

Diogenes

Shelly Kupferberg
Isidor

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Original title: *Isidor*



Dr. Isidor Geller has made it: he is a highly respected business man, an advisor to the Austrian government, a multi-millionaire, an opera lover, art collector and, after two failed marriages, is in a relationship with a beautiful singer. He has come a long way: from a shtetl in the furthest, most impoverished recesses of Galicia to the most elite circles of Viennese society.

No one can touch him now, Isidor is sure of that – and certainly not those vulgar National Socialists.

But in 1938, everything changes from one day to the next.

Book factsheet

History, current affairs, General Fiction,
Biographies
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French (Belfond)
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 **Bestseller**

#9 Spiegel Bestseller (non-fiction)

Praise

Isidor

»Shelly Kupferberg publishes a personal and impressive portrait about a Jewish life in Vienna.« – Allegra Mercedes Pirker / ORF, Vienna

»Kupferberg transforms the pictures and documents she digs up in a Tel Aviv attic into an accurate chronicle of robbery and annihilation.« – Dirk Schümer / Welt am Sonntag, Berlin

»She writes in a personal tone without oversharing.« – Natan Sznajder / Der Spiegel, Hamburg

»Shelly Kupferberg's family history is a book that will continue to reverberate and that unfortunately will never lose its topicality.« – Andreas Wallentin / WDR5, Cologne

»His [Isidor's] story is our story, with which you can gain clarity.« – Peter Pisa / Kurier, Vienna

»A book full of history.« – Berliner Morgenpost, Berlin

»Kupferberg's debut tragically provides insight into the history and the lives of individual people, thereby also showing the fate of the many.« – Daniela Winkler / Kleine Zeitung, Graz

»Shelly Kupferberg gently feels her way towards Isidor's fate, she tells the story not only of him but also of the people around him.« – Bettina Baltschev / MDR Kultur, Halle

»Her debut is as gripping and opulently narrated as a novel, but simultaneously as authentic as a documentary.« – Rheinische Post, Düsseldorf

»This is a tribute to an individual fate, and also representative of the many Jewish lives extinguished under the Nazi dictatorship.« – Frank Zimmermann / Badische Zeitung, Freiburg



Shelly Kupferberg, born in Tel Aviv in 1974, grew up in West Berlin and studied journalism, theatre and music. She works as a journalist and presenter for Deutschlandfunk Kultur and RBB Kultur, and often hosts at readings with German and international authors. Shelly Kupferberg lives with her family in Berlin.

Praise (cont'd)

»Shelly Kupferberg weaves together a tapestry of biographies, making the everyday life of the time much more tangible than any standard historical overview could.« – Wolfgang Popp / Radio Ö1, Vienna

»Kupferberg succeeds in creating a sensitive panorama of the worst moments, borne by a discreet journalistic curiosity.« – Bernd Noack / Nürnberger Nachrichten, Nuremberg

»In *Isidor*, she tells two stories. One is adventurous; one abhorrent. One about a transformation; the other about a murder.« – Julia Voss / Frankfurter Allgemeine Sonntagszeitung, Frankfurt

»She meticulously traces the fate of her great-granduncle in a melancholically sad, sometimes wonderfully distanced tone.«

– Bernd Noack / NZZ, Zurich

»Kupferberg transforms the pictures and documents she digs up in a Tel Aviv attic into an accurate chronicle of robbery and annihilation.« – Dirk Schümer / Welt am Sonntag, Berlin

»Shelly Kupferberg publishes a personal and impressive portrait about a Jewish life in Vienna.« – Allegra Mercedes Pirker / ORF, Vienna

»Shelly Kupferberg recounts her quest and her discoveries before stepping back behind a thrilling biographical novel to immerse the reader in the destiny of Isidor Geller.« – Corinne Renou-Nativel / La Croix, Montrouge

»Shelly Kupferberg's family history is a book that will continue to reverberate and will, unfortunately, never lose its relevance.« – Andreas Wallentin / WDR, Cologne

»A sweeping narrative about what Saul Friedländer calls deep memory and how Shelly Kupferberg tracks it down in her family.« – Harald Welzer

»Kupferberg's great merit is to make history comprehensible once again with *Isidor*. The unthinkable becomes shockingly tangible in view of the individual fate.« – Bernd Noack / NZZ, Zurich

»She writes in a personal tone without oversharing.« – Natan Sznajder / Der Spiegel, Hamburg

»Kupferberg's debut tragically provides insight into the history and the lives of individual people, thereby also showing the fate of the many.« – Daniela Winkler / Kleine Zeitung, Graz

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»[Isidor's] story is our story, with which you can gain clarity.« – Peter Pisa / Kurier, Vienna

Praise (cont'd)

»...the novel is a pleasure to read [...] and what [Shelly Kupferberg] describes, the small world of opera and its supporting players in anti-Semitic Vienna, is captivating.« – Vincent Jaury / Transfuge, Paris

»An intense, deeply moving work...« – Sylvie Lecoules / Le Tarn Libre, Albi