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**AUTUMN 2023
& WINTER 2024**

FOREIGN RIGHTS FICTION

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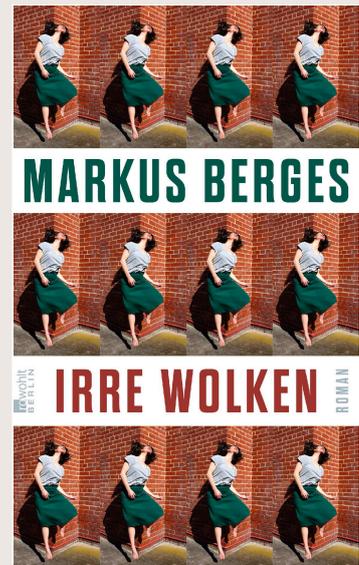
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FICTION

Markus Berges

CRAZY CLOUDS

- A powerful love story between two outsiders bringing resilience and passion to life.
- Markus Berges delicately captures the essence of mental illness with unique imagery and emotions.



January 2024 · 256 pages

Markus Berges, born in Telgte in 1966, studied German and History and worked as a psychiatric carer and teacher. As singer and songwriter for the band Erdmöbel, formed in 1995, he has been described as a "great contemporary lyricist" (*taz*) and as a teller of "whispered, dreamlike stories" (*Die Zeit*). Markus Berges lives with his family in Cologne. In 2010, the novel *Ein langer Brief an September Nowak* was published, and in 2016, *Die Köchin von Bob Dylan*. *Literaturkritik* wrote: "Counts among the best works that German literature has produced in recent years."

Guilt and Beauty: Markus Berges's enchanting novel about a forbidden love in the spring of 1986.

A timid nineteen-year-old serving in civil service at a psychiatric ward; weeks filled with tedious psychoses, genuine risks, and electroshocks. Then Anne Schmidt arrives on the ward. The patient is as fierce as a storm, yet she enthralles the young caregiver. It is the days of the Chernobyl catastrophe in April 1986 when Anne runs away during a stroll.

When the boy catches her, she swears in his arms her love and her recovery. Against all rules, he lets her go, only to see her again in the evening. The brief spring of their forbidden love begins. In a hiding place, they experience moments of happiness and uncertainty, pure presence and fear. Both oscillate between intense infatuation and estrangement, with a sense of guilt lingering. Rain showers and radioactive fallout come from the sky. Anne soon feels betrayed – then she disappears. The young man is as desperate as he is relieved not to find her; he fears her and fears for her. Because Anne is capable of anything.

Markus Berges narrates the story of freedom and its excesses, of youth as the place of first and greatest happiness – and its price.

Further Titles



Christa Anita Brück, Magda Birkmann (Hg.),
Nicole Seifert (Hg.)

THE GIRL WITH PROKURA

- A classic of 1930s literature, recently reissued, highly acclaimed in its time, and adapted into a movie in 1934.
- The fate of a smart and ambitious woman – captivating and astute.



September 2023 · 256 pages

Christa Anita Brück was born in Liegnitz in 1899. After completing high school and receiving commercial training, she worked as a stenographer and secretary in Berlin. In addition to writing journalistic texts, she authored four novels that explore the experiences of female employees during the Weimar Republic. Her debut *Schicksale hinter Schreibmaschinen* received much positive attention and was translated multiple times. Her second novel *Ein Mädchen mit Prokura* was made into a movie in 1934. Christa Anita Brück died in 1958.

Berlin, 1932. Thea Iken is a procurist at the Brüggemann Sohn Bank. She is fiercely loyal, works hard, and enjoys the trust of the bank director, to whom she is also friendly – she is somewhat of a surrogate mother to his young son. The other employees see her as an annoyance at best, or a mystery, as she reveals little about herself. The emerging banking crisis unsettles Thea and her colleagues, along with the rest of the world. Livelihoods are threatened or destroyed, and the world appears uncertain and menacing. When a murder occurs in the bank, Thea herself becomes a suspect. She is arrested. It is clear that she is hiding something – but is it truly her fault?

Konstantin Ferstl

BLUE BORDER

- A powerful debut novel: filled with originality and vivid imagery.
- An extraordinary journey aboard the Trans-Siberian Railway to Pyongyang.



August 2023 · 400 pages

© Maximilian Zeitler



Konstantin Maria Ferstl, born in 1983 in Altmühlthal, is a director, author, and musician. *Die blaue Grenze* is his debut novel, for which he received the Munich Literature Scholarship. Konstantin Ferstl lives in Munich, Rome, and Hallertau.

Longing for elsewhere: a novel about love, failure, and a hundred years of German history.

Fidelis Lorentz, a composer who makes a living creating TV film theme tunes, receives a call from his great love, J. He is sensing she wants to end their relationship. Without hesitation, he boards a train to Pyongyang, determined to run against time towards the East. As the snowy expanses of Siberia are passing by, he delves into the past, reflecting on his adventurous great-grandfather, his pragmatic grandmother, and her husband, a soldier who detested weapons. They all rebelled against provincial constraints, forging their own lives. Amidst this journey, Fidelis confronts his lost love for the enigmatic J.

Konstantin Ferstl narrates with powerful language, full of tenderness and wit, about love, failure, and the stubborn lives of people in the countryside. A virtuosic family saga, a German mythology of the 20th century.

Helgard Haug

ALL RIGHT. GOOD NIGHT.

- Helgard Haug's highly anticipated debut on loss and disappearance.
- Very emotional and enlightening.
- Great press reviews!



July 2023 · 160 pages



© Mara von Kummer

Helgard Haug is an acclaimed author, director, and co-founder of Rimini Protokoll. She has received numerous awards, including the FAUST Theater Prize, the European Theatre Prize, and the Silver Lion at the 41st Venice Theatre Biennale. Her production *All right. Good night* was invited to prestigious events such as the Berliner Theatertreffen and the Impulse Festival.

In March 2014, when a plane traveling from Kuala Lumpur to Beijing suddenly vanished from radar, the farewell to Helgard Haug's father had just begun. His memory became unreliable, orientation increasingly difficult. The once articulate man sank, drifting away – similar to the MH 370, with 239 passengers on board, which disappeared into the sea around the same time. "All right. Good night," reportedly were the pilot's last words. After that, all trace was lost. Was it an accident? An attack or suicide? The plane remained missing, the cause of the crash unresolved. However, the father's forgetfulness acquired a name: dementia. Over a span of eight years, Helgard Haug traces the vanishing, the search, and the struggle with uncertainty, intertwining her own experience with the grieving process of the bereaved from the aviation disaster.

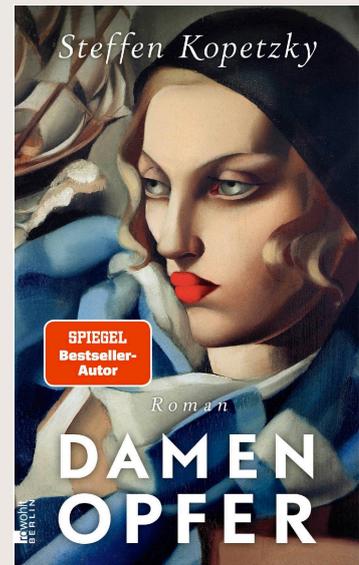
This debut by one of the most influential voices in German-language theater is a touching and illuminating book that explores how personal loss and the suffering of others are intertwined.

"Helgard Haug describes with love and dignity – one is reminded of Arno Geiger's Der alte König in seinem Exil – the gradual process of dissolution of a strong personality." ORF

Steffen Kopetzky

QUEEN SACRIFICE

- A great discovery – the life of one of the most courageous and exciting women of the early 20th century: the revolutionary and spy Larissa Reissner.
- 110,000 copies sold of his previous novels *Monschau* and *Propaganda*.
- His novel *Risiko* was nominated for the German Book Prize.
- English sample translation is available.
- Further rights available: *Grand Tour*, *Propaganda*, *Monschau*, *Risiko*, *Der letzte Dieb*, *Atom*.



August 2023 · 448 pages

Steffen Kopetzky, born in 1971, is the author of novels, stories, radio plays and theatre plays. His novel *Risiko* (2015) was on the *Spiegel* bestseller list for months and was nominated for the German Book Prize, while *Propaganda* (2019) was nominated for the Bavarian Book Prize. From 2002 to 2008, Kopetzky was the artistic director of the Theatre Biennale Bonn. He lives in his hometown Pfaffenhofen an der Ilm with his family.

Moscow, 1923. Larissa Reissner, as a Soviet ambassador in Kabul, has discovered strategic plans that could overthrow the British Empire. In the shimmering capital, where the world is being rethought and reinvented, she searches for the author, a German named Niedermayer. The victory of freedom is Reissner's meaning of life. The young writer and revolutionary is celebrated as a miracle daughter of her epoch. Coming from an illustrious family, she met Lenin as a child, she fought as political commissar of the Volga fleet; Pasternak and Trotsky admired her. From Moscow, Reissner sets off for Berlin – to go on her greatest mission: to assist a creation of a secret alliance between the Soviet Union and the German military, personified by General Tuchachevsky, the "Red Napoleon", and dazzling Oskar von Niedermayer. But Larissa pursues her own goals. A web of relationships develops between her and the two men that has enormous explosive power – both amorously and politically.

An extraordinary novel in which Ho Chi Minh has his say as well as the Lord Seal Keeper of the British Empire or the poet princess Anna Akhmatova. Steffen Kopetzky captures the life of Larissa Reissner, who wanted nothing less than to change the world.

„Kopetzky is one of the most important German writers of our time.“
Berliner Zeitung

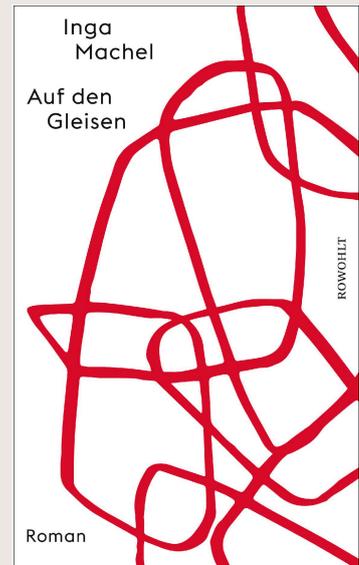
Further Titles



Inga Machel

ON THE RAILS

- An impressive new voice in German-language literature.
- This powerful debut merges fairy tale and neorealism.



January 2024 · 160 pages



Inga Machel, born in 1986, lives in Berlin. She studied Creative Writing and Cultural Journalism at the University of Hildesheim. In addition to her freelance work as a radio author and editor, she is also a licensed practitioner of psychotherapy. Her short story *Lieber A.* received the New German Fiction Prize. *Auf den Gleisen* is her first novel.

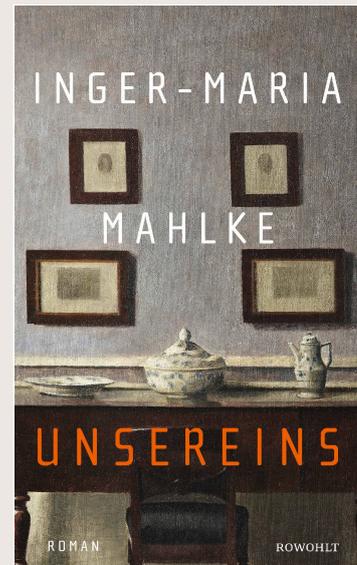
Ten years have passed since Mario, in his mid-twenties at the time, lost his father. Only a single winter boot remained on the tracks of an ICE railway line, that was all that was left of him. For five years, Mario has been fighting for his own emotional survival when, in a chance encounter in the heart of Berlin, he believes he recognizes his father. He calls the man P. and from then on becomes his silent, daily companion. P., a heroin addict on the fringes of society, fighting his own battle, becomes a surrogate for Mario to process the trauma of his failed relationship with his father, the memories of his childhood in the provincial Brandenburg, and the absence of unconditional love and security. Sentence by sentence, the image of an inner life emerges, where space and time, past and future, clarity and rationality lose their significance.

Inga Machel's narrative, in dramatically delicate imagery, tells of a grief that is almost impossible to put into words and takes us to the places where it becomes real and meaningful.

Inger-Maria Mahlke

THE LIKE OF US

- The latest novel by the award-winning author Inger-Maria Mahlke.
- A captivating multi-generational family epic exploring identity, belonging, gender, class, power dynamics, and love relationships.
- Her novel *Archipel* was awarded the German Book Prize in 2018, with 140,000 copies sold in Germany and rights sold to 7 countries.
- English sample translation available soon.



November 2023 · 496 pages

Growing up in Lübeck and Tenerife, **Inger-Maria Mahlke** studied law at the Free University of Berlin, where she worked in the criminology department. She won the 2009 edition of Berlin's Open Mike event as well as the 2010 Klaus Michael Kühne Prize for her debut novel *Silberfischchen*. On submitting an excerpt from her novel *Rechnung offen* for the Ingeborg Bachmann Prize, she won the Ernst Willner Prize. In 2014 she received the Karl Arnold Prize of the North Rhine-Westphalian Academy of Sciences and the Arts. *Wie ihr wollt* was shortlisted for the German Book Prize, which she received in 2018 for the novel *Archipel*.

Are you familiar with Buddenbrooks?

A family from Lübeck, rich in children, conservative, loyal to the emperor: the Lindhorsts. In 1890, Marthe is born in the spacious patrician house on Königstraße amidst her older brothers whose freedoms will not be hers. And yet, it is a life with brilliant prospects. Until a bestselling novel, written by the son of a deceased acquaintance, makes it clear to the respectable Lindhorsts that even after two generations, they are still seen as "the Jews" in their environment. *Unser eins* is the novel of a city and its society, its citizens and wage earners, the craftsmen, and above all, its women. Whether a maid, housewife, seamstress, or writer, whether manic-depressive like Marthe's mother, or vulnerable like Marthe herself, who struggles with her own and others' expectations.

Inger-Maria Mahlke tells a story of identity and belonging, of gender and class, of power dynamics and love relationships – of everything that shaped and held together not only Lübeck, the former "smallest state of the German Empire".

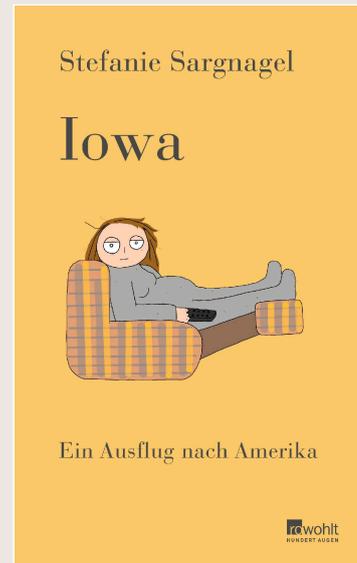
Further Titles



Stefanie Sargnagel

IOWA – A Trip to America

- Laconic, witty, and disarmingly honest – bestselling author Stefanie Sargnagel on the USA.
- 70,000 copies of *Dicht* and *Statusmeldungen* were sold. Rights for *Dicht* were sold to Sweden (It-Lit).



December 2023 · 256 pages

Stefanie Sargnagel, born in 1986, studied painting in a class led by Daniel Richter at the Academy of Fine Arts in Vienna but spent more time at her day job in a call centre because: "Whenever my professor, Daniel Richter, turns up at art students' parties, everyone started behaving like God is speaking to his disciples. I never know how to handle this, because I am God." She has been a freelance author since 2016 – and has since spent more time with her tax advisor. She received the BKS Bank Audience Prize during the competition for the Ingeborg Bachmann Prize 2016. Her two books, *Statusmeldungen* and *Dicht*, were bestsellers, with *Statusmeldungen* being adapted into a movie.

In 2022, Stefanie Sargnagel reluctantly trades her comfortable Viennese sofa for a plane ticket to the USA. She is to teach creative writing at a small college in the middle of nowhere, Iowa. In this town of 8,000 inhabitants, surrounded by endless cornfields, there is nothing much else. Accompanied by music legend Christiane Rösinger during the initial period, they set out to explore the void. They encounter bad food, overweight but friendly locals, vultures, and an old Austro-Hungarian nostalgia enthusiast. It's simply "the peculiar combination of desolation, fast food, and sunsets behind gas stations."

Stefanie Sargnagel's perspective on the USA is as unique as her writing: uncompromising, sarcastic, and brutally honest. In her distinctive voice, she vividly depicts the American Midwest's desolation and emphasizes the vital importance of friendships.

"That such a thing still exists, I can't believe it! A truly new voice in literature: Here it is." Elfriede Jelinek

Further Titles



Ulrike Sterblich

DRIFTER

- Shortlisted for the German Book Prize 2023!
- Ulrike Sterblich's incredible narrative power takes readers into a world that is closely intertwined with reality.
- English sample translation available soon.



July 2023 · 288 pages

Ulrike Sterblich, political scientist and author from Berlin (West), continues to live in her hometown where she also became known as hostess of the talk and literary event "Berlin Bunny Lectures". In 2012, her successful memoir *Die halbe Stadt, die es nicht mehr gibt* was published. In 2021, Ulrike Sterblich published her highly acclaimed debut, *The German Girl*.

"Two friends and a mysterious woman in a golden dress, who has the extraordinary ability to mess things up in a way that creates something new." *rbb Kulturradio*

Wenzel and Killer have been friends for ages and are well-established in their lives. Killer works as a PR chief for a large company, while Wenzel manages social media channels for a TV network. However, everything changes when Vica enters their lives: a woman in a golden dress, often accompanied by two loyal adjutants and a huge shaggy dog. With each encounter, new questions arise: How does she know so much about Wenzel and Killer? Why does she possess a copy of the new book by Drifter, an enigmatic author, even before its release? And where did her dog learn to dance? As Vica takes over the apartment building of their childhood, the world of these two friends begins to shake.

With virtuoso storytelling, and even a touch of fantasy, Ulrike Sterblich narrates the tale of two friends whose reality is increasingly shifting.

"It's about enchanting the world in the best sense. An extremely funny, witty, surprising book and a beautiful story." RBB Kulturradio

Further Titles



Dirk Stermann

I'M GOOD. IF NOT TODAY, THEN TOMORROW.

- A book about an extraordinary woman, the violent 20th century, and Vienna as a city of splendor, intellect, and darkness.
- His previous novels by Rowohlt sold 70,000 copies altogether.



October 2023 · 256 pages

Dirk Stermann is well-known in Germany as an actor and as a TV show host. In his adopted country of Austria he is famous as the long-standing host of the country's best-known talk show. His novel *Der Junge bekommt das Gute zuletzt* was published in 2016, followed by *Der Hammer* in 2019 and *Maksym* in 2022.

Erika Freeman spent most of her life in New York, but one evenings, she appears on the talk show "Willkommen Österreich" hosted by Dirk Stermann. She captivates both him and the nation. In her old age, she returns to her hometown of Vienna and now Dirk visits her every Wednesday, where they indulge in Kipferln and Melange while engaging in conversations about life, the universe, and Erika's fascinating experiences.

Born in 1927, Erika fled to New York at the age of 12 to escape the Nazis. She grew up in an orphanage, played a role in the founding of Israel, and became a psychoanalyst after completing her studies. She faced life's challenges alone, as her mother did not survive the war. Her father, who allegedly had died in a concentration camp, believed himself to be the sole survivor of their family until he encountered his brother on Broadway. As a therapist, Erika became a celebrity, with a roster of patients ranging from Brando to Monroe. Now, at 95, she has reclaimed her Austrian identity and is residing in the famous Hotel Imperial, once frequented by Hitler. When asked how she is doing, she replies, "Good. If not today, then tomorrow."

"A humorous German media star who should be taken very seriously as an Austrian novelist." Die Welt

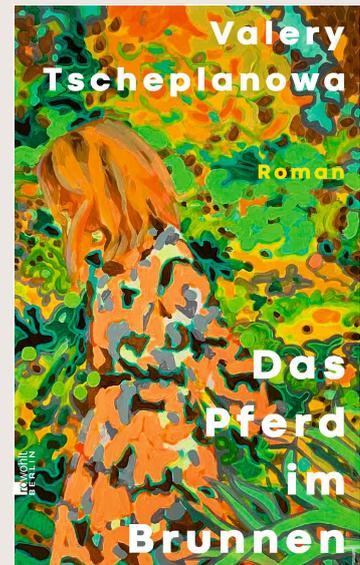
Further Titles



Valery Tscheplanowa

THE HORSE IN THE WELL

- Radiant and visually powerful!
- An inspiring autobiographical novel set in 20th and 21st-century Russia.



August 2023 · 192 pages



© Just Loomis

Valery Tscheplanowa is seen as an actress on the most important German stages, and she appears in films for cinema and television. She has been honored with multiple awards, including the Berlin Art Prize and Actress of the Year 2017. Born in 1980 in Soviet-era Kazan, she came to Germany at the age of eight. *Das Pferd im Brunnen* is her first novel. Valery Tscheplanowa lives in Berlin.

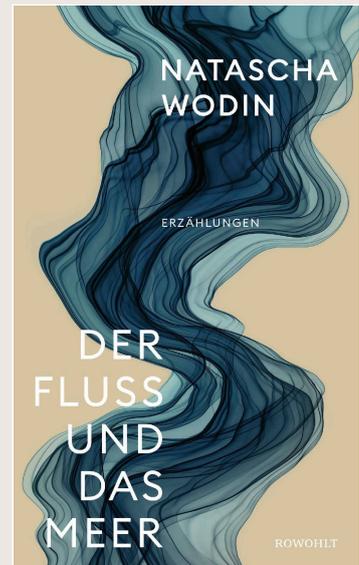
Four strong women and an extraordinary family history: Valery Tscheplanowa's powerful debut novel.

An apartment with a blue linoleum floor in a Russian resort near Kazan, where Stalin once spent his summers. It is to this place that Walja returns when her grandmother, Nina, passes away. Walja embarks on a quest for traces, attempting to understand her own origins. Memories of the women she grew up with flood back – profoundly different, yet united in their aversion to dependency. There is her great-grandmother, Tanja, who secretly baptized Walja during a dangerous night and fog operation. And of course, there is Nina, with her purposeful stride and coquettish cherry-red lips, notorious for her lies that made everyone around her appear a head shorter. Yet she had other facets as well. It is only much later that Walja learns about Nina's harsh destiny, a subject she never spoke about. Walja, living between worlds, between a North German village on Highway B77 and the apartment of her childhood in Kazan, gradually realizes how deeply these lives have shaped her.

Natascha Wodin

THE RIVER AND THE SEA

- *Sie kam aus Mariupol* was awarded the Leipzig Book Fair Prize 2017 and translated into 17 languages.
- More than 160,000 copies were sold of *Sie kam aus Mariupol* and *Irgendwo in diesem Dunkel*.



December 2023 · 160 pages

Natascha Wodin was born in the Bavarian town of Fürth in 1945 to parents who had been used as forced labour. She grew up in the so-called DP camps for displaced persons, and after the early death of her mother was raised in a Catholic home for girls. Following her debut novel *Die gläserne Stadt* in 1983, Natascha Wodin went on to publish numerous works, including *Nachtgeschwister* and *Irgendwo in diesem Dunkel*. Her writings have been honored with prestigious awards such as the Hermann-Hesse Prize, the Brüder-Grimm Prize, and the Adelbert-von-Chamisso Prize. She received the Alfred-Döblin Prize, the Leipzig Book Fair Prize, and the Hilde-Domin Prize for Literature in Exile in 2019 for her work *Sie kam aus Mariupol*. In 2022, she was awarded the Joseph-Breitbach Prize for her entire body of work. Natascha Wodin currently lives in Berlin and Mecklenburg.

"Did she collect seashells on the beach, watch the screeching seagulls, and lie in the sand?"

Natascha Wodin takes us to the dark side of life, to the outsiders, the lonely, and the wounded: Her narrator traces a path from Mariupol on the Sea of Azov, where her mother grew up, all the way to the Regnitz River in Franconia, the river where her mother took her own life. Elsewhere, she observes a neighbor literally rotting away in her dilapidated house, and in Sri Lanka, she encounters extreme social misery and a threatening, devouring nature. In another story, the fate of an unknown person unfolds – a mentally ill patient living in a clinic in the Fichtel Mountains. The narrator sends him a message to this "darkest German forest," leading to first a pen pal friendship and then to a love relationship anchored by the unifying and saving power of music.

With mastery and a sense of urgency, Natascha Wodin narrates the experience of being a stranger in one's own life, offering her characters a home within literature.

"Natascha Wodin's books ask, question, explore, and adopt a distinctive narrative stance that draws readers into the burning heart of political and human depths." Joseph Breitbach Prize jury

Further Titles



Robin Anderson

THE MARKET OF WISHES

- The most beautiful Christmas story of the year!
- A nostalgic toy store, an award-winning Christmas market in Bath, and a big dose of wonder.



September 2023 · 320 pages

Alongside writing, **Robin Anderson** enjoys spending time at Christmas markets, drawing inspiration from the sparkling lights, enchanting atmosphere, and the occasional mulled wine. This novel owes its magic, in no small part, to the acclaimed Christmas market in Bath.

When wishes come true...

Once a year, the talented illustrator Julie Marin delivers her beautifully designed Advent calendar to the Fabulous Emporium, signaling the start of her magical Christmas season filled with lights and secrets. The store's owner, John Wood, eagerly awaits its arrival with a twinkle in his eye.

Meanwhile, in the enchanting Christmas market of Bath, England, Nick Barley oversees the creation of a massive "Wishing Tree." Could Julie, who pours all her love into caring for her son Archie, possibly find the time to hang her own wish there? And what about Archie and his friend Emma, seeking to overcome loneliness with their adorable childhood love?

While not every wish may come true, Christmas has its own way of sprinkling wonders upon those who believe in the magic of the season!

Astrid Fritz

THE PHYSICIAN'S MAID

- An engaging journey through medical history.
- The new epic novel by the bestselling author of *Turm aus Licht!*



August 2023 · 560 pages

Astrid Fritz studied Literature in Munich, Avignon and Freiburg. She worked as a technical editor and spent three years with her family in Santiago de Chile. Her historical novels, including *Die Hexe von Freiburg*, *Die Gauklerin* and *Das Mädchen und die Herzogin* are consistent bestsellers. Fritz currently lives near Stuttgart. Find out more on www.astrid-fritz.de.

In an unexpected twist of fate, Barbara finds herself working for the quirky and hunchbacked town doctor in Basel. With her resourceful and pragmatic nature, she is the complete opposite of her new master, Paracelsus. He is devoted to science, medicine, and teaching. Due to his unconventional methods and fiery temperament, he is frequently met with hostility. They both become outsiders in their own ways. As time passes, the maid begins to appreciate the doctor and becomes fascinated by the mysteries of the human body. But then Barbara has to decide whether she can continue to stand by him – and what her own goal in life is.

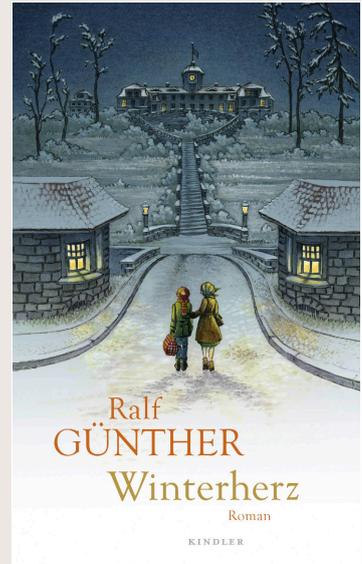
Further Titles



Ralf Günther

WINTER'S HEART

- A modern winter fairy tale that truly touches the heart.
- An enchanting coming of age story that resonates with readers of all ages.



September 2023 · 144 pages

Ralf Günther, born in Cologne in 1967, is a renowned author and screenplay writer. He has gained recognition for his contributions to children's television series and his captivating historical novels. Ralf Günther has since written several books, including *Das Weihnachtsmarktwunder* and *Als Bach nach Dresden kam*. He lives near Dresden.

A snowy sanatorium and a young boy with a heart condition who discovers love.

A few weeks before Christmas, fourteen-year-old Wilhelm is admitted to a sanatorium near Dresden with a heart condition. Reluctantly, he must leave his beloved mother at the clinic's gate. The building is a white palace, surrounded by a lush castle park, offering treatments like bed rest and fresh air. Wilhelm quickly befriends his roommates: Edgar, who is already engaged, kind-hearted Milo, and bookworm Bruno. Soon, the four of them start bending the many rules and restrictions that define life in the clinic, giving Wilhelm a glimpse of what it means to grow up. And then there's Ilona, a nursing student whose brown hair refuses to be tamed by her cap. She ignites in Wilhelm a love for reading, tender feelings of affection, and above all, an unwavering will to live.

Further Titles



Katharina Herzog

THE LITTLE VILLAGE OF BOOKS: Autumn Lights (Vol. III)

- Vol. III of the beloved bestselling series about the Scottish book village: Love, friendship, and the most beautiful stories in the world all in one place!
- Rights for Vol. I were sold to Hungary (General Press).
- 45,000 copies sold of Vol. I and II altogether.



October 2023 · 368 pages

All her life, **Katharina Herzog** has loved thinking up new stories and writing them down. After a brief spell in journalism she went back to creative writing. She soon began publishing her books, and has already won a wide audience as an author of ebooks. She lives with her family near Munich.

The perfect autumn day? Rustling leaves, golden light, and a book to get lost in.

Betty Andrews is not only a famous Hollywood actress but also a successful children's book writer. While going through her grandmother's belongings, she discovers colorful drawings that would be perfect illustrations for her books. However, her grandmother refuses to talk about their origin, and all she knows is that the artist, E. Smith, lives in a village on the southwest coast of Scotland. Could it be Swinton-on-Sea? Betty receives an invitation to the village's Book Festival and decides to travel there to investigate. But as soon as she arrives, she is recognized by fans and finds herself being chased. Eliyah, a friendly bookstore owner, comes to her aid and takes her to his grandmother's B&B. As they dig deeper into the mystery of the artist, Betty and Eliyah grow closer. And when Eliyah makes a surprising discovery in the library, it becomes clear that his own tragic family history is closely linked to Betty's.

Further Titles



Stefan Kuhlmann

MR. WINTER THAWS

- A gripping tale of love, determination, and personal growth.
- Embark on a heartwarming journey filled with humor and unexpected twists!



August 2023 · 352 pages



© Jordis Antonia Schüssler/OSTKREUZ

Stefan Kuhlmann grew up in northern Germany and now lives as a freelance author in Berlin, where he writes mainly for film and television. He has written scripts for over 50 feature films and episodes of various series. *Herr Winter taut auf* is his debut novel.

From tax auditor to cosmetics expert? Not so easy...

Robert Winter has no interest in chatter and no time for nonsense. He couldn't care less about what others think of him. They should just leave him be. And so, he doesn't understand at all what his wife, Sophia, loves about her job as an AVON consultant. Beauty products are the last thing he wants to spend his time on. But everything changes suddenly when an accident takes Sophia out of his life. To avoid drowning in grief, Robert decides to follow in her footsteps and win the title of "AVON Consultant of the Year" for Sophia. But it's much harder than he thought. Much harder...

Ildikó von Kürthy

HALF AN ETERNITY

- The heroine from the author's giant success *Mondscheintarif* is back!
- *Mondscheintarif* sold about 2 million copies and was translated into 20 languages. A film and a play were made out of it, too!
- 200,000 copies of the previous title *Morgen kann kommen* were sold! Rights sold to Hungary (Animus) and Russia (Eksmo).



December 2023 · 384 pages

Ildikó von Kürthy is a journalist and one of the most widely read German writers. She lives with her family in Hamburg. Her books are number 1 best-sellers, have sold more than seven million copies and have been translated into 21 languages.

What has become of us, our dreams, plans, and the love of our lives? The new novel by Ildikó von Kürthy!

That's too much. The container is full, the last child has left home, the marriage is dull, and several questions remain unanswered, to which I still have no answer. My name is Cora Hübsch, and my empty life and the box of old paper fall at my feet. In the thicket of notes, newspapers, and self-pity, I find a yellowed book filled with handwritten pages: my diary, *Mondscheintarif*. Written 25 years ago, half an eternity ago, when I still thought everything would be fine. Destiny in the waste paper.

It's a book full of memories. Of the love of my life. And of the guilt that still determines my life today. Is it time to write the final chapter? Let go and start anew?

The story continues. A heartwarming book about the women we were, the women we are – and the women we want to become.

Further Titles



Lily Martin

SUMMER DAYS IN THE QUARTIER LATIN

- Bestselling author Anne Stern writes under the name Lily Martin.
- Paris in summer: croissants for breakfast, love for dessert.



July 2023 · 320 pages



Lily Martin is the pseudonym of the successful writer Anne Stern. While studying abroad in Paris, she fell in love with the city and its people. Even today, she dreams of the warm summer evenings on the bridges of the Latin Quarter overlooking the Seine. Now she takes us to a new and exciting Parisian neighbourhood every August.

Reading and loving Paris!

Lola Mercier has been wandering restlessly for a long time. However, when her Parisian grandmother disappears unexpectedly, she returns to her hometown – the Quartier Latin, the neighborhood of her childhood and youth – with mixed feelings. Here, she reunites with the elderly opera singer Jacobine, the vendor Pierre with his gingerbread hearts, and the market woman Marianne. But the heart of the neighborhood is the charming Café des Artisans, where the best tartes and the most delicious café au lait can be found. Lola shares a small romantic memory with the owner, Fabien. Soon, sparks fly once again. And by the end of this summer, Lola finds herself getting closer to a long-held family secret...

Janne Mommsen

CHRISTMAS LIST

- The perfect book to get excited for Christmas!
- Experience the Magic of Christmas in a Snowy Dutch Town!



September 2023 · 192 pages

Janne Mommsen was born on the Baltic Sea coast. Before becoming a writer he was a nurse, a shipyard worker and a pianist on a cruise ship. Now he mostly writes novels, scripts and plays. He lived in northern Frisia and often returns to take in the invigorating coastal atmosphere.

A small toy store, a snowy town during the Advent season.

Four weeks before Christmas. Ben Hinrichs must liquidate his late uncle's toy store in Friedrichstadt. In the snowy Frisian expanse, the 17th-century Dutch enclave appears like a mirage. As the locals realize there is something going on in the store, they flock there in droves. Uncle Hein's shop was a beloved gathering place for both children and adults alike. Even the eulogist, Nintje Hermenau, shows up as she accompanied Ben's uncle on his final journey. In the store's backroom, Ben discovers a list of toys that his uncle intended to deliver for Christmas, but unfortunately, the names are missing. How can Ben get everyone their Christmas presents? In his search for the recipients, Ben is drawn deeper and deeper into the stories of the tight-knit Friedrichstadt community. Nintje supports him, and in the evenings they skate together on the frozen canals. The twinkling lights on the gabled houses pass them by as if in a dream.

Further Titles



Anna Perbandt

THE BOARDING SCHOOL AT HOLSTENTOR: Storm Sisters (Vol. II)

- The second volume of the captivating Holstentor series.
- Step into a world of love, life decisions, and heartwarming friendships!



October 2023 · 400 pages

Anna Perbandt worked as a journalist before she started writing books. She loves research, and enjoys spending time in libraries and old newspaper archives, always on the hunt for exciting facts from times gone by. Then she makes up stories to go with them – and that was how her first historical series, *Das Pensionat am Holstentor*, came into being.

Boarding school days ending. Four friends, big decisions.

At the renowned boarding school near Holstentor, Nora, Agnes, and Lotte are now only three, as Fanny has married the much older merchant Jan Riklof. However, the marriage is not as happy as hoped. Nora, the daughter of an earl, can't get her childhood love, the dockworker Karl, out of her mind. Her brother, Earl Henry, and the young teacher Gesche Petersen are also secretly in love. But societal conventions stand in the way of both couples' happiness. After a splendid ball night, events take a dramatic turn, and both Nora and Gesche must risk everything not to lose their true love. A happy ending seems within reach. However, fate strikes mercilessly...

David Safier

MISS MERKEL: Murder on the High Seas (Vol. III)

- Vol. III of the bestselling *Miss Merkel* series.
- 720,000 copies sold of Vol. I and II altogether!
- *Miss Merkel: Murder In The Uckermark* (Vol. I) was translated into 10 languages!



December 2023 · 320 pages

David Safier was born in 1966, and is one of today's most successful authors and screenwriters. His books *Mieses Karma*, *Plötzlich Shakespeare*, *Happy Family*, *MUH!* and *28 Tage lang* sold millions. His books are also bestsellers in markets outside Germany. He won both the International Emmy and the Grimme Prize for his screenplay for the TV series "Berlin, Berlin". He lives and works in Bremen, is married and has two children and a dog.

Retirement Vacation.

For over a year, there have been no more unexplained deaths in the peaceful town of Klein-Freudenstadt. It's good news for everyone there, except for Angela Merkel. She misses the excitement of solving mysteries, as nothing brought the retiree more joy than being a detective. In her desperation, Angela has taken up a new hobby, one she hasn't even told her husband Achim about. The Baltic Sea cruise she has booked is meant to bring some excitement and, quite incidentally, provide clues for her new hobby. Because Angela and her companions are not just going on any cruise, but a mystery-themed cruise. Along with the former Chancellor, her husband Achim, and their beloved pug, there are also various crime authors of different types on board. However, when the German thriller superstar unexpectedly dies shortly after the ship sets sail, Angela is on top form once again.

Further Titles

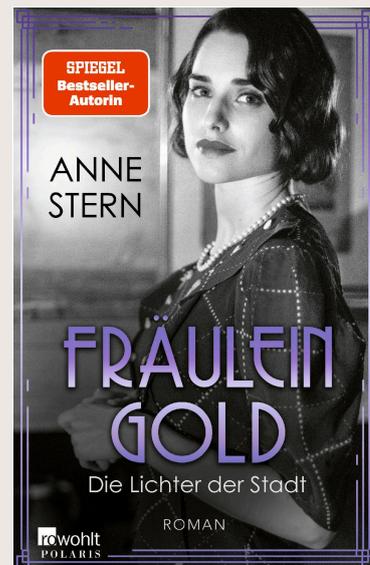


Anne Stern

FRÄULEIN GOLD: City Lights (Vol. VI)

- Vol. VI of the bestselling series about a Berlin midwife with a heart for helping and a talent for solving crimes.
- 320,000 copies sold of Vol. I–V altogether!
- *Fräulein Gold: Shadow and Light* (Vol. I) was translated into 8 languages!

Rights sold to: The Netherlands – Meulenhoff/Boekerij



September 2023 · 464 pages

Anne Stern was born in Berlin, where she still lives with her family. After studying history and German, she earned a doctorate in German literature and worked as a teacher. Anne Stern made the *Spiegel* bestseller list with her series of historical novels about *Fräulein Gold*.

On the edge of the volcano – Hulda Gold investigates dangerously close to the abyss.

Berlin, 1929. Hulda Gold is a midwife in Schöneberg, working at a maternity counseling center. As a single mother, she faces numerous challenges and societal judgment. But Hulda remains determined to be a good mother to her daughter Meta. When she cares for a young actress at the famous theatre at Nollendorfplatz, she discovers a whole new world of artists and stage stars, where things aren't always as they seem. But as the Great Depression hits, the theater struggles to survive. When a series of strange break-ins occur in the neighbourhood, Hulda becomes concerned, especially when someone she knows is directly affected. She begins her own investigation, showing bravery and a strong sense of justice, not just for herself, but for Meta as well.

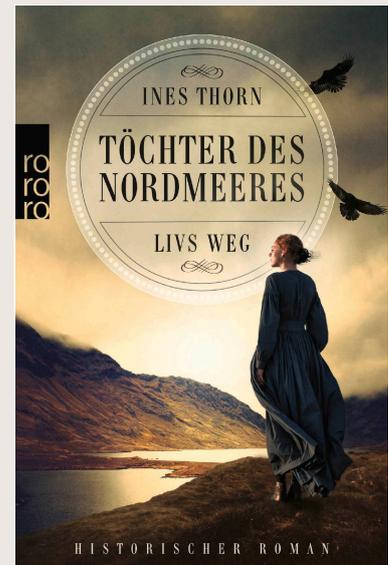
Further Titles



Ines Thorn

DAUGHTERS OF THE NORTHERN SEA – Liv's Journey (Vol. I)

- A young woman in late 19th century Norway: torn between tradition and modernity, science and superstition, love and duty.
- Discover the magic of Scandinavia – a captivating journey awaits!
- 40,000 copies sold of her previous saga *Die Buchhändlerin* (Vol. I and II). Rights for Vol. I were sold to Italy (TEA).



September 2023 · 384 pages

Ines Thorn was born in Leipzig in 1964. After training to become a bookseller, she studied German, Slavic languages and cultural philosophy. She lives and works in Frankfurt am Main. She has been writing successful historical novels for a long time.

Norway, 1893: In the northern Smøla island group, two very different young women are growing up, yet they are inseparably connected. Fifteen years ago on the same winter night, they were left as babies on different doorsteps in the village as infants. No one knows if Liv and Lucia are sisters or where they come from. Liv is progressive, curious, and adventurous and she even captures the attention of polar explorer Fridtjof Nansen. In contrast, Lucia yearns for domesticity, a traditional life, and wants to marry. When a young stranger arrives in the village, the differences between the women become apparent and their friendship is put to the test.

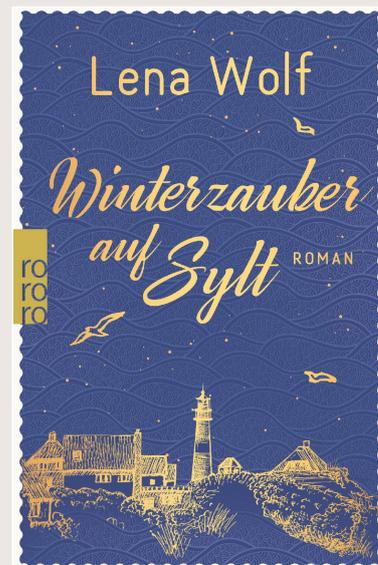
Further Titles



Lena Wolf

WINTER MAGIC ON SYLT

- A book as heartwarming and inviting as chocolate by the fireplace.
- 60,000 copies sold of the previous *Ein Sommer auf Sylt* and *Ein Zuhause auf Sylt*!



September 2023 · 400 pages

Lena Wolf is the pseudonym of a successful German female writer. With *Ein Sommer auf Sylt*, she once again achieved a *Spiegel* bestseller. This was followed by the novel *Ein Zuhause auf Sylt*. Unlike her protagonist, she enjoys going on holiday with her family. But she still dreams of owning her own house on Sylt.

Winter island charm, heartwarming humor, and a truly "delicious" love story.

In the midst of winter, young food blogger Liv travels to Sylt to visit her aunt Tilda. The two women haven't seen each other in a long time, but now Tilda needs help. Since her husband Bruno passed away, the elderly lady has lost her way. The Friesian house is in complete chaos. While cleaning up, Liv discovers Bruno's famous Bouillabaisse recipe and decides to delight Tilda with her cooking skills. Tilda starts to blossom and, with Liv's help, aims to restore order to the house. However, the handsome neighbor Kaj suddenly claims that the property doesn't belong to Tilda at all. Liv senses that this island winter has even more surprises in store...

Further Titles



Sophie Zach

THE MOUNTAIN RESCUE SERVICE: Snow Drift (Vol. III)

- Vol. III of the successful mountain rescue series: for all those who long for the mountains.
- A thrilling mix of drama, adventure, nature, and intense emotions awaits!



January 2024 · 352 pages

Sophie Zach grew up in a Bavarian village, learned to ski at three years old and worked on the Zugspitze before moving away to see the world. She has now come back to live in the village where she was born and enjoys long walks in the mountains with her dog. So she was ideally placed to quiz her friends in the mountain rescue service enabling her to write this dramatic series set in the heart of her beloved Bavarian Alps.

Embark on an Alpine adventure. Mountain rescue thrills. And a love story that keeps you hooked...

Lena is furious. Although the mountain rescue has made the danger more than clear, the tree felling for the new wellness hotel near the avalanche protection forest has already begun in the fall. Now it is winter, and the snow has turned the mountains and ski slopes into a magical winter wonderland. But the idyll is deceptive: Without the protection of the forest, the risk of avalanches increases. The mountain rescue team is on constant alert. Ben, the ranger of Bichlbrunn, has his hands full, convincing holidaymakers to stay on the designated slopes. Lena and Ben's paths cross repeatedly. And Lena starts to realize what Ben could mean to her – or perhaps has always meant...

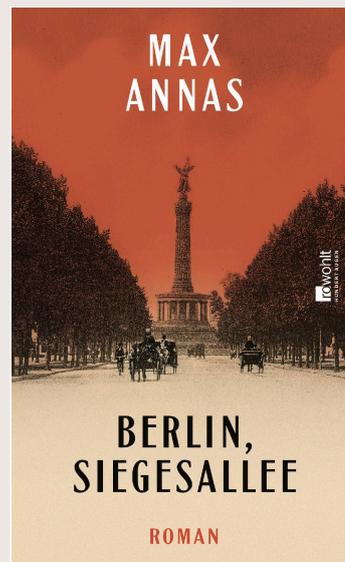
Further Titles



Max Annas

BERLIN, VICTORY AVENUE

- The new book by the five-time winner of the German Crime Fiction Award. Engaging, thrilling, unique.
- A crime novel bridging the past and present: Kaiser-era Berlin meets contemporary discussions on colonial history.
- Rights to *Die Mauer* were sold to France (Éditions Belfond) and the US (Catalyst Press).
- Rights to *Illegal* were sold to France (Éditions Belfond) and Japan (Tokyo Sogensha).



January 2024 · 288 pages

Max Annas was a journalist and worked for many years in South Africa on a research project studying South African jazz. He now lives in Berlin. He was awarded the German Crime Fiction Prize five times.

The Empire in Summer 1914: The genocide in German South-West is a thing of the past, and peace prevails in the colonies as if living in magnificent times. Three young men meet in Steglitz near Berlin. Joseph Ayang, the son of a Cameroonian colonial official, who wants to study theology. Friedrich Smith who was born in the Empire to a black American father, and third, Ernst who was brought from South-West by his master. United by their shared discontent, they resolve to take action to avenge the crimes committed in the colonies. They kill soldiers at night, but to no effect. Florentine vom Baum, the daughter of a factory owner, cannot bear to live in a society where women are oppressed. When she meets the three men through her brother, she offers them her assistance. The four of them come up with a monstrous plan: the assassination of the Kaiser.

A novel about what drives people to use violence. It is set in a past whose consequences still resonate in our present.

"It's refreshing to find crime novels that unravel more than just a murder."
Stern

Further Titles



Hubertus Borck

PUNISHMENT (Vol. III)

- 50,000 copies of the first two volumes sold!
- Guaranteed high suspense!



December 2023 · 416 pages

Hubertus Borck, born in Lübeck in 1967, was the creative head of the Hamburg music-cabaret duo Bo Doerek. Today he works as a successful theatre and screenwriter. Hubertus Borck lives in Hamburg.

I see what you're doing. You will be punished.

In a fire in the basement of a high-rise building, a woman loses her life. Despite her desperate attempts to escape, the door won't open. Shortly before her agonizing death, she discovers a mysterious message above her on the ceiling: "I see what you're doing." A few weeks later, a successful lawyer is burned alive in a cage at a brothel on the Reeperbahn. The two fires seem unrelated, but then Chief Inspector Franka Erdmann and Alpay Eoğlu from the Hamburg State Criminal Police Office uncover a disturbing lead. Were the fires deliberately set to punish people in the name of the environment? Anyone could become the next target. The feverish search for the perpetrator begins, or is an entire group responsible for these punishments? As the special task force investigates with utmost concentration, another fire is already ignited. Will Franka and Alpay be able to stop the flames before another victim burns?

"Exciting and worth reading." Zeit Verbrechen on Das Profil

Further Titles



Christiane Franke, Cornelia Kuhnert

LAZY FISH DON'T GET CAUGHT

- Volume XI of the hilarious bestselling crime series.
- Featuring the cult trio from East Frisia.



February 2024 · 288 pages

Christiane Franke enjoys living on the North Sea coast. In addition to her work as a writer and editor, she works as a lecturer for creative writing.

Cornelia Kuhnert lives in Hannover and worked there as a teacher. She has published numerous crime novels and anthologies.

Painting, murder, and bad Karma.

Springtime in Neuharlingensiel brings joy and creativity as an art class gathers at Steffenshof. Excitement fills the air as each participant shares their favorite painting. Karin Müller surprises everyone with a masterpiece that bears a striking resemblance to a Van Gogh work. Is it a hidden gem from her grandma's collection? The mystery begins! Conrad is certain it's the real deal, but before he can confirm it, a series of unexpected events unfold. Karin's sudden passing and the disappearance of the painting leave everyone puzzled. Determined not to let it slide, Rudi, Henner, and Rosa play amateur sleuths, only to uncover an intriguing twist – Ketamine in Karin's blood! As they dig deeper, a heart-stopping moment occurs when Conrad succumbs to a surprising ailment. Now, the trio is on high alert, ready to unravel the enigmatic puzzle in this art-filled adventure!

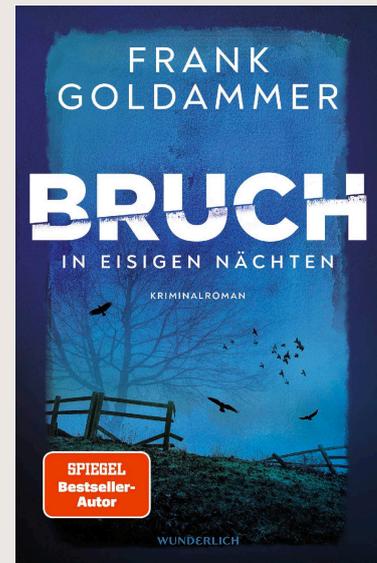
Further Titles



Frank Goldammer

FELIX BRUCH: Icy Nights (Vol. II)

- Dark, gripping, and compelling – Bruch and Schauer investigate a case that blurs the line between good and evil.
- 25,000 copies of the first volume sold!



August 2023 · 416 pages

Frank Goldammer was born in 1975 in Dresden. He is a master craftsman and started writing at an early age. The author lives in his home town with his family.

Nothing is forgotten.

Nicole Schauer, recently recovered from her first case with the Dresden Homicide Commission, is called to a crime scene with her colleague Felix Bruch. A man has been shot in his house, and Jasmin Mahler, a young woman, is found sitting next to the body. To Schauer's surprise, Jasmin is not a stranger. Bruch had previously investigated the case involving Jasmin's mother, who is now in custody for allegedly murdering her father in front of Jasmin. However, before Schauer and Bruch can start their investigation, the Federal Criminal Police Office (BKA) takes over the case, and the entire homicide commission is temporarily suspended due to an internal matter. As Schauer conducts her own independent inquiries, she uncovers a menacing web of connections. Meanwhile, the encounter with Jasmin sends Bruch into an impulsive state. He delves into his own past, discovering unexpected links to the Mahler case and slowly losing control.

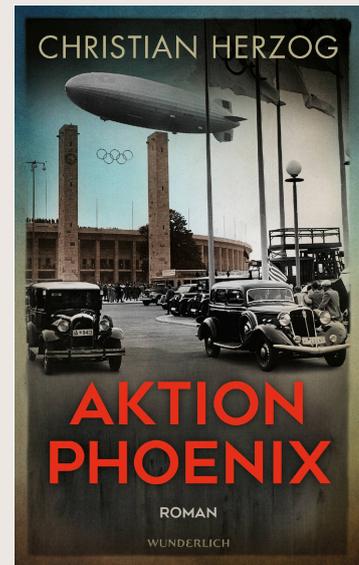
Further Titles



Christian Herzog

OPERATION PHOENIX

- Christian Herzog brings the 1936 Olympic Games in Nazi Germany back to life, blending fiction and facts.
- An electrifying thriller based on real events, expertly written and impossible to put down.



November 2023 · 416 pages



© Daniela Bianca Gierok

Behind the name **Christian Herzog** is the author Ralf H. Dorweiler. He studied Theater, Film, and Television Studies in Cologne, worked as an actor, as well as in the management of international corporations, and served as an editor for a major German daily newspaper. In addition to that, he initially wrote crime novels for Emons Verlag and later historical novels for Lübbe. He now lives with his wife in Bad Pyrmont, fully dedicated to his work as an author.

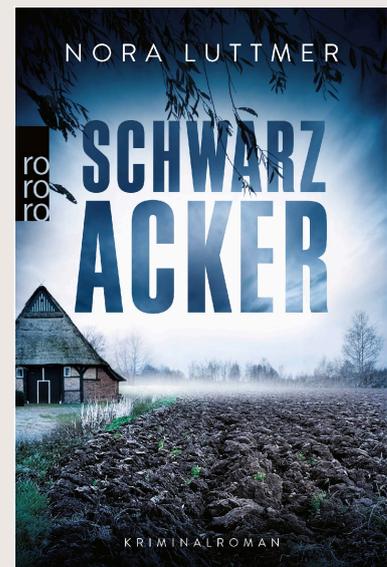
An unimaginable conspiracy, devised to shake the world to its core.

Berlin, 1936. Germany presents itself to the world in the best light during the Olympics: the capital is cleaned up, antisemitic slogans are removed, and people are dancing to swing music. But in secret, the "Phoenix Working Group", including Hermann Schmidt from the Ministry of Propaganda, pursues a sinister plan. The Hindenburg, the world's largest airship, is to explode over the stadium, with blame placed on an "International Jewish Conspiracy." Art student Anna Kollmann and her group plan to drop anti-regime leaflets from the airship. When Hermann meets Anna in the stadium, he is immediately drawn to her. But can Anna trust him? Zeppelin steward Georg Finkbeiner becomes a target and uncovers a deeper plot: the world is on the edge.

Nora Luttmer

BLACK FIELD (Vol. III)

- Deadly fires and old family secrets: the third volume with unconventional investigator Bette Hansen.
- A grabbing story full of suspense and atmospheric village-feeling.



November 2023 · 400 pages

Nora Luttmer was born in 1973 in Cologne, lives in Hamburg and works as an author and freelance journalist. She completed a degree in Southeast Asian studies in Paris and Hanoi. Her novel *Schwarze Schiffe* was nominated for the Gläser Prize in the debut novel category. More information on the author at www.noraluttmer.de

A shot shatters the winter silence over the frozen fields of Ochsenwerder. Then another. It's probably just old Walter on his farm shooting crows again. But the next day, a fire breaks out on his property. And shortly after, a listed thatched-roof house in the neighboring village is reduced to ashes. A man dies in the fire, Walter's brother. The two hadn't exchanged a word in years. Coincidence? Is an arsonist on the loose? Former detective Bette Hansen must break the wall of silence in the village before more flames ignite.

Further Titles



Karen Sander

THE STORM: Buried (Vol. I)

- The new gripping Baltic Sea thriller series by bestselling author Karen Sander.
- 220,000 copies of *Der Strand* (Vol. I–III) were sold altogether!
- Her thriller *Come die with me* was translated into 6 languages.



January 2024 · 368 pages

Karen Sander worked for many years as a translator and taught at the university level before she decided to focus on writing. She lives with her husband in the Rhineland region of Germany and wrote her doctoral dissertation on the writer Val McDermid. Her books have been translated into various languages and have sold over half a million copies in total. She resides in her hometown of Düsseldorf with her husband for six months of the year. During the other six months, she travels the world and writes about it on her blog writearoundtheworld.de.

A storm surge. Two dead. Countless secrets.

A storm surge. A crumbling cliff. Two exposed skeletons – the remains of a couple. The woman is identified as Iris Hertz, who supposedly emigrated eight years ago. The man, however, remains a mystery to Detective Chief Inspector Tom Engelhardt and his team: he had been in the ground five years longer than the woman. What connects them? Who killed them? Clues lie within a CD found with the remains, but the data is mostly destroyed and encoded. Cryptologist Mascha Krieger from the State Criminal Police Office in Schwerin is called for help. As they unravel the truth, another body is discovered...

Karen Sander

THE STORM: Despised (Vol. II)

- The thrilling sequel to the bestselling *Der Strand* trilogy.



April 2024 · 368 pages

Karen Sander worked for many years as a translator and taught at the university level before she decided to focus on writing. She lives with her husband in the Rhineland region of Germany and wrote her doctoral dissertation on the writer Val McDermid. Her books have been translated into various languages and have sold over half a million copies in total. She resides in her hometown of Düsseldorf with her husband for six months of the year. During the other six months, she travels the world and writes about it on her blog writearoundtheworld.de.

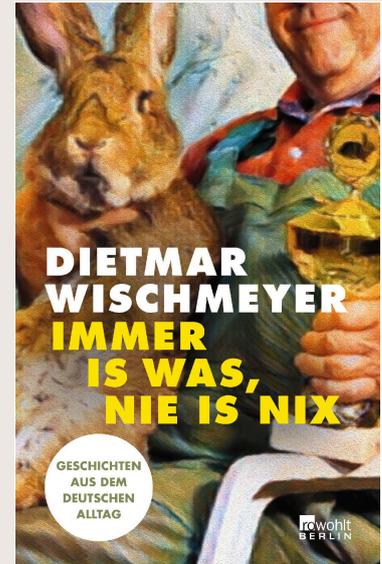
It has been over a week since two skeletons were uncovered during a storm surge on the Darß. Detective Chief Inspector Tom Engelhardt and cryptologist Mascha Krieger have managed to solve a thirty-year-old case, but the identities of the two bodies found by the cliff are still unknown. A CD found with the remains hasn't been of much help so far.

Finally, the identity of the woman is determined through a ring. She supposedly emigrated to the USA years ago. Could her husband be responsible for her death? Was it a crime driven by jealousy, with the second victim being her lover? Before Mascha and Tom can confront the husband with their suspicions, he disappears without a trace. Then, Mascha finally cracks the files on the CD, and suddenly the entire case takes on a completely new perspective...

Dietmar Wischmeyer

ALWAYS SOMETHING, NEVER HAPPENS

- The new stories from *Spiegel* bestselling author Dietmar Wischmeyer – as funny as they are wicked.



September 2023 · 240 pages

Dietmar Wischmeyer, radiomaker, author and columnist, is one of the most successful comedians in Germany. He tours every year through Germany with his comedy shows. And he regularly appears on television in the "heute show". His most recent novel was *Als Mutti unser Kanzler war*.

The strangest country we live in is called "everyday life." What we perceive as normality is a mix of madness and jam sandwiches that always fall butter side down. Dietmar Wischmeyer takes us into a world of everyday absurdities. We accompany him to the green waste disposal site, watch an East Elbe truck driver losing his mind while delivering a washing machine, and suffer with him at the bratwurst stand. We learn why misery seems to start beyond Dortmund and why every pedestrian zone between Flensburg and Freiburg is just a variation of Asian takeout and mattress discounters.

Als Mutti unser Kanzler war provided a theoretical assessment of the Merkelocene. This book offers an up-close encounter with the aftermath of our two-legged mishaps. It reveals aspects of ourselves, as Germans, that are not always pretty, but are as funny as they are wicked. Wischmeyer holds up a distorting mirror, and just like an accident, you can't help but look.

Further Titles



AUTUMN 2023 & WINTER 2024

TOP BACKLIST TITLES

Tonio Schachinger

REALTIMES

- Shortlisted for the German Book Prize 2023!
- 20,000 copies sold since publication!
- Amazing press reviews!
- English sample translation available soon.

An elite boarding school in Vienna, housed within what used to be the Hapsburgs' summer residence. The form tutor is an old-fashioned and despotic man. What could anyone hope to learn here that they could actually use in real life? Till Kokorda has no time for the canon or for this snobbish environment. His passion is gaming – specifically the real-time strategy game "Age of Empires 2". After his father dies, Till's hobby becomes a financial imperative. Although nobody at the school knows it, Till is an online celebrity at the age of 15 – the youngest Top-10 player in the world. But how real is this kind of happiness? In 2020, his final year at the school, nothing goes the way Till had expected it to, either at school or in life.

Tonio Schachinger's novel moves between almost-universal experiences and places that most of us are unfamiliar with. At the same time his writing is surprising, his humour unpretentious and accessible: *Realtimes* is an example and proof of the timeless power of a good story. And a great social novel.



March 2023 · 368 pages

Steffen Kopetzky

GRAND TOUR AND THE NIGHT OF THE GRAND COMPLICATION

- A literary masterpiece that blends adventure, romance, and crime.
- The epic novel by bestselling author Steffen Kopetzky, now available in a new paperback edition.

Leo Pardell, a failed student, was supposed to be on a language trip to Buenos Aires. He pretends to his mother and girlfriend that he is in South America by phone, but in reality, he takes a job as a sleeper car attendant and travels extensively throughout Europe. Along the way, he encounters not only French smugglers, Bulgarian seduction specialists, corrupt inspectors, intelligent booksellers, and Brussels bureaucrats but also an eccentric watch collector in search of a legendary timepiece. Leo becomes inadvertently entangled in the collector's pursuit deeper than he ever imagined...

"A virtuoso play of chance and time, travel, and a complicated clock. A sheer joy to read." Die Welt

"Like on railway tracks, Kopetzky guides the plotlines, allowing the characters to advance, approach, connect, and then separate from each other. It is a highly virtuosic achievement." Der Spiegel



August 2023 · 784 pages

Lukas Bärfuss

THE CRUMB OF BREAD

- Lukas Bärfuss's new novel takes us back to the 1970s and explores issues which also shape our present.
- Rights sold to France (Zoe).
- English sample translation available.

The life of a woman: sometimes there's not enough love. And there's never enough money.

Adelina, the daughter of an Italian immigrant, is working in a factory in Switzerland when her brief marriage ends and she is left to look after her daughter, Emma, alone. A painful struggle for survival begins – until she meets an elderly Belgian man. Life becomes easier in many ways, but without love it remains stale and dull. And one day the Belgian man disappears, taking the child with him. Soon afterwards another man turns up – a drifter, a criminal. Together they set out in search of Emma. The man often goes away for a while and returns with money, food and newspapers featuring reports of robberies and raids on munitions depots. He takes Adelina back to his own community in Milan where she learns how to shoot a gun, delivers messages, and stays out of the way of the police. This is not difficult, because the police currently have their hands full. In this time of bombs and violence, a mother searches for her daughter – and for a long time she finds no trace of her. Until the drifter says he has seen the lights go on at the estate: there is a man there, a man with a child.



April 2023 · 224 pages

David Safier

AS LONG AS WE LIVE

- 40,000 copies sold!
- Rights were sold to Spain (Planeta)
- English sample translation available.

What is stronger, love or fate?

There's no reason why the Viennese Jew whose family are killed in the Holocaust and the young woman from Bremen should ever meet, let alone fall in love and build a life together against all the odds. Their story spans 80 years, taking us from Vienna in 1936, where we meet student Joschi Safier, to Gestapo jails and eventually to Palestine, where Joschi works as a barman and a spy and eventually goes to sea. Waltraut, for her part, grows up in a working-class family in Bremen. The family are bombed out of their home during the war, and live in a railway carriage. Waltraut is widowed at a young age. The first time she meets Joschi at an ice cream parlour, she rebuffs him. But the sailor sends her postcards from all over the world, before turning up at her door one day with a typewriter under his arm. And there he stays. Their love soars to great heights and endures terrible twists of fate. How strong must the bond between two people be to withstand all of this? A journey spanning lives, continents, and emotions: a powerful, poignant read.



April 2023 · 464 pages

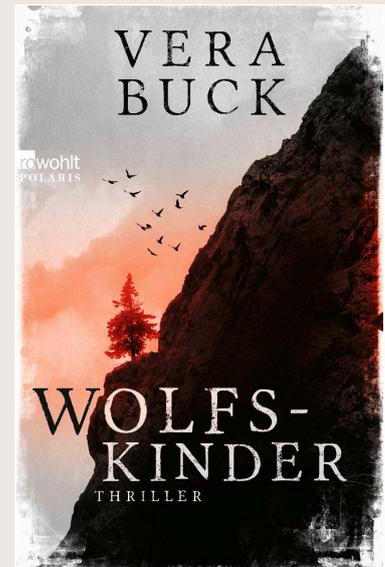
Vera Buck

WOLF CHILDREN

- 30,000 copies sold since publication!
- Rights were sold to France (Gallmeister), Italy (Giunti) and Poland (Literatura Inspiruje).
- English sample translation available.

“This place was not built for living. It was built for hiding.”

The village of Jacob’s Ladder lies high up in the mountains, cut off from the modern world, in a forest where wolves still roam. It is a place ruled by the laws of nature – harsh and ruthless, but consistent. At least that’s how it has always seemed to Jesse, who grew up in Jacob’s Ladder. He and the other children have been taught that everything bad lives down in the city. But his friend Rebekka doesn’t believe this, and wants to leave the village. Then she disappears. And she’s not the only one. A number of women have gone missing in this mountainous region. Only the young journalist Smilla, who lost her friend Juli in the area years ago, sees a connection between the disappearances. Especially when a scruffy-looking girl bearing a striking resemblance to Juli runs out in front of her car. People are growing increasingly suspicious of the residents of Jacob’s Ladder, and Jesse is not the only one to fall victim to a brutal attack. Meanwhile, Smilla is trying to solve a shocking mystery which turns the supposed truth upside down. Where is evil really lurking?



March 2023 · 416 pages

Andreas Winkelmann

NOT A WORD MORE

- A relentlessly exciting thriller with a finger on the pulse of our times.
- 1,4 MIO copies sold of his thrillers by Rowohlt altogether!
- 85,000 copies sold of *Not a Word More*! TOP 4 of the *Spiegel* bestseller list right after publication!
- Rights to his previous titles were sold to 5 countries.

“Tell me an exciting story. It can have five words, no more. Or your friend dies.” What sounds like a bad joke becomes a horrifying reality. Book blogger Faja doesn’t believe her eyes when she sees her colleague Claas on the screen in front of her, bound and gagged, in fear of his life. The message is addressed to her personally. Faja has no idea why. Or who is playing this evil game with her. But it turns out she and Claas are not the only victims ... Is there a carefully laid plan behind this “challenge” – or just pure insanity?



June 2023 · 400 pages

“Not for the fainthearted.” Express

“Great characters, breathtaking story and suspense from the first page.” Bild am Sonntag

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