



Gesa Olkusz

## MY BROTHER'S LANGUAGE

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Gesa Olkusz uses spare, pared-back prose to explore human loneliness—and to overcome it through the magical power of her language.

A simple story, written in poetic and crystal clear prose: Parker and Kasimir immigrated from Poland to the USA when they were young, brought by their mother so that they could have a better life. After this single act of resolve, their mother loses all interest in life, and the brothers develop a powerful symbiotic bond, isolated from those around them. They survive in this foreign country but never feel at home there. Parker works nights as a private chauffeur, while Kasimir never leaves the house. When footloose Luzia moves in with them, she brings a new breath of life, but in doing so she destroys the brothers' almost wordless bond. When the young woman leaves abruptly for Panama, one thing is clear: Kasimir is going to follow her, even to the ends of the world.

### GESA OLKUSZ

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born in 1980, studied Philosophy and Intercultural Specialised Communication at the University of Amsterdam, the Free University and the Humboldt University of Berlin. Gesa Olkusz lives in Berlin. Her debut novel "Legenden" (2015) was shortlisted for the Silberschwein Prize at lit.Cologne, the Franz-Tumler Prize and the ALPHA Literature Prize. She received the Kranichsteiner Literaturförderpreis 2015 for an extract from "Die Sprache meines Bruders" (2025).