

literary fiction

Nenastye

Novel. AST. Moscow 2018. 638 pages

Publishers: France - Payot et Rivages

Using a thriller plot the novel describes the development of Russian society from the 90ies into the early 2010s. The plot takes place in a provincial town where ex-Afghanistan combats form a first mafia group that still obeys rules of comradeship and „honesty“ and brings kind of stability to the town. But slowly they are pushed aside by other mendacious and „dishonest“ guys who are seeking their private financial profit only. A late revenge of one of the old „honest“ guys brings the situation to escalation. A very emotional kaleidoscope and realistic analysis of the Russian provincial society developing after the end of the Soviet Union.

Ivanov is at home in different genres. But he is always interested in those times, places and events in Russian culture where a transition from one cultural system to another takes place. Be it in Russian history, where new times replace the old ones, thematized in his historical and contemporary novels. Be it the collision of parallel systems, as in his mystical thrillers. His books are all explicitly plot driven, which is why almost all of them have become movies. Because they are easy to read and follow the rules of the genre, they are always aimed at a broad audience. But even on the surface one senses, without having to consciously perceive it, the authentic saturation and great closeness to life of his novels. Because only one layer deeper Ivanov's books are full of documentary facts, socio-historical descriptions and witty references. This way, even a more intellectual reader will get his money's worth and on top of that a good deal of horror, suspense or historical-exotic entertainment. Union.



THE AUTHOR

languages

8 languages

awards

2006 Yasnaya Polyana Award
 2006 Big Book Award
 2006 Strannik Prize
 2004 Book of the Year
 2004 Bazhov Award
 2003 Mamin-Sibiriyak Award

Aleksei Ivanov was born in 1969 in Gorky (today Nizhny Novgorod). He grew up in Perm in the Urals. In 1996 he graduated from the University of Ekaterinburg with a degree in art history. He then worked as a caretaker, laboratory assistant, tourist guide, teacher, journalist and lecturer. His first publication in a magazine in 1990 was a fantasy novel. His first book publication was the mystical-historical novel „Heart of Parma“ 2003. 11 novels and 7 non-fiction books by him are now available with a total circulation of over 1.5 million. 5 books have been filmed, 5 more are currently being filmed. Aleksei Ivanov lives in Perm.

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