Our Spring & Summer highlights

- Homecoming
- The Time Traveller’s Handbook
- The Insect Collector
- The 6 Minute Success Journal
- Woman on Fire
In the middle of the woods, in the middle of Germany: Wolfgang Büscher’s fascinating journey into its very core.

Night after night, a boy stands at the window of his parents’ house and watches the sun as it disappears from view behind the rolling hills in the west. He roams through the woods with his friends, building wooden shacks which the foresters destroy. It’s the early sixties. Decades later, Wolfgang Büscher makes his childhood dream come true. He moves to the woods and experiences spring, summer and autumn there. An aristocratic family with a house on the border of Hessen and Westphalia where Büscher grew up gives him access to a hunting lodge in the middle of the woods, in the middle of Germany.

This is where he puts up his camp bed. He has no electricity or running water. He prepares himself for quiet times alone, chopping wood and making fires, the odd hunting expedition, hiking, a marksmen’s festival, extreme loneliness and a nightly blackness never seen in the city. The year takes an unexpectedly dramatic turn as storms, heat and plagues of beetles kill half of the woods. And something else happens which turns everything on its head: Büscher’s mother dies that summer, meaning the house he grew up in is left empty, but full of memories. This is a homecoming more existential than he could have imagined.

A book far removed from the deafening din of today’s world. An exploration of a nation, floods of memories and a “sentimental education” all rolled into one – literary, perceptive and overwhelming.

- More than 200,000 copies of his book Berlin – Moscow were sold and rights were sold to Denmark (C&K Forlag), Finland (Absurdia), France (Esprit des Péninsules), Italy (Voland), Netherland (Atlas), Norway (Aschehoug), Poland (Czarne) and the Russian Federation (European Editions).
- “The way in which Büscher brings his stories to the surface is gripping and exemplifies his narrative power.” - NZZ
- “Büscher’s works are milestones of the genre ‘narrative non-fiction’.” - Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

Wolfgang Büscher was born in 1951 near Kassel and writes for Die Welt. As Deutschlandfunk said “He has brought a new splendour to travel writing.” Büscher has published several books, among them Berlin-Moscow (2003) Germany, A Journey (2005), Hartland (2011) and Spring in Jerusalem (2014). He has won multiple awards for his work, amongst others the Kurt Tucholsky Prize, the Johann Gottfried Seume Prize for literature and the Ludwig Börne Prize.
What is sex? Or: Why don't we just let it be?

Above all else, and despite all the enlightenment of the age, sex in the 21st century seems to be a problem. Abuse, MeToo, human trafficking, circumcision, role-playing, the cult of physical beauty... But if sex is nothing but an abyss for modern humans, then why not just let it be? We are the first generation that could actually do it without endangering the survival of the species. And voices are getting louder that once again call for abstinence in a supposedly over-sexualised society. Artificial insemination and artificially intelligent technology for the safe removal of instincts should finally pacify what humans cannot control: instinctive nature. Sex is not the epitome of our animal nature. Every attempt to control the animal in us, either by taming it or by freeing it through a sexual revolution inevitably misses the point.

Bettina Stangneth asks the quite simple question: what is sex? If every culture of prohibition has failed so far, clearer ideas are obviously needed. Even if we prefer to ignore it, attempts to establish a culture through desire instead of cultivating desire have been around for a long time. After all, if you don't want to learn to talk positively about sex, you can't talk meaningfully about coercion and violence.

- Rights to Thinking Evil were sold to: China (Guangxi Normal UP), France (Calmann-Lévy), the Netherlands (Atlas) and Sweden (Daidalos).
- Rights to Deciphering Lies were sold to: China (Guangxi Normal UP), the Netherlands (Atlas Contact) and Korea (Dolbegae).
- "Her book is an invitation to think – to think consistently, which means: to think with moral consequences. It is therefore the most important new publication of the year."
  - Die Welt on Thinking Evil

Bettina Stangneth is an independent philosopher. She studied philosophy in Hamburg and wrote her doctorate on Immanuel Kant and radical evil. Her book Eichmann Before Jerusalem was awarded the NDR Culture Nonfiction Prize in 2011; the New York Times ranked it among the best books of the year. Rowohlt has most recently published her highly praised essays Thinking Evil (2015), Deciphering Lies (2017) and Ugly Sight (2019).
World, spirit, life: Jürgen Kaube’s epic biography of Hegel on the 250th anniversary of his birth.

Jürgen Kaube tells of Hegel’s life, introduces us to his thinking and shows how both of these reflect an epoch of radical change. There is no other thinker who helps us better learn about the transition of the old Europe to modern society, also known as the “Saddle Period”. Over the course of these decades, the world fundamentally changed; be it the French Revolution and the Napoleonic era, technology, industry or the colonisation of foreign continents. It is not without reason that Hegel stands for the onset of a philosophy which attempted to conceptually grasp its own time.

Amongst other places, Hegel worked in Jena, the intellectual hub of the classical era, with inspirational proximity to Schiller and Goethe, who he knew just as he did the other greats of his time. As an exceptionally gifted polemicist, he loved intellectual sparring matches, especially with the romantics, for instance. As a man with multi-faceted interests, he loved absorbing new ideas. Kaube also pays great attention to Hegel’s personal life, such as his illegitimate son, who succumbed to tropical fever in Indonesia, or Hegel’s sister who was involved in the republican conspiracy in Württemberg.

This is a fascinating biography that describes a time in which the world was being reformed. It might well be this aspect which allows this book to resonate with our world in the present day.

- More than 30,000 copies of his previous title The Beginning of Everything were sold and rights were sold to China (Liaoning Science & Technology), Korea (Gimm-Young), Russia (Discourse Pub.) and Portugal (Saida de Emergencia).
- Rights to his biography on Max Weber were sold to four countries!
- “What makes this book such a great pleasure to read more than anything else is the infectious curiosity it awakens and the desire to radically rethink the questions it poses.” - Die Welt on The Beginning of Everything
- “It is rare that a book leaves an imprint on your hand when you put it down: that’s just how it should be. It’s certainly the case here…this book must be counted among the standout works of the genre.” - Neue Zürcher Zeitung on Max Weber

Jürgen Kaube was born in 1962 and is a managing editor of the Frankfurter Allgemeiner Zeitung. He previously oversaw the humanities desk and was vice editor-in-chief of the culture section. In 2012 he was awarded the title of Journalist of the Year in the field of science by medium magazine and received the Ludwig-Borne prize in 2015. His highly acclaimed biography of Max Weber (2014) was nominated for the Leipzig Book Fair prize. The Süddeutsche Zeitung called his bestseller The Beginning of Everything (2017) “an exceptionally readable book” which is “incredibly interesting".
A philosophy of forgiveness

The readiness to forgive enjoys a good reputation in all cultures. We admire those who forgive, as we all know how difficult it can be to overcome a grudge. Psychologists praise forgiveness as a remedy for psychological wounds, and religious people consider it an expression of charity. But is it always right to give others a second chance? Or should we be more careful about forgiveness? Do we sometimes even have a duty to stand firm, to protect ourselves, to ensure justice or to maintain our self-respect? And what if someone shows no remorse whatsoever and flouts their second chance?

In her vivid and stimulating book, philosophy professor Susanne Boshammer examines what it means to forgive someone and discusses the reasons for and against forgiveness. She makes it clear that forgiveness does not have to mean that everyone involved becomes friends again, and why forgiving does not mean that we forget what happened. She is also concerned with the role of asking for forgiveness in the process of forgiveness and what speaks in favour of forgiveness despite all legitimate concerns: forgiveness is a unique human capacity and a powerful expression of our very humanity.

“Perceptive.” Süddeutsche Zeitung on her previous book Group, Law, Justice.

Susanne Boshammer teaches at the University of Osnabrück as a professor of practical philosophy and works on questions of moral and political philosophy. As a speaker on ethical issues she is a contributor to the international philosophy festival “Phil.Cologne” and is a regular guest on “Philosophical Radio” on WDR5. She is particularly interested in discussing philosophical questions in a language that is generally comprehensible.

“Forgiving means giving up all hope of a better past.” Jack Kornfield
Kathrin Passig / Aleks Scholz
THE TIME TRAVELLER’S HANDBOOK: FROM THE DINOSAURS TO THE FALL OF THE BERLIN WALL

Everything time travellers need to know – Kathrin Passig and Aleks Scholz deliver the perfect user manual!

Haven’t you always wanted to see why dinosaurs became extinct yet still live to see another day? Or walk from England to Denmark without getting your feet wet? Watch Stonehenge being built? You can’t put a foot wrong with this unique travel guide. Kathrin Passig and Aleks Scholz tell us everything a time traveller needs to know. Their book lets us experience a Mayan festival, informs us what vaccinations we need before travelling back to the Renaissance period and the clothes we should pack for the Weichselian glacial period. And there’s more: it reveals the most beautiful destinations and eras, useful knowledge about parallel worlds and their particularities, social etiquette in different epochs and practical tips for several parts of the world and the whole universe.

And if you don’t want to just lie around on heavenly beaches of yore on holiday but instead want to change the world, this book tells you exactly what you’d need to do. It’s the most useful travel guide of all time!

- Their previous title The Encyclopedia of Ignorance was a bestselling title with 90,000 copies sold! Rights were sold to 11 countries.
- “An infectious curiosity for the world”. - Frankfurter Rundschau on Encyclopedia of Ignorance

Kathrin Passig was born in 1970. She is one of the digital age’s intellectual pioneers, having co-founded the Zentrale Intelligenz Agentur in Berlin as well as the “Techniktagebuch” blog. In 2016, she was awarded two prizes at the Klagenfurt literary festival, the Bachmann Prize and the Audience Prize. A self-styled “non-fiction author and dreamer-up of things”, she co-authored the 2007 book Encyclopedia of Ignorance with Aleks Scholz. 2012 saw the publication of The Internet: Blessing or Curse?, which she co-authored with Sascha Lobo. She was awarded the 2016 Johann Heinrich Merck Prize for literary criticism.

Aleks Scholz lives in Scotland and is an astronomer whose main research focus is on the formation and development of stars and planets. He is also a writer and has written for Merkur, taz, Spiegel Online and Südliche Zeitung. In 2010 he won the Ernst Willner Prize in the Bachmann competition with his text “Google Earth”. He has previously written three books together with Kathrin Passig.
Jens Mühling
THE HEAVY SEA
A JOURNEY AROUND THE BLACK SEA

One sea, two continents, six countries – and a thousand stories

Six countries border the Black Sea. The Turks call it Karadeniz. It is Marea Neagră for the Romanians, Shavi Sghwa for the Georgians, in Bulgarian Cherno More, Chornoje Morje in Russian and Chorne More in Ukrainian.

If you include 'Abkhazia', a breakaway province of Georgia, it is six-and-a-half countries. Seven with Moldova, that once had a coastline before the nation moved inland. Seven-and-a-half if you count Transnistria, a breakaway province of Moldova. Seven-and-a-half if Crimea belongs to Russia, seven and-a-half if it belongs to Ukraine, but eight if you would rather Crimea were independent. Eight-and-a-half if you count the ancient Greek ruins.

The Heavy Sea portrays the Black Sea as a living space. Written in the form of travel reportage that takes the reader in a circle around the Eurasian inland waters, the book simultaneously taps into history, addresses conflicts among the neighbouring countries, examines the environmental and economic situation of the waters and brings together sagas, legends and literary approaches. A leitmotif is the handling of borders; the geographical border between Europe and Asia runs right across the sea. Orthodox Russians, Ukrainians, Georgians and Bulgarians meet Muslim Turks and Crimean Tatars, Romanian Catholics, Jewish Karaimans and Russian Old Believers in the Black Sea region. Economic interests connect and separate the Black Sea countries. Political differences, different views of history and divergent visions of the future shape their view of the waters on whose shores they meet.

From close up and in relevant, poetic, humorous terms, Jens Mühling tells us forcefully of the sea straddling the dividing lines of Europe, of its inhabitants, its past and its future. In so doing, he vividly reminds us that all borders, ultimately, are fluid.

Rowohlt
March 2020
304 pages

"Exciting... Never lurid, but instead with a sympathetic curiosity and a great deal of wit." - SWR3

Backlist:

- This is the first book to cover the entire Black Sea region.
- Rights to his title Black Earth (2018) were sold to the UK (Haus Publishing).
- "A social anatomy of Ukraine... takes the reader across the country, from its Polish to its Russian borders, and introduces him to characters in which the fate of the country takes a curious but also precarious form." - FAZ on Black Earth: A Journey Through Ukraine.

Jens Mühling was born in Siegen in 1976, worked for two years for the Moskauer Deutsche Zeitung, and has been a staff reporter at the Berliner Tagesspiegel since 2005. His reports and essays on eastern Europe have received numerous awards, while his first book My Russian Adventure (2012) was nominated for Britain’s Dolman Best Travel Book Award.
Beyond Hollywood: Andreas Platthaus explores a deeply divided nation

Four months in Thomas Mann’s house in Pacific Palisades changes our view of both America and Germany in equal measure. Using this as a starting point, Andreas Platthaus sets off into the great expanse on the trail of the German exile, while simultaneously trying to get to the bottom of current developments in the United States. An old European searches for the key to the New World, both on the west and the east coast, from the Mexican border deep in the desert all the way to the millionaire’s villas high above the Pacific, in Disneyland and among the homeless on the streets. He picks his way through the global society testing lab that is Los Angeles and calls on sources such as Thomas Mann and Quentin Tarantino, who imagined an America we could never have believed possible, but are now experiencing with our very own eyes.

With the presidential elections in autumn 2020 looming on the horizon, Andreas Platthaus takes the pulse of our transatlantic cousins. In his American diary, written “on the Palisades”, we are confronted with a deeply divided nation to which we are still inextricably bound more than seven decades after the era of the German exiles.

- His great portrayal of the Völkerschlacht at Leipzig (Battle of the Nations), 1813, sold more than 35,000 copies and was on the SPIEGEL bestseller list for months.
- It received enthusiastic press: “Andreas Platthaus paints an original picture of a decisive moment in time...told in a sophisticated, vivid and unconventional way.” - Die Welt on 1813
- “An atmospherically dense portrayal of the change of an epoch, drawn from a multitude of sources.”- Dresdner Neueste Nachrichten on 1813.

Andreas Platthaus was born in 1966 in Aachen. He studied philosophy, rhetoric and history and edits the literary supplement of the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, having been a contributor there since 1992. 2006 saw the publication of his widely praised book Alfred Herrhausen: A German Career. His major work on the Battle of the Nations near Leipzig in 1813 spent months on the Spiegel bestseller list and was lauded by critics. Andreas Platthaus lives in Leipzig and Frankfurt.
A foreign land, a land of longing: Thomas Steinfeld’s great portrait of Italy.

While German tourists have always been familiar with Italy, developing a profound love for “Italianità” is, this nation seems alien to us today. In fact, it seems to be becoming even more alien, thanks to its populist regime, collapsing bridges and the continued existence of the Mafia. Where does it all come from? Thomas Steinfeld lived in Italy and travelled around the country from South Tyrol to Apulia and from the mountain passes of the north to the olive plantations of the south. In this book he shows us the whole of Italy: the hustle-bustle of the hearts of Rome, Venice and Florence, as well as the working-class housing estates of the industrial areas and the state of Italy’s suburbs. He portrays rural religious fanaticism, enthusiasm for beautiful cars and the invention of Slow Food, but also illuminates the country in terms of its historical background, from the Renaissance to Mussolini’s fascism, which still lingers on in some places today.

Thomas Steinfeld portrays a society that is more diverse than many people living north of the Alps imagine. At the same time, he shows us landscapes and cultural treasures that have never lost their appeal. A rich portrait of Italy, as sensual as it is reflective, which allows us to see the contradictions and beauty of this fascinating country through new eyes.

- A rich, sensual and reflective portrait of Italy for those of us at home and travellers, which allows us to see the beauty and contradictions of this fascinating country with new eyes - and promises to be a standard work for a long time to come.
- “Extremely sophisticated, elegantly written and often brilliantly pithy.” - Der Freitag on Herr der Gespenster.
The fate of a nuclear scientist

Robert Jungk's 1956 book is a warning against the destruction of the earth. Jungk describes the history of the atomic bomb as "a history of real people" (see Friedrich von Weizsäcker), who in the summer of 1939 had still been able to prevent the construction of atomic bombs and let the opportunity pass by unused. They were morally and politically no match for this threatening new invention. The book presents an overwhelming body of facts and, in an exciting way, highlights the dilemma of famous scientists who oscillated between the urge to research and the torment of conscience. What began in the 1920s as collegial teamwork among young scientists developed, as we well know today, into tragedy. Researchers who had originally felt committed solely to scientific progress began to realize they had performed "the devil's work", as American nuclear physicist Robert Oppenheimer was to phrase it.

Today, the world is facing another kind of self-destruction: climate change. It is time to reissue a book that its author saw as a contribution to the great discussion "that may prepare a future without fear".

- An international classic of political literature that has left its mark on an entire generation.
- In this search for traces Robert Jungk provides the answer to the question: how did the atomic bomb come about? And he poses the question of responsibility that is still relevant today: the moral responsibility of our modern science.
- With a foreword by Robert Habeck, Federal Chairman of the Green Party in Germany.
- Without this book the Green party would never have existed.

Robert Jungk was born in Berlin in 1913 and died in Salzburg in 1994. After 1933 he worked on documentary films in France and republican Spain and wrote for the Weltwoche in Zurich from 1940 to 1945. He held a lectureship for futurology at the TU Berlin and was chairman of the group "Mankind 2000" in London. The topic he touched on in The Future Has Already Begun was later explored in Brighter than a Thousand Suns (1956) and Rays from the Ashes (1959), internationally famous books that urgently warn of the dangers of unleashed nuclear power.
Menopause isn’t the autumn of your life – it’s the height of summer!

There’s barely a single woman who looks forward to hitting menopause. Hot flashes, weight gain and mood swings certainly don’t sound too appealing. But does it really have to be that way? Not according to Sheila de Liz. Our notion of perimenopause is hopelessly old-fashioned. Many women suffer unnecessarily; the days when women had to grit their teeth and bear it are long gone. Because if the symptoms are identified correctly in the first place, every woman can do a lot for her well-being.

As a doctor, Sheila de Liz has devoted years of intensive study to the subject of menopause, and also knows from her own experience as a woman in her prime (oh, yes!) what helps and what doesn’t. She also knows that it’s possible to feel strong and sexy as a woman in your late forties.

- More than 40,000 copies of her previous title *Lips Unsealed* were sold and it spent 21 weeks on the SPIEGEL bestseller list!
- English sample translation will be available soon.
- The new book from Germany’s most popular gynaecologist.
- Sheila de Liz is the gynaecologist every woman wants: openly and warmly she takes her readers by the hand and guides them through her specialty with the necessary amount of humor. Because: if you laugh, you learn!

*Dr Sheila de Liz* was born in 1969 in New Jersey, came to Germany at the age of 15 and studied medicine in Mainz. She’s been running her own gynaecology and obstetrics practice in Wiesbaden since 2006. She is a recognised expert on everything concerning women’s health.

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Dr Sheila de Liz
WOMAN ON FIRE
EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT MARVELLOUS MENOPAUSE

Dr med. Sheila de Liz

Alles über die fabelhaften Wechseljahre

Polaris
October 2020
288 pages

Rowohlt Verlag GmbH, Kirchenallee 19, 20099 Hamburg
Achieve goals more efficiently and calmly

Thousands of readers of Dominik Spenst’s best-selling book *The 6 Minute Diary* used mindfulness and gratitude to lead happier, more fulfilled lives. In his new book, *The 6 Minute Success Journal*, Spenst melds mindfulness with productivity to offer us new ways of realising our goals that are based on proven tools from positive psychology.

His approach builds productive behaviour, combining target-orientated determination with calm and serenity, for example by encouraging us to reflect on our strengths every day or working in a mindful way. The skills promoted here let us focus on aspirations and dreams that would otherwise be drowned out in our hectic daily work routines. Attain your unique definition of personal and professional success in only 6 minutes a day!

- Rights to *The 6 Minute Diary* were sold to: Bulgaria (A&T Publishing), China (Science & Technology Press), the Czech Republic (Prah), Hungary (Partvonal Kidao), Italy (Vallardi), Korea (Planet B), Lithuania (Mijalba), the Netherlands (Unieboek-Het Spectrum), Portugal (Bertrand), the Russian Federation (Alpina), Spain (Urano), Taiwan (Fine Press), Turkey (Pegasus) and the Ukraine (bookchef).
- More than 270,000 copies were sold of *The 6 Minute Diary*.

Dominik Spenst, born in 1988, studied economics in Frankfurt, Bangkok, Barcelona and Paderborn. He had a bad accident and had to spend four months in hospital. This experience changed him and gave him the idea that turned into *The 6 Minute Diary*. At the moment he is building his brand “UrBestSelf” in Berlin with the aim of making books that can help people to write their way to more happiness, productiveness and mindfulness.
Growing roots

“Our ancestors didn’t just live in the woods and forests, they lived from them. Trees ‘gave’ them everything they needed, providing wood for fuel, bast fibre for clothing, bows for hunting. Without trees we wouldn’t be where we are today.” Did you know that the bark of the birch tree is an excellent firestarter? Or that you can make containers for transporting food from it? Ötzi, the famous Copper Age mummy discovered in the Alps, was found carrying one of these containers among his possessions.

These interesting facts are among the many offered to interested readers in this charming book that invites us to rediscover the trees that live quietly all around us. From the elder in our gardens or the lime tree on the market square to the beech and ash trees in the woods nearby, this book shows us the 24 most important European trees through a series of intriguing portraits paired with wonderful illustrations. Informative and enthralling, this book teaches us about the geographical distribution and cultural history of trees, detailing the spellbinding sagas and superstitions as well as their uses and conservation status.

The book also includes pages provided for notes and affixing or drawing leaves. Lose yourself in this book in an armchair at home or take it with you your next walk through a nearby forest.

- A coffee-table attraction, a practical companion on your next ramble through the woods, an easy-to-carry book half-finished in linen, full-colour illustrations and with a rubber band around the outside.
- A valuable resource to help the reader find and identify trees, and to experience mindfulness.
- Additional pages invite the reader to be active by pasting in leaves.

Kathrin Blum is a teaching professional focussed on the natural world. Her blog www.waldweg-blog.de examines the myriad ways in which we can discover nature all around us. She lives with her husband and three children near Hamburg near the beautiful Bille Valley. She knows almost every individual tree there and has developed a soft spot for her “special oak”, a tree that has been standing at the side of a path since the 17th century.
Above the clouds

“The cumulus is the cloud of story books. It’s a friendly companion on sunny days, the icing on summer’s cake. But it also has bad-tempered relatives who sometimes unleash storms....”

They’re just water vapour high up in the air – so why are we always looking up in wonder at clouds, intrigued and in awe as they make their way across the sky while we try to guess how tomorrow’s weather will unfold? Or are we trying to tell our own futures and discover something about ourselves? This spellbinding volume depicts the 25 most important cloud varieties in a series of beautifully illustrated portraits. Readers are invited to participate by “collecting” the various types of clouds and documenting their finds on the provided pages, adding their personal observations.

Since the dawn of humanity, we have gazed in wonder at a sky that has inspired artists, poets and many others. This is a detailed introduction illustrated with the work of a major artist that touches on meteorology as well as cultural and natural history to weave an enchanting story of the sky itself.

Entertaining: Presents each cloud as an individual portrait – no dry text classifying each type but lively, absorbing depictions combining essays, science and cultural history.

Engaging: Each depiction is accompanied by an FAQ, practical tips, and space for sketches and notes.

Simon Elson was born in 1980. He studied art history and literature and lives as a freelance writer in Berlin. He curated two exhibitions of cloud art in Munich and Berlin in 2016 that covered the period from the 19th century to the present day and involved artists from C. F. Sørensen to Friedrich Loos and Wolfgang Tillmans. Ever since, those images have held his imagination firmly in their grasp.

Hundert Augen
April 2020
144 pages
with illustrations by Stefan Vecsey

● An attractive companion for adventures in nature, an easy-to-carry book half-finished in linen, full-colour illustrations and with a rubber band around the outside.
● A valuable resource to help the reader find and identify clouds, and to experience mindfulness.
● Additional pages invite the reader to participate!
Humming, buzzing. Amazing.

“The coming of the insects marks the beginning of spring; their departure marks the end of autumn. Some enthrall us with their bright colours, others ruin our picnics. The song of some help us drift off to sleep at night while the stings of others keep us awake. Insects accompany us throughout the warmer months. Without insects, summer as we know it wouldn’t exist. They are the summer.”

Some insects we love, others we avoid. But for years we’ve known that our species is dependent on insects for our survival. Which insects could you name at the drop of a hat and which have you never seen before? This wonderfully illustrated book has a natural home on your coffee table, but it’s more useful in your pocket on your next walk through nature following the busy sounds of insects humming and buzzing around you. This volume shows not only the widely loved insects like butterflies, bees and ladybirds; an equally vital part in this story is played by midges, fishflies, silverfishes and dung beetles, each carefully presented in a series of original portraits. After spending some time with this delightful book, we realise that although they can be annoying, a life on this planet without insects would be lonely and not much fun…

Illuminating: “Which of these insects can I find near me?” is a question that forces us to seek and find insects in the environment around us: a fascinating exercise in mindfulness.

Olaf Fritsche is a biophysicist and science writer with a PhD in biology. After completing his studies, he joined the staff of Spektrum der Wissenschaft. He later became a freelance science journalist published in many newspapers, magazines and online publications writing about the latest scientific research. Olaf Fritsche also writes university-level biology and medical textbooks. Rowohlt has published several of his non-fiction works.
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, clixoom, 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.
Mathematical brainteasers are waiting for us everywhere: What percentage of Marge Simpson's body is made up by her hair? What is the surface area of Merkel's “Triangle of Power”? And how many “umm’s” does Boris Becker manage in an average interview?

Covering geometry, fractions, algebra, stochastics and beyond, these fun problems also offer up a whole host of trivia about politics and popular culture.

Born in 1984, Stefan Reich lives in Berlin. He studied German and English as well as sociology in Münster, and is a staff writer at 11 FREUNDE, a football magazine. His articles and writings are published in magazines and anthologies, and he was a finalist at Berlin’s Literaturwerkstatt open mic events on several occasions. Everest, his first volume of poetry, was published in 2014, and his first novel, Wenn's brennt, was published in 2016.
What’s a “false 9”? And why are goalkeepers suddenly playing like defenders? In his new book, Tobias Escher explains the fundamentals of modern football. Using the four-phase model he explores all the relevant details about every player position, every play situation and every tactical challenge.

It provides amateur and professional players and coaches – or just ordinary fans – with a valuable new resource that will make them see the game with different eyes and gain a deeper understanding of what’s happening on the pitch.

Tobias Escher is the co-founder of the award-winning blog “Spielverlagerung.de”. He also analyses Bundesliga games for a web show called “Bohndesliga” produced by Rocket Beans TV. As a freelance journalist, Escher writes for Die Welt and the football magazine 11 FREUNDE. In 2013, medium-magazin named him one of Germany’s top ten sports journalists. His most recent books with Rowohlt were Rethinking Football: The Age of the Strategist and Football Tactics: From the Sweeper to the Double Pivot.
In July 1943, large areas of Hamburg were annihilated in the Allied bombing campaign known as Operation Gomorrah.

14-year-old Günter Lucks barely survived the horrors of the bombing; his brother Hermann, two years his senior, was not as lucky. Written with Harald Stutte, Lucks’ new book details every one of the ten days of Operation Gomorrah, including the nights spent in air raid shelters; the days after the attacks; the fears, hopes and thoughts of the inhabitants; the indications for a putative impending “decisive blow”; “fire watch” at the post office; bombing defence preparations in schools and occupational training centres; the “peoples' gas masks”; the gossip on the streets and much more besides.

Here, 75 years after the end of World War II, one of the last living survivors of the Allied bombing of Hamburg tells of his experiences.

- Rights to the authors’ previous titles were sold to: Czech Republic (Euromedia), Lithuania (Briedis), the Netherlands (Walburg Pers), Slovakia (Ikar) and Sweden (Lind).
- Previous titles sold more than 45,000 copies altogether.

Günter Lucks, born in 1928, worked for the German post office until 1955 then moved to the graphic arts. From 1992 he was employed by Axel Springer in Hamburg until he retired. He refused an invitation by the Federal Armed Forces to join them as an officer after their foundation. This book about his childhood is his third with Harald Stutte.

Harald Stutte is a historian, political editor at the Hamburger Morgenpost and writes for various travel magazines. He was awarded the Journalism Prize of the Association of German Travel Journalists. He lives in Hamburg.
What's going wrong with the Christian Church? Why are increasing numbers of people turning away from it at a time when their need for direction and purpose seems stronger than ever? How did we get here? And what can the Church do about it? Julian Sengelmann’s new book is a critical examination of these questions, showing us why the Church is currently in such a difficult situation.

In his view, the Church needs to radically alter its perspective and although his book offers ideas, he refuses to turn his back on its institutions. On the contrary, Sengelmann’s book is a long overdue coming-to-terms with a highly topical issue. Yet it is also a love letter by a modern theologian who has no qualms about asking difficult questions.

Julian Sengelmann, born 1982 in Hamburg, is a German actor, musician and – above all – a theologian. Sengelmann works as a research associate at the Institute for Practical Theology in Hamburg, where he is currently writing his PhD thesis.
Tens of thousands of children will be victims of bullying, excluded at nursery and school, humiliated, threatened or even beaten up. Daniel Duddek, an experienced coach and qualified teacher shows what children need to protect themselves from bullying and to be confident, assertive and happy.

He presents concrete solutions and different courses of action in conflict situations based on several case studies, offers affected families expert support while encouraging parents to assume responsibility for their behaviour as role models.

Daniel Duddek was born in 1985 and is a qualified teacher, coach, author and developer of the anti-bullying programme “You don’t need muscles to be strong” and the show “Educational Revolution”. Daniel’s shows and seminars help parents to understand new approaches and enable children to have a happy childhood and thus lay the foundations for a successful future. He lives with his family in Hamm.
Is it possible to fall in love again once we reach our third age? Or is there a point after which it's simply too late to start over? Kai Lippens is in his early 60s and is looking for a new partner. He experiences some exciting dates, enchanting affairs, painful rejections and tries online dating, but none of the women he meets want to commit.

To find out why, the author interviews other women and men in a similar position who tell him their reasons (some good, others grotesquely bad), while also relating excuses they've made and admitting fears they try to hide. Through it all, Kai carries on dating, undaunted. This is an encouraging look at love, sex and partnership for those on the other side of 50.

Born in 1957, over the course of his 35-year career, the journalist Kai Lippens contributed to many different newspapers, magazines and radio programmes. He has also written many books. He lives in Essen and has a son. This book is published under a pseudonym.
Be it on the balcony, at the allotment or on the vegetable patch, nothing ever thrives anywhere near as well as we hope. What should we do when mildew causes our beloved roses to wither, and spider mites get their teeth into our busy lizzies? Plant doctor René Wadas swears by using purely biological methods of pest control: nettle tinctures, tansy and horsetail extract are usually sufficient to strengthen the plants.

You can sometimes even use would-be pests to your advantage: they can do a world of good when used in the right place and in the right amount. In his new book, the plant doctor tells us all there is to know about pests, bugs and the like – as always, in a completely natural way.

- A Visit from the Plant Doctor made number 3 on the SPIEGEL bestseller list and sold more than 40,000 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.
According to surveys, many young people want to be more clued up when it comes to money. Pocket Hazel, the only YouTube star with real financial expertise, knows from her own experience the questions her generation want answers to. Here, she shows what it takes to stand on your own two feet.

How can I pay for my apprenticeship or get myself through college? How can I still have fun on a shoestring budget? And what do I need to watch out for when it comes to doing my taxes? Hazel gives us the lowdown on everything young people need to know about money using her wealth of background knowledge and witty anecdotes.

Pocket Hazel was born in Vietnam and came to Germany when she was 5. After finishing school, she first studied business administration and then went on to work in an accounting firm. She set up the successful YouTube channel “Pocket Hazel” in 2014 and wowed over 250,000 followers with her videos on comedy and lifestyle. You can also catch her on the funk TV network with videos about money issues. Hazel lives in Berlin.
If you hit rock bottom, you might as well make yourself comfortable.

Starting all over again at 50? Her father’s death is only the first in a sequence of events which catapults Agnes Flügel into a crisis – and then to Portugal. At first everything seemed perfect. Agnes had fulfilled her dream and swapped her business life for her own business producing honey, and had moved to the countryside with her husband. But life had other plans. Agnes’s father dies and she has to take care of her mother who is suffering from dementia. Then her husband leaves her for a younger woman. What do you do when you are suddenly left with nothing? Agnes recalls her old longings and her passion for adventure and makes the snap decision to travel to Lisbon. It’s there, in the city on the River Tagus, that she takes a leap into the unknown.

- A fascinating story of a woman who turns a midlife crisis into a midlife opportunity. Open, honest, self-deprecating and with great potential for people to identify with.
- Recommended for readers of Meike Winnemuth and Ildiko von Kürthy.

Agnes Johanna Flügel holds a degree in cultural studies and is a passionate beekeeper. Driven by her love of the natural world, she gave up her job as editor of an online service provider and left Hamburg to live in the countryside in Schleswig-Holstein. She’s been running “Flügelchen”, her own honey production business there, since 2007. She released the book Honigfrau in 2011 and has mainly been living in Lisbon since the start of 2018.
“Oh God, this place is so small!” That was Pamela Hansen’s first thought on setting foot on the island for the first time. But having accepted the position as pastor on Heligoland, it was too late to back out. The Man Upstairs will have had His reasons, she thinks.

Pamela Hansen quickly realises that an island community is like a large, dysfunctional but mostly loveable family. In this funny, moving book she describes a wonderfully colourful life surrounded by the North Sea and explains why it’s here, of all places, that she feels closest to heaven.

Pamela Hansen studied theology in Kiel before teaching religion in schools. She took on her first role as pastor in the USA, returning to Germany in 2011. Before God planted her on a rock in the North Sea, she knew next to nothing about Heligoland. Today, it’s a place of yearning for her.
Have you ever heard of “wobbly tooth pubescence”? Even children as young as six have been known to stomp angrily through the house slamming doors. In *He’s Outgrown the Baby Hatch* Marlene Hellene tells us about the challenges which parents have to face when babies become children.

Baby foodspattered blouses, full nappies and sleepless nights are now being replaced by parental WhatsApp groups and fear of school 2.0. When children grow up, mothers have to learn to rein in their inner tendencies towards ‘helicopter’ parenting. And this is true across the board: laughter is the best relief for the crazy day-to-day of parenting.

**Marlene Hellene** was born in 1979. She writes on her blog “Tollabea” and via her Twitter profile MarleneHellene. She lives with her family in Karlsruhe.

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**Backlist:**

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July 2020
208 pages
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The book that parents (and almost all teachers) have been waiting for.

“If children don’t know their multiplication tables, or can’t read properly after leaving primary school, then something’s gone horribly wrong.” But that’s the sad reality, says Michael Rudolph. The experienced headmaster managed to turn Bergius, a problem school in Berlin, into a coveted educational establishment with clearly defined rules for disciplined learning. He considers virtues such as punctuality and courtesy crucial in restoring stability to the school day. In this book, Rudolph and his co-author Susanne Leinemann describe how you can create a school environment, no matter where, in which learning is the most important goal.

According to Rudolph and Leinemann, it requires courage to take the duty of schools seriously. School is not an end in itself. On the contrary, it provides a foundation for pupils so that they can transition into the world of work. While advancement through education is more relevant today than ever, only those with skills have good prospects. As we’ve become caught up in pedagogical trench warfare and educational theory, we’ve lost sight of the true goal. What is school for? Rudolph’s bold answer: schools are places of learning!

- “When Rudolph took on the role of headmaster at Burgius School in Berlin in 2005, the school was on the brink of closure. Its reputation had been ruined due to absenteeism and violence in everyday school life. Today, the school has become one of the most popular and successful schools.” - Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung
- “Rudolph cares about the children; he wants them to make something of themselves and find their way in life.” - Bild
- “One of the most successful headmasters in the city.” - Tagesspiegel

Michael Rudolph, born in 1953, has been in the Berlin school system for forty years. Since 2005 he has been head of the Bergius School in Berlin-Friedenau, which he has led from a “problematic” school to a sought-after educational institution.

Susanne Leinemann, born 1968, writes for the Berliner Morgenpost. She has published several books and was awarded the Special Award of the Henri Nannen Prize. She lives in Berlin with her husband and two school-age children.
Care of the elderly has a bad reputation. It’s associated with harassed staff, poor-quality food and even abuse and violence towards the elderly. Geriatric nurse Sandro Pé is attempting to combat this reputation; for him, working with elderly people is a pleasant and fulfilling experience. It’s the working conditions in the nursing sector which are in a catastrophic state.

He uses his book to show us that there is another way of dealing with the situation. He has dedicated himself to ensuring that geriatric nurses are given a voice. Pé already has over 100,000 followers on his Facebook group on the subject of nursing care. He was also named “Carer of the Year” in 2017.

- Good care is more than just satisfying basic needs. Care is about touching the hearts and souls of elderly people.
- Being afraid of ageing is unnecessary, but you should address the issue in good time.
- Politicians should only implement reforms after they’ve gained first-hand knowledge of the work in practice.

Sandro Pé is 29 years old and comes from the Koblenz area. He has been working as a geriatric nurse since 2013. He has become the most successful senior care blogger on social media, where he advocates humane practices in nursing care.

“Day after day he proves at his workplace that nursing care with heart, respect and appreciation is possible despite time pressure. Recently he has also become politically involved and is campaigning for fundamental reforms in nursing care for the elderly.” - SWR 2
Only six percent of Germans would go into a nursing home of their own free will. Yet the population of care homes is growing every year. Scandalously, investors’ and proprietors’ profits grow the worse the conditions in the homes are. Not only does this industry suffer from chronic staff shortages, but it’s also a hive of criminality, with care providers, doctors and dispensing chemists engaged in widespread fraud that’s hurting taxpayers to the tune of billions.

This system is nearing collapse. In this unsparing report on the nursing care industry, expert Christoph Lixenfeld argues that this broken system cannot be reformed. He maintains that Germany needs a Year Zero in its approach to nursing care and charts some viable alternatives.

Journalist Christoph Lixenfeld has been a freelance reporter since 1994, contributing to Handelsblatt, Süddeutsche Zeitung and Der Spiegel. He has also produced radio features for NDR and Deutschlandfunk as well as TV reportage for several ARD on-screen magazines. He has been covering the nursing care industry for the last 15 years. His first book on the subject, No One Has To Go into a Home, was published in 2008. He lives and works in Berlin and Hamburg.
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