

# **OTHER PRESS**

**REDISCOVERED CLASSICS**

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## UPCOMING

### *Ferdinand, The Man with the Kind Heart*

by Irmgard Keun, translated by the German by Michael Hofmann

ISBN: 9781635420357

The last novel from the acclaimed author of *The Artificial Silk Girl*, this 1950 classic paints a delightfully shrewd portrait of postwar German society.

Featuring a lively cast of characters—from Ferdinand’s unscrupulous landlady with her black-market schemes to his beguiling cousin Johanna and the many loves of her life—*Ferdinand* captures a distinct moment in Germany’s history, when its people were coming to terms with World War II and searching for a way forward. In Irmgard Keun’s effervescent prose, the story feels remarkably modern.

“Keun was possessed of a spectacular talent. She managed to convey the political horrors she lived through with the lightest possible touch, even flashes of humor.” —*The Millions*

Publication Date: 12/08/2020

## REDISCOVERED CLASSICS

### *The Artificial Silk Girl*

by Irmgard Keun, translated from the German by Kathie Von Ankum

ISBN: 9781590514542

In 1931, a young woman writer living in Germany was inspired by Anita Loos’s *Gentlemen Prefer Blondes* to describe pre-war Berlin and the age of cinematic glamour through the eyes of a woman. The resulting novel, *The Artificial Silk Girl*, became an acclaimed bestseller and a masterwork of German literature, in the tradition of Christopher Isherwood’s *Berlin Stories* and Bertolt Brecht’s *Three Penny Opera*.

“Damned by the Nazis, hailed by the feminists ... a truly charming window into a young woman’s life in the early 1930s” —*Los Angeles Times*

### *For Two Thousand Years*

by Mihail Sebastian, translated from the Romanian by Philip Ó Ceallaigh

ISBN: 9781590518762

Available in English for the first time, Mihail Sebastian’s classic 1934 novel delves into the mind of a Jewish student in Romania during the fraught years preceding World War II.

“Remarkably pertinent to our time and place... elegiac and lyrical... What’s chilling about ‘For Two Thousand Years,’ in this sensitive translation by Philip O Ceallaigh, is how its oppressive atmosphere foreshadows the rise of Romanian authoritarianism and the destruction of Romanian Jewry, even though it was published before the fascists came to power.... I can’t help thinking that Mihail Sebastian is sending us a message across the generations.” —*New York Times Sunday Book Review*

## *Women*

by Mihail Sebastian, translated from the Romanian by Philip Ó Ceallaigh

ISBN: 9781590519547

**A rediscovered classic from the author of *For Two Thousand Years*, this remarkable novel presents nuanced snapshots of love in the early twentieth century.**

*Women's* four interlinked stories offer moving, strikingly modern portraits of romantic relationships in all their complexity, from unrequited loves and passionate affairs to tepid marriages of convenience. In the same eloquent style that would characterize his later, more political writings, Mihail Sebastian explores longing, otherness, empathy, and regret.

## *Climates*

by Andre Maurois, translated from the French by Adriana Hunter

With an introduction by Sarah Bakewell

ISBN: 9781590515389

Written in 1928 by French biographer and novelist Andre Maurois, *Climates* became a best seller in France and all over Europe. This magnificently written novel about a double conjugal failure is imbued with subtle yet profound psychological insights.

“*Climates*...is orderly yet unsettling. It breathes an air that is profoundly civilized, but there is something violent and shattering about it, too. ‘Even when it’s mutual, love is terrible,’ says Philippe. It is terrible simply to be human—and there can be no subject more interesting to write about, or more beautiful, than that.” —  
*The New Yorker*

## *Conjugal Love*

by Alberto Moravia, translated from the Italian by Marina Harss

ISBN: 9781590512210

When Silvio, a rich Italian dilettante, and his beautiful wife agree to move to the country and forgo sex so that he will have the energy to write a successful novel, something is bound to go wrong: Silvio’s literary ambitions are far too big for his second-rate talent, and his wife Leda is a passionate woman. This dangerously combustible situation is set off when Leda accuses Antonio, the local barber who comes every morning to shave Silvio, of trying to molest her. Silvio obstinately refuses to dismiss him, and the quarrel and its shattering consequences put the couple’s love to the test.

“Moravia, who died in 1990 and is considered one of the preëminent Italian writers of the twentieth century, delivers something at once bitter and tender: a parable of marriage, that odd mixture of violent devotion and legitimate lust, in which desire eventually gives way to a forced and decorous composure that captures the essential opacity of even one’s most intimate partner.” —*New Yorker*

## *Two Friends*

by Alberto Moravia, translated from the Italian by Marina Harss

ISBN: 9781590513361

In this set of novellas, a few facts are constant. Sergio is a young intellectual, poor and proud of his new membership in the Communist Party. Maurizio is handsome, rich, successful with women, and morally ambiguous. Sergio’s young, sensual lover becomes collateral damage in the struggle between these two men. All three of these unfinished stories, found packed in a suitcase after Alberto Moravia’s death, share this narrative premise. But from there, each story unfolds in a unique way. Anyone interested in literature will relish the opportunity to watch Moravia at work, tinkering with his story and working at it from three unique perspectives.

“A fascinating glimpse of how Moravia’s writing evolved...In *Two Friends*, Moravia links a human drama to the struggle between Communism and Fascism for Italy’s heart and soul.” —Rachel Donadio, *New York Times Book Review*

### *Madonna in a Fur Coat*

by Sabahattin Ali, translated from the Turkish by Maureen Freely and Alexander Dawe

ISBN: 9781590518809

**Available in English for the first time, this best-selling Turkish classic of love and alienation in a changing world captures the vibrancy of interwar Berlin.**

“A profound, moving meditation on love and loss... ‘It is read, loved and wept over by men and women of all ages, but most of all by young adults,’ writes Maureen Freely, who, with Alexander Dawe, has produced this stylish English translation now coming to the United States. ‘Though writing more than 70 years ago in a country where traditional sexual morality reigned, Ali casts his lovers’ relationship in strikingly modern terms.’” —*Washington Post*

### *Stalemate*

by Icchokas Meras, translated from the Lithuanian by Jonas Zdanys

ISBN: 9781590511565

In the Vilna Ghetto during World War II, Nazi Commandant Schoger demands that all children be sent to the death camp. When Abraham Lipman pleads with him to spare their lives, Schoger reconsiders, and tells Lipman there will be a chess match between himself and Lipman’s only surviving son, Isaac, a chess prodigy. If Isaac wins, the children will live, but Isaac will die. If Isaac loses, the children will die, but Isaac will live. Only a draw will save the ghetto from this terrible predicament...

“A classic of Holocaust literature from “one of the great masters of the short novel.” —*The New Yorker*

### *The Turncoat*

by Siegfried Lenz, translated from the German by John Cullen

ISBN: 9781590510537

**Previously unpublished, this German postwar classic is one of the best books of this major writer, who died in 2014.**

“While the novel was way ahead of the curve in 1951, today it is immensely relevant. Nationalist tendencies are on the rise all over the globe, the desire for strong leaders and simple answers to complex questions is more and more prevalent. *The Turncoat* deals with issues that are highly urgent today; therefore, it is a novel ripe for adaptation. Lenz has succeeded in facing these complex questions of guilt and responsibility on a deeply human level. He tells this through the viewpoint of his characters so we can not only relate to and understand their emotions but live through them as well.” —Florian Gallenberger, Academy Award-winning director

### *Stella*

by Siegfried Lenz, translated from the German

ISBN: 9781590513354

“Like W.G. Sebald at his best, Lenz solicits the reader’s grief through lexical restraint: the story’s sedate tone, combined with its nautical-rural setting, perfectly renders the texture of a daydream.” —*The New Yorker*

“We can thank heaven for a small – but exquisite – mercy in the shape of Siegfried Lenz’s [*Stella*]....a superbly crafted novella of first love, with a tenderly evocative sense of place, mood and era....Suggestively

rich in overtones and undercurrents, Lenz's beautiful miniature also stands alone as a masterclass in 'the grammar of farewell.'" —*The Independent*

### ***The Brothers Ashkenazi***

by I. J. Singer, translated from the Yiddish

ISBN: 9781590512906

First published in 1936, *The Brothers Ashkenazi* quickly became a best seller as a sprawling family saga. Breaking away from the introspective *shtetl* tales of classic nineteenth-century writers, I. J. Singer brought to Yiddish literature the multilayered plots, large casts of characters, and narrative sweep of the traditional European novel. Walking alongside such masters as Zola, Flaubert, and Tolstoy, I. J. Singer's premodernist social novel stands as a masterpiece of storytelling.

"A wonderful novel." —Saul Bellow

"The book has the grand sweep of Tolstoy...pitch perfect artistry and pace." —*The Wall Street Journal*

"*The Brothers Ashkenazi* rates a place on any shelf devoted to modern works of art." —*Newsweek*

### ***Blood Brothers***

by Ernst Haffner, Translated by Michael Hofmann

ISBN: 9781590517048

Originally published in 1932 and banned by the Nazis one year later, *Blood Brothers* follows a gang of young boys bound together by unwritten rules and mutual loyalty.

"Haffner's project is journalistic, to portray destitution and criminality without the false sparkle of glamour—though Berlin is not half as boring as he (coily) claims. The author was a social worker and a journalist, and his skill in portraiture and the depiction of a social milieu is evident... The characters are engaging, and multidimensional. You care what happens to them." —*The Wall Street Journal*

"[Haffner] has the eye of a documentarian and a keen interest in particulars..." —*The New York Times*