

Ukrainian narrative non-fiction

Notes from the War

Diary. Kharkiv. Ukraine 2022-2023. 3 parts, full year, 620 pages

Publishers: Germany/ dtv, Hungary/ Helikon

parts published in English by [Another Chicago Magazine](#)
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Part I Feb 24 2022 until end of April 2022

Part II April-July 2022

Part III August-February 2023 (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.

"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 he has lived in Kharkiv all his life. He is a citizen of Ukraine. In the early 1990s he studied psychology. He is a graduate of 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. This also brought him into contact with popular literature as a phenomenon and object of human interest and he became a science fiction writer, poet, and translator of poetry.

His stories and poems written in English have appeared in *Adbusters*, *ClarksWorld Magazine*, *Strange Horizons*, *J Journal*, *The Bitter Oleander*, and *Acumen*, among many others. His last book is "Oasis" published by Gypsy Shadow. The poetry he translated has been nominated for several Pushcart Prizes.



THE AUTHOR

sample translation
full in English

Gerasimov Sergei