

### **Money viewed from a different perspective for once**

In our society, money is virtually omnipresent – money defines our social status, determines our everyday activities, and thus has a decisive influence on our entire life. As a concept of property, it is used very restrictively nowadays: if someone is sentenced to a penalty, this often involves the payment of a fine – a fine for speeding, a fine for misconduct and the like... Therefore, money dominates our everyday life!

On the other hand, we rarely deal with the topic critically and intensively. In an attempt to change this, the MoneyMuseum has collected several articles on novels dealing with the topic of money in the broadest sense. This is thus an opportunity to get to grips with the fascinating topic of money in our society without having to read one of the countless factual books in the field. Do not many novels come up with just as many interesting aspects as a sophisticated factual book?

Take, for example, B. Traven's "The Treasure of the Sierra Madre" which is the subject-matter of one contribution of this collection. At first glance, the work seems to be a classic Western adventure novel in which the main characters, while looking for their treasure in the wilderness, experience numerous adventures. But there is much more to this book than a mere Western story: it makes the criticism of capitalism tangible, and illustrates it to the reader better than any elaborate, dry factual book could. The reader becomes engrossed in a world of adventure, a treasure hunt in the Wild West, and can – unnoticed and casually, as it were – familiarize himself with the author's attitude towards capitalism.

Similar to the "Treasure of the Sierra Madre", the nearly 100 different works in this volume tackle the subject of money, society or the drama of an individual. What unites them all is that they are supposed to give the reader a new impulse, giving him the chance to deal with the topic of money in various, exciting ways. And so, one or two well-known novels can be viewed from a completely new angle, offering the reader a fresh perspective.

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