

Mónica Ojeda,

Prince Claus Award Next Generation 2019

MANDÍBULA

Finalist Mario Vargas Llosa Award



A teenager who is fan of “creepypastas” (horror stories published on the Internet) wakes up handcuffed, in a cottage in the middle of the forest. She has been kidnapped by her Literature teacher, a young woman who has been tormented for months by her and her friends at an Opus Dei school: Bilingual Delta College for Girls, for rich girls.

Soon, a disturbing teenage romance, an unexpected betrayal and some secret initiation rituals inspired on “creepypastas” will reveal murkier reasons for the kidnap than bullying the teacher.

Mandíbula is a novel about fear, family links, sexuality and violence. A prose full of poetical sparks, disturbing symbols and gaps in time. It is also a bit of a psychological thriller in order to develop the mind game produced between students and teachers,

and digs into the passionate relationships between mothers and daughters, sisters and besties, recreating a feminine but monstrous world connected to the horror films tradition and gender literature.

Terrifying and sordid. And, more importantly, feminine but far from being a fairy tale.

Spain: Editorial Candaya 2018 (285pp)

Will be published by: USA Coffee House Press/ **Greece** Skarifima Editions/ **France:** Gallimard, **Audiobook:** Storytel

Mandíbula by Mónica Ojeda among the ten most outstanding books in 2018 by **Deutsche Welle**

Mandíbula by Mónica Ojeda among the 50 best books in 2018 according to **El País** newspaper

Mandíbula by Mónica Ojeda Among the twelve best books in 2018, according to FNAC

*A story full of different styles which succeed linking suspense with an insightful analysis of adolescence, an age which is an enemy to the rules and produces fear and fascination. As the good literature does. One of the most daring novels of the year. **Javier Rodríguez Marcos, Director of The Babelia Supplement, El País***

*It is well known that adolescence is a fascinating territory inhabited by ferocious identity and moral doubts. The mastery of Ojeda to turn that into literature is astonishing. **Nadal Suau, El Cultural, El Mundo***

*Dazzling. **Carlos Pardo, Babelia, El País***

*Mónica Ojeda surpasses the borders of the thriller and the terror... Ricardo Baixeras, **El Periódico de Catalunya***

*A stunning language to show the atrocious and the perverse. It is heartless innocence. **Luisgé Martín, El País***

*The perverse eroticism of this Ecuadorian writer escapes any kind of classification... **Eudald Espluga, Playground***

«Cultivated perversion», «postmodern horror»... are some of the labels used to classify the work of this writer. **Xavi Ayén, La Vanguardia**

One of the best thrillers I was able to read in this time where you can find tons of them. Its intensity is surprising. **Juan Ángel Juristo, ABC**

One of the books of the year: smart and shocking plot. **Elena Hevia, El Periódico de Catalunya**

As Rilke's terrible angel, the beauty of Mandíbula's fiction does not spare the truth that lays in our wounds. They bleed, as Ojeda's protagonists. **Arturo Borra, Tendencias 21**

Her narrative possesses an energy that doesn't allow the reader to rest, her tales nail images to the brain, especially when they are depicting a violent or erotic scene. **Ariana Basciani, The Objective**

Mandíbula is a journey into the intrinsic horror of the human being and, above all, to a horror that fascinates, that deals with going beyond the established limits, but it is also an inquest into the fear. **Anna María Iglesia, Librújula**

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The Author



Mónica Ojeda

Ecuador | 1988

Member of the List of Bogota 39-2017: the best Latin American writers under 39.

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Bachelor degree in Communication Studies with a mention in Literature, she also has a Master in Creative Writing and Culture's Theory and Criticism. She taught at the Catholic University in Santiago de Guayaquil.

Currently she lives in Madrid, where she is taking a PhD in Humanities focused in erotic and porn Latin American literature.

She published the novels *Nefando* in 2016, which received spectacular reviews, and *La desfiguración de Silvia*, Alba Narrative Prize in 2014. She was also included in the anthology *Emergencias. Doce cuentos iberoamericanos* in 2013 and she published the story *Caninos* in 2017. With her first poetry book, *El ciclo de las piedras* won the Desembarco National Poetry Prize in 2015.

One of the most powerful Latin American novelists today. **Carlos Pardo, Babelia, El País**

A breath of fresh air shaking the Latin American literature. Xavi Ayén, **La Vanguardia**

One of the greatest promises among the new generations of Latin American writers. **Juan Ángel Juristo, ABC**

She might become addictive. Ricardo Baixeras, **El Periódico de Catalunya**

One of the indispensable names from the Latin American new narrative. David Pérez Vega, **Revista Eñe**

Someone writing like this cannot be just 30 years old. **María Fernanda Ampuero, El Telégrafo**