

Ukrainian narrative non-fiction

Notes from the War

Diary. Kharkiv. Ukraine 2022-2023. 3 parts, covering the war from the very first day so far 620 pages

Publishers (of part I): Germany/ dtv, Hungary/ Helikon

parts published in English by [Another Chicago Magazine](#)
published as column in German by [Neue Zürcher Zeitung NZZ](#)

Part I Feb 24 2022 until end of April 2022

Part II April-July 2022

Part III August 2022-October 2023

Part IV November 2023-November 2024 (to be continued)

On February 24, 2022, the Russian army launched a full-scale invasion of Ukraine. The city of Kharkiv, which is located close to the border, quickly comes under heavy fire. Hundreds of thousands of people flee. The Ukrainian writer Sergey Gerasimov and his wife together with several cats live in the centre of Kharkiv in an apartment on the second floor of a high rise building, however, remain in the embattled frontline town. Soon there will be a lack of clean water, food and medical infrastructure. The thermometers show high sub-zero temperatures, people are freezing. Gerasimov begins to write about the absurdity of everyday life in war. The result is a stirring testimony, an appeal for peace and understanding.

Touching, oppressive, comforting in tone, the great catastrophe captured in small everyday observations.



THE AUTHOR

available
in full English

"Sergej Gerasimov's „Fire Panorama“ becomes a disturbing testimony, because the form of the diary does not want to overlook the big picture, but tries to formulate a general appeal for understanding from the description of immediate everyday wartime life." FAZ

"The texts are written quickly, concisely, concretely and in detail. They start abruptly and draw into the moment with their presence. Gerasimov's intelligence is evident in the montage of reports, observations, anecdotes, thoughts, stories told by others, internet research, memories of other times, other Russians." DEUTSCHLANDRADIO KULTUR

"A stirring testimony and an appeal for peace and understanding." MUSIX MAGAZINE

"The diary will definitely stand the test of time. A document of terror and a document of Ukrainian courage and resistance." WDR

"A darkly shimmering panorama, a tableau made up of descriptions, reflections and memories." TAGESSPIEGEL

Sergei Gerasimov was born 1964, in Kharkiv where has lived all his life. In the early 1990s he studied psychology and graduated at Kharkiv State University, wrote a psychology textbook for schools and a book on psychology in relationships. Since then he has been concerned with the psychological question of how human interest arises and functions. He is the author of several academic articles on cognitive activity with interest in popular literature as a phenomenon and object of human interest. So he became a writer, poet, and translator of poetry. His stories and poems written in English have appeared in many literary magazines. Gerasimov and his wife together with several cats live in the centre of Kharkiv in an apartment on the fourth floor of a high rise building, remaining in the embattled frontline town until today.

Sergei Gerasimov