



Evelyn Grill

## WILMA

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**Fatal happiness. The story of two women who are driven into a desperate and fatally suffocating embrace by society.**

For the people of a remote village in the foothills of the Austrian Alps, Wilma is a spawn of hell, a monster, and surely not one of them: she is a retarded, corpulent and close-lipped child - and a child without parents. Her helplessness, however, engages the love and sympathy of Agnes, a widowed and childless woman, who both embraces and clings to her fosterling. In constant anxiety for Wilma, she tries to protect their little happiness against the locals, youth welfare officials and all external threats. But their happiness is based on dependence, and in a narrow, secluded world, this can prove lethal... In this book, Evelyn Grill demonstrates once more why her recent novels "Vanitas" and "Der Sammler" [The Collector] made her one of the most provocative voices of contemporary German...

### EVELYN GRILL

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born in Garsten, Upper Austria in 1942, Grill is a freelance writer living in Freiburg im Breisgau and since 2017 back in Linz. In 2017 she was awarded the OÖ-Landeskulturpreis für Literatur. Published by Residenz Verlag: "Vanitas oder Hofstätters Begierden" (2005, nominated for Deutscher Buchpreis), "Der Sammler" (2006, awarded the Otto-Stoessl-Preis), "Wilma" (new edition 2007), "Das römische Licht" (2008), "Das Antwerpener Testament" (2011), "Der Sohn des Knochenzählers" (2013) and most recently "Der Begabte" (The Talent) (2019).