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Alek Popov

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?????????? says

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Jen says

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Sara says

A very light reading. Perhaps a perfect book for a beach or boring rainy days.

Rokhsara says

????? (?? ?? ????? ???????) ?????? ?? ?????????? ?????? + ??? ?????? ????? + ??? ?? ??????, ?? ?????????? ?????? ???????, ?????? = ?????? ?????, ?????? ? „?????”.

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Amorfna says

S korica

Dva ro?ena brata iz Bugarske, dve sasvim razli?ite prirode, na?u se zajedno u Americi da istraže neravnotežne okolnosti o?eve smrti. Roman sa naizgled klasi?nim kriminalisti?kim zapletom prerasta, me?utim, u grotesknu pri?u o socijalizmu i kapitalizmu pred raskrinkavanjem, o sveopštim usponima i padovima, o ?uvanju pasa i novcu... Tu se, u duhu tranzicije, pojavljuju nenadani obrti i, iznad svega, autorov prepoznatljivi, povremeno brutalni, humor, koji neodoljivo vlada radnjom i junacima.

Za roman Psi u niskom letu Alek Popov je dobio nagradu Elias Kaneti za 2007. godinu.

Jao ni glave ni repa....

Na momente knjiga dostiže toliko visok nivo absurdnosti da svakog ?asa o?ekujete pokojnog Grahama Chapmana i famozno

Nije da sam ina?e neko ko je protivnik apsurga (pogledati Penakovog Žrtvenog jarca kao savršeni primerak knjige koja je over the top ali na jedan simpati?an i nenametljiv na?in.

Kod Popova se dešava toliko toga, istovremeno se ne dešava ništa. Kao duhovit je, kao ironi?an je, a nikako da ubode. Te je triler te se sprda s trilerom, te je ozbiljan te nije ozbiljan. Te odlu?i se ili nau?i da bolje ukombinuješ tih hiljadu elemenata sa kojima barataš.

Leševi, kidnaperi pasa, lude žene i bludni biznismeni, prljava korporacija, lažna demokratija, tranzicija sve je to ok samo se negde kockice nisu poklopile.

Sve u svemu, solidno štivo ali prenabacano(ko i ova moja recenzija zbrda zdola kao što mi se to uvek dešava sa knjigama koje ne ostave utisak na mene, ovakav ili onakav), dosadno na momente,ne preterano duhovito,sa iznena?uju?e dobrim krajem koji izvla?i uopšteno loš utisak.

Alek Popov kao jedan od retkih savremenih bugarskih pisaca koji se probio pokupio je jako dobre kritike ovom knjigom..možda nešto propuštam, ne bih znala.

3/5

Da?u mu šansu sa Misijom London za koju kažu da je mnogo bolja od ove.

K. says

I read this book on and off over the course of a year and that may be the reason why I didn't like it that much. The way Popov tells the story is not new, but interesting: Each chapter is devoted to one of the two Bulgarian brothers and tells the storyline from his point of view. Also, there is more than just one storyline. They take place on different continents and just cross every now and then and at the end. The story itself is pretty surreal: Two groups of dog-walkers in NYC are fighting each other, kidnapping or even poisoning dogs and controlling the stock market by doing so. The dead father of the two brothers always present in their minds, especially because his death has never been confirmed officially. The story makes some weird turns towards the end, with fighting scenes, attempted murders, dog cadavers, people in a coma etc.

Well, I don't know how to write a better review of this book. There was just too much going on (and too little at the same time), the storylines didn't fit together very well in my opinion. It's not easy to follow (which is not necessarily a bad thing, but in this case it is) and the story just gave me a headache sometimes. However, the author definitely knows how to make his audience laugh. I thought that book was fun, at least.

Bram says

3.5 stars

Funny and odd with many nods to the classics of modern literature. First three quarters were brilliant but the end was a little mechanical.

Chelsea McGill says

Fifteen years after receiving their father's ashes in a black box, the Bulgarian brothers Nedko (now known as Ned) and Angel still can't believe that he is really dead. In the meantime Ned has become a successful, high-paid consultant working with a major firm in New York City. After failing to start a publishing company in Bulgaria, Angel miraculously wins the green-card lottery and moves into Ned's apartment overlooking Central Park. He plans to stay there until he finds a job.

After a professional fiasco, Ned is sent back to Bulgaria to track down Kurtz, a high-ranking member of the firm who has gone missing while negotiating a deal. Meanwhile, Angel scrambles to find work, finally finding a job with a dog walking agency. They must each figure out how to negotiate the increasingly ridiculous political situation that they find themselves in: Ned with Kurtz's bizarre factory worker's cult and Angel with the dog walker's union known as the Dogsters.

The joys of not being postmodern

At the beginning of this novel, I really thought it was going to be a bizarre, postmodern story like the others I have read from Eastern Europe (such as Dubravka Ugresic's Baba Yaga Laid an Egg or Andrej Nikolaidis's Till Kingdom Come). With fathers who may or may not be dead, Eureka moments arising out of a drunken haze, a factory worker cult, and an evil dogwalkers' organization, it seems like the story could not possibly hold together in any sort of coherent fashion. But to my delight all of these bizarre occurrences do have logical (if ridiculous) explanations, and the narrative actually makes sense!

Read the rest of my review here: <http://thegloballycurious.blogspot.in...>

Sandra says

Hat mich beim Anlesen in der Buchhandlung so sehr interessiert, dass ich mir sogar das teure Hardcover gekauft hab.

Ziemlich schräges Buch. Ich weiss nicht so recht ob es mir wirklich gefallen hat, musste es aber doch rasch zu Ende lesen, wurde nämlich noch ganz spannend gegen Ende.

Hristina Ivanova says

Knigata e poveche ot dobra. Az lichno q prochetoh bukvalno na edin duh, vurvi mnogo leko i opredeleno q preporuchvam, goreshto :)

Jonathan Norton says

East Europeans on the make, getting big-shot jobs in finance and going through all kinds of scrapes. This ought to be a jolly old romp, and it wasn't boring or tiresome, but somehow unengaging. I kept finding I'd completely forgotten whatever quirky traits the minor characters were meant to have. There's all sorts of business about intrigue and conspiracies and highbrows in low places, but I'm just reminded that "The Crying Of Lot 49" never came alive for me and that's why I never bothered with the bigger Pynchons, which I imagine are an influence here. There's a rogue partner of an international business who happens to be called Mr Kurtz - surely that's a cliche now, even "Peep Show" have done it, haven't they? Ditto the idea that some innocuous service industry like dogwalking could be taken over by racketeers. There's some topical stuff about corrupt finance houses (this was written in 2007), but really I'd prefer it if he slowed down the pace and did a quiet, reflective book about the ex-pat Easterner experience in post-communism, since the passages about that are the best and most memorable.

In conclusion: The Bulgarians - a great bunch of lads.
