

"This is what crime literature is about." *ORF*



Alex Beer
The Dark Courier
[Der dunkle Bote]
A case for August Emmerich –
Crime novel

Limes
400 pages
Format 13,5 x 21,5 cm
May 2019

Alex Beer, born in Bregenz, studied archaeology and lives in Vienna. *The Second Rider*, her first book featuring police agent August Emmerich, and *The Dark Courier* were awarded the Leo Perutz Prize and received enthusiastic reviews. After *The Red Woman*, which was also highly acclaimed, this is her third crime story featuring investigator August Emmerich. She was also nominated for the Viktor Crime Award initiated by Sebastian Fitzek.

Vienna, November 1920: An unexpected cold spell has destroyed the crops, one man in three is out of a job, and organised crime is booming. But the murder case that has shaken the city surpasses anything ever seen before: a body has been viciously mutilated and is discovered covered in a layer of ice. Shortly afterwards, a letter claiming responsibility appears.

Detective inspector August Emmerich and his assistant, Ferdinand Winter, investigate – and that is not the only mystery they have to solve, for they still have not tracked down Xaver Koch, the man who has abducted Emmerich's life partner and has turned out to be a dangerous opponent ...

Winner of the Leo Perutz Prize 2019

Press

"*The Dark Courier* tells of the hard fight for a life worth living and thus exceeds by far the boundaries of a common crime novel." *WDR4*

"Very vivid and atmospherically dense yet sinister novel with a clear-cut message ..." *B5 Kultur Nachrichten*

"the most nerve-racking part so far and a real crime pleasure."
HI: Tech Campus

