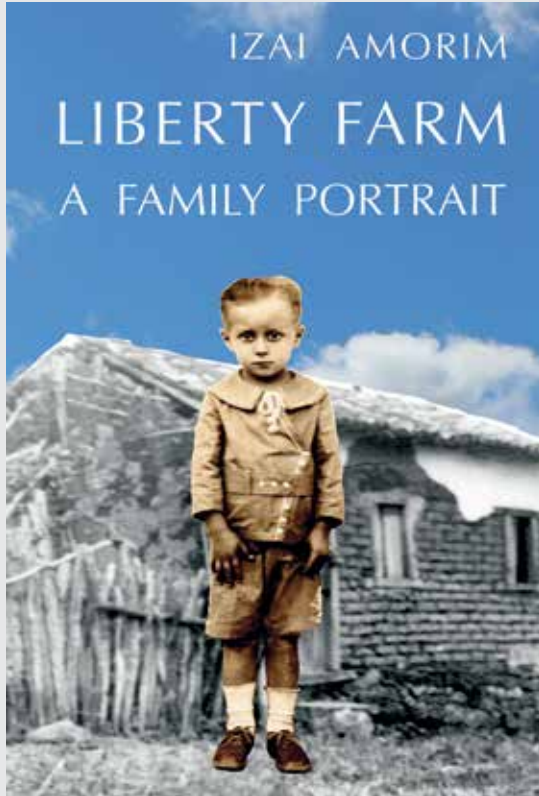


LIBERTY FARM – A FAMILY PORTRAIT



Published: 2022

Author

Izai Amorim

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Subject Headings

Fiction: Literary

Fiction: Sagas

Fiction: Hispanic & Latino

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About

Set in the semi-arid backlands of northeastern Brazil and spanning one century and three generations, this family saga is a complex psychological portrait of family life, intertwined with Brazil's history from the birth of the republic to the end of the military dictatorship in 1989.

Liberty Farm is a chronicle of family and society, history and geography, life and death, loyalty and justice, truth and connivance. It's also a tale of paternal and filial love in all of its forms: strongly felt, unreciprocated, withheld, yearned for, never obtained. "Father, please look at me..."

The death of the favorite son creates a love black hole that sucks away the father's entire love. Invisible like the ones in the sky, this love black hole will rule the family for decades, its existence only revealed by the odd behavior of the three older sons. "The family must always stay together..."

NetGalley Praise

"I enjoyed this book tremendously. The author tells a wonderful story about sorrow, loyalty, compromises, power, and a strong yet unfulfilled desire for paternal love. This confronts Ezra's motto that family must stay together with the reality of resentment, abandonment, betrayal, and regret that the Almeida family actually have as the (unwanted) foundation of their relationships."

Veronica G., Reviewer – Ecuador

"Poignant and full of heart-felt characters, it left me heart broken and wanting more. Izai Amorim knows how to write a strong female character that demands more of its readers! A fantastic read!"

Brandy-Lee M., Reviewer – Canada

"Izai Amorim's novel is both a great reading experience and a great learning experience. Anchoring the novel is the touch of magical realism, 'a love black hole,' and the minimalist writing style echoes that of Cather and Hemingway."

Carol M., Reviewer – United States

LIBERTY FARM – A FAMILY PORTRAIT

"Intertwined throughout Brazil's history is this multi-generational story of strong familial obligation despite heart-break over parental preferences. Amorim is a storytelling force, with his characters responding to historical events. I highly recommend this book for its nitty gritty perspective of Brazil and the dynamics of a family beset by tragedy."

Lael B., Reviewer – United States

"Liberty Farm is a grand endeavor. At the heart of all great events stands passion — selfish, blind, and destructive — disguised as love. It is obvious that this has long been a labor of love, with great attention to detail."

Deborah M., Reviewer – Israel

"The characters were so well-developed and realistic – I sometimes felt that I was reading about real people instead of fictional ones. All of the characters are flawed in some way, as real people are, and I become so engaged with them that I experienced real emotions of anger, hate, disappointment, sadness, and joy right along with the characters."

Kimberly K., Reviewer – United States

"The characterizations in this story were superb and I could truly empathize with some of the female characters. They were strong, driven and powerful. They put up with a lot and were the back bones of their families. This period of history, approximately one hundred years covered in this book, was interwoven very well into the family saga and provided much knowledge on a period of history I knew very little about."

Clara C., Educator – Ireland

"As the book went on, I found myself loving the whole way the book was written. I grew to love the characters and hate the 'baddies' that the author has written so imaginatively about. The way the author makes the characters come alive and make you feel as if you were a part of their lives was brilliant."

Andrea B., Reviewer – United Kingdom

"The juxtaposition of the family against the political climate within Brazil is skillfully done, keeping readers interested and excited to learn more about each character. Liberty Farm touches on so many topics; traditional gender roles, marriage, jealousy, family status... Each prominent character is written to have realistic strengths and flaws. Every event seems to be relevant to the story as a whole, and entices you to learn more about this family's experience. A fascinating family drama that I thoroughly enjoyed."

Reviewer 626184 – United States

"This book is well written, informative and entertaining, with a touch of magical realism courtesy of some enlightening dream sequences. Beautiful photographs throughout the book, along with helpful maps, glossaries, and character lists, make this an enjoyable and informative read. Highly recommend for anyone who enjoys Gabriel Garcia Márquez, Isabel Allende, or historical family sagas."

Jenni L., Reviewer – United States

"I loved this book. I could have kept reading about this family for a million more chapters. The family is like any family with its feuds, loves, and losses but brought to life in such a well written way."

Denise F., Reviewer – United States

"Liberty Farm is a man's world, but the interesting and strong characters are all women. The author brilliantly shows how the female characters struggle for their right to self-determination in a male-dominated society."

Mary W., Reviewer – United States

"The setting — a harsh, arid region of northeastern Brazil — is very different from what most people associate with a country famous for its beaches and rainforest, which makes for a very interesting backdrop for the changes that take place over the decades."

Reviewer 678626 – Canada

LITERARY FICTION BOOKS



BERLIN 2013: U.S.E. POWER GAMES

Published: 2024

Fiction: Literary
Fiction: Political
Fiction: Satire



ON THE RUN

Published: 2016

Fiction: Literary
Fiction: Humorous
Fiction: Action & Adventure

About

This book serves as a timeless literary soundtrack for election years, setting the stage in the fictional United States of Europe during the election year 2013, and depicting the final days of Berlin before its obliteration by an atomic bomb. Marrying cynicism with dark humor, this account reveals a world without heroes, filled with varying degrees of malevolence in a relentless battle of evil against evil. Nevertheless, this is realistic literature, not dystopian fiction.

In this alternative history novel, steeped in political and power intrigues, the least repulsive character is a former terrorist, now on parole, once the most-wanted killer of his time. This reveals much about the other characters: corrupt environmental organizations running extortion schemes; global media networks twisting the truth; secret services going rogue; politicians manipulating public opinion to gain or retain power; and other dubious entities.

While “Berlin 2013: U.S.E. Power Games” is far from an uplifting tale, it is crucial because it shows how disinformation and storytelling are used to forge power structures that answer to no one. Unaccountable power poses a severe threat to democracy and the rule of law. The central question of this story, therefore, is not who committed the act or why but rather how we can stop and reverse the ongoing erosion of democratic values — if indeed that is still possible.

(A previous version of this book was published in 2013 as “The Games.”)

About

New York City, early 1990s: a young, rich, and well-educated Central American man on the run from the police and Colombian drug dealers. He is accused of crimes he didn't commit. Ready to do what it takes to survive, Pablo ironically embraces the very drug trade that threatened his life in the first place. Who is he? What is he really capable of?

The question of identity is at the heart of “On the Run.” More than a contemporary story of survival, it's a journey of self-discovery. Pablo's voice is funny, sometimes mean and merciless. He moves with nightmarish ease from recounting his adventures to recollecting his early life.

Not always politically correct, “On the Run” gives you an insightful, twisted, humorous, and often disturbing view of conflicting worlds and beliefs: North and Latin America; black, brown, and white; rich and poor; rational and esoteric — and shows how they mix, match, and clash.

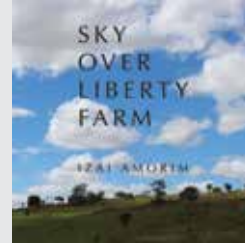
PHOTOGRAPHY BOOKS



THE LACE CURTAINS OF BERLIN

Published: 2013

Photography: Landscapes
Photography: Regional
Photography: Photoessays &
Documentaries



SKY OVER LIBERTY FARM

Published: 2014

Photography: Landscapes
Photography: Regional
Photography: Photoessays &
Documentaries

About

This photo essay is an archaeological experiment: it studies things – lace curtains – used by a certain group of people – Berliners – in order to show who they are. Though oblivious to most people, the lace curtains send out messages. At first glance they seem ugly, tacky, sometimes even barbaric, the textile equivalent to sauerkraut with bratwurst. But eventually you will start to love them. Because tackiness, when taken to extremes, can acquire a poetic dimension.

The purpose of this “lace-curtain fashion show” is to delight the eye and to intrigue the mind: the 196 lace-curtain pictures in this collection are in reality proxy portraits of Berliners and their lifestyles. The lace curtains shown in this book are only a very small sample of what is available. There are literally hundreds of different kinds. To those who will make it to Berlin, it’s like an appetizer. To the majority who won’t, it’s the only chance to experience this wonderful example of textile poetry.

Twin Projects: Berlin

“The Lace Curtains of Berlin” is the photographic essay related to the novel “Berlin 2013: U.S.E. Power Games.” There is a character in the novel who photographs lace curtains. These are “his” curtains.

About

In Brazil’s northeast – 15 degrees south of the Equator, 40 degrees west of Greenwich – there is a place called Liberty Farm. The landscape has changed over time but the sky remains the same. Many generations have enjoyed its beauty. Now it’s your turn!

Twin Projects: Brazil

“Sky Over Liberty Farm” is the photographic essay related to the novel “Liberty Farm: A Family Portrait.” Two characters in the novel, the patriarch and his first-born son, have a deep love and connection to the sky.