

Kronos

by **Sabina Tussupova** | translated by Shelley Fairweather-Vega

Riots in Almaty are not making dedicated misanthrope Mark feel any better about the future of humanity. He is also disgusted that his neighbor Lola has opened her home to a strange student, and that his other neighbor, Rosa, turns out to be married. But Mark's usual complaints pale in comparison to his grief when he finds Lola's body after an apparent suicide. Then he discovers the student, Irbis, is a detective assigned to monitor another neighbor who is complicit in the plot to overturn the government... and in crimes much, much worse. The more he learns, the more attracted Mark finds he is to the mysterious Irbis. But events spiral rapidly out of control in a story of grief, conspiracy, abuse, murder, and love lost.

Every God-given day I wake up and think about how I'm not going to die today. Not yet. Why? You think I'm afraid someone's going to shoot me? That a bomb will drop on my house? That this is an actual war? No. That's not what I'm afraid of. I'm the only person capable of killing me. And every day when the sun comes up, I have to decide: Do I finish myself off today, or put it off one day longer?

Kronos is the first novel by rising Kazakhstani star Sabina Tussupova. Unpublishable in Kazakhstan due to its queer content and dangerous political insinuations, it offers English-language readers insight into the ways political turmoil can result in personal catastrophe. Content warnings: suicide, self-harm, child abuse.



About the Author

Sabina Tussupova (1991-) is a gifted author and accomplished screenwriter from Kazakhstan, known for her captivating novels and several popular films, including a Boston Film Festival award-winning feature. Her work delves into themes considered taboo in her region, masterfully combining its rich cultural heritage with the perspectives of a savvy young generation to present new but timeless narratives.

A sample translation and complete synopsis in English are ready for review.

Total estimated English words: 92,000