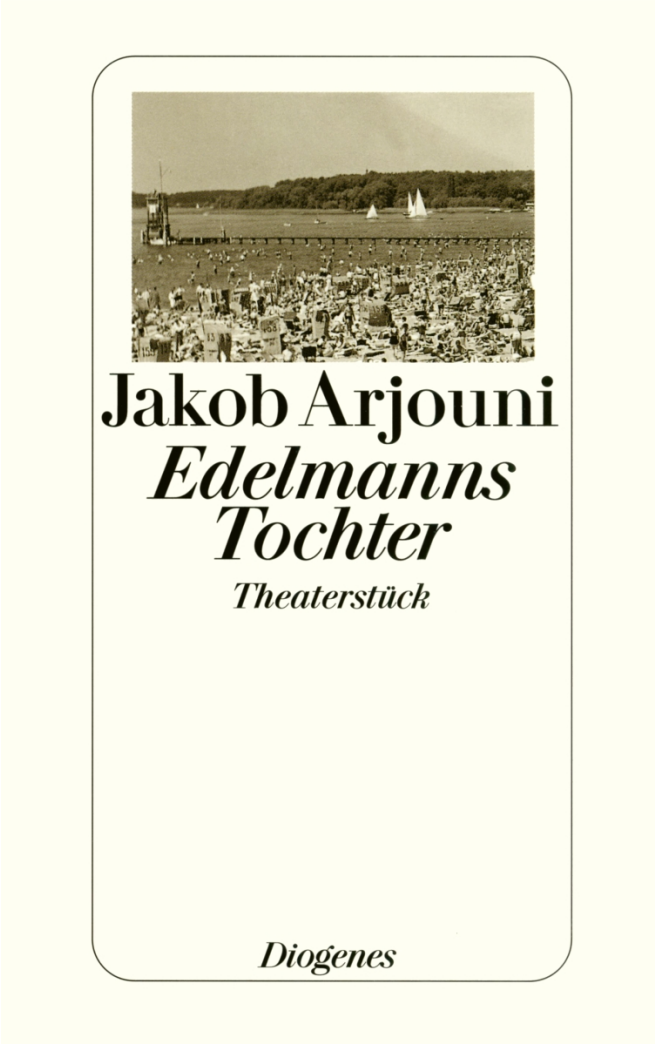
Diogenes

Book factsheet

Jakob Arjouni
Edelmann's Daughter

Published by Diogenes as *Edelmanns Tochter*
Original title: *Edelmanns Tochter*



A railway station in reunited Germany. Hinz and his daughter Ruth are sitting in the back room of the station restaurant, waiting. After four decades, the father can no longer elude his daughter's questions and suspicions. In his struggle for a new identity which he hopes will make it easier for him to draw a veil over his guilt and his fate, the old man has become deeply enmeshed in a tangle of lies, helplessness, desolation and self-reproach.

A play about mutual respect, about the relationship between a father and daughter, and about the point at which the exertion of influence becomes unacceptable. Jakob Arjouni does not take sides; he observes human beings rather than literary models. In tight, telling sentences without too much detail, the young author writes about the phenomenon of Germany: guilt and the past, the Third Reich, the Reunification, and the fact that nothing is yet really over and done with...

Contemporary Literature
96 pages
11.6 × 18.4 cm
May 1996

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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 Czypionka, 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

Edelmann's Daughter

»His texts have quality. They are ambitious, unassumingly provocative and highly political.« – Barbara Müller-Vahl / Bonner General Anzeiger

»Arjouni the dramatist is every bit as accomplished as Arjouni the thriller writer at creating excitement without a hint of triteness.« – Christian Peiseler / Rheinische Post, Düsseldorf

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 País, Madrid

»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

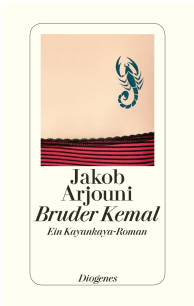
»A master of the sketch and the caricature.« – Die Welt

»Impossible to put his books down.« – El Pais

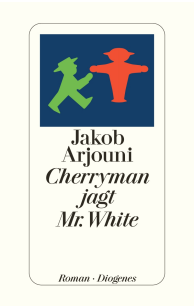
Photo: © Regine Mosimann / Diogenes Verlag

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

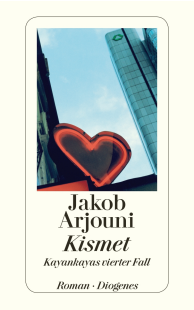
Praise (cont'd)

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

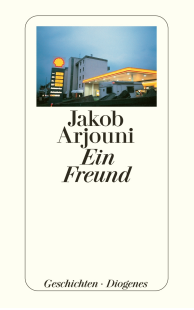
Chez Max
224 pages
2006

Homework
192 pages
2004

Idiots. Five fairy tales
160 pages
2003



Kismet
272 pages
2001

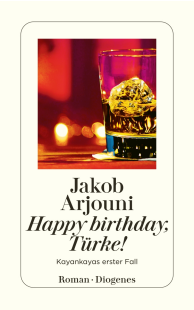


A Friend
176 pages
1998
Movie Adaptation

Magic Hoffmann
288 pages
1996

One Man, One Murder
192 pages
1991

More Beer
176 pages
1987



Happy Birthday, Turk!
176 pages
1987
Movie Adaptation