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"The day before she died, Simone called me.
I remember it very well because I had no time."

Berlin in the mid-eighties. Two young women growing up in the East of the city. Two friends partying and travelling and falling in love. Then the wall comes down and their lives change at breakneck speed. Simone travels the world; Anja has a baby, gets married, starts to work. They drift apart, but never lose sight of one another—until the day when Simone goes forever, and Anja is left behind.

Who was Simone? How can someone be so in love with life and yet end up being broken by it? In her search for answers, the author travels back in time—to her own past and that of her friend. She talks to family, friends and experts; reads letters, diaries and other documents. The result is a book of personal detective work that is both moving and insightful. A story of an extraordinary friendship between two women in a time of upheaval.

Anja Reich-Osang is a Berlin-born author and journalist who has written for the *Berliner Zeitung* since 1996, working as New York correspondent from 2001 until 2006 and Tel Aviv correspondent from 2018 until 2020. She has been awarded the German Reporter Prize and the Theodor Wolff Prize for her journalism. Her latest book to be published by Aufbau was *Getauschte Heimat: Ein Jahr zwischen Berlin und Tel Aviv* ('Swapping Homelands: A Year Between Berlin and Tel Aviv'), co-authored with Yael Nachshon Levin. She lives in Berlin.



Anja Reich
Simone
Memoir. 304 pages
Aufbau. Hardcover
2023, August
Sample translation available

"A heartbreaking and deeply personal story." DIE ZEIT

„A portrait of society during and after the years of the German reunification” LEIPZIGER VOLKSZEITUNG

“A very personal book with journalistic elements [...] both the time before and after the fall of the Wall [...] come alive once again.” MÄRKISCHE ALLGEMEINE ZEITUNG

Here the Arctic, there a little village

A village fears its disappearance. That is why it is taking measures: the hedge, which is popular with tourists, is cherished and cared for, and the village treasury is checked regularly. But most importantly, the village takes care of Pina and Lobo, because these children are its future. But Pina and Lobo stopped growing a long time ago. While the village waits for the children to experience growth spurts, Pina's mother is in the Arctic watching the ice melt and the borders shift. Because there is no growth without disappearance.

Following her acclaimed debut, Swiss author Gianna Molinari once again presents a sensitive portrait of the mutual permeation of nature and culture. *The World Behind the Hedge* is simultaneously poetic and political, inviting us to think in a whole new way about growth, stagnation, disappearance and nature.

Gianna Molinari was born in Basel in 1988 and lives in Zurich. She studied literary writing at the Swiss Literature Institute and modern German literature at the University of Lausanne. She co-founded the art action group "Literatur für das, was passiert" (Literature for World Events) and the author collective "RAUF". Her debut novel *Everything Is Still Possible Here* was nominated for the German and Swiss Book Prizes.

"Gianna Molinari is one of the most original voices in contemporary literature." NEUE ZÜRCHER ZEITUNG



Gianna Molinari
The World Behind the Hedge

Fiction. 208 pages
Aufbau. Hardcover
2023, September

Translation grants via Pro Helvetia

Sample translation available



Gianna Molinari
Everything Is Still Possible Here

Fiction. 192 pages
Aufbau. Hardcover
2018, July

English sample & Full French translation available

RIGHTS SOLD TO:

Argentina, Uzbekistan, France, Netherlands, Czech Republic

The story of a non-conformist woman who pursues her own dreams and ideas

1 May 1953, Lake Constance: Renina is twenty-four, the youngest assistant to Martin Heidegger and dares to take the leap into self-employment. She founds Germany's first women's magazine. In extremely conservative post-war Germany and in times of frightening political restoration, she wants to use her magazine "Lady" to campaign for a new and progressive understanding of gender roles and to appeal to women who are not content with their role as housewife and mother. Things would be looking good, were it not for Fred, whom she married on a whim. He has a doctorate in nuclear physics, is the nephew of Marlene Dietrich and has entangled her in dangerous sexual addictions. Against the picturesque backdrop of Lake Constance, Renina's life changes over the course of a single day ... Jana Revedin tells the story of a woman's emancipation in post-war Germany – the story of her mother

Jana Revedin, born in 1965 in Konstanz, is an architect and writer and a full professor of architecture and urban planning at the École Spéciale d'Architecture in Paris. In 2018, she published her bestseller about Ise Frank, *Everyone calls me Frau Bauhaus*, and her novel *Margherita* about the renaissance of Venice in the 1920s, which also became a bestseller, was published in 2020. Most recently, she released the novel *Escape to Patagonia* about Jean-Michel Frank and Eugenie Errazuriz (2021). She lives in Venice and Wernberg in Carinthia.

"Jana Revedin chronicles the life stories of determined women; her bestselling books are both timely and an urgent appeal for next generations." ORF KÄRNTEN

"A piano concerto by Mozart forms the leitmotif of the novel, which works with short dialogues, simple language, and numerous names from the art and intellectual worlds to create a dazzling panorama of the time." KLEINE ZEITUNG



Jana Revedin
Spring Is in the Trees
Fiction. 250 pages
Aufbau. Hardcover
2023, August



Jana Revedin
Margherita
Fiction. 310 pages
atb. Quality Paperback
2022, April

An atmospheric novel about a family somewhere between the North Sea and the South China Sea

It is a mild night aboard the Jasmin, a restaurant ship off the tropical port city of Nam Van. 21-year-old Benedita, who is currently studying in a northern German Hanseatic city, has returned to her home in the South China Sea at the invitation of her uncle Gabriel. Her father has disappeared and her flighty mother, who once came to Nam Van aboard a sailing yacht, has long since left the family. Benedita's visit draws her back into the family sphere and the hotel they run. Now she is faced with a decision: Does she confront her past? Does she take on responsibility for her family and the hotel?

An atmospheric novel with its own unique intensity and beauty about a young woman caught between two worlds and port cities – connected by the sea, which challenges all boundaries and identities.

Gregor Hens, born in Cologne in 1965, worked in the USA for more than twenty years before returning to Germany in 2013. He is a freelance writer and literary translator and teaches creative writing and urban studies at the Free University of Berlin. His memoir *Nicotine* has been translated into six languages. Most recently, *Missouri* was published by Aufbau and the essay *The City and the World* by Die Andere Bibliothek. Gregor Hens lives with his family in Berlin.



Gregor Hens
A Peculiar Predilection for the Sea
 Fiction. 272 pages
 Aufbau. Hardcover
 2023, August

“This novel is as scintillating, multi-layered, beguiling and menacing as the place where it is set: the sea.” ANNIKA REICH

“A story about the journey of a highly enigmatic crew in a contradictory magical landscape between the harbour, which only appears to be safe, and the open sea. Gregor Hens’ Peculiar Predilection for the Sea is a masterclass in literary skill and is in a league of its own in contemporary literature.” FELICITAS HOPPE

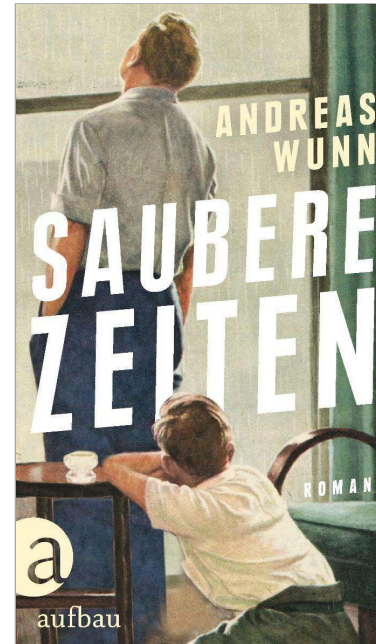
“A fantastic journey through time and space: loving and harsh, whimsical and wise, and of great poetic power.” CHRISTOPH PETERS

The stains on a family's past

When Jakob Auber learns that his father is dying, he sets off to his childhood home in the Moselle Valley. While there, he starts to look into his family's past. His grandfather Theodor Auber was a dazzling personality during the period of the German Economic Miracle. He invented a washing powder that made him a rich man until he lost everything due to unexplained circumstances. His search for clues takes Jakob to Rio de Janeiro, where he meets Bella, who is over 90 years old. She is also the daughter of the Jewish owner of the drugstore where his grandfather's career once began, and Jakob learns what lies behind the rise and fall of the family empire.

In his novel, Andreas Wunn tells a great story of fathers and sons, of guilt and speechlessness between generations, of a love that does not want to succeed and a family's happiness that slips away.

Andreas Wunn was born in 1975, grew up in Trier and studied political science in Berlin. He reported from Rio de Janeiro for six years as the South America correspondent for ZDF. Today he is head of the TV shows *ZDF-Morgenmagazin* and *ZDF-Mittagsmagazin*. He has received several awards for his journalistic work. *Clean Times* is his debut novel. He lives in Berlin.



**BEST
SELLER**

Andreas Wunn
Clean Times
Fiction. 381 pages
Aufbau. Hardcover
2023, February

English sample translation available

“Wunn connects the fate of Jewish businesspeople so adeptly to the time of the German economic miracle in the Federal Republic of Germany that one can’t help but wish more works will follow from this debut novel.” RUHR NACHRICHTEN

“An evocative family novel.” HÖRZU

“An enthralling historical novel with biographic details.” EKZ

An exceptional novel, set after the fall of the East German dictatorship: precise and powerful

When the GDR collapses, the Stephan family gathers in front of the grandparents' stove one evening to burn all evidence of the Stasi activities carried out by members of the family. For generations, the Stephan family has dedicated their lives to socialism and now it is slipping through their fingers along with everything they believed in and stood for. Felix, the only son, grows up in a world that is disintegrating. The family is in shock, and Felix is displaying behavioural problems and puzzling tendencies towards aggression. When his grandfather, the socialist hero figure of the family, gradually develops dementia and softens up, Felix finally seems to have some sort of a future ahead of him.

Felix Stephan tells the story of his childhood in the GDR, of growing up in the 90s with an overbearing grandfather who was a hero figure and of the crumbling of ideals. It is a search for his own identity – an autofictional family novel of radiant power and clarity.

Felix Stephan was born in East Berlin in 1983, studied journalism and literary studies in Leipzig and also spent time in Zurich and Hong Kong. He has worked as an editor at *Zeit Online* and *Literarische Welt* and has been an editor in the feature section of the *Süddeutsche Zeitung* newspaper since 2018. *The Early Years* is his debut novel. Felix Stephan lives in Berlin and Alsace.

"My family was still in shock, and when you're in shock, all your thoughts revolve around one event. For us, this event was the end of socialism. [...] In our minds, the Berlin Wall kept falling over and over again, as if in an endless loop."



Felix Stephan
The Early Years
Fiction. 255 pages
Aufbau. Hardcover
2023, April

"The stuffiness and narrowness of the GDR hasn't been this palpable in a long time. It's good that it's over, and disturbingly good how Felix Stephan has captured it." DEUTSCHLAND-FUNK KULTUR

"The early years are explored in this moving, insightful novel, and one can look forward with anticipation to the middle ones." DIE ZEIT

"an intense post-unification novel" NDR KULTUR

"Felix Stephan is a talented and experienced storyteller who finds a restrained, straightforward tone for his story, creates vivid characters with few strokes, and brilliantly understands how to confine himself to the crucial key scenes." WDR

**The sea is constant.
The war seems far away.
The light lies in the shadows.**

Lisbeth and the warrior have known each other since their training in the Armed Forces. They chose the military because they wanted a body that isn't weak — as if the only way to face the world is with a heart clenched in a fist. Many years have passed since they last saw each other, but they are still drawn to one another. They are women who have experienced violence and commit violence against themselves and those close to them. But Lisbeth and the warrior are also ready to fight against it.

The Warrior is a novel about the special friendship between two women whose top priority is to strip themselves of all vulnerability. Helene Bukowski tells of the resulting wounds, the violence, their traces and the trauma – both experienced and inherited.

Helene Bukowski, born in Berlin in 1993, once more lives in her city of birth. She studied at the Hildesheim Literature Institute and, in addition to writing, also runs creative writing courses and workshops. Her debut novel *Milk Teeth*, for which she was nominated for various awards, was published in 2019. The novel has been translated into French and English and a film adaptation is in the works.

"With great narrative elegance and spot-on phrasing, Helene Bukowski depicts a moving story of friendship. The tone is crystal clear and at the same time visually powerful." NDR KULTUR

"With sober language and at the same time great tenderness, Helene Bukowski tells of the friendship of two wounded women." KULTURNEWS

"The female voice in war has previously been an overlooked topic, but Helene Bukowski elaborates it poignantly in her text." SR2 KULTURRADIO



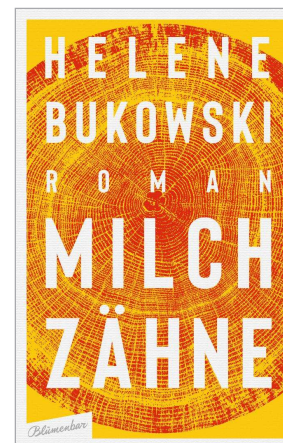
Helene Bukowski
The Warrior
Fiction. 256 pages
Blumenbar. Hardcover
2022, September

RIGHTS SOLD TO:
UK, France

Recommended by New Books in German

English sample translation available

PREVIOUS PUBLICATION:



Helene Bukowski
Milk Teeth
Ca. 256 pages
Blumenbar. Hardcover
2019, March

Full English translation available

RIGHTS SOLD TO:
Macedonia (the former Yugoslav Republic of), UK, Spain, France, USA

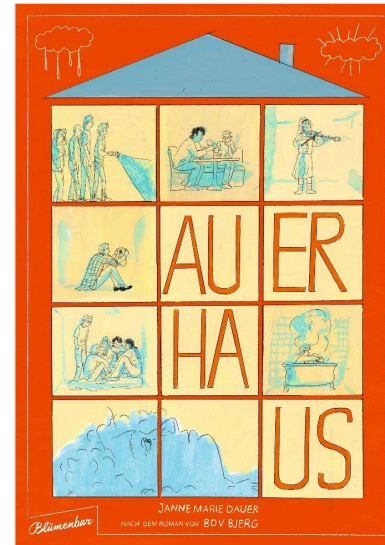
“Bov Bjerg has written one of the most beautiful books of our time.” SÜDDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG

The end of the 80s, six friends, and a promise: That their lives not be filed away in folders labeled “Birth” – “School” – “Work” – “Death.” That’s why they move into the Auerhaus together. A shared flat in the countryside in the 80s is unheard of. But they aren’t just looking to save their own lives, but more importantly the life of their best friend Frieder. For he is not sure why he should live at all. Bov Bjerg tells a stirring and sensitive story of love, friendship, and six idealists whose ingenuity is nothing less than self-defense against the existing way of life. Because their struggle for happiness is also a struggle of life and death.

Bov Bjerg’s story has thrilled hundreds of thousands — and now a graphic novel about Frieder and his friends is finally being published. Janne Marie Dauer’s adaptation is as multifaceted as it is surprising, and her images contain the same brash heartiness as Bov Bjerg’s novel.

Bov Bjerg was born in 1965. His bestseller *Auerhaus* and the short story collection *The Modernization of My Mother* were published by Blumenbar. His novel *Serpentines* was nominated for the German Book Prize in 2020; *Deadline*, his first novel, was republished in 2021.

Janne Marie Dauer was born in Göttingen in 1995. After studying visual communication at the Kunsthochschule Kassel, she currently studies painting at the University of Applied Arts in Vienna. She is a comic artist, painter, and illustrator, and lives and works in Vienna.



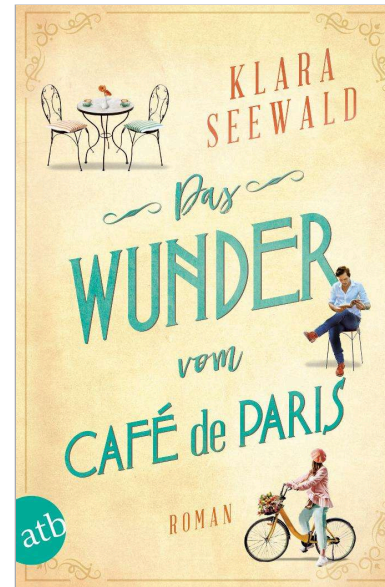
Janne Marie Dauer, Bov Bjerg
Auerhaus
 Graphic Novel
 Fiction. 272 pages
 Blumenbar. Hardcover
 2023, October

The bestseller comes to life in a brand-new way: Illustrator Janne Marie Dauer creates evocative imagery for one of the most poignant novels of our time.

A feel-good novel from the heart

Benoît, Martine and the elderly Marie-Louise do not know each other, yet every day, they move through the same Parisian quarter, drink their café au lait in the same café on the corner, walk past the same little park. Until all their lives suddenly come apart at the seams: old wounds are torn open, a stable marriage begins to falter, cherished routines come to an end. A monstrous construction project threatens their neighbourhood, and in love, too, walls seem to be going up everywhere. When their paths cross by chance in the quaint Café de Paris, they have no idea how important they will become to one other. But then something happens that opens all of their eyes and turns strangers into friends... And where can miracles happen if not in Paris? A book as pleasant as a walk along the banks of the Seine, with characters to be cherished.

Klara Seewald was born in Freiburg im Breisgau and works as a travel journalist. She loves to immerse herself in old family stories and legends surrounding landscapes and mysterious places. When she is not travelling, she lives in Basel with her husband and daughter and their dog Moritz.



Klara Seewald
Miracle of Café de Paris
 Fiction. Ca. 299 pages
 atb. Quality Paperback
 2023, December

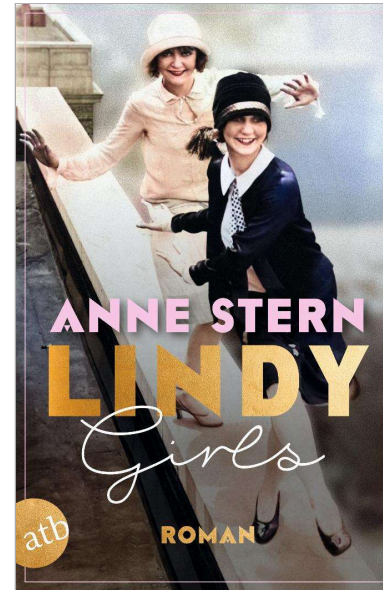
*The touching story of three people
 who are brought together
 by life's events*

The stirring story of a women's dance group in the Golden Twenties in Berlin – breathless, dreamlike and romantic

Berlin, 1928. The whole city is dancing, doing acrobatics and swinging as if there were no tomorrow. Fascinated by the new seductive rhythms from America, choreographer Wally starts a dance group – with women only. She finds her dancers in the streets of Berlin, like the young Alice, who was dancing with street children until now. The trademarks of the Lindy Girls are precision, expressiveness and a modern sense of female self-assurance. But despite all their determination and great artistic innovation, the Lindy Girls are denied access to the major stages, because there the men make all the decisions.

Secretary Gila has had enough of this and wants to write something completely different from what her boss dictates to her. Through her, Thea joins the group, leaving behind a marriage of wealth that lacked freedom. With her, everything seems possible for the Lindy Girls. But then something gets in their way that they did not anticipate – love...

Anne Stern, born in 1982, is a historian and writer and has a PhD in German studies. She lives with her family in Berlin. Her novels about the Berlin midwife *Fräulein Gold* became Spiegel bestsellers. In her novel *Three Days in August*, published by Aufbau Taschenbuch in 2022, she tells the eventful story of a Berlin chocolate shop on three days in 1936. Ever since Anne Stern went to a swing party in the legendary Spiegelsaal of the 1920s venue “Clärchens Ballhaus”, she has wanted to write a novel about the Charleston of the Roaring Twenties. This inspired her to write the story about the Lindy Girls, a women's dance group in Berlin in 1928.



Anne Stern
Lindy Girls
Fiction. 349 pages
atb. Quality Paperback
2023, November

English sample translation available



Anne Stern
Three Days in August
Fiction. 352 pages
atb. Quality Paperback
2022, August

English sample translation available

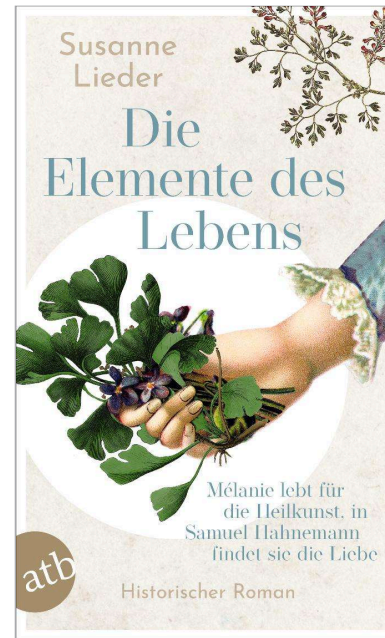
RIGHTS SOLD TO:
Netherlands, Jordan, Hungary

She uses the power of nature and becomes a pioneer in medicine

Paris, 1834: Mélanie wants to become a doctor, but as a woman, she is denied access to the university. Nevertheless, she sneaks into the lecture hall. She earns her money as a painter and poet. When she falls ill, no doctor seems to be able to help her; her last hope is homeopathy. By chance, she comes across a medical book by a certain Samuel Hahnemann. Mélanie is fascinated by his findings and knows that she must meet this man! Dressed in men's clothes, she sets off on her own to meet the founder of this new art of healing. When she comes face to face with Samuel Hahnemann, who is more than 40 years her senior, she is impressed by him. She feels like he could be her teacher, best friend and partner all at the same time – she wants him to teach her how to achieve her dream of saving people's lives.

A novel about the beginnings of homeopathy, based on the life story of Mélanie and Samuel Hahnemann.

Susanne Lieder was born in Bad Oeynhausen in 1963 and lives with her family south of Bremen, where she works as a writer. She writes very successful historical and biographical novels under various pseudonyms. When she learned that the great homeopath Samuel Hahnemann had a second marriage with a much younger woman, she immediately wanted to know more about this woman and tell the extraordinary love story of this unlikely couple.



Susanne Lieder
The Elements of Life
Mélanie Is Passionate about the Art of Healing and Finds Love with Samuel Hahnemann
 Fiction. Ca. 352 pages
 atb. Quality Paperback
 2024, January



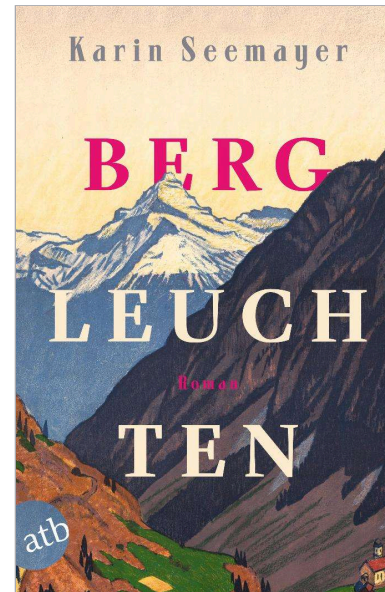
Susanne Lieder
Astrid Lindgren
Her Life is All about Childhood
 Fiction. 361 pages
 atb. Quality Paperback
 2022, October
RIGHTS SOLD TO:
 Poland, Lithuania, Bulgaria, Italy, Czech Republic, Slovenia, Estonia, Hungary

The gateway to the south

Göschenen, 1872. Helene often accompanies her father on his journeys across the dangerous Gotthard Pass. When a tunnel is to be built through the Gotthard, the hauliers fear for their livelihoods. The workers from Italy are subjected to fierce hostility and slave away under exploitative conditions. Helene secretly takes care of them and in the process falls in love with Piero. Although they know that Helene's father would never approve of the relationship, they hold on to their love and meet secretly. After serious construction accidents, the workers go on strike. Piero is one of the spokesmen – and then an unimaginable disaster occurs that will turn Helene's world upside down.

The epic story of a brilliant project in the Alps: the construction of the Gotthard Tunnel, which has connected the north and south of Europe ever since.

Karin Seemayer, born in 1959, trained as a travel agent and has travelled a lot, both professionally and privately. Most of her inspiration came from these trips. However, she waited to turn these ideas into novels until her three children were grown up. Today she lives in the Taunus.



Karin Seemayer
Mountain Lights
 Fiction. 477 pages
 atb. Quality Paperback
 2023, June

RIGHTS SOLD TO:
 Russia

English sample translation available

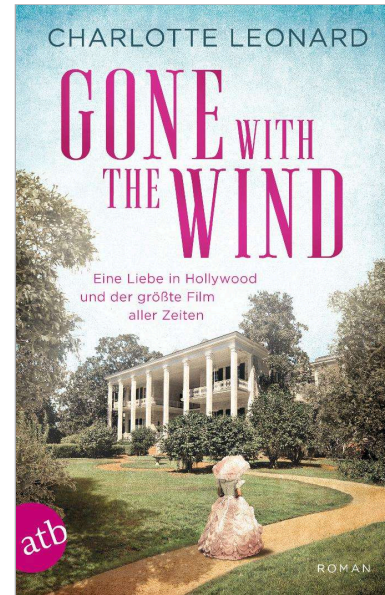
*A great forbidden love against
 the spectacular backdrop
 of the Swiss mountains*

Her dream is to play the role of Scarlett O'Hara, but she has to fight for her relationship

Vivien Leigh is immediately hooked when she reads Margaret Mitchell's novel *Gone with the Wind*. She would love to play the courageous Southern belle Scarlett O'Hara in the film adaptation, but how will this British actress be able to convince producer David O. Selznick that she's right for the role? Vivien gambles everything for the part and her love for Laurence Olivier: she goes to the U.S. with Larry, leaving her family and friends behind. But filming and being in Hollywood test Vivien more than she could ever have imagined.

As visually powerful as it is moving: the fascinating story behind the filming of "Gone with the Wind" and of a young woman who fights for her relationship on the set of the greatest film of all time.

Charlotte Leonard is the pseudonym of author Christiane Lind, who never ceases to amaze her friends with her knowledge of Hollywood films. She has amassed a small library on the golden era of the dream factory and on the extraordinary lives of courageous women who are often misunderstood by those around them. Aufbau Taschenbuch has already published her novel *A Daring Woman* about Hollywood actress and ingenious inventor Hedy Lamarr.



Charlotte Leonard
**Gone with the Wind – Love in Hollywood
and the Greatest Film of All Time**

Fiction. 384 pages
atb. Quality Paperback
2023, April

RIGHTS SOLD TO:
Hungary

PREVIOUS PUBLICATION:



Charlotte Leonard
**A Daring Woman
Hedy Lamarr – She Shines in the Glamour of Hollywood,
and Her Invention Changes the World**

Fiction. 398 pages
atb. Quality Paperback
2022, January

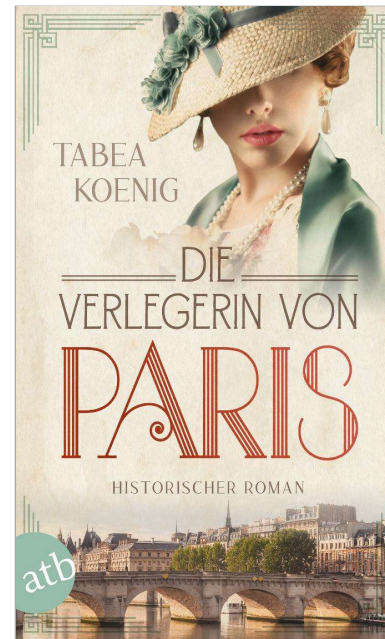
RIGHTS SOLD TO:
Hungary, Estonia, Czech Republic

An atmospheric novel set in 1920s Paris: a homage to the magic of storytelling and bookshops

London, 1921: a young woman, Lizzie, breaks free from her loveless marriage – a scandal in the eyes of her mother, who cuts off all contact with her. Left to fend for herself, Lizzie travels to Paris, where she hopes to build a freer life. Shortly after her arrival she finds herself at Shakespeare and Company, a bookshop run by Sylvia Beach. Here, on the Left Bank, Lizzie enters a fascinating new world of books – and meets inspiring, passionate women who have dedicated themselves to literature and who love whomever they want. She types up a manuscript by James Joyce for Sylvia Beach and soon she wants to start publishing books herself. Her dream seems just within her grasp when tragedy strikes – one that could change her whole life.

Featuring various colourful figures from the Lost Generation: Sylvia Beach, Gertrude Stein, Ernest Hemingway, F. Scott and Zelda Fitzgerald

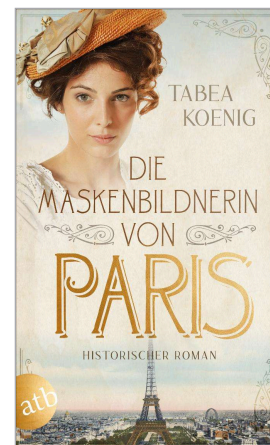
Tabea Koenig, born in 1992, studied social work and intercultural communication. In 2014, while on a trip to Scotland, she was inspired to write. She has always been fascinated by history and by strong female characters, and is especially drawn to Victorian Great Britain and Paris between the Belle Époque and the Années folles. She loves day-dreaming, books and long walks, and lives with her husband in Basel.



Tabea Koenig
The Publisher from Paris
Fiction. 397 pages
atb. Quality Paperback
2022, October

RIGHTS SOLD TO:
Czech Republic

PREVIOUS PUBLICATION:



Tabea Koenig
The Makeup Artist from Paris
Fiction. 442 pages
atb. Quality Paperback
2021, September

RIGHTS SOLD TO:
Hungary

A woman in a battle between magic and reason

Solveig is a young Viking. Her father, King Harald Fairhair, married her mother in a frenzy of love. After she dies, he believes that his dead wife has put a spell on him and starts to follow Solveig. When she realizes that her father wants to kill her, she dresses in men's clothing and signs up to go on a raid to Ireland with foreign Vikings. The target is Bangor Abbey, but the Norwegians are defeated and Solveig is imprisoned. An Irishman called Dhoire, a druid who deals in mathematics and magic, is held captive with her. Dhoire teaches Solveig his art and predicts the death of a Viking king: Sigurd Snake-in-the-Eye. His brother has married her half-sister. On the day the two are to be executed, Solveig manages to escape – and discovers she is pregnant.

Helga Glaesener originally studied mathematics and computer science before deciding to become a freelance author. Her first novel *The Saffron Merchant* was a bestseller. Today she lives in Oldenburg. Her novel *The Legacy of Pope Joan* was published by Aufbau Taschenbuch.



Helga Glaesener
The Shield-Maiden
Fiction. 464 pages
Rütten & Loening. Quality Paperback
2023, April

PREVIOUS PUBLICATION:



Helga Glaesener
The Legacy of Pope Joan
Fiction. 459 pages
Rütten & Loening. Hardcover
2020, September

RIGHTS SOLD TO:
Netherlands, Italy, Portugal

Love lasts the longest!

Tilly works for an insurance company and if it were up to her, there would be insurance for everything in life. For parents who, without asking, saddle you with your senile grandmother while they take a trip around the world, for the annoying neighbor who constantly makes you inappropriate propositions and, most importantly, for embarrassing moments: How is it possible that this master thief has tricked her again? Of all the things he could have taken, he has stolen the two valuable diamonds that Tilly is supposed to be guarding. She takes this personally, especially since it is not only the stones which are missing, but also her watch – an heirloom from her great-grandfather Manfred. Tilly knows that the mysterious stranger will strike again. But what she does not suspect is that this time he is after her heart. And there is no insurance for love ...

Nikola Hotel was born in Bonn in 1978, the youngest of two daughters. As a child, she used to roam the forest, build dams in streams and conquer badger burrows. Hotel began writing her first short stories as a schoolgirl. Today she works as a freelance author and lives with her husband and three sons in Hennef, Germany. The other three novels of her "Hearbeat" series were published by Aufbau Taschenbuch: *Now and with You*, *Forever and You* and *Love – or nothing at all*



Nikola Hotel
**As of Tomorrow,
 There Will Be Nothing but Love**
 Fiction. Ca. 384 pages
 atb. Quality Paperback
 2024, February

UPCOMING PUBLICATIONS:



Nikola Hotel
Now and with You
 Fiction. 286 pages
 2024, February



Nikola Hotel
Forever and You
 Fiction. 303 pages
 2024, February

Fireworks

The new millennium is in sight when Kata sees him for the first time in the masses of partygoers – Jackson. Kata is instantly enchanted by the young artist, but after a magical New Year's Eve, she is so overwhelmed by her feelings that she runs away and loses sight of Jackson in the urban jungle. Her only hope of seeing him again is the landline number for her shared flat on the Upper West Side which she hastily scribbled down for him...

Back in Munich, she can't stop thinking about him – until she meets Samu, whom she starts building a life with. Seventeen years and two children later, when Kata is faced with the broken pieces of her relationship with Samu, she suddenly discovers one of Jackson's paintings in a gallery. All the memories come flooding back and Kata can't help herself: she has to go to Berlin for Jackson's opening.

Vanessa Jung was born in Munich in 1980. She has worked as an actress since childhood and went on to study acting at the Neighborhood Playhouse School of the Theatre in New York. At the same time, she began writing screenplays and has since combined acting with her work as an author. *Two Stars for Us* is her debut novel. She lives in Munich with her two children, husband and dog.



Vanessa Jung
Two Stars for Us
 Fiction. 375 pages
 atb. Quality Paperback
 2023, October

*A delicate and passionate love story
 that questions whether there can be
 more than one love of our lives.*

Head off, heart on: a young computer scientist and the unpredictability of love

Charlie, 29, loves numbers, formulas and codes, and she's pretty tough. As a computer scientist at a university, she also has to be tough to assert herself against the male competition. Then her younger sister announces that she is engaged. And Charlie's world turns upside down: marriage, getting down on one knee, a ring, all the bells and whistles. She wants this too, even though she actually despises these clichés – or does she?

Suddenly she starts questioning everything: her job at the university, where her male colleagues have made her life difficult for years, the overtime which she constantly takes on, and even her long-term boyfriend David – are the two really still living together, or just next to one another? On the search for answers, Charlie works on doing what she as a computer scientist knows best: Collecting data, categorizing, analyzing. But is there an algorithm for love? Then Tobi turns up, who seems to be perfect for her – except for the fact that he is also David's boss. The butterflies in Charlie's stomach do not follow any mathematical rules – and cause her system to crash ...

Marilena Sommer, born in 1993, is a cultural scientist and lives in Cologne and sometimes in the U.S. When she's not researching why robots can also be intelligent, she's either at the stadium cheering on the Cologne football club, sorting through her huge bookshelf or fridge magnet collection, or sitting at her desk to write her own books.



Marilena Sommer
Love Is a Complicated Phase

Fiction. 320 pages
atb. Quality Paperback
2023, June

RIGHTS SOLD TO:
Spain, Italy

English sample translation available

*Cheeky and feminist, intelligent and funny:
a rom-com that will have you hooked*

Boxing world champion Max Schmeling risks everything for his love for Anny Ondra

Max Schmeling may be the champion of the world, but convincing Czech-German film star Anny Ondra of his worth is not easy for the timid giant. Only with the help of his friends does he finally succeed in inviting her out for a coffee, and thanks to Max's persistence, who leaves a bouquet of flowers on her car every day, the self-assured actress and the terribly shy boxing world champion become closer.

The two become the dream couple of the German public. But fame has its dark side: the Nazi leadership wants to use Max for their propaganda, and the attempts to protect his Jewish friends put Max in increasing danger, until he is sent to the Eastern Front. Will Anny ever see her husband again?

Jan Steinbach has lived for many years in the Berlin district of Schöneberg, opposite the former Berlin Sportpalast, which was not only the venue for Max Schmeling's first major boxing matches and legendary six-day bicycle races, but was also used by the Nazis for their propaganda. Fascinated by this legendary place and its prominent representative, Steinbach came across the story of Schmeling's great love for actress Anny Ondra.



Jan Steinbach
Always With You
Max Schmeling and Anny Ondra
 Ca. 400 pages
 atb. Quality Paperback
 2024, January

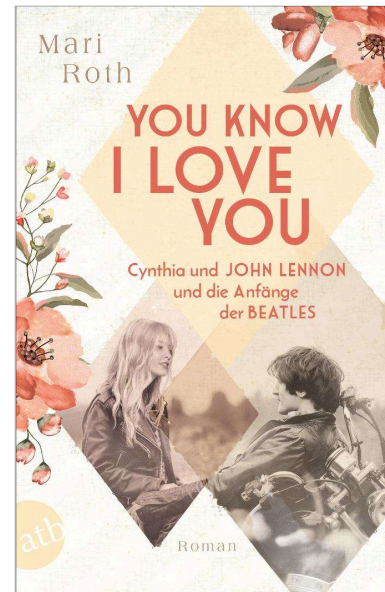
A novel as thrilling as it is moving about two lovers in search of happiness in dark times.

John and Cynthia: The young love of one of the greatest songwriters of all time

Liverpool, 1957: traumatised by the accidental death of his mother, a young John Lennon rebels against everything – and yet all he wants to do is make music. Then he meets the beautiful but quiet Cynthia, who is immediately captivated by his dark charisma. At her side, John experiences the stability and love he never experienced in his family. Together with Paul McCartney he now writes his first songs, and it is not long before the stage performances of The Silver Beatles become legendary.

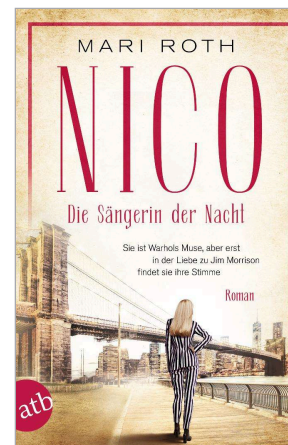
Meanwhile, Cynthia's role as John's wife is kept secret from the public ... Can she still be herself at John's side? The novel about John Lennon's first love and the birth of the Beatles.

Mari Roth, born in 1969, works as a journalist, translator and writer and lives in Berlin. She has been interested in pop music since she was a teenager. One of her first records was the album "Double Fantasy", which John Lennon recorded with his wife Yoko Ono shortly before his death. But much more than Lennon's relationship with Yoko Ono, she found The Beatles' origins particularly fascinating – and the part his almost-forgotten first wife Cynthia played. Roth's novel *Nico – The Singer of the Night* is available from Aufbau Taschenbuch.



Mari Roth
You Know I Love You
Cynthia and John Lennon
and the Origins of The Beatles
Fiction. 351 pages
atb. Quality Paperback
2023, September

PREVIOUS PUBLICATION:



Mari Roth
Nico – The Singer of the Night
She is Warhol's Muse, but First Finds Her Voice
when She Falls in Love with Jim Morrison
Fiction. Ca. 332 pages
atb. Quality Paperback
2021, October
RIGHTS SOLD TO:
Hungary

A love as moving as Rilke's verses

1900: Clara Westhoff walks through the Jardin du Luxemburg for the last time. She had learned a great deal during her time with Auguste Rodin, but had constantly had to battle with prejudices among her fellow artists, who believed sculpture to be a male domain. Would she finally be able to leave that behind her in Worpswede, an artists' colony that has attracted so many free spirits? As much as she would miss Paris, she is ready for something new: a life devoted entirely to art.

When the idolized poet Rainer Maria Rilke sees the young sculptress for the first time, he is enraptured: by her beauty, her assertiveness, her passion for art. When Clara hears a poem on his lips for the first time, she succumbs to him – against her better judgement. Rilke is considered erratic and is courting her friend and painter Paula Becker. Nevertheless, an intense love develops between the two which not only defies all conventions, but also provides inspiration for some of the most beautiful love poems to this day.

Lena Johansson, born in 1967 in Reinbek near Hamburg, worked as a bookseller before becoming a travel journalist, combining her two passions for writing and travelling. She lives and works as a freelance author on the Baltic coast.



Lena Johansson
Clara and Rilke
A Love Between Words and Colours
 Fiction. 336 pages
 atb. Quality Paperback
 2023, August

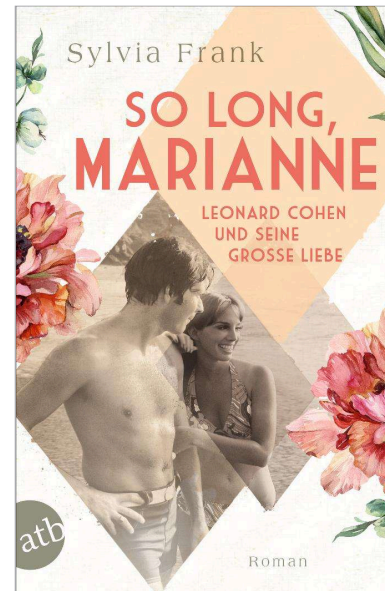
*An intense love that defies conventions
 and inspires Rilke to write
 his most beautiful love poems*

Dance me to the end of love – Leonard Cohen and Marianne Ihlen

Hydra, 1960: a young Leonard Cohen has arrived on the Greek island to fulfil a dream: become a famous writer. There he meets Marianne and her husband Axel, and witnesses how violent Axel can be. When the marriage breaks down, Leonard cares for the deeply hurt Marianne, and the two fall in love. When his novel is torn apart by the critics, Leonard falls into a depression. Now it's Marianne's turn to save him: she gives him a guitar, and soon he's celebrating his first hits. But can Marianne cope with life by the side of an international star – and will their relationship survive Leonard's meteoric rise?

The moving story of Leonard Cohen and Marianne Ihlen, without whom songs like *So Long*, *Marianne* and *Bird on the Wire* would never have existed.

Sylvia Frank is the pseudonym of a German couple, a successful author duo living on the island of Rügen. Sylvia Vandermeer, born in 1968, is a qualified businesswoman. She also studied Biology, Psychology and Fine Art. Today she works as a freelance author and painter. Frank Meierewert, born in 1967, has a PhD in Ethnology, and has worked as a freelance author since 2008.



Sylvia Frank
So Long, Marianne
Leonard Cohen and the Love of His Life
 Fiction. 428 pages
 atb. Quality Paperback
 2023, April
RIGHTS SOLD TO:
 Slovenia, Bulgaria, Hungary

PREVIOUS PUBLICATION:



Sylvia Frank
Gala & Dalí
The Inseparables
 Fiction. 445 pages
 atb. Quality Paperback
 2022, February
RIGHTS SOLD TO:
 Lithuania, Czech Republic, Romania, Estonia, Hungary, Bulgaria

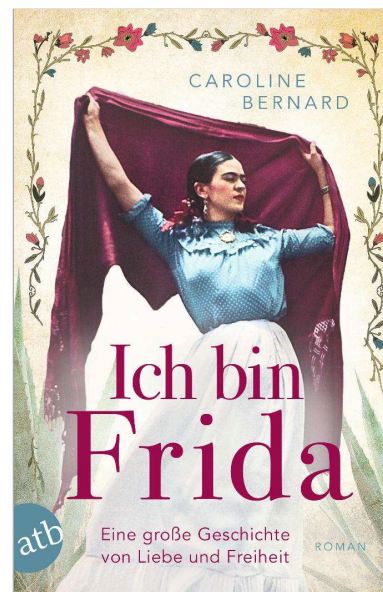
“I am my own muse!”

Summer of 1938: Frida has reached a turning point in her life. She wants to make a name for herself in the art world – and she has to question her idea of great love. For she is still only seen as the famous Diego Rivera’s wife, not as a painter in her own right. Then she receives an invitation to exhibit her work in New York and Paris. Frida sees a chance for her big breakthrough, but will her paintings be able to meet the expectations of the international art world?

The time has finally come: Frida has her first solo exhibition in New York, and it is a roaring success. She is celebrated in the Manhattan art scene. She then runs into photographer Nickolas Muray again. An *amour fou* develops between them and Frida gets caught up in a whirlwind of emotions. At the same time, her life is revolving more and more around art, which ends up saving her, providing inspiration not only for her life as a woman, but also for love. After leaving the artistic shadow of her husband Diego, who is an incorrigible womanizer, she also wants to follow her feelings when it comes to love. But Nick demands something seemingly impossible from her. Frida has to find out what she really wants – both in art and in love.

The new novel about Frida Kahlo: With deep knowledge and sensitivity, bestselling author Caroline Bernard shows us a side of this global icon that we have never seen before

Caroline Bernard is the pseudonym of Tania Schlie, a literary scholar who has worked as a freelance author and editor for twenty years. She has previously published eleven novels and about as many non-fiction books on cultural-historical topics. She loves coming up with stories about strong women.



Caroline Bernard

I am Frida

A Grand Story on Love and Freedom

Fiction. 376 pages

atb. Quality Paperback

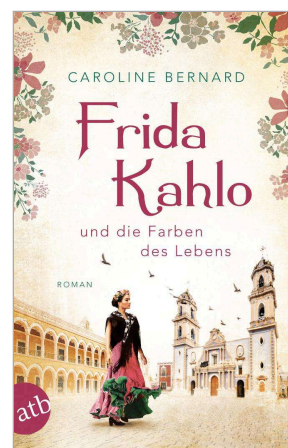
2023, October

RIGHTS SOLD TO:

Italy

English sample translation available

PREVIOUS PUBLICATION:



Caroline Bernard

Frida Kahlo and the Colours of Life

Fiction. 400 pages

atb. Quality Paperback

2019, September

English sample translation available

RIGHTS SOLD TO:

Denmark, Slovakia, Portugal, Poland, Turkey, Sweden, Spain, Slovenia, Serbia, Russia, Romania, Netherlands, Latvia, Italy, Hungary, France, Estonia, Czech Republic, Bulgaria, Brazil

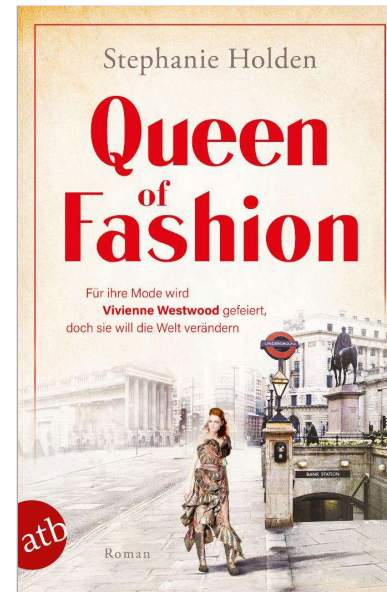
**BEST
SELLER**

Designer, Rebel, Icon – Vivienne Westwood

1965: Dreaming of a different life, teacher and mother of two Vivienne Westwood comes to London. The confident young woman soon makes a name for herself as a punk stylist thanks to her sensational and sexy creations. Her fashion revolves around the beauty of provocation and always focuses on women's self-determination. Soon she is not only designing for Hollywood stars like Cameron Diaz – members of the British royal family also start wearing her creations. With her rebellious spirit, however, she not only causes trouble in her industry, but also in love, where she repeatedly fails to live up to traditional gender role expectations. More than any other designer, she is committed to sustainability and environmental protection in her fashion. As a dedicated activist, she manages to combine her creative energy and her urge for freedom.

A novel about a uniquely self-determined woman who knew how to unite her art with the fight for a better world. With Madonna, the Sex Pistols, the British royal family and many more.

Stephanie Holden, born in 1973, started taking an interest in punk and new wave from a young age – much to the dismay of her parents. At that time, however, she did not know that this style originated in the creations of one woman: Vivienne Westwood. Later, as a journalist, she researched Westwood and came across an assertive woman who not only made fashion history as one of the most influential fashion designers of her generation alongside the likes of Lagerfeld, Armani and Yves Saint Laurent, but one who also campaigned as an activist for a better, more sustainable world throughout her life. Fascinated by Vivienne Westwood, she decided to write a novel about this unique woman's life.



Stephanie Holden

Queen of Fashion

Vivienne Westwood May Be Celebrated for Her Fashion, but She Also Wants to Change the World

Fiction. Ca. 352 pages

atb. Quality Paperback

2023, December

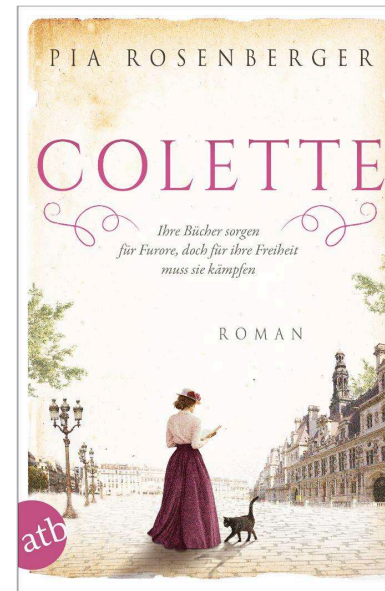
*“I’m not terribly interested in beauty.
What touches me is someone
who understands herself.”
Vivienne Westwood*

**“Follow your own path.
And if you lie down, then let it only be to die.”**

Paris, 1890. The young Sidonie-Gabrielle Colette dreams of a life with writer Henry Gauthier-Villars. But only when they marry does she realise who her husband really is: a socialite and philanderer whose books are written by ghostwriters. He even discovers a talent in her which he appropriates. When her cheeky *Claudine* novels send the whole of Paris into a frenzy, Colette no longer wants to be subjugated. She fights for her freedom – and her name.

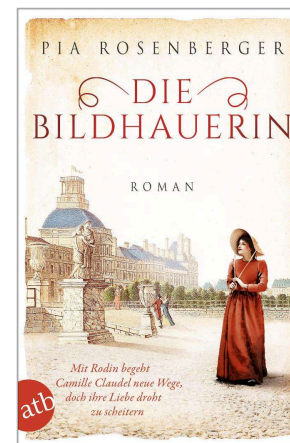
Few artists' lives describe such a breathtaking development: the astonishing story of a woman who proves her worth as a dancer, actress, journalist and writer, establishing her place in a male-dominated society with a passionate heart and a sharp mind.

Pia Rosenberger was born near Osnabrück and completed an apprenticeship in hand weaving before going on to study art history, literature and educational science. She has lived with her family in Esslingen for over 20 years and works as an author, journalist, museum educator and city guide. Aufbau Taschenbuch has already published her novels *The Sculptress* (rights sold to Italy and Hungary) and *The Women's Artist* (rights sold to Italy).



Pia Rosenberger
Colette
**Her Books Are a Sensation,
but She Has to Fight for Her Freedom**
Fiction. Ca. 400 pages
atb. Quality Paperback
2023, July

PREVIOUS PUBLICATIONS:



Pia Rosenberger
The Sculptress
**Camille Claudel Breaks New
Ground with Rodin, but Their
Love is on the Brink of Failure**
Fiction. 352 pages
2021, April

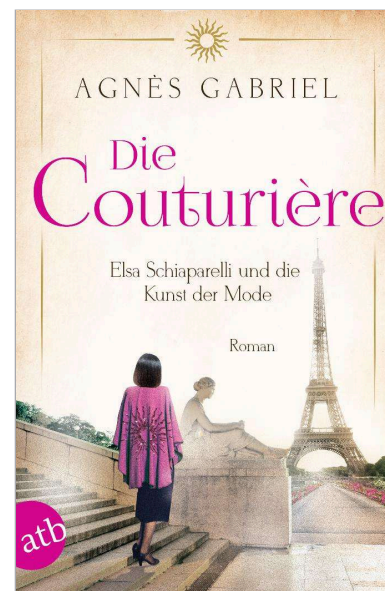
Pia Rosenberger
The Women's Artist
**Niki de Saint Phalle – She
Dreams of Freedom and
Conquers the World with Her
Nanas**
Fiction. 389 pages
2021, December

"To me, fashion isn't a job, it's an art."

Paris, 1922: when Elsa Schiaparelli leaves New York with her young daughter she is thirty-two years old, penniless, prospectless and traumatised by her husband's infidelity. She is determined never to become dependent on a man ever again, and eager to provide the best treatment for her daughter, who has polio. In Paris, Elsa starts earning money as a seamstress and soon develops a network of artists including Man Ray, Cocteau, Picasso as well as other Surrealists.

A black pullover with a white bow is the start of a glittering career as a designer. Alongside Coco Chanel, her greatest rival, she revolutionises the world of fashion in both Paris and Hollywood with her extravagant designs. Stars like Greta Garbo and Katherine Hepburn are clamouring to get their hands on her clothes. Soon she is considered the most original couturière of her age, an artist among fashion designers. When Elsa meets diplomat Jacques, her determination not to give love another chance wavers ... but it's spring 1940, and the Germans are marching into Paris. Elsa and Gogo have to leave as quickly as they can – without Jacques.

Agnès Gabriel is a German author and journalist. She writes historical novels and women's fiction under various pseudonyms. Her books have been translated into several languages. The author lives with her family on Lüneburg Heath in northern Germany.

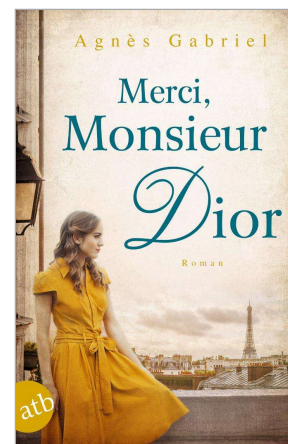


Agnès Gabriel
The Couturière
Elsa Schiaparelli and
the Art of Fashion

Fiction. 382 pages
atb. Quality Paperback
2023, April

RIGHTS SOLD TO:
Poland

PREVIOUS PUBLICATION:



Agnès Gabriel
Merci, Monsieur Dior
Fiction. 416 pages
atb. Quality Paperback
2020, February

RIGHTS SOLD TO:
Brazil, Spain, Slovenia, Serbia, Poland, Latvia, Italy, Hungary, Estonia,
Czech Republic

As an author she is world-famous, but how much do we know about her as a woman?

1929: at long last, Astrid has been reunited with her son, Lasse. As an unmarried mother, she doesn't have it easy, but she is determined to cope – for Lasse, and for herself. Years later, all of this seems to be forgotten. Astrid has married the love of her life, Sture. What has remained are the stories she tells to her son and now also to little Karin – stories, for instance, about an incredibly strong girl called Pippi Longstocking who sleeps with her feet on the pillow. She starts writing them down, at first just for Karin on her birthday, but then she sends them to a publisher and wins a writing competition. Her sudden success as an author comes as a surprise. Surely, all will now be well? But soon things between Astrid and Sture come to a head, and then the family is struck by a terrible tragedy.

Susanne Lieder grew up near Bad Oeynhausen and lives with her family south of Bremen. Since 2012 she has been working primarily as a writer, fulfilling her childhood dream. She writes commercial fiction, historical novels and fictionalised biographies.



**BEST
SELLER**

Susanne Lieder
Astrid Lindgren
Her Life is All about Childhood

Fiction. 361 pages
atb. Quality Paperback
2022, October

RIGHTS SOLD TO:
Poland, Lithuania, Bulgaria, Italy, Czech Republic,
Slovenia, Estonia, Hungary

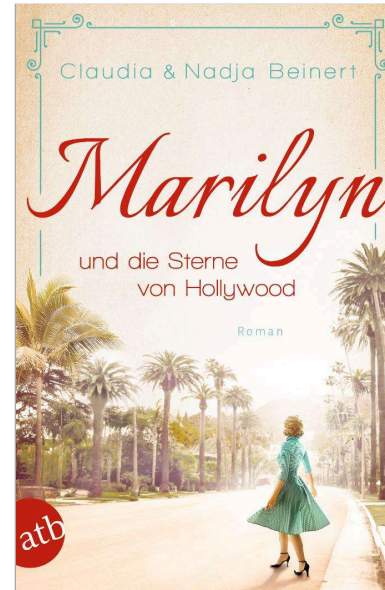
A sensitive portrait of a woman who enchanted whole generations of children with her stories and fought for the rights of children. Fighting for her own happiness, however, proved the most difficult battle of all.

From an orphan to the greatest legend of our time – the highly emotional story of a world star

Los Angeles, 1942: Norma's childhood is lonely. Her haven is the cinema, where Hollywood actresses are so much more confident than she is. Her arranged marriage means that she is forced to give up her dream of becoming a star herself. Nevertheless, Jim becomes her first love and awakens her sensuality. Then a photographer wants to make her a famous model. Norma comes alive in front of the camera and any insecurities are forgotten. And suddenly she knows for sure that she belongs in the spotlight – that's the only thing that makes her happy. But first she has to emancipate herself from the prudish rules of her time in order to become who she is to this day: Marilyn Monroe, the greatest icon of our time.

This well-researched novel tells the moving story of how Norma Jeane Baker became Marilyn Monroe.

Nadja Beinert and **Dr. Claudia Beinert** are twin sisters who were born and raised in Staßfurt. Both studied international management. Before Claudia turned her passion for historical novels into a profession, she held a professorship in financial management. She lives and writes in Leipzig. Nadja Beinert's home is in Erfurt. The youngest of the twin sisters has been working in the film industry for several years.



Claudia Beinert, Nadja Beinert
Marilyn and the Stars of Hollywood

Fiction. 480 pages
atb. Quality Paperback
2022, May

RIGHTS SOLD TO:

Czech Republic, Bulgaria, Estonia, Slovenia,
Poland, Portugal, Spain, Netherlands, Hungary,
Italy

"I've never fooled anyone. I've let people fool themselves. They didn't bother to find out who and what I was." Marilyn Monroe

“Which of all my important nothings shall I tell you first?”

Jane Austen is twenty years old, the educated daughter of a reverend and most enjoys spending her evenings at her bureau, putting to paper all the stories and characters that run through her mind day and night. But no matter how much her family supports her, no publisher wants to publish her texts. Wouldn't it be more sensible to look for a husband? However, she seems to be denied the same happiness enjoyed by her protagonists. Jane continues to fight for her dream of becoming a writer. Because who should be allowed to determine if she is truly happy – society or herself?

A great novel about the fascinating life of a unique woman, feminist and icon of English literature.

Catherine Bell is the alias used by author and journalist Kerstin Sgonina to delve into the lives of fascinating women. She has loved Jane Austen since she devoured her complete works during the early summer heat on a balcony in Berlin, not even noticing the muggy air, the rattling of the underground and the passing traffic. Today she lives just outside of Berlin in Brandenburg with her family and strives every year to turn the earth there into an English cottage garden – usually with modest success.



Catherine Bell
Jane Austen and the Art of Words

Fiction. 376 pages
atb. Quality Paperback
2021, November

RIGHTS SOLD TO:
Bulgaria, France, Italy, Brazil, Poland, Czech Republic, Hungary

English sample translation available

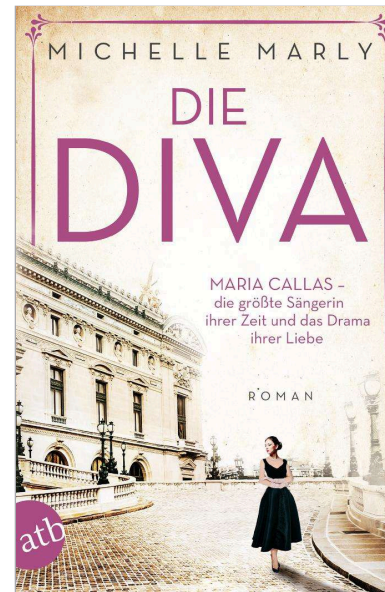
*Astute, clever and well ahead of her time:
Jane Austen's work has been inspiring people
all over the world for generations*

Callas – la Divina, the divine, the eternal voice of love

The epitome of glamour and charismatic beauty, and an artist who was gifted beyond all measure. At a young age, Maria finds her destiny – singing. With her unique voice, which spans three octaves, and her powerfully expressive performances, she redefines the role of the operatic diva. The world acclaims the passionate, glamorous soprano simply as “Callas”. Yet her voice is unable to withstand the strain of her career for long, and the size of her mythology leaves too little room for the real woman behind it. Then Maria meets Greek shipping magnate Aristotle Onassis, the love of her life. He introduces her to the shimmering jet-set lifestyle of the sixties – until he meets another icon, Jackie Kennedy ...

Michelle Marly's third novel about the glamorous Maria Callas has everything her readers could wish for – a gorgeous and elegant female icon, the jet-set atmosphere of the European swinging sixties, and a tragic love story.

Michelle Marly is the pseudonym of a bestselling German author who grew up in the world of cinema and music. For many years she lived in Paris, but today she lives with her husband and dog in Berlin and Munich. Rights to her bestselling novel *Mademoiselle Coco* and *the Scent of Love* were sold to 22 countries. The novel spent months on the best-seller list, selling more than 320.000 copies.



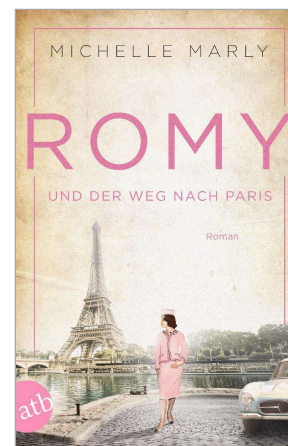
**BEST
SELLER**

Michelle Marly
The Diva
Maria Callas – The Greatest Singer of Her Age

Fiction. 420 pages
atb. Quality Paperback
2020, February

RIGHTS SOLD TO:

Lithuania, Macedonia (the former Yugoslav Republic of), Portugal, Denmark, Czech Republic, Spain, France, Netherlands, Serbia, Slovenia, Poland, Italy, Hungary, Estonia, Bulgaria



Michelle Marly
Romy and the Lights of Paris

Fiction. 415 pages
atb. Quality Paperback
2021, March

RIGHTS SOLD TO:

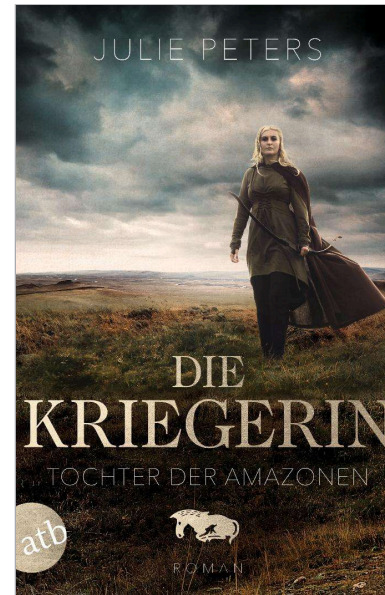
Czech Republic, Italy, Bulgaria, Hungary, Poland, France

She is in love with a Greek god, but freedom is her purpose

As an Amazon, Otrere learns to fight and ride at an early age. After the death of her father, she becomes ruler of the Scythians who roam the steppes north of the Black Sea. She strives to preserve her people's free way of life – especially against the archaic male world of the Greeks. Otrere's ideals are put to the test when she meets the Greek god Ares. Against her better judgement, she gets involved with him because he promises peaceful coexistence between the two peoples. But then she faces the greatest challenge any woman could ever face...

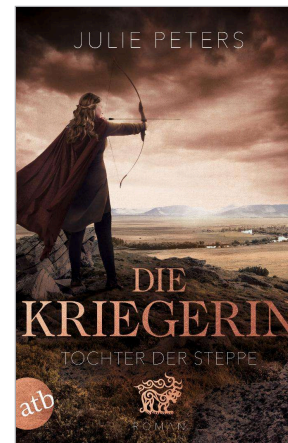
The world of the Amazons – told in a fresh, modern and feminist way. The first novel in a series about the most exciting warrior dynasty in Greek mythology.

Julie Peters, born in 1979, worked as a bookseller and studied history before dedicating herself to writing full-time. She lives with her family in North Rhine-Westphalia.



Julie Peters
The Warrior
Daughter of the Amazons
 Ca. 384 pages
 atb. Quality Paperback
 2024, January

UPCOMING PUBLICATIONS:



Julie Peters
 Ca. 448 pages
 2024, July

Julie Peters
 2024, December

The taste of liquorice and mint

Cologne, 1927. Helene von Ratschek is bursting with new ideas for her family's confectionery business. Be it liquorice, pralines or wine gums, her creations are as delicious as they are original. But when her father announces his succession, he favours his sons, and has plans for Helene to marry a business partner. Helene, however, wants to lead an independent life. On a whim, she joins a competitor in Hamburg under a false name and meets Frederik, the charming son of the owner...

A young woman who takes her fate into her own hands and does not give up searching for love and the perfect recipe against all odds. Inspired by the true story of a German confectioner.

Claudia Romes was born in Bonn in 1984 to a Belgian painter. At the age of nine, she started telling her own stories and decided she wanted to become a writer one day. After a few career detours, she devoted herself entirely to writing and is now living her dream. Romes lives with her husband and two children in Vulkaneifel, western Germany. Her novels *The Secret of the Hyacinths* and *Beethoven's Lover* have already been published by Aufbau Taschenbuch.



Claudia Romes
The Factory of Sweet Things
Helene's Hope
 Fiction. Ca. 352 pages
 atb. Quality Paperback
 2023, July

UPCOMING PUBLICATION:



Claudia Romes
The Factory of Sweet Things
Helene's Dreams
 Fiction. Ca. 352 pages
 atb. Quality Paperback
 2024, January

Dreaming in sugar ...

Bielefeld, 1889. Josephine and her husband Carl are a young couple with big dreams: they want to create a product that will revolutionise baking. All they need now is the right mixture. While Josephine sells ointments at her dispensary, Carl continues to experiment – and suddenly, he’s done it! Their baking powder proves immensely profitable, and Josephine and Carl are able to expand. But their success increasingly arouses envy, and soon Josephine and Carl are afraid for the future of their business – and their relationship.

A novel with the most tempting ingredients: Love, betrayal, inventiveness, the early emancipation movement, and, of course, loads of fluffy cake, creamy pudding and vanilla flavour.

Eva-Maria Bast is a journalist, the CEO of Bast Media GmbH and the author of numerous non-fiction books, crime novels and contemporary titles. She has been awarded various prizes, including the Konrad Adenauer Foundation’s German Local Journalism Prize, in the History category. As one half of the authorial duo Charlotte Jacobi, she has written several books including the *Spiegel*-bestselling *The Douglas Sisters*. She lives on Lake Constance and in Würzburg.



Eva-Maria Bast
Vanilla Days
Women at the Bakery

Fiction. 388 pages
atb. Quality Paperback
2022, September

RIGHTS SOLD TO:
Hungary, Czech Republic

ENSUING PUBLICATIONS:



Eva-Maria Bast
Sugar Years
Fiction. 431 pages
2023, February

Eva-Maria Bast
Cinnamon Dreams
Fiction. 382 pages
2023, September

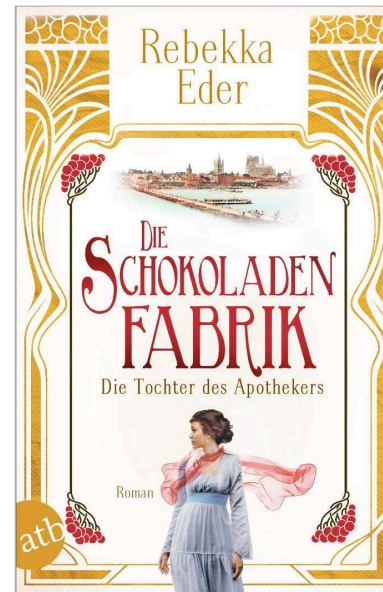
Sweets, love and revolution – the beginning of a new saga

Cologne, 1838. Anna Sophia loves helping out her father in the pharmacy. She's also proud of her own creation: delicious cough drops. When she is courted by her father's assistant August, her future also seems secure. She will marry him and he will take over the pharmacy. But suddenly her father suffers from a mysterious illness. Does August want her father to die in order to take over the pharmacy sooner? Meanwhile, Franz Stollwerck, the grocer's son from the neighbouring street, returns from his hike through Europe to open up a bakery in Cologne. He has been in love with her since childhood, and now asks for her hand in marriage. Anna Sophia faces a difficult choice.

Inspired by a true story: the grand beginning of a colourful saga about the Stollwerck family from Cologne and the rise of their famous chocolate empire – excellently researched and richly narrated.

Rebekka Eder, born in Kassel in 1988, studied theatre and German studies in Berlin, Erlangen and Bern and published her first novels at the same time. After working as a copywriter and journalist, she eventually focused entirely on her passion. She lives and writes in Northern Hesse. She loves sweets and came across the name Stollwerck while snacking – and when she began researching, she was captivated by these fascinating family stories.

"A wonderful book full of linguistic poetry and tension that stayed with me for a long time after reading it. The stories of the characters are cleverly intertwined. Before you know what is happening, you are drawn into the dark, mysterious, seething Cologne of the 19th century." MIRIAM GEORG, AUTHOR



Rebekka Eder
The Chocolate Factory
The Pharmacist's Daughter
 Fiction. 614 pages
 atb. Quality Paperback
 2021, September
RIGHTS SOLD TO:
 Hungary, Netherlands

ENSUING PUBLICATIONS:



Rebekka Eder
The Chocolate Factory
The Secret of the Inventress
 Fiction. 630 pages
 2022, March

Rebekka Eder
The Chocolate Factory
The Poet's Dream
 Fiction. 574 pages
 2023, May

The destiny of a winemaker family on the Rhine

Wiesbaden, 1945: Henni is confronted by the ruins of her life. The winery specialising in sparkling wine set up by her grandfather was badly damaged during the war. Her husband is missing in Russia, and she is also tormented by fear for her youngest sister Bille. She was a nurse at the front, but there has been no sign of life from her for weeks. Henni's sister Lisbeth travels from Berlin, but their relationship is broken. Henni has to make a big sacrifice in order to save the winery. And, suddenly, Bille arrives unexpectedly, and it turns out that she's pregnant. When a fire breaks out in the winery, the future of the family business is at stake – this time for good.

The story of three courageous young women who are left to fend for themselves after the war and take their fate and the future of the family business into their own hands.

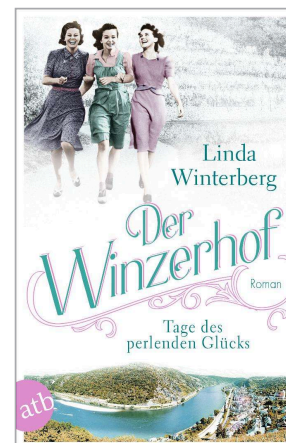
Linda Winterberg is the pseudonym of Nicole Steyer, a successful author of historical novels. She lives with her husband and their two daughters in the Taunus. Aufbau has already published numerous successful titles of hers, as well as the wonderful *Midwife Saga*.



Linda Winterberg
The Vineyard
A Sparkling New Era
Fiction. 381 pages
atb. Quality Paperback
2022, January

RIGHTS SOLD TO:
Hungary, Netherlands

ENSUING PUBLICATIONS:



Linda Winterberg
The Vineyard
Days of Sparkling Happiness
Fiction. 375 pages
2022, July

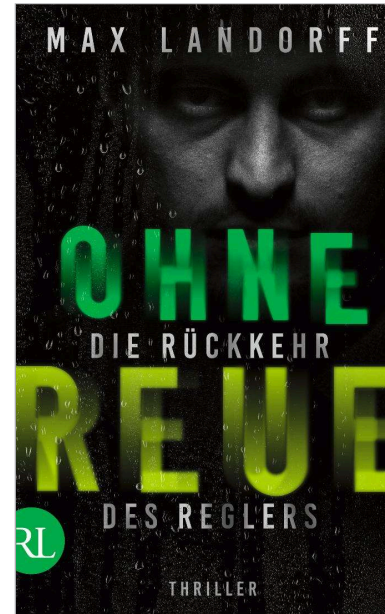
Linda Winterberg
The Vineyard
Golden Years
Fiction. 382 pages
2023, January

A new case for the Fixer

Gabriel Tretjak has led a middle-class life with his wife and their son for the last few years. He had even changed his name. But then his wife suddenly leaves him, disappearing from his life overnight. And the rug is practically pulled from under Tretjak's feet. He tries to fight the grief with his old principle: the past can be cut off, fate can be changed, things can be fixed. When Catherine Bernard, a Nobel Prize winner in medicine, asks for his help, it initially seems a welcome new task for the Fixer. The job is about revolutionary methods in brain surgery, scientific competition and corporate politics – at least that's how it is presented to him.

Tretjak has no idea what is really behind it, what kind of sinister events are already brewing. People are threatened and tortured, murders occur. Has the Fixer lost his instincts? Only later does he realise that someone is looking for him, hunting him. Tretjak must protect his own life – and the life of his son.

Max Landorff is the pseudonym of an author duo. Both authors are renowned journalists. Their previous novels about the Fixer were bestsellers and translated into several languages.



Max Landorff
No Remorse
The Return of the Fixer
 Thriller. 304 pages
 Rütten & Loening. Quality Paperback
 2023, October

*Nobody solves problems as elegantly as him –
 without a trace and, at times, deadly.*

Virtua – can AI destroy the world?

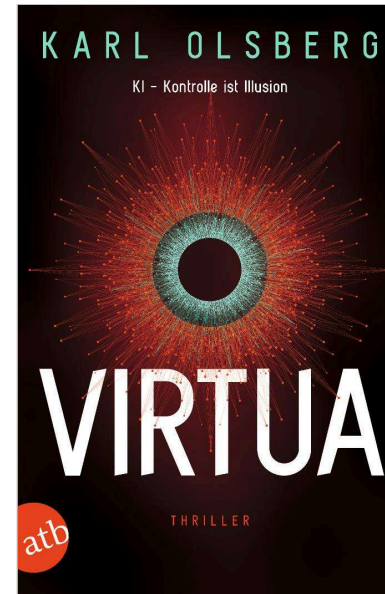
After failing as a psychologist, Daniel applies for a job at Mental Systems, one of the leading companies in the development of artificial intelligence. Against all expectations, he gets the job – and is immediately fascinated by the virtual world in which he immerses himself. He is particularly impressed by Virtua, the latest development in artificial intelligence. When he meets Virtua in the metaverse, he is shocked by its intelligence. But then he meets developer Chen, who works on the company's security team. He repeatedly warns his superiors that the AI is cannot be controlled. Then serious technical problems arise: it seems that someone has destroyed the neural network of Virtua and all backup copies. At the same time, Chen has disappeared without a trace ...

Daniel realises that the future of humanity is at stake and sets out on a search.

Karl Olsberg, born in 1960, completed his doctorate on artificial intelligence, has founded several start-ups and is involved in an international community for a more careful approach to AI. He is married and has three sons.

"gripping up to the last page" FRANKFURTER NEUE PRESSE

"highly topical and suspenseful" EKZ BIBLIOTHEKENSERVICE



Karl Olsberg
Virtua
AI – Control Is an Allusion
 Thriller. Ca. 384 pages
 atb. Quality Paperback
 2023, August

Full English translation available

*Thrilling and highly topical –
 a novel about the dangers
 of artificial intelligence.*

Welcome to Shaftesbury!

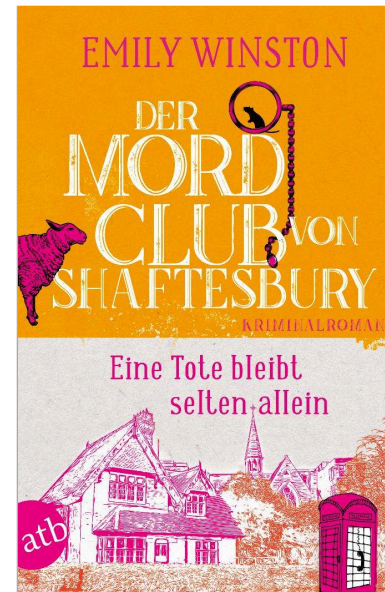
Penelope St. James moves from London to the small town of Shaftesbury to open a dating agency. The beginning is difficult, because mobile phone reception is only available in the graveyard and her new neighbour Sam is a vet – Penelope just isn't an animal person. When she witnesses a woman being run over, she is suspicious because she doesn't believe it was an accident. Together with Sam and the villagers, she uncovers a dark secret which will claim even more victims unless Penelope finds the murderer quickly. A charming thriller full of English flair with an investigator who makes hearts flutter.

Emily Winston is the pseudonym of Angela Lautenschläger. She has been working as a curator of an estate for years and experiences more exciting cases in her everyday professional life than she can put into books. She devotes all her free time to reading crime fiction, writing and travelling. She is particularly fond of the British way of life and humour. She lives in Hamburg with her husband and two cats.

"A British cosy crime with extraordinary characters" KRIMIKISTE

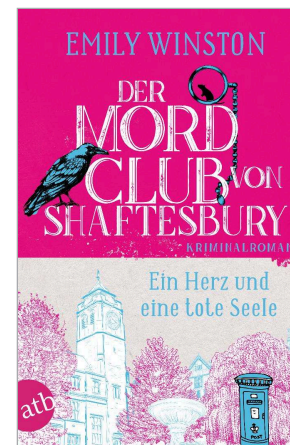
"Pleasantly narrated and acutely observed" BADISCHE ZEITUNG

"The author perfectly accompanies the scenery with dialogue which is both taken from real life and permeated with fine humor. I don't stand a chance of escaping the magic of this book."
MATOMS_BÜCHERWELT



Emily Winston
The Murder Club of Shaftesbury
Deaths Never Come Singly
Crime Fiction. 319 pages
atb. Quality Paperback
2022, December

ENSUING PUBLICATION:



Emily Winston
The Murder Club of Shaftesbury
For Love or Death
Crime Fiction. 317 pages
atb. Quality Paperback
2023, May

Every person has dark thoughts. What are yours?

Lisa and Mara are sisters and couldn't be more different. Lisa, the oldest, is a successful doctor, has two young children and her husband Tim who loves her. Then there's Mara who lives from odd jobs and takes life as it comes. When Lisa has to attend a seminar on the weekend and Tim is invited to a private party, she asks Mara to look after her children Alma and Hektor. Mara happily agrees, but on Monday morning she finds out that Lisa has disappeared. While police investigations move slowly, Mara learns increasingly strange things about her sister. It appears she was hiding a lot from her family. Then a dead woman is found in a forest.

A gripping crime novel about two very different sisters, secret dreams and what a wife and mother has to shoulder to make her family work.

Petra Johann, born in 1971, grew up in the Ruhr region and now lives in Bavaria. She has a PhD in mathematics and worked in the software industry for several years before finding her true vocation – killing people, even if only on paper.

"A thrilling story" ALLGEMEINE ZEITUNG DER LÜNEBURGER HEIDE

"Grandiose thriller to follow along with!" EMOTION

"Great writing style – exciting, fast-paced" NDR KULTURSPIEGEL



Petra Johann

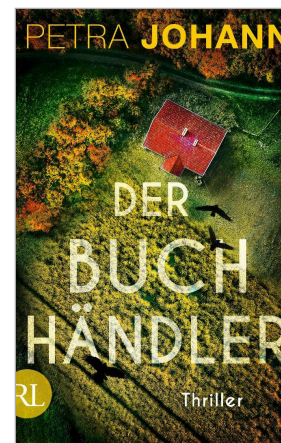
Sisters

Crime Fiction. 410 pages

Rütten & Loening. Quality Paperback

2023, May

PREVIOUS PUBLICATION:



Petra Johann

The Bookseller

Thriller. 431 pages

Rütten & Loening. Quality Paperback

2022, March

RIGHTS SOLD TO:

Italy

Thrilling and full of surprising twists: Carl-Jakob Melcher goes undercover to solve a mysterious murder

Hamburg, 1907. In the hospital near the harbour, bacteriologist Carl-Jakob Melcher encounters a school friend. Ludolf Harberg is in very poor health due to sleeping sickness. In his waking moments, he tells of his experiences in East Africa and of the experiments that the physician Robert Koch allegedly carried out on the natives in which people died. Apparently, he also has secret records. But before he can give any more details, Harberg dies. The doctors declare it a result of his illness, but Carl-Jakob believes it is murder and starts to investigate. Little does he know, this will not be the only death he encounters. But he soon finds himself in trouble when he is accused of murder.

Christoph Elbern, born in 1960, studied German and English, worked for many years as a journalist and held managerial positions at various magazines. Since 2010, he has been running an agency specializing in corporate communications in Kassel. He has published many crime novels under a pseudonym. His first *Jakob-Melcher*-novel was published by Rütten & Loening in 2022.

“It is truly thrilling, this novel by Christoph Elbern, and transports the reader – in the very best sense of a historical novel – to an unbelievably foreign world.”

EXPRESS DÜSSELDORF on *The Harbour Killer*

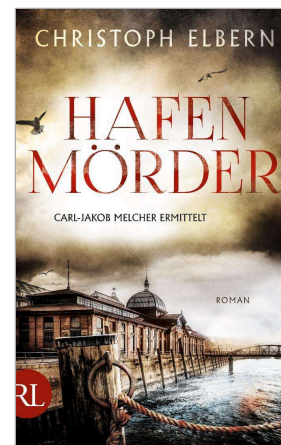


Christoph Elbern

Deadly Sleep
Hamburg 1907: Carl-Jakob Melcher Investigates

Crime Fiction. 360 pages
Rütten & Loening. Quality Paperback
2023, March

PREVIOUS PUBLICATION:



Christoph Elbern

The Harbour Killer
Carl-Jakob Melcher Investigates

Crime Fiction. 365 pages
Rütten & Loening. Quality Paperback
2022, February

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