



FOREIGN RIGHTS GUIDE

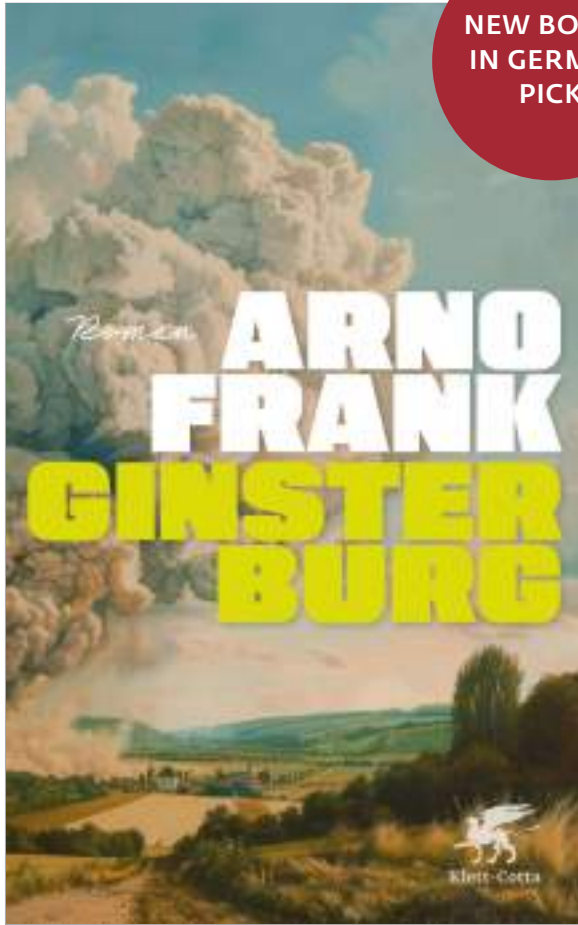
Spring 2025
Fiction and Non-Fiction



© Maximilian Gödecke, Photography

»Arno Frank brings to life the often described, yet rarely understood, banality of evil, making it something truly tangible.« Süddeutsche Zeitung, SZ

Arno Frank was born in 1971 in Kaiserslautern, and is a writer and freelance journalist. He writes for numerous publications including »taz«, »Die Zeit«, »Spiegel Online«, »Dummy«, »Fluter« and »Musikexpress«. He lives with his family in Wiesbaden, Germany. His previous books, »So und jetzt kommst du/Your Turn« and »Seemann vom Siebener/Headfirst« (2023), have received critical acclaim and recommendations from the jury of New Books in German.



Arno Frank

Ginsterburg • Novel

432 pages, Hardcover

February 2025

ISBN 978-3-608-96648-0

Film rights of Arno Frank's novel »So und jetzt kommst du/Your Turn« optioned by TOBIS

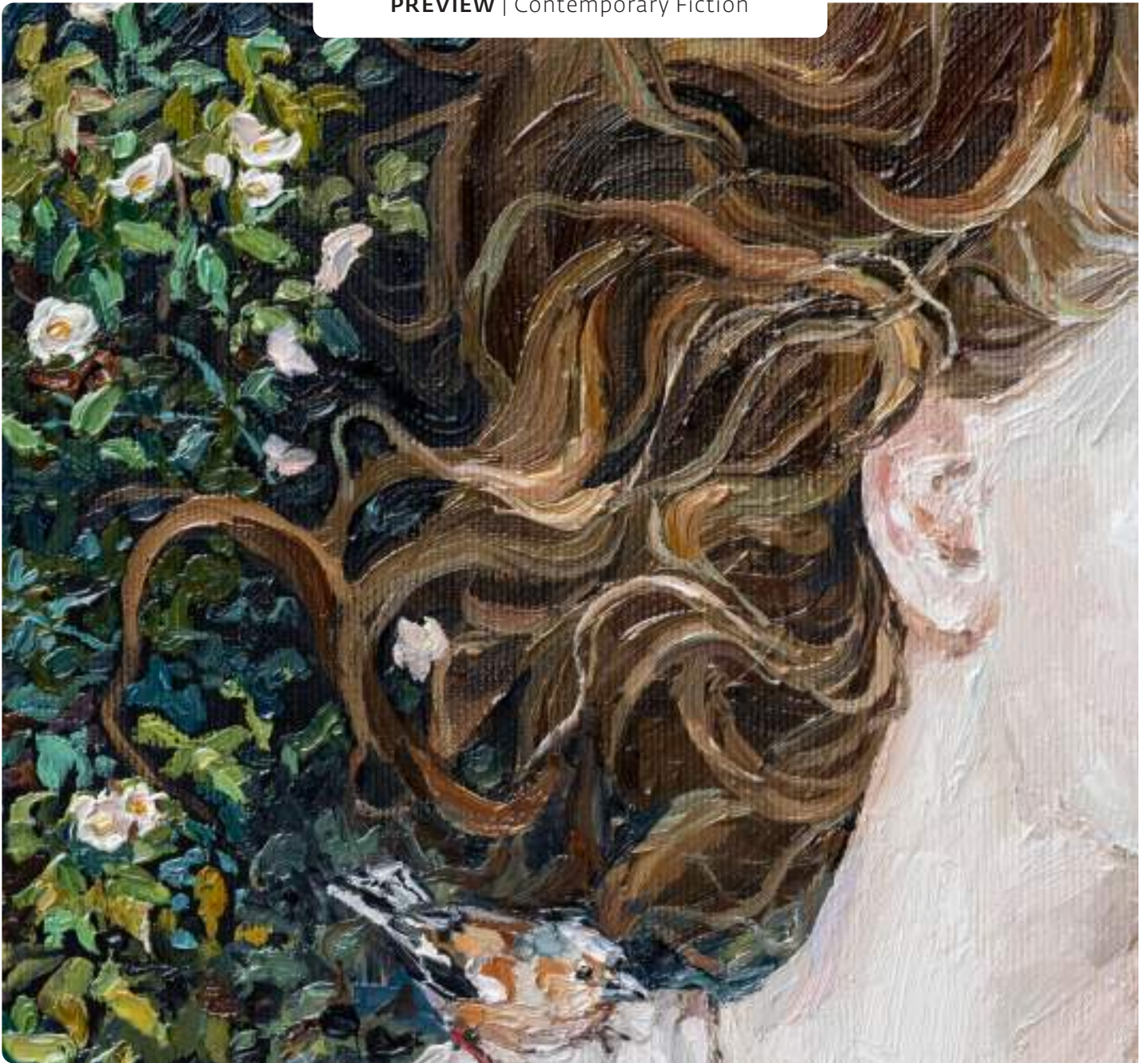
ENGLISH SAMPLE AVAILABLE

A gripping and moving small-town epic about humanity in inhuman times

After the seizure of power, a new everyday life has returned to Ginsterburg. Some inhabitants of the small German town suffer, others benefit - and most try to come to terms with the new order. Gradually, however, the abyss opens up beneath everyday life. A sensitive and atmospheric novel about love, family, friendship - and personal entanglements in the years 1935 to 1945.

Lothar dreams of flying. Just a young boy, his mother Merle can only watch helplessly as his dream of freedom drives her son into the arms of the Hitler Youth. A new era has dawned. As much as Merle distrusts it, she cannot escape it - not in her bookshop, not in her conversations with Eugen, the feature writer for the local newspaper in Ginsterburg. But while some fall silent and some slowly allow themselves to be corrupted, others know how to use the new distribution of power in their favour. Florist Gürckel rises to the position of district leader, factory owner Jungheinrich does excellent business, and doctor Hanseemann also senses completely new opportunities. Heinz Rühmann continues to play in the cinema and the Silver Arrows race round and round the Nürburgring. But the war, fought on distant fronts, can soon be felt in the microcosm of the town, in the shattered relationships and souls of the people. And hovering over everything is a British bomber pilot who is inexorably approaching the once tranquil town of Ginsterburg.

- **Works by Frank across all editions have sold more than 100,000 copies in Germany alone**
- **For readers of Arno Geiger »Unter der Drachenwand« (Beneath Drachenwand Mountain), Robert Seethaler »Ein ganzes Leben« (A Whole Life)**



© Mariia aiiraM / Shutterstock

»Only those who understand silence can truly be loud.«

Christopher Klooble is the award-winning author of four novels, translated into ten languages. He also writes screenplays and taught creative writing and literature at the University of Cambridge, Hong Kong University and at numerous colleges in the US. He received the Jürgen Ponto Stiftung Prize for best debut for his first novel, *Amongst Loners*. His novel *Almost Everything Very Fast*, currently being adapted as a TV series, was published in English with Graywolf Press (USA) and nominated for the *International Dublin Literary Award*. His last novel, *The Museum of the World*, was published by dtv in 2020, came out in English with HarperCollins and is being adapted for the stage. In the 1980s and 1990s, Klooble sang in a famous German boys' choir.



TOP
UPCOMING
FALL 2025

Christopher Kloeble

To the Stars Against All Odds • Novel

256 pages, Hardcover

July 2025

ISBN 978-3-608-96657-2

Previous works by Christopher Kloeble at dtv Publishing sold to: USA (Graywolf Press), India (Harper Collins Publishers India, EN), Israel (Keter-Books), Italy (Keller Editore), Turkey (Selda Hizal/Cumartesi Kitapligi), Persian (Ofoq/INcut)

ENGLISH REVIEW MATERIAL IN PREPARATION

»To the Stars Against All Odds« is a profoundly moving novel inspired by the transformative power of music—a captivating and unforgettable read about that rare lust for life and the splendor of being human in the face of great adversity.

Arkadia wants to sing in a boys' choir — against all odds. In »To the Stars Against All Odds«, Christopher Kloeble crafts a moving, atmospheric, bittersweet tale of a girl's profound love for her parents and music. A tale of defiance and of the fierce determination to prove who you can be when you refuse to bow to the rules set by society.

Arkadia Fink is an unforgettable protagonist: a 13-year-old musical prodigy, who revels in the power of her own imagination. In her small Bavarian village, this marks her as an oddity. The only person who truly understands her is her mother—a flamboyant, unsuccessful composer who is convinced that Beethoven was a woman. But now Arkadia's mother has disappeared.

Arkadia fights against this painful reality with all her creative might. And she believes that if she joins the world-famous boys' choir and sings on the grand stage, her mother will return. The odds are daunting—no girl has ever been allowed in the choir. But Arkadia won't take no for an answer.



© Schore Mehrdju Photography

»This novel spans three generations, telling a story of silence, departure, and the journey toward reconciliation.« Jury statement, Theodor Körner Award 2023

Paola Lopez was born in 1988. She is a mathematician and is doing an interdisciplinary doctorate on artificial intelligence. She is currently a research associate at the University of Bremen. She was awarded the Theodor Körner Prize in 2023 for her work on her debut novel 'The Sum of Our Parts'. Paola Lopez lives in Berlin.



Paola Lopez

The Sum of Our Parts • Novel

256 pages, Hardcover

March 2025

ISBN 978-3-608-50272-5

ENGLISH SAMPLE AVAILABLE

A vivid novel about the complicated love between mothers and daughters, about fleeing into the world and about how we can forgive each other.

Three female scientists, three generations, one family. The grandmother fled from Poland to Lebanon during the Second World War. The mother left Lebanon for a life in Germany. The daughter has to return to Poland for a future. A touching novel about the legacy of our mothers that we all carry with us.

The grandmother is one of the first ever female chemists. The mother is a distinguished doctor. The daughter is a computer science student. Science is the one thing they all have in common. But the bond between the generations is broken: Lucy has not spoken to her mother for years. Until suddenly a piano is delivered to her apartment. It is the Steinway on which Lucy learned to play as a child. She hates this piano. It reminds her of everything she had wanted to leave behind: the gilded cage of her overly sheltered childhood, the high expectations of her mother, and the lack of closeness between them. When her grandmother's Polish maiden name surfaces along with the piano, Lucy spontaneously catches the next train to Sopot, the only link she has to her grandmother. She needs to tie up the loose threads of her family in order to take control of her own future.

- Lopez' work on this debut novel was awarded the **THEODOR KOERNER PRIZE 2023**
- For readers of **Elena Fischer and Olga Grjasnowa**



Ursula Krechel

Dear Madam Minister • Novel

368 pages, Hardcover

January 2025

ISBN 978-3-608-96653-4

ENGLISH SAMPLE BY TESS LEWIS IN PREPARATION • More than 200,000 copies of »Landgericht« (German Book Prize 2012) sold in Germany alone

Ursula Krechel is one of the most influential German authors of the 21st century:

- 1994: International Eifel Literature Prize
- 1994: Martha Saalfeld Prize
- 1997: Elisabeth Langgässer Literature Prize
- 2008: Rheingau Literature Prize
- 2009: Jeanette Schöcken Prize – Bremerhavener Citizens' Prize for Literature
- 2009: German Critics' Prize
- 2009: Düsseldorf Literature Prize
- 2009: Joseph Breitbach Prize
- 2009: Rheinland Pfalz Art Prize
- 2012: Wiesbaden Poetry Prize Orphil
- 2012: German Book Prize for 'Landgericht'
- 2015: Gerty Spies Literature Prize
- 2019: Jean Paul Prize

With astonishing linguistic power, prizewinning writer Ursula Krechel tells a story about symbiotic motherhood, women in existential danger and political violence.

Young men as a ticking time bomb, and mothers in existential danger: a radically contemporary novel about the unfathomable relationships between sons and their mothers.

For Eva Patarak's son, having to talk to his mother is a state crime. For Eva, on the other hand, the fact that she and her son are clearly being spied on is a crime. What does Latin teacher Silke Aschauer hope to achieve through her observations? Is she trying to write a novel? Do the brutal family relationships of the ancient world, which she is currently preparing lessons on, not provide enough material for fascination? Ursula Krechel, in her highly political and stylistically superb novel, writes a cultural history of all women – from a Roman emperor's mother to a teacher, from a shop assistant in a small herb empire to a government minister. It is the story of their resistance against the violence they are subjected to both physically and emotionally.

- **Top 5 on the SWR Best List for February 2025**

»In Ursula Krechel's novel »Sehr geehrte Frau Ministerin«, blood flows freely, and sons both hate and love the first woman of their lives. It might just be the book we need in today's patriarchal backlash....« Süddeutsche Zeitung

Ursula Krechel was born in 1947 and used to work as a theatre dramaturge. She taught at the Berlin University of the Arts and at Washington University in St. Louis, and is a member of the Berlin Academy of the Arts, the German Academy of Language and Poetry in Darmstadt, and the Academy of Science and Literature in Mainz. She lives in Berlin.



TOP
UPCOMING
FALL 2025

Raphaela Edelbauer

The Ultimate Reality • Novel

464 pages, Hardcover

August 2025

ISBN 978-3-608-96630-5

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(World, except IT) • Berla & Griffini (IT)

Previous works by Raphaela Edelbauer sold to: Greece (Alexandria Publications), Bosnia & Herzegovina (Imprimatur), Spain (Sexto Piso), Egypt (Aser Al-Kotob), Italy (Rizzoli), France (Editions Métailié/Editions Globe), Croatia (OceanMore), The Netherlands (Unieboek), AUS (Scribe)

Works by Edelbauer sold more than 100,000 copies sold across all editions

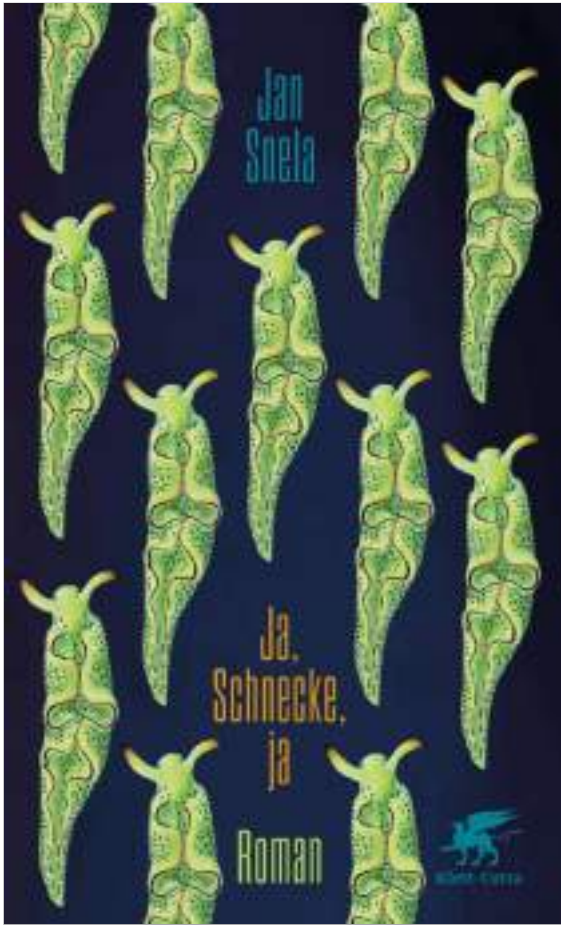
A Philosophical Terrorist Organization in Search of the Absolute Truth

The activist group *Aletheia* is on a mission to uncover the one fundamental truth. In an era dominated by fake news and alternative facts, they believe the greatest threat to society is deception. Through artistic interventions, they seek to open people's eyes. But why do they have an explosives expert among them if they never use explosives? Raphaela Edelbauer's new novel explores the nature of truth, the fragility of perception, and the radical consequences of belief.

When *Byproxy* is released from a supervised living facility for young adults, she spends her nights in open market stalls and her days in Vienna's coffeehouses. There, she becomes intrigued by a group of four who engage in fierce philosophical debates: they are *Aletheia*. Through a test of courage, she convinces them to take her into the occupied house that serves as their headquarters and commune. During grueling probation months — cleaning toilets by day and studying philosophy by night—she earns their trust. But as *Aletheia* prepares for a major action, doubts about *Byproxy* begin to grow. Why does she secretly visit the mother of a girl who died in an accident every week? If anyone in *Aletheia* is failing to live up to their ideals of truth, it might just be *Byproxy*. Or perhaps, it's the narrator herself.

»An outstanding talent. The Americans have Joyce Carol Oates as a universal narrative genius; we have Raphaela Edelbauer.« Clemens Setz

Raphaela Edelbauer, born in Vienna, studied language arts at the University of Applied Arts. She received the main prize at the Rauris Literature Days for her work *Entdecker. Eine Poetik* and was awarded the audience prize at the Bachmann Prize competition, the Theodor Körner Prize, and the Doppelfeld Foundation's sponsorship award. Her debut novel *Das flüssige Land* and her third novel *Die Inkommensurablen* were both shortlisted for the German Book Prize. She won the Austrian Book Prize for her second novel *DAVE*. Raphaela Edelbauer lives in Vienna.



Jan Snela

Yes, Snail, Yes • Novel

416 pages, Hardcover

February 2025

ISBN 978-3-608-96240-6

Among others, Jan Snela has been awarded the OPEN MIKE Award as well as the CLEMENS BRENTANO Award for his literary works

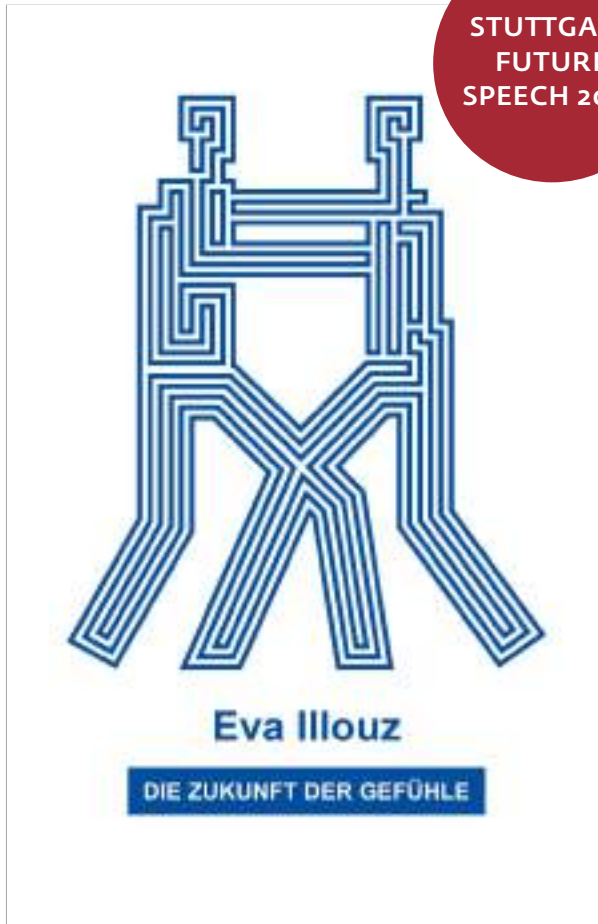
As daring as Clemens J. Setz, as quirky as Barbi Marković, as sophisticated as the haikus of Bashō and Issa

The debut novel from outstanding writer and ›Open Mike‹ prizewinner Jan Snela tells the story of the love between a man and a woman, between human beings and nature, and between the traditions of East and West. A stylistically sparkling novel, of such artful form and exciting content that it is in a class all of its own.

The fact that Amanda is so keen to go to Nara Women's University in Japan to study a rare species of snail makes her boyfriend Hannes suspicious. The *Elysia marginata* can separate its head from its body, and Hannes – left alone with Amanda's mice Isidor and Isadora – feels like a discarded snail's body too. Is Amanda running away from their future together? Best not to think too much about it. Instead he sends overly long text messages to Amanda, ignores the mice and refuses to leave the house. This messy situation continues until Hajo comes into Hannes's life. With a sparkling sense of humour, Jan Snela coaxes the innate fantasy out of language – sometimes in fluffy haibun prose and sometimes in enchanting haiku miniatures – and explores the remarkable answers to the big questions of our time, which hide behind the mystery of ephemerality and the present moment.

»Tired of the aggressive masculinity currently dominating the global stage? Then Jan Snela's captivating novel YES, SNAIL, YES offers the perfect hero: a tender, nerdy lover who defies the norm.« Süddeutsche Zeitung

Jan Snela was born in Munich in 1980. He writes stories, poems, essays and radio plays. He has won many grants and prizes for his texts, and was the winner of the 'Open Mike' competition. His short story collection 'Milchgesicht' was published in 2016 to critical acclaim, and won the Clemens Brentano Prize. 'Yes, Snail, Yes', is his first novel.



Eva Illouz

The Future of Emotions • The Impact of Subjectivity on Technology

64 pages, Hardcover

April 2025

ISBN 978-3-608-98865-9

Please note option publishers:

English world rights (Princeton), Spanish world rights (Katz), Catalan (Edicions 62), Chinese simplex (Shanghai Insight Media), Arabic world rights (Page Seven), France (Gallimard), Italy (Einaudi), Netherlands (Ten Have), Korea (Cheongmi), Greece (Patakis)

After Daniel Kehlmann and Liao Yiwu, Eva Illouz will give the third Stuttgart Future Speech in 2025:

The Stuttgart Future Speech is an initiative of: Literaturhaus Stuttgart, Germany, International Centre for Culture and Technology Research (IZKT) at the University of Stuttgart and the Protestant Educational Centre Hospitalhof Stuttgart, sponsored by the state capital Stuttgart and the Berthold Leibinger Foundation.

**»A book by Eva Illouz is always a remarkable experience.«
Elke Schmitter, DER SPIEGEL**

This year's recipient of the Stuttgarter Zukunftsrede is Eva Illouz. As an author and social scientist, she primarily focuses on the social influences on emotions and thus the connection between capitalism and the production and transformation of emotional patterns.

The Israeli sociologist and author Eva Illouz is one of the most important thinkers of our time. After the Hamas attack on Israel, she took a stand on the situation in Israel and Palestine in many interviews and texts and sharply criticized the Netanyahu government. At the same time, she defends Israel's right to exist and denounces the burgeoning anti-Semitism in society. For many years, she has been examining questions such as why love hurts, why it ends, and how capitalism permeates our relationships and emotions in her books in an illuminating way.

»Virtuality is the art of shaping reality through emotions.« Eva Illouz

Eva Illouz, born in 1961, is a professor of sociology at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and a research director at the European Centre for Sociology and Political Science in Paris. She lives in Tel Aviv and Paris.



Martina Hefter

Hey, Good Morning, How Are You? • Novel

224 pages, Hardcover

July 2024

ISBN 978-3-608-98826-0

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SELECTED BY LITRIX FOR POLAND FOCUS 2025-2027 • PRIX GRAND CONTINENTAL 2024

ENGLISH SAMPLE AVAILABLE

More than 150,000 copies sold in Germany alone • #2 SPIEGEL bestseller

Juno spends her days helping her seriously ill husband Jupiter cope with daily life. She is also an artist, and dances and acts. And she spends her nights, on the frequent occasions when she can't sleep, chatting to love scammers on the internet. Martina Hefter has written a moving novel about needs and desires. And about how far we are prepared to go for love.

Juno chats online with men who proclaim their love to women on the internet and try to scam them out of their money. But instead of falling for their scams, Juno finds a kind of freedom in talking to these men. In these conversations she can be who she wants to be and say what she wants to say – supposedly without consequences. This is in stark contrast to the rest of her life, when she is always on the go, always worrying about Jupiter, always busy and tied down. So Juno occasionally escapes from her day-to-day life by going online and playing games with men who lie to her. She herself becomes a liar. But when you lie, are you not lying first and foremost to yourself? One day Juno comes across Benu, who sees through her lies just as she sees through his. And despite the distance between them, they form a connection.

»This cutting-edge novel, groundbreaking both in its form and the themes it explores, touches upon the profound and the universal alike. Martina Hefter's fiction poses central questions to European readers, addressing them in all their facets.« Jury statement PRIX GRAND CONTINENTAL 2024

Martina Hefter is an author and performer based in Leipzig. Her texts move between poetry, scenic forms of writing, and novelistic writing. She stages many of her texts in collaboration with other artists. She has published three novels, and five volumes of poetry with kookbooks Verlag Berlin. Her book 'In die Wälder gehen, Holz für ein Bett klauen' came out in 2021.



SELECTED BY
NEW BOOKS
IN GERMAN

Anne Rabe

The Possibility of Happiness • Novel

384 pages, Hardcover

March 2023

ISBN 978-3-608-98463-7

**EXTENDED ENGLISH SAMPLE AVAILABLE,
INCLUDING INTERVIEWS WITH THE AUTHOR
AND FULL NEWSPAPER ARTICLE BY FAZ**

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FINALIST GERMAN BOOK PRIZE 2023 • SHORTLIST »ASPEKTE« DEBUT PRIZE 2023

Born in the GDR, Stine grows up in reunified Germany. She is just three years old when the Wall comes down. But her family are deeply wedded to a system they cannot move on from, and to the belief that they have lived the 'right' life. In this wonderfully intelligent and clear-eyed book, Anne Rabe tells the story of a generation whose origins are an empty space.

Stine is born in the mid-1980s in a small town on the East German Baltic coast, a child of reunification. She is too young to understand the change of system in the GDR, but her family's complex ideological views have an impact on the next generation. As her relatives hide the lost world behind an impenetrable silence, Stine finds herself asking questions she can no longer repress. Anne Rabe has written a clear-sighted and unsettling book with great literary power - a mixture of non-fiction and literature, knowledgeably researched and at the same time captivatingly beautiful. She traces the wounds of a generation that grew up between dictatorship and democracy, and explores the origins of racism and violence.

- SPIEGEL bestseller: 100,000 copies sold to date in Germany alone
- For readers of Édouard Louis, Jeanette Walls and Jenny Erpenbeck
- Novel debut by a multi-award-winning theatre and screenwriter

»The Book of the Hour.« *DIE ZEIT*, 19.10.2023

Anne Rabe was born in 1986. She is a multiple award-winning playwright, scriptwriter and essayist. She served as a scriptwriter on the Grimme-award-winning series 'Warten auf'n Bus'. For several years she has also played her part in the collective effort to come to terms with the past in east Germany, through her work as an essayist and speaker. Anne Rabe lives in Berlin. *Die Möglichkeit von Glück* is her first novel.



Nils Westerboer

LYNEHAM

496 pages, Hardcover

March 2025

ISBN 978-3-608-98723-2

ENGLISH SYNOPSIS AVAILABLE

Rights of ATHOS 2643 sold to: Ukraine (Lobster Publishing)

Nils Westerboer won the German Science Fiction Award in 2023 for ATHOS 2643 (movie adaption with David Wnendt / Seven Elephants and Constantin Film in preparation)

»Profound and multi-layered science fiction!« Phantastik-Bestenliste on Athos 2643

Henry Meadows turns twelve just as Earth dies. He and his father and siblings travel to Perm, a primeval moon in a distant solar system. Henry's mother has flown with another spaceship. The family eagerly awaits her arrival. But suddenly there are increasing signs that she has already been here, a long time ago. And she has left a warning.

With the help of high-tech, the first and only colony of humans defies the nature of the moon *Perm*, which is both fascinating and threatening at the same time. There are mountains that rise into space, two types of night and a dangerous, invisible animal world. When Henry arrives, the new home is not yet "ready": the atmosphere is toxic and contains too little oxygen; without protection, staying outside is deadly. Something has prevented the terraforming of Perm. Henry's mother Mildred knows the reason. The scientist decided not to fly with her children, but to wait for a new drive that would allow her to overtake her family by thousands of years. She wants to ensure the best possible world for everyone. To do so, she takes on the powerful head of the company, who is pursuing a different goal. A battle ensues that will decide the lives of Henry and his family - many thousands of years later.

- For readers of Cixin Liu and Frank Herbert

»Exciting, compelling and full of fantastic, bizarre details.« Richard Färber, Südwest-Presse

Nils Westerboer was born in 1978 in Gaildorf. He studied German, theology and media studies in Munich and Jena. His debut novel »Kernschatten« was nominated for the German Science Fiction Award in 2015. Klett-Cotta previously published his novel »Athos 2643«, which was honored with the German Science Fiction Award 2023.



Lisanne Surborg

Night Lies

464 pages, Hardcover

March 2025

ISBN 978-3-608-96647-3

ENGLISH SYNOPSIS AVAILABLE

»A dark homage to dreams – especially to the bad ones. Full of mystery and fast-paced.«
Kai Meyer, author of *Arcadia Awakens*

During the day, Isra works as a waitress at a cabaret and is at the mercy of her guests' whims. But at night, Isra is powerful. Then she creeps into strangers' bedrooms to steal dreams and turn them into gruesome nightmares. Lisanne Surborg has created a fantastic drama about a heroine who must do everything in her power not to get lost in the darkest side of the night.

Isra is a night alp, and night alps cannot dream. But they depend on dreams as humans depend on sunlight. When Isra haunts her victims at night, she first steals their light dreams. Then she weaves together the deepest fears of them into a nightmare that instills terror and fear. Not so long ago, Isra was considered a great talent in the manipulation of dreams. She is a master of composing dream sequences. But since one of her nightmares scared a dreamer to death, she is threatened with being excluded from nightmare society. And then she also consumes a forbidden lucid dream. Hallucinations gain power over her everyday life. When another of her dreamers suffers a tragic accident, Isra finds herself on the edge of despair...

- Urban fantasy for readers of Erin Morgenstern and Susanna Clarke

Lisanne Surborg was born in Lower Saxony in 1993 and published her first novel in 2010. The *Imperator* trilogy, co-written with Kai Meyer, was published between 2020 and 2023. She lives in the book city of Leipzig.



© Maximilian Gödecke Photography

*»So deft is the author's handling of his material, and so lively his touch with ancient sources, that the reader never flags....«
—Times Literary Supplement about »Abenteurer der Ferne«*

Born in 1962 in Hildesheim, **Raimund Schulz** teaches ancient history at the University of Bielefeld. His specialties are seafaring and navigation, warfare, dominance and international law in ancient times. His previous book, »Abenteurer der Ferne«, won the 2017 »Research Prize for Geography and History«, was named »Historical Book of the Year 2016« by DAMALS, and was shortlisted for Austria's 2017 »Science Book of the Year«.

NEW BOOKS
IN GERMAN
PICK



Raimund Schulz

Worlds in Upheaval • A Global History of Antiquity

496 pages, Hardcover

March 2025

ISBN 978-3-608-98803-1

ENGLISH SAMPLE BY MARSHALL YARBROUGH AVAILABLE

Schulz's previous book, »Abenteurer der Ferne« received numerous awards, including the 2023 Italian PREMIO NAZIONALE DI DIVULGAZIONE SCIENTIFICA for »Best Translated Book«

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From Europe to Asia: A sweeping Big History of the ancient world's greatest cultures and their lasting impact on us today

From Rome to China, from Athens to India, from the Celts to the Arabs: Raimund Schulz's groundbreaking narrative offers a global history like never before. We experience over three millennia of turbulent human history and explore cultural spaces full of astonishing similarities and distinct characteristics - influences that we can still feel today.

The phenomenal worlds of Eurasia have origins that reach far back into the past. It seems unreal that cities, already highly developed in antiquity, established global trade connections over vast distances, from the Baltic Sea to the South China Sea, from the Sahara to Siberia. People travelled back and forth along the great paths of the world, founding and destroying cities and empires. Rulers and empires fought for spheres of influence and wealth. The major world religions - from Hinduism and Buddhism to Judaism and Christianity, to Daoism - also began in antiquity. They express a widespread belief across Eurasia that forces beyond the human world need to be deciphered. Despite all catastrophes, ancient Asia and Europe were characterized by an optimism that has faded in the West but continues to unleash new dynamics in the East. Why did all this emerge in antiquity? How were the great empires interconnected? And how do these developments still shape us today? Global historian Raimund Schulz provides surprising answers to these questions while sharpening our understanding of the contemporary world.

- For readers of Peter Frankopan
- Ancient World History from a new perspective
- A comparison of the great Eurasian cultures and their effects up to the present day



© Annette Hauschild, OSTKREUZ

»Thomas Wagner unfolds the tale of an unexpected intellectual bond, a symbol of the contradictions that defined Germany after 1945.« DIE ZEIT

Thomas Wagner, born in 1967 in Rheinberg, is a cultural sociologist. As a freelance author, he has written for Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, Die Welt, der Freitag, Junge Welt and ND, among others. Most recently, he published the non-fiction books »Der Dichter und der Neonazi« (2021) and »Fahnenflucht in die Freiheit« (2022).



Thomas Wagner

Adventures of Modernity • The Great Years of Sociology 1949-1969

336 pages, Hardcover

February 2025

ISBN 978-3-608-98705-8

ENGLISH SAMPLE AVAILABLE

A unique double biography of the thinking of Adorno and Gehlen: at the same time an intellectual history of post-war Germany

A free spirit meets a democracy skeptic – Thomas Wagner reveals the fascinating and unconventional relationship between leftist philosopher Theodor W. Adorno and his right-wing counterpart Arnold Gehlen. With masterful storytelling, he takes us on a thrilling journey through a rapidly modernizing society in the midst of the Cold War. Along the way, he provides surprising and unsettling insights into the intellectual history of the young Federal Republic of Germany.

Spring 1958: Theodor W. Adorno accuses his colleague Arnold Gehlen of fascist thinking in a scathing review—ultimately blocking his appointment in Heidelberg. Yet, just a few years later, they exchange letters, meet in private, and engage in a series of radio discussions. Why?

Against the backdrop of rearmament and German division, Thomas Wagner tells the story of this remarkable encounter. He explores how sociology emerged as the leading academic discipline and the role that former National Socialists played in this process. Spanning from the Weimar Republic and National Socialism to East Germany's capital, his narrative brings to life a rich intellectual landscape, featuring figures such as Arendt, Benn, Brecht, Augstein, Plessner, and Harich. Through this, he paints a vivid picture of the intellectual foundations of the Federal Republic—shedding new light on the roots of today's heated debates.

- **Top 10 Non-Fiction best list Deutschlandfunk / DIE ZEIT February 2025**
- **Sociology as the new leading science after the Second World War**
- **For readers of Wolfram Eilenberger and Florian Illies**



© Boris Breuer

»You don't need to be a scientist to enjoy this clearly written book--and it's a welcome bonus that the author offers a broader prospective on the motives that drive us to seek understanding of the cosmos and our place in it.« SIR MARTIN REES, Astronomer Royal about »Licht im Dunkeln«

Prof. Dr. Heino Falcke, born in 1966 in Cologne, is a highly acclaimed astrophysicist and professor at Radboud University in Nijmegen. He chaired the scientific advisory board of the Event Horizon Telescope project, which revealed the first-ever image of a black hole on April 10, 2019.

Jörg Römer, born in 1974, studied Mesoamerican studies, prehistoric and early history, and Latin American studies in Hamburg. Since October 2015, he has been an editor at *DER SPIEGEL*. He is fascinated by astronomy's research at the limits of knowledge, seeing it as a testament to humanity's relentless curiosity about the origins of existence.

TOP
UPCOMING
FALL 2025



Heino Falcke, Jörg Römer

The History of the Universe • From Genesis to Apocalypse

400 pages, Hardcover

September 2025

ISBN 978-3-608-96655-8

Rights handled by Literary Agency Gaeb & Eggers
(World, except IT) • Berla & Griffini (IT)

Rights of »Licht im Dunkeln« by Heino Falcke and Jörg Römer sold to: Spain World (Penguin Random House), US (Harper Collins), UK (Headline), Russia (AST), Japan (AKI SHOBO), Egypt (Arabic World, Book-Mania Publishing), Brazil (Buzz Editora), Finland (Aula), Taiwan (Commonwealth Publishing), China (Guomai), France (Bouchet Chastel), Italy (Mondadori), Korea (Eco Livres), The Netherlands (Prometheus)

On the Mystery of Life and the Quest for Humanity's Grand Narrative

Astrophysicist Heino Falcke embarks on a journey with science journalist Jörg Römer to explore the origins of our universe, asking fundamental questions: What is life? How did our world come into existence? What role does God play in our existence? And ultimately, what is humanity's place in this grand story?

A breathtaking journey from the beginning to the end of our world.

For millennia, humans have told mythical stories about the creation and demise of the world. Thanks to groundbreaking scientific discoveries, we now have a new, grand narrative about our origins and future. Out of primordial chaos, the first light of the cosmos emerged 13.8 billion years ago in a fateful moment, followed by matter, stars, galaxies, and planets. Our Earth developed, veering from one climate catastrophe to the next. In the end, humans arose—born from stardust. Was it all just chance? Or was a divine creator involved?

Heino Falcke and Jörg Römer delve into the origins and future of our world. They engage with experts from quantum physics, evolutionary biology, climate research, philosophy, and theology to craft a vivid and compelling history of the universe.

»Heino Falcke performs groundbreaking research into one of the most mysterious phenomena of the universe, black holes: he works at the boundaries of his discipline and therefore at the limits of the universe.« The Spinoza Award Jury on Heino Falcke



Ronald D. Gerste

How Technology Shapes History • From Gutenberg to the Smartphone

304 pages, Hardcover

April 2025

ISBN 978-3-608-98801-7

Rights of previous works sold to: Spain World (Penguin RH) • Italy (Keller Editore) • China (Renmin/Xinchang) • Russia (Eksmo) • Korea (Hanbit/Miraebooks) • Hungary (Corvina) • Turkey/Türkiye (Kolektif) • Taiwan (Inno-Fair)

ENGLISH SAMPLE AVAILABLE

Inventors, Tinkerers, Obsessives – and Their Brilliant Achievements

Brilliant women and men have shaped humanity with their inventions—often for the better, sometimes for the worse. With deep knowledge and engaging storytelling, Ronald D. Gerste offers a fascinating reading experience at the intersection of genius and madness, progress and Armageddon.

The history of humankind is unimaginable without the great moments of technology! Inventions like Johannes Gutenberg's printing press paved the way for modernity and the information society we live in today. Other innovators followed, revolutionizing our lives—from medical technology and transportation to the global connectivity enabled by digital communication. But inventions have also given us rockets and the atomic bomb, opening the door to space while making apocalypse conceivable. With vivid detail, Ronald D. Gerste brings the defining moments of our civilization to life and tells the stories of the people behind them: women like Ada Lovelace, Lise Meitner, and Hedy Lamarr, and men like Alan Turing and Wernher von Braun—figures whose lives were as tragic as they were consequential for the world we live in today.

- **Works by Ronald D. Gerste sold more than 150,000 copies in Germany to date**

»A new and highly exciting perspective on well-known milestones in history.« – G/ Geschichte about »Wie das Wetter Geschichte macht«

Ronald D. Gerste, born in 1957, is a physician, historian, and expert on the United States. He lives in Washington, D.C., where he works as an author and science correspondent. He writes for publications such as *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, *Neue Zürcher Zeitung*, and *DIE ZEIT*. His works published by Klett-Cotta include *How Diseases Shape History*, *How Weather Shapes History*, and *The Healing of the World*, each sold to several territories.



Ronald D. Gerste
How Weather Makes History • Catastrophes and climate change from Antiquity to the present days

288 pages, Hardcover with illustrations
 ISBN 978-3-608-96253-6 | April 2018

Sold to: Korea | Türkiye | Hungary

Ronald D. Gerste explains how long lasting climate deviations and episodes of extreme weather determine the fate of humanity. He guides the reader through different eras and demonstrates colourfully what influence climate and its change have on a culture's prosperity or decline. He also shows the historical moments in which a few days' weather became a decisive factor for the outcome of a historic event.

- A highly up-to-date book that shows just how much our history and the development of our cultures are dependent on climate and its fluctuations



Ronald D. Gerste
How Maladies Make History • From the Antiquity to Today

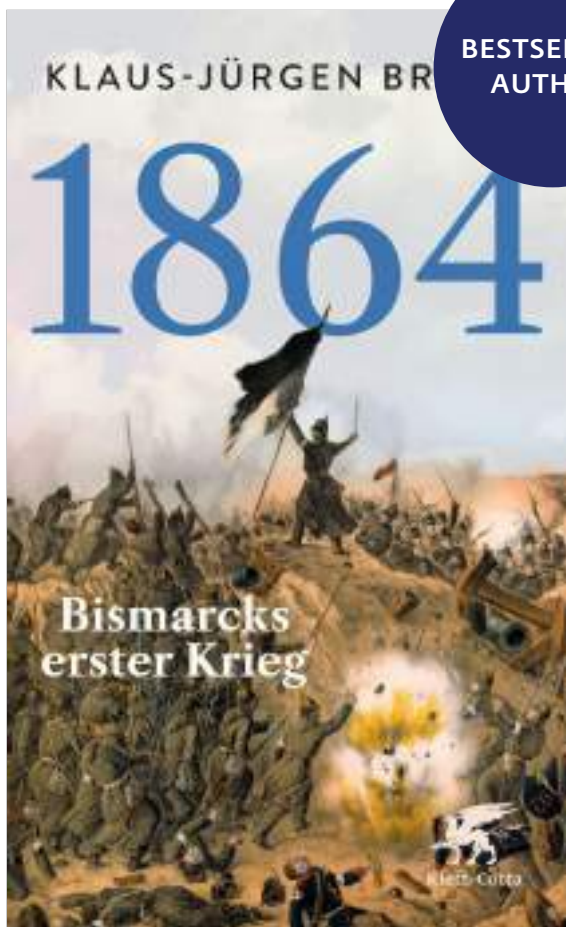
384 pages, Hardcover with illustrations
 ISBN 978-3-608-98418-7 | January 2021

ENGLISH SAMPLE AVAILABLE

Sold to: Russia | Taiwan | Hungary | China | Korea | Italy

The black death, syphilis and Aids threatened people in their time and left a mark on their consciousness. Ronald D. Gerste gives an impressive account of how plagues and the maladies of the powerful became deciding factors in history - and still are.

»Informative and enthralling« Rheinische Post



BESTSELLING
AUTHOR

Klaus-Jürgen Bremm

1864 • Bismarck's First War

320 pages, Hardcover

February 2025

ISBN 978-3-608-98841-3

The birth of the German Empire: the German-Danish War retold

The invasion of Denmark by Prussian and Austrian troops on 1 February 1864 marked the beginning of the German-Danish War, which was later to be called the first »War of Unification«. Bestselling author Klaus-Jürgen Bremm gives a gripping account of the diplomatic entanglements and military events and shows - against the backdrop of major European power politics - how Prussia rose to become the dominant power in Germany under Bismarck.

In the end, Otto von Bismarck looked back on no campaign with such pride as the war against Denmark. With his policy full of surprising twists and turns, he succeeded against all odds in integrating the Elbe duchies of Schleswig, Holstein and Lauenburg, which had been disputed for so long, into the Prussian state. The storming of the Dybbol Redoubts on 18 April 1864 was undoubtedly the military climax of the unequal battle, in which the small Danish army stood no chance against the two allied German superpowers Austria and Prussia. Taking into account the Schleswig-Holstein uprising of 1848/50 and the Danish view that the further development of a modern constitution in Denmark only seemed possible with the inclusion of Schleswig, Bremm describes the diplomatic backstory and the course of the war of 1864. He allows us to experience the battle first hand and describes how many elements of modern warfare played a significant role for the first time.

- **Up-to-date account of the German-Danish War**

Klaus-Jürgen Bremm, born in 1958, is a historian and journalist. He was an officer in the German army from 1980 to 1989. He received his doctorate from the University of Potsdam in 2003 with a thesis on the military use of the railways. He has also published numerous highly successful books on technical and military history, including on the two wars of 1866 and 1870/71. His new book is the first complete trilogy on the German unification wars for a long time.



Hans-Erhard Lessing

THE BICYCLE • A Cultural History

288 pages, Softcover, new edition, originally published 2017

March 2025

ISBN 978-3-608-98872-7

Sold to: Korea | China | Hungary

LONGSELLER

How the bicycle sparked an unprecedented global euphoria more than 200 years ago

For the first time in history, humans could propel themselves individually and afford their own personal “happiness on two wheels”. A cultural history full of surprises – from the eruption of a volcano to the e-bike revolution.

There is no mode of transportation more common. There is none more abundant. None that has undergone such a rapid development. From the walking machine to the penny farthing to the safety bicycle wheel, from pedal bikes to racing bikes to e-bikes – the bicycle has triumphed over all competitors and is now the most ubiquitous means of transportation in the world. Some 12 to 14 billion bicycles have been built since its invention, and 72 million alone can be found on German roads today. Nowadays bicycles are affordable to everyone – as evidenced by their increasing prevalence in India and China today and in Europe and North America in the 19th century. Also the social and cultural transformation which the bicycle brought about is quite impressive. The e-bike revolution is a sign of things to come: a time when both young and old will be able to get around like never before, fundamentally changing personal transportation in cities – thanks to the bicycle which hasn’t aged a day since its invention.

- Previous edition sold more than 15,000 copies in Germany alone

»...The book [is] also full of surprising insights and explanations that encircle the bicycle in its complex genesis, spread across many countries.«
Deutschlandfunk

Hans-Erhard Lessing, born on 26 February 1938 in Schwäbisch Gmünd, is a physicist, technology historian and one of the world’s leading bicycle experts. He was the first to note a correlation between the invention of the bicycle and the climate catastrophe of 1816/17. He has published numerous books, including the Bibel für Fahrradenthusiasten [Bible for Bicycle Enthusiasts] and Bicycle Design: An Illustrated History, co-written with Tony Hadland.



© Caroline Pitzke

»For everyone who wants to reflect honestly on their own boundaries—and truly engage in conversation.« Franzi von Kempis

Dana Buchzik, born in 1983, is a journalist and communications consultant. She has worked for *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, *Spiegel Online*, *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, *Die Welt*, and *DIE ZEIT*. She has taught at *Freie Universität Berlin* and conducts workshops on topics such as "Dealing with Hate and Conspiracy Narratives" and "Setting Boundaries."



Dana Buchzik

The Power of No • Why It's Time to Embrace Discomfort

384 pages, Softcover

March 2025

ISBN 978-3-608-96640-4

Rights handled by Literary Agency Gaeb & Eggers (World)

Saying No is the first step to freedom

We talk more than ever about personal needs and boundaries—yet our conflict culture reflects none of it. Some people constantly seek confrontation, while others avoid open discussions altogether. Communication expert Dana Buchzik advocates for a new way of saying no and explains how we can break free from the extremes of silence and escalating arguments.

Setting boundaries is a fundamental challenge for all of us. Some are easier to establish, while others feel nearly impossible. We might brush off a drunken colleague's hand at the office holiday party without a second thought but freeze when our grandmother repeats far-right talking points at the coffee table. Too often, we compromise our own boundaries, leaving conflicts unresolved and frustration lingering. True change, however, comes only through direct engagement and the often-dreaded conflict conversation.

Such conversations are the social glue that allows for healthy relationships and meaningful interactions—whether in our personal lives, at work, or within a democratic society. Drawing on sociological, psychological, and cultural research, Dana Buchzik argues that we must embrace discomfort and provides smart, practical strategies for saying no with confidence and responsibility.

- *»An excellent guide for anyone who wants to prioritize their own needs.« Raul Krauthausen*



Katrin Böhning-Gaese, Jens Kersten, Helmuth Trischler

Save diversity! • Manifesto for a biodiverse society

208 pages, Softcover

May 2025

ISBN 978-3-608-96649-7

ENGLISH SAMPLE AVAILABLE

Previous work by Katrin Böhning-Gaese sold to: Korea (Eco Livres)

A highly topical debate book on the great ecological challenges of the present

The rapid loss of biodiversity demands a fundamental transformation in all areas of life. **SAVE DIVERSITY!** is a powerful manifesto by three leading German experts, offering bold ideas and concrete solutions for integrating biodiversity into politics, law, and economics.

The mass extinction of species poses a grave yet often overlooked threat to the foundations of our culture, economy, and democracy. To secure our future, we must redefine our relationship with nature at both local and global levels. But what should a truly biodiverse society look like? Challenging conventional thinking across all areas of life, the authors present a knowledge-driven and thought-provoking analysis. By integrating the intrinsic value of nature with human existence, they reveal new possibilities for sustainable coexistence.

Katrin Böhning-Gaese was born in 1964. She is head of the Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research - UFZ and a professor at the Goethe University in Frankfurt. She has been researching the interaction between humans and nature and the importance of biodiversity for 30 years. She won the Deutsche Bundesstiftung Umwelt's Environmental Award in 2021 for her cutting-edge research and her work in the field of political and social consultancy.

Jens Kersten, born in 1967, is a professor of public law and administrative sciences at the Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich. One of his main research and publication topics is the relationship between humans and nature in the Anthropocene.

Helmuth Trischler, born in 1958, was head of research at the Deutsches Museum until 2024. He is a professor of modern and contemporary history and the history of technology at the Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich and, together with Christof Mauch, founded the Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society in 2009.



ALIGNING
WITH THE UN
SDGS

Friederike Bauer, Katrin Böhning-Gaese
**On the Disappearance of Species •
The fight for the future of humanity**

256 pages, Hardcover
May 2025
ISBN 978-3-608-98868-0

**EXTENDED ENGLISH SAMPLE AND
INFORMATION ON CONNECTION TO THE UN
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS
AVAILABLE**

Sold to: Korea

The diversity of species on our Earth is under threat

In this vivid and accessible book, Katrin Böhning-Gaese, one of the world's leading ecologists, and science journalist Friederike Bauer reveal the importance of biodiversity to our own survival. A highly topical sociopolitical plea for a new understanding of nature, with practical suggestions as to how we can preserve biodiversity for present and future generations.

Pandemics, climate change and the disappearance of biodiversity are all linked, and they accelerate one another. But whilst we have seen the world engage with the pandemic, and a global movement has developed around the issue of climate change, the same cannot be said for biodiversity.

On the Disappearance of Species takes a solution-oriented, forward-looking approach, looking at where the deeper causes of the global crisis lie, and what businesses, politicians and individuals can do to reverse this trend and combat the existential threat it poses. The book is full of expert knowledge and anecdotes illustrating why this issue needs to be more than just a niche topic discussed by 'eco-warriors': it needs to feature in political debates, strategy papers, party manifestos, summit documents – and our everyday lives.

- Audience's favorite book in the selection for SCIENCE BOOK OF THE YEAR 2023
- Katrin Böhning-Gaese received the German Environmental Award 2021

»An intelligent work that provides a very good overview and instills hope.« NDR

Katrin Böhning-Gaese, born in 1964, head of the Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research - UFZ and professor at the Goethe University in Frankfurt. She has been researching the interaction between humans and nature and the importance of biodiversity for 30 years.

Friederike Bauer, born in 1963, works as a freelance journalist, author and speechwriter since 2011. Her special areas are foreign policy, development policy and sustainability topics.



#1 ZEIT BEST
LIST
FEBRUARY
2025

Volker Weiß

The German Democratic Reich • How the extreme right destroys history and democracy

288 pages, Hardcover

February 2025

ISBN 978-3-608-96667-1

ENGLISH SAMPLE AVAILABLE

Previous work by Volker Weiß »Die Autoritäre Revolte« sold to: Japan (Shinsensha, 2017)

A groundbreaking and urgently needed book for all democrats

In this highly topical book, historian Volker Weiß offers a deep, historically grounded analysis of the far-right movement, particularly in the context of Germany's AfD party and in light of current developments worldwide. He skillfully exposes how the far-right seeks to undermine Western liberalism and promote an alternative view of history.

The far-right movement in Germany frames a »spiritual civil war« as raging within the country—while simultaneously fueling it. This battle centers on nothing less than the control of historical and contemporary narratives, with the aim of distancing Germany from the West. Building on his bestselling book »Die Autoritäre Revolte« (The Authoritarian Revolt), Volker Weiß examines these new methods of cultural warfare, particularly in the realms of history and geopolitics. He traces the rise of new right-wing ideologies in Germany, drawing comparisons with similar movements in Russia and the USA. This sharp, uncompromising analysis uncovers the strategic revision of history and the deliberate undermining of democratic values by the extreme right.

- **#1 non-fiction best list February 2025 (DEUTSCHLANDFUNK KULTUR/DIE ZEIT)**
- **Volker Weiß is a leading expert on the right wing scene in Germany**
- **With regard to other countries (USA, Russia, etc.)**

Volker Weiß, Dr. phil., born in 1972. The historian worked for many years as a specialist author for DIE ZEIT and ZEIT Geschichte, Jungle World, Frankfurter Rundschau, FAZ, Taz, Spiegel-Online and now writes for SZ. He is one of the leading experts on the new right-wing scene. His book "Die autoritäre Revolte. Die neue Rechte und der Untergang des Abendlandes" is considered a standard work on the subject and was nominated for the Leipzig Book Fair Prize 2017.



Steffen Dobbert, Ulrich Thiele

NORD STREAM • How Germany is paying for Putin's war

400 pages, Paperback

February 2025

ISBN 978-3-608-96627-5

The truth behind Nord Stream

Backed by extensive research, renowned journalists Steffen Dobbert and Ulrich Thiele reveal the background to the Nord Stream 2 scandal, uncovering a powerful network and strategic corruption in Germany and the whole of Europe.

Nord Stream 2 is part of Russia's war of aggression in Europe. The methods of success: a powerful network and strategic corruption. German authorities deceive the Bundeswehr (German military) and pass secret NATO data to Gazprom. For the first time, journalists Steffen Dobbert and Ulrich Thiele portray all the key individuals involved in the affair and expose the Kremlin's secret machinations: Why are 200 million euros flowing from Moscow to the German Baltic coast? Why does a German agency share secret NATO data with Gazprom? They reveal how numerous representatives are working for Putin's energy foreign policy, how a former East German spy arranged a fateful deal, and how a secret ship in the Baltic Sea is working on completing the pipeline. They expose the strategies Putin uses to divide the EU, weaken Ukraine, and manipulate decision-making processes in democracies.

Steffen Dobbert, born in Wismar in 1982, is a fellow of the International Journalists' Programme (IJP) and has spent time in Odessa and Kyiv. He has conducted over 50 research trips across Ukraine. Dobbert studied at universities in Vaasa (Finland), Lübeck, and Berlin, earning a BA in Business Administration and a Master's in European Studies. Since 2007, he has worked as a writer and editor for *Zeit Online* and *Die Zeit*. In 2017, he received the German Reporters' Prize.

Ulrich Thiele, born in 1990, was a staff member at the political magazine *Cicero*. Since June 2023, he has been a reporter at *Business Insider*. His investigations into Nord Stream 2 revealed that the Climate Foundation in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern owed 10 million euros in gift taxes for a donation from Gazprom. He also uncovered that a tax official had burned the tax declarations in a fireplace.



Florian Opitz

Capital B • Between Anarchy and Sellout. The history of Berlin from 1989 to the present day

400 pages, Hardcover

May 2025

ISBN 978-3-608-50270-1

Poor, but sexy? – 35 Years of Berlin's Post-Reunification History

Few cities have experienced as much as Berlin has from '89 to today. 35 years of light and shadow, 35 years of *poor but sexy*. The globally celebrated club and subculture on the one hand, political scandals, gentrification and sell-out on the other. In *Capital B*, this unique urban history is told by those who have shaped it: politicians, artists, entrepreneurs, squatters, club owners and clan members.

Who shapes a city? Politics and investors or the residents themselves? Nowhere has this battle been fought as passionately as in Berlin; nowhere has there been so much light and shadow. *Capital B* draws the reader into the vortex of this unique city, into the battles and conflicts that have been passionately and fiercely fought since the fall of the Wall. It is a story of greed, corruption, the emergence of various youth and subcultures in the 1990s and 2000s, squatter conflicts, crime, and the rise and fall of greedy politicians.

- Thematically related TV documentary: Winner 2024 GERMAN TELEVISION AWARD & nominated for the 2024 Grimme Award
- US magazine ESQUIRE about »Capital B - the series«: "One of the most important political documentaries in the last 20 years"

A fast-paced post-reunification story that reveals the mechanisms of power as well as the possibilities of collectives and culture:

Florian Opitz, born in Saarbrücken in 1973, is a German documentary film director, author and journalist. His successful cinema debut "The Great Sellout" won him the Grimme Award in 2009. In 2023, he released the five-part TV documentary *Capital B – Who Owns Berlin?* based on 4000 hours of video archive material.



Lena Cassel

BREAKING THROUGH • From the Sidelines to the Spotlight

224 pages, Softcover

April 2025

ISBN 978-3-608-50268-8

»The world of football urgently needs new perspectives – and Lena Cassel is the embodiment of that.« Laura Freigang, National Player

Sharp, stylish, and queer - Lena Cassel embodies a new generation of sports journalists. This is her journey to success in the male-dominated world of football.

Without soccer, Lena Cassel wouldn't be who she is today. But without pioneers like her, soccer wouldn't be what it is now—a global sport for everyone. Born in 1994 in North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany, Lena came from a modest background and developed a passion for soccer early on. As a girl among boys and later as a woman in a male-dominated industry, she had to fight for her place. When she transitioned into sports journalism, she was often sidelined, because she was seen as "too loud and too colorful" for the screen. Today, those same qualities are her signature, making her a standout presenter and talk show guest on major German TV shows. In her book, Lena takes readers beyond the soccer pitch, sharing personal stories like evenings spent with her sister, enjoying homemade soup while their single mother worked night shifts as a nurse.

»Isn't it time we've moved forward? Apparently not. That's why Lena Cassel's book is so important.« Anne Will, German Talk Show Presenter

Lena Cassel, born in Cologne in 1994, was a striker for SV Allner-Bödingen, SC Fortuna Köln and Türkiyemspor Berlin. She worked for the sports programme *Sportschau* and as a reporter for *Stern TV*, among others. Cassel has been presenting the UEFA Champions League highlights show for Prime Video since 2022/23. She currently also presents the Bundesliga broadcasts on DAZN and, together with Maik Nöcker, has also hosted the podcast *Fussball MML Daily* and the podcast *Playing Dirty - Sport und Verbrechen* since 2022. Cassel lives in Berlin.

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