

NORA-DRUK

Kyiv, UKRAINE
Fall 2011

Rights Guide





Artem CHAPEYE

was born in 1981 in the Western Ukrainian city of Kolomyia. Studied at the Academy of the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU), but dropped out during the “Ukraine without Kuchma” campaign in 2001. Completed his BA at the University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy. While a student, worked as a loader, a courier, a children’s magazine editor, a film translator for the Inter channel, and a reporter for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Spent six months bumming around the Americas: lived in a black neighborhood in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina, participated in riots in Mexico, built log houses in Guatemala, and dug trenches in Nicaragua.

His first book, “The Gamble,” was published in 2008. His “kamikaze” travel story is his second book.

NEW



Riding My Mamayota In Search Of Ukraine

Artem Chapeye spent nearly two months on his motorbike, wandering across Ukraine from west to east, from Kolomyia to Luhansk and back. He had two questions for those whom he met along the way: “What is your dream?” and “What does Ukraine mean to you?” The answers Chapeye got from ordinary people he met on his long trip across Halychyna, Bukovyna, Poltava, Slobozhanshchyna, Donbas, Zaporizhzhia, Crimea, and Odesa, and his adventures during the journey are what this book is about.

Adventure
stories
272 pages
2011



Anton KUSHNIR

was born in 1983 in Kyiv, a city he loves, even though his love sometimes takes on a perverse form. Tried his hand variously at urban caving, urban exploration, parkouring, stenciling graffiti, and so on. Completed the School of Journalism at Shevchenko National University in Kyiv. As a student, published his first writings in the Sviatyi Volodymyr literary almanac. Then switched to literary criticism, publishing in Dzerkalo Tyzhnia and Ukraina Moloda. Led a writers' group called "Shabash." Worked as a correspondent, copywriter and editor-in-chief.

Now works on internet projects, running the translitera.org blog, which focuses on book culture and para-literary phenomena. Honorary mention in the 2011 Koronatsia Slova (Coronation of the Word) competition.

NEW



URBAN STRIKE

A story about young people coming into adulthood in the 1990s, fighting for space to live in their hometown of Kyiv after the fall of the Soviet Union and Ukraine's independence.

An e-mail address he finds accidentally changes the life of journalist Mike as he becomes active in a mysterious group called Urban Strike that organizes daring escapades: football in an underground river, a picnic on an electric pylon, protests against unhealthy fast foods.

Together with his new friends, Mike trashes stupid billboards and organizes a street festival in an abandoned building. As tensions and risk rise, the young people find themselves being pursued by suspicious hired guards and the police. The question arises: is there a point at which you have to stop?

Novel
272 pages
2011

Prizes

Honorary mention in the 2011 *Koronatsia Slova* (*Crowning the Word*).



Oleksiy VOLKOV

was born in 1965 in Ternopil. Completed the Ternopil Medical Institute with honors and works as a surgeon at the Koziv Central County Hospital. Began writing as a university student and favors detective and horror stories. Member of the National Writers' Union of Ukraine. Won the Zolotiy Babai [Golden Bogeyman] Literary Competition in 2002 and Koronatsia Slova [Coronation of the Word] in 2005, and received Honorable Mention in the Grand Koronatsia [Grand Coronation] competition in 2010.

Has published 8 books, among which are "The Performer" (2001), "Journey into a Dead End" (2003), "Day of Departure" (2004), "Amnesty for the Hacker" (2005), "Winner Take All" (2007) and "Hospital in a Wasteland" (2008).

NEW



Like Tracks On Water

It's six months since the search began for well-known writer Adrian Chumak, who went off on a hunting trip and disappeared without a trace, along with his car and his hunting dog. The search group persuades a retired criminal investigator to help them out. New possibilities emerge and new hypotheses. But every breakthrough in the investigation leads to bitter disillusionment: the traces dissolve as though salt on water. Do all the members of the search group really want the writer to be found? The author keeps us guessing until the very last page, skillfully and confidently unfolding this less-than-straightforward story. Written in the classic detective format, this book offers readers the real satisfaction of solving the psychological puzzles created by the author.

Novel

352 pages

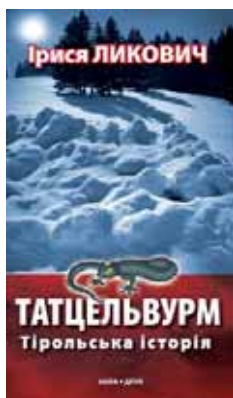
2011



Irysia LYKOVYCH

was born in 1984 in Zakarpattia. Completed the Language Department of Uzhhorod National University. Won the Ukrainian-German Oles' Honchar Prize in 2009 and "Publisher's Choice" in the Koronatsia Slova [Coronation of the Word] All-Ukrainian Competition for her novel, "Your Little Child," which was published in 2010. Also published "Migratory" in 2006.

Currently lives in Vienna, where she is studying German and Slavic languages at the University of Vienna and group psychoanalysis at Altaussee.



Tatzelwurm

The snowy peaks of the Tyrol cover many a secret. One avalanche took the lives of the husband and daughter of a young Ukrainian woman called Olena. Six years later, Olena returns to the place where her loved ones die, but the Alps have a new trial in store for her. The superstitious locals are hostile towards Olena and blame her for the misfortunes that began after her arrival. The mythical Alpine monster called the tatzelwurm, a wormlike creature with clawed feet in the front, becomes a reality. Olena hides from human incomprehension and vengeance on an isolated farmstead where she finds herself accidentally unraveling the terrible secret of another child's disappearance. But do people really want the truth, when it goes against their established notions?

Novel
196 pages
2011

German sample translation available

NEW



Your Little Child

The plot of this book is the story of a young Ukrainian girl Nina whose tragic and bitter childhood left ineradicable scars on the girl's soul. Nina's father is a drunkard, despotic and wilful person who tortures his wife and three children. In this family no one has the right to speak, move, eat, laugh or cry without his permission. For Nina and her mother and brothers, toys, to say nothing of decent clothes, are unthinkable luxury. Yet, a more unattainable luxury seems to be the life devoid of violence in any form. The members of this family live according to an every-man-for-himself principle.

The episode when Aloise, Nina's boy-friend, sends her the letter written after she had left for Germany as an au pair girl marks the turning point in the plot. The polyphonic narration seems to fall into "three perspectives": Aloise's letters, traditional author's narration and the main character-narrator's monologues that naturally interweave into the story and address the main character.

The zest of this novel is the intersection of temporal planes. The parts of the story which refer to different time spans intermingle and interchange as the past's imprint hangs heavily upon Nina and is traced in the logic of her behaviour, perception and cognition of the world.

Prizes

The novel got a *Oles' Honchar Prize*, 2009.

Special *Publishers' Choice* diploma in *Novels* Category at the literary contest *Coronatsiya Slova* (*Crowning the Word*), 2010.

Novel
213 pages
2010

Rights Sold

Ukrainian language electronic version – Obreey E-Book Shop.



Iren ROZDOBUD'KO

ONE OF THE MOST POPULAR MODERN UKRAINIAN WRITERS, journalist, poetess, the author of more than 20 books for adults and children. Her novels are republished each year. Recently, she has begun to work as a scriptwriter. She is the winner of many competitions and prizes. Among her brightest achievements are winning of first prizes at nationwide 'Crowning the Word' (Ukraine, 2005) contest, Prince Yuriy Dolgorukiy Literary Contest (Moscow, 2005), and 'Portal' International Children Literature Contest (2007). In October 2008 the feature film *Button* adapted from Rozdobud'ko's script won the prize for the best screen adaptation in the category 'Feature Film/Drama' at XIII International TV Festival in Bar (Montenegro). "I love my readers," said the writer. "When I'm writing, I know who would read this text and I do my best for the reader - each and every one."

She was born in 1962 in Donetsk. She graduated from the journalism department of National Taras Shevchenko University of Kyiv. She worked as a telegraphist in Donetsk department of TASS and in house journal of Donetsk metallurgic plant, as a journalist and announcer of radio journal...

Since 1988, she has been living in Kyiv where she worked for several newspapers and magazines. She also worked as a columnist at the first and third channels of National Radio Broadcasting Company. At present, she is the Chief Editor of *Caravan of Stories. Ukraine* magazine. She has a grown-up daughter.

NEW



I Know That You Know That I Know

The world knows many like them from all over the world: those who are looking for a better life in a foreign land. They smile warmly at their new hosts and look them in the eye with hope, anticipating affection in this strange land. They adapt. They accustom themselves. Sometimes one of them succeeds. Sometimes their eyes are opened and they go back home. Sometimes they find new love. And sometimes they find death. The landlady of one cottage in the small German town, Frau Schultze, watches her lodgers. She knows much more about them than they do about themselves. But she only needs one of them — to decipher a letter from the father of her child, who was shot to death in far away 1945.

Novel
240 pages
2011



Novel
240 pages
2006-2011

The Button

The main character of the novel Denys has a relaxed approach to life. He comes from a well-to-do family which allows him to enjoy quick and futile love affairs. He had thought little about the logic of relationships between men and women, or women's heart secrets until he met Yelyzaveta (Elizabeth) Tenetska, a film director whose film *Madness* had become rather infamous in the end of Soviet era and had even been banned for its queer style. A passing meeting with Tenetska at one Carpathian resort changes Denys's life drastically. While he cannot forget her, Yelyzaveta has never taken this younger lad seriously.

During one night only, the lives of accidental lovers seem to be quite successful.

As for Tenetska, she lives to see from prison her dissident lover whose natural child she bore and who deprived her of the opportunity to make a career in cinema. They get married and soon he becomes a famous politician, while she starts her creative work. Yet, despite this superficial success her life is not happy. The relationships with her husband soon turn into formality, and her contact with a talented though odd daughter is gradually lost.

Denys goes through bloody hell of the war in Afghanistan and at last returns to the capital to start working as a successful businessman. One day he accidentally meets Tenetska with another young woman in a café. However he does not have the courage to come to them, so his former lover does not recognize him. Denys gets acquainted with the young woman Lika, but all his mind is filled with the thoughts of his Fair Lady and his feelings are as ablaze as many years ago.

This drama turns into a tragedy when Denys marries Lika, Tenetska's companion and daughter...

No one dies in this sad story; there are even no suicides. However, the reading is no less horrifying and the twists of the plot add to the dynamism of narration.

Prizes

The novel won the First prize in *Novels* Category at the literary contest *Coronatsiya Slova* (*Crowning the Word*), 2006.

English sample translation available

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Novel
248 pages
2008

Two Minutes of the Truth

Filming group of one of the TV channels goes on a business trip to shoot a story about a literary festival. A female journalist and a male cameraman, who once were considered as comers and dreamt of truthful journalism, lost their joy of creativity and principles. On their way, they take along two losers, a deaf-mute waitress from a roadside café and a painter in some village Orthodox church. Amazing metamorphoses happen to the four in Ukrainian province, and they start to realize that life has a considerable value in itself. This is a novel about forlorn people who walk along the brink of the good and the evil, and at any moment they can choose either. The multilayered plot, characteristic of Iren Rozdobud'ko's pen, ends unexpectedly.

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Russian language – Folio.

Ukrainian language electronic version – Obreey E-Book Shop.



Novel
132 pages
2005, 2010

Early Janitor

The action of the novel takes place on Malta. The story is narrated on behalf of the landlowner who used to live in Ukraine but now came to Malta from America.

He worked as IT programmer and musician, by nature he is a romantic and adventurer, but in fact, he is a single idle representative of the 'lost generation'. Michael got to Malta by accident. His friend's sport airplane crashed: the plane sank, a pilot died and he fell into the sea. He has nothing to do here, and he is forced to take a second-rate job: he cleans hotel rooms. At least it means he is busy.

... Once he finds an old book in Ukrainian in one of the rooms.

It is *Three Comrades* by E. Remarque. This book offers an amazing virtual game with the woman lodging in the room. Michael notices a lot of details that make him understand the woman is his congenial, and he falls in love with the image he creates.

At the same time, he gets into different adventures. He abandons his Malta lover, meets a friend who works as an underwater archeologist and seeks Malta Gold Falcon. All this happens because of the book which returns him to life and to the real him.

He ardently tries to find this woman. He recollects his whole life, which he would like to start anew. He is utterly homesick.

In the middle of the game, when he finally makes up his mind to get acquainted with his countrywoman she ... leaves the hotel room. His friend-archeologist dies...

Michael is in agony with the losses.

But the stranger from the room leaves him the book. In the moment of despair, he starts to turn over the pages, and on the last page he finds some numbers; yet another puzzle!

Having spent a sleepless night, he understands that this is a telephone number. What is more, it is his native town number...

So he makes a choice to return back home. But what may the future hold?..

Prizes

The novel won the First Prize at Prince Yuriy Dolgorukiy Literary Contest in 2005.

The book was shortlisted (top five) for BBC-2007 Book of the Year.

Rights Sold

Russian language – Folio.

Ukrainian language electronic version – Obreey E-Book Shop.



Novel
270 pages
2005, 2010

The Sixth Door

This is the story of the woman Anna-Maria from her birth till she is 40, in which the reality is intermingled with her fantasy...

... When the girl was 6, she once painted a door on the wallpaper and went to have her dinner, but when she came back she noticed that the chink of a door ... glowed. In this way she got into the other reality for the first time in her life – into a fairy tale... As she became older she forgot all about it.

... The childhood ended very soon: her mother eloped with her lover to Paris, and her father married another woman. Anna-Maria lived at neighbor's. Afterwards, she went to stay with her step-mother and step-brother Oleksa. Anna-Maria was a queer girl who always dreamed about a different life and different reality. What she had didn't suit her: Oleksa humiliated her in different ways, her father drunk, her step-mother dreamed of removing the useless mouth from their life, and Anna-Maria grew up too soon.

Once, when she left home, she stayed with an old magician called Cagliostro in the circus for some weeks.

The latter gave her a rat Alfonso. One day to spite her sister, Oleksa threw the rat into boiling water...

Anna's boy-friend died in the car accident on the eve of the night of love the girl had promised him. During the burial, Anna-Maria remembered for the first time of the Door and painted it on the wall. And... she entered it... and she got to Paris where her mother lived.

Anna-Maria and her friend Ada leave for the capital. Practical and well-to-do Ada brings Anna-Maria together with the Dean's son who rapes the girl. For her silence, Ada demands enrollment to the Institute...

...Twenty years pass by... Anna-Maria is a successful business lady who has overcome a lot of troubles. She starts her ascent to the Door. Higher and higher...

She returns to her birth; and she is reborn behind that Door where there are no mistakes...

Rights Sold

Russian language – Folio.

Ukrainian language electronic version – Obreey E-Book Shop.



Novel
212 pages
2006, 2011

They Throw Away Dead Flowers

The two women live in the Shelter for single theatre and cinema stars. They are the two great actresses of the past (of WWII times). Edith Beresh is a bright and daring woman, and Leda is meek and tender. Once they were rivals but had never met. They simply knew of each other... and hated each other.

They also shared a secret: Edith's husband, a famous dramatist and script writer, had an affair with and later married Leda. All his life he loved Edith... who fell into disfavor of the existing authorities and was repressed. Leda, who accidentally got into filming business, on the contrary, was a lucky daughter of a Party worker. She was found by a film director in the street and was eventually offered a role that Edith had rejected.

Now the elderly ladies reside in the Shelter and do not even know that they are neighbours who live on the same floor.

Youth memories torture both.

Stephania, a young caseworker takes care of them. She has her own troubles and tragedies. Stephania hates the elderly, but secretly hopes that they will favour her to the drama school. Besides, her lover left her, and she fancies that life ended for her.

Stephania venerates proud and old Edith, but she has no idea of who the latter is.

Gradually, the girl begins her investigation and understands that she may become a nexus between the past of these grand dames, may eventually reconcile them and let them understand that both of them are great and can become friends rather than hate each other all their lives. Their lover is the one to blame as he was foul and cowardly; it was he who betrayed them both... And it is the Time that will put everything into places...

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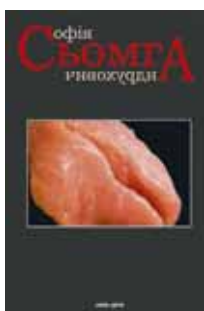


Sophia ANDRUKHOVYCH

One of the young generation of Ukrainian writers. Translator, publisher, co-editor of Chetver (Thursday) magazine, author of four books.

Sophia Andrukhovych was born in 1982 in Ivano-Frankivs'k. She is the daughter of Yuriy Andrukhovych, a famous Ukrainian writer.

At present she lives in Kyiv together with her husband Andriy Bondar, who works as a writer and translator, and their daughter Varvara.



Salmon

Salmon, a species of fish in the family Salmonidae, is a pink, fleshy fish, associated with vagina. Having used this ambiguity, Sophia Andrukhovych writes about female sexuality and at the same time makes journey into childhood and adolescence. This journey abounds in tastes and smells, filled with erotic undertones. As we follow the narrator, we learn of a tiny flat located not far from an asylum. In its yard, as if in the Garden of Eden, children pick sour apples and try to smoke for the first time. We also run into the main character's school friends and even witness a scene of defloration. *Salmon* is a kind of intimate biography, both sweet and delicious.

Prizes

The book was shortlisted (top five) for *BBC-2007* Book of the Year.

The novel won the second prize at Best Ukrainian Book competition of 2008 held by *Correspondent* magazine.

Novel
352 pages
2007

Sophia's narration is unpretentious and deeply-felt. In her novel, even a loathsome voyeur is not devoid of human traits, and common people are filled with puzzles and desires. Solely due to her writing manner Sophia Andrukhovych creates the atmosphere with a touch of sorrow and deep humanism.

Rights Sold

Polish language – Czarne.

Russian language – Folio.

Ukrainian electronic version – Obreey E-Book Shop.



Larysa DENYSENKO

Her literary career began in 2002 with the victory at the literary contest 'Crowning the Word'. Larysa Denysenko is the author of 7 books for adults and 3 books for children. Literary critic Andriy Bondar wrote: 'She can be called a founder of Ukrainian bourgeois prose – light, vivid and rather optimistic, devoid of traditional and old-fashioned sullenness and earnestness'.

She was born in 1973 in Kyiv. She graduated from the law faculty of Taras Shevchenko Kyiv National University, Central European University (Prague), passed a law design course at the Justice Department of the Netherlands. She is one of the attorneys who represent the citizens' rights in European Court of Human Rights (Strasbourg). She worked for the Justice Department of Ukraine as a scientific consultant in specialized parliamentary committee, managed the national department of 'Transparency International' Anti-corruption Center.

Now she combines legal practice with work at nation-wide 1+1 Channel, where she is the author and the host of culturological program 'Document +'.



24:33:42

When adults behave as children nobody approves of it.

Life brought these people together: 42-year-old IT specialist Eugeniy, 33-year-old translator Alexandra and 24-year-old financial analyst Max. They have to build their relations, learn to love and understand each other. Of course, it won't go without disputes, jokes, provocations, despair and forgiveness. How will these three egoistic people who were used of living according to their own rules learn to do this? What price do men have to pay for their friendship and rivalry? Can the grown-up woman preserve the sense of her own identity after having fallen in love? The three characters tell the reader all about it.

Novel
240 pages
2007

Rights Sold

Ukrainian electronic version – Obreey E-Book Shop.



Saraband of Sarah's band

Pavlo Dudnyk lives in solitude. He is happy because he has divorced his wife and removed his parents from his life.

He once falls in love with a girl who has a bent for obtrusive, noisy and impertinent family communication. Sarah Polons'ka tests Pavlo's feelings with her relatives and pets.

If you would like to learn what will happen if you bring together in your introvert lover's cozy flat an odd uncle, a garrulous and impudent cousin, a dog, an ex-husband-priest, you are welcome to this funny farm.

Novel
240 pages
2008

Rights Sold

Ukrainian electronic version – Obreey E-Book Shop.

Prizes

The novel won the first prize at Best Ukrainian Book competition of 2009 held by *Correspondent* magazine.

The book was shortlisted (top five) for *BBC-2008* Book of the Year.



Cinnamon Tastes of Coffee

Everyone looks for love.

Pianist Oles' may consider himself lucky because he has found his love in the childhood. But he is unfortunate at the same time as some women are annoyed with devoted feelings.

Adventurous traveler Alisa is a romantic and capricious person. That's why she is actively searching for her love. Who would be her choice? Arrogant French? Aggressive Russian? Crazy Czech? Ukrainian bandit, composer or gay?

At what expense can one buy love? At the expense of family? Or friendship? Profession? Oneself?

Perhaps they will find their "blue bird" of love or perhaps they will lose everything.

Novel
256 pages
2005, 2011

Rights Sold

Ukrainian electronic version – Obreey E-Book Shop.



Dances in Masks

Women... They make the world and the world winds around them.

One is a stranger, an amnesia victim who lost her memory, consciousness, language, and nationality. She is in hospital...

The second one is a venturesome Ukrainian girl Nelly who has come to South Korea to meet her American lover Michael; though she is doomed for something else...

The third one is a Korean-as-foreign-language teacher May Kim. She shares with the reader her dairy where she reveals everything that should otherwise be left unsaid...

Women? They put on the masks while the dance betrays their secrets.

Novel
212 pages
2006

Prizes

The novel won the first prize at Best Ukrainian Book competition of 2007 held by *Correspondent* magazine.

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Ukrainian language electronic version – Obreey E-Book Shop.



Idiots Corporation

Stas Kovalenko, the ex-son-in-law of a powerful businessman, had an affair with a popular star. Having confessed to his wife, he was left without family, apartment, up-market job, and his smooth operator friends.

He is playing hell with himself more and more often and soon understands that he is not alone: in his life there appeared a crabbed imp who provokes and mocks. The imp tells Stas that Kovalenko's place is in public service, and explains how to get there.

Public service in the country, where democracy and business has just started to develop, is a challenge for anyone. Bureaucratic games, temptations, corruption, abuse, the essence of Ukrainian bureaucracy – you will learn all about it in Larisa Denysenko's novel. Whether Stas will become one of the idiot corporation depends solely on him.

Novel
256 pages
2005, 2010

Prizes

The book received special diploma of the first prize at the *Literary Olympus* contest of 2006.

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Ukrainian electronic version – Obreey E-Book Shop.



Novel
256 pages
2007

Fallacious Anxiety

or Living by Murders' Schedule

Each of us has their own habits and pleasant life schedule.

The private life of Anna, a manager of a Ukrainian affiliated organization, is measured by 9 hours of sleep, 2 km of morning jogging, 40 minutes on subway train, and dozens of kilobytes of e-mails.

The private life of a neurosurgeon Andriy is measured by courting nurses, making love to female doctors, relationships with his sister and three unfailing friends.

His working day often begins at night; hers in the morning. They shouldn't have met but they did, and only God knows how this meeting would influence their lives.

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Ukrainian electronic version – Obreey E-Book Shop.



Mila IVANTSOVA

Mila Ivantsova has a French and Russian Language Teaching Degree; she used to teach French in school, lyceum and the Institute of Tourism, Kyiv. Later she founded language courses, but decided to change her life drastically when she started to work in real estate and became interested in interior design, Petrykivskyi painting, photography, and eventually literary art.

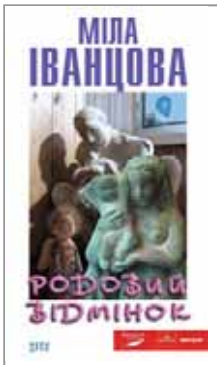
Her first novel in Ukrainian "Genitive Case" was published in 2009. Mila likes planting trees and flowers, collects old cast-iron irons and recreates original paintings on a scanner using her own special technology.

Novels in catalogue:

Genitive Case

Stained Glass Windows

Genitive Case



Novel
296 pages
2009

The action takes place in 1980s. The first part of the book entitled "Purgatory" is a composition prelude: on one New Year eve several parturient women meet in Kyiv maternity hospital. They are student Irynka, Armenian woman Armida, Olha, Vira who wished to bear a son but gave birth to the third daughter, Svitlana who divorced before delivery, Natalia whose child died during childbirth, as well as relatives, doctors, nurses, midwives... The plot rotates around and develops from the point when parents reject the boy with birth injury. Due to a happy coincidence, the boy is adopted by Natalia.

The plot line resumes in twenty years' time (the second and third chapters of the novel are called "Scattered Puzzles" and "Other Times"). This is the story of the children born on the same day whose fates interweave in the new century and millennium. The writer tries to fill up the reader's knowledge gap in psychology using the examples of several family stories, different family, sexual and generation relationships. The change of generations in the novel coincides with the collapse of the Soviet Union and global nuclear accident in Chernobyl, Ukraine.

However, the writer does not try to analyse the behaviour of the young characters. The author is pitiless and uncompromising depicting the long-gone epoch of perestroika deficit (restructuring of the Soviet political and economic system in 1980s - early 1990s that led to economic shortage in the USSR), absence of daily necessities in stores and absence of what the modern generation living at the dawn of the third millennium cannot even imagine. This novel belongs to the literary school of new realism.

Prizes

Special *Publishers' Choice diploma* at the literary contest *Coronatsiya Slova (Crowning the Word)*, 2009.

Rights Sold

Russian language – Bookclub "Family Leisure Club".



Novel
205 pages
2010

Stained Glass Windows

The action takes place in modern Kyiv. A young translator Polina drained of all strength and energy after a personal drama rents a cheap flat where she suffers from her disappointment all alone. Her only company is a “distant friend”, a pilot, who she sends emails to. From her letters the reader learns that she comes from Chernihiv, Ukraine, and that she became an orphan early. Her grandmother Nicole who married a Soviet lieutenant and had to leave France for the USSR after World War II takes Polina as her foster child. We also learn from the letters about Polina's student friend Stephka whose life roads fanned out long time ago.

Prizes

Special *Publishers' Choice diploma* at the literary contest *Coronatsiya Slova (Crowning the Word)*, 2010.

Polina has an order from one publishing house for translating Françoise Sagan's book, but her own problems seem to be much more important and painful than “those farfetched problems of satisfied French girls”. She has no inspiration. When Polina starts collecting information about Sagan's life in the Internet, she gets impressed by it and French author begins to interest Polina more than the books. Polina sympathizes with startling Sagan and forms her own opinion of the writer.

Everything changes when Polina's computer breaks down. Programmer Bohdan becomes a part of her life. Because he does not know how to approach Polina, he learns her passwords and reads her mail. Having found Bohdan out, Polina wishes to break up their relationships, but Bohdan tries to gain forgiveness by all means. To be forgiven he brings Stephka, who now lives in France, back to Polina's life. By this time, Stephka has written a novel in French with a provocative title “My Grandmother Slept with Sagan” where she describes a wild story of French orphan from Cajarc, Françoise Sagan's birthplace, war time, German occupation and the time spent in the Soviet Union. Bohdan gets the book and presents to Polina. Then he arranges the meeting of two friends and the moment Polina and Stephka meet seem to pull the former out of depression and restores her to life.

Soon Polina learns the real story of her grandmother Nicole from a copy-book found on the attic of their old Chernihiv house, and decides to write her own book about it.



Maksym KIDRUK

Maksym Kidruk – unemployed traveler, qualified wayfarer and professional vagabond.

At the same time Kidruk is the author of 3 adventure autobiographical books: "Mexican Chronicles" (2009), "Journey to the Navel of the World" (consists of 2 volumes, 2010) and "Love and Piranhas" (about adventures in Brazil, 2011). He also created a series of periodical articles in different magazines, i.e., "Ukrainian Week", "MANDRY — the Ukrainian Travel Magazine", "Dnipro", newspaper "Vysokiy Zamok" and many others.

He was born precisely at midnight on the 1st of April 1984 somewhere in the Western Ukraine. For couple of years worked as a CAD-system's programmer, simple heat-and-power engineer, sales manager in Kiev. He published four technical books about 3D simulation and modeling. Then... quitted everything and began a new life. At present Maksym is a PhD-student both in Kiev Polytechnic Institute and Royal Institute of Technology (Stockholm, Sweden). At the same time he travels "nonstop" reaching the furthestmost sites of the world. Sweden, Norway, Italy, France, Finland, Baltic States, Mexico, China, Ecuador, Peru, Chile, Easter Island... and this isn't the full list of the last visited places.

Personal site <http://kidruk.com/>



Adventure stories
304 pages
2008

Mexican Chronicles: The Story of a Dream

Have you ever had a Dream? Sure, you had. But... have you realized it?

...Some dreams are simple and ordinary. The others are peculiar and uncommon. These last ones very seldom and only due to great efforts may become reality.

This is a story of such a Dream called... Mexico.

However, this is not an ordinary novel about distant Latin-American land. Nor it is a tourist guide or compilation of the advices for lonely travelers. This story is about the Dream, audacious and preposterous, which seemed unrealizable at first sight, but which in the end was successfully fulfilled due to exceptional mixture of faith and stubbornness. *Mexican Chronicles* is an exciting tale about young Ukrainian guy, who once followed the call of his Dream, went alone to the other continent and despite all obstacles crossed on his own The United Mexican States from the Pacific Ocean on the West to Caribbean Sea on the East.

Prizes

Mexican Chronicles won the second prize in *Novels Category* at the literary contest *Coronatsiya Slova (Crowning the Word)*, 2008.

Rights Sold

Ukrainian electronic version – Obreey E-Book Shop.



Adventure stories
2 vol.: 256,
224 pages
2010

Journey to the Navel of the World

Do you know where the Navel of the World is placed?

Te Pito o Te Henua, what means 'the Navel of the Earth' in Rapanui language, is know as the furthestmost and the most isolated land on the planet. At present it is called Rapa Nui or Easter Island. The island is lost somewhere in the South Pacific. Despite its trivial dimensions and unutterable remoteness from the rest of the world long time ago this tiny piece of land was inhabited by one of the most mysterious civilization in mankind's history. Small group of people living in poor and barren environment developed a unique culture to which, truth have to be told, you cannot find anything comparable in the ancient world.

This is a story about silent mountains, mysterious jungles and cold cynical deserts. This is a book about remote exotic lands where reckless desperados can easily disembowel you while crossing a border, where angry Andean demons penetrate into the souls of lonesome strangers beckoning them to the crowns of dark towering ridges on which the mighty Incas hundreds of years ago built their fortresses, where the flavor of death on your lips merged with the desert sands forces you to love Atacama, the driest terrain in the world.

This book tells about two crazy guys, young Ukrainian and his Czech friend, which passed 6000 kilometers throughout South America, from Quito, the capital of Ecuador, through entire Peru, down to Santiago in Chile, and made all this for one: eventually to get to Te Pito o Te Henua and touch to the mysteries of Easter Island...

Rights Sold

Ukrainian electronic version – Obreey E-Book Shop.



Andriy KOKOTYUKHA

A well-known Ukrainian writer, journalist, scriptwriter, the author of 28 fiction and non-fiction books. His stories and short stories are regularly published in print media. He is the winner of many contests and prizes including first and second prize in the literary contest 'Crowning the Word'. His captivating creative works have dynamic plots and easily recognisable characters. The writer believes that the most important thing is to write an interesting story which would hold readers' attention from its first till its last page.

He was born in 1970 in Nizhyn, Chernigiv Region, Ukraine. He graduated from the journalism department of National Taras Shevchenko University of Kyiv. His first novel was published in 1995, and his first screen play was shot in 1998.

He lives in Kyiv and works for many newspapers and magazines. He is married and has a son.



Anomalous Zone

Ukrainian Polissya. Zhytomyr villages abandoned after the Chernobyl disaster. They say that in one of such villages unusual occurrences happen to people. First, they disappear, but then they return having lost their memories.

This news becomes a great sensation for the yellow press. However, when a young woman Tamara Tomilina really disappears in this anomalous zone and returns back having lost her memory, the tall tale turns out to be the truth... The story gets more complicated when it becomes known that Tamara is somehow connected to the murder of a big Zhytomyr businessman. So when one more person disappears in this abandoned Polissya village, Police Captain Serhiy Brazhnyk makes a decision to go to this dangerous place by himself...

What horrible secrets are hidden in the deserted Polissya village? Andriy Kokotyukha will tell you in his new novel. This book is a breathtaking story written in the best traditions of *roman noire* and Ukrainian gothic prose. Beyond doubt, the unexpected dénouement will become a real treat to any reader.

Novel
248 pages
2009



The Legend of the Headless

The family life of a Kyiv attorney Larysa Gayduk failed; she is fed up with big city life. To change something and to have a some rest, the young woman comes to her friend's in a small town of Podol'sk. But the peaceful life there turns to be deceptive; a series of slaughters rock the town in Podol'e region. Larysa finds herself involved into the investigation process. An attempt to find the answers to the questions of how all these events are connected to the old local legend of the headless, and who this ghost that haunts the old master's stately home ruins is, may cost heroine her life.

Novel
248 pages
2007

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Ukrainian language electronic version – Obreey E-Book Shop.



Yevgen POLOZHII

is a famous traveller, writer, journalist, and editor-in-chief of the "Panorama" newspaper (Sumy, Ukraine).

He is the author of collections of poems and novels: collection of short stories and poems "Turkin" (1996), novel "Convert an Angel" (2002), novel "Mary and Her Airport" (2003), collection of poems and short stories "Turkin and ½. The Tale of a Real Samurai" (2004), collection of poetry "GOOD-Bye", novel "The Guy Called God" (2008), novel "Towers of Silence" (2009).



Novel
208 pages
2010

Beyond the Hill

We all have our own Hills of memories where we often return to.

We all have our own humps of conscience that lie heavy upon us.

We all have our own skeletons in the closets.

Almost every day the life-or-death fight, the fight with the shadow of memories and conscience, the fight for the right to be oneself awaits all of us on the boxing ring of life. The right to abandon the Hill and the ring with our heads upright.

This is a simple yet deep story of a middle-aged Ukrainian boxer nicknamed Grass Snake (Ukr. *Vuzh*) who is fighting for the long-desired World Champion title in Vienna in about a month. As he is promised to be killed shortly after the event, Grass Snake returns to his own life ring, to the Hill, a place in one Ukrainian village where he have not been for over twenty years, to meet his chief enemy. Grass Snake comes back to conquer his fear, to shake off his hump of conscience, to defeat his eternal rival, and to find himself, and, maybe, his love, in this fight.

Polish sample translation available

Prizes

Special *Publishers' Choice* diploma in *Novels* Category at the literary contest *Coronatsiya Slova* (*Crowning the Word*), 2010.

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