



## My Kingdom is Dying

by Evald Flisar

Translated from the Slovene by David Limon

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**When the main character, a successful writer, experiences writer's block, he withdraws from his malign fate to Berghof, a Swiss clinic. A number of famous names in world literature are already receiving treatment there, from Martin Amis, Graham Greene and Saul Bellow to J. M. Coetzee. But is Berghof really what it purports to be? And what role does the ever-silent figure of Scheherazade play in the novel? 'My Kingdom is Dying' is not just a hybrid of the genres of confession - detective story, memoir and fictional biography - but also a unique combination of fiction and metafiction, literature and meta-literary reflection. Readers follow a gripping story in which unusual events unobtrusively mingle with meaningful reflection and deep insights.**

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**EVALD FLISAR**, born in 1945 in Slovenia, then still part of Yugoslavia, is an **iconic figure of contemporary Slovenian literature**. Novelist, playwright, essayist, editor, globe-trotter (travelled in 98 countries), underground train driver in Sydney, Australia, editor of (among other publications) an encyclopaedia of science and invention in London, author of short stories and radio plays for the BBC, president of the Slovene Writers' Association (1995 – 2002), since 1998 editor of the oldest Slovenian literary journal *Sodobnost* (Contemporary Review), he is also the author of 16 novels (eleven of them shortlisted for Kresnik award, known as the Slovenian "Booker"), two collections of short stories, three travelogues, two books for children (both nominated for major awards) and 15 stage plays (eight nominated for Best Play of the Year Award, three times won the award). Winner of Prešeren Foundation Prize, the highest state award for prose and drama, and the prestigious Župančič Award for lifetime achievement. He is the most translated Slovenian author alive today, and will be celebrating his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday upon the publication of *My Kingdom is Dying* in its UK edition.