

Chipped stone tools made by both Mesolithic foragers and Neolithic farmers play a significant role in discussions about the beginning of the Neolithic in Central Europe (LBK culture). In this book Inna Mateiciucová compares the technology of blade production, the distribution of raw stone sources and the occurrence of so-called culturally specific tool types (trapezes, borers and retouched blades) of the chipped stone industries of Mesolithic and Early Neolithic sites in Central Europe and Balkans. She believes that the LBK originated autochthonously from the local Mesolithic substrate in Transdanubia and the immediately adjacent areas (Burgenland, south-west Slovakia), under the influence of contacts with, and with a biological contribution from, Balkan Early Neolithic populations, in particular from the Starčevo culture. She emphasizes the psychological implications of Neolithisation and assumes long before the physical acceptance of the Neolithic, some changes occurred at the psychological level. First, there was a Neolithisation of the hunter-gatherer soul (psyche), followed by Neolithisation at the material level. With this in mind, at the end of this book she indicates a possible explanation of the rapid dispersion of the Early LBK culture throughout Central Europe.