



Jakob Arjouni
Bruder Kemal
(Brother Kemal)

Diogenes Verlag, September 2012, 240pp. ISBN: 978-3-257-06829-0

Intrigue in Frankfurt

Jakob Arjouni writes top-class crime fiction that has already found an international audience, so the return of his cynical Frankfurt private investigator is a cause for celebration. This is a confident detective story with sharp and enjoyable dialogue, a well-constructed plot and entertaining characters. Arjouni's refreshingly concise and efficient prose is a pleasure to read.

Kemal Kayankaya is the prototypical anti-hero who instinctively sticks up for the underdog. Irreverent and hard-headed, he has his own personal sense of honour which drives him to uncover the truth. He is more at home in the seedy milieu of the Frankfurt station district than in the affluent, leafy suburbs where this case begins. But when the seemingly straightforward case of a missing teenage girl rapidly escalates into a dangerous game of cat and mouse, Kayankaya is left fighting for his life. Arjouni paints a highly realistic warts-and-all picture of the less salubrious side of big-city life.

Brother Kemal is a gripping crime novel made to be consumed in a single sitting.

'Perhaps one of the only German novelists who has the Anglo-Saxon gift of elegantly combining light-heartedness, wit and a keen eye for depicting society.' – *Die Zeit*

'If you like your investigators tough and sassy, Kayankaya is your guide.'
– *Sunday Times*



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Jakob Arjouni was born in Frankfurt am Main in 1964. He has published novels, short stories, theatre and radio plays. His first Kayankaya novel *Happy Birthday, Turk!* was made into a film in 1991, directed by Doris Dörrie. Jakob Arjouni received the German Crime Fiction Prize in 1992 for *One Man, One Murder*. His publication *Idiots: Five Fairytales* was on the bestseller list for months. Jakob Arjouni lives with his wife and children in Berlin and the South of France.

Previous works: Previous 'Kayankaya' novels: *Kismet* (2001); *Ein Mann, Ein Mord* (1991); *Mehr Bier* (1987); *Happy birthday, Türke!* (1987) Latest Works: *Cherryman jagt Mr. White* (2011); *Der heilige Eddy* (2009)

For information on publisher **Diogenes Verlag** please contact NBG.

Translation rights available from:

Diogenes Verlag AG
Tel: +41 44 254 85 54
Email: bau@diogenes.ch
Contact: Susanne Bauknecht
www.diogenes.ch

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Peter Beutler
Weissenau
(Weissenau)

Emons Verlag, May 2012, 272pp. ISBN: 978-3897059719

Alpine crime

Peter Beutler's gripping debut novel is based on a true story. *Weissenau* takes us far beyond the stereotypical national images of mountains and cuckoo clocks and draws attention to the rise of right-wing extremism in contemporary Switzerland.

Beutler's hero is the young and idealistic Bert Lauber, a police officer who is investigating the brutal assault of a homeless person at a train station in Interlaken. Much to his surprise, Lauber encounters serious resistance to his enquiries among his own colleagues. Many policemen appear to be sympathetic towards the city's neo-Nazi skinhead population. Lauber succeeds in linking his original case with a number of isolated attacks on foreigners and a drive-by shooting against a home for asylum seekers, and discovers that the culprits are members of a secret order of right-wing extremists. Beutler skilfully introduces an alternative narrative dimension by giving the leader of the skinhead order a voice and portraying his descent into extremist violence. Although Lauber apprehends the criminals in a dramatic show-down, right-wing politicians remain in power and the police force is still riddled with prejudice and corruption.

Weissenau is a striking thriller which delivers a poignant message about the darker side of Swiss society.



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Peter Beutler, born 1942, grew up in Zwieselberg, a small village in the Bernese Alps. As a chemist, he was a teacher at the high school Musegg. Since 2007 he has lived with his wife in Leissigen near Lake Thun.

Emons Verlag was founded in 1984 by Hermann-Josef Emons in Cologne. Today the company is market leader in the Regional Crime sector, with 40 different series. Beside crime stories the publisher's list has always included other titles with a regional background, such as historical suspense novels, guide books, atlases, illustrated books and non-fiction books concerning culture, history and the documentation of National Socialism. In 1995 Emons published Frank Schätzing's Novel *Death and the Devil*, which has become an international bestseller.

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Emons Verlag Köln Lütticher Straße 38,
50674 Köln, Germany
Tel: +49 (0)221 56977 15
Email: eichner@emons-verlag.de
Contact: Angela Eichner

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