

*Ursula Poznanski*

## **Cryptos**

2nd edition 12/08/2020

448 Pages, 14.0 x 21.5 cm

ISBN 978-3-7432-0050-0

Hardcover

19.95 € (D)

incl. VAT, shipping extra

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Ukrainian

## **Story**

**Where do we go when Nowhere is the only destination left?**

- CliFi Thriller(Climate Fiction): Climate change & virtual reality
- For fans of Black Mirror (Netflix)
- All age readers
- Strong, female protagonist
- Highly relevant topic

Kerrybrook is Jana's favourite virtual escape. An idyllic fishing village with beautiful nature and, every now and then, a breeze of fresh air from the nearby sea. Jana, is this world's designer and person in power, she's satisfied with her masterpiece. Best job so far.

Until one day, a dead body is found, in both, 'Virtual Reality' and the real world. In times of climate change, VR is the only safe place for humankind. That's why Jana needs to solve the crime, she's responsible for stopping the destruction.

**WHITE RAVENS recommendation (2021):**

*"In the not too distant future, the world is an inhospitable place: droughts, storms, floods. That's why world designers construct »alternative realities«, such as landscapes populated by dinosaurs, life at court in the Middle Ages, and surfing and chilling out on a beach. People can switch between these worlds at will and, when they die there, they are not truly dead; instead, they merely return to the »real world« – same as at night when they sleep. Then they are reunited with their body, which is lying inside a capsule.*

*In »Cryptos«, Ursula Poznanski pulls out all the stops of storytelling: She embeds numerous references to human and intellectual history in an action-packed and extremely suspenseful thriller plot. In the process, she raises central existential and ontological questions that result from the interplay between the real and the virtual worlds. This complex dystopian novel is narrated in such an enjoyable way that readers will hardly notice their brains going into overdrive as they devour it."*

## **Ursula Poznanski**

Ursula Poznanski was born in Vienna, and spent ten years studying all sorts of subjects at the university there, before abandoning all hope of getting a degree and getting to grips with real life as a medical journalist. After her son was born, she started writing books for young readers. Her first book, Erebus, won numerous prizes (including the German Children's Literature Prize awarded by the Youth Jury), and made her famous around the world. In the meantime she has become one of Germany's most successful authors, and she also writes best-selling thrillers for adult readers. She and her family live to the south of Vienna.

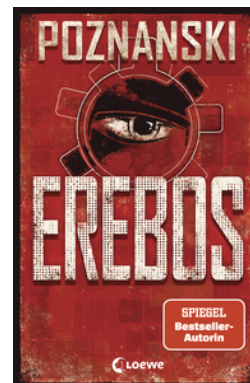
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Oracle



Erebos



Erebos 2



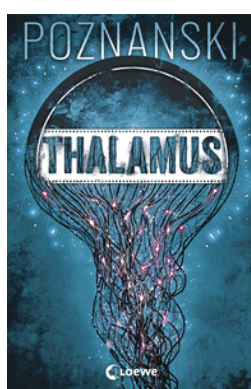
Number Universe



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