



Talking Book Center
1 Churchville Avenue
Staunton, VA 24401
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Global Reading: Hungary

DB43007 *A Book That Was Lost And Other Stories* by Shmuel Yosef Agnon
Twenty-five short stories of modern Hebrew literature, some first-time English translations, from the Nobel Prize-winning author. Agnon chronicles the "lost world" of East European Jewry as well as traditional Jewish life in Poland and modern life in Israel in such pieces as "Buczacz," a mythical account of the founding of Agnon's hometown. 1970. (1966 Nobel Prize in Literature)

DB97582 *Baron Wenckheim's Homecoming* by László Krasznahorkai (dystopian)
Baron Béla Wenckheim returns to his hometown in Hungary after running up debts in Argentinian casinos. In the woods outside of town, a philosophical professor lives in a bizarre shack and ponders the nature of existence. Translated from the 2016 Hungarian edition. Strong language. 2019.

DB63212 *Stonedial* by György Konrád (general fiction)
Itinerant philosopher János Dragomán returns to his hometown of Kandor, in Hungary, and the memories acquired there, including those of the 1956 revolution. He visits old friends--a former lover who bore him a daughter, and his onetime professor whom he will inadvertently murder. Some strong language. 2000.

DB65088 *The Rebels* by Sándor Márai (historical fiction)
Austro-Hungarian Empire, 1918. Facing impending war service, four boys in their final year of school form a close-knit, rebellious gang. They act out their fears in increasingly serious subversive games and petty thefts. When an actor and an unscrupulous pawnbroker notice the boys' pranks, things spin out of control. 1930.

DB109182 *Skylark* by Dezső Kosztolányi (literature)
1900. Skylark, is an unimaginative, unattractive, and unmarried woman living at home with her parents. She cooks and sews for them and anchors the unremitting tedium of their lives. She goes away for a week but what will her parents do? 1924.

DB40847 Into The Battle; This Land, This Time by Dobrica Ćosić (historical fiction)
The first volume of an epic account of World War I in Serbia. The Archduke Franz Ferdinand and the Archduchess von Hohenberg are assassinated on June 28, 1914, in Sarajevo. Although Serbia denies any part in the act, this action so threatens the good, neighborly relations between Austria-Hungary and Serbia, that the citizens must prepare for war. Prequel to Time of Death (DB40848). Some strong language and some violence. 1983.

DB89759 Iza's Ballad by Magda Szabo (psychological fiction)
When her husband, Vince, dies, Ettie moves to Budapest to live with her daughter, Iza. Their love for Vince bonds them, but mother and daughter do not understand the separate worlds they live in, and a distance grows between them. 1963.

DB38384 Con Brio: Four Russians Called The Budapest String Quartet by Nat Brandt
Story of four Russian Jews who flee to Germany and, one by one, take their seats in a Hungarian string quartet before they once more escape to France and then to America. There they attract a new audience for chamber music, become the first quartet-in-residence at the Library of Congress, and gain renown around the world. The author profiles the individuals and the collective character of the quartet. 1993.

DB31441 A History Of Modern Hungary, 1867-1986 by Jörg K. Hoensch (history)
Translated from the original German text, this provides a wide-ranging account of Hungary's political, social, economic, and cultural history. Beginning with Hungary under the Habsburgs, the author covers the Compromise of 1867, the collapse of the Habsburg Empire, the 1920 Trianon Treaty, Hitler's attempt to include Hungary in his New Europe, and the integration of Hungary into the socialist bloc. 1988.

DB119225 Cold Crematorium: Reporting From The Land Of Auschwitz
by József Debreczeni (autobiography)

A lost memoir by an Auschwitz survivor, offering a shocking and deeply moving perspective on life within the camps. When József Debreczeni, a prolific Hungarian-language journalist and poet, arrived in Auschwitz in 1944, his life expectancy was forty-five minutes. He beat the odds and survived the "selection," which led to twelve horrifying months of incarceration and slave labor in a series of camps, ending in the "Cold Crematorium"-the so-called hospital of the forced labor camp Dořnhau, where prisoners too weak to work awaited execution. Debreczeni survived the liberation of Auschwitz and immediately recorded his experiences in Cold Crematorium, one of the harshest, most merciless indictments of Nazism ever written. Unrated. 1950.