



Simone Weinmann
**Remembering Unknown
Cities**

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2045. A catastrophe has caused human life to be thrown back into a meagre rural existence. Many find solace in faith, but the two teenagers Nathanael and Vanessa don't wish to resign themselves to religion and so they run away. Their teacher, still remembering life before the incidence, is sent out to find them and all three of them find themselves on a journey across treacherous terrain. Nathanael is fifteen when his parents decide to take him out of school, against his desire to become a doctor and despite his thirst for knowledge and aptitude as a student. His mother has decided for him to become a priest. And anyway, universities no longer exist. Or do they? Nathanael has heard of a polytechnic institute in Italy and decides to make his way there. His classmate Vanessa also wants to escape the constricting village life and so they decide to use the darkness of the night to run away. When their absence is noticed, their teacher Ludwig is sent after them. Unlike his students, Ludwig can still remember the times before the catastrophe and has lost all hope for the future, but he just can't forsake the teenagers on their dangerous journey through lawless territory.



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Simone Weinmann attained a PhD in astrophysics under Prof. Ben Moore in Zurich. She spent several years working at the Max-Planck Institute near Munich and at the Observatory Sterrewacht in Leiden. She now teaches physics in Zurich, where she lives with her husband and child. In 2017/8 she was a fellow at the Literaturhaus' Novel Seminar in Munich with Günther Eisenhuber and Anette Pehnt. *Remembering Unknown Cities* is her first novel.