

## THE EIGHTH LIFE (FOR BRILKA) BY NINO HARATISCHWILI

Novel. German.
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The novel of the year.

SPIEGEL

German novel of the year. Phenomenal.

Volker Weidermann, FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE SONNTAGSZEITUNG

No doubt Nino Haratischwili is one of the most important voices in contemporary German literature.

DIE ZEIT

Nino Haratischwili's novel has opened my eyes to how tightly interwoven we Europeans are, how the region stretching between Tbilisi, Lviv, Saint Petersburg and Berlin is indeed *one* memory space, how mentalities and feelings have been shaped over generations and how carefully we have to deal with theses connecting lines.

The Federal Foreign Minister Dr. Frank-Walter Steinmeier

Nino Haratischwili's *The Eighth Life (For Brilka)* combines a Tolstoyesque epic narrative with lightness and humour as well as elements of magic realism. Haratischwili's large cast of characters are well-drawn and credible ... none of them leaves the reader untouched. With this richly imagined masterpiece full of passion, love and drama, Nino Haratischwili has proved herself as one of the most interesting and original writers of her generation.

NEW BOOKS IN GERMAN, US Jury Pick

A book that is highly addictive: 32 years old, she is already one of the most powerful and haunting voices in German literature. In her 1200-pages-epic *The Eighth Life* Nino Haratischwili masterfully relates the moving experiences of a Georgian family to the revolutions of 20<sup>th</sup> century history. A novel of a century that whets readers' appetite; and a strong young woman that has cut herself off from her home country's male-dominated society. (...) Nino Haratischwili has accomplished something truly exceptional: a great historic novel, bulging with human drama like the real life.

TITEL THESEN TEMPERAMENTE (TV show)

Nino Haratischwili has written a book that has an exorbitant volume but that needs every sentence. In terms of ambition and extent, Uwe Tellkamp's *The Tower* is the only comparable project of recent German literature.

## FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE ZEITUNG

Nino Haratischwili has written a great book: a book, which views over a century and half of the globe, a book however, inside of which, as in the infants' experience, everything, is only love and dread. It is a coup that would never have been possible alone from today's requirements and resources of the Germans and the German language; a gift for us, born from the contradictions and the grandeur of

the East.

SÜDDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG

Everybody requires a new, vigorous narration of European ideals, of the European past. (...) Nino Haratischwili has created such a narration by her new novel.

FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE SONNTAGSZEITUNG

For a long time I have not read a book that has absorbed me so much, that I find so fantastic.

RBB (German TV broadcasting corporation)

Nino Haratischwili writes contemporary classics. Substantial like Tolstoi, thus monumental anyway. She writes terribly beautiful. I am moved while I am reading, lately with tears in my eyes. And want to see the movie.

MISSY MAGAZINE

With her family saga Nino Haratischwili has delighted not only critics but also historians, because her research is so meticulous and her narration so thrilling. Who is this woman who seems to succeed in everything, who even performs, as some say, literary miracles?

TITEL THESEN TEMPERAMENTE (TV show)

In terms of Nino Haratischwili's The Eighth Life (For Brilka), this fall's at least most daring German-language novel is missing [as a nominee for the German Book prize] – and as for myself: the best one (...).

Andreas Platthaus, FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE ZEITUNG

Nino Haratischwili is writing sensual novels, full of history and histories. (...) She succeeded in reviving the epic narrative form.

BR - LESEZEICHEN (TV show)

With *The Eighth Life* Nino Haratischwili has achieved a masterstroke.

ARTE – JOURNAL

It very much looks as if *The Eighth Life* is not only a seasonal product – the novel has got what it takes to become a favourite book for years.

**KULTUR SPIEGEL** 

Not only the length of the novel makes one think of Boris Pasternak. You will not want to put it down, it is an impressive novel about how the destructive 20<sup>th</sup> century sweeps across a family – Contemporary History with a pinch of *Like Water for Chocolate*.

BRIGITTE

Smart, compelling, sometimes gloomy, on every occasion impressive! Who wants to understand why the  $20^{\rm th}$  century is an eminently Georgian century should reed this book!

SR2

## **Abroad**

Nino's writing can have this fantastic torrential quality, a wildness—in the characters, in the things that happen to them, and in the rhythm of prose.

Charlotte Collins, translator of *The Eighth Life* for Scribe Publishing, in NO MAN'S LAND # 10 Winter 2015

In a subtle way the author weaves the political and cultural history of Russia and Georgia through the fortunes/ups-and-downs of her characters.

TROUW, Netherlands