



Clemens Berger

THE PRESIDENT

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Jay Immer lives the American dream – but is it really his own life he is living?

Jay Immer, son of Austrian immigrants, loving husband and a dutiful Chicago policeman, is 55 when the American dream catches up with him. He is elected to be the 40th president of the United States or, more accurately, his double. From that point on, he acts as a substitute for Ronald Reagan wherever Reagan can't be – at shopping mall inaugurations and burger eating competitions, at parties and photo calls. But when Jay discovers his own voice and becomes involved in the environmental movement, cracks start to form in the idyll. Touching, highly topical and full of tragicomical humour, Clemens Berger's narrative peers behind the facade of power and tells the unforgettable story of a man who stepped onto the stage of global politics to provide a swimming pool for his wife Lucy.

CLEMENS BERGER

Born in Burgenland, Austria in 1979, Berger studied philosophy in Vienna, where he lives as a freelance author. He has taught at the Mozarteum University Salzburg and at Bowling Green State University in the US, and was co-editor of the pan-European online magazine Versopolis. Berger has published novels, plays, essays and anthologies, and has been awarded numerous prizes and grants for his work. Recent novels include "Das Streichelinstitut" (2010), "Ein Versprechen von Gegenwart" (2013) and "Im Jahr des Panda" (2016). His new novel "Der Präsident" is published by Residenz Verlag in autumn 2020.