

Michael Weins – *Golden Rider**

“The door into the garden squeaks when I open it. There are no fruit trees in this garden. There are only wooden chairs and lawn. Two maniacs are playing table tennis.”

What happens when a single mother seriously loses her nerves and is finally committed to a psychiatry clinic by the police? Jonas Fink, her son, loses all protection a child usually can take for granted. His mother is not the person she used to be, she does things she never did before and Jonas is fully occupied to stop the erosion of his life. He tries to stick to the facts. He tries to pretend that everything is normal. Because everything that happens is normal, at least for him.

You can not help it: You are immediately on Jonas' side and experience his mother getting out of control through his eyes and ears. This perspective is captivating - and the unbreakable bond between a child and his mother rarely has been described as beautifully. Michael Weins succeeds impressively in captivating a year of change in powerful images and stylistic decisiveness.

*The title is a quote of a well-known German song about a psychiatric clinic.

Michael Weins *Golden Rider*

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Press photos: <http://www.mairisch.de/programm/michael-weins-goldener-reiter/>

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Reviews for *Golden Rider*

“Normally crazy and crazily normal. This touching image just stays in the readers' head.”

Detlef Grumbach, Frankfurter Rundschau

„This golden book is more than just literature: it is also therapy, non-fiction, field report, expedition and diary of a maniac.”

Jan Drees, WDR 1 Live

“Especially this sober, empathetic style makes “Golden Rider” worth reading. Jonas' initiation story is touching. Because despite overstraining, anger and fear you can feel the sons' love. And somehow this eccentric mother is also great.”

Claudio Campagna, NDR Kultur

The author:

Michael Weins was born in 1971. He is a writer and psychologist and lives in Hamburg. He has published several highly acclaimed novels and two collections of short stories. In a touching epilogue Michael Weins tells the reader how much of »Golden Rider« is real and part of his own childhood.

www.michaelweins.de

**Awards:**

Hamburg Literature Prize 2000

Hamburg Literature Prize 2005