

# Fiction Autumn 2025



**FICTION**  
Autumn 2025  
Foreign Rights Guide

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#### Literary Fiction

Publishing House: Blessing  
Format: Hardcover  
Pages & Size: 224 | 12,5x20,0 cm  
Original title: Treppe aus Papier

HENRIK SZÁNTÓ

## Paper Stairs

NOVEL

**Date of publication: August 20, 2025**

English sample translation available

Selected by New Books in German

### What stories would the walls tell, if they could speak? A house and its inhabitants, from the Nazi era to the present day

When 15-year-old Nele Bittner and 90-year-old Irma Thon meet in the stairwell of a four-storey period building, their conversation breathes life into what Nele always thought was boring old history.

The narrator of Nele and Irma's story is the house itself, whose walls, hallways, pipes and nooks and crannies harbour the memories of all those who have lived in it over the past hundred years. Irma has a special connection to the building: she and her Nazi-supporting parents lived here when she was a child. Nele, meanwhile, lives on the top floor, in a flat once occupied by the Sternheim family – and Irma feels responsible for what happened to them.

For this house, everything happens simultaneously: when little Ruth Sternheim skips down the stairs, the house remembers the SA who, years later, will smash the window of the Sternheims' ground-floor watch shop with their truncheons. While Irma looks back on her life, Nele's questioning of her own family brings to light things they had hoped to suppress.

A daring, courageous novel about remembrance, responsibility and the shadow cast by history.

| BLESSING VERLAG |

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#### AUTHOR

Henrik Szántó



© Marvin Ruppert

Henrik Szántó, born in 1988, is a half-Hungarian, half-Finnish author and presenter living in Hannover. He performs as a spoken word artist on stages across Germany, Austria and Switzerland, and has won several fellowships. He also works as an instructor, running poetry, creative writing, public speaking and performance skills seminars, and stages events showcasing both new and experienced voices. He is particularly interested in multilingualism, remembrance and multiculturalism.

- For fans of Imre Kertész, Saša Stanišić and Jenny Erpenbeck

**Reminiscent of Great House by Nicole Krauss and Visitation by Jenny Erpenbeck. Henrik Szántó's skill as a spoken-word artist and writer [...] shines throughout.**

New Books in German



#### Literary Fiction

Publishing House: Penguin  
Format: Hardcover  
Pages & Size: 320 | 12,5x20,0  
cm  
Original title: Moscow Mule

MAYA ROSA

## Moscow Mule

NOVEL

Date of publication: August 13, 2025

English sample translation and reader report available


### Two survival artists caught between poverty, parties and Putin – the story of a friendship

It is the early 2000s, and Karina and Tonya share everything – their university studies in Moscow, drunk men, empty wallets, but especially the desire to move to Europe. While one half of Russian society decays amid luxury cars and caviar, the other, more or less penniless, cons its way through life. Karina, too, has learnt to navigate life with wit and a little madness, and to hold on to her dreams no matter what. But as she starts to prioritise her dreams over Tonya, what once seemed a friendship that would last forever begins to fray.

In her witty, intelligent debut novel "Moscow Mule", Maya Rosa deftly combines politics with a tale about growing up and the longing for freedom – and shows that a little joie de vivre can sometimes help you escape the shackles of society.

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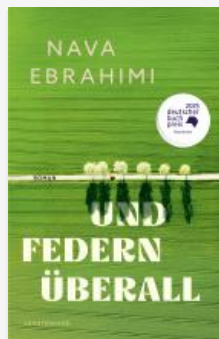
#### AUTHOR

Maya Rosa



© Peter Rigaud

Maya Rosa was born in Moscow in 1987. She has studied in Moscow and Berlin, and is a graduate of the German Literature Institute in Leipzig. "Moscow Mule" is her first novel.



### Literary Fiction

Publishing House:  
Luchterhand Literaturverlag  
Format: Hardcover  
Pages & Size: 352 | 13,5x21,5  
cm  
Original title: Und Federn  
überall

NAVA EBRAHIMI

# Feathers Everywhere

NOVEL

**Date of publication: August 29, 2025**

Longlisted for the Deutsche Buchpreis 2025

English sample translation available

Selected by New Books in German

## A small town, six people embarking on a new chapter in their lives, and one day that changes everything

The fog lingers over the fields and the canal. In the small town of Lasseren near the Dutch border, it is as if winter were refusing to end. Nothing much happens here, in the flatlands. Anyone looking for work inevitably ends up at Möllring, the gigantic poultry slaughterhouse on the edge of town. Here, a handful of people has woken up this Monday morning with great expectations: single mum Sonia hopes to get a job far away from the conveyor belt and portioning machine; for young engineer Anna, more or less everything depends on today's trial run of the latest automation solution; meanwhile, Merkhausen – a process optimisation manager with a weakness for Polish women whose wife has left him – is looking forward to a first date tonight; Nassim, a visually impaired refugee from Afghanistan, has got himself entangled with Justyna, who is twenty years older than him, and is convinced his poems will soften the hearts of German bureaucrats; and German-Iranian author Roshi has travelled all the way from Cologne to translate the poems for him.

When a careless cyclist breaks Nassim's cane right in the middle of town, and the

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### AUTHOR

Nava Ebrahimi



© Clara Wildberger

Nava Ebrahimi, born in Tehran in 1978, is one of Austrian literature's most exciting new voices. She is the winner of the 2021 Ingeborg Bachmann Prize, and her novel "Sechzehn Wörter" ("Sixteen words") won the Austrian Book Prize and the Morgenstern Prize. After studying journalism and economics in Cologne, she became editor at Financial Times Deutschland and at the Cologne-based Stadtrevue. She has been shortlisted for the Open Mike debut prize, and has attended the Bavarian Academy of Writing. Alongside her novels, she also writes a column for the Süddeutsche Zeitung.

story is picked up by the local radio station, Nassim becomes a local legend – but more than that too: he inspires people to look their truth squarely in the eye. In "Feathers Everywhere", award-winning author Ebrahimi immerses us in the world of a provincial backwater, weaving the lives of six people into a stunning social novel that asks whether it is possible to retain our humanity and compassion in the face of adversity.

- For fans of Jenny Erpenbeck, Dörte Hansen and Lucy Fricke

**One of the most exciting German-language authors writing today.**

ORF

**She is one of the most fascinating voices in German literature, and her books deserve to be read all over the world.**

Brigitte

**Ebrahimi deftly deals with themes of economic disparity and the dehumanisation of modern work, as well as exploring the universal subjects of belonging and displacement. [...] A polyphonic, multi-faceted portrait of life in a rural German town that could just as well be set in modern Britain or America.**

New Books in German





#### Literary Fiction

Publishing House:  
Luchterhand Literaturverlag  
Format: Hardcover  
Pages & Size: 288 | 13,5x21,5  
cm  
Original title: Die  
Schattenfängerin

MICHAEL STAVARIČ

## Shadowcatcher

NOVEL

**Date of publication: August 27, 2025**

English sample translation available

Selected by New Books in German

### How do you cope with losing your father as a kid? A gorgeous father-daughter tale, full of longing and emotion

Stella's father spends his life pursuing the next solar eclipse. He is often away, and always comes back with photos of the shimmering corona and tales of far-flung places. He can't take Stella with him – he says it's much too dangerous – but the special glasses and the shiny telescope are part of her life too. One day, her father doesn't wake up. Stella is all alone now, an oddball in a small town. When she comes of age, she decides to find out why her father was so fascinated by the total solar eclipse. She travels to Congo to witness the phenomenon for herself, only to discover that the moon's shadow hides her father's dark secrets...

A modern fairy tale full of charm and empathy: in the gathering dark, a young woman is on a journey to uncover her family's story.

**Stavaric captures the grief of losing a parent while adding fascinating scientific and anthropological details [...]. With more than a dash of the supernatural, this powerful and moving tale has a wide appeal.**

New Books in German

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#### AUTHOR

Michael Stavaric



© Yves Noir

Michael Stavaric, born in Brno, Czechoslovakia in 1972, is a freelance writer, translator and lecturer. He studied Czech studies and communication in Vienna, and spent 10 years teaching inline skating at the Austrian capital's Sports University. He has won numerous fellowships and awards, including Science Book of the Year, the Adelbert Chamisso Prize, and the Austrian State Prize for Children's and YA Literature. His most recent novel is "Das Phantom" ('The phantom', 2023).



### Literary Fiction

Publishing House: btb  
 Format: Hardcover  
 Pages & Size: 304 | 13,5x21,5 cm  
 Original title: Die geteilte Schuld

YVONNE ZITZMANN

## Shared Guilt

NOVEL

Date of publication: September 10, 2025

### Are we bound to our mothers for ever?

East Germany, the late 1970s. For young crane operator Tina, nothing's better than sitting high up and seeing the world from above. She dreams of finding a flat for herself, her husband Mischa and her baby in one of the new apartment blocks. But the future has other things in store: in 1986, Mischa, a passionate musician, travels to the West and never returns. Tina's world falls apart. When the Wall comes down, she flees to a place she thinks will bring her happiness – leaving her child behind, alone.

Decades later, in reunified Germany, an author reluctantly takes a job at a newspaper. She becomes pregnant, and when the father of the child leaves them shortly after she gives birth, she too makes a decision that will affect the rest of her life.

"Shared Guilt" is a poetic, sensitive account of guilt and the search for forgiveness – and how we remain bound to our childhood.

**A haunting, poetic novel about the force of circumstance and the yearning to belong, which masterfully intertwines two women's stories.**

Luzia Stettler, SRF literary editor

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### AUTHOR

Yvonne Zitzmann



© Kerstin Weinert

Yvonne Zitzmann, born in Frankfurt an der Oder in 1976, studied German and psychology in Potsdam before working as a writer for various print media. She became a full-time author in 2010 and now writes poetry, prose and audio plays, and translates literature from Russian. Her first novel, "Tage des Vergessens" ("Days of forgetting", 2021) was highly acclaimed by critics. It was followed by "Die Füchse haben Gruben, die Vögel haben Nester" ("Foxes have dens, birds have nests", 2022). She has won several scholarships and prizes, including the 2014 Brandenburg Prize for the Promotion of the Arts, and was shortlisted for the 2021 Uwe Johnson Prize.



### Historical Fiction, Literary Fiction

Publishing House: C. Bertelsmann  
 Format: Hardcover  
 Pages & Size: 448 | 13,5x21,5 cm  
 Original title: Trio mit Tiger

MARIANNE LUDÉS

## Trio with Tiger

THE FIRST EVER NOVEL ABOUT MAX AND MATHILDE BECKMANN

Date of publication: August 27, 2025

### Mathilde and Max Beckmann in their Amsterdam exile: the story of true love and a complex friendship

Amsterdam, 1942. Since the propagandist "Degenerate Art" exhibition in Munich five years ago, Max Beckmann and his wife Mathilde, nicknamed Quappi, have been living here in exile. Amid meetings with friends and trips to the seaside, the couple try to forget the trouble they have had finding peace and making a living in the Netherlands since the German occupation. Max, especially, suffers from the constant uncertainty and the restrictions on their personal freedom. But with her positivity and knack for organisation, Quappi makes it possible for him to continue working. Max's new acquaintance, mysterious German art historian Erhard Göpel, also offers his support: he is in charge of Special Operation Linz, and busy collecting works of art for Hitler's planned "Führer Museum". Göpel is a passionate admirer of Beckmann's, and willing to help in any way he can, legal or illegal. But can a Nazi be trusted? And while Göpel increasingly comes up against the Nazi dictatorship's tyrannical methods, the Beckmanns and their Jewish friends are in ever graver danger.

A lively, compelling and meticulously researched account of the life of this famous artistic couple.

- Ludes was granted exclusive access to Mathilde Beckmann's hitherto unpublished diaries, and sketches the portrait of an intelligent, energetic, and exceedingly modern woman

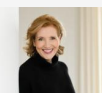
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### AUTHOR

Marianne Ludes



© Andrea Katheder

After doing a degree in business studies, Marianne Ludes set up a major architecture studio with her husband. She is now heavily involved in the cultural sector: in 2023, she set up the non-profit Ludes Foundation which facilitates interdisciplinarity projects in fine art, literature and music, and is also chair of the Potsdam Literature Festival and trustee of the Unter den Linden opera house. "Trio mit Tiger" is her first work of literary fiction, based on Quappi Beckmann's unpublished diaries. She is also the author of "Ludwig Jacobs – oder das verschwundene Leben" ("Ludwig Jacobs, or a vanished life", Hanser Verlag, 2021).

The fate of artists who had to flee from Hitler continues to shock us to this day. Marianne Ludes movingly tells the story of the great painter Max Beckmann, who, while on the run, had to trust an art thief of all people to save his art.

Uwe Wittstock

As you read this novel, you wonder what it is that makes its pages pulsate with life. Is it the historical accuracy, the beauty of the writing, the storytelling? Gradually, you realise it's because you feel like you are watching a real, authentic life unfold.

Daniel Schreiber



### Literary Fiction

Publishing House:  
Luchterhand Literaturverlag  
Format: Hardcover  
Pages & Size: 320 | 13,5x21,5  
cm  
Original title: Schwebebahnen

HANNS-JOSEF ORTHEIL

## Suspended

NOVEL

Date of publication: September 10, 2025

### A moving novel about the power of writing


In the late 1950s, six-year-old Josef's family leaves Cologne and moves to into an apartment building in Wuppertal, a city famous for its suspended monorail. Josef is an introverted boy and a loner, and would love to spend all his time playing the piano. He joins a new school, and when he meets Mücke, the grocer's daughter, the two develop a close friendship. As Mücke helps Josef overcome his inhibitions, he starts opening up to other people too. Among them is a canon from the Order of the Holy Cross, who teaches him singing and reading out loud, and a sports teacher who coaches him in long-distance running. But he finds true solace only in writing – creating stories about monorail journeys along the river, expeditions with quirky zoo animals, and local kids fighting exciting battles in a nearby forest. An intense and touching tale of reconstruction, "Suspended" is the story of an autistic boy who discovers his own fantasy worlds through music. At the same time, it is a panorama of a deeply traumatised society, where people scarred by the Second World War lead a quiet life, filled with fear at the prospect of yet another world war.

**Ortheil is an epic novelist, who creates wonderful plots and knows exactly how to build suspense.**

Neue Zürcher Zeitung

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### AUTHOR

Hanns-Josef Ortheil



© Frank Bauer

Hanns-Josef Ortheil, born in Cologne in 1951, is an author, pianist and professor of creative writing and culture journalism at the University of Hildesheim. He has long been one of Germany's most popular and most read authors, and has won numerous awards, including the Thomas Mann Prize, the Nicolas Born Prize, the Stefan Andres Prize and the Hannelore Greve Book Prize. His novels have been translated into more than 20 languages.

**One of modern German literature's most prolific and reflective authors.**

Stuttgarter Zeitung



### Literary Fiction

Publishing House: Penguin

Format: Hardcover

Pages & Size: 224 | 13,5x21,5 cm

Original title: Rom sehen und nicht sterben

PETER WAWERZINEK

## See Rome – and Live

NOVEL

Date of publication: September 05, 2025

### A lyrical, haunting, personal novel about life and death

Peter Wawerzinek has won a fellowship and is staying at Villa Massimo in Rome. He spends his days wandering through the city, gathering inspiration for his new novel. But then Covid hits, and lockdown puts paid to his strolls. And then his laptop breaks, and he loses all his notes. But he doesn't give up: he decides to start again and write a book about Pasolini, and moves to Trastevere. Something doesn't feel right though. One day, standing on the terrace of his flat in the warm spring sunshine, he notices that his fingertips have gone white. Something is going on with his body. He visits his doctor in Berlin, gets checked out, takes some pills – and then a single word changes everything: cancer.


Peter can't get the word out of his mind. He asks for his chemotherapy to be delayed by nine days, which he plans to spend in Rome, in the supposedly eternal city with its very human fragility, of which he is all too painfully aware. The chemotherapy and the operations help his body recover; but it is really the power of books and music – and the love he finds by chance – that help him rediscover life.

**Peter Wawerzinek transforms his life into great art.**

NDR Kultur

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### AUTHOR

Peter Wawerzinek



© Manu Zalewski

Peter Wawerzinek was born in Rostock in 1954. He grew up in various children's and foster homes. Since 1988, he has worked as a director and singer, and has also written books and radio plays. He is a winner of the Berlin Critics' Literature Prize, the Radio Play Prize of the Berlin Academy of Arts, both the Ingeborg Bachmann Prize and the Ingeborg Bachmann Readers' Prize, the Shortlist German Book Prize, and the German Schiller Foundation Award.



### Literary Fiction, Poetry

Publishing House: Penguin  
 Format: Hardcover  
 Pages & Size: 304 | 15,0x21,5 cm  
 Original title: penelopes sch()  
 )iff

ULRIKE DRAESNER

# penelope's sh()ip

A POST-EPIC

**Date of publication: August 20, 2025**

Rights sold to: Italy (ETS)


English sample translation available

## A re-reading of one of Western literature's foundational myths – heady with fearlessness, inventiveness, wit and poetic rage

Penelope is the epitome of the loyal wife, flawless in her performance as a modest, subservient woman. However, in "penelope's sh()ip", Draesner wholeheartedly throws this narrative overboard and opens up a number of new perspectives – on Penelope and her wishes, her vigour, her setting out for a new life; on the power of ancient Greek ideas of womanhood and manhood; and on the question of what makes for good government. Draesner's Penelope is a smart, passionate free spirit. When it becomes clear that the traumatised and brutalised veteran Odysseus can no longer rule effectively, Penelope sets sail with a hundred other women. On board a ship they have built themselves, they use tricks that involve, among others, sirens, grandmothers and flying fish to escape their pursuers. Their voyage becomes an adventure, and its destination is uncertain – not only geographically. The first thing that goes is the hierarchy of free Hellenes and enslaved African women, as more and more of women speak out and demand their rights. In the end, this diverse group lands in the lagoon that we now know as Venice, where they join forces to create a home for everyone – and to get rid of the midges.

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### AUTHOR

Ulrike Draesner

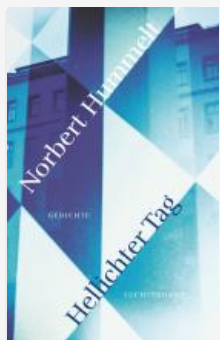


© Jürgen Bauer

Ulrike Draesner, born in 1962, has won countless awards for her novels, essays and poems, most recently the Konrad Adenauer Foundation Prize and the Große Preis of the German Literature Foundation for her oeuvre, which includes multimedia works and translations. Her novel "Die Verwandelten" ("Penetrating Silence") was shortlisted for the Leipziger Buchmesse Prize. Draesner lived in the UK from 2015 to 2017, and has travelled the world as a guest lecturer and for poetry readings. In 2018, she was appointed professor at the German Literature Institute in Leipzig. She is a member of the Berlin Academy of Arts and the German Academy of Language and Writing, and lives with her daughter in Berlin.



In this 'post-epic', everything moves while remaining connected – language, space, time, meaning – as Draesner boldly and intelligently refashions the polyphony and polymorphism of Homer's hexameters. It is an electrifying tapestry of words and sounds created under new auspices, which breathes fresh life into an old myth.



## Poetry

Publishing House:  
Luchterhand Literaturverlag  
Format: Hardcover  
Pages & Size: 112 | 12,5x20,0  
cm  
Original title: Hellichter Tag

NORBERT HUMMELT

# In Broad Daylight

POEMS

Date of publication: November 12, 2025

## An exploration of the fragility of our relationships – and of the world itself

It can happen to anyone, anytime, that all their certainties break down and there's nothing to hold on to – especially in Berlin, the "teeming city, city of dreams, where ghosts bother passers-by in broad daylight". These compelling new poems by Hummelt examine the feeling of being exposed. They explore moments when the fragility of life becomes clear – as father and daughter drift apart, parents remember the past, nature is imperilled. In these verses, we hear the voices of a vast poetic echo chamber, from Dante to Pound and Eliot. They make us think, and are at the same time light as a feather. In the end, love appears as a possible utopia: "Can we find refuge here, where the rosehips glow and / the jackdaws circle?"

• Hummelt is a winner of the Hölty Prize, Germany's biggest poetry prize

**His poems capture fleeting moments, light as a feather. Every contact is but brief, making its emotional reverberations all the more compelling.**

taz

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## AUTHOR

Norbert Hummelt



© Laura Baginski

Norbert Hummelt, born in 1962, is a freelance author living in Berlin. His poetic oeuvre was awarded the Rainer Malkowski Prize in 2021, and he is also the winner of, among others, the Hölty Poetry Prize, the Rolf Dieter Brinkmann Prize, the Mondseer Poetry Prize and the Niederrheinische Literature Award. He has translated T.S. Eliot's "The Waste Land" and "Four Quartets" into German, and has edited the poems of W.B. Yeats. "Sonnengesang" ("The sun cantos") is his most recent volume of poetry for Luchterhand.



## Poetry

Publishing House: Penguin  
 Format: Paperback  
 Pages & Size: 560 | 12,5x18,7 cm  
 Original title: Sämtliche Gedichte

SARAH KIRSCH

# Collected Poems

Date of publication: November 19, 2025

## Rediscover the delights of Kirsch's extensive work


The late Sarah Kirsch is one of Germany's most celebrated poets. Ever since her poems first appeared in the 1960s, she garnered high praise from the public and reviewers alike. Even after her death in 2013, there's no indication that her star is in any way fading. Kirsch is undoubtedly a modern classic.

This collection invites readers to (re)discover and (re)read her work, from her distinctive early poems to her later work, in which she reflects on self and the world – "speaking clocks of the North [and] wonderful meditations on continuity and decay" (Neue Zürcher Zeitung).

Kirsch herself oversaw the creation of this collection in 2005, and some poems were excluded at her request; because this is a reprint, her post-2005 work is also not included.

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## AUTHOR

Sarah Kirsch



© Markus Desaga

Sarah Kirsch (1935-2013) studied biology and literature. Until being expatriated in 1977, she lived in East Berlin before moving to the West. She has won many awards for her poetic works, including the Georg Büchner Prize, the Jean Paul Prize and the Johann Heinrich Voß Prize for Literature.



### Literary Fiction

Publishing House: btb  
Format: Paperback  
Pages & Size: 384 | 13,5x20,6 cm  
Original title: Ist hier noch frei?

FRANZ HOHLER

## Do You Mind If I Sit?

PLAYS

Date of publication: November 12, 2025

### The drama of everyday life: masterful plays by a bestselling Swiss author

A train crashes, and among its wreckage two people have a fateful encounter. A cashier who works in the canteen at a big bank embarks on a very lucrative, and very brief, career thanks to some unconventional investment tips. A pair of newlyweds make a grave error on the threshold of their hotel room on their wedding night. Two people work in a warehouse belonging to a medical wholesaler who seems to have a little box of pills for every kind of ache and anxiety. And a guardian angel is asked to prove his efficiency in the face of cutbacks – in a case involving a couple who have been married for 25 years... Written with wit, empathy and a sure sense for the absurd, these plays tell the stories of a world where people circle around each other ever faster, while it becomes ever harder to find each other.

### Franz Hohler is an astute observer with a big heart.

Rafik Schami, author of "The Calligrapher's Secret" and "The Dark Side of Love"

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### AUTHOR

Franz Hohler



© Christian Altorfer

Franz Hohler was born in Biel, Switzerland, in 1943. He lives in Zurich and is considered to be one of his country's most prominent writers. He has been awarded many prizes, including the Alice Salomon Prize and the Johann Peter Hebel Prize. Luchterhand has been publishing his books for over fifty years.



**Contemporary Fiction,  
Literary Fiction**

Publishing House: C.  
Bertelsmann  
Format: Hardcover  
Pages & Size: 320 | 12,5x20,0  
cm  
Original title: Es könnte so  
einfach sein

ANNE HANDORF

## It Could Be So Easy

NOVEL

Date of publication: September 10, 2025

**A bestselling author in early postwar Germany – a marriage of equals with a sense of humour – and a woman's struggle for recognition in a male-dominated age**

On a Sunday in September 2005, two weeks before Germany elects its first female chancellor, bestselling author Vera Albach has just two weeks to finish her new novel – and in two weeks, at a garden party to celebrate her 65th birthday, she'll be announcing to her assembled friends and family that it will also be her last. At least, that's what she's promised her husband Leo. But now she isn't so sure – because the stories she writes are as much part of her as he is.

As Vera writes those last few chapters, she recalls the 1950s, when the republic was young yet stale, and run by men. And when, despite being a woman, she succeeded in building a remarkable career, and a marriage ahead of its time.

C.Bertelsmann

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### AUTHOR

Anne Handorf



© Peter von Felber

Anne Handorf is the pen name of a writing duo, both of whom work in the publishing trade. "Es könnte so einfach sein" is their first co-authored novel, and despite being separated by 564 km during the writing process, they always saw eye to eye when it came to creating this story of our country and how its women have changed it.



### Contemporary Fiction

Publishing House: Penguin  
 Format: Hardcover  
 Pages & Size: 400 | 12,5x20,0 cm  
 Original title: Man müsste versuchen, glücklich zu sein

JULIA HOLBE

# We Should Try to Be Happy

NOVEL

Date of publication: July 16, 2025


English sample translation available

## A chaotic childhood, an empty family home, and two sisters reunited

Two very different sisters come together in their now empty childhood home. They haven't seen each other for years. Now, they must make a decision: sell up, or burn it down? Their journey back in time takes them to an enchanted childhood of hippie dreams, and to Brittany in their mother's old orange Renault 4. As they eat crêpes and drink cider under starry skies, and take a trip in their father's boat which turns out rather different from what they expected, their chaotic family's natural law catches up with them. Sometimes, all you need are a boat and a table, a party and guests – and home-painted Playmobil horses... If only there weren't life's big questions: can you tell each other everything? Should you? And why not just try to be happy?

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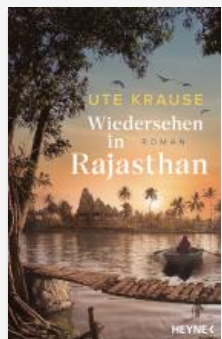
### AUTHOR

Julia Holbe



© Mathias Bothor/Photosselection

Julia Holbe was born in 1969 and lives in Frankfurt am Main but spends part of the year in Brittany. She spent twenty years working as an editor of international literature at the S. Fischer Verlag. "Our Happy Days", her first novel, was a top 20 Spiegel bestselling book.



#### Contemporary Fiction

Publishing House: Heyne  
Format: Hardcover  
Pages & Size: 480 | 13,5x21,5 cm  
Original title: Wiedersehen in Rajasthan

UTE KRAUSE

## Reunion in Rajasthan

NOVEL

Date of publication: October 29, 2025

**A novel about overcoming grief and finding happiness, set in the magic world of the Indian Northwest**

Hamburg, 1999. Following her mother's death, Paula travels to Rajasthan, where she lived for a few years as a child. Back then she used to spend a lot of time with the Khandal family, whose home – unlike her own – was cosy and full of warmth. But then Paula's mother and Gesa Khandal suddenly stopped being friends, and their falling-out had a profound effect on Paula. She has always wondered what happened to them.


India, 1935. After meeting and falling in love in Berlin, Gesa and Ravi marry and move to Rajasthan. Soon, Gesa discovers that Ravi has a secret that makes her question everything – but she learns to lead an independent life, and makes friends with Paula's family.

The two women's lives couldn't be more different – at the same time, though, they are connected in a mysterious and profound way...

HEYNE

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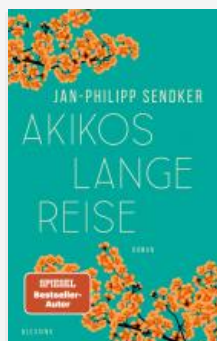
#### AUTHOR

Ute Krause



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Ute Krause grew up in Turkey, Nigeria, India and the USA. She studied Visual Communication and Screenwriting. She is successful as a writer, illustrator, screenplay writer and director. Her picture books and children's books have been translated into several languages and adapted for television. She has won various awards for her illustrations, as well as the Ver.di Book Prize, and has been shortlisted for the German Children's Literature Award.



#### Contemporary Fiction

Publishing House: Blessing  
Format: Hardcover  
Pages & Size: 352 | 12,5x20,0 cm  
Original title: Akikos lange Reise

JAN-PHILIPP SENDKER

## Akiko's Long Journey

NOVEL

Date of publication: September 24, 2025

**A moving novel about loneliness, the desire to belong, and the question how well you really know yourself and your loved ones**

Now that Akiko has made the bold decision to quit her job in Tokyo, she's finally free – and feeling lost. Following a fateful event, her closest confidante, Kento, a hikikomori with whom she has been able to share her loneliness, has isolated himself once again. To fill her empty days, Akiko focuses on finding her father. She finally tracks him down, and leaves the pulsating capital to travel to rural Japan, where the man her mother once loved – a famous potter – now lives a hermit existence. But when she knocks on his door, nothing is as she expected, and she's bitterly disappointed. Akiko's journey is long and tortuous, but step by step she begins to find herself.

• Rights to "Akikos stilles Glück" ("Akikos Quiet Happiness") sold to: Israel (Armchair), Italy (Neri Pozza), The Netherlands (Boekerij), Norway (Cappelen Damm), Romania (Prestige), Sweden (Modernista), US/World English (Other Press)

| BLESSING VERLAG |

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#### AUTHOR

Jan-Philipp Sendker



© Frank Suffert

Jan-Philipp Sendker, born in Hamburg, spent many years working as US and Asia correspondent for Stern magazine. After a further spell in the US, he returned to Germany, and has since published several books, including a collection of portraits entitled "Risse in der Großen Mauer" ('Cracks in the Great Wall'; Blessing, 2000). His bestselling novel "Das Herzhören" ('The Art of Hearing Heartbeats', 2002) was followed by "Das Flüstern der Schatten" ('Whispering Shadows', 2007), "Drachenspiele" ('The Language of Solitude', 2009), "Herzenstimmen" ('A Well-Tempered Heart', 2012), "Am anderen Ende der Nacht" ('The Far Side of the Night', 2016), "Das Geheimnis des alten Mönches" ('The Long Path to Wisdom: Tales from Burma', 2017), "Das Gedächtnis des Herzens" ('The Heart Remembers', 2019) and "Die Rebellin und der Dieb" ('The Rebel and the Thief', 2021). His books have been translated into more than 35 languages, and have sold more than 4 million copies worldwide, making him one of the most successful German-language authors today.  
[www.jpsendker.de](http://www.jpsendker.de)





### Contemporary Fiction

Publishing House: C.  
Bertelsmann  
Format: Hardcover  
Pages & Size: 336 | 12,5x20,0  
cm  
Original title: Café Finito

SYBIL VOLKS

## Café Finito

NOVEL

Date of publication: October 01, 2025


### A tragicomic novel and hymn to the power of community

Kristof is the life and soul of the Café Finito which stands right in the middle of Berlin's Dorotheenstädtische cemetery. For years now, he has gently guided groups of mourners through the valley of grief. But no one knows what or whom Kristof himself is mourning. Iris, the writer, has lost her mother, Matthias, the insurance broker, has lost his lover, Lizzie her husband of seventy years, and Mira, the young doctor, is grieving for her best friend. They have all accepted an invitation that will give them a new perspective on life and the world.

A beautifully written, wise novel about the things we share and about what makes life special. There's a little magic in it too, as are both tragedy and comedy – as one might well expect, given that it deals with death.

- For fans of Elizabeth Strout, Mariana Leky, Anne Tyler, and Alena Schröder

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### AUTHOR

Sybil Volks



© Lotte Ostermann

Sybil Volks is an author based in Berlin. Her second novel, "Torstraße 1" (2022), a fictionalised account of the Jonass department store's eventful history, was a bestseller and turned into a popular TV series ("Das Haus der Träume" / "The house of dreams"). She followed it up with her bestselling "Wintergäste" ("Winter guests") and "Die Glücksreisenden" ("Happy travellers"), two classic family dramas set on a fictional North Sea island that acts a microcosmic mirror of our own age. Her latest novel, "Café Finito", is a vividly written tale set in Berlin's most famous cemetery, the Dorotheenstädtische Friedhof.



### Historical Fiction

Publishing House: Penguin

Format: Paperback

Pages & Size: 608 | 13,5x20,6 cm

Original title: Die Frauen vom Rosenhag. Sehnsucht nach Freiheit

CORINA BOMANN

## The Women of the Rosenhag: Longing to be Free

THE ROSENHAG DUOLOGY (VOL. 2)

NOVEL

**Date of publication: August 27, 2025**


Rights sold to: France (Leduc), Italy (Giunti), The Netherlands (Boekerij)

### They are boldly looking towards the future – but can they turn their dreams into reality?

Karlskrona, 1910. Thanks to their friendship and bravery, Marlene and Liv have found refuge in the picturesque Rose Bower – a place where women from all walks of life help and support each other, and share their secrets. But when a man from Marlene's past suddenly shows up and disrupts her well-ordered life, it seems that she may have been wrong about everything she once believed to be true. Her delicate bond with Oskar, too, may be at risk. Meanwhile, Liv is ready to fall in love again – but her brutal husband Sten Boregard is still out there, trying to break her. The two women want to look towards the future with optimism – but again and again, obstacles are put in their way. Can they join forces and stand up to their enemies together? Or will they have to give up their dreams once and for all?

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### AUTHOR

Corina Bomann



© Nadja Klier

With sales totalling over two million copies, Corina Bomann's popular historical sagas are regular bestsellers, and her readers adore her strong women, passionate emotions and moving stories – including, most recently, the Waldfriede Clinic saga, which charts the eventful story of a hospital in Berlin. Her new series, "Die Frauen vom Rosenhag" ('The women of Rosenhag'), is set in Sweden, where two courageous heroines fight for their freedom and for love.



#### Historical Fiction

Publishing House: Penguin

Format: Paperback

Pages & Size: 480 | 13,5x20,6 cm

Original title: Lindt & Sprüngli (Lindt & Sprüngli Saga 2)

LISA GRAF

## Lindt & Sprüngli: Two Rivals, One Dream

THE LINDT & SPRÜNGLI SAGA (VOL. 2)

Date of publication: October 15, 2025

Rights sold to: Bulgaria (Era)

### A wilful boy – and an invention that will revolutionise the production of chocolate

Berne, 1863. From the moment that a beautiful flower-seller saves little daydreamer Rodolphe Lindt from being crushed under the wheels of a passing carriage, it's clear that Lindt was spared in order to accomplish great things. But not quite the way his family intended. Instead of following in his physician father's footsteps, the boy leaves school without a qualification and pursues adventure. Rodolphe's spirit, charm and suavity have opened many a door for him – why should that change? He eventually sets up a chocolate manufacturer's in Berne, and does something that secures him a place in the history books: he invents the conche and revolutionises the world of chocolate. The world's eyes are upon him – including those of chocolatier Sprüngli, who can't believe what Lindt has accomplished...

An opulent, dramatic, meticulously researched and unforgettable saga about the world-famous Swiss chocolate dynasties of Sprüngli and Lindt.

- The sequel to the number one bestseller
- Rights to the first volume sold to: Bulgaria (Era), Hungary (Kossuth), Italy (Giunti), Poland (Skarpa), Russia (Azbooka), Slovakia (Verbarium)



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#### AUTHOR

Lisa Graf



© Carina Engle

Lisa Graf was born in Passau. After spells in Munich and southern Spain, she has now settled in the Bavarian region of Berchtesgadener Land. Her fantastic family sagas "Dallmayr" and "Lindt & Sprüngli" have both conquered hearts and topped the bestseller lists.



### Historical Fiction

Publishing House: Penguin

Format: Paperback

Pages & Size: 512 | 12,5x18,7 cm

Original title: Little Germany - Der Geschmack von Freiheit

MARIA NIKOLAI

# Little Germany: A Taste of Freedom

THE LITTLE GERMANY SAGA (VOL. 2)


Date of publication: September 24, 2025

## Two women, two destinies, two decisions that change everything

New York, 1904. A terrible disaster has shocked the neighbourhood: More than 1000 people from the lively Little Germany district have died in the fire of an excursion steam ship. Despite their loss, Lissi and Julia continue to fight for their bakery and their happiness. But soon it becomes clear that Little Germany will never again be the home they knew. Once again, the young women have to start from scratch – and open Lissi's Little Bakery on 86th Street, in Yorkville. Like a rising Broadway star, the German bakery conquers the hearts of all. Meanwhile, both Julia and Lissi must face up to their past when two men they once knew reappear. Their feelings are in turmoil, and their future is in doubt. At the same time, the trial of those responsible for the East River tragedy is about to begin... The exciting émigré saga by this bestselling author continues with a fantastic NYC setting, strong women who are seeking happiness, and the sweet smell of soft sugar pretzels...

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### AUTHOR

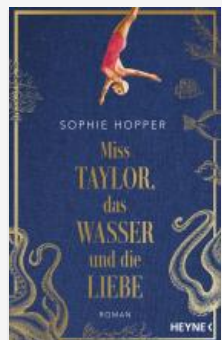
Maria Nikolai



© Chris Kröck

Maria Nikolai loves history and tender love stories. She had her first hit with her "Schokoladenvilla" ("House of chocolate") series, an opulent historical drama about a Stuttgart chocolate dynasty. It spent months in the bestseller lists, sold nearly half a million copies and was translated into many languages. Her second trilogy, set on Lake Constance around the end of the First World War, was also a bestseller. Her latest series, the two-parter "Little Germany", is about two courageous young women who move to the New World in search of adventure.

[www.marianikolai.de/](http://www.marianikolai.de/)



#### Historical Fiction

Publishing House: Heyne

Format: Hardcover

Pages & Size: 432 | 13,5x21,5 cm

Original title: Miss Taylor, das Wasser und die Liebe

SOPHIE HOPPER

## Miss Taylor, Water and Love

NOVEL

Date of publication: July 30, 2025

### A strong woman, the magic of water, and the discovery of love

Cambridge, 1950. Milla Taylor, who grew up as an orphan and never learnt to read or write properly, is a night guard at a museum. Until now, life has been tough, and she avoids other people whenever she can. At a New Year's Eve party, she meets Monty Chester, a gifted diver. Ever since his accident he, too, has avoided the company of others. While the party is in full swing, he persuades Milla to put on his old diving suit, and she takes her first dive in the lake in the gardens. Milla is bewitched. How strange and peaceful the underwater world is! She quickly realises that she's lost her heart twice over. And while her love for diving takes her all over the world, her feelings for Monty will lead her astray more than once...

- Inspired by the true story of Honor Frost, a pioneer of underwater archaeology

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#### AUTHOR

Sophie Hopper

When she was little, Sophie Hopper loved hiding under furniture or escaping into realms of her own invention. As a grown-up, she developed a love of adventure, and swapped her tables and sofas for seats on trains and planes, went snorkelling in Mexico and Malaysia and Interrailing across Europe, worked on camp sites, slept in Swiss train stations and on traffic islands in the middle of Paris, and planned at one point to emigrate to Sweden. In the end, she decided to live in Berlin instead, where she now explores the world on paper, and reads and writes as much as she can.



### Historical Fiction

Publishing House: Penguin  
 Format: Paperback  
 Pages & Size: 432 | 13,5x20,6 cm  
 Original title: Cartier. Der Glanz von Gold

SOPHIE VILLARD

# Cartier: Shining Gold

THE CARTIER SAGA (VOL. 2)

Date of publication: July 16, 2025


**Jazz, glamour and jewellery – book 2 in this glittering saga about the Cartier family**

Paris, 1918. The war is over, and the world is taking a deep breath. The Cartier family, too, hopes to be able to return the family business to its former glory. The Roaring Twenties and Hollywood stars provide the perfect backdrop for the Cartiers' jewels, and anyone who's anyone wants to wear them. Yet for ambitious designer Jeanne, only one thing matters – being reunited with Louis. But despite everything the two of them have been through together, their happiness appears to be at risk...

A charming and atmospheric novel that takes us deep into 1920s Paris, and the history of the most famous jewellery dynasty in the world.

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### AUTHOR

Sophie Villard



© Andrea Artz

Sophie Villard is the pen name of a successful German author. She studied journalism and political science, and lives near Dresden with her family. Her novel about the famous art collector Peggy Guggenheim was a Spiegel bestseller. After "Madame Exupéry und die Sterne des Himmels" ('Madame Exupéry and the starry skies') and "Mademoiselle Eiffel und der Turm der Liebe" ('Mademoiselle Eiffel and the tower of love'), she has now turned to writing an exciting saga about the Cartiers.



#### Historical Fiction

Publishing House: Goldmann  
 Format: Paperback  
 Pages & Size: 352 | 12,5x18,7 cm  
 Original title: Das Schneeflockenmädchen

MARA ANDECK

## The Snowflake Girl

NOVEL

Date of publication: September 17, 2025


**A wonderful winter novel about the magic of storytelling and a fairy-tale romance**

Rothenburg, December 1925. Travelling storyteller Marie has arrived in this picturesque Bavarian town in her horse and cart to ply her trade at the Christmas market. She has little, but gives freely, instilling courage and hope in the farmers who put her up for the night and in the village children she meets along the way. Is it magic? Do the ancient fairy tales have secret healing powers? Young candyfloss-seller Carl is drawn to Marie. Curious, he follows her through the snowy landscape – and it doesn't take long before he's in love...

 GOLDMANN

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#### AUTHOR

Mara Andeck



© Tomas Rodriguez

Mara Andeck, born in 1967, studied journalism and biology in Dortmund, interned at the WDR broadcaster in Cologne, and then worked as a science journalist. She lives near Stuttgart with her family, where she writes children's, YA and adult fiction.



### Historical Fiction

Publishing House: Penguin  
 Format: Paperback  
 Pages & Size: 480 | 13,5x20,6 cm  
 Original title: Die Kryptografin

HANNA ADEN

# The Cryptographer

NOVEL


Date of publication: December 10, 2025

**When the past casts its shadow over your future, it's time to forge a new path...**

Munich, the early 1950s. Young Margot is proud to be one of the few women chosen to study Maths at the prestigious Ludwig Maximilian University. At a lecture, her extraordinarily insightful questions catch the attention of a visitor who works for Operation Gehlen, the precursor of the future West German secret service. Margot is clearly a gifted mathematician, and she's offered a job in the cryptography division. It's an exciting offer, and Margot immediately accepts. But her joy soon gives way to disillusionment, when she discovers that men are very much in charge here. She finds it hard to assert herself in this new environment. Her hopes for a better future seem to have been in vain, and she's thinking of quitting. But then her friend Sue persuades her to forge her own path. She dreams of a better life, of becoming a journalist and fighting for the rights of women. Together, the two women attend discussion evenings at the Amerika Haus, where Margot meets Willi, a political activist sympathetic to her views. But her job at the secret service makes it hard for Margot to separate her private life from work... A gripping and moving novel about a young woman torn between duty and friendship, and about boldly pursuing your dreams.

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### AUTHOR

Hanna Aden



© Erik Schwarzer/Grubenglück

Hanna Aden, born in Heidelberg in 1983, is a special needs teacher and writes articles and opinion columns for various periodicals. She has also been a judge on the Delia Book Prize panel. Her first novel "I Love You, Miss Lena" was inspired by her grandmother's story.





#### Historical Fiction

Publishing House: Heyne  
Format: Paperback  
Pages & Size: 448 | 11,8x18,7 cm  
Original title: Die wilden Jahre

SUSANNE GOGA

## Wild Years

NOVEL

Date of publication: November 12, 2025

### A brother and sister dreaming of a better life

Rhineland, 1919. Siblings Thora and Hannes Benrath have grown up in a wealthy industrial family, in a time of war, revolution and occupation. They have always been close, but while Thora uses this exciting time to start an acting degree, Hannes, who was going to study architecture, is scarred by his experiences in the war. One day, Hannes is arrested for murder, and he refuses to see or speak to anyone. In her brother's room, Thora discovers a volume of poems by Eichendorff, where someone has circled the words "eagle" and "volcano". She sets out to get to the bottom of the mystery – and when she discovers that her brother had a secret life, Thora is determined to do everything in her power to save him...

HEYNE

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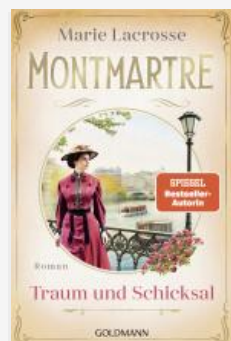
#### AUTHOR

Susanne Goga



© Thomas Rabsch

The renowned author and literary translator Susanne Goga, born in 1967, loves travelling, especially into the past. This is reflected in her hugely popular historical fiction – her Leo Wechsler crime stories are set in 1920s Berlin, while many of her other novels are set in the eventful nineteenth century.  
[www.susannegoga.de/](http://www.susannegoga.de/)



#### Historical Fiction

Publishing House: Goldmann  
 Format: Paperback  
 Pages & Size: 608 | 13,5x20,6 cm  
 Original title: Montmartre - Traum und Schicksal

MARIE LACROSSE

## Montmartre: Dreams and Destinies

THE MONTMARTRE SAGA (VOL. 2)

NOVEL

Date of publication: November 12, 2025

### A dancer at the Moulin Rouge and a painter search for recognition and love in 19th-century Paris

Paris, 1889. Elise Lambert and Valérie Dumas were born on the same day – but that's the only thing they share. When the Moulin Rouge opens, Elise Lambert quickly becomes its star dancer, which causes problems in her friendship with one of the other dancers. La Goulue may be Toulouse-Lautrec's famous model, but she still considers Elise a rival. And when Elise catches the eye of a wealthy aristocrat, things only get worse.

Meanwhile, Valérie Dumas, who has grown up in a wealthy family, gives in to pressure from her father and marries the reactionary artist Baptiste Germain. Yet she finds it hard to accept the limitations their marriage places on her, and continues her struggle to make it as an artist. Can Elise and Valérie make their dreams come true?



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#### AUTHOR

Marie Lacrosse



© Samira Khani

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.



#### Historical Fiction

Publishing House: Heyne  
 Format: Paperback  
 Pages & Size: 448 | 11,8x18,7 cm  
 Original title: Die stille Heldin

HERA LIND

## The Quiet Heroine

HISTORICAL FICTION BASED ON REAL EVENTS

**Date of publication: October 29, 2025**

Complete English translation available

### A mother's love in the dark days of war

Runau/Runowo, 1905. Young Helene is forced to marry the wealthy but violent farmer Otto. Their marriage is ruled by patriarchal values, and their sons are put to work like slaves on their father's fields. When Otto dies in the Great War, the mother of six runs the farm on her own. With her one true love, border guard Ewald, she has another six children. But soon the family threatens to be torn apart by the rise of the Nazis. As a result of accidents, the Second World War and a horrific war crime, Helene loses six of her twelve children. Throughout it all, she never loses heart; but then her courage is severely tested one more time...

The deeply moving story of the unbearable grief and sorrow faced by a mother in a war-torn country, as well as a celebration of a unique family – and of love.

- The new historical novel based on a true story, by a number one bestselling author
- Hera Lind's books have sold 4.5m copies so far

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#### AUTHOR

Hera Lind



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Hera Lind studied German, music and theology, and was a professional singer before achieving huge success with several of her novels. For several years now, she has been writing exclusively novels based on true events, a genre that has become her trademark. With these novels, she repeatedly conquers the SPIEGEL bestseller list. Hera Lind lives with her husband in Salzburg, where they also give writing seminars together.  
[www.heralind.com/](http://www.heralind.com/)



#### Historical Fiction

Publishing House: Heyne  
 Format: Paperback  
 Pages & Size: 384 | 13,5x20,6 cm  
 Original title: Die Psychoanalytikerin

MELANIE METZENTHIN

## The Psychoanalyst

NOVEL

Date of publication: October 15, 2025

**The captivating story of a woman who becomes a psychoanalyst in the 1920s, and has to contend with both her male colleagues and a shocking secret**

Hamburg, 1920. Vera has taken over the practice of her husband, who died five years ago in the Great War. Her patients are all scarred in different ways, mostly by the war. When they mysteriously start dying, Inspector Bender asks her for help. He asks her to look into their pasts, to see if there is anything to connect them. Then ex-soldier Willi Schuster, whose face was disfigured by a war wound, is reported missing by his wife. He, too, is one of Vera's patients – and she realises that someone is taking revenge on Willi's old regiment...

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#### AUTHOR

Melanie Metzenthin



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Melanie Metzenthin was born in 1969 in Hamburg, where she still lives and works as a psychiatrist. Her fascination with Hamburg's history and the history of medicine is apparent in many of her novels.



#### Historical Fiction

Publishing House: Heyne  
 Format: Paperback  
 Pages & Size: 160 | 10,0x15,5 cm  
 Original title: Stille Nacht

TITUS MÜLLER

## Silent Night

Date of publication: September 10, 2025

### The moving story of how the world's most famous Christmas song was born

"The final notes of the song echoed through the church. Then everything fell silent." It was on Christmas Eve 1818, more than 200 years ago, that "Silent Night, Holy Night" was first heard in public. Today, it's hard to think of Christmas without it. Here, Müller tells the story of its origins – a story of light and shadow, rupture and reconciliation.

"'Silent Night, Holy Night' is one of the most famous songs in the world. Again and again, it deeply touches anyone who sings it. But where did it come from? Who wrote the music and the lyrics? It's a fascinating tale." Titus Müller

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#### AUTHOR

Titus Müller



© Sandra Frick

Titus Müller, born in 1977, studied literature, history and journalism. In 1998 he founded the literature magazine Federwelt, and 2002 saw the publication of his debut novel, "The Bishop's Calligrapher", which was followed by further historical novels. He is a member of PEN and has won the C.S. Lewis Prize and the Homer Prize, among others. His "Die fremde Spionin" ('The foreign agent') trilogy was a bestseller and has been praised even by agency insiders.



### Historical Fiction

Publishing House: Penguin  
 Format: Paperback  
 Pages & Size: 496 | 12,5x18,7 cm  
 Original title: Der Eispalast - Entscheidung aus Liebe

RENA ROSENTHAL

# The Ice Palace: What Love Will Do

THE ICE PALACE SAGA (VOL. 3)

NOVEL

Date of publication: November 26, 2025


## She's risking everything – for love, for victory, for herself

Vienna, the early twentieth century. After a painfully long absence, Julianna has returned to her home town. It was here that she first learnt to skate, which changed her life for ever. But when she finally sees Leo again, her joy at being back quickly turns to sorrow: the Ice Palace he once built for her isn't as successful as they'd hoped. The situation is dire. The artificial ice rink was not only a long-held dream, but their only source of income. Julianna and Leo are at a loss. And then their love for each other is sorely tested by a shocking scheme...

Sizzling, sparkling, elegant historical fiction – the fantastic finale of this trilogy about ice dancing.

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### AUTHOR

Rena Rosenthal



© Marina Weigl

Rena Rosenthal grew up in a little town in Lower Saxony. She climbed the bestseller lists with her Royal gardener trilogy, and when she heard the story of the women who introduced Vienna to ice dancing, she knew that this would become the subject of her new saga.



### Historical Fiction

Publishing House: Penguin  
 Format: Paperback  
 Pages & Size: 400 | 11,8x18,7 cm  
 Original title: Torstraße 1

SYBIL VOLKS

# Torstraße 1

NOVEL

**Date of publication: October 08, 2025**

New paperback edition of this bestselling novel

## A house of secrets and memories – a novel about love and friendship in hard times


Berlin. The house at Torstraße 1 is brimming with history – and, for Elsa, with memories. She was born here in 1929, when the Jonass department store first opened its doors. She is the illegitimate child of sales assistant Vicky, and this is where Vicky first fell in love with Harry Grünberg, scion of the store's Jewish owners. And where Elsa became friends with Bernhard, whose father helped build the house. They witness the Grünbergs being driven out, watch the Hitler Youth move in, and the house being turned into the Marxist-Leninist Institute after the war. But despite the war and the Berlin Wall, there's a bond between Vicky and Harry, Elsa and Bernhard that won't be broken.

A historical novel about love and friendship in tumultuous times – based on a true story.

- The novel has been adapted for TV by the producers of Babylon Berlin

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### AUTHOR

Sybil Volks



© Lotte Ostermann

Sybil Volks is an author based in Berlin. Her second novel, "Torstraße 1" (2022), a fictionalised account of the Jonass department store's eventful history, was a bestseller and turned into a popular TV series ("Das Haus der Träume" / "The house of dreams"). She followed it up with her bestselling "Wintergäste" ("Winter guests") and "Die Glücksreisenden" ("Happy travellers"), two classic family dramas set on a fictional North Sea island that acts a microcosmic mirror of our own age. Her latest novel, "Café Finito", is a vividly written tale set in Berlin's most famous cemetery, the Dorotheenstädtische Friedhof.



#### Historical Fiction

Publishing House: Heyne  
 Format: Paperback  
 Pages & Size: 384 | 11,8x18,7 cm  
 Original title: Die Welt in unseren Händen

EMILY WALTON

## The World Is in Our Hands

NOVEL

Date of publication: December 10, 2025

**A historical adventure novel that takes us from London's fog-bound alleyways to the Egyptian pyramids – colourful, atmospheric, gripping**

When young Emma visits her grandmother June in Oxford, she doesn't know that this will be the last time she'll see her alive. What she also doesn't know is that the book of poems inscribed by a certain 'Ken' in 1944 will change her life for ever. Bit by bit, she discovers that her grandmother led a far more adventurous life than anyone ever knew: when June was about Emma's age, she joined the Royal Air Force. The war takes her from London to the Egyptian desert, and when she meets South African cameraman Ken in Cairo, she feels as if she's exactly who and where she's meant to be. But can June give in to her feelings, while the world is on fire and her best friend Dotty is fighting for her life in London? As Emma immerses herself in her grandmother's life, she begins to wonder whether her future, too, might turn out different.

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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.





#### Women's Fiction

Publishing House: Heyne  
Format: Paperback  
Pages & Size: 448 | 12,5x18,7 cm  
Original title: Seesternnächte

MANUELA INUSA

## Starfish Nights

THE COASTLINES SERIES (VOL. 2)

NOVEL

Date of publication: September 10, 2025

### On Key West, Harmony fights for her sister – and for hope

Harmony is a journalist living in Phoenix. After several disappointing affairs, she has given up any hope of finding that someone special. Instead, she's totally focused on her work and her older sister, Hope, who is dying after a three-year battle with leukaemia. Hope's biggest wish is to spend her final weeks on Key West, her favourite place in the whole world. She dreams of seeing dolphins one last time. Harmony goes to Key West with her, and organises a dolphin-watching trip. But her plans come to nothing: a hurricane hits the Florida Keys, and Hope's condition quickly deteriorates. After the storm, nothing is as it was, and Harmony has to learn to let go. Can she find peace among the palm trees – and maybe something more?

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#### AUTHOR

Manuela Inusa



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Manuela Inusa, born in 1981, knew even as a child that she was going to be a writer one day. She trained as a bilingual assistant, but shortly before her thirtieth birthday decided it was now or never. Ever since, she regularly enchants numerous readers with her emotive novels, and her popular "Valerie Lane" and "California Dreams" series were almost instant bestsellers. Her books have been translated into various languages.



#### Women's Fiction

Publishing House: Blanvalet

Format: Paperback

Pages & Size: 352 | 12,5x18,7 cm

Original title: Neues Glück im kleinen Nähcafé am Fluss

SABINE SCHMIDT

## New Happiness in the Little Riverside Sewing Café

THE SEWING CAFÉ SERIES (VOL. 2)

NOVEL

Date of publication: October 22, 2025

### A breath of fresh air in the sewing café, exciting challenges and lots of new happiness!

Maura, a successful editor-in-chief, returns to her home village of Rockenbrook after several years to help her father. But more than just family duties await her there: Her late aunt's beloved sewing café is on the verge of closing down again, and the village is in danger of falling into the hands of an unscrupulous investor - the ex of her great love Marten, of all people. Old feelings flare up, new challenges pile up and an unexpected twist turns her life upside down.

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#### AUTHOR

Sabine Schmidt



© Susanna Kolmos

Sabine Schmidt is a writer, blogger, fashion designer and, since 2016, Founder and creative mind behind Sewsimple. Every month, hundreds of thousands of sewing fans seek out Sabine's sewing and DIY instructions and hacks – or browse the beginner-friendly templates on her popular website. After "The Little Riverside Sewing Café", "New Happiness in The Little Riverside Sewing Café" is her second novel, with which she hopes to both entertain and inspire her readers.



#### Women's Fiction

Publishing House: Goldmann  
Format: Paperback  
Pages & Size: 464 | 12,5x18,7 cm  
Original title: Rückkehr nach Fisherman's Cove

CONSTANZE WILKEN

## Return to Fisherman's Cove

NOVEL

Date of publication: August 20, 2025

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**A Scottish island. A long-kept secret. A great love.**

When she learns of the sudden death of her beloved father, Arline is deeply shocked. The young woman, who works in a pub in Glasgow and sings in a folk band, immediately sets off for her home island of Orkney. When she arrives in picturesque Fisherman's Cove, she is overwhelmed by memories. Her father has not only left her the old cottage, but also the diary of her mother Colina, who died young and from whom she inherited her singing talent. Arline decides to stay in Fisherman's Cove for the time being to finally find out more about her mother's mysterious fate. Arline's feelings are finally shaken up when she meets the barman Quinn in the local pub. When Arline sings in the pub with her band, which has traveled to the folk festival, sparks fly between her and Quinn.

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#### AUTHOR

Constanze Wilken



© Ali Reza Salehi

Constanze Wilken, born in 1968, studied art history, political science and literature in Kiel and completed her doctorate at the University of Wales in Aberystwyth. She is a successful author of both women's fiction and historical novels.



### Thriller & Crime

Publishing House: Penguin  
 Format: Paperback  
 Pages & Size: 464 | 13,5x20,6 cm  
 Original title:  
 Himmelerdenblau

ROMY HAUSMANN

# Darling Mine

THRILLER

**Date of publication: August 27, 2025**

Rights sold to: Italy (Giunti), Poland (Foksal), Russia (Eksmo), Slovakia (IKAR), Turkey (Eksik Parça), UK/World English (Quercus)

English sample translation available

**An intense thriller about the disappearance of a child, being scared of your own memories, lives destroyed, and the dark side of the true crime genre**


Julie Novak has been missing since 7 September 2003. Her disappearance has torn her family apart. But her father Theo hasn't given up looking for her. Twenty years later, podcaster Liv contacts Theo, and tells him that she has found a fresh clue. But Theo is suffering from dementia, and if he wants to know the truth he must act quickly. Who took his daughter? Why has Julie's ex-boyfriend Daniel locked his deceased mother's bedroom door? And is there anything more cruel than not knowing what happened to your child?

- Romy Hausmann's books have been published in 30 countries so far, with 1.2 million copies sold
- For fans of Gillian Flynn, Paula Hawkins, Donna Tartt, Patricia Highsmith, Tana French and Ruth Ware

**Just when you think you know how the story works, she flips it all upside down and delivers one stunning twist after another.**

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### AUTHOR

Romy Hausmann



© Astrid Eckert

Romy Hausmann was born in East Germany in 1981, and her family later fled to the West. She is "one of the most successful thriller authors in Germany." (Sunday Times). Her debut novel "Liebes Kind" ("Dear Child") immediately landed at number 1 on the SPIEGEL bestseller list. The Netflix series of the same name won the International Emmy Award in November 2024. She continued her success in 2020 and 2022 with the thrillers "Marta schläft" ("Marta sleeps") and "Perfect Day". Her first non-fiction book was also published in 2022: "True Crime. Der Abgrund in dir" ("True crime: the darkness within you"), and in 2024 the poetry book "Princess Standard", set to music by Fortuna Ehrenfeld. All of her books are SPIEGEL bestsellers and her works are published with great success in 30 countries.

**I've read a lot of suspense fiction over the years, but this book really kept me guessing. Huge congrats to Romy on this wonderful achievement!**

Stefanie Bierwerth, Publisher at Quercus



#### Thriller & Crime

Publishing House: Goldmann  
Format: Paperback  
Pages & Size: 544 | 13,5x20,6 cm  
Original title: Herzgrab

ANDREAS GRUBER

## Buried Heart

THE HEART SERIES (VOL. 1)

THRILLER

**Date of publication: November 19, 2025**

Re-release of the 2013 Goldmann edition

### When love turns into obsession, and revenge becomes bloody...


Young Elena Gerink, a private detective in Vienna, is known for never yet having failed to track down a missing person. But her search for world-famous painter Salvatore Del Vecchio is turning out to be more difficult than she thought. When a new painting by him unexpectedly shows up, Elena travels to Tuscany. In Florence's oppressive summer heat, she bumps into her ex-husband Peter, a kidnapping specialist with the Austrian state police, who is looking for an Austrian woman last seen in Italy. Soon, they realise that the two cases are related – in a way that's so perfidious and bloody that Elena and Peter struggle to handle the case, even after they join forces...

- The first case for this investigative duo
- Gruber's books for Goldmann have sold more than 6.5 million copies so far and have been translated into eleven languages

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#### AUTHOR

Andreas Gruber



© Dominik Rößler / Penguin Random House GmbH

Andreas Gruber, born in Vienna in 1968, lives with his family as a freelance writer in Austria. His thriller and novels of suspense for adults have a huge fan following and are regularly in the Spiegel bestselling charts. Andreas Gruber has been nominated for the Friedrich Glauser Crime Prize and, twice, for the Leo Perutz Crime Prize of the city of Vienna. He has been awarded the Herzogenrather Handschelle and several times been the winner of the Vincent Prize and the Deutscher Phantastik Preis.  
[www.agruber.com](http://www.agruber.com)



#### Thriller & Crime

Publishing House: Goldmann  
 Format: Paperback  
 Pages & Size: 608 | 13,5x20,6 cm  
 Original title: Herzfluch

ANDREAS GRUBER

## Cursed Heart

THE HEART SERIES (VOL. 2)

THRILLER

Date of publication: November 19, 2025

**On an island hiding a deadly secret, a girl has disappeared...  
 the major new thriller by this bestselling author**

Viennese private detective Elena Gerink is looking for a murderer who was wrongly released fifteen years ago, and who has since left the country. After an arduous search, she finally tracks him down to Greece. Her husband Peter and his colleague Dino Scatozza are also on their way there – they are kidnapping specialists in the Austrian state police, and desperately looking for a missing young tourist last seen at a high-society party in Athens. When the trail leads Elena, Peter and Dino to the same small private island, the trio decide to work together... and are drawn into the island's grim history.

- Following the bestselling "Herzgrab" ("Buried Heart"), this is the second case for detective duo Peter and Elena Gerink
- Gruber's books for Goldmann have sold more than 6.5 million copies so far and have been translated into eleven languages

**[Grubers] books are action-packed, complex and twisty-turny.**

Sebastian Fitzek

**One of the best German-language thriller writers.**

denglers-buchkritik.de



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#### AUTHOR

Andreas Gruber



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Andreas Gruber, born in Vienna in 1968, lives with his family as a freelance writer in Austria. His thriller and novels of suspense for adults have a huge fan following and are regularly in the Spiegel bestselling charts. Andreas Gruber has been nominated for the Friedrich Glauser Crime Prize and, twice, for the Leo Perutz Crime Prize of the city of Vienna. He has been awarded the Herzogenrather Handschelle and several times been the winner of the Vincent Prize and the Deutscher Phantastik Preis.  
[www.agruber.com](http://www.agruber.com)



#### Thriller & Crime

Publishing House: Heyne  
Format: Paperback  
Pages & Size: 224 | 11,8x18,7 cm  
Original title: Der Rabbi und der Kommissar: Du sollst nicht lügen

MICHEL BERGMANN

## The Rabbi and the Inspector: Thou Shalt Not Lie

THE RABBI AND THE INSPECTOR (VOL. 4)  
CRIME NOVEL

Date of publication: September 10, 2025

### A new case for Rabbi Silberbaum

Shuk, an Israeli restaurant, has been torched in an arson attack that has claimed the life of a kitchen hand from Burkina Faso. DCI Berking assumes it was neo-Nazis, but the case may be more complicated than the initial evidence suggests. His friend, Rabbi Silberbaum, is convinced that there's a financial motive behind the attack, and that they should be looking elsewhere for the culprits. He's confirmed in his suspicion when the victim's sister, a bright young police officer from Ouagadougou, shows up. She rejects any notion that her brother was paid to burn down the restaurant, and is determined to bring his killer to justice.

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#### AUTHOR

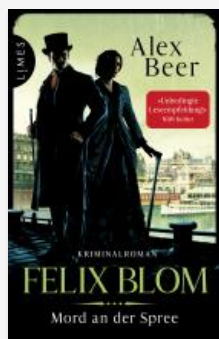
Michel Bergmann



© Bogenberger Autorenfotos

Michel Bergmann was born in Basel, but spent his childhood in Paris and his adolescence in Frankfurt am Main. After graduating from university and a spell at the Frankfurter Rundschau, he decided to join the world of film, and has since then been a producer, a director and, most recently, a screenwriter. He wrote his first book in 2010, and "The Rabbi and the Inspector" is his first crime series.





#### Historical Fiction, Thriller & Crime

Publishing House: Limes  
 Format: Paperback  
 Pages & Size: 320 | 13,5x21,5 cm  
 Original title: Felix Blom - Mord an der Spree

ALEX BEER

## Felix Blom: Murder on the Spree

A CASE FOR FELIX BLOM (VOL. 3)

CRIME NOVEL

Date of publication: November 05, 2025

**Mathilde Voss's past catches up with her – and Felix Blom has to pull out all the stops to help his business partner, solve his third case, and bring the true killer to justice**

Berlin, 1879. The whole city is talking about the murdered prostitute. Shortly after, detective Mathilde Voss receives a message: 'I know who killed her. We're in danger. Lotte'. When Mathilde shows up at Lotte's, it's too late: she too has been murdered, and Mathilde is the chief suspect. Her partner Felix does everything he can to help. He's convinced that someone is trying to pin the murder on Mathilde – someone involved in a terrible event from her past...

**Alex Beer once again shows why she's the master of historical crime. [...] She has created yet another thrilling story with brilliant characters, set against the fascinating backdrop of late nineteenth-century Berlin. A brilliantly researched and gripping plot, it's the unusual pairing [of Mathilde and Felix] that makes it so unmissable.**

krimi-couch.de

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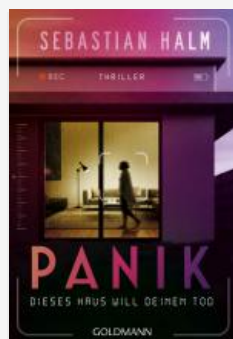
#### AUTHOR

Alex Beer



© Ian Ehm

Alex Beer has a degree in archaeology and now lives in Vienna. Her thrilling DCI August Emmerich series has seen her shortlisted for countless awards (among others for the Friedrich Glauser Prize, Viktor Crime Award and Crime Cologne Award), and has won her the 2017 and 2019 Leo Perutz Crime Prize, the 2020 MIMI Bookbuyers' Crime Award, and the 2019 Austrian Crime Prize. Beer's other series features Felix Blom, a fascinating character investigating crime in late nineteenth-century Berlin – for which she has also won awards, including the 2023 Silver Homer and the 2024 Berlin Krimifuchs.  
[www.alex-beer.com](http://www.alex-beer.com)



#### Thriller & Crime

Publishing House: Goldmann  
Format: Paperback  
Pages & Size: 336 | 12,5x18,7 cm  
Original title: Panik

SEBASTIAN HALM

## Panic: This House Wants to Kill You

THRILLER

Date of publication: July 23, 2025


### A luxurious holiday home turns into a death trap

To save their marriage, Ruth and Bill have gone to spend the weekend in a luxurious beach house on the Baltic coast – an architectural gem that used to belong to a tech mogul. When Ruth wakes up in the middle of the night, her husband has disappeared. Panicked, she searches everywhere for him... and finally discovers Bill on the other side of a picture window. He's in the garden, locked out of their house, while she is hermetically sealed inside. There's no way for them to communicate. Ruth and Bill quickly realise that the house's AI security system has taken control – and is hunting them both down...

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#### AUTHOR

Sebastian Halm



© Sarah Hecker/blende11

Sebastian Halm, born in 1978, is a journalist and winner of the LfM Radio Prize. After graduating from high school, he did an internship followed by a BA in German and literature studies. He is now a science journalist specialising in AI, and lives in Munich.



#### Thriller & Crime

Publishing House: Penguin  
 Format: Paperback  
 Pages & Size: 432 | 11,8x18,7 cm  
 Original title: Der Sünde Sold (Dühnfort 1)

INGE LÖHNIG

## The Wages of Sin

INSPECTOR DÜHNFORT'S FIRST CASE  
 CRIME NOVEL

Date of publication: December 10, 2025

### How it all began: the first book in this bestselling crime series featuring DCI Dühnfort – now a Penguin paperback

In a pretty parish south of Munich, Agnes is hoping to find peace and quiet after a tragic event a year ago destroyed life as she knew it. But then a five-year-old boy vanishes without a trace, and the village panics. Days later, Jakob is found tied up, naked and confused on a woodpile in the local forest. Everyone is relieved. But soon after, the mutilated body of the boys' teacher is found. The crime scene evokes biblical sacrifices and the gruesome Inquisition. Agnes and the other villagers are terrified. Someone among them is a sadistic killer – and DCI Dühnfort has to stop them before they claim their next victim.



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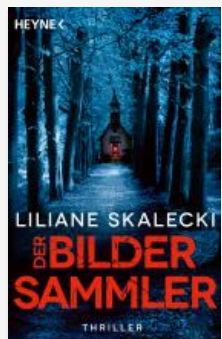
#### AUTHOR

Inge Löhnig



© Frank Bauer

Inge Löhnig's long-running Inspector Dühnfort crime series is hugely popular, and the books have been unfailing bestsellers. After a break of a few years – during which she published several bestsellers under the name Ellen Sandberg, including most recently "Keine Reue" ('No regrets') and "Das Unrecht" ('Injustice') – she's back with another Dühnfort thriller. She has been a successful novelist for many years, and is a recipient of the 2022 Bavarian State Medal.



#### Thriller & Crime

Publishing House: Heyne  
Format: Paperback  
Pages & Size: 432 | 11,8x18,7 cm  
Original title: Der Bildersammler

LILIANE SKALECKI

## The Art Collector

THRILLER

Date of publication: September 10, 2025

### A fearless art restorer uses her expertise with the investigation of a gruesome series of murders

On an evening stroll, art restorer Tessa makes a shocking discovery: in a lonely chapel in the woods, she stumbles across a gruesomely displayed corpse. The dead man is marked with the wounds of St Sebastian. DCI Lennart Wiedmeyer has never seen anything like it in his life, and he quickly realises that he needs help from an expert. He asks Tessa to help him find out which painting provided the model for the bloody killing. While the two of them identify the dead man and gradually put the pieces together, the killer has only just begun their masterpiece, and is already looking for their next victim...

HEYNE <

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Liliane Skalecki knows her art history and archaeology, and likes to bring aspects of these into her crime novels (which she sometimes publishes under a pseudonym). While browsing in antiques shops and immersing herself in the past, she comes across many a puzzle, which she then weaves into gripping cases for her protagonists to solve. She lives in Bremen and the South of France with her family.