



Max Blaeulich

MERCILESS LUCK

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Merciless as the twentieth century and uplifting as only great literature can be

Born in Romania between the wars, raised in poverty and washed up in Austria by the turmoil of war, Mrs Berta's life was one of humiliation, pain and misery. Now in an old people's home, she describes these violent events to the narrator. He in turn lives in the Pension Adler, with various tattooed, one-armed guests, as well as kindly Swedish women. In the home, with its shifty inmates and carers, he begins to feel comfortable, and takes detailed notes of Mrs Berta's story. Max Blaeulich's novel illuminates every shade of despair there is. Yet existential loneliness has seldom been described with such assured language and unsparing precision since Kafka.

MAX BLAEULICH

was born in Salzburg; after a commercial apprenticeship, he studied German literature and art history. He has worked as a second-hand book seller and for various literary magazines. He has published widely as an author, and is editor and publisher at Edition Tartin. As a visual artist he has been exhibiting since 1980. He lives in Salzburg and in 2009 he was awarded the Salzburg chamber of trade book prize. Residenz published his "Cannibal"-trilogy: "Kilimandscharo zweimeteracht" (2005), "Gatterbauerzwei oder Europa überleben" (2006), "Stackler oder Die Maschinerie der Nacht" (2008) and his novel "Unbarmherziges Glück" (2014).