



# How To Get Into the Twin Palms

*Karolina Waclawiak*

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## **How To Get Into the Twin Palms** Karolina Waclawiak

"Just as Anya reinvents herself, Waclawiak's novel (her first) reinvents the immigration story...At its most illuminating, *How to Get Into the Twin Palms* movingly portrays a protagonist intent on both creating and destroying herself, on burning brightly even as she goes up in smoke."

-*New York Times Book Review*

"Karolina Waclawiak's debut novel *How to Get into the Twin Palms* is a quietly stunning exploration of assimilation and personal identity."

- David Gutkowski, *Largehearted Boy's Favorite Novels of 2012*

"Karolina Waclawiak's debut novel with the spunky little Two Dollar Radio press effectively upends the immigrant-novel formula (more vodka, less upwardly mobile striving), but she's also done a great job at depicting the desperate measures that truly lonely people can take in an attempt to belong. Her complicated antiheroine, Anya, carries this moody story right to its disastrous end."

- Jennifer Croll, *Georgia Straight Best Books of the Year*

"Twin Palms has resonance, humor laid over a pulsing knot of emotion, and a clear, clean voice that you'll want to read more of in the future."

- Insatiable Booksluts, *Read This Book!*

"Waclawiak writes about loneliness, isolation, and determination in a refreshing and quirky way."

- Michele Filgate, *New York Magazine*

"Waclawiak's mix of sad, dark humor is compelling and creates an other-ness that's hard to shake. In the end, taking the bus along with Anya-now car-less-we feel, like our narrator, a little singed and covered in ash. But heck, maybe that's not a bad way to start over?"

- Larissa Zimberoff, *The Rumpus*

"The immigrant novel is a hallowed literary tradition, but Believer deputy editor Waclawiak's fresh and bizarre reboot makes us want to read a million more."

- Emily Temple, *Flavorwire's 10 New Must Reads for July*

"Masked by scenes of schmancy nightlife is a story about an immigrant wanting to belong."

- Marie Claire's favorite reads, *Marie Claire*

"Clever and sometimes sad, Waclawiak's book turns the traditional immigrant novel on its head, or maybe turns it inside out, or maybe just dyes its hair a nice shade of "Black Stilettos," turning its ears black in the process."

- 10 Great Novels About the Immigrant Experience, *Flavorpill*

"A taut debut... [that] strikes with the creeping suddenness of a brush fire."

-*Publishers Weekly* (\*starred\*)

"Waclawiak takes the immigrant novel and spins it on its head. A great addition to 1.5 generation literature, beautifully written, funny and touching."

-Gary Shteyngart

*How to Get Into the Twin Palms* is the story of Anya, a young woman living alone in a Russian neighborhood in Los Angeles, who struggles to retain her parents' Polish culture while trying to assimilate into her newly adopted community. Anya stalks the nearby Twin Palms nightclub, the pinnacle of exclusivity in the Russian community. Desperate not only to gain entrance into the club but to belong there, Anya begins a perilous pursuit for Lev, a Russian gangster who frequents the seemingly impenetrable world of the Twin Palms.

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#### **Adam Cohn:**

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