# German Author Jenny Erpenbeck Wins 2024 International Booker Prize for 'Kairos'



**Kairos by Jenny Erpenbeck Wins 2024 International Booker Prize**

On May 21, 2024, German author Jenny Erpenbeck and translator Michael Hofmann received the International Booker Prize for the novel "Kairos." The prize, awarded at London's Tate Modern, includes £50,000, to be equally split between the pair. "Kairos," written by Erpenbeck and translated by Hofmann from German, centers around a poignant love affair set against the backdrop of East Germany's decline.

Erpenbeck, 57, is the first German writer to win this esteemed award, while Hofmann is notable as the first male translator to achieve this honor. The novel was praised by judging chair Eleanor Wachtel, who highlighted its eloquent depiction of a tormented romance intertwined with historic national changes. The judgment was reportedly unanimous, reached after just half an hour of discussion.

Other shortlisted works included Selva Almada’s "Not a River," Ia Genberg's "The Details," Hwang Sok-yong’s "Mater 2-10," Jente Posthuma’s "What I’d Rather Not Think About," and Itamar Vieira Junior’s "Crooked Plow."