FOREIGN RIGHTS
SPRING & SUMMER 2017
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Natascha Wodin was born in the Bavarian town of Fürth in 1945 to parents who had been used as forced labour. She grew up in the so-called DP camps for displaced persons, and after the early death of her mother was raised in a Catholic home for girls. She then worked as a telephone operator and ethnographer before training as an interpreter in the early 1970s. She began translating literary works from Russian into German and spent part of her working life in Moscow. Her writing career began in 1981, and she has since received many accolades for her work. She was married to the novelist Wolfgang Hilbig, experiences which she recounts in her major work, Nachtgeschwister. She lives in Berlin and Mecklenburg.

She Came From Mariupol

"If you'd seen what I've seen..." Natascha Wodin heard this sentence many times in her early childhood, yet her mother took her memories with her to the grave. Natascha was ten years old when her mother died; all the little girl knew was that they were detritus, human debris left over from the war. Why had they lived in a camp for ‘displaced persons’? Where did her mother come from? What had she experienced? Decades later, the ‘black box’ of her own past began to open slightly, with Wodin gaining more and more insights as time progressed.

She Came From Mariupol is an exceptional book that details a forensic search for the truth. Here, Wodin investigates the past of her Ukrainian mother, who grew up in the harbour city of Mariupol and was forcibly removed in 1943 to Germany as an “Eastern worker” along with her husband. This book describes in absorbing and at times harrowing detail a topic seen by many as a footnote to history, a grim appendix to the Holocaust: the use of forced labour in the Third Reich. Her mother had already experienced the downfall of her aristocratic family during Stalin’s regime of terror and was forced to board a German ship of unknown destination. Through this book, she steps forward from anonymity, given an identity by her own daughter. This compelling narrative enables Natascha Wodin to speak tenderly of her “poor little mother who went mad”, and whose persona becomes tangible for the reader. The retelling of her story also allows Wodin to show us the true extent of her loss. This is a darkly radiant account of one person’s fate, developing momentous emotive power; its subject serves as a proxy for the fate of millions.

In Search of one’s roots: an outstanding autobiographical novel.

› She Came From Mariupol is nothing short of a major literary event.
› Recommended by New Books in German (Goethe Institute).
› Rights to her previous works were sold to seven countries including the US.
› English Sample translation available.
A great novelist and his zeitgeist

MARTIN WALSER was born in 1927 in Wasserburg and now lives in Überlingen by Lake Constance. He has received numerous awards for his work, among them the Georg Büchner Award and the Peace Prize of the German Book Trade. He has also been decorated with the Pour le Mérite medal and appointed Officier de l’Ordre des Arts et des Lettres.

ALWAYS CURRENT: IN LIGHT OF RECENT EVENTS

From the earliest beginnings of his work as a novelist, Martin Walser has been observing, probing and participating in political and social developments. Always Current is a collection of statements, essays and speeches written over a period of more than 50 years reflecting the current events and climate of the respective moment. In the 1960s, Walser protested Germany’s stance towards the US-led war in Vietnam, while the 1970s saw him refusing to accept the common interpretation of Germany’s ongoing partition as being merely the result of a catastrophe. Many more momentous developments followed, including German reunification, the Gulf Wars and the vast streams of refugees. His thoughts often returned to the issue of Germany’s culpability, and he grappled with his horror that it had been possible for human beings to build the concentration camp at Auschwitz. He actively engaged with his contemporaries and what they thought and did, becoming one of the most vocal critics of a media system which, he felt, had become the instrument of political ambition.

Always Current is a journey through almost 60 years of recent history, presented from the perspective of a major novelist. Yet it is equally a highly personal work that details how one writer witnessed current events, and felt himself to be part of the developments that went on around him rather than only a distant observer.

A writer reflects on a lifetime of literary creativity

▷ Martin Walser will be turning 90 on 24th March 2017 – let us celebrate a great German novelist and his exceptional life work.

“As long as I continue writing, getting older is an interesting experience.” Martin Walser

“Almost no one is better able to chart the depths and fault lines of human relationships than Martin Walser.” Volker Hage, Der Spiegel

“Their work is not just write the most beautiful sentences, he also illuminates them from inspiring and stimulating perspectives.” Andreas Isenschmied, NZZ

INSTED OF SOMETHING OR: THE LAST TURN

“Using untruth to create a work of art by chance, that is a supremely human ability.” Says who? His wife sometimes calls him Memle, sometimes Otto, or Bert. He tries to discern how experience turns into thought. He has left the struggles between different interests behind him, along with his friends and enemies. He desires only to withdraw, stay silent, to become mute. His favourite pastime is staring at an empty, blank wall; it calms the confused swirl in his mind. “I’m a bit too happy,” he says to himself, “it is enough to dream.”

This is a novel in which every sentence is vitally important. An unpredictable work of great beauty and extreme intensity, it shows Walser’s formidable sensitivity of perception while succeeding in generating an unusual, interwoven structure and refusing to dwell on – and even attempting to hide – its own intra-connectedness. It is a musical work made from words that offers the reader great freedom precisely because it is borne on freedom itself: freedom of thought, of writing and of living. Martin Walser has never before written so close to the outer bounds of literary form, nor with a creativity so free from external constraints. Developing a literary power that swells suddenly like an irresistible tidal wave, this is a human portrait the like of which we have never seen.
AN ERA OF NEW BEGINNINGS
World War II is over; the Nazis have been defeated. Among those whose homes were destroyed by the bombing are Henny and her family, but they find refuge with Henny’s mother. The 1950s begin with the German “economic miracle” and the years of rock ‘n’ roll. Henny’s daughter Marike awaits her first child. Henny could not be prouder of her daughter. After Henny took her first brave steps along her own career path in 1919, Marike took another step forward and studied medicine. Marike’s husband Thies lands a job with the newly-founded NDR public broadcaster. Lina attempts a fresh venture and opens a bookshop. Meanwhile, Ida finally summons the courage to take things into her own hands. It seems that new beginnings are all around. But where have the terrors of the preceding years driven Käthe? None of her friends know her whereabouts. Is Käthe still alive?

The second part of a trilogy.
Volume II: years of rebuilding and the new beginnings of the 1960s.
The first part, Daughters of a New Time (2016), sold more than 40,000 copies.

CARMEN KORN was born in 1952 in Düsseldorf, and is the daughter of the composer Heinz Korn. After training at the renowned Henri-Nannen-School for journalism she joined the staff of Stern magazine. Carmen Korn is married with two children. She is the author of several crime novels.

The economic miracle, rock ‘n’ roll and cocktail parties

DAUGHTERS OF A NEW TIME
1900 was a year with an exceptionally high birth rate that produced a generation of women that would have to endure two world wars. Henny Godhusen is one of those women. She’s only just turned 18 when peace breaks out. Henny is sure that the dark years are behind her for good. Full of zest for life, she begins training as a midwife in the spring of 1919 at a women’s clinic in Hamburg’s Uhlenhorst quarter. Henny falls in love with the area and its diversity; here, middleclass citizens and workers, rich and poor all mix. But the people who will become most important for her life are three women.

© Jörg Brockstedt

Kindler
October 2016 | 416 pages

Kindler
June 2017 | 448 pages
HEINZ STRUNK, writer, musician and actor, was born in Hamburg in 1962. Since the publication of his debut novel, *Meat Is My Veg*, he has written seven more novels. The *Golden Glove* topped the bestseller lists for months and was nominated for the Leipzig Book Fair Prize 2016. In autumn 2016 he received the Wilhelm Raabe Prize.

JURGEN

Hamburg native Jürgen Doße hasn’t always had an easy time of it. His job at a multi-storey car park is very demanding, and that’s only the beginning. But despite everything, Jürgen sees the glass as being half full; he believes not only that he who dares, wins, but also that he’s got it pretty good. To put it plainly: Jürgen is a loser but doesn’t know it. That’s partly because the only person he has regular contact with – besides his bed-ridden mother and care nurse Petra – is his old friend Bernd Würmer. Bernd is in a wheelchair and argues with him incessantly. And Bernie, too, is forced to make some painful sacrifices, including a woman’s love. The two of them decide they need to get proactive.

Despite some devastating experiences during a speed dating session, and after thorough study of “how to” manuals about chatting up women, the two would-be Casanovas aren’t in the least discouraged. On the contrary: they decide to raise the stakes! They embark on a (costly) trip to Poland, booked through the “Eurolove” agency. Not only do the Poles seem hell bent on getting hitched, but they don’t seem fussed about getting pretty-boy male model types! We cut to Jürgen and Bernd on a bus rolling towards Breslau, together with a bunch of other losers. What are the odds they’ll get lucky?

DORIS KNECHT

was born in the Austrian state of Vorarlberg. Her debut novel *Gruber’s Departure* (2011) was nominated for the German Book Prize before being turned into a feature film. She was awarded the Ravensburger Foundation Book Prize for Better (2013). Her recent and widely acclaimed novel *The Forest* was published in 2015.

EVERYTHING ABOUT RELATIONSHIPS

Viktor is a middle-aged man with the usual concomitant problems: he’ll soon be hitting 50, has high blood pressure, five children, two ex-wives and a partner who is not always as happy as he is that he’s just been hired to direct a festival. And he has a secret passion: women. The women he has sex with – Josi, Helen, Anja, Camille, Lisbeth and a few others – make his life snap into sharp focus. They, on the other hand, have their own stories and reasons why they hook up with someone like Viktor, their own grounds for ending their affair. Viktor’s partner, Magda, who wants him to finally marry her, is oblivious to all this. It all threatens to unravel, along with Viktor’s eloquent justifications and speeches about fidelity, loyalty and complicity. After all, what does fidelity mean? Is every one-off affair automatically synonymous with deceit or adultery? And does such a thing as the perfect, happy, honest relationship even exist in the real world? In her latest novel, Doris Knecht writes in a fearless, occasionally sassy but always sublimely entertaining way about Viktor and “his” women. Utilising her distinctively fluid style, Knecht also shows how modern humans love, and what happens when they stop loving.

Doris Knecht’s passionate and biting novel about modern relationships.

“The nonchalant way Doris Knecht is able to tell stories about existential questions is remarkable.” Literature

“Only Knecht can write so well and casually about topics we’re not even supposed to talk about.” Daniel Glattauer

© Dennis Dirksen

His previous novel *The Golden Glove* (2016) sold over 100,000 copies in hardback. Rights were sold to Finland (Sammakko).

“Strunk’s language is precise and ruthless, but never condescending.” Die Zeit

“Heinz Strunk is the holy trinity of a new literature centred on suffering and comedy.” Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

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© Pamela Rußmann
Women’s Fiction

A NEVER-ENDING SUMMER

Anna has been in love twice. Her first big love was Max, but unfortunately their marriage hit the rocks five years ago. And then there was Jan, an unforget­ten love from her youth. For years, she’s been wondering what he’s up to now. When she finds out that he’s moved to the island of Amrum, the normally cool-headed, rational Anna decides on the spur of the moment to drive up there in her VW van. But then her mother gets in touch with bad news and a big request. Finally, Anna, her mother and her two daughters are sitting in the car – along with Max...

All her life, KATHARINA HERZOG has loved thinking up new stories and writing them down. After a brief spell in journalism she went back to creative writing. She soon began publishing her books, and has already won a wide audience as an author of e-books. She lives with her family near Munich.

A book like a perfectly packed bag for the beach, a touching family drama, a wonderful love story – and a road novel, to boot.

Fiction

JANNE MOMMSEN was born on the Baltic Sea coast. Before becoming a writer he was a nurse, a shipyard worker and a pianist on a cruise ship. Now he mostly writes novels, scripts and plays. He lived in northern Frisia and often returns to take in the invigorating coastal atmosphere. Fittingly, his wife’s family has lived on Föhr for hundreds of years.

A SEA BREEZE OF HAPPINESS

Jasmin is in her mid-30s and lives in Cologne. Her friends know that, once upon a time, she used to be happy. But recently she’s lost that happy-go-lucky joie de vivre the people of her region are famous for. After a water pipe breaks in her home she decides to travel to Föhr, a Frisian island on the North Sea coast, to reminisce about her time there as a teenager, when she was head over heels in love with a boy from the island. Who knows, maybe Sönke still lives there? Perhaps their love might get a second chance? Instead of her teenage sweetheart she meets a young man named Thore, who has recently become single... and is itching for the opportunity to leave Föhr far behind him. A stroke of luck, as Jasmin had already planned a longer stay on Föhr. The two decide to swap flats, with her moving to Föhr and him heading for Cologne. It’s the beginning of the most incredible summer of their lives, a summer that unexpectedly brings the two closer...

This great family novel is told in clear language and with a great sense of immediacy.

Unusual, vivid characters that stay with us long after we stop reading.

ALLENSTEIN

In the winter of 1945, a child is sitting in an overcrowded passenger train heading west from Königsberg, then East Prussia. Little Konni gazes out of the window at the snow, his heart filled with yearning for his mother, who has to stay behind. Countess Agnes von Kolberg, mother of ten children, will follow her children to Allenstein, the family’s summer residence in Brandenburg, later. Their father fell during the fighting in East Prussia. But eventually, the family was forced to evacuate Allenstein and flee the oncoming armies.

The siblings grow up near Bonn in very modest circumstances, forged together by their shared experiences of the war and their upbringing by the high-handed, autocratic matriarch Agnes. We follow Konni and his next eldest sister, Nona, who are particularly close; the two support each other throughout their whole lives, through the highs and lows of their marriages, divorces, financial straits and relationships.

Then comes the fall of the Berlin Wall, and the upheavals of the turnaround era. Konni senses that his chance has come to reclaim Allenstein for the family. He borrows money from one of his sisters, yet a ferocious struggle begins for control of the property between the siblings, a fight that throws up many political and social questions and probes old wounds and loyalties. Yet it also requires the actors in this absorbing family drama to ask themselves who they believe themselves to be.

Who we were, and who we are.

JULIE VON KESSEL grew up in Helsinki, Vienna, Zagreb, Bonn and Washington, DC. She works as a TV news journalist and lives with her family in Berlin.

© Renate Neder

Who we were, and who we are.

© Renate Neder
MAX ANNAS has recently returned to Berlin after two years with a research project studying South African jazz at the University of Fort Hare in East London, South Africa. He has written many books on popular culture, politics and sports. His former career was in journalism.

ILLEGAL Kodjo lives in Berlin, and has done so for years. But he leaves no traces. His address changes as often as his habits. Kodjo’s everyday life is ruled by two things: survival and not attracting attention. Kodjo is living here illegally, and the young man from Ghana knows every dark corner of this vast capital. He knows how to slip past the police. He does everything to become invisible – and to stay invisible.

Then comes the day that changes everything. Kodjo is hiding out in a condemned building when he witnesses a murder. Watches the murderer drive away. Kodjo reacts the way he always does: hide, vanish into thin air. Wait until the murderer is caught. But he was seen and the culprit sends his agents to hunt for Kodjo, the inconvenient witness. The police, meanwhile, search for their chief suspect: a young black man.

Illegale is not only a gripping crime story but also a topical political book as well as a telling portrait of Western society.

The author won the German Prize for Crime Fiction 2017 for his thriller The Wall as well as for his debut novel The Farm (in 2015). The Wall topped the crime bestseller list for months.

English sample translation of The Wall available.
BROTHERS AND COPS
Holger Brinks, chief investigator with the murder squad, always goes by the book. His brother Charlie, on the other hand, gets by taking on work as a private detective and often adapts his approach to the case at hand, where rules tend to get in the way. After his ex-girlfriend throws him out (again), he asks his brother Holger if he can stay with him for a few days. His brother agrees to put him up – in the garden shed. Holger is trying to deal with increased pressure at work; the right-hand man of underworld boss Bobby Schütz has been found dead in the lift of a top-class Berlin hotel. Next to the body was a suitcase full of cocaine. Things get more complex when Charlie’s links to Schütz and his clan become known, links Holger believes might be useful for his investigation. But to exploit them, he’d have to adopt his brother’s lax attitude to regulations and risk his career.

A novel pervaded with cool, fast-paced dialogues crackling with humour and two very likable protagonists – this crime-writing duo masterfully combines all the right ingredients.

Brothers in arms: entertaining crime fiction.

CHRISTIANE FRANKE, CORNELIA KUHNERT
AN ISLAND MURDER
It’s summer in Neuharlingersiel and the townsfolk are busy as beavers preparing the annual harbour festival. Among the hustle and bustle, several authors and writers visiting the town have a major falling out. And then one of them keels over, stone dead! And just as he was having a nice chat with Rosa, of all people… When a second writer collapses, Rosa’s suspicions are aroused. But the village police officer, Rudi, scoffs at the idea that a murderer is on the prowl. But when another dead body is found, Rosa’s hunter instinct is roused.

JENNY MAI NUYEN
HEARTWARE
Adam Eli enjoys his successful career as a ghost writer, and is doing everything he can to forget his troubled criminal youth. Willi, with whom he was once in love, is the only link back to his former life. The last time they met seems like ages ago, and he still doesn’t know if she was the one that landed him in trouble. Balthus, an internet tycoon, promises to provide him with answers if Adam agrees to help track down Will, who has stolen the prototype for an artificial intelligence system. But what’s her motive? A desperate hunt begins through the rain forest of Bolivia, and Abu Dhabi and Tokyo…

FRÄULEIN KRISSE, FRAU FREITAG
HURRAY, HURRAY, THE SCHOOL’S BURNING DOWN!
Things are difficult enough at one of Berlin’s notorious “problem” schools when a fire tears through the school’s roof. Teachers and students are moved to another school, and the local council have selected – of all places – the city’s most conservative elite college! While the police are investigating the cause of the fire, Frau Freitag suffers terrible qualms: did her secret smoking lead to the disaster? Investigators find a charred body among the ashes; but the victim, it soon turns out, didn’t die in the fire…

HANS RATH
studied philosophy, German studies and psychology in Bonn. His trilogy: Man tut, was man kann, Da muss man durch und Was will man mehr garnered him a wide and avid readership.

EDGAR RAI
has worked as a scriptwriter, basketball coach, choir leader, odd job man, and online editor. In 2001 he embarked on a successful career as a novelist.

KLARA HOLM
RABEANAS
Some routine police operation atop Rügen’s cliffs goes badly wrong when a fellow officer of chief inspector Luka Kroczeck shoots dead a drugged-up woman. In self-defence, the police officer claims. But was the victim really holding a knife? The woman’s mother, known locally by the epithet Rabenaas, or raven carrion, is the leader of a minor criminal clan and insists her daughter was unarmed. It’s her word against a police officer’s. The atmosphere in the little settlement reaches a boiling point. One attack follows the next, when suddenly another woman is found dead.

JENNY MAI NUYEN
HEARTWARE
July 2017 | 384 pages
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April 2017 | 320 pages
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Spring & Summer 2017

THRILLER

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**Fiction**

**TEX RUBINOWITZ** was born in Hanover in 1961. Since 1984 he has lived in Vienna, working as a comedy writer, painter, musician and novelist. He was awarded the Bachmann Prize in 2014. The novel Jima was published by Rowohlt a year later.

**DON’T LEAVE ME ALONE WITH HER**
It’s with a sense of self-confidence that this book describes itself as a novel. Its first-person protagonist has the same name as the author and shares some of his biography. But the hair-raising yarn he launches into here is packed with bizarre coincidences, reconfigures identities and constructs a sense of fabulous drama so intense that we can only reach one conclusion: this isn’t real life, this is nonsense, pure make-believe.

But instead of withdrawing to a life of leisure on his bloated face. Elvis can’t believe how good it feels to be dead. During one of his many sleepless nights, Elvis decided he had to die. He wants to go back and start again, to return to life as a normal human being. But instead of withdrawing to a life of leisure on some tropical island, Elvis launches into one absorbing experience after the next, as lorry driver in his home town, or as moderately successful Elvis impersonator drifting across the country; the latter career is cut short when he gets too successful for his own good. He finds an agency that offers a comprehensive service to VIPs who want to fake their own deaths, and spends time as a cantankerous resident of a community for senior citizens. Elvis, it soon becomes clear, is very much alive!

Andreas Stichmann leaves middle-of-the-road realism far behind. "The King lives!" — Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

**TOBIAST GEIGENMÜLLER** was born in 1977, one day after Elvis’ death. He works as a copywriter and author and lives in Berlin.

**THE MANY LIVES OF ELVIS PRESLEY, SINGER**
The news of Elvis Presley’s death goes around the globe like wildfire. Yet somewhere in Tupelo, a man sits on a sofa who can’t seem to wipe the grin off his bloated face. Elvis can’t believe how good it feels to be dead.

**THE KING LIVES!**
Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

Andreas Stichmann leaves middle-of-the-road realism far behind. "The King lives!" — Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

**CHRISTOPH SCHULTE-RICHTERING** was born in 1968. He worked as a writer and coach for several TV productions. He has also written for Bill Murray, Thomas Gottschalk and others and reported from Hollywood on the Oscar awards ceremony. He lives with his family in Cologne.

**33 DAYS JULY**
Two men re-tread their steps on a journey made 30 years ago. It was back in the heat of the summer following their school leaving exams that Jayjay and Tiggy ventured off for the first time on their own. It was a fresh start into the longest school holidays of them all, and into the chaos that is an integral part of growing up. Wrapped in the blazing brightness of Portugal’s Atlantic coast, the two friends get into one slightly embarrassing situation after another. But they also discover freedom and love along with its dangers and pitfalls. Leaving hurriedly, they take a dark secret with them. At the beginning it was all about the beautiful Luisa, but then they accepted that stupid dare… Now, decades later, Jonas and Luisa are only the beginning of a journey back in time, perhaps not just for Sun Court?

Andreas Stichmann leaves middle-of-the-road realism far behind. "The King lives!" — Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

**ANDREAS STICHTHMAIN** studied at the Institute for German Literature in Leipzig. His debut novel, The Glowing, was nominated for the Bachmann Prize and won him the Bremen Prize for Literature.

**THE KIDNAPPING OF SYDNEY SEAPUNK, OPTIMIST**
The erstwhile hippy commune of Sun Court — now something of an old people’s home — has seen better days. That’s the opinion of Ramafelene, or Raff, as he’s known to all and sundry, who has lived there since childhood. His taciturn mother/flatmate seems to have been deserted by her belief in altruism around the time she was abandoned by her husband back in the 80s.

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**OPTIMIST**
The Glowing, was published by Rowohlt a year later.

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RENATE BERGMANN
BETTER THAN TAKING THE BUS

“What do we oldies need, anyway? The pension covers the rent, and I can still afford a nice holiday with Gertrud once or twice a year. You’ve got to enjoy life, haven’t you, as long as you can. Who knows how long we’ll be able to go on holiday without a nurse? So off we went on our first ocean cruise! But actually, the ship doesn’t cruise anywhere, it sails – did you know that? We had a great time. My laundry cupboard is full of fluffy new towels and there’s enough sausages in the freezer to last me till Easter!” Over one million copies sold!

CLAUDIA HAESSY
KIDS OR CAREER? I CHOOSE THE COUCH

Claudia is not looking for love. She’s trying to find someone who’ll massage her back and loves oven bakes topped with cheese. One affair does start promising, as he seems to like the same TV series. Suddenly Claudia discovers she is pregnant – and is forced to contact the accountant. She starts coming to terms with her pregnancy, which only recedes when she is plunged into a state of deep shock. Accordingly, she is plunged into a state of deep shock. According to her life plans up to now. And children have not played a role in her life. Her texts are often exceedingly funny, yet sometimes also tinged with tragedy. The author clearly relishes her writing. She knows better than you. We’ve assembled all her little adages, pearls of wisdom and recipes into one volume, because as Renate herself observes, “It takes a lifetime to become wise, and then you don’t get much time to enjoy it.”

INGEBORG SELTMANN
HAPPY WITH HORST
UNTIRINGLY RETIRED

My name is Gabi König, and I’ve made a decision. My years working at the book shop are behind me, and I’m retiring – at last! Horst and I will be sailing the calm, placid waters of old age together. We’ll have time to travel, relax, and go on a cruise… And then? Maybe I should do some yoga, take a course or go to the gym with Horst. But our plans fall apart when Ilse announces she is going to move into the old people’s home around the corner, and our children are all having a tough time of it. Our life has turned into one big mess!

RENATE BERGMANN
YOU CAN STILL EAT THAT!

Spring is the perfect time to get some cleaning done! And who has more experience than anyone else on the planet, and still manages to climb up a ladder? Yes, you’ve guessed it. Renate Bergmann is an expert on… well, quite a lot, actually. And she knows better than you. We’ve assembled all her little adages, pearls of wisdom and recipes into one volume, because as Renate herself observes, “It takes a lifetime to become wise, and then you don’t get much time to enjoy it.”

STEFANIE SARGNAGEL
Maybe … Maybe Not

Stefanie Sargnagel’s writing is subversively subjective, at times aggressive and very clever, covering topics such as men and women, hopelessness and depression. Her texts are often exceedingly funny, yet sometimes also tinged with tragedy. The author feigns reticence yet slips time and again into ‘narrator’ mode, throws in a drawing here and there, and explodes traditional genre boundaries. On her pioneering path, Sargnagel has completed a work that dispenses with the label ‘novel’ yet still effortlessly manages to captivate its readers.

... Sargnagel creates in her fabulously funny text exactly the sense of urgency that she produces!” Die Zeit

HERbst IM GlauK

2020 is her tenth year. She studied painting, and was member of a class taught by Daniel Richter at the Vienna Academy of Fine Arts. But she spent more time working her day job in a call centre than in the classroom. This year, she has decided to focus solely on writing. She has since spent more time with her accountant than producing prose.

STATUS UPDATES

“Every sentence I’m paid to write smothers a little, lovely star inside of me. Paid work is always, necessarily humiliating. I don’t want to work, I want to spend my time doing nothing, I’m an alien, I’m the man in the moon, I want to take a long, leisurely look down at the Earth. I’d rather be a teacher or an academic, but without all that strenuous reading, or I’d like to be an ascetic, just without all that abstinence.”

Sargnagel’s writing is subversively subjective, at times aggressive and very clever, covering topics such as men and women, hopelessness and depression. Her texts are often exceedingly funny, yet sometimes also tinged with tragedy. The author feigns reticence yet slips time and again into “narrator” mode, throws in a drawing here and there, and explodes traditional genre boundaries. On her pioneering path, Sargnagel has completed a work that dispenses with the label “novel” yet still effortlessly manages to captivate its readers.

“... Sargnagel creates in her fabulously funny text exactly the sense of urgency that she produces!” Die Zeit

THE MEN-OPAUSE OF KONRAD AND PAUL

Paul Niemöser suddenly realises he is involved in a devastating, slowly unfolding tragedy: he’s getting old! As soon as he hits 48, he’s haunted by the dreaded “andropause”, while his friends are all complaining and whinging, too. So what if your hair gets grey and your eyesight gets a bit misty – big deal. But when your sex drive starts, well, dropping off, it’s no laughing matter. Now the two humiliated males sit around on orthopaedic cushions and try to console each other while their testosterone levels drop, slowly and irrevocably…

Ralf König was born in 1960 in Soest. His stories were first published in gay men’s magazines. His breakthrough came with Maybe … Maybe Not (Der bewegte Mann, 1987), which was hugely successful both as a graphic novel and as a feature film. He has received many awards. His comics have been translated into 18 languages.

WITHERING ON THE VINE:
THE MEN-OPAUSE OF KONRAD AND PAUL

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With symptoms such as “reduced testicular volume”, there’s not much to joke about. But we can rely on Rolf König to squeeze some laughs from a distinctly sour fruit. Or at least provide some bitter-sweet humour about this exceedingly serious issue. By turns bitingly sardonic and straight-up hilarious, this mature work grapples with a topic as unavoidable as it is worrying. At least, we all know that advancing age is also a source of great wisdom.

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Der Tagesspiegel
SVEN STRICKER
SECOND CHANCES
Rüdiger is a teacher, married, has two kids – and for the rest of the world he’s practically invisible. It’s his 40th birthday when, in the middle of teaching a class, he realises that he can’t bear his life anymore. And Tom wrote a bestseller years ago, but his success was short-lived. Now he’s stuck working in a supermarket. He too comes to a crossroads in his life. Rüdiger and Tom meet on top of a bridge, where both had planned to end it all. But then they decide to give themselves five days to see if their lives are, perhaps, worth living after all…

Fiction

FRANKA BLOOM
LIFE STARTS AT 40
Her husband has left her for a younger woman and her daughter is going to move out soon. Vera is yearning for the end of her old life as a wife and mother and cannot wait to relaunch her career to new heights, this time with a more mature outlook. But nothing happens as expected; instead of transitioning gently into menopause Vera suddenly gets pregnant. All her set of problems.

Fiction

ELKE HEIDENREICH
TOMORROW, EVERYTHING IS GOING TO CHANGE
“How do we get to paradise?” asks the best-selling author Elke Heidenreich in one of her columns. She might not know exactly how to get there, but over the course of 17 years her observations have been avidly pored over by readers of Brigitte magazine. She has brooded over books, examined the significance of cleaning your windows, mulled the merits of wasting time and considered the secrets of kale. Her keen sense of irony and astute wit give her the tools to expertly dissect the difficulties of daily life.

Literature

SANDRA LÜPKES
AN ISLAND SPRING
It’s the start of the tourist season for Jannike’s island hotel. This year, she wants the whole place sparkling clean and particularly welcoming. But then they decide to give themselves five days to see if their lives are, perhaps, worth living after all…

Fiction

HANNA DIETZ
SOCCER MOMS
When children start playing football, the fun and games really begin. For the mothers, that is, standing on the sidelines cheering on their kids. The rivalries between them are at least as hard-fought as those on the field. Carolin soon gains first-hand experience of this intense competition. Recently divorced, she puts her eight-year-old son’s name down to train with the local football team. Her relaxed attitude changes instantly when she sees the reason for her divorce standing on the sidelines: her ex-husband’s new girlfriend. It pushes the normally patient Carolin over the edge, and a forgotten emotion wells up inside her: competitiveness. She’s desperate for Louis’s team to win the all-important Cookie Cup. And she’ll do whatever it takes, even taking on the help of the supercilious Cookie Cup.

Humour

CARINA BARTSCH
NIGHTFLOWERS
When children start playing football, the fun and games really begin. For the mothers, that is, standing on the sidelines cheering on their kids. The rivalries between them are at least as hard-fought as those on the field. Carolin soon gains first-hand experience of this intense competition. Recently divorced, she puts her eight-year-old son’s name down to train with the local football team. Her relaxed attitude changes instantly when she sees the reason for her divorce standing on the sidelines: her ex-husband’s new girlfriend. It pushes the normally patient Carolin over the edge, and a forgotten emotion wells up inside her: competitiveness. She’s desperate for Louis’s team to win the all-important Cookie Cup. And she’ll do whatever it takes, even taking on the help of the supercilious Georg. And then Carolin notices a feeling taking hold whenever Georg is around...

“Hanna Dietz is a voice for millions of women.” bild.de

Romance Fiction

SANDRA LÜPKES
FÜSSBALLMUTTER
When children start playing football, the fun and games really begin. For the mothers, that is, standing on the sidelines cheering on their kids. The rivalries between them are at least as hard-fought as those on the field. Carolin soon gains first-hand experience of this intense competition. Recently divorced, she puts her eight-year-old son’s name down to train with the local football team. Her relaxed attitude changes instantly when she sees the reason for her divorce standing on the sidelines: her ex-husband’s new girlfriend. It pushes the normally patient Carolin over the edge, and a forgotten emotion wells up inside her: competitiveness. She’s desperate for Louis’s team to win the all-important Cookie Cup. And she’ll do whatever it takes, even taking on the help of the supercilious Georg. And then Carolin notices a feeling taking hold whenever Georg is around...

“Hanna Dietz is a voice for millions of women.” bild.de
It’s the turn of the 19th century, and Juliana is journeying through the Hunsrück Mountains with her father and sisters. One day she meets a local bandit group. He falls for her, begins courting and to hear some of her many remarkable stories.

Juliana has returned to her home village, working as a nun. She cannot keep her life ordered like before. She is forced to reorganize her life and give it new meaning. Anna is her new ally. With Juliana she can. And both sisters are confronted with the most difficult choices of their lives...

Cologne in 1423: Aleydis de Bruinker has only been married to Lombard moneylender Nicolai Golatti for a short time when he dies in mysterious circumstances. He is found hanged; did he take his own life? Aleydis refuses to believe that explanation. Sure enough, she finds marks on his body that suggest he was murdered. And there are plenty of suspects, as the moneylender had many enemies. When the young widow attempts to investigate, she soon finds herself in mortal danger. And it appears as though her only ally is also part of the conspiracy...

A young married couple with a 4-year-old daughter has rented an isolated holiday cottage in the mountains in the last few weeks before Christmas. The husband is a script writer whose deadline to submit a new comedy is nearing fast. Instead of working, he starts jotting down what he has experienced and his wife argue about, describes the strained atmosphere, writes about walking in the hills and records strange things. He sees the interior where his sitting mirrored in a window but he is not in the mirror image. Too late, he notices that his notebook contains sentences he didn’t write. Sentences that tell him to leave. The man reacts with nightmares and fear. He wants to leave, but then things take an unexpected turn: his wife’s affair is revealed and she drives off in the car, leaving her husband and daughter alone. Although the man wants to flee with his daughter, the house won’t let him go. The mother and daughter leave together and he is left in the house on his own. At the end, compulsion outweighs fear.

More than 55,000 copies sold!
Rights sold to Greece (Kastaniotis), Hungary (Magvetö), Italy (Feltrinelli), the Netherlands (Querido), Spain (Penguin Random House) and the U.S.A. (Knopf/ Penguin Random House).

More than 50,000 copies sold and rights were sold to Czech Republic (Euromedia), France (Métailié), Korea (Solbitkil), the Netherlands (Van Oorshot) and Slovakia (Ikar).

ASTRID FRITZ
THE BANDIT PRINCESS

PETRA OELKER
TWO SISTERS

RAFL GÜNTHER
THE BATHING WOMAN AT MORITZBURG

DANIEL KEHLMANN
THE WORLD AT YOUR BACK

THOMAS MELLE
YOU SHOULD HAVE GONE

Literature

Literature / Memoir

History Fiction

History Fiction

History Fiction

History Fiction

History Fiction

History Fiction

Sickster, was nominated for the German Book Prize. 2014 saw the publication of 3000 Euros, which was shortlisted for the German Book Prize. In 2015, Thomas Melke received the Berlin Arts Prize, awarded by the city in which he also lives.

"If you’re bipolar, your life has no continuity anymore. The illness has wrecked your past, and it looms over your future even more threateningly. The life you knew is made more impossible with every manic episode. The person you think you are and know has no firm ground under their feet anymore. You literally can’t be sure of yourself. In this short-circuited, manic state, what otherwise would have only briefly flashed through your head before instantly being discarded instead becomes action. Everyone probably has a chasm in their soul, which they reveal occasionally. Mania is when you go on a tour through that chasm. Things you’ve known about yourself for years become invalid. You don’t just start again from scratch, like when your bank account’s empty. No, you go down below zero, you’re in the red. You’re no longer connected to anything in a reliable way."

This book offers exceptional insights into what sufferers go through, offering an arresting chronicle of a disrupted, broken life.

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A children’s edition of David Safier’s bestseller.

BEN SAFIER is 21, works as a trainee at Radio Bremen and lives in Bremen. He is a passionate musician and as a child loved picture books that retold stories from animated feature films.

HAPPY FAMILY

The Wishbone family are anything but happy. The bookshop run by Emma, the family’s mother, is deep in the red, while her husband Frank doesn’t get on with his boss and is always tired. Daughter Fay’s brain has been taken offline by puberty, and is due to reopen when the essential renovation work is finished. Meanwhile, her highly intelligent brother Max is getting bullied at school. And if that wasn’t enough, the family is transformed into monsters by the Baba Yaga at a fancy dress party: Emma is turned into a vampire, Frank into Frankenstein’s monster, Fay into a mummy and Max into a werewolf! Together the monster family chase the witch across half the globe to get rid of the evil curse. On their amazing journey, they meet real monsters, including Dracula, who wants to seduce Emma with his irresistible charm. No one said it was easy being a happy family …

MARKUS OSTERWALDER

HAVE FUN AT KINDERGARTEN, BOBO DORMOUSE!

In the new volume of one of Germany’s most successful picture book series ever, Bobo Dormouse finally gets to go to kindergarten! He deals with the typical situations all children face, including saying goodbye to mummy and daddy for the first time. He makes lots of new friends, learns some new games and rules and even gets to go on a trip with his new preschool class. And as usual, Bobo falls fast asleep at the end of each story …

MAX MOOR

FLO AND THE SNUFFALO BUFFALO

10-year-old Flo is spending her holidays with Grandpa Ludwig in the countryside, her favourite place in the whole world! And she’s got a soft spot for the water buffalos there. But on her first day, she finds a new-born buffalo calf that has no mother – and Flo, of course, does everything she can to help the poor little animal. But her holidays take a dramatic turn when Flo realises that the little buffalo calf can talk! And it’s got the most wildly active imagination, too …

MARKUS GROLIK

FRÄNKIE STEIN

The eight-year-old Fränkie Stein receives a strange birthday present: a run-down old ghost train. He discovers a whole host of ghosts, monsters, vampires and werewolves living in a cellar underneath it! They’ve been bored for ages because the train has been out of action for so long. And they’re all afraid of ghost hunters, who, they believe, want to do away with them all. Fränkie makes friends with the spooks in the cellar and they all have a fantastic birthday party. Fränkie even promises to defend “his” ghosts against the ghost hunters …

KATJA REIDER

FIRST CLASS SNIFFER – CAUGHT RED-HANDED

Jo, Flora and Eddy are searching for a new job. And they’re in luck! The owners of Caruso’s, the new ice-cream parlour, always full of guests, need someone to take their dog Bella out for walks. But then guests start feeling queasy after eating the ice cream at Caruso’s. Jo and Flora, however, don’t believe that there’s anything wrong with Signor Caruso’s ice cream. Is Andreas Kaiser, who owns another ice-cream shop nearby somehow involved? Eddy’s amazing sense of smell leads them onto a hot trail. Yet Eddy and his friends soon find themselves facing grave danger …

MORE BLACK THAN PURPLE

Life at 17 is hard. Alex has it even harder, as she wears more black than purple, lives with a taciturn father and a parrot, and has a grand total of her two only friends at school, Paul and Nina. But then Mr Spitzing turns up, a new trainee teacher liked by everyone—even Alex.

On a class trip to Poland, she tries to find out if she’s just a student for him. At the same time, Paul would like to be more than just friends.

Overwhelmed by a thousand different emotions, she kisses Paul—in the most inappropriate place in the world: Auschwitz concentration camp. Someone takes a photo and the image goes viral—suddenly everyone is talking about Alex and “today’s youth.” Meanwhile, the parrot escapes and Paul disappears. Alex recognises: “This is my story, I have to find them both.”

Lena Gorelik tells the story of a 17-year-old who confronts the world in a humorous way, and with a smattering of the necessary pride. In passing, she mulls issues such as how history should be taught, or how memories can be conveyed. But the focus here is on the challenges posed by growing up, and the complex images we paint of ourselves and others. A compelling novel imbued with the fire and energy of youth that’s also suitable for both younger and older readers.

Life at 17 and a mistaken kiss.

\[\text{LENA GORELIK, born in 1981 in Saint Petersburg, came to Germany in 1992. After her debut novel My White Nights (2004), she was hailed as a major new talent. The Collector of Lists (2013) won the Ravensburger Foundation Book Prize. 2015 saw the publication of Zero to Infinity.}

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THE BEGINNING OF EVERYTHING

When did we start walking upright, and when did the miracle of language occur? What is the origin of religion, law, trade, money, music and city-building? When did humans begin to bury their dead, and why do most cultures value monogamy? Jürgen Kaube has answers to all these questions, many of which are still the focus of political and cultural disputes to this day.

This absorbing account of the beginnings of humanity addresses fascinating questions such as the riddle of language. Our linguistic faculty cannot be explained on the basis of evolution, as not even great apes have enough space in their pharynx for speech. Could language have originated with the noises made while eating, as a side-effect of nutritional uptake? Then there’s the mystery of writing, which wasn’t invented as a way of recording spoken language but arose in Mesopotamia around 8000 BC as a bureaucratic tool to facilitate the counting of cattle. And currency, which popped up around 12,000 BC, wasn’t originally used for trade but as a religious sacrifice. Is that why we worship cash in a cult-like way? Language and religion, love and war: Jürgen Kaube explains how human culture was born and crafts a fascinating panorama.

Although beginnings are always difficult, Jürgen Kaube makes them easy to understand.

A compelling voyage of discovery back to the first dawning of human civilisation.

What makes us special, and how it all began.

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What makes us special, and how it all began.
THORSTEN HAVENER started out as an interpreter for English and French. Nowadays, he amazes audiences with his mind-blowing thought-reading performances. Thorsten Havener is Germany’s best-known mind-reader. On top of his successful live show he also gives lectures and hosts seminars. Find out more at www.thorsten-havener.com.

DON’T TELL ANYONE!
Don’t tell anyone what’s in this book! Be honest, didn’t that make you just a little curious? Hardly anything is as enticing as the chance to know someone’s secret. And we’re surrounded by secrets, be it bank confidentiality, a doctor sworn to professional secrecy or a suspicious text message. And what exactly are secrets? How do you keep them, and why do we often not manage it? The magician Thorsten Havener is an expert on mystery and concealment; here, he explains why secrets are so important to us, why they sometimes weigh us down or make our lives more interesting, how revealing them can unburden us or even get us into trouble. Yet he also shows us why we need them, especially in the era of big data and Facebook.

A new book by a bestselling author:
Thorsten Havener explores the fascinating world of secrets.

› Rights to the author’s first book I Know What You’re Thinking (more than 400,000 copies sold in Germany) were sold to 18 countries.
› In Germany, Haveners’s books have sold more than 1 million copies.

“In a world wonder in the making.”
Süddeutsche Zeitung

“A captivating entertainer.”
Münchner Merkur
The hidden side of falsehood.

BETTINA STANGNETH is a philosopher. She was born in 1966 and studied philosophy in Hamburg, writing her doctoral thesis on Kant and the notion of “radical evil”. She received the Cundill Prize Recognition of Excellence Award in 2015 for her book Eichmann Before Jerusalem, which the New York Times also pronounced to be one of that year’s best.

DECIPHERING LIES

It’s a commonly held belief that everyone lies. But even those who sing the praises of the good, old-fashioned lie would hate to be caught lying or, even worse, be lied to. And even if we see lying as an essential part of life, or as a necessary practice endemic to our culture, we never feel comfortable with it. If we aren’t comfortable with something that we all engage in from time to time, what ethical problems arise?

The context here is that many people who like talking about morals often point the finger at everyone else. And it’s not surprising that liars fascinate us. The swindlers, the conmen, the populists that manipulate us like magicians and plan how to lead us astray, with lies being only one of their many tools. Lies are seen as a weapon only if they fall into the wrong hands. But is it really that simple? If we take a philosophical approach to lying, is it valid to restrict ourselves to ethics and politics? The philosopher Bettina Stangneth, who enthralled us with her startling reader Thinking Evil, uses this new book to examine further, more fundamental questions. What does lying tell us about how we think? Is knowledge an essential part of falsehood? And how do we access that knowledge?

After her previous book, Thinking Evil, here follows her second book: Deciphering Lies. A third book within this context is planned for 2018.

Rights to Thinking Evil were sold to France (Calmann-Lévy) and the Netherlands (Atlas Contact) and Sweden (Daidalos).

"Her book is an invitation to think, meaning the kind of thinking that has consequences, including moral ones. That makes it perhaps the most significant new book this year.”
Alan Posener on Thinking Evil, Die Welt

Never has history been so entertaining.

LEONHARD HOROWSKI was born in 1972 and studied history, English and politics. His PhD described the early modern French court; he wrote his professorial thesis about the ministers of state of Brandenburg and Prussia. He has also worked as a historical advisor on many radio, TV and film productions.

THE FESTIVAL OF INTRIGUES: THE EUROPEAN NOBILITY OF THE EARLY MODERN ERA

A high French noble suddenly realises at the age of 23 that he has no first name. A Polish prince and lord over two million serfs learns to read when letters are cast in lead and hung up on a tree in the palace park to let him practice his pistol shooting. Welcome to the 17th and 18th centuries. For this is the Europe of kings surrounded by court society and its dense web of diplomatic relationships, intrigues and plots. It is a time in which nationality and ideology counts for almost nothing; building or maintaining a dynasty is all that matters.

Leonhard Horowski leads us through a gallery of great monarchs between Moscow and Madrid. Infused with a refreshing, dry wit, this book portrays dukes and princesses, accompanies them to soirées and duels, takes a peek into their badly insulated boudoirs, their secret nooks and corners; above all it shows the business of politics in a fascinating era.

This is a colourful, spirited portrait of an age whose many striking characters and intriguing tales still fascinate us to this day. Horowski masterfully evokes a long-gone world that seems like a huge building containing myriad unmapped corridors with many unexpected connections. Often what seems a detour is in fact a shortcut along the hallways of power…
The lives and works of two major philosophers.

MANFRED GEIER was born in 1943 and taught linguistics and literature for many years at the Universities of Marburg and Hannover. His publications include Kant’s World: A Biography (2005), The Humboldt Brothers: A Dual Biography (2009) and The Flash of Inspiration (2013).

WITTGENSTEIN AND HEIDEGGER
Not only were Martin Heidegger and Ludwig Wittgenstein both born in 1889, but the year 1911 saw an enduring passion for philosophy kindled in both men. Yet their backgrounds were starkly different: Wittgenstein was the product of a middle-class Viennese family while Heidegger was born into modest circumstances in a small provincial town in Baden. Both are considered among the 20th century’s most important thinkers, and their respective engagement with National Socialism (Hitler, too, was born in 1889) and the catastrophes of that epoch became a focus of both men’s work.

In this brilliantly researched book, bestselling author Manfred Geier traces the biographies of both philosophers and describes how different their biographies were, and how disparate their thinking. Heidegger’s major work was entitled Sein und Zeit, while Wittgenstein’s best-known work is the Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus. Heidegger’s thought became more general and abstract over the course of his life; he left notions of Dasein behind and concentrated on lending Sein a voice. Wittgenstein, on the other hand, engaged in an increasingly detailed and contrastive examination of everyday language, placing this in the context of the ways that humans live.

A genius and a traverser of borders: Walter Benjamin.

LORENZ JÄGER, born in 1951, studied sociology and German studies in Marburg and Frankfurt, after which he taught German literature in Japan and the United States. He joined the staff of the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung in 1997. Lorenz Jäger has written several books, including Adorno: A Political Biography (2003).

Walter Benjamin’s work – still unfinished when he committed suicide – is not easy to label, or assign to a particular philosophical school. And yet he is among the most influential thinkers of the 20th century, with intellectuals such as Adorno or Kracauer professing to be in awe of his genius. Lorenz Jäger’s remarkable and exhaustively researched book recounts the story of an exceptional life and details his childhood as son of a Jewish art dealer; his student years in Freiburg and Berlin where his stimulating friendship with Gershom Scholem began and examines his strained relationship with the thinkers of the Frankfurt School. Benjamin then travelled to Moscow, where he carefully edged closer to the communist movement. While in Paris, he debated with Hannah Arendt and worked on Passages, his planned magnum opus, which remained fragmentary. He fled France in 1940 to avoid being handed over to the Germans, reaching the Spanish town Portbou, where he took his own life. The circumstances surrounding his death are as mysterious as much of the rest of his life and writing.

Jäger’s masterful narrative brings the story of Walter Benjamin vividly to life, while simultaneously offering an absorbing survey of the first half of the last century, depicting Berlin’s well-off Jewish society, the intellectual circles of the Weimar Republic as well as the horrors of exile and persecution. This electrifying biography provides new perspectives on the life and work of one of Europe’s major thinkers.

“Jäger’s style and his ability to use small details to illustrate the big picture are wondrous; a philosophical book, as gripping as any crime thriller.” Süddeutsche Zeitung on Adorno: A Political Biography

The author’s previous works were sold to nine countries.

“The work of] Manfred Geier combines definitional acuteness with stylistic elegance.” Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

MANFRED GEIER’s new biography of Walter Benjamin.

This electrifying biography provides new perspectives on the life and work of one of Europe’s major thinkers.

“Jäger’s style and his ability to use small details to illustrate the big picture are wondrous; a philosophical book, as gripping as any crime thriller.” Süddeutsche Zeitung on Adorno: A Political Biography

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WERNER BIERMANN (1945–2016) was a filmmaker and writer whose body of work spanned around 50 documentary films. He was awarded the Grimme Prize for his work and wrote many books, including *The Strauss: Rise and Fall of a Family* (2006) and *My Life’s Dream: Humboldt’s American Journey* (2017).

KONRAD ADENAUER

Konrad Adenauer has influenced modern Germany more than perhaps anyone else in its history. He forced through the social market economic model as the basis of the new nation, reconciled Germany with France and firmly anchored federal Germany – with Bonn as its capital – as a Western state. Based on years of research and using previously unpublished source material as well as in-depth interviews with the Adenauer family, this book describes the arc of an exceptional life story, explores Adenauer’s aims and ideas as well as his fears and weaknesses. Biermann focusses on the politician’s life before becoming chancellor of Germany’s history, and which continues to affect the population of most of the population, and populist are becoming increasingly adept at exploiting this tendency with their overly simplistic formulas and explanations.

URSULA WEIDENFELD

Disapproval of the political establishment has never been more entrenched than it is today. There are many more non-voters and protest voters than supporters of the traditional ‘people’s parties’ in Germany. It has become clear that parliamentary democracy no longer reflects the opinions of the people. This book describes the arc of an exceptional life story, explores Adenauer’s aims and ideas as well as his fears and weaknesses. Biermann focusses on the politician’s life before becoming chancellor of Germany, detailing his political rise during the Imperial era, his stellar career as Cologne’s mayor and a politician of the German Reich during the Weimar Republic. The book also vividly describes Adenauer’s fall during the Nazi dictatorship, which nearly cost him his life when he was arrested in 1944. We can hardly pretend to understand the remarkable figure without appreciating the influence of his early life, which existing commentary has up to now failed to comprehensively do.

DIETER BORCHMEYER

WHAT IS GERMAN?
The question in the title is, ironically, a typically German one, given that no other nation wrestles so intensely with notions of its own identity. Dieter Borchmeyer shows that the answers have varied startlingly across the centuries. He traces the history of the word ‘German’ from the writings of Goethe through to the works of Wagner and later Thomas Mann. His work describes a nation caught between the poles of worldly cosmopolitanism and national arrogance.

ANNE AMERI-SIEMENS

born in Frankfurt in 1974, is a journalist. She writes for the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, SZ Magazin and for television. She was awarded the Corinna International Book Prize in 2007 and was nominated for the Grimme Prize the following year.

ONE DAY IN AUTUMN: THE RED ARMY FACTION, THE STATE AND THE SCHLEYER KIDNAPPING

The days known as the Deutscher Herbst or German Autumn, have seared themselves into the nation’s collective consciousness. In her new book, Anne Ameri-Siemens explores a range of perspectives on the terrorist campaign that engulfed Germany in 1977 and the painful choices faced by the government in its response to the kidnapping of Hanns Martin Schleyer: for this book, the author – one of the leading experts on this momentous period in recent history – interviewed a wide range of witnesses, including political decision-makers of the day, Hanns-Eberhard Schleyer, former lawyers for the Red Army Faction, police officers and prison guards supervising RAF detainees at Stammheim Prison. It details those dark weeks during which politicians in emergency meetings mooted even extreme ways of rescuing Hanns Martin Schleyer from his captors. One Day in Autumn manages to retell the story of 1977, a year in which terrorists held a nation captive, a year which was and has remained unique in Germany’s history, and which continues to affect the nation to this day.

HENNING SUßEBACH

is a staff writer at Die Zeit. He has received many prizes, including the Egon Erwin Kisch Prize, the Theodor Wolff Prize, the Henri Nannen Prize, and the German Reporters’ Prize. He is widely known for his reportage focusing on aspects of everyday life.

OFF THE GERMAN HIGHWAY

Around 6.2% of Germany’s ground area is sealed by streets, railway tracks or buildings. Prize-winning Die Zeit journalist Henning Sulzebeh embark’s on a journey beyond our roadways, discovering a strange, foreign world. He wanders across Germany, while sticking to one rule: he is not allowed to touch asphalt or concrete. On his travels, he sleeps on a farm, crosses through a marijuana plantation, wanders through alleys of old fruit trees and he keeps meeting people that he would previously never have been able to strike up a rapport with, drinking beer with some AID supporters, talking to local lads who find driving tractors more exciting than Minecraft, and finding refuge with monks in a remote cloister. And while wandering though the German outback he realizes that there is a growing social divide not only between the rich and the poor, but between city and countryside.

This is not only a refreshing, ambitious and acutely observed portrait of a country but also an exploration of its forgotten regions, as well as a survey of their fascinating inhabitants.

“Henning Sulzebeh is a master at finding the right formulations.”

Deutschlandradio Kultur
### DIANA KINNERT
**A Modern Conservatism: My Vision for Angela Merkel’s CDU**

Diana Kinnert was still at school when she became active in politics. Before she reached 18 she joined the CDU and the party of Angela Merkel. As a young woman with a migration background it wasn’t easy for her being a member but she managed to maintain an optimistic outlook. Today she advises the CDU on policy reform and is one of the party’s up-and-coming new stars. Kinnert relates how she entered politics and presents her ideas for a democracy in keeping with the times and for a new, modern conservatism.

- **Diana Kinnert**
- **March 2017 | 224 pages**

### PHILIP MANOW
**Style and Substance: Performing Democracy**

What is the political relevance of Merkel’s trouser suits, or von der Leyen’s blow-dry hairstyle? Why do we measure how long the applause lasts after someone’s speech? This political dictionary collates the ephemera of politicians and the business of politics, and presents an astute and entertaining analysis of how politics is stage-managed and performed. It provides some surprising insights into the inhabitants of the central nexus of the political establishment and their bizarre cultures and rituals.

- **Philipp Manow**
- **July 2017 | 256 pages**

### ANNIKA BROCKSCHMIDT, DENNIS SCHULZ
**Fight for the Crown: Science vs. the Humanities**

It’s an argument as old as humanity: do physics, chemistry and biology give better answers to our most important questions than history, literature and philosophy? It’s high time that these two enemies fought it out – in the ring of academic argument! Going for numerous rounds, this fascinating bout pitches scientists against writers and researchers in the humanities, slugging it out to determine which camp will reign supreme. Which side has the maddest academic? You can be the referee...

- **AnniKA BrockSchmidtDennis Schulz**
- **July 2017 | 224 pages**

### FRIEDRICH CHRISTIAN DELIUS
**Why Martin Luther Botched the Reformation**

The concept of “original sin” was both a translation error and a piece of senseless dogma, yet has remained an unsound piece of Christianity’s foundations since time immemorial. Why did Martin Luther not do away with this obvious mistake? F.C. Delius examines this issue with his trademark wit and verve, exploring a subject that has been off limits for commentators for centuries.

- **Friedrich Christian Delius**
- **March 2017 | 64 pages**

### IRIS DÖRING
**Inspiration**

Inspiration is the seed and the creative vessel of our ideas. But what does this often-used term mean? How can we make it productive for our careers and everyday lives? While we often try to suppress input from our environment, overcoming our cognitive “filter” in a targeted way is vital if we’re to become more open to inspiring moments and notions. This book is a practical guide to opening our thinking to signals and stimuli in our surroundings, and it offers some intriguing background into how thoughts are created in the human mind.

- **Iris Döring**
- **April 2017 | 256 pages**

### MAREN FISCHER-EPE, MARTIN REISSMANN
**Coaching: Leadership**

How can coaches best support leaders in successfully developing their roles? The authors explore important issues surrounding leadership and detail approaches and tools for coaching managers, illustrating their ideas with real-world scenarios. This volume is designed to complement the bestselling Coaching: Reaching Goals Together.

- **Maren Fischer-Epe Martin Reissmann**
- **March 2017 | 240 pages**

### CLAUDIA HOCHBRUNN
**Jerks Often Turn Up in Twos**

The world is full of annoying people that make our lives difficult, be it at work, in traffic, or in the supermarket. Without going into great detail, the world is full of arseholes. But is it really only other people who are annoying? Claudia Hochbrunn paints a bitingly funny picture of the nine most common personality types and explains why, for example, people get into states of paranoid whining, how we can best deal with the various personality types and which ones we’re best off avoiding.

- **Claudia Hochbrunn**
- **March 2017 | 224 pages**
eight out of ten germans have been on holiday on
SOLO TRIP

MIRKO GUTJAHR
A TRAIL OF SHARDS
Who was the first German? What did people eat in the Stone Age, and how did they survive? Why does the world’s oldest wheel come from Swabia? And why does Schiller’s grave contain two skulls, neither of which belongs to the celebrated writer? The archaeologist Mirko Gutjahr shows us how modern archaeology is done, while introducing us to some great scientists and intrepid explorers along the way. This book explores the area we know today as Germany, while surveying the development of thousands of years all the way back to the early Stone Age.

KAI JÄGER
HUMANS, OUR ANCESTORS AND THEIR FOSSILS
Why do platypuses lay eggs but we don’t? Why did our ancestors develop hair? And how realistic was Jurassic Park, anyway? In this absorbing book, palaeontologist Kai Jäger visits some fascinating excavation sites and explains how he and his colleagues work (what is the mysterious “Bone Lick” test?); debunks a few myths (fossils are never uncovered only using a big brush) and shows in an accessible, entertaining way what the fossils of our biological relatives tell us about our own evolution. Or how much of them is still part of us today.

FRITZ MEINECKE
THE ADVENTURER
Eight out of ten Germans have been on holiday on their own, and numbers are growing. What fascinates us about solo travel? Do we really need as much courage as people often say to holiday on our own? Travel blogger Annika Ziehen reveals how journeying alone improves self-esteem, why experiences of the great scientists and intrepid explorers along the way. This book explores the area we know today as Germany, while surveying the development of thousands of years all the way back to the early Stone Age.

KRISTINE ZIEHEN
SOLO TRIP

NICOLAS DIERKS
ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT
Many people still insist that philosophy is too abstract, that it has nothing to do with real life. Wrong! It encourages us to develop our skills and utilise them to make our lives better. Armed with 20 years of experience and 2000 years of philosophical tradition, Nicolas Dierks addresses the gritty end of reality and tries to assess how helpful the ideas of Aristotle, Kant, Wittgenstein and others really are on a daily level. Which habits are guaranteed to make us unhappy? How do we live our lives well, and how do we focus on what’s important? This inspiring search offers answers to questions that affect us all.

“Philosophers offer some practical help with life – how do I live a good, happy life?” Follows on from the bestselling What Am I Doing Here? (2014).
VERENA TURIN
SUPERHERO 21
“I’m a woman with a learning difficulty, and it doesn’t cause me any suffering.” Verena Turin is very direct in describing her life with Down Syndrome, and helps us find new and startling perspectives on this condition. This book gives us insights not only into her work at a respite home but also her band, love, her life in Tirol as well as her family, all the while maintaining a personal, subtle and surprising literary tone. Verena Turin’s observations are thought-provoking in the sense that they challenge us to re-examine our own view of the world.

SANDRA SCHULZ
THERE ARE SO MANY THINGS WRONG WITH THIS CHILD
Sandra Schulz is in the 13th week of her pregnancy when, after a routine blood test, her doctor utters the sentence: “I’m afraid I don’t have a normal test result for you.” Outwardly, Schulz takes on the role of the bullishly protective mother, but privately she thinks of her unborn child as “half a baby”, and is unsure of her ability to love a disabled child. In this open, emotional and moving book, Sandra Schulz invites her readers to share her innermost thoughts during a pregnancy which is far from normal.

ANNA SILVIA
MY LIFE, IN TATTERS
Anna Silvia tells the haunting story of a childhood destroyed by sexual abuse and an incessant struggle with bulimia – her own. Written with a clear-headed directness yet developing enormous descriptive power, this book hits the reader like a punch to the stomach and maintains a vice-like grip on our attention. Its immediate and unmediated narrative stance reveals the drama of a child and, later, a young woman who attempts with the last of her strength not to capitulate to her own tragic past.

STEFFEN SCHROEDER
MEETING A MURDERER
Steffen Schroeder and Micha first meet in Berlin’s Tegel prison in 2013. They found common ground talking about how both men had had a difficult start in life. But the differences were glaring: Schroeder became a renowned actor, while Micha slid into the Far Right scene, and later committed murder. Their first talk is the beginning of a special friendship. Schroeder volunteers to become a support worker for Micha, who is serving a life sentence. He experiences daily life in prison, is taught about pecking orders, drugs as a part of prison life and escape attempts. Over the years, he dives deep into Micha’s personal history. He also becomes increasingly important for Micha, and accompanies the offender on day release while becoming his mediator to the world outside. Soon Schroeder sees himself and his life in a new light. What is the difference between him and Micha? At which points do we make decisions that decide on our fate, that lead to success or failure? Imbued with a deep sensitivity, Schroeder’s book describes an unusual friendship while exploring themes such as guilt, fate and having a sense of responsibility for one’s own life.

HANNELORE HOGER
WITHOUT LOVE THE STARS MOURN
Hannelore Hoger is one of Germany’s best-loved and widely-known actors. She is known as a hard-edged personality who seldom lets others get close to her. However, she talks for the first time in detail about her own life. About her childhood in Hamburg, her first roles and great successes as an actor, her work with directors like Peter Zadek, Edgar Reitz and Alexander Kluge – experiences that were to leave a lasting impression on her. She also talks about fellow actors such as Ulrich Wildgruber, Götz George and Harald Juhnke, as well as her daughter, Nina.

But Hannalore Hoger also writes more openly than ever before about her own personal tastes and obsessions. She offers us an insight into her favourite books and music, why dogs and other animals have always played a special role in her life, and why she finds it important to travel. She also gives the reader a glimpse of another side of her personality, namely that of the keen painter; the book contains several recent artworks. This is an absorbing book about an equally fascinating actor.

“Hard, heartfelt, Hoger!”
Hamburger Morgenpost
stage in 2001, the first visit to Red star Belgrade’s Barcelona during the Champions League group announcements loudly and clearly to a concert, where he announces loudly, “mummy! Daddy just peed in the wash basin!” or there’s the story of the dad who comes back from taking his daughter to the toilets only for her to take his daughter to the toilets only for her to announce loudly, “mummy! Daddy just peed in the wash basin!” Or there’s the mother who takes her daughter to the toilets only for her to announce loudly, “mummy! Daddy just peed in the wash basin!”

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Every parent knows that awful feeling when your little ones are behaving so badly that we get an impulse to say: “That? That’s not my child…” There’s the story of the dad who comes back from taking his daughter to the toilets only for her to announce loudly, “mummy! Daddy just peed in the wash basin!” Or there’s the mother who takes her daughter to the toilets only for her to announce loudly, “mummy! Daddy just peed in the wash basin!”

JAN ZERBST, PETER ZERNECHEL (ED.)
ARE YOU PREGNANT OR ARE YOU JUST FAT?
Every parent knows that awful feeling when your little ones are behaving so badly that we get an impulse to say: “That? That’s not my child…” There’s the story of the dad who comes back from taking his daughter to the toilets only for her to announce loudly, “mummy! Daddy just peed in the wash basin!” Or there’s the mother who takes her daughter to the toilets only for her to announce loudly, “mummy! Daddy just peed in the wash basin!”

MUMMY! DADDY JUST PEED IN THE WASH BASIN!

SILVIA PLAH!
DOES GOD HAVE PARENTS?
The WISDOM OF CHILDREN
Children have their own wondrous notions, having not yet developed fixed concepts about life. And they don’t mindlessly follow some set of instructions. A tree is not just a tree that has leaves and grows roots. A tree is also “wood coming out of the ground”. This book lets kids talk about foreignness, God, power, siblings, fairness, time and much more. Often their pronouncements contain some remarkable insights and raise new questions that encourage children and parents alike to renew their own sense of wonder.

JULIA SUCHORSKI (ED.)
THE GAME OF MY LIFE
There are football matches that fans will remember for the rest of their lives. Be it the World Cup final between Italy and France in 2006, Liverpool v Barcelona during the Champions League group stage in 2001, the first visit to Red star Belgrade’s stadium in 1991 or the UEFA European Championship final in 1967. These unforgettable exciting matches changed the lives of some of the people who watched them – all of whom have in common their deep love for the beautiful game. A game like no other: football fanatics and their favourite matches.

JÜRGEN FEDER
HERBALISM FOR BEGINNERS
According to Jürgen Feder, many of the herbs and other plants you see on fields or lawns or in the woods or even amongst the grass next to the traffic lights are not only edible but can liven up your dinner menu. Many medicinal plants are just waiting to be harvested at street corners and made into teas or infusions to unfold their beneficial effects. Jürgen Feder journeys with us through the city and across the countryside, showing us delicious plants that we’d otherwise have walked past without knowing they were there...

QUICHOTTE
 Born in 1983, is an author, slam poet, cabaret artist and rapper. As such, at the age of fifteen, he accepted the stage name Quichotte and has since fought against shallow entertainment. He lives in Cologne.

FLORIAN SCHROEDER
WOMEN: (ALMOST) A DECLARATION OF LOVE
These days, women are expected to be super thin, have a successful career, be not only a loving mother but also red-hot in bed… Men’s expectations are seemingly boundless and while women accomplish so much, they often stand in the men’s shadows. Self-confident women are labelled bossy (or worse), yet if they show emotions they’re called hysterical. It must be weird, a crazy experience being a woman, finds this male author. Is this idea a recipe for disaster? Perhaps, but at the same time it’s (almost) a declaration of love...

JUTTA WEBER
RASTAFATHER: HOW I DISCOVERED MY JAMAICAN ROOTS
It’s the summer of 1963 and Helga is pregnant, yet has no idea who the father is. She gives birth to a girl with dark skin and frizzy hair, and Helga starts wracking her brains… She vaguely remembers jazz, a lot of rum and a hotel corridor. And that’s all. Years later her daughter Jutta hears that her father was a certain “Oim” but it’s only years later that she finally embarks on a search for him. And she finds him: his actual name is Owen and he’s a retired accountant. Then everyone meets up on a Jamaican beach...

MEMOIR

Humour

Humour

Sports

Botany

Memoir

Memoir

General
From Adam to Apple in less than 300 pages.

ALEXANDER VON SCHÖNBURG was born in 1969. He worked on the staff of the FAZ newspaper, and was editor-in-chief of Park Avenue. Since 2009 he has been part of the managing editorial team of Bild Zeitung. He has written many bestselling books. Alexander von Schönbürg lives with his family in Berlin.

WORLD HISTORY, TO GO
Impossible, you might think. Compressing the entire history of the world into 280 pages? Can’t be done. But there’s one person who can. Alexander von Schönburg manages this feat so deftly and with such elegance that readers of this book run the risk of becoming addicted to history.

The author takes us on a spellbinding journey through the most important stages in human history, from Babylon to Berlin and New York. He depicts the greatest heroes and the biggest villains, points out the greatest works of art and explains a range of discoveries and ideas, from the hand axe to the selfie stick. He starts out by rattling through the first two million years of human existence in only ten pages, pushed onward by the question: how did a comparatively insignificant species of ape with a position in the food chain somewhere between sheep and lions manage to subjugate an entire planet? With its many surprising insights illuminating the temporal undergrowth of countless millennia, its incisive anecdotes and telling portraits of leading historical figures (what connects Vladimir Putin and Charlemagne?) as well as a panoply of interesting historical facts, this book is more than just a great read. It’s a literary experience. And to be honest, anything Schönburg passes over in this book you probably wouldn’t have missed, anyway...

The espresso of history books: strong, rich and stimulating. Everything you need to know about world history by bestselling author Alexander von Schönburg.

› 45,000 copies sold!
› Rights sold to China, Czech Republic, Finland, Lithuania, Romania, Taiwan, Korea and Spain.

“Schönbürg understands how to deliver historical insights in an exceedingly amusing way.” Spiegel online

The bestselling author ist back!

ECKART VON HIRSCHHAUSEN, born in 1967, studied medicine and journalism. For fifteen years, he’s been a fixture on German stages as a cabaret artist, speaker and author. His previous titles sold more than 5 million copies, making him one of the most successful authors in Germany.

MIRACLES MAKING MIRACLES: HOW MEDICINE AND MAGIC HEAL US
Long before he studied medicine, Eckart von Hirschhausen was a magician. Graduating through the local youth group of the Magic Circle to the German championships, he developed a deep understanding of the art of deception. This makes him uniquely placed to show us how much “magical thinking” is part of our psyche.

While science has taken the magic out of medicine, it hasn’t driven it out of us humans. Hirschhausen seeks to resolve the ongoing struggle between science-based medicine and supporters of alternative therapies. Armed with his trademark sharp wit he explores how we can all take better decisions for our health, what each of us should be doing to keep healthy and what we shouldn’t. Why do placebos work even if we don’t believe in them? Do singing bowls work better than cortisone? How do we differentiate between downright dishonesty and self-deception that helps to heal us? It’s time for a bit of plain talking and not more of the inscrutable “advice” enclosed in packets of pills. If we have so many ways of influencing the body through the psyche, why do we seldom do it in a targeted way?

In this revealing book, this doctor, comic and science journalist reconciles two warring ideas while offering us some practical, real-world guidance. He playfully switches perspectives, alternating between plain talking and rapier-like wit: between general knowledge and self-experience, and between j’accuse and entertaining anecdotes.

“Laughter and a sense of wonder rely on playing with expectations, deceptions and switching perspectives. Medicine and psychotherapy also often use the same box of tricks.” Eckart von Hirschhausen

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