Rights Guide
Autumn 2026

S. FISCHER VERLAGE

Bild: Valeria Gordeev

Content

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

Welcome to our **Autumn 2026 catalogue**. This season, we are especially excited to finally share Valeria Gordeev's long-awaited debut, *The Cicada Slips Out of Its Shiny Golden Shell*. Valeria wrote a masterful family story woven between Berlin, Kyiv, and Moscow.
We are also eager to discuss with you Geraldine Oetken's *Frieda*: a necessary analysis of Nazi euthanasia and transgenerational trauma.
And we can't wait for you to dive into the consoling *Above the Surf* by Franziska Jebens, who offers us a beautiful declaration of love for the sea and female solidarity.

We look forward to sharing these stories with you, in Frankfurt or wherever else we'll meet in the months to come.

Best wishes,

The S. Fischer Foreign Rights Team

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Founded in Berlin in 1886 by Samuel Fischer, our publishing house introduced authors like **Thomas Mann, Alfred Döblin, Sigmund Freud, and Franz Kafka** to the world stage. Faced with Nazi persecution, S. Fischer was forced into exile. Following periods in Vienna, Stockholm, and New York, the house was re-established in Frankfurt am Main. Today, we remain one of Germany's most prestigious publishers, representing award-winning literature, essential non-fiction, and bestselling commercial fiction.

Follow us on Instagram @s.fischer.foreignrights, listen to English audio samples on our podcast Catch of the Day, or explore our full portfolio on our website.

Contact us at foreignrights@fischerverlage.de to join our exclusive **newsletter** or to request our **Backlist Highlights Catalogue**. Discover our crème de la crème: International bestsellers that might not yet be translated into your language.

We look forward to connecting with you, whether in Frankfurt, Berlin, at international book fairs, or online.

Your S. Fischer Foreign rights team

PS: The next application period for the Goethe Institut's translation grant for German literature will be from 15 August to 15 September 2026.

S. Fischer
The best catch of world literature since 1886

FICTION

Valeria Gordeev

The Cicada Slips Out of Its Shiny Golden Shell

Winner of the prestigious Ingeborg Bachmann Prize 2023 for her short story ‘He Cleans’ - now her long-awaited debut novel

With illustrations by the author

English sample translation available

August 2026 · 576 pages

© Alena Schmick

Valeria Gordeev was born in Tübingen in 1986. She works as an author and illustrator. She has received numerous awards for her writing. In 2023, she won the Ingeborg Bachmann Prize at the 47th German Literature Days in Klagenfurt. *The Cicada Slips Out of Its Golden Shell* is her debut novel.

Vogel – фогел / Darmstadt an der Ruhr - дармштадт ан дер рур / Niederdünnschiss - нидердюннишисс / Pfurzheim (Lepra) - пфурцхайм (лепра) / Würgloch-Winseldorf - вюрглох-винселдорф

ARCHEOLOGY TV // LIVE // SOUTH OF MOSCOW
Current depth: 11,000 meters into a fracturing global order. Beneath the soil, the layers do not mix; they stack. An unexploded German bomb, a Pepsi-Cola cap, and the frozen sediment of a centuries-old river exist in a state of absolute, synchronized claustrophobia.

In an alternative yet deeply familiar present, Konstantin Molot works in the deepest skyscraper in the world on Red Square. At the "Institute for Biological Structures," he is responsible for preserving Lenin's corpse (ВИЛ24) and secretly steals tissue samples for his oligarch godfather, Boris Bogdanov. Meanwhile, his younger sister, Lada, smuggles the samples to Germany on a sheer endless bus ride from Kiew to Berlin. When she cannot sleep at night, she passes the time by spelling out German words using Cyrillic letters—a linguistic manipulation that causes the words to become hollow. The siblings have long lost touch; Lada cannot understand why her brother stayed in Moscow after the war began, therefore she is entirely unaware that Boris is putting them both in a tight spot.

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ALPHA TV // PROFILE: BORIS BOGDANOV
They call him the "Helium King". Born in the rubble of post-war Berlin with his eyelids structurally fused shut, his existence began with a surgical intervention.
This infant near-death experience did not breed fear, but an expansive, paranoid mania. Now, his wealth rivals small nations, entirely dedicated to a single, hyper-vigilant

×

LENINGRAD
Traumatized by the hunger unto death in the Siege of Leningrad, Jelena Jerschowa—a former colleague
of Boris's mother and the mother of one of Konstantin's co-workers—molds her survival anxiety into
dough. She relentlessly feeds her son homemade pirogi laced with structural additives: a pinch of
fluorine, a grain of soda, a drop of sleeping aids. She continues this tradition decades later

NEWSFLASH
++ "Wagner" group occupies Rostov-on-Don and marches on Moscow ++ Peace between Russia and Ukraine remains fragile ++ Russian president dies in a helicopter crash over Altai ++ General Karpov takes power as interim president and announces technologically reformed new elections ++

Lena Schätte

Father's Hands

- **Winner of the Ingeborg Bachmann Prize 2026**
- Longlisted for the German Book Award 2025
- Winner of the W.G. Sebald Literature Prize 2024
- Recommended for translation by New Books in German
- English sample translation available here

Rights sold to: World English (Heloise Press), Danish (Alpha), Dutch (De Bezige Bij), Korean (Minumsa), Czech (Albatros Media), Makedonian (Ilika Publishing), Norwegian (Forlaget Press)

March 2025 · 192 pages

© Boris Breuer

Lena Schätte, born in 1993 in Lüdenscheid, debuted in 2014 with the novel "Ruhrpottliebe". Over the following years, she worked as a psychiatric nurse in the Ruhr area until she began studying Literary Writing at the German Literature Institute Leipzig in 2020. Today, she takes care of people with addiction issues in Lüdenscheid – and writes.

Lena Schätte was awarded the W.G. Sebald Literature Prize in 2024 and the Ingeborg Bachmann Prize in 2026.

On the love for a difficult father and one's way into life

"Moth" is what the father calls the narrator. The father is a worker, gambler, and a drinker. In fact, Moth even has two fathers: one who can run fast, knows all the hiding places when playing, and comes up with an answer to any question. And the other, who is transferred from the factory to the office so he doesn't drunkenly saw off his hand. And about the alcohol, the mother says, it was actually the same with all the men in the family.

Moth herself has long been drinking more than is good for her. Even as a child, she played waitress at the local fair festival and drank the leftovers until she felt warm. Now, as a young woman, she sometimes sleeps in the hallway because she can no longer fit the key into the lock. Her boyfriend supports her, but he usually can't stand properly himself. Only her brother, who has become an educator, checks on her every day. When her father is diagnosed with terminal cancer, Moth looks for a way to say goodbye – to her father and to alcohol.

Father's Hands by Lena Schätte is a moving novel about growing up in a family living in so-called modest circumstances, which, when it comes down to it, sticks together. A tough, tender novel about the love for a difficult father and the path to life.

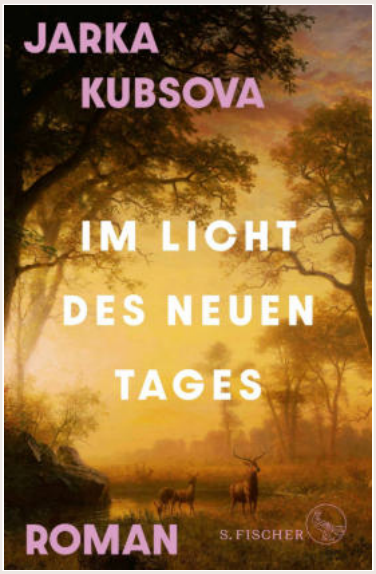
"unaffected and clear [...]: The strength of her text lies in its ambivalence." - Frankfurter Allgemeine Sonntagszeitung, Tobias Rüther

"A really, really great book." - WDR 4 , Elke Heidenreich

"an utterly astonishing writer [...] whose language is so direct, dense and tender that it is very rare" - Süddeutsche Zeitung

Jarka Kubsova

In the Light of the New Day



- On a journey into the heart of this forgotten story, we discover the fierce fight for women's freedom.
- A writer in search of herself. Deep in the Bohemian forest, the fates of two courageous women intertwine.
- The new novel by the SPIEGEL bestselling author of "Marshlands" - over 150,000 copies sold.

English sample translation available

August 2026 · 304 pages

Rights sold to: Czech (Albatros Media/ Kniha Zlin)

Rights of *Marshlands* sold to: Czech (Albatros Media/ Kniha Zlin), Danish (Turbine), Dutch (Atlas Contact), Italian (Neri Pozza)

© Gaby Gerster 2026

Jarka Kubsova was born in 1977 in the former Czechoslovakia and has lived in Germany since 1987. She has worked as a journalist, ghostwriter and co-author of several successful non-fiction books. Her debut novel, *Bergland*, was published in 2021, followed in 2023 by the novel *Marshlands*, which was nominated for the Independent Bookshops' Favourite Book award and adapted for the stage. Jarka Kubsova lives in Hamburg.

'Perhaps the forest wasn't just a refuge. Perhaps it was a place where she could finally be free.'

In order to write her new book in peace, author Elli Hajek retreats to a remote house in the woods. Here she is reminded of a character her Czech grandmother once told her about: Viktorka, the young woman who was declared insane after a serious incident and from then on lived alone in the Bohemian forest. When Elli learns that Viktorka really existed, she travels to the country she herself fled as a child. Elli wants to find out more – but deep in the forest, between glowing ferns and a rushing river, another task awaits her: before she learns the truth about Viktorka, Elli must face her own repressed history.

A touching tribute to the grandmothers who shape our lives and give us so much. A story about the power of fairy tales and the art of storytelling.

Annika Büsing

Magisch

- A story of defiant love, sibling bonds, a feisty village community and a fresh start

English sample translation available

July 2026 · 288 pages

© Jörg Steinmetz

Annika Büsing (born 1981) lives with her family in Bochum and teaches at a secondary school. In 2022, she won the German Youth Literature Prize, the Ruhr Literature Prize and the Mara Cassens Prize for her acclaimed debut novel *Nordstadt*. She was also nominated for the Bavarian Book Prize, the Blogger Prize "Das Debüt" and the Debut Prize of the Harbour Front Literature Festival. With *Koller*, she made it onto the lists for the Evangelical Book Prize and the "Das zweite Buch" prize. Both novels have been adapted for the theatre. Her third novel, *Wir kommen zurecht (We're Getting By)*, was published by Steidl in spring 2025.

On beautiful failure and the magic of second chances.

Marie never thought she would be sitting at her parents' kitchen table again in her mid-thirties, running a dog daycare centre in the village where she grew up. And yet that is her life now. In the middle of summer, Magisch is back too, Magisch, who slept in her bed for years, with whom she was the local punk couple – whom she hasn't seen since they broke up, but admittedly always missed. But then there's Andi, her brother and staunch right-winger – and for Marie, the time has come to finally stand up to him. In her unmistakable tone, Annika Büsing tells of an enduring love and the rift that runs through a family.

'This author really knows how to tell a story.' *Jens Dirksen, Westdeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung*

Ingo Schulze

Water in August

- Ingo Schulze, winner of numerous awards and one of the most distinctive literary voices of our time
- **"… admirable lightness and precision right up to the very last page."** – Frankfurter Allgemeine Sonntagszeitung on Peter Holtz
- Ingo Schulze's work is translated into more than **30 languages**

August 2026 · 320 pages

© Andreas Labes

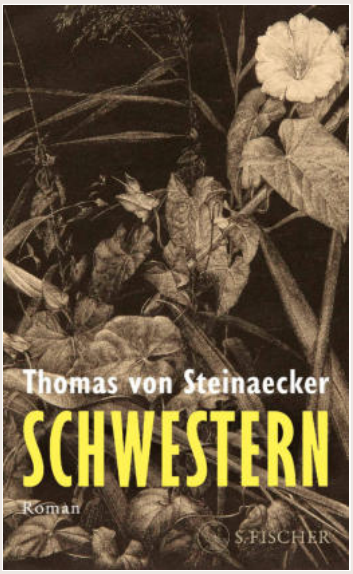
Ingo Schulze was born in Dresden in 1962 and lives in Berlin. His books, including *Simple Stories*, *New Lives*, *Adam and Evelyn*, *Peter Holtz* and *The Righteous Murderers*, have been hugely successful, are set on school reading lists, have been made into films and translated into 32 languages. Ingo Schulze has received numerous national and international awards for his work. He has been President of the German Academy for Language and Literature since 2023.

A hidden love story and the beginnings of writing.

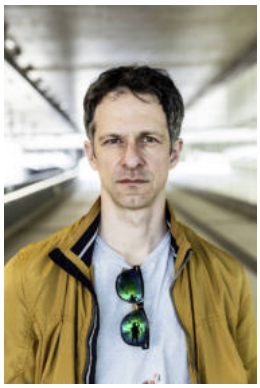
Invited to a reading from his unfinished manuscript, the narrator travels to Mecklenburg in June 2025. This lake-rich landscape is the very place he called "the North" in the summer of 1979, the period his text is about. An unexpected encounter seems to bring his novella to life, raising the question of what was and what really is. Was he too young and too carefree for true love back then, and is it too late now? Have only illusions and utopias been lost, or also the aspirations and hopes that are missing from a present in which the old fear of war seems real once more? Perhaps the love story in *Water in August* is also a school of seeing, of recognising and of writing, and an attempt to come to terms with the world, with people and with one's own history as accurately and vividly as possible.

Thomas von Steinaecker

Sisters



September 2026 · 352 pages



© Hans-Bernhard Huber/laif

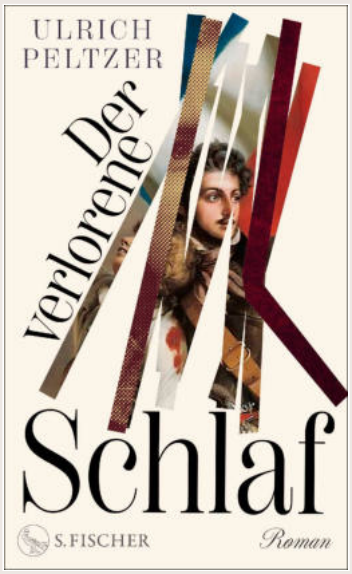
Thomas von Steinaecker, born in Traunstein in 1977, lives in Augsburg. He writes award-winning novels, graphic novels and radio plays. He also directs documentary films, including works on Werner Herzog and Rainer Maria Rilke. His most recent publications are the novel *The Privileged* (2023) and the non-fiction book *Open End – The Book of Failed Artworks* (2021).

Two sisters, two lives and a bond that will last forever.

Bettina and her older sister Simone grow up together in rural Bavaria. They spend their afternoons between the carp pond and the empty house next door. From a very early age Bettina takes on responsibility for Simone, who has been mentally disabled since birth. But Bettina dreams of becoming an actress and soon realises that if she wants to live her own life, she must break away from her family. Thomas von Steinaecker tells the story of three decisive days in Bettina's life in his own distinctive style, artfully crafted and deeply moving. A novel about closeness and separation and the courage to find your own voice.

Ulrich Peltzer

Lost Sleep



July 2026 · 208 pages

© Isolde Ohlbaum

Ulrich Peltzer studied psychology and philosophy in West Berlin. His work, which includes novels and screenplays, has been honoured with numerous awards, including the SWR Best List Prize, the Heinrich Böll Prize and the Peter Weiss Prize. His most recent novel was *The Seriousness of Life* (2024). Ulrich Peltzer lives in Berlin and Cologne.

Revolution, passion and a deadly duel – Ulrich Peltzer tells the story of the famous mathematician Évariste Galois.

1832: Évariste Galois, 20 years young, unhappy in love, dies from a gunshot wound to the stomach. The night before the duel, he quickly jots down a mathematical theory that will make him world famous. The revolutionary and opponent of the king has just been released from prison...

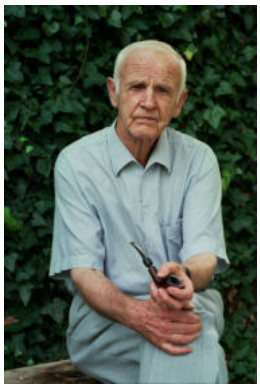
Galois' story has everything it takes to make a gripping costume drama. For now, however, this film can only be seen in the images and reflections of a screenwriter who, during a sleepless night, jumps back and forth between the July Revolution and the present. A novel about our freedom and the wonderful possibilities of film and literature.

Günter de Bruyn

The New Midday Goddess

- A tribute to historic Berlin and Brandenburg during the Wilhelminian era
- The last completed work of fiction from the author's estate – with an afterword by the literary scholar Peter Walther
- Günter de Bruyn's work is translated into Dutch, English, French, Hungarian, Italian, Polish, Spanish and Swedish

September 2026 · 128 pages



© Susanne Schleyer

Günter de Bruyn, born in Berlin in 1926, lived in Görsdorf near Beeskow as a freelance writer from 1969 onwards. He was awarded numerous prizes, including the Heinrich Böll Prize and the Thomas Mann Prize. His most important works include Zwischenbilanz and Vierzig Jahre, Buridan's Donkey and Als Poesie gut. Günter de Bruyn died on 4 October 2020 in Bad Saarow.

On his 100th birthday – Günter de Bruyn's last great narrative work.

Günter de Bruyn's last completed work takes us to historic Berlin during the Gründerzeit period and to the Spreewald landscape. It is an astonishing retelling of Wilhelm Bölsche's 1891 novel *Die Mittagsgöttin* (*The Midday Goddess*).

Günter de Bruyn masterfully evokes the atmosphere of an era between the Enlightenment and belief in spirits, progress and spiritualism. He tells of love, betrayal and the uncovering of a great deception. And the more evocatively de Bruyn delves into the past, the more one gets the feeling that the book is also about the conspiracy nonsense of our present day.

Jan-Pieter Barbian, Siegfried Lokatis

Paths through the German Catastrophe. S. Fischer Verlag 1930 to 1952

- A publishing history that is, in itself, the history of a country
- How does a Jewish publishing house survive the Nazi era?
- Siegfried Lokatis and Jan-Pieter Barbian delve into the deepest corners of the archives and uncover astonishing facts

January 2027 · 576 pages

Jan-Pieter Barbian has analysed National Socialist cultural policy in his standard work on the 'Literary Policy of the Nazi State' and in numerous essays. From 1999 to 2025, he was director of the Duisburg City Library.

Siegfried Lokatis taught as a professor of publishing studies at the University of Leipzig from 2006 to 2022, where he established the Bibliotop and published numerous studies and books on publishing history in East and West Germany.

The eventful history of the only Jewish publishing house that returned to Germany after the end of the Nazi dictatorship.

The history of S. Fischer Verlag after 1933 has only been told in fragments so far. When did the Fischer family decide to emigrate? How did Peter Suhrkamp act as trustee of the "Aryanised" part of the publishing house from 1936 onwards? What happened to the Jewish part of the company in exile in Vienna, Stockholm, New York and Amsterdam?
And what ultimately led to the separation of S. Fischer and Suhrkamp? Siegfried Lokatis and Jan-Pieter Barbian use political documents and personal testimonies to trace the turmoil and intrigue and dispel myths that have been perpetuated for decades.

COMMERCIAL FICTION

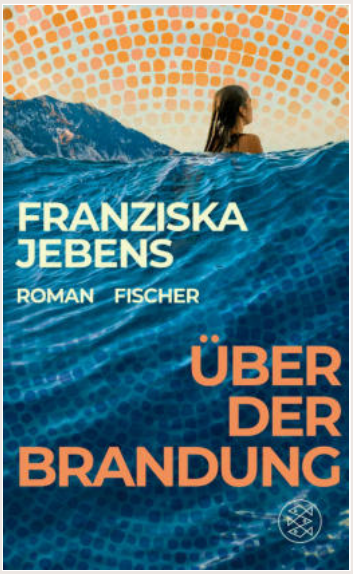
Franziska Jebens

Above the Crashing Waves

- A novel for anyone looking to recharge their batteries and treat themselves to some time out
- The empowering journey of a woman who discovers a new sense of self on a wild Greek island
- Over 55,000 copies sold of Franziska Jebens' debut novel

English sample translation available

▶ Watch Franziska Jebens introduce her book in English here!



July 2026 · 352 pages

© C. Jebens

Franziska Jebens grew up on the North Sea coast and now lives in a secluded forest lodge in the middle of the woods. As a sea-loving adventurer, she travels throughout Europe as often as possible in an old Land Rover. Inspiration awaits her where the waves crash; she gets her best ideas on secluded beaches. One of these trips took her to the Greek Cyclades. After her bestseller *Always Along the Sea*, she sought distance from everything to reflect on her life so far. In unspoilt nature, right by the sea, she wrote the novel *Above the Waves*, which incorporates many of her insights.

When we find our own strength, we can change the world.

Nea just wants to escape—away from the grey of Berlin, a city that has left its mark on her. Away from a routine life where the woman she longs to be feels like a stranger. Guided by her intuition, she finds herself on a tiny Cycladic island. Here, as if for the first time, she feels the sun on her skin again, the salt on her lips—and her true self. She starts working at the local bar for room and board, run by the enigmatic healer Hera. As she immerses herself in the world of medicinal herbs and the ritual gatherings of a local women's circle she remembers why life is worth living. Surrounded by a cast of quirky companions—including a quiet German expat known as "the Swede," the gentle yoga teacher Yannis, and a spirited goat named Meltemi—Nea learns to reclaim her voice and confront her trauma. When a violent storm hits the island, a life-threatening rescue mission in the crashing surf forces Nea to find a strength she never knew she possessed.

A life-changing adventure. A novel full of optimism, wisdom and courage.

Above the Waves is a declaration of love for womanhood, for female solidarity, for the healing power of self-discovery, for breathtaking nature and, of course, for the sea.

Patricia Koelle

Tomorrow The Wild Mallow Blooms

- Kick-off of the new Wildflowers series by bestselling author Patricia Koelle.
- More than 1 million books sold by Patricia Koelle.
- Between the picturesque coasts of Ahrenshoop on the Baltic Sea and Butjadingen on the North Sea.

July 2026 · 400 pages

© Frank Liebke

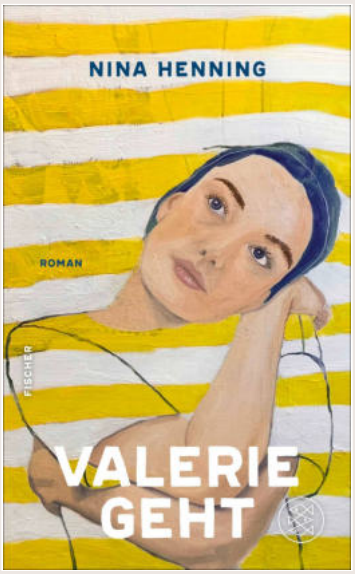
Every flower holds its own secret – the start of a new wildflower series by bestselling author Patricia Koelle

Johanna Himmel has withdrawn from the world. Her only friends are the wildflowers. When she reluctantly travels to the North Sea to meet a part of the family unknown to her, she does not find the relatives she expected, but something far more valuable: She discovers an old herbarium that reveals the hidden history of an ancestral line of courageous women who campaigned for barely existent women's rights in the 19th century. At the same time she meets a young man who makes her heart beat faster. From the salty meadows of Butjadingen to the picturesque coasts of Ahrenshoop, a story awakens that tells of female strength, secret messages, and new beginnings that require trust and courage.

Nina Henning

Valerie Walks

- SPIEGEL bestselling author Inke Hummel writes under the pen name Nina Henning
- A moving, humorous yet biting exploration of mental health and the search for identity in a world full of expectations



September 2026 · 224 pages

© Nat Hummel

Nina Henning is the pseudonym of SPIEGEL bestselling author Inke Hummel. She studied German language and literature and education and runs a practice offering parenting advice. As an expert in the fields of parenting and mental health, she has published educational literature, guidebooks and children's books. In her first novel, *Valerie Walks*, she combines insightful observations with a distinctive narrative voice.

The path to yourself is no walk in the park

Valerie is a single mother, a young widow, and a master of self-diagnosis via Instagram. A year after her husband Tobi's fatal car accident, Valerie lives her life through a screen, hiding behind labels like ADHD and PTSD to numb the pain of a neglected childhood and the exhaustion of raising her "strong-willed" five-year-old son, Lio. When a missed bus forces her to walk the long distance to Lio's kindergarten on foot, an unplanned hike through the Bavarian countryside turns into a grueling journey of survival. Under a merciless summer sun, Valerie's smartphone is her only shield—a digital anchor to her best friend Carina and a rabbit hole of endless scrolling. Confronted by eccentric strangers and the physical limits of her own body, Valerie's digital world literally begins to shatter.

On the first anniversary of Tobi's death, she has to face questions she has been avoiding: Why did her husband really die? Can she be a good mother without having experienced love from her own parents? And is life perhaps more than just a collection of symptoms?

Susanne Popp

Melody of the New World - Echo of Home

- Tracing the German soul of New York: Volume 2 of the sweeping family saga
- Over 300,000 copies sold by Susanne Popp

English sample translation available

February 2027 · 450 pages

© Tamara Ferrari

Bestselling author **Susanne Popp** has dedicated many professional years to preserving and passing on family histories. In her novels, she combines carefully researched facts with fictional elements to create stories about identity, home and memory – as seen, for example, in the first volume of her duology *Melody of the New World* – as well as the sometimes destructive power of expectations and traditions. The author has delighted her readers with the bestseller *The Tea Merchant*, a trilogy about the Ronnefeldt family's tea business, as well as with the duology *Loreley - The Woman on the River*. She now lives with her husband on Lake Zurich in Switzerland.

Steinway & Sons: The great saga about the price of fame continues.

New York, 1871. They arrived with nothing and conquered the world. With their famous concert grand pianos, Doretta Steinway's family achieved everything. But the company empire is threatened with collapse due to private feuds. Doretta now places all her hopes in her talented granddaughter Julia. She is to save the dynasty – whatever the cost.

Hamburg, 1927. Florence Steinway accompanies her mother Julia to her old home. Her goal is to secure the company's succession. But when Julia learns of her daughter's secret relationship with the chauffeur's son, the situation escalates. Florence must decide: does she follow her heart and betray her family?

Three women. Three lives. And a name that takes its toll.

Lisa Gerland

How to Burn Your Heart

- ***Enemies to Lovers*** meets ***Forced Proximity*** in this intense ***Dark Academia*** suspense novel
- Do your genes make you a murderer?

January 2027 · 416 pages

© privat

Lisa Gerland, born in 1997, has loved books since her earliest childhood. She lives near Hanover with her husband and son. She loves long walks with a good audiobook, browsing flea markets and decorating her home. Her stories are characterised by realistic characters, atmospheric settings, drama and a pinch of spice. When she's not writing, she enjoys photography and baking, and sharing insights into her life as an author and her books on Instagram (@lisa.gerland.autorin) and TikTok (@lisagerland).

Two families, a tragic connection and forbidden feelings

To face her fears and solve the mystery of her mother's death, June enrols in Linburgh University. High above the cliffs of Scotland, it's the very college where her mother perished in an unsolved fire seventeen years ago. What she didn't expect was to run into Xavier Knox —wealthy, elite, infuriatingly attractive, and the son of the prime suspect from back then. Despite her hatred for him, June is assigned to a project group with Xavier and slowly begins to see a different side of him.

But one thing is certain: she must not, under any circumstances, fall for the man whose father likely killed her mother. As June digs deeper into the events of the past and her mother’s old diaries, danger closes in: anonymous threats in her mailbox make it clear that someone wants to keep the truth buried under ash and rubble. And that someone is willing to kill to ensure the fires of the past stay extinguished.

Tine Nell

A Winter Of Us

- ***Strangers to Lovers*** meets ***Slow Burn***
- ***Cosy New Adult*** with a dash of ***sports romance***

September 2026 · 416 pages

© Benjamin Hein

Tine Nell lives with her husband, three children and a dog near Siegen, where she spends her days and nights writing and reading. She loves to write about deep emotions and the search for one's own path. Her stories are set in places that ignite wanderlust and touch the heart. She finds most of her ideas while she's on the move – whether traveling or experiencing new things.

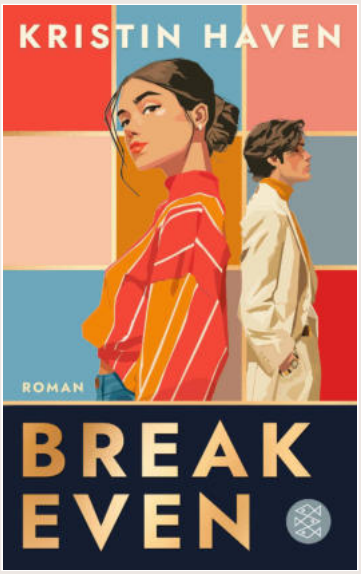
This couple makes every ice cream melt

Working for a Canadian snowboard team is not one of Riley's career goals. But in order to finally turn her back on the family business, she seizes the opportunity. No sooner has she arrived in snowy Crystal Pines than she receives unexpected news: she is to be the personal assistant to Julien—the star of the team. Unfortunately, Julien knows only too well how talented he is. But behind his arrogant façade lies more than Riley expected, and with each passing day, the icy relationship between them thaws a little more. Until someone shows up in the small winter sports resort and reopens old wounds for both of them...

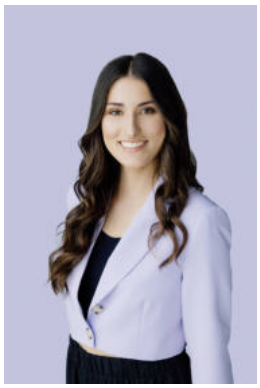
Kristin Haven

Break Even

- Classic ***New Adult*** meets ***Women in Finance***
- Empowerment on equal terms: complex topics explored through the lens of romance



September 2026 · 432 pages



© Fotofabrik Stuttgart

Kristin Haven studied management in Maastricht and is therefore very familiar with the setting of her new novel, Break Even. She then decided to pursue writing, following her heart. She loves romantic stories featuring strong female characters and themes that are close to her heart. She has already published several historical romance novels, for which she was nominated for the DELIA Literature Prize, among other accolades. She lives near Stuttgart and, alongside her writing, works as a marketing manager, systemic coach and voice-over artist.

Your worst loss can be your greatest gain.

For Merle Vitt, a master's degree in *International Business* at a renowned finance school in Maastricht was supposed to be the first step into a world of opportunities. But instead of starting a new life with her boyfriend Jannis, she has to somehow manage the horrendous student loan on her own after a painful break-up.

As if the financial disaster weren't enough, she literally collides with Damian de Ruyter upon her arrival. He is rich, arrogant and the heir to the most powerful brewing dynasty in the city. Merle would prefer to simply avoid Damian, but a joint start-up project dealing with NFTs brings the two of them closer together. And soon Merle has to ask herself whether she wants to go all in to win Damian's heart.

Cornelia Härtl

Love, Spice and Northern Lights

- Christmas magic & sparkling northern lights
- The second winter wonder novel by Cornelia Härtl
- A novel that warms the heart like an open fire

September 2026 · 320 pages

© Monika Bokel

Cornelia Härtl holds a degree in Business Administration and has a professional background in marketing and adult education. She is the author of various short stories, non-fiction articles, crime thrillers, and commercial fiction. She is married and lives near Frankfurt, Germany.

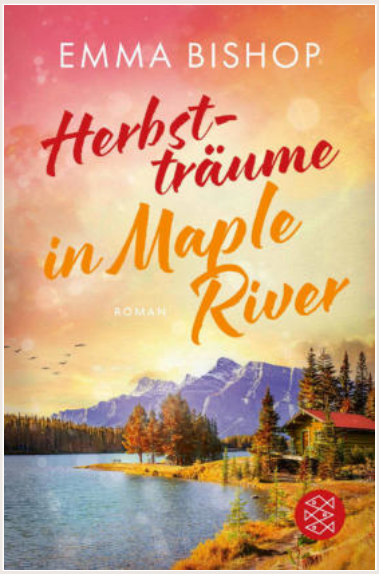
Hygge & romance in snow-covered Norway

Fearing a lonely Christmas, Kathrin flees to Norway after a painful break-up and a professional setback. There, her sister Birte leads a completely different life in a small village near Tromsø: with her husband and two children, she is fully immersed in her domestic role, cooking, baking and crafting. The two sisters haven't seen each other for a long time, and their relationship hasn't always been easy. Can they reconnect in the far north? And will one of the two men who awaken Kathrin's feelings show her a way back to love? Under the enchanting sparkle of the Northern Lights, Kathrin's heart is unexpectedly touched.

Emma Bishop

Autumn Dreams in Maple River

- As enchanting as Indian summer
- The new series from the author of the successful *Isle of Mull* series
- Happy ending guaranteed: for fans of Virgin River



August 2026 · 320 pages

© privat

Emma Bishop is the pseudonym of successful author Tanja Neise. She discovered her love of writing at an early age and her novels reached top positions in the e-book charts. Her second great passion is Scotland and its unique beauty and nature. In her *Isle of Mull* series, she takes us away from everyday life and tells of interpersonal relationships, friendship and helpfulness with a great deal of emotion. Love is never neglected and a happy ending is guaranteed. The author lives with her children in a village in Brandenburg.

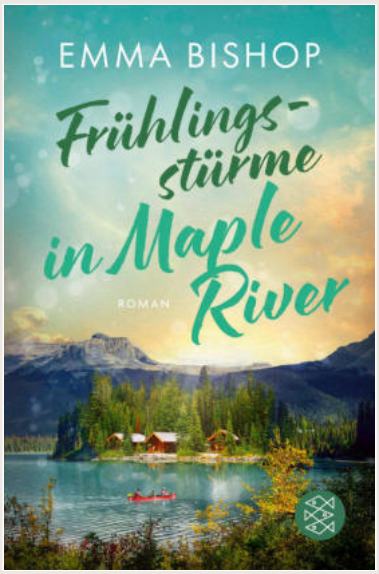
She wants to hide. He finds her anyway.

In the picturesque small town of Maple River, Vivien Burke hopes to finally find peace. Between Indian summer and new friendships, her armour begins to crumble – mainly because of Kyle Mitchell. He is charming, persistent and awakens feelings in her that she has long forbidden herself to feel. But Vivien keeps him at a distance because her suitcase is always packed. She knows that if she opens her heart, she will put Kyle in mortal danger. When the dark shadows of her past reach this idyllic place, Vivien must decide: will she flee again or trust the man who has sworn to protect her with his life?

Emma Bishop

Spring Storms in Maple River

- A picturesque small town in beautiful Western Canada
- The Maple River Mounted Police: they keep law and order and always find a solution – and love



February 2027 · 352 pages

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Sometimes you have to get lost in the woods to find your heart.

Acclaimed author Ryan Carter has won many hearts with his tragic novels. When his inspiration runs dry, he seeks solace in the woods of Maple River. But instead of finding peace, he ends up in the arms of a woman: Ellie Mitchell. Ellie is a police officer with heart and soul, but since a fatal operation, she no longer trusts anyone – especially tattooed New Yorkers. When a robbery occurs, suspicion immediately falls on Ryan. While he simply uses the investigation for his new book, Ellie struggles against her attraction to him. But Ryan has long since made up his mind: this time, he will not allow a tragic ending.

FANTASY

Becca S. Hale

Symphony of the Sinner

- The grand beginning of a dark romantasy duology about betrayal and forbidden feelings
- A guaranteed bestseller from SPIEGEL bestselling author Becca S. Hale

English sample translation available

September 2026 · 560 pages

© Valentina Vogel

Becca S. Hale is a SPIEGEL bestselling author of fantasy novels. She comes from a tranquil village in southern Germany. Her heart beats for romantic stories and fantastical worlds. When she's not working on a new story, she can be found at the piano, with a good book or a paintbrush and paper in her hand. On Instagram and TikTok, she shares insights into her everyday life as an author at @beccaschreibt.

Love is high treason

Every Halloween, the gates of hell open for one hour, unleashing demons to feast on the souls of the living. While the people of Grimmwood Creek hide behind the reinforced doors of their bunkers, Parker steps out into the dark. She wants revenge for the death of her mother, who was murdered by a demon. Against all reason, she jumps through one of the gates and ends up in a realm without light, ruled by sin and cruelty. To survive, she makes a pact with the attractive demon guardian Azael: she must perform the seven rituals of the deadly sins. But as the boundaries between human and monster blur, Parker realises too late that the price of her revenge is too high. That feelings do not stop at prohibitions. And that you should trust no one in hell, least of all a demon.

A demon. Seven sins. No escape.

She must sin to survive. But she must not succumb to temptation.

The truth burns hotter than hellfire.

A legacy that makes hell tremble.

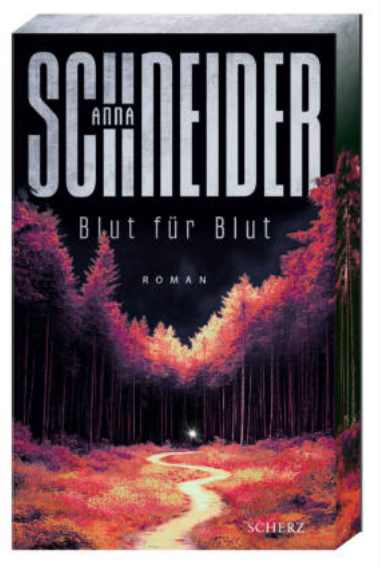
CRIME

Anna Schneider

Blood for Blood

- The first standalone novel by the **SPIEGEL bestselling author** of the *Across Borders* series
- A subtle and psychologically captivating page-turner that gets eerily close to you

English sample translation available



September 2026 · 352 pages

© Gaby Gerster 2026

Ever since she was a child, **Anna Schneider** has loved stories. In her grandmother's inn, she listened spellbound to the tales told by the guests, especially when they were full of suspense. This fascination was later reflected in her careers. As a personnel consultant and coach, she experienced on a daily basis what makes people tick, what drives them, and where their inner conflicts lie. As an author, she is interested in perfidious crimes, subtle nuances, and what remains hidden. Her stories begin where the façade crumbles. All volumes of her *Across Borders* series about the unlikely investigative duo Alexa Jahn and Bernhard Krammer are SPIEGEL bestsellers, and "Blood for Blood" is her first psychological page-turner. Anna Schneider lives with her family near Munich.

A murder destroyed her family. But now someone wants revenge.

After escaping a manipulative relationship, Sophie Roth gets by doing odd jobs as a photographer. Until she receives a lucrative assignment to take analogue portraits of the wealthy Grafinger family. Delighted and relieved, she accepts, but soon she feels as if she is being followed and watched. Is she in danger? Has someone found out who she is? When Sophie develops the first photos, she sees a face she has never been able to forget. And she realises that the night twenty years ago when her father was murdered is relentlessly catching up with her again.

Anna Schneider

Across Borders - The Anger in His Eyes

- Volume 7 of the *SPIEGEL* bestselling series
- Alexa Jahn and Bernhard Krammer investigate in the border region between Germany and Austria
- Sample translation available of volume 4 *Across Borders - The Depths of Guilt*

"The finest crime thriller entertainment!" *Romy Fölck*

January 2027 · 400 pages

© Gaby Gerster 2026

Ever since she was a child, **Anna Schneider** has loved stories. In her grandmother's inn, she listened spellbound to the tales told by the guests, especially when they were full of suspense. This fascination was later reflected in her careers. As a personnel consultant and coach, she experienced on a daily basis what makes people tick, what drives them, and where their inner conflicts lie. As an author, she is interested in perfidious crimes, subtle nuances, and what remains hidden. Her stories begin where the façade crumbles. All volumes of her “Across Borders” series about the unlikely investigative duo Alexa Jahn and Bernhard Krammer are SPIEGEL bestsellers, and “Blood for Blood” is her first psychological page-turner. Anna Schneider lives with her family near Munich.

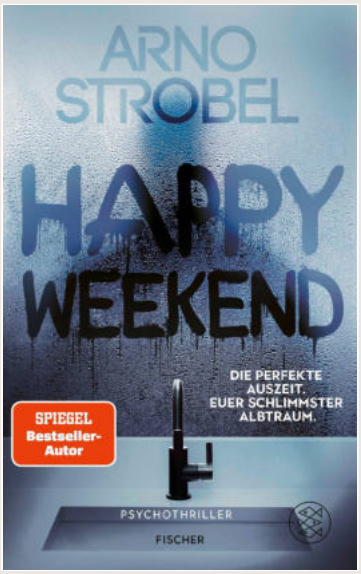
A horrific attack in the Karwendel border region.

Alexa Jahn is currently visiting her father, Chief Inspector Bernhard Krammer, in Innsbruck when he is called to a harrowing scene: a man has driven a van into a pedestrian zone. Several people are dead, countless are injured, and the driver has managed to escape. Chaos reigns, and the city is in a state of emergency. Alexa does everything in her power to support Krammer and his colleague Roza Szabo in their hunt for the perpetrator, but he seems to have vanished without a trace, and no one knows his motive. Their only hope is the 'super-recognizer' Lorenz Bischof, who possesses the rare ability to identify a single face among hundreds. But time is working against them, as authorities suspect the man is planning another attack...

Arno Strobel

Happy Weekend. The perfect break. Your worst nightmare.

- The new psychological thriller from the No. 1 bestselling author
- Over 3.5 million books by Arno Strobel sold by FISCHER
- 'Arno Strobel is an icon of German thrillers.' *nordbayern.de, Benedikt Dirrigl*



August 2026 · 368 pages

© Gaby Gerster 2022

Arno Strobel, born in 1962 in Saarlouis, is one of Germany's most successful thriller writers. All his thrillers have been bestsellers. Before dedicating himself exclusively to writing, he spent many years working for a large German bank in Luxembourg. Strobel loves borderline experiences, and likes to share them with his readers. That is why his thrillers are like exciting journeys of discovery into the dark corners of the human soul, and go beyond even the most primal fears. He derives most of his themes from everyday life, and when he cannot shake off an idea and wants to get to the bottom of it with the help of his network of experts, he knows that the foundation of his next book is being laid. He lives as a freelance writer near Trier.

This getaway will become your worst nightmare.

Katja and Marcel are in high spirits as they set off on a short trip over a long weekend. Until their suitcase is stolen from the car when they stop at a service station. Fortunately, Katja has put a GPS tracker in her luggage, which she can use to locate it. Sure enough, on the map in the app, they see their suitcase as a blue dot approaching the motorway entrance. Without thinking twice, they follow the car they suspect is carrying their luggage. But then it's too late – they're trapped. Someone has deliberately lured them to this spot. And unlike Katja, Marcel knows exactly why.

Pierre Lagrange

Madame Mort and the Dead Uncle

- New series from the bestselling author: charming and humorous
- Cosy crime in beautiful Provence
- 900,000 copies sold by Pierre Lagrange

October 2026 · 336 pages

© Torben Gocke

Pierre Lagrange is the pseudonym of a well-known German writer who has already published a number of crime novels and thrillers. In the district of Avignon, his mother runs a small hotel on an old country estate, which is famous for its provençal cuisine. The successful series about the endearing Commissar Leclerc and his pug Tyson have been published by Fischer.

Sun, lavender and a pinch of murder

Forensic scientist Dr Berthe Saunier had been looking forward to a quiet weekend in her cosy home – far away from the hustle and bustle of Nîmes, where she usually deals with Albin Leclerc's cases. In the tranquil village of St. Pierre, between Arles and Avignon, she wanted to tend to her cottage garden and relax.

But that's not to be, because her neighbour is having a baby and Berthe unexpectedly becomes a midwife. In the process, she learns that the uncle of her favourite greengrocer has disappeared. More precisely, his body was stolen from the undertaker. The pathologist is puzzled. Who would steal a corpse? Berthe stumbles headlong into a hair-raising case...

Klaus-Peter Wolf

East Frisian Lie

- A new instalment in the **No. 1 bestselling series**
- Over 6.5 million copies sold of Klaus-Peter Wolf's East Frisian crime novels
- The most successful German crime series
- Rights to the series sold to: British English (Zaffre), Danish (Mellemgaard), Estonian (Atlex), French (Piranha), Polish (Media Rodzina), Russian (Ast)

January 2027 · 450 pages

© Wolfgang Weßling

Klaus-Peter Wolf, born in Gelsenkirchen in 1954, lives as a freelance writer in the East Frisian city of Norden, in the same district as his inspector Ann Kathrin Klaasen. Like her, after many years in the Ruhr area, in the Westerwald and in Cologne, he moved to the coast and became an East Frisian by choice. His books and films have received numerous awards. To date his books have been translated into 26 languages and have sold over 15 million copies. More than 60 of his screenplays have been filmed, including many for *Tatort* and *Polizeiruf 110*. The author is a member of the PEN Center Germany.
The novels in his series with Chief Inspector Ann Kathrin Klaasen regularly spend several weeks at number 1 on the Spiegel bestseller list. Several books in the series are currently being filmed for ZDF as major features, and continue to enthrall millions of viewers.

Of double lives and multiple lies: the new case for Ann Kathrin Klaasen.

Michael Hansen is a respected solicitor, a respectable man in his profession. No one would suspect that he has a memorable hobby and breaks into strangers' homes at night. Hansen enjoys the thrill, always taking only one trophy with him. But one night, his trip to a villa on Norderney changes everything. On a sideboard stands a photo of his wife, and her clothes hang in the wardrobe. It seems clear: she lives here with another man. Shortly afterwards, a dead man is found naked in a beach chair. Are the two cases connected? Ann Kathrin Klaasen suspects that she will have to unravel a web of lies to discover the whole truth.

Klaus-Peter Wolf

Uncle Warfsmann and the Sea

September 2026 · 320 pages

© Wolfgang Weßling

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Klaus-Peter Wolf's Uncle Warfsmann hailed from East Frisia, but ended up in Gelsenkirchen. While he used to sail the seas, he then worked underground in the mines. He never regretted his decision to leave the coast for love, but he always missed the sea and remained an East Frisian at heart until the end of his life.

Uncle Warfsmann had a profound influence on the author's life and writing. He encouraged him to follow his own path and not be deterred from his dreams. At the same time, Uncle Warfsmann was a great role model and a moral compass who faced life and its adversities with East Frisian serenity and foresight. In the present volume, Klaus-Peter Wolf shares the life wisdom of Uncle Warfsmann in short, very personal stories—stories that are as amusing as they are touching, offering comfort and inspiring reflection.

Stephan Ludwig

Anger – Final Resting Place

- The 16th volume in the ZORN series
- Every volume in the top 20 of the SPIEGEL bestseller list
- Over 700,000 books sold in the ZORN series

February 2027 · 352 pages

© Stefan Gelberg

Stephan Ludwig worked as a theater technician, musician and radio producer. He has three daughters, a son and no cat. He came to writing through a happy series of unplanned circumstances. He lives and smokes in Halle.

Old guilt, new victims

When Chief Inspector Claudius Zorn wakes up that night and looks into his 13-year-old son's room, he can't believe his eyes. Edgar isn't there. Zorn picks up the phone and calls his colleague Schröder. Because Schröder always knows what to do. When they find Edgar a short time later in the municipal cemetery, they are confronted with a gruesome sight: two dead bodies, one shot, the other beaten to death. Zorn and Schröder are faced with a mystery. Especially when, after evaluating the evidence, it becomes clear that nothing fits together. Is the investigation being sabotaged? And could their meticulous colleague Brettschneider have a hand in it?

NON FICTION

Geraldine Oetken

Frieda – The Search for My Forgotten Great-Grandaunt

- Frieda interweaves journalistic research with a personal detective story
- Author Geraldine Oetken brings the topics of Nazi perpetrators, transgenerational trauma and decentralised euthanasia into our present day.
- A story about responsibility, guilt, and being different.

English Sample Translation available

July 2026 · 336 pages

© Amande Dionne

Geraldine Oetken, born in Oldenburg in 1990, studied fine art at the Braunschweig University of Art and wrote as a freelance journalist for the taz. After an internship at the Braunschweiger Zeitung, she was editor for culture, media and society at the *RedaktionsNetzwerk Deutschland* (RND) in national daily newspaper journalism. Since 2023, she has been living and working as an artist and freelance journalist in Hanover.

The great-grandchildren's generation confronts silence and responsibility.

At a funeral, Geraldine Oetken learns by chance that she had a great-great-aunt: Frieda, whom no one ever talked about. No one knows anything about her except that she died in 1941 in an institution for people with disabilities.

But who was Frieda? Who put her in the institution? How did her life end? And what does that have to do with us? Geraldine Oetken sets out to give Frieda back her story. Her search for clues takes her to archives and cemeteries, to Nazi Oldenburg and the Oldenburg of her youth – and into the depths of her own family history.

Elke Schicke

33 Sentences for a Happy Childhood

- Educational principles that are concise and practical
- The ideal gift for parents, grandparents and anyone who wants to create a happy childhood
- The essence of a happy childhood

English Sample Translation available

August 2026 · 224 pages

© Tara Wolff

Elke Schicke, a qualified psychologist and systemic therapist, has been part of the ELTERNgespräch podcast team for many years. With her friendly straightforwardness, warm humour and wealth of expertise, she has taken listeners' hearts by storm. When she is not sitting in front of the microphone, Elke Schicke works as a systemic team and organisational developer, coach and supervisor with her own practice in Hamburg.

Sometimes, a single sentence can bring a lifetime of happiness.

Parents want to get everything right when it comes to raising their children, but they often feel overwhelmed by the stress of everyday life. What they need most right now isn't more advice, but genuine relief. This is exactly what psychologist Elke Schicke offers: completely free of dense theory, she uses 33 concise key sentences to show what truly matters for a happy childhood.

Sentences like:

"I love you. Always."

"You are not responsible for my feelings!"

"This is my path ... What is yours?"

Even just reading them, you can feel the immediate impact of these words. Far from shallow, calendar-style platitudes, Schicke clearly explains the underlying mindset behind each phrase. They act as door-openers for trust, transform insecurity into calm reassurance, and build a strong bridge even in moments of conflict. In this way, complex values like unconditional love suddenly become tangible in family life.

'*Elke Schicke is probably the most popular parenting advisor in the country.*' – Südwest Presse

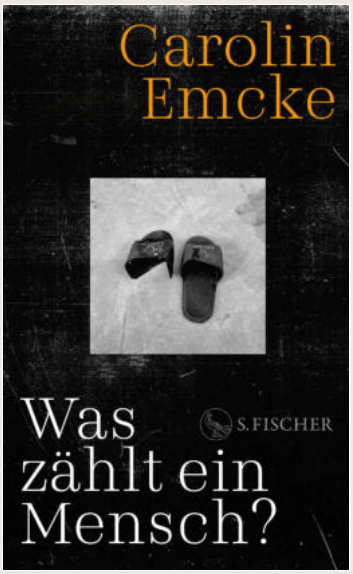
Carolin Emcke

What Does a Person Count For?

An incorruptible philosophical reflection on one of the greatest conflicts of our time

English Sample Translation available

Rights sold to: Previous titles: BR (worldwide) | GR (Polis) | PRC (Social Sciences Academic Press, Guangxi Normal University Press (simplified Chinese (world without Taiwan)) | WEL (Polity Press) | BY (PWUP) | ES (Penguin Random House (Spanish World)) | TW (Rye Field (complex Chinese World)) | I (Teseo) | JP (Misuzu Shobo) | KOR (Dasan) | FIN (Vastapaino) | SLO (Mladinska) | F (Le Seuil) | NL (De Geus) | RUS (Ivan Limbakh)



September 2026 · 432 pages

© Andreas Labes

Carolin Emcke studied philosophy in London, Frankfurt am Main and Harvard. She has travelled to crisis regions around the world and addresses issues of violence, democracy and human rights in her essays. Her books have been translated into over 15 languages. She has received numerous awards, including the Peace Prize of the German Book Trade, the Carl von Ossietzky Prize and the Soul of Stonewall Prize. S. Fischer has published 'Echoes of Violence: Letters from a War Reporter', 'Silent Violence: Reflecting on the Red Army Faction', 'How We Desire', 'Because you may say it: On witnessing and justice', 'Against Hate', 'Yes means yes and ...' and 'Journal - Diary of a Crisis'. Carolin Emcke lives in Berlin.

How does one preserve one's humanity in the face of a protracted conflict?

Are we capable of infinite compassion, or is empathy a finite resource? At what point does the moral duty to speak out become a choice rather than a mandate? Can we truly sustain the idea of a "universal humanity" when the world is so deeply divided?
Long before the 7th of October, Carolin Emcke was already haunted by the limits of our empathy. Today, those questions have become an emergency. For twenty years, Emcke has traveled between Be'eri and Jenin, Tel Aviv and Ramallah, searching for the "universal we." Amidst a fractured discourse, she returns to the only question that truly matters: **What is a human life actually worth?**

"Human rights exist only as a whole; they are indivisible, apply to everyone, and that means equally for all." – Carolin Emcke

'*Emcke's texts keep alive the question of whether it is irrelevant when people are drowned out and silenced while others eloquently exercise their power.*'
Elisabeth von Thadden, Die Zeit

Lea Schneider

Of Animals and Other People

- In times of factory farming, pet culture and animal testing, award-winning essayist and poet Lea Schneider advocates a new approach to our fellow creatures.
- For readers of Robin Wall Kimmerer, Helen Macdonald and Robert Macfarlane

English Sample Translation available

September 2026 · 224 pages

© Natalia Reich

Lea Schneider (1989) studied comparative literature, sociology, linguistics, sinology and cultural studies in Berlin, Shanghai and Taipei and received her doctorate with a thesis on radical vulnerability as a feminist writing strategy. Her most recent publications are the poetry collection *made in china* (2020) and the essay *Scham* (Shame, 2021). She has received numerous awards for her work, including being a finalist in the Open Mike competition and receiving the Dresden Poetry Prize, the Horst Bingel Prize and the Berlin Art Prize for Literature. She also studies indigenous philosophy, behavioural research, animal studies and ornithology. Lea Schneider lives in Berlin and teaches creative writing and comparative literature.

A radical re-examination of the relationship between humans and animals.

When Lea Schneider began observing birds, she learned that only males sing – to attract females, preserve the species, evolutionary theory. But in reality, 71% of female songbirds also sing. And both do so not only out of necessity, but also because they simply enjoy it.

Modern research confirms what indigenous philosophies have always known: animals are subjects, active agents who shape the world with us. This radically different perspective on our fellow creatures gives us hope in the midst of the climate catastrophe: hope for a future in which we build new worlds together.

What distinguishes us from animals? And what exactly is an ‘animal’?

Joachim Sauer

My Real Life

- The **man at Angela Merkel's side** speaks out for the first time in a very personal account
- How was it possible to live with integrity under the GDR dictatorship?
- Open and humorous – a personal view of a life in motion

November 2026 · 352 pages

© Heike Steinweg

Joachim Sauer is a German chemist and quantum researcher. He earned his doctorate in chemistry in 1974 and served as a scientist at the Institute for Physical Chemistry in Berlin-Adlershof from 1977 to 1991. Starting in 1993, he was a professor at the Humboldt University of Berlin; he became professor emeritus in 2017 and has since continued his work there as a Senior Researcher. In 2021, he became a foreign member of the Accademia delle Scienze di Torino.

Since 1998, he has been married to physicist and former German Chancellor Angela Merkel, whom he met at the Academy of Sciences of the GDR in Berlin-Adlershof.

The GDR dictatorship, reunification and the Berlin Republic – Joachim Sauer's eventful life

When the Berlin Wall fell, Joachim Sauer was forty, meaning he had spent half his life in the GDR. Here, he talks for the first time about growing up under the SED dictatorship, the beginning of his research career, the pressure to conform and the isolation he experienced, as well as his experience of German reunification and the joy of freedom. Full of anecdotes and humour, he recounts his dealings with party loyalists, getting by under the dictatorship, the turbulent period of reunification, and how he experienced his wife's political rise to become Chancellor. In doing so, he paints a comprehensive picture of everyday life in Germany, the Berlin Republic, and the many international encounters he had in the course of his research.

Alice Brauner, Heike Gronemeier

Block 10

Thoroughly researched and narrated in an accessible manner: an authentic account that focuses on both victims and perpetrators.

October 2026 · 336 pages

Alice Brauner, born in 1966, is a journalist, historian and film producer. In 1999, she received her doctorate from the Centre for Research on Anti-Semitism at the Technical University of Berlin. She worked for Steven Spielberg's Survivors of the Shoah Visual History Foundation, for which she also interviewed her mother. In 2006, she joined her father's CCC Filmkunst, which she has been managing since 2019. Her productions include 'Wunderkinder' and 'CRESCENDO #makemusicnotwar'.

Heike Gronemeier, born in 1969, studied literature and then worked for ten years as an editor at renowned publishing houses in Munich and Berlin. In 2008, she started her own business with the publishing agency text & bild in Munich. Since then, she has worked as an editor for authors such as Hillary Clinton, Yael Adler, Mai Thi Nguyen-Kim and Hamed Abdel Samad. As a ghostwriter and co-author, she has written numerous Spiegel bestsellers, including the autobiographies of Natascha Kampusch, Carlos Benede and Monica Lierhaus.

Can there be humanity under inhumane conditions?

Auschwitz 1943: In Block 10, Nazi doctors perform cruel sterilizations on female prisoners. It is not until 1964 that a spectacular trial in London, in which survivors testify, brings the truth to light. The public also learns of the fate of Jewish prisoner doctors such as Dr Maximilian Samuel, who deliberately refrained from performing operations, risking his own life in the process. The book asks us: What would we have done? A deeply moving portrait of the 'grey area' between the instinct for survival and moral responsibility, in which the voices of the victims continue to echo long after.

Asal Dardan, Lena Gorelik, Dietmar Süß

Resistance in the Present

This book addresses one of the most pressing questions of our time: **Why is German remembrance culture failing in the face of the rise of the extreme right?**

May 2026 · 208 pages

Asal Dardan, author and cultural scientist, deals with German remembrance culture and political violence, among other topics, in her essays. **Lena Gorelik** has received numerous awards for her novels and writes regularly on current political and social issues. **Dietmar Süß** is a professor of modern and contemporary history in Augsburg and works on the history of violence and social movements.

Why remembering must lead to action

In the context of a conversation with Shelly Kupferberg and in three essays, Asal Dardan, Lena Gorelik, and Dietmar Süß explore to what extent collective remembrance can be identity-forming, when it becomes an institutionalized ritual, or serves as moral relief.

In light of right-wing extremist movements, there is a need for self-critical remembrance that does not soothe but rather agitates and protects in the here and now what truly matters to us: a solidaristic coexistence and a diverse democracy – for everyone.

Thomas Hillers

What Our Children Experience Online and How We Can Protect Them

- For around a quarter of 10- to 17-year-olds, social media use is problematic, and the trend is rising sharply
- Approximately 4.7% of young people are officially classified as suffering from addiction
- Affected young people spend an average of 2.5 hours per weekday on social media

August 2026 · 304 pages

© Sebastian Heun / Heundesign

When teacher **Thomas Hillers** established social media office hours for his pupils at his school in 2020, he had no idea what a stir this would cause, both nationally and internationally. His social media consultations quickly became a model for other schools. He trains teachers nationwide and gives lectures to parents about their children's everyday digital lives.

Kitten in a blender, nude photos of ten-year-olds, videos of beheadings – if your child has a smartphone, they have likely seen something like this.

In the digital world, our children are often left dangerously alone. Thomas Hillers went undercover as a teenager and ventured into the thicket of algorithms and AI to understand how social networks manipulate individual realities. His book is an urgent wake-up call that explains the mechanisms of digital bubbles to parents and helps them develop a clear stance. Instead of mere control, Hillers offers strategies for genuine conversations so that children do not lose their footing in the vicious circle of overload and shame.

"Few people know as well as Thomas Hillers how young people really feel about what they see online—and where the dangers lie." — Süddeutsche Zeitung

Engin Çatık

How Radical Trust Strengthens Our Society. I Don't Give Up on Anyone

Winner of the 2026 German Dream Award in the Role Model category

“Engin Çatık fights for everyone at his school. So that they all have the best possible future. Very inspiring.” – Katrin Bauerfeind

September 2026 · 240 pages

© Privat

Engin Çatık, born in Berlin in 1986 and raised there with his mother and three siblings in the suburbs, became a headmaster at the age of 33. He transformed both the Johanna Eck School and the Friedrich Bergius School from problem schools into showcase projects, earning him much attention and recognition. In 2026, he was awarded the German Dream Award in the Role Model category. Engin Çatık lives with his family in Berlin.

‘As a society, we cannot afford to lose our young people.’

Engin Çatık made headlines when he rescued his second ‘scandal school’ in Berlin, where bullying and escalating violence were the order of the day. Having grown up in precarious circumstances himself, he understands the realities and problems faced by many young people. He treats them with respect and attentive authority, and the school community is important to him.
He impressively demonstrates that what goes wrong in schools is exemplary of the state of our society. With empathy and commitment, he campaigns for equal opportunities and educational justice.

“As a pupil, I would have loved to have had a teacher like Engin Çatık! He shows how individuals can change entire systems. His book is a call for a new ethic in Germany’s schools.” – Düzen Tekkal

Lisa Federle

The Antidote to Anxiety: How to Face Your Fears and Find Growth

- Approximately one in seven adults suffers from anxiety symptoms. Women are twice as likely to be affected as men.
- Valuable practical knowledge from years of experience as a GP and emergency doctor.
- With numerous case studies.

September 2026 · 256 pages

© Helmut Henkensiefken

Lisa Federle (*1961), an emergency doctor who has been awarded the Federal Cross of Merit, is committed to helping those in need – whether with her mobile practice or the #BewegtEuch association. Her most important tool is listening. In doing so, she encounters a common feeling across all social classes: fear. These authentic stories about existential fears, fears of loss and fears about the future form the core of her book.

From everyday worries to full-blown panic attacks.

While many self-help books only address the symptoms of anxiety and panic or remain purely theoretical, bestselling author Dr Lisa Federle draws directly from her practical experience. *The Antidote to Anxiety* combines the medical expertise of an emergency doctor with the human warmth for which she is appreciated throughout the country. With her concrete ‘emergency kit’ and moving case studies, she offers not only relief, but real survival help for stormy times. A book that picks up where people are: in the middle of life.

“People like Lisa Federle are the glue that holds our society together – and not just in times of crisis.” – The Office of the Federal President on the awarding of the Federal Cross of Merit

Rolf Schmiel

The Joy of Good Conversation

Only genuine encounters connect people – Rolf Schmiel shows us the way

September 2026 · 256 pages

© Boris Breuer

Rolf Schmiel (born 1973) is a SPIEGEL bestselling author and one of Germany's most sought-after psychologists. Whether as a TV expert, radio columnist or on the stages of international corporations, he understands better than almost anyone else how to convey psychology and motivation in an entertaining way.

Dale Carnegie's *How to Win Friends* for the Digital Age

Did an AI write that charming reply to my email? Is that smile in the online meeting real or just a perfectly programmed avatar? We may be in constant contact via chats and video calls, but we are rarely truly connected. We have forgotten how to listen, how to endure tension, how to show our feelings and how to be truly present. Rolf Schmiel, a qualified psychologist with many years of practical experience, invites us to rediscover genuine togetherness. Because every encounter is an act of communication, an opportunity to show ourselves, to understand and to be understood.

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