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It’s 2pm on the 9th of July, plus one or two little minutes. In La Laguna, the archipelago’s old capital, the temperature is 29°C. The sky is clear, cloudless and of such a light blue that it could be white.

This beginning finds Rosa returning to the island and the decrepit house of the formerly influential Bernadotte family. Rosa is searching for something, without knowing what. For a time, it seems she might find it in the asilo, La Laguna’s elderly care home, where the 90-year-old Julio is still employed as a porter. Julio was a courier during the civil war, imprisoned by the Fascists before fleeing and later returning to the island. Today he watches over the last gateway of the living. Julio is Rosa’s grandfather on her mother’s side; the only privileges he has ever known are those enjoyed by others.

Within only a few years, Inger-Maria Mahlke has become one of Germany’s most acclaimed novelists. Each of her books marks a departure into new and more startling territory. In Archipelago she provides a fresh and absorbing perspective on a convulsive century of upheavals and revolutions, of great expectations and small victories. This is Julio’s century, the century of the Baute and Bernadotte families, the Wieses, Moores and González – surnames from across Europe. But there are also those who have no name, like the woman everyone calls “The Cat”, an unmarried mother, cook and tomato packer who suddenly disappeared one day. Sometimes what comes and goes is determined by capricious whims, an accident or even a plainly told and thrilling narrative.

- Five generations, one island and 100 years of European history.
- Winner of the German Book Prize 2018!
- English sample translation available.

Growing up in Lübeck and Tenerife, Inger-Maria Mahlke studied law at the Free University of Berlin, where she worked in the criminology department. She won the 2009 edition of Berlin’s Open Mike event as well as the 2010 Klaus Michael Kühne Prize for her debut novel, Silberfischchen (Aufbau Verlag, 2010). On submitting an excerpt from her novel Rechnung offen (Berlin Verlag, 2012) for the Ingeborg Bachmann Prize, she won the Ernst Willner Prize. In 2014 she received the Karl Arnold Prize of the North Rhine-Westphalian Academy of Sciences and the Arts. Her most recent novel was Wie ihr wollt (Berlin Verlag, 2015), which was shortlisted for the German Book Prize. Inger-Maria Mahlke lives in Berlin.
Natascha Wodin
SOMETHERE IN THIS DARKNESS

A personal history that shines a light on ours, too.

Natascha Wodin’s *She Came From Mariupol* was a powerful literary memorial to her mother. Her new book picks up the narrative from her mother’s suicide in 1956.

In this period of Wodin’s tumultuous life, the elder of two daughters is 16 years old and has spent time at a Catholic children’s home. She lives with her father in one of the “houses” down by the river, among the displaced and those forcibly removed, in a world outside of the world, set apart from the small German town nearby. Yet she longs to be part of the German community, to be called Ursula or Susanne and dreams of marrying one of the local tradesmen to escape her Russian heritage. Her father, however, who Natascha has feared since early childhood, effectively incarcerates her and bans her from wearing her red shoes, commanding her to clean their home. Wearing her mother’s blue taffeta dress, she escapes to the streets, vulnerable and alone.

The central figure of this story is a girl growing up in post war Germany as the daughter of victims of the Nazi’s forced labour policies, a girl who is avoided and mistrusted by the Germans around her. The story is told in retrospect, starting with the death of the author’s father in a German care home for the elderly. His life began during the reign of the last tsar and spanned almost the entire 20th century. For his daughter, his history has remained an unknown void. Somewhere in this darkness, behind the silence, she forages for a key that will unlock something akin to understanding. This momentous story of the monstrous effects of homelessness and dislocation is told in Wodin’s acclaimed prose that while straining to remain objective is imprinted with a deep sense of the poetic.

- Rights sold to Netherlands (Atlas Contact).
- The author’s previous title *She Came From Mariupol* won the Leipzig Book Fair Prize in 2017 and sold 85,000 copies. Rights were sold to: China (New Star Press), France (Métailié), Italy (L’Orma), Lebanon (Arabic world rights, All Prints), Lithuania (Ledyka Gelmes), the Netherlands (Atlas Contact), Spain (Libros del Asteroide) and Ukraine (Books XXI).

*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. She then worked as a telephone operator and stenographer 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 lives in Berlin and Mecklenburg.

Rowohit Verlag GmbH, Hamburger Straße 17, D-21465 Reinbek
Love: The biggest adventure of all

Scar ekes out a meagre existence on a rubbish tip in Naples. Having lost an eye in a fight, she can’t imagine that anyone could ever love a dog like her. Then the sensitive labradoodle Max strays across Scar’s rubbish tip and tells her of a life she has never known, of a happy existence protected by caring people. But Max seems to have lost this home forever. Scar, who Max starts calling Amelie, decides to accompany him on his search for his lost home.

During their odyssey through a warm Italian summer and across the snow-covered Alps they confront all sorts of dangers and challenges. Meanwhile, Max is plagued by terrible nightmares. Then a human from his darkest dreams appears and starts hunting the two dogs…

Thrilling and emotional – a book that resonates with its reader long after it’s put down

- 4.5 million copies of his works were sold in Germany and rights were sold to 31 countries.
- Rights sold to Spain (Planeta).

“Safier tells a great and enthralling story of tragic power that is sure to score with its reader.”
FAZ on For 28 Days

“We salute this author, whose story surprised and captivated us.”
Literaturkurier on For 28 Days

David Safier was born in 1966, and is one of today’s most successful authors and screenwriters. His books Lousy Karma, Suddenly Shakespeare, Happy Family, Moo! and For 28 Days sold millions. His books are also bestsellers in markets outside Germany. He won both the International Emmy and the Grimme Prize for his screenplay for the TV series Berlin, Berlin. He lives and works in Bremen, is married and has two children and a dog.
The post-war economic boom, a new consumerism, dreamy new fashions in pastel shades – three sisters take charge of a Berlin department store

Berlin, May 1945. The city is in ruins, as are the souls of its people. The Thalheim department store on Berlin’s Ku’damm has been badly damaged by the bombing. Family patriarch Friedrich is injured, his son Oskar missing somewhere in Russia. This is the hour of the three Thalheim daughters, who are intent on restoring their department store to its former glory. Rike, the eldest, turns out to be a shrewd businesswoman who sacrifices everything for the good of the firm. The beautiful Silvie, on the other hand, has no interest in financial matters and turns her attention to her admirers and having a good time.

After the currency reform and the founding of the new Federal Republic, things finally seem to be moving up. Berliners are becoming consumers again, hungry for luxury goods. But the new era brings difficulties, too. Florentine, the youngest daughter, develops into an enfant terrible. When a dark secret is revealed that throws a shameful light on the business, the three sisters are forced to confront a past still very much alive…

A major new trilogy set in the 1950s about three sisters and a Berlin business dynasty.

Brigitte Riebe completed a doctorate in history before becoming a publishing editor. She has written many successful novels set in past historical eras. Her books have been translated into many languages. She lives with her husband in Munich.

THE KU’DAMM SISTERS: A GOLDEN AGE

Berlin, 1953. While the eldest sister Rike puts the family’s business above everything else, middle daughter Silvie wants to push away the dark memories of the war by living her life to the full. Rike’s hard work in rebuilding the department store on Berlin’s Ku’damm doesn’t interest her in the slightest. After all, business is booming. Rike wants to offer her customers the newest innovations: petticoats, nylon stockings and Perlon shirts as well as the finest fabrics and wares in the latest Italian fashions. But the dynamics of the family have changed. Now that the wounds of war are healed, the men refuse to let the women run the business on their own. Florentine, the youngest sister, is now a young woman and begins rebelling against anyone and everyone in a way that threatens to split the family. Silvie realises that she will have to take responsibility for the business and for the family…
It's the spring of 1970, and Henny Unger is celebrating a "big" birthday, reaching the same age as the century. During her garden party, her three best friends Käthe, Lina and Ida never leave her side. But the circle of friends and well-wishers has widened. The four friends have become mothers and grandmothers.

Henny's granddaughter is a photo journalist reporting from crisis-hit areas around the world. She has developed a strong, intimate friendship with Florentine, Ida's glamorous daughter, a model and member of the international jet set. Ruth, the adoptive daughter of Käthe and Rudi, has become a permanent fixture in their social circle.

A committed, passionate young journalist, Ruth seems to be drifting into murky political waters. She sympathises with the recently founded Red Army Faction, not least because of her husband. Katja finds her love life to be anything but smooth sailing. While visiting East Berlin, she meets an actor who refuses to leave the GDR, leaving them only the option of secret meetings in Prague and Budapest. In November 1989, the Berlin Wall falls, sparking an era of upheaval whose effects are even felt in Uhlenhorst.

- Volume I and Volume II have sold 1 million copies since its publication!
- Volume I and II have been on the SPIEGEL bestseller list for more than 52 weeks!
- Rights to Daughters of a New Time have been sold to Italy (Fazi).

Carmen Korn was born in 1952 in Düsseldorf and is the daughter of the composer Heinz Korn. After training at the renowned Henry Nannen School for Journalism she joined the staff of Stern magazine. Carmen Korn is married with two children.
Twenty years ago, Frida Beier experienced an emotionally jarring trip across the American Midwest as the assistant of the artist Adrian Ballon, whose final project involved sawing up houses. As the only woman involved in the project, she negotiated between a crew of gruff workmen, an invisible gallery owner and the taciturn artist himself, who later shot himself in his midnight blue-coloured Ferrari on the outskirts of Paradise, Texas, his father’s hometown. Ballon was found holding a photograph of himself and Frida, as though sending his assistant a coded message.

Frida later comes across Ballon’s diary, and finally finds the courage to unpick Ballon’s work and the circumstances of his death. Why did he talk so often about an infamous 1933 kidnapping case involving Charles F. Urschel, which ended in Paradise and led to the foundation of modern criminal profiling? Frida slowly realises that it was no coincidence that she became Ballon’s assistant, that she was part of his last and most radical work of art.

In Denis Pfabe’s vivid and brilliantly narrated debut novel a gifted eccentric grapples with deep personal issues, a woman refuses to understand what’s going on around her and dark family secrets take their silent toll...

- A brilliantly told debut novel: just captivating!
- Recommended by New Books in German (Goethe Institute).

Born in Bonn in 1986, Denis Pfabe originally trained in business administration before studying media communications and journalism in Cologne. He graduated from the Bavarian Academy of Writing and was awarded the “Autorenwerkstatt Prosa” stipend by the Literarisches Colloquium Berlin. He lives in Bonn and works three days a week driving forklift trucks at a local supermarket. *The Day Ends in Light* is his first novel.
Nicolas Remin  
SOPHIE’S DIARY

Berlin in the autumn of 1989. Erika zur Linde is teaching when she’s called to the telephone where she receives the mortifying news that her father has fatally shot himself. According to his housekeeper, he received a letter from America a few days before his death in which a journalist enquired about the fate of a Jewish acquaintance of her father’s, one Felix Auerbach. Erika has never heard of him.

At her father’s house, she stumbles across her mother’s diary. It reveals Felix Auerbach to be an attractive blonde Jewish man and a school friend of her father’s. When her father is called up, her mother Sophie looks after the young man. The world of Sophie’s 19-year-old mother, a regime loyalist, is shaken to its foundations. Auerbach goes into hiding with the family but a crime committed during the last days of the war silences both husband and wife forever.

While Erika investigates further, the American journalist arrives in Berlin. He has come not only to write about the fall of the Berlin Wall but also to discover what happened to his uncle. Suddenly, everything in Erika’s world is in danger: her inheritance, her father’s reputation and even her own identity.

- An impressive novel about identity, set in Berlin during the time of the fall of the wall.
- Rights to Remin’s Snow in Venice have been sold to: Croatia (Fraktura), France (10/18), Greece (Kedros), Poland (Dolnoslaskie), Russia (Book Club 36.6), Spain (Robinbook) and Turkey (Kirmizi Kedi).
- Snow in Venice was sold more than 140,000 times!

Nicolas Remin was born in Berlin in 1948. He studied literature, philosophy and art history in Berlin and California before working in film dubbing as a writer and director. Nicolas Remin is a freelance author and lives in the Lüneburg Heath. Following six volumes of a series featuring Commissario Tron, Sophie’s Diary is his seventh novel.
Heinz Strunk became enamoured with the short story form when he edited a collection of Botho Strauß stories a few years ago. “Mr. Tea” is no second-rate, off-the-cuff work or a collection of haphazardly penned stories, but instead an important step on Heinz Strunk’s literary and personal journey.

Some of these stories are short, some long. Some revisit topics addressed elsewhere in his work, including loneliness, sexual frustration, the physical signs of aging, alcohol abuse and weight issues. But the style here is even more trenchant than that of his novels, as though composed of a series of unsettling jokes whose punchlines are occasionally humorous, yet sometimes crystallise the bizarre and the grotesque or revel in the seemingly self-evident logic of dreams.

Like the tale of an East German democracy activist so thoroughly broken by the regime that he misreads the fall of the Berlin Wall as a treacherous sleight-of-hand engineered by a stricken regime and never again leaves his flat. In other stories, cars meet up to plot the overthrow of humans, Axl Rose of Guns N’ Roses endures a hellish trip across Hamburg’s Reeperbahn, a beauty queen is turned into an old hag by a stint at a fast-food snack bar, a man is crucified on a wind turbine near an autobahn and an expert on Wilhelm Busch loses it on the radio.

Rowohlt
August 2018
208 pages

Backlist:

- Strunk’s previous novel The Golden Glove topped the bestseller lists for months, was nominated for the Leipzig Book Fair Prize in 2016 and will be made into a film by Fatih Akin.
- In autumn 2016 Heinz Strunk received the Wilhelm Raabe Prize.
- Rights to The Golden Glove were sold to Finland (Sammakko).

The musician, actor and writer Heinz Strunk was born in Hamburg in 1962. He is a founding member of the comedian trio Studio Braun and has his own television show on VIVA. His book Meat is my Veg has sold half a million copies. It has since been adapted into a prize-winning radio play, an operetta at the Hamburger Schauspielhaus and also a feature film.
The events depicted here occur during the winter of the terrorist attack on the Christmas market near Berlin’s Gedächtniskirche, the German capital’s Church of Remembrance. A man with no name watches the precarity pervading his neighbourhood with an increasing sense of unease. A series of conversations with his neighbours lets him reflect on his own biography and peer into theirs, and becomes an investigation into the human spirit and the meaning of life and death.

One of his conversations is with Dariusz, formerly a surgeon and father; his son drowned in South America. He also meets with Karsten, a former fellow student, in a bar near Berlin’s Charité hospital where Karsten works as a molecular biologist. And he talks to the elderly Dorota, a former architect from Poland whose intellectual energy confuses and inspires him. The blow, when it falls, hits him all the harder. His last visit to Dorota’s flat finds him standing in an empty room; the landlord informs him that Frau Dorota has hanged herself in her bedroom.

_The Sad Guest_ is a powerfully existential inquiry into one self and the wider world. Developing a bewitching narrative intensity, this philosophical and deeply human novel ‘knows’ about loss, about the effects of suppressing suffering and what it means to arrive somewhere new. This story of survival insists on the permanency of beauty despite the unnerving ugliness of fear and death.

- Rights to _The Enterprise_ have been sold to Russia (Eksmo).
- Rights to _The Many Deaths of Grandfather Jurek_ have been sold to Croatia (Mala Zvona) and to Poland (Bukowy Las).

*Matthias Nawrat* was born in the Polish town of Opole and moved with his family to Bamberg at the age of 10. He studied biology before moving to Switzerland to study at the Swiss Literature Institute in Biel. His 2014 novel _The Enterprise_ was critically acclaimed and nominated for the German Book Prize. It also garnered Nawrat the Kelag Prize and the Bayern 2 Wordplay Prize. He lives in Berlin.
If Albert had his way, a storm would erupt instantly and sweep it all away. He’s desperate to break out of his stiflingly closeted suburb, one of the thousands strewn across Germany in the 1970s. All that matters to him is being free and different. Albert thinks he’s found a way out, delving into the work of Kafka, Musil and Frisch. Intending to become a writer, he falls in love with the rebellious Katrin but is insecure about his bookishness. Martin, his best friend and a passionate surfer, seems to have better chances.

While mowing the neighbour’s lawn Albert makes a discovery that points to hidden tragedies played out behind the curtains of suburbia. Suddenly, literature and reality clash unexpectedly and Albert is forced to admit that he may be more attached to his home town than he’d like to admit.

Dirk Knipphals’s wonderfully insightful and empathetic debut novel explores the awakenings of youth and the fight for new freedoms against old traditions during the 1970s; this is a homage to dreams and illusions that, while failing in the face of harsh realities, still end in triumph.

A charming debut novel set in the 1970s in Germany about the awakenings of youth and the fight for new freedoms against old traditions.

Dirk Knipphals born in Northern Germany in 1963, studied literature and philosophy in Kiel and Hamburg. Today, he works as a literary editor for the German tageszeitung newspaper. The Surfer is his first novel.
Paul Helmer’s life borders two worlds. One is London’s advertising industry, the other a German provincial town, where he lives with his wife and an adult daughter. Driven out of a commune in Denmark and forced to seek shelter with her parents, Judith is grappling with problems of uncertain depth. Is she running from debts or does she have deeper, more troubling liabilities?

All the members of this family seem driven by yearning, each searching for their own form of salvation. Paul Helmer rests his vague hopes on the impulsive, astronomically rich and faceless client Faisal. Helmer’s wife Inge clings to the help of a healer who, if nothing else, seems to know what motivates people. Judith may already have drifted beyond the boundaries of the family, beyond what her parents still consider binding despite everything that’s happened.

A clear-sighted observer, Andreas Martin Widmann is a storyteller of great perspicuity on social relations and how they inform the workings of our most private relationships. Messiah depicts a family drifting apart and details the concomitant and unexpected upheavals and re-configurations. Precise, poetic and enlivened by powerful imagery, Widmann’s considered and eloquent novel is an apt description of our current era. Or the era, at least, that we think we live in.

A powerful and poetic novel about a family drifting apart.

Andreas Martin Widmann was born in Mainz in 1979, completed his doctorate in Modern German Literature and spent several years teaching German language and literature at University College London. His writings have appeared in a range of literary publications and anthologies; he has received many prizes for his academic work, including the 2010 Robert Gernhardt Prize. He was awarded the Mara Cassens Prize in 2013 for his debut novel, Die Glücksparade (Rowohlt, 2012). He lives and works in Berlin.
Aris was born in Greece and adopted as a small child by Helmut and Gitte as a form of “reparation” for German atrocities committed there. He became a nurse at an elderly people’s home, a job that takes a heavy toll. As one of his patients put it, “All these sad eyes, it’s enough to make you sick of living.” When the terminally ill Xenaki makes him an unusual proposition, he hesitates, then agrees. Aris is to travel to Greece and give her granddaughter Aphrodite her inheritance.

Just after his arrival in Athens, he is spun into a web of murky dealings by Stelios, a wily kiosk owner, and Sakis, a would-be gigolo. But he still has to find the inheritance – and Aphrodite. The mysterious heirloom turns out to be a packet of old letters and photographs from the dark war years when Ms Xenaki fought against the German occupiers with Aris Kommenos. This legendary resistance fighter is the namesake of Aris, who now asks himself: Did Xenaki know that?

Gerasimos Bekas’s witty, vivacious novel describes a young man’s search for identity while depicting in unsparing detail the Greek resistance to the German occupation, an era that many Germans still prefer to forget. Yet this multifaceted story also explores how Greece’s current situation is influenced by the destruction wrought by the Germans during World War II.

A multifaceted debut about a young man’s search for identity against the background of the Greek resistance to the German occupation during World War II.

Born in 1987, the writer and stage director Gerasimos Bekas grew up in Greece and Franconia and lives in Berlin and Athens. In 2013 won a literary stipend from the Bavarian Academy of Writing. He won the 2014 faz Audience Award at Germany’s annual Open Mike event. His current productions include Glitsch-Gott (Maxim Gorki Theatre 2015), G for Gadenis (Greek National Theatre 2015) and Das große Wundenlecken (Theater Augsburg 2016/7). All The Good People Were Dead is his debut novel.
Refugees drowning in the Mediterranean, terrorist attacks by fundamentalists on newspaper offices, our fear of foreigners paired with a feeling of being estranged from ourselves.

These three major contemporary works, *The Suppliants*, *Rage* and *Ours*, make tangible the escalating madness of our times. They offer a powerfully expressive and clear-sighted probe of fundamental Western values, including humanism, democracy, freedom of expression and human rights.

Here, Jelinek gives free rein to her feelings of incredulity and helplessness faced with a world of hardening political frontiers yet where nothing seems safe or secure.

- Winner of the Nobel Prize in Literature in 2004.
- Elfriede Jelinek is one of the most important contemporary dramatists in Germany.

*Elfriede Jelinek*, who was born in 1946 and grew up in Vienna, now lives in Vienna and Munich. She has received numerous awards for her literary works, which include not only novels but also plays, poetry, essays, translations, radio plays, screenplays and opera librettos. Her awards include the Georg Büchner Prize and the Franz Kafka Prize for Literature. Her recent publications with Rowohlt include her plays *The Merchant’s Contracts*, *Rechnitz (The Choking Angel)* and *On Animals*. In 2007 and 2008 she published her internet novel *Envy* on her homepage www.elfriedejelinek.com.

“This is captivating, trenchant oratory constructed over an abyss from which emanates a painful recognition of failure instead of any divine light.” Der Freitag
One day, Theodor Lerner stumbles into a bizarre polar adventure. Prodded and manipulated by the voluptuous swindler Frau Hanhaus, the decidedly naïve yet decisive Theodor travels on a dilapidated old steamer to the Arctic to annex an ownerless island there.

What seems like a whimsically improbably caper is in fact a true story from Germany’s colonial history from around the turn of the twentieth century.

Martin Mosebach masterfully develops this hilarious narrative, detailing a panorama of absurdities from the colonial era.

- Rights to the author’s last book *The 21* have been sold to the USA (Plough Publishing).
- Rights to the novel *Mogador* have been sold to Italy (E/O Edizioni).

**Martin Mosebach** was born in Frankfurt am Main in 1951. After passing his bar exams to qualify as a lawyer in 1979, he established himself as a writer in the city of his birth, where he still lives today. His first novel *Das Bett* was published in 1983; since then, he has published a further nine acclaimed novels that have been translated into several languages. Mosebach has received many accolades and awards, including the Heinrich von Kleist Prize, the Georg Büchner Prize and the Goethe Award.
Martin Mosebach's early stories are packed with subtle surprises, with memory often recurring as an important motif in his prose. A fantastical Italy, for example, is mixed with pictures of recent German history.

This volume presents an array of unsettling, funny and tragic figures. Martin Mosebach writes with a love of detail and depth of feeling that captures the vivid colouration and peculiarity of the settings of his stories.

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Backlist:

rororo
September 2018
192 pages
“Old age is a micro-state, governed by young giants.” This is the point of view of a first-person narrator whose lyrics capture fleeting sparks of happiness vanishing in darkness, emptiness and failure. Brushing a dog’s coat, cutting open an apple, or every time we see the mountain peaks bathed in blue, hear wind rushing through trees, find our speech halted by the beauty of leaves… That’s when we feel the approach of immortal questions about happiness, its nature and longevity. But already words are puncturing the serenity, hurtful words spoken by others. We can protect against them only by “clothing ourselves in verses as though they were armour, beautiful verses that form a barrier against the world, where rest is an illusion.”

Here we have it, the sum, perhaps even the result, of Martin Walser’s poetry. Here, his realism becomes tangible, more than anywhere else in his oeuvre. Nothing is more than or above beauty. These are beautiful expressions of something that isn’t. Martin Walser has taught pain how to sing and distilled thoughts of crystalline clarity from the impositions of reality. His new book LATE SHIFT is a collection of stenographic recordings of life, including lyrical passages and essays that are always touching, heartfelt and true.

- Martin Walser belongs to the most important contemporary writers in Germany.
- “Walser is a master of hiding through revelation. Or, put another way, of masking himself by bearing all.”
  - Der Tagesspiegel

Backlist:

Martin Walser was born in 1927 in Wasserburg and now lives in Überlingen by Lake Constance. He is among Germany’s most important literary authors and 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 order Pour le Mérite and was appointed Officier de l’Ordre des Arts et des Lettres. In 2015 he was awarded with the Nietzsche Prize for his life’s work.
Wolfgang Herrndorf
VOICES

Herrndorf intended his incomplete, wholly unpublished works to be destroyed after his death, stipulating as much in his will. But a wealth of other texts seeped out into the world during his lifetime that avoided wider attention and was printed in far-off places or used only at readings. Many were released via the internet; Herrndorf was a member of an internet forum named “Wir höflichen Paparazzi” (“We, the polite Paparazzi”) alongside successful authors like Kathrin Passig and Klaus Cäsar Zehrer. Another member, Tex Rubinowitz, called it “a hard-as-nails Stalinist writing school”. Everyone involved agreed that Herrndorf was the harshest critic of his own and others' writing. He often wrote under the pseudonym “Stimmen” (“Voices”).

This volume presents a wealth of material that sometimes reminds us of Plush Storms, sometimes of Tschick. Still others are reminiscent of the magical mnemonic fragments of his last book, Work and Structure. The texts compiled here include a tale of a journey in an old, stolen car (but not by kids, and not in a Lada), while Herrndorf gets lost on his bike at night in a forest, reminding us of Isa’s wanderings in the moonlight. This is no collection of documents or relics.

This – even Herrndorf’s unfinished writings – is literature, placed by the author himself in the tradition of the Romantic fragment. Voices is a treasure trove for all fans of Herrndorf’s work.

Rowohlt Berlin
September 2018
144 pages

Praise for Tschick:

“An intoxicating, authentic book packed with wit and situation comedy.”
Süddeutsche Zeitung

This is a novel that we will still want to read in fifty years time.”
Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

Wolfgang Herrndorf, born in Hamburg in 1965, studied art, contributed drawings to the German magazine Titanic amongst other publications, and began to write relatively late in his career. In 2002 his debut novel, Velvet Thunder, was published, for which Joachim Lottmann declared him to be a “doyen of Pop Literature”. He was awarded with the Deutscher Erzählpreis for On this Side of the Van Allen Belt in 2008 and (for his book Tschick) with the Clemens Brentano Preis (2011), the Deutscher Jugendliteraturpreis (2011) and the Hans-Fallada-Preis (2012). Wolfgang Herrndorf died on August 26th, 2013 in Berlin.

- Rights to the author’s bestselling novel Tschick have been sold to 35 countries!
- Tschick won the German Youth Literature Prize and was made into a successful movie by Fatih Akin.
Marco’s seventeen-year-old life is turned upside down when, peering out one night into the darkness, he sees a big man dressed in leather crashing out through the window of the village brothel.

Seconds later, a young woman storms out of the house and before Marco knows what he’s doing, he’s promising his help. Their first task: get rid of the body and the bloody stone the man hit falling to the ground and his car. To make things difficult for the police, they decide to hide them in different places across the country. It’s the start of a frenetic tour through Germany that has more surprises in store than the two protagonists could have imagined. Like what they find hidden in the back of the man’s car…

Beginning in the rustic idyll of a small village, Horst Evers uproariously funny coming-of-age story hurls a beautiful woman and a very young man out into the world.

- Rights to Evers’ novel I Don’t Have Time to Hurry have been sold to Bulgaria (Janua) and Korea (Time Books).
- I Don’t Have Time to Hurry was sold more than 600,000 times!

**Horst Evers** born in 1967 near Diepholz in Niedersachsen, studied German and Communication Science in Berlin, and worked odd jobs as a taxi driver and special delivery postman. He has received the German Cabaret Prize (2002) and the German “Kleinkunst” Prize (2008), amongst others. He has written numerous bestsellers, including his volume of stories If I Were You I’d Love Myself (2013) and his novel The King of Berlin (2012). Horst Evers lives with his family in Berlin.
Our dog doesn’t talk much. Now and again we exchange a few words, mostly in the morning, when my wife and daughter are still asleep and I’m making breakfast.

She’s a black Labrador, about six months old. Our daughter gave her the name Happy, but my wife thought her name should include some kind of title. And because she behaves like the spoiled but stubborn Scarlett O’Hara from Gone With The Wind, we called her Miss Happy.

Miss Happy only talks to me, and only when no one else is listening. All dogs can talk, she tells me, but they never bother because of humans’ pointless babbling. I stumbled across Miss Happy’s secret by accident. One day I heard how she used our voice assistant to switch on the TV. Not only can she talk but she’s got views on almost anything. From dog welfare to pop culture, our dog knows what’s going on. Or thinks she does, at least.

We talk about God, the universe and everything. About anything that happens to cross our minds when the day is young and the world is on the right track.

Most dog owners think they know what’s going through the canine mind of their loyal friend. Walther, a 50-year-old father, finds out exactly what Miss Happy, the family dog, is thinking. When she starts talking to him one morning. Just the two of them, chatting in confidence. It turns out his dog has views on just about everything, including dog fashion, current affairs and the latest gossip from I’m A Celebrity… Get Me Out Of Here.

With his series of successful novels featuring meerkat characters that included Dumm gelaufen (Fischer, 2014) and Ausgefressen (Fischer, 2013), Moritz Matthies proved his knack for animal-inspired storytelling. This new book is about dogs, the world’s most popular pet. His new canine characters let him exploit his many strengths as a writer, which include "satirical writing about humans through the eyes of animals and his witty dialogues", according to the Westdeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung.
Sophie Kendrick
MY DEATH IN YOUR EYES

Since suffering a brutal attack in Berlin by a deranged stalker, Jennifer suffers from trauma-induced blindness. When she is asked by Gideon, a fellow psychiatrist, for professional advice, she hesitantly agrees. On the train to meet Gideon, she gets to know Marc, a computer specialist, whom she instantly feels she can trust.

When Gideon says something that reminds her of her attacker, she turns to Marc, who uncovers proof that Gideon was in Berlin several times. But whom can she trust? And is there a connection to the accidental death of her parents’ thirty years ago on the island of Rügen?

“This is a gripping psychological thriller about loss of identity coupled with amnesia. The way the plot connects to German history ratchets up the level of suspense and allows it to culminate in a surprising denouement.” Westfälische Nachrichten

“A fascinating psychological trip with ably depicted characters and, above all, a furiously paced ending. This much we can promise: it will leave the most seasoned reader breathless.” Sonntag Express

- Intelligent, gripping and expertly written: The follow-up to My Killer’s Face.
- Rights to Kendrick’s previous novel have been sold to Italy (Glunti).

Sophie Kendrick has lived in several different European countries, including the UK, where she studied English literature and researched the Brontë sisters. She was also employed in a literary agency and as a ghost writer before beginning work on her debut novel.

Backlist:

Rowohlt Verlag GmbH, Hamburger Straße 17, D-21465 Reinbek
A 16-year-old girl is snatched from Hamburg's most popular open-air swimming pool just as it's packed to capacity. Among the crowd are Danowski and his daughter, who experience the spread of alarm and panic through the crowd. Frenzied attention accompanies the investigation as the swimming pool was the scene of several recent cases of sexual harassment.

The victim is Billy Swopp, a beauty video blogger whose YouTube channel has just started making money. Danowski is suspicious about the alleged kidnapping. Why was there no ransom demand? Either it's a case of abduction or the whole thing was staged. Or did Billy just run away because it all got too much?

Then Dankowski’s colleagues find a dead body behind a power station near the city. Not far from the corpse they discover Billy Swopp, in shock and covered in blood…

Till Raether grew up in Berlin, attended the German School of Journalism in Munich and studied American literature and history in Berlin and New Orleans. Today he works as a journalist in Hamburg, among others for Brigitte, Brigitte Woman and the SZ magazine.

Backlist:

Till Raether
UNDER WATER

Polaris
October 2018
448 pages

Rowohlt Verlag GmbH, Hamburger Straße 17, D-21465 Reinbek
It’s just before Christmas, the worst imaginable time for a tragedy of this magnitude to unfold in the placid environs of Katenbüll. Ole Kellinghusen is driving along in the middle of the night when a young woman suddenly comes out of nowhere and walks in front of his car. She’s blind, malnourished and despite the punishing cold dressed in only a thin nightdress.

Jette refuses to say where she’s from or tell police her surname. When Kriminalkommissar Sörensen finally discovers her address, the woman’s father is already dead. He’s found in the living room with 17 stab wounds to the back. Sörensen not only has to deal with religious fanaticism but is also forced to confront his own demons, having recently stopped taking medication to combat his panic attacks…

**Sven Stricker** was born in 1970 and grew up in Mülheim an der Ruhr. He studied Comparative Literature, English and Modern History. Since 2001 he has been working as a freelance director, editor and author, winning the German Audiobook Award several times, including in 2009 for his radio drama and directing the novel *Herr Lehmann* by Sven Regener. He lives in Potsdam and has a daughter. For *Sörensen is Scared* Sven Stricker was nominated for the Glauser-Preis in 2017.
Michael Böckler
FAKE RED. A WINE MYSTERY

The Eisack is a wild, romantic mountain stream that's been known to carry uprooted trees down into the valley. But it’s not known for transporting dead bodies, as in the recent case of a wine salesman from South Tyrol who was well known across the region.

Baron Emilio von Ritzfeld-Hechenstein is investigating the man’s death against his will, and although he couldn’t care less about the victim’s fame, he does find it strange to be mentioned in his will; Emilio is to receive a bottle of an outstanding red. But if there’s one thing that the Baron knows about, it’s wine. And this one is fake. When the back of the label is found to bear a message from the dead wine dealer claiming to have been murdered, Baron Emilio is forced to admit that he’s at the centre of another puzzling investigation.

Böckler’s previous crime novels have sold more than 75,000 copies.

Michael Böckler has made a name for himself as a crime writer. In his novels, he combines exciting cases with tourist and culinary details while his special focus is on regional wine. He studied communication, works as a journalist and lives in Munich.

Backlist:

Rowohlt Verlag GmbH, Hamburger Straße 17, D-21465 Reinbek
It's a beautiful May morning in Paris and Madame Bertin is enjoying a moment of calm in the backyard behind her boulangerie. Suddenly, she sees a blood-smeared hand pressed against the window of a building opposite and hurriedly calls the police, who find nothing amiss.

Madame Bertin decides to help the hapless officials and disguises herself as a cleaning woman to gain access to the scene of the crime next door. But her age and wisdom hide a reckless streak and Madame Bertin gets closer to the bloody crime than she’d like…

Julie Masson, born in 1975 in a small village in France, studied German literature at the Sorbonne in Paris. During a semester abroad at the Free University of Berlin, she not only fell in love with the German language - she stayed. After completing her studies, she wrote various non-fiction books which have been translated into several languages. Today the author lives with her family near Frankfurt.
Marie Fontaine
A WINTER FULL OF FLOWERS

As the first autumn storms sweep over Paris, the cards seem stacked against Mademoiselle Fleur. When the young florist's father falls ill, her little shop is close to bankruptcy. To top it all off, she’s about to catch a nasty flu.

One day, a mysterious customer steps into her shop and turns her life upside-down. Monsieur Martin recently started work at an upmarket hotel, the “Louis XV”, as a customer complaints manager. With such a difficult and challenging job, Monsieur Martin delights in the calming effect of the beautifully arranged flowers in the shop window. And he is even more enchanted by its owner.

Everything could be so easy. But life is complicated, and so is the story of Mademoiselle Fleur and Monsieur Martin.

Complicated and stunningly romantic...

Marie Fontaine was born in Paris and worked for several years in a small bookshop before becoming self-employed as a PR consultant. She loves spending time drifting through the small shops and cafés of her favourite city quarters and dreaming up new stories about the people she meets there. She was inspired to write A Winter Full of Flowers when she began packing up the roses growing in her tiny urban garden to protect them against frost. She lives with her family in Munich.
Janna Solinger
ROMY’S CHOICE

Romy seems to have a weirdly deft hand at love. Every time she introduces two singles, they fall for each other in a big way. For Romy those were all just strange coincidences. Magic powers?

If she’s some sort of fairy godmother for other people’s love stories, why has she never met Mr Right? One day, David turns up and Romy is head-over-heels. But it seems that her gift of bringing other couples together has suddenly faded away.

Will Romy have to choose between her own happiness and that of her friends?

Janna Solinger is the pseudonym of an experienced author of children’s books who started writing at a young age. She lives with her husband and children in the Rhineland area.

rororo
January 2019
320 pages

Backlist:
The river of Susanna's life always resembled a calm, placid stream – until her daughter died a year ago. The fearless Marie was the happy focal point of her family. In contrast to her mother, Marie loved travelling and sent her parents many postcards from her last backpacking tour. The first showed the Cumaean Sibyl, and included comments on the back written by a moved and thoughtful Marie.

On the spur of the moment Susanna books a flight to Naples, determined to visit the place that resonated with her daughter so strongly. It's the first step on a journey that will take Susanna to her personal limits yet also let her rediscover both her daughter and herself...

Dagmar Hansen has already published numerous novels, several of which were made into movies for the German television stations ARD and ZDF. With her new novel Pathways of the Heart she devotes herself to a very emotional topic and writes for women who know life with all the ups and downs and have the courage to deal with their feelings and the big questions in life.
For Jakob, it’s a flight like any other; for his neighbour Ingrid, it’s her first. The two are sitting next to each other on a flight from Berlin to New York. Jakob is a smart, successful lawyer, Ingrid a woman in her mid-50s. They end up talking about happiness, decisions they regret and their unfulfilled dreams.

Ingrid thinks she is flying to meet the love of her life after 30 years apart while Jakob realises that he is sacrificing his family life for his career. When the plane is thrown about in mid-air by turbulence, the lives of its passengers are shaken up, too…

More than 150,000 copies were sold of You’ve Got a Message and rights were sold to Lithuania (Alma Littera)!

Born in Soltau in 1974, Sofie Cramer is a scriptwriter and develops material for TV and feature films. Since the release of her surprise hit novel You’ve Got A Message she has authored several additional books as Sofie Cramer. She lives near Hamburg with her family.

Kati Naumann was born in Leipzig in 1963. She writes novels, scripts, poetry, song lyrics, audio plays and works on a range of music and children’s TV programmes. She lives with her family in Leipzig and London.
Rosalie has fallen in love with the wrong man. Again. Not only is Henry her boss, he’s also a neurotic tidiness freak who hates chaos and clutter. Although Rosalie embodies both, she just can’t resist him. Oh, and Henry is married. So not an ideal choice by any measure. Stella, a self-described shaman, promises to help Rosalie by casting a few spells to tidy up her life.

When Rosalie’s dreams come true, the magic seems to be working! But as the saying goes, be careful what you wish for. When Rosalie starts daydreaming that Henry is single, her life becomes a confusing whirlwind…

**Kerstin Engel**, born in 1965, studied German language and literature and worked as a director and dramaturg assistant at the theater. Today she lives as a freelance writer in Groß-Gerau.
Claudia Haessy
PARENTING: CIRCUS BY DAY, DRAMA AT NIGHT

A flat in Hamburg’s upscale Eppendorf quarter, a wonderful husband and a lovely child – a perfect life? Not for Claudia. In Eppendorf, the rules different: Kids don’t get dropped off at birthday parties because mum and dad want to make sure their little angels don’t stab themselves in the eye pinning the tail on the donkey. And she quickly comes to treasure the solitude of her bathroom (you can lock the door).

Claudia’s touching and hilariously funny book explores the trials and tribulations of becoming a parent and shows us that happiness often lies in life’s imperfections. You can live apart and still be together, perhaps not in chic, upmarket Eppendorf but somewhere that’s altogether more down-to-earth…

Born in 1982, Claudia Haessy studied history and philosophy in Bonn, Warsaw and Beer Sheva. After working as a freelance writer, she now is now a social media manager for Men’s Health magazine. She has been blogging and tweeting for many years.

rororo
January 2019
256 pages

Backlist:
Sebastian Schulz, the single parent of 14-year-old Mathilda, is horrified when his daughter gets a ‘D’ on her report card. Because Mathilda is his most important project, he drops everything to find out why.

The problem is soon found: Sebastian is convinced that Mathilda is highly gifted and underachieving because she’s bored at school. Unfortunately, he’s the only one who believes his theory...

**Steffen Weinert** works as a freelance writer and director in Berlin. He has received numerous awards for his films, as the Friedrich Wilhelm Murnau Short Film Award and the Audience Award at the cinema festival Lünen for “The Ripper”. His feature film “Finn and the Path to Heaven” was nominated for the Thomas Strittmatter Screenplay Award.
Ildikó von Kürthy
PROBLEM AREAS

“The worst problem area is men.” That was the combative opening of Von Kürthy’s debut novel Night Rate. Over the years, she has authored many more books and discussed all sorts of difficult topics in her writing. Her popular column for Brigitte magazine entitled “Problem Areas” addresses the trials and worries of modern women.

The breadth of the topics covered there is every bit as diverse, funny, serious and dramatic as the lives of ordinary women, including aging, youth and the pitfalls of wistful nostalgia. Yet she also critically examines current social problems. The “problem areas” discussed here range from love and the end of love, through friendship, hostility, parenting and chocolate all the way to life and death. Ildikó von Kürthy’s writing is radically subjective yet so deft and light-footed that her readers hardly notice the gravity of some of the topics.

Problem Areas is a collection of warm-hearted and clever texts for readers with intellect, empathy and humour.

- Ildikó von Kürthy’s novels have sold over six million copies and have been translated into 23 languages.
- The author’s previous book Hilde has been on the SPIEGEL bestseller list for several weeks and more than 70,000 copies were sold.

Ildikó von Kürthy is a journalist and columnist for Brigitte magazine. She lives in Hamburg with her husband and two sons. She has written many bestselling novels and, her first non-fiction book, Unter dem Herzen also topped the bestseller charts.

Wunderlich
November 2018
320 pages

Backlist:

Ildikó von Kürthy
Hamburg, 1906. Hans Körner, a salesman of oriental carpets, gladly accepts a new position in Constantinople. After reaching the flourishing metropolis on the Bosporus, he becomes one of Ihmsen & Witt’s most respected salesmen, and quickly feels at home in Pera, the European quarter of the city. He visits clubs and theatres, attends concerts of touring European musicians and plays tennis with women.

But looking past Hans’s exciting new life, the city is rife with unrest fuelled by economic and political upheavals. Both European powers and domestic political groups want to exploit the slow death of the Ottoman empire, to use it as a springboard towards realising ambitions of power on a global scale. Negotiations are underway in backrooms, bordellos, dingy side streets and on ferries across the Bosporus; watchful eyes and ears are everywhere.

Hans Körner remains oblivious of these intrigues, absorbed in an enthrallingly vivid, foreign world. He has almost forgotten that he isn’t who he purports to be. No one suspects that Hans travelled to Constantinople using forged papers under an assumed name. Two things then happen that threaten to expose his lies. The beautiful Milena, a Parisian woman with Russian heritage, enters his life. And he receives a telegram announcing an imminent visitor from Hamburg…

Oelker’s books have sold more than 1.7 million copies!

Petra Oelker, born in 1947, worked as a journalist and author of non-fiction books before writing her first bestselling historical crime novel Death at the Tollhouse. Nine novels with the same female protagonist followed in this successful series. Among her novels set in the present day are Murder in the Cloister Woods, The Little Madonna and Death on the Way of St. James. Her most recent books are Emma’s Journey, a road novel set in the period following the Thirty Years’ War and Two Sisters, a story set during the Reformation.
Munich, 1890. Ricarda is the first woman to open a doctor’s surgery. After a stroke of fate, she again crosses paths with Siegfried, who she was once in love with. She decides to accompany him to the German colonies. Meanwhile, Ricarda’s daughter begins her university studies in medicine and falls in love with a man guarding a dark secret.

When war breaks out, Siegfried and Ricarda are imprisoned by the Japanese, somewhere on the other side of the world. Ricarda then finds herself free and begins to fight for Siegfried’s life…

More than 50,000 copies have been sold of The Doctor: The Light Of The World (Vol. I) since publication in April 2018!

Helene Sommerfeld is the pseudonym of a married couple living in Berlin, both of whom are professional writers. Many of their novels and non-fiction books were bestsellers. The unique energy and vitality of their books is due to their passion for medicine and their deep interest in historical characters and personalities coupled with a yearning to visit far-flung lands.
Dark times have overtaken the Ashen Empire. The corn is withering in the field, livestock gives birth to malformed offspring and beasts thought long dead have returned to ravage the land. The fire of rebellion is spreading through the Provinces. When Seneschall gets underway to confront the rebels, Leyken is left behind to guard the Sacred Ash.

Sölva is the last heir of Morwa and Otta. But the tribes of Ord are reluctant to follow a woman. The Jarl of Thal, the most powerful man in the Lowlands, claims the crown for himself while his son Bjorne stays loyal to Sölva.

The destiny of the world lies in the hands of two women, one in the South and one in the North…

For readers and fans of George R. R. Martin’s books and the series Game of Thrones!

Stephan M. Rother was born in Witlingen in 1968, studied history and worked for fifteen years as a comedian. For the last ten years he has been a writer of successful novels, and also works as a translator. He is married and lives in a house filled with books and cats near Lüneburg in northern Germany.
Astrid Fritz
THE WITCH HUNTER

Schelettstatt in Alsace, 1484. The grieving Susanna stands before her mother’s coffin at their home. Brother Heinrich, a papal inquisitor and prior of the local cloister, arrives to give solace and lavishes an almost fatherly attention on Susanna.

But soon his care mutates into obsession; Heinrich can’t let Susanna out of his sight. Susanna doesn’t know that Heinrich is on a quest as a papal inquisitor “to destroy the dangerous sect of the witches”. Far too late, Susanna realises that she has every right to be fearful of Heinrich...

The author’s historical novels have sold almost 1 million copies altogether!

Astrid Fritz studied literature in Munich, Avignon and Freiburg. She worked as a technical editor and spent three years with her family in Santiago de Chile. Among her successful historical novels are The Witch of Freiburg, The Swindler and The Maiden and The Duchess. Astrid Fritz lives near Stuttgart.
1920: Karl Kirschbaum belonged to the island of Amrum like the waves to its beaches. After his death, the 'sea hospital' he founded for children suffering from lung conditions seems doomed. His conniving daughter-in-law wants to turn the hospital into a luxury hotel, Only the eldest of his three granddaughters, Frieda, fights to keep the hospital open, even if it means ending her studies at the university hospital in Hamburg and returning to the island where her heart was broken not long ago. But she has no idea how far Kurt's daughter-in-law will go to realise her plans…

Helga Glaesener was born in Lower Saxony and studied mathematics in Hanover. A mother of five, she began writing historical fiction in 1990. Her debut novel, Die Safranhändlerin, became a bestseller. Since then she has written many other successful novels, including crime fiction books. She lives in Oldenburg.
Rheinbach, 1673. Madlen Thynen, the daughter of a well-known textile merchant, notices the pungent odour of smoke. The dark clouds on the horizon can only mean one thing: war is coming. Louis XIV’s war, which has already ravaged the entire continent, is coming to her doorstep. Madlen is determined to resist any enemy threatening her home.

But the foe is much closer than she thinks; one of her fellow townspeople is a traitor. And the villain may be one of the two men fighting for her love...

More than 250,000 copies were sold of Schier’s historical novels!

Petra Schier was born in 1978. She lives with her husband and an Aisatian in a small village in Germany’s Eifel region. She studied history and literature before beginning work as a freelance writer in 2003. Her historical novels, including a series featuring the apothecary Adelina, combine suspenseful writing with exhaustively researched historical background information. She is a board member of the writer’s association DELIA.
Ralf Günther
WHEN BACH CAME TO DRESDEN

September 1717. Jean-Baptiste Volumier is a violinist and maestro of the French court orchestra of Augustus the Strong and fears the imminent arrival of Louis Marchand, a gifted musician. Volumier hatches a plot to chase his rival away: he plans a competition in which Marchand is to compete against none other than Johann Sebastian Bach. Volumier is convinced that Marchand will lose and sink away in humiliation.

To win over Bach, Volumier travels to Weimar where he meets Friedelena, Bach’s beautiful and dynamic sister-in-law who often accompanies Bach on his travels. Volumier promptly falls in love with her. But events take a tumultuous turn and Volumier is left confused and desperate...

The novelist and scriptwriter Ralf Günther was born in Cologne in 1967. He studied film, theatre and televisual media before developing programming for ZDF and KiKA. He has also written several successful novels including The Medical Attendant, a bestseller. His novels published by Kinder include The Christmas Market Miracle (2015) and The Bathing Woman at Moritzburg (2017). He lives near Dresden.

Kindler
September 2018
144 pages

Backlist:
Roman Rausch
THE BLACK ARTS OF DR FAUSTUS

The young novice Margarete has only one vice: curiosity. She realises that her dreams lie beyond the walls of her cloister. One day, she finds a flyer by the alchemist Dr Faustus and becomes his apprentice.

Together, they travel the country as wondering magicians until Margarethe starts having doubts. Faustus is a gifted artist, but not as a magician or scientist. His talent is deception. When he is set upon by zealots, she sticks by him. But she soon finds that her loyalty will cost her dearly…

Roman Rausch, born and raised in Mainfranken in 1961, worked in the media industry and as a journalist after studying business administration. In 2002 he was honored at the Leipzig Book Fair Prize for his commissar Kilian thrillers and was awarded the Wine Tourism Prize in 2011.

rororo
February 2019
384 pages

Backlist:
Renate Bergmann
I DON’T EVEN HAVE ANY GRANDCHILDREN!

A gang of swindlers are out to con OAPs in Berlin’s Spandau district by claiming to know their grandchildren. But Renate Bergmann’s not having any of it: “I don’t even have any grandchildren!” she replies on the doorstep.

Renate joins forces with Ilse and Kurt to fight back by collecting evidence (“Fingerprints, yuck. Dirt is dirt, after all.”) and tries to keep Gertrud away from Spandau’s most attractive policeman.

Renate Bergmann lives in Berlin. She helped clear bombing debris after WWII, worked for the East German state railway, is a household professional and a four-time widow. In 2013, she took to Twitter and began microblogging about her insights and exploits. Her books, meanwhile, have won over the analogue world.

Torsten Rohde, born in 1974, studied business administration and worked as a financial controller. His Twitter account @RenateBergmann, in which he tweets about Renate’s exploits, became an internet phenomenon. His book Successful Life begins at 80, published under his pseudonym Renate Bergmann, was a phenomenal success, and was followed by many other successful books and reading tours.
The sisters Maike and Anne couldn’t be any different. One has a successful career in Hamburg, the other is still living on the other side of the Elbe river in Altes Land, a rural fruit producing region at the gates of the city.

At Christmas, both turn up at the house and fruit orchard owned by Thees, their father. Arguments about the Christmas dinner soon ignite old conflicts. But when a visitor turns up unexpectedly, Thees remains unruffled.

Strolling through a Christmas market or walking atop picturesque dykes, the family feels something akin to seasonal cheer seeping in. And that's in no small part down to the family recipe for baked apples...

**Sanne Jellings**, born in 1975, is a freelance copy editor and translator. She lives with her family in the north of Hamburg.
Stina Lund
CHRISTMAS AT SMÅLAND

Alva has been married to Martin for 25 years. Yes, it's been a
good marriage, but why does she have to think so far back to
remember when she last felt happy and carefree? Her best
childhood and teenage memories are of unforgettable
summers… in Småland.

She suddenly seizes on an ingenious plan to take Martin to
Sweden for Christmas in an attempt to combine the love of her
life with her happiest experiences. But contentment and joy
turn out to be difficult to engineer…

Stina Lund was born in 1970 in Vimmerby and grew up in the small
town Småland where she spent most of her childhood in her
parents’ bookstore. After the birth of her children, she gave up her
profession as a conservator and started her writing career.
Bastian Kollinger is looking forward to Christmas at home with his parents, with all the seasonal trimmings. But first he must break it to his mother that he’ll be spending Christmas Eve with his new girlfriend’s parents who, to put it diplomatically, are not easy to get on with.

They’ve insisted that Bastian come round to get to know them on Christmas Eve, the traditional highlight of Christmas in Germany when families unpack their presents. As if that wasn’t enough, Bastian’s parents receive unexpected visitors whose stay has their house bursting at the seams…

Huber’s book 7 Kilos in Three Days was a Spiegel Online bestseller and sold more than 25,000 copies.

Born in Regensburg, Christian Huber writes for TV, online and print media as well as the stage. His columns are published by outlets such as VICE and ICON/DIE WELT. His book 7 Kilos in 3 Days spent several weeks on the Spiegel bestseller list. As part of Jan Böhmermann’s Neo Magazin Royale team, he was nominated for a Golden Camera Award and the German Comedy Award and received the Web Video Prize and the German Television Prize. His “Pokerbeats” Twitter account is one of Germany’s most popular.