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Fall 2026

Fiction and Non-Fiction



© Maximilian Gödecke Photography

*»A deeply moving novel that is so desperately needed in these times. Patrick Holzapfel's characters find that glimmer of light that reminds us of what truly matters amid hopes and losses.«
Iris Wolff, author of ›Blurred‹*

Patrick Holzapfel, born in Augsburg, lives in Austria. He works as a writer, film critic, and independent curator. In 2022, he won the Open Mike. His debut novel ›Hermelin auf Bänken‹ was met with widespread critical acclaim, received the City of Vienna's Advancement Award, and reached number one on the Swiss bestseller list.



Patrick Holzapfel

In Deep Layers • Novel

240 pages, Hardcover

January 2027

ISBN 978-3-608-96740-1

»I am enthralled by this novel, which is both beautiful and painful, profound and honest, and at times almost relentless. Patrick Holzapfel tells his story with such vividness and such a keen eye for his characters and the ways they are entangled in both the present and the past that I could not put it down.« Martina Hefter, winner of the German Book Prize 2024

A sweeping European epic of unparalleled beauty

On the island of Krk, people live in harmony with the wind, the sea, and the stone. But this unity between nature and human life is fading, and the present threatens to bury what lies deep beneath the karst. With artistry and atmosphere, Patrick Holzapfel intertwines the stories of a grave robber, a soldier, and a conservationist into a sweeping novel about the relationship between humanity and nature—and the fault lines of European history.

This novel tells the stories of three lives: Elis, from Ibbenbüren, has found his way to the island of Krk. A former miner, he now makes a living as a grave robber, searching the blinding white karst for a fallen German soldier. Friedrich, a geologist, was stationed on the island in the 1940s, tasked by the Nazi regime with extracting valuable stone from the brittle limestone. Ana is a native of the island. For generations, the women in her family have known what lies buried in the caves beneath the karst. Yet even as a conservationist, she is powerless to prevent the unraveling of her family ties—or the disappearance of the majestic griffon vultures.

Patrick Holzapfel weaves together the lives of Elis, Friedrich, and Ana with the island's striking natural landscape. In doing so, he unearths a fragment of German history embedded deep in the rock, while also reflecting on the challenges of our present. *In Deep Layers* is a poetic novel about loss and preservation.

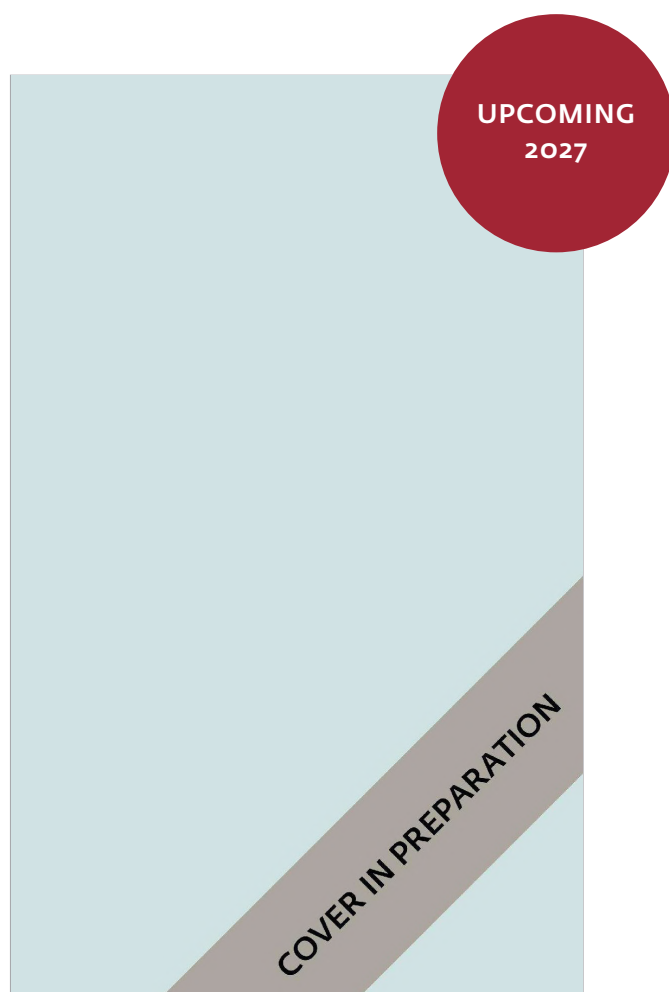
- Holzapfel's previous book ›Hermelin auf Bänken‹ became a number one Swiss bestseller
- Author won the Open Mike Award in 2022
- For readers of Saša Stanišić and Olga Tokarczuk



© Alexa Geisthövel

*»... intelligent, full of verve, and above all, revelatory.« DIE ZEIT
about ›Flut und Boden‹*

Per Leo, born in 1972, received his doctorate with a thesis on the history of anti-Semitism in Germany. His debut novel ›Flut und Boden‹ was shortlisted for the Leipzig Book Prize. His most recent publication ›Mit Rechten reden‹ (Talking to the Right) that he co-authored, sparked an intense debate and was on the SPIEGEL bestseller list for several weeks. In 2016, he was Writer in Residence Amsterdam, Netherlands Letterenfonds. Per Leo received the Humboldt Award, special prize ›Judaism and anti-Semitism‹ (2013) for his dissertation, the Klaus Michael Kühne Award from Bad Homburg (2016) and a one-year scholarship from the state of Baden-Württemberg (2015).



Per Leo

Krach Plays (working title) • Novel

352 pages, Hardcover

February 2027

ISBN 978-3-608-98981-6

Previous works sold to: The Netherlands (De Arbeiderspers), Japan (Misuzu Shobo)

Per Leo spins a rich adventure novel about a former fraudulent violin dealer, who is forced to confront his past on a road trip across Germany and Europe to atone for his greatest crime

A disgraced violin dealer is overtaken by his past and unwillingly embarks on the adventure of a lifetime. With wit, energy, and virtuoso storytelling, Per Leo portrays a man who loses everything — and yet repeatedly reinvents himself. A dazzling con story about postwar Europe, the tensions between East and West Germany, and the fragile art of self-deception.

Peter Krachstaedt has lost everything. Once a celebrated violin dealer who moved among the grand stages of capital, he now leads a quiet life in the Austrian countryside. His days are shaped by rituals and a newfound sense of calm. But when he encounters a mysterious woman one evening, his carefully rebuilt life begins to unravel.

The woman knows him from the GDR, from his grandfather's violin workshop, and she knows Peter's darkest secret — more damning than any of his past misdeeds. And she is threatening to expose him unless he takes responsibility for his actions.

And so Peter is forced into an unwilling journey: to Amsterdam, then onward via Oslo and Tromsø to Murmansk, at the edge of the continent. He must confront the ghosts of his past — and, one final time, put his skills as a master impostor to the test to save himself.

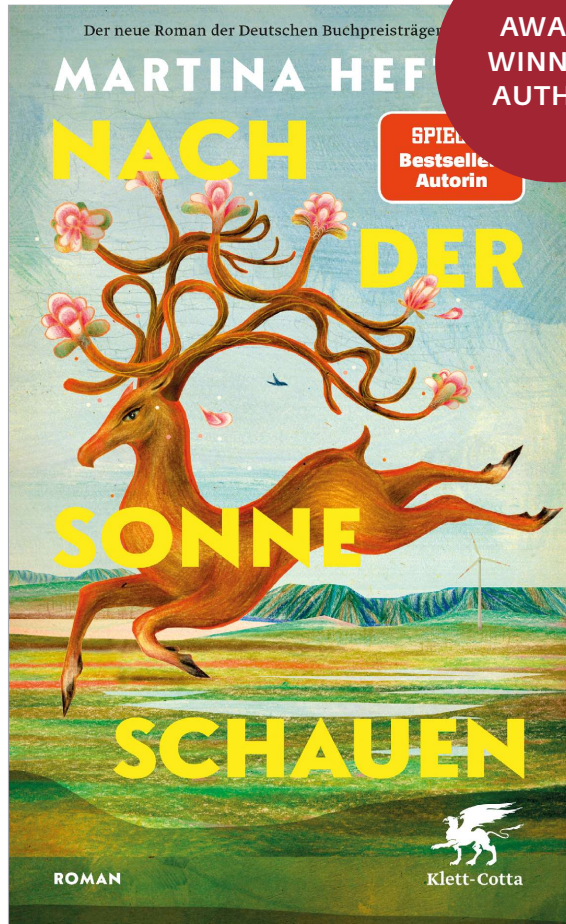
- **Per Leo's debut novel ›Flut und Boden‹ was shortlisted for the Leipzig Book Prize**



© Maximilian Gödecke

*»Funny, offbeat, and desperately moving.« The Irish Times
about ›Hey Good Morning, How Are You?«*

Martina Hefter is an author and performer based in Leipzig. Her texts move between poetry, scenic forms of writing, and novelistic writing. She stages many of her texts in collaboration with other artists. She has published three novels, and five volumes of poetry with kookbooks Verlag Berlin. Her previous novel, *Hey guten Morgen, wie geht es dir?*, won the German Book Prize in 2024 and has been translated into several languages.



AWARD
WINNING
AUTHOR

The New Novel by Martina Hefter: SPIEGEL BESTSELLER author and winner of the GERMAN BOOK PRIZE 2024

With precise lightness and understated elegance, Martina Hefter tells the story of a woman who finds a new future in a landscape hollowed out by industry. She writes about the necessity of defending oneself against the intrusions of the present, about inner battles, and about those moments that bind us to one another – or set us apart.

Artist Iona Bartschok retreats to the German countryside around Leipzig for the summer. The landscape here is alive in its own stubborn way: a former open-pit mining region, artificially flooded, shaped by spoil heaps and a wind that never stops. Iona hopes to focus on a new project in this environment. She also seeks distance, after a painter publicly vandalized her most important artwork, a treehouse, spraying the word “bullshit” across it.

She moves into a refurbished industrial hall, stocks up on groceries, and finds herself accompanied only by a digital AI dog displayed on a screen – an invention her landlord has asked her to test. The days are quiet until Bella appears: a real, breathing dog who refuses to leave her side. Soon after, Nova, the landlord’s feisty niece, arrives as well and makes camp in the hall. And while the wind howls outside and rain swells through the streets, life begins to press back into the industrial hall with an unrelenting force.

- SPIEGEL bestseller author (hardback & paperback) of ›Hey, Good Morning, How Are You?‹: GERMAN BOOK PRIZE 2024 • PRIX GRAND CONTINENTAL 2024 • GRAND PRIZE OF THE GERMAN LITERATURE FUND 2024 • LITERARY PRIZE OF THE STATE CAPITAL WIESBADEN 2024 • BAVARIAN BOOK PRIZE 2024 NOMINEE • LITRIX POLAND FOCUS 25-27

Martina Hefter

Looking to the sun • Novel

256 pages

October 2026

ISBN 978-3-608-96708-1

Rights of ›Hey, Good Morning, How Are You?‹ sold to: UK/US (World English Rights, pre-empt, Fig Tree/PRH), HUNGARY (Typotex), CROATIA (Media Bar/MBBooks), SERBIA (Blum), SPAIN CATALAN (Angle Editorial), PORTUGAL (Almedina), TURKEY (Düşbaz), SPAIN (World, Maeva), ITALY (pre-empt, Feltrinelli Gramma), THE NETHERLANDS (pre-empt, Lebowski), DENMARK (KLARA W), LITHUANIA (Gelmes), EGYPT (Arabic World, Mahrousa), FRANCE (Editions Globe), POLAND (ZNAK)

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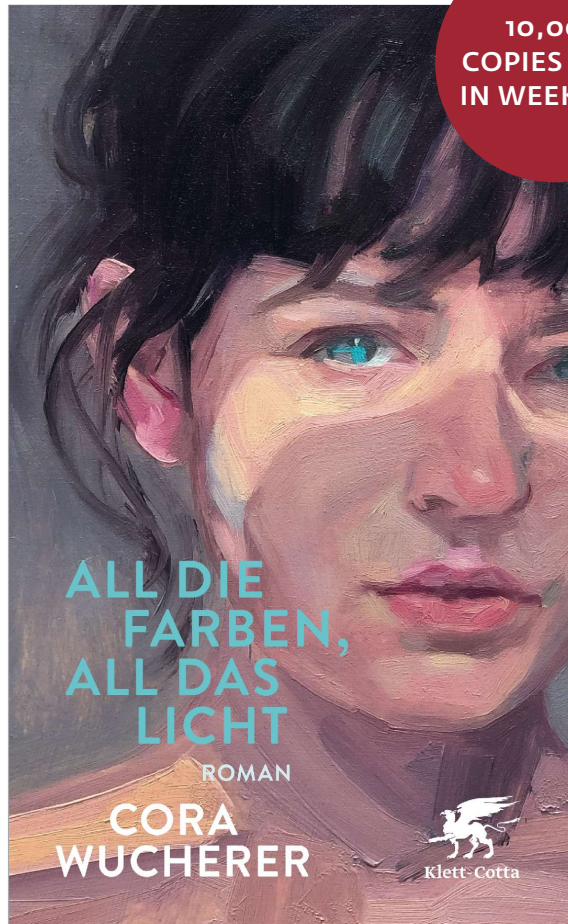
English sample by Linda Gaus available



© Maximilian Gödecke Photography

»Two captivating sisters in a story full of love, courage, and hope — this novel made me happy.« *Elena Fischer*

Cora Wucherer, born in 1994 in Upper Bavaria, Germany, studied English and Art, Music, and Theatre at Ludwig Maximilian University in Munich and graduated from the German School of Journalism. Her nonfiction debut, *That Was Art, Now It's Gone/ Das war Kunst, jetzt ist es weg*, was published by DuMont in 2024. She works as a journalist for ZEITmagazin and lives in Munich and Berlin. *All the Colours, all the Light/All die Farben, all das Licht* is her literary debut.



Cora Wucherer

All The Colours, All The Light • Novel

320 pages, Hardcover

July 2026

ISBN 978-3-608-96704-3

English sample by Alexandra Roesch available

»A triumph!« Alina Bronsky

»For me, this is one of the best debut novels I have ever read.« Dora Heldt

»The author writes in a beautiful, modern, and deeply sensitive style. [...] By the end, you feel genuinely happy.« Mike Altwickler, WDR 4

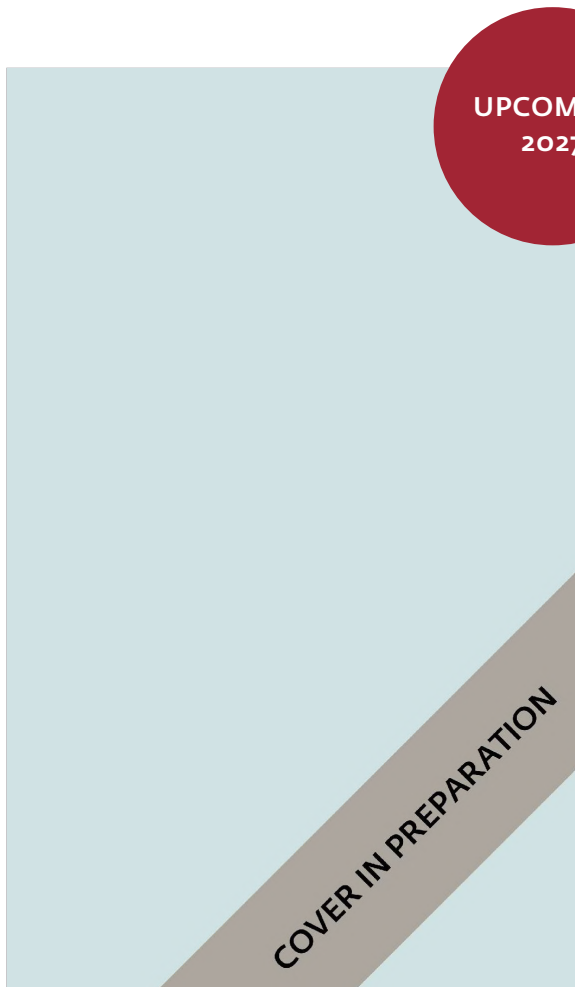
»A tribute to the love between siblings and the enduring power of art.« Annika Büsing

A coming-of-age novel about growing up and growing older, about loss, sisterhood, and how to keep living when life refuses to follow your plans – for readers of Elena Fischer ›Paradise Garden«

Juna is seventeen and determined to become a painter, no matter how quickly her eyesight is fading. Martha is thirteen and will do anything to step out of her gifted sister's shadow. The two barely speak to each other. But when Juna's diagnosis worsens, they realize that only together can they face the world. With sensitivity and power, Cora Wucherer tells a story of an unquenchable hunger for life and of a summer that changes everything.

For as long as they can remember, Juna and Martha have shared a room in their cramped apartment in Munich-Giesing. But that's about all the two sisters have in common. Juna, exceptionally gifted and living with a rare eye disease, learns that she only has a few months left before she will lose her sight. Her dream of becoming an artist as significant as her great role model Lotte Laserstein suddenly seems to be slipping away. Her younger sister Martha, meanwhile, is fighting simply to be noticed at all. With Juna's ID card in her pocket, she manages to land a part-time job at a cinema: and with it, a newfound independence.

When Juna becomes determined to see her favourite Lotte Laserstein painting in Malmö, Martha seizes the moment and secretly plans a trip for the two of them. What begins as an adventure soon turns into an unexpected challenge - pushing the sisters to the limits of what they thought they knew about one another.



André-Pascal Woschée

Lunch on Lake Como (West Shore)

224 pages, Hardcover

March 2027

ISBN 978-3-608-50534-4

André-Pascal Woschée's electrifying debut nails the absurdity and anxiety of young life in the 21st-century urban jungle

Caught between a disastrous urban housing market, the search for meaning, and a longing to escape, André-Pascal Woschée's debut humorously and poignantly shows what it means to live, love, and work in the jungle of 21st-century capitalism. And how younger people cope – or fail – in a world like that.

As the first academic in his family, the narrator earns a living at an absurd start-up, ghost-writing bachelor's and master's theses for students with too much money. The fear of falling down the social ladder never leaves his side – his apartment gets terminated, his friends talk about activism and the future, though everything always circles back to money, security, and attitude.

Amid designer cafés, coaching jargon, drug parties, and family dinners, a picture emerges of a society that constantly talks about meaning, yet systematically undermines it. In the midst of it all, the protagonist navigates a world ruled by endless apartment viewings and champagne brunches at the office: to find his own path through the jungle of late-stage capitalism in the 21st century.

From the foosball table in a trendy start-up to the looming fear of homelessness, André Woschée captures the pulse of our era in this remarkable debut novel.

André-Pascal Woschée was born in 1992 in Munich, Germany. He studied Literary Writing at the German Institute for Literature in Leipzig, as well as Language Arts at the University of Applied Arts in Vienna. He is also a trained banker and spent many years working at the counter for Commerzbank AG at Munich's central train station. His writing has appeared in numerous magazines and anthologies. He serves as an editor for the reading series "Hausdurchsuchung" in Leipzig and "Sehr Ernste" in Vienna. "Lunch on Lake Como (West Shore)" is his first novel.



Max Czollek

Zweifelssohn • Novel

208 pages, Hardcover

August 2026

ISBN 978-3-608-50299-2

Rights of previous works across several publishers sold to:
English (Restless Books NY) • French (Hors d'atteinte)

»Max Czollek has a contemporary and yet distinctly independent language, and a truly unique outlook on the world—one you immediately want to follow.« Martina Hefter, winner of the German Book Prize 2024

»When the wind swept around the corners, he thought he could hear the present gasping for air.«

Max Czollek has long been an important voice surrounding memory culture, integration, and Jewish identity in post-war Germany. His debut novel traces these motifs and speaks of the deep longing for inner peace. In "Zweifelssohn" Max Czollek grapples with a present suspended between pop literature and the abyss in a way few others can. Emotional, full of bitter, biting humor, and strikingly timely.

The protagonist, *Zweifelssohn*, literally *Son of Doubt* – named after the Jewish Enlightenment thinker *Mendelssohn* but with "Mendel" replaced by the German word for *doubt* – travels from Vienna through various German cities to the island of Rügen: always also on the run from a world that can no longer escape its own violence.

Throughout his journey, *Zweifelssohn* is accompanied by traces of violence, tied to a Jewish perspective on Germany that he cannot let go of and to which he is, at the same time, exposed. As he travels north, he tries to cling to surfaces, to fashion, music, and excess. But the violence grows ever louder and forces itself into view, like a glimpse of an approaching future, even when one tries to close one's eyes to it.

• **For readers of Christian Kracht and Saša Stanišić**

»[Czollek's] diagnosis of what ails modern Germany feels spot-on. A righteous and uncompromising takedown.« *Publishers Weekly* about ›De-Integrate!‹

Max Czollek, born 1987, is a writer based in Berlin. He is co-editor of the magazine *Jalta — Positions on Jewish Contemporary Life*, a member of the poetry collective G13, and a curator at the Haus der Kulturen der Welt Berlin. He has served as writer-in-residence in Rheinsberg and as DAAD Distinguished Chair in Contemporary Poetics in New York in 2024. *Zweifelssohn* is his first novel.



Sophie Stein

The Ninth Circle • Novel

336 pages, Hardcover

August 2026

ISBN 978-3-608-50533-7

As if Dante Alighieri had written an episode of ›Black Mirror‹

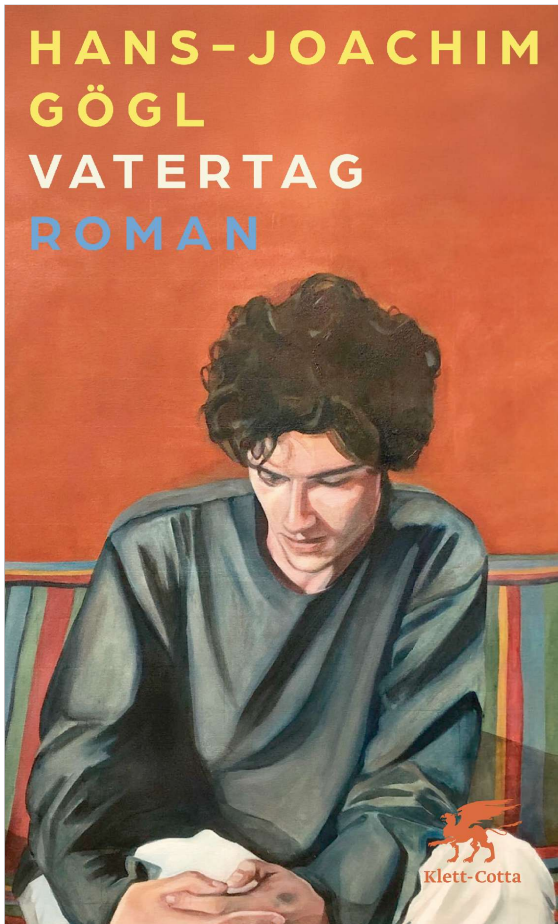
The near future: therapy, rehabilitation, and the obsession with optimization have become indistinguishable from one another. ›The Ninth Circle‹ is a story about artificial art, the blurring boundaries of authorship, and the vulnerability of human perception. In this highly topical novel, Sophie Stein paints a harrowing yet deeply comical picture of a hellish journey in which a hundred years of simulated life can be relived in a matter of seconds.

After Ond participates in an experimental rehabilitation program to avoid a prison sentence, her perception of the world begins to unravel. What starts as a second chance turns into a silent descent from reality. Reality shifts, memories become porous, and bodies and desires follow their own new logic. Together with her former partner, she finds herself caught up in a complex system of resonance chambers, endless office floors of an AI company, and grotesque trials reminiscent of Dante's circles of hell.

›The Ninth Circle‹ is a radical, at times satirical exploration of control, guilt, and the question of what remains of humanity and human nature when everything becomes measurable and exploitable.

»I am tired of everything being reduced to material. For once, I just want to live for the sake of living.« Sophie Stein in ›The Ninth Circle‹

Sophie Stein studied literature in Berlin, Germany, and San Cristóbal de La Laguna, Spain. Her first novel, ›Amanecer‹, was published in 2020, and since then her literary and interdisciplinary work has received numerous awards. In 2024, she read at the Ingeborg Bachmann Prize in Klagensfurt. She is currently working on her third novel.



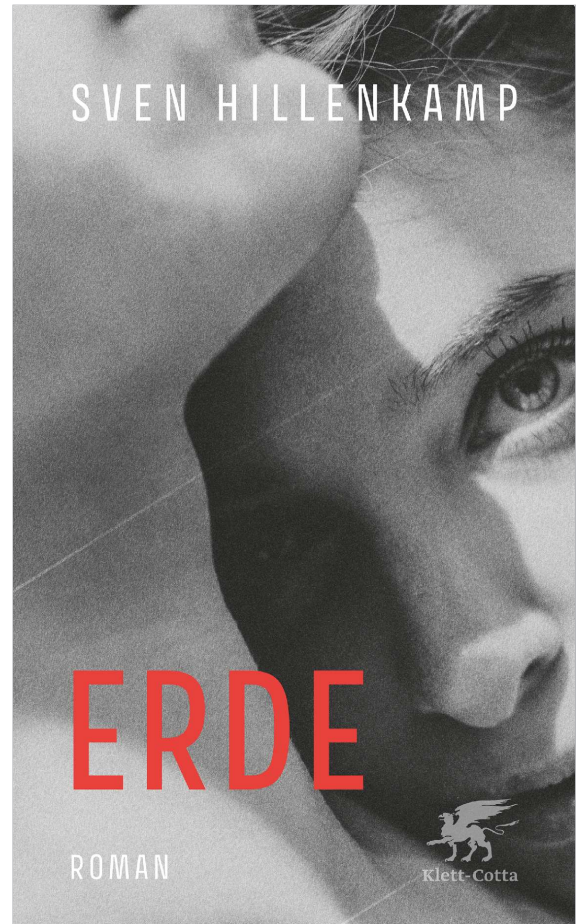
Hans-Joachim Gögl
Father's Day • Novel

288 pages, Hardcover
ISBN 978-3-608-96730-2 | August 2026

A beautiful father-son story about saying goodbye, about what we carry forward from a life, and what we must learn to let go. Who lives a better, more fulfilling life? A father and son have never been able to agree on this. When the father dies, the son begins to try out his father's life on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. In the process, his own life begins to change. A unique story about closeness and distance, told with both sensitivity and humor.

Hans-Joachim Gögl is a trained bookseller. Today, he is the artistic director of the photography and music program at the BTV Stadtforum Innsbruck and curator of the »Days of Utopia«. The festival, which explores visions of the future focused on the common good, takes place in Götzis, Vorarlberg, and is the recipient of the Austrian State Prize for Adult Education. »Father's Day« is his first novel. He lives in Bregenz.

»There are many books about fathers, and yet Gögl brings something new to the table – something surprising and captivating.« Ilija Trojanow, Bulgarian-German writer, translator and publisher



Sven Hillenkamp
Earth • Novel

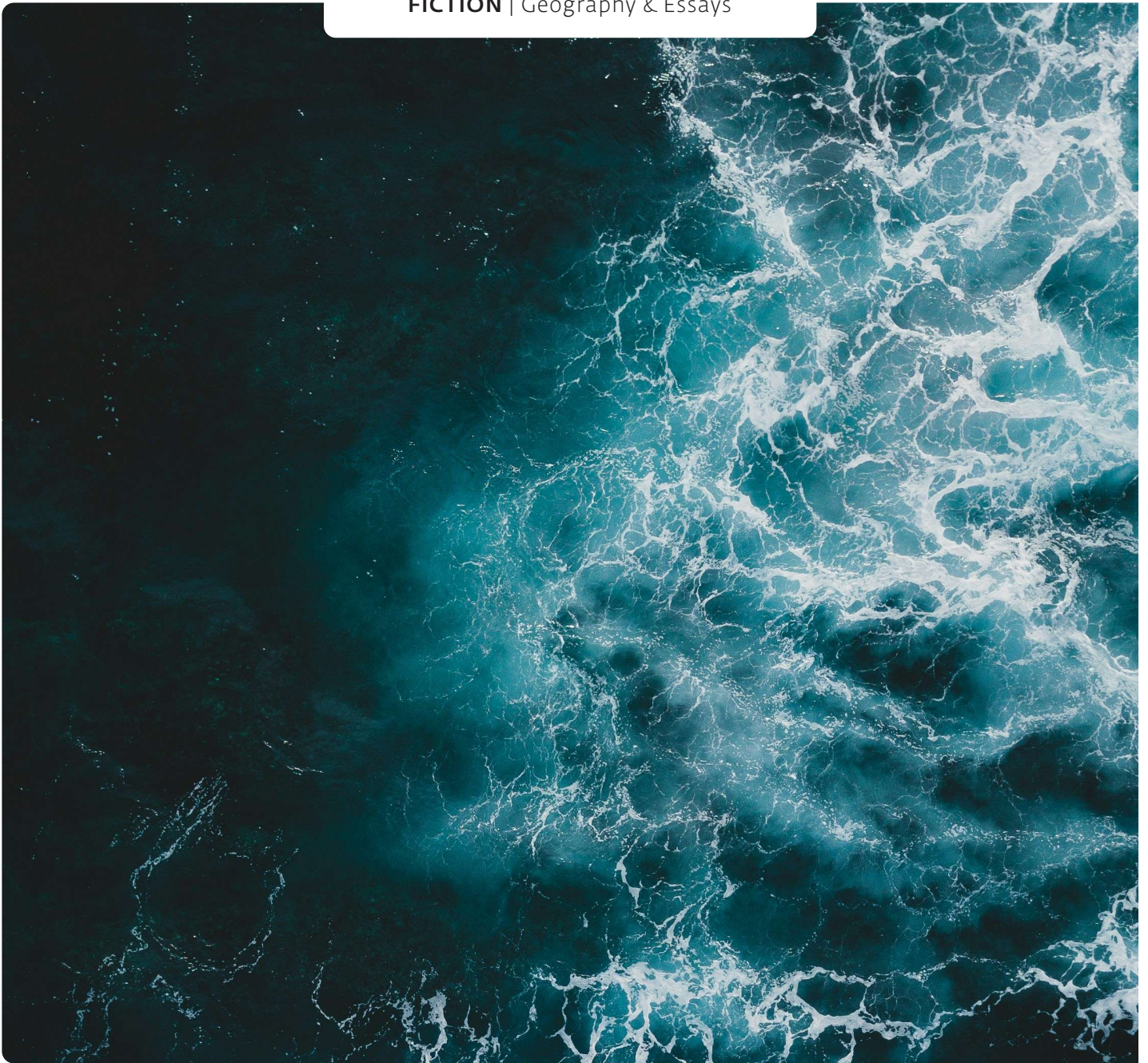
176 pages, Hardcover
ISBN 978-3-608-98964-9 | August 2026

Jan's life is built on shaky ground. Growing up with his mother and her lovers, his father and his stepmother, what is normal constantly veers into the extreme. The young man's life remains unstable and precarious – in friendship, in love, in politics. Yet as great as the obstacles are, so intense is Jan's quest for security and happiness. Sven Hillenkamp tells Jan's story with unparalleled precision, depth, and radiance.

»Hillenkamp writes sentences that practically glow.« Gerrit Bartel, cultural journalist, literature critic, and author

Sven Hillenkamp, born in Bonn in 1971, has lived in Sweden as a freelance writer since 2006. He was awarded the Clemens Brentano Prize for Literature for his book »The End of Love: Emotions in the Age of Infinite Freedom«. This was followed by the short story collection »Footprints of a Flyer« and the socio-philosophical essay »Negative Modernity«.

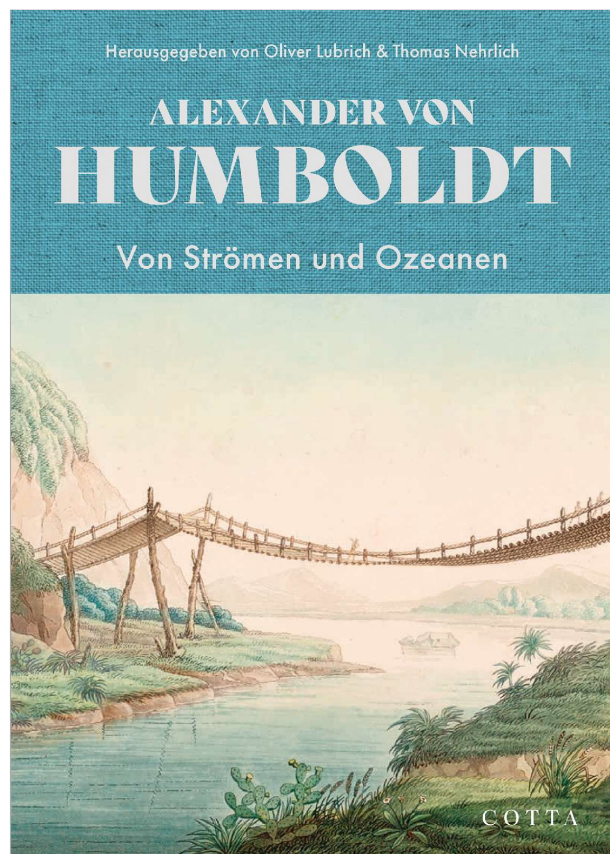
- **For readers of Karl Ove Knausgård and Annie Ernaux**



© Ivan Bandura / Unsplash

A world premiere: Humboldt's long lost masterpiece on ocean currents reconstructed and published for the first time

Oliver Lubrich is a professor of literature at the University of Bern. His publications include monographs and collections such as »Shakespeare's Self-Deconstruction«, and »Humboldt, or How Travel Changes the Mind«. **Thomas Nehrlich** teaches literary studies at the University of Bern. He has published editions of works by Heinrich von Kleist, William Hamilton, and Alexander von Humboldt, a study on the significance of typography, and a reader on the cultural history of superheroes. **Moritz Ahrens** is a textual critic and academic typographer at the University of Siegen.



Alexander von Humboldt, Oliver Lubrich Ed.),
Thomas Nehrlich Ed.), Moritz Ahrens Ed.)

Of Currents and Oceans

384 pages, Hardcover, illustrations by Alexander von Humboldt

September 2026

ISBN 978-3-7681-9862-2

Humboldt's texts are published without editorial intervention, abridgment, annotations, or commentary. Only an afterword and an editorial report are included.

»Von Strömen und Ozeanen / Of Currents and Oceans« is book 2 in the »Kleinere Schriften / Minor Writings« series. Book 1 »Von Vulkanen und Gebirgen / Of Volcanoes and Mountains« has been published in the past and is now presented by editors Oliver Lubrich and Thomas Nehrlich in a special compilation (compilation rights only).

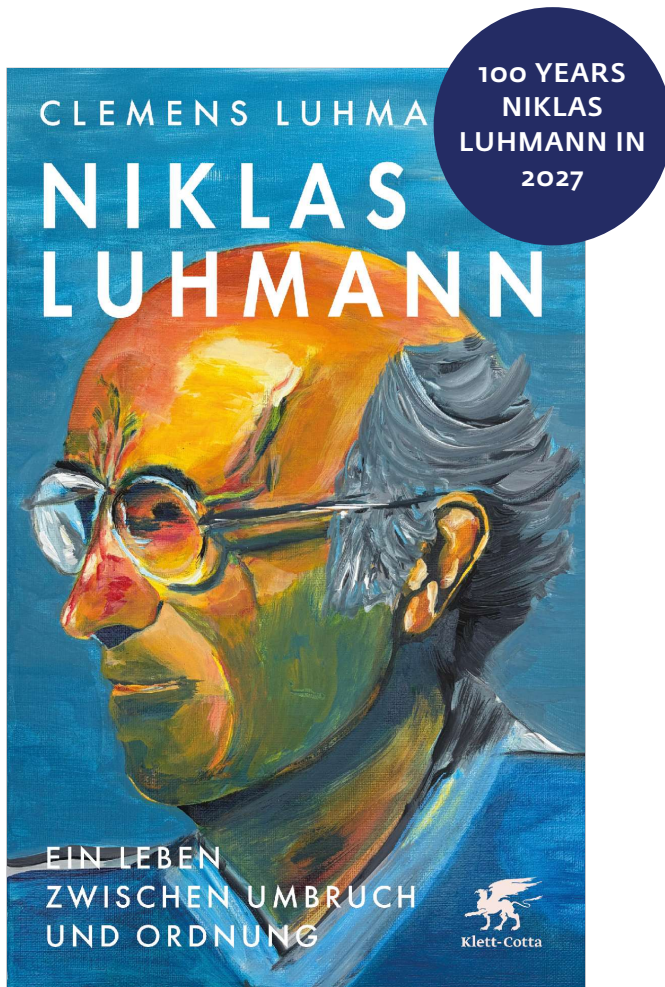
Humboldt's unpublished book: a seminal work in oceanography

One of the Earth's most powerful ocean currents, the Humboldt Current, is named after him: Alexander von Humboldt, visionary and global citizen. Few researchers have had such a lasting impact on our understanding of the global interconnections of nature. In the final years of his life, Humboldt devoted himself intensively to the study of the world's oceans, but never published his research completely during his lifetime. Almost 180 years after the author's death, the editors have carefully reconstructed this remarkable work preserved in archives, making it available in all its glory for the first time.

In 1853, Humboldt published the "Kleinere Schriften" (Minor Writings) with Cotta. This collection was a thematic selection of the enduring contributions he made across diverse fields of research. During his lifetime, however, only the first volume was published.

For years, Humboldt gathered data for a second volume, continuing his scientific vision and offering an entirely new perspective on the oceans and their currents. The previously unpublished manuscript "On Currents" stands as a testament to Humboldt's innovative spirit, bringing the concept of global ecology to the realm of the oceans.

Editors Oliver Lubrich, Thomas Nehrlich and Moritz Ahrens have now reconstructed this second volume from archival material for the first time, piecing it together from galley proofs and handwritten pages. The result is a book of the highest sensational value.



Clemens Luhmann

Niklas Luhmann • A Life Between Change and Order

384 pages, Hardcover

November 2026

ISBN 978-3-608-96741-8

English sample by the author available

Works by Niklas Luhmann have been translated to: Korean, English, Spanish, Dutch, Turkish, French, Chinese, Italian, Polish, Japanese, Czech, Danish, Estonian, Russian, Croatian, Portuguese, Swedish, Hungarian, Romanian, Serbian, and Slovenian

Niklas Luhmann's son pulls back the curtain on the hidden life of the legendary sociologist

Niklas Luhmann stands as one of the twentieth century's most influential sociologists, yet the person behind his groundbreaking ideas remained almost entirely hidden: until now.

In this compelling biography, Clemens Luhmann traces his father's life and offers, for the first time, a portrait that unites the world-famous thinker with the private man behind the work. Personal memories and previously unknown sources intertwine with the cultural and intellectual currents of the era to form an atmospheric portrait. This book shows how experiences, losses and encounters gradually gave rise to one of the most influential theories to reshape our understanding of society today.

Niklas Luhmann's systems theory continues to shape sociology, law and political science, theology, education, and art theory to this day. Yet for a long time, little was known about the man behind. Against the backdrop of this global influence, and written by his son, Clemens Luhmann, this biography now combines exclusive personal glimpses with thorough historical research for the first time. It traces how Luhmann's thinking was formed, following a chronological structure and drawing on exclusive sources: including his early years in Germany, to his travels to France and Italy and time at Harvard University.

The result is a narrative that is both reflective and engaging, showing Luhmann not just as a sociologist, but as a human being: an observer of his time, a thinker in everyday life, and someone who created connection, even from a distance.

Clemens Luhmann, born in 1965 and the son of sociologist Niklas Luhmann, is a physician who lives at Lake Atitlán in Guatemala, where he also works as a novelist and painter. He devoted more than twenty-five years to researching his father's biography. The rights were recently secured by Klett-Cotta in an auction.



Andrei Pivovarov, Maria Lipkovitch

INSIDE RUSSIA • How I Became an Enemy of the State

256 pages, Hardcover

October 2026

ISBN 978-3-608-96725-8

Except Russian rights

An autobiographical account of political repression, resistance, and hope in Putin's Russia

»Inside Russia« tells the story of a Russian local politician who was branded an enemy of the state, endured one of the world's harshest prison systems, and refused to be broken. Pivovarov exposes the cold logic of repression, the grotesque absurdities of prison routine, and the rare, luminous moments of human solidarity that survive against all odds.

Deep in the forests of Karelia, near the town of Segezha, lies the notorious Penal Colony No. 7, where Putin's regime sends its political opponents to disappear. Since his arrest in 2021, Andrei Pivovarov has been held there in solitary confinement, subjected to an absurd and oppressive system in which every day is meticulously controlled and every deviation punished. Amid daily restrictions and constant surveillance, Pivovarov reveals the grotesque machinery of repression, while also recounting the rare and precious moments of human solidarity that sustained him.

At the same time, he reflects on his political journey: from his early activism in St Petersburg and his work alongside Boris Nemtsov and Mikhail Khodorkovsky to his arrest and the historic prisoner exchange of August 2024, which ultimately brought him to Germany. A compelling document of our times, »Inside Russia« reveals the arbitrariness of an authoritarian system, and the extraordinary resilience of one individual.

»Even the guard outside my cell told me that what they're showing on television is nonsense...« Andrei Pivovarov

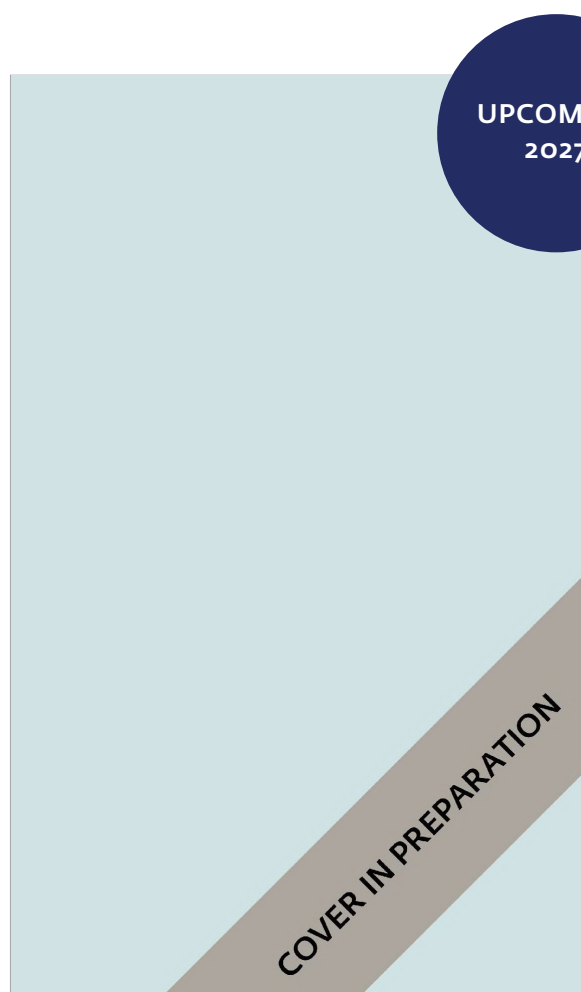
Andrei Sergeyevich Pivovarov, born September 23, 1981, is a Russian politician and activist. He led the political organization *Open Russia* and worked closely with Boris Nemtsov and Mikhail Khodorkovsky. In May 2021, he was imprisoned for his activism and protests advocating for a liberal Russia, and he was released only in August 2024 as part of a prisoner exchange. Pivovarov now lives in Berlin with his wife.



© Pascal M. / Unsplash

*A hypnotic account of resistance and fierce defiance against
pervasive antisemitism for readers of Ulrich Alexander
Boschwitz ›The Passenger‹*

Josef Joffe is a publicist and renowned journalist. He has taught international politics at institutions such as Stanford and Harvard and was co-editor of the German newspaper *Die Zeit*. Alongside his wife, **Christine Joffe**, he curated the memoirs of his father, **Eisik Arthur Joffe**, a Holocaust survivor. These memoirs have now been rendered into contemporary language for the first time and are presented in an expanded edition.



Eisik Arthur Joffe, Josef Joffe Ed.), Christine Joffe Ed.)

The Day Was Our Enemy, the Night Our Friend • Jewish Life and Death in the Century of Destruction

192 pages, Hardcover

April 2027

ISBN 978-3-608-98989-2

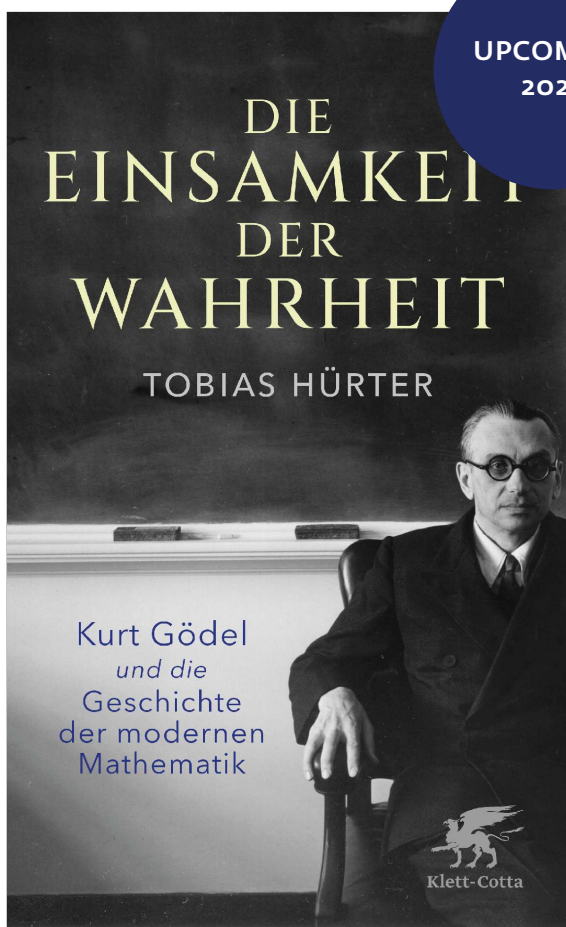
A raw, intimate portrayal of antisemitism and hope – more relevant than ever

›The Day Was Our Enemy, the Night Our Friend‹ is a powerful and deeply humane account by Holocaust survivor Eisik Arthur Joffe. With clarity and emotional force, he tells of a Jewish life shaped by war, ghetto, capture, flight, and resistance – a life driven to the brink of annihilation and yet sustained by an unbroken will to survive. For the first time, his son, the renowned journalist Josef Joffe, together with his wife Christine Joffe, has brought these memoirs into contemporary language and expanded them with reflections on growing up in the shadow of this history.

Eisik Arthur Joffe was born in what is now Belarus, where antisemitism was already a powerful force between World War I and II and his life was shaped by poverty, and ever-shifting political realities. When World War II breaks out, he faces Soviet repression and then German occupation – experiencing forced ghettoization, mass shootings, and deportation. Multiple times, he narrowly escapes death thanks to his courage, random luck, and the help of a few individuals. He breaks out of camps, joins partisan fighters, and survives in forest hideouts with his wife, where their son is born in 1944. After escaping, Joffe's journey leads to West Berlin – in the land of the perpetrators, Germany. Now a divided city, Berlin unexpectedly becomes a place of refuge and rebuilding.

Josef Joffe's own life begins in the shadow of all of this. He weaves together his father's and family's persecution with his own post-war biography and successful integration, resulting in a moving dialogue between generations.

The fate of Eisik Arthur Joffe is not simply another tale of victimhood, but a hypnotic account of resistance and fierce defiance against pervasive antisemitism. This book intertwines one man's survival story with the larger narrative of East European Jewish history.

UPCOMING
2027

Tobias Hürter

The Loneliness of Truth • Kurt Gödel and the History of Modern Mathematics

400 pages, Hardcover

February 2027

ISBN 978-3-608-96622-0

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Please note option publishers

A Beautiful Mind – One of the Greatest Mathematical Geniuses of the 20th Century: Between Love, Madness, and the Search for Truth

Vienna in the interwar period: between coffeehouses and artistic avant-garde, the shy student Kurt Gödel evolves into one of the greatest thinkers of the 20th century—and shakes the foundations of science. With a close focus on the people, Tobias Hürter tells the story of a brilliant mind and the search for truth, love, and belonging.

What is truth? For Kurt Gödel, it is an invisible foundation, even where logic reaches its limits. In 1930, he proved that truth is not always provable, yet still exists, shaking science's belief in complete consistency.

Framed by his turbulent life, Tobias Hürter tells the story of a monumental idea: the search for truth. As Europe descends into crisis, Gödel flees to the U.S., losing himself in formulas, gripped by paranoia. Only his love for his wife Adele and his friendship with Albert Einstein sustain him. Yet the ordered world of mathematics offers no refuge from life.

A narrative masterpiece of passion, love, and intellectual courage.

- ›The Age of Uncertainty‹ sold more than 50,000 copies in Germany alone

Tobias Hürter, born in 1972, studied philosophy and mathematics in Munich and Berkeley. He then worked as an editor at MIT Technology Review and *Die Zeit*, and served as deputy editor-in-chief of the philosophy magazine *Hohe Luft*, which he co-founded. Today he works as a freelance journalist, writing for *Hohe Luft* and *Zeit Wissen*, among others.



GLOBAL
BESTSELLING
AUTHOR

TOBIAS HÜRTER
DAS
ZEITALTER
DER
UNSCHÄRFE

Die glänzenden und die
dunklen Jahre der Physik
1895–1945

Tobias Hürter

**The Age of Uncertainty • How Physics
Changed the Way We See the World,
1895 – 1945**

400 pages, Hardcover

November 2021

ISBN 978-3-608-98372-2

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(Books in the Attic), Sweden (Bonniers),
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**The epic, page-turning history
of how a group of physicists
toppled the Newtonian uni-
verse in the early decades of
the 20th century**

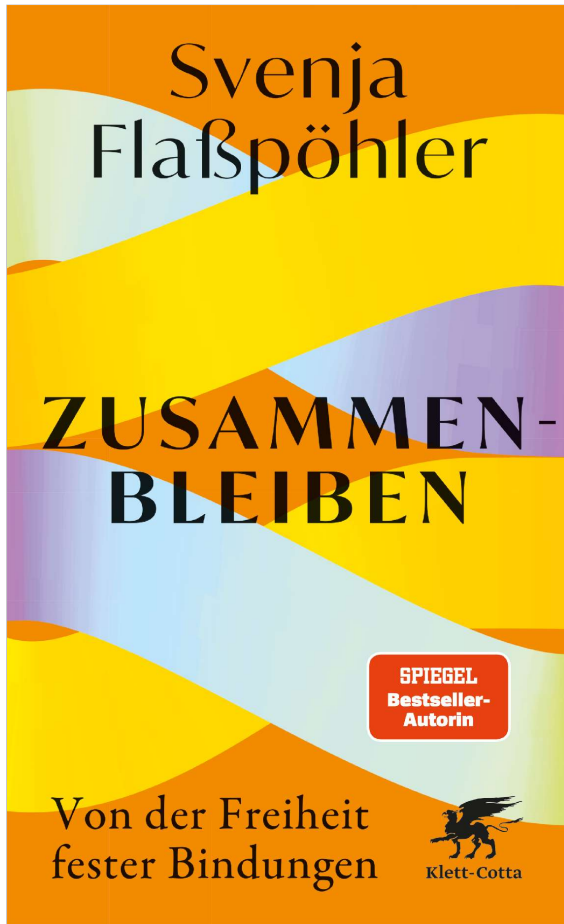
»A compelling and well-crafted book. [...] It
invites readers to experience firsthand the
scientific revolution of the early 20th cen-
tury.« *Süddeutsche Zeitung*

Marie Curie, Max Planck, Niels Bohr, Werner Heisenberg, Ernst Schrödinger and Albert Einstein didn't only revolutionize physics; they redefined our world and the reality we live in. In ›The Age of Uncertainty‹, Tobias Hürter immerses us in a half century of global turmoil against which some of humankind's greatest and strangest scientific discoveries unfolded, expertly guiding us through the brilliant and mind-bending ideas that turned the world on its head. He brings to life the golden age of physics and its dazzling, flawed, and unforgettable heroes and heroines. The men and women who made these discoveries were intellectual adventurers, renegades, dandies, and nerds, some bound together by deep friendship, others by bitter enmity. But the age of relativity theory and quantum mechanics was also the age of wars and revolutions. The discovery of radioactivity transformed science but also led to the horrors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Throughout ›The Age of Uncertainty‹, Hürter reminds us about the entanglement of science and world events, for we cannot observe the world without changing it.

- For readers of Stephen Hawking and Wolfram Eilenberger
- Selected by New Books in German

»Creating vivid imagery is a skill: Tobias Hürter takes us through the era when physicists were formulating their groundbreaking theories.« Claus Kiefer, FAZ, January 11, 2022



Svenja Flaßpöhler

Staying Together • On the Freedom of Lasting Bonds

272 pages, Hardcover

September 2026

ISBN 978-3-608-96646-6

Rights handled by Gaeb & Eggers Literary Agency (World)

English sample available

Please note option publishers

What if staying together is the highest form of freedom?

The choices available to us today raise the question in relationships: why stay when you can always leave? An intimate book about the art of realising oneself as a couple in the long term without falling into the trap of self-deception or submission. Drawing on her own relationship history, philosopher and bestselling author Svenja Flaßpöhler explores how only the freedom to part can make genuine closeness possible.

Growing old together – in an age of high separation rates, polyamory, and the constant search for the next »match« – can seem like an outdated model of life. But what if within this seemingly outdated model lies an overlooked form of freedom?

In her reading of Søren Kierkegaard, who sought to argue for the freedom within commitment yet denied women equality, Svenja Flaßpöhler expands his male-centered existentialism to include a female perspective. She turns to the fault lines of modern relationships: the tension between habit and desire, between the weight of reality and the pull of possibility. For her, the freedom to leave is what makes it possible to truly stay — not from convention or compulsion, but as a conscious act of courage, even when it means confronting oneself.

- **SPIEGEL Bestselling author**
- **For readers of Byung-Chul Han, Alain de Botton & Eva Illouz**

»Deeply personal and extremely clever.« Die Welt about Svenja Flaßpöhler

Svenja Flaßpöhler, born in 1975, is the editor-in-chief of the »Philosophie Magazin«. She holds a PhD in Philosophy and worked as a literary critic and senior editor on television and radio. Together with Wolfram Eilenberger she conceptualizes the program of Phil.cologne, Germany's largest festival for philosophy. Her previous book »The Potent Woman« became a bestseller. Her works have been translated into several languages. Flaßpöhler lives with her family in Berlin.



Svenja Flaßpöhler

SORE SUBJECTS • On Sensitivity and the Modern Self

240 pages, Hardcover

October 2021

ISBN 978-3-608-98335-7

Rights handled by Gaeb & Eggers Literary Agency (World)

English sample available

Rights sold to: Japan (Ikubundo), Italy (Nottetempo), China (Beijing Imaginist), The Netherlands (Ten Have), Spain (Herder)

Where are the limits of what can be said and what we can ask of one another?

We are constantly readjusting the limits of what is appropriate. Svenja Flaßpöhler illuminates the conflict's glowing core: the increasing sensitization of the self and of society.

In human history, sensitivity equals progress: human beings learned to protect each other in their vulnerability, they became more sensitive to their own and others' feelings, learned to empathize with others' fates and to show solidarity with one another. But this development has a downside: instead of connecting us, today, our sensitivity often seems to be fragmenting society. Are we experiencing the tipping point of sensitization?

Svenja Flaßpöhler tells the history of the modern sensitive self from a philosophical perspective: from the origins of the enlightenment and the dialectic of rationalism in the 19th century to postmodern emotionalization. Hume, Rousseau, Tocqueville, Nietzsche, Lévinas, Butler. They all have their say. By taking a step back and tracing the outlines of this process, Flaßpöhler illuminates the central controversies of our time, and works out the reasons for the precarious imbalance: Resilience is considered the enemy of sensitivity just because, still today, it is associated with cold entrenchment. But is that really true? In the end, we realize that resilience is in fact sensitivity's sister. They can only master the future together.

Flaßpöhler has written a highly relevant, entertaining and enlightening book on the border between philosophy, psychology and sociology.

»Svenja Flaßpöhler is one of the most interesting philosophers of the younger generation in Germany.« ORF1



© Maximilian Gödecke Photography

After her Spiegel bestseller ›Female Choice‹, biologist Meike Stoverock returns with a bold new inquiry into what makes us tick – and why society struggles to change. In a highly accessible style, ›Human Nature‹ bridges the gap between biological science and social progress, offering both a wake-up call and a reason for hope.

Meike Stoverock holds a degree in biology and works as an author and blogger in Berlin. In her highly acclaimed bestseller ›Female Choice‹, published in 2021, she addresses the suppression of female sexuality. In her new book, ›Human Nature‹, she explores broader societal issues related to progress and change.



Meike Stoverock

Human Nature • On the Limits of Social Change

256 pages, Hardcover

January 2027

ISBN 978-3-608-50297-8

Meike Stoverock's previous work ›Female Choice‹ (2021) has been sold to: Korea (Eco Livres), Italy (Lit)

Why Homo Bestialis and Homo Culturalis Must Join Hands

Is there a universal human nature? How free and reason-based is our behaviour really? Bestselling author and biologist Meike Stoverock tackles the highly topical question of the limits of free will. Blending neuroscience, psychology, and cultural theory, she explores the possibilities that lie in a deeper understanding of human behaviour – and shows how we can harness these insights to drive the societal change we so urgently need.

We supposedly live in an age of reason: we have access to more knowledge than ever before, and our models of the future are growing ever more precise. Yet as a society we seem to be stuck – climate change continues unchecked, the gap between rich and poor is widening, populism is on the rise worldwide, and true gender equality remains a distant goal. Social progress cannot be forced through good arguments and sophisticated studies alone – that is, on a purely rational level.

In ›Human Nature‹, Meike Stoverock demonstrates with striking clarity that biological influences must take a far more prominent place in public discourse. The truth is: free decisions and rational action exist only within the bounds of physical constraints and psychological self-awareness. Meike Stoverock resolves the supposed contradiction between emotion and reason, opening up entirely new perspectives for the future.

- **More than 50,000 copies sold of ›Female Choice‹ in Germany alone**



© Maximilian Gödecke

»You only have to look at Elisa von Hof's work, read a few of her pieces, and immediately recognize it: here is someone who effortlessly brings together different worlds of culture, always with a strong social and political perspective. No wonder the nominations praise her ›tireless commitment‹ and call her ›a great asset‹.« Jury statement for the Top 30 under 30 talents in German journalism

Elisa von Hof, born in 1991, studied German literature and history in Berlin. She has reported from Washington D.C. for dpa in the past and written for SPIEGEL Online, Capital, ZDF, and the Berliner Morgenpost among others. After holding various positions, she has been working as deputy section head in the culture section of SPIEGEL since November 2023. She is ranked among the Top 30 Under 30 in journalism and has been awarded the German Reporter Award.



Elisa von Hof

(In)Visible Muses • Women Who Changed Our World

400 pages, Hardcover

September 2026

ISBN 978-3-608-96705-0

English sample available

A feminist counter-narrative of 20th century cultural history

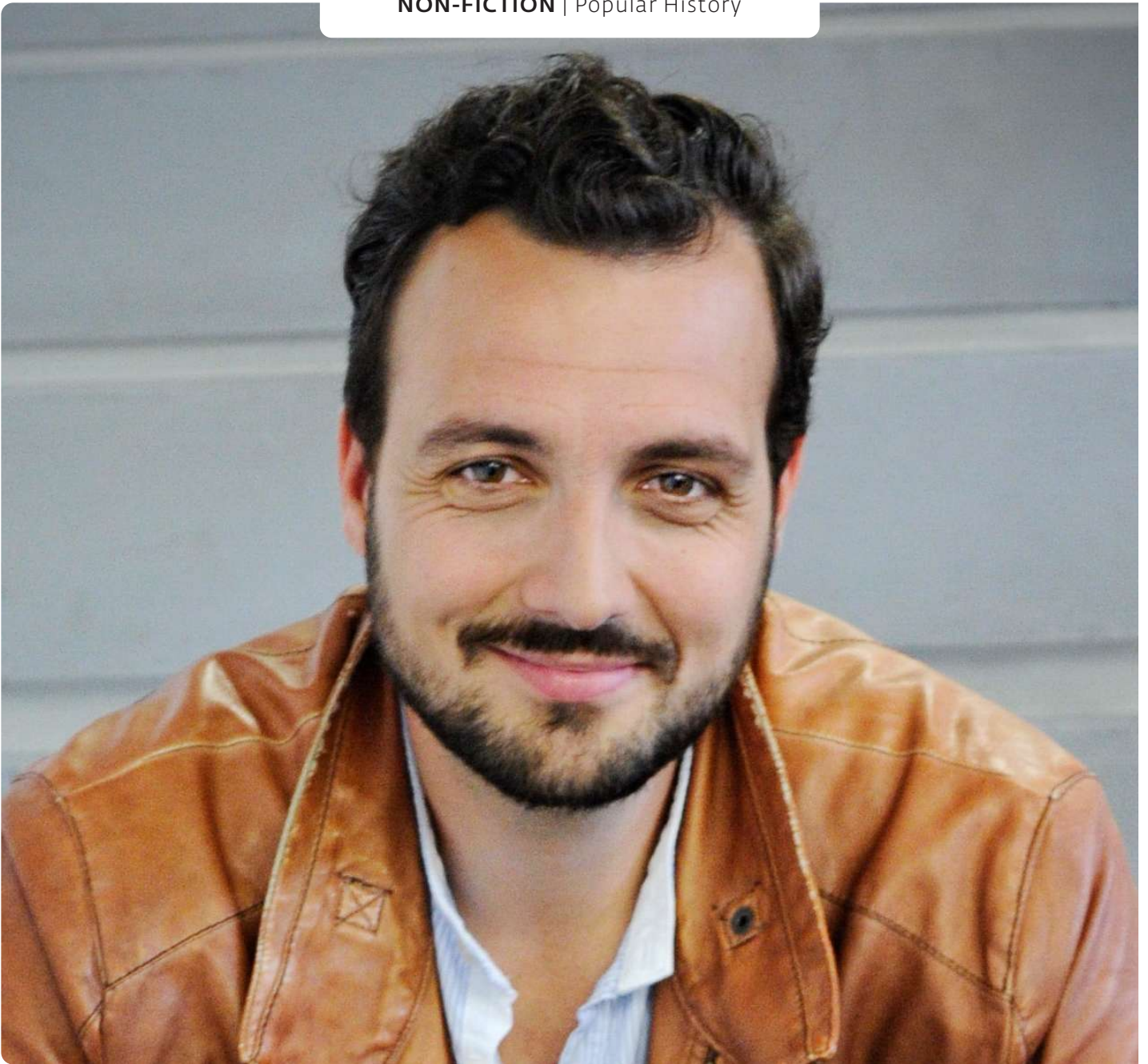
What would famous painters, poets, composers and pop stars have become without the muses who inspired, comforted, challenged, guided or loved them? From ancient goddesses to Gala and Dalí, Claudel and Rodin, Karina and Godard, Sedgwick and Warhol, award-winning journalist Elisa von Hof blends meticulous research with gripping storytelling to reveal the women who shaped our art and culture but remain largely uncredited and unseen.

When we hear the word *muse*, what comes to mind? Perhaps a young, beautiful woman, half-draped on a chaise longue while a man paints or photographs her. It's no wonder: this image has been deeply imprinted on our collective memory by artists like Titian, Courbet, Manet, Matisse, and many others. The muse appears as model, inspiration, lover, and projection surface for the supposedly solitary male genius.

The idea of this isolated male creator, however, is far more recent than it might seem. Over the years, it has pushed aside the many people who organized, supported and made artistic work possible – most of them women and at times men as well. It turned their contributions into something ornamental with the traces of that sidelining still visible to this day.

Elisa von Hof draws back the curtain, questions long-held assumptions about art and culture and brings into focus those who remain absent from the official credits, even though their work and, in many cases, their suffering allowed these celebrated creations to come into being.

- For readers of Rebekka Endler's *Witches, Bitches, It-Girls*



© Manfred Esser

1933: a year that shaped the world. Told through a transatlantic lens, this gripping panorama of liberty, fear and responsibility is startlingly relevant right to this day

Johannes Ehrmann, born in 1983, is an editor at *ZEIT* and the author of several non-fiction books. He studied American Studies and History in Berlin and Philadelphia, and his journalistic work has been recognized with awards including the Theodor Wolff Prize. He lives in Berlin.



Johannes Ehrmann

America 33 • The great crisis of freedom

256 pages, Hardcover

August 2026

ISBN 978-3-608-96696-1

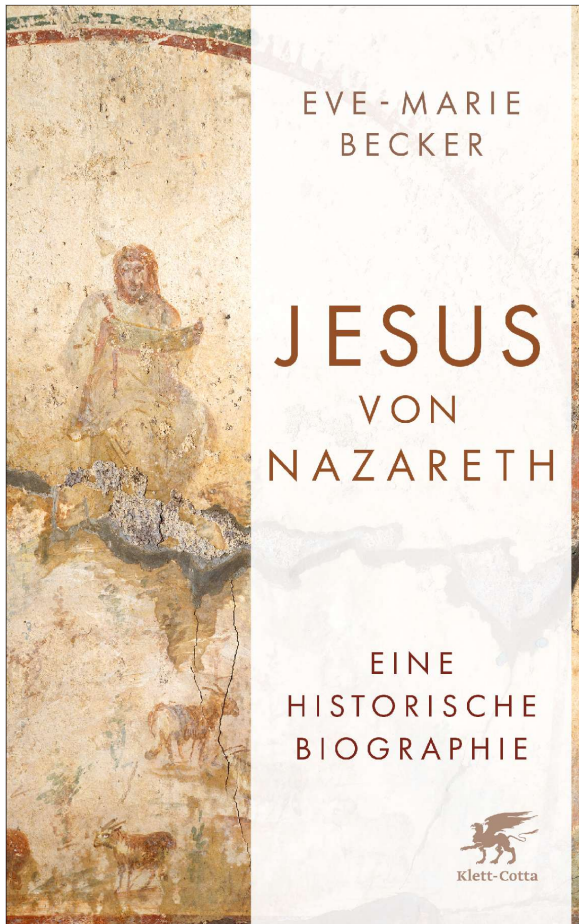
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ZEIT editor Johannes Ehrmann combines precise research with narrative history and brings the year 1933 to life as a transatlantic drama

March 1933: While Hitler destroys German democracy, America turns inward. Xenophobia prevents increased immigration, then as now, and the country faces a breaking point. The German exiles must choose where they stand: Is it enough to save one's own skin while the homeland sinks into terror and dictatorship? Johannes Ehrmann tells the great fateful year of the Western world for the first time from a transatlantic perspective. A vividly portrayed panorama about freedom, fear, and responsibility, shockingly relevant today.

The free world stands on the brink in 1933. While the Nazis brutally persecute their opponents, America is mired in crisis. One in four people is unemployed, and Franklin D. Roosevelt governs more authoritatively than any president before him. And yet, the United States becomes a refuge - for Albert Einstein, hunted by the Nazis with a bounty on his head; for George Grosz, who, from America, fears for his sons in Berlin. Marlene Dietrich is courted in Hollywood by Goebbels. Max Schmeling allows himself to be used for Hitler's purposes before his fight against the Jew Max Baer. Meanwhile, First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt is in love with a woman: and desperately tries to bring more Jewish refugees into the country. But antisemitism and fear of migration poison the atmosphere.

Johannes Ehrmann tells this German-American panorama of the fateful year 1933 with the sweep and suspense of a compelling novel.



Eve-Marie Becker

Jesus of Nazareth • A historical biography

352 pages, Hardcover

November 2026

ISBN 978-3-608-96623-7

English sample available

A groundbreaking work, placing the historical figure of Jesus at its center in a way only few historical accounts have managed

Eve-Marie Becker managed to write a major biography and a book about Jesus as a historical figure: critically examined, historically grounded, based on extensive international scholarly exchange, and written in a highly accessible style.

Eve-Marie Becker takes her readers right into the heart of Jesus' real life: his childhood in Nazareth, his formative time with John the Baptist in the desert, and his ministry among his first followers in Galilee. She vividly describes the surprising power of his message of the »Kingdom of God« but also brings to life Jesus' daily life, his healings, and his closeness to the marginalized. Closely based on the historical sources, the book traces both the escalating conflicts with the religious and political authorities and the dramatic events in Jerusalem, from the Temple confrontation to the crucifixion.

Eve-Marie Becker consistently approaches Jesus through the lens of his life story – from his childhood and youth in Galilee, through his ministry, to his violent death. A historical biography that brings this journey vividly to life.

- **A historical biography based on latest research**
- **Focussing on the historical figure of Jesus – a complete biography rather than a fragmentary reconstruction**
- **The author is an internationally renowned scholar in her field**

Eve-Marie Becker, born in 1972, is a professor of New Testament studies at the University of Münster. From 2006 to 2018, she conducted research and taught in Denmark, the United States, and Israel. One of her research interests is early Christian literary history and historiography. Previous publications: https://www.uni-muenster.de/EvTheol/personen/becker_eve-marie.shtml



Hubertus Heil

The Rise of the Autocrats • Defending democracy against enemies from within and without

304 pages, Hardcover

October 2026

ISBN 978-3-608-98975-5

Authoritarian regimes. Big Tech. The global far right. The threads connecting them are more dangerous, and more deliberate, than we realise. Hubertus Heil brings rare insider authority to this story

Europe is under pressure: authoritarian regimes, digital manipulation, economic dependencies, and the rise of the far right are taking their toll on an exhausted public. Hubertus Heil vividly describes how hybrid attacks – ranging from disinformation to influence networks to geo-economic levers – are undermining our democracy. At the same time, he points out ways in which democracies can renew and protect themselves: a highly topical book about the future of our freedom.

A fake news portal, Chinese investments in European ports, powerful tech conglomerates, and a far-right party in Germany that spreads Putin's narrative. None of this is coincidental; rather, it is part of a geopolitical power struggle that poses a massive threat to the freedom of democratic societies. Hubertus Heil unpacks the broader context, analyzing Russian influence operations, Chinese power projection, and the connections between the New Right in Germany and Trumpism in the U.S. In a vivid and knowledgeable manner, he describes how hybrid warfare, economic pressure, digital platforms, and ideological alliances become weapons.

The author combines personal experience and insider knowledge from the inner workings of politics with highly topical issues. A political book about the new systemic competition and what we must do now to preserve democracies.

Hubertus Heil, born in 1972, is a political scientist and has been a member of the German Bundestag since 1998. From 2018 to 2025, he served as Federal Minister of Labor and Social Affairs. He is currently a member of the German Bundestag's Foreign Affairs Committee, researching and having access to extensive insider knowledge.



Manuela Müller

The Young Are Drawing Swastikas Again • On the Radicalization of a Generation

240 pages, Softcover

ISBN 978-3-608-50298-5 | July 2026

Everywhere we look, children are increasingly caught between the desire for harmony and radicalization. Also in today's East Germany, far-right symbols and attitudes are becoming increasingly normalized in everyday life. Journalist Manuela Müller paints a picture of this German region marked by collective trauma, a lack of political education, and a youth that is discovering right-wing ideology as a way of life. She asks whether we have lost control of a generation and calls for concrete measures before the walls in people's minds become even more entrenched.

Manuela Müller has been working as a reporter for the Freie Presse in Chemnitz since the 2000s. She has received the German Reporter Award several times for her social commentary pieces, winning in the »Best Essay« category in 2024 and for »Best Local Reporting« in 2025. She was also nominated for the Theodor Wolff Prize.



Jens Nordalm

Germany • The Underestimated Country. A tribute

192 pages, Softcover

ISBN 978-3-7681-9856-1 | October 2026

For more than two decades, Jens Nordalm has served as a speechwriter at the highest levels of German politics, writing for chancellors, cabinet ministers, and federal presidents. Drawing on this unique insider perspective, he offers a fresh and optimistic assessment of Germany today. At a time of growing political polarization and cultural pessimism, his book makes the case for a more confident view of the country and its future.

Jens Nordalm, born in 1969, is a historian, literary scholar, and philosopher. He writes cultural essays, books, and speeches.

»Just the right book at the right time.« Florian Illies

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