

Diogenes

Jakob Arjouni
Kismet

Published by Diogenes as *Kismet*
Original title: *Kismet*



Jakob
Arjouni
Kismet
Kayankayas vierter Fall

Roman · Diogenes

It all begins with a favour to a friend. Kayankaya's and Slibulsky's sole intention is to help restaurant owner Romario to get rid of two thugs who are blackmailing him for protection money. Then, suddenly, two strange, white-powdered bodies are found in Romarios's restaurant. Kayankaya cannot stop thinking about the bodies. He embarks on a search for their identity – and finds himself the victim of a search. By a Mafia gang about whose origins and leader no-one is sure. The only certain thing is that it is the most brutal and uncompromising group of gangsters ever known to have operated in the Frankfurt red-light district.

»Kismet« is about organised crime and war profiteers, about the stupidity of nationalism and the madness of the war in Yugoslavia, about »home« in the best and worst senses of the word. And about the longing for a great love.

An unusual and rousing story, with precise, colourful milieu descriptions, breath-taking dialogue, fantastic wit: Jakob Arjouni at his best.

Book factsheet

Crime Fiction, Contemporary Literature
272 pages
11.6 x 18.4 cm
March 2001

World rights are handled by Diogenes

Rights currently sold:
English/USA (Melville)

 **Movie adaptations**

2017: Am Ruder

Director: Stephan Wagner
Screenplay: Stephan und Alexandra Maxeiner Wagner
Cast: Wotan Wilke Möhring, Julia Koschitz und Inga Birkenfeld

1992: Happy Birthday, Türke

Director: Doris Dörrie
Cast: Hansa Cypionka, Özay Fecht, Doris Kunstmann, Lambert Hamel

 **Awards**

- 1992 Deutscher Krimi Preis für »Ein Mann, ein Mord«.
1987 Baden-Württembergischer Autorenpreis für das deutschsprachige Jugendtheater für sein Theaterstück »Nazim schiebt ab«.

Praise

Kismet

»As winning a noirish gumshoe as has swooped onto the mystery scene in some time.« – The Washington Post

»Kemal Kayankaya is the ultimate outsider among hard-boiled private eyes.« – The New York Times Book Review

»Will whet readers' appetite for the three earlier »Kayankaya« mysteries.« – Publishers Weekly

»A worthy grandson of Marlowe and Spade.« – Der Stern, Hamburg

»This is true hardboiled detective fiction, realistic, violent and occasionally funny, with a hero who lives up to the best traditions of the genre.« – The Telegraph, London

»One worth waiting for.« – The Times, London

Jakob Arjouni

»Arjouni tells real-life stories, and they virtually never have a happy ending. He tells them so well, with such flexible dialogue and cleverly maintained tension, that it is impossible to put his books down.« – El Pais, Madrid



Praise (cont'd)

- »A genuine storyteller who beguiles his readers without the need of tricks.« – L'Unità, Milan
- »Magnificent« – The Guardian
- »Arjouni deserves to be better known in the English speaking world.« – The Times
- »Jakob Arjouni writes the best urban thrillers since Raymond Chandler.« – Tempo
- »A master of the sketch and the caricature.« – Die Welt
- »Impossible to put his books down.« – El Pais
- »A worthy grandson of Marlowe and Spade.« – Stern

Jakob Arjouni, born 1964 in Frankfurt on the Main, has published novels, short stories, theatre and radio plays. Arjouni was only twenty-one years old when his acclaimed debut, ›Happy birthday, Turk!‹ was published and its main character, the Frankfurt-based private detective Kemal Kayankaya, took on his very first investigation. In 1991, the book was made into a film, directed by Doris Dörrie. Three further cases followed; for the third, ›One Man, One Murder‹, Jakob Arjouni was awarded the 1992 ›German Crime Fiction Prize‹. In autumn 2012, ›Brother Kemal‹, the fifth volume starring the German-Turkish investigator was published. The series is now firmly established as a classic amongst crime literature. Apart from his stage plays, his work also includes the Berlin novels ›Magic Hoffmann‹ (1996) and ›Holy Eddy‹ (2009) as well as ›Idiots. Five Fairy Tales‹ (2003). His novels ›Homework‹, ›Chez Max‹, and particularly his novel about an East-German Nazi follower, ›Cherryman Hunts Mister White‹, are now on school reading lists. The theme of addressing violence in all its forms runs through Arjouni's work like a red thread. His readers loved him for his thrilling, sharp-tongued, linguistically unpretentious, witty and clever books. He died on the 17th of January 2013 in Berlin. Jakob Arjouni's works have been published in 24 languages.



The Kayankaya Novels
1080 pages
2014



Brother Kemal
240 pages
2012



Cherryman Hunts Mister White
176 pages
2011



Holy Eddy
256 pages
2009



Jakob
Arjouni
Chez Max

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Chez Max
224 pages
2006



Jakob
Arjouni
Hausaufgaben

Roman · Diogenes

Homework
192 pages
2004



Jakob
Arjouni
*Idiots. Fünf
Märchen*

Diogenes

Idiots. Five fairy tales
160 pages
2003



Jakob
Arjouni
*Ein
Freund*

Geschichten · Diogenes

A Friend
176 pages
1998

 **Movie Adaptation**



Jakob Arjouni
*Edelmanns
Tochter*
Theaterstück

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Edelmann's Daughter
96 pages
1996



Jakob
Arjouni
*Magic
Hoffmann*

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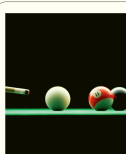
Magic Hoffmann
288 pages
1996



Jakob
Arjouni
*Ein Mann,
ein Mord*
KayanKayas dritter Fall

Roman · Diogenes

One Man, One Murder
192 pages
1991



Jakob
Arjouni
Mehr Bier
KayanKayas zweiter Fall

Roman · Diogenes

More Beer
176 pages
1987



Jakob
Arjouni
*Happy birthday,
Türke!*
KayanKayas erster Fall

Roman · Diogenes

Happy Birthday, Turk!
176 pages
1987

 **Movie Adaptation**