



SHEMOZZLE!

A FAMILY SAGA

BY MARCIA ZUCKERMANN

Shemozzle!

Novel. German.

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Following the success of her novel *Mischpoke!*, Marcia Zuckerman returns with the next entry in her turbulent German-Jewish family story full of the twists and turns of fate, told through vivid and lively narration—a great reading pleasure.

This turbulent family story full of twists and turns begins on the high seas between New York and London: Johannes »John« Segall, scion of a Jewish family who fled to England on the last *Kindertransport* in 1939, unexpectedly receives a photograph that sheds light on the last violent minutes of his father's life. In order to fulfill his own personal *mitzvah*, John follows the trace of trails scattered over several countries: There is Benno Kohanim-Rubin, who fought in the British Army against the Nazis, his brother Walter who raised the red communist flag over the highest factory chimney in Berlin on May 1, 1933, and Caesar and Selma Bukofzker, who set sail for Palestine, but, through the infamous odyssey of the ship *Atlantic*, land in Mauritius. Following the traces of his far-flung family and the wild ramifications of their lives, he comes across outrageous stories of great tragedy and overwhelming injustice; of luck in misfortune, unexpected rescue—and more than one *shemozzle*.

Marcia Zuckermann tells the story of a German-Jewish family, closely interwoven with historical events that reveal their fortitude in the face of a broad spectrum of persecution. With chutzpah and lively storytelling, she creates an animated panorama of characters from *Mischpoke!*, whose emigrant fates now take center stage in *Shemozzle!*

»I had set upon a vague plan to finally create a proper family chronicle, one with family trees diagramming a confusing, crazy clan that now no longer exist. The only thing we have is our history and our stories, as a last snapshot before the final demise and disintegration of the family. Fortunately, I had no idea at the time what an adventure I was about to embark upon.« From *Shemozzle!*

Marcia Zuckermann was born in Berlin in 1947. Her Jewish father survived the Holocaust as a political prisoner in the Buchenwald concentration camp, while her Protestant mother was active in the resistance as a communist. In 1958, the family fled the GDR for West Berlin where Zuckermann trained in advertising in the publishing industry. Today she is a freelance journalist and author living in Berlin. Her successful novel *Mischpoke!* (2016) was published by FVA.

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