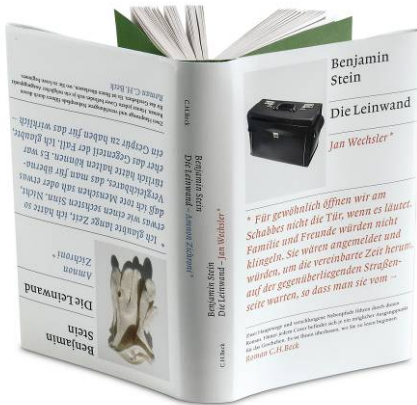




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Benjamin Stein
The Canvas
416 pages



A mirror with two entrances: You can start reading this book from two sides. Right in the middle, there's a huge showdown between the two narrators Amnon Zichroni and Jan Wechsler.

Amnon Zichroni has the ability to feel other people's memories. Born in Jerusalem with a strict Jewish upbringing, he studies in the USA and settles in Zurich as an psycho analyst. There he meets the violinmaker Minsky, encouraging him to put his traumatic childhood in a Nazi extermination camp down in writing. Both men's existences are at stake when the journalist Jan Wechsler claims Minsky's book is nothing but fiction...

Ten years later, a suitcase is delivered to that very same Jan Wechsler, allegedly one he lost on a trip to Israel – but Wechsler has no memory of this suitcase. On the tracks of now dubious memories, he travels to Israel and ends up in an interrogation. He has indeed been here before, it turns out, and his host at the time, Amnon Zichroni, has been missing ever since...

A fascinating, page-turning novel about the unreliable nature of memory and wrestling for identity.

Rights Sold:
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"Aussagekraft und Weltnachhaltigkeit eines besonderen neuen Buches. (...) Atmosphäre und Magie."
Birgit Weidinger, Süddeutsche Zeitung, 11. Juni 2010

"Es ist kosmopolitisch, es lebt von Witz und Intelligenz, es reflektiert das Nichtselbstverständnis der eigenen Identität, es erlaubt sich gern auch eingängige Einsprengsel religionskultureller Folklore, und die Rolle des Psychoanalytikers bleibt nur selten unbesetzt.." *Ijoma Mangold, Die Zeit, 9. April 2010*

Benjamin Stein was born in East Berlin in 1970. Up to 1989 he worked as a night porter in a retirement home, later gaining a degree in Jewish and Hebrew Studies. He has been publishing poetry and short prose since 1982. His first novel *Das Alphabet des Juda Liva* was published by Amman Verlag in 1995 and came out as a dtv paperback in 1998. Benjamin Stein has worked as an editor and correspondent for various German and American computer magazines, and has been a corporate IT advisor since 1998. He owns the author-run publishing house Edition Neue Moderne and writes the literary weblog 'Turmseger'. Benjamin Stein is married, has two children and lives in Munich.



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