



Call me Stratos

By Chrysoula Georgoula

Translated from the Greek by Marianna Avouri

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A striking look at the turbulent recent history in Greece, from the 2004 Olympics to financial crash and the migrant crisis

After his dramatic divorce and at the age of forty-two, Stratos Achtidis returns to his family home to live with his mother and brother. Humiliated and feeling cut off from family and friends, he turns to drink and reminiscences of a over-glorified past. Through the eyes of Stratos, the reader experiences the challenges and changes that have taken place in Greek society over the last quarter of a century; the problems of the ordinary working-class Greek people who have faced existential challenges on a financial level, the arrival of a huge migrant population and the consequent changes in their way of life.

Georgoula has written a pitch-perfect portrayal of the male psyche, of a certain kind of Greek male, often with brutal authenticity. *Call Me Stratos* is not just a good read, it is a vivid portrayal of some of the most important aspects of Greek society.



Chrysoula S. Georgoula is a graduate of the School of Dentistry of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens and PATES-SELETE, lives and works in Galatsi. Her short story "The Last License" was shortlisted in the short story competition "Stories of the Station and the Train" of the Group of Friends of the French Station of Alexandroupolis and is included in the homonymous collection of short stories (Paratiritis editions 2022), while other stories and poems have been published in various online journals. She has published two collections: Short Narratives (short stories, Artemis Publications 2019) and Nocturnal Conversations (theatrical monologue, Artemis Publications 2019) *Call me Stratos* is her debut novel.