

**Esmahan Aykol**  
***Goodbye Istanbul***

Published by Diogenes as *Goodbye Istanbul*  
Original title: *Savrunlar*



Two men are making life difficult for Ece. The first is her father. Since losing his arm in a work accident, he believes he has a right to be malicious and to tyrannise the members of his family whenever the whim takes him. The second is Tamer. Ece is in love with him – but he is married and, for many years now, has refused to leave his wife and children.

Finally, the young woman departs her beloved home town of Istanbul to seek her fortune in London. But life as an émigré is not what she had imagined. There is no real integration to speak of; rather, the Turks live in a parallel universe in which they hardly ever come in contact with England itself – and when they do, it is always negative. While cleaning dishes in a cheap barbecue restaurant, Ece is suddenly awash with memories. Images of her grandfather, himself an emigrant; as an Armenian silversmith in Istanbul, he too had been forced to start from scratch. But in the process, he met the love of his life – Ece's grandmother.

## Book factsheet

Contemporary Literature  
368 pages  
11.6 x 18.4 cm  
May 2007

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**Translation rights currently sold:**  
Greek (Kritiki)

### Awards

- 2017 ›Stipendium der Franz-Edelmaier-Residenz für Literatur und Menschenrechte‹ der Schweizerischen Gesellschaft für die Europäische Menschenrechtskonvention im August und September 2017 in Meran
- 2017 ›Wiesbadener Krimistipendium‹, vier Wochen im März, Autorin schreibt in dieser Zeit an einem von ihrem Wiesbaden-Aufenthalt inspirierten Kurzkrimi und wird in der Jury des Fernsehkrimifestivals mitwirken

### Praise

#### *Goodbye Istanbul*

»The realism with which Esmahan Aykol depicts the century's great metropolises goes hand in hand with the narrative craft and wisdom of the Orient. A captivating novel.« – Milliyet Sanat, Istanbul

»The novel intertwines, in remarkable fashion, Anatolian legends with the bitter realities of immigrants today.« – Evrensel Kitap, Istanbul

»An extraordinary book about immigration, love and forgetting.« – Hürriyet, Istanbul

#### Esmahan Aykol

»If you aren't familiar with Kati, think a younger German-in-Turkey Miss Marple mingled with the delicious informality of The #1 Ladies Detective Agency.« – www.thebookbag.co.uk



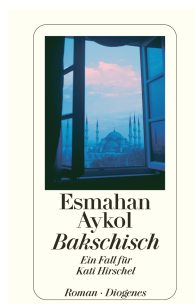
Esmahan Aykol was born in Edirne, Turkey, 1970, now living in Berlin and Istanbul. While studying towards a degree in law, she worked as a journalist for several Turkish newspapers and radio stations. Later she and a friend opened a bar, which went bust in no time. Her friend then opened a bookshop and Esmahan Aykol wrote a novel which became a bestseller not only in that bookshop, but throughout Turkey: ›Hotel Bosphorus‹. Today, she concentrates solely on writing. She is the creator of the likeable Kati Hirschel novels (most recently ›Istanbul Tango‹).



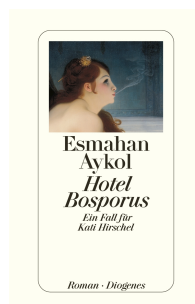
**Istanbul Tango**  
336 pages  
2016



**Divorce in Turkish**  
336 pages  
2008



**Baksheesh**  
336 pages  
2004



**Hotel Bosphorus**  
288 pages  
2003