

## CONTENTS

Prelude: *Freundschaft* / xi

### PART I. Postsocialist Freedoms

- 1 Fires / 3
- 2 Cucumbers / 11
- 3 Pieces / 24 (FICTION)
- 4 Belgrade, 2015 / 39 (FICTION)

### PART II. Reuniting the Divided

- 5 #Mauerfall25 / 47
- 6 The Enemy of My Enemy / 68
- 7 A Tale of Two Typewriters / 84

**PART III. Blackwashing History**

- 8 Gross Domestic Orgasms / 101
- 9 My Mother and a Clock / 111
- 10 Venerating Nazis to Vilify Commies / 129

**PART IV. "Democracy Is the Worst Form of Government,  
Except All Those Other Forms That Have Been Tried from Time to Time"**

- 11 Three Bulgarian Jokes / 149
- 12 Post-Zvyarism: A Fable about Animals on a Farm / 150 (FICTION)
- 13 Interview with a Former Member of the  
Democratic Party of the United States / 167 (FICTION)
- 14 Democracy for the Penguins / 179

Acknowledgments / 201 Notes / 205

Selected Bibliography / 223