

Diogenes

Petros Markaris
Payday

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**Petros
Markaris**
Zahltag
*Ein Fall für
Kostas Charitos*

Roman · Diogenes

Rich Greeks do not pay taxes. Poor Greeks are either outraged by that, or just despair about their own hopeless situation. But an unknown man does neither one nor the other: he takes action. With threatening letters, hemlock poison and arrows – in the name of the state. In crisis-shaken Athens, everything is upside down; the only place where things are calm is in the homicide division. There are no murders for miles around, just tedious paperwork. When a body is found on the ancient Kerameikos cemetery, Inspector Haritos is almost relieved. But not quite. He is under pressure: his boss has alerted him to the possibility of a promotion, so he has to avoid treading on anyone's toes. But Haritos is unable to avoid some uncomfortable questions. The dead man was a well-known surgeon who profited from mismanagement in the health care system. Everyone knew that. Even the anonymous tax collector, who has recently been blackmailing tax evaders – and, if necessary, resorting to ancient murder methods.

Book factsheet

Crime Fiction, Contemporary Literature
432 pages
11.6 × 18.4 cm
September 2012

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Spanish/world (Tusquets)
Turkish (Alfa)

📌 Bestseller

International Bestseller

🎬 Movie adaptation

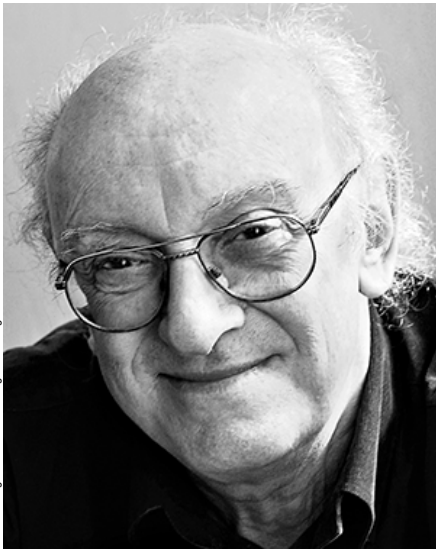
2024: **Kostas**

Director: Milena Coccozza
Cast: Stefano Fresi, Francesca Inaudi etc.

🏆 Awards

- 2023 ›Orden der Isabel la Católica‹ für die Verdienste um Kunst und Wissenschaft in Spanien verliehen
- 2019 ›Premio Contea di Bormio‹ des La Milanesiana Festivals, Bormio
- 2019 ›Premi Cubelles Noir‹ für die Krimifigur *Kostas Charitos* des Gènere Negre del Garraf Festivals, Barcelona
- 2019 ›Premi a la trajectòria literària‹ des El Segre de Negre Literaturfestivals, Lleida, Katalonien
- 2018 ›Premio Negra y Criminal‹-Preis des 3. Festival Atlantico des Krimigenres ›Tenerife Noir‹ für sein Lebenswerk in der Stadtbibliothek von Santa Cruz de Tenerife
- 2016 Ehrendoktorwürde der Aristoteles Universität Thessaloniki in der Abteilung für Deutsche Sprache und Philologie
- 2014 ›Bundesverdienstkreuz 1. Klasse‹, verliehen in Athen vom Deutschen Botschafter
- 2013 Spanischer Übersetzerpreis ›Premio Literario Arcebispo Juan de San Clemente‹ für *Zahltag*
- 2013 ›Prix Le Point du polar européen‹ der französischen Wochenzeitung *Le Point* für *Faule Kredite*
- 2013 ›Goethe-Medaille‹
- 2012 Am 34. Fregene Prize for Journalism, Literature Scientific and Cultural Research ist Petros Markaris der Gewinner in der Kategorie ›International Prize‹
- 2012 VII Premi Pepe Carvalho für seine ›Kostas-Charitos‹-Romane
- 2011 ›Raymond Chandler Award‹ beim italienischen Film- und Literaturfestival ›Courmayeur Noir‹ für sein Lebenswerk

Photo: © Regine Mostmann / Diogenes Verlag



Petros Markaris, born in Istanbul in 1937, is a playwright and creator of a TV series who worked as an author with Theo Angelopoulos, and translated the works of German dramatists like Brecht and Goethe. He began writing crime novels in the mid-1990s, and became an international success. His accolades include the »Pepe Carvalho Prize«, the »Goethe Medal« and an honorary doctorate from the University of Thessaloniki. Petros Markaris lives in Athens.

Awards (cont'd)

2005 Deutscher Krimipreis, 3. Platz in der Kategorie International für Live!

Praise

Petros Markaris

»One of the 10 best modern European crime writers.« – Brian Oliver / The Observer, London

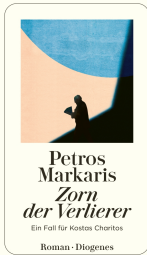
»Markaris weaves suspense, humour and social criticism into a composite work of art.« – Welt am Sonntag, Berlin

»Petros Markaris is a seismograph of the present day's system of exploitation.« – Stefan Berkholz / WDR3, Cologne

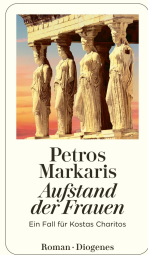
»Based on the best tradition of the crime novel, he consistently reminds us that no future is possible if we don't fight those who trample on our dignity.« – Ángeles López / La Razón, Madrid

»Olympic-standard thrillers.« – Boyd Tonkin / The Independent, London

»A writer of Mediterranean noir in its most sublime and classy sense.« – La Repubblica, Rome



The Violence of Failure
288 pages
2026



The Revolt of the Caryatids
320 pages
2024



The Game of Fear
224 pages
2023



Conspiracy
288 pages
2022
Bestseller



The Melody of Money
320 pages
2021
Bestseller



Times of Hypocrisy
400 pages
2020
Bestseller



Diary of an Eternity
288 pages
2019



Three Graces
368 pages
2018
Bestseller



Petros Markaris
Offshore
Ein Fall für Kostas Charitos
Roman · Diogenes

Offshore
368 pages
2017
🏆 **Bestseller**



Petros Markaris
Der Tod des Odysseus
Diogenes

Odysseus' Death
224 pages
2016



Petros Markaris
Zurück auf Start
Ein Fall für Kostas Charitos
Roman · Diogenes

Back to the Start
368 pages
2015
🏆 **Bestseller**



Petros Markaris
Abrechnung
Ein Fall für Kostas Charitos
Roman · Diogenes

Reckoning
320 pages
2013
🏆 **Bestseller**



Petros Markaris
Quer durch Athen
von Petros Markaris
Diogenes

Crossing Athens
208 pages
2013



Petros Markaris
Finstere Zeiten
Zur Krise in Griechenland
Diogenes

Time of Disorder
176 pages
2012



Petros Markaris
Faule Kredite
Ein Fall für Kostas Charitos
Roman · Diogenes

Bad Credit
400 pages
2011
🏆 **Award winner**
🏆 **Bestseller**



Petros Markaris
Die Kinderfrau
Ein Fall für Kostas Charitos
Roman · Diogenes

The Nanny
320 pages
2009
🏆 **Bestseller**



Petros Markaris
Wiederholungstäter
Ein Leben zwischen Istanbul, Wien und Athen
Diogenes

A Life Between Athens, Vienna and Istanbul
192 pages
2008



Petros Markaris
Der Großaktionär
Ein Fall für Kostas Charitos
Roman · Diogenes

The Major Shareholder
480 pages
2007
🏆 **Bestseller**



Petros Markaris
Balkan Blues
Diogenes

Balkan Blues
224 pages
2005



Petros Markaris
Live!
Ein Fall für Kostas Charitos
Roman · Diogenes

Che Committed Suicide
528 pages
2004
🏆 **Award winner**



Petros Markaris
Nachtfalter
Ein Fall für Kostas Charitos
Roman · Diogenes

Zone Defence
560 pages
2001



Petros Markaris
Hellas Channel
Ein Fall für Kostas Charitos
Roman · Diogenes

Deadline in Athens
464 pages
2000
🎬 **Movie Adaptation**