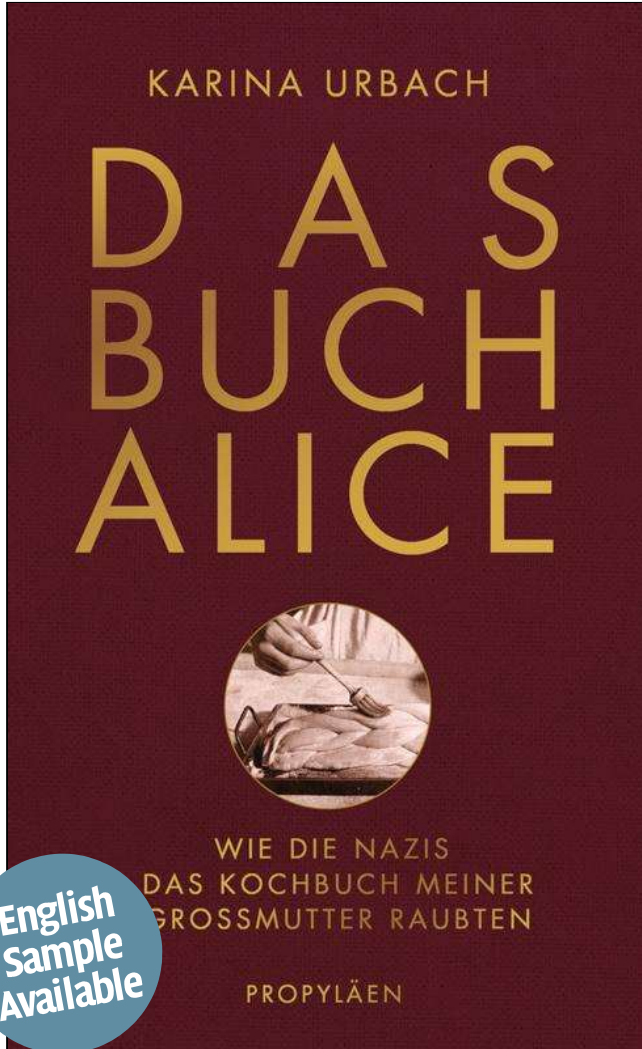




The story of a Jewish chef whose bestselling cookbook was stolen by the Nazis and who had to fight for her survival in England and America.



Selected for New Books In German

Alice's Book

In 1938 an unknown author Rudolf Rösch published a cook book about Viennese cuisine. SO KOCHT MAN IN WIEN! (This is how you cook in Vienna!) was a cook book bestseller and is still available today. But Rudolf Rösch had never written this book. Indeed, he may never have existed; a conveniently fictitious product of the Nazi era. The real author was a Viennese Jewess named Alice Urbach. Before the Nazis took over Austria the book had been published under her own name. Now 80 years later, Alice's granddaughter, the renowned historian Karina Urbach, sets out to uncover the true story behind the stolen cook book. Her research takes her from Vienna, to London to Washington. In various archives, she finds letters, audio and film documents that were assumed long lost.

Vienna in the 1930s: Alice Urbach, the daughter of a bourgeois Jewish family, from the ashes of the Great Depression rises to become a Julia-Child-like star founding her own cooking school. Amongst her students are Sigmund Freud's sisters and Austrian aristocracy. But when the Nazis march into Austria in 1938, the entire family is forced to flee. Alice escapes to England, while her younger son, Karl, is imprisoned in Dachau. Her older son, Otto, had already emigrated to the United States and later becomes an intelligence officer fighting the Nazis underground. Alice spends the war years looking after Jewish refugee children - from the Kindertransport - in the Lake District. In 1948, she confronts her publisher. He refuses to give her back the authorship of her book. Abandoning hope, she emigrates to the United States, where she tries a new beginning, teaching Viennese pastry in San Francisco and cooking on American television. Her dream to publish her cookbook in English under her own name remains unfulfilled. Her German publisher adamantly refused compensation.

Harrowing and incredible moving, *Alice's Book* tells the life story of a woman whose unwavering passion for cooking survived the horrors of WWII to begin a new life on the other side of the world. In a transcending motif Karina Urbach sheds light on an untold chapter in the history of Nazi crimes against Jewish non-fiction authors.



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Karina Urbach is a Senior Research Fellow at the University of London. She received her doctorate from the University of Cambridge and has taken part in several BBC documentaries on the Victorian Age. In 2015 her book *Go-Betweens for Hitler* (OUP) triggered a debate in the UK about the Royal family's links to Nazi Germany. Her biography of Queen Victoria was published with great acclaim in Germany. For her historical novel *Cambridge 5* (written under the

pseudonym Hannah Coler) she was shortlisted for three literary prizes and won the Crime Cologne Award in 2018. She is currently researching at the Institute for Advanced in Princeton, New Jersey.

Karina Urbach | Alice's Book

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