

# The Number Devil A Mathematical Adventure Hans Magnus Enzensberger

Hans Magnus Enzensberger Selected PoemsCritical Essays: Hans Magnus EnzensbergerHans Magnus Enzensberger in Conversation with Michael HulsePoetic ManeuversWriting with the Words of OthersLost in TimeCivil Wars'Lektüre - Ein Anarchischer Akt'TumultArt is Not EnoughHans Magnus EnzensbergerEurope, EuropeKulturstreit – StreitkulturMr Zed's ReflectionsLighter Than AirLiterature and TechnoscienceBütün üirlerinden seümelerPoems of Hans Magnus EnzenbergerA History of CloudsSelected Poems Hans Magnus Enzensberger Hans Magnus Enzensberger Hans Magnus Enzenberger Charlotte Melin Alan J. Clayton Hans Magnus Enzensberger Hans Magnus Enzensberger Hans Magnus Enzensberger Michael Travers Buckley Hans Magnus Enzensberger Hans Magnus Enzensberger Hans Magnus Enzensberger Catherine Jane Nichols Hans Magnus Enzensberger Selected Poems Critical Essays: Hans Magnus Enzensberger Hans Magnus Enzensberger in Conversation with Michael Hulse Poetic Maneuvers Writing with the Words of Others Lost in Time Civil Wars 'Lektüre - Ein Anarchischer Akt' Tumult Art is Not Enough Hans Magnus Enzensberger Europe, Europe Kulturstreit – Streitkultur Mr Zed's Reflections Lighter Than Air Literature and Technoscience Bütün üirlerinden seümeler Poems of Hans Magnus Enzenberger A History of Clouds Selected Poems *Hans Magnus Enzensberger Hans Magnus Enzensberger Hans Magnus Enzenberger Charlotte Melin Alan J. Clayton Hans Magnus Enzensberger Hans Magnus Enzensberger Hans Magnus Enzensberger Hans Magnus Enzensberger Michael Travers Buckley Hans Magnus Enzensberger Hans Magnus Enzensberger Hans Magnus*

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the first english language study of the german author and critic hans magnus enzensberger

hans magnus enzensberger is one of the most widely read and respected writers in post war germany in the present study a considerable number of his most important poems are closely analyzed including the texts that make up his major poetic cycles mausoleum 1975 and der untergang der titanic 1978 central to any discussion of this highly diverse corpus is the way in which enzensberger creates strikingly original poems on the basis of borrowed material der untergang der titanic for example is closely based on the famous bestseller a night to remember 1955 by the american writer walter lord and on the film of the same name by roy baker 1958 enzensberger s versepos is simply unimaginable without lord s book and certain episodes represented in the poem can be fully understood only by readers who have seen the film the appropriation of documentary material also plays an important role in the series of poems devoted to nature or science many of which present themselves as riddles an entire chapter is devoted to the analysis of these fascinating riddle poems the various personages portrayed in mausoleum comprise not only scientists inventors explorers and thinkers who were responsible for truly world changing discoveries gutenberg humboldt and darwin for example but also a whole series of historical figures whose admission to this oddball pantheon is best explained by the bizarreness of their often utopian projects or by their compulsive or megalomaniacal personalities the playful and provocative enzensberger clearly chose several of these latter for their shock value raimondo di sangro v m molotov ernesto guevara de la serna our reading of this collection demonstrates enzensberger s willingness to undermine seriousness with irony and humor hence the presence of dante and marilyn monroe on board the sinking titanic the final chapter examines the relation between poetry and politics and examines the notorious essay *gemeinpltze die neueste literatur betreffend* 1968 as well as the disturbing interview with the weimarer beitge 1971 in which the poet expresses his thankfully short lived rejection of literature as art and his desire to break out of the ghetto des kulturlebens this chapter also discusses the influence of bertolt

brecht other chapters focus on the poet s taste for anachronism his asynchronous sensibility and the recurrent theme of disappearance

a german teenager begins to lose his identity and any hope of returning to the present when his time traveling journeys take him further and further into the past in this innovative tale enzensberger treats history with the same wit knowledge and charm that he brought to mathematics in the number devil

in civil wars hans magnus enzensberger germany s most astute literary and political critic chronicles the global changes taking place as the result of evolving notions of nationalism loyalty and community enzensberger sees similar forces at work around the world from america s racial uprisings in los angeles to the outright carnage in the former yugoslavia he argues that previous approaches to class or generational conflict have failed us and that we are now confronted with an autism of violence a tendency toward self destruction and collective madness

hans magnus enzensberger widely regarded as germany s greatest living poet was already well known in the 1960s the tempestuous decade of which *tumult* is an autobiographical record derived from old papers notes jottings photos and letters that the poet stumbled upon years later in his attic the volume is not so much about the man but rather the many places he visited and people whom he met on his travels through the soviet union and cuba during the 1960s the book is made up of four longform pieces written from 1963 to 1970 each episode concluding with a poem and postscript written in 2014 *tumult* is based on enzensberger s personal experience as a left wing sympathizer during that tumultuous decade and focuses on political events and their participants translated by mike mitchell the book is a lively and deftly written travelogue offering a glimpse into the history of leftist thought dedicated to those who disappeared *tumult* is a document of that which remains one of humanity s headiest times enzensberger is the most important postwar writer you have never read london review of books

in this highly acclaimed and entertaining book already among the touchstones of the new travel writing newsweek one of west germany s leading authors takes us on an insider s

tour of europe in the recent past focusing on italy poland hungary sweden spain and portugal he describes how europe has been moving toward a new identity

any new book by poet essayist writer and translator hans magnus enzensberger one of the most influential and internationally renowned german intellectuals is cause for notice and mr zed s reflections is no exception every afternoon for almost a year a plump man named mr zed comes to the same spot in the city park and engages passersby with quick witted repartee those who pass ask who is this man a wisecracker a clown a belligerent philosopher many shake their heads and move on others listen to him engage with him and again and again end up at the same place he doesn t write anything down but his listeners often take notes with subversive energy and masterful brevity mr zed undermines arrogance megalomania and false authority a determined speaker who doesn t care for ambitions he forces topics that others would rather keep to themselves reluctant to trust institutions and seeing absolutely nothing as non negotiable he admits mistakes and does away with judgment he is no mere ventriloquist dummy for his creator he is too stubborn for that and at the end of the season when it becomes too cold and uncomfortable in the park he disappears never to be seen again collected in this thought provoking and unique work are the considerations and provocations of this squat park bench philosopher giving us a volume of truths and conversations that are clear cut skeptical and fiercely illuminating

as well as being germany s most important poet hans magnus enzensberger is a provocative cultural essayist and one of europe s leading political thinkers no british poet can match him in his range of interests and his moral passion lighter than air his latest collection of moral poems weighs lightness against seriousness these are witty lightly ironic poems on all kinds of subjects easy in style engaging in tone often conversational enzensberger is a cultured learned widely knowledgeable man but his poems wear their knowledge learning and culture very lightly perfectly at ease in a variety of poetic forms he presents us again and again with things that matter this is intelligent and pointed poetry in the tradition of brecht humanely political and generously engaged the poems have the ease and the lightness of real mastery they are moral in their insistence that human life can be lived well or badly that it is up to us to choose well and to act wisely enzensberger is now writing with an increasing awareness of mortality yet addresses

social and political dangers and evils with undiminished urgency as if of their own free will the poems of lighter than air reach beyond their author to affect other people lastingly their lightness will help that endeavour they will float

poetry texts anthologies in these ninety nine meditations poet and novelist hans magnus enzensberger celebrates the tenacity of the normal and routine in everyday life where the survival of the objects we use without thinking a pair of scissors perhaps is both a small human victory and a quiet reminder of our own ephemeral nature he sets his quotidian reflections against a broad historic and political backdrop the cold war and its accompanying atomic threat the german student revolt would be socialism in cuba china and africa and world war ii as experienced by the youthful poet enzensberger s poems are conversational skeptical and serene they culminate in the extended set of observations that gives the collection its title clouds alien and yet symbols of human life are for enzensberger at once a central metaphor of the western poetic tradition and the most fleeting of all masterpieces cloud archaeology writes enzensberger is a science for angels

poems drawn from six volumes of the work of germany s most important and influential living poet

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