

Ephraim Kishon (1924 - 2005) is the world's most popular comic author of the twentieth century, and the literary representative of successful German-Jewish relations following World War 2. Born in Hungary as Ferenc Hoffmann, he emigrated to Israel in 1949; from 1952 on, he wrote political and satirical commentaries for a variety of daily newspapers. From 1959 to 1962, Kishon led the Tel Aviv cabaret The Green Onion (Die grüne Zwiebel), and from the sixties on, his novels, stories and plays made him (in his own words) "the favorite author of the descendants of my hangmen." Inspired by the tradition of eastern Jewish humor, his realistic, yet absurd humoresques and charming satires feature "the best wife of all" and highlight the perversions of bureaucracy. These are universally valid snapshots of the fictitious city of fools, Schilda, as transported into modern times.

E. Kishon

"An oriental Münchhausen who utters serious truths with a light spirit. Without respect for taboos, he mocks bigotry and racist arrogance, and he spoofs human vanity, egotism and intolerance. Crabby and critical, this melancholy misanthrope portrays political conceits and the petty corruptions of the populace." (*Die Welt*)

