

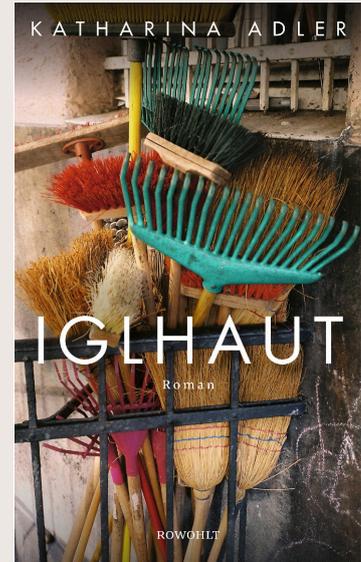
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FICTION
Spring & Summer
2022

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Katharina Adler

IGLHAUT

- Great contemporary storytelling – human and approachable, while acknowledging life’s messiness.
- The new novel following the literary success of *Ida*.
- Rights to *Ida* were sold to Argentina (Otro Cauce), China (Ginkgo) and Italy (Sellerio).
- “Making literature from literature is an art. And this is exactly what the young author Katharina Adler does.” *MDR Kultur* about *Ida*



April 2022 · 288 pages

Katharina Adler, born in Munich in 1980, lived in Leipzig and Berlin before returning to the city of her birth, where she currently lives. 2018 she published her well acclaimed biographic novel *Ida* about her great-grandmother Ida Adler (known through Sigmund Freud, who referred to her in his case description with the pseudonym Dora). Her celebrated debut *Ida* was nominated for the Alfred Döblin Prize, the Klaus Michael Kühne Prize and the ZDF Aspekte Prize for Literature. She was awarded the Bavarian Art Funding Prize in 2019, and the Premio Letterario Adei Wizo in 2020. Katharina Adler also co-writes screenplays with the director Rudi Gaul, including the *Tatort* from Stuttgart. *Iglhaut* (2022) is her second novel.

A story about a motley community of neighbours, in its midst a heroine as fabulous as Amélie and as prickly as the animal whose name she carries.

She is partial to whisky cocktails, is an old Social Democrat, has bad teeth, money problems and a talent for handling wood: Tiggy has her workshop in the back garden of a mansion block in Munich. Inadvertently and definitely reluctantly, strong, prickly Tiggy becomes the centre of some neighbourhood shenanigans.

Katharina Adler’s Tiggy is an old-school heroine. She is not cut out for stable relationships, neither in love nor in business. Her mood, too, is as changeable as the weather. Only her principles are firm in their stubbornness. But she can bend a little for a meat-scorning dog called Chancellor – and perhaps also for her ex-lover, whom she allows back into her life in a moment of carelessness.

But then more like-minded characters and stories – hot-tempered, funny, uninvited – make their way into this deeply human novel, a novel that celebrates life: authentic, against the odds. These characters live next door ...

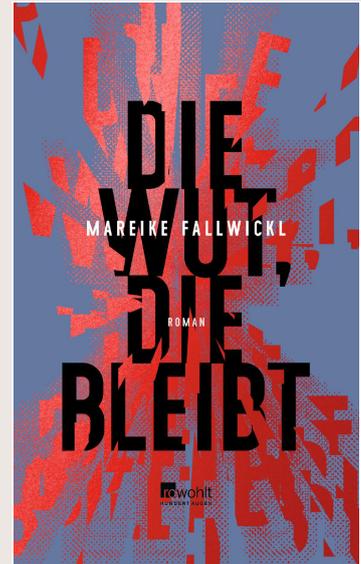
Further Titles



Mareike Fallwickl

THE RAGE THAT REMAINS

- A powerful, poetic work that recognises and identifies some painful aspects of our society.
- An author who fights with commitment for her themes and material. And one who is heard.
- Recommended by *New Books in German* (Goethe Institute).
- A sample translation will be available soon.



March 2022 · 384 pages

© Gyöngyi Tasi



Mareike Fallwickl was born in Hallein near Salzburg in 1983. She is a freelance author and lives with her family near Salzburg. Her literary debut *Dunkelgrün fast schwarz* was published in 2018 and nominated for the Austrian Book Prize as well the “Favourite book of the independents”. This was followed by *Das Licht ist hier viel heller* in 2019; the film rights to this book have been sold. She advocates literature with a focus on female narrators on various social media platforms. *The Rage That Remains* is her third novel.

What happens when a mother no longer wants to, or is unable to, go on?

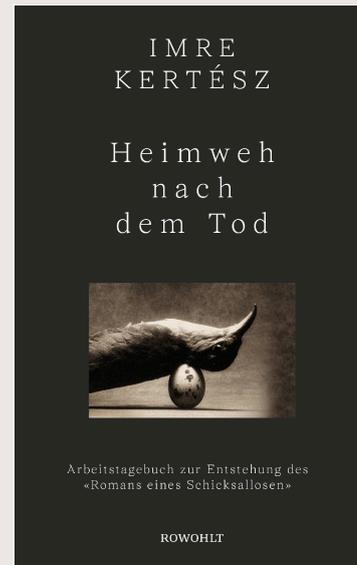
Helene, mother of three children, gets up during dinner, goes out onto the balcony and throws herself to her death. The family is in shock. Suddenly everything that previously held them together has gone: love, care, security. Helene’s best friend Sarah, who had both envied and pitied Helene for her family, is dragged into a vortex of grief and chaos. Lola, Helene’s eldest daughter, searches for a way of coping with her emotions, and concentrates on the feeling that is strongest: anger.

Three women: one cannot do what life asks of a mother. The other two have to find a way to fill the void. Their fates intertwine in Mareike Fallwickl’s stirring and clear-sighted novel about what it means to be a woman in today’s society.

Imre Kertész, Ingrid Krüger (Hg.), Pál Kelemen (Hg.)

YEARNING FOR DEATH

- Probably the most important publication from Imre Kertész's estate.
- How one of the most significant novels of world literature came about: "Yearning for death – a term like this enabled me to gather together the feelings that inspired me to write this book."
- Published and translated into German by Ingrid Krüger and Pál Kelemen. With a postscript by Lothar Müller.



March 2022 · 144 pages

Imre Kertész, born in Budapest in 1929, was deported to Auschwitz and Buchenwald in 1944 – 14 years old. His book *Fateless* is an exceptional account of his experiences there. After the collapse of communism in Europe he became a world-famous author and was awarded the 2002 Nobel Prize for Literature. From this time onwards, he lived in Berlin and returned, in poor health, to Budapest in 2012, where he died in March 2016.

A stroke of luck: young Imre Kertész's journal gives insight into the creation of one of the most important novels of the 20th century.

At the age of thirty, after years of work on his first novel *Fateless*, the confessions of a Nazi criminal, Imre Kertész decides to carry out a "sober self-analysis". This results in his first diary, written between 1958 and 1962 – 44 closely written pages. And while he continues to earn his livelihood writing musical comedies for the stage in Budapest, he notes down his thoughts, what he has read and written in minute detail in the diary: from the decision to write the story of his own deportation rather than the Nazi criminal's confessions – so "my own mythology" – to the completion of the first chapters. He also refers to his constant examination of the works of Dostoevsky, Thomas Mann and Camus, from whom he adopted the techniques he needed to write his unique coming of age novel.

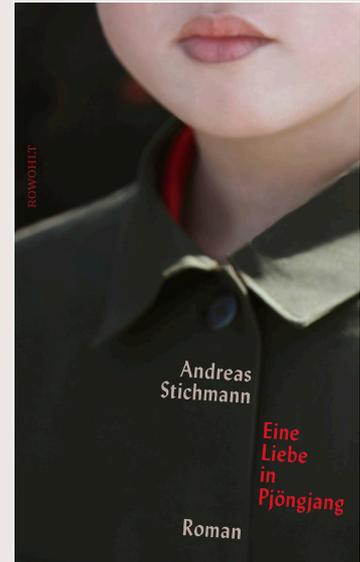
Fateless was originally going to be called *The Muselmann* (a slang term among Jewish prisoners in German concentration camps for those resigned to their impending death). It took Kertész a further ten years to complete, only to then see it rejected in socialist Hungary, before it went on to win the Nobel Prize for Literature thirty years later.

The most impressive pages of the journal describe the state of a *Muselmann*, the "destructive sweet self-abandonment" that Kertész himself experienced in the Buchenwald concentration camp shortly before it was liberated: "Man can never be as close to himself and to God as the *Muselmann* is just before his death."

Andreas Stichmann

A LOVE AFFAIR IN PYONGYANG

- “Glimmering unfamiliarly like an alien stone that has landed with us, puzzling, but still a story about someone different from those of us who live here.” *Matthias Nawrat*
- Andreas Stichmann is unique in contemporary literature: an outstanding stylist, whose work connects pop and poetry, boldness of language and humour like no other writer.



March 2022 · 160 pages



© Daniela Imhoff

Andreas Stichmann was born in Bonn in 1983. He studied at the Institute for German Literature in Leipzig. *Jackie in Silber*, a collection of stories, was published in 2008, for which he received the Clemens Brentano Prize, the Kranichstein Literature Sponsorship Award and the Hamburg Sponsorship Award for Literature, among other accolades. His debut novel, *The Glowing*, was nominated for the Bachmann Prize and won him the Bremen Prize for Literature. Andreas Stichmann lives in Berlin. *Eine Liebe in Pjöngjang* is Andreas Stichmann's third novel.

A love story between two women, two ages, two systems.

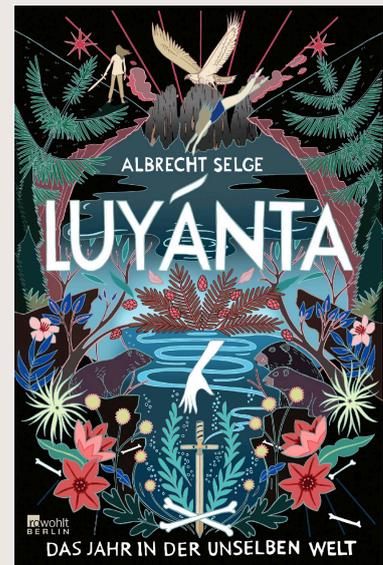
Claudia Aebischer isn't really used to strong feelings. As the head of a delegation of young creative artists, the fifty-year-old travels to Pyongyang for the last time to attend a big celebration for the opening of the German library there. But just outside the Chinese border, she finds herself confronted by someone who awakens an old longing in her. It's an encounter that makes everything new and different – can that really happen? As Claudia finds out, the bolt from the blue has a name. Sunmi is an expert in German studies, and an interpreter and agent from North Korea.

When Andreas Stichmann returned from his trip to North Korea in 2017, he did not bring a literary report or a work of non-fiction back with him but instead an idea for a novel. *Eine Liebe in Pjöngjang* is more than a novel, it is an adventure. The unlikely story of a love affair between two women, two ages and two systems – and an affirmation of 19th century literature. Extremely funny and unusually beautiful, this book adopts the “foreign” like someone in love: suddenly, with abandon, blinded by the light of one's own projections.

Albrecht Selge

LUYÁNTA – The Year in the World of Unsame

- A gripping adventure story for all ages: a girl sets off to the world of Unsame to save its populace of magicians and eagle people, with a lot of magic and even more courage.
- “Albrecht Selge is a flawless writer.” *Spiegel Online*
- The story consists of two big parts/volumes that can be acquired separately: Vol. I: 302 pages (Parts I – III), Vol. II: 461 pages (Parts IV – VII).



March 2022 · 784 pages



Albrecht Selge was born in Heidelberg in 1975 and grew up in West Berlin. He studied German literature and language, and philosophy in Berlin and Vienna. His first novel *Awake* (2011) achieved great media acclaim and was nominated for the Alfred Döblin Prize and received the Klaus Michael Kühne prize at the Harbour Front Literature Festival in Hamburg. His most recent work was the much-acclaimed novel *Beethoven*. Albrecht Selge is a freelance writer and music critic and lives with his family in Berlin.

“You are not queen. You have to fight to become queen.” A powerful adventure by Albrecht Selge.

On holiday in the mountains, Jolantha is just as irritated by her constantly hiking family as they are by their annoying daughter. But what are these endless cheeping noises? They are very strange messengers. They lead the girl into a strange and fascinating place where she is suddenly known as Luyánta and has been urgently awaited. War is raging in the strange world called Unsame between the Fanes and the gruesome eagle prince.

The journey is long and dangerous, but her twin identities as princess and white marmot make Luyánta a unique warrior, and she finds a true consort in Laleh. All at once, a dangerous spell threatens to consume her. And what is the meaning of the unerring arrow and the white sword? The deciding battle around the fate of the strange world called Unsame also becomes a battle for two souls in great danger: her own, and that of someone she loves.

Whether you enter the world of Bastian in *The NeverEnding Story* or of Bilbo in *The Hobbit*, crossing the threshold to adulthood has always been a source of great reading adventures. Albrecht Selge leads us into a fantastical world with Luyánta. The story of a very special girl and an unusual adventure.

Heinz Strunk

A SUMMER IN NIENDORF – A Novel

- A summer story, full of sun, sand and precipices.“
- Heinz Strunk can justifiably be called a genius ... with every book that he publishes, his craftsmanship gains sharper contours.” *Berliner Morgenpost*
- Heinz Strunk's previous novel *It's Always so Lovely with You* was longlisted for the German Book Prize 2021 and sold over 50,000 copies.



June 2022 · 176 pages

The musician, actor and writer **Heinz Strunk** was born in Hamburg in 1962. He is a founding member of the comedy trio Studio Braun. His book *Meat Is My Veg* has sold half a million copies. It has since been adapted into a prize-winning radio play, an operetta at the Hamburger Schauspielhaus and also a feature film. *The Golden Glove* topped the bestseller lists for months and was nominated for the Leipzig Book Fair Prize 2016. In autumn 2016 he received the Wilhelm Raabe Prize.

A pitch-dark summer escape.

Heinz Strunk's new book is like a north German version of *Death in Venice*, only the temptations are a little less subtle than those in the book written by Thomas Mann, the man from Lübeck. A middle-class hero, a lawyer and writer named Roth, he sets off for Niendorf for a sabbatical. He plans to write an important book, a reckoning with his family. He is unlikely to run into anyone from his own circle in the petit bourgeois town on the Baltic Sea – which is why he chose it. But he soon gets into the clutches of a loud and banal demonic spirit: a man who rents out beach chairs and also owns the local off-licence. Disconcertment and annoyance slowly grow into a random community and, at some point, a necessity. The off-licence owner's girlfriend is the third person to join the group – very far from being a perfect woman – and yet ... by the end of the summer story, Roth has completely lost touch with his old life; he has become someone else ...

Further Titles



André Kubiczek

THE PERFECT KISS

- A novel about adolescent conflict and important history, sad and happy at the same time, told with empathy and a wonderful lightness of touch.
- “André Kubiczek, the Salinger of Germany’s East.”
Literarische Welt
- “Reminiscent of Wolfgang Herrendorf’s *Tschick* and Bov Bjerg’s *Auerhaus*. Kubiczek is easily their equal in terms of literary quality.”
Deutschlandradio Kultur on A Sketch of Summer.
- The author's previous work *A Sketch of Summer* was short-listed for the German Book Prize 2016 and rights were sold to Bulgaria (Black Flamingo) and Greece (Kritiki).



March 2022 · 400 pages

André Kubiczek was born in Potsdam in 1969 and lives in Berlin. 2002 saw the publication of his acclaimed novel *Young Talents*; *The Good and the Bad* and *The Stars Shine Above* followed. He was awarded the Candide Prize in 2007. His most recent books were *The Fabulous Year of Anarchy* (2014), *A Sketch Of Summer* (2016), which was shortlisted for the German Book Prize.

Young love in the final years of the GDR – melancholic, insightful and with a wonderful lightness of touch.

Halle, 1986. René returns from the summer holidays. Two more semesters at the Faculty for Work and Agriculture, then he is supposed to be heading off to study economics in the Soviet Union. None of this appeals to René. But luckily his friend from Potsdam, Rebecca, moves to his town. They start a relationship and René meets her parents, both artists, who lead a life completely different from his own family’s life – less settled and more extravagant, seemingly more anarchistic. Rebecca’s influence is life-changing for René; he is even prepared to drop his plans to study. But why is Rebecca so sad? And why does he see so little of her? When she finally tells René about her family’s secret plans, his world collapses – everything could change from one day to the next. There follows an intense period of secrecy, joy and desperation, between an awakening and a crippling stagnation – the love affair between these two young people is like a preliminary tremor that presages the dramatic events of the next few years.

Further Titles

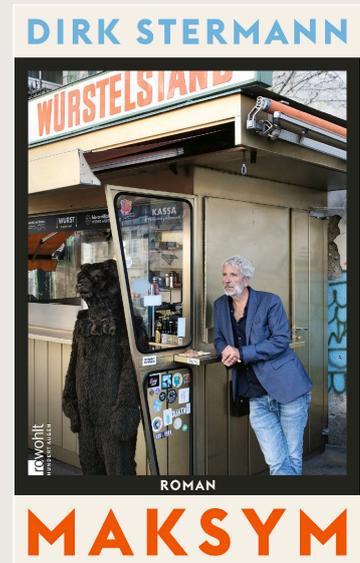


Dirk Stermann

MAKSYM

- A novel that only Dirk Stermann could have written: funny, macabre, heart-warming.
- A satirical Viennese novel set in Vienna that unexpectedly becomes a thriller – but all is well in the end.
- The cheerful yet melancholic Stermann is a great master of the absurd.” *Süddeutsche Zeitung*
- “I consider Dirk Stermann one of the greatest that we and they have.”

Peter Richter, Frankfurter Allgemeine Sonntagszeitung



July 2022 · 288 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. He is also a bestselling author; his novel *Six Austrians in the Top Five* sold over 150,000 copies.

Maksym – bouncer, martial artist, childminder.

Dirk Stermann's novel *Sechs Österreicher unter den ersten fünf*, which sold over 150,000 copies in Austria alone, had a hero named Dirk Stermann. Now the author has written a new book about Dirk. It starts out as an amusing society satire on modern-day Vienna: Dirk and his wife have a problem. She has to go abroad for work for a few months, but he really doesn't have time to take care of their son Hermann all day. They need professional help. Friends make a very modern recommendation – a male childminder. They themselves have a young Ukrainian, very experienced and cultured, with a Joseph Roth quote on his lips at all times.

And Dirk and his wife decide in favour of the Ukrainian all the young blonde women – despite the fact that Makysm doesn't quote the classics. Initially, the quiet man from Eastern Europe does a good job. But then he starts minding the father as well as the son. And from then on, things go just one way: downwards.

Further Titles



Ildikó von Kürthy

TOMORROW CAN COME

- “A book for all those with a longing for freedom!” *Maria Furtwängler*
- Her novels and works of non-fiction have all been top of the bestseller lists.
- The author's previous novel *It's Time* spent several months on the Spiegel bestseller list and sold over 300,000 copies! Rights were sold to Hungary (Animus).



April 2022 · 368 pages

Ildikó von Kürthy is a journalist and columnist for *Brigitte* magazine. She lives in Hamburg with her husband and two sons. Her novels have sold over six million copies and were translated into 21 languages.

Parting and awakening. Why wait? Tomorrow will be here soon enough.

A torn photograph brings the truth to light. It is the snapshot of a betrayal that connects four destinies, bringing them together and confronting them with the uncomfortable questions of middle age: letting go or holding on? Who do I become if I no longer try to please everyone, and where will I go if I no longer let anyone else tell me which path to take?

Ruth flees with this photograph and her overly large dog to her grandparents' old villa. Here she encounters her sister, to whom she hasn't spoken in years, and realises the lie that caused them to fall out and the crime that has dictated her life.

She takes a shine to Rudi on the first floor who is preparing for his death with gentle bravery but wants to get things finally sorted beforehand.

She meets Erdal, who is going through a bumpy period in his life and accidentally invites his cousin to the villa, which has serious consequences.

In quick succession, noses and several illusions are busted. Ruth steps out of the shadows of her past. And the end is actually the beginning.

Further Titles



Gisa Klönne

FOR THIS SUMMER

- A novel full of interesting topics: nature, yoga, uprooting and reconciliation.
- A family story about a situation that typifies the baby boomer generation and yet at the same time is as unique and surprising as each individual life.
- “Gisa Klönne develops characters of constricting authenticity.” *Hamburger Abendblatt*



March 2022 · 448 pages



© Irène Zandel

Gisa Klönne was born in 1964. She lives in Cologne and works as an author, writing coach and yoga teacher. Her crime novels have sold more than 500,000 copies, have been translated into several languages and have been awarded prizes including the Friedrich Glauser Prize. Her autobiographically inspired romantic novel *Das Lied der Stare nach dem Frost* was a *Spiegel* bestseller.

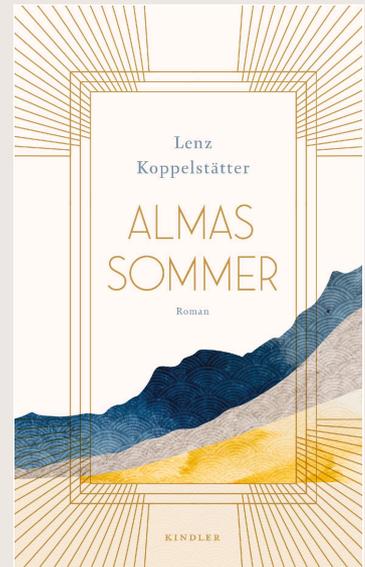
A father. A daughter. A house full of memories. A radical plea for living in the here and now.

When Franziska Roth returns to her family home in her fifties, her dream of a life as an environmental campaigner has failed and her relationship to her family has shattered. For decades, it was her older sister who took care of their parents. But she cannot cope any longer. Ever since their mother passed away, their father Heinrich drifts off into the past and can no longer walk. But he does not want to accept help, and definitely not from Franziska. And she doesn't want to stay, either. The proposed modifications to the house, which Heinrich refuses to allow, fuel the unresolved conflicts anew. Neither of them can forget that Franziska never reconciled with her mother. At the same time, however, memories of happy times are rekindled: the days by the lake and the seemingly endless summer nights in the garden where they watched the flights of the fireflies. How can they live with the fact that all of that is irretrievably gone? Franziska's brief visit turns into an entire summer in which they both learn to make peace with their lives and one another.

Lenz Koppelstätter

ALMA'S SUMMER

- With verve and wit, bestselling author Lenz Koppelstätter paints a portrait of the most eccentric and glitzy artistic couple of the belle époque.



April 2022 · 208 pages



© Stephanie Füssenich

Lenz Koppelstätter was a reporter for *Geo Saison* and *Salon*, and is the author of the *Spiegel* bestseller crime novel series featuring the South Tyrolean police inspector Johann Grauner. He lives in a wine-growing village south of Bolzano where he grew up. He received a research scholarship for *Alma's Summer* from the State of South Tyrol, which allowed him to travel and write in the main locations of Alma and Gustav Mahler's lives in Pustertal, Vienna and New York.

Viennese bohemian society meets South Tyrolean mountains: a great novel about a summer in the Dolomites, and the love – and falling out of love – of Alma and Gustav Mahler.

Toblach, 1910: Alma and Gustav Mahler spend their summer in the South Tyrolean Dolomites, but their erstwhile passionate love for one another has long grown cold. The famous composer is in pain, a harbinger of the heart disease that will kill him a few months later, and is agonising over his musical scores in the hope that the mountain peace will inspire his creativity. Alma is bored with her older husband; she yearns for Viennese bohemian society – and for telegrams from young Walter Gropius, with whom she is having a secret, passionate affair. When Mahler comes across Gropius' besotted lines, an argument ensues – and shortly afterwards, a confrontation with the love rival who has followed Alma to the mountains ... While a thunderstorm builds up over the Dolomite peaks, the ménage-à-trois in the valley takes a disastrous turn, accompanied by the momentum of Mahler's symphony and driven by Alma's desperate desire for love.

Kerstin Sgonina

AND WHEN WE DANCE AGAIN

- A gripping novel with strong protagonists, full of local history, atmosphere and a spirit of optimism.



February 2022 · 464 pages

Kerstin Sgonina works as an author, journalist and editor. At the age of 18 she came to Hamburg and after her high school graduation she eked out a living there in numerous jobs including doorman and barmaid in Sankt Pauli. She still loves the city on the Elbe, but now lives with her husband and her two children near Berlin. Her novel *When Life Was Good Again* was published in 2021.

Two very different women have lost everything and together rebuild a dance hall that has been destroyed.

Hamburg, 1962: Marie Hansen lives in the allotment settlement Alte Landesgrenze in Wilhelmsburg. As a chambermaid in the Atlantic Hotel, she is badly paid and treated with contempt by the guests. But she has found a home among her eccentric neighbours. But then she is woken one February night by a raging storm and can hear screams – the settlement is under water. Marie is saved, but the little that she owned is lost. For the next few weeks, she is billeted with Effie von Tieck in St. Pauli. The old lady owns a dance hall in the Speicherstadt, which was also badly damaged by the storm tide. Marie senses that there is a tragic story behind Effie’s blustery exterior and decides to help the desperate woman. The Danzhus must become a place of joy once again. Together the two women rebuild the dance hall and find a new lease of life through their unusual friendship ...

Further Titles



Miriam Georg

GATEWAY TO THE WORLD: Dreams (Vol. I)

- The gateway city for emigrants – from Hamburg out into the world. The new dramatic two-part series in a unique setting.
- A huge popular success! Miriam Georg – on the bestseller list from day one.
- Over 420,000 copies sold of her previous saga *Hanseatic Radiance* (Vol. I) and *Hanseatic Storms* (Vol. II) with rights sold to Czech Republic (Dobrovsky) and Spain (Planeta).
- A sample translation will be available soon.



July 2022 · 640 pages

Miriam Georg, born in 1987, is a freelance proof reader and editor. She has a degree in European literature as well as a master's degree with a special focus on American Indian literature. She also has her own jewellery label – Mina Gold. When she is not on one of her trips, the author lives in Berlin Neukölln with her deaf dog Rosali and her book collection.

Two women as different as ebb and flow. Connected by fate and the hope for a better life. And united by more than they can imagine ...

Young Ava vom Moorhof has just one goal – to find her family in America. In order to be able to travel there, she works tirelessly in the emigration halls in Hamburg. She doesn't even have time for the photographer Wilhelm, who lays his heart at her feet. When she finally manages to get the money for the ticket together, she is duped and loses everything. Claire – worldly and brave – manages to work out who is the head of the group of fraudsters. But does she not need him as a support for her own causes? There is a thin line between bitter hostility and passionate attraction ... Ava and Claire. Two loves, two lives. Connected forever by fate.

Further Titles



Micaela A. Gabriel

WOMEN OF THE REICHSTAG: Voices of Freedom (Vol. I)

- A great new historical saga by the bestselling author Micaela A. Gabriel: The novel she wrote under the name Michelle Marly – *Madame Coco and the Scent of Love* (*Madame Coco und der Duft der Liebe*) – was on the best-seller list for almost a year.
- The opening book in a rousing saga series about courageous women in the Reichstag.
- Bestseller author Micaela A. Gabriel combines important social topics – such as the right of women to vote – with an enthralling story.



March 2022 · 480 pages

© Ava Pivot



Micaela A. Gabriel was born in Hamburg and grew up in Munich and Lugano/Tessin where she made her first attempts at writing as a teenager. Following her language studies and an internship with a newspaper, she worked as an editor before turning to novel writing. She achieved numerous successes writing under her maiden name Micaela Jary.

Women pulled between political ambition and societal constraints – a topic that has lost none of its explosive power.

Berlin, November 1918: One of Marlene von Runstedt's lifelong dreams is fulfilled when women are given the right to vote. For several years the dedicated young lawyer has been working in an advice centre for women. Now, finally her voice is being heard, finally she can bring about some change. Encouraged by her father, a law professor, and her admirer, Max Emden, she joins the newly founded liberal DDP party. Then Justus von Ostwald, who broke Marlene's heart years ago, punctures the euphoric mood. The two of them are still close despite the events of the past; Justus' relationship with the actress Sonja Grawitz, Marlene's childhood friend and member of the DNVP, the party close to the emperor, hasn't changed that, either. After a heated campaign by the women in the face of fierce opposition, the national assembly in Weimar is opened. Marlene and Sonja encounter each other here again – a tricky meeting as Sonja is expecting a child with Justus, while Marlene struggles to avoid his attentions. A fatal car crash finally forces Marlene to make a decision ...

Anne Stern

THE WOMEN OF KARLSPLATZ: Auguste (Vol. I)

The moving story of a woman during the German Empire – the first in a gripping series.

Lichterfelde near Berlin, 1892: When young Auguste moves into the affluent neighbourhood of Am Karlsplatz, she has no idea of the dramatic turns her life is going to take. In the elite school for daughters of the upper classes, she meets Lotte, the daughter of an industrialist. Her new friend is a free spirit and yearns to break out of the constraints of society during the era of the German Empire. Auguste feels her own rebelliousness growing – she, too, wants to take her fate into her own hands – if necessary, against the will of her family. But then Lotte suddenly disappears. And Auguste realises that she needs to take a rocky path in the fight for her friendship ...



April 2022 · 352 pages

Anne Stern

THE WOMEN OF KARLSPLATZ: Henny (Vol. II)

A young woman dreams of a self-determined life as a doctor – but World War I threatens to destroy everything.

Lichterfelde, 1913: The century is still young, Modernism is waiting at the gates of Berlin. But it is still difficult for women to pursue their dreams in the German Empire. Henny has only one dream: she wants to study medicine – to out the unfulfilled longing of her mother, whom she never met. The path to becoming a doctor is hard for a woman in these times, but Henny is a fighter. When she falls in love with the young junior doctor Paul, her happiness seems complete. But then war breaks out and Paul is conscripted. Henny's dreams burst; suddenly she is left with nothing – and has to fight to survive.



June 2022 · 336 pages

Elena Hell, Robert Krause

SISI – The Dark Promise (Vol. I)

- Fate and power games, sensuality and love, a desire for freedom and court etiquette: in this first volume, young Sisi becomes a woman and an empress.
- Those who enjoyed watching *Bridgerton*, *The Crown* and *Game of Thrones* will love *Sisi*.
- Over 40,000 copies were sold since publication.

Rights sold to: Hungary – Open Books



December 2021 · 448 pages

Elena Hell was born in 1989 and studied screenplay at the Academy for Television and Film as well as psychology, communication sciences and political sciences at the Ludwig Maximilian University in Munich. She co-wrote and developed the screenplays for the series *Sisi*. Alongside her work as an author, Elena Hell teaches yoga and creative writing. She lives in Munich with her family.

Robert Krause, born in Dresden in 1970, learned a carpenter's trade in what was then still the GDR. At the age of 19, he fled to the Federal Republic of Germany. He studied Computer Sciences at the Technical University of Munich and, later, Film at the University of Television and Film Munich (HFF). He is a successful director and screenwriter, as well as a professor of Creative Writing. He lives in Miesbach, near Munich, with his wife and two sons. His debut novel *Three and a Half Hours* was published by rororo.

A world-famous icon, a strong woman, a film event.

When young, impetuous Sisi meets the charismatic and mysteriously unfathomable Franz Joseph of Austria in Bad Ischl, she doesn't have a chance. Although he is promised to her sister, she cannot tear herself away from the young emperor and, against her family's opposition, she captures his heart. With this love, her future appears to be bright. But is audacious Sisi strong enough for the dark side of the promise of love? As the future empress, at the side of a man who is at odds with himself, and as a positive and optimistic woman who is only just discovering her own needs?

Elena Hell

SISI – Desire and Deception (Vol. II)

- Volume two of the outstanding series of the year.



November 2022 · 400 pages

© Samuel Hell



Elena Hell was born in 1989 and studied screenplay at the Academy for Television and Film as well as psychology, communication sciences and political sciences at the Ludwig Maximilian University in Munich. She co-wrote and developed the screenplays for the series Sisi. Alongside her work as an author, Elena Hell teaches yoga and creative writing. She lives in Munich with her family.

Sisi as we have never seen her before: bold and full of fighting spirit, life-affirming and seductive.

The strict protocol of the Viennese court, uprisings across the Empire and the threat of war: only the passionate nights spent with Franz Joseph help recently married Sisi not to break under the pressure. Everyone is waiting for an heir to the throne, as a son could positively turn the mood in the country. When Sisi finally falls pregnant, she feels she could completely suffocate in her golden cage. All she wants is to be free and to be an empress who listens to her people. She fights tirelessly for her great love and against political and personal intrigues. Empress, wife and mother, she has no idea that the greatest loss and the greatest betrayal still lie ahead of her.

Andreas Winkelmann

THE LAST THING YOU WILL HEAR

- Number 1 bestselling author Andreas Winkelmann with a new thriller that dives deeper than ever before into the blackest souls: nerve-racking suspense.
- His previous thriller series – *The Girl's House*, *The Delivery*, *The Driver*, *Tha Map* – sold almost 900,000 copies and rights were sold to Finland (BookBeat), Korea (Arum-book), Sweden (BookBeat) and Turkey (Pegasus).
- English sample translation will be available soon.



June 2022 · 384 pages

Andreas Winkelmann, born 1968 in Lower Saxony, is married and has one daughter. He lives with his family in a lonely house on the edge of the forest near Bremen. When he is not diving into the depths of the human soul, he crosses the Alps on foot, climbs the highest mountains or fishes and hunts with a bow and arrow in the Canadian wilderness.

Lean back. Listen to this voice. Nothing else matters during this hour. Forget your daily life, your job, your troubles, your worries. Trust in the words that seem to be made just for you. But be careful. Once you are caught in this world, you will never get out again. This voice is the last one you'll hear.

Sarah is addicted to the podcast *Hörgefühl* that has captivated countless fans. The voice of podcaster Marc Maria Hagen is like a soft pillow, his words like balm for the heart. But Sarah has no idea that someone has been investigating the truth behind the facade. She has no idea that someone has already met with a violent death. She has no idea that a black abyss lurks behind the softly spoken words ...

Further Titles



David Safier

MISS MERKEL – Murder in the Cemetery (Vol. II)

- The second volume of the bestselling *Miss Merkel* series.
- Over 140,000 copies of the first volume were sold in the first 3 weeks after publication!
- *Miss Merkel: Murder In The Uckermark* (Vol. I) sold more than 420,000 copies! Rights were sold to Denmark (Forlaget mellemgaard), Estonia (Tanapaev), Italy (SEM), France (City Éditions), the Netherlands (De Fontein), Slovakia (Ikar) and Spain (Planeta).



March 2022 · 352 pages

Rights sold to: Denmark – Forlaget mellemgaard | France – City Éditions | the Netherlands – De Fontein | Spain (Planeta)

David Safier was born in 1966, and is one of today’s most successful authors and screenwriters. His books *Lousy Karma*, *Suddenly Shakespeare*, *Happy Family*, *Moo!* and *28 Days* 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.

The amusing manhunt with Miss Merkel continues

It’s not always the gardener who is the murderer, sometimes he is the dead body. Pensioner Angela quickly realises this when her pug discovers the body of the gardener in the graveyard in the village of Klein-Freudenstadt in the Uckermark. The body is upside down in the earth with only the legs poking out. The murder suspects are all members of two warring undertaker families. There is a dubious manager, a grim bookkeeper, a sensitive celebrant, a Satanist as well as a cultivated stonemason. Angela shares her love of Shakespeare with the latter elderly gentleman, who also happens to look like a former French movie star. Will Angela fall for this man’s rugged charm? And what does her husband Achim say to it all? The second case for the master detective Miss Merkel poses tricky problems – including personal ones – for the former chancellor.

Further Titles



René Anour

THE DOCTOR OF DEATH: Donau Fog (Vol. III)

- Anyone interested in medicine and history will love this series.
- Vol. I and II of the *Doctor of Death* – the series sold 30,000 copies altogether so far.



September 2022 · 416 pages

René Anour lives in Vienna. He studied veterinary medicine there, although a research project led him all the way to Harvard Medical School. He now works for the Austrian Agency for Health and Food Safety and is an expert in newly developed medicines for the European Medical Agency. His novel *In the Tower's Shadow* and the series set around *The Doctor of Death* illuminate fascinating aspects of medical history.

Vienna, 1908: Forensics is still a young science that is changing constantly. Fanny Goldmann is usually one of the ones pushing for progress, but now the usually unflappable doctor is torn. The police inspectors have started calling Fanny and her colleagues to crime scenes to inspect the corpses. And although Fanny is quite tough, even she shudders when she comes across a multiple murder in the dark forests by the Donau. Seven bodies who clearly died a violent death, but no clear cause. A gruesome riddle that preoccupies Fanny – regardless of the danger of the investigation ...

Scientific advances, social upheaval, curious facts: René Anour combines sound historical knowledge with a thrilling crime case and charming Viennese humour.

Further Titles

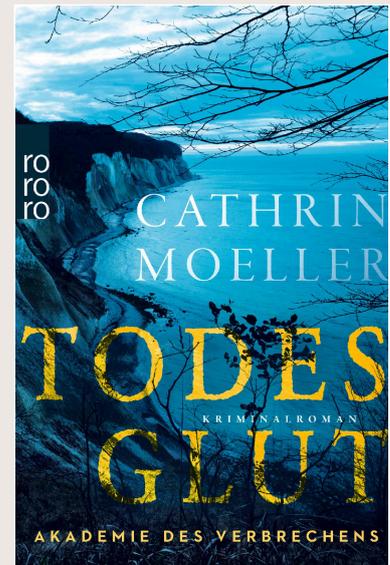


Cathrin Moeller

EMBERS OF DEATH

A gruesome burnt corpse, a deadly passion, a sick game of life and death.

“Think like the murderers!” That is what criminologist and former Inspector Zornik preaches at the Academy of Crime in a manor house on the island of Rügen. The students in his course study actual unsolved cases. This semester: a gruesome burnt corpse is found in the Bergen library. The challenge begins: who is the best investigator, Zornik or the newcomers? But the lesson plan soon becomes dangerously serious. When a violent criminal from the past puts a knife to his throat, he knows: they are very close to catching the male or female perpetrator – too close. Now he must do all he can to save both his own life and the lives of his students. For the sinister game of life and death has only just started.

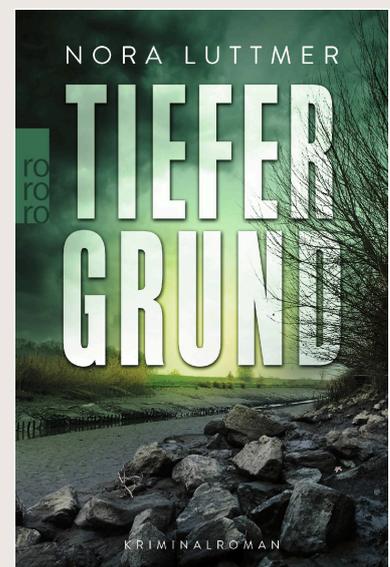


May 2022 · 528 pages

Nora Luttmer

DEEPERGROUND

Bette Hansen, 53, returns to her idyllic hometown of Ochsenwerder – but this is not a move of her choosing. The former detective superintendent is plagued by bouts of narcolepsy that result in involuntary sleep episodes and make it impossible for the tough woman to continue her police work. The disappearance of a young girl opens old wounds in the town – there seems to be a connection to the murder of a teenage girl in 1986, a friend of Bette’s. It happened in the “Tiefergrund” a section along the River Elbe, a gloomy place that always scared them when they were children. Bette takes up clandestine investigations in a feverish attempt to find out whether the past is still capable of destroying lives today.



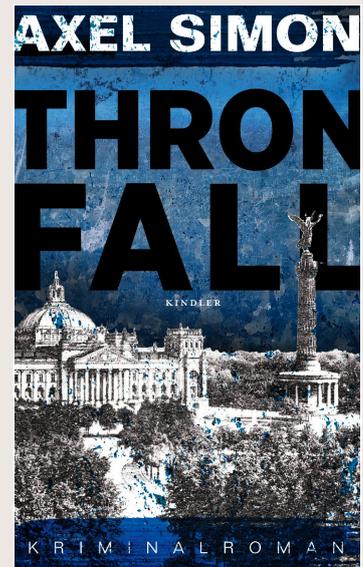
March 2022 · 416 pages

Axel Simon

FALL OF THE THRONE – A Crime Novel

The third volume of the crime series set around the maverick investigator Gabriel Landow.

Berlin, 1889. Heads are about to roll. Terrorists have been attacking rulers' statues with bombs. Private investigator Gabriel Landow even fears an attack on the emperor! Just a crazy idea? It wouldn't be his only flight of fancy. Landow also suspects his lover, the resolute police typist Elba Runge, of not only sharing a passion for a more just society with the socialist Bebel, but also sharing his bed. What is more, a notebook full of numerical codes puts the maverick investigator and his partner Orsini right into the killers' sights. And the young emperor? While the capital groans in the heat of a tropical summer, His Majesty sets off on a four-week cruise to the home of the Nordic heroes with a group of hand-selected members of the elite. But it is in that very place, between morning exercise and mythological mist, that someone is watching him. And that entails even more explosive than all the terrorists' dynamite.



March 2022 · 384 pages

Helga Glaesener

THE CHILD OF LIES (Vol. II)

Hamburg, 1927: Paula Haydorn from the female police inspectorate is extremely irritated when wealthy Signe von Arnsberg storms into the station to report the killing of her dog. The rich widow also returns a few days later to report that her young daughter has been abducted. The woman seems confused and gets her facts muddled. Shortly afterwards, she retracts her report. However, in contrast to her colleagues, Paula does not think she is mad. When traces of blood and fingerprints belonging to the missing girl are discovered in a burned-out ruin, the case takes a dramatic turn. But even Paula has no idea of the depths that are about to open up by the Alster ...



August 2022 · 352 pages

Christiane Franke, Cornelia Kuhnert

FRESHLY INVESTIGATED: The Vera Malottke Case (Vol. I)

The opening novel in a new series set around laundry service lady Martha Frisch, a woman ahead of her time, which captivates the reader with period atmosphere and local colour.

Leer, 1958: Martha Frisch is a widow, a courageous woman in her late fifties, a woman ahead of her time. She picks up a lot of gossip in her laundry service premises. When a loyal customer, the young high-end prostitute Vera Malottke, is found dead in her apartment, the entire town bad-mouths the flighty young woman. The police don't put in much effort and quickly identify a culprit: one of the dead woman's old friends who has just been released from prison. After all, they don't want to drag the gentry – all of them Vera's clients – into such delicate matters. Together with her great-nephew, police constable Hans Frisch and her granddaughter Annemieke, Martha refuses to accept these double standards and sets out to find the true culprit.



June 2022 · 336 pages

Linda Graze

BLACK FOREST CONSPIRACY: Inspector Justin Schmälzle Investigates (Vol. III)

No one is resting, everyone is awake ... tin foil hat wearers rouse the “sleeping sheep” of Bad Wildbad.

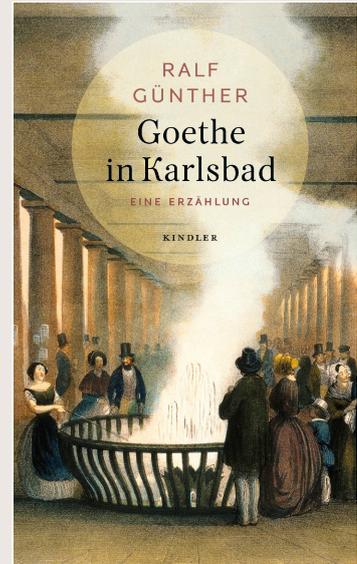
There's a breach of the peace in tranquil Bad Wildbad. At ten o'clock at night. “There's a crazy man on the Sommerberg!” – “He hasn't paid his taxes!” The police station is in uproar. Ever more disruptive elements stumble out of the tram. They put up their tents in the town's park to wake the “sleeping sheep” of the spa town. *Reichsbürger* (right-wing extremists) are among them, and Schmälzle's son is beaten up by racists. The Inspector's nerves as well as those of the town's inhabitants are raw. Then three sheep are found dead. And a human. Was it murder? When will peaceful times return to the town? The team around Inspector Schmälzle don't get any more chance to sleep anymore ... until all questions have been answered.



May 2022 · 368 pages

Ralf Günther

GOETHE IN CARLSBAD – A Narrative



March 2022 · 176 pages

Ralf Günther was born in Cologne in 1967. He studied theatre, film and television studies. He is a novelist and writer of screenplays, and has developed TV programmes for ZDF and KiKa. He has written many successful historical novels, including the bestselling *Der Leibarzt* (Heyne, 2001). rororo has published his Christmas-themed books *Ach du Föhliche* (2011) and *Jesusmariaund-Josef!* (2013). *Das Weihnachtsmarktwunder* (2014) was published by Kindler. The author lives in Hamburg and Dresden.

On top of the world, or in the depths of despair: Goethe as a saviour of love.

Summer 1816: Attempting to escape domestic strife and court responsibilities, Goethe seeks solace to write for a few days in Karlsbad in Bohemia. The thermal springs there – together with the illustrious crowd – have always fascinated him. He decides to stay in Karlsbad for a few days. During a walk along the Teplá stream, he stumbles upon a young couple's joint suicide pact. The situation reminds him of the Werther story, the most successful narrative of his early artistic years: an unhappy love story because the parents are opposed, and the young woman has been promised to another. Goethe reveals himself and manages to change the young couple's mind. And yet they remain distressed because they cannot be together.

Goethe lets himself get carried away and makes a promise: he will unravel the unfortunate fate that stands in their way and will help the couple find happiness. Can he do it?

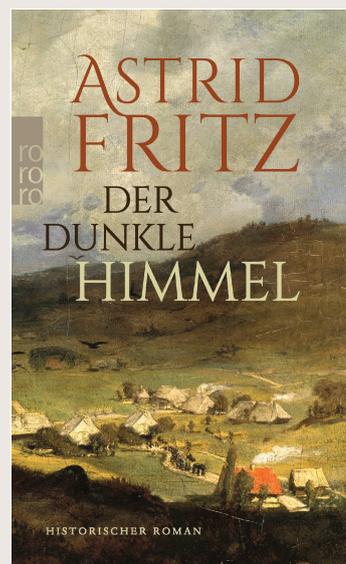
Further Titles



Astrid Fritz

DARK SKY – A Historical Novel

Dark clouds, constant rain, unseasonal cold periods, glaring sunsets. Again and again, the people in Hohenstetten, Swabia, look up to the sky: the weather is going crazy. Their livelihoods are threatened by failing crops. Some who are desperate look for a new start in far-away continents. The pious see omens of the imminent apocalypse. And others try to get through this year without a summer by rolling up their sleeves and simply fighting for their survival. The young schoolmaster Friedhelm. The strong woman Paulina. And the sage pastor Unterseher. *Der dunkle Himmel* (*Dark Sky*) offers an engaging and thrilling account of life in a linen weavers' village – against the backdrop of a historical climate catastrophe of global proportions following a volcano eruption in Indonesia.



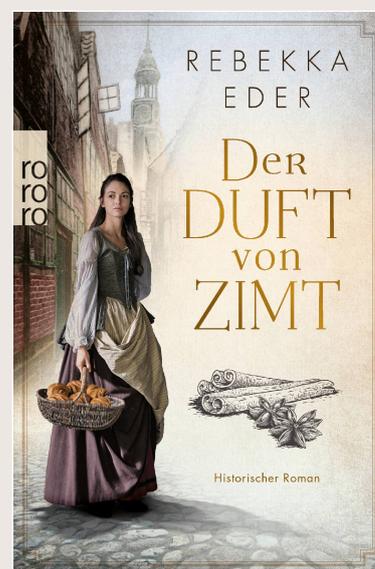
March 2022 · 576 pages

Rebekka Eder

THE SCENT OF CINNAMON – A Historical Novel

A delightful novel about Hamburg's most famous pastry: the Franzbrötchen.

1812: Hamburg is suffering under the French occupation. When young Josephine takes over her uncle's bakery, he imposes a condition: she must get married at last – to the merchant Christian Schulte of all people, whom Josephine suspects of having allied with the French against the suffering citizens of Hamburg. At the same time, she becomes ever more interested in the soldier Pépin Morel, who is always enthusing about French delicacies. He is particularly enamoured with the smell of cinnamon – just like Josephine herself. Together with Pépin, she not only comes across an old family secret, but also invents the pastry that delights both the people of Hamburg and the French and might just save her bakery: the Franzbrötchen.



August 2022 · 400 pages

Kristina Moninger

A HEART SEEKS A HOME

- A romantic comedy with depth – by a much-loved German author.

When love begins with a deception. When you are living someone else's life ... then you need courage. And a hell of a lot of luck.

Charly has always wanted to be as confident and brave as her best friend. When Mia asks her to do a few things for her while she is on holiday, Charly, obliging as always, steps in – without knowing what she is signing up for. A few misunderstandings later, she not only finds herself in Mia's new flat in Starnberg, but also in the middle of Mia's life. Including a dream job with Bavaria film studios. Charlotte becomes Mia. And although it is just for a short while, it feels amazing. But then she meets Sebastian. He is a stuntman and falls in love with Charly – in her role as life-affirming Mia. But what is going to happen to all the overwhelming feelings if the life is only on loan?



August 2022 · 432 pages

Inken Bartels

A SUMMER ON THE SLY FIRTH

Holiday atmosphere, warm-hearted humour and a wonderful love story.

Hanna has had a pretty bad year: first separating from her husband Hendrik, then losing her father. And so this summer, she travels to the Schlei – an inlet of the Baltic Sea in Schleswig-Holstein. She wants to sort her feelings out and reenergise herself in her family's small, idyllic holiday house, preferably in complete isolation. But she hadn't factored in the elderly rose-grower Ella, who takes care of the garden. Nor the charming boatbuilder Thies. He shows Hanna an old sailing boat that supposedly belonged to her father, although her father always avoided water. And so Hanna sets out to uncover a family secret – and realises that an end can also be a beginning.

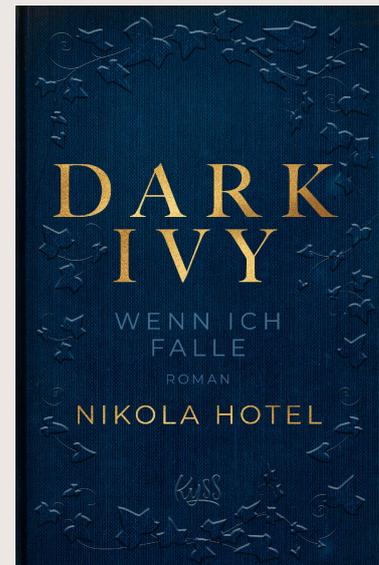


June 2022 · 352 pages

Nikola Hotel

DARK IVY: If I Fall (Vol. I)

- Distinctive, dramatic, emotional – this is how the New Adult genre should be!
- For fans of Mona Kasten, Laura Kneidl and Kelly Moran! 1
- 00,000 copies sold of the author's previous titles *It Was Always You* (Vol. I) and *It Was Always Love* (Vol. II)! Rights to both titles were sold to Russia (Eksmo). Her *Paper Love Series Ever* (Vol. I) and *Blue* (Vol. II) sold over 50,000 copies and rights were sold to Czech Republic (Dobrovsky).



November 2022 · 448 pages

Nikola Hotel was born in Bonn and worked as a nurse before concentrating on writing full-time. She has already published several novels and says of herself, “I’ve got a weak spot for dark characters and suppressed feelings.” She lives with her husband and their three sons and in a small village. She likes exchanging views with her readers on Instagram (@nikolahotel).

An elitist college, a young love and a task more difficult than any other ...

The Woodford Academy. Elitist, exclusive and steeped in tradition. If you get accepted here, you are almost guaranteed a place at an Ivy League university. And Eden Collins has made it. She has received one of the greatly sought-after scholarships. But life at the academy is harder than she expected. She knew she would be challenged intellectually, but hadn’t expected to have to take part in mind games and social experiments in her courses that would take her to her emotional limits. And why – why – has she attracted the attention of William Grantham III of all people? Will seems to have made it his mission to entice Eden to break the rules, and when she does so, it has catastrophic results ...

Although she has also written romantic comedies, the author has a particular penchant for the New Adult genre. This becomes apparent in her sensitive and captivating love stories. Every one of her books since 2020 has made it on to the *Spiegel* bestseller list straight after publication. In her new two-volume series *Dark Ivy* she now addresses the popular subculture known as Dark Academia.

Further Titles



Ms. Viktoria Grandt

viktoria.grandt@rowohlt.de
Foreign Rights Director

Ms. Gertje Berger-Maaß

gertje.maass@rowohlt.de
English World (Non-Fiction) | Israel | Poland

Ms. Tatiana Jandt

tatiana.jandt@rowohlt.de
Belgium | China | Japan | Korea and other Asian Countries | France | Netherlands | Russia | Scandinavia | Spanish World | Ukraine

Ms. Erica Lorenzoni

erica.lorenzoni@rowohlt.de
Arabic Countries | Balkans | Baltic Countries | Brazil | Czech Republic | English World (Fiction) | Greece | Hungary | Italy | Portugal | Slovakia | Slovenia | Turkey

Our Agents

Albania, Bulgaria, Croatia, Serbia, Macedonia

Andrew Nurnberg Sofia
Ms. Anna Droumeva
anna@anas-bg.com

Baltic Countries, Ukraine

Andrew Nurnberg Baltic
Ms. Tatjana Zoldnere
zoldnere@anab.apollo.lv

Brazil

Villas-Boas & Moss Literary Agency & Consultancy, LLC
Ms. Luciana Villas-Boas
Ms. Anna Luiza Cardoso
luciana@vbmlitag.com
annaluiza@vbmlitag.com

China

HERCULES Business & Culture GmbH
Mr. Hongjun Cai
cai@hercules-book.de

Beijing Star Media Co. Ltd.

Ms. Xing Wang
wangxing@wstern.com

Czech Republic, Slovenia, Slovakia

Andrew Nurnberg Prag
Ms. Jitka Nemecková
nemeckova@nurnberg.cz

France

Editio Dialog Literary Agency
Dr. Michael Wenzel
dr.wenzel@editio-dialog.com

Greece

Iris Literary Agency
Ms. Catherine Fragou
irislit@otenet.gr

Hungary

Balla-Sztojokov Literary Agency
Ms. Rita Tillai
ballalit@ballalit.hu

Italy

Berla & Griffini Rights Agency
Ms. Barbara Griffini
griffini@bgagency.it

Israel

The Deborah Harris Agency
Ms. Efrat Lev
efrat@thedeborahharrisagency.com

Japan

Meike Marx Literary Agency
Ms. Meike Marx
meike.marx@gol.com

Korea

MOMO Agency
Ms. Geenie Han
geeniehan@mmagency.co.kr

Bestun Korea Literary Agency

Ms. Hyeyoung Lee
ylee@unitel.co.kr

Netherlands

Internationaal Literatuur Bureau B.V.
Ms. Linda Kohn
lkohn@planet.nl

Poland

Graal Sp.z.o.o.
Mr. Tomasz Bereziński
tomasz.berezinski@graal.com.pl

Portugal

Ilídio Matos Agência Literária Lda.
Mr. Gonçalo Gama Pinto
goncalo.gamapinto@ilidiomatos.com

Russia

Maria Schliesser Literary Agency
Ms. Maria Schließer
schliesser.maria@gmail.com

Scandinavia

Alexander Schwarz Literary Agency
Mr. Alexander Schwarz
alexander@alexanderschwarzliteraryagency.com

Spain

International Editors' Co. Literary Agency | YAÑEZ
Ms. Sandra Biel
Ms. Amaiur Fernandez
sandra.biel@internationaleeditors.com
amaiur.fernandez@internationaleeditors.com

Taiwan

Bardon-Chinese Media Agency
Mr. David Tsai
david@bardonchinese.com

Turkey

ONK Agency
Mr. Meriç Güleç
meric@onkagency.com