

Review on *Das Idealpaar* by Leonhard Thoma

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Introduction

Das Idealpaar is a story book containing fifteen tales depicting life of people representing various social classes in different countries. This gifted writer leaves a place to a reader as several of his stories have an open end.

Individual stories

Das Idealpaar, examines the issue of ideal couple whether this kind of phenomenon really exists or if it is fiction. The writer deals with the topic in his particular way. He manages to find two people who match perfectly together, live in the same city but they do not know each other.

Mein Haus ist dein Haus, introduces the author's holiday experience in Morocco when he was overwhelmed by local people hospitality. However, after his arrival in homeland, he finds out that what is common for Moroccans in their own country does not have to be necessarily applied when they live and work abroad.

Früstück, this funny story brings the reader to a luxury hotel describing the breakfast of one man who proves to be a person taking advantage of having free abundant breakfast without being checked in.

Frölliche Studenten depicts a day of Mr Thoma himself teaching summer intensive German courses. He is contemplating the level of his lessons from a professional point of view, as well as he shares his thoughts about his students wondering why they lack enthusiasm in anything.

Das Mädchen im Zug shows a few hours of a busy politician and a student, both travelling on a train. The writer stresses the responsibility and importance of a politician but on the other hand he expresses admiration of not following only the fixed schedule.

Die Obstverkäuferin is placed in Barcelona in one greengrocer market where the author does his regular shopping and he knows the staff working there. A story of a shop assistant, who comes from Ecuador, is described there. She has worked in Barcelona for some time but her husband and daughter live in Ecuador. They have just been refused a visa to travel to Spain. And the shop assistant cannot go back to Ecuador as she does not have available the money for a plane ticket.

Der relaxte Outdoor-Single, the writer concentrates on the foreign language influence in his native tongue and an increasing tendency of foreign vocabulary use (especially English expressions, which replaced French ones, popular due to their trendiness), just put into a German form.

Reference

THOMA, L. P. *Das Idealpaar*. Hueber Verlag: Editorial Idiomias, 2007, 98 p. ISBN 978-84-8141-036-5.

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