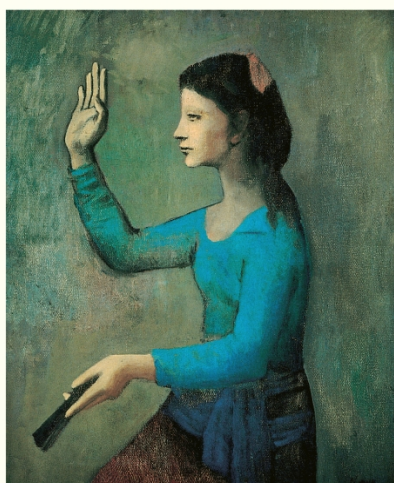


Diogenes

Erich Hackl
Love at First Sight

Published by Diogenes as *Entwurf einer Liebe auf den ersten Blick*
Original title: *Entwurf einer Liebe auf den ersten Blick*



Erich Hackl
*Entwurf
einer Liebe
auf den
ersten Blick*
Diogenes

A love story that begins at a sickbed: in January 1937, the Austrian Karl Sequens is admitted to hospital in Valencia as part of a transport of wounded volunteers. When he and Herminia Roudière Perpiñá meet it is love at first sight for them both. They get married without delay as if they knew there was not much time left to them. One year later their daughter Rosa María is born, shortly before the defeat of the Spanish republic they lose touch. Herminia flees with the child, first to France and subsequently to Vienna where Karl's sister receives her with bad grace and finally has her evacuated to Bavaria. Herminia hasn't heard from her husband for years when three letters arrive: from Dachau, Lublin and Auschwitz. The study of *Love at First Sight* paces our era and continent, tying up hope and sorrow, yearning for justice and for happiness. First of all it is the persisting plea for a love into death; an affection that is living on in their daughter and leading in a new love – at a sickbed again. A radical, deeply moving love story, told in a fascinatingly clear and vivid language, shamefully uncontemporary!

Book factsheet

Contemporary Literature, Compulsory Reading
80 pages
11.6 x 18.4 cm
March 1999

World rights are handled by Diogenes

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‹
- 1991 ›Prix de littérature étrangère Ecureuil‹ anlässlich der 5. Buchmesse in Bordeaux für *Abschied von Sidonie*
- 1991 ›Evangelischer Buchpreis‹ des Deutschen Verbandes Evangelischer Buchereien für *Abschied von Sidonie*



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.

🏆 Awards (cont'd)

- 1988 ›1. Grand-Prix Genève – Europe‹ der Union europäischer Fernsehanstalten (EBU) für das Filmdrehbuch *Sidonia Adlersburg*
- 1987 ›Aspekte-Literaturpreis‹ für die Erzählung *Auroras Anlaß*

Praise

Love at First Sight

»Erich Hackl's stories are not modest in their aspirations: by bursting open the cage of the present, they seek to tear down the wall of the past.« – Ruth Klüger

»Moving and convincing.« – Erich Wolfgang Skwara / World Literature Today, New York

Erich Hackl







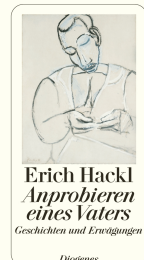

»A masterful and authoritative chronicler.« – Michael Opitz / Deutschlandradio Berlin

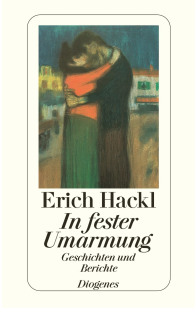
»The name Erich Hackl has become a trademark for wonderfully sensitive real-life stories unique in contemporary German literature.« – Tobias Becker / KulturSpiegel, Hamburg

»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

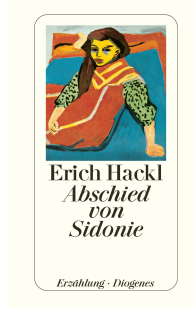
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|---|---|---|---|
|  <p>Erich Hackl <i>Im Leben mehr Glück</i> Reden und Schriften Diogenes</p> <p>More Happiness in Life 432 pages 2019</p> |  <p>Erich Hackl <i>Am Seil</i> Eine Heldengeschichte Diogenes</p> <p>Roped Together 128 pages 2018 🏆 Bestseller</p> |  <p>Erich Hackl <i>Drei tränenlose Geschichten</i> Diogenes</p> <p>Three Tearless Stories 160 pages 2014</p> |  <p>Erich Hackl <i>Dieses Buch gehört meiner Mutter</i> Diogenes</p> <p>This Book Belongs to My Mother 128 pages 2013</p> |
|  <p>Erich Hackl <i>Familie Salzmann</i> Erzählung aus unserer Mitte Diogenes</p> <p>The Salzmann Family 192 pages 2010</p> |  <p>Erich Hackl <i>Als ob ein Engel</i> Erzählung nach dem Leben Diogenes</p> <p>As If an Angel 176 pages 2007</p> |  <p>Erich Hackl <i>Anprobieren eines Vaters</i> Geschichten und Erörterungen Diogenes</p> <p>If the Father Fits 304 pages 2004</p> |  <p>Erich Hackl <i>Die Hochzeit von Auschwitz</i> Eine Begebenheit Diogenes</p> <p>Wedding at Auschwitz 192 pages 2002 🏆 Award winner</p> |



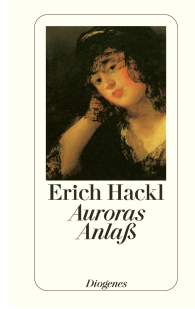
In a Firm Embrace
336 pages
1996
🏆 **Award winner**



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**