



Mike und ich und Max Ernst

Illustrator: Birgit Busche-Brandt

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In 1939 a picture vanishes. "The Beautiful Gardener or the Creation of Eve" by the painter Max Ernst is last shown in the Nazi exhibition "Degenerate Art" and never seen again. On a bright moonlit night some time in the present, Lucinda meets a mysterious figure in the corridor of a museum. She claims to be a figure by Max Ernst, and is looking for a vanished picture. And this marks the start of a strange journey for Lucinda too, right across Europe to the blue Mediterranean. But her way is long and dangerous. And soon much more is at stake than saving a long lost picture. The author skilfully intertwines the two strands of the story: The main action centres around Lucinda, Mike and "The beautiful Gardener" and takes place in the present; but there are also flashbacks illustrating Max Ernst's life and the first painting of "The beautiful Gardener." To a large extend this novel owes its special charm to the language Antonia Michaelis uses. She writes in a style that can be called pictorial and fantastical as well as poetical.

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