



Jad Turjman

SCENT OF THE SOUL

A story of love in times of war and revolution

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“Scent of the Soul” is a moving love story set amid the Syrian civil war and an authentic account of repression, revolution and the terror of the IS.

It's 2010 and the vibrant city of Damascus is full of life, but it's the calm before the storm. Tarek, a Sunni Muslim, falls in love with Sanaa, who is Alevi. Against all odds, the two become a couple. But their secret meetings abruptly end when Tarek is called up. Through the military, he becomes entangled in acts of violence and antiques smuggling. He succeeds in fleeing to Europe, but when Sanaa tries to follow him, she is kidnapped by the IS and locked up. What Sanaa suffers in the IS prisons is based on authentic experiences, as Turjman cleverly weaves together fact and fiction to create a breathtaking novel that is highly relevant to our times.

JAD TURJMAN

Born in Damascus in 1989, Turjman studied English literature and worked for the Damascus city administration until fleeing his country in 2014. Settling in Salzburg in 2015, he was employed by the Workers' Samaritan Foundation until 2018 and went on to work for the 'Heroes' project. His first book, “When the jasmine leaves – The story of my escape” (2019), became a success and Turjman has given countless public readings since its publication. He has been performing his first solo show – “Der Flüchtling Ihres Vertrauens” (The refugee of your trust) – since 2019. Most recently published: “Der Geruch der Seele” (Scent of the Soul) (2021), “Wenn der Jasmin wurzeln schlägt” (When the Jasmine Puts Down Roots) (2022). www.jadturjman.com