

*Agnes Hammer*

## **A Beating Heart**

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### **Story**

#### **AN OPPRESSIVE AND SCRUPULOUS TOLD STORY WITH DEEP PSYCHOLOGICAL PROFILES**

A girl vanishes. Her abductor is still out there, hunting ... Right in the teeming crowds of the street carnival in Düsseldorf a girl disappears. Franka has an appointment after school and just doesn't come home at night. In this breath-taking thriller Agnes Hammer describes the story of an abduction. She paints the relationship between victim and abductor with an oppressive precision: Franka's fear in her narrow, dark hiding place and the abductor's fantasies of power over her. He calls himself the "Erlkönig" and dreams of a life with an angelic creature: "his" Franka. He soon has to realize with agonizing fury that his envisioned idyll is severely threatened. Lissy is a drop-out and truant coming from a broken family living on the dole. She discovers that the pale and unremarkable Franka from the neighbour house is missing. While Franka is listening to her beating heart all alone in her dark prison, Lissy starts investigating. She doesn't believe that Franka just stayed at one of those wild parties. Franka writes poetry and is really smart. Not at all like Lissy and her friends who are mostly hanging around the bus stop, stealing and bullying others. Lissy is convinced that something has happened to Franka: some kind of crime, perhaps even a murder? By chance Lissy suddenly finds a hot lead to the abductor. By now she really should have notified the police but it's

too late: whoever got Franka is now also after Lissy ...

## Agnes Hammer

Agnes Hammer grew up with five siblings in Westerwald in Germany, before she moved to Cologne for her studies in German literature and philosophy. Today she works at an institute teaching young adults from difficult social backgrounds. Since 2005 she has also worked as an anti-aggression trainer.

Agnes Hammer just got the "Kranichsteiner" scholarship for the extraordinary written title "Herz, klopf!" published by script5 about EUR 12,000 and a residence of three months in Paris. (<http://www.deutscher-literaturfonds.de/?k=4&sk=27>)

She also received the "Kurd-Laßwitz" scholarship this year. Even before publication, she was granted a scholarship by the state of North Rhine-Westphalia to finish her newest title, "Regionalexpress" (regional train).

Further titles by the author:

Nacht, komm! (script5, 2011)

Dorfbeben (script5, 2010)

Herz, klopf! (script5, 2009)

Bewegliche Ziele (Loewe Verlag, 2008)

„Agnes Hammer lives in Düsseldorf and for many years used to teach at a facility that offers training to socially disadvantaged youths. She is also a qualified anti-aggression trainer. Agnes Hammer was awarded the "Kranichsteiner" and the the "Kurd-Laßwitz" scholarship for her exceptional titles published by script5. Even before publication, she was granted a scholarship by the state of North Rhine-Westphalia to finish her latest novel, "Regionalexpress".

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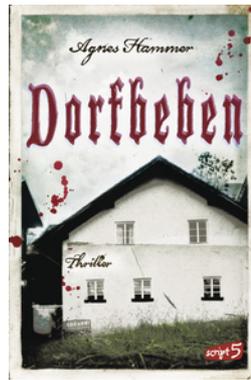
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