

KARSTEN KREPINSKY  
**Berlin 2039**

Translated from the German by  
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## **About the Book**

### **Berlin 2039 - The Reign Of Anarchy**

Population has doubled within the last twenty years, leading to a living hell where poverty, crime, and claustrophobia rule. Those who can afford it, have withdrawn to the well-protected gated communities, while the police have left entire neighborhoods to their own devices. In these lawless blank spots, the authorities use so-called pushers to maintain a level of constant unrest between Arab clans, Turkish gangs, and Chechen brotherhoods. They are mavericks, men and women outside the law, who only answer to their supervisors based in the LKA, which is short for *Landeskriminalamt*, the State Office of Criminal Investigation. This is the story of Hauke the Pusher and Detective Natasha...

*Dedicated to the freedom of thought*

## **Berlin Locations:**

### **Prenzlauer Berg**

Today: a white middle and upper class neighborhood

2039: now **P'berg**, a gated community behind barbed wire, seemingly a safe haven for civil servants and government officials

### **Kreuzberg**

Today: a bohemian neighborhood, inhabited by students, hipsters, and immigrants with touches of gentrification

2039: now **X'berg**, a place with a great view of the Ghetto where bored young "Globals" live in expensive penthouses

### **Friedrichshain**

Today: a bohemian neighborhood with a lively nightclub scene

2039: now **F'hain**, dubbed The Ghetto.

### **Wedding**

Today: a working class and immigrant neighborhood with a few students tossed in the mix

2039: the puffer zone between the rich and the poor population

### **Wannsee**

Today: a very upscale neighborhood

2039: ditto



*“We won’t stand idly by while this human trash gnaws its way through the city of Berlin like a cancerous growth. Therefore, I have given order to immediately seal off those areas of the city forever lost to us...”*

From the press statement of Chancellor Vasily Schmidt on the *National Emergency Act* of August 23, 2036.

Three years later...

# Prologue

*The dead man's cap has come off, his white caftan is soaked with blood. Slumped forward on a chair, his head lies on the kitchen table in a pool of blood. The skull has been smashed, more blood is oozing from a deep wound. Remains of his last meal cling to his full beard. The killer wipes his cudgel on his victim's robe, kisses the wooden crucifix he is wearing around his neck on a leather thong, and pulls his hood down deeper into his face. He is an apparition, dressed in worn-out shabby clothes. All in gray and covered in the dirt of the streets. His face hidden in the half-shadow of his hood, he pulls a playing card from a fabric pouch secured with a length of rope and crams it between the murdered man's index and middle fingers. He sits down next to him at the table, pulls the soup plate closer, tears off a piece of pita bread, dunks it into the soup, and starts eating. Rivulets of arterial blood mingle with meat broth. The killer reaches for the glass of black tea, empties it, gets up, and places plate and glass in the sink, which he then stops up and opens the faucet. With a wordless nod he takes one last look at the dead Salafist, as if a score had just been settled. Before he leaves the kitchen, he turns off the light.*