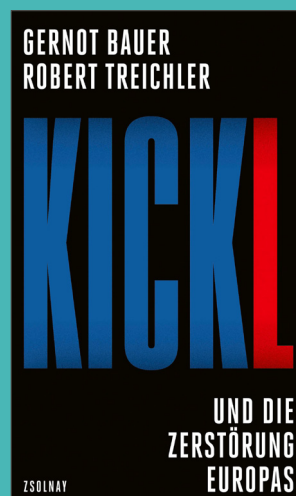
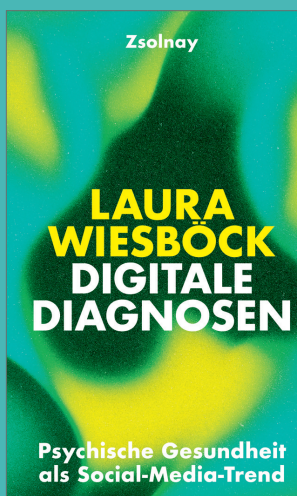
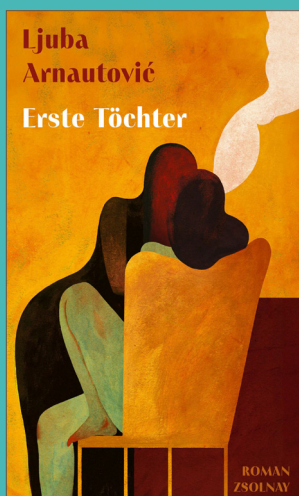
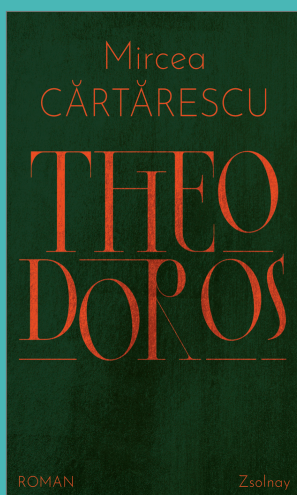


FOREIGN RIGHTS SPRING 2025

ZSOLNAY  VERLAG



Contact: Annette Lechner
Prinz-Eugen-Straße 30
1040 Wien | Austria

phone: +43-1-505 7661 12
mail: annette.lechner@zsolnay.at
<http://foreignrights.hanser.de>



The new historical novel by
the award-winning author of
The Raft of the Medusa and
The Conquest of America



FRANZOBEL

The adventurous story of
the conquest of the North Pole

»In February, frost crept into our ears, the wind had sharp teeth, the powdery snow was not suitable for building an igloo.«



Franzobel

born 1967, is one of Austria's most popular writers. He is the recipient of numerous awards including the Ingeborg Bachmann Prize (1995), the Arthur Schnitzler Prize (2002) and the Nicolas Born Prize (2017). Most recent publications by Zsolnay are the novels *Das Floß der Medusa* which was short-listed for the German book prize 2017 and won the Bavarian Book Prize in 2017, *Die Eroberung Amerikas* (2021) and *Einsteins Hirn* (2023).

- An epic about the beauty of nature, shattered by the egotism of Western civilization
- The fate of Minik, who was brought to New York as an attraction, when he was 9 years old, is a nuanced example of post-colonialism

FRANZOBEL

In 1897, the American North Pole explorer and adventurer Robert Peary returned home from his Greenland expedition with two major attractions: the largest meteorite known at the time and a nine-year-old Inuit named Minik. Minik became a major attraction throughout the country. His story, from his early origins to his baptism and later path through life – schooling, foster parents, return to Greenland, alienation, and eventual return to the US – made headlines.

Franzobel illustrates the gulf between the ›civilized‹ world and an indigenous people, which has become one of the most critical concerns of the day, not least because of debates on migration. Minik, the novel's protagonist and a real-life person, serves as an example in this nuanced portrayal of post-colonialism. His fate shows the struggle for survival of an almost completely extinct indigenous people.



Sales

All rights available

The Raft of the Medusa:

Denmark (Turbine), France (Flammarion), Italy (Saggiatore), Norway (Cappelen Damm), Romania (Europress)



Franzobel
**A Hundred Words
for Snow**

526 pages
February 2025

»An uncannily calm novel about the existential ordeals people go through.«

Clemens J. Setz



Amira Ben Saoud

born in Waidhofen/Thaya in 1989, studied classical philology, art history and comparative literature in Vienna. She was formerly the editor-in-chief of the pop culture magazine The Gap and cultural editor at Der Standard. *Schweben* is her first novel.

- *Adrift* explores relationships, not least the most potentially dangerous one – the one we have with ourselves
- An intensely atmospheric, cool debut
- For readers of Margaret Atwood

AMIRA BEN SAOUD

English sample translation available

Violence no longer seems to exist; climate change has long since taken its course. An ominous quiet has settled over the remote community in which the female narrator lives. She no longer remembers her own name. To earn a living, she imitates women whose relatives are unable to get over the loss of their lover, wife or daughter. Then, during a new assignment, her world starts to teeter. Who is Emma, the latest woman she has been asked to impersonate? Are strange phenomena on the outskirts of the community an indication of its demise? And why is she so obsessed with becoming someone else?

Amira Ben Saoud's writing is highly evocative. Underlying threats dissolve then intensify throughout her novel; in any case, the reader never feels completely safe, and right up until the end, we are never truly sure who the protagonist is. A captivating debut that poses fundamental questions about identity and relationships and how we deceive ourselves.



Sales
All rights available

Amira Ben Saoud
Adrift
192 pages
March 2025



»With psychological precision, Susanne Gregor sheds light on foreignness and alienation.«

Katja Gasser, ORF

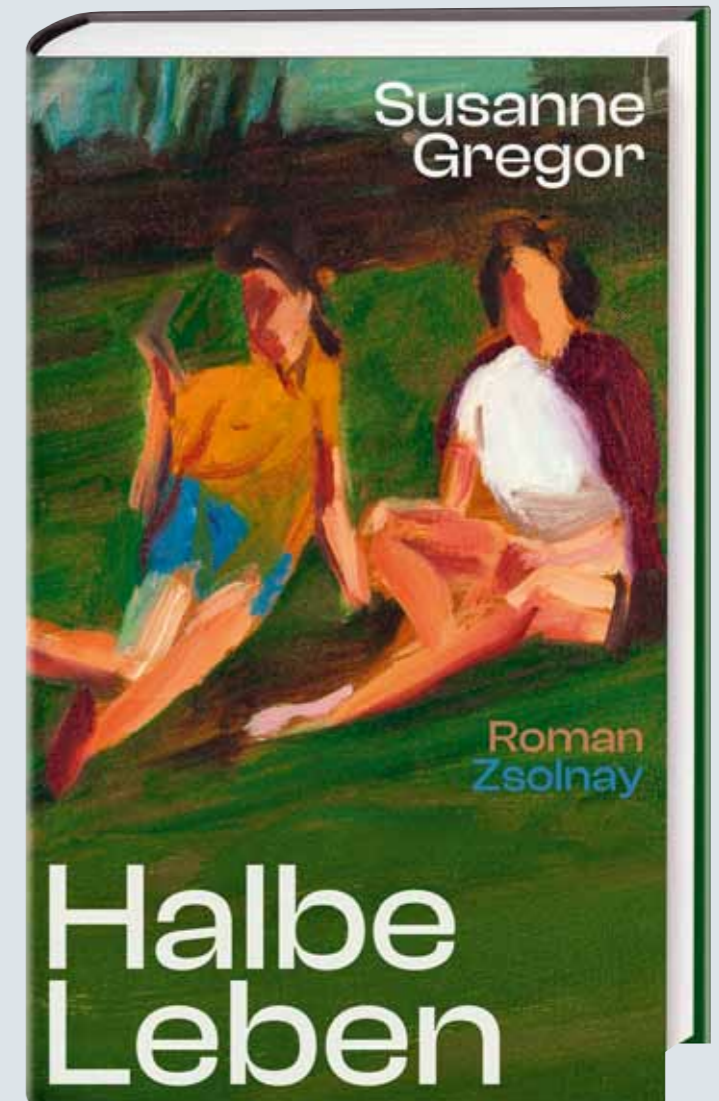
Susanne Gregor

born in 1981 in Žilina (Czechoslovakia), moved to Austria with her family in 1990 and now lives in Vienna. She has received multiple awards for her literary work. Her most recent novels are: *Das letzte rote Jahr* (2019) and *Wir werden fliegen* (2023).

- On the balancing act between work and family, and between different cultures
- A poignant literary exploration of pressing current issues
- For readers of Birgit Birnbacher and Daniela Krien

SUSANNE GREGOR

Clara has died during a hiking accident. The only person with her was Paulína, the Slovakian woman Klara hired after her mother's stroke. At last, Klara's mother was taken care of. Klara was able to dedicate herself to her career again and her husband could enjoy his freedom. Meanwhile, Paulína's own children were being cared for by her mother-in-law in Slovakia. It was all so wonderfully organized, so simple. Paulína was everyone's darling, and they thanked her with generous gifts for her services and overtime. Wasn't she more like a friend? Klara and Paulína liked each other from the start, yet in the end, things turned sour. The two women tried to understand each other, but without meaning to, they crossed lines. In her captivating novel, Susanne Gregor subtly illustrates how often misunderstandings occur, and how the gap between people widens even when their intentions are good. In clear, unaffected language, she addresses major issues that concern us all and explores the theme of inequality, specifically between two women and two lives.



Sales

All rights available

Susanne Gregor
Half Lives

192 pages
January 2025



»You are
a born
storyteller.«

Elias Canetti

Friedl Benedikt was born in Vienna in 1916. She was the granddaughter of Moriz Benedikt who was the editor of the Neue Freie Presse until 1934. After Nazi Germany's annexation of Austria, she emigrated to Great Britain in 1938, where she published three novels between 1944 and 1950. She died in 1953 in Neuilly near Paris.

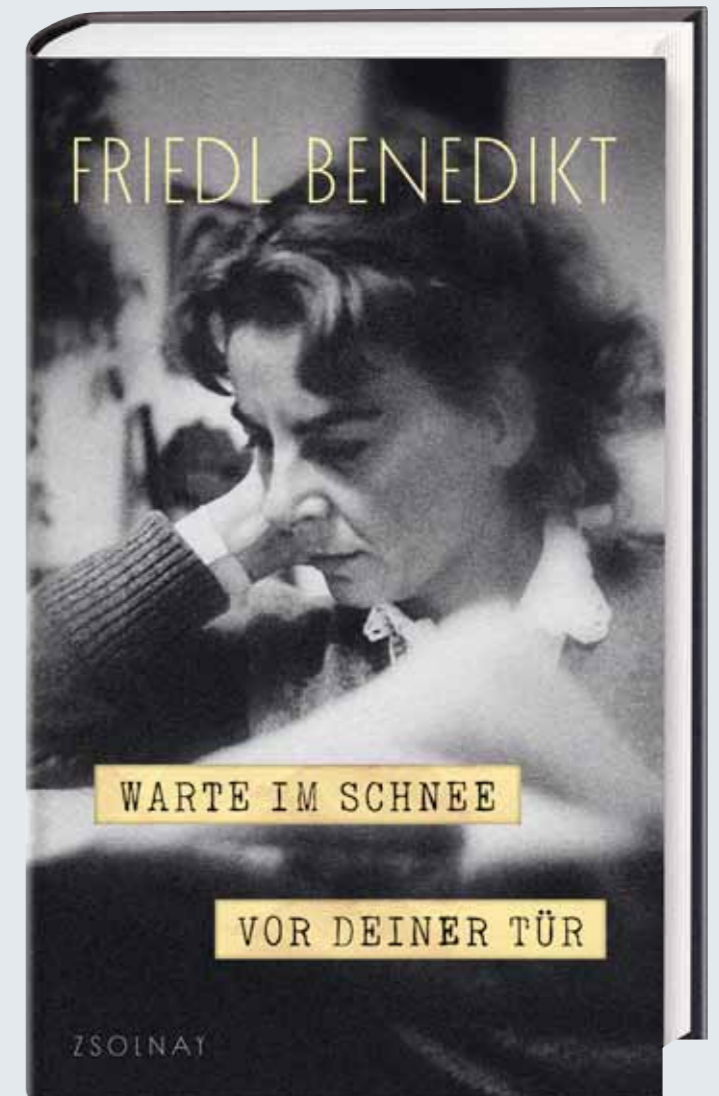
Fanny Esterházy born 1959, lives and works as a freelance editor, translator and publisher in Vienna.

Ernst Strouhal born 1957, is a professor at the University of Applied Arts Vienna, as well as an author, journalist and the nephew of Friedl Benedikt. His book *Vier Schwestern. Fernes Wien, fremde Welt* was published in 2022.

- The remarkable discovery of a great author
- A portrait of a society and women during this era
- First publication

FRIEDL BENEDIKT

Friedl Benedikt was not only a courageous woman and a scintillating author; she was also vivacious, energetic, curious and determined. Elias Canetti described the young woman, whom he met in Vienna in 1936, as »a born storyteller.« Until her early death in 1953, he was her teacher, lover and soul-mate whom he urged to »write every day.« She followed his advice, also in London, where they were both forced into emigration by Nazi Germany's annexation of Austria. In England, she published three novels under the pseudonym Anna Sebastian, but her best work was found among Canetti's estate and is published here for the first time: a testimony of encounters with friends and strangers, street and pub scenes, trips through post-war Europe, and love stories. A remarkable discovery.



Sales
All rights available

Friedl Benedikt
Waiting in the Snow
Outside Your Door

Edited by Fanny Esterházy and Ernst Strouhal
336 pages with pictures
February 2025



LAURA WIESBÖCK

**What does it say about a society
when grief is automatically
classified as an illness?**

Are people with mental illness less
responsible for their behaviour?

**Nowadays, feelings have become
the moral basis for actions.**

Being healthy is no longer just a state,
but the result of an active decision.

***Trauma, trigger & toxic*
– the inflationary use of
psychological terms.**

How social networks
encourage a culture that is easily
scandalized and quick to judge.

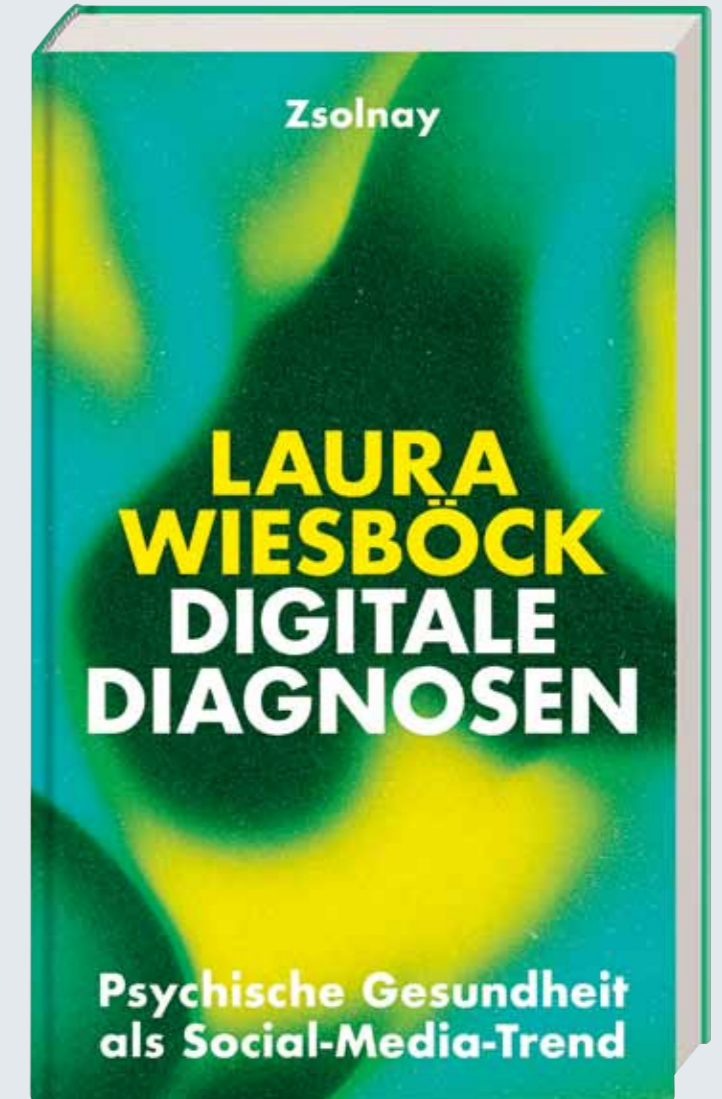
**DIGITAL
DIAGNOSES**

»Laura Wiesböck is brimming with eloquence and arguments.«

Thekla Dannenberg, Der Freitag



LAURA WIESBÖCK



Life crises, emotional damage and periods of low output have always been a part of the human condition. But in the digital age, states like these are being pathologized with ever greater determination. Social media platforms are filled with psychiatric diagnoses. Terms like »trauma«, »trigger« and »toxic« are used in an inflationary manner. Self-diagnoses and those of others are routinely fired off. But where is the dividing line between the removal of taboos and glamourisation?

Sociologist Laura Wiesböck precisely analyses the causes and consequences of the mental health trend. A topical book that makes a plea for us to tolerate emotional ambivalence.

Sales
All rights available

Laura Wiesböck
Digital Diagnoses
The Mental Health Trend
in Social Media
176 pages
January 2025

Laura Wiesböck
born 1987, has a doctorate in sociology and heads the Digitalization and Social Transformation group at the Institute for Advanced Studies Vienna. Besides writing scientific articles, she regularly participates in public discourse (SZ, Die Zeit, Der Standard). She has received numerous awards for her work, including the Käthe Leichter Prize and the Theodor Körner Prize. In 2018, her book *In besserer Gesellschaft. Der selbstgerechte Blick auf die Anderen* was published.

- How current trends lead to more and more psychiatric diagnoses
- Why we as a society should try to tolerate more ambivalence



»Cărtărescu has the lively imagination of a child and the linguistic skills of an old master.«

Malte Herwig, Der Spiegel

»This writer has gone all out.«

Burkhard Müller, Die Zeit

Mircea Cărtărescu

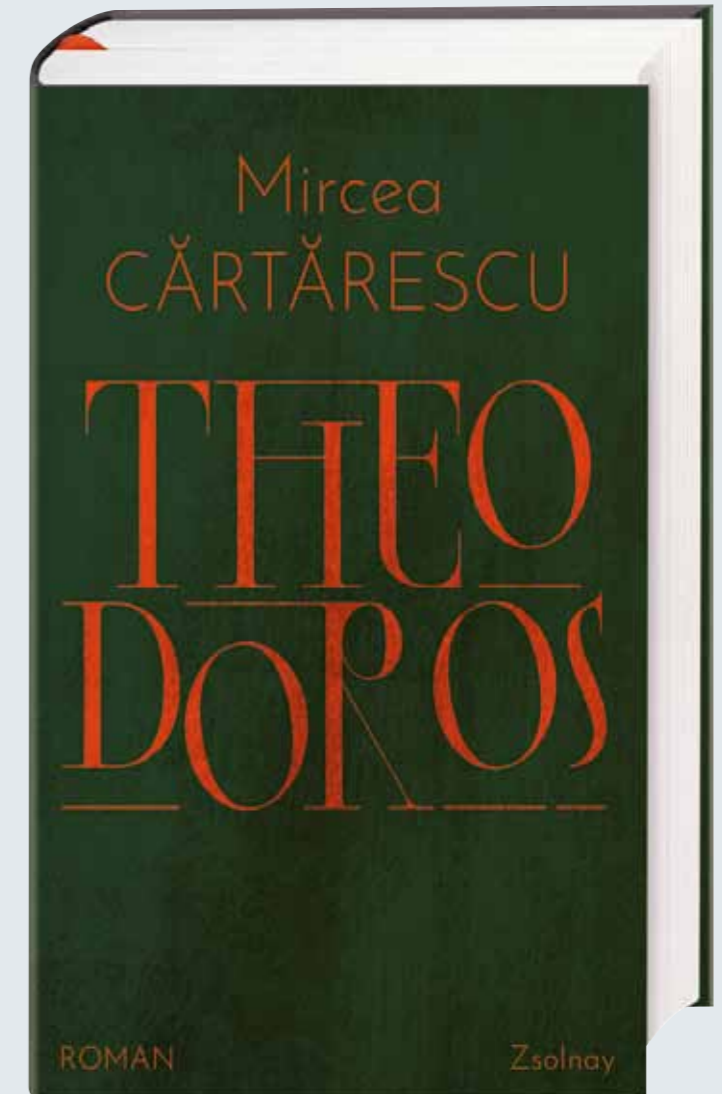
was born in 1956 in Bucharest where he still lives. His work has been translated into many languages and won many prizes, among them the Leipzig Book Award for European Understanding (2015), the Premio Formentor, the Thomas Mann Prize (both in 2018), the Premio Fil de Literatura and the Los Angeles Times Book prize (both in 2022), and in 2024 the prestigious Modello and the Dublin Literary award. Zsolnay published his *Orbitor trilogy*, the story collection *Die schönen Fremden* (2016), the novel *Solenoid* (2019) and *Melancolia* (2022).

- One of the most important writers in the world
- Literary and historical, yet relevant to the present

MIRCEA CĂRTĂRESCU

In 33 chapters, Mircea Cărtărescu interweaves the historical, the fantastical and the philosophical with spine-tingling stories to create a world that reaches into the present day and even the Last Judgment. Here, we encounter the Emperor of African Emperors, Queen Victoria of England, Tudor, an inquisitive child, the Queen of Sheba, and her son Menelik of Ethiopia who founded the oldest dynasty in the world.

»The barrel of the pistol still in his mouth, his brain scattered on the red table.« On Easter Sunday in 1868, before the British colonial army razed the mountain fortress of Magdala and took the Ethiopian Emperor Theodoros hostage, the ruler put an end to his own life. By portraying Theodoros in three different roles, Cărtărescu shows him as a crowned despot, a looting pirate in the Aegean and his humble beginnings as a servant boy from Wallachia. An epic novel by one of the most eloquent writers in the world.



Sales

(Original Romanian edition: Humanitas) Bulgaria (Hermes), China (Guangdong People's Publishing House), Denmark (Palomar), France (Noir sur Blanc), Italy (Saggiatore), Netherlands (Bezige Bij), Poland (Noir sur Blanc), Portuguese/Brazil (Mundaeu), Sweden (Bonniers), Spain (Impedimenta), UK/USA (Deep Vellum)

Solenoid:

Sold in 19 countries



Mircea Cărtărescu **Theodoros**

(Original Romanian Title: Theodoros)
670 pages
September 2024



»A touching, extraordinary debut!«

Dana Grigorcea

»The characters in this novel are themselves like the feathers of a peacock: iridescent, proud and sadly beautiful.«

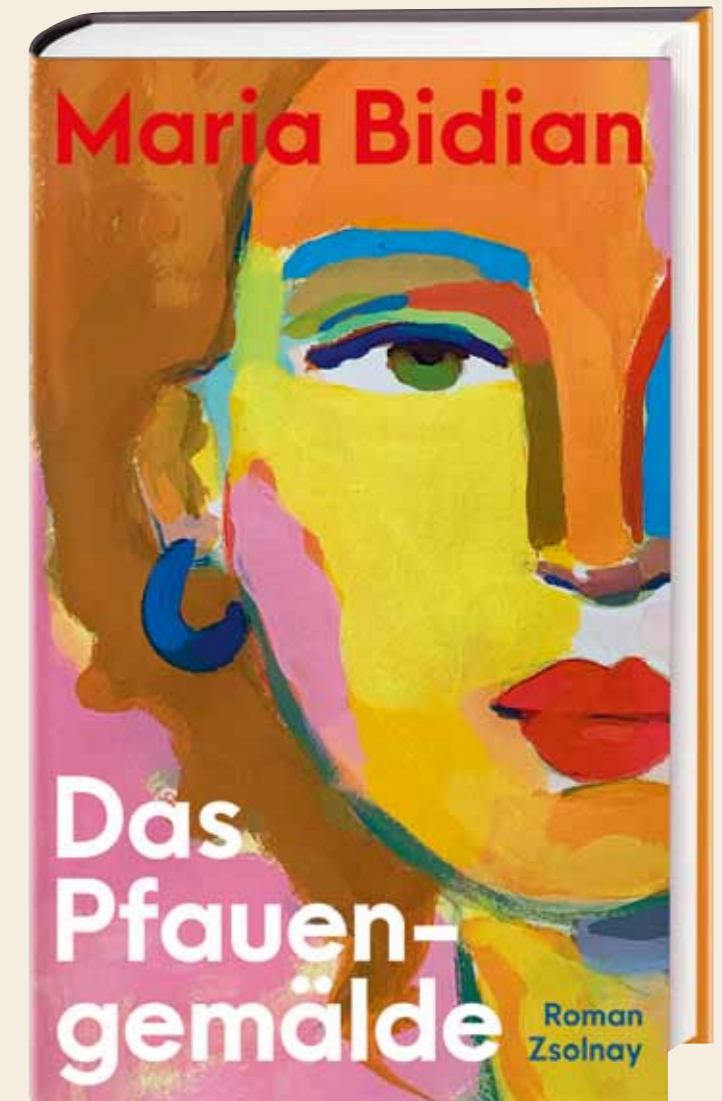
Daniela Dröscher



MARIA BIDIAN

In the summer two years after her father's sudden death during a mountain trip in Transylvania, Ana climbs aboard a train to Romania. Her trip to her father's home country is prompted by the fact that her family's property, which the communists confiscated and the family has struggled to get back for decades, is now being returned. While Ana's relatives are only interested in the legendary house for very different reasons, Ana wants to find one thing in particular: the peacock painting, a family heirloom that her father talked about very often. For her the picture ties together dozens of memories, wishes, hopes, and longings.

Is it possible to let go and remember at the same time? How can we hold onto love? Told in highly contemporary language with a thoroughly modern protagonist, Maria Bidian's rousing debut novel takes a fresh look at Romania's past and present. Melancholic, funny, political and very personal.



Sales
All rights available

Maria Bidian
The Peacock Painting
320 pages
July 2024

Maria Bidian
was born 1988 in Mainz, and divides her time between Berlin and a small village in Transylvania, where she is renovating an old farmhouse. *The Peacock Painting* is her first novel.

- A family saga by a new, promising voice
- Melancholic and reflective, light and funny
- For readers of Iris Wolff



»The art of her narrative style is revealed in the fine balance between cool and emotional passages.«

Nicole Hennenberg, Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

Ljuba Arnautović

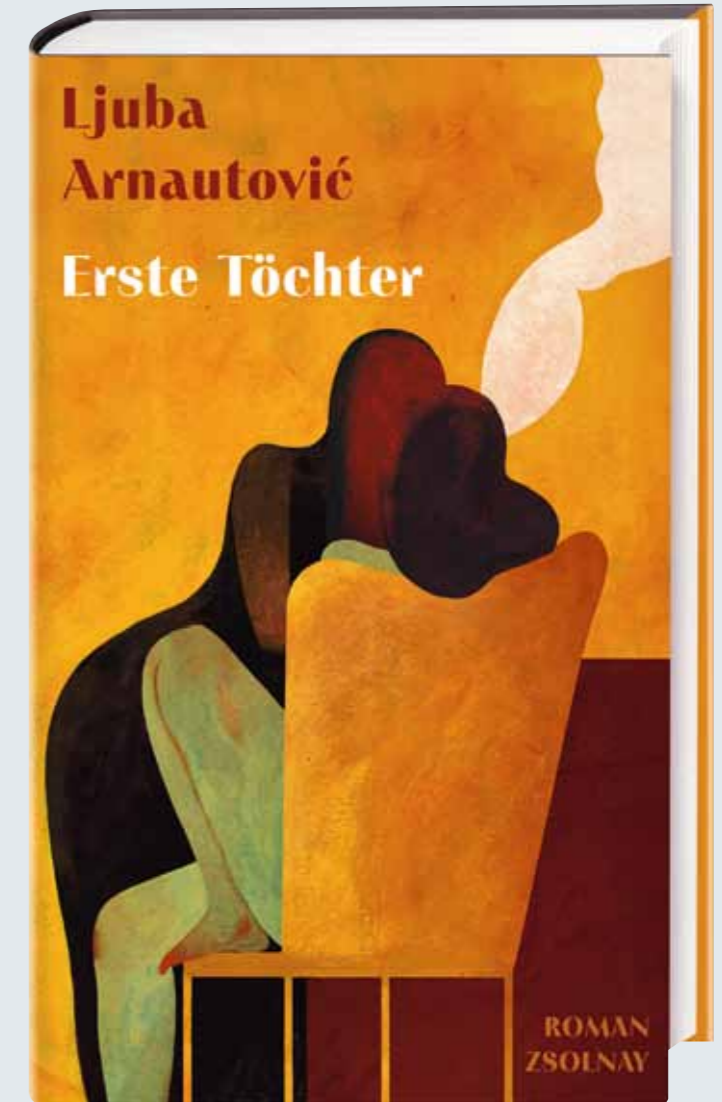
was born in 1954 in Kursk (USSR) and lives in Vienna. After studying social pedagogy, she worked for the documentation archive of the Austrian resistance, as a Russian translator and a radio journalist. Her first novel, *Im Verborgenen* was shortlisted for the Austrian Book Prize 2018. In 2021 her second novel *Junischnee* was published by Zsolnay.

- Arnautović's sober family story spans the drama of the 20th century
- Highly political yet highly poetic
- For readers of Natascha Wodin

LJUBA ARNAUTOVIĆ

After spending twelve years in a gulag, Karl returns to Vienna with his Russian wife and two daughters. In post-war Austria, people do not want to know anything about his experiences. He and his family have to climb the social ladder as quickly as possible. Karl sets about doing this unscrupulously, not only using his Russian skills but also the women surrounding him, marrying and divorcing according to how it benefits him. Those who pay the price for Karl's race to regain status are his daughters Lara and Luna who are separated and grow up in different worlds: one in humble conditions with her mother in Vienna, the other, with her father and his new middle-class family in Munich. The two girls, once so important to each other, drift further and further apart. In the end, however, they manage to find their way back to one another.

Ljuba Arnautović writes »in clear, poetic language, without sentimentality« (ORF 1) about herself – and the upheavals of a century.



Sales
Croatia (Leykam International)

June Snow:
Croatia (Leykam international), Italy (Keller), Serbia (Futura Nojzac)



Ljuba Arnautović
First Daughters
160 pages
August 2024



Excessively
overrated?

Criminally
under-
estimated?



Gernot Bauer

was born in Salzburg in 1970, studied at WU Vienna and completed the editorial course in magazine journalism at profil, where he has worked as a domestic policy editor since 1998.

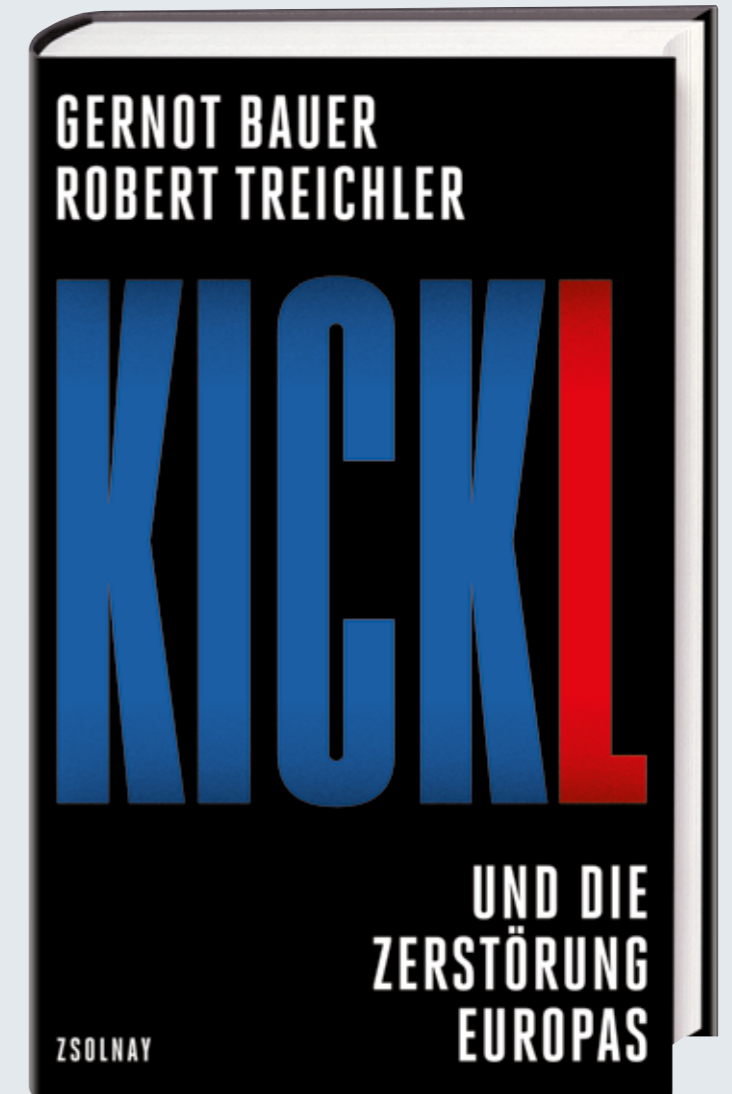
Robert Treichler

was born in Graz in 1968, studied French and Philosophy and has been a journalist at the news journal profil since 1997, serving as Deputy Editor in Chief since 2021.

• The man who threatens to destroy the political foundation of Europe together with right-wing populists such as Weidel, Orbán and Le Pen

GERNOT BAUER • ROBERT TREICHLER

Herbert Kickl operated in the shadows for almost three decades. He was the man who wrote Jörg Haider's speeches, and the fiercely disputed slogans that helped Heinz-Christian Strache into office as the Vice Chancellor of Austria. He has also been the only minister since 1945 to be dismissed from office. In the past, Kickl's radical rhetoric, acerbic argumentation and agitation stood in the way of his career. However, these characteristics now correspond to a zeitgeist that aspires to dismantle liberal democracy not only in Austria, but across Europe, with Alice Weidel, Viktor Orbán, Marine Le Pen, and other right-wing populists. Gernot Bauer and Robert Treichler have traced back this problem to its roots and provide a new perspective on an ascetic ideology, a volatile platform for the people – and an incendiary politician.



Sales
All rights available

Gernot Bauer
Robert Treichler
Kickl
And the Destruction
of Europe
256 pages
April 2024