I wrote this novel to show the readers how Ukrainian people lived from the beginning of the twentieth century until 1991, when Ukraine got its independence from the Soviet Union. I used the life of one hypothetical family who lived in a Ukrainian village as an example.

This epic novel will take readers on an unforgettable journey into the heart of a land and a people built on pain, passion, and hope for a better future.

Wretched Land by Mila Komarnisky, Chapter 1, Excerpt 1 Dmytro's father shot himself

Vasyl, a middle-aged, heavy-built peasant, jumped off his horse and ran across the stubble waving his hand and calling, "Pan Dmytro, it's urgent. It's a telegram from Kharkiv."

Dmytro stopped scything wheat, passed the back of his hand over his forehead, mixing sweat with dust, and smiled at Vasyl as he took the paper. While he read the telegram, the smile disappeared and his face turned as ashen as the whitewash on the village houses. The letters became a blur in front of his eyes. He refused to comprehend the sense of the message that his lawyer, Pan Lisovy, had sent to him. His hand fell limp and the telegram dropped to the ground. With a worried look, Vasyl picked up the paper, "Pan Dmytro, what's happened?"

Dmytro was petrified. Vasyl looked at the telegram but, unable to read, he did not know what news it contained. Alarmed, he grasped Dmytro's arm and shaking it said, "What is it, what's happened? Tell me, please."

Dmytro looked at Vasyl with his abstract blue eyes and said, "My father. He shot himself."

"Oh, my God," Vasyl said and blessed himself with the sign of the cross.

One of the Book's reviews at <u>http://tinyurl.com/43pnt8e</u>

Wretched Land is available from the Savant Books and Publications Bookstore at <u>https://www.createspace.com/3578979</u> At the Amazon.com bookstore at <u>http://tinyurl.com/3rh9ae2</u> At the Amazon.ca <u>http://tinyurl.com/3bha4jq</u> At the Amazon.co.uk <u>http://tinyurl.com/69ro3ps</u>

Sincerely,

Mila Komarnisky Author of *Wretched Land* (2011) The press release at <u>http://prlog.org/11432786</u> The author's website: <u>www.lovehealthwealth.com</u> The book trailer on YouTube: <u>http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dXvKdseXsBk</u>