Ersi Sotiropoulos
Rights List

AMONG THE FAVOURITES
FOR THE NOBEL PRIZE IN 2024 AND 2025

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ERSI SOTIROPOULOS – FICTION & POETRY

THE AUTHOR WAS AMONG THE FAVORITE CANDIDATES FOR THE NOBEL PRIZE IN 2024 AND 2025.

TRANSLATED IN MORE THAN 15 LANGUAGES

The Art of Feeling Nothing, stories, Patakis, Greece 2022
Jensen & Dalgaard, Danemark 2025

I'm burning, film script for H24, ARTE, France 2021

Man Overboard, poems, Patakis, Greece 2018, as *Puis tu as tourné ton beau visage*, a selection published by Le Courage, Editions Grasset, France 2019, Svobodny Publisher, Russia 2022

Are You Up to It? a novel, Patakis, Greece 2017, as *Je crois que tu me plais*, Stock, France 2019

What's Left of the Night, a novel, Patakis, Greece 2015, Stock, France 2016, Sexto Piso, Spain, Mexico 2018, New Vessel Press, USA 2018-2025 (winner of ALTA National Translation Award), nottetempo, Italy 2019, CeMoG, Germany 2021, Al Kotob Khan, Egypt 2022, KUD AAC Zrakogled, Slovenia 2024, Kanon, Germany 2025, Forthcoming by: Onufri Publishing House, Albania 2026, EunHaeng NaMu Publishing Co. Korea 2026, Polirom, Romania, 2026, Barakat Publishing House, Iran, 2026 (Persian rights/Iran, Afghanistan, and Tajikistan), Ediciones del Crater, Catalunia, 2026, Disput Publishing House, Croatia, 2027.

Macedonian Rights: Offer pending!

Estonian Rights: Offer pending!

Fuga, poems, bilingual edition, Luces de Galibo, Spain 2015

Feel Blue, Dress in Red, stories, Patakis, Greece 2012, Forthcoming by List Books, Bulgaria 2026

Eva, a novel, Patakis, Greece 2009, Stock France 2014, Ayrinti Yayinlari, Turkey 2017, Ediciones Trabe, Asturias 2025

Ray in the Darkness, stories, Kedros, Greece 2005, as *Landscape With Dog*, Clockroot Books, USA 2008

Taming the Beast, a novel, Patakis, Greece 2025 (Kedros, Greece 2003), Quidam éditeur, France 2011;

Between 5 and 7pm, Edizioni del Tavolo Rosso, Italy 2001

The Warm Circle, stories & poems, Ellinika Grammata, Greece 2000

Zigzag Through the Bitter-Orange Trees, a novel, Kedros, Greece 1999, republished by Metaixmio, Greece 2013, republished by Patakis, Greece 2020. Dtv, Germany 2001, Maurice Nadeau, France 2003, Interlink Books, USA 2007, 451 Editores, Spain 2008, Bokförlaget h:ström, Sweden 2009, Newton Compton, Italy 2012, Interlink books (paperback) USA 2012.

Forthcoming by Botimet Pema, Albania 2026, Jensen & Dalgaard, Danemark, 2026, Caleidoscopio de Libros, Spain, 2027.

The Pinball King, stories, Kastaniotis, Greece 1998

Camelpig, stories, Kedros, Greece 1992
Borders (Confini) with Italian sculptor Nunzio, Galleria dell'Oca, Rome 1991
Mexico, a novel, Kedros, Greece 1988, Donzelli, Italy 1994, AOC, France 2021
The Farce, a novel, Kedros, Greece 1982, republished by Patakis, Greece 2025.
Forthcoming by Caleidoscopio, Spain 2026
Holiday Weekend in Yannina, novella, Patakis, Greece 2025 (Nefeli, Greece 1982, Republished by Kedros, Greece 1999).
Vacation Without a Corpse, a novel, Akmon, Greece 1980, republished by Kastaniotis, Greece 1997
Apple+Death+…+…, poems, Plethron, Greece 1980

AWARDS & HONORS

Harman Writer-in-Residence at Baruch College in New York, 2022
Mediterranean Prize for Best Foreign Novel, *What's Left of the Night*, France 2018
Literary Phrase of the Year Award, Literature.gr, *Are You Up to It?*, Greece 2017
Dante Alighieri Poetry Award, Italy 2016
***What's Left of the Night* nominated for the European Book Prize, 2016**
***What's Left of the Night* shortlisted for the Femina Prize, France 2016**
***Eva* shortlisted for the European Book Prize, 2015**
***Eva* shortlisted for the Femina Prize, France 2015**
National Book Award for Best Collection of Stories, *Feel Blue, Dress in Red*, Greece 2012
French National Book Centre, Grant for *What's Left for the Night*, 2012
Athens Academy Award for Best Novel, *Eva*, Greece 2011
National Book Award for Best Novel, *Zigzag Through the Bitter-Orange Trees*, Greece, 2000
Book Critics' Award for Best Novel, *Zigzag Through the Bitter-Orange Trees*, Greece, 2000
Medal of Honor, *Commendatore dell'Ordine* conferred by the President of the Italian Republic, 1994

Author: ERSI SOTIROPOULOS
Title: *SEÑORITA*

First Publisher: Patakis
Publication date: March 2026
Page: 150

THE AUTHOR WAS AMONG THE FAVOURITES FOR THE NOBEL PRIZE IN 2024 AND 2025. HER FICTION IS TRANSLATED IN MORE THAN 15 LANGUAGES

ENGLISH SAMPLE AVAILABLE

WITH HER SHARP, IRREVERENT VOICE, SOTIROPOULOS OFFERS A VISCERAL, ELECTRIFYING SHORT NOVEL THAT PULLS US DEEP INTO FRACTURED CONSCIOUSNESS — WHERE THE MIND TURNS CARNIVALESQUE, BEAUTIFUL, CHAOTIC, AND DANGEROUSLY ALIVE.

«Darkness. The air smelled of burnt caramel. Some women were dancing. Green light, red light. Now I'm across the street, she suddenly thought. The light changed again, but she was already on the opposite sidewalk without having crossed the road»

On one side of the avenue parade the hanging masks, the carnival dances, the rampant lust of those girls at the corner; and the tingling risk of tiptoeing down the stairs to wander alone at night in a foreign country.
But across the street lays *el lado malo de la Avenida*. A woman's walk through her mind, a terror parade through death, love, hope. Here, there are smiling doctors playing gods, the falling skin, cancer posing as the carnival queen, queues outside the pharmacy, bitter saliva, sweet nurses, a memory of a thing that never was – or was it?
Senorita drifts between the two sides of the avenue that Sotiropoulos often guides the reader through: crossing from the reality front to a disobedient mind wander, only to have us seated at the edge of a table, inescapably attached to the story, always in limbo, always searching.
Just to find what always lies in the middle of the writer's literary avenida: two bodies thrusting against with a primal angst - raw, ignorant, brutal. Two female bodies able to erase memory, fear, or even death itself.
With her sharp, irreverent voice, Sotiropoulos offers a visceral, electrifying short novel that pulls us deep into fractured consciousness — where the mind turns carnivalesque, beautiful, chaotic, and dangerously alive.

Ersi Sotiropoulos (novelist, fiction writer, poet) won the **National Literature Prize and the Book Critics Award** for her *novel Zigzag Through the Bitter-Orange Trees*, as well as **Athens Academy Prize for Best Novel 2011** for her novel *Eve* (published in France by Editions Stock). She studied Philosophy and Cultural Anthropology in Florence and was a cultural attaché in the Greek Embassy in Rome. She has participated in several exhibitions of Visual and Concrete Poetry as well as in literature festivals around the world. She has written scripts for film and television. Her works have been translated into English, French, Spanish, German, Italian, Dutch, Danish, Albanian, Swedish, Turkish, Arabic, Korean, Romanian, Estonian, Bulgarian, Persian, Catalan, Asturian.

Author: ERSI SOTIROPOULOS
Title: TAMING THE BEAST

Pag. 232
First Publisher: Patakis, 1st December 2025 (Greece), Kedros, 2003 (Greece)

Rights Worldwide

Rights sold to: (all expired) Maurice Nadeau, France (2003) Quidam éditeur, France (2011)

THE AUTHOR WAS AMONG THE FAVOURITES FOR THE NOBEL PRIZE IN 2024 AND 2025. HER FICTION IS TRANSLATED IN MORE THAN 15 LANGUAGES

A STUNNING PENETRATING PORTRAIT OF A SOCIETY RAISING TOWARD COLLAPSE

ENGLISH SAMPLE AVAILABLE

FRENCH FULL TRANSLATION AVAILABLE

"Start reading, and you wouldn't be able to put it down!" **France Culture**
"She unravels the thread of her carachters lives, which we feel is doomed to break".
Le Nouvelle Observateur
"Do not read this novel! Not that it is not good - it is even excellent!" **Le Monde**
"Each page, each phrase, like a camera peering over the shoulder: surprising, seductive... perfect."
Vogue

The place is Athens, the time is the present. Aris Pavlopoulos, special advisor to a minister, former leftist, is returning home in his official car after a meeting with his lover when he realizes that a decrepit Peugeot driven by a young man he's never seen before is starting to pursue him. The man hits him, then disappears into the night.
Pavlopoulos is unwittingly entangled in the mystery of this chase, the first in a series of events that will turn his life upside-down. It is a life of relative ease, seemingly unconventional, which has up to now kept hidden its darker folds: Pavlopoulos's obsession with sex and his repressed ambition to gain recognition as a poet.
A poetry reading dedicated to his work and a trip to Spain, haunted by the sexual symbolism of the bullfight, promise to afford him opportunities to realize his desires. But nothing is what it seems in Pavlopoulos's life: the beggar across the street from his office isn't a cripple, his friend the minister isn't a friend, an attempted bribe is just a joke, his masterpiece of a poem is absurd. Other relationships are weaving themselves together behind his back and he will have to track down the lost thread. Nothing is what it seems in Athens.

The plot of this novel also shows the intricate convergence of other characters and relationships involving betrayal and denial, midlife crises and intergenerational conflicts. As in Ersi Sotiropoulos's previous novels, the central character traverses a city that isn't just an urban landscape, but is also the site of internal anguish, unsettled accounts, fallen passions. The story lasts less than a month and it takes place now, today, here, with us.
Ersi Sotiropoulos presents us with an x-ray of the conduct of an elite, posing ethical and existential problems in an enjoyable novel you don't want to put down. The writing is accessible without sacrificing Sotiropoulos's innovative idiosyncrasies, tragic without overlooking the ironic, even ludicrous unfolding of events, and consistent in its technique without neglecting the element of "chance," which is equally consistent. Sotiropoulos's precision and inventiveness uncompromisingly pervade the structure and the narrative of *Taming the Beast*.

"They live, they think. But they don't really act…Beautiful specimens of a bankrupt bourgeoisie, headed for an ineluctable tragedy. Tantalized, en route, by the elusive promise of bliss." **Libération**

"With a rigorously inventive prose, tragic without neglecting the comic or even grotesque side of things, *Taming the Beast* dissects the behavior of an elite while at the same time exploring deeper moral and existential questions. A novel to be read at a single sitting." **France Culture**

"The protagonists crisscross, parading before each other, measuring off in a bellicose ballet strikingly choreographed by the novelist, bouts that resemble as much the bullfight, inspiring our hero to games of erotic role-playing, as the rodeo…Taming the Beast embraces several genres, from the comedy of manners to social satire, from the moral tale to classical tragedy. Without ever showing off her narrative underpinnings no matter how impressive, Ersi Sotiropoulos places her banderillas with formidable timing and verve." **Livres Hebdo**

"A superb novel wherein one relishes all the ingredients of noir fiction, from fate's macabre farces to bloody moral sketches, the practices and the fantasies of a bourgeois society…And there is something else about Sotiropoulos, something that recalls the novels of Don DeLillo…It goes without saying that you cannot begin this book and hope to set it aside." **Olé!**

"It will be hard…not to be seduced by this novel…by a subtle alchemy." **L'escalier des aveugles**

"With the central character a counselor to a minister, the novelist scrutinizes the conduct of an elite, raising ethical and other dilemmas with the pace of a thriller in a delightful novel that can be read at one stretch." **Dimitra Rouboula**

"A novel of corrosive delights." **To Vima**

"Pages of a bullfight with the protagonists sometimes taking on the part of the bull, other times of the matador, and yet other times of the referee. A fast pace and bold action —which the corrida demands— with victims and victimizers in a story that can be read as a thriller or a book-length poem." **Vasiliki Strati**

"A flawless portrait of our times." **Peloponissos**

"This novel, which begins with an examination of the mores of a certain sector of the Athenian elite, quickly evolves into an existential thriller one is compelled to read at a single sitting…Alienated idealists obsessed with sex, provocative youth, anorexic women, bloodsuckers, and frustrated intellectuals. Other truths are hidden. Ersi Sotiropoulos pursues these in an effort to illuminate the existential crisis that plagues contemporary Athens… Sotiropoulos knows from first-hand experience: If the truth is one interpretation of reality, we can only reach it through a series of disillusionments." **Mikela Hartoulari, Ta Nea**

"A passionate book in every sense." **K. Karakotias**

"Ersi Sotiropoulos is a writer of the city and the modern age. Her subversive gaze and equally subversive imagination compose scenarios that seem extreme, although they are simply the other side of reality, its reflection in distorting mirrors of an enormous circus which is nothing other than life in contemporary Athens." **Thiteia magazine**

Ersi Sotiropoulos, a renowed Greek writer, is author of novels, short stories, screenplays and poems. Her works have been translated into several languages (English, French, Spanish, Italian, German, Swedish and Turkish) and presented in festivals worldwide. Her novel *Zig zag through the bitter-orange trees* is the first novel to win both **the National Award for Best Novel** and **the National Critics Award in 2000**. The stories *Feel blue, dress in red* won the National Award for the Best Collection of Stories in 2012. The novel *Eva*, **Athens Academy Award for Best Novel**, has been translated in French in 2015 (it is also being translated into Albanian and Turkish), and was shortlisted at the **European Book Prize 2015** and the **Prix du literature du Monde 2015**. *What's left of the night,* **Prix Méditerranée Étranger** 2017 *and* nominated for the **Prix Femina 2016** and the **European Book Prize 2017. In 2022** the collection of short stories ***The art of feeling nothing*** was **shortlisted** for **The "Anagnostis" Literary Magazine Award.**

Author: ERSI SOTIROPOULOS
Title: WHAT'S LEFT OF THE NIGHT
(TI MENEI AΠO TH NYXTA)
Pages: 340
First Publisher: Patakis, Greece
Publication: November, 2015

Rights sold to: New Vessel Press (Usa - English world), Stock editions (France), Kanon Verlag (Germany), Sexto Piso (Spain - Spanish world), nottetempo (Italy), Altera (Bulgary), EunHaeng NaMu Publishing (Korea), Barakat Publishing House (Persian rights/Iran, Afghanistan, and Tajikistan), Polirom (Romania), Al Kotob Khan for Publishing (Arabic world), Helia Zrakogled (Slovenia), Botimet Onufri (Albania), Ediciones del Crater (Catalan rights), Disput Publishing House (Croatia).

Macedonian Rights: Offer pending!
Estonian Rights: Offer pending!

Rights: Worldwide

ENGLISH, FRENCH, GERMAN AND SPANISH TRANSLATIONS AVAILABLES

WINNER OF THE PRIX MÉDITERRANÉE ÉTRANGER 2017

AND NOMINATED FOR THE PRIX FEMINA 2016

AND THE EUROPEAN BOOK PRIZE 2017

WHAT'S LEFT OF THE NIGHT by Ersi Sotiropoulos in Karen Emmerich's stellar translation has won the 2019 National Translation Award in Prose from the American Literary Translators Association (ALTA).

SOTIROPOULOS'S NOVEL IS A PURE DIAMOND OF LANGUAGE, STYLE, RESEARCH, LOVE, AND INNER STRUGGLE

June 1897: the "unfortunate" Greek-Turkish war come to the end. Greece is defeated and humiliated; France is torn by Dreuyfus case, the city of Alexandria has finally surrendered to the indolent rhythms of the East. All over Europe there is a fin de siècle atmosphere. In such an historical context, the young Constantine Cavafy, with his older brother John, is in Paris as the last stop of a long journey through Europe. A pleasure trip that will change him into deep and will contribute to the realization of his poetic inclinations. Ersi Sotiropoulos follows the Poet like a shadow. Using archive material she analyses his passions and torments and thanks to a rich bibliography is able to recreate the main moments of Cavafy's life. What about the night is a novel about the complicated relationship between art and life, about the erotic desire that triggers the creativity. It is a courageous reconstruction of the

great poet's personality.

"The novel is as sensual as it is erudite, a stirringly intimate exploration of the private, earthy place where creation commences." —***The Wall Street Journal***

"A remarkable novel ... both a radiant work of the imagination and a fitting tribute to the greatest Greek poet of the twentieth century." —***The Times Literary Supplement***

"Engaging and original ... powerfully erotic ... This is a hallucinatory work of art, in every sense." —***The Literary Review***

"In most lives there are no crucial moments, only representative ones. *What's Left of the Night* illuminates three days in 1897 when Constantine Cavafy began to glimpse what would be his destiny (his voice and his subject) as a major poet. Sotiropoulos notices every encounter and records every intuition with a lyrical, impressionistic style of her own. A perfect book."
Edmund White, author of *A boy's Own Story* and *Genet: A Biografy*

"Splendid ... limpid and passionate ... fluid and musical, Ersi Sotiropoulos's prose says it perfectly ... You can read this beautiful book by Ersi Sotiropoulos as an account of three key days in the life of Constantine Cavafy. You can read it as a passionate introduction to his work ... but you can also see it on a more metaphorical level. That of a reflection about art. How is it born? Where does it come from?" —***Le Monde***

Ersi Sotiropoulos acclaimed Greek writer, she is author of novels, short stories, screenplays and poems. Her works have been translated into several languages (English, French, Spanish, Italian, German, Swedish and Turkish) and presented in festivals worldwide. Her novel *Zig zag through the bitter-orange trees* is the first novel to win both **the National Award for Best Novel** and **the National Critics Award in 2000**. The stories *Feel blue, dress in red* won the National Award for the Best Collection of Stories in 2012. The novel *Eva*, **Athens Academy Award for Best Novel**, has been translated in French in 2015 (it is also being translated into Albanian and Turkish), and was shortlisted at the **European Book Prize 2015** and the **Prix du literature du Monde 2015**. *What's left of the night,* **Prix Méditerranée Étranger** 2017 *and* nominated for the **Prix Femina 2016** and the **European Book Prize 2017. In 2022** the collection of short stories ***The art of feeling nothing*** was **shortlisted** for **The "Anagnostis" Literary Magazine Award.**

Author: ERSI SOTIROPOULOS
Title: ZIG ZAG THROUGH THE BITTER ORANGE TREES

Pages: 300
First Publisher: Kedros – Metaixmio – Patakis (2024), Greece
Publication: 1999, 2013, 2020, 2024

Rights: Worldwide

Rights sold to: Botimet Pema (Albania), Jensen & Dalgaard (Denmark), Caleidoscopio de Libros (Spain).

(Previous contracts expired) Dtv Germany (2001), Maurice Nadeau, France (2003), Interlink Books, USA (2007 hardcover – 2013 paperback), 451 Editores, Spain (2008), Bokförlaget h:ström, Sweden (2009), Newton Compton, Italy (2012), Ayrıntı, Turkey (2019).

ENGLISH, FRENCH AND SPANISH TRANSLATIONS AVAILABLES

NATIONAL BOOK AWARD FOR BEST NOVEL 2000
BOOK CRITICS' AWARD FOR BEST NOVEL 2000

***ZIGZAG THROUGH THE BITTER ORANGE TREES* WAS THE FIRST NOVEL EVER TO WIN BOTH THE GREEK NATIONAL PRIZE FOR LITERATURE AND GREECE'S PREEMINENT BOOK CRITICS' AWARD**

An absurd and painful, violent and terrible world wanders among bitter orange trees to dismiss an outdated time. A girl who rebels, a woman who dies, a man who falls in love, another who does acrobatics, a black bird that speaks. Characters that wander, radially, in different directions, but that, in an imperceptible way, entangled in the angry search for love, in disappointment, abandonment and betrayal, are converging as pieces of a puzzle. The borders are blurred, the stories merge into a single story that is breathtaking, unrepeatable, steeped in their daily lives.

"[A] darkly comic story told in four quirky voices…Increasingly intricate parallels and connections among the characters become political, cultural, outrageous and, ultimately, hopeful…Sotiropoulos describes shame and alienation so effectively that the narration feels voyeuristic – in a good way." **Publishers Weekly**

"The perfect gateway for the reader into a modern Greece where the classical hero is forgotten and "sits all alone in a yard, baking in the sun." Part Marguerite Duras, part Faulkner, with a dash of Fellini's *Amarcord* thrown in for comic spice, Ersi Sotiropoulos's pungent novel will tug your heart and tease your intellect. Celebrate this writer's long-overdue first publication in America by reading her now." **Benjamin Anastas**

"If the last Greek literature you read came out 2,500 years ago, check out the dark comedy of Ersi Sotiropoulos, a household name in contemporary Greece who's been publishing fierce work for the past 25 years." ***Bust***

Ersi Sotiropoulos acclaimed Greek writer, she is author of novels, short stories, screenplays and poems. Her works have been translated into several languages (English, French, Spanish, Italian, German, Swedish and Turkish) and presented in festivals worldwide. Her novel *Zig zag through the bitter-orange trees* is the first novel to win both **the National Award for Best Novel** and **the National Critics Award in 2000**. The stories *Feel blue, dress in red* won the National Award for the Best Collection of Stories in 2012. The novel *Eva*, **Athens Academy Award for Best Novel**, has been translated in French in 2015 (it is also being translated into Albanian and Turkish), and was shortlisted at the **European Book Prize 2015** and the **Prix du literature du Monde 2015**. *What's left of the night,* **Prix Méditerranée Étranger** 2017 *and* nominated for the **Prix Femina 2016** and the **European Book Prize 2017. In 2022** the collection of short stories ***The art of feeling nothing*** was **shortlisted** for **The "Anagnostis" Literary Magazine Award.**

Author: ERSI SOTIROPOULOS
Title: THREE FESTIVE DAYS IN IOANNINA
(Εορταστικό τριήμερο στα Γιάννενα)

Pages: 72
First Publisher: Patakis Publishers (Greece)
Publication date: March, 2025

Rights: Worldwide

FULL ENGLISH TRANSLATION AND FRENCH AND ITALIAN SAMPLES ARE AVAILABLE.

SEX AS A FEMINIST LABORATORY IN ERSI SOTIROPOULOS' NOVELLA. "THREE FESTIVE DAYS IN IOANNINA" IS REGARDED AS «THE MOST ADVANCED REPRESENTATIVE OF FEMINIST ISSUES IN GREEK FICTION PROSE» Francesca Zaccone, Critica del Testo

"I didn't feel any pain. I just lay there quietly, listening attentively to his long, muffled gulps. It felt as if small, rapacious birds were furiously attacking a big straw scarecrow. As if the scarecrow were being slowly devoured, stripped from its torn trousers and shirt fluttering in the breeze or falling to the ground, while its pumpkin head retained the same imbecile expression. That's how I felt—like a scarecrow. I knew it would not be long before all that remained of me would be the wooden stake that supported me, but that was no concern of mine."

Holiday Weekend in Yiannina, pulls the reader into a sharp, unsettling dialogue in which Ersi Sotiropoulos bends form and expectation. A waitress quits her job for a holiday weekend with a stranger in a Greek provinicial city. Beneath the parade and patriotic pride Sotiropoulos exposes a raw parallel reality; in it bodies crush their identities, their physical dimensions and prescribed roles. First published 42 years ago, it has been described by today's readers and critics as fem-horror, queer allegory or early feminist radicalism, but *Holiday Weekend in Yiannina* escapes definition. What endures is Sotiropoulos' irreverent writing, raw, unapologetic, and still cutting across generations.

"That vague sense of threat lingering from the first pages of the book turns into a grotesque carnival of terrifying transformations—culminating in an outrageous finale that confirms the author's streak of dark comedy. You're tempted to laugh, but at the same time you're scared to".**Ilias Maglinis**

"With Kafka's *Metamorphosis* as its shadowy ancestor, *Holiday Weekend in Yiannina* symbolically stages a nightmare vision of reality: the erotic bond—or rift—between male and female".
Christos Bravos

"If we only focus on the book's erotic scenes and label them conventionally "immoral", we'll miss the point. The real thread here is the relentless consumption of the body, climaxing in a symbolic act of cannibalism—what else is that but sex pushed to its ultimate limit? From that moment, gender archetypes collapse, the old order that fuels hostility between male and female breaks down. Risky as it sounds, perhaps Sotiropoulos' book is, in fact, deeply moral". **Alexis Ziras**

"Sotiropoulos goes beyond small-town morals, beyond even the rawness of the sex scenes or the awkwardness of first encounters. She constructs a space where absence and detachment coexist with terror, with the desire for bodily dismemberment and swallowing, with a radical flipping of gender and orientation. Why exactly literature sometimes outruns its own time is impossible to pin down. But with Sotiropoulos, it undeniably happens." **Vangelis Hatzivassiliou**

"In this short yet dense fiction, Sotiropoulos doesn't just narrate an erotic getaway gone off-course—she builds a suffocating, raw landscape where the body becomes a battlefield of memory and desire. Her writing exposes the underground savagery of everyday life." **Georgia Charda**

"Because the trauma here is not recent but has always haunted heteronormative dynamics of dominance, the erotic scenes are not meant as titillation. They're deliberately grotesque, anxiety-inducing episodes. And the final scene, as narrative act, foreshadows nothing less than the coming revolution of the women's movement. At the same time, it leaves room wide open for queer readings." **Antonis Goulianos**

Ersi Sotiropoulos (novelist, fiction writer, poet) won the **National Literature Prize and the Book Critics Award** for her novel *Zigzag Through the Bitter-Orange Trees*, as well as **Athens Academy Prize for Best Novel 2011** for her novel *Eve* (published in France by Editions Stock). She studied Philosophy and Cultural Anthropology in Florence and was a cultural attaché in the Greek Embassy in Rome. She has participated in several exhibitions of Visual and Concrete Poetry as well as in literature festivals around the world. She has written scripts for film and television. Her work has been translated into English, French, Spanish, German, Dutch, Albanian, Swedish, Turkish, Arabic and Korean.

Author: ERSI SOTIROPOULOS
Title: THE FARCE
(LA FARSA)

Pag. 232

First Publisher: Kedros, Greece 1982, Republished by Patakis, 2010 and 2024.

Rights Worldwide

Rights sold: Caleidoscopio (Spain)

'The 'Farce' is the Manifesto of the Rebellious Woman - rebellious in that man is still the absolute ruler holding the reins, for his reign has disappeared neither in heaven nor on earth.... The revolutionary act consists in weakening this power by ridiculing it, by destroying it with laughter'. **From the introductory note by Nanos Valaoritis.**

'They say that to write a novel you first need an obsession. This is true: it does not matter what the idea is, as long as there is one. Nabokov, for example, chose the groom, and Norman Mailer chose the silly habits of the middle class. Every good novel cultivates obsession to the point of giving it lustre, legitimacy and inner coherence. Here is the most wonderful thing about farce: obsession here is language itself, naive and dying, yet still capable of making clever plots, mocking loneliness and trapping people's quirks in an incessant conspiratorial whisper." **Evgenios Aranitsis, Sunday Eleftherotypia, 25-7-1982.**

The farce is the story of two young friends, Rena and Titi, who live in Athens between September 1975 and March 1976. The main occupation of the two girls is to play telephone charades on unknown men who share the fact that they have a position of power in society, both in the workplace - they are engineers, businessmen, senior civil servants, etc. - and in the private sphere - they are heads of families. The place where they put these inclinations towards subversion into practice is Rena's dingy flat in the centre of the Greek capital. Jumping from the present to the past and from one perspective to another, the story progresses by uncovering the girls' family and adolescent histories. The novel's reflections revolve around themes such as the tedium of youth in a backward society, literary creation and sex. As the narrative progresses, the reader discovers that, with brilliant artifice, the motif of farce is realised in the novel on more levels than it first appears.

Ersi Sotiropoulos acclaimed Greek writer, she is author of novels, short stories, screenplays and poems. Her works have been translated into several languages (English, French, Spanish, Italian, German,

Swedish and Turkish) and presented in festivals worldwide. Her novel *Zig zag through the bitter-orange trees* is the first novel to win both **the National Award for Best Novel** and **the National Critics Award in 2000**. The stories *Feel blue, dress in red* won the National Award for the Best Collection of Stories in 2012. The novel *Eva*, **Athens Academy Award for Best Novel**, has been translated in French in 2015 (it is also being translated into Albanian and Turkish), and was shortlisted at the **European Book Prize 2015** and the **Prix du literature du Monde 2015**. *What's left of the night,* **Prix Méditerranée Étranger** 2017 *and* nominated for the **Prix Femina 2016** and the **European Book Prize 2017. In 2022** the collection of short stories ***The art of feeling nothing*** was **shortlisted** for **The "Anagnostis" Literary Magazine Award.**

Author: ERSI SOTIROPOULOS
Title: THE ART OF FEELING NOTHING

Pages: 168
First Publisher: Patakis Publishers (Greece)
Publication date: December, 2022

Rights: Worldwide

Rights sold: Jensen & Dalgaard (Denmark)

5 SHORT STORIES TRANSLATED INTO ENGLISH, FRENCH AND SPANISH

SHORTLISTED FOR THE "ANAGNOSTIS" LITERARY MAGAZINE AWARD

AVAILABLE FIVE SHORT STORIES TRANSLATED INTO ENGLISH, FRENCH AND SPANISH

What's left of the night (novel, 2015) - Rights sold to: New Vessel Press (Usa - English world), Stock editions (France), online edition Romiosini (Germany), Sexto Piso (Spain - Spanish world), nottetempo (Italy), Altera (Bulgary), Al Kotob Khan for Publishing (Arabic world), Helia Zrakogled (Slovenia), EunHaeng NaMu Publishing Co. (Korea).

THE SHORT STORY COLLECTION "THE ART OF FEELING NOTHING" CONSISTS OF NUMEROUS MOMENTS WHERE THE EVERYDAY LIFE IS BEING TRANSFORMED, WHERE THE FAMILIAR AND THE UNFAMILIAR FINALLY MEET, WHERE EVEN A TRIVIAL EVENT CAN CHANGE EVERYTHING. FIFTEEN SHORT STORIES OF UNIQUE BEAUTY INFUSED WITH DARK HUMOUR THAT EVENTUALLY INVENT A NEW WAY OF SEEING.

"She remembered a caress a few years ago, a man had caressed her head, pulling her hair back, an unexpected move that she had not expected and that the man had not repeated, for a few seconds she had felt great, she did not remember who it was, he had no face, just that unexpected caress, a caress like that was worth more than a trip to China. But what if it had been him? What if he had been the one to caress her? It crossed her mind and she froze at the thought. No, not him. And then he won't be able to caress, he'll move his arms like a spinning top.... And at that moment he, the armless beggar, passed by in a makeshift buggy pushed by a boy in women's slippers."

The art of feeling nothing consists of countless such moments: transformations of everyday life, encounters between the known and the unknown. Modern Athens wavers before us, the outline of a sketch darkens and blurs, the face of a friend is at once loved and strange. The slightest event, the slightest change in the quality of light, can change everything.

Fifteen short stories with flashes of beauty, crackers of black humour and something else, impossible to pinpoint, that makes them memorable, something like the caress of a man with no hands. Ersi Sotiropoulou's stories finally invent a new way of seeing.

"Her language might seem frugal and unadorned, but the frugality has a poetry to it, offering images on which the stories' plots stand firm. Her sentences can carry invisible cracks which hint at how finely woven her texts are [...] A mature collection from an author who continues to find inexhaustible sources from which startlingly new books spring." **Dionysis Marinos - Bookpress.gr**

"These stories strike back with ease, boldness and the power to define everything from scratch – without wrinkles to her writing or the shadow of fatigue in her inventions, or any other limitations to brake her momentum in discovering paths to renew her identity." **Vangelis Chatzivasileiou - To Vima tis Kyriakis**

"Ersi Sotiropoulos is not just concerned with the hazards of emotion and a multifarious inner landscape. The urban landscape, with its social issues such as the economic and refugee crises; the literary and publishing world, viewed obliquely and subversively; eccentric characters, emphasised in unexpected details and bursts of humor, are all given space in *The Art of Feeling Nothing*, moulded in prose that shines like fireflies in the dark." **Helena Maroutsou - Efimerida ton Syntakton**

"In Ersi Sotiropoulos' prose, reality is not confined to the visible, but is more like the blurry, hallucinatory horizon we experience, created by internal jolts. Her clean-cut writing unfolds with the speed of moving clouds, self-undermining, self-splitting, running beyond the images she creates so that the stories slip suddenly from grim reality into "elsewhere". The stories are not didactic, but express a genuine angst about literature, writing, feelings, people and humanity. Maintaining the elements of her own intimate universe, Sotiropoulos strikes gold. The book's muted melancholy and underlying mourning never evolve into nostalgic recollection or despair, but torpedo the world's stifling order." **Costas Karavidas - EPOCHE**

Ersi Sotiropoulos (novelist, fiction writer, poet) won the **National Literature Prize and the Book Critics Award** for her novel *Zigzag Through the Bitter-Orange Trees*, as well as **Athens Academy Prize for Best Novel** 2011 for her novel *Eve* (published in France by Editions Stock). She studied Philosophy and Cultural Anthropology in Florence and was a cultural attaché in the Greek Embassy in Rome. She has participated in several exhibitions of Visual and Concrete Poetry as well as in literature festivals around the world. She has written scripts for film and television. Her work has been translated into French, Spanish, German, Swedish, Turkish and English.

Author: ERSI SOTIROPOULOS
Title: FEEL BLUE, DRESS IN RED
(SENTITI BLU, VESTI DI ROSSO)

Pag. 136
First Publisher: Patakis, October 2024.

Rights: Wordwide

Foreign Rights sold: List Books (Bulgaria)

HOVERING BETWEEN COMEDY AND DRAMA, ERSI SOTIROPOULOS WRITES WITH A UNIQUE VIGILANCE ABOUT LONELINESS, ABSENCE, DENIAL, ACCEPTANCE AND LOVE.

A rebellious teenager and a mentally retarded child share a cigarette, experiencing the complicity and freedom of their 'difference'. An incurably romantic husband stages infidelities to restore the old, extinguished passion. A poetess in agonising search of her lyrics encounters a random sentence that weighs on her in an almost prophetic way. A lonely woman who has just moved in is horrified by the image of a wasp trapped in her window. A journey gradually turns into a nightmare, ending in a declaration of love.
Ersi Sotiropoulos, a master of detail, captures events that, although they seem insignificant, explode in the neutral landscape of everyday life. They illuminate the moment and give it revelatory dimensions. These unexpected flashes freeze time, intensify experience and mobilise mechanisms of self-awareness.

Ersi Sotiropoulos acclaimed Greek writer, she is author of novels, short stories, screenplays and poems. Her works have been translated into several languages (English, French, Spanish, Italian, German, Swedish and Turkish) and presented in festivals worldwide. Her novel *Zig zag through the bitter-orange trees* is the first novel to win both **the National Award for Best Novel** and **the National Critics Award in 2000**. The stories *Feel blue, dress in red* won the National Award for the Best Collection of Stories in 2012. The novel *Eva*, **Athens Academy Award for Best Novel**, has been translated in French in 2015 (it is also being translated into Albanian and Turkish), and was shortlisted at the **European Book Prize 2015** and the **Prix du literature du Monde 2015**. *What's left of the night,* **Prix Méditerranée Étranger** 2017 *and* nominated for the **Prix Femina 2016** and the **European Book Prize 2017. In 2022** the collection of short stories ***The art of feeling nothing*** was **shortlisted** for **The "Anagnostis" Literary Magazine Award.**

Author: ERSI SOTIROPOULOS
Title: EVA
(EVA)
Pages: 220
First Publisher: Patakis, Greece
Publication date: 2009

Rights sold: Stock editions, (France) – Ayrinti (Turkey) – Trabe (Spain/Asturian language)

Rights: Worldwide

ATHENS ACADEMY PRIZE FOR BEST NOVEL 2011
FINALIST FOR THE NATIONAL BOOK AWARD 2011
FINALIST FOR THE BOOK CRITICS' AWARD 2011
SHORTLISTED FOR PRIX DU LIVRE EUROPÉEN 2015
FINALIST FOR THE PRIX LITTÉRATURE DU MONDE 2015

On Christmas Eve, the incident of a snatched purse and the obsession of the victim, a young woman named Eva with the thief, after she has retrieved its contents. Somewhere in the distant background, there is and there isn't a husband, a dying father in love with his nurse, and the mystery of a dead dog. This is Eva's odyssey from a night club of alcohol and "substance abuse" to a furtive kiss in the toilets and out in the street and her acquaintance with the street woman Moira, who keeps warm by a makeshift fire and eventually leads her to the ill famed hotel, Parthenon. There, in a room kept by a certain Ramon, we meet Titika and Eddy and listen to an obsessive confession by the purse snatcher, who does not realize that Eva is his victim. The new day finds Eva returning home, and it's Christmas Day, the end of a dubious flight, mostly within.

"Sotiropoulos paints the reverse of the visible without any naivety. Without sentimentalism or excessive pathos, in an effective way she describes places, objects, Eva indecisions in addition to her thoughts, and this allows us to dive deep into the inner movements of her conscience. Dry style, poetic images, eroticism in filigree." **Le Monde**

"Echoes of Dostoevskian white nights, poetic drift, *Eva*, with his Lynchene scenes and his sonnambolic beauty, hatches the doors of an ordinarily invisible universe. (...) A fine enveloping and sensual nightmare, illimated by the incandescent Sotiropoulos language."
Les Inrockuptibles

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Author: ERSI SOTIROPOULOS
Title: JE CROIS QUE TU ME PLAIS (ΜΠΟΡΉΙΣ;)
Pages: 650
First Publisher: Patakis, Greece
Publication: May, 2017

Rights: Worldwide

Rights sold to: Stock editions (France)

FRENCH TRANSLATION AVAILABLE

What's left of the night **– Rights sold to: New Vessel Press (Usa - English world), Stock editions (France), Sexto Piso (Spain - Spanish world), nottetempo (Italy), Altera (Bulgary), Al Kotob Khan for Publishing (Arabic world).**

THE AUTHOR HAS WON THE "NATIONAL AWARD FOR BEST NOVEL 2000" AND THE "NATIONAL CRITICS AWARD 2000" WITH THE NOVEL "ZIG ZAG THROUGH THE BITTER-ORANGE TREES"

"WHAT'S LEFT OF THE NIGHT" HAS WON THE "PRIX MÉDITERRANÉE ÉTRANGER 2017" AND HAS BEEN SHORTLISTED AT THE PRIX DU LIVRE EUROPÉEN 2017

AN IMPECCABLE STRUCTURE: FROM THE PERSONAL TO THE POLITICAL, FROM THE "I MISS YOU AND I WANTED YOU LAST NIGHT" TO THE ANSWER AT THE PRESSING QUESTION: "WHAT SORT OF LEFT, IS THAT?"

Ersi Sotiropoulos' new book is a novel about love in the digital era. It is a book without a narrator, in which we are left to watch the story unfold through the e-mails and text messages of two secret lovers who must keep their relationship hidden. She, the other woman, is an author (thefarse@hotmail.com) in the midst of writing *What's Left of the Night* (the book that Ersi Sotiropoulos published two years ago).He is married, a successful winemaker (sparrow@gmail.com) and philosophical mathematician who divides his time between his island home and the outside world. Their love story takes place during the writing of *What's Left of the Night*. In one sense, it is a diary about the writing of that novel. In another, it is an epistolary novel in the style of Choderlos de Laclos's *Dangerous Liaisons*. In this novel, however, the longing, the seduction, the conquest, the desperate cries for reunion of body and soul are launched with a simple "send". And so the intimacy, the urgency and the longing are sustained at a level that would be impossible were the lovers in actual proximity and the affair played out in real time. In fact, time itself seems to warp in this new mode of

communication, sometimes with catastrophic force. Following this digital love affair over the course of three years, the reader might as well be a hacker peering into a secret, tempestuous, obsessive, dangerous world.

"What Ersi Sotiropoulos weaves masterfully is the close correlation between the anxiety of the writer and the erotic excitement."
M. Theodosopoulou – *Epohi*

"The novel reaches its target. Cavafy finally became a great poet because he has outdone himself, has surpassed the social ankylosis of his time and the bonds that held him in the world of yesterday."**Giorgos Perantonakis *I Efimerida ton Syntakton***

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Author: ERSI SOTIROPOULOS
Title: LANDSCAPE WITH DOG

Pages: 168
First Publisher: Patakis, Greece, 2015

Rights sold: Clockroot Books, (USA, 2008) - expired

FINALIST FOR THE NATIONAL BOOK AWARD 2006

"Let's just say that Giacometti was setting out to draw a face. If he started with the chin, he would worry that he might never reach the nose. The longer he sketched the face, the harder he tried to offer a faithful representation of it, the more it resembled a skull. The only thing left was the gaze. So what he ended up drawing was a skull with a gaze." Landscape with Dog and Other Stories is made up of countless such moments: transformations of the everyday, encounters between the known and the unknowable. Contemporary Athens wavers before us; the outlines of a sketch darken and blur; the face of a friend is at once beloved and strange. In Ersi Sotiropoulos's prose, the slightest event, the slightest change in the quality of the light, can alter everything. Karen Emmerich brings perfectly into English the precise, vibrant movement of Sotiropoulos's language, the mastery that has made her one of Greece's most acclaimed writers. These stories will be praised for their flashes of beauty and their crackles of dark humor, but what makes them so memorable is something else, impossible to pin down, something like the gaze of the skull. At once familiar and troubling, compelling and unapproachable, Sotiropoulos's stories give us a new way of seeing.

"Greek author Sotiropoulos...depicts the hollow, deceptive civility hidden within intimate relationships in this capably translated story collection featuring lovers, married couples, brothers and parents. Other stories showcase the author's dark, effective devices...Each story demonstrates compelling depth and breadth, and involves heavy emotional stakes"
I loved these stories. They are vintage Sotiropoulos: electric, vivid, sensual, surprising.
– Lynn Freed

Ersi Sotiropoulos's short stories are jaggedly sharp and unsettlingly beautiful- and they are like none other being written today in any language. You have to go back to Cesare Pavese to find short fiction from Europe this vivid, lived-in, urgent and artful; Sotiropoulos writes as if her life depended on it. 'Landscape with Dog and Other Stories' is a marvel.
– Benjamin Anastas, author of 'An Underachiever's Diary'

Ersi Sotiropoulos's fiction owes a significant debt to her early work as a poet. Her stories in 'Landscape with Dog' are pure electric, with the passion, energized wit and inevitability of the lyric poem. The surfaces are well-constructed, the characters often quirky and troubling and, like lines from a favorite poem, stay with the reader year after year.
– Paul Vangelisti

Ersi Sotiropoulos, a virtuoso of postmodern Greek fiction, masters the short story in her collection, Landscape with Dog and Other Stories. Sotiropoulos… continues to use her deft sense of psychological insight and poetic language to give us portraits of the intimate and the abstract. From the very first story, there is a familiarity that draws the reader in, that reminds of something comforting. But Sotiropoulos layers on top of that security a sense of foreboding. There is an ambiguity to her scenes and to her characters so that we are left to question our own instincts. She infuses the narrative of each story with a controlled terror that makes characters relationship seem like they could snap at any moment.
– Monica Carter, Three Percent

Reading Ersi Sotiropoulos's collection of short stories, 'Landscape With Dog', brings to mind the Surrealist masterpiece by Giorgio de Chirico, 'Melancholy and Mystery of a Street.' Much like Chirico's painting, most of Sotiropoulos's stories are textual cul-de-sacs, seemingly expansive but surprisingly claustrophobic, tinged with dark corners, a series of streets that lead nowhere, leaving readers to puzzle over wonderfully unrealized moments and conclusions. There are no easily recognizable beginnings, middles, or ends in these stories.
– George Fragopoulos, The Quarterly Conversation

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ABOUT US

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Walkabout Literary Agency was established in 2014 and since then has been successfully operating in the fields of book publishing and translation rights sales, Film/Tv licensing. We represent few foreign writers as the Greek Ersi Sotiropoulos (2025 Nobel Price candidate, translated in 10 languages) and the Turkish Burhan Sonmez (Pen Writers President, translated in 21 languages), as well as some leading Italian writer as Simonetta Agnello Hornby, Pino Cacucci, Simona Baldelli, Piero Trellini, Enrico Terrinoni, Adrian Bravi, and new and talented voices as Giulia Baldelli, Emanuela Fontana, Giacinta Cavagna, Silvia Ciompi, Anna Bonacina, and Caterina Manfrini, in the fields of literary and commercial fiction, and general non-fiction. In the field of children's fiction, non-fiction, and illustrated books, we represent Carola Benedetto and Luciana Ciliento, Devis Bellucci, Lia Celi, Nicola Brunialti, Daniela Pareschi, Sarah Savioli, Tassi, and Linda Traversi. In twelve years WLA has forged solid and fruitful relationships with major Italian and foreign publishing groups and Tv and movie producers.
We attend the most important international bookfairs like Frankfurt, London, Paris, Madrid, Bologna and Turin.
The agency is based in Rome, Italy.
Walkabout Literary Agency is proud to be one of the 37 founders ADALI - Associazione degli Agenti Letterari Italiani, the first Association of Italian Literary Agencies.

Fiammetta Biancatelli is Owner and Managing Director. She has been Spanish translator and co-founder of nottetempo edizioni, which has worked as an editor in the Italian and translated fiction. She worked also as a press officer in chief and events planner for Publishers and Book Festivals before creating and starting to manage Walkabout Literary Agency.

Ombretta Borgia is Owner and Rights and Contract Manager, she has been Portuguese translator and she has worked for 12 years as a Foreign Rights Manager for Editori Riuniti, before creating the agency.

"Walkabout" is a long ritual journey that Aboriginal people engage in, by walking through large expanses of grasslands in Australia; this allows them to have contacts and exchanges of resources, both material and spiritual, such as the traditional songs. Bruce Chatwin recounted the Walkabout in his "Songlines": "(...) It was believed that each totemic ancestor, on his journey across the country had spread a trail of words and musical notes along his footprints, and that these Dream tracks had remained on the ground as a 'way' of communication between the various distant tribes. A song was simultaneously both a map and a trasmitting aerial. (...) And a man during a *walkabout* always moved following a song path (...)."

We believe that the name Walkabout describes very well and encompasses the philosophy and the work spirit of our agency.