



# AUFBAU

FICTION RIGHTS GUIDE

AUTUMN 2022



aufbau



aufbau taschenbuch



rütten & loening



*Blütenbar*



Die Andere  
Bibliothek

# CONTENT

## LITERARY FICTION

Helene Bukowski 1  
**The Warrior**

Jutta Voigt 2  
**Wild Mother, distant Father**

Jan Böttcher 3  
**The Rose Experiment**

Martin Simons 4  
**Bycatch**

Elina Penner 5  
**Nightberries**

Philipp Winkler 6  
**Creep**

Agnes Krup 7  
**Leo and Dora**

Gabriele Riedle 8  
**In Jungles. In Deserts. In War.**

## MODERN CLASSICS

Anna Seghers 9  
**Don't you have any Dreams?**

Brigitte Reimann 10  
**Siblings**

Hans Fallada 11  
**Lilly and her Slave**

## UPMARKET COMMERCIAL FICTION

Anne Stern 12  
**Three Days in August**

Caroline Bernard 13  
**Courage Calls**

Deike Wichmann 14  
**The Unflinching**

Tabea Koenig 15  
**The Publisher of Paris**

## FAMOUS COUPLES, GREAT STORIES

Bettina Storks 16  
**Ingeborg Bachmann and Max Frisch**

Sylvia Frank 17  
**So Long, Marianne**

Thérèse Lambert 18  
**Alma and Gropius**

## STRONG WOMEN SERIES

Courageous Women caught between Art and Love – the bestselling Series 19

Susanne Lieder 20  
**Astrid Lindgren**

Agnès Gabriel 21  
**The Couturière**

Claudia Romes 22  
**Beethoven's Beloved**

Beinert & Beinert 23  
**Marilyn and the Stars of Hollywood**

Alexander Schwarz 24  
**The World Explorer**

Heidi Rehn 25  
**The Woman behind the Blue Rider**

Catherine Bell 26  
**Jane Austen and the Art of Words**

Michelle Marly 27  
**Romy and the Lights of Paris**

Charlotte Leonard 28  
**A daring Woman – Hedy Lamarr**

Joan Weng 29  
**The Red Dancer**

## SAGAS

Eva-Maria Bast 30  
**Vanilla Days**

Lena Johansson 31  
**From Sea to Sea**

Stefanie H. Martin 32  
**The Lovers of Bloomsbury**

Linda Winterberg 33  
**The Vineyard. A sparkling new Era**

Ulrike Renk 34  
**A Family in Berlin**

Rebekka Eder 35  
**The Chocolate Factory**

## CRIME / THRILLER

Rebecca Russ 36  
**Motherly Love**

Henrik Siebold 37  
**Shadow Warrior**

Kai Havaii 38  
**Hyperion**

Paul Schüler 39  
**1942: The Laboratory**

Herbert Beckmann 40  
**The American. 1957 – Death in Berlin**

Christoph Elbern 41  
**The Harbour Killer**

Petra Johann 42  
**The Bookseller**

THE SEA IS CONSTANT.  
THE WAR SEEMS FAR AWAY.  
THE LIGHT LIES IN THE SHADOWS.

Lisbeth and the warrior have known each other since their training in the Armed Forces. They chose the military because they wanted a body that isn't weak — as if the only way to face the world is with a heart clenched in a fist. Many years have passed since they last saw each other, but they are still drawn to one another. They are women who have experienced violence and commit violence against themselves and those close to them. But Lisbeth and the warrior are also ready to fight against it.

*The Warrior* is a novel about the special friendship between two women whose top priority is to strip themselves of all vulnerability. Helene Bukowski tells of the resulting wounds, the violence, their traces and the trauma – both experienced and inherited.

**Helene Bukowski**, born in Berlin in 1993, once more lives in her city of birth. She studied at the Hildesheim Literature Institute and, in addition to writing, also runs creative writing courses and workshops. Her debut novel *Milk Teeth*, for which she was nominated for various awards, was published in 2019. The novel has been translated into French and English and a film adaptation is in the works.

»Bukowski has a keen sensorium that allows her politically virulent topics to be captured with crystal clarity.« DER TAGESSPIEGEL



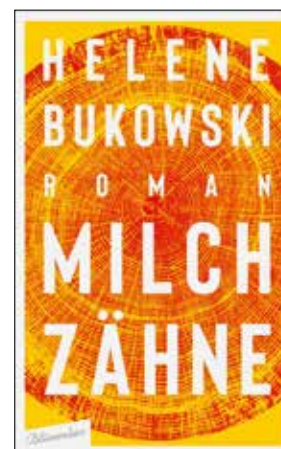
Helene Bukowski  
**The Warrior**  
Novel. 256 pp.  
Blumenbar. Hardcover  
2022, September

**RIGHTS SOLD:**  
France (Éditions Gallmeister)

English sample translation available

Recommended by  
New Books in German

PREVIOUS PUBLICATION:



Helene Bukowski  
**Milk Teeth**  
Novel. 256 pp.  
Blumenbar. Hardcover  
2019, March

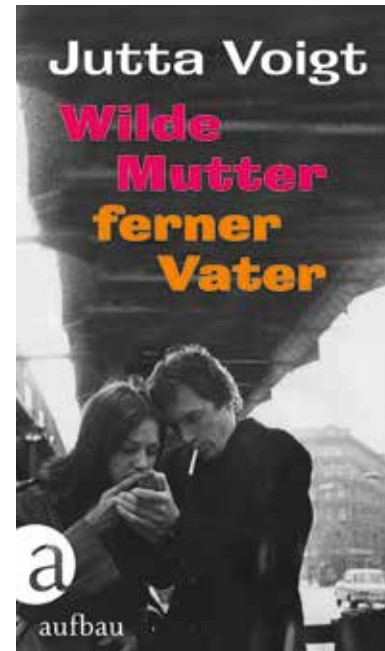
**RIGHTS SOLD:**  
US/English (Unnamed Press)  
France (Éditions Gallmeister)

## A story of forgiveness and forgetting, of life under a dictatorship and the bohemian world of East Berlin

Margit, Judy's headstrong mother, was eighteen when she met Willi, tall and blonde. Three weeks after Judy's birth, Hitler attacked the Soviet Union, and she didn't see her distant father again until she was seven. The 1950s, which began on such a hopeful note, end in disaster: Willi descends into alcoholism, desperate to forget the war and what he did there. Judy is the only one in her family to escape: she meets Henri, a brilliant director and pupil of Brecht, and becomes a successful newspaper columnist. The tumult and failures of the post-war period are later repeated in the second historical caesura that Judy experiences: the collapse of the GDR.

Jutta Voigt condenses eight decades of German history into a few square kilometres of Berlin, from the Second World War to the GDR to the present day: unsentimental, intensely true to life, and full of reflective poetry.

**Jutta Voigt**, born in Berlin, studied philosophy at Humboldt University. She was an editor, essayist and columnist with the weekly newspapers *Sonntag*, *Freitag*, *Wochenpost* and *Zeit*. In 2000 she was awarded the Theodor Wolff Prize.



Jutta Voigt  
**Wild Mother, distant Father**  
Novel. 256 pp.  
Aufbau. Hardcover  
2022, August

»She has successfully pulled off the feat of explaining why someone might long for a world that deserved to be lost.« DER TAGESSPIEGEL

»Touching, disturbing and incredibly well told.« MARION BRASCH

»In its strongest moments, the book evokes images that seem to come alive against the historical backdrop of post-war Berlin, heavily destroyed, starving, and yearning for life.« MITTELDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG

»A literary testimony to a bygone era. Loving and wistful.« MÄRKISCHE ALLGEMEINE

## A fabulous historical novel set in glittering 1920s Berlin

Berlin, 1928. Brilliant doctoral student Zenia refuses to be distracted by the glitz and glamour of the Golden Twenties: what she wants is to explore the depths of the human mind. Collaborating with the young Professor Leonard Zadek and Berlin waitress Helene, she develops a series of experiments designed to investigate anger and rage. Zenia has come up with a ground-breaking new way of conducting her research, and hopes to make history with her Rose Experiment. But can she research anger without stirring it up?

The deeper Zenia goes, the more powerful the emotions she arouses – as a scientist and as a Jewish woman. And both Zadek and Helene underestimate the extent to which love and life overlap in Zenia's experiment ... the three of them cannot control their own feelings towards one another. How much of love is really anger, and is there any escape from the experiment?

Jan Böttcher has written a glittering, wonderfully evocative novel inspired by real characters – but with tremendous contemporary resonance.

**Jan Böttcher**, born in Lüneburg in 1973, was initially a songwriter and singer with the Berlin-based band *Herr Nilsson*. His novel *Afterglow* won the Ernst Willner Prize at the Ingeborg Bachmann competition. Jan Böttcher lives in Berlin. His novels *Hicksville* and *At First the War Was Over* have also been published by Aufbau Verlage.

»The Rose Experiment is a portrait of the manners and morals of the 1920s, a psychological profile of an era, a linguistic work of art – a deep, sharp look into the past that illuminates the present.« KATERINA POLADJAN



Jan Böttcher  
**The Rose Experiment**  
 Novel. 367 pp.  
 Aufbau. Hardcover  
 2022, August

»Ingeniously constructed, highly original and full of fresh insights.« WOLFRAM EILENBERGER

»A well-composed book, inspiring, dense, with two stunningly fierce female characters.«  
 BERLINER ZEITUNG

»In this book, people think in so many movements, circles, even pirouettes; psychology has rarely been as transparent. It is full of thoughts and new insights that are tailor-made for the questions of our present [...] One reads all this in this impressive novel, capturing a flickering epoch and at the same time keeping the door to the present wide open.« NDR KULTUR

## Can you ever escape your background? A tragi-comic story about family and the search for answers

Bycatch is something that gets unintentionally caught in fishermen's nets, but the German word – Beifang – is also the name of a mining town on the edge of the Ruhr in the west of Germany. It is home to Winfried Zimmerman, a veteran of the Second World War, a labourer and a father of twelve, whose life is blighted by desperation and abject poverty – and vitalised by anarchy. Decades later, his grandson Frank begins to investigate: who was Winfried? How much of him lives on in his son and grandson? Since Frank and his father don't speak, he contacts his numerous uncles, several of whom he has never met. They are all affected by their deeply impoverished childhood, by growing up with a mother who was broken by life and a father who was traumatised by the war. The more Frank learns about the events in Beifang all those years ago, the more aware he becomes of the long shadows cast by his family background on the present.

Writing with precision and a light touch, Martin Simons explores the hidden aftereffects of an environment shaped by poverty, violence and pride – an environment that despite all adversity never succumbs to self-pity.

**Martin Simons** grew up in Selm, not far from the Ruhr region, and today lives with his family in Berlin. He is the author and editor of several books. His most recent publication is *Not Yet, But Someday* (2019).



Martin Simons  
**Bycatch**  
Novel. 234 pp.  
Aufbau. Hardcover  
2022, July

»One of the most beautiful and moving books of the year. Poetic and sober.«  
NEUES DEUTSCHLAND

»Martin Simons narrates with precision and effortlessness the hidden persistence of a milieu marked by destitution, violence, and stubborn pride that, despite all external adversity, knows no self-pity, and of being a father and son in an unusual family.« BUCH-MAGAZIN

»At times bitter, at times shocking, and at times very funny. [Simons] gives his readers the thrill of boundless irony without, however, exposing his characters to ridicule.«  
DEUTSCHLANDFUNK

»A novel about a young woman  
who goes her own way –  
quirky, dark and so good.« LAURA KARASEK

Nelli came to Germany from Russia with her Mennonite family when she was a little girl. She speaks Plautdietsch, eats tweebak and nightshade berries and is trying to settle into the province and her new life. But she can't shake her past. When her beloved grandmother dies, things start to blur for Nelli. Her husband Kornelius tells her that he is leaving her for someone else. And the next morning, Nelli isn't sure if she accidentally killed him... And then suddenly there's something in the freezer that doesn't belong there.

In *Nightberries*, Elina Penner narrates with comedy and dark humour the story of a community who hold on to each other because they have nothing else. In the middle is a young woman who breaks down under the pressure to live up to the expectations of her family and her faith – and who is searching for her own path.

**Elina Penner** was born in 1987 as a Mennonite German in the former Soviet Union and came to Germany in 1991. Plautdietsch is her mother tongue. After years in Berlin and the U.S., she lives with her family in East Westphalia and is a very successful blogger. *Nightberries* is her debut novel.



Elina Penner  
**Nightberries**  
Fiction. 248 pp.  
Aufbau. Hardcover  
2022, March

English sample translation available

»Always funny and dangerous at the same time. Elina Penner keeps us in constant suspense about what will happen next, always between shock, laughter and deep emotion. A bitter-sweet debut.« CHRISTIAN DITTLOFF

»Elina Penner tells the most exciting family story I've read in a long time in an incredibly funny and clever way. I am impatiently waiting for the film adaptation. A book that I would like to give to every friend.« NINIA LAGRANDE BINIAS

»Elina Penner narrates with a sure sense for dialogue and brevity.«  
FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE SONNTAGSZEITUNG

## »Another true Winkler: intense, grim and – unfortunately – frighteningly realistic« WDR 5

Fanni works for the leading provider of smart surveillance technology. She is still in the office when everyone else has long left, because that's when she can finally tap the cameras of the Naumann family. Their home is the only place where Fanni feels something close to belonging and warmth.

It seems as though Junya never leaves his bedroom. But at night he sneaks out of the apartment and onto the streets of Tokyo. He's looking for that one moment where he can completely forget who he is. But he chooses the awful method of violence – and the recognition he receives for it in the darknet forums where he shares the videos of his forays.

Fanni and Junya live among us, but we don't see them. They belong to the first generation to grow up with the Internet. Both seek in the life of strangers the things that they have otherwise given up hope on: control, belonging, liberation. In doing so, they cross boundaries that have long ceased to apply to them. It is the story of all of us – whether we like it or not.

*Creep* is a novel about how digital hypermodernism distorts us and what we are prepared to do to escape the darkness – the darkness within us.

**Philipp Winkler**, born in 1986, studied literary writing in Hildesheim. He has lived in Kosovo and Japan. For his debut novel *Hool* he received the ZDF aspekte Literature Prize for the best German-language debut, was on the shortlist of the German Book Prize and was invited to the Festival Neue Literatur in New York. The novel was a *Spiegel* bestseller, has been translated into numerous languages and adapted for theatre. A film version is in the works.



Philipp Winkler  
*Creep*  
Novel. 352 pp.  
Aufbau. Hardcover  
2022, January

English sample translation available

RIGHTS SOLD:  
Spanish World (Alianza)

### PREVIOUS PUBLICATION:



Philipp Winkler  
*Hool*  
Novel. 310 pp.  
2016, September

Full English translation available

RIGHTS SOLD:  
Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Italy, Netherlands,  
Spain/Spanish World, US/English World, Belarus,  
China/Simplified Characters

## Ghosts from the past and an unexpected love – the story of a summer that changes everything

After ten years in exile Leopold Perlstein, once a famous writer in Vienna, has not yet found his footing in his new home in Palestine. His income working for an insurance company is modest, his writer's block unsurmountable. His agent Alma invites him to spend a long summer in her country house in Sharon, Connecticut, to finally finish a new book.

But when Leo gets off the train, exhausted from a long journey, he is met by a young boy who explains that Alma's house has burnt down the night before. For now, he will have to make do with the Roxy, the guesthouse opposite the train station. The house is a disaster. Not to mention Dora, the landlady! If Leo only knew what else the Roxy holds in store for him, he might have turned around. But it is a good thing that he doesn't, because this summer – and Dora – will change his life forever.

**Agnes Krup** studied in Hamburg and Tübingen and has worked as an editor, literary agent and publishing scout. Born in Hamburg, she now divides her time between Berlin and an old guesthouse near Sharon, Connecticut. Her debut novel *With the Outgoing Tide* was released in 2017 and was an instant success. After *Summer Guests*, *Leo and Dora* is her third novel.

*A romantic comedy between the Old and New World, witty and surprising*



Agnes Krup  
**Leo and Dora**  
Novel. 285 pp.  
Aufbau. Hardcover  
2022, March

English sample translation available

English Language rights: author

»When writing her novel, Agnes Krup will not have suspected that war would again be raging in Europe. Now, however, it turns out that her story strikes a nerve. A story about carrying on under all circumstances, about persevering. And about the light at the end of the tunnel.«  
WDR 5

## »We need to carry on despite everything«

While listening to the radio, the narrator finds out about the violent death of the famous British war photographer Tim H. in Libya. Not long before, she was travelling with him as a journalist in civil-war-stricken Liberia. This is an opportunity to tell his story, about his life and his death, but also about her own experiences in every corner of the world – Afghanistan and the jungle of Papua New Guinea, Inner Mongolia and the Caucasus, the heights of the Himalayas and the journey to Liberia. Her narrative includes images and descriptions of the world that the international reporters deliver to the media houses in Hamburg and Manhattan – images that depict our global present. Her reporting in images and text is subject to aesthetic and economic constraints that attest to the state of the world and the crisis in western civilization.

In *In Jungles. In Deserts. In War*, Gabriele Riedle gives a woman a voice in a thoroughly male genre and now says goodbye to a world that was once her own. She calls her book »A Kind of Adventure Novel« and thus playfully hints at a tradition that she is leaving behind.

**Gabriele Riedle** has more than 20 years of experience as a reporter herself. However, *In Jungles. In Deserts. In War* is original prose, and artistic literature far removed from journalistic realism. She combines the reflections of her first-person narrator and her personal experiences in a meandering stream of consciousness in sweeping lyrical sentences. And it wouldn't be a true Gabriele Riedle novel if the journeys through space and time didn't also guide us through an array of world literature, pervaded by Hegel's »world spirit«.



Gabriele Riedle

*In Jungles. In Deserts. In War.*

A Kind of Adventure Novel

Novel. 280 pp.

Die Andere Bibliothek. Hardcover

2022, March

English sample translation available

Longlisted for the German Book Prize

»What a book, my hands are still shaking, that's how much Riedle's sound took hold of me.«  
NEUES DEUTSCHLAND

»A literary approach to the author's own profession and its – often rather absurd – day-to-day life [...] This is a wicked, sometimes sad general reckoning as well as autobiographical obsession prose of the highest stylistic rank.« NÜRNBERGER ZEITUNG

»Riedle writes at the height of the contemporary discourse on decolonization.«  
FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE ZEITUNG

»A chilly reckoning with a journalism that has betrayed its very ideals [...] sober, precise storytelling.« NEUE ZÜRCHER ZEITUNG

## »Don't you have any dreams – wild and gentle, while you sleep between two tough days?« ANNA SEGHERS

It's hard to find a year in which Anna Seghers did not write a short story. She mastered so many tones of voice and used the short prose form more continuously than any of her contemporaries – a direct literary response to the changing circumstances in the world. The texts and themes range from the Weimar Republic, the global economic crisis and the Nazis' seizure of power, to flight and exile in the Second World War, her return to Germany, the emergence of two German nations, the Berlin Wall being built and far into the late GDR.

Today, her masterly stories are more relevant than ever and should not only encourage people to rediscover Seghers' delightful work, but should also carry on her message of the power of supposedly weak people.

**Anna Seghers** (1900-1983) was born Netty Reiling in Mainz, Germany, into a Jewish family. As Jew, a Communist and a revolutionary writer, she was blacklisted in Nazi Germany and left for France in 1933 with her family. After the Nazi invasion in 1940, she was forced to flee. She and her family travelled from Marseilles to New York. When they were denied immigration in the U. S. they continued their journey to Mexico. Seghers gained international recognition with her novels *Transit* (1944) and *The Seventh Cross* (1942), which became a bestseller and has been translated into more than thirty languages.

*»Seghers was concerned with major questions, and she pursued those questions in her fiction relentlessly. What does fascism do to a person's soul? she asks again and again [...] Seghers' stories are moving and deeply intelligent.« KIRKUS REVIEWS*



Anna Seghers  
**Don't you have any Dreams?**  
Stories. 336 pp.  
Aufbau. Hardcover  
2022, April

A compilation of the most significant short stories in a single volumen

Full English translation available

### PREVIOUS PUBLICATION:



Anna Seghers  
**The seventh Cross**  
Novel. 440 pp.  
First published in 1942

Full English translation available

### RIGHTS SOLD:

English US (The New York Review of Books), English UK (Virago Modern Classics/Little Brown), France (Métailié), Italy (Neri Pozza), Netherlands (Cossee), Croatia (Bodoni), Spanish/Mexico (La Cifra), Sweden (Nilsson), Japan (Iwanami Shoten), Turkey (Everest)

## A heartfelt view of life in East Germany

»I will never forgive you for this«, Uli says to his sister Elisabeth. What she has done to him is only revealed later. It is 1960 and the border between East and West Germany has already been closed, with West Berlin the only loophole. For Elisabeth, the GDR still represents the chance to build a more just society – despite frustrations with the system. And it is home. For Uli, her beloved brother, there seems no room for manoeuvre: he wants to leave for the West.

*Siblings* is the story of a beautiful relationship and the forces that threaten it when human emotion and ideology collide. Thanks to the honesty and the energy of her prose and her way of life, Brigitte Reimann captured the mood of a generation and became a cult figure in an increasingly rigid culture in the GDR.

The demolition of a house in Hoyerswerda, where Brigitte Reimann lived in the 1960s, yielded a truly spectacular find: letters, notes and large parts of the original draft of *Siblings*. Thanks to this tremendous discovery, Aufbau can publish an even more mature, clear-sighted version of one of the most hotly debated books in GDR literature.

**Brigitte Reimann** (1933–1973) was among the most significant East German writers. Like her heroines, she was spirited and outspoken. She believed passionately in socialism, yet never joined the party; stayed with her second husband, yet pursued a series of affairs. Though she clashed with the system, it needed her talent and she was consistently published. Her final novel *Franziska Leifthand* is the most mature of her works. It was an immediate bestseller in both East and West Germany. But it was the last novel she wrote before dying of cancer at the age of thirty-nine.



Brigitte Reimann

**Siblings**

Novel. 192 pp.

First published in 1962

Expanded edition with new material in the works, to be published in February 2023

Full English translation available

Forgotten Gem

**Recommended by New Books in German**

**RIGHTS SOLD:**

English UK (Penguin Classics)

English US (Transit Books)

Turkey (Is Kültür)

*»The prominent GDR writer struck the nerve of her time. Despite all of the hostility, she lived a wild, non-conformist life. She used her position as an author to illuminate social problems critically but with emotion; she didn't idealize or sugarcoat anything; her writing was neither fussy nor moralistic.« BRIGITTE*

## What a discovery: Fallada's lost court records from 1926 – with unpublished stories

It was the turning point before he became a best-selling author: Hans Fallada had turned himself into the police in September 1925 following repeated cases of embezzlement in Northern Germany. He was then taken into custody. As he was an alcoholic with a morphine habit, a court-appointed doctor was assigned to assess the extent to which Fallada could be made accountable. This report was thought to be lost and has only recently been rediscovered. It is an extraordinary find: Not only has it brought new biographical details to light, but also a literary sensation – unpublished stories by Hans Fallada that do not shy away from topics that were considered taboo at the time.

The title character Lilly is an untamed girl. She simply wants to »play« with a young man again, but ends up losing control of the situation and is raped. She manages to stop anyone from finding out and is even able to keep her pregnancy and abortion a secret. In the end, she is admitted to a sanatorium, where she engages in a »duale« with an author ...

**Rudolf Ditzen**, writing under the pseudonym Hans Fallada (1893–1947), was, among other things, a potato specialist and administrator on various manor estates before his fourth novel, *Little Man, What Now?* (1932), turned him into an overnight star. He spent the Nazi era in seclusion on his estate in Carwitz as an »undesirable«, merely tolerated author. In 2011, his final book, *Alone in Berlin* (1947), became a huge success, making him once again an international best-selling author around 65 years after his death.



Hans Fallada  
**Lilly and her Slave**  
**With unpublished Stories**  
Edited by Johanna Preuß-Wössner and Peter Walther  
Stories. 240 pp.  
Aufbau. Hardcover  
2021, April

Sample translation available

**RIGHTS SOLD:**  
English World (Scribe)

**Johanna Preuß-Wössner**, Doctor of Forensic Medicine, runs the Institute of Forensic Medicine at the University Medical Center Schleswig-Holstein in Kiel.

**Peter Walther**, a German philologist, published the highly acclaimed biography *Hans Fallada* in 2016 and the narrative non-fiction book *Fever. Universe Berlin, 1930 – 1933* in 2020.

## A chocolate shop as a refuge in desperate times

5th August 1936. Melancholy is Elfie's constant companion. Her only solace is her job at Sawade, a chocolate shop that is a magical haven of delicate nougat and marzipan, of the finest chocolates and mouth-watering aromas. During the Olympic Games, while Berlin presents itself as a cosmopolitan city, Elfie's neighbours – including Jewish bookseller Franz Marcus, whose only wish is to unite books with readers – are subject to increasing violence and marginalisation. Via old Madame Conte and her tale of forbidden love, Elfie stumbles onto the trail of a long-forgotten recipe for a unique chocolate, and for once she finds the courage to follow her own desires – for what would life be without beauty, which has always been inextricable from the will to survive?

Written in enchantingly beautiful prose, *Three Days in August* tells the powerful story of one woman's experience of being different. Of a chocolate shop that becomes a place of refuge, for her as well as for others. This is an exceptionally beautiful novel, full of tender sensuality and remarkable characters.

**Anne Stern**, born in 1982, is a historian with a doctorate in German Studies. She lives in Berlin with her husband and their three children. Her novels about the midwife ›Fräulein Gold‹ became *Spiegel* bestsellers. In the course of her research, Anne Stern came across Sawade, a chocolate manufacturer, and the moving history of Berlin's legendary boulevard Unter den Linden.

»A beautifully crafted plea for humanity in the darkest of times« FREUNDIN



Anne Stern  
**Three Days in August**  
Novel. 352 pp.  
atb. Quality Paperback  
2022, August

**RIGHTS SOLD:**  
Hungary (Central)  
Jordan (Arabian Novel Publishing)

English sample translation available

*A story of the power of imagination and beauty –  
and an extraordinary woman*

## It's time to tell the story of a little-known heroine

Lisa Fittko has devoted her life to the Resistance. She has been fighting the Nazis since Hitler came to power. When it gets too risky in Berlin, she and her husband Hans flee to Paris. Just as the Germans are poised to take France, Lisa is interned in Gurs camp in southern France, alongside Hannah Arendt and Martha Feuchtwanger. She manages to escape and drag herself to Marseille where she eventually reunites with Hans. Like other exiles, they embark upon a life-or-death mission to secure papers and a way out of France. It is here that Lisa meets Louis in a cafe. She falls head over heels in love with the confident American; he stands for everything she longs for: security, tenderness, and the chance to start a family. When she is enlisted to find a new escape route for German exiles through the Pyrenees, she suddenly has to make a choice: does she follow Louis and the love she craves, or does she keep fighting for justice and freedom?

In her new novel, Caroline Bernard, author of the international bestseller *Frida Kahlo and the Colours of Life*, tells the moving story of a woman caught between political resistance and a desire for personal happiness.

**Caroline Bernard** is the pseudonym of Tania Schlie, a literary scholar who has worked as a freelance author and editor for twenty years. She has previously published eleven novels and about as many non-fiction books on cultural-historical topics. She loves coming up with stories about strong women.

»What captivated me about Lisa Fittko was how steadfast and courageous she was. She always remained true to her convictions, even if it meant she had to put her own dreams aside. Her bravery must never be forgotten.« CAROLINE BERNARD



Caroline Bernard  
**Courage Calls**  
*She's part of the Resistance and she's fighting for Freedom – and for Love*  
 Novel. 384 pp.  
 Rütten & Loening. Quality Paperback  
 2022, August

English sample translation available

### PREVIOUS PUBLICATION:



Caroline Bernard  
**Frida Kahlo and the Colours of Life**  
 Novel. 400 pp.  
 atb. Quality Paperback  
 2019, September

**BEST  
SELLER**

### RIGHTS SOLD:

Brazil (Tordesilhas), Bulgaria (Emas), Czechia (Euromedia), Estonia (Varrak), France (Fleuve), Hungary (Kossuth), Italy (Tre60), Latvia (Latvijas), Netherlands (Brandt/pre-empt), Romania (Nemira), Russia (Arkadia), Serbia (Laguna), Slovenia (Učila), Spain (Planeta), Sweden (Nona), Turkey (Koridor), Poland (ZNAK), Portugal (Porto Editora)

## A glorious moment for feminism and the birth of the German Constitution

Bonn, 1949: Ilsa is working as a secretary for the Parliamentary Council. There she meets Elisabeth Selbert, one of the four women involved in drafting the new constitution. Elisabeth soon becomes her friend and mentor, and Ilsa admires her modern views and self-confidence. Side by side, they battle to get equality between men and women enshrined in the wording of the constitution. The more glimpses Ilsa gets behind the political curtain, the more certain she is that she and her fellow campaigners *must* continue to fight for their cause, despite all the obstacles in their way.

But then she falls in love with another member of staff, a man who works for one of the most conservative members of the council ... a man who doesn't fit into her new life. Ilsa struggles to reconcile the personal happiness she has longed for with the knowledge that she cannot betray her cause.

**Deike Wichmann**, born in 1980, lives with her family near Frankfurt. She works as a press secretary and studied politics, history and German. *The Unflinching* is her debut.



Deike Wichmann

**The Unflinching**

**Bonn 1949: The Women of the German Constitution fight for Equal Rights**

Novel. 352 pp.

atb. Quality Paperback

2023, January

*The real-life events of the drafting of the German Constitution, combined with a compulsive and heartfelt story*

## An atmospheric novel set in 1920s Paris: a homage to the magic of storytelling and bookshops

London, 1921: a young woman, Lizzie, breaks free from her loveless marriage – a scandal in the eyes of her mother, who cuts off all contact with her. Left to fend for herself, Lizzie travels to Paris, where she hopes to build a freer life. Shortly after her arrival she finds herself at Shakespeare and Company, a bookshop run by Sylvia Beach. Here, on the Left Bank, Lizzie enters a fascinating new world of books – and meets inspiring, passionate women who have dedicated themselves to literature and who love whomever they want. She types up a manuscript by James Joyce for Sylvia Beach, soon she wants to start publishing books herself. Her dream seems just within her grasp when tragedy strikes – one that could change her whole life.

Featuring various colourful figures from the Lost Generation: Sylvia Beach, Gertrude Stein, Ernest Hemingway, F. Scott and Zelda Fitzgerald

**Tabea Koenig**, born in 1992, studied social work and intercultural communication. In 2014, while on a trip to Scotland, she was inspired to write. She has always been fascinated by history and by strong female characters, and is especially drawn to Victorian Great Britain and Paris between the Belle Époque and the Années folles. She loves daydreaming, books and long walks, and lives with her husband in Basel.



Tabea Koenig  
**The Publisher of Paris**  
Historical Novel. 448 pp.  
atb. Quality Paperback  
2022, November

PREVIOUS PUBLICATION:



Tabea Koenig  
**The Makeup Artist from Paris**  
Historical Novel. 448 pp.  
atb. Quality Paperback  
2021, October

**RIGHTS SOLD:**  
Hungary (Kossuth)

## Love in poetry and reality

1958: Max Frisch is eager to meet the woman whose literary achievements have so impressed him – Ingeborg Bachmann. When they do meet, in Paris, for him it's love at first sight. They are two icons of literature: he's a down-to-earth Swiss playwright internationally celebrated for his work; she's the beautiful poet and star of Gruppe 47, considered the most significant writer of the age. Ingeborg, too, falls in love, but unlike Max she struggles over every single word – in her writing as well as in her life. And she's still not over her split from Paul Celan, which soon puts her new relationship to the test. Sensitive and exceptionally gifted, she doesn't want love if it costs her her freedom – which rapidly makes Max frantic with jealousy. Set in Munich, Rome and Switzerland, the novel explores the battleground that love can sometimes be – in literature as in life.

A moving and meticulously researched novel about the relationship between two literary icons.

**Bettina Storks**, born in Stuttgart, lives and writes on Lake Constance. She has long been fascinated by Ingeborg Bachmann. Her doctoral thesis at the University of Freiburg focused on Bachmann's literary work. As more and more sources on the relationship between Bachmann and Frisch became available, Bettina Storks began to write this novel about the extraordinary love affair between two dazzling literary greats.



Bettina Storks

Ingeborg Bachmann and Max Frisch  
The Poetry of Love

Novel. 430 pp.

atb. Quality Paperback

2022, September

*»So close to the characters, so succinctly told.*

*An outstanding novel!«*

CAROLINE BERNARD,

AUTHOR OF FRIDA KAHLO AND THE COLOURS OF LIFE

## Dance me to the end of love – Leonard Cohen and Marianne Ihlen

Hydra, 1960: a young Leonard Cohen has arrived on the Greek island to fulfil a dream: become a famous writer. There he meets Marianne and her husband Axel, and witnesses how violent Axel can be. When the marriage breaks down, Leonard cares for the deeply hurt Marianne, and the two fall in love. When his novel is torn apart by the critics, Leonard falls into a depression. Now it's Marianne's turn to save him: she gives him a guitar, and soon he's celebrating his first hits. But can Marianne cope with life by the side of an international star – and will their relationship survive Leonard's meteoric rise?

The moving story of Leonard Cohen and Marianne Ihlen, without whom songs like ›So Long, Marianne‹ and ›Bird on the Wire‹ would never have existed.

**Sylvia Frank** is the pseudonym of a German couple, a successful author duo living on the island of Rügen. Sylvia Vandermeer, born in 1968, is a qualified businesswoman. She also studied Biology, Psychology and Fine Art. Today she works as a freelance author and painter. Frank Meierewert, born in 1967, has a PhD in Ethnology, and has worked as a freelance author since 2008.



Sylvia Frank  
**So Long, Marianne**  
Leonard Cohen and the Love of  
his Life  
Novel. 448 pp.  
atb. Quality Paperback  
2022, December

### PREVIOUS PUBLICATION:



Sylvia Frank  
**Gala and Dalí**  
The Inseparables  
Novel. 440 pp.  
atb. Quality Paperback  
2022, February

**RIGHTS SOLD:**  
Bulgaria (Emas)  
Czechia (Euromedia)  
Estonia (Varrak)  
Hungary (Kossuth)  
Romania (Nemira)

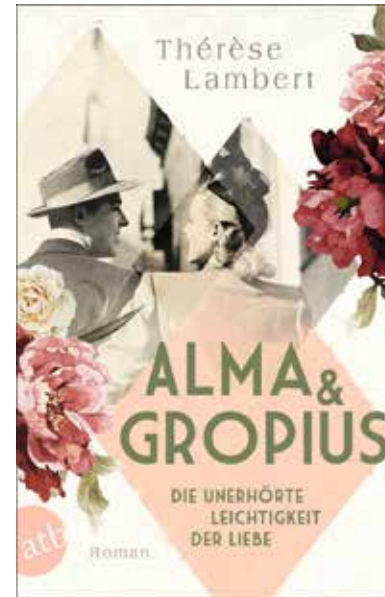
## A unique, passionate love

Austria, 1910: Alma is married to Gustav Mahler, who forbids her from composing her own music and playing the piano. When she meets the young architect Walter Gropius during a stay at a sanatorium, it is love at first sight. When Mahler dies, there is no longer anything standing in their way. However, jealousy and exuberant passion prevent them from being together – until Gropius returns from the war, lightly injured and seriously traumatized. They get married, and Gropius values Alma as a brilliant muse and supporter as he develops into one of the greatest architects of the modern age; she hopes to finally find emotional security with him. But then Gropius has to go back to the front. Can their love withstand the cruel severity of war?

The moving love story between the greatest femme fatale of her time and the founder of the Bauhaus movement.

**Thérèse Lambert** is the pseudonym of author Ursula Hahnenberg, who grew up in Munich and now lives in Berlin with her family. Having four brothers and later studying forest science, she learnt from an early age to hold her own as a woman amongst men. Because of this in particular, she has a special passion for strong women like Alma Mahler or Lou Andreas-Salomé, who she wrote about in her novel *The Rebel* (2021, also Aufbau).

»An emotional and entertaining novel full of heartbreak and passion that will give romantics in particular some delightful hours.« PASSAUER NEUE PRESSE



Thérèse Lambert  
**Alma and Gropius**  
 The unbearable Lightness of Love  
 Novel. 400 pp.  
 atb. Quality Paperback.  
 2022, April

»I know that in the outside world, men have to puff their chests, while at home they want to relax. This is what women have to deal with.

*But not me!«*

»Every person can do anything, but they also have to be ready for anything.«



STRONG  
*Women*  
BETWEEN *Art*  
&  
*Love*

## As an author she is world famous, but how much do we know about her as a woman?

1929: at long last, Astrid has been reunited with her son, Lasse. As an unmarried mother, she doesn't have it easy, but she is determined to cope – for Lasse, and for herself. Years later, all of this seems to be forgotten. Astrid has married the love of her life, Sture. What has remained are the stories she tells to her son and now also to little Karin – stories, for instance, about an incredibly strong girl called Pippi Longstocking who sleeps with her feet on the pillow. She starts writing them down, at first just for Karin on her birthday, but then she sends them to a publisher and wins a writing competition. Her sudden success as an author comes as a surprise. Surely, all will now be well? But soon things between Astrid and Sture come to a head, and then the family is struck by a terrible tragedy.

**Susanne Lieder** grew up near Bad Oeynhausen and lives with her family south of Bremen. Since 2012 she has been working primarily as a writer, fulfilling her childhood dream. She writes commercial fiction, historical novels and fictionalised biographies.



Susanne Lieder

**Astrid Lindgren**

**Her Life is all about Childhood**

Novel. 384 pp.

atb. Quality Paperback

2022, November

**RIGHTS SOLD:**

Hungary (Kossuth)

*A sensitive portrait of a woman who enchanted whole generations of children with her stories and fought for the rights of children. Fighting for her own happiness, however, proved the most difficult battle of all.*

## »To me, fashion isn't a job, it's an art.« ELSA SCHIAPARELLI

Paris, 1922: when Elsa Schiaparelli leaves New York with her young daughter Gogo she is thirty-two years old, penniless, prospectless and traumatised by her husband's infidelity. She is determined never to become dependent on a man ever again, and eager to provide the best treatment for her daughter, who has polio. In Paris, Elsa starts earning money as a seamstress and soon develops a network of artists including Man Ray, Cocteau, Picasso as well as other Surrealists.

A black pullover with a white bow is the start of a glittering career as a designer. Alongside Coco Chanel, her greatest rival, she revolutionises the world of fashion in both Paris and Hollywood with her extravagant designs. Stars like Greta Garbo and Katherine Hepburn are clamouring to get their hands on her clothes. Soon she is considered the most original couturière of her age, an artist among fashion designers. When Elsa meets diplomat Jacques, her determination not to give love another chance wavers ... but it's spring 1940, and the Germans are marching into Paris. Elsa and Gogo have to leave as quickly as they can – without Jacques.

**Agnès Gabriel** is a German author and journalist. She writes historical novels and novels for women under various pseudonyms. Her books have been translated into several languages. The author lives with her family on Lüneburg Heath in northern Germany.

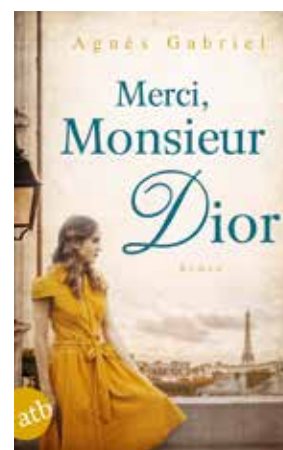
*She's Coco Chanel's arch-rival,  
considered the Surrealist of fashion designers –  
Elsa Schiaparelli, the woman who made wearable art*



Agnès Gabriel  
**The Couturière**  
**Elsa Schiaparelli and the Art of Fashion**  
Novel. 400 pp.  
atb. Quality Paperback  
2023, spring

**RIGHTS SOLD:**  
Poland (Marginesy)

PREVIOUS PUBLICATION:



Agnès Gabriel  
**Merci, Monsieur Dior**  
Novel. 400 pp.  
atb. Quality Paperback  
2020, March

**RIGHTS SOLD:**  
Czech Republic (Albatros), Estonia (Varrak)  
Hungary (Kossuth), Italy (Giunti)  
Latvia (Latvijas Mediji), Poland (Wydawnictwo)  
Serbia (Laguna), Slovenia (Učila International)  
Spain (Penguin Random House), Brazil (L&PM Editores)

## The sounds of a new era

Bonn, 1790. Babette Koch can hardly believe her luck: her mother's inn is a meeting place for all the most important men in culture, art and politics. As the landlady's daughter, she's not just helping out at the bar but chatting and making music with the guests, including her childhood friend Ludwig van Beethoven, now returned from Vienna. Babette's mother has her sights set on a good match for her daughter, someone chosen from among Bonn's elite, but marriage couldn't be further from Babette's mind. She wants to determine the course of her own life – and yet her heart beats strangely quickly whenever her eyes meet those of the temperamental composer. But Beethoven has a bad reputation: he's notorious not only for his talent but also for being extremely fickle.

A free-thinking young woman refuses to be discouraged in her search for love and self-determination.

**Claudia Romes** was born in Bonn in 1984, the child of a Belgian painter. At the age of nine she began to tell her own stories, and decided to be an author one day. After a few detours, career-wise, she dedicated herself to writing fulltime and is now living her dream. She lives with her husband and two children in Vulkaneifel, not far from Bonn.



Claudia Romes

**Beethoven's Beloved**  
*She lives for the Arts, but finds  
 no Freedom in Love*

Novel. 334 pp.

atb. Quality Paperback

2022, October

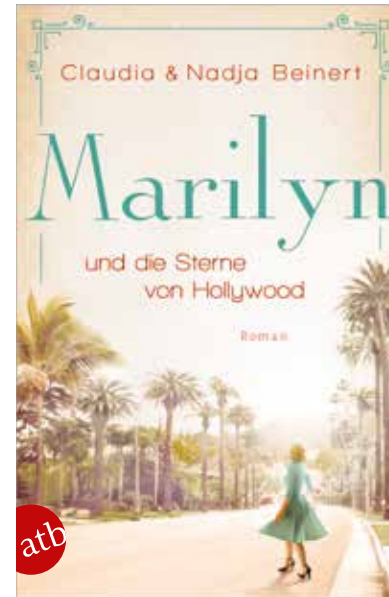
*She's surrounded by the greatest artists  
 of her era, but Babette Koch's heart beats  
 for only one man: the extraordinarily gifted  
 Ludwig van Beethoven*

## From an orphan to the greatest legend of our time – the highly emotional story of a world star

Los Angeles, 1942: Norma's childhood is lonely. Her haven is the cinema, where Hollywood actresses are so much more confident than she is. Her arranged marriage means that she is forced to give up her dream of becoming a star herself. Nevertheless, Jim becomes her first love and awakens her sensuality. Then a photographer wants to make her a famous model. Norma comes alive in front of the camera and any insecurities are forgotten. And suddenly she knows for sure that she belongs in the spotlight – that's the only thing that makes her happy. But first she has to emancipate herself from the prudish rules of her time in order to become who she is to this day: Marilyn Monroe, the greatest icon of our time.

This well-researched novel tells the moving story of how Norma Jeane Baker became Marilyn Monroe.

**Nadja Beinert and Dr. Claudia Beinert** are twin sisters who were born and raised in Staßfurt. Both studied international management. Before Claudia turned her passion for historical novels into a profession, she held a professorship in financial management. She lives and writes in Leipzig. Nadja Beinert's home is in Erfurt. The youngest of the twin sisters has been working in the film industry for several years.



Claudia and Nadja Beinert  
**Marilyn and the Stars of Hollywood**  
Novel. 480 pp.  
atb. Quality Paperback  
2022, May

### RIGHTS SOLD:

Italy (Giunti/pre-empt), Hungary (Kossuth)  
Netherlands (Brandt), Spain (PRH)  
Portugal (Planeta), Poland (ZNAK)  
Slovenia (Učila), Estonia (Tänapäev)  
Bulgaria (Emas)

*»I've never fooled anyone. I've let people fool themselves. They didn't bother to find out who and what I was.«* MARILYN MONROE

## She discovered a new world – Maria Sibylla Merian

1691: After divorcing her irascible husband, Maria Sibylla Merian moves to Amsterdam. She learnt the skill of copper engraving at an early age, and now she wants to lead an independent life as an artist and fulfil her dream – a trip to South America to explore the fascinating variety of caterpillars and butterflies in the tropical rainforest. She frantically makes contacts and looks for financiers. Travelling overseas is a big risk for a single woman, but Maria is used to asserting herself among men and crossing boundaries. And so she sets off on her journey to distant Suriname – and on the greatest adventure of her life.

The story of a daring woman in breathtaking scenery – Amsterdam in the heyday of the Golden Age and dazzling, colourful South America

**Alexander Schwarz**, born in Stuttgart in 1964, studied Modern German Literature, Medieval Studies, Linguistics and Political Science in Freiburg before moving to the Netherlands while he was still a student. He has lived there since 1990, with a six-year stay in Iceland. He worked as a publisher for twenty years. Today he is a freelance literary agent, photographer and has been writing books for more than twenty-five years.

»An amazing historical novel about an impressive, courageous naturalist and artist.«

TASCHENBUCH MAGAZIN



Alexander Schwarz

**The World Explorer**

**Maria Sibylla Merian – The greatest  
Naturalist of her Time**

Novel. 400 pp.

atb. Quality Paperback

2022, July

*Maria Sibylla Merian –  
the greatest natural scientist of her time and  
her immeasurable longing for freedom*

## Art is her passion, Franz Marc the love of her life

Maria studies painting, but is still trying to find her own artistic path when she meets Franz Marc, who is four years her junior. Franz inspires her. He helps her rediscover herself – as a painter and as a lover. Together with other artists they found *The Blue Rider* («Der Blaue Reiter») in Munich. Then Franz is enlisted in the First World War and is killed. Maria's world comes crashing down. Full of grief, she believes she will never be able to paint again and devotes herself entirely to his estate. But then she remembers his true legacy: her confidence as an artist and as a woman, which he always encouraged. And so she takes a chance on a radical new beginning.

The story of a great painter and the famous group of artists known as *The Blue Rider*. With Wassily Kandinsky, Franz Marc, Gabriele Münter and many other representatives of Expressionism.

**Heidi Rehn**, born in 1966, studied German and History in Munich and has been writing full-time for many years. In Munich, she offers literary walks on the themes of her novels, in which she combines fictional events with history in an impressive manner. Her novel *The Magician's Daughter* about Erika Mann and her crime series about Emil Graf and Billa Löwenfeld have been published by Aufbau in paperback.



Heidi Rehn  
**The Woman behind the Blue Rider**  
**Maria Marc and the Colours of Love**  
 Novel. 382 pp.  
 atb. Quality Paperback  
 2022, August

*Maria Marc dedicated her life to art:  
to her own and to Franz Marc's*

## »Which of all my important nothings shall I tell you first?« JANE AUSTEN

Jane Austen is twenty years old, the educated daughter of a reverend and most enjoys spending her evenings at her bureau, putting to paper all the stories and characters that run through her mind day and night. But no matter how much her family supports her, no publisher wants to publish her texts. Wouldn't it be more sensible to look for a husband? However, she seems to be denied the same happiness enjoyed by her protagonists. Jane continues to fight for her dream of becoming a writer. Because who should be allowed to determine if she is truly happy – society or herself?

A great novel about the fascinating life of a unique woman, feminist and icon of English literature.

**Catherine Bell** is the alias used by author and journalist Kerstin Sgonina to delve into the lives of fascinating women. She has loved Jane Austen since she devoured her complete works during the early summer heat on a balcony in Berlin, not even noticing the muggy air, the rattling of the underground and the passing traffic. Today she lives just outside of Berlin in Brandenburg with her family and strives every year to turn the earth there into an English cottage garden – usually with modest success.



Catherine Bell  
**Jane Austen and the Art of Words**  
Fiction. 384 pp.  
atb. Quality Paperback  
2021, December

English sample translation available

**RIGHTS SOLD:**  
Hungary (Kossuth)  
Czech Republic (Dobrovsky)  
Poland (Marginesy)  
Brazil (Tordesilhas)

*Astute, clever and well ahead of her time: Jane Austen's work has been inspiring people all over the world for generations*

## Romy Schneider – the greatest actress of her time

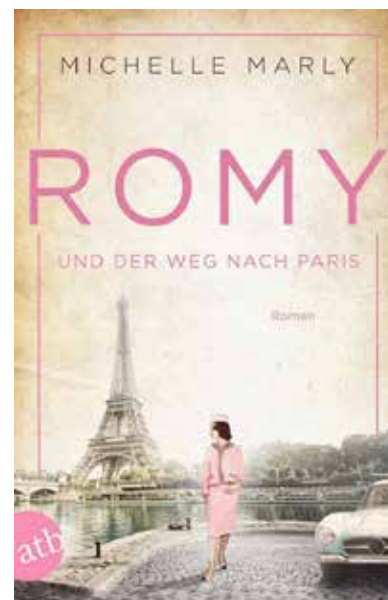
Paris, 1958. A young Romy Schneider starts to rebel: instead of allowing herself to be confined to her sweet Sissi image, she wants to develop her skills as an actress. She then falls in love with rebellious young actor Alain Delon – and follows him to France. While the German public is seething with anger, Romy makes the most of her freedom in Paris. Her career, however, comes to a halt – until Luchino Visconti makes her an offer she can't refuse. But will she be able to survive her first major role on the stage – in French? On Visconti's recommendation, she meets Coco Chanel, and an intense friendship soon develops. And thanks to Coco's advice, Romy transforms into that elegant style icon that shines under Visconti's direction and becomes the *grande dame* of French cinema. Meanwhile, her relationship with Alain enters a state of crisis ...

A wonderful novel about a unique and fascinating woman and her search for her path as an artist, as a lover – and for herself.

**Michelle Marly** is the pseudonym of a bestselling German author who grew up in the world of cinema and music. For many years she lived in Paris, but today she lives with her husband and dog in Berlin and Munich. Rights to her bestselling novel *Mademoiselle Coco and the Scent of Love* were sold to 21 countries. The novel spent months on the best-seller list, selling more than 240,000 copies.

»I want to be very French in nature –  
in how I live, how I sleep and how I dress.«

»There are three people who have changed my life:  
Alain, Visconti and Coco Chanel.«



Michelle Marly  
**Romy and the Lights of Paris**  
Novel. 415 pp.  
atb. Quality Paperback  
2021, April

**RIGHTS SOLD:**  
France (Fleuve)  
Poland (Marginesy)  
Hungary (Kossuth)  
Bulgaria (Emas)  
Italy (Giunti)

PREVIOUS PUBLICATION:



Michelle Marly  
**The Diva: Maria Callas – The Greatest Singer of her Age**  
Novel. 432 pp.  
atb. Quality Paperback  
2020, February

**RIGHTS SOLD:**  
Bulgaria, Estonia, Hungary  
Italy, Poland, Slovenia, Serbia,  
Netherlands, France, Spain,  
Czech Republic, Denmark,  
Portugal

## A woman between Hollywood glamour and ingenious inventive talent

Vienna, 1937: The Jewish actress Hedwig manages to flee from her unconscionable husband with a spectacular escape. In America, she becomes an overnight star as Hedy Lamarr and, thanks to her beauty, also a Hollywood style icon. Men would do anything to be with her – but nobody cares what she has to say. Once filming is over, Hedy pursues her great passion: inventing. In order to contribute to the overthrow of Hitler, she develops a technology that will later lay the foundation for Bluetooth. But nobody takes the idea of such a beautiful woman seriously, and the patent remains unused. She then meets a British man named John, who becomes her great love...

A wonderful novel about the little-known story of the uniquely courageous and intelligent actress who was considered the ‘most beautiful woman in Hollywood’ and who at the same time invented a remote control for torpedoes patented in 1942, a technology that laid the foundation for the WLAN and Bluetooth we use today.

**Charlotte Leonard** is a pseudonym for Christiane Lind, who for years has been accumulating a small library on Hollywood’s golden era and on the extraordinary lives of courageous women who are often misunderstood by their environment. In this novel, she was able to combine her two passions for the first time – Hedy Lamarr embodies the glamour of Hollywood like no other, as well as the conflicts with which a beautiful and intelligent woman had to struggle.



Charlotte Leonard

**A daring Woman**

**Hedy Lamarr – She shines in the Glamour of Hollywood, and her Invention changes the World**

Novel. 400 pp.

atb. Quality Paperback

2022, January

**RIGHTS SOLD:**

Hungary (Kossuth)

Czech Republic (Dobrovsky)

Estonia (Varrak)

*Series about Hedy Lamarr on  
AppleTV+ in the works*

## The wildest woman of the Golden Twenties

Summer 1925: Anita Berber is the biggest sensation of her day. She dances naked on the stages of Berlin, entrancing the crowds with her beauty and extravagance. But then, after a string of escapades and scandals, she's no longer welcome at the variety theatres where she made her name. Gradually showing the effects of her fading renown and years of excess, she meets Otto Dix, the greatest portrait painter in the Weimar Republic. She is going to model for him for three days – three days that will change both their lives utterly. Is his portrait her last shot at immortality? Or perhaps even at happiness?

A haunting novel about an icon of the Golden Twenties and the story behind Otto Dix's legendary ›Portrait of the Dancer Anita Berber‹.

**Joan Weng**, born in 1984, studied German and history and did her doctorate on the literature of the Weimar Republic. She really only wanted to write so she could tell stories, and maybe simply because books make her so incredibly happy. She has shared this happiness with Aufbau several times in her wonderful novels, all of which are set in the 1920s, as for example *The Café beneath the Linden Trees*.

»A compelling novel about an icon of the Roaring Twenties and the story behind Otto Dix's legendary ›Portrait of Anita Berber‹.« BUCH-MAGAZIN



Joan Weng  
**The Red Dancer**  
*The Night is her Stage,  
 her Art cannot be tamed*  
 Novel. 253 pp.  
 atb. Quality Paperback  
 2022, September

*Infamous, provocative and scandalous: Anita  
 Berber defies all the rules –  
 in art and in love*

## Dreaming in sugar ...

Bielefeld, 1889. Josephine and her husband Carl are a young couple with big dreams: they want to create a product that will revolutionise baking. All they need now is the right mixture. While Josephine sells ointments at her dispensary, Carl continues to experiment – and suddenly, he’s done it! Their baking powder proves immensely profitable, and Josephine and Carl are able to expand. But their success increasingly arouses envy, and soon Josephine and Carl are afraid for the future of their business – and their relationship.

A novel with the most tempting ingredients: Love, betrayal, inventiveness, the early emancipation movement, and, of course, loads of fluffy cake, creamy pudding and vanilla flavour.

**Eva-Maria Bast** is a journalist, the CEO of Bast Media GmbH and the author of numerous non-fiction books, crime novels and contemporary titles. She has been awarded various prizes, including the Konrad Adenauer Foundation’s German Local Journalism Prize, in the History category. As one half of the authorial duo Charlotte Jacobi, she has written several books including the Spiegel-bestselling *The Douglas Sisters*. She lives on Lake Constance and in Würzburg.

*A couple deeply in love, and a dream: to revolutionise the world of baking. The first novel in a gripping new saga about a baking dynasty – based on the meteoric rise of a real-life German family business.*



Eva-Maria Bast  
**Vanilla Days**  
**Women at the Bakery**  
Novel. 400 pp.  
atb. Quality Paperback  
2022, October

**RIGHTS SOLD:**  
Hungary (Kossuth)  
Czech Republic (Euromedia)

### UPCOMING PUBLICATIONS:



Eva-Maria Bast  
**Sugar Years**  
2023, February

Eva-Maria Bast  
**Cinnamon Dreams**  
2023, July

## Four women – and a spectacular building project that shaped a whole century

1886. Four women, four lives. Justine helps out in her father's colonial goods store, dreaming of becoming an actress. Sanne wants to study and construct buildings. Wealthy heiress Regina is pushed into a marriage of convenience after her brother dies. Mimi is the daughter of the man planning an extraordinary building project that will change the lives of the four women forever: the Kiel Canal. A new era is beginning, one in which all four women must emancipate themselves, defying the established structures of power.

In *From Sea to Sea*, Lena Johansson's writing is as emotional as it is authentic. The plot is based on information passed down about the life of the woman whose father planned the canal.

**Lena Johansson**, born in Reinbeck, near Hamburg, in 1967, was a bookseller before becoming a freelance author. She lives close to the Baltic Sea. At Aufbau she also published her *Elbchaussee Saga*, a *Spiegel* bestseller about the fate of a Hamburg based family of chocolate traders and manufacturers. In January 2022, Aufbau published the last volume of her *Nivea Saga*.



Lena Johansson  
**From Sea to Sea**  
 Novel. 480 pp.  
 atb. Quality Paperback  
 2022, November

*The first instalment in a major new saga  
 about a striking piece of construction:  
 the Kiel Canal*

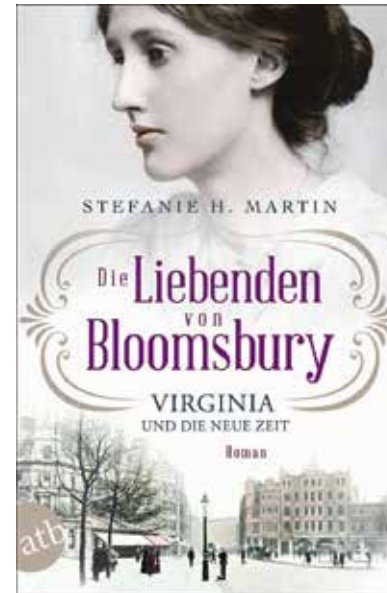
## The first instalment of the great saga about the women of Bloomsbury

London, 1904: In order to escape the intrusiveness of their stepbrother, sisters Vanessa and Virginia start a flat share in Bloomsbury, which becomes a haven of intellectual freedom. The extraordinarily beautiful sisters and their sophisticated friends soon cast off the Victorian constraints. The highly intelligent Virginia, who repeatedly suffers from emotional crises, only wants one thing: to write. And she wants to do this in a way that is appropriate for the new era. But being a writer is next to impossible for women, and so she has to look for a husband, which she finds in Leonard Woolf. And as unromantic as their marriage begins, it offers Virginia not only a life dedicated to literature, but also to love...

Virginia has strived her entire life for happiness and to find her literary voice. Her brilliant wit and open view of the world make her one of the most important authors of the modern age. A novel that is as surprising as it is thrilling about an icon of literary modernism and the women's movement. Excellently researched, grippingly narrated.

**Stefanie H. Martin** is the pseudonym of Stefanie Hohn, who works as a lecturer in literary translation and creative writing and did her doctorate on Charlotte Brontë. Even as a student, she was fascinated by the »Bloomsberries«, with their dazzling influence on the transition to the modern age, but also as a group of young people who revolted against the narrow-minded moral views of their time. Her interest in the often conflicted lives of artists and writers ultimately led her to start writing herself.

*»He who robs us of our dreams robs us of our life.« VIRGINIA WOOLF*



Stefanie H. Martin  
**The Lovers of Bloomsbury**  
**Virginia and the New Age**  
Novel. 500 pp.  
atb Quality Paperback.  
2022, June

**RIGHTS SOLD:**  
Hungary (Kossuth)

### UPCOMING PUBLICATIONS:



Stefanie H. Martin  
**Vanessa and the Art of Life**  
2022, December



Stefanie H. Martin  
**Vita and the Garden of Love**  
2023, June

## The destiny of a winemaker family on the Rhine

Wiesbaden, 1945: Henni is confronted by the ruins of her life. The winery specialising in sparkling wine set up by her grandfather was badly damaged during the war. Her husband is missing in Russia, and she is also tormented by fear for her youngest sister Bille. She was a nurse at the front, but there has been no sign of life from her for weeks. Henni's sister Lisbeth travels from Berlin, but their relationship is broken. Henni has to make a big sacrifice in order to save the winery. And, suddenly, Bille arrives unexpectedly, and it turns out that she's pregnant. When a fire breaks out in the winery, the future of the family business is at stake – this time for good.

The story of three courageous young women who are left to fend for themselves after the war and take their fate and the future of the family business into their own hands.

**Linda Winterberg** is the pseudonym of Nicole Steyer, a successful author of historical novels. She lives with her husband and their two daughters in the Taunus. Aufbau has already published numerous successful titles of hers, as well as the wonderful *Midwife Saga*.

*The magnificent Vineyard saga  
by bestselling author Linda Winterberg –  
touching and authentic*



Linda Winterberg  
**The Vineyard**  
**A sparkling new Era**  
Novel. 400 pp.  
atb. Quality Paperback  
2022, January

**RIGHTS SOLD:**  
Netherlands (Harper Collins/Vol. 1-3)  
Hungary (Kossuth/Vol. 1-3)

### UPCOMING PUBLICATIONS:



Linda Winterberg  
**The Vineyard**  
**Days of sparkling Happiness**  
2022, July

Linda Winterberg  
**The Vineyard**  
**Golden Years**  
2023, January

## The new family saga from number 1 bestselling author Ulrike Renk – based on a true story

Berlin, late 19th century. They call him ‘Merlin’ because he enchants everyone – the man her brother introduces to her as his friend. Paula Oppenheimer, who grew up in an openly Jewish household, immediately falls in love with Richard Dehmel, a young poet. And Richard also falls in love with this clever young woman, who becomes the best critic of his works and his muse. Her parents oppose the relationship; they find Richard too wild and unconventional. But Paula fights for her love, marries the poet against all warnings and soon falls pregnant. Richard has big plans – he socialises with many young writers and wants to live as an artist. He thinks little of loyalty and family. Paula begins to doubt whether Richard can make her happy in the long run – and she begins to write herself.

**Ulrike Renk**, born in 1967, studied English, Literature and Media Studies in the USA and Germany. Today she lives in the Lower Rhine region with her four children, dog and cat. Her highly successful *Australian Saga*, her bestselling *East Prussia Saga* and her bestselling *Silk City Saga* have already been published by Aufbau.

»I just had to tell Paula’s story!« **ULRIKE RENK**

»A captivating read.« **RUHR NACHRICHTEN**

»A historical panorama with intriguing characters.« **RHEINISCHE POST**



**BEST  
SELLER**

Ulrike Renk  
**A Family in Berlin**  
**Paula’s Love**  
Fiction. 501 pp.  
atb. Quality Paperback  
2021, August

English material available

### UPCOMING PUBLICATIONS:



Ulrike Renk  
**A Family in Berlin**  
**Ursula and the Colours of Hope**  
2022, February

Ulrike Renk  
**A Family in Berlin**  
**Ulla and the Path of Love**  
2022, August

## Sweets, love and revolution – the beginning of a new saga

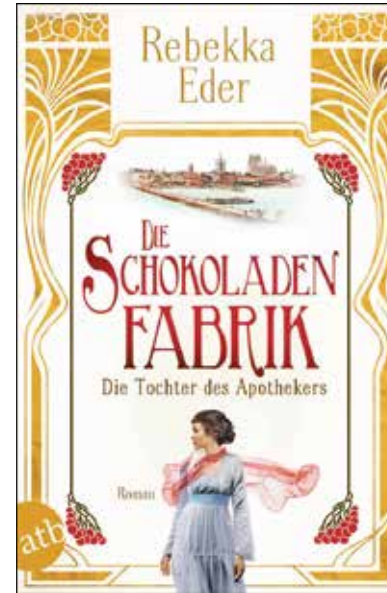
Cologne, 1838. Anna Sophia loves helping out her father in the pharmacy. She's also proud of her own creation: delicious cough drops. When she is courted by her father's assistant August, her future also seems secure. She will marry him and he will take over the pharmacy. But suddenly her father suffers from a mysterious illness. Does August want her father to die in order to take over the pharmacy sooner? Meanwhile, Franz Stollwerck, the grocer's son from the neighbouring street, returns from his hike through Europe to open up a bakery in Cologne. He has been in love with her since childhood, and now asks for her hand in marriage. Anna Sophia faces a difficult choice.

Inspired by a true story: the grand beginning of a colourful saga about the Stollwerck family from Cologne and the rise of their famous chocolate empire – excellently researched and richly narrated.

**Rebekka Eder**, born in Kassel in 1988, studied theatre and German studies in Berlin, Erlangen and Bern and published her first novels at the same time. After working as a copywriter and journalist, she eventually focused entirely on her passion. She lives and writes in Northern Hesse. She loves sweets and came across the name Stollwerck while snacking – and when she began researching, she was captivated by these fascinating family stories.

*»A wonderful book full of linguistic poetry and tension that stayed with me for a long time after reading it. The stories of the characters are cleverly intertwined. Before you know what is happening, you are drawn into the dark, mysterious, seething Cologne of the 19th century.«*

MIRIAM GEORG, AUTHOR



Rebekka Eder  
**The Chocolate Factory**  
**The Pharmacist's Daughter**  
Novel. 614 pp.  
atb. Quality Paperback  
2021, September

**RIGHTS SOLD:**  
Netherlands (Nieuw Amsterdam/Vol. 1-3)  
Hungary (Central)

### UPCOMING PUBLICATIONS:



Rebekka Eder  
**The Chocolate Factory**  
**The Secret of the Inventress**  
2022, April

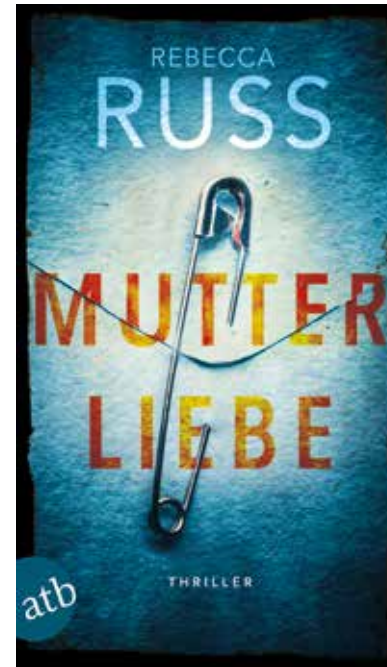
Rebekka Eder  
**The Chocolate Factory**  
**The Poet's Dream**  
2023, June

## She would do anything for her daughter. Even kill?

When Nora kisses her daughter goodbye just before sending her off for a weekend with her father, she has no idea of the nightmare about to unfold: Louisa doesn't come back, and the world comes collapsing down around Nora's ears. She blames herself – not just because she didn't realise the girl was missing until it was too late, but also because she knows something nobody else can ever know: Louisa isn't her biological daughter. Nora begins searching for her feverishly. Then, suddenly, an anonymous letter arrives – from someone who knows Nora's greatest secret and who will evidently stop at nothing. It seems Nora is under the microscope ...

A gripping thriller by a young Austrian author about just how far a mother is willing to go for her children.

**Rebecca Russ** was born in Salzburg in 1991, where she now lives with her husband, surrounded by lakes and mountains. Her passions include designing books as well as writing them. In her free time she enjoys hiking and sailing in nature. Her debut thriller, *The First Woman* (2021), was also published by ATB.



Rebecca Russ  
**Motherly Love**  
Thriller. 287 pp.  
atb. Quality Paperback  
2022, September

»An author who surprises and delights.« RUHR NACHRICHTEN

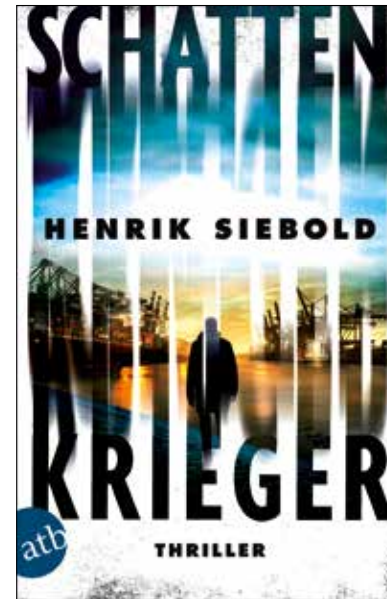
»thrilling and intriguing« DIE PRESSE

## From Kabul to Tokyo to Hamburg – gripping, current and full of twists and turns

Night after night, Manuel Jessen stands behind the counter of his food stall in St. Pauli, Hamburg, serving his customers with focus and dedication. His homemade curry sauce is a smash hit – his regulars can't get enough. People from across the neighbourhood come to sit, eat and drink, and to wonder what Jessen is hiding. Because he does have a secret – they're in no doubt about that.

Manuel's story is certainly unusual: he was an elite soldier, then a prisoner held captive by the Taliban, then later studied with a Japanese Zen master – and now he's a contract killer for the network that broke him out of captivity in Afghanistan. He does his job the way he serves his customers – quietly and carefully. Until he's given a job that turns into an ambush – and until he falls in love with a woman, which he'd hoped he never would again.

**Henrik Siebold** is a journalist and book author. He has worked for a Japanese daily newspaper, among other jobs, and lived in Tokyo for several years. He now lives in Hamburg and has published several novels under a pseudonym. ATB has published his highly successful series of crime novels about Inspector Takeda.



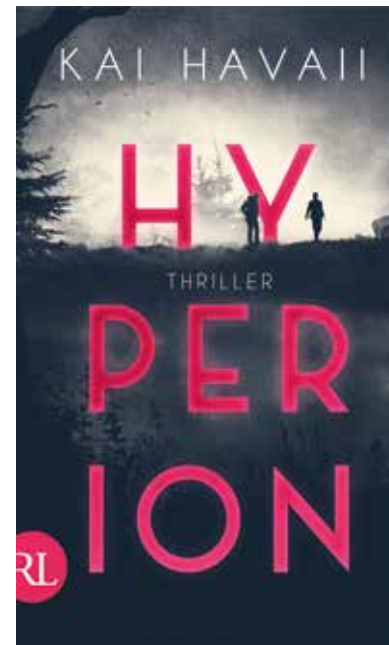
Henrik Siebold  
**Shadow Warrior**  
 Thriller. 381 pp.  
 atb. Quality Paperback  
 2023, January

*He's intelligent and wise –  
 and a contract killer*

## »An undercover agent is an actor playing for his life.«

Felix Brosch, a former military counterintelligence agent, was devastated by the death of his young son in a terrible accident. He now leads a reclusive life in a mountain hut in the Alps – until, one day, a woman from the foreign intelligence service shows up at his door. A new right-wing terrorist organisation is conducting operations around the world. Its leader calls himself ›Hyperion‹ – the bringer of light. And Hyperion has an important ally: Brosch's English cousin Simon. Brosch flatly refuses her suggestion that he approach his cousin, but when a boy who reminds him of his son is killed in the USA, he knows he has to act. Working undercover, he gradually infiltrates the dangerous organisation – and meets Hyperion, whom he is supposed to eliminate.

**Kai Havaii**, born in Hagen in 1957, became the lead singer of *EXTRABREIT* – still one of Germany's most famous rock bands – in 1979, after a very brief stint doing German Studies and working as a taxi driver and cartoonist. Kai Havaii also works as a freelance TV writer, including for ZDF and ARTE. When he's not touring with the band, he lives in Hamburg.



Kai Havaii

**Hyperion**

Thriller. 448 pp.

Rütten & Loening. Quality Paperback

2022, October

»Rubicon is impossible to put down. If any book deserves to be called a ›thriller‹, this one does.« THE KÖLNISCHE RUNDSCHAU ON KAI HAVAII'S DEBUT *Rubicon*

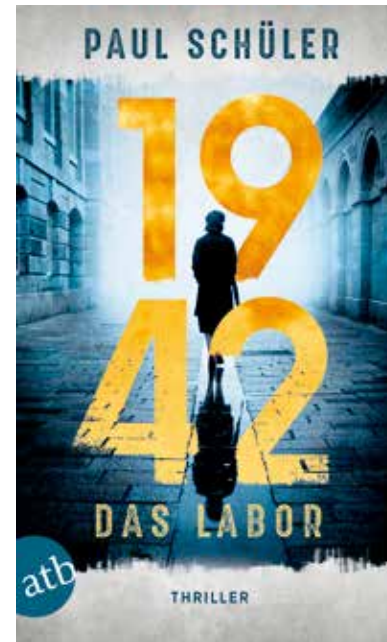
## One woman's battle against the most dangerous weapon in the world

Leipzig, June 1942: physicist Margarete von Brühl is working on the development of a uranium machine. She has no idea just how interested the Gestapo are in her experiments. When there's an explosion at her laboratory, killing her assistant, Karl – who is also secretly her lover – she is arrested, but later freed by an old friend. He claims to be a member of a resistance group and tells her that her research will be used to construct a nuclear bomb. Together they try to prove her innocence and stop the apocalyptic weapon from falling into the hands of the Nazis. But the authorities aren't the only people after her: Karl's father is convinced that Margarete is responsible for his son's death – and he's out for revenge.

**Paul Schöler**, born in 1986, initially studied architecture in Hannover, then physics and mathematics. After a few years as a songwriter, singer and guitarist in the band *Ich Kann Fliegen*, as well as various jobs in journalism, he started working as a teacher. In his debut novel, he combines his love of thrillers with linguistic precision and a knowledge of physics.

»A compelling thriller« BUCH-MAGAZIN

»Well thought out and utterly exciting« BR24



Paul Schöler  
**1942: The Laboratory**  
 Thriller. 445 pp.  
 atb. Quality Paperback  
 2022, September

*An engrossing thriller about a conspiracy  
 in the »Third Reich«,  
 based on historical events.*

## A young inspector during the Swinging '50s in Berlin

Inspector Jo Sturm actually has nothing to do with the homicide squad. His job is working on the less important missing persons cases. But when a well-known American architecture critic is murdered after the opening ceremony of the Congress Hall in Berlin, he is called in because he speaks English. Jo Sturm is tasked with keeping in touch with the American authorities in the city because the case is so volatile. The deceased person, who was born in Germany, attended the celebrations at the invitation of the German government, and they don't want news of the murder ending up in the press. Jo Sturm dives into the investigation immediately; he loves the American way of life, jazz, and American women like him too, which proves useful when doing research in bars and clubs.

But then his superior begins to constantly interfere with his work. And the CIA suddenly seems to take a keen interest in his investigations...

**Herbert Beckmann**, born in 1960, has published several books and radio programmes related to Berlin, where he has been living and working for 40 years. With the character ›Jo Sturm‹, this is first time he has written about the 1950s in Berlin.

»Exciting entertainment [...] with a historical atmosphere between jazz music, ›east zonal‹ gray in gray and the hedonistic American way of life.« WESTFALENSPIEGEL



Herbert Beckmann  
**The American**  
**1957 – Death in Berlin**  
 Crime Fiction. 416 pp.  
 atb. Quality Paperback  
 2022, March

*A gripping crime novel set during the Cold War*

## Hamburg, 1904: A bacteriologist investigates

In Hamburg, several men from high society are murdered in quick succession and marked with a symbol scratched on their foreheads. Because one of the victims was infected with cholera before he died, the young bacteriologist Carl-Jakob Melcher from the Institute for Tropical Medicine in Hamburg is called in to the investigation. The series of murders unsettles the city's residents.

The investigations take Carl-Jakob Melcher into Hamburg's underworld, which he has never experienced up-close before. He lives in the house of his uncle Heinrich Knudsen, a wealthy shipowner who is seriously ill and has only one last wish: he would like to have a new ship built for his shipping company. He wants to name it the ›Marianne‹ after his daughter, who has passed away. Carl-Jakob tries to stand by his uncle as best he can, but he has to keep a secret. He has fallen head over heels in love with Clara, a maid in his uncle's house. He sneaks into her room almost every night. After his uncle's banker was also murdered, Carl-Jakob has a bad feeling. Could his uncle or all people be the next victim?

**Christoph Elbern**, born in 1960, studied German and English, worked for many years as a journalist and held managerial positions at various magazines. Since 2010, he has been running an agency specialising in corporate communications in Kassel. He has published many crime novels under the pseudonym Klaas Kroon. He lives in Hamburg.



Christoph Elbern

**The Harbour Killer**

**Carl-Jakob Melcher investigates**

Crime Fiction. 430 pp.

Rütten & Loening. Quality Paperback  
2022, February

**RIGHTS SOLD:**

Romania (Editura Niculescu)

*Early-20th-century Hamburg –  
dark, chaotic, murderous*

## A deadly idyll

Following an incident that turned his entire life upside down, thirty-four-year-old Erik Lange dares to start over again. He buys the bookshop on the market square of an idyllic small town. The residents give Erik a friendly welcome, and he settles in well. But then the daughter of one of his new friends disappears. Her parents are worried and call the police. Chief Inspector Judith Plattner, who doubts her criminal skills after a stroke of fate, takes over the investigation with her young colleague Pia Meyer. A large-scale search begins.

Erik also takes part in the search and helps the parents of the missing girl, and so do their befriended neighbours in Schönblick. At first, everyone is confident that they will find the child quickly, but the longer the search goes on, the more they lose hope. Instead, distrust grows when Judith and Pia find clues that someone close to the girl is responsible for her disappearance. The mood in Schönblick is becoming increasingly volatile. And then Erik becomes a suspect...

**Petra Johann**, born in 1971, grew up in the Ruhr region and now lives in Bavaria. She has a PhD in Mathematics and worked in the software industry for several years before finding her true vocation – killing people, even if only on paper. Reading her thriller *The Woman from the Beach* (2021) is like a swim in the pounding sea – cold shivers guaranteed.

*A fast-paced thriller about a small town that threatens to be destroyed in a whirlpool of rumours, lies and violence*



Petra Johann  
**The Bookseller**  
 Thriller. 430 pp.  
 Rütten & Loening. Quality Paperback  
 2022, March

**RIGHTS SOLD:**  
 Italy (Newton Compton)

»A suspenseful thriller showing how quickly fear takes over in tight-knit communities.«  
 FRANKFURTER RUNDSCHAU

»Fascinating right from the first page.« SÜDDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG

»a very accomplished thriller« MERKUR

Inka Ihmels (she/her)  
Foreign Rights Manager  
i.ihmels@aufbau-verlage.de  
Tel: +49-30-28 394-123

Aufbau Verlage GmbH & Co. KG  
Prinzenstraße 85  
10969 Berlin  
Germany

[www.aufbau-verlage.de](http://www.aufbau-verlage.de)

**PLEASE CONTACT OUR SUBAGENTS DIRECTLY FOR THE FOLLOWING COUNTRIES:**

**France**

Ms. Marie Lannurien  
Books and More - #BAM agency  
12 rue Juliette Dodu  
75010 Paris, France  
marie@bamlitagency.com

**Italy**

Ms. Barbara Griffini  
Berla & Griffini Rights Agency  
Gian Giacomo Mora 7  
20123 Milano, Italy  
griffini@bgagency.it

**Netherlands**

Ms. Linda Kohn  
Internationaal Literatuur Bureau BV  
Oudezijds Voorburgwal 129-II  
1012 EP Amsterdam, Netherlands  
lkohn@planet.nl

**Poland**

Ms. Anna Kolendarska-Fidyk  
AKF Literary Agency  
ul. Hoza 21/23 m. 30  
00-521 Warszawa, Poland  
akf.agency@hot.pl

**Scandinavia**

Mr. Alexander Schwarz  
Alexander Schwarz Literary Agency  
Jekschotseweg 6  
5491 RB Sint-Oedenrode, The Netherlands  
alexander@alexanderschwarzliteraryagency.com

**Israel**

Ms. Geula Geurts  
The Deborah Harris Agency  
POB 8528 IL – 91083  
Jerusalem, Israel  
geula@thedeborahharrisagency.com

**Brazil**

Ms. Luciana Villas-Boas  
Villas-Boas & Moss Literary Agency  
Av. Delfim Moreira 1.222 / 102  
Cep 22.441-000  
Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brasil  
luciana@vbmlitag.com

**Spain, Portugal, Latin America except Brazil**

Ms. Amaïur Fernandez  
International Editors' Co. Agencia Literaria  
Còrsega 288, 1r-2a  
08008 Barcelona, Spain  
amaiur.fernandez@internationaleditors.com

**Turkey**

Ms. Amy Spangler  
AnatoliaLit Agency  
Caferaga Mah. Gunesli Bahce Sok.  
No: 48 Or.Ko Apt.B Blok D:4  
34710 Kadikoy-Istanbul, Turkey  
amy@anatolialit.com

**Romania**

Ms. Simona Kessler  
SIMONA KESSLER INTERNATIONAL COPYRIGHT  
AGENCY  
Str. Banul Antonache 37  
011663 Bucharest 1, Romania  
simona@kessler-agency.ro