

Juri Andruchowytsh

Justice's Darlings - Parahistorical Novel

Original Ukrainian title: Коханці Юстиції, published in 2017 by Meridian Czernowitz



(German title: Die Lieblinge der Justiz)

ca. 299 pages

Clothbound

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Juri Andruchowytsh was born in 1960 in Ivano-Frankivsk, Ukraine. He is considered the leading contemporary Ukrainian writer. He writes poems, prose, essays and translates from German and Polish.

Awards (selection):

Leipziger Buchpreis zur Europäischen Verständigung
2006

Sonderpreis des Erich-Maria-Remarque-Friedenspreises
2005

Sold to

Poland (Warstwy), Bulgaria (Paradox)

Longlisted for the Angelus Award 2020

Of wondrous bandits and other rogues

About

Justice's Darlings, these are crimes and criminals, real and alleged: Bohdan Stashynsky, for example, a KGB officer and assassin who kills the Ukrainian nationalist Stepan Bandera in his exile in Munich, but then flees to the West with an East-German hairdresser he is in love with and turns himself in to the authorities.

Or Mario, the grocer from Kolomyia in the Eastern backcountry of the Austro-Hungarian Empire: He is young, successful and devoted to his wife Maria in a beautiful, wild love – but his secret rendezvous with a Carpathian wizard will prove so fatal that not even Emperor Franz Joseph himself is able to help him.

In his new work of prose, Juri Andruchowytsh unfolds a panorama of murder, love and betrayal; of the monstrosity of crime and justice that spans across the centuries. And yet, not everything is as it seems...

Praise

»The author never takes the straightforward path and keeps confusing the reader at every turn. With wit and folly, with sarcasm and irony he acts out his criminal scenarios. The words shimmer as though they caught in a kaleidoscope.« Lerke von Saalfeld, *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*

»Andruchowytsh is one author you happily let lead you astray.« Carmen Eller, *Die literarische Welt*

»Juri Andruchowytsh writes stories that leave you unsure as to whether they stem from a wild life or a dream journey à la Bulgakov.« *taz. die tageszeitung*

»Every now and again, when the unformatted nonsense, when true pleasure and perversion demand their rights, Juri Andruchowytsh is waiting for us around a corner and deals us this incredible stuff.« *Berliner Zeitung*

»Juri Andruchowytsh actually manages to turn the horror of Ukrainian history into literature; after *Justice's Darlings*, there is no more doubt about the fact that he is the

most important Ukrainian author.« Erich Klein, *FALTER*

»The style oscillates between chronicle, deliberative pseudo-academic discussion of historical sources and picturesque story. Juri Andruchowytsh satirises the genre of the historic novel exuberantly, sometimes outrageously.« Alexander Kluy, *Der Standard*

»The pleasure Juri Andruchowytsh takes in scrambling fact and fiction is contagious. Even in terror he remains relaxed and finds causes for sarcasm.« Roland Gutsch, *Nordkurier*

»[Andruchowytsh] is a mischievous author too, and so we keep reading a good joke even in the midst of the worst storms of steel that turns the suffering upside down and brings the ratchet of pain to a halt. [A] worthwhile read!« Frank Willmann, *kulturexpresso.de*

»Juri Andruchowytsh is a master of superimposing concrete facts and vivid fictions« Cornelius Hell, *ORF*