

AUFBAU

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SPRING 2023



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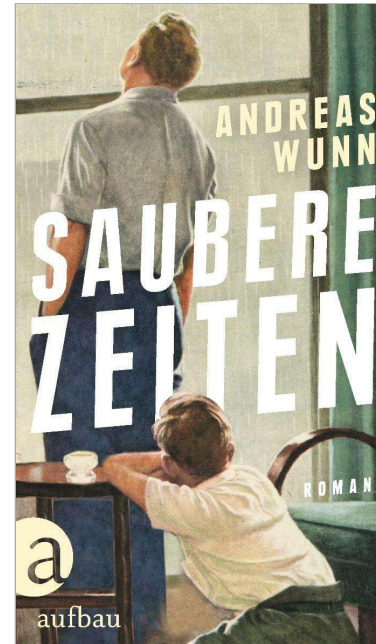
i.ihmels@aufbau-verlage.de

The stains on a family's past

When Jakob Auber learns that his father is dying, he sets off to his childhood home in the Moselle Valley. While there, he starts to look into his family's past. His grandfather Theodor Auber was a dazzling personality during the period of the German Economic Miracle. He invented a washing powder that made him a rich man until he lost everything due to unexplained circumstances. His search for clues takes Jakob to Rio de Janeiro, where he meets Bella, who is over 90 years old. She is also the daughter of the Jewish owner of the drugstore where his grandfather's career once began, and Jakob learns what lies behind the rise and fall of the family empire.

In his novel, Andreas Wunn tells a great story of fathers and sons, of guilt and speechlessness between generations, of a love that does not want to succeed and a family's happiness that slips away.

Andreas Wunn was born in 1975, grew up in Trier and studied political science in Berlin. He reported from Rio de Janeiro for six years as the South America correspondent for ZDF. Today he is head of the TV shows *ZDF-Morgenmagazin* and *ZDF-Mittagsmagazin*. He has received several awards for his journalistic work. *Clean Times* is his debut novel. He lives in Berlin.



**BEST
SELLER**

Andreas Wunn
Clean Times
Fiction. 381 pages
Aufbau. Hardcover
2023, February

English sample translation available

“Wunn connects the fate of Jewish businesspeople so adeptly to the time of the German economic miracle in the Federal Republic of Germany that one can’t help but wish more works will follow from this debut novel.” RUHR NACHRICHTEN

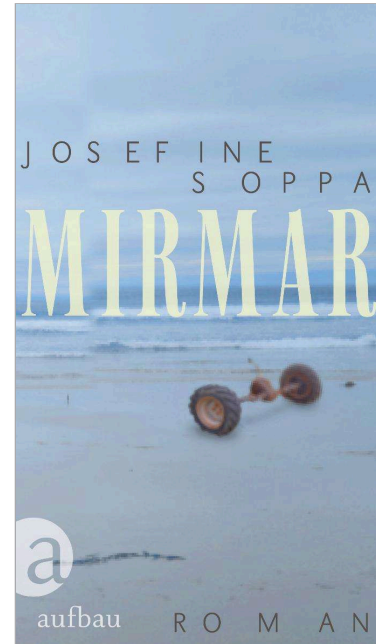
“An evocative family novel.” HÖRZU

“An enthralling historical novel with biographic details.” EKZ

An atmospheric debut about a unique mother-daughter relationship

In *Mirmar*, a mother and daughter keep their heads above water by subletting their flats, doing digital temp jobs and giving massages. Until one day the mother disappears. The daughter suspects she is on a stretch of beach by the sea, where she is supposed to be living with other women in accommodation run by former package holiday operators. She sets out to look for her. On her journey, she recalls her mother, her fears and longings, the precarious, fragile life she faced with great courage, and she meets a movement of women who come together to form a collective by the sea and try out a life beyond carers, old-age poverty and inequality. An atmospheric debut and the tender portrait of a mother and daughter which has a gradual impact.

Josefine Soppa was born in 1988 in Oberhausen and now lives in Leipzig. She studied philosophy of the arts and media in Dresden and Hildesheim. In 2020, she received the open mike prize for prose and has also been awarded a scholarship by the Jürgen Ponto Foundation. *Mirmar* is her debut novel.



Josefine Soppa
Mirmar
Fiction. 224 pages
Aufbau. Hardcover
2023, April

“A fascinating and enlightening debut. This touching and vividly written story of a mother-daughter relationship shows women’s solidarity as a way to escape a world exhausted by capitalism and exploitation. Wonderful!” VERENA GÜNTNER

“Soppa’s heroines go through ups and downs in life and love – between jobs, unemployment and old-age poverty. But as exhausted as they are, this debut is a breath of fresh air. The women are ready for their dream of an ocean collective.” DANIELA DRÖSCHER

An exceptional novel, set after the fall of the East German dictatorship: precise and powerful

When the GDR collapses, the Stephan family gathers in front of the grandparents' stove one evening to burn all evidence of the Stasi activities carried out by members of the family. For generations, the Stephan family has dedicated their lives to socialism and now it is slipping through their fingers along with everything they believed in and stood for. Felix, the only son, grows up in a world that is disintegrating. The family is in shock, and Felix is displaying behavioural problems and puzzling tendencies towards aggression. When his grandfather, the socialist hero figure of the family, gradually develops dementia and softens up, Felix finally seems to have some sort of a future ahead of him.

Felix Stephan tells the story of his childhood in the GDR, of growing up in the 90s with an overbearing grandfather who was a hero figure and of the crumbling of ideals. It is a search for his own identity – an autofictional family novel of radiant power and clarity.

Felix Stephan was born in East Berlin in 1983, studied journalism and literary studies in Leipzig and also spent time in Zurich and Hong Kong. He has worked as an editor at *Zeit Online* and *Literarische Welt* and has been an editor in the feature section of the *Süddeutsche Zeitung* newspaper since 2018. *The Early Years* is his debut novel. Felix Stephan lives in Berlin and Alsace.



Felix Stephan
The Early Years
Fiction. 255 pages
Aufbau. Hardcover
2023, April

“My family was still in shock, and when you’re in shock, all your thoughts revolve around one event. For us, this event was the end of socialism. [...] In our minds, the Berlin Wall kept falling over and over again, as if in an endless loop.”

"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
Fiction. 264 pages
Die Andere Bibliothek. Hardcover
2022, March

RIGHTS SOLD TO:
Hungary

Longlisted for the German Book Prize
Featured by Litrix: Italy Focus

English sample translation available

"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

**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.

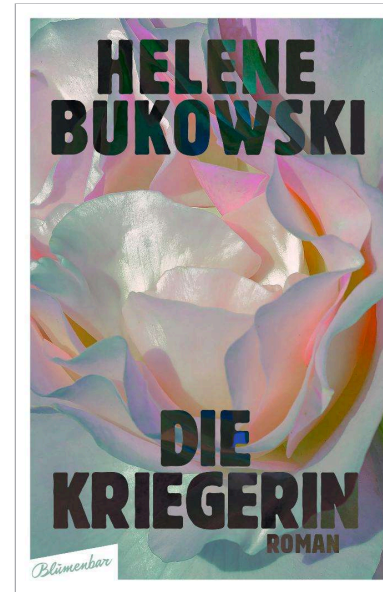
The Warrior is a novel about the special friendship between two women whose top priority is to strip themselves of all vulnerability. Helene Bukowski tells of the resulting wounds, the violence, their traces and the trauma – both experienced and inherited.

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.

"With great narrative elegance and spot-on phrasing, Helene Bukowski depicts a moving story of friendship. The tone is crystal clear and at the same time visually powerful." NDR KULTUR

"With sober language and at the same time great tenderness, Helene Bukowski tells of the friendship of two wounded women." KULTURNEWS

"The female voice in war has previously been an overlooked topic, but Helene Bukowski elaborates it poignantly in her text." SR2 KULTURRADIO



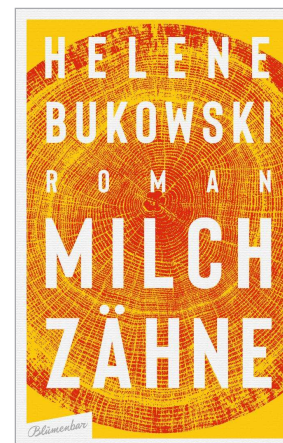
Helene Bukowski
The Warrior
Fiction. 256 pages
Blumenbar. Hardcover
2022, September

RIGHTS SOLD TO:
UK, France

Recommended by New Books in German

English sample translation available

PREVIOUS PUBLICATION:



Helene Bukowski
Milk Teeth
Ca. 256 pages
Blumenbar. Hardcover
2019, March

Full English translation available

RIGHTS SOLD TO:
UK, Spain, France, USA

Unafraid, passionate, self-critical – and 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 thremendous discovery, Aufbau can publish an even more mature, clear-sighted version of one of the most hotly debated books in GDR literatur.

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 Lefthand* is the most mature of her works. It was an immediate bestseller in both East and West Germany, and turned Reimann into a cult figure. But it was the last novel she wrote before dying of cancer at the age of thirty-nine.



**BEST
SELLER**

Brigitte Reimann

Siblings

Fiction. 224 pages

Aufbau. Hardcover

2023, February

RIGHTS SOLD TO:

Italy, Denmark, Sweden, Serbia, Netherlands,
Turkey, USA, UK

Forgotten Gem, first published in 1963

Full English translation available

"A groundbreaking classic of GDR literature [...] a phenomenon" THE GUARDIAN

"Short, artful [...] Although *Siblings* is decidedly a realist novel, some moments feel more modernist [...] Indeed, one of the most intriguing subplots concerns her engagement with what it means to make realist art – a mission complicated by sexism in the party's ranks [...] Vivid" FINANCIAL TIMES

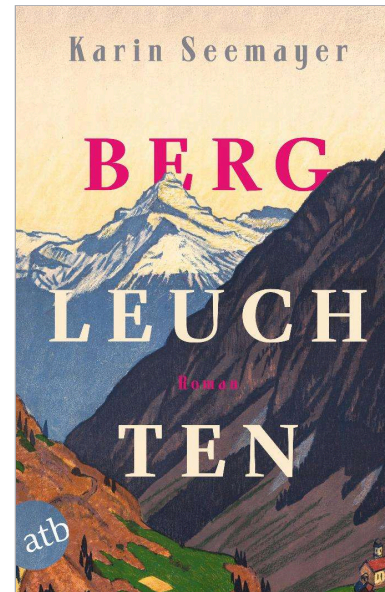
"Atmopsheric [...] complex, prickly, funny [...] Reimann's novel has the tense mood of a play – a family drama by Henrik Ibsen or Arthur Miller – with plenty of fiery dialogue between the characters about politics, industry and art. [Reimann] is a flash of colour in a grey landscape" THE SUNDAY TIMES

The gateway to the south

Göschenen, 1872. Helene often accompanies her father on his journeys across the dangerous Gotthard Pass. When a tunnel is to be built through the Gotthard, the hauliers fear for their livelihoods. The workers from Italy are subjected to fierce hostility and slave away under exploitative conditions. Helene secretly takes care of them and in the process falls in love with Piero. Although they know that Helene's father would never approve of the relationship, they hold on to their love and meet secretly. After serious construction accidents, the workers go on strike. Piero is one of the spokesmen – and then an unimaginable disaster occurs that will turn Helene's world upside down.

The epic story of a brilliant project in the Alps: the construction of the Gotthard Tunnel, which has connected the north and south of Europe ever since.

Karin Seemayer, born in 1959, trained as a travel agent and has travelled a lot, both professionally and privately. Most of her inspiration came from these trips. However, she waited to turn these ideas into novels until her three children were grown up. Today she lives in the Taunus.



Karin Seemayer
Mountain Lights
 Fiction. 477 pages
 atb. Quality Paperback
 2023, June

English sample translation available

*A great forbidden love against
 the spectacular backdrop
 of the Swiss mountains*

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

Fiction. 352 pages
atb. Quality Paperback
2022, August

RIGHTS SOLD TO:

Netherlands, Jordan, Hungary

English sample translation available

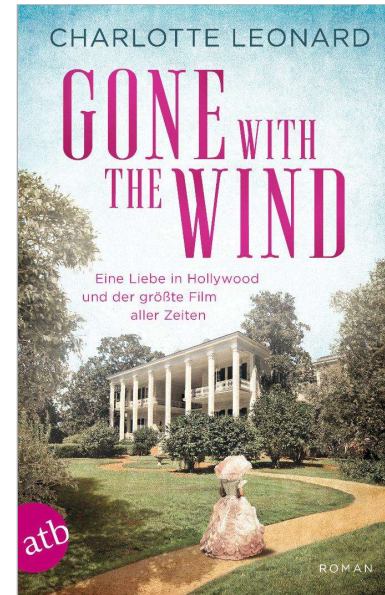
*A story of the power of imagination and
beauty – and an extraordinary woman*

Her dream is to play the role of Scarlett O'Hara, but she has to fight for her relationship

Vivien Leigh is immediately hooked when she reads Margaret Mitchell's novel *Gone with the Wind*. She would love to play the courageous Southern belle Scarlett O'Hara in the film adaptation, but how will this British actress be able to convince producer David O. Selznick that she's right for the role? Vivien gambles everything for the part and her love for Laurence Olivier: she goes to the U.S. with Larry, leaving her family and friends behind. But filming and being in Hollywood test Vivien more than she could ever have imagined.

As visually powerful as it is moving: the fascinating story behind the filming of "Gone with the Wind" and of a young woman who fights for her relationship on the set of the greatest film of all time.

Charlotte Leonard is the pseudonym of author Christiane Lind, who never ceases to amaze her friends with her knowledge of Hollywood films. She has amassed a small library on the golden era of the dream factory and on the extraordinary lives of courageous women who are often misunderstood by those around them. Aufbau Taschenbuch has already published her novel *A Daring Woman* about Hollywood actress and ingenious inventor Hedy Lamarr.



Charlotte Leonard
**Gone with the Wind – Love in Hollywood
 and the Greatest Film of All Time**
 Fiction. 384 pages
 atb. Quality Paperback
 2023, April

PREVIOUS PUBLICATION:



Charlotte Leonard
A Daring Woman
**Hedy Lamarr – She Shines in the Glamour of Hollywood,
 and Her Invention Changes the World**
 Fiction. 398 pages
 atb. Quality Paperback
 2022, January

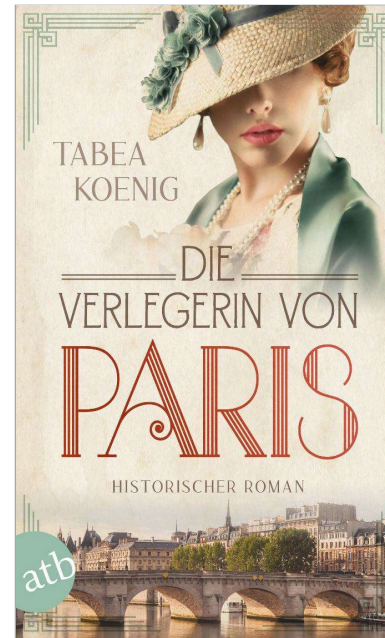
RIGHTS SOLD TO:
 Hungary, Estonia, Czech Republic

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 and 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.

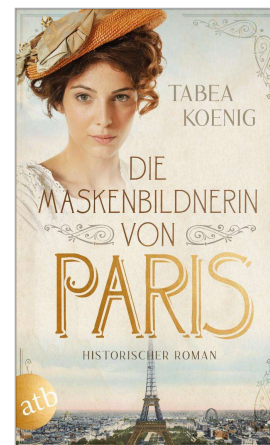
Featuring various colourful figures from the Lost Generation: Sylvia Beach, Gertrude Stein, Ernest Hemingway, F. Scott and Zelda Fitzgerald

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 day-dreaming, books and long walks, and lives with her husband in Basel.



Tabea Koenig
The Publisher from Paris
Fiction. 397 pages
atb. Quality Paperback
2022, October

PREVIOUS PUBLICATION:



Tabea Koenig
The Makeup Artist from Paris
Fiction. 442 pages
atb. Quality Paperback
2021, September

RIGHTS SOLD TO:
Hungary

A woman in a battle between magic and reason

Solveig is a young Viking. Her father, King Harald Fairhair, married her mother in a frenzy of love. After she dies, he believes that his dead wife has put a spell on him and starts to follow Solveig. When she realizes that her father wants to kill her, she dresses in men's clothing and signs up to go on a raid to Ireland with foreign Vikings. The target is Bangor Abbey, but the Norwegians are defeated and Solveig is imprisoned. An Irishman called Dhoire, a druid who deals in mathematics and magic, is held captive with her. Dhoire teaches Solveig his art and predicts the death of a Viking king: Sigurd Snake-in-the-Eye. His brother has married her half-sister. On the day the two are to be executed, Solveig manages to escape – and discovers she is pregnant.

Helga Glaesener originally studied mathematics and computer science before deciding to become a freelance author. Her first novel *The Saffron Merchant* was a bestseller. Today she lives in Oldenburg. Her novel *The Legacy of Pope Joan* was published by Aufbau Taschenbuch.



Helga Glaesener
The Shield-Maiden
Fiction. 464 pages
Rütten & Loening. Quality Paperback
2023, April

PREVIOUS PUBLICATION:



Helga Glaesener
The Legacy of Pope Joan
Fiction. 459 pages
Rütten & Loening. Hardcover
2020, September

RIGHTS SOLD TO:
Netherlands, Italy, Portugal

Head off, heart on: a young computer scientist and the unpredictability of love

Charlie, 29, loves numbers, formulas and codes, and she's pretty tough. As a computer scientist at a university, she also has to be tough to assert herself against the male competition. Then her younger sister announces that she is engaged. And Charlie's world turns upside down: marriage, getting down on one knee, a ring, all the bells and whistles. She wants this too, even though she actually despises these clichés – or does she?

Suddenly she starts questioning everything: her job at the university, where her male colleagues have made her life difficult for years, the overtime which she constantly takes on, and even her long-term boyfriend David – are the two really still living together, or just next to one another? On the search for answers, Charlie works on doing what she as a computer scientist knows best: Collecting data, categorizing, analyzing. But is there an algorithm for love? Then Tobi turns up, who seems to be perfect for her – except for the fact that he is also David's boss. The butterflies in Charlie's stomach do not follow any mathematical rules – and cause her system to crash ...

Marilena Sommer, born in 1993, is a cultural scientist and lives in Cologne and sometimes in the U.S. When she's not researching why robots can also be intelligent, she's either at the stadium cheering on the Cologne football club, sorting through her huge bookshelf or fridge magnet collection, or sitting at her desk to write her own books.



Marilena Sommer
Love Is a Complicated Phase

Fiction. Ca. 336 pages
atb. Quality Paperback
2023, June

English sample translation available

*Cheeky and feminist, intelligent and funny:
a rom-com that will have you hooked*

Tumultuous love in a small town – atmospheric, fun and with delicious recipes

Liz deWitt is a top chef at a vegetarian restaurant in San Francisco. But daily stress and constant challenges are increasingly spoiling her passion for cooking. When her uncle dies in an accident and her best friend Ceecee offers her a job at the café, Liz doesn't hesitate for a second. But life in idyllic Willow Springs is much more exciting than expected, especially when she meets Joe Mariani, the new Chief of Police. Joe is a born-and-bred New Yorker and has only been in Willow Springs for a short time. After a traumatic experience he just wanted to get away from his hometown, but even in these new surroundings he can't forget the past and treats everything and everyone with suspicion. Even the attractive new woman who suddenly starts working in his favourite café.

It doesn't take long before Liz admits that, although she finds the new Chief of Police self-righteous and macho-like, he is also outrageously sexy. And his kisses taste just as sweet and sinful as her very best dessert creations... But can her happiness really last?

Mia Harper worked for big publishing houses for a long time before she started writing herself. She lives together with two very assertive cats in a city in southern Germany because she simply cannot decide whether she would rather emigrate to Italy or the U.S.



Mia Harper
Willow Springs – Feeling Home
Fiction. 318 pages
more. Quality Paperback
2023, February

UPCOMING PUBLICATION:



Mia Harper
Willow Springs – Finding Love
Fiction
MORE by Aufbau Digital. E-Book

“You are my other half.”

Bonn, 1903. When Elisabeth and artist August meet for the first time, they immediately sense a strange familiarity between them. August asks Elisabeth if he can paint her so that he can spend more time with her, and numerous portraits of her are created. Their friendship gradually grows into an intimate love, and Elisabeth falls pregnant – a great scandal, but they fight for their happiness. Then the First World War breaks out and August is drafted. He makes Elisabeth promise that whatever happens, she will take care of his paintings. And he asks his friend Lothar to take care of Elisabeth if anything happens to him...

Kea Beier was born in Kiel. She discovered her interest in art at an early age, which led her to visit countless museums across Europe. She studied art history and communication in Berlin and Paris. She always carries a notebook with her to record her experiences, because writing has always been one of her greatest passions. After graduating, she gained professional experience in the international art trade and at the Hamburger Kunsthalle before becoming a freelance author. She now lives in Berlin.



Kea Beier
The Inevitability of Love – Elisabeth and August Macke
 Fiction. 288 pages
 atb. Quality Paperback
 2023, March

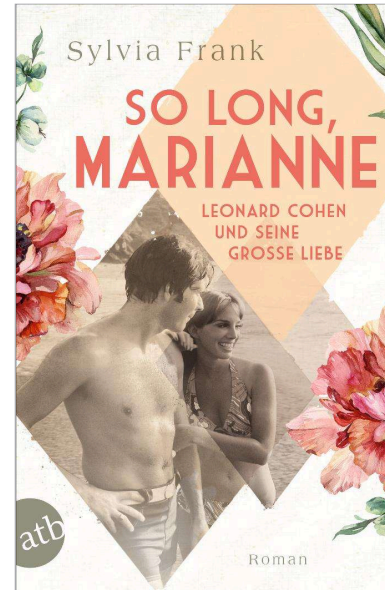
*A moving love story:
 as intense as it is heartbreaking*

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
 Fiction. 428 pages
 atb. Quality Paperback
 2023, April
RIGHTS SOLD TO:
 Hungary

PREVIOUS PUBLICATION:



Sylvia Frank
Gala & Dalí
The Inseparables
 Fiction. 445 pages
 atb. Quality Paperback
 2022, February
RIGHTS SOLD TO:
 Lithuania, Czech Republic, Romania, Estonia, Hungary, Bulgaria



STRONG
Women
BETWEEN *Art*
&
Love

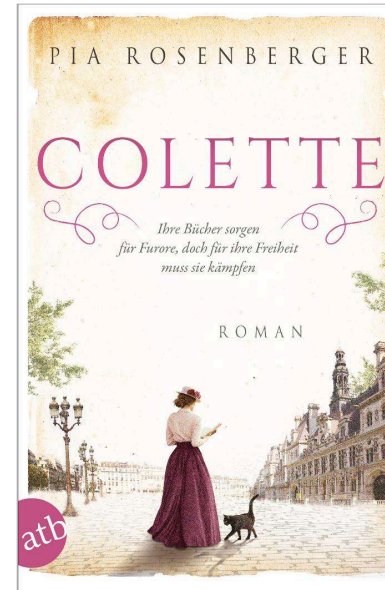
“Follow your own path.

And if you lie down, then let it only be to die.”

Paris, 1890. The young Sidonie-Gabrielle Colette dreams of a life with writer Henry Gauthier-Villars. But only when they marry does she realise who her husband really is: a socialite and philanderer whose books are written by ghostwriters. He even discovers a talent in her which he appropriates. When her cheeky *Claudine* novels send the whole of Paris into a frenzy, Colette no longer wants to be subjugated. She fights for her freedom – and her name.

Few artists' lives describe such a breathtaking development: the astonishing story of a woman who proves her worth as a dancer, actress, journalist and writer, establishing her place in a male-dominated society with a passionate heart and a sharp mind.

Pia Rosenberger was born near Osnabrück and completed an apprenticeship in hand weaving before going on to study art history, literature and educational science. She has lived with her family in Esslingen for over 20 years and works as an author, journalist, museum educator and city guide. Aufbau Taschenbuch has already published her novels *The Sculptress* (rights sold to Italy and Hungary) and *The Women's Artist* (rights sold to Italy).



Pia Rosenberger

Colette

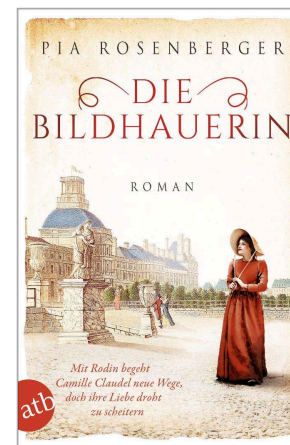
**Her Books Are a Sensation,
but She Has to Fight for Her Freedom**

Fiction. Ca. 400 pages

atb. Quality Paperback

2023, July

PREVIOUS PUBLICATIONS:



Pia Rosenberger

**The Sculptress
Camille Claudel Breaks New
Ground with Rodin, but Their
Love is on the Brink of Failure**

Fiction. 352 pages

2021, April

Pia Rosenberger

**The Women's Artist
Niki de Saint Phalle – She
Dreams of Freedom and
Conquers the World with Her
Nanas**

Fiction. 389 pages

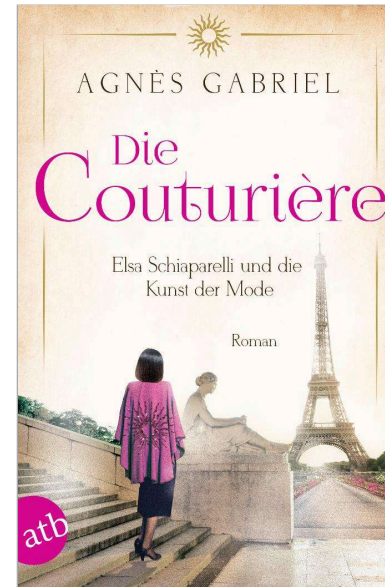
2021, December

"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 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 women's fiction under various pseudonyms. Her books have been translated into several languages. The author lives with her family on Lüneburg Heath in northern Germany.

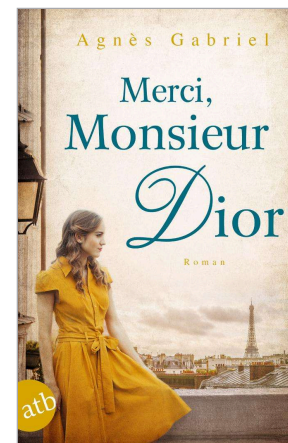


Agnès Gabriel
The Couturière
Elsa Schiaparelli and
the Art of Fashion

Fiction. 382 pages
atb. Quality Paperback
2023, April

RIGHTS SOLD TO:
Poland

PREVIOUS PUBLICATION:



Agnès Gabriel
Merci, Monsieur Dior
Fiction. 416 pages
atb. Quality Paperback
2020, February

RIGHTS SOLD TO:
Brazil, Spain, Slovenia, Serbia, Poland, Latvia, Italy, Hungary, Estonia,
Czech Republic

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.



**BEST
SELLER**

Susanne Lieder
Astrid Lindgren
Her Life is All about Childhood

Crime Fiction. 361 pages
atb. Quality Paperback
2022, October

RIGHTS SOLD TO:
Bulgaria, Italy, Czech Republic, Slovenia, Estonia,
Hungary

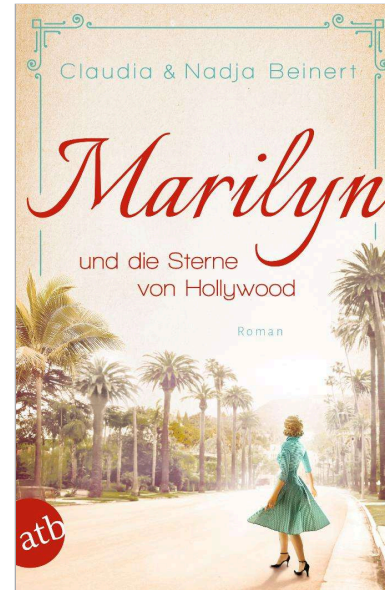
A sensitive portrait of a woman who enchanted whole generations of children with her stories and fought for the rights of children. Fighting for her own happiness, however, proved the most difficult battle of all.

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 Beinert, Nadja Beinert
Marilyn and the Stars of Hollywood

Fiction. 480 pages
atb. Quality Paperback
2022, May

RIGHTS SOLD TO:

Bulgaria, Estonia, Slovenia, Poland, Portugal,
Spain, Netherlands, Hungary, Italy

"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

*“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. 376 pages
atb. Quality Paperback
2021, November

RIGHTS SOLD TO:
Bulgaria, France, Italy, Brazil, Poland, Czech
Republic, Hungary

English sample translation available

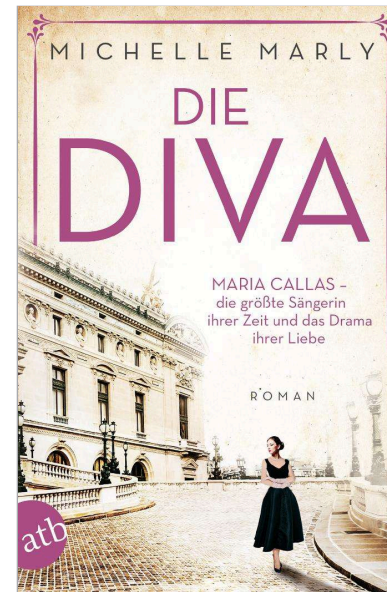
*Astute, clever and well ahead of her time: Jane
Austen's work has been inspiring people all over
the world for generations*

CALLAS – la Divina, the divine, the eternal voice of love

The epitome of glamour and charismatic beauty, and an artist who was gifted beyond all measure. At a young age, Maria finds her destiny – singing. With her unique voice, which spans three octaves, and her powerfully expressive performances, she redefines the role of the operatic diva. The world acclaims the passionate, glamorous soprano simply as “Callas”. Yet her voice is unable to withstand the strain of her career for long, and the size of her mythology leaves too little room for the real woman behind it. Then Maria meets Greek shipping magnate Aristotle Onassis, the love of her life. He introduces her to the shimmering jet-set lifestyle of the sixties – until he meets another icon, Jackie Kennedy ...

Michelle Marly's third novel about the glamorous Maria Callas has everything her readers could wish for – a gorgeous and elegant female icon, the jet-set atmosphere of the European swinging sixties, and a tragic love story.

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 22 countries. The novel spent months on the best-seller list, selling more than 240,000 copies.



**BEST
SELLER**

Michelle Marly

The Diva

**Maria Callas – The Greatest Singer
of Her Age**

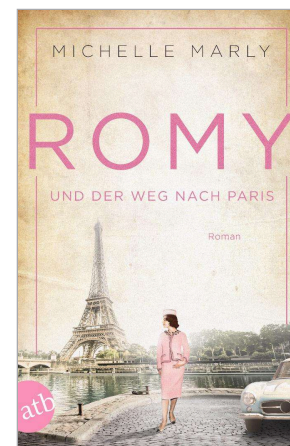
Fiction. 420 pages

atb. Quality Paperback

2020, February

RIGHTS SOLD TO:

Macedonia (the former Yugoslav Republic of),
Portugal, Denmark, Czech Republic, Spain, France,
Netherlands, Serbia, Slovenia, Poland, Italy,
Hungary, Estonia, Bulgaria



Michelle Marly

Romy and the Lights of Paris

Fiction. 415 pages

atb. Quality Paperback

2021, March

RIGHTS SOLD TO:

Czech Republic, Italy, Bulgaria, Hungary, Poland, France

The taste of liquorice and mint

Cologne, 1927. Helene von Ratschek is bursting with new ideas for her family's confectionery business. Be it liquorice, pralines or wine gums, her creations are as delicious as they are original. But when her father announces his succession, he favours his sons, and has plans for Helene to marry a business partner. Helene, however, wants to lead an independent life. On a whim, she joins a competitor in Hamburg under a false name and meets Frederik, the charming son of the owner...

A young woman who takes her fate into her own hands and does not give up searching for love and the perfect recipe against all odds. Inspired by the true story of a German confectioner.

Claudia Romes was born in Bonn in 1984 to a Belgian painter. At the age of nine, she started telling her own stories and decided she wanted to become a writer one day. After a few career detours, she devoted herself entirely to writing and is now living her dream. Romes lives with her husband and two children in Vulkaneifel, western Germany. Her novels *The Secret of the Hyacinths* and *Beethoven's Lover* have already been published by Aufbau Taschenbuch.



Claudia Romes
The Factory of Sweet Things
Helene's Hope
 Fiction. Ca. 352 pages
 atb. Quality Paperback
 2023, July

UPCOMING PUBLICATION:



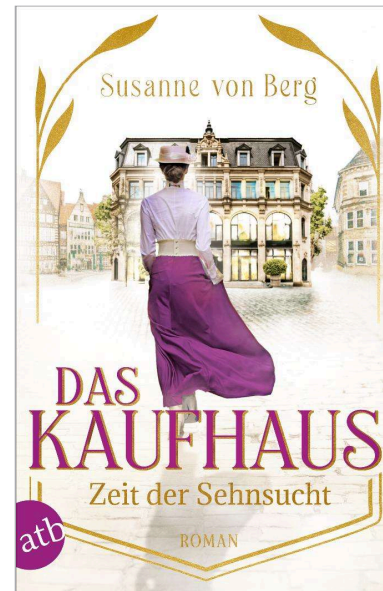
Claudia Romes
The Factory of Sweet Things
Helene's Dreams
 Fiction. Ca. 352 pages
 atb. Quality Paperback
 2024, January

The touching fate of a family and the incredible success story of a department-store dynasty

Stralsund, 1879. Young dressmaker Flora moves to this beautiful Hanseatic city with her fiancé Leonhard Tietz. She finds the finest fabrics for her wedding dress in the textile shop of an old merchant, but the elderly owner has been on the verge of bankruptcy since the tragic death of his wife. Flora spontaneously decides to offer to help him as a shop girl. When things start to go wrong in Leonhard's relationship with his childhood friend and business partner, he and Flora make a decision that will change their lives forever...

The new saga about a well-known German department-store dynasty and the touching fate of a family – captivantly narrated and intensively researched.

Susanne von Berg is the pseudonym of author Andreas Schmidt, who has been reaching a large regular readership throughout Germany for many years with the numerous crime novels he has had published. *The Department Store – A Time of Yearning* is his first historical novel and the first in an exciting family saga. Andreas Schmidt lives and works as a freelance author and journalist in his hometown of Wuppertal.



Susanne von Berg
The Department Store
A Time of Yearning
Fiction. 480 pages
atb. Quality Paperback
2023, March

UPCOMING PUBLICATION:



Susanne von Berg
The Department Store
A Time of Wishing
Fiction. Ca. 383 pages
atb. Quality Paperback
2023, May

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.



Eva-Maria Bast
Vanilla Days
Women at the Bakery

Fiction. 388 pages
atb. Quality Paperback
2022, September

RIGHTS SOLD TO:
Hungary, Czech Republic

ENSUING PUBLICATIONS:



Eva-Maria Bast
Sugar Years
Fiction. 431 pages
2023, February

Eva-Maria Bast
Cinnamon Dreams
Fiction. Ca. 384 pages
2023, September

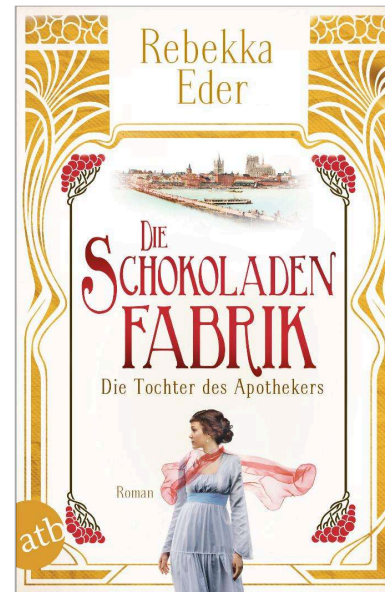
Sweets, love and revolution – the beginning of a new saga

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
 Fiction. 614 pages
 atb. Quality Paperback
 2021, September
RIGHTS SOLD TO:
 Hungary, Netherlands

ENSUING PUBLICATIONS:



Rebekka Eder
The Chocolate Factory
The Secret of the Inventress
 Fiction. 630 pages
 2022, March

Rebekka Eder
The Chocolate Factory
The Poet's Dream
 Fiction. 574 pages
 2023, May

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.

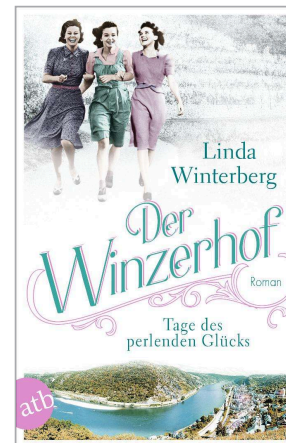
Linda Winterberg is the pseudonym of Nicole Steyer, a successful author of historical novels. She lives with her husband and their two daughters in the Taunus. Aufbau has already published numerous successful titles of hers, as well as the wonderful *Midwife Saga*.



Linda Winterberg
The Vineyard
A Sparkling New Era
 Fiction. 381 pages
 atb. Quality Paperback
 2022, January

RIGHTS SOLD TO:
 Hungary, Netherlands

ENSUING PUBLICATIONS:



Linda Winterberg
The Vineyard
Days of Sparkling Happiness
 Fiction. 375 pages
 2022, July

Linda Winterberg
The Vineyard
Golden Years
 Fiction. 382 pages
 2023, January

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

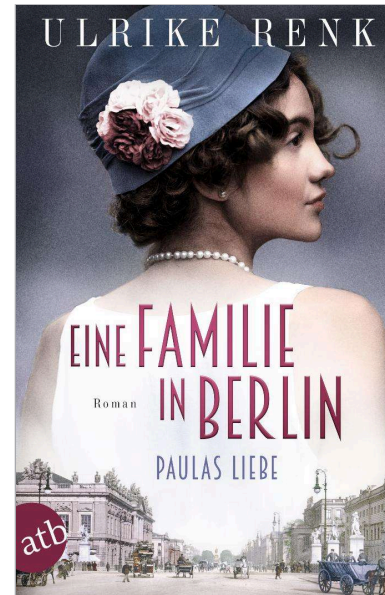
Berlin, late 19th century. They call him 'Merlin' because he enchants everyone – the man her brother introduces to her as his friend. Paula Oppenheimer, who grew up in an openly Jewish household, immediately falls in love with Richard Dehmel, a young poet. And Richard also falls in love with this clever 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 *Birds of Passage 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**



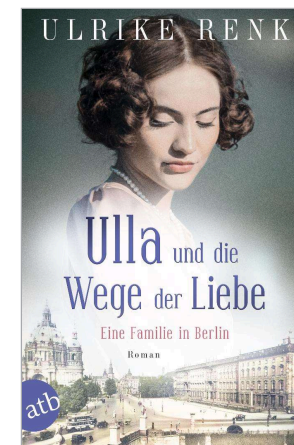
**BEST
SELLER**

Ulrike Renk
A Family in Berlin
Paula's Love

Fiction. 501 pages
atb. Quality Paperback
2021, August

English material available

ENSUING PUBLICATIONS:



Ulrike Renk
A Family in Berlin
Ursula and the Colours of Hope
Fiction. 465 pages
2022, February

Ulrike Renk
A Family in Berlin
Ulla and the Path of Love
Fiction. 486 pages
2022, August

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
Fiction. 409 pages
atb. Quality Paperback
2022, October

UPCOMING PUBLICATION:



Lena Johansson
After the Tides
Fiction. Ca. 400 pages
2023, June

Lena Johansson
Year of the Flood
Fiction. Ca. 512 pages
2024, February

Welcome to Shaftesbury!

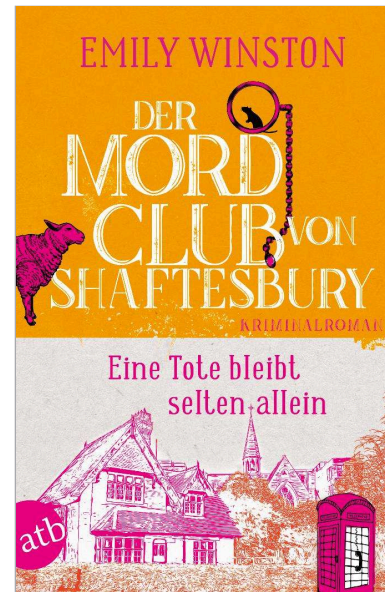
Penelope St. James moves from London to the small town of Shaftesbury to open a dating agency. The beginning is difficult, because mobile phone reception is only available in the graveyard and her new neighbour Sam is a vet – Penelope just isn't an animal person. When she witnesses a woman being run over, she is suspicious because she doesn't believe it was an accident. Together with Sam and the villagers, she uncovers a dark secret which will claim even more victims unless Penelope finds the murderer quickly. A charming thriller full of English flair with an investigator who makes hearts flutter.

Emily Winston is the pseudonym of Angela Lautenschläger. She has been working as a curator of an estate for years and experiences more exciting cases in her everyday professional life than she can put into books. She devotes all her free time to reading crime fiction, writing and travelling. She is particularly fond of the British way of life and humour. She lives in Hamburg with her husband and two cats.

"A British cosy crime with extraordinary characters" KRIMIKISTE

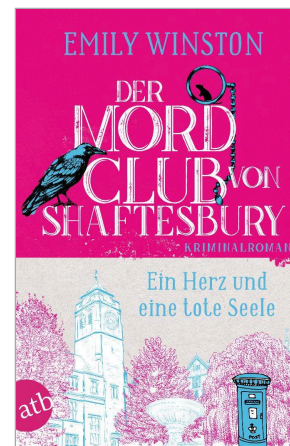
"Pleasantly narrated and acutely observed" BADISCHE ZEITUNG

"The author perfectly accompanies the scenery with dialogue which is both taken from real life and permeated with fine humor. I don't stand a chance of escaping the magic of this book."
MATOMS_BÜCHERWELT



Emily Winston
The Murder Club of Shaftesbury
Deaths Never Come Singly
Crime Fiction. 319 pages
atb. Quality Paperback
2022, December

UPCOMING PUBLICATION:



Emily Winston
The Murder Club of Shaftesbury
For Love or Death
Crime Fiction. 317 pages
atb. Quality Paperback
2023, May

Every person has dark thoughts. What are yours?

Lisa and Mara are sisters and couldn't be more different. Lisa, the oldest, is a successful doctor, has two young children and her husband Tim who loves her. Then there's Mara who lives from odd jobs and takes life as it comes. When Lisa has to attend a seminar on the weekend and Tim is invited to a private party, she asks Mara to look after her children Alma and Hektor. Mara happily agrees, but on Monday morning she finds out that Lisa has disappeared. While police investigations move slowly, Mara learns increasingly strange things about her sister. It appears she was hiding a lot from her family. Then a dead woman is found in a forest.

A gripping crime novel about two very different sisters, secret dreams and what a wife and mother has to shoulder to make her family work.

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.

"A suspenseful thriller showing how quickly fear takes over in tight-knit communities."
FRANKFURTER RUNDSCHAU on *The Bookseller*

"Fascinating right from the first page" SÜDDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG on *The Bookseller*

"A very accomplished thriller" MERKUR on *The Bookseller*



Petra Johann

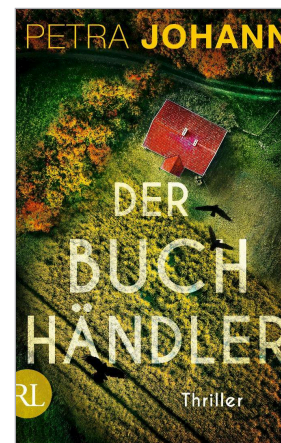
Sisters

Crime Fiction. 410 pages

Rütten & Loening. Quality Paperback

2023, May

PREVIOUS PUBLICATION:



Petra Johann

The Bookseller

Thriller. 431 pages

Rütten & Loening. Quality Paperback

2022, March

RIGHTS SOLD TO:

Italy

Thrilling and full of surprising twists: Carl-Jakob Melcher goes undercover to solve a mysterious murder

Hamburg, 1907. In the hospital near the harbour, bacteriologist Carl-Jakob Melcher encounters a school friend. Ludolf Harberg is in very poor health due to sleeping sickness. In his waking moments, he tells of his experiences in East Africa and of the experiments that the physician Robert Koch allegedly carried out on the natives in which people died. Apparently, he also has secret records. But before he can give any more details, Harberg dies. The doctors declare it a result of his illness, but Carl-Jakob believes it is murder and starts to investigate. Little does he know, this will not be the only death he encounters. But he soon finds himself in trouble when he is accused of murder.

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 specializing in corporate communications in Kassel. He has published many crime novels under a pseudonym. His first *Jakob-Melcher*-novel was published by Rütten & Loening in 2022.

“It is truly thrilling, this novel by Christoph Elbern, and transports the reader – in the very best sense of a historical novel – to an unbelievably foreign world.”

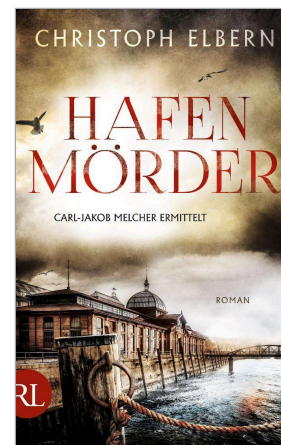
EXPRESS DÜSSELDORF on *The Harbour Killer*



Christoph Elbern

Deadly Sleep
Hamburg 1907: Carl-Jakob Melcher Investigates

Crime Fiction. 360 pages
Rütten & Loening. Quality Paperback
2023, March



Christoph Elbern

The Harbour Killer
Carl-Jakob Melcher Investigates

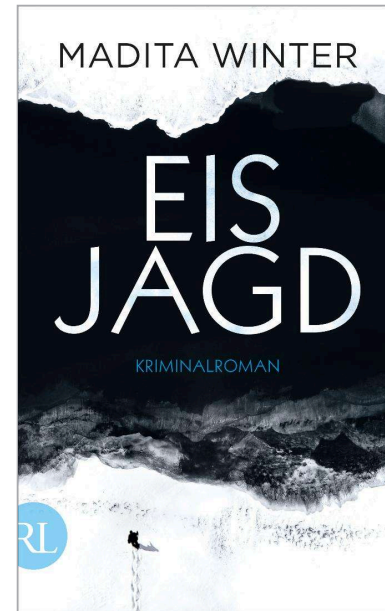
Crime Fiction. 365 pages
Rütten & Loening. Quality Paperback
2022, February

RIGHTS SOLD TO:
Romania

A murder mystery in the magical Arctic Circle

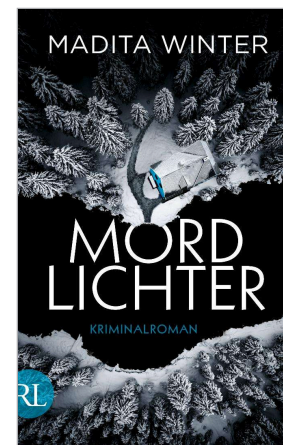
Every March, a spectacular cross-country ski race takes place in the stunning winter landscape of the Swedish Arctic Circle. Anelie Anderson, the senior police officer from Jokkmokk, is also looking forward to this day, but before the race is even over, she is called to a crime scene. One of the racers has collapsed and died on the course. What at first looks like an accident with a ski pole turns out to be an insidious murder. The dead man is a millionaire who lived on a luxurious estate far up in the north. But how exactly was the man killed and why? And who could have a motive for this cruel murder? The millionaire's German girlfriend becomes a suspect. She seems to inherit a huge fortune, but she also seems to have an airtight alibi. More and more mysteries emerge. Until Anelie herself finds herself in the greatest danger.

Madita Winter is the pseudonym of the author couple Madita and Stefan Winter, who actually live in seclusion on a peninsula in the wilderness of northern Sweden. Madita, a German journalist and author, followed Stefan to near Jokkmokk four years ago. It was there that they had the idea to use Lapland as the setting for a crime novel. Another crime novel with the protagonist Anelie Anderson has already been published: *Murder Under the Northern Lights*.



Madita Winter
Ice Hunt
 Crime Fiction. 375 pages
 Rütten & Loening. Quality Paperback
 2023, February

PREVIOUS PUBLICATION:



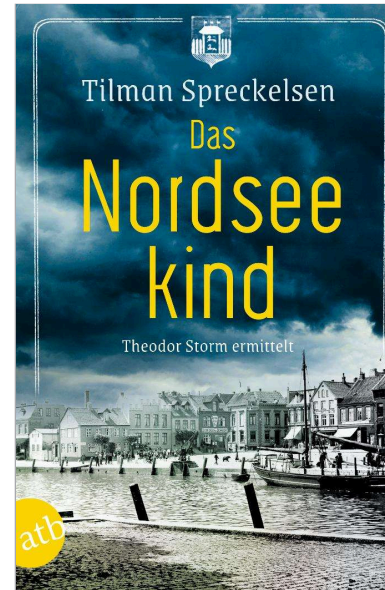
Madita Winter
Murder Under the Northern Lights
 Crime Fiction. 378 pages
 Rütten & Loening. Quality Paperback
 2021, October

Theodor Storm and his scribe investigate

Husum 1845. Lawyer Theodor Storm receives a visit from a stranger. She tells him about a murder case long ago and about a three-year-old girl who was kidnapped. The woman is claiming to be this girl, which would make her the heiress to a fortune on the North Sea peninsula of Eiderstedt. She starts bothering the people who inherited the family property at the time, so when a series of murders shakes the town of Husum, Theodor Storm begins his investigation on the old farms of Eiderstedt.

A crime novel with special characters – wonderfully narrated and precisely researched.

Tilman Spreckelsen, born in 1967, studied German and history in Freiburg. He is an author, publicist, publisher and editor at the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung newspaper. *The Child From the North Sea* is the fifth case for Theodor Storm and his scribe Peter Söt. Based on the real-life poet behind *Schimmelreiter* against the backdrop of North Frisia around 1840, Spreckelsen creates an allusive criminal case set in a breathtaking landscape at a time rich in upheavals.



Tilman Spreckelsen
The Child from the North Sea
Theodor Storm Investigates
 Crime Fiction. Ca. 249 pages
 atb. Quality Paperback
 2023, April

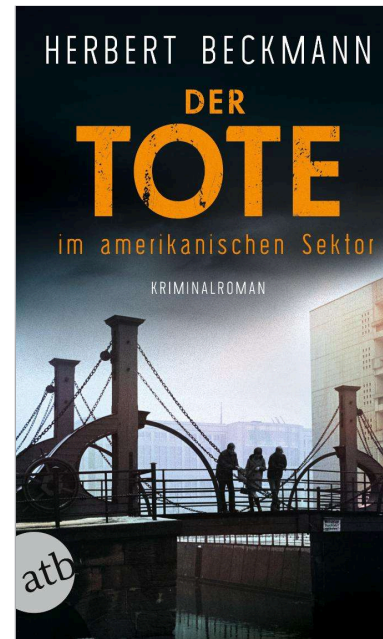
“It’s like experiencing the real Theodor Storm during his time.” RADIO BREMEN

In the firing lines of the Cold War: suspense with spies, rock 'n' roll and border crossers of all kinds

Rock 'n' roll in Berlin. In 1958, Bill Haley plays at the Sportpalast arena – and shortly after, Wulf Herzke, the star reporter for the American station RIAS, is found murdered. This is not really a case for Jo Sturm, an investigator who has been transferred to the missing persons department. But when an acquaintance's daughter goes missing and her mother is murdered, there's no other option but to call him in. Because it is clear that the murdered woman and the RIAS reporter were having an affair. Jo Sturm is now investigating at the height of the Cold War: in this city, different groups collide and fight, both out in the open and in secret. But the closer Sturm seems to finding out the truth, the more he is threatened himself. But by which side?

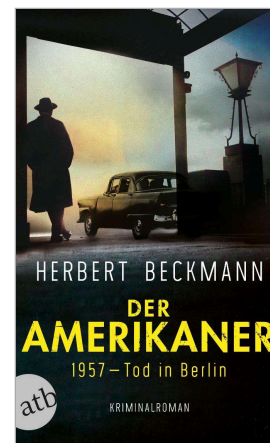
Herbert Beckmann, born in 1960, has published several books and radio programmes related to Berlin, where he has been living and working for 40 years.

"Exciting entertainment [...] with a historical atmosphere between jazz music, 'east zonal' gray in gray and the hedonistic American way of life." WESTFALENSPIEGEL on *The American*. 1957 – Death in Berlin



Herbert Beckmann
Dead Man in the American Sector
Thriller. Ca. 400 pages
atb. Quality Paperback
2023, May

PREVIOUS PUBLICATION:



Herbert Beckmann
The American
1957 – Death in Berlin
Thriller. Ca. 416 pages
atb. Quality Paperback
2022, March

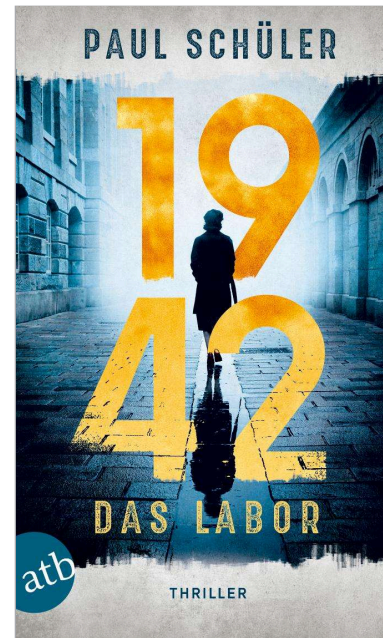
One woman's battle against the most dangerous weapon in the world

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 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 Schüler, 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 and utterly exciting" BR24



Paul Schüler
1942: The Laboratory
Thriller. Ca. 445 pages
atb. Quality Paperback
2022, August

**Nominated for the GLAUSER Prize 2023 in
the category "Debut Novel"**

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

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