



## DUNKELGRÜN FAST SCHWARZ

VON MAREIKE FALLWICKL

Novel, German.

Release: 5th March 2018

World rights held by Frankfurter Verlagsanstalt

»ORF List of the Best« March 2018

### Press

Mareike Fallwickl's debut is a compelling, suspenseful novel of love, broken friendship and betrayal. From its very first scene *Dark Green Almost Black* enthrals readers with a tangle of relationships and buried secrets. Readers will delight in losing themselves in this pacy work of literary fiction about dark and light sides of friendship, desire, parenthood, and love.

New Books in German, issue 43, spring 2018 [Link](#)

This is the most-talked-about book of the year – no doubt about it. An incredible novel that doesn't feel Austrian even though the story takes place in Austria. A début that doesn't feel like a début. Within just a few pages Mareike Fallwickl develops such suspense, it almost feels like a crime novel (...) simply impossible to put it back down.

Rotraut Schöberl, »Café Puls« Puls 4

One of the most promising novels of the year. Mareike Fallwickl has received much advance praise for this gripping love triangle: "This Austrian début will be a real zinger"; "*Dark green, almost black* is definitely the most remarkable among all the novelties of the season"; "Gripping and outstanding, hopefully not her last novel" – those are just a few snippets from the raving reviews this book has received by critics, bloggers and booksellers. It seems, there's a new trend this spring of 2018, at least when it comes to literature: *It's Dark green, almost black*.

Salzburger Nachrichten [Link](#)

What a début! Mareike Fallwickl: a new name on the long list of great Austrian writers. (...) That plot, that cast, that language, and *such* depth (...) It reads, in parts, like Juli Zeh's *Gaming Instinct*, it certainly is equally intense throughout. Let's hope that her publisher Joachim Unseld will receive all the praise that he deserves for discovering yet another great author, thus building on his recent success with Nino Haratischwili (*The Eighth's Life*).

DPA

Just wonderful to see how well Mareike Fallwickl knows her protagonists. Using several different narrative strands, she tells the tale of an ill-fated love triangle, which leaves readers with mere fragments from which they must piece together the whole picture. This proves symbolic as well as thrilling to read. *Dark green, almost black* is a most complex and exciting literary début.

Bücher Magazin

No wonder she was awarded a grant for her writing: Many have pinned their hopes on the 34-year-old Mareike Fallwickl to be the new posterchild of Austrian literature. Relentlessly she builds up

tension and has her readers feverishly twist their brains: What on earth might have happened back then? A début novel that takes its readers to the edge of the abyss of the human soul - a thrilling and carefully constructed narrative of dependencies and malice.

Emotion

Literature Preview 2018 (...) Mareike Fallwickl might just be the one. Her novel *Dark green, almost black* tells the story of a love triangle featuring two damaged young men and one damaged young woman at its center.

Peter Pisa, Kurier

This Austrian début novel will be a real zinger (...) drums beating and trumpets sounding.

Rotraut Schöberl, puls4, Café Puls (TV)

Everyone is crazy about this story

Salzburger Fenster [Link](#)

Mareike Fallwickl sure knows how to captivate her readers – a true page-turner, even at 480 pages.

ORF Radio Salzburg

### **Blog, Instagram, YouTube, online reviews:**

The further you get into Mareike Fallwickl's #darkgreenalmostblack, the more it captivates. I am incredibly impressed by this incredibly challenging début novel that just snatches its readers, then takes them for an emotional roller-coaster ride. It's been a long time since I've been drawn so thoroughly into a story, held hostage by such incredible protagonists, hoping, fearing and feeling for them all the way through. Go on now: read!

Florian Valerius, bookstagrammer @literarischernerd and bookseller at Stephanus in Trier

Mareike Fallwickl is an excellent observer, it practically feels like being inside her protagonist's heads. It's nightmarish and alluring at the same time. Intense language and imagery create a sense of intimacy, even where it simply calls a spade a spade. Every step towards the abyss stings like a needle, we see disaster coming, even as we don't know what exactly what shape or form it is going to take since this novel is so skillfully constructed that we remain unsuspecting of the big explosion that awaits us till the very end. *Dark green, almost black* is a white-knuckle relationship drama! Captivating, dominating and written in the most gripping prose, a radiating début.

Blog Literaturen [Link](#)

This book is simply superb! (...) That is life! Just like that! Mareike Fallwickl is an acute observer, she knows her protagonists inside and out. Simply impressive.

Blog Masuko13 [Link](#)

A true pageturner about friendship, dependencies and the dangerous influence that people can have over people (...) Carefully constructed yet uncompromisingly entertaining. A wonderful book.

Blog Frank O. Rudkoffsky [Link](#)

What a début! Readers and protagonists alike remain unsuspecting as Mareike Fallwickl's novel *Dark green, almost black* slowly unfolds with brutal force. The story is dense, full of intense sentences that will continue to haunt you. Ten excellent ideas in every single chapter. Again, and again we're just overwhelmed by the imagery she employs. (...) A book that will be on your mind, long after you've put it down. A must-read!

Blog Mint & Malve [Link](#)

Only a hundred pages into the story, I'd gladly have wagered my boots that this book is a hot

contestant for the German book award. (...) With a sure instinct and rich and varied prose, Mareike Fallwickl has created an intelligent and gripping novel, a well-rounded picture that slowly emerges from countless pieces of a puzzle. A swell piece of light fiction that is at once entertaining and demanding. Could it be the *début* of the year?

Bog Muromez [Link](#)

*Dark green, almost black* - three nights was all it took for me to gobble it down. Its vivid language just carried me away and I used my magic marker on almost every single page. I was astonished, rarely have I felt so captivated and delighted by the use of language itself. Mareike Fallwickl refuses to spare her protagonists. She goes into depth, she observes, she turns her characters inside out, removes layer after layer as she exposes pent-up emotions and takes us to the edge of the abyss of what it means to be human. A book full of anger, fear, loneliness, dependencies. The story hurts, it's almost too much to take. And that's how it should be. Chapeau, Mareike Fallwickl. Incredibly entertaining!

Blog Bücherkaffee [Link](#)

Mareike Fallwickl presents us with an impressive *début* novel, its narrative structure and the skillfully constructed arc of it, reminded me of Michael Haneke's movies. (...) *Dark green, almost black*, tells a story of friendship and rivalry, of power games and victimization, of submission and violence. Mareike Fallwickl's protagonists are incredibly compelling, the events she describes so sinister, this novel had me under its spell immediately, taking me deeper and deeper into an abyss so dark that while from time to time I felt the need to break free of it, I just couldn't put the book away. *Dark green, almost black* has certainly made it onto my list of this year's favorites, I hope it will be a great success.

Blog Travel Without Moving [Link](#)

*Dark green, almost black* is a fast-paced novel, gripping prose that draws readers into the abyss with its protagonists. Mareike Fallwickl explores questions like: Am I condemned to repeat the patterns my parents exposed me to? How can I deal with this legacy? How can I escape the cycle of guilt? (...) There sure is no escaping this novel, not even after you've put it down. Mareike Fallwickl never eases the tension she creates, she keeps her readers breathless, yes, she holds them hostage. A gripping *début* novel, that is definitely worth a read.

Literaturkritik.de [Link](#)

Mareike Fallwickl is an incredible young writer, her novel truly captivated me. While I was reading *Dark green, almost black*, I got little sleep, had dark circles under my eyes and was barely "there", really. There is no denying it was worth it though. And the bottom line? Well, if you're looking for a book that will truly challenge you in every way and take you on a real roller-coaster ride in the process, this brilliantly written book with its wonderful protagonists will do the job and provide you with a number of sleepless nights. Buy it! Read it! Be ecstatic!

Blog Die Liebe zu den Büchern [Link](#)

*Dark green, almost black* is bound to captivate. Past and present intertwine, building towards a full picture of things said and done. Protagonists we want to embrace as much as we want to push them away caught in a narrative that skillfully moves between past and present and continues to shift from one perspective to the next, to a point where we're almost confused but also compelled to continue reading, not least thanks to the beauty of the language that is inviting us to taste, feel and smell the words to the extent where even the letters seem to be involved in an elaborate dance, arranging themselves within sentences so beautiful, they tempt us to reach right in and pull them straight from the page to cradle them in our arms. There is a kind of undertow that drags us down so far that even at three o'clock in the morning with an early alarm looming, we just can't put the book down. I urge you, even if this book has been talked about all over the place in the last few days, do not let yourself be dissuaded from buying and reading it, it truly deserves all that praise and exposure. Yesterday as much as today and tomorrow.

Blog paper and poetry [Link](#)

*Dark green, almost black* is a hot contestant for the German book award already (...) A truly intoxicating read that had me turn pages breathlessly as I was following the protagonists into desperation and darkness. I truly hope that this talented young woman continues her journey as a writer.

Blog Ruth liest [Link](#)

There is a vivid unpretentious flow to *Dark green, almost black*. A novel that tells it like it is, sometimes drastic, then gentle and vulnerable, just like its protagonists. Slowly it eases its readers into a narrative that takes them deeper and deeper until there is no more turning away from it. As I reached the end of it, I felt like I never wanted to read anything else again (...) a début that is more than just a good read, it's addictive.

Blog Papiergeflüster [Link](#)

If anyone asks me to recommend a book this upcoming year, it will be this one. *Dark green, almost black* is a remarkable novel about a toxic love triangle, three friends on the edge, a truly gripping story.

Blog Schonhalbelf [Link](#)

Such beautiful prose, there's just no putting it down. I'll definitely be recommending it!

TheFallingAlice, YouTube

I was going to write a review on this awesome book but it seems that practically everyone has done that already, so all that remains to be said on my part is: MARVELOUS!!! One of those "Thisisallleverwanttoread-books"!

Lesestapelei, Instagram

The best book of 2018.

bobspacex, Instagram

What an intense reading experience! Its captivating prose already makes this one the highlights of 2018.

diek\_aiserin, Instagram

Some books will just fill your head with images from the very first page... Finally, I'm free to tell you, how much I enjoyed *Dark green, almost black*.

tanybeee, Instagram

A kaleidoscopic translation of feelings, secrets and all-consuming love into colors, Mareike Fallwickl has done an amazing job at painting a literary picture of missed chances! A definite must-read!

christinsta1liest, Instagram

This book just pulls you into its world. Hard to put it down even for a moment. Such refined language, such an incredible plot and such persuasive protagonists. I was instantly in love.

meeneswelt, Instagram

Never was I more eager to review a book than I am now. @the\_zuckergoscherl (Mareike Fallwickl): I love you! Your words just blow me away.

luxusleserin, Instagram

5:18 in the morning and I'm done! Couldn't put it down, not for a single moment.

buchbuechse, Instagram

### Pre-release praise:

There is one book among the many novelties of 2018 that really sticks out (...) as a bookseller and blogger, I begin each new book season with a sense of curiosity, asking myself the same question many of my colleagues must be asking themselves every time: Will I find THE book? That one special book. And here it is, I've found it. A sense of calm mixed with utter ecstasy. So, if you run into this wonderful book by Mareike Fallwickl, do check it out. (...) It's an impressive read.

Simone Finkenwirth, Blog Klappentexterin und Buchhandlung Hugendubel in Steglitz

I am completely willing to join the choir: if I was to point to the most exceptional book of this season, it would be *Dark green, almost black*.

Jacqueline Masuck, Blog Maskuo13 und Dussmann in Berlin

Even before its release, *Dark green, almost black* there is no doubt that this book will be talked about extensively when it comes out on March 5<sup>th</sup>. I myself have done that already, with Nadya Hartmann from FVA. We were wondering whether there was anything about this book worth improving. The cover? The title graphic? The end of the novel? (...) We were 100% on the same page – there's simply nothing that's not perfect about this book, first sentence to last.

Jacqueline Masuck, Blog Masuko13 und Buchhändlerin bei Dussmann in Berlin

This book seems to be everywhere. And it sounds just amazing. I think I might have to give the publishers a call immediately...

Sandra Babel, Buchhandlung Ebert in Stuttgart

Snail mail does get better and better – today I received the book that I've been waiting for most impatiently this season. *Dark green, almost black*, written by my esteemed blogger colleague Mareike Fallwickl. It will be published on March 5<sup>th</sup> with Frankfurter Verlagsanstalt and I'm pretty sure already that it will live up to everyone's expectations.

Blog Dieliebezubüchern

A true badass who really knows her shit when it comes to literature.

Karla Paul, Literaturbotschafterin und Blog Buchkolumne

An amazing book, a truly wonderful piece of literature! Should 2018 not prove to be the year of its rapid ascent on the bestseller lists, I will lose all faith in the taste of our readers and the literary world itself. Mareike Fallwickl's style is profound. It is as if in passing that she develops gripping scenarios and persuasive characters. This book really spoke to me, I am irrevocably impressed. Thank you Mareike Fallwickl for this amazing novel!

Hauke Harder, Blog Leseschatz und Buchhändler bei der Buchhandlung Almut Schmidt in Kiel

Suddenly there was this craving, a ravenous appetite for this book. A thrill on every single page, the incredible prose, the carefully constructed plot, the characters. Mareike Fallwickl has created a web of suspense, one moment she'd make me smile, then gape in astonishment just a moment later.

Simone Finkenwirth, Blog Klappentexterin und Buchhandlung Hugendubel in Steglitz

There is an urgency to this book. I want to know more, and right away, please. Few novels provide me with the feeling of holding a truly exceptional book in my hands. I'm really grateful, for the chance to read it in advance! (...) Mareike Fallwickl really hits the spot, I was glued to the pages, indignant even at the fact that I had to put it aside to work. (...) *Dark green, almost black* has made it to the list of my favorite books, a phenomenal novel.

Juliana Grassel, Blog Wunderliteratur und Buchhandlung Thalia in Heidelberg

(...) Man, this book is just amazing!!! I am completely ecstatic! Marveling at the way Mareike Fallwickl weaves the web of this complex plot, introducing fascinating details into an absolutely gripping story

at every turn. How addictive and well-written! And that synesthesia provides such a wonderful twist. So much about this book is wonderful. I'm looking forward to recommending and selling it already. Again: I applaud Mareike Fallwickl for this wonderful début!

Maria Christina Piwowarski, Buchhändlerin bei Ocelot in Berlin

I'm finished. And shaking. So much have I been dreading the end of this novel. Will there be a spectacular showdown as in Yanagihara's or Lize Split's novels? Will they all die? Will I be depressed? None of that. And that's exactly what makes it so great! I loved the descriptions of what it's like, being a parent. Cool, distanced, yet full of love. I'm very grateful for this incredible reading experience! I just love optimistic endings. Daggers drawn, serious crises and then a not-so-terrible ending. I like that. Also, that way it's so much easier to recommend (this is the bookseller talking already).

Jaqueline Masuck, Blog Musko13 und Buchhändlerin bei Dussmann in Berlin

Thank you Mareike Fallwickl, for providing me with a book that I will be recommending with so much joy this spring. Because it is just so GOOD. Amazing plot. Tangible protagonists. Real page-turner material! It might be obvious but the mother scenes really got to me. Such acute observation, such a straightforward way of putting it into words...

Sarah Reul, Blog Pinkfisch und Buchladen am Freiheitsplatz in Hanau

I really, really enjoyed reading *Dark green, almost black*, and I was very impressed. It has this perfect mix of linguistic finesse, a knack for narrative and a plot that really gets under your skin. I'm entirely convinced that this book could be a bestseller.

Gerlinde Wiesenhofer, Buchhandlung Leykam in Hartberg

Mareike Fallwickl's novel is amazing – a unique cover and a marvelous title. I keep hearing about it, it seems like it might be the next big thing.

Lisbeth Kröbelin, Agent

Would you please be so kind to send us a copy of *Dark green, almost black* by Mareike Fallwickl? It seems like the entire industry is full of praise and we'd like to join the discussion.

Viviana Korn, Carolus Bücher GmbH

There is no doubt about the fact that Frankfurter Verlagsanstalt has real intuition when it comes to incredible writers. After reading almost a dozen début novels, we'd like to invite Mareike Fallwickl for a reading at our center.

Anja Johannsen, House of Literature, Göttingen

You may or may not believe me, but I read this book in one day, started in the morning, read the last page late at night. I just couldn't stop. The alternating narration completely absorbed me in no time. And even as one begins to realize what is going to happen, every impulse matters, every emotion is worth sharing, every color triggers as much curiosity as the last. I'm really looking forward to recommending this book to our customers.

Kerstin Gärtner, Buchhandlung Schlapp in Bensheim

Instead of cycling to work, I took the subway. Just to have an extra few minutes to spend with Mareike Fallwickl's book. I am absolutely delighted! In bookshops in early March #darkgreenalmostblack

Uwe Kalkowski, Blog Kaffeehausbesitzer

A deep dive into a story of desperation, retribution, longing, forgiveness and love. (...) A gripping novel that has me hoping for more books by this talented writer. A tale of friendship, passion and gentleness.

Hauke Harder, Blog Leseschatz und Buchhandlung Almut Schmidt in Kiel