

Diogenes

Jakob Arjouni
Chez Max

Published by Diogenes as *Chez Max*
Original title: *Chez Max*



The world in the year 2064. Overpopulation? Famine? Religious wars? Dictatorships? On the contrary. At least, not in the Eurasian and North American regions. Securely fenced off from the rest of the world, life in these areas, with the exception of a handful of suicide bombings and regular border disputes, is constantly improving. Nowhere more so than at »Chez Max – German Cuisine«, a small, top-quality restaurant located in Paris' eleventh arrondissement. Its customers are, however, not only served fine food, but carefully monitored, their conversations overheard – because Max is not only the restaurant manager, but also an Ashcroft agent, a member of a secret government organisation whose mission is to promptly identify and weed out anything that may threaten the political status quo. Max leads a full and orderly life, oscillating between professional success and social commitment. The only spanner in the works is his Ashcroft partner, Chen Wu, a self-righteous loudmouth, who leaves no taboo unbroken, attacks every human weakness and takes liberties at will – all because of the spectacular successes he has achieved within the organisation. Until the day that Wu's own weakness is revealed and Max sees an opportunity to get rid off his partner once and for all.

Book factsheet

General Fiction
224 pages
11.6 x 18.4 cm
September 2006

World rights are handled by Diogenes

Movie adaptations

2017: Am Ruder

Director: Stephan Wagner
Screenplay: Stephan und Alexandra Maxeiner Wagner
Cast: Wotan Wilke Möhring, Julia Koschitz und Inga Birkenfeld

1992: Happy Birthday, Türke

Director: Doris Dörrie
Cast: Hansa Cypionka, Özay Fecht, Doris Kunstmann, Lambert Hamel

Awards

- 1992 Deutscher Krimi Preis für »Ein Mann, ein Mord«.
- 1987 Baden-Württembergischer Autorenpreis für das deutschsprachige Jugendtheater für sein Theaterstück »Nazim schiebt ab«.

Praise

Chez Max

»As gripping as Arjouni's early Kayankaya-Cases. (...) In the end you have been entertained frantically well.« – Marcel Elsner / St. Galler Tagblatt

»With »Chez Max«, Jakob Arjouni has written the most original novel yet about the events of 9/11.« – Sven Boedecker / SonntagsZeitung, Zürich

Jakob Arjouni

»Magnificent« – The Guardian

»Arjouni deserves to be better known in the English speaking world.« – The Times

»Jakob Arjouni writes the best urban thrillers since Raymond Chandler.« – Tempo

»A master of the sketch and the caricature.« – Die Welt

»Impossible to put his books down.« – El Pais

»A worthy grandson of Marlowe and Spade.« – Stern

»Arjouni tells real-life stories, and they virtually never have a happy ending. He tells them so well, with such flexible dialogue and cleverly maintained tension, that it is impossible to put his books down.« – El Pais, Madrid

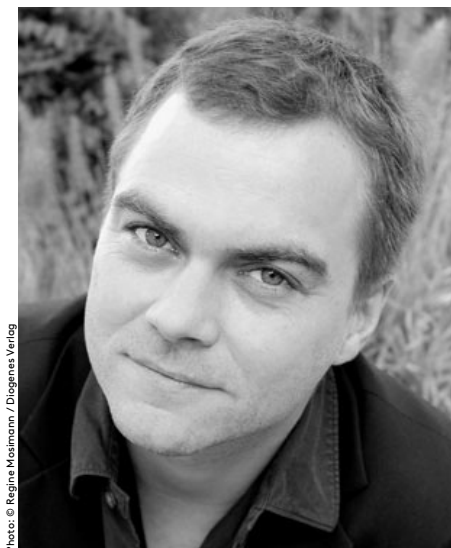


Photo: © Regine Mostmann / Diogenes Verlag

Praise (cont'd)

»A genuine storyteller who beguiles his readers without the need of tricks.« – L'Unità, Milan

Jakob Arjouni, born 1964 in Frankfurt on the Main, has published novels, short stories, theatre and radio plays.

Arjouni was only twenty-one years old when his acclaimed debut, ›Happy birthday, Turk!‹ was published and its main character, the Frankfurt-based private detective Kemal Kayankaya, took on his very first investigation. In 1991, the book was made into a film, directed by Doris Dörrie. Three further cases followed; for the third, ›One Man, One Murder‹, Jakob Arjouni was awarded the 1992 ›German Crime Fiction Prize‹. In autumn 2012, ›Brother Kemal‹, the fifth volume starring the German-Turkish investigator was published. The series is now firmly established as a classic amongst crime literature.

Apart from his stage plays, his work also includes the Berlin novels ›Magic Hoffmann‹ (1996) and ›Holy Eddy‹ (2009) as well as ›Idiots. Five Fairy Tales‹ (2003). His novels ›Homework‹, ›Chez Max‹, and particularly his novel about an East-German Nazi follower, ›Cherryman Hunts Mister White‹, are now on school reading lists. The theme of addressing violence in all its forms runs through Arjouni's work like a red thread.

His readers loved him for his thrilling, sharp-tongued, linguistically unpretentious, witty and clever books. He died on the 17th of January 2013 in Berlin.



The Kayankaya Novels
1080 pages
2014



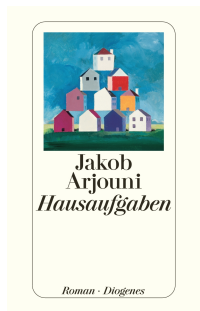
Brother Kemal
240 pages
2012



Cherryman Hunts Mister White
176 pages
2011



Holy Eddy
256 pages
2009



Homework
192 pages
2004



Idiots. Five fairy tales
160 pages
2003

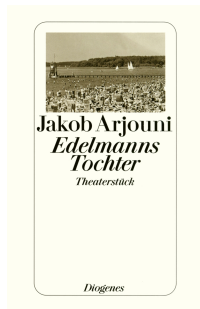


Kismet
272 pages
2001

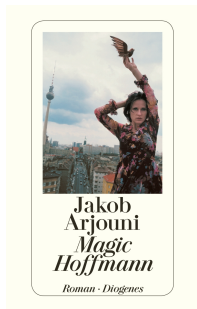


A Friend
176 pages
1998

 **Movie Adaptation**



Edelmann's Daughter
96 pages
1996



Magic Hoffmann
288 pages
1996



One Man, One Murder
192 pages
1991



More Beer
176 pages
1987



Happy Birthday, Turk!
176 pages
1987

 **Movie Adaptation**