

Russian historical detective

Putilin

Historical Detective Series. AST. Moscow 2001.

TITLE 1

The Harlequin's Costume. Vagrius. Moskau 2001. 272 pages.

In 1871, the military attaché of the Austrian Emperor, von Ahrensberg, is murdered. Commissioner Putilin is assigned the investigation. The secret police take up the case as well, the assumption being that the murder was politically motivated. The suspicions of the responsible agent become increasingly wild: one after the other he suspects Russian, Polish and Italian revolutionaries and even Turkish spies. True to his principle "coincidence and passion are the real conspirators", the experienced commissioner seeks the answers in the murky waters of the diplomatic circus. The archetypal family man, who worships his stern wife and lives with both feet on the ground, struggles not only with criminals but also the secret police.

TITLE 2

The Encounter. Vagrius. Moskau 2001. 272 Pages.

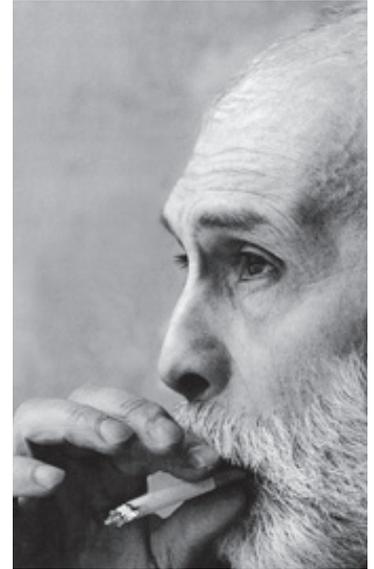
A historical thriller with Ivan Putilin, a genuine historical figure, as the main character. In this case the plot is purely fictional. Putilin investigates the murder of his neighbour and other persons. The Freemasons are suspected of complicity as a secretive medalion showing the sign of the zodiac, the Big Dipper, with an inscription is found at the scene of each crime. In this, as with his other novels, Putilin's wife and son play an active role. Putilin's profound knowledge of Greek Mythology is indispensable to the solving of the crime.

TITLE 3

Prince of winds. Vagrius. Moskau 2001. 272 pages.

National Bestseller Award 2001

The Mongolian prince, Naidan-Van, in St. Petersburg as a member of the entourage of the Chinese ambassador, converts to Christianity. Like Faust, he is prepared to sell his soul to the devil. The prince is found murdered. The famous writer, Ivan Turgenev, author of "Fathers and Sons" is considered a suspect. The story line takes place simultaneously in two countries and two eras, St. Petersburg in the 1980's and Mongolia in 1913 as the Mongolian war of independence against the Chinese began.



THE AUTHOR

translations
15 languages

awards

Big Book Award 2021
Yasnaya Polyana finalist 2021
National Bestseller 2016
Big Book Award 2016
Booker Translation Grant 2016
Russian Booker shortlist 2009
Big Book Award 2009

samples available

english
french and others

other works

Philhellenes
Winter Road
Horsemen of the Desert
The Putilin Series
Kazaroza

Yuzefovich, born 1947 in Moscow, spent his childhood and youth in the Urals. He has a Doctorate in History and is known to a wide audience of readers through his historical thrillers about Ivan Putilin. Yuzefovich is capable of interweaving detailed knowledge of historical fact with masterly literary style into the plot of a thriller. L. Yuzefovich lives in Moscow and St. Petersburg.

Leonid Yuzefovich