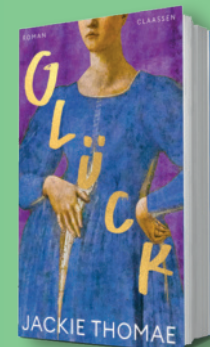
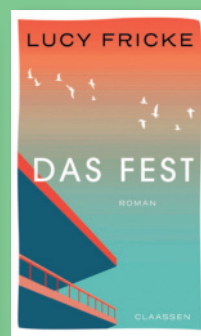
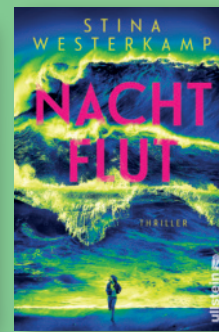
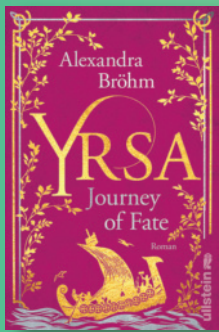




Foreign Rights Fall Highlights 2024



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- Ullstein
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An old farmhouse, a sack of potatoes, and an inspiring tale to overcome the melancholia agitata of our time.



© Matthias Ziegler

Stephan Schäfer worked as a journalist, editor-in-chief, and large media company board member for many years. *25 letzte Sommer* is his first book. He lives with his family in Hamburg and on the countryside.

- **Ullstein 2024 highlight**
- **Top 3 Spiegel bestseller with 125,000 copies sold**

25 Last Summers

“Now I was sitting on this farm sorting potatoes. There were still 25 summers ahead of me, as Karl had put it so vividly at the lake. Some time is always now.”

Two people who couldn't be more different meet at the kitchen table of an old farmhouse. The narrator of this story, a media executive, leads a busy life that he perceives as an endless to-do list, whereas farmer Karl picks potatoes day after day – and spends a lot of time thinking.

When Karl surprises his guest with the fact that he has about 25 summers left to live, the two start a conversation about the big questions in life: Why do we spend so much time at work instead of with the people and things that are really important to us? Where do we find the courage to fulfill our dreams? And why does real life often only begin when we realize that we only have one?

25 Last Summers is a warm, profound story that taps into our longing for a life in balance.

“An enchanting book.” – DIE ZEIT

“The novel is like Karl the potato farmer. It encourages us to let life into life.” – NDR Kulturjournal

“Stephan Schäfer’s debut novel is about nothing less than the meaning of life.” – Sächsische Zeitung

Rights sold to:

French, France (Actes Sud) | Italian, Italy (Einaudi) | Korean, Korea (Seosamdok)

Stephan Schäfer | 25 Last Summers

park x ullstein | Inspirational | Hardcover | 115 × 190 mm | ISBN 978-3-98816-009-6 | Price D: 22,00 € | 176 Pages |

Published: 14.03.2024

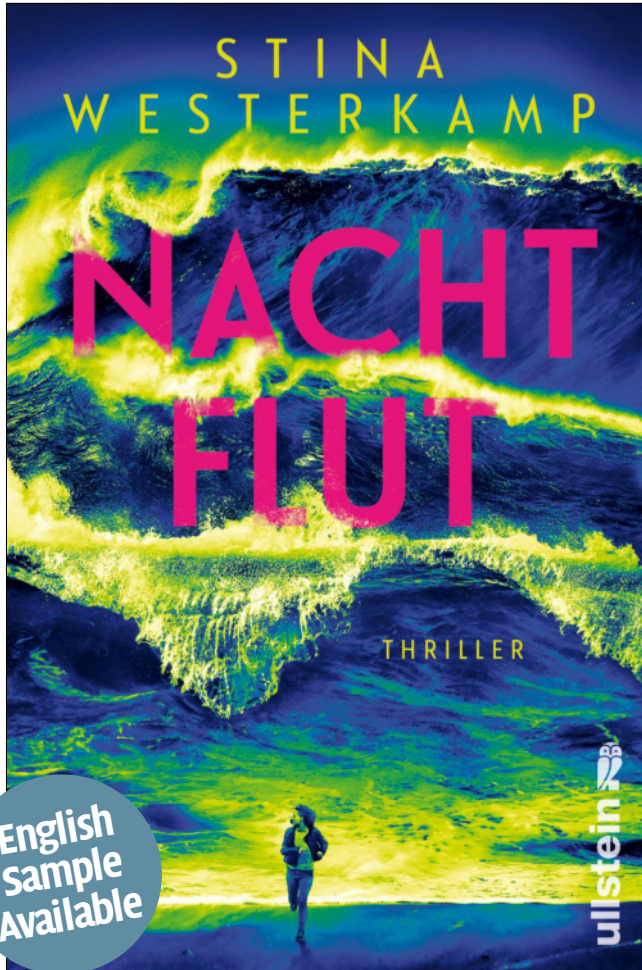
Contact: Annemarie Blumenhagen | rights@ullstein-buchverlage.de | Friedrichstr. 126 | 10117 Berlin | Phone +49 (0)30 23456 450



Available as e-book



A thriller that pulls you in like the current: forceful, relentless, and unpredictable.



Stina Westerkamp is the pseudonym of a successful thriller author. While studying psychology, she found herself captivated by the question of what turns humans into murderers. This fascination persisted over time, and she continues to explore the psyche of criminals and victims for professional reasons, dedicated to unraveling the complex web of human behavior.

Flood in the Night

Heavy winds lash through the streets. Ominous storm surge warnings blare. A Baltic coastal town faces imminent evacuation. Amidst the urgency, Elisa lingers until the eleventh hour, finding herself in eerie company: her neighbors, inexplicably delaying departure. The couple – just like Elisa – seem to be hiding something.

The three of them find themselves trapped in the same house as catastrophe strikes and the town's dyke yields to the waves. The power goes out and darkness descends while the water rises ever higher. A nearby jailbreak looms large, unleashing a threat far more sinister than the raging storm: one of the prison fugitives has a singular, chilling fixation – none other than Elisa herself.

As nature's fury collides with the darkness of human nature, a harrowing tale unfolds, where survival hinges not only on weathering the storm but on confronting the secrets that bind them all. Four narrative perspectives, none of them reliable, and four secrets that threaten to come to light as the flood surges: Stina Westerkamp's thriller is as claustrophobic and as it is chilling – and certain to make massive waves.

The perfect next nail-biting read for fans of Lucy Clarke and Freida McFadden.

Stina Westerkamp | Flood in the Night

Ullstein Paperback | Thriller | Paperback | 135 × 205 mm | ISBN 978-3-86493-275-5 | Price D: 16,99 € | 400 Pages |

Published: 02.01.2025

Contact: Annemarie Blumenhagen | rights@ullstein-buchverlage.de | Friedrichstr. 126 | 10117 Berlin | Phone +49 (0)30 23456 450

Page 3 | As from 28.08.2024

e-book
Available as e-book



“More and more candles, less and less breath”: The (mid-)life crisis that the fiftieth birthday gifts us.



© Gerald von Foris

Lucy Fricke received numerous awards for her work; most recently she was a fellow at the Tarabya Cultural Academy in Istanbul. Her bestselling novel *Daughters* has been translated into eight languages and was successfully adapted for film. She lives in Berlin.

The Celebration

In the heart of midlife, Jakob, once a celebrated film director, faces a desolate existence. His career lies in ruins, his last love affair a distant memory. Grey hair, a frail body, and his mind barren of ideas.

On the morning of his fiftieth birthday, Jakob solemnly declares that there is nothing worth celebrating. But his longtime friend, Ellen, disagrees. She propels him on a journey through the tapestry of his life – a pilgrimage to reunite with those he once held dear, those he believed were lost to time. Among them: the great love he left, a former best friend whose bond now echoes in the distance, the companion who ignited his passion for Jim Jarmusch’s films, and a childhood friend whose memory occasionally stirs within him. As the day unfolds, these encounters culminate in a rendezvous at a dimly lit restaurant – and Jakob, until almost the end, clings to the belief that they are mere coincidences.

The Celebration is a book about loss, forgiveness, and the profound impact of friendships. With deep melancholy and unflinching humor, the protagonist reflects on his life – a life that is just beginning.

“Lucy Fricke shakes her readers to the core. Her language keeps the balance between tragedy and comedy, coolness and longing, dignity and crash.”

- SWR2

Rights sold to:

French, Worldwide Fr. (Le Quartanier Canada)

Lucy Fricke | *The Celebration*

Claassen | Literary Fiction | Hardcover | 125 × 205 mm | ISBN 978-3-546-10095-3 | Price D: 20,00 € | 144 Pages | Published: 17.10.2024

Contact: Annemarie Blumenhagen | rights@ullstein-buchverlage.de | Friedrichstr. 126 | 10117 Berlin | Phone +49 (0)30 23456 450

Page 4 | As from 28.08.2024

e-book

Available as e-book



A story of great love and the love for life – as honest, touching, and funny as only Katja Oskamp’s writing can be.



English sample Available

- Selected for New Books in German Fall 2024

The Penultimate Woman

“Later, I thought about whether the sentence Tosch was the man of my life was true and at what age one could say such a sentence. I centered around the question of whether everything would have turned out the way it did if Tosch hadn’t fallen ill during those nineteen years and I hadn’t grown old during those nineteen years.”

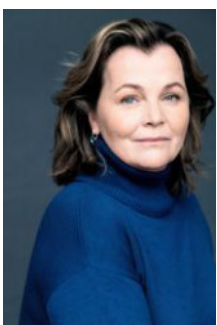
She meets him when she is still young, and he is almost old. Tosch, a renowned writer, captures her attention. She, a budding writer and mother to a young daughter, becomes his student, lover, and confidante. Together, they pledge devotion, embracing each other’s quirks and idiosyncrasies. Their relationship brims with lust, unwavering commitment, and infectious cheerfulness.

However, as her daughter enters adolescence, a diagnosis shatters their world. The once passionate love affair transforms into an urgent state of emergency. She transitions from lover to caregiver, determined to support him. Yet, amidst her efforts, something wanes – the man she adores slips away. Farewells commence, accompanied by the promise of a new life.

Katja Oskamp tenderly and openly chronicles the transformations life grants us – our fragile existence, the roles women have to inhabit, and the exquisite imperfections of our bodies.

“Katja Oskamp doesn’t need many words to tell the story of a whole life. But the stories that emerge are spectacular.” - Bov Bjerg

“Katja Oskamp establishes herself as an unpretentious, witty narrator of the tragedies of everyday life and love.” - Jörg Magenau, Deutschlandradio Kultur



© Mathias Bothor

Katja Oskamp was born in Leipzig and grew up in Berlin. After studying theatre studies, she worked as a dramatist at the Volkstheater Rostock and studied at the German Literature Institute in Leipzig. So far, she has published the short story collection *Halbschwimmer* and the novels *Die Staubfängerin* and *Hellersdorfer Perle*. In 2019, *Marzahn, mon amour* was published. For the English edition, she and her translator received the Dublin Literary Award in 2023.

Katja Oskamp | The Penultimate Woman

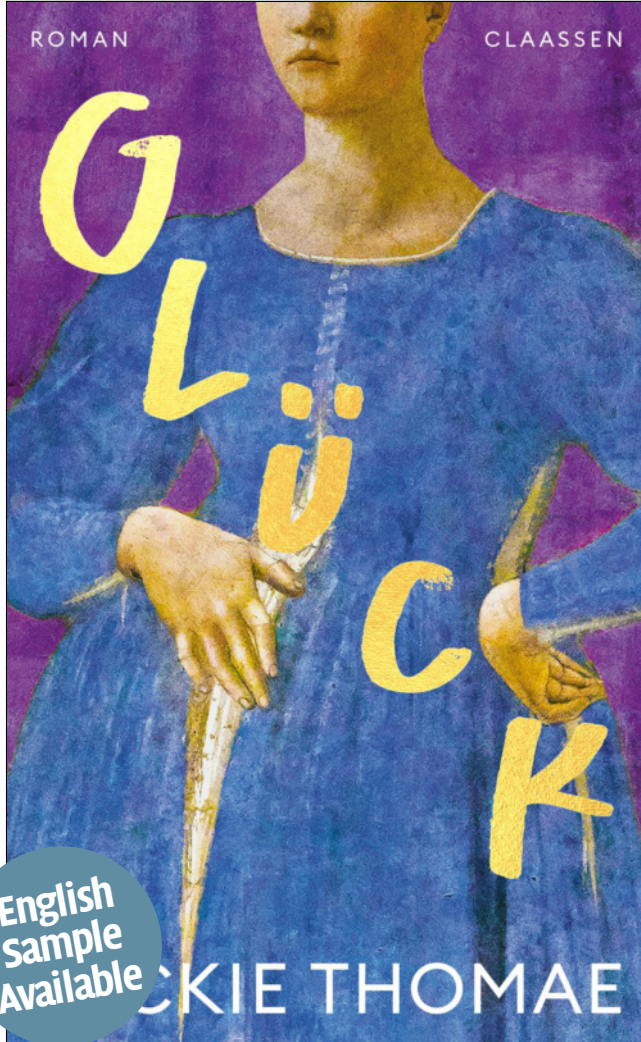
park x ullstein | Literary Fiction | Hardcover | 125 x 205 mm | ISBN 978-3-98816-020-1 | Price D: 22,00 € | 208 Pages | Published: 29.08.2024

Contact: Annemarie Blumenhagen | rights@ullstein-buchverlage.de | Friedrichstr. 126 | 10117 Berlin | Phone +49 (0)30 23456 450

e-book
Available as e-book



Women under pressure: Can you only be happy as a mother, or are there other paths to fulfillment?



- Selected for New Books in German Fall 2024

Happiness

Marie-Claire, affectionately known as MC, has spent nearly four decades as the cheerful voice on the radio. But then her gynecologist delivers a sobering message: you've had a quarter of a century to have a child. And now it's too late, or just about. The most important deadline in life: missed. The only purpose of existence: missed. Yet, the next morning, a surprise awaits her: genuine happiness.

Anahita, a rising star in politics. A senator before the age of forty, a media darling, promised a future in Brussels. However, an unspoken void gnaws at her. Is motherhood still considered a woman's paramount skill and ultimate achievement? Anahita grapples with this question, even as her professional achievements accumulate.

Happiness captures the lives of women under pressure. Caught between the urgency of aging and the lingering youthfulness within, they face a pivotal phase. But what if this juncture could be artificially extended? What if women, like their male counterparts, simply had more time? Jackie Thomae explores these themes with utter verve and depth, inviting readers to contemplate the complexities of existence and the pursuit of fulfillment.

"An incredibly well-observed, deeply funny, and almost unbearably truthful novel." – Harper's Bazaar

"Soberingly honest and remarkably sensitive." – DIE ZEIT

"Jackie Thomae's artistry lies in creating great works that never feel imposing – a novel of substance that wears its sophistication lightly." – DER SPIEGEL



© Urban Zintel

Jackie Thomae is a journalist and television author. Her debut novel *Momente der Klarheit* was published in 2015. Her second novel, *Brüder*, was shortlisted for the 2019 German Book Prize and was honored with the 2020 Düsseldorf Literature Prize. She lives in Berlin.

Jackie Thomae | Happiness

Claassen | Literary Fiction | Hardcover | 125 × 205 mm | ISBN 978-3-546-10046-5 | Price D: 24,00 € | 432 Pages | Published: 01.08.2024

Contact: Annemarie Blumenhagen | rights@ullstein-buchverlage.de | Friedrichstr. 126 | 10117 Berlin | Phone +49 (0)30 23456 450

e-book
Available as e-book



A young girl has gone missing. Seven people look for her – every Saturday.



© Nick Ellenberger

Sina Scherzant is a SPIEGEL bestselling author, podcaster and screenwriter. *Tumbling* is her second novel after her 2023 literary debut *On Doomsday, Wolf Devoured Sun*.

Tumbling

Where is Hannah? The mystery of her disappearance two years ago weighs heavily on her family and the entire village. Her sister Luisa leads a group of seven people through the forest every Saturday, hoping to find a trace of Hannah.

Amidst the persistent uncertainty surrounding Hannah's disappearance, Scherzant zooms in on the lives of those who refuse to give up the search. Once a multitude, they now number only a few. Frank, a paramedic, nursing his broken heart in silence. Inge, mother to a teenager, tirelessly drives everyone through the forest, while her life at home is falling apart. Amaka grapples with a diffuse phantom pain. Emma, Enrico, Christina, and Hartmut each carry burdens of their own. Luisa, who dropped out of her studies to support her family, is torn between despair, anger, and sadness. They know the chances to find Hannah are slim, but all cling to the weekly searches for dear life. Because together they are less alone.

Clever and imaginative, Scherzant writes with such force that you can't help but feel lucky this novel has landed in your hands! *Twin Peaks* meets *Meg Wolitzer* or *Coco Mellors*.

“Like a seismograph, Sina Scherzant traces grief, loss and hope. ‘Taumeln’ is an unobtrusive, unagitated novel, which is precisely why it is so touching.” – Mia Latkovic

“Sina Scherzant courageously and carefully brings together all these lonely people. What an ingenious temporary community.” – Daniela Droscher

“A thoughtful, deeply moving, and well-crafted novel.”
– WDR1

Sina Scherzant | Tumbling

park x ullstein | Hardcover | 125 × 205 mm | ISBN 978-3-98816-016-4 | Price D: 23,00 € | 320 Pages | Published: 01.08.2024

Contact: Annemarie Blumenhagen | rights@ullstein-buchverlage.de | Friedrichstr. 126 | 10117 Berlin | Phone +49 (0)30 23456 450

e-book
Available as e-book



A sweeping literary inventory of the generational memories, fears, and denial that shape our present.



Desiderium

Journalist Benedikt struggles to find his footing after graduating and ends up working as a communications consultant for a populist politician. This new job brings him uncomfortably close to the reactionary camp, prompting the women in his life – his partner Marianne, his sister Agnes, and his mother Edith – to question his values. How did he, raised in a liberal and anti-authoritarian household, end up here? What unresolved grief, denial, and long-buried family patterns have driven him to this point?

The answer leads to Herzach, the place in Bavaria where Benedikt spent the summer vacations of his childhood, and to the fishery that has been in the family for generations – and which is now facing ruin. When history is close to repeating itself, Benedikt must decide whose footsteps and politics to follow.

Desiderium is a captivating family novel that brings the past into sharp focus by exploring why we perpetually repeat the same mistakes. The book unflinchingly examines fascist legacies and material continuities, revealing how history, both large and small, shapes our present. A timeless narrative, written for the moment.



© Max Zerrahn

Donata Rigg studied Theatre and Cultural Communication, Modern German Literature and Philosophy at the German Literature Institute. She previously published two novels and lives in Berlin.



© Max Zerrahn

Claudia Klischat studied at the German Literature Institute in Leipzig. She previously published a collection of short stories and two novels. She lives in Munich.

Donata Rigg, Claudia Klischat | Desiderium

Ullstein Hardcover | Literary Fiction | Hardcover | 135 × 215 mm | ISBN 978-3-550-20255-1 | Price D: 26,99 € | 624 Pages |

Published: 29.08.2024

Contact: Annemarie Blumenhagen | rights@ullstein-buchverlage.de | Friedrichstr. 126 | 10117 Berlin | Phone +49 (0)30 23456 450

Page 8 | As from 28.08.2024

e-book
Available as e-book



A novel about the toxic legacy of motherly expectations – and the beauty of outgrowing them.



© Nils Schwarz

Anna Brüggemann grew up in South Africa and southern Germany. As an actress, she has played leading roles in various television and cinema films. With her brother, filmmaker Dietrich Brüggemann, she co-wrote the screenplay for the feature film *Kreuzweg* which won the Silver Bear at the Berlinale. Anna Brüggemann currently lives in Berlin.

When the Fighting Dogs Take Their Nightly Walk

Regina embodies the quintessential post-war generation woman. She had many opportunities afforded to her, pursued a psychology degree, dreamt of an academic career – only to set her ambitions aside after all, for the sake of her family. Now, she channels all her hopes and aspirations into her daughters, Antonia and Wanda.

Antonia consistently undermines expectations, drops out of university, and becomes a single mother. Wanda meets every expectation but spirals into an eating disorder, ignored by those around her. Throughout their lives, the sisters waver between competition, independence, and a yearning for their mother's recognition; even beyond her death. Over two decades, we follow the three women, right up to the third generation, as they struggle for the one thing they lack: the feeling of being loved.

With a keen power of observation, unexpected humor and tenderness, Anna Brüggemann weaves a mother-daughter story that is also the story of so many who have come up against motherly expectations. It speaks so much delicate, brutal truth about all the indelible early imprints we all carry and can never quite escape.

Anna Brüggemann's literary debut *Trennungsroman* published with Ullstein in 2021, was awarded the lit.cologne debut prize and translated into Dutch by Meulenhoff Boekerij.

“It's easy to judge this dysfunctional family – until you start to identify with the three women and their struggles against themselves and each other.” – Anika Landsteiner

Anna Brüggemann | When the Fighting Dogs Take Their Nightly Walk

Ullstein Hardcover | Hardcover | 125 x 205 mm | ISBN 978-3-550-20221-6 | Price D: 22,99 € | 384 Pages | Published: 31.10.2024

Contact: Annemarie Blumenhagen | rights@ullstein-buchverlage.de | Friedrichstr. 126 | 10117 Berlin | Phone +49 (0)30 23456 450

e-book
Available as e-book



The saga continues: Follow the flower daughters to legendary Iceland, and beyond.



- **Epic storytelling for fans of Lucinda Riley: five stories, five continents, one big family secret**
- **Over 45,000 copies sold of part one**

The Flower Daughters Series

When their beloved grandmother Rose passes away, five cousins return to the family sanctuary, a beautiful flower garden in Cornwall. But they are left with more than just a piece of land; they inherit a legacy rich with untold stories and secrets that will change their lives forever.

Book one, *The Flower Daughters*, enchanted tens of thousands of readers with the tale of Dalia, who unraveled the mysteries of her origins and her mother's love story amidst the vibrant backdrop of Mexico. Part two, *The Wildflower Daughter*, takes us to wild and romantic Iceland where her cousin Soley seeks solace and answers.

Soley seems to have it all: success, wealth, a handsome boyfriend. Yet, the singer feels more alone on stage than ever before. When an oil painting of a woman who looks strikingly like her appears at the family estate, it ignites a deep longing within her. Determined to uncover the truth, Soley follows the portrait's trail to Iceland and delves into the history of a land to which she is profoundly connected.

The series masterfully blends scenic settings and big emotions – a delightful read for anyone seeking a heartfelt escape into a world of love, hope, and enduring family ties!

Each book follows one of the five women across continents on their search for lost parents, true love – and themselves. Part three, *The Carnation Daughter*, is set in Sri Lanka and will publish in July 2025. Books four and five will take place in New Zealand and Namibia.

Rights sold to:

Slovak, Slovakia (Tatran) | Danish, Denmark (Gyldendal) | Bulgarian, Bulgaria (Lemur) | Dutch, Netherlands (HarperCollins) | Italian, Italy (Giunti) | Spanish, Spain (Penguin Random House) | French, France (Editions Leduc)



Tessa Collins lives with her family in a small town in Southern Germany. When she is not spending her time traveling, she dedicates it to writing about her dream destinations or enjoying the outdoors.

© Silke Ziegler

Tessa Collins | The Flower Daughters Series

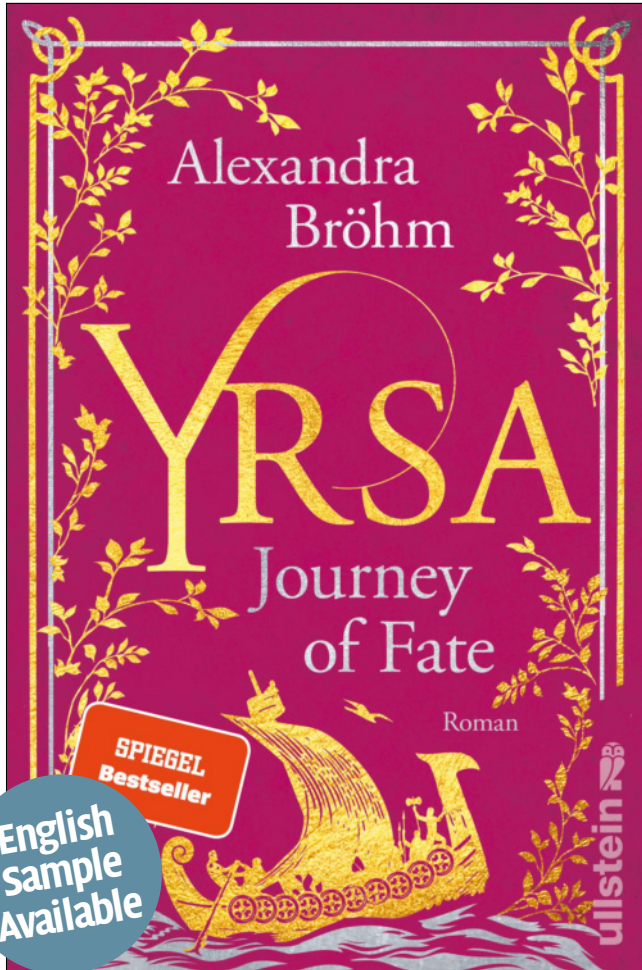
Ullstein Taschenbuch | Taschenbuch | 120 × 187 mm | ISBN 978-3-548-06885-5 | Price D: 12,99 € | 528 Pages | Published: 31.10.2024

Contact: Annemarie Blumenhagen | rights@ullstein-buchverlage.de | Friedrichstr. 126 | 10117 Berlin | Phone +49 (0)30 23456 450

e-book
Available as e-book



Nordic myths, the dark forests of the Viking lands of yore, and a young woman on a quest to find her true calling.



Yrsa: Journey of Fate

In the windswept realm of ancient northern Germany, Yrsa's dreams of becoming a warrior have long been eclipsed by the weight of familial duty. Alone and desperate for survival, she cares for her brother Sjalfi after their mother's death and strikes a precarious deal with a man much older than her – only to find her world shattered when Sjalfi vanishes.

Betrayed by those she trusts, Yrsa sets out on a perilous quest to rescue Sjalfi whom she believes to be held captive in the Viking settlement Haithabu. She finds unexpected allies in the enigmatic warrior Avidh and mystical Seer Ingvar. But love and treachery lie close together and with dangers at every turn, Yrsa's journey takes her to the brink of sacrifice: she must choose between her duty to her kin and her longing for a life of freedom and honor.

Alexandra Bröhm skillfully weaves Nordic folklore, historical authenticity, and romantic intrigue into a rich, adventurous tale of love and loyalty. As her strong-willed heroine navigates the secrets and dangers of the Viking age, readers discover its rugged beauty amidst the clash of swords and whispers of prophecy.

Yrsa's journey as a Viking warrior and budding romance with Avidh will continue in a forthcoming sequel, to be published in 2025.



Alexandra Bröhm is a historian and works as a journalist for one of Switzerland's biggest newspapers. She has previously translated books from English and has written a non-fiction book on reproductive medicine. She won second prize in the Agatha Christie crime novel competition organized by S. Fischer Verlag. The archaeological findings of the Birka shieldmaiden in Sweden inspired her to tell the story of a female Viking warrior.

© Thierry Bröhm / 6.4photo

Alexandra Bröhm | Yrsa: Journey of Fate

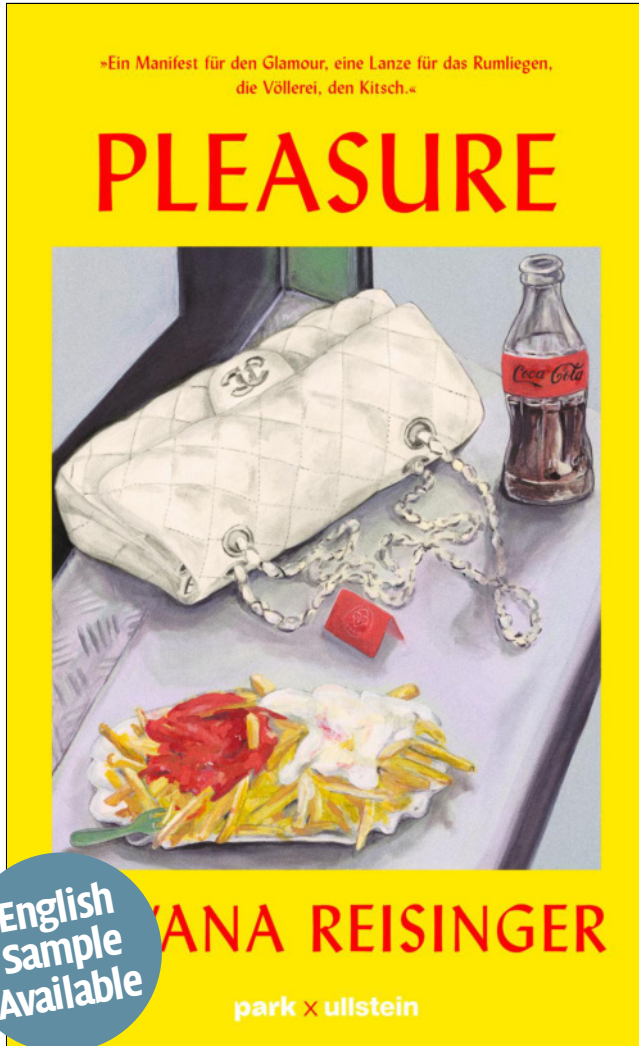
Ullstein Paperback | Historical Fiction | Paperback | 135 × 205 mm | ISBN 978-3-86493-276-2 | Price D: 17,99 € | 592 Pages | Published: 27.06.2024

Contact: Annemarie Blumenhagen | rights@ullstein-buchverlage.de | Friedrichstr. 126 | 10117 Berlin | Phone +49 (0)30 23456 450

e-book
Available as e-book



Trash and kitsch can change the world. If we dare to embrace it.



© Sophie Wanninger

Jovana Reisinger is an author, filmmaker and visual artist. She was nominated for the Bavarian Book Prize in 2021 with her book *Spitzenreiterinnen*. Her essayistic novel *Enjoy Schatz* was published in 2022. She has been writing the menstruation column *Bleeding Love* for VOGUE Germany since 2020 and the Singles Column for FAZ since 2023.

PLEASURE

“What’s that prostitute doing on the red carpet?” a visitor at the Munich Film Festival asks, looking in my direction. Yes, what am I doing here?

PLEASURE is a breathtakingly eloquent tour de force through the luxury triad of sleep (meter-long hotel bed sheets!), food (gourmet mousse!), and clothing (Dior, but fake!). It is as much the memoir of a *transclasse*, a social climber as it is an invitation to think of indulgence as liberation. Through revealing anecdotes from the art world and creative industries, Jovana Reisinger exposes the hidden norms of a supposedly liberal milieu and champions glamour, gluttony, and idleness.

As a self-professed fashion girlie, she embarks on a transgressive mission: by way of rhinestones, cocktails, class and body discourse, the commitment to PLEASURE emerges not only a political statement but also a path to individual freedom.

Jovana Reisinger compellingly explains how luxury and criticism converge – and why Barbie was never apolitical. A must-read for fans of Margarete Stokowski and McKenzie Wark.

“Jovana Reisinger’s explorations prove that the continent of female is no longer shrouded in darkness. With great wit and intelligence, she captures the feminist ethos of a new generation that reserves the right to embrace contradictions.” – Katja Eichinger

Jovana Reisinger | PLEASURE

park x ullstein | Hardcover | 125 × 205 mm | ISBN 978-3-98816-014-0 | Price D: 22,00 € | 320 Pages | Published: 17.10.2024

Contact: Annemarie Blumenhagen | rights@ullstein-buchverlage.de | Friedrichstr. 126 | 10117 Berlin | Phone +49 (0)30 23456 450

e-book
Available as e-book



In search of meaning in life – an invitation to reflect and take action.



Finding Meaning

“Those who focus on happiness [in life] often become unhappy. Those who strive for meaning have a good chance of becoming happy.”

Meaning is not an emotion like happiness, which you feel instantly and recognize easily. Instead, understanding what makes life meaningful requires reflection, and sometimes a good deal of time.

Together with international scholar and pioneer of empirical research of the meaning of life, Tatjana Schnell, and ZEIT journalist Kilian Trotier, we embark on an extraordinary journey of discovery: by way of cutting-edge research, philosophy, and real-life stories by people of all walks of life, we learn to question our personal narratives, to become aware of what drives us, and to embrace crises for their potential to change life for the better.

Engaging and eye-opening, the book confronts us with the profound question of who we want to be. In life, at work, in our relationships, and when we look ourselves in the mirror. Yet, the path to an answer demands vulnerability and a rethinking of the values that shape our social orders. It holds the promise and the practical tools to transform the search of meaning into a true sense of purpose.

Finding Meaning is an absolute gem of a book in times of disorientation and exasperation and does nothing short of making us encounter life anew. For the readers of Philippa Perry, Brene Brown and all things Ikigai: this is the book that answers all the questions you have always had.



© Florian Lechner

Tatjana Schnell is Professor of Existential Psychology at MF Specialized University in Oslo. She has been researching the question of meaning for over twenty years. After studying in Göttingen, London, Heidelberg, and Cambridge, she completed her doctorate in Trier and habilitated at the University of Innsbruck where she continues to spearhead the Existential Psychology Lab. She also founded the digital platform www.sinnmacher.eu that helps people explore the meaning in life.



© Phil Dera

Kilian Trotier works for the weekly newspaper Die ZEIT. In 2021, he co-founded the project ZEIT Sinn/ZEIT Meaning – What do we live for?, which deals with the big questions of life. In spring 2023, he developed the reportage series *Finding Meaning* together with Tatjana Schnell. He was appointed director of ZEITmagazin ONLINE in spring 2024.

Tatjana Schnell, Kilian Trotier | Finding Meaning

Ullstein Hardcover | Hardcover | 135 × 215 mm | ISBN 978-3-550-20290-2 | Price D: 24,99 € | 304 Pages | Published: 17.10.2024

Contact: Annemarie Blumenhagen | rights@ullstein-buchverlage.de | Friedrichstr. 126 | 10117 Berlin | Phone +49 (0)30 23456 450

e-book
Available as e-book



How peace becomes possible in times of war: A much needed examination of the fundamental dynamics of war and peace.

Jan van Aken

Worte statt Waffen

Wie Kriege enden und
Frieden verhandelt
werden kann



English
sample
Available

Econ

How Wars End

In a world where wars and conflicts seem to overshadow hope, Jan van Aken stands out as a voice of reason and expertise. With a background in conflict research and firsthand experience as a UN weapons inspector, he approaches the question of peace with practicality and insight. What can we learn from previous wars and conflicts? And what dynamics and tools are necessary for hostile actors to talk to each other and for peaceful solutions to become possible?

Drawing from the latest research and real-life examples, Jan van Aken thoroughly examines conflict resolution strategies. From the potential of sanctions to the importance of crisis prevention, he explores diverse avenues for peace. Moreover, he considers the roles that the international community and the natural sciences can play in this endeavor.

Van Aken provides a grounded perspective on diplomatic processes, enriched by personal anecdotes and reflections. Ultimately, he reminds us that amidst the complexities of conflict, there is always a chance for peace.

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Stiftung

Jan van Aken has been working on foreign policy issues for over 20 years and is one of Germany's best-known peace activists. With a doctorate in biology, he was a genetic engineering expert for Greenpeace and a biological weapons inspector for the United Nations from 2004 to 2006. Between 2009 and 2017, he was a member of the German parliament, where he sat on the Foreign Affairs Committee. He is currently based in Israel and works for the Rosa-Luxemburg-Stiftung on international conflicts. He

also runs the podcast dis:arm with a colleague.

Jan van Aken | How Wars End

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Contact: Annemarie Blumenhagen | rights@ullstein-buchverlage.de | Friedrichstr. 126 | 10117 Berlin | Phone +49 (0)30 23456 450

e-book
Available as e-book



How we are changing our lives with emotional AI – and how sentient machines might change our emotions.



Feelings of the Future

Everyone is talking about ChatGPT, LaMDA, and other large language models that can answer knowledge questions, write texts, and even engage in personal conversations. They are designed purely for language processing, yet we are fascinated by the question turned debate of whether they might be capable of feeling or developing a form of consciousness.

Which is where affective computing comes into play: it is the branch of AI research that provides the technical foundation for machines to replicate human emotions, to recognize, simulate, and stimulate feelings in others. But even though these systems merely simulate, this has very real implications for us humans and our emotional lives.

Philosopher Eva Weber-Guskar is an invaluable source of knowledge and trusted authority in all things emotionalized AI – and she is here to encourage curiosity and discussion. She explains where emotionalized systems are already being used and how they can be developed responsibly. She analyzes the problematic, ethically questionable as well as beneficial types of emotional human/AI interactions, and shows what we can learn for our own emotional awareness, understanding, and regulation.



© Sabine Zoltner

Oberhausen.

Eva Weber-Guskar is the Heisenberg Professor of Ethics and Philosophy of Emotions at Ruhr University Bochum, where she leads an interdisciplinary research project on social interaction with intelligent systems. She was a visiting scholar at New York University and a visiting professor in Vienna, Zurich, Berlin, and Erlangen. Her current research focuses on emotionalized artificial intelligence and temporal aspects in theories of the good life. She has co-founded an online platform for public philosophy, writes on philosophy and AI for DIE ZEIT, Süddeutsche Zeitung, Philosophie Magazin, and Deutschlandfunk Kultur among others. She also leads a philosophical discussion series at Theater

Eva Weber-Guskar | Feelings of the Future

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Contact: Annemarie Blumenhagen | rights@ullstein-buchverlage.de | Friedrichstr. 126 | 10117 Berlin | Phone +49 (0)30 23456 450

e-book
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Turning the unimaginable into the achievable: An exceptional artist and his extraordinary story of success.



Imagine It Can't Be Done, and Then Someone Does It Anyway

At not even ten years old, Felix Klieser resolved to become the world's premier horn player. A dream he was ridiculed for at the time. Because Klieser was born without arms. Yet, he went on to master the instrument – with his feet.

Fifteen years later, Klieser triumphs by performing on stages worldwide, earns award after award, and collaborates with musical icons like Sir Simon Rattle and Sting. Gone are the days of ridicule: he is hailed as a virtuoso, though Klieser would rather credit his success to perseverance instead of talent.

In his book, he recounts his remarkable journey – bold proof that audacious goals will get you far in life. His faithful companions along the way: unwavering determination and innovative thinking. Inspiring and empowering, Klieser's story provides a roadmap for overcoming obstacles and realizing personal aspirations. After all, his life is proof that resilience can make miracles come true!



© Gregor Hohenberg | Edel

Felix Klieser is a professional player of the French horn and took his first lesson at the age of five, becoming junior student at the Hanover University of Music, Drama and Media at the age of 13. In 2014, he received the ECHO-Klassik Award for Young Artist of the Year and the Music Prize of the Association of German Concert Directors. In 2016, he received the Leonard Bernstein Award from the Schleswig-Holstein Music Festival. He has been leading his own horn class at the Münster University

of Music since 2018. Felix Klieser gives concerts with the biggest pop and classical stars around the world and has recorded numerous albums.

Felix Klieser | Imagine It Can't Be Done, and Then Someone Does It Anyway

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e-book
Available as e-book



What do antiquity and the Love Parade have in common? The deeply human need for ecstasy.



Raptures of the Mind: A History of Ecstasy

Supreme joy, spiritual rapture, loss of control, self-transcendence – these are just a few of the states that people experience as mind-expanding and often happiness-inducing. One term frequently captures this experience: ecstasy.

It has appeared throughout history and across cultures: in music and art, hallucinations and visions, dance and trance. We humans are drawn to it from an early age and it's no coincidence that a popular party drug from the techno scene shares the same name. While ecstasy has a poor reputation in rationality-based modern science, antiquity took it for granted.

In a captivating round-up ranging from the individual (orgasm) to the collective (mass delusion), from religion to medicine, historian Racha Kirakosian illuminates an exciting, multifaceted side of human experience. Her exploration also takes the dark paths of misogyny and political manipulation, as she investigates the emotional state that we are all but addicted to.

From Hippocrates to the Love Parade and Trump's election events – in this book, history meets the present.



Racha Kirakosian holds the Chair of Medieval Studies at the University of Freiburg. She previously worked at Harvard University and the University of Oxford. Her research is located at the intersection of women's history, textual culture and religion in the Middle Ages.

© Die Junge Akademie/Peter Himself

Racha Kirakosian | Raptures of the Mind: A History of Ecstasy

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Contact: Annemarie Blumenhagen | rights@ullstein-buchverlage.de | Friedrichstr. 126 | 10117 Berlin | Phone +49 (0)30 23456 450

e-book
Available as e-book



How we find our (political) stance, show humanity, and drive change.



© Sapna Richter

Kristina Lunz holds two master's degrees from University College London and Oxford University, where she studied Global Governance and Diplomacy. She is a German feminist, activist, and co-founder of the Centre for Feminist Foreign Policy (CFFP). She also worked for the United Nations in the field of extremism prevention and other international organisations.

Empathy and Resistance

In times of crisis, having a clear moral compass and unwavering values becomes crucial. Feminist activist and political influencer Kristina Lunz believes that empathy and resistance serve as powerful tools for defining our stance, demonstrating humanity, and driving meaningful change. Despite their apparent opposition, these elements harmonize perfectly in challenging times, unlocking progress across social, cultural, and political spheres.

Drawing from personal impressions, experiences, and reflections, Kristina outlines how we can contribute to a fairer world. She emphasizes the importance of developing a political stance while remaining steadfast even in the face of adversity. Simultaneously, she encourages openness to adjusting our views when compelling arguments arise. After all, true conviction lies in value-based decisions rather than rigid ideology.

Author and activist Kristina Lunz' first book, *The Future of Foreign Policy is Feminist* (Econ, 2022), was a Spiegel bestseller and translated into English by Polity Press.

“Gentleness and understanding are not invitations to overstep boundaries – not even in politics.

With *Empathy and Resistance*, Kristina Lunz perfectly captures the spirit of our times.” – Enissa Amani

“Empathy and resistance – these two virtues are essential every day for people like Kristina Lunz who fight for a better world. In her book, she demonstrates how to go beyond just lofty words and actually put them into action..” – Düzen Tekkal

Kristina Lunz | Empathy and Resistance

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Contact: Annemarie Blumenhagen | rights@ullstein-buchverlage.de | Friedrichstr. 126 | 10117 Berlin | Phone +49 (0)30 23456 450

e-book
Available as e-book



Thomas Mann, the political activist: empathic politician and champion for democracy.



What Is Good and What Is Evil

The great Thomas Mann as we know him is a solitary figure, engrossed in contemplation in the confines of his study, detached from the tumultuous events of the world. However, there is a glaring oversight in this depiction argues literary scholar and critic Kai Sina: the dimension of his passionate political activism and fervent dedication to democratic participation and individual agency.

Sina highlights the significant areas of Thomas Mann's political activity, presenting fascinating historical testimonies as much as a vivid portrait of an advocate for social democracy. For instance, the poignant case studies reflect Mann's multifaceted political commitment in his involvement in the debate about Zionism. As one of the first German public intellectuals to decry the horror and extent of the Shoah, Thomas Mann campaigned for the establishment of a safe home for its survivors.

Masterfully written, the book is a compelling demonstration of literature's importance as a public practice that fuels democratic progress. And it brings a Thomas Mann to light as he has hardly ever been looked at – vividly and in all his humanity.

2025 will mark the 70th anniversary of Thomas Mann's death.



© Hans Scherhauser

Kai Sina holds the Lichtenberg Professorship for Modern German Literature and Comparative Literature at the University of Münster and heads the Thomas Mann Research Centre attached to the chair. Together with Hans Rudolf Veget (Northampton, USA), he is currently editing Thomas Mann's essays written during the time of his US exile (1939-1945). The volume will be published

as part of the *Große kommentierte Frankfurter Ausgabe der Werke Thomas Manns* (GKFA), the first substantiated and scholarly annotated complete edition of his works.

Kai Sina | What Is Good and What Is Evil

Propyläen Verlag | Biography, History | Hardcover | 125 × 205 mm | ISBN 978-3-549-10085-1 | Price D: 24,00 € | 256 Pages | Published: 28.11.2024

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e-book
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A lively panorama of Europe's largest popular revolt prior to the French Revolution.



© Heike Pantle

Christian Pantle studied Human Biology in his home city of Munich. After completing his doctorate, he worked for *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, *Augsburger Allgemeine* and *Tagesspiegel*, before becoming science editor of *Fokus* magazine in 2000. His specialist fields include archaeology, ancient history, nature and technology.

- Spiegel bestseller with 10,000 copies sold

The Great Peasants' War

In 1524 and 1525, a movement arose across the German-speaking regions of Europe that is still unparalleled today: part of a series of European uprisings and acts of resistance, the Great Peasants' War challenged feudalism, serfdom, economic hardship, and social misery in a full-fledged revolution. Who were these rebels – revolutionary class fighters, robber mobs, or pioneers of the human rights movement?

In a compelling historical narrative, Christian Pantle chronicles the arc from the surprising initial successes to the bloody climax of the Peasants' War and its aftermath in the Alps. He selects key participants from all sides of the conflict and traces their fates throughout the turmoil, highlighting the courage of the disenfranchised and their progressive reform program, which envisioned a society of free people governed by law rather than arbitrariness.

Although the rebels only ruled for a short time and ultimately lost the major battles, their persistent struggle led to a restriction of power that would mark the transition from Middle Ages to the early modern period. The book reveals the significant mind shift brought about by the rebellion: that creating a fairer world requires more than a few concessions wrested from those in power

Christian Pantle's previous bestselling book, *The Thirty Years' War*, sold 40,000 copies and rights were licensed to China, Sweden and Italy.



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(Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia,
Ukraine, Georgia, Armenia,
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Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan)**

Eastern European and Asian Rights Agency

Tatjana Zoldnere

19/21-3 Gertrüdes St.

1011 Riga

Latvia

phone: +371 67 50 64 95

fax: +371 67 50 64 94

zoldnere@earagency.com

**Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria,
Croatia, Hungary, Macedonia,
Montenegro, Serbia, Slovenia,
Slovakia**

Corto Literary Agency

Diana Matulić

Brace Domany 8

10000 Zagreb

Croatia

phone: +38 59 14 57 74 09

office@cortoliterary.com

China/Taiwan

ANA International

China: Jackie Huang

Room 1705, Culture Square

No.59 Jia Zhongguancun Street

Haidian District 100872 Beijing

China

phone: +86 10 82 50 41 06

fax: +86 10 82 50 42 00

jhuang@nurnberg.com.cn

Taiwan: Whitney Hsu

8F, No. 129, Section 2

Zhongshan N. Rd.

10448 Taipei

Taiwan

phone: +88 62 25 62 90 08

fax: +88 62 25 62 77 12

whsu@nurnberg.com.tw

France

Agence Fontaine

Sabine Fontaine

57, route de Croissy

78110 Le Vésinet

France

phone: +33 13 97 60 386

agencefontaine@orange.fr

Greece

Iris Literary Agency

Catherine Fragou

18, Komotinis str

136 76 Thrakomakedones

Greece

phone: +30 21 02 43 24 73

irislitgr@gmail.com

Israel

The Deborah Harris Agency

Geula Geurts

P.O. Box 8528

9108401 Jerusalem

Israel

phone: +972 25 63 32 37

fax: +972 25 61 87 11

geula@thedeborahharrisagency.com

Italy

Berla & Griffini

Barbara Griffini

Via Gian Giacomo Mora 7

20123 Milano

Italy

phone: +39 02 80 50 41 79

fax: +39 02 89 01 06 46

griffini@bgagency.it

Japan

Meike Marx Literary Agent

Meike Marx

2-6-5 Otoecho Fukagawa

Hokkaido 074-1273

Japan

phone: +81 16 42 51 466

fax: +81 16 42 63 833

meike.marx@gol.com

The English Agency

Corinne Shioji

Sakuragi Bldg. 4F

6-7-3 Minami Aoyama, Minato-ku

Tokyo 107-0062

Japan

phone: +81 34 06 53 85

fax: +81 34 06 53 87

corinne@ej.co.jp

Korea

Book Cosmos

Richard Hong

3F. Youngjun B/D (annex)

Worldcup buk-ro 22

Mapo-gu, Seoul 03992

South Korea

phone: +82 23 14 32 834

fax: +82 23 14 32 833

r-hong@bcagency.kr

MOMO Agency

Geenie Han

309-51 Seongsanro

Seodaemun-gu, Seoul 03706

South Korea

phone: +82 23 37 86 06

fax: +82 23 37 87 02

geeniehan@mmagency.co.kr

Poland

Graal Agency

Tomasz Berezinski

Pruszkowska 29/252

02-119 Warsaw

Poland

phone: +48 22 89 52 000

fax: +48 22 89 52 670

tomasz.berezinski@graal.com.pl

Romania

Simona Kessler International

Copyright Agency LTD

Simona Kessler

Str. Banul Antonache 37

001663 Bukuresti 1

Romania

phone: +40 21 31 64 806

fax: +40 21 31 64 794

simona@kessler-agency.ro

Russia

Literaturagentur

Maria Schliesser

Beuckestr. 11

14163 Berlin

Germany

phone: +49 174 274 0381

schliesser.maria@gmail.com

Spain, Portugal, Latin America

A.C.E.R. Agencia Literaria

Roberto Domínguez Moro

Calle Amor de Dios, 1

28014 Madrid

Spain

phone: +34 91 55 02 551

fax: +34 91 36 92 052

rdominguez@acerliteraria.com

The Netherlands

Marianne Schönbach Literary Agency

Marianne Schönbach

Korte Leidsedwardsstraat 12, k-401

1017 RC Amsterdam

Netherlands

phone: +31 20 62 00 020

m.schonbach@schonbach.nl

Turkey

AnatoliaLit Agency

Amy Spangler

Caferaga Mah. Gunesli Bahce Sok. No:48

OR.Ko. Apt. B Blok D:4

34710 Kadikoy Istanbul

Turkey

phone: +90 216 700 1088

amy@anatolialit.com