How does history, the stories of our ancestors, affect the future? Are we still aware of how absurd the present is as we watch the news and soppy films? The short story collection is a tight-knit whole, a mosaic of the best Vinko Möderndorfer can offer: the reader feels the thrum of blood in the veins of the heroes, the warmth, forgiveness, and subtle social criticism. It is a masterful omnibus about an individual dealing with the past as it drags him down, and the loneliness raising him up.

**About the Author**

Vinko Möderndorfer (b. 1958) is a [Slovene](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Slovene_language) writer, poet, playwright and theatre and film director. Möderndorfer was born in [Celje](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Celje) in 1958. He studied at the [Academy for Theatre, Radio, Film and Television](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Academy_for_Theatre,_Radio,_Film_and_Television,_Ljubljana) in [Ljubljana](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ljubljana) and worked in numerous theatre companies around Slovenia. He started writing poetry in the late 1970s and since the early 1980s also published numerous works of prose, essays and drama as well as poetry and stories for children. His works have been translated into many foreign languages, and he has received the most prominent Slovenian literary awards; two of them for his short stories. He is a member of the Slovene Writers’ Association, The Slovenian Association of Dramatic Artists, and the Slovenian PEN Centre.

His last novel, A Second Past (Goga, 2017) is a monumental prose fresco about the fictional and archetypal Slovene village as it “existed” in the first half of the twentieth century, describing lives and moral dilemmas during WWII.

**About the Translator**

Gregor Timothy Čeh was born and brought up in a bilingual family in Slovenia. After studying Archaeology and History of Art at UCL in London, he taught English in Greece for a while and then returned to England to complete a Masters at the University of Kent. He now lives in Cyprus and regularly translates contemporary Slovene literature for publishing houses and authors in Slovenia, with translations published in both the UK and US. His translations have appeared in various literary journals and anthologies including Hayden’s Ferry Review, Banipal, Dalkey Archive’s Best European Fiction 2017 and Best European Fiction 2018, a translated play featured on the Eurodram drama in translation 2015 Honours List, he has translated novels, essays, short stories, poetry and articles by some of the most prominent Slovene authors, such as Miha Mazzini, Maja Gal Štromar, Feri Lainšček, Goran Vojnović, Gabriela Babnik, Jurij Hudolin, Lado Kralj, Mojca Kumerdej, Sebastijan Pregelj, Dušan Šarotar, Lucija Stepančič, Aleš Šteger and many others.