



# *A Modern Way to Die* (second edition)

Peter Wortsman

First published in 1991, and now issued in a second edition, comprising short short fictions most written in the eighties, *A Modern Way to Die* by Peter Wortsman, “predates the in-vogue term flash fiction, but it’s surely one of the cornerstones of the tradition,” (according to short form pioneer Pete Cherches). As Wortsman notes in the book’s original foreword, these texts appeared “in the absence of big things to say [...] guided only by the precarious optimism of the pen.” Conceived as a disjointed compendium of narrative treatments of life’s common denominator, death, the book’s spare hit and run aesthetic gravitates from enhanced neon hyperrealist reportage to nightmare parable to plummet the surreal substrata of the American Dream.

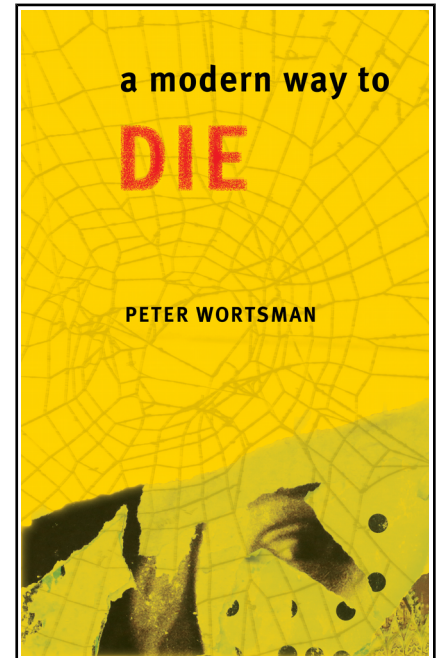
## About the author

Dubbed “a 20th-century Brother Grimm” (Bloomsbury Review), Peter Wortsman is the author of three books of short fiction, including a previous edition of *A Modern Way To Die* (1991), *Footprints in Wet Cement* (2017), and *Stimme und Atem/ Out of Breath, Out of Mind* (2019), a bilingual German-English collection of stories; a travel memoir, *Ghost Dance in Berlin, A Rhapsody in Gray* (2013); and a novel, *Cold Earth Wanderers* (2014).

He is a critically acclaimed translator of numerous books from the German into English. He is also the author of two stage plays, *The Tattooed Man Tells All* and *Burning Words*. His short work has been widely anthologized. His travel writing has run in major newspapers. He lives in New York.

## About the publisher

Pelekinesis is an independent book publishing company focusing on the development of literary-minded authors and artists by embracing the evolving publishing paradigm and creatively supporting the skills of these talented individuals. Full catalog and press material can be found at [www.pelekinesis.com](http://www.pelekinesis.com)



Title: *A Modern Way to Die* (2<sup>nd</sup> edition)  
Author: Peter Wortsman  
Category: Flash Fiction  
Publication Date: April 20, 2020  
Pages: 224  
Binding: paperback  
ISBN: 978-1-949790-15-3  
Suggested Retail Price: \$18.00

## MEDIA CONTACT

Mark Givens  
Pelekinesis  
909-293-9270  
[publicity@pelekinesis.com](mailto:publicity@pelekinesis.com)

DISTRIBUTED BY  
Small Press Distribution

## ORDERING INFORMATION

1341 Seventh Street  
Berkeley, CA 94710-1409  
Tel: 510.524.1668 / Fax: 510.524.0852  
E-mail: [spd@spdbooks.org](mailto:spd@spdbooks.org)

DIRECT WHOLESALE PRICING  
AVAILABLE

E-mail: [wholesale@pelekinesis.com](mailto:wholesale@pelekinesis.com)