

"Funny, heartbreaking, beautifully written." *The Seattle Times*

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Saša Stanišić
How the Soldier Repairs the Gramophone

[Wie der Soldat das Grammophon repariert]

Novel

Luchterhand HC
320 pages
Format 13,5 x 21,5 cm
August 2006

· Shortlisted for Deutscher Buchpreis

Saša Stanišić, born in Višegrad in Bosnia-Herzegovina in 1978, came to Germany when he was fourteen. He studied at the Deutsches Literaturinstitut in Leipzig. Stanišić has received numerous stipends and prizes, including German Book Prize 2019 for his latest book *Herkunft*, the Adelbert von Chamisso Prize and the Leipzig Book Fair Prize. His books *Before The Feast* and *How the Soldier Repairs the Gramophone* have been translated into numerous languages. For the short stories in *Trappers* he was awarded the Rheingau Literature Prize and the Schubart Literature Prize. Saša Stanišić lives and works in Hamburg.

When the civil war destroys his home in Bosnia in the 1990s, the young Alexandar flees with his parents to the West. Alexandar conquers the foreign land of Germany with his restless curiosity, and he enthusiastically tells fantastic stories about his large family in the small Visegrad. Through his story telling, Alexandar is able to assuage his anxieties as well as bring back the "time when everything was good".

With *How the Soldier Repairs the Gramophone*, Sasa Stanisic has written an exuberant and extravagant burlesque tragic-comedy novel about the collapse of Bosnia and of German exile, of homeland and of life in a foreign country.

Press

"The author's narrative is so soulful and witty. He skillfully balances ordinary with extraordinary, factual with absurd, horrific with poetic." *The Riveter*

"... in all its details a brilliant and at times higher humorous novel." *Neue Zürcher Zeitung*

"With linguistic competence and a passion for storytelling." *Spiegel*