

Woodcutters Thomas Bernhard

The Novels of Thomas Bernhard
Thomas Bernhard's Afterlives
Understanding Thomas Bernhard
Walking Prose
Three-part Inventions
Thomas Bernhard, Interviews
A Companion to the Works of Thomas Bernhard
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The Loser
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the book's primary emphasis is on Bernhard's later fiction but it also explicates the early texts of the 1960s and 1970s the book makes use of insights from recent approaches to fiction that pay attention to what can be termed narrative dynamics earlier studies of Bernhard have tended to remain within the descriptive framework established in narrative studies of the 1950s and 1960s this book views Bernhard's prose works from a more nuanced vantage point

book jacket
in his prose fiction memoirs poetry and drama Thomas Bernhard 1931 1989 one of the 20th century's most uniquely gifted writers created a new and radical style seemingly out of thin air his books never tell a story in the received sense instead he rages on the page he rants and spews vitriol about

the moral failures of his homeland austria in the long amnesiac aftermath of the second world war yet this furious prose seemingly shapeless but composed with unparalleled musicality and taxing by conventional standards has been powerfully echoed in many writers since bernhard's death in 1989 these explorers have found in bernhard's singular accomplishment new paths for the expression of life and truth thomas bernhard's afterlives examines the international mobilization of bernhard's style writers in italian german spanish hungarian english and french have succeeded in making bernhard's austrian vision an international vision this book tells that story

a walk with a friend unspools a far ranging darkly comic philosophical dialogue in this novella by one of the masters of contemporary european fiction george steiner with celebrated novels such as the loser woodcutters and extinction austrian author thomas bernhard cemented his reputation as one of the century's most gifted writers though he is favorably compared with franz kafka and samuel beckett it is only in recent years that he has gained a devoted cult following in america newsday a powerful compact novella walking provides a perfect introduction to the absurd dark and uncommonly comic world of thomas bernhard showing a preoccupation with themes illness and madness isolation tragic friendships that would obsess bernhard throughout his career walking records the conversations of the unnamed narrator and his friend oehler while they walk discussing anything that comes to mind but always circling back to their mutual friend karrer who has gone irrevocably mad walking is a beautifully realized penetrating meditation on the impossibility of truly thinking

his manner of speaking like that of all the subordinated excluded was awkward like a body full of wounds into which at any time anyone can strew salt yet so insistent that it is painful to listen to him from the carpenter the austrian playwright novelist and poet thomas bernhard 1931-89 is acknowledged as among the major writers of our time the seven stories in this collection capture bernhard's distinct darkly comic voice and vision often compared to kafka and musil commenting on a corrupted world first published in german in 1967 these stories were written at the same time as bernhard's early novels frost gargoyles and the lime works and they display the same obsessions restlessness and disarming mastery of language martin chalmers's outstanding translation which renders the work in english for the first time captures the essential personality of the work the narrators of these stories lack the strength to do anything but listen and then write the reader in turn becoming a captive listener deciphering the traps laid by memory and the mere words the neverending words with which we try to pin it down words that are always close to driving the narrator crazy but yet as bernhard writes not completely crazy bernhard's glorious talent for bleak existential monologues is second only to beckett's and seems to have sprung up fully

mature in his mesmerizing debut from publishers weekly on frost the feeling grows that thomas bernhard is the most original concentrated novelist writing in german his connections with the great constellation of kafka musil and broch become ever clearer george steiner times literary supplement on gargoyles

this critical survey of thomas bernhard s novels highlights a recurring theme of three in bernard s work thomas j cousineau argues that each of bernhard s novels although firmly anchored in austrian history emerges from an archetypal story involving three figures protagonist scapegoat and author

new essays by leading scholars on major aspects of the most significant austrian writer of the postwar generation

bernhard im Überblick es gibt nur wenige schriftsteller bei denen das literarische vokabular und die individuelle formulierung eine solche bedeutung erlangt wie bei thomas bernhard die vorliegende arbeit bietet eine einföhrung in das gesamte publizierte werk des autors die literarischen texte bernhards werden im einzelnen aber auch im werkzusammenhang vorgestellt

lrb bookshop s author of the month one of the guardian s best books of 2019 with a new afterword by anne enright author of the actress if you haven t read bernhard you will not know of the most radical advance in fiction since joyce my advice dive in lucy ellmann i absolutely love bernhard he is one of the darkest and funniest writers a must read for everybody karl ove knausgaard an unnamed writer arrives at an artistic dinner hosted by a composer and his society wife a couple he once admired but has now come to detest they have been brought together by their friend joana s suicide but the guest of honour a famous actor from the burgtheatre is late as the guests await his arrival little do they know that they are being subjected to the narrator s merciless scrutiny from his wing backed throne the targets of a tirade of epic frenzied proportions when the star actor finally arrives he ushers in an explosive end to the evening that is impossible to see coming originally banned in thomas bernhard s homeland woodcutters brutally exposes the hollow pretentiousness of the austrian bourgeoisie in an unforgettable firework display of humour and horror

lrb bookshop s author of the month one of the guardian s best books of 2019 if you haven t read bernhard you will not know of the most radical advance in fiction since joyce my advice dive in lucy ellmann i absolutely love bernhard he is one of the darkest and funniest writers a must read for everybody karl ove knausgaard mid century austria three aspiring concert pianists wertheimer glenn gould and the narrator have dedicated their lives to achieving the status of a virtuoso but one day two of them overhear gould

playing bach's goldberg variations and his incomparable genius instantly destroys them both they are forced to abandon their musical ambitions wertheimer over a tortured process of disintegration that sees him becoming obsessed with both writing and his own sister with whom he has a quasi incestuous relationship culminating in death and the narrator instantly retreating into obscurity to write a book that he periodically destroys and restarts written as a monologue in one remarkable unbroken paragraph thomas bernhard's dazzling meditation on failure genius and fame is a radical new reading experience musical paralysing raging and inimitable

one of the darkest and funniest writers a must read for everybody karl ove knausgaard after a severe illness the unnamed narrator of correction returns to austria to sift through the writings of his childhood friend roithamer a brilliant but tormented scientist the self exiled son of a wealthy family roithamer dedicates his unexpected inheritance to an impossible vision constructing a perfect cone in the remote kobernausser forest his pursuit of perfection spirals into obsession pushing him toward inevitable tragedy thomas bernhard's masterwork of precision and intensity correction is a haunting meditation on genius madness and the cost of human intellect

thomas bernhard 1931 1989 a literary figure of international acclaim and arguably austria's greatest post world war ii writer became the first of his generation to expose unrelentingly his country's pathological denial of complicity in the holocaust bernhard's writings and indeed his own biography reflect austria's fraught efforts to define itself as a nation following the collapse of the habsburg monarchy and the trauma of world war ii repeatedly he scandalised the nation with novels plays and public statements that exposed the convoluted ways austrians were attempting to come to terms with their nazi past or defiantly avoiding doing so this book the first comprehensive biography of thomas bernhard in english examines his life and work and their intricate relationship to austria's geographical political and cultural transformations in the twentieth century while bernhard was the scourge of his native culture gitta honegger explains he was also a product of that same culture appreciation of his controversial impact on his society is possible only through an understanding of the contradictions the shame and the achievements that mark austria's self perception

the epigraph to correction austrian writer thomas bernhard's masterpiece reads a body needs at least three points of support not in a straight line to fix its position three part inventions finds in this simple geometrical axiom a surprisingly complex key to an understanding of bernhard's major novels it argues that each of them although firmly anchored in austrian history emerges from an archetypal story involving a trio of figures a protagonist who having been deprived of a desired object by a more powerful adversary

displaces his frustration upon a scapegoat who suffers in his place it further shows that bernhard transforms this destructive protagonist adversary scapegoat pattern into a creative trio formed by the author himself the artistic precursors who serve as his models and the readers who receive the finished work this study is intended to enrich for english language readers the unforgettable experience of reading the author whom italo calvino once called the greatest writer in the world

at the behest of his surgical mentor a young austrian medical student poses as a law student to journey to a remote mining town in order to observe strauch an aging painter and brother of his mentor without letting strauch know his true occupation and becomes caught up in the lives of the mad artist and a colorful assortment of local characters in the first english edition of the author s debut novel

la phrase infinie de thomas bernhard fait suite à l étonnement et le hasard et regard et destin il annonce la réconciliation de l auteur avec le travail de recherche par le biais d une étude sur thomas bernhard gargani réintègre un certain type de discours philosophique arborant les blessures de regard et destin mais en partage avec celles de bernhard la question est celle du rapport entre éthique et esthétique et gargani montre comment chez bernhard cette question est posée au coeur même de la langue et de la structure du récit

in literary reference works johannes freumbichler is most often mentioned with only a few lines born in 1881 died in 1949 regional poet 1937 austrian state prize for literature he would probably have faded into oblivion if it were not for thomas bernhard s autobiographical works in which he writes about his grandfather the one human being of essential importance in my life and existence and my only teacher from freumbichler s letters preserved in salzburg the author has created a portrait of the man and writer previously the far reaching extent of johannes freumbichler s influence on his grandson thomas bernhard could only be deduced from bernhard s highly stylized literary works for the first time this book documents conclusively the biographical dimension of bernhard s writing

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