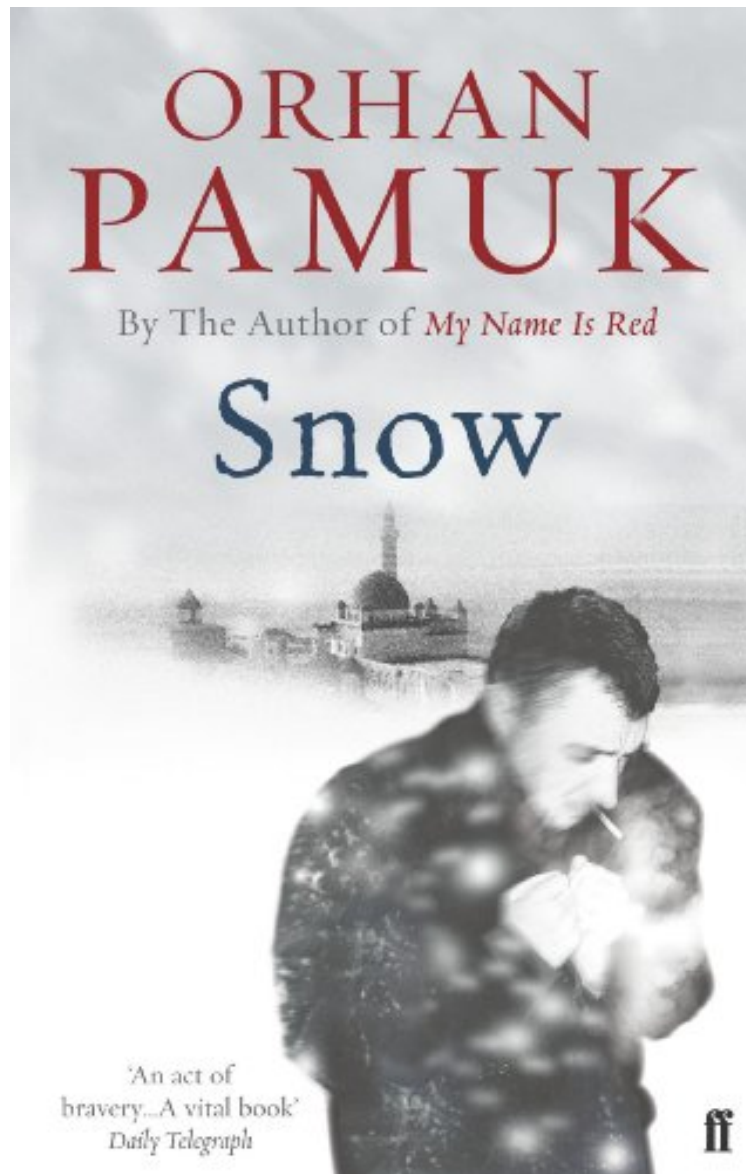


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Snow (English Edition)

Von Orhan Pamuk

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Von Orhan Pamuk : Snow (English Edition) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Snow (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen11 von 11 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich.
Drama im Schnee: Die andere TrkeiVon Ein KundeDie osttrkische Stadt Kars ist wegen eines schweren Schneesturms von der Auenwelt abgeschnitten. Noch ahnt der trkische Dichter Ka, der nach jahrelangem Aufenthalt in Deutschland

wieder in die Türkei kommt, nicht, welche tragischen Ereignisse sich innerhalb von wenigen Tagen abspielen werden. Vorerst möchte er sich über eine Serie von Selbstmorden informieren, die von jungen Mädchen in der Osttürkei begangen werden. Außerdem werden in Kars Kommunalwahlen abgehalten und man rechnet mit einem Erfolg der islamistisch-konservativen Parteien. In seiner Funktion als Reporter aus dem Westen trifft er immer wieder auf Misgunst und Zweifel, sieht sich mit Vorwürfen konfrontiert und erlebt eine traurige, düstere Stadt, in der es unentwegt schneit. Einzig ein Traum hilft Ka in Kars. Ein Traum, der ihn eigentlich erst nach Kars brachte: seine heimliche Liebe aus der Studienzeit, Ipek, befindet sich in der Stadt und Ka will alles daran setzen, sie zu gewinnen und mit sich nach Deutschland zu holen. Plötzlich jedoch, nach einem kurzen Ankommen und Eintauchen in die verschneiten Straßen, wird Ka in das Geschehen gerissen. Erst wird er Zeuge eines Mordes, dann macht er die Bekanntschaft mit der korrupten Polizei, wird von einem Treffen zum nächsten geschickt und steht zwischen den Fronten: islamistische Aktivisten, Politiker, Polizei, Geheimdienst und eine etwas andere Schauspielertruppe. Die Handlung erreicht eine unerwartete Wendung, als ganz Kars vor den Fernsehern sitzt und eine Liveübertragung aus dem Theater der Stadt sieht. Schüsse fallen. Vor dem Theater fahren Militärfahrzeuge vor. Der zuvor beschriebene Konflikt zwischen den national-kemalistischen Kräften in Kars und den Gegenbewegungen der separatistischen Kurden und islamistischen Politikern bzw. Aktivisten gipfelt nun in einem offenen, blutig ausgetragenen Machtkampf. Der teilweise hilflos erscheinende Ka bewegt sich zwischen den Fronten und taktiert mit einem einzigen Hintergedanken: "Wie gewinne ich Ipek?" Sein Spiel ist nicht nur gefährlich sondern wird zunehmend egoistisch, denn um sein Ziel zu erreichen, sind ihm bald alle Mittel recht. Orhan Pamuk gelingt es einerseits, die Hauptfigur Ka als einen gebrochenen Menschen darzustellen, der sich in der politischen und sozialen Situation der Türkei nicht mehr findet und nur noch sein eigenes Glück verwirklichen will. Andererseits versteht man nicht nur Kars eigene Verlorenheit und seinen Wunsch nach Flucht sondern erhält einen Einblick hinter die anderen, erst stereotypisch erscheinenden Personen des Romans. Die Charaktere sind von Pamuk hervorragend gezeichnet, ohne Klischees zu bedienen. Man kann das Ende erahnen und ist doch gepackt von der Geschwindigkeit, mit welcher sich ein jedes Schicksal diesem zubewegt. Dieser Roman wirft einen Blick auf den Ost-West-Konflikt sowohl innerhalb als auch außerhalb der Türkei, in dem es sich lohnt hinter den politischen und religiösen Positionen den Menschen zu suchen. An genau dieser Suche lädt Orhan Pamuk den Leser teilhaben und es gelingt ihm dies ganz ohne Bewertung. 2 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A novel about the critical dilemmas of modern Turkey Von HORAKI In "Snow" the poet Ka returns to Turkey after more than a decade in Frankfurt, and journeys to Kars, far in the east. Among the things he hopes to find there is an old classmate and love, Ipek, now separated from her husband. He also plans to explore and report on a wave of suicides by girls there. It is snowing when Ka arrives, and the snow continues to fall, cutting off the town from the rest of the world. There is tension there: an upcoming mayoral election, the struggle between religion and secularism, a heavy-handed police presence. The conflict between Islam - and, for example, the right of girls to go to school wearing head-scarves - and the secular society the government has imposed causes the most problems. Ka is an outsider. He begins as a dutiful journalist, talking to a variety of town figures, trying to learn more about the suicides, but finds himself drawn into this larger conflict. Throughout the country, and especially in this region, it is no longer the Kurds that are perceived by the authorities as being the greatest threat, but the increasingly influential Islamists. Ka, respected as a poet but tainted as one who has presumably been polluted by Western thought and ways, is viewed with both suspicion and interest by both sides. The police are reluctant to rough him up - as they do the locals - because of his Istanbul and German connections, while the Islamists see him as the enemy but warily accept that he might be able to help convey their message. Eventually, he is also used as a go-between by both sides. It is the desire to write a book about the poems written by Ka that leads the narrator - an alter-ego Orhan Pamuk, and long-time friend of Ka's - to tell this story. Snow is a book about the difficulties faced by a nation torn between tradition, religion, and modernization. Set in the farthest east of Turkey, the locals are certain that in Western eyes they're all considered as ignoramuses. Pamuk effectively portrays these difficulties, and the many ambiguities in contemporary Turkish life. The novel is expertly read by John Lee for Random House Audio. 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Pamuk at his best! Von Ned Wiley A gripping tale of love in a Kurdish Turkish snowstorm reveals the twisting undercurrents of secular and religious society driving Turkey's search for a place in today's world.

Kurzbeschreibung Snow begins in the year 1992. Ka, a poet and political exile, returns to Turkey as a journalist, assigned to investigate troubling reports of suicide in the small and mysterious city of Kars on the Turkish border. The snow is falling fast as he arrives, and soon all roads are closed. There's a 'suicide epidemic' amongst young religious women forbidden to wear their headscarves. Islamists are poised to win the local elections and Ka is falling in love with the beautiful and radiant Ipek, now recently divorced. Amid blanketing snowfall and universal suspicion, he finds himself pursued by terrorism in a city wasting away under the shadow of Europe. In the midst of growing religious and political violence, the stage is set for a terrible and desperate act . . . Touching, slyly comic, and humming with cerebral suspense, Snow evokes the spiritual fragility of the non-Western world, its ambivalence about the godless

West, and its fury. 'A novel of profound relevance to our present moment' The Times
From Publishers Weekly
A Turkish poet who spent 12 years as a political exile in Germany witnesses firsthand the clash between radical Islam and Western ideals in this enigmatically beautiful novel. Ka's reasons for visiting the small Turkish town of Kars are twofold: curiosity about the rash of suicides by young girls in the town and a hope to reconnect with "the beautiful Ipek," whom he knew as a youth. But Kars is a tangle of poverty-stricken families, Kurdish separatists, political Islamists (including Ipek's spirited sister Kadife) and Ka finds himself making compromises with all in a desperate play for his own happiness. Ka encounters government officials, idealistic students, leftist theater groups and the charismatic and perhaps terroristic Blue while trying to convince Ipek to return to Germany with him; each conversation pits warring ideologies against each other and against Ka's own weary melancholy. Pamuk himself becomes an important character, as he describes his attempts to piece together "what really happened" in the few days his friend Ka spent in Kars, during which snow cuts off the town from the rest of the world and a bloody coup from an unexpected source hurtles toward a startling climax. Pamuk's sometimes exhaustive conversations and descriptions create a stark picture of a too-little-known part of the world, where politics, religion and even happiness can seem alternately all-consuming and irrelevant. A detached tone and some dogmatic abstractions make for tough reading, but Ka's rediscovery of God and poetry in a desolate place makes the novel's sadness profound and moving. Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.
From Booklist
Sharply departing from the accessibility of his last novel, the intellectual mystery *My Name Is Red* (2001), acclaimed Turkish author Pamuk delivers a nearly impenetrable political novel. After eight years spent living in exile in Frankfurt, Germany, the poet Ka returns to the isolated town of Kars during a historic blizzard. Cut off from the outside world, the town's ingrown tensions are thrown into sharp relief as Ka investigates the epidemic of suicides occurring among devoutly religious schoolgirls who prefer to take their own lives rather than remove their head scarves. The chaos of a military coup and Ka's sudden, obsessive love for an old, very beautiful friend contribute to the poet's sudden burst of creativity after a years-long bout of writer's block. Pamuk mixes elements of the fable, a heavy dose of metaphysics, and great swathes of artificial, stilted dialogue as he slowly, ever so slowly, parses the differences between the secular and the faithful. Strictly for determined readers with a passion for international literature and a familiarity with Islam. Joanne Wilkinson
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