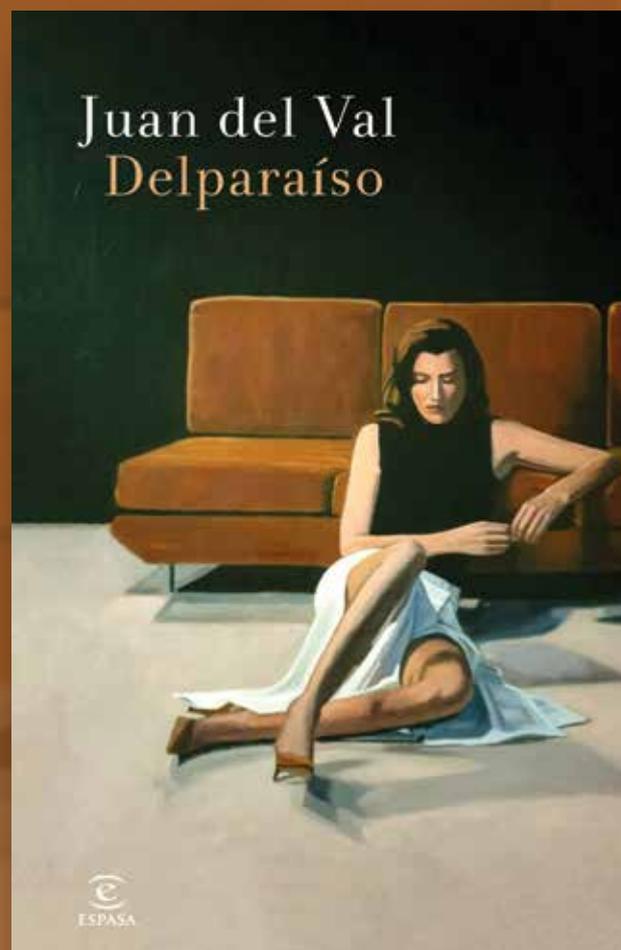
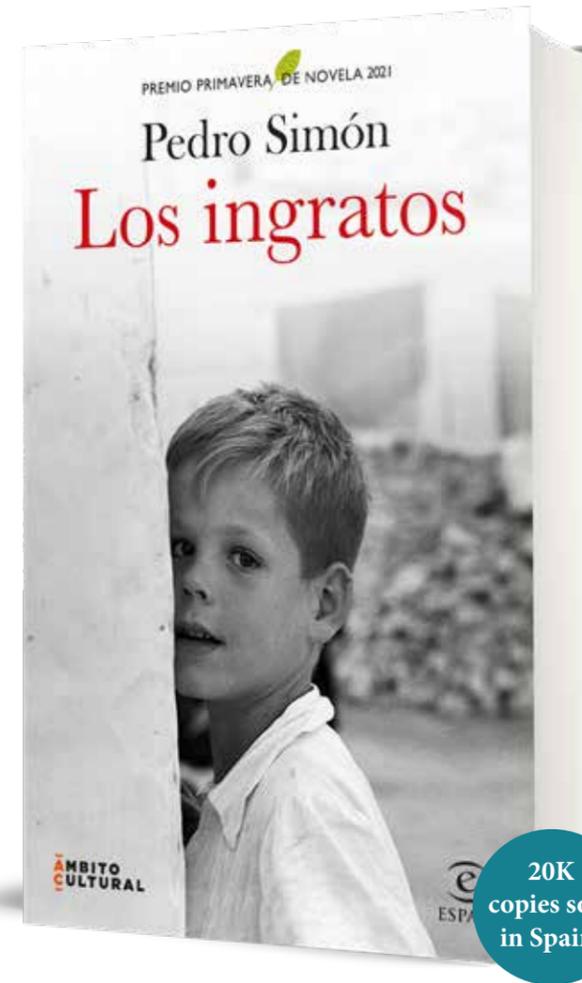


UP-MARKET CATALOGUE



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Espasa | 30,307 Words | March 2021
English sample available

.....
**Winner of the Primavera
Prize 2021**
.....



Pedro Simón is a journalist and writer. He currently works for the daily paper *El Mundo*. His journalism won him the Ortega y Gasset Prize in 2015 and the APM Journalist of the Year award for 2016. In 2020, he was a finalist for the Gabo Foundation Prizes. His books include anthologies of his journalism (*Total Goth and Barbarian Chronicles*) and his novel *Danger of Collapse*.

PEDRO SIMÓN

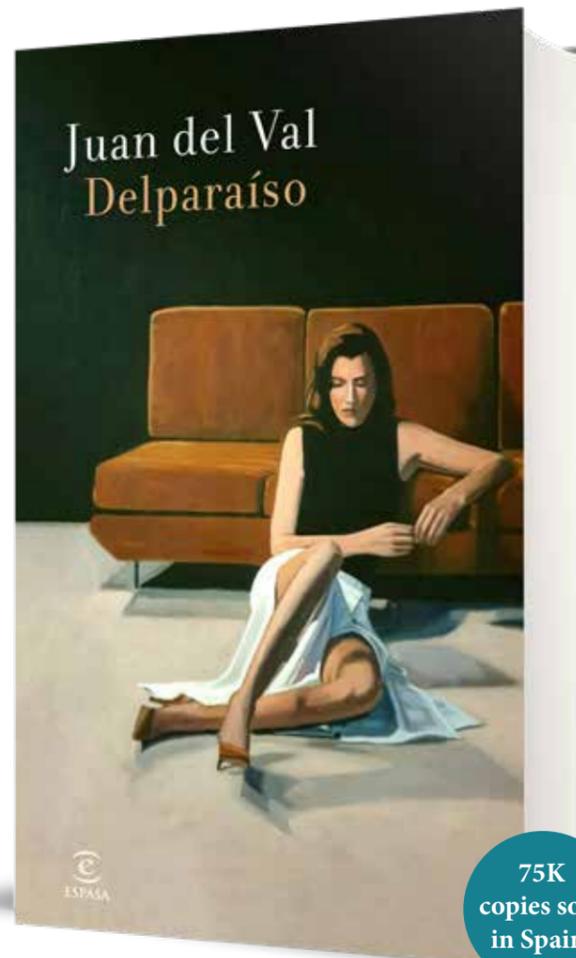
The Ingrates

A tender and nostalgic novel, a deeply felt family chronicle that describes the changes that took place in Spanish society in the final decades of the twentieth century.

The Ingrates portrays “the children of a decolonized generation, Spain without a safety belt, those who knew where to go –from the villages to the cities– and television in black-and-white.”

It’s 1975 when Mercedes, a young teacher, moves with her three little children to a village in the Spanish interior. Her husband has to stay in Madrid to work, and Mercedes hires Miss Emérita, a childless deaf-mute widow, to help her around the house and with the children. David, the youngest, establishes a precious and unique friendship with Emérita that will mark both of them for life. She will teach him everything she knows –harsh but useful lessons about life in the country– while David, with a child’s gentleness, will make her smile; and thanks to him, Emérita will get back something she thought she had lost forever, and will also learn how to read.

A warm and luminous novel about the power of love that depicts a time and a country. A tale about the loss of innocence and the passage into adulthood, and an homage to those –in some ways innocent, in some guilty– to those who brought us to where we are without asking for anything in return.



JUAN DEL VAL

Delparaíso

In Delparaíso everything seems perfect and idyllic. Until Juan del Val opens the doors. Come in and take a look around.

Delparaíso, they say, is one of the safest developments in Europe. The 70 homes there comprise an unbreachable fortress, but the twenty-four-hour security that watches over them cannot keep fear, love, sorrow, desire, and death from spreading inside it. The lives of the inhabitants of Delparaíso weave together with the same ease as those of any neighborhood, but they aren't all as anodyne as they seem. Behind every door, a different story is concealed. And when these stories cross, the result is like a bomb thrown in the middle of the apparent tranquility.

Juan del Val's gaze is incisive, cold, fiercely rooted in the brutal present, and it penetrates unstopably in the minds of all his characters. The result is a choral novel in which the cards appear to be on the table but the future remains, just as in real life, dependent on the decisions we take for what are often the most fleeting reasons.

***Delparaíso* is an absorbing book, a multifaceted mirror in which the human condition is reflected in its grand diversity. Because all happy families look alike, but each unhappy family is unhappy in its own way.**

Audiovisual rights optioned to Zeta Producciones.

Espasa | 74,007 Words | January 2021

Complete English translation & long synopsis available



Juan del Val has worked for newspapers, magazines, radio, and television as a director, producer, and presenter. *Delparaíso* is his fifth novel after *For Ana From You Deceased*, *The Inevitable Thing About Love*, *It Seems Like a Lie*, and *Candela*, which won him the 2019 Primavera Prize.

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