

The background of the cover is a complex, abstract pattern of fine, wavy lines in shades of yellow, green, and brown, creating a textured, organic feel. Scattered across this pattern are several large, semi-transparent white circles of varying sizes, some overlapping the lines and others appearing as clean white shapes.

Foreign Rights Guide

Spring 2025

**SCHÖFFLING & CO. / KAMPA / JUNG UND JUNG
ATLANTIS LITERATUR / OKTOPUS / DÖRLEMANN**

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LITERARY FICTION

Schöffling & Co.
LITERARY FICTION

Svealena Kutschke

Spook Fish

Novel

Roughly 224 pages

27 February 2025



Trust only in longing, not in injury. This sentence stayed with Laura Schmidt for many years. It is the advice of her fellow patient Noll, whom Laura met at the Jannsen Clinic in Lübeck in the 1990s. There, in the psychiatric ward, Noll and her confidante Olga Rehfeld created a refuge of stories, a space of literature, reading, writing and quoting - for comfort or as an escape from the abysses of the past? Laura gradually realises that the clinic where she herself found help was destructive for Rehfeld. She decides to illustrate one of Rehfeld's texts, to draw her life story, to pass it on. Something of Rehfeld should remain, of her and other people who spent almost their entire lives in the clinic.

With a fascinating cast of patients and medical staff, Svealena Kutschke tells the story of psychiatry as a place where deep vulnerability pushes humanity to its limits. As a place that became a gateway to violence, especially during the Nazi and post-war periods. As an echo chamber of German history. Medical diagnoses, Kutschke reminds us, say a lot about the society in which they are made. And she asks whether the psychological state of emergency is not an appropriate reaction to the impositions of society. A novel that brings light into the darkness like a spook fish in the deep sea.

»In *Spook Fish*, Svealena Kutschke achieves something almost impossible: in her precise, intense language, she tells of the abysses of German psychiatry from 1920 to the present day and at the same time writes a novel that is so touching, funny, bitterly sad, but always exciting, populated by such fine and complex characters that - despite everything - you are simply left full of love for humanity.« *Inger-Maria Mahlke*

»*Spook Fish* sketches an entire cosmology of our time. In her new, best book to date, Svealena Kutschke shows how violence is passed down through generations, but also how the power of storytelling can offer refuge, how moments of love and solidarity can blossom. And, once again, in such dazzling and subtle language that we as readers soon feel as if we ourselves are orbiting the Lübeck clinic.« *Matthias Nawrat*

Svealena Kutschke

Svealena Kutschke, born in Lübeck in 1977, is a writer and playwright. Her most recent play *No Shame in Hope (Jogging Trousers are not Destiny)* was nominated for the Heidelberg Playwright's Prize 2023. In 2022 she received the Hebbel Prize, among others for her latest novel *Thunderflies* (Claassen), and in 2019 the Schiller Memorial Prize.

Jung und Jung
LITERARY FICTION

Katharina Geiser

The Wishes Belong to Us

Novel

256 pages

27 February 2025

What remains when you have nothing left: the sensitive portrait of an old woman among people who only own their wishes



Elise has a long, hard-working life behind her when, from one day to the next, she ends up in a new one: After the death of her husband, her daughters commit her to an asylum for the poor. Tentatively, she tries to find her feet in a world she was never meant for. A world full of people, adults and children, sick and healthy, who have been brought here by fate or just an unfortunate coincidence. A world in which strict rules try to keep together what can hardly be kept together. But also a world that only comes to life through the stories of its inhabitants. And not least through their wishes.

Katharina Geiser carefully and yet unadornedly explores a forgotten piece of Swiss social history. She tells the story of everyday life in an institution that existed until the 1970s. She focuses on the people, their hopes and what they look back on in a language that gets very close to them.

Katharina Geiser, born in 1956 in Erlenbach near Zurich, studied German, English and education. She lives in Richterswil on Lake Zurich. I have loved words, paper and colours since early childhood. Even before I started school, I discovered reading through Wilhelm Busch's *Max and Moritz*. I well remember the strenuous spelling and word comprehension. Recent Awards: 2018 Werkjahr of the Fachstelle Kultur Stadt Zürich for *Under an Open Sky*, 2015 Recognition award from the City of Zurich's Department of Culture for *Four Spots or Happiness*.

Jung und Jung
LITERARY FICTION

Martin Prinz
The Final Days

Novel
Roughly 272 pages
27 February 2025

A harrowing factual novel about a unique case of contemporary Austrian history



A valley opening in the Eastern Alps, April 1945, the days of the 'Thousand-Year Empire' are numbered. Within a very short space of time it has shrunk to nothing, and on the edge of this nothingness stands the Red Army, waiting until the battle for Vienna is decided. Where everything is long too late, but not yet over, district leader Johann Braun sets up his own personal court martial, a private murder regime. People with whom he or one of his helpers has a score to settle are arbitrarily sentenced, 'politically unreliable', supposed deserters, men and women, old and young, people who are in the wrong place at the wrong time.

Martin Prinz tells of the monstrous, soberly and in keeping with the facts. This is possible because the murderers of that time were put on trial shortly afterwards. Because the monstrosity was analysed in painstaking detail. And because two people who came within a whisker of being involved in the events, one as the perpetrator, the other as the victim, were never left in peace for the rest of their lives.

»This book has a force that you can't escape, just as it triggers a rage that you can't escape.«

Valerie Fritsch

»It is a factual novel in the best sense of the word, because it makes the factual so tangible and relivable. And this despite the fact that the language is a single interrogation.«

David Schalko

Martin Prinz, born in 1973, grew up in Lilienfeld, lives as a writer in Vienna. Writes travel stories, screenplays and novels (including *The Robber* and *The Last Princess*). Numerous awards, including the screenplay prize at the film festival in Gijon.

Jung und Jung
LITERARY FICTION

Saskia Hennig von Lange

Home

Novel

256 pages

22 August 2024



The story of Tilda and Willem begins on the open sea in the mid-1930s. While Tilda is on a pleasure trip, Willem's mission is a murderous one: as a member of the 'Legion Condor', he is travelling by ship to Spain, where the war against everything that is different is being rehearsed. Hannah, their daughter, who was born long after the war was over, is also different: wild and unmanageable, she will not be coerced by anything, neither by strictness nor by her parents' clumsy attempts to love her. Willem hides away in the cellar of the house to listen to jazz undisturbed after working as a chemist during the day producing artificial fruit flavourings. In Tilda's eyes, the dashing hero of old has become a ridiculous figure. And Hannah a madwoman ...

Home tells of the unsaid, of the unspeakable, of the long after-effects of the past and of how much we ourselves are part of it. The novel consistently follows the oppressive logic of a family constellation, but also opens up paths of escape for its characters.

»The author's art lies in intertwining herself with Hannah's head, so to speak, so that her seemingly absurd behaviour can find an inherent plausibility, sensually tangible, almost comprehensible.«

Rose-Maria Gropp / Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

»*Home* is probably Saskia Hennig von Lange's best book, and her other books are already incredibly good. (...) Hennig von Lange proves herself to be a differentiated, psychologically precise creator of inner worlds that are closely linked to the historical context.«

Christoph Schröder / Deutschlandfunk Büchermarkt

Saskia Hennig von Lange, born in 1976, lives with her husband and children in Frankfurt am Main. She studied Applied Theatre Studies and Art History. She made her debut in 2013 with the novella *Everything that is Outside*, followed by the novels *Back to the Fire* (2014) and *The Forest Begins Here* (2018). Her third novel *Home* was published in autumn 2024. Awards: 2013 Wortspiele Literature Prize, 2014 Rauris Literature Prize, 2015 Clemens Brentano Prize, 2016 George Konell Prize.

Schöffling & Co.
LITERARY FICTION

Jana Scheerer
Racist
Novel
240 pages
25 January 2024

English Sample available

Rights to previous titles sold (among others) to:

Italy – Blu Edizioni srl (reverted)
Korea – Dulnyouk publishing co. (reverted)
Taiwan – Babel Publishing Company (reverted)



Nora Rischer is sitting in the treatment chair of a fertility clinic when an email reaches her: *racist incident at our university*. She is curious, anticipating outrage – and taken aback: Is this about her own German studies seminar? Rischer is shocked. Critical voices echo in her head, she starts blaming herself: Did she, as a lecturer, really behave like a racist? Should she apologize? And why? Out of an honest sense of guilt or to save herself? Is she being canceled even though she is not an old white man, but a queer woman who previously thought of herself as a liberal leftist?

Racist is a black comedy that refuses to retreat into overly comfortable certainties. The author takes a comical and precise look at all the human reflexes, contradictions and rhetorical devices that make a constructive social exchange about discrimination so complicated.

»*Racist* is a wonderful satire on identity politics debates, modern shitstorm culture and supposed moral superiority. [Jana Scheerer] succeeds in making fun of discursive balancing acts and at the same time taking the topics discussed seriously.«
Sebastian Fasthuber / Der Falter

»Author Jana Scheerer writes fast-paced and funny about university structures and exposes the claim of totality underlying current discourses on discrimination.« *Jörg Magenau, Deutschlandfunk Kultur / Lesart*

Jana Scheerer was born in 1978, holds a doctorate in German studies and knows the bizarre potential of university structures from several years as a research assistant. Among other things, she has worked analytically on political communication, was a fellow of the Literary Colloquium Berlin and was awarded the Prenzlauer Berg Literature Prize for her first book *My Father, his Pig and Me*. She is also the author of numerous books for children and young people. *Racist* is Jana Scheerer's fourth novel. She lives in Berlin.

Schöffling & Co.
LITERARY FICTION

Maike Wetzel
Floating Bridges

Novel
208 pages
27 July 2023

English Sample available

Featured in *New Books in German*: »*Floating Bridges* is a work of auto-fiction, recounting the sudden death of Maike Wetzel's husband in a boating accident. The narrative is raw and authentic, as the author navigates the depths of love, grief, and motherhood, while offering an intimate, intense portrait of her marriage.«

Rights to previous titles sold to:

English World – Scribe (reverted)
Finland – Like



A Sunday on the lake. A woman sits on the bank and hugs her two small children. What was supposed to be a lovely weekend has turned into something else entirely. The sailboat has capsized and the father is missing. He cannot possibly have drowned in this harmless lake, can he? Surely, he'll resurface and joke about his wife's fears. As the emergency helicopter circles overhead, the narrator remembers her life with this man, her counterpart in a moving marriage.

With relentless candour and great linguistic precision, Maike Wetzel writes about going on after everything changes and finding solace in our own memories and in literature. In the tradition of Joan Didion, Maggie Nelson, Ocean Vuong, and Marguerite Duras, the author tells a very personal but also impressively universal tale of love, grief, and parenthood. *Floating Bridges* is a gripping farewell and a touchingly honest novel about surviving as a mother and writer.

»A profoundly moving book. The word 'autofiction' does not at all do the work justice. What we are reading is the spiritual and literary examination of a terrible misfortune. As if out of the blue, a catastrophe shatters a life – and then, broken, it is pieced back together again and goes on. I am tremendously impressed with how Maike Wetzel tells this story.«
Daniel Kehlmann

Maike Wetzel

After studying film at HFF Munich and in Great Britain, Maike Wetzel now lives in Berlin, where she works as a writer and author for film and theatre. She has received numerous grants and literary prizes. Some of her stories in *Distant Beloved* (2019) were written at the Villa Aurora in Los Angeles. Her debut novel *Elly* (2018) was awarded, among other distinctions, the Robert-Gernhardt-Preis. The short film *PROLL!* by Adrian Figueroa was based on Wetzel's screenplay and won the Deutscher Kurzfilmpreis 2021.

Schöffling & Co.
LITERARY FICTION

Jürgen Teipel

But I Can Fly

Novel

224 pages

22 February 2024

How does a person find themselves? Should they surrender to the world and its demands? Or do they have to break free and fight?



Jürgen Teipel, author of the cult novel *Waste Your Youth*, tells the life story of a sensitive person who has felt out of place since childhood. His story is shaped by subculture and punk, by the southern German province in the gray seventies. He tells of a lonely childhood, of overwhelmed parents and crazy artist friends, of failed and successful love, but also of great resilience: time and time again he pulls himself up by his bootstraps. Through music and writing, through meditation and nature, but above all through human encounters.

But I Can Fly is a novel about a life artist whose laconicism and honesty are moving.

»In many funny, intentionally yet unintentionally comical scenes, Jürgen Teipel tells of the instability of life and the world - which you have to endure, although it may be difficult.«
Feridun Zaimoglu

Jürgen Teipel was born in 1961, spent a lot of time in rehearsal rooms and clubs in his younger years, today he prefers to spend his time in the mountains and at Bavarian lakes. Most recently, he successfully published two volumes of stories about animals. He came to writing in 1980 through the publication of a punk magazine. He then organized concerts, was a DJ and wrote for *Frankfurter Rundschau*, *Neue Zürcher Zeitung*, *Der Spiegel* and *Die Zeit*, among others. His documentary novel about German punk and new wave, *Waste Your Youth*, became a bestseller and triggered a punk revival.

Kampa
LITERARY FICTION

Lea Singer

Anatomy of the Clouds. When Caspar David Friedrich met Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

288 pages

11 July 2024

Rights to previous title sold to:

English World – New Vessel



»No idea of mythology and classical rules, but this Friedrich can paint clouds,« enthused Privy Councillor von Goethe about the young, wild Romantic. They meet for the first time in 1810: Goethe, famous poet and ageing universal genius, and Friedrich, the painter who knows neither how to speak nor write. One is a diplomatic minister, the other a have-not with no manners. A wealthy Frankfurt upper-class son and a soap boiling scion from Greifswald. Goethe is at the zenith of his fame, while Friedrich breaks with all the conventions of his time. But they have one thing in common: Both are mesmerised by the clouds.

Lea Singer tells of the encounter between two great artists who remain strangers to each other, even though they recognise each other's greatness.

»A book full of small and, in the end, big punchlines.« *Judith von Sternburg / Frankfurter Rundschau*

»A lively and educational journey through time and exploration of the German intellectual landscape.« *Wolfgang Herles / Das Blaue Sofa*

»An intelligent, easy-to-read historical novel, which explores the transition from classical to romantic aesthetics in a highly entertaining way. And makes you want to read Goethe and look at Friedrich.« *Christian Möller / Kurier*

Lea Singer, born in Munich in 1960, studied art history, singing, musicology and literature. She has a doctorate in art history and is just as successful with her novels about historical figures as she is with her non-fiction books, which she writes as Eva Gesine Baur. She lives in Munich and has been honoured with the Hannelore Greve Literature Prize, the Schwabing Art Prize and the Lake Constance Literature Prize.

Kampa
LITERARY FICTION

Lea Singer
The Piano Student
Novel
244 pages
11 February 2019

English material available

Rights sold to:
English World – New Vessel



Lake Zurich in early spring 1986: a successful life is to be violently ended. The reason: Hopelessness. A few minutes of music sabotage the execution. An escape into life begins. A bar pianist guides the man saved by Schumann's reverie on a journey into the past - to the fearfully guarded secret of a pianist of the century. In 1937, Vladimir Horowitz began an affair in Switzerland that jeopardized his entire career and his marriage to Toscanini's daughter. Seven years ago, Lea Singer came across explosive unpublished letters from Vladimir Horowitz to a young Swiss man named Nico Kaufmann. The talented son of a middle-class family became his first piano pupil and lover in 1937. Persecuted as a Jew, Horowitz was forced to go into exile at the end of the 1930s. A trauma, but also an opportunity to change his life, to finally acknowledge himself. Fifty years later, Nico Kaufmann, reduced to a bar pianist, tells a stranger about this love and its nocturnal aspects. He leads the stranger to the luxury hotels where Horowitz lived his passion with him in secret for two years, and ever closer to the burning questions: How much courage does love demand? And what happens to those who deny their longing?

Lea Singer, born in Munich in 1960, studied art history, singing, musicology and literature. She has a doctorate in art history and is just as successful with her novels about historical figures as she is with her non-fiction books, which she writes as Eva Gesine Baur. She lives in Munich and has been honoured with the Hannelore Greve Literature Prize, the Schwabing Art Prize and the Lake Constance Literature Prize.

Atlantis Literatur

LITERARY FICTION | DEBUT

Lia Maria Neff

A Little Bit Forever

Novel

Roughly 160 pages

20 March 2025



Una is studying double bass and has just moved into a shared flat. A story hangs on the wall in her room, the story of Zeno and her. A story whose ending she never wanted to write. But Zeno, who only held her hand like a carrier bag, is a thing of the past.

What to do with all the love when the first great love is over? Una hung from the ceiling all winter, dripping from it. But now, now Aurel is there, she says his name softly. Aurel, who knows what the clouds are called, who finally wants to solve the question of women's rights, Aurel, with whom she sets off into the mountains early in the morning to look at the world from above. 'A little bit forever', that's what Zeno and she promised each other back then, down there. And yes, he will remain a little bit forever, in her lyrics, in her music, in her love for Aurel, because there is enough space between her ribs for everything that hasn't been, alongside everything that is yet to come.

Lia Maria Neff tells of first and second love, of eternal, sad and happy love, light-footed, open-hearted and with a lot of wit. And an almost infinite love of life. An audacious, heart-widening debut!

Lia Maria Neff, born in 2000, is studying classical double bass at the Zurich University of the Arts. With her band *Caspar from Next Door* and as a singer/songwriter under the name Follia, she combines lyrics and music and regularly performs on stage. In 2022, she won the Zurich band competition Band-it. *A Little Bit Forever* is Lia Maria Neff's debut novel.

Schöffling & Co.
LITERARY FICTION | DEBUT

Lilli Polansky
No Need to Congratulate Me
Novel
272 pages
22 August 2024



It all starts with a leaden tiredness. But Lilli has no time to be tired. For as long as she can remember, she has had to work harder than others. At home, because she and her mother have to get along on their own. In friendships, because she never really belongs. At school, because she always gets the numbers wrong. Now that Lilli is about to take her A-levels, she can only ignore her tiredness. Until she collapses. It turns out that Lilli's heart isn't beating fast enough and she needs a pacemaker. Up to now, Lilli's problems have all had to do with life. Suddenly she has to fight to survive ... As if that wasn't enough, her boyfriend breaks up with her shortly before the surgery. And not even a pacemaker can heal a broken heart.

A poignant debut novel full of humor about a young woman who, just as she is finding her way in life, has to face death. And who is confronted harder and earlier than most people with the question of what really matters in the end.

»[...] Lilli Polansky has [...] done everything right in her writing. [...] It's impressive how close she gets to the core of her personality without resorting to empty words or clichés in her search [...]« *APA*

»It's young literature that is clever, beautiful, humorous, frightening and poignant. The novel is reminiscent of the works of Caroline Wahl, not only because of its play with numbers, but also because of its quest for life and its enormous power.« *Hauke Harder / Leseschatz*

»[Lilli Polansky's] story is one of survival. It is angry and sad. And despite all the heaviness, some parts of this novel are funny - even if the laughter sometimes gets stuck in your throat.« *Leonie Bellina / Münchner Merkur*

»With *No Need to Congratulate Me*, Lilli Polansky has succeeded in creating a haunting debut [...] with constantly sparkling sentences and full of relivability - as well as a resonant critique of the healthcare system.« *Martina Bauer / Radio fm4*

Lilli Polansky could easily become an actress or EU Commissioner with her name, but she decided to write a novel of all things. Now she has to answer the question of whether she publishes under a pseudonym or her nickname almost every day. Born in Vienna in 2001, she now lives and studies there.

Atlantis Literatur

LITERARY FICTION | DEBUT

Mariann Bühler

Shift in the Rock

Novel

208 pages

11 July 2024



The sign 'Closed until further notice' hung outside for a long time until Elisabeth made the decision to continue running the bakery. She does it alone. Every morning she fires up the oven, stirs the dough, puts the loaves in the oven - and surprises the whole village and herself. Alois' farm in the same neighbourhood. A farm that has been in the family for generations, Alois was not asked if he wanted to take it over. He lives with the dog, ignores the expectation of starting a family - but something is tightening. Perhaps it has something to do with Camenzind. Meanwhile, a young woman returns to the village; the three steps to the bakery run themselves. She fetches the key to the summer house from her grandparents; it is to be sold. She sees everything again, the mountain ridge, the valley, the balcony with the drawbridge. Soon, it seems to her, the house begins to speak to her. The novel follows three characters who know nothing about each other and yet are connected - through the area, the village and the pressing question of how things should actually continue. Stubborn traces of the past have become entrenched in them, but then something starts to move. In her linguistically dense debut, Mariann Bühler observes how change finds its way and shifts happen that were never intended, sometimes even moving mountains.

»True self-determination can lie in the smallest gestures, in the conquest of a life that is, after all, one's own - this is what this clever and moving novel is about.« *Yael Inokai*

»Mariann Bühler's extraordinary narrative talent is evident in the novel *Shift in the Rock*. The author has created an empathetic, visually powerful and multi-layered book about everyday upheavals close to the characters, full of existential power, skilfully assembled, dense and light.« *Manuela Waeber / Jury Swiss Book Prize 2024*

»Mariann Bühler takes a closer look. In her debut novel, she utilises literature's ability to penetrate the interior. Into the interior of the parlour, the barn and the bakery, into the interior of lived life and people.« *Martin Läubli / NZZ, Bücher am Sonntag*

Mariann Bühler, born in 1982 near Lucerne, studied English literature and linguistics, Islamic studies and gender studies in Basel and Berlin. She lives in Basel as an author, literary mediator and event organiser. *Shift in the Rock* is her debut novel; she was awarded the Central Switzerland Literature Prize for an extract from the manuscript.

Atlantis Literatur
LITERARY FICTION

Martin R. Dean
Tobacco and Chocolate
Novel
224 pages
10 September 2024



Rights to previous titles sold to:

Frankreich – Gallimard (reverted)
Norwegen – Gyldendahl (reverted)
Schweden – Bonniers (reverted)
Niederlande – Manteau (reverted)

After the death of his mother, the narrator finds an album in a drawer containing photos of his early childhood, which he spent on the Caribbean island of Trinidad and Tobago. As a young woman, the daughter of labourers from Aargau had embarked on an adventure with a good-for-nothing from the West Indian upper class and had a child. While the rest of the family endeavours to erase the memory of her mother's years with the 'savages', the narrator sets out to save this story, which is also his own.

Tobacco and Chocolate takes us to the tropical jungle of a British crown colony in the 1950s and 1960s. As the narrator continues to explore his Indian ancestors, who were shipped to the Caribbean as contract labourers, he uncovers not only a family tree, but also a piece of colonial history. This is juxtaposed with memories of growing up in his grandparents' 'tobacco house' in Aargau and the rapprochement with a mother who always seemed unapproachable during her lifetime.

»Martin Dean's novel skilfully depicts intimate biographical experiences and tells of the questionable handling of colonialism and the supposed stranger in the midst of society.«
Felix Münger / Tagesschau SRF

»Dean weaves family, migration experiences and colonial history into a multi-layered, subtle and yet vivid memoir that is reminiscent of W. G. Sebald in its quiet undertow.«
Martina Läubli / NZZ, Bücher am Sonntag

»The author subtly and coherently transforms his complex autobiographical background into a powerful literary text, an urgent piece of Swiss (colonial) history.«
Rico Valär / SRF Bestenliste

Martin R. Dean was born in Menziken, Aargau, in 1955 to a father from Trinidad and a Swiss mother. He studied German language and literature, ethnology and philosophy at the University of Basel and taught at the Basel School of Design and at the Muttenz secondary school. Dean is an award-winning author, who lives in Basel.

Dörlemann
LITERARY FICTION

Bernhard Kegel

Grass

Novel

384 pages

22 February 2024



Featured in *New Books in German*: »Grass is a fine example of climate change science fiction, delicately treading the line between a catastrophic forecast and a portrait of hope for the future.«

The catastrophe begins on Bundesplatz square in Berlin-Wilmersdorf. On her way to the underground, aspiring biologist Natalie discovers delicate stalks of bright, intense green between the cobblestone cracks. The grass multiplies rapidly, soon pushing up the asphalt of the streets and the stones on the pavements, conquering neighbouring districts, destroying roadways, pavements and the foundations of houses. Worst of all, the grass is proving resistant to known herbicides. A race against time begins for Natalie, the authorities and scientists.

Accident or crime, manipulation or mutation? In this Berlin novel, Bernhard Kegel tells a story of catastrophe and hope.

»In this opus, Bernhard Kegel once again proves himself to be a prophet of global biological disaster. ... There is no other writer in Germany who is as harsh in his indictment of environmental damage. He is regarded as a kind of messiah who denounces the destruction of nature, especially as he is able to draw philosophical conclusions from the impending fiasco.« *Ulf Heise / MDR Kultur*

»... you can't shake off the feeling that Berlin author Kegel has actually written a key novel about his difficult-to-govern hometown.« *Tobias Rüther / Frankfurter Allgemeine Sonntagszeitung*

»Grass is a mixture of Robinsonade and dystopian science novel,... incredibly worth reading.« *Sabine Rohlf / Berliner Zeitung*

Bernhard Kegel, born in Berlin in 1953, studied chemistry and biology at the Free University of Berlin and received his doctorate in 1991. Today he is an enthusiastic jazz guitarist and full-time writer. Since his debut novel *Wenzel's Mushroom*, published in 1993, he has written a large number of novels and non-fiction books in which he uses his specialist expertise in literature, delighting both experts and readers without a scientific background alike. He lives with his family in Brandenburg and Berlin.

Schöffling & Co.
LITERARY FICTION

Sascha Reh

Biotopia

Novel

432 pages

17 September 2024



It is a strange coincidence that Malu Jacobsen, of all people, is commissioned to investigate the human rights situation in Biotopia, the ultra-modern vertical farm on Tempelhofer Feld. This is where her daughter Golda, whom she has not seen for 20 years, is living the dream of agricultural production for the common good. Biotopia has been supplying the whole of Berlin with organically produced food since the 2020s, and yet Malu is certain that the farm is not just the hip community garden that it appears to be at first glance and in the Instagram reels. After all, rumors have persisted for years that refugees and stateless people are being held here against their will as unpaid workers. What role do the operating company Sulaco or the tech company Ping, whose digital assistant Watson is now ubiquitous, play in this? As Malu's investigations increasingly implicate her daughter Golda, she realizes that her mission in Biotopia may not be one of enlightenment ...

In a suspenseful dystopian scenario, Sascha Reh thinks developments in our present day and the effects of technological external control on the individual through to the end.

»The far-reaching questions that Sascha Reh deals with in his novels have probably never been staged more vividly in contemporary German-language literature.« *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*

»In a suspenseful dystopian scenario, Sascha Reh thinks through developments in our present [...] to the end.« *Krimi-Tipp Primärliteratur*

»[...] one of the most exciting, also politically thought-provoking books of this year.« *Kai Sina / ZEIT*

Sascha Reh, born in Duisburg in 1974, studied history, philosophy and German literature in Bochum and Vienna. He has received numerous awards for his novels, including the Lower Rhine Literature Prize in 2011, the Lotto Brandenburg Art Prize for Literature in 2014 and the Ruhr Literature Prize in 2015. In 2017, he was a fellow of the German Academy in Rome at Casa Baldi, and in 2018 he was nominated for the Wilhelm Raabe Literature Prize. Sascha Reh lives with his family near Berlin.

Schöffling & Co.
LITERARY FICTION

Burkhard Spinnen
Pre-War Life

Novel

320 pages

17 September 2024

Rights to previous titles sold to:

Spain – Ediciones Siruela (reverted)

Ireland – New Island | Little Island (reverted)

Italy – RCS Libri SpA (reverted)



In a mysterious way, entrepreneur Richard Morjan receives fragments of his own past. A stranger sells him video clips and photos showing scenes from his childhood and youth under the name Time Tunnel. Morjan's journey through time sends him into a frenzy of self-questioning: Why did he give up his hopeful career as a visual artist and marry into a haulage company? Why did he accept that his wife left him with their daughter without any explanation? And who on earth is offering him his memories as merchandise?

At the same time, the crises of the present are pushing their way into his life with vehemence: Morjan is actually well off and wants to retire, but after the Russian invasion of Ukraine, the lucrative deal to sell his haulage company is in jeopardy. When he takes in Alisa, a refugee from Kiev, and her two children in his bungalow, he finds it increasingly difficult to retreat into his sad comfort zone. And at almost sixty, he is in danger of having to change his life from the ground up.

»Burkhard Spinnen's new novel *Pre-War Life* tells a heroic story of crisis management and the end of certainties in times of polycrisis [...] Exciting and consistent.« *Michael Braun / Aachener Zeitung*

Burkhard Spinnen, born in 1956, lives in Münster. He writes short stories, novels, children's books, essays, commentaries and reviews. He has received numerous awards for his work, including the Aspekte Literature Prize, the Literature Prize of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation, the Herbert Quandt Media Prize and the German Audiobook Prize.

Schöffling & Co.
LITERARY FICTION

Inka Parei
Humboldthain
Novel
304 pages
25 April 2024

English Sample available

Rights to previous titles sold to:
World English – Seagull
Korea – Dulnyouk Publishing Co. (reverted)



Bruno, Ina and their son Julius make their home in the center of East Berlin in the 1990s. But the space that had opened up for them there soon closes again. Bruno's life becomes confusing, he becomes entangled in lies, stumbles both privately and professionally and leaves the city. A decade and a half later, a family counselor arranges a meeting to reunite him with his wife and child. In Humboldthain, a central place of his childhood. But the meeting on a hill near the former anti-aircraft bunker in the park turns out differently than expected. A strange woman appears, the consultant's motives are unclear, Ina does not show up. The situation comes to a head when Bruno and Julius unlock the bunker and the two women follow them.

In *Humboldthain*, acclaimed novelist Inka Parei tells a lucid and haunting story of how the reconciliation of a family is repeatedly thwarted by the consequences of Germany's post-war history.

»Inka Parei does not deal lavishly with words, and this is just what avid readers admire about her. In a dry, prosaic style, she takes them into the GDR's past.«

Frankfurter Rundschau

Inka Parei was born in Frankfurt am Main in 1967 and lives in Berlin. Her works deal with places steeped in history and fragile lives. Her first novel, *The Shadowboxing Woman*, won the Hans Erich Nossack Prize and has been translated into 13 languages. She received the Ingeborg Bachmann Prize in 2003 for *What Darkness Was* and numerous other awards. Most recently, she received the New York Scholarship of the German Literature Fund.

Jung und Jung
LITERARY FICTION

Alexandra Stahl

Women Who Die Laughing

Novel

240 pages

22 February 2024

English Sample available



Iris would rather not be here, alone on a Greek island, during off-season, and in a place where supposedly every local is a hunter. Where the man at the supermarket checkout looks like Kevin Spacey, stray cats chase you and the couple next door threaten to crash their bed through the wall at night. Iris wants to calm down and understand what happened between her and her friends Ela and Katja, what made them friends in the first place. She wants to find out why she spent years with Simon, even though she never wanted to be a woman in a relationship, let alone with a writer. So she thinks about her life and what role she plays in it. And what else is important when something that once meant everything to her has been lost and has become irrelevant.

With plenty of black humour and a great love of the bizarre, *Women Who Die Laughing* tells of life in relationships and the end of a friendship. And about the need to tell yourself and everyone else a story when you are abandoned. A story that, like all stories, cannot be completely trusted.

»With *Women Who Die Laughing*, Alexandra Stahl gets to the heart of human insecurity, questioning and acutely analysing the complexity of interpersonal relationships with a great deal of black humour.«

Marlene Scheuch / Raiffeisenzeitung

»Alexandra Stahl has a talent for shining with delicate sentences.«

Shirin Sojitrwalla / DLF Büchermarkt

Alexandra Stahl lives as a freelance author and journalist in Berlin. She studied American Studies, English Literature and History at the University of Würzburg and then worked for the German Press Agency *dpa*. She has received various scholarships for her literary work and has been a writer-in-residence in Croatia and by the North Sea.

Jung und Jung
LITERARY FICTION

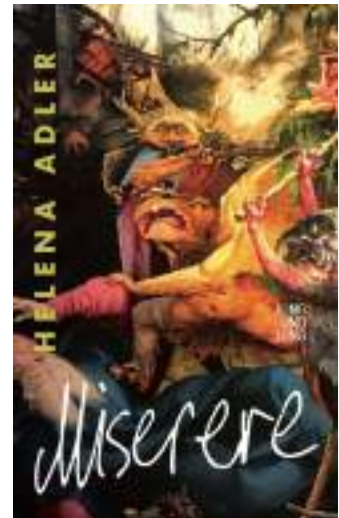
Helena Adler

Miserere

Three texts

72 pages

11 July 2024



Helena Adler died on 5 January 2024, at the age of forty, far too early. She had enough time to write three books, and with these books, but above all with *The Infant Wears the Crown on the Left*, she succeeded in making her mark on the history of modern German-language literature. With an exuberant love of language, with irrepressible wordplay, to the death and with scorn and derision and teeth and claws, she has confronted her origins and given the nightmare idyll of the Austrian provinces a fresh coat of paint on the weather side. She pulled out all the stops, by hook or by crook, because her literature was not only great fun, but also always a very serious matter. This can also be seen in the three texts completed during her lifetime that this volume brings together. They rage and rumble like a declaration of love for life that wants to have the last word - and keeps it!

»Helena Adler also goes to the literary extreme in her posthumously published texts: here, reality is not depicted, here, reality is produced, here, the world is countered with the means of literature, while at the same time lush beauty is evoked as a possibility.«

ORF best list / 1st place in July & August 2024

»The book *Miserere* brings together three posthumous stories full of linguistic furore by the author Helena Adler, who died in January. (...) Her literature goes to the heart, which is exactly where it belongs.«

Klaus Kastberger / Die Presse

»The writing principle that made her three previous novels so unique also applies here: The relentlessness that hits you when you step out of line leads straight to your own relentlessness in order to protect and assert yourself - with the help of language. It is important not to fall silent in the face of the arrogance and excess that is spreading.«

Samuel Hamen /Deutschlandfunk

Helena Adler, born 1983 in Oberndorf near Salzburg, died 2024 in Salzburg. She studied painting at the Mozarteum and psychology and philosophy at the University of Salzburg. Awards: 2022 Shortlisted for the Austrian Book Prize, 2020 German Book Prize longlist, 2020 Shortlist Austrian Book Prize, 2020 Project Scholarship Literature BKA, 2018 Annual Scholarship for Literature, Salzburg.

Jung und Jung
LITERARY FICTION

Stephan Roiss

Louder

Novel

200 pages

20 March 2024



Leon lives as if in a frenzy, seeking freedom in a foreign country and rehearsing the rebellion at home. Until he returns too late from far away when his mother dies. Self-reproach torments him, memories haunt him and he withdraws in bitterness. Even Vio and Milena, his two unlikely friends, can't change this, nor can the fact that their punk band is on the verge of a breakthrough. When Leon learns that he has cancer, he accepts an invitation to Venice, where an old friend introduces him to the art of meditation. However, Leon's journey does not end there, but continues across Italy before he finally lands on the volcanic island of Stromboli. Unexpectedly, he finds himself in a world where love is shameless, the guitars once again whine and drone and a reconciliation with life seems possible.

Louder is full of anger and hope. *Louder* celebrates life in contemplation and ecstasy. *Louder* is the call for more, more and more, and finally for silence.

»With *Louder*, Stephan Roiss conveys an extraordinary attitude to life that defies clear categorization. The novel provides answers to the complex questions of life without becoming trivial.«

Rosalyn Kleutgens / Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

»Stephan Roiss, born in Linz in 1983 and nominated for the German Book Prize in 2020 with his debut *Triceratops*, now presents another eloquent, atmospherically dense and, also, tender book with a soft spot for the marginalized.«

Dominik Bloedner / Frankfurter Rundschau

»Roiss, who himself has been a musician in Austria's alternative music scene for many years, formulates states of mind, moods and attitudes as energetically and precisely as the slogans of a punk song.«

Cornelius Wüllenkemper / Deutschlandfunk

Stephan Roiss was born in Linz in 1983, lives as a freelance author and musician (*Äffchen & Craigs, Fang den Berg, MULM, Kassa 4*) in Ottensheim and on the road. His radio plays have been broadcast on *SWR, MDR* and *Deutschlandradio Kultur*, among others. Stephan Roiss was nominated for the German Book Prize in 2020 for his first novel *Triceratops*, has been awarded with the 2018 Wuppertal Literature Biennale Sponsorship Award and the 2016 Floriana Sponsorship Award.

Jung und Jung
LITERARY FICTION

Tine Melzer
Do Re Mi Fa So
Novel
192 pages
22 August 2024



Sebastian Saum wants for nothing: he is a celebrated opera singer, socialises in stimulating company and lives carefree with his best friend Franz in the family estate he has inherited. Everything could stay just as it is until he takes a bath and decides not to get out of the bath again. Day after day passes, and while Franz patiently and faithfully entertains him, he gains distance from the world, naked and alone. His life and the roles he plays in it become questionable to him. He sheds them like a costume, like his wardrobe, like everything he has ever worn. And what remains of a naked singer without an audience? Of someone who has only ever sought applause? A pile of worn-out clothes and shoes that he sorts through in his head. And the question of what is worth getting out of the bathtub and connecting with people.

This book has it all: with biting humour and sentences of sharp elegance, it sings an aria on vulnerability and responsibility, on friendship and loyalty. A masterpiece!

»Tine Melzer's novel *Do Re Mi Fa So* is a carefully composed monologue with original humour and a declaration of love for the possibilities and power of language. At the same time, with the character Sebastian Saum, Melzer has created a mouthpiece for essential questions - and created an unusually insecure male figure.«

Isabell Hemmel / Tages-Anzeiger

»A really rich little novel, (...) a perfect book for anyone who wants to get out and let their mind wander and escape from life for a while. And you don't have to stay in the bathtub to do that, you just have to read this book.«

Irene Binal / Radio Ö1, 'Ex libris'

Tine Melzer, born in 1978, lives and works in Zurich. She studied art and philosophy in Amsterdam, completed her doctorate in Plymouth on Ludwig Wittgenstein and Gertrude Stein and is a lecturer at Bern University of the Arts. Her debut novel *Alpha Bravo Charlie*, published in 2023, won several awards, including the Franz Tumlér Literature Prize, and was nominated for the Rauris Literature Prize. In 2024, she received the Literary Award of the City of Zurich for *Do Re Mi Fa So*.

Jung und Jung
LITERARY FICTION

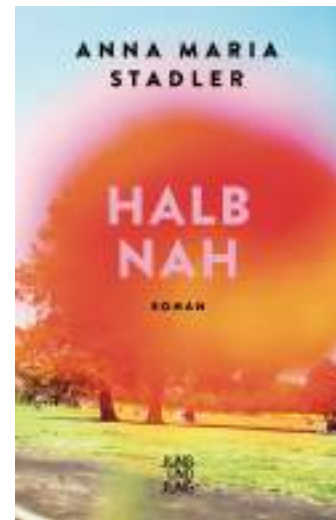
Anna Maria Stadler

Half-close

Novel

176 pages

22 August 2024



Three women don't go home for different reasons, each roaming the city on her own before the day is over. For Kata, it is full of memories that she avoids. As a child, when her mother was homeless, she spent a lot of time outside. Now, walking, she realises that the public space excludes some people. Kata's childhood was different to that of Mira, her foster sister, with whom she still stays when she visits. Mira spends less and less time in her flat, it is not permeable enough for her. On her wanderings, she thinks about forms of community, in niches of the city, before stumbling into one herself. Sarah, on the other hand, moves around the edges, out of the city and out of her life. She has just moved her things into a disused wing of a hospital. Unlike Elias, with whom she only shares a flat, she knows that this is also a farewell.

»In short episodes, told in straightforward language, the author jumps back and forth. She observes the characters as they observe their surroundings: precisely, sensitively, without glossing over or filling in the blanks. It is an art to balance distance and closeness in such a way that lasting tension is created. Stadler has mastered it.«

Linn Ritsch / Falter

»It is not a loud book, but one in which the author's political awareness is clear. In addition to the scenes dedicated to urbanity and distributive justice, this is also recognisable in feminist sequences, for example when Stadler has her protagonists reflect on the fact that women learn early on how to move around the city differently to men, especially at night. Last but not least, Stadler is a keen observer of people and their emotional states. She sensitively portrays the inner lives of her protagonists - how they outgrow their relationships, be it in friendship or love, how they deal with their loneliness and their fears.«

Christoph Görg / Radio Ö1, Ex libris

Anna Maria Stadler, born in 1992, is an author and artist living in Salzburg. She studied sculpture, cultural studies and German studies. Her work lies at the interface between literature, visual arts and theory. She was a finalist in the Munich Short Story Competition and was shortlisted for the Wortmeldungen Prize. With *Maremma* (2022), her first novel, she was nominated for the Debut Prize of the Austrian Book Prize.

Jung und Jung
LITERARY FICTION

Olga Flor

A Short Book About a Happy Demise

Novel

Roughly 128 pages

27 February 2025



The Earth's axis has suddenly tilted. Ravaged by human greed, the planet has become unbalanced and is now rolling along unpleasantly. On the beaches where people once strolled pensively, you can now find the »skid marks of a civilisation driven up against the wall« in the sand. Armanda knows it's time to set off and pack the essentials in a rucksack. She restlessly follows the barely habitable zones around the earth. She is looking for her daughter, from whom she receives mysterious messages. Is Nora in danger? The prospect of a reunion makes Armanda persevere against all odds in a world where glimmers of hope usually turn out to be mirages.

Olga Flor confronts our present with wicked humour and analytical acuity. And she impressively shows what emerges from even the worst devastation, one way or another: new courage and new life. A defensive travel guide, a novel for all those who fear the future and yet do not want to give up hope: a short book about a happy demise.

Olga Flor, born in Vienna in 1968, she grew up in Vienna, Cologne and Graz. After graduating in physics, she worked in the multimedia sector. Freelance writer since 2004. Recent Awards: 2023 Gert Jonke Prize for Prose of the Province of Carinthia, 2019 Franz Nabl Prize of the City of Graz, 2018 Droste Prize of the City of Meersburg.

Atlantis Literatur
LITERARY FICTION

Ursula Fricker
Catching Games
Novel
224 pages
20 March 2024



Ines and Lenni, a love that has lasted for decades, a trusting partnership. She a dermatologist and he a country doctor, they live with their daughter, who plays the cello, in the Berlin countryside. From their house you can see the slate-coloured lake in the hollow, not a big lake, a missing piece of the puzzle, as Ines always says, as if the last piece of the earth's puzzle was missing there of all places. Charismatic Edda bursts into her life, which her best friend clearly finds too kitschy. With her idea of absolute art, she increasingly becomes a source of fascination for Ines. She suddenly starts talking about unfulfilled childhood dreams and neglects everything that was once important to her - her daughter, her job, Lenni. When Edda tries to win her over for an innovative theatre project, Ines drops her old life and simply steals away.

»In her new book, Fricker describes the disintegration of a frozen marriage. She does so with a keen sense of her characters' longings and ambivalences. From book to book, her characters fight out the conflicts of our present day.« *Hansruedi Kugler / CH Media*

»Ursula Fricker's novel is an excitingly told story. It revolves around the big questions of identity, fulfilment and the meaning of life. But how solid is the stability that people create for themselves with the security of marriage, a job and a home?«
Bernadette Conrad / SRF

»*Catching Games* is finely spun and skilfully shows how much we move in automatisms, how much we are trapped by ourselves. How quickly one person's freedom becomes another's compulsion. How liberation there can turn into catastrophe here. - A must-read!« *Gallus Frei / literaturblatt.ch*

Ursula Fricker, born in Schaffhausen in 1965, has published six novels, including her highly acclaimed debut *Flowing Waters* (2004), *Beside Themselves* (2012), nominated for the Swiss Book Prize, and *Healthy Enough* (2022). The author, who lives in Märkische Schweiz near Berlin, has received numerous awards, most recently the Georg Fischer Culture Prize of the City of Schaffhausen in autumn 2022. For *Catching Games* (2024), she received a work grant from the Swiss Arts Council Pro Helvetia and the Brandenburg Art Prize for Literature.

Dörlemann
LITERARY FICTION

Barbara Schibli
Flickering in the Ear
Novel
288 pages
10 October 2024



Featured in *New Books in German*: »Shedding a light on the feminist movement in 1970s Switzerland, *Flicker in the Ear* is an insightful, empathetic novel that examines personal identity and how we cope with frustration.«

Summer 2010: while Priska is practising listening to her inner ear implant so that the punk music of yesteryear could become a rapture again, a political scandal is shaking the Swiss public. As in the politically heated 1970s and 80s, the domestic secret service has once again illegally tapped into the data of suspicious persons.

Priska was also under surveillance back then. The new fiche affair brings back memories of her time in the club scene and the women's movement, but above all of Gina, her role model, her fearless comrade-in-arms and great love, who was also targeted by the secret service. Over thirty years later, Priska thinks back and wonders how her life became what it is now.

With poetic images and gentle radicalism, Barbara Schibli explores the question of whether we become more and more ourselves over the years or lose ourselves in compromises. And how we recognise the difference.

»When you hear the words trickle, follow the sentences and immerse yourself in the images, you believe that Barbara Schibli finds her stories as easily as in a dream or frenzy.« *Ursula Fehr / Zürcher Unterländer*

»Babara Schibli combines wide-awake political awareness with a philosophy of listening and the meaning of music.« *Jana Avanzini / Aargauer Zeitung*

»A wonderful novel of small and large transformations, of personal and social change.« *Margit Schaller / Blog Kulturpur*

Barbara Schibli, born in Baden in 1975, studied German, Italian literature and journalism. She lives in the canton of Aargau and works as a secondary school teacher in Baden. In 2016, she won the Studer/Ganz Prize for the best unpublished prose manuscript. In 2017, she was awarded the GEDOK Literature Prize for her debut novel *Braiding*. In 2018, she won the competition of the 8th sonOhr Hörfestival with her radio play *Marten Repellent*.

Dörlemann
LITERARY FICTION

Jürg Beeler
The Blind King and his Jester
Novel
176 pages
17 September 2024



'Why have I been staying up here in the cold for three years now?' she asked. I couldn't tell her. Maybe I had just been waiting for her.'

The narrator lived in the North German Plain, one of the strangest places in the world, for three years. Now he wants to return to the south, to the sea. Shortly before his departure, he falls in love with a woman who lives with a parrot. He cannot fly because he is blind in one eye – however, he is loud. The narrator has been writing about places of silence for decades, and now he, of all people, has to compete with such a noisemaker. A nightmare. He devises ways to get rid of the noisemaker, not realising that he has long since seen through him and is taking his own measures.

A novel about how a parrot turns a writer's life upside down and fundamentally changes his relationship with people. And in passing and with a lightness of touch, it tells a story of jealousy, love of books, cafés and music.

»*The Delicacy of the Chairs* is a magnificent book. A gentle and powerful novel at the same time, which is one of the most important new German-language publications this literary spring.« *Durchleser - literary journal*

»A novel of rare stylistic elegance, light-footed and profound at the same time.« *Dresdner Morgenpost am Sonntag*

»...a stylist like Jürg Beeler doesn't need much to turn a short story into a great reading experience.« *Janäer Stadtmagazin*

Jürg Beeler, born in Zurich in 1957, studied German and comparative literature in Geneva, Tübingen and Zurich. Worked as a travel journalist, magazine editor and for various institutions, including Aids-Help Switzerland. Lives in the south of France and Zurich. He has been honoured several times for his literary work, including the Swiss Schiller Prize in 2003 for *Love, Said Stradivari*. Dörlemann published *The Man Who Wrote balzac's Novels* (2008) and *The Delicacy of the Chairs* (2014).

UPMARKET FICTION

Kampa
UPMARKET FICTION

Anne Freytag

Still Water

Novel

Roughly 288 pages

24 April 2025



When Ferdinand spoke of a 'summer at sea', Nora had something else in mind: less remote, less professional. Franziska also had no idea what she was letting herself in for when her husband Kilian announced a holiday for seven: with his boss Walter Bronstein, Ferdinand Mattern, his biggest rival, his three wives and Walter's son David. They want for nothing on the luxurious superyacht in the Philippines, it could be a relaxing time, but the guests have an inkling: This trip is about more, about something big. But nobody seems to know exactly what. Why has Walter invited the two rivals and their wives? Two couples in their forties, children out of the woods, homes paid off, careers on the rise - the men's careers, of course. Everyone is on their best behaviour. There are beaming smiles and skilful conversations. Married couples you couldn't imagine being happier. But nothing is as it seems. They all play a role in this production. But for whom? And who is directing?

Anne Freytag observes precisely and mercilessly reveals what she sees. With great urgency, she tells of tacit agreements that are cancelled, expectations and disappointments, needs and desires, conventions and secrets.

Anne Freytag studied International Management, graduated just in time for the economic crisis, wrote over a hundred job applications, couldn't find a job, worked in a boutique for a while, registered as unemployed, retrained as a graphic designer, got herself hired as a career changer with lousy pay at various agencies and then finally pursued her dream: Since 2013, she has devoted herself entirely to writing. She has been nominated several times for literary prizes for her books for young readers (including twice in a row for the German Youth Literature Prize) and has received awards for them (including the Bavarian Art Promotion Prize in the literature category). Anne Freytag lives and works in Munich. Her literary debut *Lies We Tell Us* has been published by Kampa Verlag.

Kampa
UPMARKET FICTION

Anne Freytag
Lies We Tell Us
Novel
384 pages
20 March 2024

English Sample available



Helene should have left her husband. For Alex. But she didn't. And now her husband has left her – because he fell in love with someone else. 'It just happened.' With this sentence, Georg tears apart the fabric of a life that Helene has always tried to hold together. But maybe the end isn't an end at all? Maybe it's a beginning. Something that Helene needed to free herself from the social corset, from her eternal attempts to conform to the images of a woman: as a wife and career woman, as a mother and daughter...

What does it actually mean to be a woman? This question accompanies Helene as she begins to go her own way.

»I'm right in the middle of it. I feel with Helene. Her pain. Her transformation.« *Daniela Stohn / Brigitte*

»In captivating, poetic language, Freytag draws the reader into the entanglements of different kinds of love as if in a whirlpool.« *Kristina Schmidl / Südwest Presse*

»[Anne Freytag] writes sensitively, poetically and emotionally. The focus is always on the characters and their reflections. While others only stay on the surface, she goes all in. All or nothing.« *@literatour_blog*

»[Anne Freytag's] language immediately captivated me from page one.« *Jutta Schmitt, Bücher bei Frau Schmitt / hr2*

Anne Freytag studied International Management, graduated just in time for the economic crisis, wrote over a hundred job applications, couldn't find a job, worked in a boutique for a while, registered as unemployed, retrained as a graphic designer, got herself hired as a career changer with lousy pay at various agencies and then finally pursued her dream: Since 2013, she has devoted herself entirely to writing. She has been nominated several times for literary prizes for her books for young readers (including twice in a row for the German Youth Literature Prize) and has received awards for them (including the Bavarian Art Promotion Prize in the literature category). Anne Freytag lives and works in Munich. *Lies We Tell Us* is her literary debut.

Kampa

UPMARKET FICTION

Jane Crilly

Silver Spoon

Translated from English by Julia Becker

Novel

256 pages

10 October 2024

Rights to previous title sold to:

Italy – Feltrineli

Spain – Libros de Seda



England shortly after the First World War. At Haddock Hall, nothing is as it was. While elsewhere the men have remained at war, after Lilian's death the Haddocks are without their beloved wife and mother. George, the fifth baronet, is supposed to bring up the two sons alone from now on? An impossibility! It is only when George's younger brother returns from British East Africa that the Haddocks' lives take a new turn. Because he doesn't come alone. Elise is at his side. Elise, a woman full of secrets. Elise, who turns everyone's head. Elise, who first saves the family and then seals their fate.

Even as a little girl, **Jane Crilly**, born in a small town in Southern England in 1972, wanted to leave her birthplace behind. She eagerly became an *au pair* only to be bitterly disappointed by the awful guest family and their more awful children. Her only consolation was the *pâtisserie*, which may have saved her during the loneliest year of her life. Later, Crilly studied – with far greater enthusiasm – art history and worked in several galleries. However, her greatest passion was literature. Her favorite author is Nancy Mitford. For a long time, Crilly's writing landed in her desk drawer; *The Gardner of Wimbledon* is her first novel. Today, Crilly lives in London and Cambridge with her English bulldog Headache and her husband.

Oktopus

UPMARKET FICTION

Hiltrud Baier

The Colours of Winter

Novel

288 pages

10 October 2024



When Hamburg-based graphic designer Nova Sarri looks for inspiration for her book covers, she thinks of the colours of Lapland. She used to spend every holiday there with her father Juhan and his new family. These are her favourite childhood memories: her father, whom she was allowed to help look after the reindeer, her 'bonus mum' Kristin, who knitted warm hats for her, and Kaspar, her physically impaired stepbrother, who snuggled up close to her in the sledge. The fact that contact with the rest of the family was severed when her father died is still difficult for Nova to cope with today. She has never heard from Kristin or Kaspar again. When a letter from northern Sweden summons Nova to the reading of her father's will, she believes there has been a mix-up. After all, Juhan didn't die a fortnight ago, as the notary claims, but more than twenty years ago. Nova sets off for northern Sweden. A journey that changes her life from the ground up.

Hiltrud Baier grew up in southern Germany. After training as a bookseller, she studied German and education. Over twenty years ago, she emigrated to Lapland for love. She enjoys the spectacular nature there, where you can hike for hours without meeting a soul. Hiltrud Baier has published four novels for adults to date: *Bright Days*, *Bright Nights*; *Days With Ida*; *Tango Summer* and *The Colours of Winter*. She has also published two crime novels under the pseudonym Klara Nordin.

Oktopus

UPMARKET FICTION

Hiltrud Baier

Tango Summer

Novel

272 pages

22 June 2023



»Is it that time again?«, asks the postman as he hands Riitta a large parcel. 'Are you sewing again?' All year Riitta looks forward to this one week in summer when Phil comes to Finland to dance with her at the tango festival in Seinäjoki. In the meantime, she leads a quiet life in her wooden house with sauna, goes fishing on Lake Inari by boat or gardens. Phil and she never talk about the past and their former love, that's the agreement. But this year Riitta hesitates to sew a new dress - she has a feeling that Phil won't come. Without further ado, Riitta decides to return to her former home for the first time in twenty-seven years to visit Phil in southern Germany. At the same time, however, Phil invites his daughter Johanna and his granddaughter Leni to accompany him to Finland - he wants to show them the country he loves so much. Will Riitta and Phil miss each other and possibly miss their last chance to come to terms with the past?

»After reading, you are left with the pleasant feeling of having spent a short holiday in the Finnish forests, complete with a mental cinema in which you can credibly experience and understand all the emotional entanglements.«

Helen Hoff and Katrin Schmidt, Lesezeichen bookshop in Germering / Süddeutsche Zeitung

»Beautiful descriptions of nature, a good family story, written very fluently and easily - you immediately search the internet for Finnish tango to round off the experience of the novel.« *Ute Gartmann / Osterholzer Kreisblatt*

»Between birch trees and the midnight sun, a story unfolds about how people can lose each other and how it's never too late to find each other again.« *Buchjournal*

»A real story of happiness.« *Simone Lilienthal / Buchszene.de*

Hiltrud Baier grew up in southern Germany. After training as a bookseller, she studied German and education. Over twenty years ago, she emigrated to Lapland for love. She enjoys the spectacular nature there, where you can hike for hours without meeting a soul. Hiltrud Baier has published four novels for adults to date: *Bright Days, Bright Nights; Days With Ida; Tango Summer* and *The Colours of Winter*. She has also published two crime novels under the pseudonym Klara Nordin.

Oktopus

UPMARKET FICTION

Rainer Moritz

Maybe the Last Love

Novel

192 pages

20 March 2024



Bernard Vautrot has had enough. Of the world's crises, climate change and war. His wife died some time ago and he keeps in loose contact with his son. For years, Bernard ran a wine shop in Montmartre, but he has also lost interest in his profession. In his early sixties, he no longer wants to take part, without resentment. He wants to come to terms with his life. Bernard leaves his old neighbourhood and moves to the east of Paris. He now lives right next to the famous Père-Lachaise cemetery. Day after day - sometimes even at night - he wanders through the cemetery, showing tourists the way to Oscar Wilde or Édith Piaf and thinking about what it means to find one's final resting place. Until he meets Aurélie, a young photographer who conquers the Père-Lachaise with her camera and makes Bernard doubt his retreat. Perhaps the last word has not yet been spoken ...

A story about a place where life ends, but which nevertheless tells of life in its brightest colours.

»[...] a captivating lesson in world literature.« *Charles Linsmayer / 20 Minuten*

Rainer Moritz, born in Heilbronn in 1958, is what you might call broadly based: at seventeen, he trained as a football referee; he later completed his doctorate with a thesis on Hermann Lenz, worked as chief editor at Reclam Leipzig and as programme manager at Hoffmann und Campe before taking over the management of the Hamburg Literaturhaus in 2005. As if that were not enough, Moritz regularly appears as a literary critic, translates from French (including Françoise Sagan, Pierre Bost and Georges Simenon), humorously comments on world events every week on Bremen 2 - and writes books.

Oktopus

UPMARKET FICTION

Julia Bruns

The Winery at Lake Garda

Novel

368 pages

10 October 2024



There is not much left for the stonemason Biagio Macre to live on. Most of the time the stomachs are empty in his modest house on the outskirts of the small town of Lonato above Lake Garda. At least three of his daughters are happily married - Biagio is only worried about the future of his youngest, whose mother died giving birth to her. Is Lucia, after all the most beautiful girl in the village, really in such a bad state that there is no marriage candidate to be found anywhere in Italy? At the age of twenty-four, Antonino Grazioli should also have left his parents' farm long ago. But where to go when there's nothing waiting for you? Even though there are only a handful of farms just outside the town, it takes a trick from the women of Lonato for Lucia and Antonino to cross paths and find happiness - until Antonino has to go to war in 1915. When the Italian state issues a decree in 1917 that soldiers who are willing to lease a farm will be discharged from the army, the resolute Lucia takes her fate into her own hands: Antonino wants to keep cows and grow grain, but Lucia dreams of a vineyard - it would be the first in the region ...

Julia Bruns, born in 1975 in a village in Thuringia, studied political science, sociology and psychology in Jena. After completing her doctorate in political science, she worked for many years as a speechwriter and in public relations. Today she writes novels, mainly crime thrillers, which are set in her home region of Thuringia, on the Baltic Sea, but also on Lake Como or in Amalfi, and spends her free time doing sport, going for walks and cooking delicious jams. Julia Bruns lives in Siegerland and Thuringia.

ESSAYS, BIOGRAPHIES & INTERVIEWS

Schöffling
BIOGRAPHY

Nicole Henneberg
Gabriele Tergit – Gifted for Friendship
393 pages
22 February 2024

English Sample available



Who was Gabriele Tergit, who was denied literary success during her lifetime and who is now celebrated as a great rediscovered Jewish author? She caused a sensation in the Weimar Republic with her politically courageous and journalistically brilliant court reports. Tergit was not only a courageous journalist, but above all a passionate writer who wanted to report on her life and the times she lived in. She did so in three major novels, the best known of which is *Effingers*. She was hated by the National Socialists, narrowly escaped arrest on the night of November 4, 1933 and had to flee Germany. But even in exile, first in Palestine and later in London, she remained an optimist building a new life for herself with a great deal of energy.

Tergit-editor and -expert Nicole Henneberg traces the biography of a stunning woman on the basis of hundreds of her letters.

»Gabriele Tergit is now considered an important novelist who was unjustly forgotten in the post-war years of the last century.«

SWR 2

»She writes so concretely, soberly and with such an interest in everyday life that you almost feel like you're walking through Berlin, which is becoming a modern metropolis.«

Marie Schmidt / Süddeutsche Zeitung

Nicole Henneberg was born in 1955 in Hof, studied comparative literature and philosophy in Berlin and Paris. She writes as a freelance author and literary critic for newspapers and magazines, including the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* and the *Tagesspiegel*. She publishes the complete works of Gabriele Tergit for *Schöffling & Co.* and spent a lot of time working on her biography with the bequest collected in the German Literature Archive in Marbach and talking to Tergit's family in England and Israel.

Gabriele Tergit (1894-1982) wrote novels, feuilletons and reports. The Jewish writer emigrated to Palestine in 1933 and moved to London in 1938. Her literary work was only rediscovered in Germany at a late stage. Today she is considered an important author of the interwar and post-war period.

Kampa
INTERVIEWS

Simone de Beauvoir

The Legendary Conversations with Alice Schwarzer

128 pages

13 October 2022

Their first meeting in 1970 was more of a chance encounter: Alice Schwarzer was conducting an interview with Jean-Paul Sartre when Simone de Beauvoir entered the room. The philosopher reacted dismissively to the young blonde journalist in the miniskirt, merely saying cuttingly to her partner: “Sartre, you know we have a press conference coming up”, and turned her back on Schwarzer. But the two women soon recognized each other as kindred spirits and became political companions and friends. And so the interviews that Alice Schwarzer conducted with the important writer and feminist between 1972 and 1982 bear witness to great openness and intimacy. Simone de Beauvoir not only formulates her views on politics, power, sexuality and the role of women with her typical clarity and radicalism, but also talks about personal matters such as ageing and her open relationship with Sartre. The first interview in which Beauvoir decidedly criticized socialism with the statement “I am a feminist!” caused a worldwide sensation; her theses on motherhood triggered storms of protest. And to this day, her positions on the significance of biological sex and the political positioning of feminism have not lost their explosive force.



Simone de Beauvoir, born in Paris in 1908 and died there in 1986, was a writer and feminist. While studying philosophy at the Sorbonne, she met the existentialist writer Jean-Paul Sartre. The two fell in love, but decided against marriage in favor of an equal partnership in which each retained their independence. Beauvoir worked as a teacher for a while. Her first novel *L'invitée* (*She Came and Stayed*, 1953) was published in 1943. The essay *Le Deuxième Sexe* (*The Other Sex*, 1951), published in 1949, became a worldwide success and made Beauvoir the most famous intellectual in France. In the fight for a new abortion law, Beauvoir signed the public declaration in 1971: “J'ai avorté.” (In the same year, together with Gisèle Halimi, she founded the women's rights organization *Choisir la cause des femmes* and remained its first president until 1981.

Kampa
INTERVIEWS

Alberto Manguel

A Dreamed Life. A Conversation with Sieglinde Geisel

192 pages

26 August 2021



He has been called the “King of Readers”, the “Don Juan of Libraries”, “Monsieur Lecture”. At the age of four, Alberto Manguel “discovered” that he could read, and at the age of sixteen he was a reader for the blind poet Jorge Luis Borges, director of the Argentine National Library from 2016 to 2018.

His bestseller *History of Reading*, published in 35 languages, made him world-famous. When Sieglinde Geisel asks him who he is, Manguel replies: “I am a reader.” Apart from that, his identity is fluid: as a native Argentinian who has lived in Israel, Tahiti and New York, among other places, and now holds Canadian citizenship; as a father of three who one day fell in love with a man; as a Jew raised by a German-Czech nanny who introduced him to German culture and literature. As in his books, Manguel draws on his immeasurable knowledge in a charming and inspiring way in conversation, talking about moving his private library of around 40,000 volumes, his stroke after which he had to learn to speak again, his love of Dante and his hobby of making dolls. And he reveals how it came about that each of his children was born during the Frankfurt Book Fair.

Alberto Manguel, born in Buenos Aires in 1948, spent his early childhood in Israel, where his father was an ambassador. He learned English from his nanny Ellin even before he mastered his “mother tongue” Spanish. In a bookshop where he worked as a teenager, Manguel met Jorge Luis Borges, whose friend and reader he became. Manguel dropped out of his literary studies in Paris after just one year and from then on worked in a wide variety of places as an editor, critic, writer and librarian. He has published more than fifty books: essays and non-fiction books about reading and literature, novels, plays and anthologies. He recently moved to Lisbon with his partner, the psychoanalyst Craig Stevenson, where his private library has found a new home in a palace in the old town and a study center for the history of reading is to be established.

Kampa
INTERVIEWS

Siri Hustvedt

When Feelings Meet Words. A Conversation with Elisabeth Bronfen

Translated by Grete Osterwald

320 pages

23 January 2025



It all begins one summer in Iceland. The nights are long and bright. Siri Hustvedt, 13, reads *David Copperfield* and knows she wants to be a writer. At 14, she reads Simone de Beauvoir and becomes a feminist. Her thirst for knowledge is enormous from an early age. In her early twenties, she fled the American provinces to study in New York, where she still lives today. Hustvedt told cultural scientist Elisabeth Bronfen in the summer of 2018 that she had always been fascinated by the city's flexibility and openness, but that anything rigid or dogmatic was alien to her - cultural stereotypes, patriarchal, sexist thought patterns of the kind that are once again gaining popularity in America under Donald Trump. Siri Hustvedt seeks what unites, not what divides, a diversity of perspectives. The play with identities, including gender identities, determines her novels, the interaction of different academic disciplines her essayistic texts. Siri Hustvedt lucidly demonstrates that true spaces of thought are in-between spaces in which it is not certainty that rules, but rather both/and.

Siri Hustvedt, born in 1955 in Northfield, Minnesota, studied history and English and received her doctorate with a thesis on Charles Dickens. In addition to novels such as the international bestsellers *What I Loved* and *A Summer Without Men*, she writes essays and poetry. Since the 1990s, she has been working on neuroscientific and psychoanalytical topics, on which she has also given lectures since the publication of her book *The Trembling Woman*. She is married to the writer Paul Auster, with whom she has a daughter.

CRIME FICTION

Kampa

CRIME FICTION

Alex Lépïc / Alexander Oetker

Lacroix and the Contract Killing at the TGV

Crime novel

208 pages

27 February 2025



The fact that Docteur Obert rings Lacroix's doorbell early on a Saturday morning does not bode well. The day before, the forensic pathologist had overheard a conversation in the Train Bleu restaurant in the Gare de Lyon that left him no peace. Admittedly, he had already had a glass of red wine, but the fact that a man in the private room behind him was instructing his counterpart to commit murder on the TGV to Reims - Obert hadn't imagined it! Instead of strolling along the colourful market street with his wife Dominique, Lacroix makes his way to the station restaurant. A wonderfully old-fashioned place, from a time when travelling was still something special. But there is no time to lose: Eight TGV trains run daily between Reims and Paris. Travelling at over three hundred kilometres per hour, the commissaire and his team have just forty-six minutes each to find the potential victim among two thousand travellers and thwart the murder. Lacroix's investigation leads him to the oldest champagne house in the world, where he is confronted with a dark family secret.

»Alexander Oetker creates a unique atmosphere and creates characters that his readers can't get enough of.« *Buchmarkt*

Alex Lépïc's Commissaire Lacroix made it into the top 50 of the *Spiegel* best-seller list with his first case. Under his pen name Lépïc, author **Alexander Oetker**, born in 1982, created this wonderfully old-fashioned Commissaire. With his successful Aquitaine series revolving around Commissaire Luc Verlain (Hoffmann & Campe), he has already proved himself to be an expert in all things French. He lived in Paris for many years and continues to report on the *Grande Nation*. Today, he commutes with his family between Southwest France and Brandenburg.

Kampa
CRIME FICTION

Phillip Gurt
Angel of Death
Crime novel
Roughly 352 pages
20 March 2025



A mysterious and no less disturbing murder of a 29-year-old woman in Chur has shaken more than just Graubünden. The victim was draped on a park bench at the edge of the forest as if she were still alive, with a strange object stuck in her mouth. Giulia de Medici, the experienced chief investigator of the Graubünden cantonal police, takes on the case. At her side, as always, is Nadia Caminada, her best friend and a renowned profiler. Together they embark on the investigation and come across a gruesome parallel: in the summer of 1983, during the infamous Emmental summer of blood, one of the three young women killed was staged in exactly the same way. Could the same murderer have been at work, or are they dealing with a copycat offender? While Giulia and Nadia desperately search for clues and connections between the two cases, the picturesque Lake Cresta, glowing in autumnal colours, becomes the scene of another crime.

»Hardly any other Swiss author writes as much and as successfully as Philipp Gurt.« *Anton Beck / Schweizer Illustrierte*

Philipp Gurt was born in 1968 as the seventh of eight children in a poor family of mountain farmers in Graubünden and grew up in various children's homes. Gurt was already writing short stories as a teenager, followed by his first novel at the age of twenty. He always had an intimate relationship with nature, which also characterised his highly atmospheric writing. His attachment to the canton of Graubünden, where he still lives today as a freelance writer, is palpable in every one of his novels.

Dörlemann
CRIME FICTION

Phillip Gurt
Engadiner Devil
Crime novel
Roughly 176 pages
12 June 2025



The larches are glowing gold and the lakes in the Upper Engadine are glistening deep blue when Corina Costa, alpine policewoman and mountain farmer, is alerted on her small farm above Pontresina. Two young women from a travelling group from Germany who were camping in the wild have been found dead next to their tent - mauled as if a brown bear were the culprit. The violent death of the Berlin TikTok icons goes viral. Instead of avoiding the crime scene, sensationalists are travelling to the Engadin and the devil's hunt for tourists continues.

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Kampa
CRIME FICTION

Phillip Gurt
Graubünden Dawn
Crime novel
320 pages
14 November 2024



Chur at the beginning of the 1950s. The whole neighbourhood is in an uproar after the red-bearded Zoltan escapes from the mental asylum, the wing for 'mentally ill sex offenders'. Less than two days later, at the crack of dawn on a May day, Caminada and his friend Lieutenant Marugg are called out: an unknown caller has reported to the police station in a disguised voice that a gruesome crime has been committed on the sheep pasture on the outskirts of Chur. The two shepherdesses, sisters, were lying dead in the knee-high grass - but there was more ... Then he hung up. The crime scene bears witness to something terrible. The search for the powerful Zoltan continues at full speed, because the crime matches one he committed thirteen years earlier in Schanfigg. Another lead takes Caminada and Marugg to the 'Wild Man', a dive bar with dubious characters.

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Kampa

CRIME FICTION

Christof Weigold

A Burning Conscience

Crime novel

384 pages

17 September 2024



For the first time since the sudden death of his girlfriend two years ago, Munich case analyst Felix Petry has decided to go on a blind date. But the romantic dinner at Shalom, his stepfather's Jewish restaurant, is interrupted by a call from the homicide squad: seventy-five-year-old bookseller Erica Mrosko has been stabbed to death in her old flat in Schwabing, and an empty envelope addressed to Petry was found at the scene of the crime. He didn't know the woman - what did she have to tell him? Petry is forced to deal with the past - including his own in a commune. He investigates using his method of operational case analysis, in which he reconstructs the course of events step by step and intuitively develops a profile of the perpetrator. In the process, he constantly clashes with the ambitious young chief inspector Alina Schmidt, who is in charge of the investigation. But soon the two of them have two hot leads. One leads to an old hippie's shared flat, the other to a highly explosive and unsolved case from 1970: the arson attack on the Jewish retirement home in Reichenbachstraße, in which seven residents were murdered.

»Great historical suspense from a meticulous researcher.« *Stefan Bartels / Brigitte*

»The historical case of an unsolved arson attack on a Jewish retirement home in Munich as a thriller [...] Christof Weigold had no idea how explosive and topical the subject of his first Munich crime novel would become.« *Sabine Reithmaier / Süddeutsche Zeitung*

»Christof Weigold can simply do it! As in his previous novels, he focuses on a real crime that is still unsolved today - in this case a crime that is still politically explosive today. He skilfully interweaves fact and fiction, creates impressive characters and keeps the plot taut and exciting despite the 374 pages.« *Frank Menden*

Christof Weigold, born in Mannheim in 1966, wrote theatre plays, was a regular writer for the Harald Schmidt Show and now works as a freelance screenwriter for film and television. The first volume in the series about German private investigator Hardy Engel, *The Man Who Does Not Play Along*, was published in 2018. Weigold won the Mordsharz Festival prize for the best German-language debut and was nominated for the Glauser Prize. Three further parts followed: *The Blood-Red Carpet*, *The Last Beloved* and *The Evil Father*. In *The Burning Conscience*, case analyst Felix Petry, who, like Christof Weigold, lives in Munich, investigates for the first time.

Kampa

CRIME FICTION

Claudia Bardelang

Black is the Forest

Crime novel

224 pages

28 July 2022



According to legend, even Caesar would not have dared to enter it: the legendary Black Forest. Chief Inspector Johann Briamonte knows why he left his homeland, but not exactly why he is returning. His mother's joy at seeing him again is also limited when Briamonte turns up unannounced on her doorstep and tells her that he has bought a farm in need of renovation very close to his parents' house. Even before the building work begins, Briamonte is called to his first case: Gianrico Masiero, a waiter at the hotel Zum Roten Fuchsen in Menzenschwand, has been shot in the head not far from a raised hide. Who was after the young man? And what brought the Italian to the furthest corner of the Black Forest in the first place? Briamonte and his colleagues from the criminal investigation department in Waldshut-Tiengen take up the investigation. There are quite a few hunters between St. Blasien and Feldberg, but none of the registered weapons are capable of firing such a precise shot from such a distance. And then a young woman from Ukraine, also a temp at the Hotel Zum Roten Fuchsen, disappears ...

Claudia Bardelang was born in Switzerland in 1964, but grew up in Emmendingen in Breisgau. The lithographer and painter exhibited in Germany and Italy for many years before discovering her love of writing. After studying late in life, she now works as a teacher. Claudia Bardelang has a grown-up daughter and lives with her partner in Basel.

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