



by Hans-Ulrich Treichel  
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Fiction

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## Anatolin

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#### review

Treichel's first novel, published in English in 2000 under the title of *Lost*, was the story of a missing child, based on his family's own experience. This short book picks up the theme again. The narrator recalls how his parents lost their eldest child Günter in their flight from the Russians at the end of the war, their vain search to find him, and what that loss meant also to the children born later.

At the beginning Treichel as narrator has already been to his father's birthplace in the Ukraine. Now he is in a train from Berlin to his mother's birthplace in Poland, the small town of the title, where, at the very end of the book, he becomes more or less reconciled to his parents' sad story of loss and inhibition. He has also been in touch with the man who, as a child, was thought by his parents to be possibly their son but whose DNA tests prove negative.

Treichel, professor at Leipzig, poet and novelist, writes extremely well. A joy for the literati. Impetus perhaps also to re-explore an exquisite earlier short novel, *Tristanakkord*.

#### press quotes

*'An extraordinary portrait of broken love, of the ways that loss undoes a family...also witty, sharply funny and light-footed. Treichel never puts a foot wrong... Lost is a little gem.'* – Observer

## about the author

**Hans-Ulrich Treichel** was born in Versmold, Westphalia in 1952. He now lives in Berlin and Leipzig where he is Professor of German Literature at the university.

### **Previous works, include:**

*Menschenflug* (2005); *Der irdische Amor* (2002); *Tristanakkord* (2000). *Der Verlorene* (1998) – all Suhrkamp Verlag.

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