

Fiction Spring 2021

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Foreign Rights
Spring 2021

Fiction



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Goldmann • Heyne • Limes • Luchterhand • Penguin

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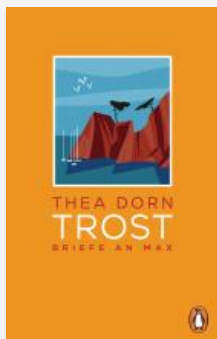
I Want to Be Close to You

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Deep Under Ground

CHRISTA VON BERNUTH



Fiction, Literary Fiction

Publishing House: Penguin
Format: Hardcover
Pages: 176
Illustrations: 7 color illustrations
Original title: Trost

THEA DORN

Solace

LETTERS TO MAX

Date of publication: February 08, 2021

4c throughout with 8 colour illustrations

The book of the hour for all in need of solace

"How are you?" When Johanna receives a postcard with this seemingly harmless question from her old philosophy teacher Max, all breaks loose: the grief over her mother's death; the anger at the hospital staff who denied her to be close to the dying one. Inspired by further postcards, Johanna begins to face the demons that linger behind her desperation.

In this extraordinary postcard epistolary novel, author and philosopher Thea Dorn talks about the existential topics we, who often cannot find any help in religion anymore and are just as intoxicated as we are overwhelmed by the myriads of technological possibilities, often avoid: coming to terms with life's finiteness, and searching for solace in desolate times.

A magnificent, perceptive book full of insights that, in the end, leaves the reader hopeful and with an irrepressible zest for life.


Berliner Morgenpost

A touching epistolary novel and an examination of the big questions of our time.

Juli Zeh

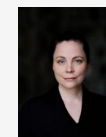
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AUTHOR

Thea Dorn



© Maria Sturm

Thea Dorn, born in 1970, studied philosophy and theatre science in Frankfurt, Vienna and Berlin. She worked as university professor and dramaturg. She wrote a series of award-winning novels and bestsellers, theatre plays, screenplays and essays, and hosted the TV show "Literatur im Foyer". Since March 2017, she has been a fast member of the "Literarisches Quartett" (Literary Quartet).

Solace is polemic and cultural critique, philosophy and pamphlet all in one - the search for inner poise in the midst of tragedy.

Deutschlandfunk Kultur "Buchkritik"

An exciting, slim, profound and very freedom-loving book.

SWR2 "lesenswert"

Thea Dorn's protagonist is inconsolable. And yet she manages, especially towards the end, to offer comfort with a pleasantly biting wit.

Münchner Merkur

Thea Dorn always manages to write about complex philosophical questions regarding everyday life without imposing answers on her readers.

literaturkritik.de

A witty, polemical fit of rage, looking back from a future it hardly dares to hope for – with a wonderful, and despite everything consoling, punch line.

Dresdner Neue Nachrichten



Fiction, Literary Fiction

Publishing House: Penguin
Format: Hardcover
Pages: 272
Original title: Die nicht sterben

DANA GRIGORCEA

Those Who Never Die

Date of publication: March 01, 2021

Rights sold to: Poland (Kobiece), UK/World English (Sandstone Press)

English sample translation available

Eerie, profound, archaic – a breathtakingly atmospheric image of post-Communist Romania


Present-day Transylvania. After studying art in Paris, a young Bucharest artist returns to her home in the Romanian Carpathians – the small town of B., where she had spent every summer vacation during her childhood and teenage years with her great aunt among chandeliers and Persian carpets. Today, B. has outlived its glory days. Too many have left for good after the revolution to seek their fortune in Western Europe. The artist returns to an estranged world, one to which she is solely linked to through a few close friends and the strings that tie up her family history.

When a defiled body is found upon the grave of Vlad the Impaler, better known as Dracula, she realises that the past still holds B. tightly in its grip. She wants to tell the place's story even though it eludes her. While, in the beginning, she is afraid of mixing up the chronological order of events, she eventually comes to realise that every order makes sense. Because a story is not about causes and effects but about one thing only: Fate.

Dana Grigorcea paints a breathtakingly atmospheric image of a post-Communist society which still to this day appears to be caught in an intermediate realm. Without any warning at all, she leads her readers into the heart of a horror which

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AUTHOR

Dana Grigorcea



© Mardiana Sani

Dana Grigorcea, born in 1979 in Bucharest, studied German and Dutch literature in Bucharest and theatre and film directing as well as quality journalism in Krems, Austria. She worked as journalist and has been living in Zurich as freelancing writer since 2013. Her novels and stories won multiple awards, among them the 3sat Prize of the Ingeborg Bachmann awards.

can only be conjured by one's own imagination – or by the exigent Count Dracula.

Grigorceas distinctive writing style is rich and textured [...]. A thoroughly enjoyable read: delightfully literary and thoughtful, and full of fascinating details about Romanian culture [...].

New Books in German

A ravishing reassessment of our values.

Der Standard

Grigorcea has written the ultimate Dracula story for the twenty-first century. An incisive novel!

MDR Kultur „Unter Büchern“

The authors youth in a country shaken by world history makes the novel memorable beyond its literary qualities.

Der Bund - Sonntagszeitung

A stylish Gothic spine-chiller about the Dracula myth and the ghosts of the past that haunt the present.

egoFM 'Buchhaltung'

A spine-chilling, thoughtful, political and poetic book – a joy to read.

swissinfo.ch

A convincingly told, densely atmospheric and astute portrait of Eastern Europes malaise. Love at first bite!

SWR "lesenswert"

A spinetingling, romantically charged Gothic novel about greed and the urge to suck each other dry, in which past and

present artfully and entertainingly intertwine.

SWR2, "SWR Bestenliste" panel

**Creepy, profound, old-fashioned, densely atmospheric,
blood-spattered – a total success.**

Mottingers Meinung – Die Online-Kulturzeitschrift

**Her style is intense, multifaceted and pregnant with
symbolism. Instead of old-fashioned vampires, we get a story
about contemporary bloodsuckers [...].**

Hermannstädter Zeitung

**A wonderfully spine-chilling novel about post-communist
Romania and the ghosts of the past.**

Münchner Merkur

Both grotesque and burlesque – a gripping read.

WDR 3 "Buchkritik"

**Dana Grigorceas style is sensuous, full of surreal imagery and
subtle wit.**

CulturMag

**An excellent novel, which refreshes and updates the politically
charged ghost story in its own fashion. The writing is also first
rate.**

WDR1

**An artful Dracula story, a portrait of an artist as a young
woman, and a farce, told with great stylistic power.**

SWR2

Grigorcea has managed to fashion a very contemporary novel

out of a somewhat old-fashioned and worn-out subject matter.

"Druckfrisch", Denis Scheck

An undogmatic argument against the nostalgic longing for the strong hand of a just despot, and a plea for enlightened accountability.

WOZ – Die Wochenzeitung

Grigorceas Gothic novel is permeated by a quiet horror, which mercilessly exposes the wounds and fault-lines of post-communist Romanian society.

BÜCHERmagazin

A sensuous, vivid spine-chiller set in the post-communist present, brilliantly told!

kultbote.de

A gripping, unsettling tale.

3sat "Buchzeit im Sommer 2021"

Unputdownable.

annabelle.ch

With a mix of wistfulness and wit, Grigorcea resurrects Count Dracula to tell the story of a society imperilled by dark forces.

Die Presse

Dana Grigorceas irreverent and cryptic novel provides food for both thought and terror.

Frankfurter Rundschau

A horror story about a country.

Kleine Zeitung

Those Who Never Die is a humorous, baroque and atmospheric reinterpretation of the Gothic novel.

NZZ am Sonntag

Grigorcea created a multifaceted tableau of a post-communist society [...] She examines the political fissures of this world with a sharp eye and masterful style [...].

Freie Presse

The novel entices us with its original approach; the author creates a fresh perspective by interweaving political past with national mythology.

Der Evangelische Buchberater

Sparkling, fascinating.

Deutschlandfunk Kultur „Buchkritik“

Dana Grigorceas strength lies in her characters, and especially also in those vivid, atmospheric passages that suggest the presence of something intangible [...].

Badische Zeitung

A politically astute author.

Luzerner Zeitung

Oh, how we laughed! is the credo of everyone from the smug mayor to Margots preposterous, condescending friends. A marvellously scintillating comedy.

ZEIT Literatur

The novel is riveting not only for the story of Dracula, but also for the scenes and imagery with which she describes post-communist Romania [...].

SRF Kultur TV 'Literaturclub'

A magical blend of myth and reality.

Bieler Tagblatt

Historical periods are blurred in this novel, which employs highly poetical devices to cast a sharp eye over the political fissures of the post-communist world.

SWR2 'Buchkritik'

Grigorcea skilfully plays with various horror devices, while having an altogether different target: the corrupt politicians of the post-communist era, the real bloodsuckers.

Kleine Zeitung, Literaturnewsletter

Those Who Never Die sustains its tensions thanks to a style that's refreshing, well balanced and to the point.

sda-Basisdienst

A novel located between waking and dreaming, past and present, fact and fiction.

Bücheratlas

A unique, captivating novel which tackles a wealth of topics, as mysterious as it is fascinating – definitely one of the highlights of the year.

Letteratura

Grigorcea resurrects the voivode Count Vlad with a novel that glitters like a black rainbow.

Die Presse

Grigorcea's vivid and powerfully written novel is a nightmarish

fairy tale, thriller and bleak social commentary rolled into one.

kulturnews.de

[Grigorcea] conjures up a new literary genre – the political Gothic novel – and all we can do is wonder why it hasn't been done before.

Neue Zürcher Zeitung

A fantastic, free-floating but rational look at the horrors and everyday life of Romanian society before and after Ceausescu.

Frankfurter Rundschau

An outrageous, extremely illuminating novel [...] Grigorcea has important things to say, and little time for poking about in the emotional fog of her own identity [...] She mixes past and present horrors so skilfully that she entirely succeeds in her literary aim – which you might call subversion through affirmation.

Tagesspiegel

The novel proves that she can write sensuously, pithily, and with an eye for comedy – while playfully and imaginatively portraying a piece of history.

Tagesanzeiger



Fiction, Literary Fiction

Publishing House: Penguin
Format: Hardcover
Pages: 176
Original title: Die Verlassenen

MATTHIAS JÜGLER

The Forsaken

NOVEL

Date of publication: March 01, 2021

Sample Translation available

Nobody is safe from those crucial moments that change everything

What would you forget, if you could?


Johannes looks back on his childhood in East Germany, and the cracks that ran through it: his mother's early death, his father's mysterious disappearance. All his questions remained unanswered, and he now treads carefully on his path through life. He's a melancholic loner, who has settled into a quiet existence. When Johannes finds a letter in an old chest – addressed to his father and sent only a few days before he left his son without a word – the discovery transforms not only his future, but also his past as a child in the GDR before the Wall came down. His memories arrange themselves into a new pattern, and with it his attitude to his own life changes.

With penetrating vigour and forceful clarity, Matthias Jügler tells a story of loss and betrayal, of the value of memory and the urgent questions that are troubling a whole generation. A warm-hearted, radiant novel written with extraordinary linguistic intensity.

Matthias Jüglers deeply felt and beautifully narrated novella is a striking portrait of the tensions and complexities of life in

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AUTHOR

Matthias Jügler



© Melina Mörsdorf

Matthias Jügler, born in 1984, did a degree in Slavonic and history of art in Greifswald and Oslo and studied creative writing at the Institute of Literature in Leipzig. His 2015 debut novel Raubfischen was awarded numerous prizes. Jügler has been a writer-in-residence in Pfaffenhofen, won a scholarship from the Literarisches Colloquium Berlin, and was a writer-in-residence at the Goethe Institute in Uzbekistan. He lives in Leipzig with his wife and children, and is a freelance editor.

the German Democratic Republic.

New Books in German

Matthias Jüglers style is simultaneously spare and dense, unadorned, vivid and deeply sensitive. The Forsaken is an impressive, utterly moving family history.

B5 aktuell "Neues vom Buchmarkt"

A harrowing yet captivating novel, a pitch-black account of the East German culture of remembrance – one of the best books of the season.

Deutschlandfunk "Büchermarkt"

Matthias Jüglers terse, unadorned sentences carry such force that the book is impossible to put down.

Berliner Morgenpost

The first-person narrators investigative instinct pervades the plot, which blends episodes from the former GDR and events since its fall sensitively and lyrically [...].

Freie Presse

Jügler tells the story in a style that is unadorned, concise and empathetic, [and] artfully and captivatingly plays with time and perspective.

WDR 5 "Bücher"

A thoughtful political thriller, ending in a gripping showdown. What makes it so particularly good is that it is moving, yet never maudlin.

Der Tagesspiegel

Jügler writes sober, pithy sentences [...], which make it an

unbelievably good read. Once youve picked up The Forsaken, a ringing phone stands no chance. He reveals the substance of the long shadows cast by the East Germany state [...]. One of the novels strengths is the way that it leaves the reader room to manoeuvre and think. A brilliant novel.

MDR KULTUR „Lesezeit“

A riveting novel. Jüglers style is unadorned, yet so intense that it sometimes takes your breath away. He gives voice to a whole generation, and finds words for what, in the GDR, was unspeakable, and about which many East German families remained silent for decades.

NDR Kultur

Jüglers ability to tell the story concisely and calmly, but at the same time insistently and vividly, is hugely impressive.

Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

A short yet dramatic story that will stay with you. As gentle and profound as a Puccini prelude.

Playboy

Jügler tells the compelling story of the Stasis monstrous interventions in peoples lives.

Leipziger Volkszeitung

A novel that calmly unfolds its power, and amplifies that power without pageantry. [...] Jüglers coolness is reminiscent of Scandinavian storytellers. Nothing escapes his keen eye for social detail, which means that readers everywhere will connect with the novel [...]. An astonishing and touching novel, without the least hint of Ost propaganda about it.

Mitteldeutsche Zeitung

The Forsaken is about accepting the truth even if it turns your own past upside down [...]. Its style is dizzyingly intense and compelling.

MDR Kulturmagazin 'artour'

A haunting, penetrating exploration of the chasms and disruptions created – then as now – by the injustices of the GDR. [...] A forceful, vibrant and sad story [...].

Die Seitenschneider

A profoundly moving story, told vividly and with much empathy.

NDR 1 'Kulturjournal'

A masterpiece of concision.

Berliner Zeitung

Whats so thoroughly impressive is Jüglers ability to tell this story both concisely and coolly, but also convincingly and vividly, in equal measure.

Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

Unadorned, accessible and detailed – itll stay with you for a long time.

Super TV

A truly superb achievement, cleverly told and executed within a relatively small space. One of the best books of the year.

hr2 Kultur 'New Books'

A novel that argues against silence and suppression. Jügler gives his generation a voice – he analyses, takes stock, and champions justice [...].



Fiction, Literary Fiction

Publishing House: C. Bertelsmann

Format: Hardcover

Pages: 368

Original title: Der Kirschbaum, den sie ihrer Mutter nie schenkte

SIBA SHAKIB

The Cherry Tree She Never Gave Her Mother

NOVEL

Date of publication: April 26, 2021

A compelling novel about the healing power of storytelling

Middle-aged Anoush's life has reached a turning point: her friend Anouk, like herself the daughter of an Iranian father and a German mother, who was like a sister to her when they were children in Teheran, has committed suicide. Time stops for Anoush. It isn't the first time she has lost Anouk, but now she has lost her forever.

Anoush, who cut all ties with her parents in Iran many years ago, retreats into her small house in the Italian region of Marche. Nature and the simple life are what she needs right now – but despite her efforts she's unable to finish the novel she has been working on for a long time now. Then a mysterious woman appears at her door, claiming to have lost her memory. She looks familiar, but Anoush doesn't know why. While the woman – whom Anoush calls Anouk – takes Anoush back into her own past, the novel Anoush is working on helps both women to find themselves again. And Anoush finally manages to reconcile herself with her mother and with life.

A powerfully written novel about the healing power of storytelling, as colourful and artfully woven as an oriental rug.

A beautiful story that encourages us to release our inner

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AUTHOR

Siba Shakib



© Giacomo Terracciano

Born in Iran, Siba Shakib grew up in Teheran and attended a German school there. A writer and filmmaker, she has frequently travelled to Afghanistan, visiting the north as well as the territory controlled by the Taliban. Several of her documentaries have won awards. Her first book, Afghanistan, Where God Only Comes to Weep was an international bestseller. It was followed by the equally successful novels Samira and Samir (2003) and Eskandar (2009).

powers.

RHEINexklusiv

You find yourself right there by Anoushs side, completely immersed in the little house and the Italian landscape. A true gift of a book!

Denglers Buchkritik

Whats extraordinary about Shakibs novel is the way she tells it [...] – a story constructed out of snapshots, leaping from one year to another.

Vilshofener Anzeiger

A vivid novel about the importance of stories, making peace with your past and starting afresh.

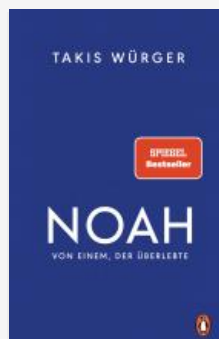
L.MAG

An unsettling, dramatic story about a life lived in Iran and making peace with the past, for readers who enjoy immersing themselves in other cultures.

Der Evangelische Buchberater

With much compassion, Siba Shakib shows us the healing power of storytelling.

SWA - Der Siegerländer für das Wochenende



Fiction, Literary Fiction

Publishing House: Penguin
Format: Hardcover
Pages: 188
Illustrations: 1 color
illustrations
Original title: Noah – Von
einem, der überlebte

TAKIS WÜRGER

Noah

BY ONE WHO SURVIVED

Date of publication: March 01, 2021

Rights sold to: Czech Republic (Host), The Netherlands (Signatuur)

Persecuted, Smuggler, Prisoner, Thief, Sailor, Fighter, Saviour. The story of a hero.

Noah Klieger was 13 when he joined a Jewish underground organisation during the German occupation of Belgium helping to smuggle Jewish children to Switzerland.


Noah Klieger was 16 when he arrived in Auschwitz as prisoner at freezing degrees one morning. Noah Klieger had never before boxed when upon arrival the prisoners were asked if there were boxers among them and he raised his hand. The daily extra ration of soup for the Auschwitz boxing squad let him survive long enough.

Noah Klieger was 20 when the extermination camp was liberated. He survived three death marches and four concentration camps in a time when a single word, a raised hand or a wrong step could decide about life and death. And yet, even in the dark, ice-cold hours, he found hope, he found those who fought the Germans, he found allies who stole potatoes with him, he found a doctor who saved his life, he found cunning and luck in one last loaf of bread.

Takis Würger tells the story of Noah Klieger's life – from his childhood days in 1920s France and his survival of the Nazi concentration camps to his commitment to the founding of Israel. The report of a great hero's life – breathtakingly well

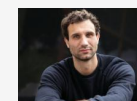
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AUTHOR

Takis Würger



© Sven Döring

Takis Würger, born in 1985, works as journalist for the news magazine Der Spiegel reporting from Afghanistan, Libya or Iraq among others. His reports won numerous awards such as the German Reporter Prize and the CNN Journalist Award. At 28, he left for England to study history of ideas at the University of Cambridge. 2017 saw the publication of his debut novel The Club, which was nominated for the Aspekte Literature Prize and was awarded the Lit.Cologne Debut Prize.

written.

A story that must never be forgotten.

The memories of a Jewish hero. Good that Noah Kliegers story is recorded for future generations. A moving, harrowing, wonderful book.

Jüdische Allgemeine

A moving, deeply affecting, enlightening and absolutely essential book.

NDR Kultur 'Neue Bücher'

With his short, simple sentences, Würger creates an immediacy that hits the reader with full force.

Appenzeller Zeitung

An utterly invaluable book.

Radio Bremen Hörfunk, COSMO

Noah will reach those young readers who might not be keen to read Primo Levi or Imre Kertész.

Hamburger Abendblatt

In direct, straightforward sentences, Würger lets the survivor Noah Klieger speak for himself, in his own voice.

3sat "Kulturzeit"

Tells Noah Kliegers story in a hard-hitting, sober style, so that his words all the more acutely disclose the full horror of it.

denglers-buchkritik.de

When someone lives in a catastrophic time, all they can do is write everything down, and thereby preserve it for future

generations. Noah Klieger wasnt able to do this, but fortunately for us Takis Würger has done it for him.

Die Welt

A vital reminder of post-Holocaust history, which is in danger of being forgotten.

taz

Würgers new book follows the tradition of oral history. [...] A great gift for the reader and an important contribution to the memory of the Shoah.

Prof. Michael Brenner

An account that keeps alive our memory of the darkest chapter in German history.

WDR 5 'Bücher'

Sensitive and touching.

FOCUS

A fascinating biography of the survivor Noah Klieger – unadorned, shocking, and powerfully told.

Wasserburger Stimme



Fiction, Literary Fiction

Publishing House:
Luchterhand Literaturverlag
Format: Hardcover
Pages: 416
Original title: Über Menschen

JULI ZEH

On Humans

NOVEL

Date of publication: March 22, 2021

Rights sold to: Greece (Metaixmio), Korea (Eunhahengnanmu), The Netherlands (Ambo Anthos), Norway (Gyldendal), Poland (Sonia Draga), US/World English (World Editions)

Do we dare to be truly human?


Dora moved to the countryside with her little dog. She desperately needed a change of scenery, more freedom and room to breathe. But Bracken, the small village in Brandenburg, is not quite as idyllic as she thought. There is no furniture in the house yet, the garden resembles a wilderness, and the bus connection to the district town is a joke. But above all, behind the high garden wall there resides a neighbour who, with his shaved head and right-wing slogans, seems to conform to all the prejudices.

Dora has to ask herself what she is looking for: Distance from her boyfriend, who is becoming increasingly alien to her in his dogged climate activism? Refuge from the inner turmoil that keeps her up at night? Answers to the question of when the world actually got so mixed up? While Dora is trying to keep her thoughts and demons in check, things happen in her vicinity she could not have expected. She encounters people who do not fit into any mould, who fundamentally challenge her ideas and her previous life, and who make her experience something she would never have thought she was looking for.

Juli Zeh's novel tells the story of today – of our prejudices, weaknesses and demons, as well as the hidden strengths we reveal when we allow ourselves to be

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AUTHOR

Juli Zeh



© Peter von Felbert

Juli Zeh, born in 1974, studied law in Passau and Leipzig and took her PhD in the field of European and international law. This was followed by longer stints in New York and Kraków. Her debut novel *Eagles and Angels* was an international bestseller, and since then her books have been translated into 35 languages. She has been awarded myriad prizes for her work, including the Carl Amery Literature Prize and the Thomas Mann Prize. In 2018, she received the German Order of Merit, and was appointed judge at the constitutional court in the state of Brandenburg.

For more information visit www.juli-zeh.de

truly human.

A novel for our times, especially our Covid-times, in which much is clarified and intensified, including failure, loneliness and sanguine fits of hatred.

WDR 3

A deft, imaginative and absorbing novel about a post-heroic protagonist, who is sweating from hard work rather than fear, caught between stoicism and struggle.

Kölnner Stadtanzeiger

A cool-headed and politically astute portrait of a village where life is precarious, beset by a dying infrastructure and right-wing attitudes.

Bayern 2

I would love to recommend this to everyone to read, to break down all these walls that somehow exist between the different groups in society.

rbb Kultur

A conciliatory novel that does not conceal evil, but demonstrates that the world, viewed less ideologically, could be a little more humane.

Deutschlandfunk Kultur

Juli Zeh has hit it big with On Humans. The novel is gripping and does not make it easy for itself or its audience.

rbb Inforadio

The first true Corona novel set in the midst of the Spring 2020 lockdown, subtly describing the social and very private

consequences of the pandemic.

Süddeutsche Zeitung

A revealing novel about the state of our nation.

SWR Fernsehen Lesenswert, Denis Scheck

JAROSLAV RUDIŠ, NICOLAS MAHLER



Fiction, Graphic Novels & Cartoons

Publishing House:
Luchterhand Literaturverlag
Format: Hardcover
Pages: 144
Illustrations: 144 color illustrations
Original title: Nachtgestalten

Creatures of the Night

Date of publication: February 22, 2021

Rights sold to: Czech Republic (Labyrinth)

In the pub, they talk of life – Jaroslav Rudiš's first graphic novel

One night, one city, and two friends who know that there's nothing greater than the truth of the moment when the pubs close. Drifting from one beer to the next and one tale to the next, two creatures of the night tell incisive, smart stories full of subversive humour about the tragedy of love and the madness of life, as well as about the traces of history that lie beneath and never quite disappear.

A heaven-sent collaboration.

Süddeutsche Zeitung

While our pubs remain out of action, we warmly recommend *Creatures of the Night* to all pub crawlers.

Hamburger Abendblatt


It seems like a continuation of the dialogue in *Waiting for Godot*. But quirkier. More real.

Kurier

With a great feeling for rhythm, they bring pub-talk to life – where no topic is too big to address, or too small to embrace.

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AUTHOR

Jaroslav Rudiš



© Peter von Felbert

Jaroslav Rudiš, born in 1972, is a writer, scriptwriter and dramatist. He studied German and history in Prague, Zürich and Berlin and has worked as a teacher and journalist. In 2012-2013 he was the Siegfried Unseld guest professor at the Humboldt University in Berlin. His novels *Grand Hotel*, *The Stillness in Prague*, *On the End of Punk in Helsinki*, *National Route* and *The Sky Under Berlin* were originally written in Czech. He was awarded several prizes and two of his novels have been made into films. *Winterberg's Final Journey*, his first novel in German, was nominated for the 2019 Leipzig Book Fair Prize. He has also been awarded the Usedom Prize for Literature, the Literaturhäuser Prize and the Chamisso/Hellerau Prize.

Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

Simultaneously melancholic and funny.

Süddeutsche Zeitung

Their heroically glum characters recall Becketts Vladimir and Estragon, with a pinch of Jaroslav Hašek's The Good Soldier Švejk.

St. Galler Tagblatt

An elegy for the unlived life, not only during lockdown.

Welt am Sonntag

A collaboration between two of our most astute authors.

Denis Scheck / BuchSzene

A tragicomic duet of words and images.

MDR Kultur



Fiction, Contemporary Fiction

Publishing House: Heyne
Hardcore
Format: Hardcover
Pages: 352
Original title: Die Optimistin

TIMO BLUNCK

The Optimist

NOVEL

Date of publication: March 08, 2021

A novel uniting generations and cultures

Charlotte Keller is an unconditional optimist. Shortly before her eightieth birthday, she takes in the runaway bridegroom Toygar Bayramoğlu. Over two days, in her flat in an old people's home on the Baltic coast, she tells him the story of her life. But Toygar soon realises that although her story may be accurate, none of it is true. Charlotte Keller is the German version of Jonas Jonasson's Hundred-Year-Old Man.

A heart-warming comedy that celebrates our love of storytelling.

Galore

A whirlwind ride through recent history.

Fränkische Nachrichten

The all-rounder Timo Bluncks uproarious and action-packed new novel.

Buchkultur

Sparks fly in this anarchic, offbeat and daring novel.

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AUTHOR

Timo Blunck



© Elliot Blunck

Timo Blunck, born in 1962, is a musician, singer, composer, producer and writer. From 1981 he played bass guitar in Palais Schaumburg, the internationally successful avant-garde punk band. About this time he and Detlef Diederichsen also set up the band Die Zimmermänner, with which he is still active today. Timo Blunck moved to London in 1990 and to the USA in 1993. Since 2001 he has been in charge of a company in Hamburg that licences and produces music.

Hamburger Abendblatt

Great fun!

Neues Deutschland



**Fiction, Contemporary
Fiction**

Publishing House: Limes
Format: Hardcover
Pages: 384
Original title: Der Algorithmus
der Menschlichkeit

VERA BUCK

The Algorithm of Humanity

Date of publication: March 22, 2021

Why do people not want to be happy? And how can it be that only a machine can find the true path to happiness?

If you meet Mari, you will notice that she is beautiful and almost hauntingly perfect. But also that she fails to get jokes and vies everything rationally. And if you get to know her better, you will notice that Mari needs neither sleep nor food. Because Mari is only almost human. Her artificial intelligence is constantly learning to do one job: to make people happy.

When Mari ends up in a Berlin apartment after an unfortunate chain of circumstances with a motley crew of people, including the rebellious blogger Frieda and the lonely student Linus, she realizes that her mission is all but easy. The world follows its own logic, people's desires are irrational and Mari has to understand that there exists a world beyond provable facts. How is she supposed to make beings happy that have no clue what they want? She comes up with a solution no human would have ever expected...

The Algorithm of Humanity deals with questions that are becoming incredibly important in the current developments in the technology sector: What makes us human? Why do we need each other? And why do we actually need more of each other, and less of the new technologies that are constantly being developed? For all readers of Graeme Simsion's *The Rosie Project* and Ian McEwan's *Machines Like Me*.

A very funny book exploring the relationship between humans

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AUTHOR

Vera Buck



© Privat

Vera Buck, born in 1986, studied journalism in Hannover and scriptwriting on Hawaii. During this time she wrote texts for radio, television and print media and later short stories for anthologies and literary magazines. After working at universities in France, Spain and Italy, Vera Buck now lives and works in Zürich.

and AI.

Evangelisches Literaturportal

Vera Buck provides food for thought.

Mein-bielefelder.de



Fiction, Contemporary Fiction

Publishing House: Limes
 Format: Hardcover
 Pages: 320
 Original title: Denn Familie sind wir trotzdem

HEIKE DUKEN

We're Still Family

NOVEL

Date of publication: March 15, 2021

A story about mothers and daughters, guilt and forgiveness, and how we become who we are

The past is casting its long shadow over the family Fux, all the way from 1925 – when two young brothers were raised to become soldiers, and, in the 1930s, forced to decide whose side they're on – to the present day. Ina, the daughter of one of the brothers, is estranged from her family and its history. When she becomes pregnant at 19, she decides to raise her daughter Floh by herself, as the baby's father is unwilling to stay.

Years later Floh, now a young woman, starts looking into her family history – driven by her anger at her absent father, at the state and at society. What she discovers – as well as her own pregnancy – changes everything. History threatens to repeat itself, but Floh is determined to work together with her grandfather to overcome the curse of yesterday and search for the one thing that will, despite everything, keep the family together.

Inspired by Heike Duken's own family history.

I've rarely read a family story as good as this – lean, with a great literary quality, and thoroughly moving.

Frankenschau Aktuell

Heike Duken has a bright, breezy style and perfect pitch, and

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AUTHOR

Heike Duken



© Frank Hanewacker / Sedan Sieben

Heike Duken, born in 1966, studied psychology and is a psychotherapist with her own practice. She has been writing ever since she could read the letters of the alphabet, and her first book was a pirate story she wrote as a Year 3 pupil. Her novel When Life Gives You a Tortoise was awarded a scholarship from the German Literature Fund and won high praise from both the media and readers. In *We're Still Family*, Heike Duken once again displays her particular talent for creating realistic and vivid characters.

her writing is full of energy.

Berliner Zeitung

Heike Duken writes with a light touch and a pacy style, and has a sure eye for tone and building momentum.

Frankfurter Rundschau

Vividly told – by turns moving and thoroughly entertaining.

Die Presse

A moving novel in which everything works.

lesbar-online.de

A novel that gets under your skin. [...] A superb piece of social commentary.

Sonntag Express

Finally, a story to add to the list of the best books Ive ever read.

Eschborner Stadtmagazin

Cinematic, [...] empathetic and stylistically ambitious – in short, a family story that sucks you right in.

BR

What makes it so special is Heike Dukens utterly sensitive yet rigorous telling of the story.

WDR 4 'Buch Tipp'

A fascinating family story, written in a sober and thus deeply moving style.

belletristikcouch.de



**Fiction, Contemporary
Fiction**

Publishing House: C.
Bertelsmann
Format: Hardcover
Pages: 336
Original title: Was von Dora
blieb

ANJA HIRSCH

What Dora Left Behind

Date of publication: March 15, 2021

Grandmother and Granddaughter – and a German century

Isa's marriage is in trouble. Deeply hurt, she flees to Lake Constance. In her suitcase are old letters and diaries belonging to her mysterious grandmother Dora. To take her mind off things, Isa delves into Dora's story: In the 1920s, Dora studied decorative arts at the Folkwangschule, a Bauhaus-style arts academy. There, she developed an intense friendship with two fellow students – the miner's son Frantek and extravagant Maritz – which eventually turned into a love triangle. Years later, Dora married a manager at I.G. Farben, a fact hardly ever mentioned in Isa's family.

More and more questions spring up: What was Isa's grandfather's role in the Second World War, and why was her father sent to a notorious Nazi boarding school? The more Isa digs into her family history, the more she understands Dora, and herself. Ultimately, she is forced to ask what it means to live a responsible life – and faces an important decision.

A moving novel about the difficulty of the war-grandchildren generation to anchor themselves in their own lives and a fascinating search for clues in which the readers meet themselves again and again.

For readers of Christian Berkel, Anne Gesthuysen and Annette Hess.

Whats remarkable about the novel is the way that it keeps up the tension across its time shifts, and at the same time interrogates itself and its kind.

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AUTHOR

Anja Hirsch



© Frank Wierke

Anja Hirsch, born in 1969 in Frankfurt am Main, studied in Freiburg, Bielefeld and Canada, and has a PhD in German. She works as a freelance journalist for various outlets (including Deutschlandfunk, the Frankfurter Allgemeine and WDR radio), and has been a member of the jury for the Rolf Dieter Brinkmann Stipend and the independent publishers' Hotlist Prize. What Dora Left Behind is her first novel.

Westdeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung

Contemporary history meets smart female drama.

Für Sie

A gem of contemporary history-writing, which traces one family's changing fortunes across a whole century [...]

MDR Kultur "Unter Büchern"

[Hirsch] manages to bring the seemingly unapproachable Dora to life, and it is a joy to discover her unusual story [...]

Freie Presse

In her debut novel, Anja Hirsch employs every register known to the literature of memory.

Die Tageszeitung 'Junge Welt'

Anja Hirsch knows how to condense the highs and lows of history – and of a family – vividly and grippingly, without pathos or sentimentality.

Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

We need books like this.

Salzburger Nachrichten

KLARA JAHN

The Colour of the North Wind

NOVEL

Date of publication: March 08, 2021

When the search for home turns into a search for yourself

Ellen has always felt like a visitor in her own life. Except once, when she was young and briefly lived on the Halligen islands with her mother. She never wanted to leave, but had no say in the matter. Now she returns to these oddly familiar marshes – and to Liske, who once was like a sister to her.

As they grow closer, old conflicts are stirred up again; but Ellen refuses to give up.

Because she knows that this is her true home.

For readers of Delia Owens' Where the Crawdads Sing.

A gripping literary voyage [...] wonderful!

Bild am Sonntag

You can almost smell the salty air and hear the seagulls – a beautiful novel that almost feels like a little holiday.

Petra

A very modern story about a young woman who sets out to find herself – and nevertheless also poetic, in its simply wonderful landscape.

Domradio



Fiction, Women's Fiction

Publishing House: Heyne

Format: Hardcover

Pages: 400

Original title: Die Farbe des Nordwinds

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AUTHOR

Klara Jahn



© privat

Klara Jahn is the pseudonym of a famous bestselling author. She is a historian, and loves telling big stories – and to dive deep into the history and people of her locations, guided by her love for nature and fascination with rugged landscapes. The Colour of the North Wind is her first book for Heyne, in which she takes on northern Germany, whose austere beauty has enthralled her for years.

A deeply moving book about life on a small island in the North Sea.

Die Presse

An homage to the breathtaking, yet endangered, world of the Hallig islands. Atmospheric and hauntingly told.

BRF1 Radio



Fiction, Literary Fiction

Publishing House: Goldmann
 Format: Hardcover
 Pages: 288
 Illustrations: 23 b/w illustrations
 Original title: Bergland

JARKA KUBSOVA

Mountain Country

Date of publication: May 24, 2021

English sample translation available

An old mountain farm in South Tyrol. A woman battling against nature. A world with its very own rules.

Rosa is a woman like no other in Tiefenthal. During the early 1940s, while the sons of South Tyrol are being consumed by the war, the youngest daughter of the Breitenbergers remains behind on the farm with her father. In the difficult years following her father's death, Rosa is left to fend for herself in this isolated landscape, battling against nature to forge a life.

Two generations later, Rosa's grandson Hannes and his wife Franziska are relying on tourism to keep the farm afloat. But life up here is no picnic. And the problems they face raise an old question: should they stay or leave?

An impressive literary debut.

ZEIT Reisen


A moving story of a family of farmers that gives us a deep insight into both the family and the evolution of South Tyrol.

Münchner Merkur

A book that will move you and make you think, without ever threatening to succumb to idealisation and cliché. Highly recommended.

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AUTHOR

Jarka Kubsova



© Christoph Niemann

Jarka Kubsova was born in the Czech Republic in 1977. When she was ten, her family emigrated to Germany. After studying nursing in Hamburg, she joined the Financial Times Germany, first as a trainee and then as a reporter. She has also worked for Stern and Die Zeit. Mountain Country is her first novel.

ALPIN

A moving novel.

Frau von heute

My novel of the year.

Karla Paul, Long Story Short

**With its clear-cut style, Bergland opens our eyes to the
hardship of surviving in an unforgiving environment [...].**

SWA – Der Siegerländer für das Wochenende



Fiction, Contemporary Fiction

Publishing House: Blessing
 Format: Hardcover
 Pages: 544
 Original title: Räuber

EVA LADIPO

Robbers

NOVEL

Date of publication: March 08, 2021

Who owns the city?

When the social housing flat he lives in with his mother is sold, Olli Leber knows what it means: People like him no longer have the right to live in the centre of Berlin. But the young construction worker does not want to be quietly disposed of and blows the counterattack.

He finds an unexpected ally in Amelie. The well-known journalist has old scores to settle and her own reasons for feeling betrayed by the city. Together, the two embark on a battle for justice. A fight that gets more and more out of control. The big novel about average earners being priced out of city centres.

Robbers is a roman-à-clef. [...] Ladipo has once again produced an entertaining novel with characters you care about, on a subject of great social import.

WDR 5 "Lese Frucht"

Gripping and often very funny, with quick-fire dialogue and a sense for timing.

Berliner Morgenpost

[Ladipo's] characters engage in stylistically confident, lively dialogues, and she gives them imaginative back stories that

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AUTHOR

Eva Ladipo



© Alex Schlacher

Eva Ladipo, born in 1974, studied political science at Cambridge and did her PhD on the Russian tax system. She began her career as a journalist at the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung and most recently worked for the Financial Times. She spent several years in Russia and Colombia, and now lives in London with her husband and two children. Her first novel, Turning Point, was published in 2015.

make for a believable cast of Berliners.

Berliner Zeitung

A passionate novel, which explains as much as it entertains [...] a success.

Augsburger Allgemeine

It can't be easy to turn so much explosive social commentary into literature, yet Ladipo has succeeded in doing so with *Robbers*. Simply splendid.

taz FUTURZWEI



Fiction, Contemporary Fiction

Publishing House: Goldmann
Format: Hardcover
Pages: 256
Original title: Lauter nette Menschen

ANGELIKA WALDIS

Lots of Nice People

Date of publication: March 15, 2021

A glimpse behind the façade of a seemingly perfect family

The Drehers are a perfectly normal family, with two children, a house and a cat. They eat together, they talk to each other. But the new year brings changes with it: when Inge's latest project, the young refugee Tariq, moves into their basement, Heiner grumbles and hides away in their summer house, where he composes poems and angry letters. The two teenage sons Nick and Josch rebel in their own way, and discover the joy of forbidden things.

At the end of this perfectly ordinary year, nothing will ever be the same again in the Drehers' lives – except for the cat.

Angelika Waldis writes with an imaginative playfulness and superb lightness of touch, without ever becoming superficial.

Jury commendation, ZKB Schiller Prize

Once again, its impossible to praise Angelika Waldiss writing highly enough. Every sentence, metaphor, joke and neologism is a complete success.

Luzerner Zeitung

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AUTHOR

Angelika Waldis



© Peter von Felbert

Angelika Waldis was born in Switzerland in 1940. Together with her husband, she spent many years publishing Spick, a pioneering magazine for schoolchildren. She published her first book at the age of sixty-five. Swiss booksellers named her novel I'm Coming With You their favourite German-language book of 2019.

SOPHIE FABER

Wanted: Dream Man. Cats Provided.

Date of publication: April 13, 2021

If you keep meowing, things will eventually turn out all right

Beatrix 'Trixie' Vogelsang is in her mid-forties, works as an assistant to the young vet Finn, and gets on famously with every one of the clinic's fluffy, button-eyed and feathered patients. She loves to bring love into the world, and acts as an – occasionally successful – matchmaker for the animals' owners.

But what about her? Since her husband's death she's been content to spend her evenings with her three tomcats Freddie, Godzilla and Nosferatu. But does it always have to be this way?



Fiction, Women's Fiction

Publishing House: Heyne
 Format: Paperback
 Pages: 304
 Original title: Traummann
 gesucht. Katzen vorhanden.

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AUTHOR

Sophie Faber

Sophie Faber, born in 1973, lives in Berlin's Schöneberg district with her three tomcats, and shares her time between the two significant men in her life: her husband and her vet. She always carries a lint roller in her handbag, and is quite sure that she'll be a quirky cat lady in her old age.



Fiction, Women's Fiction

Publishing House: Penguin
Format: Paperback
Pages: 400
Original title: Drei Frauen und ein Sommer

LUCINDE HUTZENLAUB

Three Women, One Summer

NOVEL

Date of publication: May 10, 2021


Three women, an unforgettable summer, and a place that reawakens memories

Shortly before her 40th birthday, Kiki finds out that the man with whom she planned to spend the rest of her life is about to marry someone else. And then her mother asks her to come with her on a visit to Kiki's aunt in the mountains. Kiki only reluctantly agrees. But on a summer's evening by the lake, as the last rays of the sun warm the flat pebbles on the shore and Kiki inhales the scent of ripe raspberries, she begins to understand why her aunt Elsie feels so bound to this place.

At last, Elsie tells her the tragic story of Kurt, the love of her life, whom she met here during the last years of the war. Kiki senses her own attitude to many things in life change – particularly when the charming carpenter Jakob crosses her path...

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AUTHOR

Lucinde Hutzenlaub



© Gaby Gerster/Feinkorn

Lucinde Hutzenlaub is a writer and columnist for Donna, and the manager of a large family with four children. Her book "I Thought Growing Older Would Take Longer" (with Heike Abidi) was in the bestseller lists for weeks. She lives and works in southern Germany.



MANUELA INUSA

Strawberry Promises

THE CALIFORNIAN DREAMS SERIES (VOL. 4)

NOVEL

Date of publication: February 15, 2021

The sweet scent of strawberries in the summer, and powerful emotions – welcome back to California!

Amanda has spent many happy years with her family on their strawberry farm near Carmel-by-the-Sea. Until her husband Tom died 18 months ago leaving her on her own with her daughter Jane. Jane finds it hard to deal with the loss of her father, and Amanda, too, struggles to go on without her beloved Tom and run the plantation single-handedly.

When her best friend suggests that she joins a bereavement support group, Amanda eventually agrees, in the hope that she'll learn how to deal with her sorrow. However, what she doesn't know is that she'll encounter someone very special there. And then she remembers a promise she once made her husband...

Fiction, Women's Fiction

Publishing House: Blanvalet

Format: Paperback

Pages: 416

Original title:

Erdbeerversprechen

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AUTHOR

Manuela Inusa



© Stefani Jobe

Manuela Inusa, born in 1981, already wanted to become an author as a child. Shortly before her thirtieth birthday, the trained foreign language correspondent said to herself, "It's now or never!" After some success in self-publishing, her current novels are published by Blanvalet. After the Valerie Lane series, the California Dreams books are now melting readers' hearts and conquering the bestseller lists along the way. In her spare time, she enjoys reading and traveling, and also has a penchant for scented candles, tea and chocolate.



Fiction, Women's Fiction

Publishing House: Blanvalet
 Format: Paperback
 Pages: 320
 Original title: Die kleine Puppenklinik

NELLY LEWALD

The Little Toy Hospital

NOVEL

Date of publication: May 17, 2021

As she fights to save her toy hospital, a young toy doctor discovers what she's made of

Lena's toy hospital in a Munich back yard is a jewel from the days of old: here, adults delight in long-forgotten memories, and the neighbourhood children think of it as their very own paradise. Lena loves treating her cuddly patients, and the way the children's faces light up. The only problem is that her private life and happiness have always played second fiddle. When the owner of the plot of land dies and a group of Chinese investors plans a luxury development, Lena has to choose between giving up and fighting for her toy hospital.

She decides to go into battle – with the help and advice of her colleague Ekki, her notoriously opinionated friend Katja, charming Mateo and eight-year-old Emma. And in the process, she learns to take charge of her own life too.

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AUTHOR

Nelly Lewald

Nelly Lewald is the pseudonym of a successful German children's and YA author. Her novels have been translated into many languages, and have won several awards. The Charming Toy Doctor was her debut novel for adults, and her first for Blanvalet.



CHARLOTTE MCGREGOR

Highland Hope – A Bed & Breakfast for Kirkby

THE HIGHLAND HOPE SAGA (VOL. 1)
NOVEL

Date of publication: April 13, 2021

Highland Hope 2 – A Pub for Kirkby to be published in July 2021 // Highland Hope 3 – A Distillery for Kirkby to be published in October 2021

The rough charm of the Scottish Highlands, a picturesque village and passionate love

Colleen Murray has nothing to lose when she leaves Boston behind at the request of her late father to spend a few months in his Scottish birthplace of Kirkby. At first, she barely notices the beauty of the Highlands and the villagers' idiosyncratic charm, but then she meets Alex Fraser, the owner of the romantic local B&B. Not only is the single father just her type, but he also shares her love of horse riding. Will Colleen's journey to her roots finally help her to find her place in the world? Happiness seems to be within reach – until Alex's past catches up with him, and threatens to ruin everything...

Fiction, Women's Fiction

Publishing House: Heyne
Format: Paperback
Pages: 448
Original title: Highland Hope 1
- Ein Bed & Breakfast für Kirkby

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AUTHOR

Charlotte McGregor



© Tina Funcke

Charlotte McGregor knows what it feels like to yearn for a place, and even as a small child she was always drawn to cities and countries she only knew from books or films. The journalist spent many years writing travel pieces for newspapers and magazines, before deciding to immortalise her favourite locations in her novels. Scotland is currently the place that makes her heart beat faster, and she regularly visits its towns, villages and Highlands, enthusiastically embracing all things whisky, haggis and kilt.



EMMA STERNBERG

A Garden for Two

NOVEL

Date of publication: May 10, 2021

Charming, warm-hearted and fresh as a spring day


Lu is smart, quick-witted and super-successful as a lawyer in a top law firm. But then her big brother Pip dies and all of a sudden Lu no longer knows which way is up and which way is down. At first she just wants to hole up in Pip's gazebo, but then spring comes.

Nature awakens, and while Lu digs in the earth, she discovers not only that happiness is something you can touch with your hands. But also what she really wants from life.

Fiction, Women's Fiction

Publishing House: Heyne
 Format: Paperback
 Pages: 432
 Illustrations: 4 b/w
 illustrations
 Original title: Ein Garten für
 zwei

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AUTHOR

Emma Sternberg

Emma Sternberg was born in 1979. After studying media science for four years she was given a job in radio and never finished her M.A. thesis, which she has always regretted – even if only a little. Her debut novel *Five by the Sea* was a big success and has been on the Spiegel bestseller list for weeks.



Fiction, Women's Fiction

Publishing House: Goldmann
Format: Paperback
Pages: 464
Illustrations: 15 b/w illustrations
Original title: Der Wind singt unser Lied

MEIKE WERKMEISTER

The Wind Is Singing Our Song

NOVEL

Date of publication: April 19, 2021

**"Meike Werkmeister's stories quite simply make us happy."
Karla Paul, literature critic at ARD**

Toni is a world traveller, at home everywhere and nowhere – until a phone call from her father takes her back to the North Sea. The village of St Peter Ording, with its pretty thatched houses and miles of beach is heaven on earth for many. But Toni has never quite felt at home here, where the wind howls through the streets all year long.

Now, too, her old home doesn't make things easy for her: her parents are becoming more and more eccentric, and everything reminds her of her first true love. While helping out her parents on their holiday farm, Toni realises that she has to grab life by its horns to give it a new direction. And she's not the only one...

Family, love, and the glorious seaside – no one does it better than Meike Werkmeister!

Emotion

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AUTHOR

Meike Werkmeister



© Ulrike Schacht

Meike Werkmeister lives with her husband and their son in Hamburg and freelances as a journalist for various magazines. Whenever she finds the time she goes to the seaside – especially to Norderney, where she has been holidaying with her family since she was a child.



Fiction, Historical Fiction

Publishing House: Penguin
Format: Paperback
Pages: 416
Original title: Bella Donna. Die Schöne von Florenz

CATHERINE AUREL

Belladonna – A Florentine Beauty

DAUGHTERS OF ITALY SERIES (VOL. 1)

NOVEL

Date of publication: May 10, 2021

Rights sold to: Czech Republic (MOBA)

The price of beauty. The art of loving. Welcome at the Bellani's!

Florence, 1469. Cosima Bellani's days as the city's Great Beauty are over. The ageing courtesan's looks are beginning to fade, and she fears for her future. When the young noblewoman Simonetta begs for her help in winning her husband's heart, Cosima has a brilliant idea: she will start a cosmetics business, creating her own products – for the trade in powders and salves, white lead and rouge is flourishing. With her help, Simonetta becomes the most beautiful woman in Florence – who has not only influential Giuliano de Medici, but also the ambitious painter Sandro Botticelli at her feet.

But then a bitter power struggle breaks out in the city, and Cosima and Simonetta are embroiled in intrigue. Soon they're dealing not only in exquisite beauty treatments encased in gilded jars and caskets, but also in secrets...


Catherine Aurel's new book is a welcome addition to the genre of historical fiction.

Passauer Neue Presse

A gripping story set in medieval Italy.

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 lizenzen@penguinrandomhouse.de

AUTHOR

Catherine Aurel



© Gaby Gerster

Catherine Aurel has three great passions: writing, the past, and her fascination for Italy. Ever since she was a child, she was drawn to picturesque Florence, Mantua and Rome, cities alive with impressive history and stunning art. Several inspiring research trips later, she sat down to write her 'Daughters of Italy' series.

Frau von Heute



Fiction, Historical Fiction

Publishing House: Blanvalet

Format: Paperback

Pages: 512

Original title: Das Grand Hotel

- Die mit dem Feuer spielen

CAREN BENEDIKT

The Grand Hotel - Those Who Play with Fire

THE GRAND HOTEL SAGA (VOL. 2)

NOVEL

Date of publication: March 15, 2021

Downton Abbey on the Baltic – soaked in the atmosphere of the notorious Roaring Twenties

Bernadette von Plesow has had to deal with a lot of things in her life, but the past year has almost broken her. She has been able to protect her glamorous hotel, but not her family: her son Alexander died in a fatal accident, and her sorrow weighs heavily on her, especially because they parted on bad terms. Her daughter Josephine lends her support, but Bernadette finds it hard to dedicate herself body and soul to the hotel. And suddenly there's a man at the door, whom she recognises from an old photograph...

Meanwhile, Bernadette's son Constantin – owner of the disreputable Hotel Astor in Berlin – has his own way of grieving for his brother. He knows that he is to blame for Alexander's death, because the accident was an act of revenge from the head of the Frankfurt underworld. Constantin refuses to let it go, and has come up with an insidious plan to avenge his brother's death – but he's playing with fire...

Brilliantly and opulently written.

Halterner Zeitung/Ruhr Nachrichten

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AUTHOR

Caren Benedikt



© Sonja Inselmann

Caren Benedikt is the pseudonym of author Petra Mattfeldt. After legal training she freelanced as a journalist and now mainly works as a novelist.



NORA ELIAS

The Beauty Salon - The Sisters' Triumph

THE BEAUTY SALON SAGA (VOL. 2)
NOVEL

Date of publication: September 20, 2021

In post-war Berlin, two families are at war over the cosmetics industry

Berlin, 1950. The young doctor Marion Lichtenthal gives up her job at the Charité hospital to run her mother's cosmetics empire. She wants to focus on medical cosmetics – but this puts her in direct competition with the firm owned by her cousin Leopold Rudolf.

Rudolf is traumatised by the war, so his sister Emma manages the business. She would like nothing more than to work together with her cousin Marion to conquer the cosmetics market. But she has to reckon with resistance from her mother and her aunt – the sisters who founded the company, and are now bitter enemies....

Fiction, Historical Fiction

Publishing House: Goldmann
Format: Paperback
Pages: 448
Original title: Der Schönheitssalon 2

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AUTHOR

Nora Elias



© Jurate Jablonskyte

Nora Elias is the pseudonym of a writer of historical novels. She started writing as a student and is now devoting herself increasingly to recent German history. She loves traveling and long hikes. Her novel Antonia's Daughter was awarded the much sought-after DELIA Literature Prize in 2018.



Fiction, Historical Fiction

Publishing House: Blanvalet
 Format: Paperback
 Pages: 640
 Original title: Das Haus der vergessenen Kinder

CLARA FREY

The House of Lost Children

Date of publication: May 17, 2021

They were enemies – until they fell in love. But their love could cost them more than their lives.

France, 1940. When Antoine Mardieu is drafted into the Vichy government and relocated to the small town of Izieu, little does he know that his life will change for ever. He meets Marguerite, who works in the Izieu children's home, and falls head over heels in love with her. When he discovers that she is a Jewish refugee from Germany, he's forced to reassess his old convictions. He realises that his superiors have been lying to him – but does his change of heart come too late? In the present day, Valerie, a teacher, meets the French historian Rick at a sailing course on Lake Constance. Rick has come to Germany to discover the truth about his long-lost grandfather. Although Valerie is in a relationship, the two fall passionately in love. But it looks like their families share a decades-old bond that could seal the lovers' fate ...

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AUTHOR

Clara Frey

Clara Frey was born in Augsburg and studied German, history of art and drama in Würzburg and Munich. Even as a child she always carried a notebook with her, in which she recorded everything that struck her as important. Aside from writing, her other great loves are cooking and travel.



Fiction, Historical Fiction

Publishing House: Diana Verlag
 Format: Paperback
 Pages: 448
 Original title: Das Geheimnis der Themse

SUSANNE GOGA

The Secret of the Thames

NOVEL

Date of publication: February 08, 2021

Rights sold to: Italy (Giunti)

Fin-de-siècle London, and the fascinating legends and myths surrounding the Thames

London, 1894. Charlotte and Tom have been married for two years, but a cloud hangs over their happiness: they haven't been able to have children yet, and there's much that remains unspoken between them.

An exciting book project about the magical places of London unexpectedly brings the two closer together again. But without suspecting it, Charlotte and Tom find themselves in deadly danger after a body is found on the Thames ...

That is the appeal of a historical novel: to be accompanied into the past in an entertaining way. Susanne Goga walks this tightrope light-footedly, sensitively and linguistically adeptly.

Rheinische Post

Susanne Goga has done it again: a few pages in, its as if youre actually there, walking down the streets where her stories play out.

Berner Zeitung

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AUTHOR

Susanne Goga



© Detlef Ilgner

Susanne Goga, born in 1967, is a renowned literary translator. She had written two historical crime stories before turning to the classical historical novel. She is a winner of the DeLiA literature prize and the Golden Homer, and member of the PEN centre in Germany. www.susannegoga.de www.susannegoga.de/

A delightfully set and incredibly thrilling quest.

Mainhattan Kurier

An entertaining historical crime novel, recommended especially to all fans of Victorian London.

krimi-couch.de



Fiction, Historical Fiction

Publishing House: Goldmann
Format: Paperback
Pages: 544
Original title: Die Insel der
Wünsche - Stürme des Lebens

ANNA JESSEN

The Island of Dreams – The Storms of Life

ISLAND OF DREAMS TRILOGY (VOL. 1)
NOVEL

Date of publication: March 22, 2021


This island is her destiny. A moving tale of a woman's fate in a picturesque setting.

Hamburg, 1887. The young flower girl Tine Tiedkens is destitute. To escape her misery, she decides to try her luck on the island of Heligoland. But the crossing to the fashionable island turns into a nightmare, and when she arrives everything seems set against her.

But then she unexpectedly runs into the young hotelier Henry Heesters, who once bought flowers from her in Hamburg, and lands a position in his elegant hotel. With diligence and enthusiasm, Tine works her way up from waitress to housekeeper – and falls in love with Henry. He, too, loves her – but just as happiness seems to be within reach, fate intervenes once again...

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AUTHOR

Anna Jessen

Anna Jessen has loved the North Sea since she was a child. To her, rocky Heligoland is the 'Island of Dreams', fascinating for its unique nature, loveable people and not least its unique history. Aside from travelling, Anna Jessen's great passions are writing, music and working in the book trade.



Fiction, Historical Fiction

Publishing House: Blanvalet
 Format: Paperback
 Pages: 432
 Original title: Die Alster-Schule
 - Zeit des Wandels

JULIA KRÖHN

The Alster School – Times of Change

THE TEACHER FROM HAMBURG (VOL. 1)

NOVEL

Date of publication: June 21, 2021

Dark clouds gather and a few young teachers have to decide between conformism and resistance...

Hamburg, 1931: a fresh wind blows through the schools of the Weimar Republic. Once reigned by the cane, students now approach their teachings with head, heart and hand.

Felicitas, who has just started teaching, is passionate about the new ideals of progressive education. And physical education teacher Emil seems to be like-minded, as he is secretly in love with her. Yet, the bourgeois lifestyle he aspires to does not suit Felicitas' urge for freedom.

It is a whole different story with her friend Anneliese, who does everything to win Emil over for herself. While the budding affection between Anneliese and Emil drives a wedge between the two friends, dark clouds appear at the horizon of history: The Nazis seize power and the flag flying the swastika is raised above the schoolyard. Felicitas and her colleagues have to decide: Do they want to serve the Fuhrer in their work? Or stay true to their own ideals?

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AUTHOR

Julia Kröhn



© Feinkorn Photography Gaby Gerster

Julia Kröhn has two great passions: telling stories and engaging with history. She studied history and has since then published numerous novels. After her great success *The Fashion House*, which was a top 20 Spiegel bestselling book, and her highly acclaimed two-novel *Riviera* saga, she now presents her next opulent saga set in front of a glistening backdrop. While writing the story, the daughter of two teachers, who studied pedagogics herself, has been inspired by many of her own school experiences.



Fiction, Historical Fiction

Publishing House: Goldmann
Format: Paperback
Pages: 752
Original title: Das Kaffeehaus -
Falscher Glanz

MARIE LACROSSE

The Coffee House – Fool's Gold

THE COFFEE HOUSE SAGA (VOL. 2)

NOVEL

Date of publication: April 13, 2021

The second book in the epic trilogy set in Belle Époque Vienna

Young Sophie von Werdenfels has taken up a position as Empress Sisi's lady-in-waiting. But things are difficult for her at court. Countess Marie Festetics, Sisi's favourite, is dogging her every step, brimming with jealousy and suspicion. It isn't long before Sophie discovers that the shallow glamour of life at the imperial court hides a multitude of intrigues.

As lady-in-waiting, she also has to attend the wedding of Richard – her one true love – and Amalie von Thurnau. When she herself is ordered to marry a much older nobleman, she flees the court and seeks refuge in her uncle's coffee house. Her uncle is seriously ill, so little by little she begins to take over the reins...

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AUTHOR

Marie Lacrosse



© Thomas Dashuber

Marie Lacrosse has a PhD in psychology, and worked as a self-employed psychologist for many years. She became a popular author of historical fiction under her real name Marita Spang. Today she focuses almost exclusively on her writing. Her "Vineyard" trilogy was a huge Spiegel bestseller, just like her "Coffee House" saga.



Fiction, Historical Fiction

Publishing House: Penguin
Format: Paperback
Pages: 688
Illustrations: 1 b/w
illustrations
Original title: Die Hofgärtnerin
– Frühlingsträume

RENA ROSENTHAL

The Royal Gardener – The Dream of Spring

THE ROYAL GARDENER SAGA (VOL. 1)
NOVEL

Date of publication: March 22, 2021

Rights sold to: Czech Republic (Euromedia)

Flowers are her passion. Love is her destiny. Will her dreams come true?

Oldenburg, 1891. All her life, Marleene has dreamt of being a gardener, working with nature and growing the most beautiful flowers in the world.

But her dream seems out of reach: only men are allowed to be professional gardeners. But Marleene won't give up. She cuts her hair and dresses like a boy – and is hired by the famous court nursery. Marleene is beside herself with joy! Yet the other workers make things difficult for her, and it becomes increasingly hard to keep up the masquerade. When she meets the owner's two charming sons, her feelings are thrown into turmoil. Marleene has to decide whether to follow her dream or her heart...


A ripping yarn that you wont want to put down.

Nordwest Zeitung

First instalment of a very well researched saga, laced with envy and jealousy, but also love. Beautiful.

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AUTHOR

Rena Rosenthal



© Marina Weigl

As a child, Rena Rosenthal would spend every free minute in her parents' tree nursery. Unlike the rest of her family, she didn't become a gardener, but her love for flowers has persisted. So it was clear from the start that her first family saga would be set amid the scent of lilacs and stunning rhododendrons.

Mainhattan Kurier

Her novel centres on an emancipated woman - and is, above all, a very sensual read.

Freundin

A well-researched novel, which will enchant you from the start – its characters and plot instantly grip you. An excellent start to a new saga.

Ruhr Nachrichten

An addictive, gripping and dramatic novel which never ceases to entertain.

Denglers-Buchkritik.de



Fiction, Historical Fiction

Publishing House: Diana Verlag
 Format: Paperback
 Pages: 400
 Original title: Klaras Schweigen

BETTINA STORKS

Klara’s Silence

NOVEL

Date of publication: March 08, 2021

A woman tracks down a secret love, and ends her family’s decades-long silence

Freiburg, 2018. Following a stroke, Miriam's ancient grandmother suddenly starts speaking French – a language that she supposedly never learnt. Miriam soon realises that Klara is hiding something, and sets off on the trail of her family's history, from post-war Germany's French occupied zone all the way to Brittany. What's the true story behind Klara's sudden move to Konstanz in the 1950s? Miriam's search for answers takes her all the way to Brittany, always on the trail of a family secret kept for decades ...

The bestselling author Bettina Stork brilliantly brings German-French post-war history to life.

Reisefieber Magazine

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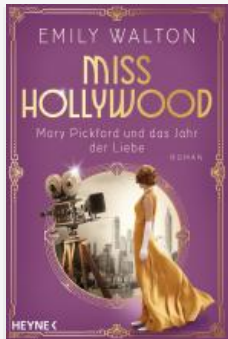
AUTHOR

Bettina Storks



© Alexandra Stehle

Bettina Storks, born in 1960, studied German literature, German philology and cultural sciences and gained her PhD at Freiburg University. After several years working as an editor she published her novels *The House on the Edge of the Sky* and *The Voices Over the Sea*.



Fiction, Historical Fiction

Publishing House: Heyne
 Format: Paperback
 Pages: 544
 Original title: Miss Hollywood -
 Mary Pickford und das Jahr
 der Liebe

EMILY WALTON

Miss Hollywood – Mary Pickford's Year of Love

Date of publication: May 10, 2021

Hollywood's most famous silent movie actress – and the most wonderful love story of all time

1918. From Hollywood to New York City, one woman's name is on everyone's lips: Mary Pickford. The glittering Jazz Age is still just a faint glow on the horizon, but Mary is already being blinded by the light – both on set and off it, where the flashbulbs won't leave her alone. She's the most successful silent movie actress of all time, and her face is on the cover of every gossip rag; men are queuing up to marry her, women want to be her, and Charlie Chaplin is her number one fan. Nobody suspects that behind the façade of the girl they call 'Goldilocks' hides a strong woman – but also a very lonely one, in love with a man she cannot have. Little does she know that she's about to become the leading lady in Hollywood's most romantic love story of all time...

The ill-starred love story creates much suspense, and Walton's writing makes for a smooth read.

Buchkultur

Glittering and vibrant.

Die Niederösterreicherin

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AUTHOR

Emily Walton



© Philipp Hacker-Walton

Emily Walton was born in Oxford in 1984 and has lived in Austria since 1992. She studied journalism and German in Vienna, and is a freelance journalist and author. In 2016 she published her debut, the fictionalised biography *The Summer When F. Scott Fitzgerald Nearly Cut a Waiter in Two*. She has been awarded several stipends and prizes.



Fiction, Thriller & Crime

Publishing House: btb
 Format: Paperback
 Pages: 352
 Original title:
 DUNKELKAMMER

BERNHARD AICHNER

Dark Room

A BRONSKI CRIME NOVEL (VOL.1)

Date of publication: March 22, 2021

English sample translation available

He only appears where people die. He's closer to death than to anything or anyone else.

Winter in Innsbruck. A homeless man seeks refuge in a long abandoned house in the woods. In the bedroom, he finds a dead body. It has been lying there for twenty years. It's just what the press photographer David Bronski has been waiting for. He and his colleague, the journalist Svenja Spielmann, are tasked with reporting from the scene – but what he won't tell anyone is what connects him to this spectacular case.

Ever since he can remember, Bronski has taken photographs of misfortune. His eye is trained on the darkness in our world. He goes where people die. He immortalises everything that's bad, and is fascinated by the silence of death. It's like an addiction. Bronski is closer to death than to anything or anyone else, and lives only for his secret passion: analogue photography. The dark room is his safe haven – here, he creates his works of art, portraits of dead people. Scarred by a terrible event in his past, this is his attempt to rediscover meaning in life.

Unputdownable.

Oberösterreichische Nachrichten

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AUTHOR

Bernhard Aichner



© Ursula Aichner

Bernhard Aichner, born in 1972, works as an author and photographer and writes novels, audio plays and stage plays. He trained as a journalist at the second largest Austrian daily newspaper, where he grew particularly fascinated by police photographs of accidents, murders and natural disasters. Aichner has been awarded several literary prizes and scholarships for his work, including among others the 2014 Burgdorfer Crime Prize, the 2015 Crime Cologne Award and the 2017 Friedrich Glauser Prize.

The perfect read for your sofa-bound holiday.

Welt am Sonntag

Few have mastered the art of balancing literary fiction and crime writing better than Aichner – and that alone makes him worth reading.

Krimicouch.de

A darkly compelling tale by the Glauser Prize-winner Bernhard Aichner.

Stern Crime

A spectacular plot, brilliantly constructed and stylishly told – a first-rate, highly topical thriller.

WDR Cosmo

This first Bronski book heralds a highly promising and thrilling new crime series by the popular Austrian author. Stunning.

Münchner Merkur

Austria's biggest literary export.

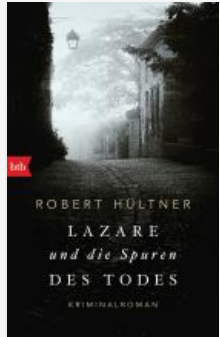
Die Welt

When it comes to ingenious plotting, Aichner is second to none among German-language crime novelists. Once again, he delivers clever twists and sophisticated intrigue.

Kulturnews.de, "Crime book of the month"

A mighty thriller that will leave you breathless – and which gives us insight into a very grim business.

Playboy



Fiction, Thriller & Crime

Publishing House: btb
 Format: Hardcover
 Pages: 320
 Original title: Lazare und die
 Spuren des Todes

ROBERT HÜLTNER

Lazare and the Trail of Death

INSPECTOR LAZARE (VOL. 2)

CRIME NOVEL

Date of publication: June 14, 2021

A politically topical and many-layered story

Inspector Lazare is summoned to Sète in the south of France, where a young Muslim girl has gone missing. At first, it looks like Nadia may have been radicalised and travelled to Syria, but then Lazare unexpectedly finds himself caught in the maelstrom of society's dark underbelly: There are clear signs of a connection to the Catalan underworld, a whole region is in danger of becoming infested with radioactive waste – and suddenly two bodies turn up. As always, Lazare is reluctant to collaborate with the local police.

If Hültner was American, hed be world-famous.

Radio Bayern 2

Hültners great skill lies in his ability to interweave major political and social topics in an elegant way [...] A nerve-shredding ride.

Bayerisches Fernsehen 'Wir in Bayern'

A thriller that grimly reveals how complex reality can be.

Münchner Merkur

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AUTHOR

Robert Hültner

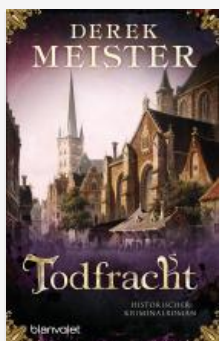


© Sonja Herpich

Robert Hültner was born in 1950. He has worked, among other things, as an assistant stage director, drama adviser and director of short films and documentaries, has travelled with a movie company bringing films to villages with no cinema of their own, and has restored historic films for the Museum of Film. He has won many awards for his Inspector Kajetan novels, including the German Prize for Crime Fiction (twice), the prestigious Gläuser Prize and the Tukan Prize.
www.robert-hueltner.de

**A profound, highly knowledgeable book, gripping throughout,
and with surprising twists.**

Buchtips.net



DEREK MEISTER

Death Freight

PATRICIAN RUNGHOLT (VOL. 4)

HISTORICAL CRIME NOVEL

Date of publication: May 17, 2021

Historical high tension in a cunning crime case

Lübeck 1393: A prostitute is found dead in a cesspit. Her arms and legs have been fettered and it looks as if she has been tortured during interrogation. During his investigations, Rungholt stumbles across an Englishman who has been stranded in Lübeck after a naval blockade and who has a mysterious little wooden box on him. The fragile freight is worth a fortune and puts the patrician on the tracks of murderous trade warfare from which only his son-in-law Daniel can rescue him ...

A gruesome murder and a breath-taking chase set in the Hanseatic Middle Ages – a must-read!

Osnabrücker Zeitung

Fiction, Thriller & Crime

Publishing House: Blanvalet

Format: Paperback

Pages: 400

Illustrations: 4 b/w illustrations

Original title: Todfracht

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AUTHOR

Derek Meister



© Privat

Derek Meister, born in 1973, studied film and television screenplay writing and adaptation at the Film Academy of Potsdam-Babelsberg. As a freelance author, he has written successful series and other screenplays for television.

www.derekmeister.de

ANGÉLIQUE MUNDT

Trauma

IF SHE REMEMBERS, SHE'LL BECOME A MURDERER
THRILLER

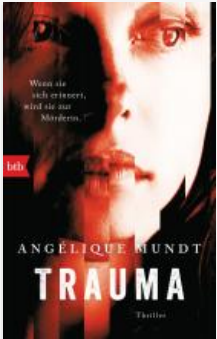
Date of publication: April 13, 2021

I can't remember. No one believes me. What if I am a murderer?

Leila experiences her own personal nightmare: she can't remember the night her music producer was killed. Yet, neither her family nor the police believe her when she says that she remembers nothing. All of a sudden, Leila falls out of her normal life. Less and less she is able to separate between what really happened and what is only a product of her own imagination.

With the help of a psychiatrist, Leila tries to get to the bottom of her buried memories. What did she do? The closer the two get to Leila's memories, the more often threatening incidents occur in the acute ward of the psychiatric hospital where Leila is being treated. Coincidence? Or does one of the other patients target Leila? Little by little, Leila discovers connections that frighten her greatly. If she is right, if these nightmares are now part of her memories, then she must protect herself and her life – at all costs...

"I can only write about the abyss because I know it well." Angélique Mundt



Fiction, Thriller & Crime

Publishing House: btb
Format: Paperback
Pages: 352
Original title: Trauma

btb

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AUTHOR

Angélique Mundt



© Michael Holz

Angélique Mundt was born in 1966. After studying psychology she worked for a while in the field of psychiatry before setting up her own practice. She is involved in volunteer work in the crisis intervention team of the Red Cross, which gives "first aid to the souls" of people in potentially traumatic situations.



Fiction, Thriller & Crime

Publishing House: Heyne
Hardcore
Format: Paperback
Pages: 480
Original title: Der Libanese

CLEMENS MURATH

The Man from Lebanon

Date of publication: March 01, 2021

"A stylish sledgehammer of a book!" Bernhard Aichner

Frank Bosman and his team from the State Criminal Police are conducting a hopeless fight against Arslan Aziz, head of the extended Lebanese family that has cornered the drugs market in Berlin. When the Albanian mafia aggressively tries to push its way in and Arslan's brother Tariq murders a rival, Bosman spots a chance to bring the whole clan to justice. But the arrest ends in bloodshed, and now Bosman's in trouble: not only are Internal Affairs on his case because of the fatal shoot-out, but he has to put up with a young eyewitness who could land him in jail any minute.

As if that wasn't enough, it turns out that his brother-in-law Harry, a dodgy film producer, is caught up in the case. He owes Aziz a large sum of money that he's in no position to pay back...

The Man from Lebanon is the first in a new crime series featuring investigator Frank Bosman.

As a screenwriter, Murath knows how to separate a story into individual, wonderfully cinematic scenes.

dpa

Not for the faint-hearted: drug lords, junkies, prostitutes, kidnapers, Nazis [...].The plot has more speed than is allowed within the city limits.

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AUTHOR

Clemens Murath



© Random House/Erik Weiss

Clemens Murath has written screenplays for more than thirty award-winning films and TV series. He won the German Screenwriting Prize for *Im Schatten des Jaguar*, and was nominated for the Grimme Prize for *Es ist nicht vorbei*. *The Man from Lebanon* is his first novel, and a sequel is already in the works. He lives in Berlin.

MDR documentary »What makes a good crime novel?«

Promising start to a series that gives a nod to 4 Blocks. With swagger, a big mouth, lots of funfair and Berlin blood.

tip Berlin

Hard-hitting, action-packed and thrilling!

hauptstadt.tv »Hauptsache Lesen!«

Clemens Murath is simply a brilliant author. [...] A superb crime novel – quirky, brutal, cynical, but also hilarious.

krimi-couch.de

Clemens Murath has learnt from the masters of hard-boiled crime.

SÜDWEST PRESSE

A fierce hard-boiled crime novel centred on Berlins mafia and drug scene. A deftly constructed story.

Weser Kurier

A strong start to a new series.

Hörzu/Gong

Murath skilfully handles the various strands of the action, and keeps the tension constantly high.

Berliner Morgenpost

With its authentic language and dose of pulp fiction, The Man from Lebanon proves that there is such a thing as accomplished German-language gangster action.

Kulturnews

**Murath skilfully manipulates the various strands of the plot.
[...] He has what most German crime authors dont: a
maliciously dark sense of humour**

Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

A riveting blend of thriller and crime caper.

Coop-Magazin

One of the most promising crime debuts for years.

Spiegel Online

**There is no doubt that, having written more than thirty
screenplays, Clemens Murath has mastered the art of plotting
thrillers.**

SWR2 Lesenswert



Fiction, Thriller & Crime

Publishing House: btb
 Format: Paperback
 Pages: 336
 Original title: Ich will dir nah sein

SARAH NISI

I Want to Be Close to You

PSYCHOLOGICAL THRILLER

Date of publication: May 10, 2021

He wants to be close to her. Closer and closer. Until he can go no further.

In London Underground's lost property office, Lester Sharp looks after abandoned objects: mobiles, keys, wallets – he particularly likes taking care of clothes and medical gadgets. He's a collector in his private life, too, and something of an oddball. Women aren't interested in him, and he generally finds it difficult to have relationships with other people. When he meets the young woman Erin, he doesn't know how to behave at first – but soon finds a way to get close to her. Closer than she might like...

For readers of *Gone Girl* by Gillian Flynn, *Girl on the Train* by Paula Hawkins, and Melanie Raabe's books.

Hugely thrilling!

OK!

An utterly thrilling debut.

Zeit für mich

A story that couldnt have been conceived more brilliantly.

Tageszeitung "Freies Wort"

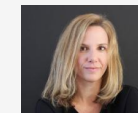
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AUTHOR

Sarah Nisi



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Sarah Nisi has lived in London since 2012. She was born in Hildesheim, and worked as a corporate lawyer in Düsseldorf for several years before moving to London to study creative writing. Since then the German-British author has dedicated most of her time to writing. Many of her short stories have already been included in anthologies from various German publishers, and she came second in the German Agatha Christie Prize for crime writing with her story *Clear the Stage*. *I Want to Be Close to You* is her first novel.

Nisi has wielded the tools of creative writing like a pro.

Blickpunkt



Fiction, Thriller & Crime

Publishing House: Goldmann
Format: Paperback
Pages: 384
Original title: Tief in der Erde

CHRISTA VON BERNUTH

Deep Under Ground

CRIME NOVEL BASED ON A TRUE STORY

Date of publication: March 15, 2021

An abducted girl, a grave in the forest – and a village that still refuses to talk about it

A village in Upper Bavaria, 1981. Ten-year-old Annika is cycling home, but never arrives. Following unbearable days of waiting, the police make a shocking discovery: They unearth a chest in the forest, and find the girl's body inside. Annika was buried alive. A trail leads to the nearby boarding school, but is never followed up. Years later, a suspect is convicted of her murder – but he maintains his innocence to this day.

In this novel based on her own research into the events, Bernuth revisits the case in pursuit of the truth about what really happened all those years ago.

Years after the event, the author decided to reinvestigate the case – her disturbing discoveries resulted in this outstanding, brilliantly told crime novel.

Luzerner Zeitung


Disquieting and convincing.

HÖRZU

A riveting book, simply unputdownable. [...] Deep Under Ground is written so brilliantly that youll want to devour it in a

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AUTHOR

Christa von Bernuth



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Christa von Bernuth is an author and journalist. Her first thriller – The Woman Who Lost Her Conscience – appeared in 1999, and her crime novels have all been translated into several languages, including Swedish, Dutch, Russian and Polish. Following a spell writing social novels, Deep Under Ground marks the author's return to the thriller genre.

single sitting.

Landsberger Tageblatt

Christa von Bernuth has turned true crime into a novel that aims to – and does – more than merely recount a tragic story.

Stern

A gripping true crime novel.

Kreisbote Landsberg

Thrilling and emotionally charged.

BÜCHER Magazin

Superbly researched and unbelievably gripping – a crime novel thatll get under your skin.

Für Sie

Deep Under Ground, Bernuths first true crime story, is told with dignity, sensitivity and great skill.

Frankfurter Rundschau

The interplay between reality and fiction is well executed [...] true crime thatll give you goosebumps.

Brigitte Woman