

BERND IMGRUND
A SHORT HISTORY OF
FAILURE
FROM SISYPHUS TO DONALD TRUMP

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Failure makes you successful, obviously! It's also fun to read about!

Human failure has many facets: they range from total defeat to ordinary embarrassment to sporting knock-out. Bernd Imgrund follows the failures through history, both small and large, from Napoleon's Waterloo to Jesus of Nazareth, from the pointlessly toiling Sisyphus to Donald Trump, who gave the world an impressive lesson in losing badly after losing the US presidential election. An entertaining ramble, a cheerful ode to failure - and of course there is "something to learn" in the process. Even if it is only to take a leaf out of the book of the king of failures, the lucky loser, who can still take something positive from all defeats.

BERND IMGRUND was born in Cologne in 1964. He was an altar boy, a conscientious objector and finally an editor. His 30 novels and non-fiction books deal with Cologne, historical pubs, table tennis and skat, among other things. Imgrund lives with his wife in Cologne.

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October 2020 208 pp

A pub is a room with a tap, a counter and a few tables. There's also a landlord or landlady who runs the place. Even the Sumerians went to pubs over 4,000 years ago to take a break from the world and its hustle and bustle for a while - an ancient tradition that we still indulge in today.

Throughout the ages, people have drunk and talked, sung and danced, gambled, loved and murdered in pubs. How this has evolved from ancient times to the present day is told by pub connoisseur Bernd Imgrund - drinkable, high-proof and extremely substantial.

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NON-FICTION / (SOCIAL) HISTORY