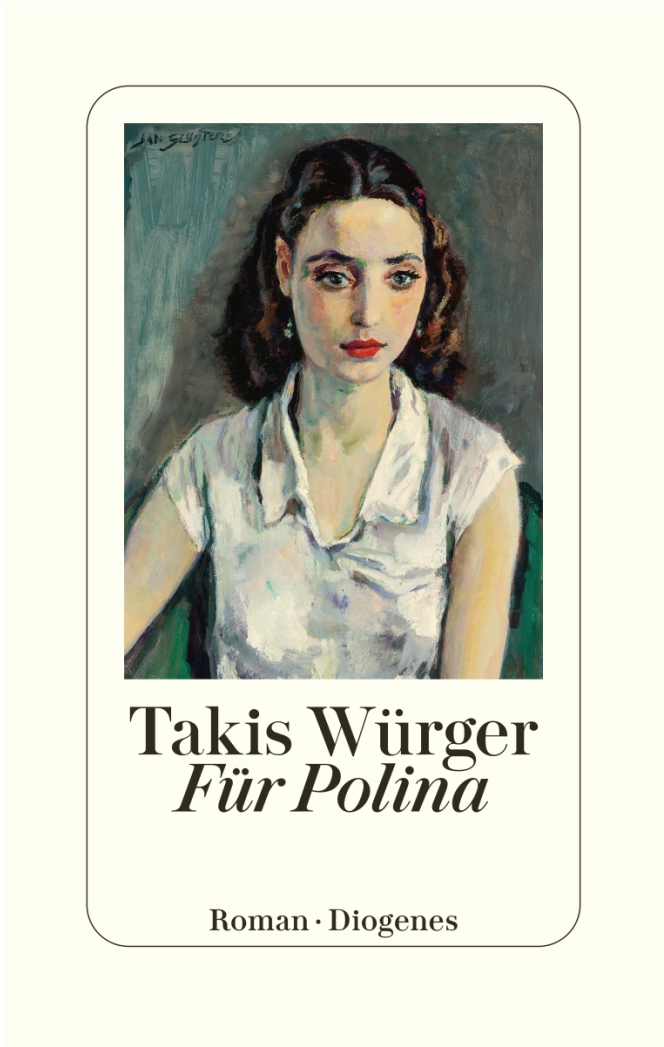
Diogenes

Book factsheet

Takis Würger
For Polina

Published by Diogenes as *Für Polina*
Original title: *Für Polina*



At the age of fourteen, Hannes Prager falls in love with a girl named Polina. To demonstrate his love, the exceptionally gifted boy composes a melody that encapsulates Polinas essence and desires. A short while later, Hanness mother dies in an accident. His music dies with her, and Polina disappears from his life. After years in which he feels nothing but emptiness, Hannes realises he has to find Polina again. But the only way he can reach her is with her melody.

Contemporary Literature, Bestseller
304 pages
11.6 × 18.4 × 2.3 cm
March 2025

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Bestseller

#1 Spiegel bestseller

Awards

2025 *Für Polina* ist ›Das Lieblingsbuch‹ des Deutschschweizer Buchhandels
2025 *Für Polina* ist für den ›Bayern 2-Publikumspreis des Bayerischen Buchpreises‹ nominiert
2025 *Für Polina* ist für das ›Lieblingsbuch der Unabhängigen‹ nominiert

Praise

For Polina

»Takis Würger follows his characters with such empathy that his novel appears like a touching melody.« – Juli Zeh

»In *For Polina*, one can truly savour Würger's narrative style and fall in love with his enchanting characters.« – Katrin Kaiser / Abendzeitung, Munich



Photo: © Philipp Keel

Takis Würger, born in 1985, studied Human, Social and Political Sciences at Cambridge. He worked as a reporter from Afghanistan, Libya and Iraq for *Der Spiegel*, and has been a freelance author since 2020. His novels *The Club, Stella,* and *For Polina* are bestsellers and have been translated into numerous languages. Takis Würger lives in Leipzig.

Praise (cont'd)

»Like his protagonist, the author strikes the right tone, gently and concisely – which makes *For Polina* a delicate literary gem full of adorably peculiar characters.« – Kathrin Brack / Münchner Merkur, Munich

»[...] *For Polina* is definitely a joy to read.« – Marc Baumann / Süddeutsche Zeitung, Munich

»Würger has written a story about fragile love, depicting authentic characters who are convincingly quirky and break away from the conventional mould.« – Jan Sting / Kölnische Rundschau, Cologne

»The new novel *For Polina* by Takis Würger is a narrative joy.« – Erik Lim / Südwestpresse, Ulm

»A fairytale-like, beautiful and shuddersome love story.« – Frank Dietschreit / RBB, Berlin

»It is also a book that cherishes the value of community – whether between roommates, friends or coworkers.« – Franziska Spiecker / Frankfurter Neue Presse

»*For Polina* is essentially a fairytale. But one that wouldn't be possible without the internet.« – Susanne Schramm / Aachener Zeitung, Aachen

»An absolute joy to read.« – Ruhr Nachrichten, Dortmund

»Takis Würger masters the art of sketching lifelike and sometimes rather crazy characters with just a few skilful strokes.« – Ronald Meyer-Arlt / Hannoversche Allgemeine Zeitung, Hannover

»Würger tells about a connection between two young people, with music as a common thread, marvellously touchingly indeed.« – Westdeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung, Düsseldorf

»Romantic, quiet and light like a dream. Just beautiful!« – Berliner Zeitung

»Humour, music and love in times of uncertainty. [Takis Würger's] novel *For Polina* is just good for the soul.« – Claudio Armbruster / ZDF, Mainz

»A powerful message about the dual nature of humanity in constant search for balance: reason and feeling, rationality and emotion, instinct and thought.« – Francesca Vitelli / Il Mondo di Suk, Napoli

»A novel that is both heartwarming and heartbreaking, written in truly beautiful prose.« – Max Magazine, Hilversum

»A heartwarming and moving novel that you'll want to pass on to someone else as soon as you've finished reading it.« – ZIN Magazine, Amsterdam

»Würger creates characters that captivate the reader: exuberant, original, they exude sensations and atmospheres.« – Luigi Forte / La Stampa, Torino

»A warm, almost fairy-tale-like story about music, loss, and the search that never ends.« – AD Mezza, Rotterdam

Praise (cont'd)

Takis Würger

»Würger is surely one of the most important writers of our generation.« – Joël Dicker

»Würger's debut was a bestseller in his native Germany. Its universal themes, brilliantly depicted world and taut storytelling constitute a recipe for further success [. . .].« – Malcolm Forbes / Minneapolis Star Tribune

»Takis Würger has got everything that German literary criticism still can't stand, despises even: lust for storytelling. Humour. Drive. Empathy. And, worst of all: success.« – Denis Scheck / Tagesspiegel, Berlin