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**SPRING & SUMMER 2023**

# FOREIGN RIGHTS NON- FICTION

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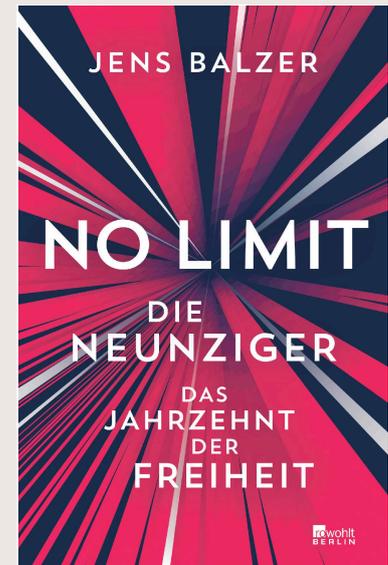
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# NON-FICTION

Jens Balzer

## NO LIMIT – The Nineties, the Decade of Freedom

- Anything goes? The wild party at the end of history – and the rude awakening: Jens Balzer’s vibrant panorama of the 1990s.
- The nineties: a decade which, more than any other, stood for freedom and euphoria – but which also saw the beginnings of the new world order in which we live today.



June 2023 · 384 pages

**Jens Balzer**, born in 1969, is an author and columnist, for *ZEIT* and *Rolling Stone*, Deutschlandfunk and radioeins, among others. He was the deputy head of the arts section of the *Berliner Zeitung* and curates the pop salon at the Deutsche Theater. 2016 saw the publication of his much-acclaimed book *Pop*; in 2019, *Das entfesselte Jahrzehnt: Sound und Geist der 1970er*, about which the *Tagesspiegel* wrote: *As instructive as it is entertaining ... in the end, you are left with unimagined riches in the form of knowledge – and hope that the author will start analysing the next decade soon.* In 2021 it was followed by *High Energy*, an overview of the 1980s, and *Charakterporträt eines Zeitalters (FAZ)*. Now, with *No Limit*, Jens Balzer brings us the next instalment in his major history of the culture and mentality of modern times.

There are no limits anymore – or so everyone believes at the start of the 1990s. The Berlin Wall has fallen, the world is coming together, connections are being made. The first strands of the World Wide Web are being woven together, the first search machines programmed. In Berlin, techno becomes the soundtrack to reunification, there are neon colours everywhere you look, piercings and tattoos are now part of the mainstream, and the “tramp stamp” becomes the stylistic symbol of the decade. But beneath the heady surface, old conflicts are breaking out again, and ghosts from the past are returning. In eastern Germany, but not only there, a right-wing youth culture is emerging on a scale never seen before. In Yugoslavia, the unthinkable happens: the first war on European soil since 1945. Political Islam becomes a global threat, and the long decade ends on 11 September 2001 with the attack on the World Trade Center, which was also a symbol of the playful, globalised post-modern world. In a sweeping, colourful panorama, Jens Balzer tells the story of a decade when people believed in the future and in the motto “anything goes” – but which was also the beginning of a new era of limits, identities and conflicts.

*“Clever, detailed and brilliantly written.” Tages-Anzeiger about High Energy*

### Further Titles



Sarah Bosetti

## WHO IS AFRAID SHOULD STAY AT HOME – Poetry Against Populism

- Trenchant, poetic, political, funny – typical Bosetti.



March 2023 · 208 pages

**Sarah Bosetti** is a satirist, author and reluctant feminist. She was nominated for the German Television Prize for her weekly satire programme *Bosetti will reden!* (ZDF). Before this she had already won the Dieter Hildebrandt Prize and the German Cabaret Prize. She presents the *extra3 Podcast* (NDR), where she talks to celebrity guests about political developments. She also tours the German-speaking world with her live programme, and is a columnist for *WDR 2* and *radioeins* (RBB).

Sarah Bosetti has found a way of saving democracy: poetry against populism! Wherever you look, it feels like the end of the world is near. But climate change, war and other crises could be overcome if people approached them with honest rationality. In the fight against fake news, discrimination and the culture wars, Sarah Bosetti takes some of the best, worst and most absurd populist statements made by prominent figures – from Alice Schwarzer to Olaf Scholz to Vladimir Putin – and responds to them with clever, caustic and witty poems.

### Further Titles



Kai-Ove Kessler

## THE WORLD IS LOUD – A History of Noise

- An exciting history of humanity as you've never heard it before – with audio examples inside!
- The first popular science book on this subject: current, instantaneous, and relevant to many!
- English sample translation will be available soon.



April 2023 · 448 pages



**Kai-Ove Kessler**, a journalist, historian and musician, was born in 1962. He has worked as an editor at *Norddeutscher Rundfunk* for over 20 years, and has been researching the history of noise for almost as long. Noise has been his constant companion since he was young: he is a drummer in a hard rock band. Kai-Ove Kessler has two adult children and lives in Hamburg.

### Always loud, never quiet: the history of noise from the Big Bang to today.

How has noise developed in our civilisation over the centuries? What did Rome sound like in the days of the Roman Empire? What felt loud to a farmer in the Middle Ages? What levels of noise were the first factory workers in England subjected to?

The book begins long before human history, with the Big Bang – which wasn't actually a bang at all. Only later, with the invention of tools, did noise become human. The first major building sites in history, 4,500 years ago in Ancient Egypt, were not only an incredible sight but also a deafening aural experience. The message that early humans took from nature was that noise is divine. And in Greek, Roman and Norse mythology, there is always at least one god responsible for thunder and noise. In the Middle Ages, the Church conquered the acoustic airspace of the whole of Christian Europe with the holy triad of bell, organ and cathedral.

In this cultural history, Kai-Ove Kessler comes to the conclusion that not everything was quieter in the past. That noise can even bring refreshment, relief and pure pleasure.

Raúl Aguayo-Krauthausen

# IF YOU WANT TO BE INCLUSIVE, YOU'LL FIND A WAY. IF YOU DON'T, YOU'LL FIND AN EXCUSE

- An intelligent, inspirational book about one the most important topics of contemporary society.



March 2023 · 240 pages

**Raúl Aguayo-Krauthausen**, born in Peru in 1980, grew up in Berlin. He has osteogenesis imperfecta, also known as brittle bone disease, which renders him wheelchair-bound. He is a design thinker, inclusion activist and founder of the “Sozialhelden” group. Having studied communications, he has been active and working in the world of media and the Internet for over 15 years. In 2013, Raúl Krauthausen was awarded the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany. In January 2014, he published his biography entitled *Dachdecker wollte ich eigentlich eh nicht werden – Das Leben aus Rollstuhlperspektive*. Since 2015, he has been running his own talk show *Krauthausen – face to face* on the topics of culture and inclusion, and in 2020 he started a number of podcasts.

Raúl Krauthausen is Germany’s best-known activist for inclusion and barrier-free access – and the loudest voice in the country in matters of rights of people with disabilities. “Just consider disability a feature, like the colour of your hair” is one of his basic tenets. He fights across all platforms, digital and analogue, for visibility and against discrimination. His new book raises fundamental, often uncomfortable, questions on inclusion in Germany and prompts his readers to engage with their own ableism, developing an idea of how inclusion could and should be lived on all levels.

*"Raúl has a picture of what should be and what better not be. He judges on the basis of his expertise. He does not allow himself to be made stupid, and he likes to look at the world in terms of its changeability. The stringency with which he pursues his path is remarkable, partly because it is fuelled less by ambition than by passion." Roger Willemsen*

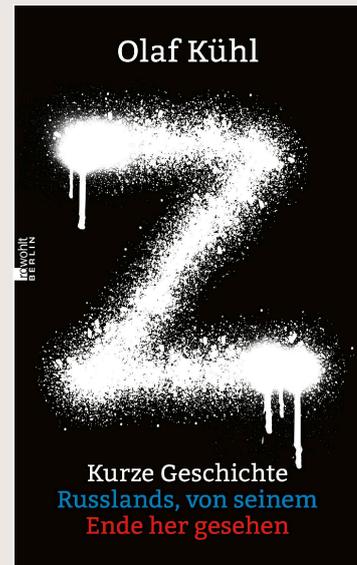
## Further Titles



Olaf Kühl

## Z – A Short History of Russia, Viewed From the End

- A timely and urgent portrait of Russia, brilliantly written.
- The beginning of the end: how Russia's aggressive, imperialist foreign policy may lead to violent upheaval within the country, and possibly to its collapse – with dangerous consequences.
- Olaf Kühl is an expert on Russia and the region.



March 2023 · 224 pages

**Olaf Kühl** was born in 1955 in Eastern Frisia. He has been the Russia consultant for the current mayor of Berlin since 1996, while also numbering amongst the most renowned translators of Polish and Russian texts into German. In 2005, he received the German Youth Literature Prize and the Karl Dedecius Prize for Polish-German translation. Olaf Kühl lives in Berlin.

### How Russia became what it is today – and what lies ahead for Russia and for us. A compelling, prescient portrait.

When Russia invaded Ukraine – if not before – people began to wonder how Russia came to be what it is today. Olaf Kühl, who served for many years as an advisor on Russian affairs to the Governing Mayor of Berlin, knows the country as few people do; he has travelled extensively in Russia over the course of several decades, as far as Siberia and the Far East, and has spent time outside Russia's major cities. In this book, he shows how Russia has developed since the fall of the Soviet Union, and how more intelligent, independently minded individuals were gradually replaced by officials loyal to the regime before a mafia-esque secret service elite seized power. All of this is illustrated through the fates of the people Kühl writes about. They include a successful businessman who, having refused to be blackmailed by the secret service, was tortured and killed in prison, and a separatist leader who was involved in the annexation of Crimea in 2014, and has now adopted a confrontational approach to Putin. One thing is already clear: Russia's populist, nationalist foreign policy will lead to major violent upheaval within the country itself, and perhaps even to its collapse – with dangerous consequences for Europe as well as Russia. A portrait of Russia that is as compelling as it is prescient.

### Further Titles



Lydia Meyer

## THE FUTURE IS NON-BINARY

- Human beings are more than either or.
- Empowering, informative, utopian! A book for a generation that is not afraid to move beyond old norms and constraints.



April 2023 · 224 pages



© P.Niederemayer

**Lydia Meyer** lives in Berlin and works as an author, editor and concept developer, exploring the issues of sex, gender, social norms and the connections between them in various formats and through various media channels. Lydia Meyer studied cultural science and social and business communication in Leipzig and Berlin, worked for *Zeit Online* and *Kooperative Berlin*, and developed the YouTube series *Auf Klo* and the queer-feminist format *Softie* there for funk, in collaboration with *Missy Magazine*. In 2020, Lydia Meyer's book *Sex und so. Ein Aufklärungsbuch für alle* was published by Ullstein Verlag.

## How does the gender binary shape our world?

The idea that there are only two genders is patently wrong. The gender binary is inadequate, and there are alternatives. Diversity is a fact: human beings are more than just either/or. They are trans, intersex, gender nonconforming, non-binary, agender, queer. But as visibility has increased, anti-queer voices have grown more strident. There is emancipatory potential for all human beings, however, in the overcoming of rigid categories. Lydia Meyer envisions a world in which the old boundaries have become obsolete, drawing on their own personal experience of struggling with the gender binary, and of finding their own way forward.

Susanne Mierau

## CARING FOR EACH OTHER – Why Our Society Needs a New Social Contract

- Bestselling author Susanne Mierau shows how society must redefine itself in an age of crises: a highly topical book.
- Over 250,000 followers on social media!



May 2023 · 224 pages



**Susanne Mierau** was born in 1980. She is one of Germany's best-known experts in the field of attachment-centred and needs-centred family life. After gaining a degree in pedagogy, she worked in research and teaching at the Free University of Berlin before opening her own practice offering support to families. Since 2012, her blog "Geborgen Wachsen" and its associated social media channels have provided valuable resources to families about all kinds of issues relating to everyday family life. Susanne Mierau runs workshops, gives talks for parents and professionals, and has published a number of successful parenting books. She is a mother of three.

All people need care. Without care children cannot grow up, ill people cannot get better, elderly people cannot grow old. Care keeps society going. But why is care often neglected as a fundamental value? In her new book, bestselling author Susanne Mierau writes about the importance of a good social contract. Without children, there would be nobody to fund our pensions when we are old; elderly people have laid the foundations for our current prosperity. And yet both groups are often seen as inconveniences, and nursery workers and healthcare staff are poorly paid. Countless self-help books tell parents how to bring up their children better, how to juggle work and family life – but Mierau makes clear that this is not what we need to focus on. Politics, the economy and society must adopt a new attitude, and social structures must be fundamentally reformed. In this passionate, warm-hearted and solutions-oriented plea, she shows what needs to change if this country is not to destroy its own foundations.

*"The self-help queen." Berliner Zeitung*

Bettina Stangneth

# OVERLOAD – Putin and the Germans

- "Times of war are times of truth." (Bettina Stangneth). A philosophical essay on the Germans and their self-image: provocative, pointed, contemporary and timeless.
- Rights to *Böses Denken* were sold to France (Calmann-Lévy), The Netherlands (Atlas) and Sweden (Daidalos).
- Rights to *Lügen lesen* were sold to Korea (Dolbegae) and The Netherlands (Atlas Contact).

Bettina  
Stangneth

## Überforderung

ROWOHLT

Putin und die  
Deutschen

March 2023 · 144 pages

Born in 1966, **Bettina Stangneth** is an independent philosopher. She studied philosophy in Hamburg and wrote her doctorate on Immanuel Kant and radical evil. Her book *Eichmann vor Jerusalem* was awarded the NDR Culture Nonfiction Prize in 2011; the *New York Times* ranked it among the best books of the year. Rowohlt has most recently published her highly praised essays *Böses Denken* (2015), *Lügen lesen* (2017) and *Hässliches Sehen* (2019). In 2022 she was awarded the «Internationalen Friedrich Nietzsche Preis».

No country could have been better prepared. No country knows more about wars of aggression. No other country has examined its own history so vocally. But when Vladimir Putin invaded Ukraine, the model students of the school of “coming to terms with the past” presented a confused picture. Never at a loss for fine words, but unpredictable in its actions, Germany has been unnerving its allies and confusing its enemies ever since the war in Ukraine began. And the Germans themselves? They are all over the place: some know exactly what needs to be done at any given moment, whilst others indulge in eternal polemics; some still have not emerged from their state of shock. Not to mention the prophets who, with weird enthusiasm, are once again discussing geopolitics as if this were a game of chess. Times of war are times of truth, says the philosopher Bettina Stangneth. Quite simply, the Germans do not live up to the image of themselves that they want to portray. Despite their propensity for self-reflection, they are not even capable of truly looking at themselves in the mirror. But when a major economic power is preparing to deploy one of the biggest armies in the world, the world will rightly ask itself why the Germans have such trouble proving themselves to be reliable partners.

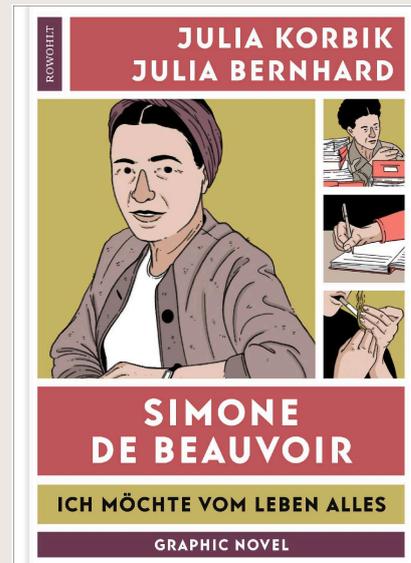
### Further Titles



Julia Korbik, Julia Bernhard

## SIMONE DE BEAUVOIR – I Want Everything From Life

- The first graphic novel about the life and thoughts of one of the most influential intellectuals of the 20th century.
- Wonderfully told by bestselling author Julia Korbik and illustrated by award-winning Julia Bernhard!



June 2023 · 224 pages

**Julia Korbik** is a freelance journalist and author living in Berlin. Her most recent book published by Rowohlt was *Oh, Simone! Warum wir Beauvoir wiederentdecken sollten*, which helped many readers to rediscover de Beauvoir's life and work. Her journalism focuses on politics and pop culture from a feminist perspective. She has been awarded the Luise Büchner Prize for Journalism.

**Julia Bernhard** is an illustrator and comic-strip artist. Together with her personal assistant Pina, who is also her dog, she lives and works in Berlin. Her comics and illustrations have appeared in the *New Yorker*, *The Nib* and *Stern*, among others. Her comic book debut *Wie gut, dass wir darüber geredet haben* won the Max und Moritz Prize for the best German-language comic debut in 2020.

### Simone de Beauvoir's life as a graphic novel: "I want everything from life!"

Simone de Beauvoir was a philosopher, writer and existentialist. Today, she is a feminist icon. Generations have been fascinated and inspired by the way she lived and loved. Having grown up in a time when women were not allowed to study, vote or choose their own profession, she became one of the most influential intellectuals of the 20th century.

Simone de Beauvoir wanted everything from life, and with her pioneering approach she courageously paved the way for those who came after her. In this graphic novel, Julia Korbik and Julia Bernhard paint a picture of Simone de Beauvoir as a daughter, woman, friend, writer, lover, philosopher, ally and feminist. What emerges is a multifaceted portrait that testifies to her great lust for life: animated and contradictory, rich in insight, pain and joy. It is the portrait of a woman who was always driven by her curiosity about people, about herself, about her own thinking and about every aspect of the world.

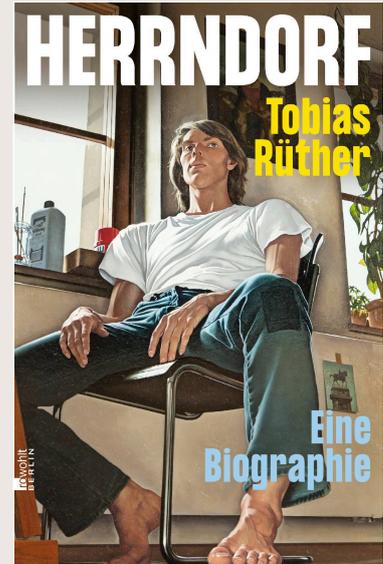
### Further Titles



Tobias Rütter

## HERRNDORF – A Biography

- One of the most important authors of his generation: the first biography of Wolfgang Herrndorf, known of his bestselling book *Tschick* (sold to 37 countries) which is a modern classic already!



August 2023 · 352 pages

**Tobias Rütter** was born in 1973, attended the prestigious Henri Nannen journalism school and edited the art magazine *Monopol*. He has been a staff writer for the arts section of the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Sonntagszeitung* since 2010. Since 2020 he has been head of the literary section. His book *Helden*, about David Bowie, was published in 2008, and *Männerfreundschaft – Ein Abenteuer* appeared in 2013. He is a leading expert on Herrndorf, and annotated the 2015 edition of Herrndorf's complete works.

Wolfgang Herrndorf is one of the most important writers of his generation. With his novel *Tschick*, he won fans all over the world, and his early death – his cancer diagnosis, and his decision to end his own life – is a tragedy which still moves many people to this day.

In this biography, Tobias Rütter tells us who Wolfgang Herrndorf really was. He follows Herrndorf from his childhood in Norderstedt, to Nuremberg where he studied art, and then to Berlin. He describes Herrndorf's final years living with his illness, when he wrote his novels *Sand* and *Bilder deiner großen Liebe* and recorded his experiences on his blog "Arbeit und Struktur", a unique chronicle of his life and writing. Based on numerous unpublished documents and conversations with family, friends and companions, Rütter illustrates the many different facets of Herrndorf's life, including the lesser-known ones: he shows us the artist who loved astrophysics, Dutch painting, football, Nabokov and Stendhal; the perfectionist, the romantic, the MacBook enthusiast, the talented painter and the *Titanic* illustrator. What emerges is a fascinating and moving portrait of an extraordinary man who, despite the short time left to him, created a great body of work – and maintained control over his own life right to the end.

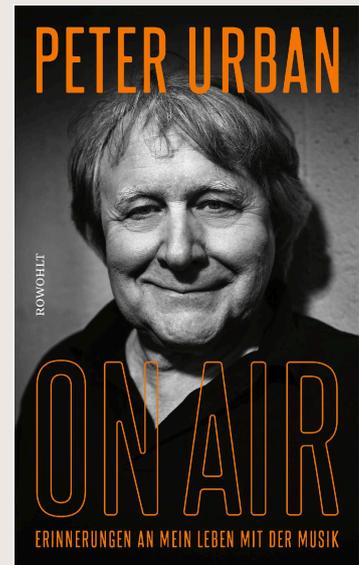
### Further Titles



Peter Urban

## ON AIR – Memories of My Life With Music

- The exciting life of the pop expert of the international music scene and a piece of music history!



April 2023 · 544 pages

© Jan Northhoff Photography



**Peter Urban**, born in Bramsche in 1948, began his career at NDR in the early 1970s with the programme "Music for Young People". In 1977 his dissertation on song lyrics from Anglo-American pop music was published. From 2003 he was editor for the format "Nachtclub", and since 1997 he has hosted the Eurovision Song Contest. He is still active today with "Die Peter Urban Show" for NDR and the podcast "Urban Pop".

For decades Peter Urban has shaped the landscape of German radio – as a legendarily dry commentator on the Eurovision Song Contest, as a presenter of various music programmes, and now also as a podcaster. A pop music expert, he has been observing the national and international music scene for almost 50 years with his trademark frankness and unpretentiousness, and over the course of his long career he has met, interviewed and profiled countless giants of the music industry – from Keith Richards to Yoko Ono, David Bowie, Elton John, Joni Mitchell, Harry Belafonte and Eric Clapton. In this book he presents his memoirs: the soundtrack to a life which, both at work and at home, has always been shaped by music.

The journey begins in the 1950s in Lower Saxony, where the Urban family make a new home for themselves after fleeing from the Sude-tenland. Peter Urban comes into contact with music at an early age as part of the family orchestra "Urbani". His passion is not for classical music, however, but for the new music coming out of Britain. The 1960s mark the beginning of his lasting love affair with the country (his other great love is the football club Hamburger SV, where he occasionally acts as a stadium commentator). Later, his interest in new styles will become key to the great success of his music programmes. This book paints a picture of an eventful life and is, at the same time, a piece of international music history "made in Hamburg".

*"When you think of Eurovision, you think of Peter Urban. The man is a cult and a piece of radio history."* Regine Marxen, *Der Hamburger*

*"Peter Urban's voice is full and warm. It sounds like a cup of cocoa tastes: rich and creamy."* Imre Grimm, *RND*

Michaela von Bargaen

## THE WONDER OF THE WORLD – The Joy of Losing Your Bearings

- How do we want to live? An inspiring book about a family who went looking for adventure and discovered a new way of life.
- For readers of Glennon Doyle and Raynor Winn.



June 2023 · 320 pages



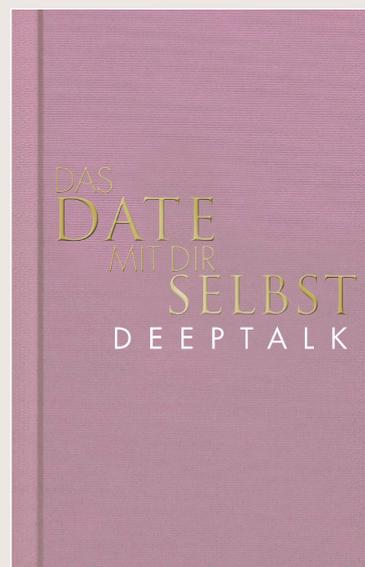
**Michaela von Bargaen** was born in Hannover in 1977. She studied German and Romance studies and worked as a copywriter. Since becoming a mother, she is an expert in new beginnings. Together with her husband and their four children she has been travelling the world since 2010. They have lived in South Africa, northern Germany and Costa Rica. Since 2020 the family have lived in Quito, Ecuador. She loves being outside with her hands in the soil or her feet in motion, always thinking about the next faraway place.

In summer 2018, Michaela von Bargaen sets out on a journey with her husband and their four children. Their plan: to spend 18 months driving from Alaska to Argentina along the Pan-American Highway in their self-converted truck. Four years later they are still overseas: no longer travelling, but making a life abroad. The family has had to hit the emergency brakes many times – engine failure in San Francisco, a spinal disc operation in Costa Rica, and finally a pandemic which forced them to shelve all further travel plans. But they have no intention of returning to Germany. They keep setting a course for new destinations, and the many highs and lows they experience force Michaela and her family to question themselves: how do we want to live in future? Which ways of life are possible? What does security mean to us? At every stage and in every lull they think about what is really important, what they can rely on and whether there is an opportunity for them in stillness.

Tom Bobsien

## DATE WITH YOURSELF – Deeptalk

- After the incredible bestseller *Date with Yourself* the sequel is here: *Deeptalk*.
- 23 new exercises for more clarity in the areas of health, love and career.
- The previous title sold more than 100,000 copies!
- Rights for *Das Date mit dir selbst* were sold to Korea (The Korea Economic Daily & Business Publications), Norway (Frisk Forlag), Taiwan (Business Weekly) and The Netherlands (Kosmos).



July 2023 · 176 pages

**Tom Bobsien**, born in 2000, is a young entrepreneur from Hamburg with a passion for football and travel. He toured Germany at the age of 18, gave workshops and successfully created his own exercises on the topic of self-discovery. After extensive travels and the realisation that the important answers to life can only be found within yourself, he decided to record these exercises in a book – *Das Date mit dir selbst* – which became a huge bestselling book.

**Now it's getting deep! 23 new exciting exercises on the topics of health, social life, love and career.**

We often look for the optimization of our lives on the outside, but happiness originates on the inside. Although we cannot influence certain things or circumstances in our lives, there are quite some areas which we can influence and change sustainably. At first we have to find out what exactly we want. This book encourages and guides you to put yourself first and see, how you want to live your life! How do I find my own formula for happiness, how do I want to love and be loved, what questions about health do I ask myself, how do deep bonds develop and how can they be strengthened? How do I manage my career and finances successfully? These and other exciting questions can be explored by means of practical exercises inside this book. New insights, opening opportunities and profound decisions are guaranteed!

It's not about optimizing yourself, but about living your own truth and taking responsibility for your life. Enjoy your date with yourself: *Deeptalk*!

### Further Titles



Wolfram Gössling

## STAYING ALIVE – An Oncologist Fights His Cancer

- An urgent plea for hope: authentic, forceful, encouraging.
- Wolfram Gössling, cancer doctor and cancer patient, offers a unique perspective on this threatening disease.



May 2023 · 256 pages



© Fabian Zapotka /aif

**Wolfram Gössling** was born in eastern Westphalia in 1967. Twenty-three years ago he and his wife moved to Boston. They have four children. Gössling is a practising oncologist and cancer researcher. In autumn 2013 he himself was diagnosed with cancer, which returned in spring 2021. He has now returned to his role as head of the gastroenterology department at Massachusetts General Hospital. He is also the director of a course at Harvard Medical School, and conducts research into the prevention and treatment of liver cancer.

The renowned oncologist and researcher Wolfram Gössling was in his mid-forties when he was diagnosed with an extremely rare and dangerous form of cancer. The disease he had spent a lifetime treating was now shaping his own life.

In this book he writes about the traumatic treatment process and his miraculous recovery; about his work as a doctor and his experience as a patient, husband and father of four children. He does not shy away from talking about his fear, grief and rage, and how these experiences have affected the way he treats his own patients. He knows now what his patients are going through, and what chemotherapy feels like, and he is not afraid to share his experiences with them. He explains how his illness led him to take the work he was doing in his research group in a new direction, and changed the way he trains his medical students.

Above all, however, Gössling's book is a plea for hope. Because he knows: people suffering from cancer need positive stories. In spite of everything.

Caroline von St. Ange

# EVERYTHING IS HARD BEFORE IT'S EASY – What Makes For Successful Learning

- More fun in learning! With lots of practical tips.
- A book everyone can benefit from: children and parents, teachers and pedagogues.



August 2023 · 256 pages



© Paula Winkler

**Caroline von St. Ange** is a learning coach, education activist and influencer. She studied philosophy, language, literature and culture in Munich and set up her first coaching school at the age of 15. For 18 years she has been learning with children in various forms. Today, thousands of people are fans of her Instagram account [@learnlearning.withcaroline](https://www.instagram.com/learnlearning.withcaroline), which is all about school, learning and homework. Caroline von St. Ange lives with her family in Berlin.

## No more anxieties or mental blocks: learning can and must be fun!

Bad marks, frustration with homework, intense pressure to achieve: school and learning are a red rag to many families. How can children regain their love of learning and their curiosity about new things? How do you overcome stagnation and resignation? Caroline von St. Ange has a solution combining various approaches and learning techniques. She provides plenty of imaginative, practical tips, and she questions entrenched learning strategies and outdated assumptions. She explains, for example, why too much praise can be counterproductive, how good marks can reduce children's tolerance for frustration, and how we should judge success by progress instead of results.

Horst Evers, Cordula Stratmann, Dietmar Wischmeyer

## SLOWCOMOTION – Stories From the Railways

- Off the rails! Wondrous and funny stories about train travelling in Germany.

Defunded almost to breaking point by politicians, and simultaneously lauded as an important tool in the fight against climate change – perhaps we all feel the same strange mixture of disenchantment and affection when it comes to that good old means of public transport: the railways. Which of us hasn't cursed the trains when they're running "West Side Story" style or when they leave us stranded overnight in the back of beyond? And which of us, conversely, hasn't felt a deep fondness for them, whether for reasons of convenience or nostalgia? More than anything, trains are one of the few remaining places where all milieus, classes, styles and world views come together directly and powerfully.

All these experiences make for wonderful stories, told here in fantastically comic fashion. A book of stories so surprising you just couldn't make them up.



June 2023 · 240 pages

Ella Carina Werner

## YOU CAN BE HELD BACK AT WORK EVEN WITHOUT KIDS – Stories From My Life

**A satirical look at the most daring of adventures: the menopause.**

Over the years life gets better and better, especially for women: no more school sports, no more terrible flirting and eventually – hallelujah! – the menopause, which puts an end to the annoying slog of monthly periods. To while away the time until this happy day, satirist Ella Carina Werner goes whisky tasting (with disastrous results), argues with her uncle about women's football, dances drunkenly at third weddings, and finally embarks upon the most daring adventure of her life: a spa weekend with her own mother. The characters of these fast-paced stories chat, snog, drink, argue and reflect on the big questions in life – and Ella Carina Werner “reveals herself to be a feminist of consummate comic genius” (*Hamburger Abendblatt*).



May 2023 · 256 pages

**SPRING & SUMMER 2023**

# TOP BACKLIST TITLES

Karin Kuschik

## 50 SENTENCES THAT MAKE LIFE EASIER – A Compass for More Self-Confidence

- Small sentences with a big effect!
- Over 220,000 copies sold!
- No.1 of the *Spiegel* bestseller list for many weeks and under top 5 for months now!

**Rights sold to:** Hungary – GLB | Korea – Chunggrim | Poland – Otwarte | Portugal – Lua de Papel | Russia – MIF | Slovakia – Vydavatelstvo Tatran | Turkey – Pegasus



March 2022 · 320 pages



© Manfred Johan MJ-Photo

The common thread that runs through **Karin Kuschik's** multi-layered career is called Story Telling: journalism studies, film academy, moderator, media trainer, speaker, songwriter, keynote speaker. She has worked in front of and behind the camera. Since 2000 she has been advising top decision-makers and celebrities as a business coach. In her first book, she makes her expertise accessible to a broad audience for the first time. Karin Kuschik lives in Berlin.

### Coaching to go: finding calm at work and at home and setting boundaries.

Sometimes a single sentence can very easily resolve a situation – at work or at home. In this book Karin Kuschik has gathered together 50 such small sentences with a big impact, drawing on her wealth of experience as a business and life coach. With vivid language and numerous practical examples, she shows us how powerful words can have a freeing effect, how they make us strong, confident and self-determining. A treasure trove of fascinating, clear and realistic tips.

*"This woman hits the mark immediately! And so suddenly, armed with smart, applicable tools, I'm jumping off the 10-meter tower of my life as if I've always done it."* Wolfgang Eissler, Director

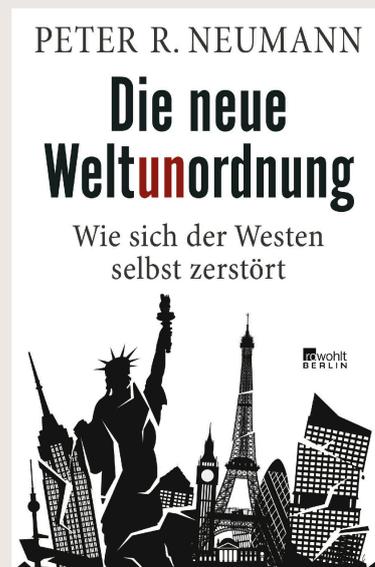
Peter R. Neumann

## THE NEW WORLD DISORDER – How the West is Destroying Itself

**The West has fatally overestimated itself. What does this mean for Germany and the world?**

The West is facing an unprecedented crisis. Russia has launched a war of aggression against Ukraine – just months after the USA had suffered a foreign policy debacle in Afghanistan. And China, the West’s rival in the battle for system superiority, has long since become a decisive superpower. Yet the triumph of the West had seemed unstoppable not that long ago. After the end of the Cold War, the democratic market economy took hold in the former Eastern Bloc, Russia went from being an enemy to a partner, and even China turned to capitalism. Then came the big turning point: The terrorist attacks of 9/11 shook the West, the American “War on Terror” destabilized an entire region of the world, the “Arab Spring” only brought forth new autocracies, and, the confrontation with Russia intensified. Instead of a liberal world order, a new world disorder has emerged.

**Rights sold to:** English World – Scribe



September 2022 · 336 pages

Alexander Bätz

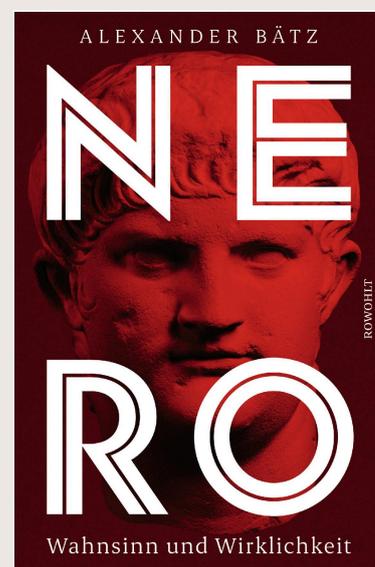
## NERO – Madness and Reality

- A modern, original, new evaluation of Nero: how much of the myth will be dispelled?
- A timeless topic rendered in a contemporary and narratively sophisticated manner – a must for interested readers of the ancient period.

**More than a monster: Emperor Nero embodies Rome in turmoil.**

Roman emperor Nero (37–68 AD) has fascinated posterity since the year dot: he is the committer of matricide, the arsonist, the tyrant and the eccentric anti-emperor who styles himself as an artist. In many people’s heads he looks like Peter Ustinov in *Quo Vadis*. Alexander Bätz, ancient historian, librarian and journalist, rediscovers Nero by also approaching his life and political career through the everyday rituals of the Roman Empire. The reader observes Nero through the eyes of his contemporaries and dives into the colourful and vividly described panorama of the 1st century. An original, modern book on an always topical subject: Nero.

**Rights sold to:** Russia (AST)



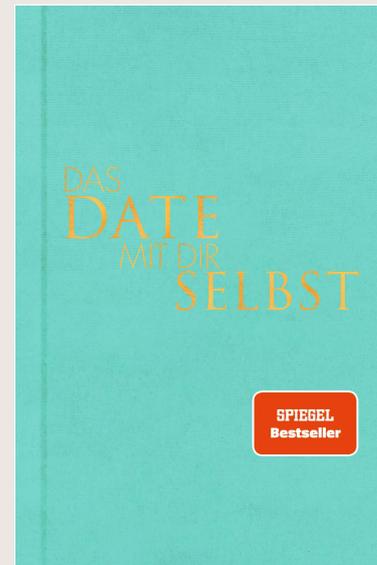
January 2023 · 576 pages

Tom Bobsien

## DATE WITH YOURSELF

- An invitation to spend less time at the screen and more time for living.
- Over 100,000 copies sold!

The bestseller *Das Date mit dir selbst* is a book of reflection with 24 exciting exercises that reveal incredible insights about yourself and your wishes and goals. It helps the reader to pause and counteract the overwhelming demands of everyday medial life by not allowing themselves to be distracted, but to concentrate on themselves. The idea of *Das Date mit dir selbst* is to scroll less and start reflecting. An honest and emotional date with yourself to escape the confusion of options and external influences and to recognise your own path.



November 2022 · 176 pages

**Rights sold to:** Norway – Frisk Forlag | The Netherlands – Kosmos | Taiwan – Business Weekly

Franca Parianen

## CONTROLLED BY OUR HORMONES

- How cortisol, testosterone and co. direct our lives.
- Supremely entertaining and packed with scientific expertise!
- A new, revised and updated edition of the standard work by the bestselling author.

Bestselling author Franca Parianen writes about a topic that concerns us all: hormones, the crucial messengers between head and body, action and emotions. So what happens when we jet across various time zones, make babies, fall in love or freak out? Why are we more suspicious of hormonal ups and downs than of hormones as active ingredients in pills? And when will we finally get the pill for men? Franca Parianen's book about the interface between heart and brain, health and the way we think is fast-paced, and is both packed with knowledge and entertaining.



February 2023 · 432 pages

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