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Learning German (badly)

AUTHOR:

Tim Luscombe

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About the book

An ode to a potential union, a lament for a lost citizenship and a celebration of life, theatre director Tim Luscombe's tragi-comic diary – witty, charming and always enlightening – sees him coming to terms with unfamiliar people-places-and-things in the cosmopolitan bubble of Berlin. He grapples with a referendum that goes the wrong way, adapts Jane Austen's Emma for the stage and learns that in German there are 7 different ways to say 'the'. As his old world collapses, a new one opens up.

"Learning German (badly)" is not a book I can safely read on public transport. It is a long time since anything rendered me quite so breathless and helpless with giggling. Not many know and love the continent and our complex relationship with it like Luscombe. And no-one can communicate that with such fantastically self-deprecating wit.

*Federay Holmes, Associate Artist,
Globe Theatre, London*

The reflections on German society from the perspective of someone trying to come to terms with the linguistic and cultural rules that govern life in Germany are ethnographic in the best sense, acutely observed and analysed, nicely contextualised and highly reflexive.

*Cris Shore, Professor of Anthropology,
Goldsmiths University of London*



About the author

Tim Luscombe is a theatre director and playwright. Born in London, he's an enthusiastic European citizen, now struggling to find his way in a troubling Brexit world. After spending time in Stockholm, Amsterdam, Rome and Bangkok, he's settled in Berlin where he lives with his husband. As well as being a seasoned adaptor of Jane Austen's books into plays, his original works have focused on gay identity, the meaning of Europe and the Eurovision Song Contest. This is his first prose book.

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Learning German (badly) is available to be ordered as ebook and paperback through bookstores, Amazon and all usual digital platforms.

