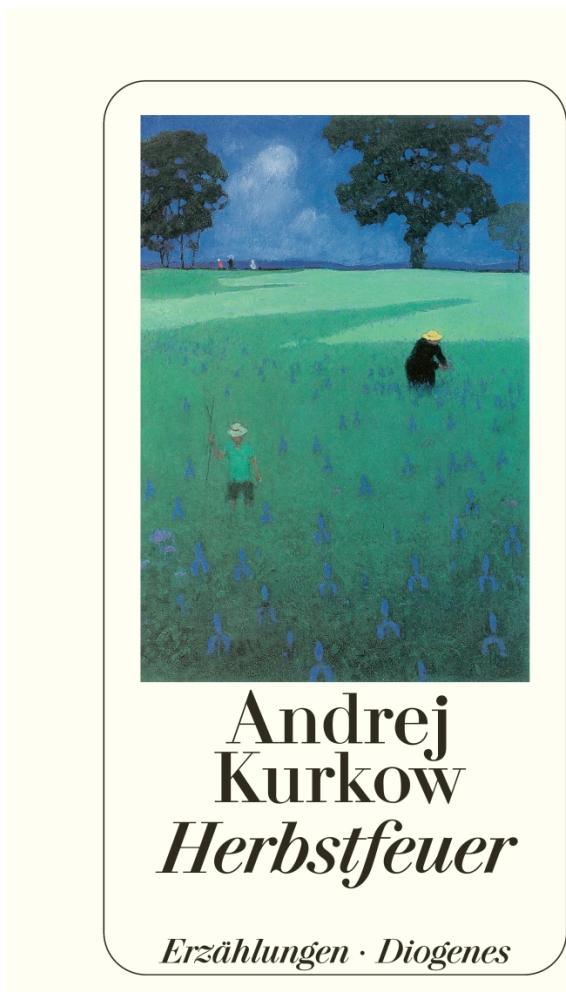


Diogenes

Andrej Kurkow
Bonfire

Published by Diogenes as *Herbstfeuer*
Original title: *S tocki zrenja travy*



>How can I burn my husband? Where does my new liver come from?
How can I dispose of my Steinway grand piano?< Eight Ukrainian stories provide answers to these and other questions. Ivan becomes a regular customer in a small gourmet restaurant and comes to know and treasure its head chef, Dymich. One day, Dymich disappears, but he has purposely left behind a series of dishes for Ivan, which his niece Vera is to prepare for him and serve upon five consecutive evenings. All of the dishes taste exquisite, but why does Ivan later discover tiny grains of sand between his teeth? And what does the lawyer want who turns up for dinner on the fifth night?

Book factsheet

General Fiction
240 pages
11.6 x 18.4 cm
September 2007

World rights are handled by Diogenes
(except Russian and Ukrainian)

Rights currently sold:
French (Liana Levi)

Awards

- 2023 Italienische Übersetzung von *Samson und Nadjeschda* für den ›Premio Strega Europeo‹ nominiert
- 2023 englische Übersetzung von *Jimi Hendrix live in Lemberg* auf der Longlist des ›International Booker Prize‹
- 2023 Als ausländisches Ehrenmitglied (Foreign Honorary Membership) in die ›American Academy of Arts and Letters‹ aufgenommen
- 2022 ›Geschwister Scholl Preis‹ für *Tagebuch einer Invasion*
- 2022 *Graue Bienen* auf der Shortlist des ›Prix Fémina‹
- 2022 ›The Halldór Laxness International Literature Prize‹
- 2022 ›Prix Médicis étranger‹ für *Graue Bienen*
- 2022 *Graue Bienen* nominiert für den ›Prix du meilleur livre étranger‹
- 2021 ›Fulbright Visiting Scholar-Stipendium‹ in San Diego, Kalifornien, USA
- 2014 Ernennung zum ›Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur‹ durch den französischen Präsidenten François Hollande
- 2012 ›Premio Gogol‹, Rom
- 2012 ›Prix des lecteurs‹, Frankreich, für *Der Gärtner von Otschakow*
- 2009 Jurymitglied für den ›Man Booker International Prize 2009‹
- 2008 Writer in Residence in Innsbruck
- 2005 Nach Einschätzung der Zeitschrift *Lire* ist Andrej Kurkow einer der 50 wichtigsten Schriftsteller der Welt.
- 2002 Preis ›Schriftsteller des Jahres 2001‹, den Buchhändler anlässlich der Buchmesse in der Ukraine vergeben haben
- 2001 In der Ukraine als Künstler des Jahres 2001 mit dem Preis ›Mann des Jahres‹ ausgezeichnet
- 1997 Sein Drehbuch *Ein Freund des Verblichenen* wird für den ›Felix-Preis in der Kategorie ›Bester Europäischer Drehbuchautor des Jahres‹ nominiert.
- 1996 Das Drehbuch, basierend auf Kurkows Erzählung *Ein Freund des Verblichenen*, erhielt ein Stipendium vom französischen Kultusministerium, wodurch der Film teilfinanziert werden konnte. *Priyatel pokojnika* wurde 1997 eim Filmfestival in Cannes gezeigt.
- 1994 Nominierung des Romans *Bikfordov mir* für den Russischen Booker Prize
- 1994 Stipendium der Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung für seine Erzählung *Liebeslied eines Kosmopoliten*

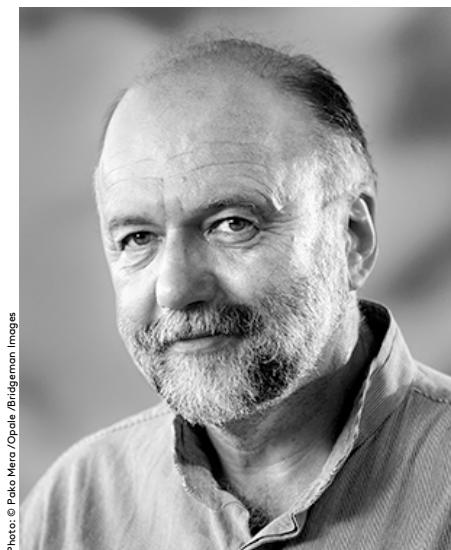


Photo: © Polko Mara / Opale / Bridgeman Images

Andrej Kurkow, born in St. Petersburg in 1961, has lived in Kyiv since childhood and writes in Russian. He studied foreign languages, was a newspaper editor and, during his military service, a prison guard, and wrote numerous screenplays. He is considered to be one of Ukraine's most important contemporary writers and is nominated for the >International Booker Prize< 2023 with *Jimi Hendrix Live in Lviv*. Andrej Kurkow's works have been published in 42 languages. He has been a freelance author since 1996 and lives in Ukraine with his family.

Praise

Bonfire

»Like the Ukrainians Gogol and Bulgakov, Kurkov is a master of the improbable, the absurd and the bizarre. With both empathy and admiration, he gives an exaggerated description of the stoic resourcefulness of the socially outcast.« – Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Zurich

Andrej Kurkow

»Andrej Kurkows knows how to make a story entertaining and amusing.« – Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

»Andrey Kurkov is a master of grotesque humour.« – Brigitte, Hamburg

»With Kurkov, one is guaranteed entertainment of the highest order.« – Wiener Zeitung

»Kurkov's style is spare and effective, drawing us with deception ease into a dense, complex world full of wonderful characters.« – Michael Palin / (author)

»A latter-day Bulgakov [...] A Ukrainian Murakami.« – Phoebe Taplin / The Guardian, London

»A post-Soviet Kafka.« – Colin Freeman / The Daily Telegraph, London

»A kind of Ukrainian Kurt Vonnegut.« – Ian Sansom / The Spectator, London

»Kurkov writes short, sly, page-turners that specialize in what we might call absurdist noir.« – John Powers / NPR's Fresh Air, Washington D.C.

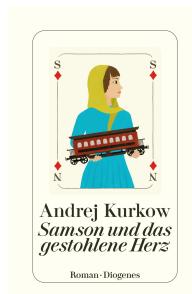
»Armed with the hilarious animal metaphors that populate his books, Kurkow depicts a humorous and scathing satire of the post-Soviet world, and of a Ukrainian society rediscovering itself, independent and riven by mafia, chaos and corruption.« – Laurent Rigoulet / La Chronique, Brussels

»His prose marked by humour and a contagious humanity evokes magical realism and the absurd.« – Jorge Ferrer / El Mundo, Madrid

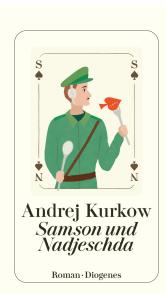
»Andrey Kurkov's writing style moves between the unexpected, the beautiful and the hilarious — a tone that permits him to tell a tragedy without renouncing the paradox and the satire.« – Karina Sainz Borgo / ABC, Madrid

»He works with such imaginative power, which nothing seems to be able to quench, with a humorous and tender tone, with protagonists who don't have their fate in their hands, yet are saved by goodness and kindness.« – Alain Guillemoles / La Croix, Montrouge

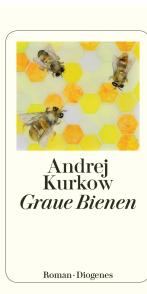
»Andrey Kurkov connects the absurd with the ordinary, the comic with the sordid.« – Isabelle Mandraud / Le Monde, Paris



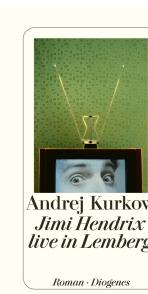
Samson and the Stolen Heart
432 pages
2023



Samson and Nadezhda
368 pages
2022



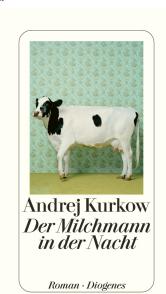
Grey Bees
448 pages
2019



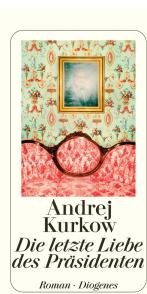
Jimi Hendrix live in Lviv
416 pages
2014



The Gardener of Ochakov
352 pages
2012



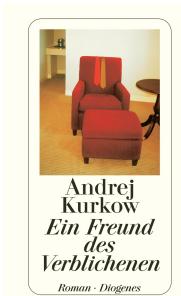
The Milkman in the Night
544 pages
2009



The President's Last Love
704 pages
2005



Penguin Lost
544 pages
2003

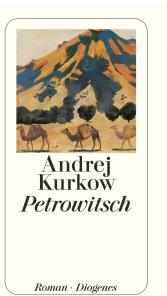


Andrej
Kurkow
*Ein Freund
des
Verbliebenen*

Roman · Diogenes

A Matter of Death and
Life
144 pages
2001

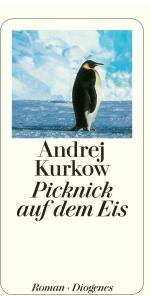
☒ Award winner



Andrej
Kurkow
Petrowitsch

Roman · Diogenes

The Good Angel of Death
448 pages
2000



Andrej
Kurkow
*Picknick
auf dem Eis*

Roman · Diogenes

Death and the Penguin
288 pages
1999