



Open Door

By Iosi Havilio

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Open Door By Iosi Havilio

"An ambiguous tale that verges on dark comedy. . . . With skill and subtlety, the novel hints that a whole society might labor under an illusion of liberty."—*The Economist*

When her partner disappears, a young woman drifts towards Open Door, a small town in the Argentinean Pampas named after its psychiatric hospital. She finds herself living with an aging ranch-hand, although a local girl also proves irresistible . . .

Iosi Havilio bursts onto the Argentine literary scene after *Open Door* was highly praised by some of the country's most influential critics and writer, including Beatriz Sarlo and Rodolfo Fogwill.

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Open Door By Iosi Havilio Bibliography

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Editorial Review

Review

"Look out in the autumn for *Open Door* by the much-praised Iosi Havilio, one of the launch titles on the And Other Stories list." Boyd Tonkin, *The Independent*

"Iosi Havilio's remarkable first novel brings news of an intriguing world" Martin Schifino, *The Independent*

"With minimalist beauty and exquisite strangeness, Iosi Havilio offers a mesmerising addition to the literature of solitude." Chloe Aridjis

"An ambiguous tale that verges on dark comedy ... With skill and subtlety, the novel hints that a whole society might labour under an illusion of liberty." *The Economist*

"Deliberately unshowy, so that plot twists can unfold in the quietest ways." Fatema Ahmed, *Prospect*

"There is a lot of sex and violence in *Open Door*, but it is never gratuitous. ... You have in your hands a masterpiece." Oscar Guardiola-Rivera

"A moving and highly original novel. A good translation is one that convinces as a work in its own right. That is what we get here." Margaret Jull Costa, *In Other Words* (Journal of the British Centre for Literary Translation)

"Havilio handles the narrator's listlessness with remarkable dexterity and maintains the reader's attention throughout ... a novel which will flourish under many re-readings." Annabella Massey, *Cadaverine*

"*Open Door* really surprised me, it doesn't obey any of the laws of reading, it feels like it sprang out of nowhere." Beatriz Sarlo, *Perfil*

"*Open Door* is not a choral novel but a series of solitary songs sung in intimate keys. It contains a tale to mull over, a story not easy to forget." *El País*

"Living, some say, is much easier than thinking about life. This seems to be the almost unconscious guiding force that drives the heroine of *Open Door*, Iosi Havilio's first book; a sober, restrained novel through which his mature craft shines." Susana Rosana, *Clarín*

"His opera prima touches nerves in the literature and history of his country, themes such as absence, identity and the conflict between city and country; but the style is unusual, a virtuoso display of muted prose. [...] Havilio may well be an attentive reader of Camus: a barely lyrical phrase such as 'I flop onto my back in the grass and the sky renders me speechless' recalls *The Outsider*. [...] The internal variety, the technical command, the originality of the setting and the freshness of the voice are all worthy of mention." Martin Schifino, *Revista del Libro*

"*Open Door* is a confusing, bewildering, riveting book; a paen, of sorts, to both the pursuit of solitude and the futility of that pursuit." *Eleutherophobia*

"It's not a difficult read, the translation is excellent and the language is used simply, to create a visual landscape which shifts under your feet, which you can't trust and need to consider carefully in different ways ... For such a simple book, it holds some serious profundity". Gareth Buchaillard-Davies, *metaliterature*

About the Author

Iosi Havilio (b. 1974 Buenos Aires) Open Door is his first novel. His second novel is Estocolmo (Stockholm, 2010), and he is currently working on a novel – Paradises - that follows on from Open Door. Paradises will be published by And Other Stories later in 2013. He has become a cult author in Argentina after Open Door was highly praised by the outspoken and influential writer Rodolfo Fogwill and by the most influential Argentine critic, Beatriz Sarlo.

Beth Fowler: (b. 1980 Inverness) currently lives in Aberdeen. She has spent time in Chile as an English teacher and is now a full-time translator from Spanish and Portuguese into English. In 2010 she won the inaugural Harvill Secker Young Translators' Prize and in 2011 translated Havilio's Open Door for And Other Stories, receiving high praise for her translation from the doyenne of Spanish translators Margaret Jull Costa. More recent work includes a translation for Granta magazine's Best of Young Brazilian Novelists issue.

Oscar Guardiola-Rivera is the writer of the award-winning *What If Latin America Ruled the World?* (Bloomsbury, 2010), chosen as one the best non-fiction books that year by The Financial Times and reviewed in The Washington Post, The Sunday Times, The Guardian, BBC Radio 4 Start the Week, with Andrew Marr, Al-Jazeera's The Riz Khan Show, Folha de Sao Paulo, and other major newspapers and media around the world. He has published in Granta, is a weekly columnist of *El Espectador* (COL), and a frequent contributor to the BBC World Service Nightwaves, The Stream, Monocle Radio 24, NTN 24, and Al-Jazeera, among others. He has been invited to take part in the Hay Festivals (Wales, Colombia, Lebanon and Mexico), and contributed as a curator and a speaker with the Serpentine Gallery, Southbank Centre, Intelligence Squared, Tate Modern, Pen International, and Colombiage.

Born in Colombia, he was educated in that country and in Great Britain. He graduated as a lawyer in Bogotá (Universidad Javeriana, 1993) after leading the Student Movement that initiated the 1990's wave of constitutional reform throughout Latin America, and obtained his LLM with Distinction at University College London, and his PhD in Philosophy at the King's College of the University of Aberdeen.

He is on the editorial boards of Naked Punch: An Engaged Review of Arts & Theory; International Law. Colombian Journal of International Law; Universitas. Xavier University Law Review, (COL); and Open Law Journal and is on the advisory board of the Law, Social Justice & Global Development Journal, and is recognised as one of the most representative voices of contemporary Latin American philosophy and literature.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Jerry Raminez:

Do you one of people who can't read pleasant if the sentence chained within the straightway, hold on guys this aren't like that. This Open Door book is readable simply by you who hate those perfect word style. You will find the details here are arrange for enjoyable examining experience without leaving perhaps decrease the knowledge that want to provide to you. The writer regarding Open Door content conveys the idea easily

to understand by most people. The printed and e-book are not different in the information but it just different available as it. So , do you nevertheless thinking Open Door is not loveable to be your top collection reading book?

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Jessica Bowman:

What is your hobby? Have you heard in which question when you got learners? We believe that that query was given by teacher on their students. Many kinds of hobby, Everyone has different hobby. Therefore you know that little person similar to reading or as studying become their hobby. You need to understand that reading is very important in addition to book as to be the factor. Book is important thing to add you knowledge, except your personal teacher or lecturer. You discover good news or update in relation to something by book. A substantial number of sorts of books that can you take to be your object. One of them are these claims Open Door.

Brenda Cornell:

A number of people said that they feel weary when they reading a publication. They are directly felt the idea when they get a half areas of the book. You can choose the book Open Door to make your reading is interesting. Your skill of reading proficiency is developing when you like reading. Try to choose very simple book to make you enjoy to see it and mingle the sensation about book and reading especially. It is to be first opinion for you to like to available a book and go through it. Beside that the reserve Open Door can to be your friend when you're experience alone and confuse in doing what must you're doing of the time.

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