

# Diogenes

**Erich Hackl**  
**Three Tearless Stories**

Published by Diogenes as *Drei tränenlose Geschichten*  
Original title: *Drei tränenlose Geschichten*



**Erich Hackl**  
*Drei tränenlose  
Geschichten*

*Diogenes*

Three stories which are kindled by photographs, yet at the same time transcend them, for they bring the depicted scenes back to life.

›The photographer of Auschwitz‹

The story of Wilhelm Brasse, the Auschwitz inmate and ›camp photographer‹ who became known worldwide. One of his photographs achieved international renown.

›The Klagsbrunn Family‹

The rise, alienation, flight and resistance of the Jewish Klagsbrunn family.

›Tschofenigweg‹

On the search for clues about the Austrian woman Gisela Tschofenig, who had to hold her wedding in Dachau concentration camp.

Book factsheet

Contemporary Literature  
160 pages  
11.6 x 18.4 cm  
May 2014

World rights are handled by Diogenes

**Rights currently sold:**  
English/world (Doppelhouse)

 **Movie adaptations**

**2011: Der Heimwehträger. Neunzig Minuten mit Fritz Kalmar. Eine Freundesgabe**  
Director: Erich Hackl  
Cast: Dokumentation

**1990: Abschied von Sidonie**

Director: Karin Brandauer  
Screenplay: Erich Hackl  
Cast: Arghavan Sadeghi-Seragi, Kitty Speiser, Georg Marin

 **Awards**

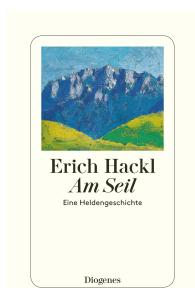
- 2020 ›Theodor Kramer Preis‹ für Schreiben im Widerstand und Exil
- 2017 ›Menschenrechtspreis des Landes Oberösterreich‹
- 2015 ›Willy und Helga Verkauf-Verlon-Preis‹ für österreichische antifaschistische Publizistik an Erich Hackl
- 2015 ›Ehrenring‹ seiner Geburtsstadt Steyr
- 2015 Vom österreichischen Bundeskanzleramt vergebener Übersetzerpreis ›Translatio‹ an Erich Hackl für sein Lebenswerk als Übersetzer von spanischer und insbesondere lateinamerikanischer Literatur
- 2015 ›Literaturpreis der Österreichischen Industrie – Anton Wildgans‹ an Erich Hackl
- 2013 ›Adalbert-Stifter-Preis Oberösterreich‹, Großer Kulturpreis des Landes Oberösterreich
- 2011 Ehrendoktor der Universität Salzburg
- 2006 ›Donauland-Sachbuchpreis‹, Wien
- 2004 ›Ehrenpreis des Österreichischen Buchhandels für Toleranz in Denken und Handeln‹ für sein Gesamtwerk
- 2002 ›Solothurner Literaturpreis‹ für sein Gesamtwerk
- 2002 ›Preis der Stadt Wien für Literatur‹ für *Die Hochzeit von Auschwitz*
- 1998 ›Premio Hidalgo‹ der spanischen Romavereinigung Presencia Gitana für sein Gesamtwerk
- 1996 ›Bruno Kreisky-Preis für das politische Buch‹ für *In fester Umarmung*
- 1995 ›Gerrit-Engelke-Literaturpreis‹ der Landeshauptstadt Hannover für sein Gesamtwerk
- 1994 ›Kulturpreis des Landes Oberösterreich‹
- 1991 ›Österreichischer Förderungspreis für Literatur‹



Erich Hackl, born in Steyr, Austria in 1954, studied German and Spanish and worked as a teacher and editor for a number of years. Madrid and Vienna, where he works as a writer and translator, have been home to him for a long time now. His stories are based on authentic cases. *Aurora's Motive* and *Farewell Sidonia* are on school reading lists. Erich Hackl has received numerous awards, including the 2017 ›Human Rights Award‹ of the state of Upper Austria, the ›Anton Wildgans Prize 2015‹ by the Federation of Austrian Industry and the ›Award for Literature‹ from the city of Vienna in 2002.



*More Happiness in Life*  
432 pages  
2019



*Roped Together*  
128 pages  
2018  
**Bestseller**



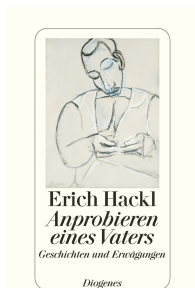
*This Book Belongs to My Mother*  
128 pages  
2013



*The Salzmann Family*  
192 pages  
2010



*As If an Angel*  
176 pages  
2007



*If the Father Fits*  
304 pages  
2004



*Wedding at Auschwitz*  
192 pages  
2002  
**Award winner**



*Love at First Sight*  
80 pages  
1999

## Awards (cont'd)

- 1991 ›Prix de littérature étrangère Ecuireuil‹ anlässlich der 5. Buchmesse in Bordeaux für *Abschied von Sidonie*
- 1991 ›Evangelischer Buchpreis‹ des Deutschen Verbandes Evangelischer BÜchereien für *Abschied von Sidonie*
- 1988 ›1. Grand-Prix Genève – Europe‹ der Union europäischer Fernsehanstalten (EBU) für das Filmdrehbuch *Sidonie Adlersburg*
- 1987 ›Aspekte-Literaturpreis‹ für die Erzählung *Auroras Anlaß*

## Praise

### Three Tearless Stories

›Erich Hackl's use of emotional triggers related to injustice and redemption are both subtle and commanding. In the same way that we relate to injustice of the oppressed, this author delivers stunning situations in which innocent families and characters are destroyed by an unjust rule of law. Yet the ultimate value of a book like this lies in the author's delivery of life between the lines, beyond the vagaries of a reader's sentient ability to comprehend. Here, Hackl elicits his best and most enduring success.« – Charles S. Weinblatt / New York Journal of Books

›Highly recommended [...] a haunting book.« – Samuel Moser / Neue Zürcher Zeitung

›Hackl's narrative is masterful and compelling.« – Der Tagesspiegel, Berlin

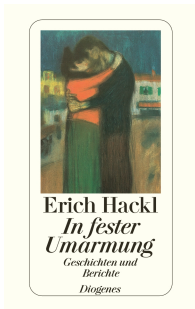
›Erich Hackl's concise and hauntingly dense works of prose have gained him a huge audience and great success. At the bottom of his efforts are usually some forgotten beings, victims of our century's cruel history, with their authentic albeit not exactly remembered biographies.« – Erich Wolfgang Skwara / World Literature Today, Norman, OK

›Erich Hackl is like an investigating detective pursuing a case where all the principals are long dead and the few who remain may be reluctant to talk. [...] These powerful inquiries spurred by photos are history made flesh, the untold lives of the mostly forgotten.« – Kirkus Reviews, New York

### Erich Hackl

›A masterful and authoritative chronicler.« – Michael Opitz / Deutschlandradio Berlin

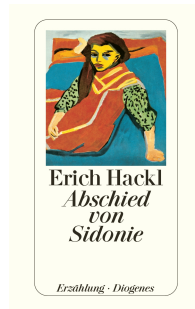
›The name Erich Hackl has become a trademark for wonderfully sensitive real-life stories unique in contemporary German literature.« – Tobias Becker / KulturSpiegel, Hamburg



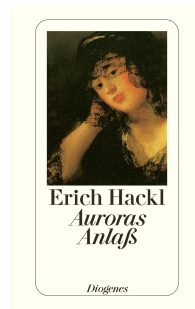
*In a Firm Embrace*  
336 pages  
1996  
🏆 Award winner



*Sara And Simón*  
208 pages  
1995



*Farewell Sidonia*  
128 pages  
1989  
🏆 Award winner  
🎬 Movie Adaptation  
📈 Bestseller



*Aurora's Motive*  
144 pages  
1987  
🏆 Award winner  
📈 Bestseller

### Praise (cont'd)

»Erich Hackl's concise and hauntingly dense works of prose have gained him a huge audience and great success. At the bottom of his efforts are usually some forgotten beings, victims of our century's cruel history, with their authentic albeit not exactly remembered biography. Here Hackl, the Austrian author, overly sensitized perhaps because of his own country's extreme insensitivities, steps in and tries to bring about an act of belated justice and redemption. This obviates the question whether Hackl is a fiction writer or a historian, a lawyer of the ›small people‹ or a missionary voice of human dignity: he is all of these, and ideally they all add up to make a writer.« – Erich Wolfgang Skwara / World Literature Today, New York

»One of Austria's virtuoso masters of language [. . .] who has done more to correct our image of history than a dozen historians put together.« – Thomas Rothschild / Die Presse, Vienna

»Erich Hackl's narrative is masterful and compelling.« – Der Tagesspiegel, Berlin