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Spring 2026

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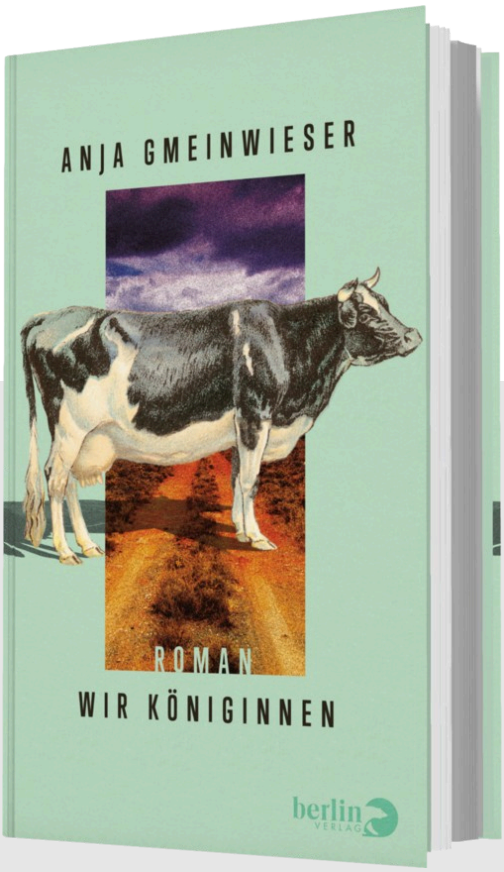
Piper Verlag Gmbh • Georgenstraße 4 • 80799 Munich, Germany • phone +49 (0)89 38 01-123 • www.piper.de

"If you throw away your phone, you can do anything!"

A road novel about two women and a herd of cows travelling all the way to the EU border

Literary Fiction

"These two women are not just characters in a novel; they embody solidarity, hope, and rebellion. *Us Queens* is a fireworks display of ideas. This is the kind of book we've been missing!" —Mareike Fallwickl



Anja Gmeinwieser
Us Queens
224 pages ▪ 12,8 × 21 cm
ISBN 978-3-8270-1528-0
World Rights available
03/2026

A woman is hiking through the Alps, her restless thoughts circling without relief. Then the pragmatic truck driver Anna crosses her path, transporting a load of pregnant cows. A spontaneous "I'll come along" turns into a shared journey towards Turkey. Amid dust and heat, the two very different women struggle to understand one another: their conversations, aided by a sometimes hallucinatory phone translator, uncover the poetry of everyday life. Anna juggles motherhood and work, while her quiet companion loses herself in doubt. A day at the lake brings brief harmony, but the death of a cow casts a long shadow. At the EU border, where cows and dreams alike come to a halt, their odyssey culminates in an act of liberation.

© Linda Sier

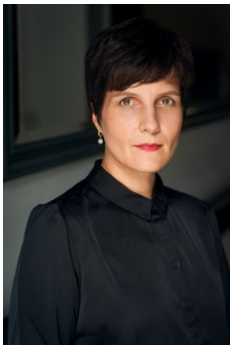
Anja Gmeinwieser, born in 1989, studied social work as well as political, theatre, and media studies in Munich and Erlangen. In 2018/19, she was shortlisted for the Wortmeldungen-Förderpreis, participated in the novel workshop at the Literaturhaus München in 2022–2023, and was a finalist at the open mike in 2023. She lives near Nuremberg.

The beginning of the major crime series at zero hour

- Berlin, the Hunger Winter of 1946: Crime flourishes
- For fans of the Gereon-Rath-Series by Volker Kutscher
- Total sales of the author: over 500,000 copies

English Sample Available

The war is over, but in bombed-out and starving Berlin, people struggle to survive in four occupation zones and grapple with their complicity in the Nazi regime. Detective Alfred König is faced with a woman's corpse in the snow. Young photographer Lou Faber discovers the body in the ruins and unwittingly contributes to the investigation with her photos. As Christmas Eve approaches, Lou cannot forget the folded hands of the dead woman. With her intuition, she helps König and senses a secret behind his silence that connects them. The discovery of more bodies puts the investigators under pressure and points them in a new direction— back to the past. A post-war crime novel, historically precise, moving, and thrilling!



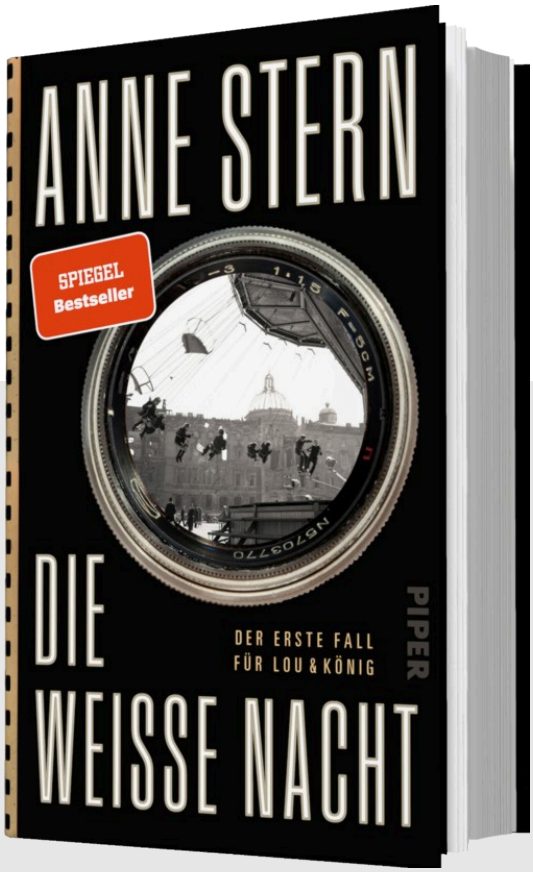
© Heike Steinweg

Anne Stern, born in Berlin, holds a doctorate in German studies and history. Her historical novels about the Berlin midwife **Miss Gold** ("Fräulein Gold") consistently appear on the *Spiegel* bestseller list. She has a passion for archival research and a talent for creating complex characters. With **Lou & König**, she has created a new universe. She is particularly praised for her captivating and empathetic storytelling.

Press quotes for Anne Stern:

"You need warm gloves, mulled punch, and a long night, because Stern's smoothly plotted, coolly poetized, and psy-chologically finely spun story is hard to put down." - *Welt am Sonntag*

"How Anne Stern weaves these two characters and the rest of the multifaceted cast into the gripping plot makes for top-notch entertainment." - *Aachener Zeitung*



Anne Stern
The White Night
The First Case for Lou & König
400 pages ▪ 13,8 × 22 cm
ISBN 978-3-492-07461-2
World Rights available
01/2026

Portrait with crown: Lucian Freud paints the Queen

- About art, power, longing and the lies we tell ourselves
- The Queen's 100th birthday on 21 April 2026
- "Singer writes for passionate readers." *Elke Heidenreich*

An almost true story

Lea Singer
A Question of Format
160 pages ▪ 12,8 × 21 cm
ISBN 978-3-492-07460-5
World Rights available
03/2026

The story behind the creation of his most unusual painting: When Lucian Freud, grandson of Sigmund Freud, asks the Queen for permission to paint her portrait, he is nearly eighty and in the midst of a personal crisis. After Lady Diana's fatal accident, Queen Elizabeth II faces a major image problem. Although Freud is considered unpredictable, she agrees and sits for him in long monthly sessions from May 2000 to December 2001. The novel recounts what happened behind closed doors. The encounter between two of Britain's most prominent figures becomes an exploration of carefully guarded secrets – and an adventure in radically new experience and self-discovery. A fascinating relationship novel, meticulously researched and subtly imagined.

© Jacques Schumacher

Lea Singer studied art history, music and literary studies. The author, who also publishes biographies under her real name Eva Gesine Baur, is as successful with her novels – many of them centred on historical figures – as she is with her biographical works. She lives in Munich.

Daughter, mother, woman: emancipation with a cigarette

- From Herzogenaurach to the world: the economic miracle, rebellion, motherhood and freedom
- More than 80,000 copies sold of Aunt Martl ("Tante Martl")

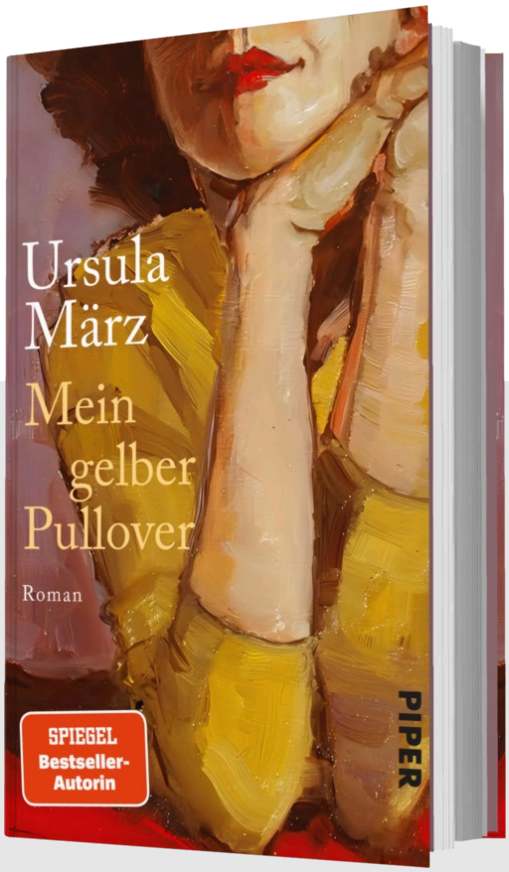
Literary Fiction

Her childhood in Middle Franconia with class-conscious neighbours, a holiday on Stromboli with a failed attempt to climb the volcano, and her love of independence all flow into a story shaped by the narrator's central life motif: caring for children, whether her own daughter or a mysterious English girl. We observe her as a freedom-seeking yet anxious daughter, a mother prone to small lapses, and a passionate former smoker. After her bestseller *Aunt Martl* ("Tante Martl"), Ursula März once again draws on her own family history – a moving novel of a life.

© Fabian Schellhorn

Ursula März, born in 1957 in Herzogenaurach, worked for 30 years as a literary critic and cultural journalist for outlets including *Frankfurter Rundschau* and *DIE ZEIT*. After two short-story collections, her first novel **Aunt Martl** ("Tante Martl", 2019) became a German bestseller.

Aunt Martl
192 pages ▪ 12,8 × 21 cm
ISBN 978-3-492-05981-7
World Rights available



Ursula März
My Yellow Jumper
176 pages ▪ 12,8 × 21 cm
ISBN 978-3-492-07441-4
World Rights available
02/2026

There are good reasons to be brave!

- Resistance against the far-right threat
- A compelling queer story from contemporary eastern Germany
- “Gently and with keen observation, Res Sigusch recounts the attempt at a perfectly ordinary life in a not-so-ordinary time, allowing us something only literature can do: to look inside other people’s heads.”—Verena Keßler, author of *Gym*

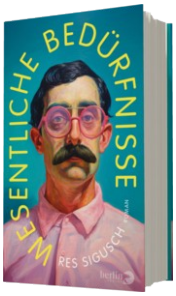
Literary Fiction

Res Sigusch
Groundless Fears
240 pages ▪ 12,8 × 21 cm
ISBN 978-3-8270-1531-0
World Rights available
02/2026

Christian Lotz, 30, lives alone and has scarcely ever left his hometown in Saxony. He meets his parents for Sunday brunch and works at a gym during the week. On the outside he’s a muscular heart-throb – his mother says he looks like young Beckham – but inside he’s riddled with worry: What do people think of him? Why can’t he find a man? How should he face climate change and the rise of the far right? When an accident pushes his fear into full-blown panic, he has to learn to separate genuine threats from baseless anxieties. The solution lies in real human connection, conversation, and standing up for each other.

© Jasper J. Maurer | www.jasperjmaurer.com

Res Sigusch, born in 1993 in Jena and raised in Zwickau, studied philosophy and literary studies at FU Berlin as well as creative writing in Hildesheim, and debuted in 2024 with the novel **Fundamental Needs** (“Wesentliche Bedürfnisse”). They live in Berlin.



Fundamental Needs
272 pages ▪ 12,8 × 21 cm
ISBN 978-3-8270-1504-4
World Rights available

The longest love of life: mothers and daughters

About identity, the search for one's origins, and the impact of family wounds

For readers of Caroline Peters and Alena Schröder

Commercial Fiction

Alma and Isabell are nobody's daughters. Alma grows up in the 1980s in the Eifel region, but the intelligent and curious girl feels out of place in her family, who run a bakery there. The truth about her origins is shrouded in silence. Many years later, Isabell also deeply misses her mother. This void in her past affects her present, her emotions, her thoughts, and her own family life. Between Polaroids, lies, and lost dreams, a family secret unfolds that connects the two women across generations and only comes to light decades later. A novel about what we lose, what remains, and the strength to seek one's own happiness.

© Marcus Höhn

Judith Hoersch spent much of her childhood in her grandparents' bakery and vividly remembers the smell of fresh bread and yeast. She began writing as a child, influenced by her father, who worked as a journalist and wrote artist profiles. Today, the actress lives in Berlin with her partner and her daughter and writes novels and screenplays.

The author on her novel:

"I am both a daughter and a mother, and these eternal bonds occupy my thoughts. The novel explores the profound influence mothers have on their daughters – whether through words or silence, presence or absence. Through my four characters, I have tried to delve into how our mothers shape us and what we pass on in turn. It was a wonderfully intense and fascinating journey, and I warmly invite you to join me on it."

Judith Hoersch
Nobody's Daughters
384 pages ▪ 12,8 × 21 cm
ISBN 978-3-492-07369-1
World Rights available
02/2026

Seven summer days that change everything

- An utterly authentic young voice: ‘Tschick’ for a new generation
- A captivating and moving coming-of-age novel about two marginalised boys who become brothers

Coming-of-Age

Lukas Mi-Sa Nguyễn Egger
Maybe in Summer
272 pages ▪ 12,8 × 21 cm
ISBN 978-3-492-07383-7
World Rights available
05/2026

"Outside, they're staring at me. Like semi-detached houses seeing a tower block for the first time." Summer 2007: Fifteen-year-old Kian, raised by his small-time criminal father, ends up in a children's home after a tragic blow of fate. He knows immediately that he cannot stay. During a night-time escape attempt he meets Marco, who has entirely different reasons for running away. After lonely and harsh years in an orphanage, he has learned that he has a half-sister living on the North Sea coast. When the two very different boys manage to break out together, an adventurous journey towards the sea begins. They revel in their newfound freedom. Above all, they discover for the first time what it means to have a family and to stand by one another.

© Micha Roth

Lukas Mi-Sa Nguyễn Egger, born in 2000, has been writing since childhood. Some of his texts become songs that he composes himself. In his master’s thesis, he researched poverty in Germany with a particular focus on children and young people. He now lives in Karlsruhe, where he writes, sings, and works in the social sector. This is his debut novel.

No way out. No escape.

- How far would you go to save someone?
- The volume of the breathtaking *Donkerbloem* trilogy.
- Total sales at Piper: 200,000 copies

Bestselling Thriller

Camp Donkerbloem was a brutal place with a brutal past. But now the remote campsite deep in the Ardennes has a new owner, Wout Meertens, and a new manager in former boxer Tayfun. Just as a more peaceful chapter seems about to begin, a disturbing killer is terrorising people hundreds of kilometres away. When Hamburg detective Frieda Stahnke becomes the killer's next target, there is only one place she can think of where no one would look for her: Donkerbloem. Although Wout, who wants nothing to do with the police, is furious, Tayfun stands by Frieda's side – unaware that with her, evil is returning to the camp …

© Marc Hillesheim

Linus Geschke lives in Cologne and has written for leading German magazines and newspapers, including *Spiegel Online* and the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Sonntagszeitung*. His thrillers **The Loft** ("Das Loft"), **The Hidden** ("Die Verborgenen") and most recently **The Trailer** ("Der Trailer") spent many weeks on the *Spiegel* bestseller list.

Linus Geschke
The Camp
(Donkerbloem 2)
416 pages ▪ 13,6 × 20,5 cm
ISBN 978-3-492-06862-8
World Rights available
02/2026

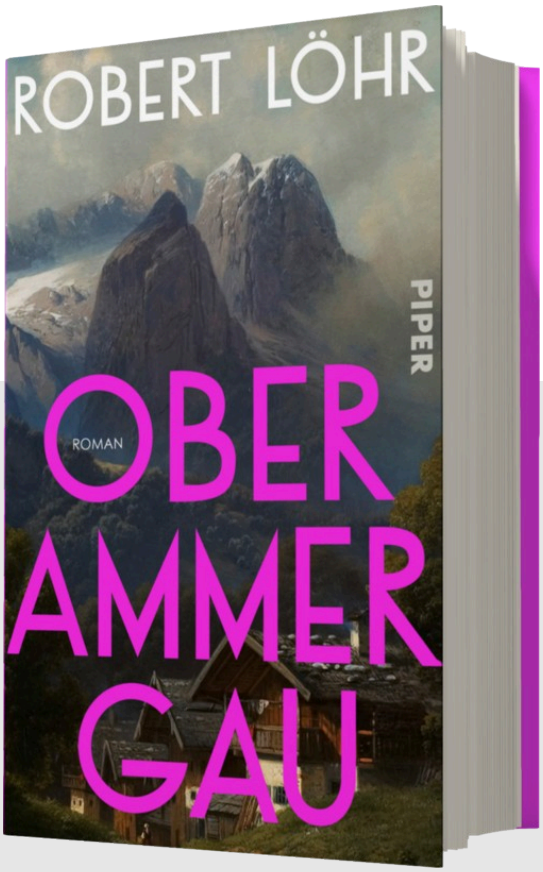
The Trailer
416 pages ▪ 13,6 × 20,5 cm
ISBN 978-3-492-06861-1
World Rights available

The Gorge
ca. 416 pages ▪ 13,6 × 20,5 cm
ISBN 978-3-492-06863-5
World Rights available

A village struggles for salvation

- War and plague, murder and mayhem—and a divine miracle
- A visually stunning novel about the birth of the Oberammergau Passion Play
- By the author of *The Chess Machine* ("Der Schachautomat"), translated into 25 different languages

English Sample Available



Robert Löhr
Oberammergau
480 pages ▪ 13,8 × 22 cm
ISBN 978-3-492-07408-7
World Rights available
03/2026

In the midst of the Thirty Years' War, Oberammergau is struck by the plague—until the village vows to perform the Passion of Christ from now until eternity if God spares them. The inexperienced pastor Johannes is tasked with organizing the play. In no time, he must transform farmers and shepherds into apostles and Romans—without costumes, a stage, or a script. He also faces a formidable opponent: village leader Agnes, who has lost both her children to the plague, hates God, and does everything to thwart the plan. Soon, the village is divided into friends and foes of the Passion. Johannes must move heaven and earth to overcome Agnes, the plague, and his own doubts.

© Jacobia Dahm

Robert Löhr, born in 1973, is a versatile writer. He writes screenplays, plays, musicals, radio dramas—and novels that have been translated into 25 languages. His historical narratives combine meticulous research with gripping storytelling. Thanks to his work as an actor and director, he knows how to captivate audiences during his readings. He lives in his hometown of Berlin.

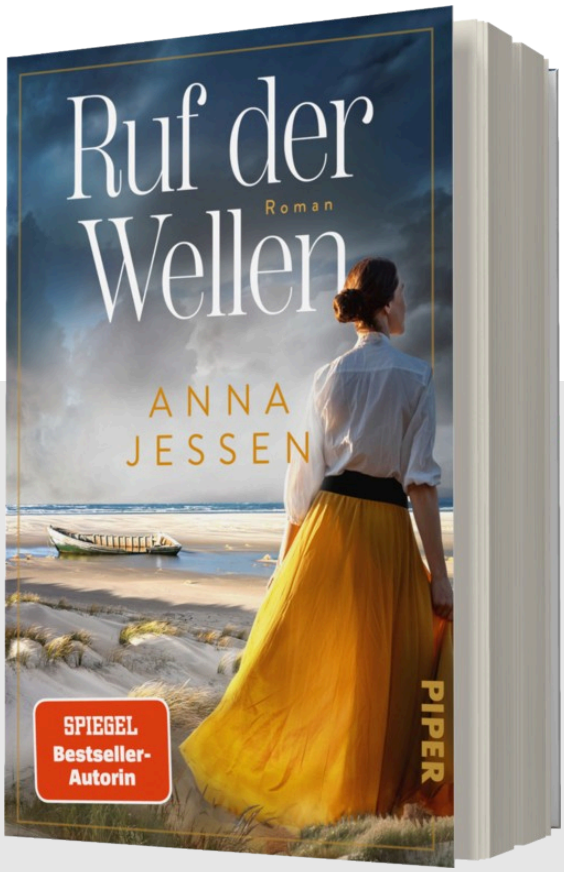
Two islands, two fates and one great love

A breathtaking series opener about the fragility of the world

A geologist finds happiness on an island threatened by the sea

Commercial Fiction

Borkum, 1855: Pressed close together for shelter from the raging storm, Grete, her three young children, and the other women and children of the island huddle inside the dark church tower, the only tall building around. Their men are outside, braving the rising waves to save the little they own. When the dike breaks, Grete knows she must not lose courage.
One hundred and fifty years later, young geologist Helen arrives on Borkum to write her doctoral thesis on the shifting movements of the East Frisian islands. To her, nature is beautiful and fascinating. Only when she meets Carl, whose family has lived here for centuries, does Helen begin to understand what it truly means to live on an island …



Anna Jessen loves the north, its islands and its people. Whenever she can, she spends time by the sea and on the water. Her coastal series has stormed the bestseller lists. Now, with **The Wandering Islands** ("Die wandernden Inseln"), she returns to the North Sea. The idea for this series came to her when she discovered on old nautical maps that many islands had shifted their position, others looked completely different, and some no longer existed at all.

Anna Jessen
Call of the Waves
(The Wandering Islands 1)
480 pages ▪ 12,6 × 19 cm
ISBN 978-3-492-32341-3
World Rights available
03/2026

Song of the Wind
ca. 496 pages ▪ 12,6 × 19 cm
ISBN 978-3-492-32342-0
World Rights available

Romantic, atmospheric, captivating

Does the new owner spell the end of the book villa, the refuge for all who love books?

For fans of Manuela Inusa

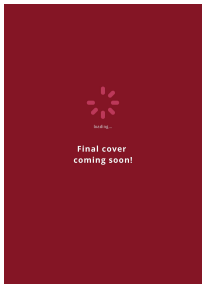
Feel-good Fiction

Annette Keller
The Enchanted Book Villa on Silver Lane
(Books & Breakfast 1)
ca. 337 pages ▪ 12,1 × 18,5 cm
ISBN 978-3-492-32171-6
World Rights available
07/2026

Harvest House is a charming refuge for people and for books. In the enchanting villa, authors with scholarships can complete their debut works, and at the edge of the garden bookbinder Myla lives in a small cottage. But everything is suddenly at risk when the owner and benefactor of the book villa dies. The young—and unfortunately very attractive—heir clearly has very different plans for the villa on Silver Lane. Myla wants him gone immediately – until she realises that her heart has other ideas … The opening volume of the delightful Books & Breakfast series for lovers of England, books and romance.

© privat

Annette Keller, born in 1978 in Hamburg, studied German literature and art history in Bamberg and Rome. After working for several years as a publishing editor, she became a freelance author and has successfully published children's and young adult books. She lives with her family in Landshut.



Christmas Magic in the Little Book Villa
ca. 320 pages ▪ 12,1 × 18,5 cm
ISBN 978-3-492-32172-3
World Rights available

Sherlock Holmes meets Suffragette

Police assistant and detective: the true story of **Henriette Arendt** inspires a new historical crime series

Authentic, gripping, atmospheric

Historical Novel

Stuttgart, 1906: A desperate young girl forced into begging places all her hope in Sister Henny. The determined police assistant is known for standing up for the most vulnerable in society, yet far too often she is thwarted by her indifferent superiors. Only in bold, quick-witted Mitzi – who owes it to Henny that she was not labelled a prostitute – does she find an ally. When Mitzi discovers a flat where neglected-looking children repeatedly appear, Henny suspects child trafficking and risks everything to expose the culprits.

© Astrid Purkert

Helene Winter is the pseudonym of a successful German author who borrowed the name from her grandmother. As a writer, businesswoman and mother, **Helene Winter** has spent many years encouraging women and girls to take control of their lives and forge new paths, like the heroines of **The White House on the Rhine** ("Das weisse Haus am Rhein"). Not least as a reminder to her own daughter of how much has already been achieved, and how much more remains to be done.

The White House on the Rhine
480 pages ▪ 13,6 × 20,5 cm ▪ Paperback
ISBN 978-3-492-06285-5
Sold to: Czech Republic (Euromedia)

Helene Winter
The Beggar Girl
ca. 384 pages ▪ 13,6 × 20,5 cm
ISBN 978-3-492-06831-4
World Rights available
04/2026

Lost childhood, found home

- A moving novel about Anna Freud and her work with war orphans and traumatised children
- Total sales for Laura Baldini: over 300,000 copies

Historical Novel

Laura Baldini
And They Gave Them a Home
336 pages ▪ 13,8 × 22 cm
ISBN 978-3-492-07238-0
World Rights available
04/2026

London, 1987: While sorting through her mother's belongings, Rose discovers that her mother was adopted. Her search for the truth leads her to one of Anna Freud's wartime orphanages. There, in 1945, Helen, a Jewish woman who fled Vienna, cares for six children rescued from Theresienstadt—unaware that she is fatefully connected to one of the little girls. Only decades later will Rose uncover the dramatic truth and realise that the story of an unconditional friendship lives on in her.

© Dan. D. Joseph

Spiegel bestselling author **Laura Baldini**, also known as Beate Maly, continues to captivate readers with her biographical and historical novels. In addition to writing, she works as an early childhood educator. She lives in Vienna with her three children.

Teacher for a New Age
368 pages ▪ 13,6 × 20,5 cm ▪
Maria Montessori
ISBN 978-3-492-06240-4
Sold to: Ukraine (Fabula), Brazil (Melhoramentos), Bulgaria (Emas), Czech Republic (Euromedia), Estonia (Tänapäev), Finland (Bazar), Greece (Patakis), Hungary (Central Media), Italy (Piemme), Poland (Znak), Portugal (Alma dos Livros), Slovakia (Noxi), Slovenia (Ucila), Spain (Planeta), Russia

Asperger's Pupils
368 pages ▪ 13,8 × 22 cm
ISBN 978-3-492-07185-7
Sold to: Czech Republic (Euromedia)

Dive into the world of Billionaires' Row

A young woman searching for the truth. A mysterious billionaire heir who is closer to her than she thinks.

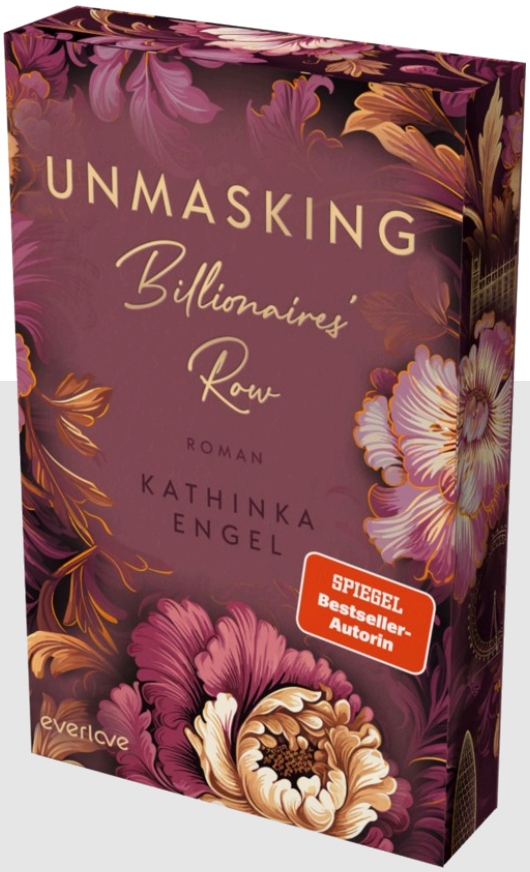
Total sales of the author: over 350,000 copies

More Romance in our everlove-catalogue!

Years after leaving, Kit Sterling returns to London's Billionaires' Row to uncover the truth about her late father. Among the ultra-rich, Kit has always felt like an outsider, but she hopes the powerful Melville family may hold the answers. She takes a job at Titan Media, their vast business empire – and ends up working with their insufferable heir, Killian. An unexpected attraction sparks between them, but the secrets of Billionaires' Row threaten to destroy everything …

© Marcus Höhn

Kathinka Engel studied general and comparative literature, and has since immersed herself in the world of books. Having worked for a literary agency, a literary magazine and as a translator and editor, with her first novel **Find Me. Now** ("Finde mich. Jetzt") she has now also proven herself as a bestselling author. She shares her passion for books on her Instagram account *@kathinka.engel*.



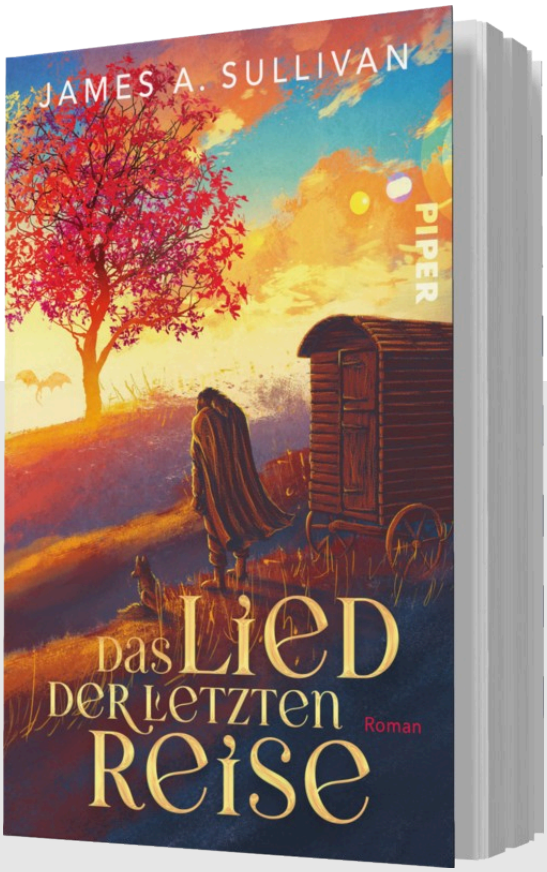
Kathinka Engel
Unmasking Billionaires' Row
(London Elite 1)
432 pages ▪ 13,6 × 21,5 cm
ISBN 978-3-492-06851-2
World Rights available
04/2026

Exposing Billionaires' Row
ca. 432 pages ▪ 13,6 × 21,5 cm
ISBN 978-3-492-06852-9
World Rights available

A sword mage, his fox, and an old love

- Garelun wants to retire—and embarks on one last journey to the sea with his fox companion.
- Cosy fantasy for fans of *Dungeons & Dragons*

More Fantasy in our Fantasy-List!



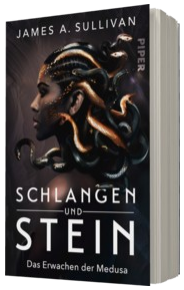
James A. Sullivan
The Song of the Last Journey
ca. 400 pages ▪ 13,6 × 20,5 cm
ISBN 978-3-492-70674-2
World Rights available
07/2026

After years of adventure, the sword mage Garelun is weary of fighting. He longs to retire in a city by the sea. With his fox companion, he sets out on one final journey to collect his hidden treasures. But his wagon full of valuable artefacts quickly attracts the wrong kind of attention. Soon, dangerous pursuers are on his trail. And then there is Melriku, a former comrade-in-arms for whom he harbours secret feelings. Will Garelun succeed in gathering the loose strands of his life and weaving them into something entirely new?

© privat

James A. Sullivan was born in West Point (Highlands, New York) in 1974 and grew up in Germany. He studied English, German and General Linguistics at the University of Cologne. Together with Bernhard Hennen, he wrote one of the most successful fantasy novels of all time, **The Elves** ("Die Elfen").

The Heritage of the Elf Mage
448 pages ▪ 13,6 × 20,5 cm
ISBN 978-3-492-70671-1
World Rights available



Snakes and Stone
448 pages ▪ 13,6 × 20,5 cm
ISBN 978-3-492-70673-5
World Rights available

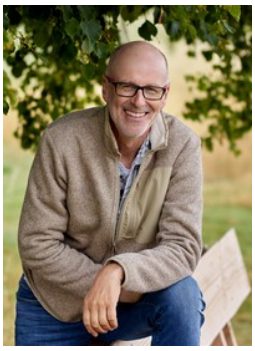
Why bacteria are much better than their reputation

Fact-based, expertly researched, and brilliantly narrated

Peter Wohlleben has revolutionized our understanding of trees. With the same clarity, he now takes us on a journey through the surprising world of bacteria.

International Bestselling Author

Peter Wohlleben introduces us to a fascinating world: the understanding of organisms that are invisible to the naked eye but shape the fate of humanity. They are not only practical everyday helpers—no bacteria, no yogurt, salami, or sauerkraut—but also live on our skin, tongue, or in our gut, and even in every one of our body cells, where they control us according to their needs. The author shows that we are made of bacteria and how strongly they influence us, for example, by producing hormones that affect our moods. He explains how they help us tackle the climate crisis and why we should cooperate with them and consider their needs to ensure their well-being—and ours.



© Gaby Gerster

Peter Wohlleben, born 1964, wanted to be an environmentalist from an early age. After completing his studies in Forestry he worked as an official for the state forestry commission for twenty years. Following up on his ecological ideas in 2006, he has since been running an eco-friendly forestry business in a 1200 ha woodland area in the Eifel. His books **The Hidden Life of Trees** ("Das geheime Leben der Bäume") and **The Inner Life of Animals** ("Das Innenleben der Tiere") have been published in various other countries.

Peter Wohlleben
Bacteria: The Hidden Heroes
How They Shape Us and Influence Nature
ca. 320 pages ▪ 13,8 × 22 cm
ISBN 978-3-89029-611-1
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For the 100th birthday – the definitive biography

- The first comprehensive biography of the most important German-speaking poet of the 20th century
- Completely new insights through access to letters and diaries

The Ingeborg Bachmann Biography

Andrea Stoll
Two People Are Within Me
Ingeborg Bachmann: The Biography
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Fifty years after her death, Ingeborg Bachmann's letters call for a new perspective on the life and work of a writer who feels more relevant today than ever. Andrea Stoll's biography explores the unmistakable range of Bachmann's inner conflicts from their origins and shows how this iconic poet became caught in a spiral of self-fashioning and self-destruction. Drawing on scholarly research, interviews with contemporaries, and newly published letters and diary entries, Stoll – a seasoned Bachmann expert – presents the first comprehensive biography able to shed light on many of the mysteries surrounding Bachmann's life from its beginnings to its tragic end.

© privat

Andrea Stoll, born in 1960 near Frankfurt, wrote her dissertation on Ingeborg Bachmann in 1991 and has since been deeply engaged with the Austrian poet, publishing books, essays, and screenplays about her over the years. The correspondence between Ingeborg Bachmann and Paul Celan, **Correspondence** ("Herzzeit"), which she co-edited in 2009, was a literary global event.

What kind of person was the poet Ingeborg Bachmann?

Much of what we thought we knew about Ingeborg Bachmann has been radically altered by the letters and diary entries published in recent years. Hardly any modern writer has a correspondence that so brilliantly complements their literary work. At the same time, Bachmann's radicalism and openness are juxtaposed with unmistakable acts of deception and charades, which posed almost insurmountable challenges for her friends and companions.

How Germany became the second coolest country in the world

- On the 20th anniversary of the 2006 World Cup
- A moment of lightness and joy: how did we experience it – and is it lost today?
- With prominent contemporary witnesses

In the summer of 2006, Germany experienced an extraordinary moment of national joy and openness as it hosted the FIFA World Cup, welcoming millions of visitors from around the world and embracing a spirit of celebration, unity, and optimism rarely seen before or since. **The German Summer** revisits this unforgettable period through the eyes of players, fans, artists, and everyday people, exploring how the country changed during those magical weeks—and asking why, twenty years later, that feeling of lightness seems so distant. This book is both a vibrant portrait of a nation at its best and a thoughtful reflection on what it takes for a society to come together in such a unique way.

© Peter von Felbert

Ronald Reng, born in Frankfurt in 1970, lived in London and Barcelona for many years as a sports reporter and writer. His sports books have all been on the *Spiegel* bestseller list, received numerous awards and have been translated into over 10 languages. He lives with his family in South Tyrol.

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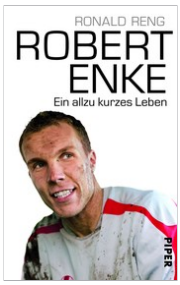

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Ronald Reng
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How young people learn resilience

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Ulrike Bartholomäus
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Few topics are as taboo as the mental illness of one's own child. Yet mental illnesses among adolescents have increased dramatically: ADHD, depression, smartphone addiction, obsessive-compulsive disorders. Much is said about young people, but rarely with them. Over a year and a half, Bartholomäus accompanied 25 of them, who allowed her deep insights into their inner worlds. She conducted intensive interviews with doctors, therapists, and parents. The result is a multifaceted portrait of individuals who share how they overcame their crises and what made them strong.

© Laurence Chaperon

Ulrike Bartholomäus, born in 1965, works as a science journalist for various media. Her bestseller **Why Reach for the Stars When You Can Just Chill** ("Wozu nach den Sternen greifen, wenn man auch chillen kann") was published by Berlin Verlag. She is the mother of a daughter and lives in Berlin.

Parents are often uncertain about what constitutes normal behavioral issues and what requires therapy. The emotional strain is immense. This book provides clarity by sharing real-life experiences.

Girls starving themselves, boys with ADHD gaming through the night, refusing to leave their rooms on weekends, and approaching school or university with the mindset: "Just showing up is enough." Or teenage chronic cannabis users sinking into depression, leaving parents wondering whether their child is using marijuana to combat panic attacks or if the joints are causing the mental health issues in the first place. – A deep dive into the everyday madness of modern family life and how we can navigate it.

Security in crisis – what matters now

- A new perspective on democratic security policy
- Clearly written and thoroughly researched
- The author is an expert on peace and security systems

Highly topical and relevant

War and the climate crisis are putting our security to the test. How can the state continue to protect us – and where can and must we take responsibility ourselves? There are plenty of opportunities, for example through volunteering in aid organisations. Ursula Schröder analyses governmental protection mechanisms and shows how we can strengthen them for the future. She combines security-policy expertise with concrete proposals for cooperative and inclusive forms of societal involvement in civil protection and defence. Her book is a call to action and helps readers move beyond resignation.

© IFSH

Ursula Schröder is the Academic Director of the Institute for Peace Research and Security Policy (IFSH) and a Professor of Political Science at the University of Hamburg.

A New Vision for Security

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What happens when we women withdraw

Why we are always available – and how we can break free from it

@silvicarlsson has around 500,000 followers on YouTube and Instagram

Social Critique

Silvi Carlsson
Good Girl Exit
The end of female availability
ca. 224 pages ▪ 13,6 × 21,5 cm
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08/2026

What if being nice were not a personality trait but a sur-vival strategy?
In this book, Silvi Carlsson steps away from the role of the ever-pleasant, ever-understanding woman. What happens when we allow ourselves not always to show up for others and to take our own needs seri-ously? With a radical, personal and political approach, Carls-son writes about people-pleasing, emotional availabil-ity and female socialisation. She reveals how deeply the good-girl complex shapes relationships, careers and bodies – and what happens when we stop placing men at the centre of our thinking.

© Denise Leiting

Silvi Carlsson is a journalist, author and content creator. On social media, she advocates for feminist issues. Personal challenges and her neurodivergence led her to critically examine societal struc-tures, beauty standards and her generation's sense of self-worth. She is currently also studying psychology.

New fathers, old role models?

On equal parenting and the mental load

@tigges is the most prominent German dadfluencer, with over 160,000 followers on Instagram

On Parenthood

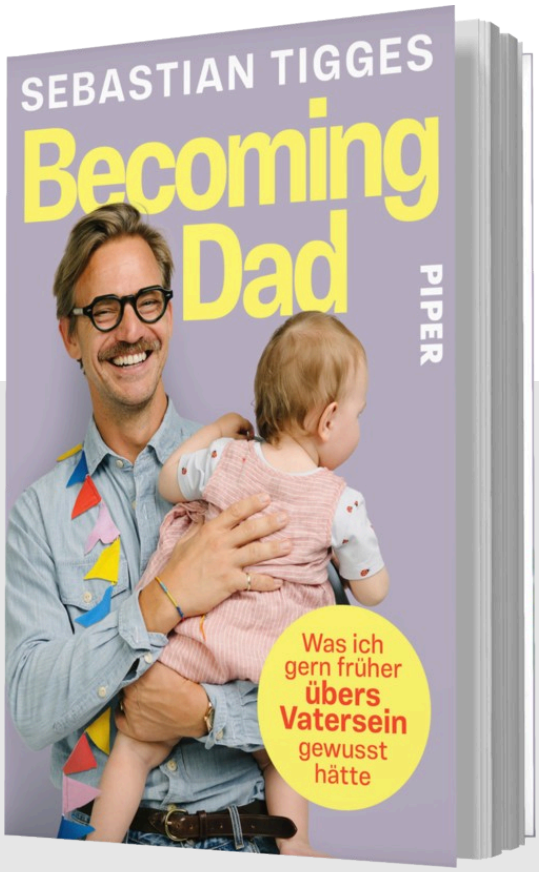
Anyone engaging with the topic of modern fatherhood will inevitably encounter Sebastian Tigges. The successful podcaster and content creator is frequently portrayed in the media as a pioneer of equal parenting. In this book, he explores the central question: What kind of father do I want to be? Tigges shows why good intentions alone are not enough and encourages men to take active responsibility. He shares personal experiences and offers practical suggestions for everyday life. A candid companion for anyone striving to build a truly equal family life.

© Manuel Schuller

Sebastian Tigges is a content creator, author and former lawyer. He addresses modern fatherhood, equality and depression on social media, in his *Stern* column *Daddy Issues*, and in the podcasts *Männer weinen heimlich* (Men Cry Secretly) and *Family Feelings*.

"It's often said that you can't prepare for fatherhood. I believe you can — at least better than I did before my children were born. The following questions may help."

– What does it mean to become a father?
– How can I (even) prepare myself?
– What do my own parents have to do with this?
– How am I doing physically and mentally?
– What will happen to my relationship with my partner?
– What does it mean to have a child in our society?
– And above all: Who do I want to be when I become a father?



Sebastian Tigges
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What I wish I had known earlier about being a father
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On the road to overcome borders

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- Perceptive and highly topical

A Journey of Encounters

Andreas Babst
And before us, the whole world
A journey over land from India to Switzerland
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04/2026

A Nepali housekeeper, a Kazakh fisherman, a Georgian protester – through a series of encounters, Andreas Babst recounts an extraordinary journey and gives a human face to issues that increasingly unsettle Europeans. He writes about the courage it takes to leave home in search of a better life, the fear of becoming a stranger in one's own country, and the challenges posed by global warming. His narrative offers a fresh perspective on Europe's situation. A multilayered and moving travelogue that speaks directly to the spirit of our times.

© Rebecca Conway

Andreas Babst, born in 1990 in Switzerland, moved to Delhi in 2020 as a correspondent for the *Neue Zürcher Zeitung* and has lived in Bangkok since 2025. His award-winning reportage has been published in translation in the *Guardian* and *Le Monde*.

"We are all, with our longings and contradictions, much closer to one another than we think." — Andreas Babst

"Europeans are currently experiencing something that most people in the world know all too well: the unease about what the future holds. With our journey, we wanted to counter this unease with something else: curiosity. Everyone talks about borders, so we decided to cross them. We wanted to create something that connects — even if it is only a line on the world map. Traveling is an act of resistance in a time when people are drifting apart again."

From someone who quit but still arrived

- Exploring steep nature paths, urban hiking trails, and trails with perfect infrastructure
- Underrated hiking destinations: Japan, South Korea, and Taiwan

Temples, Tea and Typhoons

Christine Thürmer introduces us to an East Asia that few know: the world of hiking trails! Japan, Taiwan, and South Korea present the experienced hiker with unexpected challenges: sweltering heat, earthquakes, low-calorie food, landslides on the trail, and leeches in the tent push her to her limits. But instead of getting frustrated, she changes her tried-and-true routines, adapts to local conditions, and experiences an unforgettable time on unique trails. She enjoys hot springs, fully automated toilets, historic trails, public DEET spray stations along the trail, and even a stay in an active Buddhist monastery. A book to inspire and to follow in her footsteps.

© Andrew Burns

Christine Thürmer, born 1967, resigned from her job as a manager in 2007. Since then, she is solely committed to long-distance hiking, biking and paddling. Meanwhile, she is one of the most hiked persons world wide and international outdoor-fans know her as the "German Tourist".

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