, but also male writers (Bürger, Mickiewicz, Kraszewski, Grass) to highlight and describe various forms of 'otherness', often suppressed by culture. "A female hero - a woman, a spokesperson for differences, residing in the outskirts of culture, suppressed and sometimes even mute, now gains a voice of her own and expresses her self-awareness, destroying everything that has so far been taken for granted. Critics commenting on this book agree that a woman should be named as the emblem of postmodernity" (Ewa Nawrocka, "Tygodnik Powszechny").

MARIA TERESA JANION (born on 24 December 1926 in Mońki, died on 23 August 2020 in Warsaw) – a Polish historian of literature, ideas, and imagination, and a literary critic. She specialised in the history of European Romanticism. She was a professor of humanities, a member of the Polish Academy of Sciences and the Polish Academy of Learning, a holder of an honorary doctorate awarded by the University of Gdansk. A researcher of 19th- and 20th-century Polish culture. An author of more than twenty books crucial for the reflection on Polish national identity, as well as a few hundred studies, publications, articles, drafts and reviews. A critic of Polish national myths, of the Polish cult of war, soldier, heroism, military upsurges, and martyrdom. A feminist, a philosopher, a critic of racism, anti-Semitism, homophobia and misogyny. She worked for The Institute of Literary Research of the Polish Academy of Sciences, the University of Gdańsk, and for the University of Warsaw. She was an academic teacher and a supervisor of twenty doctoral theses.

In 2000–2004 she was the chairperson of the jury of the Nike Literary Award.

NOTABLE INFORMATION

- ★ She is one of the most renowned 20th-century Polish intellectuals.
- ★ She received numerous awards e.g.: A. Brückner Award, The Jurzykowski Foundation Award in New York; The Gloria Artis Gold Medal for Merits in Culture, The "Polityka" Passport, The Hyacinth Award (the Foundation for Equality), National Order of Merit (France), Polish PEN Club Award and many others.



Stanisław Brejdygant

CONFESSIONS

Original — Zwierzenia
Première date — 2023
Movie rights — No

Movie rights — No
Rights sold — Be the first to buy

Confessions by Stanisław Brejdygant is an uncompromising, compelling and courageous book. It consists of five separate stories, or micro-novels, each dealing with a socially important and difficult topic: paedophilia ("Evil"), the murdering of Jews by Poles during the war ("Guilty"), homosexuality ("Confessions of a Policewoman"), war trauma and the fates of Jews and Poles during and after World War II ("The Lion's Funeral"), and drug addiction ("Follow a Dream"). Each of these micro-novels is a separate story, a separate "confession" in a different stylistic tone, with the language of each story adapted to the topic and the identity of the narrator or protagonist.

Meanwhile, the backdrop to *Confessions* is the 20th-century history of Poland shown from a non-martyrological perspective, and the book adds to discussions about the concealed sexual behaviour of priests, including paedophilia, and Polish anti-Semitism inspired by Catholic propaganda.

STANISŁAW IGNACY BREJDYGANT is an actor, director, screenwriter, novelist and playwright. He is a member of the Polish Writers' Association (Stowarzyszenie Pisarzy Polskich), and was a member of the board at the Association of Polish Stage Artists (ZASP), the Polish Society of Authors (ZAIKS), PEN Club, ITI, and the Three Seas Writers' Council (Rady Pisarzy Trzech Mórz). In 2013 he was awarded the Gloria Artis Silver Medal for Merit to Culture. He has acted in numerous plays, including Shakespearean roles, as well as films, radio plays and outdoor performances. He is well known as the dubbed voice of the title character in the Polish adaptation of British TV series I, Claudius.

- ★ Classic narrative form
- ★ The book deals with important and difficult topics
- The short story format is increasingly popular

SILENT

Original — Ucichło Première date —— 2022 Movie rights — No Rights sold — Be the first to buy

A jolly youthful summer is coming to an end. Birds take off or lose their minds. Sleepless nights begin. Unexpectedly, time comes to a halt instead of rushing forward. The protagonist is in therapy, trying to come up with a narrative about his life. He is telling a story of friendship and love between siblings, showing us the complex connection between these two feelings. We are about to witness the strangest statement the man is about to make, when he expresses his refusal to accept the inevitability of death. Just like it was the case in Hedges, Karpińska's literary début, also in this book the narrator is entangled in his own words. Is it enough to introduce a few amendments in the narrative of your life to change the course of events? Is it true that you are what you say - no more, no less?

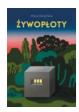
Silent is a book written with utmost sensitivity, a tale of the end of the world - and the end of all worlds. The last glimpse of the microcosms that threaten to collapse when you lose someone dear.

MARIA SOKOŁOWSKA (KARPIŃSKA) was born in 1988. She is an author of numerous articles, short stories, literary and opera reviews. Her texts, signed also under the 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.

NOTABLE INFORMATION

- ★ A timely topic of coping with the loss of a loved one.
- ★ A reflective narrative.
- She won the 2021 Norwid Award for her début - a novel titled "Żywopłoty" [Hedges].

OTHER TITLES:



EMIGRACIA MALCOLM XD

Malcolm XD

EMIGRATION

Original — Emigracja Première date — 2019

Movie rights — Sold (Canal + Series)
Rights sold — **Be the first to buy**



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 nowcult story, The Angler's Father (Ojcu wedkarzu), 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.

MALCOLM XD is the most unknown man in Poland and a local internet legend. He has written 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, and he does his interviews online. There are people who maliciously insist that Malcolm XD is a hive personality.

NOTABLE INFORMATION

- 100 000 sold titles in the series.
- A new, fresh story paste style.
- ★ A funny, witty, and often caustic account of contemporary London as seen by a Polish emigrant.
- Full of familiar street names, monuments, and famous places in London.

OTHER TITLES:



2019



2020 Education Movie rights: sold

Maciej Marcisz

A BOOK ABOUT FRIENDSHIP

Original — Książka o przyjaźni
Première date — 2021
Movie rights — Option sold
Rights sold — **Be the first to buy**

Kasia, Michał and Dorota have known each other forever. Their friendship has stood the test of time, surviving relocations to distant cities and even increasingly 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.

MACIEJ MARCISZ was born in 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 or the National Film School in Łódź. He comes from a small town and lives in Warsaw.

NOTABLE INFORMATION

- ★ Understated humour and wit.
- ★ The author works for Vogue Poland.
- ★ His literary début, a novel titled "Taśmy rodzinne" [Family Tapes] sold 17 500 copie.

OTHER TITLES:



2019 Family Tape: SEBASTIAN NOWAK

POWSZEDNIA HISTORIA

Sebastian Nowak

THE STORY YOU ALREADY KNOW

Original ————— Powszednia historia
Première date ——— 2022
Movie rights ——— No

Rights sold — Be the first to buy

Can a drunk call to your ex change your life? It surely could, but it doesn't have to. At least this time it doesn't seem to be the case.

Ever since she was a child, Jana has been told she could be whatever she wants to, so she became an architect and chose to live abroad. Louis was a teenager when he lost his father and a sense of financial security. Now he's trying to find his feet at a university, where he's just started his academic career. Chris was fairly young when he realised he was a member of a shunned social group. Nevertheless, he is trying to make a life for himself. It's a jolly group: a woman, a man, and their gay friend. You might say you already know the rest of the story...

In The Story You Already Know – the family anti-saga – the simplified course of adventures becomes an excuse for an insight into a history of a few generations. You are going to observe a journey fuelled by a drive for escape, which has led Jana, Louis and Chris to the streets of one of the large cities in post-Communist Europe. And then it's how it usually happens: grand history meets popular culture, and minor promises of good fortunes clash in confrontation with the reality.

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* [The story you already know] is his novel debut.

- ★ A concise, but unpolished book a good example of 'middle literature.'
- ★ The narrator presents the characters' stories with considerable empathy mixed with a pinch of mockery, which makes the portrayal of human life realistic and tangible.
- The author creates a compelling, linguistically realistic (complete with swear words, feminatives, English loan words) and plausible (online dating services, housing crisis, cronyism, homophobia, soap operas) portrayal of life as experienced by people aged 30+ in contemporary Poland.

FICTION FICTION 25



Natalia Szostak

LOST ITEM

Original — Zquba Première date — 2023 Movie rights — No Rights sold — South Korea (2023)

A new voice on the Polish literary scene, strong and gentle at the same time. Journalist Natalia Szostak's debut is a novel about the things, feelings and hopes that we lose along the wav.

The mother of fifteen-year-old Marianna returns from a period working abroad to find her lost daughter. Her mother-in-law, who has been taking care of Marianna for the last few months, is there to help. But what actually happened? Who is behind the girl's disappearance? Maybe it all started when she lost her voice?

"This story, told with unpretentious simplicity, is marked by the narrator's delicate touch and empathy not only towards the main character, the teenage girl, but also towards the inept and befuddled adults. The touching motif of Joy, a person who is not a person, connects with a fine thread of love, responsibility and courage this crumbling family world of things that are lost forever and things that can be regained. Lost Item is a fresh and nourishing story about what ordinary people lose in life."

JOANNA BATOR

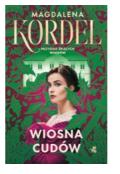
"Natalia Szostak's book is both pertinent and captivating. An attentive, unpretentious story about multivoiced femininity – a "lost item" in which you can find yourself."

DOMINIKA SŁOWIK

NATALIA SZOSTAK (is a cultural journalist, reviewer, and columnist for "Książki" magazine. She has conducted interviews with Margaret Atwood, Olga Tokarczuk and Zadie Smith. She lived in Valencia and Tijuana during her degree in Iberian Studies. Lost Item is her first novel.

NOTABLE INFORMATION

- ★ A simple story that can happen in any family.
- ★ Shows how family problems are seen through the eyes of teenagers.
- ★ A single story as viewed by three women from different generations.



Magdalena Kordel

MIRACULOUS SPRING, PART 1 OF THE SERIES TITLED "THE SLEEPING WINDS HARBOUR"

Original — Wiosna cudów tom 1 serii Przystań śpiących wiatrów

Première date —— 2023

Movie rights — No Rights sold — Be the first to buy

This year's spring spells trouble for Stella. Her tidy, orderly world is about to tumble down like a house of cards. If her great-grandmother Marcelina was still alive, she would say somebody put a bad spell on her. A duplicitous friend and associate turned out to be a scheming bitch. Stella lost her job and was left stranded with a staggering bank loan to repay. Plus, she received a letter which brings back the demons of her past. Stella is trying to put a brave face on it, without involving her family, especially her eversuspicious brother Benjamin, and her outspoken son, Frank. She can't breathe a word of it to anyone, at least for the time being. Not just yet.

Meanwhile, the people of Kotkowo, a small town where everybody knows each other and the local bakery functions as a newsroom, seem to know much more than Stella herself. It must be so, because Stella keeps receiving unintelligible signals from them. And when two mysterious men arrive in the local B&B, the town is suddenly abuzz with gossip.

One thing is for sure: Stella and the whole town of Kotkowo are faced with a wind of change.

Miraculous Spring is the first part of a warm family saga titled The Sleeping Winds Harbour. The protagonist is Stella - the eldest sister, a single mother, and an enthusiast of things and places with a story of their own.

MAGDALENA KORDEL started to write to come to terms with her own problems. Back then she didn't realise she would create a number of best-selling titles, which would be a great help also for the readers, who have come to treat these stories like a cosy blanket. The author herself claims she wants to convince people not to give up on hope, and to keep trying. She hopes that having read her books, they find the will to live, to push on, and to make an effort. And most importantly, never ever to give up!

- A contemporary novel by an acclaimed author.
- A lyrical story full of warmth and gentle humour.
- ★ The characters are vivid they take life with a pinch of salt and a large dose of humour. They make us feel as if we were among close friends.
- A celebration of everyday life and "little miracles".

FICTION



Anna Fryczkowska

A SAGA OF THE EARTH PEOPLE. STARING INTO THE SKY

Original — W niebo wpatrzeni tom 1 Saga o ludziach ziemi

Première date — 2023

Movie rights — No Rights sold — Be the first to buy

Year 1816. The region of Kujawy has just experienced an epidemic brought by Russian troops. A local squire urgently brings new labourers to one of the ghost villages. A young married couple named Jóźwiak come to the abandoned place. Antoni and Hanka escaped from their previous landowner in search for a better life. They will have to assert their position in the new community, establish a relationship with the squire, and try to maintain their dignity in a world of serfdom, while doing their best to raise their only child.

A family saga set in a rural, feudal landscape. A story with elements of magical realism, based on actual peasants' diaries.

AGNIESZKA FRYCZKOWSKA has won a number of prestigious prizes: she received the Gala Rose for her book titled Sześć kobiet w śniegu, nie licząc suki [Six Women In The Snowa and a Bitch], Grand Prix at the Women's Literature Festival

NOTABLE INFORMATION

- ★ A multifaceted family saga set in a 19th-century Polish village.
- A description of relationships between a landowner and Polish peasants in the context of serfdom.
- ★ An account of folk customs, superstitions and beliefs.

ANNADE ŁOPUSIŃSKA

7DERZACZ

TRRILLER



READ

SAMPLE

Joanna Łopusińska

THE COLLIDER

Original — Zderzacz Première date — 2022

Movie rights — Option sold Rights sold — Be the first to buy

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 into 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 Śmierć i Małgorzata [Death and Margaret, was a well-received debut. The second book, titled Zderzacz [The Collider], was plotted around the unpublished discovery of a Polish scientist. For her research, the author spent several weeks in Switzerland and CERN.

- Modern scientific theories deftly smuggled into the storyline.
- ★ A perfect read for the fans of James Bond and books by Dan Brown.
- ★ An intriguing storyline concept .

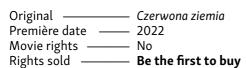
ALICJA SINICKA

FLORYSTKI



Marcin Meller

RED EARTH





In Africa, the impossible is not only possible. It is also probable and sometimes, a certainty.

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.

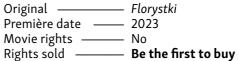
MARCIN MELLER is one of the most accomplished Polish journalists. Apart from his years-long experience as the editor-in-chief at Playboy, Meller is known as the TV host at Drugie Śniadanie Mistrzów, co-author of the best-selling book Gaumardzos and the author of essay collections Sprzedawca arbuzów and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

NOTABLE INFORMATION

- ★ More than 50 000 copies sold in 6 months.
- One of the most enthusiastically received premières in Poland in 2022.
- ★ A few months in the Top 10 on the Empik Bestsellers list.
- One of the best-selling audiobooks in the Empik Go application.

Alicja Sinicka

THE FLORISTS



Helena Bardo - a talented florist and owner of Chloris florist's, creating delightful bouquets that each seem to tell a mysterious story – disappears without a trace. The last signs of her presence are a few drops of blood glistening on the scissors and spools of ribbons.

Along with the police, Helena's best friend and workmate, Sonia, embarks on a desperate search, trying to solve the case of Helena's disappearance. With each passing day, however, she becomes more convinced that she can trust no one - not even her missing friend's husband. One night she receives a mysterious message, a warning that the case also concerns her.

Was Helena really as perfect as her beloved white callas? Or had she been hiding something from the world for years? One thing is certain: the roots of family secrets run very deep indeed.

ALICIA 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.

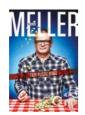
NOTABLE INFORMATION

- A modern example of noir fiction.
- A surprising ending.
- Storyline built around a rare disease - narcolepsy.

OTHER TITLES:



A Bat and Dried Lemons



Three cans of broad beans

OTHER TITLES:



2022



Olga Mildyn

VILE

Original — Podłość Première date — 2022 Movie rights — No Rights sold — Be the first to buy

On average, 11 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 - efforts that are not welcome in the community. Olga Mildyn's debut book is a monumental work of lyrically fictionalised reporting 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 debut novel.

NOTABLE INFORMATION

- The novel was based on a true story of a mysterious death of a married couple and their three children. The author read this account in the local press.
- The author is an acclaimed reporter and journalist; she works for the TVN24 station and for the "Duży Format" magazine.
- A monumental début, a portrayal of contemporary Poland and an account of the everyday struggle with a hard and sometimes shockingly threatening reality. It is also a tale of the immense strength - often destructive - hidden in the media.



Magdalena Majcher

THE LADY DOC FROM SILESIA

Original — Doktórka od familoków Première date — 2023 Movie rights — Option sold Rights sold — Be the first to buy

The seventies, Szopienice – a district of Katowice in Silesia. Yet another infant with anaemia is admitted to the local paediatric clinic. The children around here are smaller, less developed than their peers, and the regional special school is bursting at the seams. According to popular opinion, these issues are a result of negligence and the poor financial circumstances of the families living in the multi-family apartment houses - familoks - in the area. But Doctor Jolanta Wadowska-Król, having consulted a respected professor of paediatrics, is beginning to suspect that the truth lies elsewhere. Unable to take her mind off the children's plight, she decides to conduct additional research. The results are alarming. But the doctor is unaware that she has opened a Pandora's box, and her discoveries will not go down well with the Polish authorities.

MAGDALENA MAJCHER (born September 13, 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?" But "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.

NOTABLE INFORMATION

- A story about a strong and indomitable doctor who bravely stood up for the weakest in society, despite the risk of unforeseen reprisals
- A true and shocking story, the effects of which are still felt in Silesia today.
- In her determination and pursuit of legal knowledge, the titular "doc", Iolanta Wadowska-Król, resembles another determined character - Erin Brockovich.

OTHER TITLES:



2021 A Stranger



2021 A Strong



2022 Little



2023 Finalist

JACEK GALIÑSKI KÓŁKO SIĘ PANI URWAŁO - KOMEDIA KRYMINALNA

Jacek Galiński

THE WHEEL IS BROKEN



Original ———	Kółko się pani urwało
Première date ——	2019
Movie rights ———	Option sold
Rights sold ———	Russia (2021)

First, her flat was broken into. The thieves not only stole money, jewellery and valuable documents, but also desecrated her most cherished memento of her husband - his dress uniform. The police are approaching the investigation with caution, although even a blindman could figure out all the evidence points to the upstairs neighbour, the man without a leg. She won't let him get away with that it, no chance. She decides to get even with him herself. But it turns out that the man without a leg has been murdered, and she is the main suspect. There's nothing else she can do but grab the handle of her faithful shopping trolley and launch her own investigation. Criminals of Warsaw beware! Here comes Zofia Wilkonska, the senior club troublemaker!

IACEK 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.

NOTABLE INFORMATION

- ★ A total of 170 000 books sold titles from the series about Mrs Zofia Wilkońska.
- Galiński is the king of Polish comedy-crime fiction.
- He was one of the winners of the story contest at the International Crime Fiction Festival in Wrocław (2019). He was also awarded the title of a 2019 Literary Rascal (Hultaj Literacki) and was shortlisted for the Grand Prix at the Criminal Warsaw Festival in 2019.
- A bitter-sweet comedy that will make you laugh and ponder.

OTHER TITLES:



2019 Wrong cell, ma'am Rights sold: Russia (2021)



2019 Yes, we can see the bars Rights sold: Russia (2021)



2021 Your competitors got the better of you



2022 The end is nigh



Włodzimierz Borodziej and Maciej Górny

OUR WAR: EMPIRES 1912-1916, NATIONS 1917-1923

Original — Nasza wojna: Imperia 1912-1916, Narody 1917-1923 Première date — 2021 Movie rights — No

Rights sold — Italy (2019), UK (2020), Germany (2017),

Czech Republic (2018)

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 winners 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..."

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.

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"

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".

- ★ A revealing story of World War I the book brings back the memories of forgotten developments from the Eastern Front.
- Based on rarely used sources.

Adam Leszczyński

THE PEOPLE'S HISTORY **OF POLAND**

Original — Ludowa historia Polski Première date — 2020

Movie rights — No Rights sold — Be the first to buy

The People's History of Poland is about the things repressed from memory - the history written by the 'bottom 90 per cent' of Polish society. It tells the story of the institutions made up by the rich for taking money and resources from the poor, using means both legal and illegal – and the story of the resistance and rebellion of those abused. Leszczyński also tells the story of the Polish elites: the ways in which they justified their power and privilege, and of the violence they commonly incited.

NOTABLE INFORMATION

- ★ The first historical book presenting the perspective of lower social classes.
- A monumental, perfectly written account of an unknown history of Poland.
- Acclaimed author, often invited to the media.

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 bottom '90 per cent' of Polish society, of the poor and uneducated, of those who were expected to work hard and listen to the elites - from the early days of Poland's existence up until today.

The main topic of the book is power - the power of those on top of 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

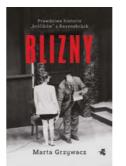
people, not the history of a nation: the author isn't interested in the wars and uprisings as much as he is in their aftermath - how their successes and failures shaped and changed the relationships between the people who lived in Poland: Poles, Jews, Ukrainians, and other minorities.

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 SWPS 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 Naznaczeni. Afryka i AIDS [Stigma. Africa and AIDS (2003)], and Zbawcy mórz [Saviours of the Sea (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 (Skok w nowoczesność [Leap Into Modernity], 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.





Marta Grzywacz

SCARS. THE REAL STORY OF THE 'RABBITS **OF RAVENSBRÜCK'**



Original — Blizny. Historia "Królików z Ravensbrück"

Première date — 2022

Movie rights — No Rights sold — Be the first to buy

On 23rd September 1941, four hundred young Polish female resistance activists arrive in the Ravensbrück concentration camp, brought here from prisons in Lublin and Warsaw. They have to face the reality of the concentration camp: starvation, pain, fear and death.

Some of them are assigned to be used as subjects in pseudo-medical experiments. They are forced to participate in cruel and dangerous practices, thus becoming laboratory animals for the Nazi doctors. Scars. The True Story of the Rabbits of Ravensbrück is a story of Nazi cruelty and physicians working for Hitler. It's a tale of survival, courage and inner strength, which helped the prisoners stand up to their oppressors. It is also the evidence of solidarity of women from different countries and a story of an American philanthropist, who decided to help the victims of medical experiments heal the scars on their bodies and souls.

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 Obrońca skarbów. Karol Estreicher w poszukiwaniu zagrabionych dzieł sztuki Treasure Protector, Karol Estreicher On the Hunt For the Lost Works of Art], 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.

NOTABLE INFORMATION

- It's the first account of a relatively unknown story of female prisoners subject to medical experiments in the Ravensbrück concentration camp and a completely unknown story of their treatment after the war in the USA.
- The author performed thorough research. The book is based not only on preserved documents, but also on numerous accounts and interviews with the former prisoners.

OTHER TITLES:



Nasza Pani

Michał Wójcik

LIGHTNING. THE STORY OF WANDA TRACZYK--STAWSKA, THE WARSAW **UPRISING SOLDIER**

Original — Błyskawica. Historia Wandy Traczyk-Stawskiej,

żołnierza powstania warszawskiego

Première date — 2022

Movie rights — No Rights sold — **Be the first to buy**

I was... brave. Still am a bit, I guess. Or maybe, maybe you know what? Maybe I just did not have enough imagination to feel the fear. That's where my bravery came from. When you're fighting for your dignity, for your right to live in dignity - you become invincible.

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 Historian, journalist. He worked in Radio Zet, "Przekrój" weekly, and was the editor-in-chief of "Focus" and "Focus History" magazines. He co-created the "Błyskawiczny Program Historyczny" on TVN Warszawa and the series "Was / was not" on Discovery.

NOTABLE INFORMATION

- The protagonist is well known and popular. Wanda Traczyk-Stawska is outspoken and active in the media. She's the contemporary voice of the Warsaw Insurgents.
- A valid message, which still rings true.
- The book fits in with the contemporary need for strong female figures and role models.





Ludwika Włodek

AFGHAN REBEL GIRLS

Original — Buntowniczki z Afganistanu Première date — 2022 Movie rights — No Rights sold — Be the first to buy

- I fight at home, at work and with the society - says one of the characters in the book by Ludwika Włodek. - This is energy-consuming. I am hardly 30 and I've already got my first grey hairs. And hair is another thing I had to fight for. When I cropped it short, my father wanted to kick me out of my family home. He couldn't understand why he's not in the position to make me wear my hair long. When I received my first salary, he said he wished my brother made this much money rather than me. But I never gave up. This fight made me strong. Nobody can stop me.

Afghan Rebel Girls tells a story of how Afghan women fought for autonomy. It is an account of the journey they had to make to become well known politicians, artists and activists. Ludwika Włodek talked to women who took active part in the modernisation of their country, because it was their family tradition, and to girls who had to stand up against their parents to overcome stereotypes and limitations imposed by the patriarchal culture and a peculiar approach to tradition.

They paid a high price for their autonomy. They became a target of hate speech and assaults. The Taliban put their names on the black lists of people to be assassinated, and conservative mullahs pointed fingers at them. And it was not only the women, but also their relatives that were subject to persecution.

Ludwika Włodek has known these women for years. She's friends with many of them. She has closely followed their careers and witnessed their personal and professional success. She was in touch with them in August 2021, when the Taliban occupied Kabul. She met with some of them in Poland. Her book is a proof that the fight for women's rights in Afghanistan (and elsewhere) is never done, and women's solidarity can work miracles.

LUDWIKA WŁODEK is a sociologist, reporter, and lecturer at the Faculty of the Oriental Studies at the University of Warsaw. She has written several books, including Pra. O rodzinie Iwaszkiewiczów, Wystarczy przejść przez rzekę, Andrzej Mróz. Cudowna, cudowna historia and Cztery sztandary, jeden adres. Historie ze Spisza. Her reportage collection 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.

- ★ A story of women fighting for their rightful position in a country where any such initiative is punishable by death.
- Wlodek was nominated for the 2013 Polityka History Award in the category of "Diaries, accounts, memoirs" for her book titled Pra O rodzinie Iwaszkiewiczów.
- Her academic experience at the Eastern Europe Centre at University of Warsaw made her a frequently invited guest in the media, where she happily shares her insights on Central Asia.



Katarzyna Skrzydłowska-Kalukin Joanna Sokolińska

CALL ME THEY - WHY CHILDREN TODAY KEEP LOOKING FOR GENDER

Original — Mów o mnie ono. Dlaczego współczesne dzieci szukają swojej płci

Première date — 2022

Movie rights — No Rights sold — Be the first to buy

Teenagers - in Utrecht, London, Warsaw and smaller towns - reject gender binarism together with its conventional sexuality. They can see many more options than their parents did. The number of young people who identify as transgender keeps growing - even by a few hundred per cent each year, as is the case in the UK. Parents raised their child as a girl and all of a sudden she announces she's a boy. Or the other way round. Or - as the case may be - the child may be non-binary: neither a boy, nor a girl, or sometimes a boy and at other times a girl. Or they may decide they don't subscribe to any gender whatsoever. Not all of these children insist on a gender confirmation surgery. Most of them just want to be able to express themselves - by choosing another name to go by, different clothes or pronouns. So much for gender. Because there's also the topic of feelings, relationships and sexuality: being heterosexual, homosexual, bisexual, pansexual, asexual, panromantic or aromantic. Both transsexual and cisgender teenagers can be queer. They live in big cities and small towns, in Europe and the Americas. What has changed? Has it always been this way, but we only became open-minded enough to see it in the 21st century? Or maybe our children are the pioneers of another sexual revolution?

KATARZYNA SKRZYDŁOWSKA-KALUKIN

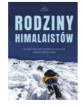
Social journalist, reporter. She has published her texts in "Gazeta Wyborcza", "Newsweek", "Dziennik" and the "Wprost" weekly. She's the author of a book titled "Gajka i Jacek Kuroniowie" and an extended interview with Dorota Zawadzka titled "Jak zostałam nianią Polaków". She's married to Rafał, and has two children, Marta and Julian.

JOANNA SOKOLIŃSKA is a sociologist, reporter and columnist for "Wysokie Obcasy". She loves chablis, secondhand boutiques, American B-class crime series and early crime fiction by Joanna Chmielewska. Her first published crime story is titled "Trzewiczki Matki Boskiej" [Virgin Mary's Shoes].

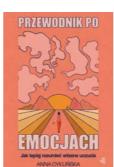
NOTABLE INFORMATION

- ★ The authors rely on the research done by Polish and foreign scientists.
- It's the first book in Poland about sexuality issues experienced by children nowadays.
- A combination of literary reportage with the latest scientific findings.

OTHER TITLES:



2020



Anna Cyklińska

A GUIDE TO EMOTIONS

Original — Przewodnik po emocjach. Jak lepiej zrozumieć własne uczucia

Première date — 2022

Movie rights — No
Rights sold — Be the first to buy

A Guide To Emotions is the first such psychological guidebook in Poland - it provides a comprehensive description of the basic twenty emotions we experience in our lives.

The author explains what emotions are and why they are important. On top of this, she shows us what happens when you fail to notice, acknowledge or express your emotions and choose to suppress them. She claims that "this book won't help you learn how to recognise emotions on the faces of other people or match the signs given by your body to specific feelings. Instead, I will try to show you that emotions are relative, individual and rooted in a context. You will discover the importance of a holistic approach to regulating your emotions - for this, you will need not only a set of specific skills, but also the ability to manage your general wellbeing. Let me show you how you can take a step towards containing your emotions by putting an accurate name on them."

The book comes with a set of practical exercises to help you understand how to notice emotions in your body, how to acquire the language to speak about them, and how to practise mindfulness.

ANNA CYKLIŃSKA - a psychologist, a cognitive and behavioural psychotherapist, and the author of the @psychoedu Instagram profile. She has her own podcast channel titled "Można zwariować" [You could go insane]. In her first published book she offers guidance to twenty basic emotions all of us experience at some point of our lives.

- 10 000 copies sold in 2 months.
- Wise and reader-friendly.
- Beautiful, modern illustrations.



NONFICTION



Janina Bak

STATISTICALLY SPEAKING, OR HOW MUCH CHOCOLATE YOU HAVE TO EAT TO WIN THE NOBEL PRIZE

Statystycznie rzecz biorąc, czyli ile trzeba zjeść czekolady,

żeby dostać Nobla

Première date — 2020 Movie rights — No Rights sold — Be the first to buy

How much chocolate do you have to eat to win the Nobel Prize? Why did the horse and the raccoon never get PhDs? Does the English language cause heart attacks, and does butter make you live longer? Above all: are scientists, just like wives, never wrong? These are questions that have troubled mankind since the dawn of time. Only the statistical heroine of our times, Janina Bak, has the answers. Statistically Speaking is a book about statistics (yes, statistics!) which will make your tummy ache (from laughing; no need to run to the doctor - you should only run when someone is chasing you). Even better, this book helps you understand what all those statistics are about.

JANINA BAK - Author of the Janina Daily blog, business whizz, mathematical puzzle virtuoso, commander of comedy, and so much more... Her DIY workshops on weaving baskets from kabanos sausages have been viewed 65,000 times, and her TEDx talk on statistics was at one point more popular than the music videos of the most popular artists in Poland. If she's got somewhere to be, she'll leave on Tuesday instead of Thursday, a month too early or too late, and in the wrong direction. She believes that the bar should always be set high, so that when you're passing under it, you don't have to bend down.

NOTABLE INFORMATION

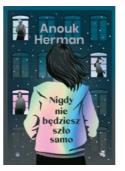
- Science presented in the funniest way possible.
- ★ A bunch of titbits to help you grasp things you never understood in school.
- ★ A book that proves that maths is fun.

OTHER TITLES:



Statistically Speaking,...

YΑ



Anouk Herman

NEVER ALONE AGAIN

Original — Niqdy nie będziesz szło samo Première date — 2023

Movie rights — No Rights sold — Be the first to buy

Katuchna Zygler, a girl with autism, lives on a housing estate. She feels lonely, and one of her favourite pastimes is chatting with strangers on the internet. Not long before Christmas, Katuchna starts talking to Sobaka, an anarchist residing in a squat. The two teenagers decide to meet in person, spending an evening together, but forgetting to exchange numbers. A few days later, Katuchna finds out that Sobaka has gone missing. The liaison between Katuchna and the squat is Melody, an activist who dreams of a career in science. Other characters in Katuchna's life include Riko, a non-binary person who has just found their identity, and the go-getting Łanieczka, a body piercer and teenage mother struggling with eating disorders. Both prove to be a source of support for Katuchna as she deals with her grief and redefines who she is, discovering her own queerness in the process.

ANOUK HERMAN (they, she, he) is an author from Katowice. Their poetry debut, Right into pod tramwaj, was published in 2022. They are interested in ecofeminism and issues of queerness and girlishness. They feed a local flock of hungry pigeons daily - they love all animals, but especially mice and cats.

- ★ A story full of ups and downs about finding one's identity
- A range of colourful characters set against the backdrop of a workingclass, conservative part of Poland
- Anouk Herman reached the final of the Połów Poetycki poetry debut prize in 2021, and won a special prize in the Jacek Bierezin poetry contest



Karolina Lewestam

LITTLE PRINCESS



Original ——	 Mała Księżniczka
Première date	 2021

Movie rights — No

Rights sold — Czech Republic (2021), Ukraine (2022)

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.

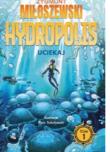
The title character meets Amelia Earhart, the legendary American pilot who disappeared in mysterious circumstances. But before they give each other a mutual lesson in sisterhood, the protagonist takes a trip through space in an attempt to better understand her beloved flower – and encounters many bizarre 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.

NOTABLE INFORMATION

- ★ Full of textual and visual references to *The Little Prince*.
- ★ 15 000 copies sold.
- ★ The book was originally written in English, so no translation is needed. The English text can be directly translated into other languages.





HYDROPOLIS

Original — Uciekaj. Hydropolis tom I.
Première date — 2022

Movie rights — No
Rights sold — Be the first to buy

Dive into the underwater riddle of Hydropolis and experience an unforgettable adventure. The first volume of the *Hydropolis* trilogy titled *Run* is more than just a page-turner full of twists and turns, which will resonate with young readers from the very beginning. This is a tale of a journey to freedom and a fight for the right to rebel.

Meet Leonard, also known as Elk, an eleven-year-old who lives in the Second Underwater Colony. His world is a place of strict rules, which restrain the people living there but are necessary to make them feel secure, as they want and need to. At first glance, the boy's everyday life seems just like the one we know, but in fact, it's steered by the Universal Security Rules and orchestrated by the omnipotent Engineers. Everybody must observe a specific set of rules, otherwise they will die.

Why then does Elk receive a message telling him to run? Is the colony in danger? Or is he? Who is telling the truth? Will the boy take a risk to learn whether there is an alternative reality, which might be better than the one he grew up in?

This unputdownable humorous story of fantastic worlds and unpredictable events will engage you from page one! It was written for young readers aged 9-12, but it will make an enjoyable read for older teenagers, too. Feisty, visionary, futuristic, with just a pinch of retro vibe – that's what the latest novel by Zygmunt Miłoszewski is like.

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

NOTABLE INFORMATION

- ★ The first book for children written by one of the most popular crime story authors in Poland.
- ★ The author became popular and received a number of awards e.g. for a crime trilogy about Teodor Szacki, which was translated into 16 languages.
- ★ A tale of a journey to freedom and a fight for the right to rebel.

OTHER TITLES:

The Teodor Szacki series:

Rights sold to 17 countries









2014

2007 Entanalement

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- Houellebecq Michel, QUELQUES MOIS DANS MA VIE
- Kang Han, Greek Lessons
- Michaelides Alex, The Fury
- Mochizuki Mai, The Full Moon Coffee Shop 1-2
- Jelinek Elfriede, Angabe der Person
- Giraud Brigitte, Vivre Vite
- Houellebecq Michel, La carte et le territorie. Graphic novel
- Connor Erin, Unromance
- Down Jennifer, Bodies of Light
- De Cespedes Alba, Quaderno Proibito
- Hazzard Shirley, The Transit of Venus
- Susannah Nix, Chemistry Lessons: The Love Code, Dating and Other Theories,
- The Boyfriend Hypothesis
- Mairowitz David Zane, Montellier Chantal, Kafka Franz, The Trial. Graphic novel
- Edginton Ian, Deas Robert, Jane Austen, Pride and Prejudice. Graphic novel
- Elsberg Marc, °C-Celcius
- Lloyd Sam, The People Watcher
- Hawkins Rachel, Reckless Girls, The Villa

UROBOROS - FANTASY

- Shusterman Neal, Arc of Scythe 1-3: Scythe, Thunderhead, The Toll
- Shusterman Neal, Unwind, UnWholly, UnSouled, UnDivided
- Whitten Hannah F., The Nightshade Crown: The Foxglove King, The Hemlock Queen
- Hatzopoulou Kika, Threads That Bind
- Mandanna Sangu, The Very Secret Society of Irregular Witches
- Lacelle Pascale, Curious Tides
- Grace Adalyn, Belladonna, Foxglove
- Wells Martha, Witch King
- Roberts Lauren, Powerless
- Le Vanessa, The Last Bloodcarver
- Sotto Yambao Samantha, Water Moon
- Brown Gareth, The Book of Doors
- Tuli Nisha J., Artefact of Ouranos series

NEONY SERIES - YA

- Byrne Tanya, Afterlove
- June Jason, Jay's Agenda
- Blau Jessica Anya, Mary Jane
- Shustermann Neal, Challenger Deep
- Meddings Lize, The Sad Ghost Club 1-3
- Wilson Kerilynn, Faint of Heart
- Sharpe Tess, Six Times We Almost Kissed (And One Time We Did)
- Nazemian Abdi, The Chandler Legacies

NON-FICTION

- Matthew Perry, Friends, Lovers, and the Big Terrible Thing
- Mikhai Zygar, The Future will not come
- Mikhail Zygar, Ukraine
- Oliver Bullough, Butler to the World
- Gerard Janssen, Hackers
- Maikel Kuijpers, Everything is Material
- Asne Seierstad, Afghanere [The Afgans]
- David Grann, The Wager: A Tale of Shipwreck, Mutiny and Murder
- Peter Frankopan, The Earth Transformed
- Sam van Schaik, Tibet. A History
- Siddharth Kara, Cobalt Red
- Lou Osborn, Dimitri Zufferey, Les Yeux braqués sur Wagner [All Eyes on Wagner, An Investigation into the Mercenary Group serving the Kremlin]
- Julia Fox, Down the Drain

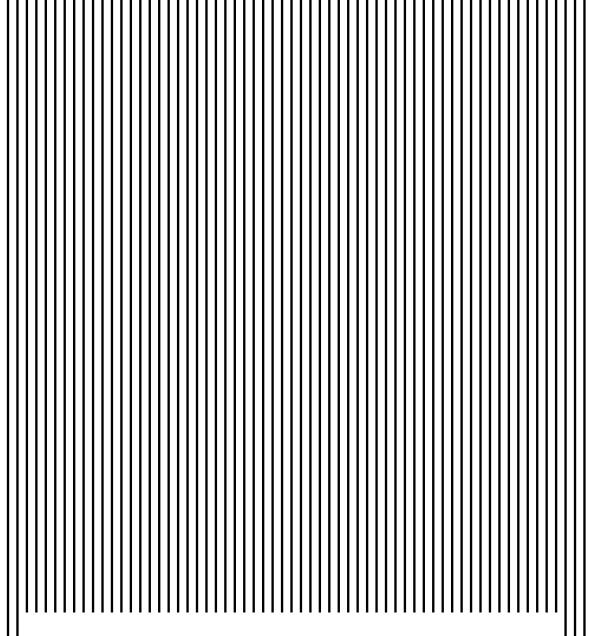
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