



Pavel Sanaev
BURY ME
BEHIND THE BASEBOARD

Translated from the Russian
by Konstantin Gurevich and Helen Anderson

Eight-year-old Sasha lives with his grandparents and is going to rot away by the age of sixteen — or so his foul-mouthed Grandma says. He is not allowed to sweat, to run, to sleep without his tights — or to see his mother too often. Yet living with his mother is all Sasha really wants, despite her boyfriend being a blood-sucking midget, in Grandma's words. This compelling story of broken families, of parental rivalries, and of suffocating love moves between farce and tragedy with remarkable ease, in the best traditions of Dostoyevsky and Chekhov.

Funny, insightful, and heart-wrenching all at once, *Bury Me Behind the Baseboard* enjoys cult status in Russia. It has been a major bestseller for more than ten years now, selling over a million copies and collecting prestigious literary prizes in Russia and Italy. It was translated into many European and Asian languages and made into a play performed across Russia and Eastern Europe, as well as into a popular movie in 2009.

Konstantin Gurevich and Helen Anderson are a husband-and-wife team who re-translated into English a Soviet satirical classic, *The Golden Calf* by Ilf and Petrov (Rochester : Open Letter, 2009), which was shortlisted for the 2012 Rossica Translation Prize in London, UK.

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