



Manfred Wieninger

223 OR THE COLLATORAL

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A small-town policeman faces a mountain of corpses: this is not a regular crime novel

In late April 1945 hundreds of Jewish forced laborers from Hungary on the death trail heading to Mauthausen end up in a refugee camp in Persenbeug on the Danube. The frontlines both east and west are as close as the end of the war. The Second Republic has already been proclaimed in nearby Vienna and Adolf Hitler is already dead when a motorized SS taskforce covertly attacks the camp and massacres 223 people in a bloodbath. Hardly anybody admits to having seen or heard anything, but inspector Franz Winkler, a Deputy Commander left to his own devices in this remote town, begins to investigate. He risks his head to save his skin. Will he manage to save the nine survivors of the massacre? Manfred Wieninger documents one of the most extraordinary criminal cases in Austrian history while main...

MANFRED WIENINGER

was born in 1963 in St. Pölten, where he also lives today. He studied literature and pedagogics and has written essays and travel reports for a range of publications, including Literatur und Kritik, Wiener Zeitung and Datum. Manfred Wieninger is the author of a seven-part crime series featuring the crooked "discount detective" Marek Miert, who gets in and out of trouble in the East-Austrian town of Harland. Most recently published: "Der Mann mit dem goldenen Revolver". He was awarded the Theodor Kramer Preis for his historical novel "223 oder Das Faustpfand", which was published in 2012.