FOREIGN RIGHTS
NON-FICTION
Spring & Summer
2019
Even before the financial crisis it had become fashionable to make capitalism responsible for just about everything that went wrong anywhere in the world. Renowned economic historian Werner Plumpe repudiates this view by walking us through the history of capitalism and showing how many problems have been solved by the capitalist market economy alone.

Capitalism isn’t a system, he explains, but a kind of economy which focuses on consumption, the consumption, in fact, of those who are not well off and for centuries were left to fend for themselves. Without them, economically successful mass production would be impossible. This was widely criticised at first, yet Plumpe shows how the capitalist way of managing the economy reacted and is able to change constantly.

As an idea, capitalism has had more profound consequences than perhaps any other; we can’t escape it even if we refuse to engage with it. There’s no evil, nefarious plot at its core, nor is it the sum of all the negative phenomena concomitant with our form of society. Plumpe describes capitalism as a constant state of revolution, as embodying continual innovation and renewal that is as good or bad as we choose. Capitalism is and always was what we make of it.

- An English sample translation is available.
- Plumpe’s previous title on German economic and business history was sold to the US (Palgrave).

Werner Plumpe, born in 1954 in Bielefeld, is a professor of economics and social history at the Johann Wolfgang von Goethe University in Frankfurt. He was chairman of the German Association of Historians until 2012. Since 2010 he has written three books on economic crises, how he became rich and on the Great Depression. Werner Plumpe also received the 2014 Ludwig Erhard Prize awarded for writing on economic issues.
Finally, the true story as it unfolded: a chronicle of UC 71’s fate.

20 February, 1919: a tug is battling through bitter cold and heavy swell near Heligoland. It's pulling another boat behind it: UC 71, a U-boat of the Imperial Navy. The war is lost and this piece of matériel, like many others, is to be transported to Britain. But soon the waves begin sweeping over UC 71’s conning tower, causing it to list dangerously. Suddenly, UC 71 disappears amidst the waves and sinks all the way to the dark sea floor.

For over 100 years, the reasons for UC 71’s destruction remained a mystery. Until marine archaeologist Florian Huber and his team dived to the submarine’s wreck. Although there was no proof, his hunch was that the ship was scuttled by its crew. Then fate took a hand: a TV programme about Huber’s work jogged the memory of a man whose great uncle Georg Trinks was UC 71’s engineer. Incredibly, Georg Trinks kept a diary for three years, writing about every day he spent aboard UC 71, detailing every battle, every combat mission as well as his fears and worries.

This unique document allowed Huber to document UC 71’s war record. The last words in Trinks’ diary solved the century-old riddle surrounding its fate: “No Englishman shall set foot on the boat, that was the will of the crew and they made sure.”

- Two newly discovered diaries have changed the history of UC 71.
- Huber’s book tells a true story that will fascinate every reader, sparking curiosity about the history of the German submarine UC 71, its crew and its mysterious demise on the island of Heligoland shortly after the end of the First World War.

**Florian Huber**, born in Munich in 1975, studied prehistory and early history, anthropology, Nordic philology and ethnology in Munich, Umeå and Kiel. He was director of the Working Group for Maritime and Limnic Archaeology at the University of Kiel. His excavations and expeditions have taken him all over the world. His documentary film *Hidden Worlds 3D* premiered in cinemas in 2013. He co-founded Submaris, which carries out expeditions worldwide on behalf of scientists and the media.
The human body: humanity’s Achilles heel?

While our bodies are best suited to a mild Mediterranean climate, most people on this planet live in a completely different environment: in the overcrowded, noisy, increasingly hot cities south of the Sahara, in the Middle East, India or Asia. Some people, especially those in industrialised countries, deliberately put their bodies under enormous physical duress, climbing mountains, going freediving, flying into space, jumping off cliffs or from balloons in the Earth’s stratosphere.

How do our bodies cope, and where are their limits?

Hanns-Christian Gunga's book examines the adaptability of the human body from an evolutionary perspective. Using case studies as illuminating examples, he explains what the human body is capable of – and what it’s not – while describing the boundaries of the environmental envelope that can support us. Yet this timely and insightful book also reveals the effects of shift work, loneliness and explosive population growth on the human body and spells out the many risks it is likely to grapple with in the future.

Gunga’s expertly argued and accessible work makes alarmingly clear that human adaptability to extreme environments – including space – operates within narrow physiological and psychological limits, resulting in dramatic biological and social conflicts that will likely be accelerated even further by climate change.

“When the environment gets hotter like it did this summer, we see an increased human propensity for violence, both against others and themselves. At those temperatures, we stop functioning.”

The physician, geologist and palaeontologist Hanns-Christian Gunga was born in 1954. He is professor for Space Medicine and Extreme Environments at the Charité in Berlin and director of the hospital’s physiological institute. He has worked on many space missions and with many people who live and work under extreme conditions.
The Sound of Paris: A Journey Through the Metropolis of 19th Century Music

Volker Hagedorn was born in 1961 and studied viola at the Hanover School of Music and Theatre. He went on to join the staff of newspapers and became a freelance writer and musician in 1996. His writing has appeared in DIE ZEIT, among others.

Backlist:

- "One of the most pleasurable, exciting and even poetic books focussing on music and its protagonists.”
  - DIE ZEIT on Bach’s World
- Bach’s World was sold to the Arabic World (Bait El Yasmine).
Know your body!

What would it be like if your gynaecologist was your best friend and you could ask her about absolutely anything? Like how to best prevent bladder infections? Are caesareans better for your pelvic floor? And exactly what is female ejaculation, anyway? Dr Sheila de Liz’s extensive medical experience has taught her that most women know astonishingly little about their own bodies.

The basics, she maintains, are easy to understand. In a refreshingly relaxed tone, this educational book takes us on a journey through the female body, discussing our breasts (and describing exactly how to feel for lumps), periods, those thoughtful little gifts from your ex (e.g. chlamydia) and, of course, our hidden little heroine, the clitoris.

- Germany’s most charming gynaecologist tells us everything we need to know about the female body!
- With illustrations by Luisa Stömer.

Born in 1969 in New Jersey, Dr Sheile de Liz came to Germany at 15. She studied medicine in Mainz and in 2006 set up her own gynaecology and obstetrics practice in Wiesbaden. She is an acclaimed expert for advice on love and sex, writing for the German magazines bunte.de and freundin.de, among others.

Polaris
March 2019
320 pages
The Rise Up & Shine Journal by Laura Malina Seiler is a great companion for those who want to find their own authentic path and create an extraordinary life for themselves.

It will help you find confidence in yourself, bring structure to your life and help you unfold your individual potential. The lovingly designed book will allow you to define and realize your goals and dreams and build strengthening routines in your everyday life.

❖ Organizer and journal in one
❖ Lots of space for notes, thoughts, appointments and plans
❖ Filled with suggestions, tips and inspirations by the author

- Seiler’s You’re One in a Million made number 1 on the SPIEGEL bestseller list!
- More than 50,000 copies were sold of You’re One in a Million.

No one combines spirituality, mindfulness and coaching as impressively as Laura Malina Seiler. With her #1 podcast “Happy, Holy & Confident” and her live online programme “Rise Up & Shine University” she has created a new, modern spiritual movement. Her focus is creating a new awareness for people’s own potential. Through her coaching sessions, she has helped thousands of people to find their own, authentic path in life.
Be it in the doctor’s waiting room, on the train or at the airport, we’re often waiting for something or someone. A waste of time? Not anymore.

Nicolas Dierks’ illuminating new book comprises twelve short chapters, each introducing us to a philosophical idea perfect for a certain waiting situation. We wait with Hannah Arendt at the departure gate for our flight, loiter with Marx at the DIY store, hover impatiently in the emergency room with Martha Nussbaum, get caught in a traffic jam with Davidson and linger in a hotline queue with Nietzsche.

This book turns vexing everyday situations into enlightening sources of inspiration.

Nicolas Dierks was born in 1973. Armed with a PhD in philosophy, he helps people attain new perspectives on life through his books, lectures and workshops. He completed his doctorate at the Leuphana University Lüneburg, and wrote his doctoral thesis on why today’s society values newness so highly. He also lectures there in scientific theory. He advises companies on innovation and has a unique gift for transporting philosophical ideas with passion and humour.
Female, mid-thirties and single: for many people, that sounds like a fateful, tragic diagnosis. Yet most single women are content with their lives. So why does no one believe them? They’re often faced with questions like, “How’s your love life? Have you tried online dating?” Well-meant, of course, but the subtext is, “What’s wrong with you?”

The far more important issue is: why is long-term monogamy still viewed as the best life choice despite the sobering story told by divorce statistics? Here, Gunda Windmüller argues passionately that we should reassess our mental picture of oh-so-pitiable single women while also offering them some much-needed encouragement:

Single life can be damn good!

Gunda Windmüller was born in 1980. After receiving her PhD in literature, she became a freelance writer, contributing to publications such as Die Welt and ze.tt. In 2018 she joined the editorial team at Watson, a news website.
No advice, please. I feel bad enough as it is.

Like many women, Anna Schatz has wanted children of her own for a long time. And like many of those, she’s confronted with sorrowful looks, well-meant advice and self-help book ads when it doesn’t happen. What do you do if you can’t get pregnant? Where do you put all the frustration and grief?

Anna Schatz’s book tells of the humiliation of becoming a godmother and her sadness surrounded by happy expectant mothers at the gynaecologist’s office. Her book strikes exactly the tone this emotionally charged issue needs, exploring it with an honesty, openness and humour that provides an emotionally healing alternative to traditional self-help books.

The writer Anna Schatz was born in 1981. She lives in Hamburg.
Christoph Krachten

SCIENCE AND FICTION - AND
HOW TO TELL THE DIFFERENCE

Have we discovered life on Mars? Were there aliens on the red planet? How’s the search for Planet Nine beyond Neptune developing? When will we see the first head transplant? What is the next stage of development for the quantum computer? Why did it take a hundred years to find a second moon circling the Earth?

These and other secrets – all are subjects of serious scientific study – are revealed by Christoph Krachten on his YouTube channel clixoom and in this new book packed with astounding scientific facts and exciting new ideas.

- Krachten’s YouTube science channel “Clixoom” has a whopping 500,000 subscribers: exciting experiments, revolutionary research results, science news and startling findings are at the center of attention at “Clixoom”.
- For more information on “Clixoom” visit: https://www.youtube.com/user/Clixoom

Christoph Krachten is one of Germany’s best-known YouTube and web TV producers. After working for many years as a TV journalist and producer for networks like WDR and RTL, he was one of the first people in TV to recognise the potential of online video. His show, clixoon, has been running since 2008. Christoph Krachten is a leading figure in other media networks. He heads Community Editions, a publisher for social media influencers, founded the VideoDays forum and is also a member of the German Bishops’ Conference’s media commission.
For those who want to see the world the way it really is

Why do we think of sharks, white flour and terrorists as deadly dangers while ignoring the real risks that threaten us in our daily lives, like road traffic? Be it in arenas such as health, politics, fake news or other forms of manipulation, we only see what we want to see. But why?

The neuroscientist Kai Schreiber offers a surprising answer: the irrationality in our thought patterns and actions is shaped not only by our own stupidity but also by human cognition and its basic functions. A concept such as “truth” is superfluous to evolutionary mechanisms since it contributes little to the survival of a species.

Our propensity for social interaction, on the other hand, makes us receptive to suggestive influences and false information. Yet we retain the ability to recognize objective truth, as long as we are aware of the cognitive pitfalls and how to avoid them. In these confusing times, Kai Schreiber shows us a way of seeing clearly.

He explains the latest scientific discoveries and applies them to our daily lives, dealing a death blow to relativism, fatalism and narrow-minded self-interest along the way. Profound yet entertaining, this work guides us through the dizzying maze of our perceptive and cognitive faculties to let us see the world the way it really is.

- “What’s impressive about this book is its simple explanations, casual style and peculiar inventiveness.” Deustchlandradio Kultur on The New Encyclopaedia of Ignorance
- “The New Encyclopaedia of Ignorance is guaranteed to lighten your mood!” Die Zeit

Kai Schreiber was born in 1972. After studying physics and philosophy he went to the United States to study methodologies in neuroscience. He then took up a post teaching psychology in Münster. Later, he joined the Max Planck Institute for Neurological Science in Cologne, studying false perceptions and their influence on human behaviour. Together with Kathrin Passig and Aleks Scholz he co-authored The New Encyclopaedia of Ignorance, published in 2011.
A 16-year-old girl is abducted, held captive and tortured for over a year by a couple who run a business together. When the victim goes to the police, no one believes her.

A young man appears on TV, asking for help in tracking down his missing wife. Much later, a horrified public discovers that he murdered her and buried her in the concrete foundations of his house.

A trainee disappears, builds a successful career abroad, marries several times before – 30 years later – returning gravely ill to his parents’ house to die. Peter Jamin has spent 25 years tracking down vanished people and is the country’s only non-police expert on missing persons cases. This book collates his most explosive and shocking cases.

Born in 1951, Peter Jamin worked as a staff writer and deputy editor at numerous publications in the WAZ newspaper group before beginning a career as a freelance journalist in 1985. He has investigated missing persons cases for the last 25 years while operating a telephone hotline and advice service for friends and relatives of those who have gone missing.
We live in an era of intense uncertainty, hate and division. Will it lead to society’s renewal or its subjugation? That’s one of the crucial questions shaping our zeitgeist. What will be the fate of the EU, the welfare state, globalisation and capitalism? What does Trump’s success mean? Some believe neo-liberalism to be the root cause, arguing that it destroys social cohesion and suppresses generosity and the willingness to help others.

Nikolaus Piper, a financial journalist at Süddeutsche Zeitung, disagrees. His new book is a passionate plea for a revitalisation of liberal thought in the 21st century. In Piper’s view, we need to liberate discourses about freedom and justice from the restrictive corset placed on them in countries like Germany.

While his incisively argued book lambasts the people responsible for the 2008 financial crisis, it also vilifies ideologues keen to convince us that our political and economic systems are diabolical constructs that need to be overthrown. In Piper’s view, individuals need more freedom, not less.

“A shining example of sound economic thinking.” NZZ on Die Geschichte der Wirtschaft

Born in Hamburg in 1952, the former financial editor of the Süddeutsche Zeitung Nikolaus Piper spent many years reporting from New York. He currently writes a regular column for the SZ, “Piper’s World”. He was awarded the Ludwig Erhard Prize in 2001 for his financial journalism. In 2003 he received the German Youth Literature Prize for his book, Geschichte der Wirtschaft. For his book on the Great Depression in the USA, he received the German Financial Book Prize in 2009.
A dance among the ruins: Harald Jähner’s major new portrait of Germany’s post-war society

Countless former soldiers drift through the towns and cities; countless children grow up without a father. The old order has been destroyed and although the streets seem eerily empty, the traditional annual street carnivals are soon back in full swing, jazz can be heard among the ruins, intellectuals rekindle a culture of discussion and debate.

Harald Jähner’s book is the first history of Germany’s national mentality in the immediate post-war period. It focusses on the German people in all their diversity: the “re-educators” Alfred Döblin and Rudolf Herrnstadt, who tried in two different zones of occupation to win the trust of their fellow Germans; Beate Uhse, owner of a mail order company for “marital hygiene”, who questioned the old moral code governing what was deemed proper; the many nameless black market traders, pockets stuffed with Lucky Strike cigarettes; stylish housewives sitting at kidney-shaped coffee tables that were to become emblematic for a freer and affordable world.

Using major political developments as a backdrop, this book weaves a series of life stories into a nuanced panorama that makes the monumental changes affecting the nation tangible for its readers. 1945 to 1955 was a raw, wild decade poised between two eras, portrayed here as a period that proved decisive for Germany’s future development – and one starkly different to how most Germans imagine it today.

Shortlisted for the Leipzig Book Fair Prize 2019!

Harald Jähner was born in 1953. He joined the Berliner Zeitung’s arts and reviews section in 1997, later becoming its editor until 2015. He had previously worked as a freelancer for the literary section of the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung. In 2011 he was made honorary professor of cultural journalism at Berlin’s University of the Arts.

Please note our new address starting March, 18th: Rowohlt Verlag GmbH, Kirchenallee 19, D-20099 Hamburg
The masterminds behind the rise of the German far-right

Unnoticed by the media and the public, the last few years has seen unprecedented growth in right-wing charities, associations, media and campaign platforms across Germany. Christian Fuchs and Paul Middelhoff have spent the last two years tracing the roots and branches this network, researching both its public and hidden faces.

This startling work of investigative journalism details the extent of a growing network of far-right groups and details their ideological foundations, leaders, publications, publishers, internet platforms, financial supporters, links to the Alternative for Germany party, international connections and points of contact with the political and social mainstream. The results are alarming.

Christian Fuchs works as an investigative reporter for DIE ZEIT. Before that he was part of the investigative collaboration between Süddeutsche Zeitung and NDR. He has spent the last ten years researching far-right groups and their activities. He won the Civis Media Prize, the RIAS Prize and was shortlisted for the Journalist of the Year award several times.

Paul Middelhoff is also an investigative reporter at DIE ZEIT. Previously he reported for Die Zeit Online from Washington D.C. He has been intensively researching far-right organisations for some time.
Mobilising against the West: why Russia’s policies are so dangerous

According to the award-winning journalist Golineh Atai, Russia has redefined itself since the annexation of Crimea as a major international power, using the language of nationalism and imperialism to talk about its acts of aggression. Her new book explores the deeper currents within a body of policies that are unrecognised, misunderstood or simply ignored in the West.

“If you want to understand the new Russian politics, you have to understand the story Russians are telling about themselves and the world,” Atai maintains. The points on the nation’s ideological compass are the Great Patriotic War, Joseph Stalin and right-wing thinkers, resulting in a self-image of “Russia under siege”. Russia describes NATO as “fascist” while Ukraine is portrayed as a “Little Russia”.

Yet these carefully crafted narratives are blindly repeated by parts of the Western media. Russia, Atai says, believes itself to be at war. Its aggression is being conducted in theatres with no clear borders: in old and new media, in cyberspace and in the economic sphere. Golineh Atai’s book explains why Russia is openly challenging a political order whose future is also being questioned across the free world.

Golineh Atai was born in Teheran in 1974 and was five years old when she came to Germany with her family. She was the ARD’s Cairo correspondent between 2006 and 2008 before taking on a range of assignments and roles for the network’s Tagesschau and Morgenmagazin programmes. From 2013 to 2018 she was the ARD correspondent in Moscow; she is currently based in Cologne and reports for WDR. She has received multiple awards for her journalism, including the Journalist of the Year Award 2014, the Peter Scholl Latour Prize and the Hanns Joachim Friedrichs Prize.
Travelling through Germany 30 years after the Berlin Wall

2019 would have been the German Democratic Republic’s 70th anniversary. It also marks 30 years since the Berlin Wall fell; it’s been gone longer than it stood. Now is the ideal time to take a closer look at what this iconic and feared frontier meant to the people whose life it affected. Lucas Vogelsang and Joachim Król embark on a road trip to explore contradictory memories and incredible stories of the night the Wall fell, driving eastwards along the autobahn into the land where millions of people suddenly began new lives in November 1989.

Pushing forward through the narrative of a nation, they use Król’s biography as a compass on their expedition into the past. As a young man he hitchhiked his way along the transit zone, later landing one of his best acting roles as one of the first Westerners to be allowed to travel into East Germany. First the GDR was an illusion, a phantom. Then it became a backdrop on a film set. Król still feels like a foreigner in the New States, as the eastern part of Germany is still called today. On his internal map these new states are undiscovered territory. Now, he intends to fill in some of the blanks.

Their search begins deep in Germany’s western Rhineland, and ends on the Baltic coast. Journeying from Bochum to Boltenhagen, the pair are spurred on by an unwavering curiosity. Their questions seem to pose themselves, in both the West and the East. Where has the Wall survived, where has the inner German border truly disappeared? What role do old political dichotomies play in the minds of the people who experienced the country’s division, then its reunification?

Vogelsang and Król find the answers in living rooms and on sentry towers. Their forensic interrogation of the past builds on their contrasting skills and personas: Król, the conversationally gifted itinerant searching for meaning; Vogelsang, the accomplished chronicler.

Born in 1985, Lucas Vogelsang is one of his generation’s most successful journalists. He has written for Tagesspiegel, Zeit, Welt, Welt am Sonntag and Playboy. He was awarded the Henri Nannen Prize in 2010; in 2013 he received the German Reporters’ Prize. He was also honoured by the organisers of the 2015 Hansel Mieth Prize for a feature about his housing estate in Berlin’s Wedding district. His best-selling book, Heimaterde. Eine Weltreise durch Deutschland appeared in 2017.

Joachim Król was born in 1957. One of Germany’s best-known actors, he studied at the Otto Falckenberg School in Munich. He played Kipp in Detlev Buck’s reunification road movie Wir können auch anders (1993), a performance which garnered him the German Film Prize, the Bavarian Film Prize and the Bambi Award.
Between demonstrations and the disco craze: Jens Balzer describes the decade that began our present era

Just about everything changed during the 1970s. Humans climbed the “Stairway to Heaven” all the way to the moon, pop became part of the dominating culture in the West and a generation found a new self-confidence, distancing itself from the elitist protest culture of the late 60s to find a brash, powerful new voice. Hippies explored hitherto unheard-of lifestyles, anti-authoritarian parenting recalibrated the fabric of the family and queer artists stepped onto the cultural stage. A fresh breed of global idealism came to the fore, as did new apocalyptic fears. Sit-in protests against nuclear power morphed into new realms of science fiction envisaged by films like *Star Wars*. Technology captivated the popular imagination as a small group of hackers come up with a crazy new idea: the “personal computer”. New ways of remixing and sampling audio pushed musicians headlong into the shrill age of disco, and beyond. Postmodern culture began here.

Jens Balzer is one of Germany’s most prolific cultural journalists. His new book offers an exciting and vivid portrait of the 1970s, from the hippie movement and the oil crisis all the way to the ‘German Autumn’ of the RAF terrorists and the nihilism of punk. Along the way, Balzer makes some intriguing new connections while his appealing and accessible style immerses his readers in a thrilling decade that signalled the beginning of our present era.

- “It’s impossible to write more intelligently or with more wit about pop music.” *Frankfurter Allgemeine Sonntagszeitung* on *Pop*
- “Balzer has chosen a highly distinct mixture and because he can write so damn well, he guarantees one thing: great reading pleasure.” *Der Freitag* on *Pop*

The author and columnist Jens Balzer works for a range of media, including DIE ZEIT, Rolling Stone, Deutschlandfunk and radioeins. He manages the Popsalon event at the Deutsches Theater and teaches pop culture criticism at Berlin’s University of the Arts. He has also been curator at the Volksbühne am Rosa Luxemburg Platz and is artistic advisor to the organisers of the Donau Festival. His acclaimed book *Pop* was published in 2016.
Bienvenue à Brittany!

Regine Rompa and her partner Anton chucked in their jobs, sold their flat and moved to Brittany with their dog Twix. The village has all of six houses, no public transport, no cinema and no takeaway restaurants. Instead, their new home has an old stone well, herons in their front garden and 13,000 m² of land.

Their aim is to consume less and produce more for themselves. But life here is not as easy as it might seem. Regine and Anton speak only a little French and have no experience of planting and harvesting their own food.

This book tells of their first year, their grumpy Breton neighbours, their chickens and the scent of the Atlantic Ocean that sometimes wafts through their garden…

Born in 1981, Regine Rompa studied German studies, ethics, political science and environmental science at the universities of Erlangen-Nuremberg and Heidelberg. She then worked for several magazines and publishing houses and later took on a role as the deputy director of Sparkasse’s website. She became a freelance writer in 2008.
More and more people are discovering the allure of nature, with many deciding to set up their own green oasis of calm, be it on a vegetable plot, an allotment, in a cottage garden or on their urban balcony. But like humans, plants also suffer from illnesses and infections. Pests, bugs and plant diseases are René Wadas’ area of expertise: armed with his portable medicine cabinet, he travels around freeing blooms and veggies from aphids, caterpillars and fungal infections.

Over the years he has cured almost every common breed of plant, including lawns, bonsais, trees and flowers of all types – Wadas has close to 100% success with his botanical patients, providing an initial diagnosis, the correct treatment and follow-up care.

- A Visit from the Plant Doctor made number 3 on the SPIEGEL bestseller list and sold more than 35,000 copies!
- Wadas is Germany’s best known and most successful expert on plants.

Born in Berlin, René Wadas is a master gardener and lives with his family near Braunschweig. For years, he has journeyed across northern Germany as a “plant doctor”, helping amateur gardeners with their “patients”. He has since trained employees at garden centres and DIY stores as well as farmers and biologists nationwide in his area of expertise.
Many people head out into the countryside at the weekend to spend time among the plants and flowers. Botanist Jürgen Feder is one of them. But unlike most people he doesn’t sort them into categories like flower shape or colour, instead grouping them together by their personality.

Some are capricious and diva-like, some eccentric and snobby, while others are indestructible or even melancholic. This fascinating book offers an eye-opening new perspective on plant life and might even help you to find the plant that fits best with your character…

*Herbalism for Beginners* was number 8 on the SPIEGEL bestseller list and stayed on the list for 12 weeks.

Jürgen Feder, born in 1960 in Flensburg, northern Germany, finished his training as a landscape gardener after school and became a graduate engineer in landscape conservation, flora and phytosociology afterwards in Hanover. The keynote speaker, author and TV-expert for botanics is now living in Bremen.
Celebrating the 100th birthday of an exceptional woman: Lothar Frenz’s intimate portrait of Loki Schmidt

She was always far more than just the wife of a German chancellor. A botanist, environmental activist, teacher and author, Loki Schmidt spent the last year of her life working with Lothar Frenz on her book, Das Naturbuch für Neugierige. The pair soon formed a close bond, sharing a passion for the natural world.

They talked for many hours about the adventures of daily life, the life-long appeal of learning and about getting old. Slowly, Loki began to reveal small glimpses of her rich and varied life to the writer 45 years her junior, a life that mirrored a century in history. Here, Lothar Frenz tells us about that life, about Loki’s childhood and youth, her memories of the war years and the Bonn Republik and how she constantly reinvented yet always stayed true to herself.

Endowed with a hearty dose of self-confidence, she always knew who she was, what she wanted and where she came from. As the child of “poor people”, she had little sympathy with others who failed to make the most of their opportunities. Yet she always engaged with other people as equals. Everyone she met couldn’t help but instantly feel a warm regard for her. A Year With Loki is not only a deeply personal portrait of an exceptional woman but also a book about life itself.

The biologist and journalist Lothar Frenz was born in 1964. He produces documentaries for NDR and ZDF, writes scripts and contributes to GEO magazine. He has authored many popular science books, including Riesenkraken und Tigerwölfe, Auf den Spuren der Kryptozoologie (2000) and Lonesome George oder Das Verschwinden der Arten (2002), which was named Environmental Book of the Year. In 2010, he co-authored Das Naturbuch für Neugierige with Loki Schmidt.
Whets our appetites more than any cookbook: the story of Ali Güngörmüş

Raised on a farm in the Anatolian hills, Ali Güngörmüş came to Germany at the age of ten with his guest worker parents, speaking no German. Today he is the only Turk ever honoured by the Michelin Guide, and one of Germany’s most famous chefs. While Ali Güngörmüş’s life story is intriguingly unusual, his success is the result of years of hard work. He realised early on that tastes and aromas – good food, in short – was going to be the focal point of his life. And he asserted himself, despite the odds, ignoring the ignorance of fellow pupils who laughed at his poor German, or the misguided teacher who wanted to send him off to a special needs school. And he ignored his family, who thought that a man’s place was not in the kitchen. Ali Güngörmüş gained a traineeship at a Bavarian restaurant and cooked his way to the top, battling past all the obstacles in his way. He now works at the most prestigious establishments in the country, runs his own restaurant and is one of Germany’s best-known cooks.

Through the years he has stayed with certain favourite dishes, each associated with an important phase in his life: the lamb rolls in mint sauce, for example, that his mother cooked when the family was still in Turkey (it is still featured on the menu of his restaurant in Munich) or the roast pork he discovered during his training in Bavaria and which became a personal favourite. This delightfully entertaining book tells Ali’s remarkable story, using ten of Ali’s favourite dishes as milestones along his way to the premiere league of the culinary world.

“We don’t care if Ali Güngörmüş is Turkish, German or Klingon. All that’s important is that he stays what he is: a fantastic chef.”
Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

Ali Güngörmüş spent his childhood in Turkey, and is still the only Turkish chef ever to receive a Michelin star. He arrived in Germany with his family at age ten. After spells with Karl Ederer and at Munich’s Tantris restaurant, he opened Le Canard Nouveau in Hamburg, which was awarded a Michelin star in 2006. In 2014 he opened Pageou, named after the Turkish village of his birth. He was honoured as Restaurateur of the Year by Gault & Millau Germany in 2016 and is a regular guest on TV cooking shows such as Die Küchenschlacht.
Marco Göllner grew up with his grandmother, a member of the pinafore-wearing old guard. There was one thing Marco could be sure of: Granny had everything and everyone under control. Göllner’s deliciously laconic prose captures many humorous episodes of his formative years in the German provinces.

This book takes us back to Marco Göllner’s childhood and introduces us to a woman who smelled of cheap perfume, made the world’s best potato fritters and whose pinafore seemed to lend her superpowers worthy of any comic book superhero.

Marco Göllner was born in 1971 in Herford (Prussia!) because his father got lost driving the car. But he grew up in Bad Salzufflen, in a suburb called Aspe. This is where he spent the first years of his life, with his grandmother, Martha. Today he lives in the Teutoburg Forest and in Berlin, and has become a superstar in the audiobook segment as a director and author. He first became known to a wider audience through the “Fest & Flauschig” podcast by Jan Böhmermann and Olli Schulz.
Social networks are pulsing with new trends like “self-love” and “body positivity”. But it’s not easy to accept yourself when everyone around you is frantically optimizing their own bodies. In our society, attractiveness still seems bound to norms that exclude most people.

That’s why almost all women are unhappy with themselves, regardless of whether they’re old or young, slim or not. Miyabi Kawai is a veteran of many battles with her weight and is convinced that there’s only one way out: learn to love yourself!

Born in Berlin in 1974, Miyabi Kawai is a stylist and fashion designer with German-Japanese roots. She was part of the creative team behind TV shows such as X Factor and Got To Dance, working with stylist and costume designer Manuel Cortez. From 2014, the pair hosted their own show, Schrankalarm, for three series on Vox. Her book, Find Your Style! was published in 2018.
Say hello to a family unlike any you’ve ever met before: it’s the Freeses! There’s down-to-earth hands-on granny Rosi who runs her own taxi company, overly attentive single mum Bianca, the gifted 12-year-old Svenni (sometimes the only one who understands what’s going on).

Oh, and let’s not forget tenant and local gossip Heiko. Chatting at the kitchen table or down their local pub, The Owl, the group often discuss the stresses of daily life, the latest goings-on in the neighbourhood or even extreme philosophical positions. Here, relatable human instincts battle it out to great comic effect…

**Andreas Altenburg** was born in Bavaria in 1969. Since 1993 he has worked at NDR 2 as a writer and voiceover artist focussing on comedy. Among the programmes he has developed are legendary hits such as *Frühstück bei Stephanie* as well as successful shows like *Detzer & Nelling* and *Wer piept denn da?*. 
Jürgen Kaube is a managing editor and education expert at the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung and the father of three children. His new book was a reaction to his experiences in both these arenas and formulates a provocative thesis: given how they are currently run, schools are too stupid for our children and built on a fatally flawed design. Schools teach kids things they neither need nor want to learn and will quickly forget. But schools also react far too sensitively to external pressures; the much-vaunted ‘digital classroom’ is as useless as the numerous spelling reforms or the ‘language laboratory’.

In Kaube’s analysis, we need to pare teaching down to the crucial minimum: schools should teach children how to think, and that’s it. But today’s curricula consist only of things that are easy to set as exam questions. That’s the opposite of good education and teaching how to think. From this provocative standpoint, Kaube goes on to formulate demands which he says will free our schools from unnecessary and distracting burdens.

Jürgen Kaube’s book transcends decades-old discussions about education policy and defies categorisation in terms of left/right or conservative/progressive. This timely and provocative book looks set to spark an intense new debate.

Rights to The Beginnings of Everything were sold to: China (Liaoning Science and Technology), Korea (Gimm-Young) and Portugal (Saida de Emergencia).

Jürgen Kaube began his career as a sociology lecturer at the University of Bielefeld, among others, before joining the editorial team at Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung. In 2008 he took on the role of editor of the paper’s content on the humanities, and in 2012 he was made deputy head of its culture section. In 2012 he was awarded the accolade Science Writer of the Year by medium magazine. His 2014 biography Max Weber met with much acclaim. In 2015, Jürgen Kaube became one of the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung’s managing editors, and was awarded the Ludwig Börne Prize the same year. Kaube is a renowned science writer.
There is no such thing as a stupid question, just stupid answers. And the three rappers Doktor Renz, König Boris and Björn Beton aren’t short on those. What can you do about your annoying parents? How can I stop the neighbour’s dog eating my chickens?

And why do women shave their eyebrows and then paint them back on? Don’t let questions like these keep you up at night. Fettes Brot might not know everything, but they do have an answer to even the most inane questions. And they are nothing if not hilarious.

Fettes Brot have been a mainstay of the German rap scene for 25 years, pumping out one chart hit after another. Songs like “Nordisch by Nature”, “Jein” or “Emanuela” are among the country’s best-known pop tracks. After releasing 13 albums and playing countless tours, Fettes Brot now have their own radio show, “Was Wollen Wissen”, or “What Do You Want to Know?”
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