

Trieste en wrede, maar ontroerende geschiedenis van een voortdurend opgejaagde jongen in het door de nazi's bezette, hongerende Oost-Europa.

A spectacular and erotically charged psychological novel from the acclaimed author of Being There and The Painted Bird. George Levanter is an idea man, a small investor, an international playboy, and a ruthless dealmaker whose life is delivered in a series of scorching encounters, each more incredible than the last. From Moscow to Paris, from a Manhattan skyscraper to a California mass murder, Blind Date is a dizzying vision of life among the beautiful people and the thrill-seekers that shows Jerzy Kosinski at the height of his power. "Kosinski's vitality and inventiveness are as irresistible as ever." —Time

He was hailed as one of the world's great writers and intellectuals, with novels like The Painted Bird and Being There. He was acclaimed as a heroic survivor and witness of the Holocaust. He won high literary awards, made the bestseller lists, taught and lectured in prestigious universities, was feted in high society, and became an intimate of the rich and famous in a jet-set world of glitter and glamour. Then, in an expose that sent shock waves throughout the intellectual community, he was denounced as a C.I.A. tool, a supreme con man, and a literary fraud, igniting a firestorm of controversy that consumed his reputation and culminated in his headline-making suicide. Now this compelling biography cuts to the complex heart of the truth about the man and the myth that was Jerzy Kosinski. In so doing, it unfolds a story of reality and deception as fascinating, as moving, as painfully honest, and as revelatory as the most gripping of novels. With research that extends from the Poland of Kosinski's birth and early life to scrupulous examinations of every allegation against Kosinski throughout his career, James Park Sloan, who knew Kosinski for twenty years before his death, leaves no stone unturned and no mask intact. The facts of Kosinski's horrific childhood Holocaust experiences are sorted out from the fictions of The Painted Bird. Sloan traces Kosinski's years as an emigre student at Columbia; his marriage to an alcoholic American millionairess; his first literary mark with anti-Communist writings; his award-winning novels and the controversy surrounding their authorship; his triumphant climb to success on an increasingly shaky stairway of half-truths; his compulsive sexual adventuring in New York's erotic underground; his relationship with such figures as Norman Mailer, Roman Polanski, Henry Kissinger, and others in the political and cultural limelight; and the Gotterdammerung of his life and reputation when an article in the Village Voice cast all he had done in doubt despite his denials and his circle's support. A dazzling investigation of the tantalizing mystery of an extraordinary man and the tangled roots of his artistry, enriched by frank and intimate testimonies of Kosinski's widow, Kiki, his friends and lovers, his editors and "helpers", his defenders and detractors, Jerzy Kosinski is intriguing biography, equal to its subject.

The classic novel of a boy's struggle for survival in WWII Poland, from the National Book Award – winning author of Steps and Being There. "In 1939, a six-year-old boy is sent by his anti-Nazi parents to a remote village in Poland where they believe he will be safe. Things happen, however, and the boy is left to roam the Polish countryside. . . . To the blond, blue-eyed peasants in this part of the country, the swarthy, dark-eyed boy who speaks the dialect of the educated class is either Jew, gypsy, vampire, or devil. They fear him and they fear what the Germans will do to them if he is found among them. So he must keep moving. In doing so, over a period of years, he observes every conceivable variation on the theme of horror" (Kirkus Reviews). Originally published in 1965, The Painted Bird established Jerzy Kosinski as a major literary figure. With sparse prose and vivid imagery, it is a story of mythic proportion and timeless human relevance. "One of the best . . . Written with deep sincerity and sensitivity." —Elie Wiesel, The New York Times Book Review "Of all the remarkable fiction that emerged from World Wat II, nothing stands higher than Jerzy Kosinski's The Painted Bird. A magnificent work of art, and a celebration of the individual will. No one who reads it will forget it; no one who reads it will be unmoved by it. The Painted Bird enriches our literature and our lives." —Jonathan Yardley, The Miami Herald "Extraordinary . . . Literally staggering . . . One of the most powerful books I have ever read." —Richard Kluger, Harper's Magazine "One of our most significant writers." —Newsweek

Collects interviews with, lectures by, and media transcriptions of the literary figure, in a volume offering insight into his erratic personality, the inspirations behind his writings, and the controversies that overshadowed his career.

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