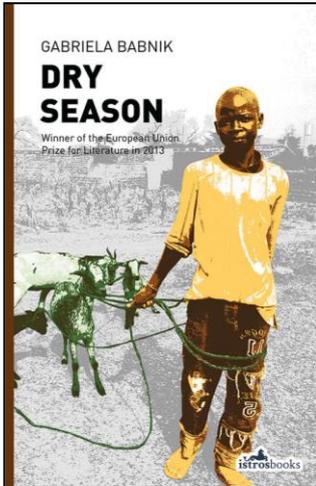


ISTROS NEW BOOK: PRESS RELEASE

Now available in English, an extraordinary, award-winning and unforgettable novel about a passionate love affair between a 62-year-old European woman and a 27-year-old African man

PUBLICATION DATE (UK & IRELAND): 16 NOVEMBER 2015



DRY SEASON

Winner of the European Union Prize for Literature 2013

by Gabriela Babnik

“How did I know how old he was? Well, I didn’t. I didn’t have a clue who I was dealing with or what he wanted from me”

ISBN: 978 1 908 2 36 26 5 Paperback 280 pages RRP: £9.99 16 Nov 2015 Istros Books



Istros Books are available through all good bookshops & internet booksellers or via the Istros website: istrosbooks.com or from InPress inpressbooks.co.uk Connect with Istros: istrosbooks.com Twitter: @Istros_books & on Facebook Book Trade enquiries: please contact wholesaler CentralBooks.com or Istros.com

Dry Season is a challenging novel and one that we might not have anticipated from a writer from a small, Central European nation. With a global perspective, Babnik takes on the themes of racism, the role of women in modern society and the loneliness of the human condition.

Dry Season is the story of an unusual love affair. Anna is a 62-year-old designer from Slovenia and Ismael is a 27-year-old from Burkino Faso who was brought up on the streets, where he was often the victim of abuse. What unites them is the loneliness of their bodies, a tragic childhood and the dry *hamartan* season, during which neither nature nor love is able to flourish. She soon realizes that the emptiness between them is not really caused by their skin colour and age difference, but predominantly by her belonging to the Western culture in which she has lost or abandoned all the preordained roles of daughter, wife and mother. Sex does not outstrip the loneliness and repressed secrets from the past surface into a world she sees as more cruel and yet, at the same time, more innocent than her own. Cleverly written as an alternating narrative of both sides in the relationship, the novel is interlaced with magic realism.

This novel addresses many challenging questions including ...

- What it is like to fall in love with someone who is young enough to be your child?
- How do couples from different cultures attempt to adjust to each other’s perspectives on life?
- The dilemmas facing today’s middle-aged generation who (despite feeling youthfully adventurous themselves) are dutifully caught between caring for elderly parents while still providing for their own adult children...



About the author: Gabriela Babnik was born in 1979 in Göppingen, Germany but has lived in Slovenia for many years. After finishing her studies at Ljubljana University, she spent some time in Nigeria before working for her MA on the modern Nigerian novel. Since 2002, she has regularly contributed articles to all major daily and weekly publications in Slovenia. In 2005, Babnik graduated in Comparative Literature and Literary Theory at the University of Ljubljana. Her first novel *Koža iz bombaža (Cotton Skin)* was published in 2007 and was awarded the prize for the Best Debut Novel by the Union of Slovenian Publishers at the Slovenian Book Fair. In 2009, her second novel *V visoki travi (In the Tall Grass)* was published and was shortlisted for the Kresnik Award in 2010. Babnik lives with her family in Ljubljana.

Media opportunities: Extracts/serialisation. The author is available for interviews.



because quality has no borders...

an independent London publisher specialising in English translations of extraordinary writing from unfamiliar places

Istros Books are available through all good bookshops & internet booksellers or via the Istros website: istrosbooks.com or from InPress inpressbooks.co.uk Connect with Istros: istrosbooks.com Twitter: @Istros_books & on Facebook Book Trade enquiries: please contact wholesaler CentralBooks.com or Istros.com



To request review copies or to be put in touch with the author or the publisher, please contact Elly Donovan PR elly@ellydonovan.co.uk tel: 0790 508 7779 / 01273 205 246 www.ellydonovan.co.uk twitter: @EllyDonovanPR facebook.com/EllyDonovan Linked-In: Elly Donovan PR