AUTUMN · WINTER 2026

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Droemer · Knaur · FICTION

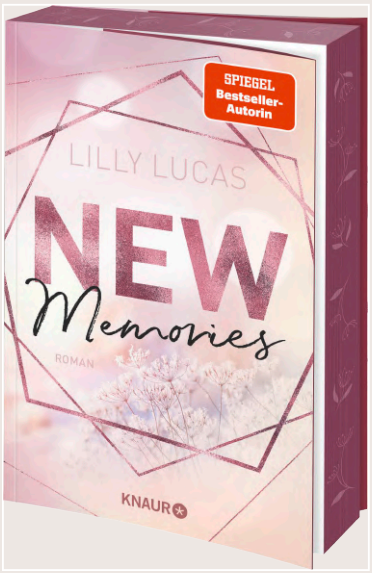
DROEMER KNAUR

VERLAGSGRUPPE

Droemer Knaur*

Lilly Lucas

New Memories. Green Valley Love 8



- *New Memories* follows the massive success of *New Beginnings* and continues the story of Lena and Ryan
- The immensely popular BookTok Author of the Year 2025 and #1 German Bestseller and TikTok bestseller author continues to thrill romance fans
- Total print run for Lilly Lucas exceeds 1.4 million copies

Rights sold to: Czech Rep.: Dobrovsky

October 2026 · 352 pages

Lilly Lucas was born in Ansbach and studied German language and literature in Bamberg. Today she lives with her husband, her son and an endless number of books in Würzburg. Her romance novels *New Promises*, *New Dreams*, *New Horizons*, *New Chances*, *Find Me in Green Valley*, *A Place to Love*, *A Place to Grow*, *A Place to Belong*, *A Place to Shine*, *New Wishes*, *This Could Be Love*, *This Could Be Home* and *This Could Be Forever* became bestsellers. When she is not writing novels about love and life, she prefers to see the world, bury her nose in books or indulge her addiction to films and series on the couch at home.

Instagram: @lillylucas.autorin
TikTok: @lillylucas.autorin

An Absolute Romance Highlight for Autumn, Eagerly Anticipated by the Community: A New Green Valley Novel

It has been three years since Lena's dream of a life in the idyllic small town of Green Valley in the Rocky Mountains was shattered. In her hometown of Berlin, she has started over – without her great love Ryan. When she receives an invitation to the wedding of her friends Izzy and Will, she accepts after initial hesitation and flies to Colorado – believing that Ryan will not be present. But things turn out differently. By chance, she lives next door to Ryan, and the preparations for the wedding demand their full joint commitment. While Lena and Ryan give everything to make Izzy and Will's dream wedding possible, old feelings flare up between them. Along with the very quiet question of what could have become of them...

»*Green Valley is simply the epitome of "feeling home",*«
@Beccasbibliotheca on Instagram

»*The queen of feel-good literature.*« Deutschlandfunk Kultur

Further Titles

Ava Husfeldt

The Blurred Edges of Love

- A love letter that was never sent. An unexpected visit and the beginning of a new story
- Between Germany and France, against the picturesque backdrop of the Breton island of Belle-Île-en-Mer. A novel about late truths, missed opportunities – and the love that remains
- For readers of Julia Holbe and Daniela Krien

August 2026 · 336 pages

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Ava Husfeldt was born in Schleswig-Holstein in 1960. She studied linguistics, literature and sociology in Munich and lived in Bavaria for almost thirty years. Ten years ago, she was drawn back to the North. The sea is her greatest inspiration and source of strength, she says. This novel, in which the sea literally plays a supporting role, was written during walks along the Baltic Sea and a trip to Belle-Île-en-Mer in Brittany.

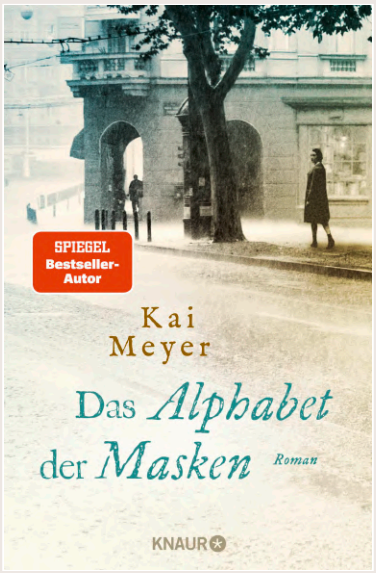
Is It Ever Too Late for a Truth That No One Believes in Anymore?

Seventy-four-year-old Inge lives alone on Belle-Île-en-Mer, with her photographs, the sea and what remained unspoken. A phone call from Germany tears open the past: a young woman wants to bring her a letter – written forty years ago, but never sent. Memories return, old feelings demand space and throw everyone's existence into disarray. Lea searches for answers for her own life in Inge's story, while Inge's son Philippe senses that closeness and loss are often inseparable. What happens when a truth comes to light that one has waited a lifetime for? And how much of the present is actually hidden in what we never dared to say?

»*She looked at the photo for a long time. Saw the drops of water on his face and his grin. Felt it again, the lightheartedness of that hot August day almost forty years ago. Let herself be carried away by the dream they both dreamt back then into a future that had not become theirs together.*«

Kai Meyer

The Alphabet of Masks. The Secrets of the Graphic Quarter 5



- Evil lurks in the shadows of history: a new literary thriller by bestselling author Kai Meyer
- In Leipzig's Graphic Quarter, historical facts merge with fascinating mythology to form an atmospherically dense story about guilt, origins and responsibility
- Total sales for Kai Meyer amount to over 3 million copies
- Foreign rights for *The Library in the Fog* sold to France (Leduc) and Spain (Planeta)

October 2026 · 448 pages

Kai Meyer has published around seventy novels, many of which reached the German Bestseller list. Translations appear in thirty languages. His stories have been adapted as films, radio plays and graphic novels and have been awarded prizes at home and abroad.

***»The German Carlos Ruiz Zafón«* – La Voz de Galicia**

Leipzig, the city of books. 1930. In her stepfather's library, Amalia Lux comes across seven ex libris depicting mysterious masks, signed with »L. Gora«. When several murders occur, suspicion falls on Amalia, who was brought to Germany from the colonies against her will as a child. What is the connection between the ex libris and the dead? Suddenly a hunted woman herself, Amalia sets out in search of the missing artist.

Monaco, the city without bookshops. 1970. The student Timm is tasked by an elderly baroness with researching the life of a mysterious painter. Together with a ballerina who can no longer dance and an eccentric author who no longer wants to write, Timm stumbles upon the trail of a stolen library and touches upon secrets that have been buried for forty years.

Further Titles

Stefan Rieß

Schuhmann's Suspicion

- The search for truth calls everything in a public prosecutor's life into question when he realises: evil is lurking in the immediate vicinity
- Psychological precision with high moral stakes and stylistic clarity
- For readers of Bernhard Schlink or Ferdinand von Schirach and fans of the series *Big Little Lies*, *The Affair* and *Presumed Innocent*

October 2026 · 432 pages

© Finn Rieß

Stefan Rieß is an author and ghostwriter with many years of experience at leading media houses such as Burda, Gruner & Jahr and the Ganske Verlagsgruppe. Since 2014, he has been advising publishers, agencies and editorial departments. His non-fiction books have been published in several languages; now he has fulfilled a lifelong dream and written his first novel.

Every Truth Has Its Price – Sometimes It Costs You Everything...

The day that changes his life begins like any other for Gabriel Schumann: the experienced public prosecutor drinks his espresso, casting a fleeting glance out of the window – and sees something in the twilight on the balcony opposite. A woman, a bloodstain, a scream; for mere seconds, but that is enough. Professional curiosity and his unwavering sense of justice drive Gabriel to investigate privately. These lead him deeper and deeper into a darkness that reaches far beyond the neighbouring flat. Gabriel begins to cross boundaries he has spent his entire life defending. Suddenly, the rational legal expert is driven by an emotion he has never permitted before: doubt.

Eva Völler

Journey to Freedom

- Student Marianne fights against the degrading conditions in her father's psychiatric clinic and sets off on a memorable journey together with two of his patients
- The #1 German Bestseller author Eva Völler sensitively weaves contemporary history and an emotional love story together – based on true events
- For readers of Trude Teige, Mechtild Borrmann or Anja Jonuleit – and everyone who celebrated »*One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*«

February 2027 · 432 pages

Born and raised on the edge of the Ruhr region, **Eva Völler** loved making up stories even as a child. Nevertheless, she initially earned her living as a judge and later as a lawyer before hanging up her robes for good and turning writing into her full-time profession. Following her major #1 *SPIEGEL* Bestseller successes with the *Ruhrpottsaga* (*The Ruhr Valley Saga*) and *Die Dorfschullehrerin* (*The Village Schoolteacher*), the author turns to contemporary historical themes in *Der Sommer am Ende der Welt* (*The Summer at the End of the World*) and *Reise in die Freiheit* (*Journey to Freedom*) – themes that moved her deeply, not least due to her own family background.

Intense, Moving, Stirring: A Daughter's Rebellion Against Her Father

In the summer of 1968, the spirit of resistance got hold of the impulsive and headstrong student Marianne Fischer. Much to the dismay of her father – the chief physician of a psychiatric clinic who prefers to sedate his patients with medication and senses big money in psychotropic drugs. With the help of a fellow student, Marianne frees patients from these degrading conditions. Together with two patients, however, the young resident doctor Magnus also accidentally ends up in Marianne's getaway car heading towards Italy. Between dolce vita and football fever, a gradual understanding for elusive worlds of thought and emotion begins to grow. Friendships develop and a tender love blossoms – until a scandal threatens the future of everyone on board.

»*Eva Völler tells a story with crime-novel suspense about a dark chapter on an East Frisian island. (..) Powerful and moving.*« NDR Kultur on *Der Sommer am Ende der Welt* (*The Summer at the End of the World*)

Further Titles

Lena Johannson

Niederegger – The Dream of Exquisite Delight

- Fate is relentless, but with their boldness, they lay the foundation for an empire
- Delightfully sweet fiction meets thrilling, bittersweet facts: an immersive reading experience for both the mind and the senses
- The perfect Christmas gift for all fans of *The Seven Sisters* by Lucinda Riley, Lisa Graf and Romy Herold

September 2026 · 448 pages

© André Leisner

Lena Johannson was born in Reinbek near Hamburg in 1967. After graduating from grammar school, she initially trained as a bookseller before turning to the tourism industry. She was later able to combine her two passions of writing and travelling in her career as a travel journalist. Some time ago, Lena Johannson fulfilled a lifelong dream and moved to the Baltic Sea coast.

Heartwarming like Marzipan on a Cold Winter's Day: The Bittersweet Story of the Niederegger Dynasty

Lübeck 1800. At the Maret confectionery, there are exquisite pastries and a display full of delicacies. But the journeyman Johann dreams of far more. He wants to produce marzipan that warms the heart on cold winter days and melts on the tongue like snow in the sun. Thanks to his skill, he quickly makes a name for himself beyond the city borders. But just as he and his great love Anna are within reach of their goals, the economic blockade is imposed, and trade in the precious, sun-ripened almonds comes to a standstill. The two seem to lose everything, when Johann takes another risk – with momentous consequences.

»*Johann made glazes for confectionery, turned almonds in syrup to which he had added a touch of cinnamon to make the finest dragées. Sometimes he also drew fine sugar threads and bent them so that a swan or a rose was created. His works of art stood on a shelf opposite the entrance door, so that no visitor to Café Maret could miss them...*«

Emma Jacobsen

Forever Autumn

- A deeply emotional romance novel full of unexpected twists
- An autumn day that changes everything – a love that defies all obstacles

August 2026 · 320 pages

Emma Jacobsen, born in 1979, completed an apprenticeship in the book trade and went on to study history and ancient cultures before dedicating herself entirely to writing. She lives with her family in Westphalia. Under the pseudonym Julie Peters, she writes highly successful island novels.

As Sweet and Heart-Warming as a Pumpkin Spice Latte

It is exactly three years since Autumn survived the operation that threatened to take everything from her. Since that day, much has changed, because Autumn wants to live every day as if it were her last. When a mysterious man appears in her café one autumn morning, she is convinced that love has also found its way back into her life. From that moment on, Milo keeps coming back, his charming smile and deep green eyes becoming the best part of her day. Yet despite the undeniable attraction between them, Milo keeps her at a distance. Autumn knows that if they want to give their love a chance, she must finally learn the whole truth about him – no matter how painful it may be...

Further Titles

Andreas Winkelmann

Moorland. The Bride

- A moor in flames, a murderer seeking his bride, and an investigator with a dark, bottomless secret
- The second instalment in this highly atmospheric thriller series from the #1 German Bestseller author featuring an exclusive sprayed edge in the first edition
- Volume 1 **Moorland. The Twins** went directly number #1 after publication and has sold more than **100,000 copies** since

Rights sold to: Netherlands: Luitingh-Sijthoff; **Czech Rep.**: Dobrovsky

November 2026 · 400 pages

Andreas Winkelmann, born in December 1968 in Lower Saxony, was a baker, soldier, sports teacher, taxi driver, insurance specialist and worked in a honey factory before he devoted himself entirely to writing. He lives in a house over four hundred years old on the edge of the forest near Bremen. When he is not diving into human abysses, he crosses the Alps on foot or hikes at the Arctic Circle, fishes and hunts with bow and arrow in the Canadian wilderness or cycles through Scandinavia. »Boundary experiences broaden the horizon,« he believes.

Do Not Fear the Moor – Fear the Secrets of Others

As an unstoppable fire sweeps through the moorland, threatening to destroy every living thing in its path, the fire brigade makes a gruesome discovery: a victim trapped in the boot of an abandoned car. Shortly afterwards, the body of a woman is found, a disturbing sight, for she has been meticulously dressed as a bride. These two deaths in quick succession call investigator Malia Gold to the scene. She has known the marshlands since childhood, and her mother Ruth Sichler – known locally as a master tracker – assists her in the investigation. In truth, there is more that divides these two women than connects them. However, if Malia is to solve this case, she must make peace with her past and her mother. And then there is the fire, which continues to spread. It threatens not only to consume the evidence, but the very place Malia calls home.

Andreas Winkelmann describes the rugged beauty of the moorlands while simultaneously dissecting the darkest depths of the human psyche. High–tension conflicts meet an atmospheric natural setting!

Further Titles

Kästner & Kästner

CSI Harbour: The Body in Warehouse F

September 2026 · 352 pages

- A cold case, a grim abandoned location – and the dazzling Hamburg Port Anniversary: the fourth case for Tom Bendixen and Jonna Jacobi
- Here, the harbour is more than just a backdrop: the #1 German bestselling duo Kästner & Kästner scores with insider expertise and authentic police work
- The Moldauhafen is one of the last true abandoned urban locations in Hamburg – until 2028, when the lease agreement with the Czech Republic expires
- More than **150,000 copies** of the CSI Harbour series sold so far

Angélique Kästner was born in Hamburg in 1966. After studying psychology, she worked in psychiatry before setting up her own private practice as a licensed psychotherapist with a PhD in 2005. She met her husband, **Andreas Kästner**, while doing voluntary work for the German Red Cross (DRK) crisis intervention team.

Andreas Kästner was born in Wismar in 1963 and grew up in Rostock; he has lived in Hamburg since his expatriation from the former East Germany (GDR) in June 1989. He went to sea in the GDR and worked as a Chief Inspector for the marine police in the Port of Hamburg from 1992 to November 2023. His real-life experiences and detailed insider knowledge flow directly into the series.

www.kaestner-krimi.de

The Hamburg Marine Police on a Bestselling Course

While the Hamburg Port Anniversary festival attracts hundreds of thousands of visitors to the glittering side of the harbour, a body surfaces in a bleak, abandoned location. In a dilapidated warehouse in the Moldauhafen, a dead man is found hidden inside a vintage car. It soon emerges that DNA evidence from the vehicle matches a 20-year-old unsolved cold case: back then, a female student was found beaten to death in the Moldauhafen. Marine police officer Tom Bendixen and Jonna Jacobi from the State Criminal Police Office (LKA) investigate both cases and get caught up in a web of silence and deadly family secrets. The perpetrator has nothing to lose. When Tom and Jonna get too close, he flees – right into the bustling festivities of the Port Anniversary...

»*The atmospheric descriptions and snappy dialogue are great fun!*« Oberhessische Presse on *Tod an den Landungsbrücken* (*Death at the Landing Stages*)

»*For me, this was the most emotional but at the same time the best case in the series. More of this, please!*« krimi_wahnsinn (blog) on *Die letzte Fähre nach Dockland* (*The Last Ferry to Dockland*)

Further Titles

Isa Tomme

Just a Game. Do You Trust Me?

- Lou is the only one who knows the truth, but nobody believes her. An opaque cat-and-mouse game begins, from which only one winner can emerge – or will it be a victress?
- Ingenious and grippingly dark: a compelling psychological thriller that masterfully blurs the lines between truth and lies, paranoia and real threat
- The suspenseful debut of an exciting new thriller author, for fans of Emily Rudolf, Sarah Bestgen and Gillian Flynn's *Gone Girl*

December 2026 · 400 pages

© Isa Tomme

Isa Tomme was born in 1987 and lives with her family in Berlin. She is an avid reader of suspense fiction – the more psychological, the better. Without further ado, she took to the keyboard herself. She is particularly interested in the question: how much can you actually trust yourself? The perfect ingredients for psychological suspense that gets right under the reader's skin.

Who Is the Player and Who Is the Pawn in This Labyrinth of Lies, Deception and Manipulation?

Lou wants only one thing: as much distance from her ex as possible. As head animator for a gaming developer in Berlin, Lou gets her long-awaited chance for a fresh start. But acts of sabotage occur within the company – and all clues point to Lou!

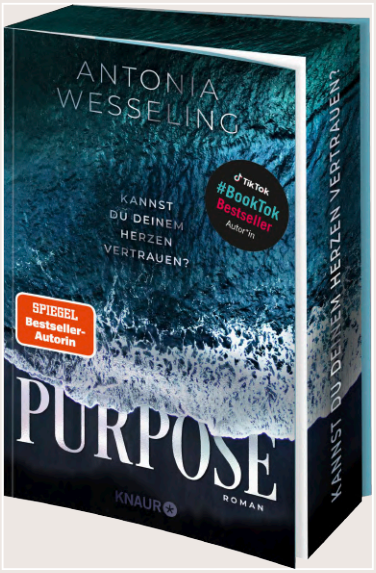
She is convinced someone is out to get her, because she is being stalked outside of work as well. Is it her ex, Josh, who is threatening her so maliciously? One of her new colleagues, who sees her as a rival? Or is there something far more sinister behind it?

The old panic wells up inside her; nightmares haunt her. Once before, she was branded a liar; once before, she fell victim to deception and manipulation. But this time, she is fighting back.

Antonia Wesseling

Purpose. Can You Trust Your Heart?

- A true-crime podcaster, an eerie series of murders of young women and a one-night stand with consequences
- Addictive mix of romance and suspense that addresses the topic of femicide
- Excellently networked and popular author with over 110,000 followers on TikTok, Instagram and YouTube



November 2026 · 432 pages

Antonia Wesseling was born in 1999. Even as a child she invented stories and later began to publish young adult books. She is now a German bestselling author of New Adult novels and the romance thriller *Insight – Dein Leben gehört mir* (*Insight – Your Life Belongs to Me*). She also blogs on YouTube, TikTok and Instagram about books, writing and other topics that are important to her. Since 2021, she has been running the podcast *Die Schreibmaschinen* (*The Typewriters*) together with author Maike Voß and shares experiences and tips from everyday writing life there.

YouTube: @tonipure
TikTok and Instagram: @antoniawesseling

After the German Bestsellers *Insight* and *Loverboy*: The New Romance Thriller by Antonia Wesseling

For weeks, true-crime podcaster Paula has been intensively investigating the case of a serial killer who murders young women. Currently, the killer, whom the media call »*Hades*«, appears to be active on the North Sea island of Juist, where Paula lives. But when the police surprisingly announce the arrest of a suspect, Paula cannot believe her eyes – it is the charismatic guy with whom she just recently had a one-night stand... And he definitely does not fit the profile that Paula has compiled in her extensive research on »*Hades*«. To prove Tristan's innocence, she buries herself deeper and deeper in the series of murders. Then Tristan escapes from police custody and turns up at Paula's door. With this, the case takes a new turn in every respect...

Further Titles

D. C. Odesza

Break Out – I Will Get You!

- The new *dark romance* highlight from multiple #1 German bestselling author D. C. Odesza – **nearly 2.5 million copies** sold speak for themselves
- These tropes entice readers to dive in: *forced proximity*, *stalker romance*, *revenge*, *obsession*, *maskmen*, *bad hero*

September 2026 · 400 pages

D. C. Odesza is the pseudonym of a young German bestselling author. Ever since her studies in German philology and history, she has been writing high-suspense *dark romance* novels characterised by deep emotions, sensual moments and moving storylines.

Once She Was His Future: Today She Is the First Name on His Hit List

Once, Kayla was his light, but her betrayal sent Orion to prison. Years later, he returns: colder, more powerful and driven by revenge. Kayla is at the very top of his blacklist. Systematically, he strips away her livelihood to ultimately force her into marriage – a golden cage designed to become her personal hell.

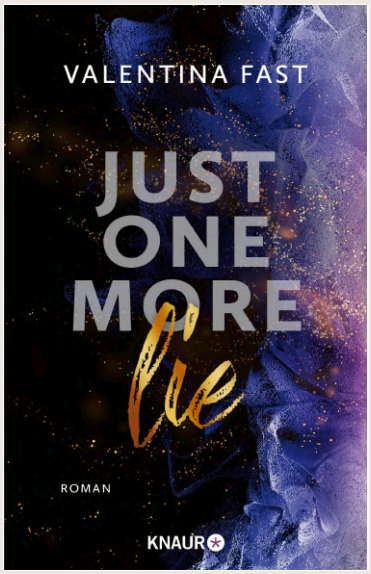
But soon, the boundaries between hatred and desire begin to blur. Orion has no idea that Kayla is guarding a secret darker than his wrath. While he believes he is destroying her, his true enemy lurks in the shadows: a monster that has already raised its hand to strike them both. Orion must make a choice: will he see his revenge through to the end, or will he save the woman he could never stop loving despite everything?

Further Titles

Valentina Fast

Just One More Lie

- The launch of the *Fairfield Girls* dilogy about former friends, broken hearts, lies and the search for a fresh start
- New Adult suspense by #1 German bestselling author Valentina Fast featuring the tropes *secrets and lies* and *found family*
- Perfect for readers of Kristina Moninger's *Breaking Waves* series and Tami Fischer's *Manhattan Elite* series



January 2027 · 416 pages

Valentina Fast was born in 1989 and lives today in the beautiful Münsterland region. Professionally, her life revolves around numbers, which is why she dedicates her free time to writing as a creative outlet. Her passion for it began with horror stories in a teen magazine and crazy ideas that would only give her peace once she wrote them down.

Instagram: @valentina_fast

A Cozy Small Town, Fatal Secrets and a Young Woman Between Lies and Love

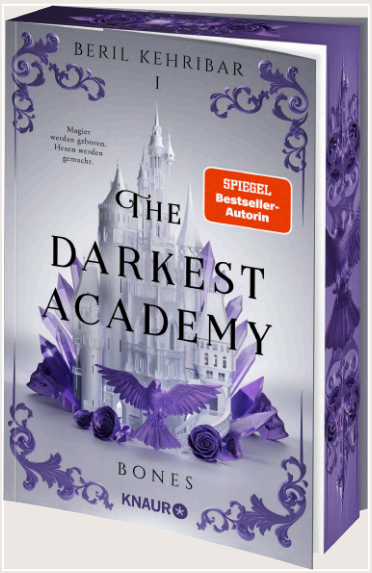
Following a tragic event, Rachel fled from her hometown of Fairfield to New York. Rachel and her friends Lemon, Willa and Diana used to be the inseparable »*Fairfield Girls*« – until Diana lost her life and the clique fell apart. Now Rachel is back in the charming small town in Vermont, originally only for a brief visit to her mother. Instead, she finds herself stranded with a sprained ankle. When she encounters her former friends and Diana's sister, old accusations, feelings of guilt and lies put the four young women to the ultimate test. Ethan, Rachel's former high-school crush, causes further emotional chaos because he suddenly shows a keen interest in Rachel – and at the same time, he knows things about the past that Rachel would much rather keep a secret...

Further Titles

Beril Kehribar

The Darkest Academy 1 – Bones

- An orphaned witch lands at the country's most dangerous university: anyone who wants to survive here must stand their ground. And anyone who wants to rule must kill.
- Series launch featuring the tropes *morally grey cast*, *deadly trials* and *bad girl x bad boys*
- Perfect for witch season: the Gothic *dark romantasy* by *SPIEGEL* Bestselling Author Beril Kehribar



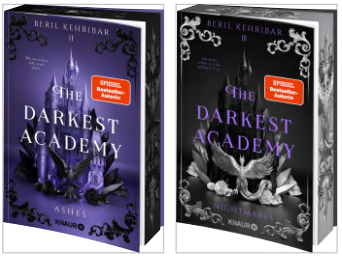
August 2026 · 528 pages

Beril Kehribar, born in 1991, is a #1 *SPIEGEL* Bestselling Author and counts among the most famous names in German fantasy. Her novels thrive on a gloomy atmosphere and darkly shaded characters. They all conquered the top of the bestseller lists instantly. The author can be found on Instagram and TikTok at @beril.kehribar, where she shares impressions of her daily writing life with her two cats.

Mages Are Born. Witches Are Made. And Hearts Fall Victim to the Darkest of All Spells.

Since the death of her parents, Lucinda Cross has survived on the streets of the Undercity, until a surprising invitation changes everything: she is to be taught at Vorgoth, the Academy of Darkest Arts. Here, young criminal witches and warlocks – the oppressed and persecuted of magical society – learn to form bonds with familiars that grant them magical abilities. Between deadly trials and violent fellow students, Luci comes into the sights of two men who are more dangerous than any black magic: the leader of the student elite, Devil Markov, and her professor Ezra Aerion, who knows more about her than he reveals. For her parents' killers are closer than Luci suspects.

Further Titles



AUTUMN · WINTER 2026

Thank you for your interest in our titles.
If you have any questions or need further material, don't hesitate to reach out.

You can easily contact us
via email.

We're more than happy to assist
and look forward to potential collaborations.

Best regards

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VERLAGSGRUPPE
Droemer Knaur*