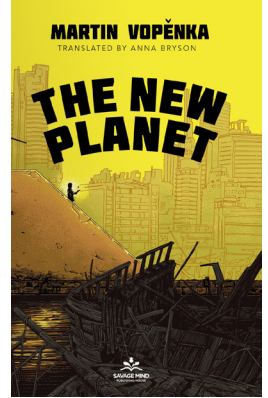
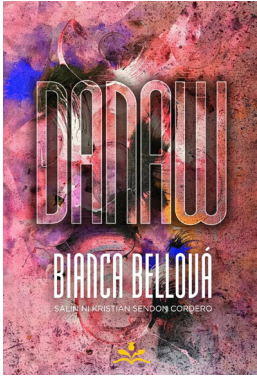


Czechia: A Country on the Coast
Frankfurt Book Fair
Guest of Honour 2026

Bianca Bellová



Martin Vopěnka

The Lake

(Translated into Filipino by Kristian Sendon Cordero, Savage Mind Publishing House, 2025)

The New planet

(Translated into English by Anna Bryson, Savage Mind Publishing House, 2025)

@ FBM 2025

october 16
3:45 pm

Czech national stand, Hall: 4.1, Stand: D78
Discussion and reading: Bianca Bellová, Martin Vopěnka,
Neni Sta. Romana Cruz, Kristian Sendon Cordero
Moderation: Jaroslav Olša, Jr.

The Lake

The Lake is a raw account of life in a devastated land and the harsh, primitive circumstances under which people fight to survive. A dystopian page-turner about the coming of age of a young hero, which won the 2017 EU Prize for Literature.

„The Lake feels less like it takes place in a post-USSR past than it does a post-apocalyptic future of complete climate collapse. Nami's country might be fiction, but its implications are terrifyingly real.“ Wales Arts Review

Bianca Bellová

is a Czech translator, interpreter and writer with Bulgarian roots. Her novel *Mrtvý muž* (Dead Man, 2011) received widespread critical acclaim and has been translated into German. Her novel, *Jezero* (The Lake, 2016), won the EU Prize for Literature and was published in more than ten languages.

The New planet

Daniel grows up in a technologically advanced and completely closed-off civilization that calls itself the New Planet. This dehumanized society, divided into the chosen and the unchosen, pretends to have left Earth — but in reality, it has only built an impenetrable wall around itself. Daniel, one of the chosen and privileged, loves his three stepbrothers deeply, unaware that they secretly hate him. One day, as a result of their betrayal, he finds himself lying on a pile of corpses beneath the wall of the New Planet. There is no way back, so he has to fight for survival in the underdeveloped world outside. Soon he discovers the terrifying foundations the civilization of the New Planet has been built on.

Martin Vopěnka

is a Czech writer with Jewish roots and author of 29 book titles. He's been writing since his childhood, despite being forced to study mathematics and physics during the communist era. Yet this unwanted education was later used in some of his novels. His work received awards and a feature film was made based on one of his novels. From time to time, Vopěnka engages in poetry, viewing it as the pinnacle of verbal expression. Some of his poems have been published in English in online anthologies. Despite his steadily writing, he makes his living as a publisher. Since 2003, he is a chair of the Association of Czech Booksellers and Publishers.