

Jacek Dukaj

THE MOST OUTSTANDING WRITER OF FANTASY AND SCIENCE FICTION IN POLAND
WORTHY SUCCESSOR TO STANISŁAW LEM



Jacek Dukaj (born 1974) is one of Poland's most interesting contemporary prose writers, whose books are always eagerly anticipated events. He is the author of *Black Oceans*, *Extensa*, *Other Songs*, *Perfect Imperfection*, *Xavras Wyzryn* and *Other National Fictions* and *Ice*, and the brains behind the *PL + 50. Future Histories* anthology. After the huge success of his novel *Ice*, which won the European Literary Award, the prestigious Kościelscy Award and was nominated for the Nike (the most prestigious literary award in Poland), Jacek Dukaj published widely acclaimed grim fairy tale *The Crowe*.

MOST IMPORTANT PRIZES AND DISTINCTIONS

Jerzy Żuławski Literary Award for *The Crowe* (2010)
Mackiewicz Literary Award for *The Crowe* (2010)
PPNW Prize: Autumn Book 2009 for *The Crowe* (2010)
European Literary Award for *Ice* (2009)
Kościelscy Award for *Ice* (2008)
„Polityka” Prize: Book of the Last Two Decades for *Ice* (2008)
Kościelscy Award for *Ice* (2008)
Prize in the Wirtualna Polska (website) public vote: Polish Novel of the Year 2007 for *Ice* (2008)
Śląkfa Prize: Author of the Year 2007 for *Ice* (2008)
Sfinks Prize: Polish novel of the Year 2007 for *Ice* (2008)
PPNW Prize: Autumn Book 2007 for *Ice* (2008)
Zajdel Prize: Novel of the Year 2004 for *Perfect Imperfection* (2005)
PPNW Prize: Autumn Book 2003 for *Other Songs* (2004)
Sfinks Prize: Polish Novel of the Year 2003 for *Other Songs* (2004)
Zajdel Prize: Novel of the Year 2003 for *Other Songs* (2004)
Sfinks Prize: Polish Novel of the Year 2001 for *Black Oceans* (2002)
Zajdel Prize: Novel of the Year 2001 for *Black Oceans* (2002)
Fantom Prize for *In the Land of the Faithless* (2001)
Sfinks Prize: Book of the Year 2000 for *In the Land of the Faithless* (2001)
Śląkfa Prize: Author of the Year 2000 (2001)
Zajdel Prize: Story of the Year 2000 for *Cathedral* (2001)
Srebrny Glob (Silver Globe) Prize: Story of the Year 1998 for *Heart of Darkness* (1999)
Sfinks Prize: Polish Story of the Year 1998 for *Heart of Darkness* (1999)

BOOKS BY THE AUTHOR OFFERED BY WL

Novels

Extensa (2002)
Other Songs (2003)
Perfect Imperfection (2004)
Ice (2007)
The Plunderer's Daughter (2002, reprint 2009)
Black Oceans (2001, reprint 2008)
The Crowe (2009)

Short story collections

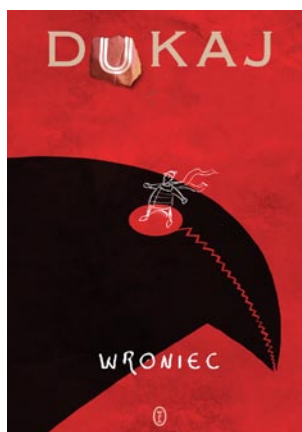
Xavras Wyzryn and Other National Fictions (2004, reprint 2009)

In the Land of Unbelievers (2000, reprint 2008)

King of Pain (2010)

Jacek Dukaj

The Crowe



Publication date: 2009

Pages: 248

illustrated fairy tale

Rights available: World

Keynote

Jacek Dukaj's latest book – a compelling fairy tale like the world has never seen!

Sales points

- One of Poland's most skillful and compelling prose writers, whose imagination has no equal in Poland or across the world.
- Multiple prize-winner.
- A gorgeously illustrated fairy tale of one of the darkest and most pivotal periods in Polish history.

Description

The Crowe is a magical tale of the events of a December night in 1981, and the realities of Martial Law in Poland.

Once upon a time there was a little boy named Adam. In those days there were no computers, nor was there Internet. The black-and-white televisions showed two channels. Ugly men appeared on the screen, jabbering about boring things. American films didn't make it to the cinemas. There was no listening to music on iPods and mobile phones. There were no mobile phones. And one Sunday – there were no morning cartoons. The Crowe had come through the window during the night, and life had turned into a nightmarish fairy tale...

Little Adam loses his parents, who are kidnapped by the menacing Crowe. Watched over and helped by kind people, the boy has to grapple with a ruthless and violent world to save his beloved family. In his journey through the bleak, winter city, full of phantom figures (frightened inhabitants who dissolve into the gray murk, and brutal bandits, informers and servants of the titular Crowe lurking in wait at every step) our small protagonist can only count on the power of his child's imagination and the assistance of a noble adult helper: Mr. Mortar, a man gifted with remarkable strength.

Adam and Mr. Mortar wander through a city of cannibalistic GAS, Merry-men, Double Agents and lying Screecher-Snitchers, Spiky Spooks and steel Hounds, a MOMO Merry-men with Batons, a giant Zompomor, and crows, black crows against a gray sky and dirty snow.

Target market

Literature enthusiasts looking for world class writers whose visions of parallel worlds and our own take the breath away. Those devoted to prose that forces them to redefine their own outlook on reality.