



by
Eichborn
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Fiction

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We Have Lived Here Since the Day We Were Born

Wir leben hier, seit wir geboren sind

review

An apparently idyllic village with undercurrents of cruelty is the setting for a chain of increasingly violent events in this debut novel.

The residents of a village situated at the edge of a mountain slope seem frozen in time, geographically isolated and trapped within a stifling routine. The men work in the nearby limestone quarry; the women live in fear of their brutality. Then a mysterious outsider arrives, an awkward figure who has been sent to investigate the limestone quarry's finances: it appears that the local workers have been attempting to cover up the fact that the quarry is no longer profitable. For the teenage narrator and her four friends, the newcomer represents an intriguing distraction, and possibly a means of escape from the confines of their village. To the rest of the village he is an intruder whom they accuse of several crimes, including the murder of one of the girls. Events swiftly escalate.

An archaic tale with elements of myth and horror. Moster takes a classic trope – an outsider entering an isolated community – and makes it his own.

rights information

Eichborn – An Imprint of Bastei Lübbe AG

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Eichborn is the publisher of *Look Who's Back* by Timur Vermes, a novel playfully asking what would happen if Hitler were alive today. Published in September 2012, instantly on the bestseller list where it has remained in the top five since publication, and with translation rights sold for 29 languages (World English: Macleahose Press), it turned out to be THE German novel of the year. Many Eichborn works have been translated into English, including *A Woman in Berlin* by Anonymous, *The Old Child*, *The Book of Words* and *Visitation* by Jenny Erpenbeck, *The 13 ½ Lives of Captain Bluebear* and *Wild Journey Through the Night* by Walter Moers, W.G. Sebald's *The Emigrants*, *The Rings of Saturn* and *Vertigo* as well as *Ice Moon* and *Silence* by Jan Costin Wagner. Eichborn became a division of Bastei Luebbe, Germany's largest independent publishing group, in 2011, and continues to discover and establish original and exciting author's voices with its characteristic verve and vigour.