

# Foreign Rights Guide

Fall / Winter 2017

<b>Novel</b>		
Hannig, Theresa: THE OPTIMIZERS .....	4	
<b>Thriller</b>		
Schilddorfer, Gerd: THE CERBERUS KEY .....	5	
<b>Crime Novels</b>		
Giordano, Mario: AUNTIE POLDI AND GORGEOUS ANTONIO .....	6	
Marten, Paul: THE DARK WATERS OF EXETER .....	7	
Ohlandt, Nina: THE ICE COLD TIDE .....	8	
<b>Romantic Suspense</b>		
Raven, Michelle: TURT/LE – DEADLY THREAT .....	9	
<b>Women's Novel</b>		
Anderson, Poppy J.: TASTE OF LOVE - SEASONED WITH DESIRE .....	10	
Bach, Tabea: CAMILLA ISLAND .....	11	
Courths-Mahler, Hedwig: WHERE LOVE AWAITS YOU .....	12	
Hill, Lara: A CHRISTMAS TALE IN CANADA .....	13	
Jacobi, Ellen: RETIRED PEOPLE LAST LONGER TODAY .....	14	
Lark, Sarah: THE SECRET OF THE WINTER HOUSE .....	15	
Lucas, Charlotte: SEE YOU AT THE HAPPY END .....	16	
Müntefering, Mirjam: A FRIENDSHIP MADE IN HEAVEN .....	17	
Seck, Kati: THE STILLNESS BETWEEN THE SKY AND THE SEA .....	18	
Walden, Laura: MELODY OF THE ENCHANTED BAY .....	19	
<b>New Adult</b>		
Kasten, Mona: SAVE ME .....	20	
Iosivoni, Bianca: THE LAST FIRST KISS .....	21	
Kneidl, Laura: TOUCH ME. NOT. ....	22	
<b>Historical Novels</b>		
Dempf, Peter: THE DAUGHTER OF THE MONASTERY'S BLACKSMITH .....	23	
Dorweiler, Ralf H.: THE GLASS BLOWER'S SECRET .....	24	
Fleming, Sebastian: NIGHT OVER THE ALHAMBRA .....	25	
Laurin, Ruben: CATHEDRAL OF LIGHT .....	26	
<b>Fantasy</b>		
Bernstein, Anna: DAUGHTER OF THE HIGHLANDS .....	27	
Hohlbein, Wolfgang: OCULUS Vol.1 & 2 .....	28	
Benecke, Mark & Hilleberg, Florian: BURN .....	28	
Seck, Katharina: DAUGHTER OF THE DARK FOREST .....	29	
Schröder, Benne: TO HELL WITH LOVE .....	30	
Vogt, Judith & Christian: THE THIRTEEN CHOSEN ONES .....	31	

**True Crime**

Benecke, Lydia: FEMALE PSYCHOPATHS ..... 32

**Memoir / True Story**

Longolius, Felix: I COULD BE WRONG ..... 33

Remmert, Yvonne: WHEN MY LUCK BETRAYED ME ..... 34

Wagner, Svenja: AND I HAD TO STAY..... 35

**Guidebook**

Bindrum, Victoria: THE WINGED HIPPOPOTAMUS ..... 36

Vukovic, Sonia: LOSS OF CONTROL ..... 37

Zampounidis, Anastasia: SUGAR-FREE FOREVER ..... 38

**Gift Book / Activity Book**

Braun, Jessica: SWEET DREAMS ..... 39

Buberl, Elisa: IT'S NICE HERE! ..... 40

Puth, Klaus: YOGA FOR RAILWAY TRAVELERS ..... 41

## A look at the near future. Vivid, provocative, and frighteningly realistic

Winner of the “Stefan Lübbe Prize” 2016

For readers of *THE CIRCLE* by Dave Eggers

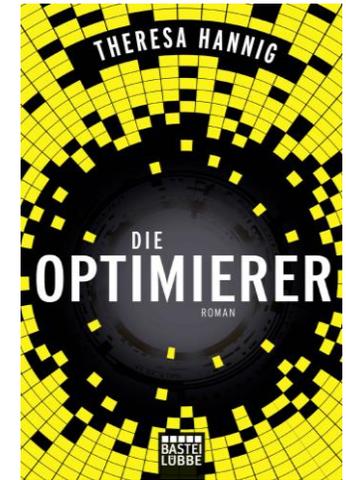
In October 2016, the first “Stefan Lübbe Prize” was awarded in memory of deceased publisher Stefan Lübbe. Among the countless debut authors involved, Theresa Hannig made a particularly convincing impression on the jury with her dystopian social novel, *THE OPTIMIZERS*. The story constructs a vivid and frighteningly realistic scenario of the near future and is reminiscent of George Orwell and Aldous Huxley.

*THE OPTIMIZERS* is a remarkable debut. Lucidly written, intelligent, and compellingly narrated, the novel addresses current topics such as data protection and surveillance, external control and disenfranchisement, faith in the system, obsessive perfectionism, and the elimination of individualism.

It is the year 2052, and the core of Europe has coalesced into a rich nation where the state controls every aspect of life. The book narrates the social fall of “life coach” Samson Freitag. Life coaches are government officials who, based on comprehensive individual data, recommend a vocation for every citizen of Europe, thereby benefiting the state and allowing each person to lead a happy life.

Samson Freitag is passionate about his job as a life coach and happy to be contributing to an optimal society. But one case is causing him distress. Many years before, he advised a man named Ercan Böser to pursue a career in politics. Currently, Böser is skyrocketing to success with his *OPTIMIZERS* party. When Samson takes another look at the video recording and realizes that Böser *performed* his responses - that they were lines from a play he had memorized - Samson begins to wonder whether the system might be fallible. The system, however, does not tolerate critical inquiry.

**Theresa Hannig** was born in Munich in 1984. After receiving her degree in political science, philosophy, and economics, she worked as a software developer, an IT security consultant, and a project manager for solar installations. She lives outside of Munich with her husband and two children.



Theresa Hannig  
**THE OPTIMIZERS**

Die Optimierer  
272 pages  
Paperback  
October 2017

**Old rivalries between East and West and a merciless duel to the death**

**For readers of Lincoln Child, Douglas Preston, Dan Brown, and Clive Cussler**

**Gerd Schilddorfer** was born in Vienna in 1953. As a journalist, he worked for the „Austria Press Agency“ and later he was the chief reporter for various TV documentary series. Gerd Schilddorfer lives and works in Vienna and in Stralsund or he is traveling to do research for a new book.

## An explosive blend of an adventure novel and a conspiracy thriller

In September of 2016, the hanged corpse of a mummified body is found in Berlin. Thomas Calis, a young detective with the Homicide Division of the Berlin Police Department, is mystified. Only hours later, he is called to another crime scene. Not far from the place where the mummy was found, a man with seemingly no past was strangled to death. Before long, two other men are strangled to death. At the same time, a student discovers in her grandfather's war journal the three Chinese ideographs that were pinned onto the floor under the hanged corpse. She starts to investigate the case on her own. At the other end of the world, in China, the discovery of the mummy and the international media coverage of the discovery lead to a frenzy of activity. In a quickly convened meeting in Shanghai, the Triads – a Chinese crime syndicate – decide to intervene, as they recognize the mummy as one of their delegates, who disappeared without a trace in Germany, in 1990.

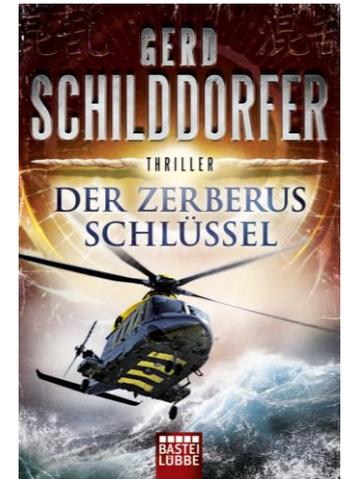
And so it begins: a hunt for secrets between East and West, which are inseparably linked and lead into the darkest corners of the past. It is more of a coincidence that John Finch, an old friend of Calis, suddenly finds himself in the middle of this conflict. And soon, he and Calis and Llewellyn, too, follow a lead that takes them into the shadowy world of the East German Koko, the Chinese Mafia, and the secret murder brigades of Erich Honecker that had been assigned to complete specific tasks in the West and went underground after the 1989 reunification. A race against time begins.

### Also available:



#### THE NOSTRADAMUS COUP

798 pp  
October 2016



#### Gerd Schilddorfer THE CERBERUS KEY

Der Zerberus Schlüssel  
814 pages  
Paperback  
November 2017

**Rights sold:**

- Czech
- English (World Rights)
- French
- Italian
- Latvian
- Polish
- Slovak

*"Giordano's wit and his formidable heroine's wisdom combine to make this debut a smash."*

**Publishers Weekly**

**"A delightful detective and a lively, humorous portrait of Sicilian society and gastronomy." Times**

AUNTIE POLDI AND GORGEOUS ANTONIO is the third volume in the humorous cozy crime series starring charismatic and unique protagonist Auntie Poldi. This time, Auntie Poldi chases a phantom: gorgeous Antonio. The mysterious epitome of a Latin lover seems to be the key figure in a human trafficking organization. Auntie Poldi deploys her criminalistic intuition but, - once again, of course - her family as well as men mess it up for her.

Auntie Poldi's life remains tumultuous. By now, her husband, John from Tanzania, has been living for three months in Via Baronessa, as he is searching for his cousin, Thomas, who, months earlier, set off to Europe with a suitcase full of money and has vanished ever since. His last sign of life was a postcard from Palermo with the request to send him more money. When Poldi finally tracks Thomas down, the African guy is as dead as a doornail, as unfortunate as it is. And the trail leads to gorgeous Antonio. So it is clear that Auntie Poldi has to make it her mission to reinstate justice and order.

Her investigations take her to Palermo, to the Greek temples of Agrigento and Selinunte, to the tuna factories in the south, and to a 4,000 year-old chestnut tree. And of course, once again, Poldi feels surrounded by the Mafia wherever she goes, but in the end, things turn out to be different than they initially appear.



**Mario Giordano**  
**AUNTIE POLDI AND**  
**GORGEOUS ANTONIO**

**Tante Poldi und der schöne Antonio**  
**352 pages**  
**Hardcover**  
**February 2018**

**Mario Giordano** was born in Munich in 1963 and studied psychology at the University of Düsseldorf. He writes novels, books for adolescents, and screenplays. He lives in Cologne.

**Also available:**

**AUNT POLDI AND THE**  
**SICILIAN LIONS**

368 pp  
March 2014



**AUNTIE POLDI AND THE**  
**FRUITS OF THE LORD**

368 pp  
March 2016

For readers of Elizabeth George, Jean-Luc Bannalec, and Donna Leon

## The conflicts and complicated cases of a Scottish investigator in English exile

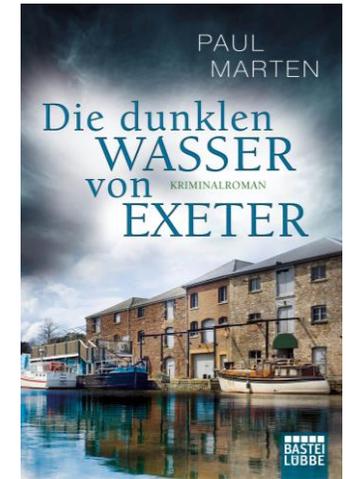
THE DARK WATERS OF EXETER kicks off an atmospheric mystery series featuring Craig McPherson, a Scottish eccentric whose personal problems result in a compulsory transfer from Edinburgh to Exeter.

Shortly after his arrival in Exeter, McPherson discovers a waterlogged corpse while taking a walk at night. It is the body of Floyd Carpenter, a well-known and much liked building contractor. There is no evidence of a crime. Carpenter was a poster child for the modern, cosmopolitan, and social town of Exeter. Apparently, he simply had bad luck. Returning home from the pub late at night, as drunk as a lord, he slipped and took an unfortunate fall. No defensive wounds, nothing. Everything checks out.

As Craig conducts his routine investigation, however, he stumbles across inconsistencies. Carpenter was apparently not well liked by everyone. His competitors hated him for his allegedly unfair practices, and he was rumored to use bribery. On the other hand, Carpenter was an extremely successful businessman, and there is no proof of corruption. After conducting many interrogations, Craig suspects a conspiracy: a competitor attacked and murdered Carpenter to oust him from a lucrative business deal.

When the senior public prosecutor removes Craig from the case, the bullheaded Scotsman continues investigating on his own and stirs up a hornets' nest.

**Paul Marten** was born and raised in Germany - and he's an Anglophile. He has spent a great amount of time on the beautiful southern coast of England, primarily in Exeter and environs. It has been many years since he exchanged his journalist's desk for the desk of an author.



Paul Marten  
**THE DARK WATERS OF  
EXETER**

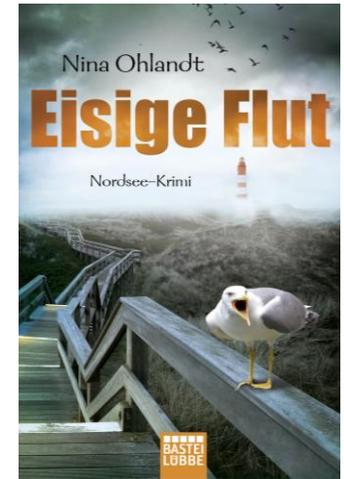
**Die dunklen Wasser von Exeter**  
**382 pages**  
**Paperback**  
**October 2017**

For all readers of Nele Neuhaus, Volker Klüpfel, and Michael Kober

**Ice cold murders on the coast. A new case for chief detective John Benthien**

Nina Ohlandt's whodunits have everything that the fans of this genre want: a likeable investigator, an intricate crime, and a lot of the regional flavor of the German north. THE ICE COLD TIDE is the fourth case for police inspector John Benthien and his team.

On a bitterly cold February morning, John Benthien is called to a lonely house in the North Frisian marshlands. The detective can't believe his eyes. Standing in front of the door is a corpse, encased in ice from head to toe. The shocked residents of the house identify her as their daughter who has been missing for weeks. Later, Benthien learns that the woman was shot. So why did the killer stage her body in such a grotesque manner? Benthien's investigation produces no leads at first, until two further "ice corpses" turn up, with the last one on the Island of Amrum. Step by step, the inspector pieces together the bizarre puzzle and discovers a connection with his own past.



Nina Ohlandt  
**THE ICE COLD TIDE**

**Eisige Flut**  
**528 pages**  
**Paperback**  
**February 2018**

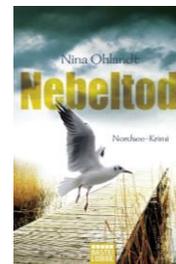
**Nina Ohlandt** was born in Wuppertal and grew up in Karlsruhe. She trained as a language teacher in Paris while writing her first children's book on the side. She later worked as a translator before finding her true calling of writing crime novels.

**Also available (a.o.):**



**SOUNDING THE ALARM**

510 pp  
February 2017



**DEATH IN THE FOG**

511 pp  
February 2016



**THE CRY OF THE SEAGULL**

507 pp  
February 2015

**Suspense, action and hot passion – romantic thrill at ist best**

**Winner of multiple LOVELETTER AWARDS**

**DELIA for the best German-language romance novel**

**The author has sold more than 400,000 copies of her LYX titles**



It happens in different deployment sites: TURT agents get killed or disappear without a trace. A coincidence? Soon it becomes clear that someone has access to their true identities and knows where they are deployed. When one of the San Diego agents gets murdered and Hawk, head of the TURT/LE suffers a life-threatening injury, the situation escalates. While Hawk's friends fear for his life, they start searching for the traitor. And he is closer than they would have ever thought. All clues point to German agent Christoph Nevia. His friend, Henning Mahler, Staff Sergeant of the Bundeswehr and member of the elite unit KSK, has just arrived in San Diego to visit Nevia. Henning is convinced that Chris would never do anything that could harm his colleagues. When his friend is taken into custody, he decides to investigate the case on his own. He receives unexpected help from TURT/LE agent Julie Sanders, who uncovered some inconsistencies. Together they follow the clues and in the process, they start getting closer. But then the tide is turning again, as it is suddenly Julie, who is under suspicion, so that Henning has to decide whether he can trust her or whether she has just been using him.



**Michelle Raven  
TURT/LE – DEADLY THREAT**

**TURT/LE –  
Tödliche Bedrohung (Vol.6)  
560 pages  
Paperback  
November 2017**

**Michelle Raven** was born in Hanover, studied librarianship and works as head librarian in Lower Saxony. Her first novel was published in 2002. By now her books are regularly featured on the bestseller lists.

**Also available (a.o.):**



**TURT/LE –  
LIVESAVER  
(Vol.5)**

634 pp  
September 2016



**TURT/LE –  
EXPLOSIVE  
MISSION (Vol.4)**

544 pp  
May 2015



**TURT/LE –  
SECRET MISSION  
(Vol.3)**

544 pp  
May 2014

Romantic stories about the most beautiful things in life: food and love – enjoy and let your heart melt away

Vol. 4 to be published in January 2018

Vol. 1 in the Top-10 SPIEGEL Paperback bestseller list

Rights sold:

- Bulgaria
- Czech Republic
- Russia
- Romania
- Slovakia
- Turkey

Poppy J. Anderson has always had a penchant for telling stories and was only twelve years old when she committed her first literary attempts to paper. If she is not busy writing or thinking about new stories, she likes to travel to the most remote places in the world or stay home in a large city in Western Germany and play with her two dogs, Anton and Zipi.

### Witty, tumultuous, and with the exact right amount of heartache: for all romantics and amateur chefs

TENDER SEDUCTION is the third novel in the Spiegel best-selling “Taste of Love” series. The romantic novel series about love and passion among professional chefs leaves nothing to be desired. The heroes and heroines of the books seduce each other with fancy food creations and do it in such a funny and entertaining way that it makes the readers’ hearts beat faster.

Liz Miller gives up a stellar career at a posh restaurant to open a small gourmet chocolate store in Boston. To make it easier for her to get started with her new business, a close friend pulls a few strings in the television industry. It works out and Liz is invited to appear on a talk show, and Liz also gets word that another guest in the talk show will be Adam Stone. Today, Adam is a fitness guru but he started his career as a model. So it is understandable that this news fills Liz with all sorts of anxiety. Even though she feels really good about her body, she knows that a somewhat curvaceous, normal weight woman like her is not what people usually see on television. Adam is taken with sexy, sweet Liz, but when it comes to health and fitness he has no mercy. And for a good reason: Prior to starting college, he was a “fat child”. During their talk, he makes a flippant comment about sugar and next thing she knows, he challenges her by saying “Even sex requires a certain degree of fitness but I’m sure you know that”. Liz, who is really going through a sexual dry spell, concludes on the spot that Adam must be a complete idiot while firing back with an equally flattering comment.

Liz’s sister Vicky decides right there and then to hook her little sister up with the fitness guru. She books excruciatingly expensive private lessons with Adam so that Liz has no other choice but to spend many hours in the presence of the “idiot” the prelude to a sinfully sweet, yet spicy relationship!

Also available:



**TASTE OF LOVE -  
SECRET INGREDIENT:  
LOVE**

340 pp  
January 2017



**TASTE OF LOVE -  
KISSES FOR  
DESSERT**

340 pp  
February 2017



**TASTE OF LOVE -  
SEASONED WITH  
DESIRE**

528 pp  
January 2018



**Poppy J. Anderson  
TENDER SEDUCTION**

**Taste of Love –  
Zart verführt**  
367 pages  
Paperback  
October 2017

Detailed English outline and sample translation available

For all readers of Rosamunde Pilcher and Jenny Colgan

**Tabea Bach** worked as an opera dramaturg before devoting herself completely to writing. She was born in Tübingen and studied in Munich and Florence, Italy. Today, she lives with her husband in an idyllic village in the Black Forest, the starting point for numerous journeys to places all over the world. The magnificent landscapes she encounters during her travels find their way into her women's novels where they become atmospheric settings for her stories.

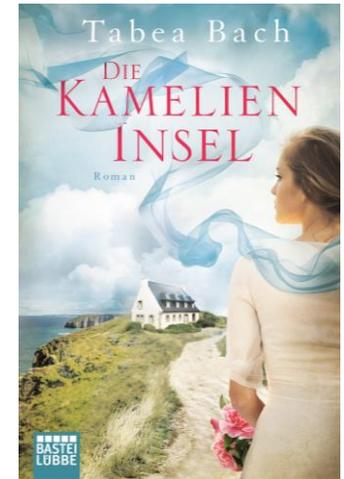
### A wonderful page-turner that unfolds in a gorgeous setting: an inheritance, a love story, and a camellia nursery in Brittany

CAMELLIA ISLAND has everything that makes for a successful novel of this genre: a likeable heroine, a realistic set-up, a picturesque setting, and – most importantly – enough gripping twists and turns to keep the reader guessing about the outcome until the very end. The author has an extraordinary ability to create moods and capture an atmosphere. Her writing style is sensual, yet devoid of kitsch, and it always manages to transport the reader straight to the location of the story.

Sylvia is wealthy and set for life but she is not happy with her overbooked life and her seemingly perfect marriage. When she receives news of the death of her aunt Lucie - she was the black sheep of the family and, years earlier, all ties to her were severed – Sylvia leaves Munich and travels to Brittany, to the Camellia Island that she inherited from her aunt. But Sylvia's finance savvy husband, who doesn't believe in "sentimentality", has already put the island up for sale. So the unknown heiress is in the bad books with the people of the camellia nursery. But when they meet Sylvia they think she is a customer, as garden enthusiasts travel from all over the world to this little paradise, an island filled with camellia trees and shrubs.

She receives a friendly welcome and as the incoming tide makes it impossible for her to return to the mainland, she is invited to stay overnight. Sylvia, usually a reasonable and prudent person, falls in love at first sight with Maël, who works on the island as a gardener. Spellbound by the magic of the island and deeply touched by the warmth of the people, Sylvia misses the opportunity to reveal her true identity.

As she extends her stay in the island, the people grow nearer and dearer to her heart. She considers it impossible to destroy this paradise by selling it to a Golf and Hotel Resort, force the people from the place they call home and – lose Maël.



Tabea Bach  
**CAMELLIA ISLAND**

**Die Kamelien-Insel**  
**319 pages**  
**Paperback**  
**March 2018**

## Never boring, often exciting, at all times moving – and always with a happy end

The most-read spokesperson for love of the 20th century

*„Her seemingly harmless fairy tales, in which the promises of happiness are always kept, haven't lost any of their appeal.“*  
DIE ZEIT

*„One of the most successful authors Germany has ever seen“*  
DIE WELT

**Hedwig Courths-Mahler** lived from 1867 to 1950. She had a very humble upbringing, worked as a salesgirl in Leipzig, and was seventeen years old when she wrote her first novel. Her career as a writer of popular literature is unique: She published 208 novels and reached the hearts of millions of readers. For many years, Hedwig Courths-Mahler was Germany's most successful author.

One has to overcome many obstacles on our path to love and happiness. Very few authors have explored this topic as diligently as Hedwig Courths-Mahler. In this affectionately designed retro edition, the successful author combines, once again, the power of fate with the happenstance of love. Two stories, two couples, two happy ends – and a pure reading pleasure!

### Red Roses

Josta Waldow is on cloud nine. The lovely daughter of his Excellency, Secretary of State Waldow, is supposed to become the wife of handsome landowner Rainer Ramberg! Josta accepts his proposal with a blissful smile. But soon her happiness is overshadowed: Inadvertently, she overhears a conversation between Rainer and her father. This is how the young woman finds out that Rainer did only ask for her hand in marriage to forget about the love he feels for another woman. Josta falls into deepest despair but she is too proud to let her feelings show. And so the two young people deceive one another and play pretend, which, ultimately, threatens to destroy their relationship.

### The magic power of love

Night after night after night, Käthe and Heinz Lindner, two siblings that live in impoverished conditions, stand by the river and stare with longing eyes at the other shore and the mansion of industrialist and commercial counselor Ruhland. But as much as the river forms the barrier between the working-class quarter and the property of the entrepreneur, there are worlds between the two families. Only one person doesn't care about the social gap: Georg, Ruhland's oldest son. He is after every girl in the factory, including Käthe. The fact that she rejects him makes him want her even more and when he realizes that Käthe is in love with his brother, he decides to take matters to the extreme. But then something happens that casts a dark shadow over the Ruhland mansion and sparks a glimpse of hope in the hearts of Käthe und Heinz.



**Hedwig Courths-Mahler**  
**WHERE LOVE AWAITS YOU**  
(Red Roses & The Magic Power of Love)

**Wo die Liebe auf dich wartet**  
(Rote Rosen & Das ist der Liebe Zaubermacht)  
600 pages  
Paperback  
November 2017

Romantic holiday reading for cozy evenings before the fireplace

### Glistening lakes, snow-covered mountains, and an inviting log cabin with smoke billowing from the chimney. Wintertime in Canada!

A thrilling love story set against the dreamlike wintery landscape of Canada. For all female readers who want to get the Christmas spirit, and for anyone who dreams of adventure in faraway lands.

Julia is a young teacher from Hamburg. At short notice, she is accepted for a teacher exchange position in Banff, Canada. Her boyfriend, Lars, had actually been planning to become engaged with her at Christmas and is not overly excited about her decision. Julia, on the other hand, has had second thoughts about their relationship for a while and feels that some distance will do them good.

At the airport in Calgary, she meets an extremely attractive although absolutely outrageous Canadian who snatches the last rental car from under her nose. After some difficulties, she finally arrives at her apartment and hits it off right away with her landlord, Emily, who lives in the same house—and also with her grandson Timmy who is spending the week with his grandmother. As it turns out, Timmy's father, Josh, is the Canadian Julia tangled with at the airport. Because of the circumstances, they encounter each other frequently, and Julia feels increasingly attracted to him.

Things really begin to sizzle between Josh and Julia; they spend more and more time together. But Josh stays reserved, and after an intoxicating night of passion he immediately pulls back again. Soon, Lars arrives in Banff, and an unpleasant encounter arises for the three of them.

**Lara Hill** was born in England. After graduating from the university she worked as a translator. Her writing career began when she moved to Germany with her husband. She enjoys setting the love stories in her sensual novels against the backdrop of the many countries she has visited. Lara Hill lives in Munich with her family and two dogs.



Lara Hill  
**A CHRISTMAS TALE IN CANADA**

**Ein Weihnachtsmärchen in Kanada**  
**351 pages**  
**Paperback**  
**October 2017**

### Searching for happiness in the autumn of life

## A cheerful story full of quirky characters and amazing experiences

Never trust a bank advisor who recommends high-risk investments with failsafe returns. And especially not when the person is the treasurer of your social club and transacts all of his business at meetings where alcohol is flowing freely. Unfortunately, however, this is exactly what Mr. Mumpert did with his entire savings during the last years of his life in Saxony. As a result, his widow, Annemie, is looking at retirement provisions in the amount of approximately zero. All she has left is a tiny pension, a meager savings account, and a piece of (junk) real estate on the Island of Rügen, which she and her deceased husband - committed Mallorca vacationers that they were - never visited during their busy working lives.

Since she can no longer afford to live in her old home, Annemie reluctantly moves into her new property, which reveals itself as a group of stables and estate worker dwellings not far from an old manor house.

After half a year of renovation attempts, Annemie realizes that the cottages cannot be turned into heatable, rentable vacation units without a lot of money and substantial assistance. If they are put up for compulsory auction, she would find herself sitting on a mountain of debt. But for Annemie, necessity is the mother of invention: why should she carry the entire load herself? And so she buys space on several Internet portals and advertises the founding of a multi-generational mini village. Anyone who is interested, contributes a set amount, and plays an active role will receive a lifetime right of residence in the community project. The responses are surprisingly positive, and before long a colorful group has assembled. Together, they tackle the renovation of the houses and fulfill their dreams, soon realizing that despite their divergent interests they are stronger as a collective than alone.

### Also available (a.o.):



#### ONE RETIREE SELDOM COMES ALONE

367 pp  
March 2016



#### TEATIME WITH AUNT ALWINE

429 pp  
March 2014

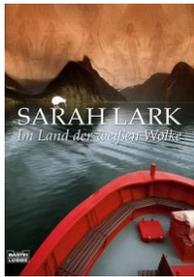


#### Ellen Jacobi RETIRED PEOPLE LAST LONGER TODAY

**Rentner halten heute länger**  
318 pages  
Paperback  
October 2017

**Total print-run of Sarah Lark's books: 4 million copies**

**Translation rights of Sarah Lark's previous books have already been sold to over 20 countries**



**IN THE LAND OF THE LONG WHITE CLOUD**

**Sarah Lark**, born 1958, worked as a tour guide for many years. She discovered her love for New Zealand very early in life. Its breathtaking landscapes have attracted her magically ever since. Sarah Lark is the pseudonym of a successful German writer.

## A dark family secret, an incredibly powerful story, the ultimate book for women

An absolutely gripping page-turner set in present-day Vienna and New Zealand as well as in Dalmatia and New Zealand in the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. At the center of the novel is a young woman in search of her roots, who has to find out that her life is entangled with secrets of the past. *THE SECRET OF THE WINTER HOUSE* is a skillfully crafted novel that tells the life stories of three people in an original manner.

Vienna, present time: Following an infection, Ellinor's cousin is diagnosed with acute renal failure and Ellinor is immediately willing to get tested as a potential donor. However, the test results reveal a long and well-kept secret: Ellinor and her mother are biologically not related to the rest of the family. Ellinor's grandmother was an adopted child and nobody knew who her parents were. In search of her roots, Ellinor travels to Dalmatia where she uncovers a tragic love story. She finds information about her grandmother and her grandmother's mother, Liliansa. Her grandmother's father, Franco Zima, disappeared in the middle of the night in the year the child was born, in 1905.

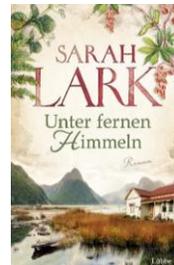
Ellinor decides to travel to New Zealand to find out more about her great grandfather. After her arrival in New Zealand, she manages to track down the descendants of Franco Zima but the story of their family ends the exact same way: great grandfather Frank disappeared, suddenly and without a trace. And then something completely unexpected happens. Ellinor watches a talk show featuring an interview with an author who wrote a bestseller about his family – a family drama that began when his great grandmother, Allison, shot her fiancé Frank to death because he wanted to walk out on her even though she was pregnant. In New Zealand, Ellinor uncovers three fateful love stories, which, pieced together, make up the story of one family and she, too, will find happiness in New Zealand.

### Also available (a.o.):



**THE YEAR OF THE DOLPHINS**

463 pp  
December 2016



**UNDER DISTANT SKIES**

589 pp  
June 2016



**Sarah Lark**  
**THE SECRET OF THE WINTER HOUSE**

**Das Geheimnis des Winterhauses**  
**576 pages**  
**Hardcover**  
**December 2017**

### Rights of YOUR PERFECT YEAR sold to:

- Bulgaria
- Czech Republic
- France
- Hungary
- Italy
- Korea
- Latvia
- Lithuania
- Netherlands
- Poland
- Romania
- Russia
- Slovak Republic
- Spain
- Taiwan (Chinese complex)

Born in Düsseldorf in 1972, **Charlotte Lucas** studied German philology, anglistics, and communication science at the University of Trier as well as screenwriting at the International Film School Cologne. She writes for various newspapers and magazines (including "Cosmopolitan") and works as an author for numerous motion picture production companies and television.

### An enchanting novel about destiny, unexpected encounters, and the question of whether every story needs a happy end

YOUR PERFECT YEAR put Charlotte Lucas on the bestseller list for more than 20 weeks. Translation rights have been granted for 15 languages. The author's titles and themes focus squarely on the topics that matter to people: the search for happiness, the hope of getting a second chance, and how to make every day really special.

At some point, haven't we all wished that a story would come to a happy end and not a bad one? That the little mermaid will be able to stay with her prince; that Julia will wake up in time to save Romeo; and that Jack won't go down with the Titanic but live a long happy life with Rose?

This is exactly the way Ella feels about it. She is thoroughly convinced that a good story always needs a happy ending. After all, there are already enough bad things in life. Why should we put up with them in the world of fiction as well? And for that reason, she simply rewrites books and fairytales, giving them not just happier, better endings, but the *right* ones.

Even when her fiancé leaves her, Ella stays true to her mission of finding a good end. She actually makes a bet with fate about it: if she can provide a happy outcome for Oscar, an unfortunate man she encounters by accident, then her fiancé will come back to her. Meanwhile, Oscar proves to be a fairly unruly candidate, and as a result fate takes a turn that is entirely different than Ella would ever have expected . . .

#### Also available:



#### YOUR PERFECT YEAR

576 pp  
September 2016



#### Charlotte Lucas SEE YOU AT THE HAPPY END

Wir sehen uns beim Happy End  
448 pages  
Hardcover  
December 2017

An entertaining read and a perfect gift

## Moving, thought provoking, and beautifully wrapped: the perfect little Christmas book

Karl's big dream was to get himself a dog for his first Christmas as a retiree. Now, Karl is dead and his grieving widow is neither in the mood for a dog, nor in the Christmas spirit.

One day, though, she finds a cocker spaniel puppy in the cemetery's garbage container and this is when fate takes its course. Helene can't help it and takes the puppy home with her. Her plan is to give the little one to an animal shelter but the shelter is overcrowded and also, Helene quickly takes a shine to the dog. What's more, the cute animal is the reason why she is able to establish a first contact with the boy next door, Azmi. Not long ago, Azmi and his mother, Basima, moved into the same house where Helene lives. At first, Helene was a little bit scared of the foreigner neighbors but now she realizes that Azmi is a boy like any other – who seems to have a big heart for dogs because he, too, is immediately smitten with the puppy.

When Helene finds out about the fate mother and son suffered – they fled Syria to follow their husband and father but lost track of him as if he had vanished – she makes the spontaneous decision to invite both of them to have dinner with her on Christmas Eve.

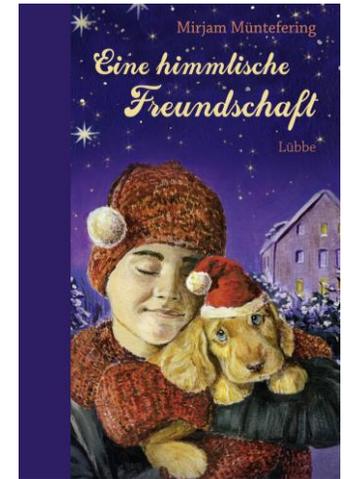
The outcome is a Christmas that is completely different from the Christmases she had with Karl, but it is a Christmas celebration that shows how happy it can make you to just open your heart and let the miracle happen.

### Also available (a.o.):



#### CHRISTMAS WITH BOLLE

128 pp  
September 2012



#### Mirjam Müntefering A FRIENDSHIP MADE IN HEAVEN

Eine himmlische Freundschaft  
128 pages  
Paperback  
October 2017

For readers of Emma Donoghue,  
J. Courtney Sullivan, and  
Elizabeth Graver

### Poetic, emotional, and moving. A book for anyone who has ever felt lost

Writing with an unmistakable voice and with amazing intensity, Kati Seck narrates the path of a young woman who struggles against all obstacles to experience the joy of life.

Edda is a young woman who at first sight appears very ordinary. But she isn't. Many things that other people take for granted pose a challenge for her, because Edda was kidnapped as a child and grew up in a windowless cellar. She was not freed until the age of 17. Many years of therapy have helped her return to a normal life, which is to say, as normal as life can be after going through her ordeal.

Although she has been free for seven years, mentally she sometimes still feels imprisoned - when a closed room suddenly robs her of her breath, or when the frightening expanse of the sky suddenly fills it with dread. It's as if she is standing at a threshold, unable to take a step forward or back. No longer a prisoner, but not yet free either. And that's why she decides to *jump* over the threshold. In October, she takes a month-long vacation on the North Sea coast. Nowhere is the sky bigger; nowhere are the views wider, one's thinking clearer. This month will change Edda. As will her encounter with a man who saw his wife die in an accident as they were hiking in the mountains, and has turned his pain into a prison.

**Kati Seck** was born in 1987 in Germany's Westerwald region, where she continues to live - unless she has been drawn to the shore with her dog. She spent a large part of her youth in hospitals and knows the feeling of being restricted by external forces and fears. Her protagonist experiences the same things, although in a completely different way.



**Kati Seck**  
**THE STILLNESS BETWEEN  
THE SKY AND THE SEA**

**Die Stille zwischen Himmel  
und Meer**  
**302 pages**  
**Hardcover**  
**November 2017**

A perfect page-turner for dreaming and relaxing

## Dramatic involvements and immense emotions set against the dreamlike landscape of New Zealand

Stella Wilson is half Maori and has inherited an island in the Marlborough Sounds from her mother. Surrounded by this fabulous landscape, she operates a successful mussel farm. Her daughter, Holly, whom she has raised as a single mother, shows little interest in the family's legacy and has developed a passionate love of music instead. This comes as no surprise because Holly is the child of Stella's love affair with an English pianist named Oliver.

Before Stella was able to tell her lover that she was pregnant, the two were separated by adverse circumstances. It took her many years to recover from losing the love of her life, but now she has finally found in her neighbor Jayden Tyler a man with whom she can imagine having a relationship.

Thus, it comes as an even greater shock when Oliver unexpectedly announces that he is coming to visit. Holly knows nothing about her father, and Stella fears that her daughter could become even more alienated from her if she meets the man with whom she has so much in common. What Stella doesn't suspect is this: Oliver has never forgotten her either and is returning to New Zealand only so he can die in her arms.

**Laura Walden** studied law and worked for several years as an attorney in Hamburg. But then her passion for telling compelling stories became so strong that she decided to turn her writing skills into a profession. The proof of how wise this decision was lies in the success of her thrilling novels, which are always about dark family secrets set against breathtaking landscapes.

Also available (a.o.):



**THE LEGACY OF THE MAORI CHIEF**

527 pp  
January 2016



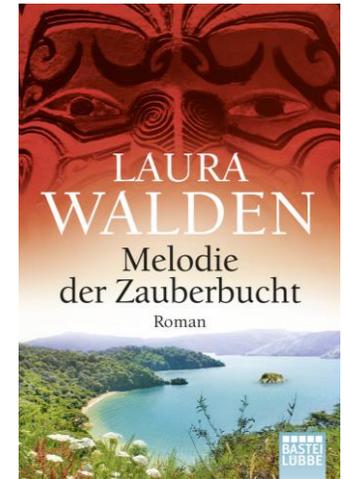
**THE HIDING PLACE AT THE END OF THE CLIFFS**

510 pp  
August 2015



**THE TRACE OF THE MAORI HEALER**

510 pp  
July 2014



**Laura Walden**  
**MELODY OF THE ENCHANTED BAY**

**Die Melodie der Zauberbucht**  
510 pages  
Paperback  
September 2017

Perfect for all Mona fans and for all readers of Erin Watt and the Gossip Girl series

More than 120,000 copies sold of the AGAIN series



**Mona Kasten**, born in 1992, lives in the North of Germany with her husband and two cats. Her predilection for coffee and chocolate is almost as great as her fascination for words, which already took hold of her during her childhood. When she doesn't write or read, she vlogs about books, movies and everything else she enjoys in her life.

**They come from different worlds. And yet, they are meant for each other.**

Sexy, thrilling, and glamorous – the eagerly anticipated new trilogy by Spiegel best selling author Mona Kasten! The Maxton Hall-Series, a trilogy that will get you hooked!

Money, glamour, luxury, power – Ruby Bell couldn't be less interested in these things, if she tried. After being awarded a scholarship for one of England's most prestigious and expensive private schools – Maxton Hall College – her main objective is to be invisible and attract as little attention as possible from the other students. She keeps her distance from them, especially from James Beaufort, the school's secret ringleader. He is too arrogant, too rich, and too handsome. While it is Ruby's biggest dream to study in Oxford, he seems to live from one party to the next. But then Ruby finds out by happenstance that James' sister, Lydia, has an affair with the history teacher. Which is something nobody else knows about, something that would destroy the reputation of James' family, if it ever got out. All of a sudden, James knows exactly who she is. And even though she never wanted to be a part of his world, it doesn't take long and James – and her heart – don't leave her any other choice.

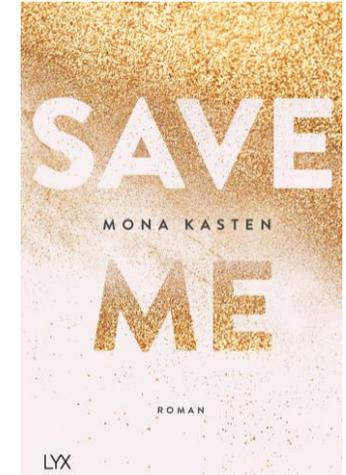
A modern Cinderella story: romantic, fairytale-like, and sexy

**To be published in 2018:**



**SAVE YOU**

Approx. 400 pages  
May 2018



**Mona Kasten**  
**SAVE ME**

**Save Me**  
Approx. 446 pages  
Paperback  
February 2018

»Saucy, humorous,  
and sexy!«

MONA KASTEN

For readers of Cora Carmack  
and Abbi Glines

## When a single kiss changes everything...

Romantic, funny & sexy – volume 2 in the New Adult Series by Bianca Iosivoni. Two additional volumes are in the planning stages.

The biggest risk best friends can take is: falling in love with each other! Best friends, that's exactly what Elle and Luke are – and that's a good thing. Both of them were hurt too often in the past to be able to believe in the one big love. But then it happens and a passionate kiss changes everything. And suddenly, it is impossible for them to just go on and ignore the sparks that are flying between them. Still, Elle and Luke know what is at stake for them. And they know that they will need their friendship more than ever.



Bianca Iosivoni  
THE LAST FIRST KISS

Der letzte erste Kuss  
502 pages  
Paperback  
October 2017

Ever since her early childhood, **Bianca Iosivoni**, born in 1986, has been fascinated by stories. These stories have accompanied her throughout her life for almost as long. With her head full of ideas, she began to write as a teenager and cannot imagine to ever stop doing so.

### Also available (a.o.):



THE LAST FIRST LOOK

436 pp  
April 2017



WHATEVER HAPPENS

410 pp  
November 2016

For readers of Colleen Hoover and Mona Kasten

**Love is not easy. It is complicated, painful, and everything in between. The story of Sage and Luca will get under your skin – this year’s ultimate love story!**

When Sage arrives in Nevada, she has nothing – no money, no apartment, no friends. Nothing but the fierce determination to get a fresh start and forget about everything that happened back at home. Sage endured years of sexual abuse by her stepfather, while her mother – blinded by her love for the man – let it just happen. During these years, Sage developed a pathological fear of men that still overwhelms her at times.

It happens again when Sage starts her new job in a library where she meets Luca. With his piercing gray eyes and his tattoos, he stands for everything Sage is afraid of. But Luca is not what he seems to be at first glance. As time goes by, Sage realizes that Luca has nothing in common with her stepfather, despite his appearance, and that she can trust him. Nevertheless, she is finding it hard to let go of the past and when a phone call from home stirs it all up, she makes a difficult decision – and leaves Luca.

**Laura Kneidl** was born in Erlangen in 1990 and early on, she developed a penchant for everything that has to do with writing. Inspired by countless fantasy novels, she started in 2009 to work on her first own book project. Ever since, books, cats, and Pinterest have been an integral part of her daily life.

**To be published:**



**LOSE ME. NOT.**

Approx. 400 pages  
January 2018



**Laura Kneidl**  
**TOUCH ME. NOT.**

**Berühre mich. Nicht.**  
**462 pages**  
**Paperback**  
**October 2017**

**Sought after for her skills, cheated of her freedom – the story of an extraordinary woman**

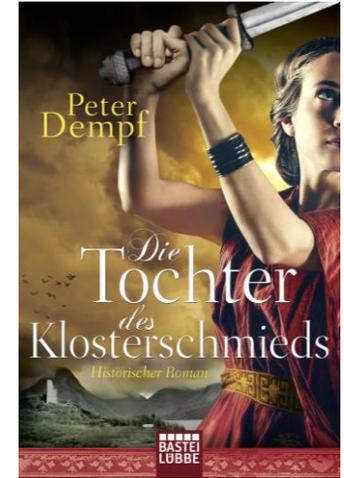
**Total print-run of Peter Dempf's books so far: 270,000 copies**

## A revolution in the craft of blacksmithing wrapped into a suspenseful historical novel about the Middle Ages

Peter Dempf's historical novels stand out because of the author's meticulous research, strong female characters, and perfidious conspiracies. The setting he chose for his latest novel, *THE DAUGHTER OF THE MONASTERY'S BLACKSMITH*, is Franconia in the early Middle Ages, as this is the region where the revolution in medieval blacksmithing took place that he has embedded into his story: the still unsolved mystery of the Ulfberht swords.

The Moselle valley around the year 780: The daughter of the armorer has to witness how the Prince mutilates her father because the sword he forged for the ruler broke during a duel. He is reduced to the ranks of a blacksmith and sent to work in the nearby monastery. From now on, Ulfbertha, who calls herself Ula, has to assist her father.

Ula learns the craft of blacksmithing and soon, she begins to experiment with materials and tools. She manages to fashion a sword of extraordinary quality; a sword so hard that it makes other weapons shatter like glass. A blacksmith, who is capable of forging such kind of weapon, is a priceless treasure. And so the hunt for Ula begins. The fact that she gets caught in the crossfire of a dispute between dynasties makes her situation even more hopeless.



**Peter Dempf**  
**THE DAUGHTER OF THE MONASTERY'S BLACKSMITH**

**Die Tochter des Klosterschmieds**  
**447 pages**  
**Paperback**  
**November 2017**

**Peter Dempf**, born in Augsburg in 1959, studied history and German languages and literature and, today, teaches at an Augsburg college preparatory school. In addition to novels, Dempf, who has been awarded several literary prizes, also writes pieces for radio, screenplays, short stories, lyric poetry and non-fiction, especially about historical subjects.

### Also available (a.o.):



**THE FOUNTAIN MISTRESS**

463 pp  
August 2016



**THE LADY OF THE SMUGGLERS**

464 pp  
July 2015



**THE PRINCESS OF THE BEGGARS**

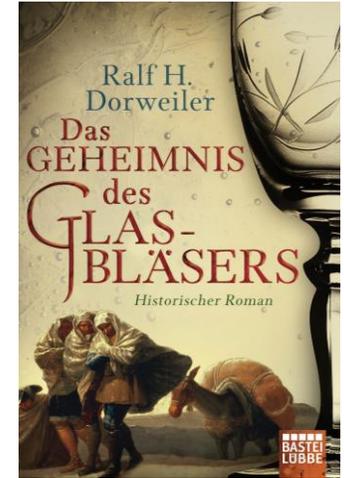
479 pp  
February 2013

**A riveting adventure novel about a dangerous journey, a great love, and the production of glass in the late Middle Ages**

The Earldom of Hauenstein in the southern Black Forest, 1452. Glass as clear as crystal; no one in the Holy Roman Empire has ever seen anything like it. Emperor Frederick III commissions Simon, a young glassblower, to set out and uncover the secret behind the marvel. With a loyal companion, he sets off on a daring journey across the Alps to Venice.

Whereas glassblowers in the Black Forest can produce only green-tinted forest glass, the Venetian Angelo Barovier has developed a formula for glass that is crystal clear. However, the formula is more closely guarded than any treasure. And while Venetian glassblowers are indeed richly rewarded for their work, they are not permitted to leave the Island of Murano.

With the help of Serena, a courtesan, Simon and Ulf reach the Island of Murano and gain employment with Barovier. As he searches for the secret formula, Simon falls in love with Barovier's stunning daughter, Marietta. But the young woman is in great danger. For a year, the brutal killer has been terrorizing the city of lagoons. Although his victims seem to have nothing in common, Serena and Simon discover a pattern, and fear that Marietta could be the killer's next victim. In order to save her, they follow her to Constantinople which is under siege by the Ottomans. Here, Simon realizes that he misinterpreted the signs. He himself comes into the killer's crosshairs, while Marietta falls into the hands of the Sultan.



**Ralf H. Dorweiler**  
**THE GLASS BLOWER'S SECRET**

**Das Geheimnis des Glasbläfers**  
**560 pages**  
**Paperback**  
**February 2018**

**Ralf H. Dorweiler** was born in 1973 near Frankfurt am Main and studied theater, film, and television science at the University of Cologne. In keeping with his broad range of interests and talents, he then pursued many different activities, from acting to managing call centers. In the meantime, Ralf H. Dorweiler lives in the southern Black Forest where he holds an editorial position at a major regional newspaper. He is married to an opera singer and has a son.

**Also available:**



**THE PACT OF THE RAFTSMEN**

480 pp  
February 2016

Set against the historical background of the epochal fight of the Ottoman Sultan against the Pope to gain control over the Occident.

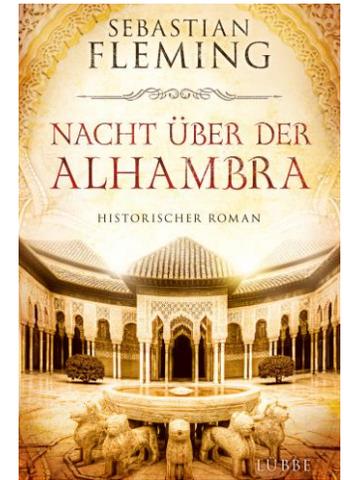
„A thrilling novel“  
Mitteldeutscher Rundfunk  
about THE DOME OF THE  
HEAVENS

**A captivating novel about loyalty and betrayal, the thirst for power, and passions**

1453: It is when Ottoman ruler Mehmed conquers Constantinople and his hordes start looting the city that Spanish merchant Don Juliá realizes he made the biggest mistake of his life by moving here from Barcelona. He and his older sons are decapitated, while his wife and daughters manage to flee. His youngest son, Joanot, is taken in by Mehmed, who teaches him Islam and gives him the name Yahya.

At the same time, far away in the West, Nuria, a young girl, loses her entire family in an attack by a gang of thieves and murderers. Spain is torn. In the South, the reign of the Moors is falling apart and in the North, Christian dynasties fight each other for power. This is the reason why Nuria knows she has to live the life of a man if she wants to survive these times on her own. So she becomes Jorge. Her disguise is so perfect that an armorer accepts her as his student of swordplay and she is trained in the art of fencing. At the infamous court of the decadent Spanish King, her skills draw the attention of Cardinal Torquemada, the powerful inquisitor. He assigns Jorge the task of protecting the lives of the potential heirs to the throne, Alfons and Isabell, who the ruthless King wants to do away with so that his own daughter can succeed him to the throne. Sultan Mehmed knows about the power struggles in Spain. His goal is to gain control over the Occident. To get there, it is imperative for him to restore the shrinking power of Moorish Andalusia to its old glory. And this can only be accomplished by toppling and destroying the Christian dynasties in Northern Spain.

From an early age, Yahya has attracted everyone’s attention because of his outstanding talents for languages and diplomacy. This is why the young and forcibly converted Muslim is sent together with Ruggiero, an Italian, on a secret mission to Spain. Their goal: To overthrow the King and replace him with a Christian vassal of the Sultan. But what they don’t expect is that adolescent Isabell has already her own plans to get into power – and an unusual sword master by her side.



Sebastian Fleming  
**NIGHT OVER THE  
ALHAMBRA**

**Nacht über der Alhambra**  
**544 pages**  
**Hardcover**  
**October 2017**

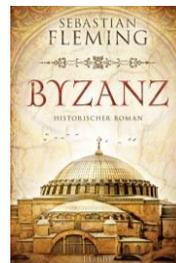
Sebastian Fleming studied German philology and history. He has written for theatre, radio, and television as well as books on historical subjects.

**Also available (a.o.):**



**THE DOME OF  
THE HEAVENS**

608 pp  
December 2010



**BYZANTIUM**

720 pp  
May 2013

For all readers of Ken Follett's **THE PILLARS OF THE EARTH** and Ildefonso Falcones' **CATHEDRAL OF THE SEA**

English summary available

### A lush medieval epic about love, betrayal, and death

Set against the historical background of one of the most ambitious construction projects of the Middle Ages, Magdeburg Cathedral, Ruben Laurin unfolds a lush story about love, conspiracies, and betrayal.

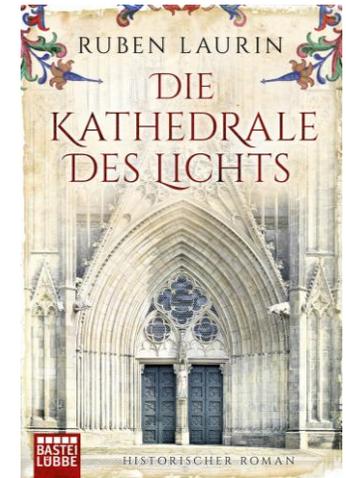
In the year 1219: Moritz is an orphan boy but despite the suffering he endures, he doesn't lose hope. For he has found something that comforts him in his pain: his love for creating sculptures. This is how, one day, he creates a sculpture, which is modeled after his mother. Years later, he attracts the attention of a traveling builder, who takes Moritz with him to the Magdeburg cathedral workshop where they are building a huge church. As he walks the construction site at night, he meets Mechthild, a mystic, and they become friends. She tells him about a divine light that only she can see, a light, in which the saints are gathering, whose relics are kept in the structural foundation of the cathedral.

While Moritz falls in love with Helena, the builder's daughter, who is espoused to the sculptor Gotthard, the builder discovers Moritz' sculpture of his mother. He recognizes Moritz' talent and pushes through that Moritz is commissioned to create the statue of Saint Maurice, the cathedral's patron saint. This is an offense and insult to Gotthard, who had originally been chosen for this project.

As he wants to save Moritz from his hopeless love for Helena, the builder asks Moritz to accompany him to the Imperial Court Council. When they return, Helena and Gottfried are married.

Still, Moritz and Helena continue their love affair in secret, and when they get caught, they face dramatic consequences: slander, attempts on their lives, destruction of his work and, finally, Helena is convicted of adultery. Moritz saves her life and his life is saved by the builder, who wants the statues of saints to be brought to completion.

**Ruben Laurin** is the alias of an award-winning author. His fascination with the history of the city of Magdeburg and medieval church architecture gave him the idea to write this novel about the construction of Magdeburg Cathedral. Ruben Laurin lives near Wismar.



Ruben Laurin  
**CATHEDRAL OF LIGHT**

**Die Kathedrale des Lichts**  
656 pages  
Hardcover  
February 2018

The perfect read for fans of  
Diana Gabaldon

## A Scotland novel filled with romance and a hint of mysticism

The plot of DAUGHTER OF THE HIGHLANDS centers on a secret assassins order that is hidden behind the walls of a monastery and the fate of a young woman who is torn by the task of assassinating the man she loves.

It is her father's decision that Elizabeth Muir, a young aristocrat, is taken to a monastery and forced to take the veil. But soon she realizes that things are kind of fishy in the monastery. One night, she follows the abbess and eavesdrops on a conversation about a secret assassins order that operates from inside the monastery. The mainly female members of the order have made it their business to kill criminals and preserve the peace in Scotland. They catch Elizabeth eavesdropping but the skills that got her into this awkward position are exactly the skills that secure her a spot in the order: her unflinching will and her talent for spying. Now the armorer, Thomas MacFarlane, has to teach her the art of killing silently as well as the art of seduction. Members of the order are expected to be masters of deceit and fulfill their assignments with all means that are necessary. There is no room for demureness and initially, the training is very hard for Elizabeth, especially, as Thomas seems to know no mercy. However, the aversion that she feels for him in the beginning soon turns into curiosity and ultimately into passion when she recognizes that the person that hides behind the cold and disrespectful façade is an affectionate and caring man.

**Anna Bernstein** was born in Munich in 1988. Today she lives with her husband and her daughter in Berlin. Already as a child she discovered her love for writing and fantasy stories are her special passion.

But then the monastery is shaken by a murder within its walls – and all evidence points to Thomas as the murderer. Elizabeth is not willing to believe it, even though the evidence is overwhelming. She takes matters into her own hands to prove the innocence of the man who touched her heart like no one ever could. The order has become her home, more than her real home has ever been. And Thomas is an integral part of this home. But her world shatters when she is assigned with the task to protect the order. By assassinating Thomas.



**Anna Bernstein**  
**DAUGHTER OF THE HIGHLANDS**

**Tochter der Highlands**  
**416 pages**  
**Paperback**  
**January 2018**

**Also available:**



**NIGHT OF THE GODS**

**399 pp**  
**September 2014**

OCULUS are two novel-length stories about ghost hunter JOHN SINCLAIR, one of the most successful ghost series worldwide.

First published in 1973, over 2,200 JOHN SINCLAIR horror novels have been sold to date.

**Wolfgang Hohlbein**, born in Weimar 1953, lives with his wife and their six children in the vicinity of Düsseldorf. Wolfgang Hohlbein is a storyteller, who is not only driven by the joy of fabulating but also inspired by the free play with unusual ideas and fantastic concepts. Wolfgang Hohlbein has received numerous prizes and awards like, for instance, the „German Fantasy Award“ and the „Sondermann Award“.

„Ghost Hunter John Sinclair“ is the title of a series of pulp fiction horror novels and at the same time the name of the fictional protagonist of the series, which ranks among the most successful horror series in the world. We celebrate the anniversary of the series with the release of three novel-length stories by famous authors about the ghost hunter John Sinclair, which can be read without any prior knowledge of the series and are perfect for all readers of supernatural and horror stories.

**Oculus – IN THE EYE OF THE STORM & THE END OF TIME**

John Sinclair, Scotland Yard’s famous ghost hunter, wakes up outside a small town that is completely destroyed. He cannot remember who he is or how he got there. As he explores the town, he suddenly finds himself surrounded by nightmarish monsters. He is rescued in the nick of time by an alien task force. They are part of a secret organization that called John Sinclair in from his time to come into their future so that he can help them in their war against the monsters, a war that’s almost lost.

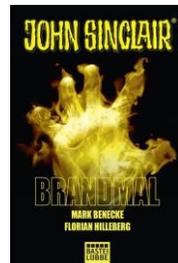
**Mark Benecke / Florian Hilleberg – BURN. A John Sinclair Novel**

A case of spontaneous human combustion in London’s Hyde Park brings ghost hunter John Sinclair to the scene. His assumption is that the victim was a vampire. But why would a vampire expose himself to sunlight? Soon there are more incidents, and also Germany reports cases of spontaneous human combustion in various places. The German authorities call in the help of forensic biologist Mark Benecke. When John Sinclair finds out about it, he joins forces with the famous forensic scientist.

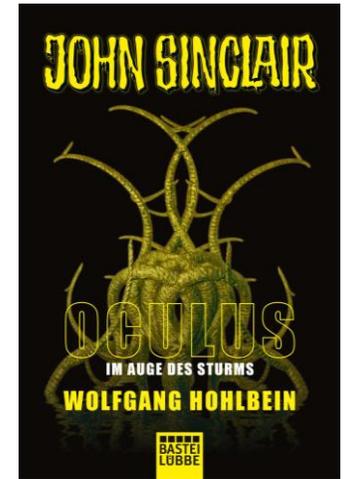
**Also available:**



**Wolfgang Hohlbein**  
**JOHN SINCLAIR**  
**Oculus - The End of Time**  
 368 pp  
 November 2017



**Marc Benecke/ Florian Hillberg**  
**JOHN SINCLAIR**  
**Burn**  
 328 pp  
 Oktober 2017



**Wolfgang Hohlbein**  
**OCULUS**  
**IN THE EYE OF THE STORM**

**John Sinclair**  
**Oculus – Im Auges des Sturms**  
 368 pages  
 Paperback  
 October 2017

Elegant writing that evokes a dark, fairytale-like atmosphere with surprising twists. Convincing all along the line.

**Katharina Seck** was born in *Rhineland-Palatinate* in 1987. She grew up in the Westerwald in a small medieval town crowned by a castle, attending a secondary school that is housed in an almost 800-year-old Cistercian monastery. In addition to her activity as an author, Katharina Seck works for the town administration and edits the local gazette.

## As romantic as Kiera Cass and as exciting as Victoria Aveyard. The perfect book for fantasy fans

Katharina Seck's books stand out through their dusky romantic atmosphere. But while *DIE THE SILVER QUEEN* was a winter fairytale, *DAUGHTER OF THE DARK FOREST*, her second stand-alone novel, is a dark dream that plays out in the summer.

The Morning Forest is a forbidden place. It is night. It is dangerous. For as long as she can remember, young Lilah has known the gloomy legends of the Morning Forest that borders her home village of Farbeyond. Other than in the stories, however, it has never posed a real threat. That is, until the body of an unknown woman is discovered at the forest's edge. Panic erupts. Are the legends about the horrors of the forest true after all?

At the same time, Dorean, a reclusive man for whom Lilah has secret feelings of tenderness, falls ill. Lilah doesn't know much about him. The young man only comes to the village in the summertime when workers are needed for the harvest. Dorean has the reputation of a quiet outsider, and although the villagers view him with suspicion, he fascinates Lilah. With every summer they share, she feels drawn to him a little more. Lilah devotedly cares for him until he vanishes, and everything indicates that he has headed for the forest.

Lilah makes a far-reaching decision. She follows Dorean and discovers forest secrets that are far greater than she could ever have imagined. It is inhabited by a people called Dryads. They are basically humans, but connected to the forest in a very special way. Lilah discovers how dangerous the secret is that Dorean conceals. Indeed, he appears to be responsible for murdering the young woman.



### Katharina Seck **DAUGHTER OF THE DARK FOREST**

**Tochter des dunklen Waldes**  
approx. 400 pages  
Paperback  
November 2017

Also available:



### **THE SILVER QUEEN**

366 pp  
October 2016

**Second and final part of the charming and chaotic romantic fantasy novel about Catalea Morgenstern, the hard-hitting daughter of the Devil.**

**Benne Schröder** has been hosting radio shows since 2012 for 1LIVE, Europe's most influential young radio station with over 4 million daily listeners. He likes books best when they are being read to him but for his debut novel, he put pen to paper himself. The Bochum native resides in the heart of Cologne – with his dog, Matti, and without a driver's license.

It comes as a complete surprise to Catalea Morgenstern that her father designates her as the heir of the Morgenstern company. The semidark considers it to be an almost inconceivable task but luckily, it is still a few years away – or so she thinks. For suddenly, the Devil has vanished and Hell is already all topsy turvy – literally speaking – when a war between the houses of Hell erupts. At least, Catalea can rely on Timur Vargas, whose level-headedness has saved her before from things that were worse than this. But is her love for the heir of the House Vargas really able to shine brighter than the hostility between their families? Catalea has to decide for whom her heart beats: for her devilish family or for Timur.



**Benne Schröder**  
**TO HELL WITH LOVE**

**Zum Teufel mit der Liebe**  
**384 pages**  
**Paperback**  
**November 2017**

**Also available:**



**WHEN HELL BREAKS**  
**LOOSE IN LOVE**

399 pp  
April 2017

For readers of Scott Lynch

Unsurpassed magic meets  
masterfully rendered battles.  
A must for fantasy fans!

### Action-packed fantasy in a dark urban setting

An action-packed dark fantasy about the struggle between occupying forces and the resistance, and an exceptional type of magic that uses mystical symbols to refine the creations of craftsman.

The story is set in the city of Sygna which is ruled by 13 guilds and occupied by an enemy army. Sygna is the source of mystical symbols that magically refine the products of craftsman. Every master craftsman must command at least one symbol before he is allowed to claim the title of master. Yet several symbols have been lost over time, namely, the blood symbols of the swordsmen.

Ever since the army of Emperor Yulian conquered the city, its inhabitants have been forbidden to practice the magic of symbols. A resistance group refuses to accept this. Dawyd, as a member of the swordsmen's guild, is also enlisted for the goals of the rebels. The Emperor's secret police are trying to bring the powerful word-symbols under their control. If they possessed them, they would be able to manipulate emotions and thoughts, and that must be prevented at all costs.

**Judith Vogt** apprenticed as a bookseller after graduating from secondary school in Germany.

**Christian Vogt** holds a degree in physics. The couple lives in Aachen with their sons.



Judith & Christian Vogt  
**THE THIRTEEN CHOSEN ONES**

**Die 13 Gezeichneten**  
448 pages  
Paperback  
January 2018

Lydia Benecke's riveting book outlines a psychology of evil in women

Lydia Benecke is a practicing psychologist and psychotherapist whose work also includes serious criminals in a social therapeutic penal institution. She regularly conducts continuing education seminars and lectures to broad audiences.

## The most current status of analysis and international research on violent female offenders

Women are defenseless; they suffer, tolerate, and forgive. But once psychopathic elements are unleashed in their souls, they commit murders just as cruel, unscrupulous, and gory as men - and often in premeditated cold blood.

Lydia Benecke analyzes the latest research findings on the topic of female psychopathy and arrives at a surprising conclusion. Female psychopaths ruthlessly exploit the harmlessness attributed to women and utilize it for their own advantage. As a result, female killers evade detection longer; women serial killers can perpetrate murders for years; and even proven female psychopaths who have committed heinous crimes are released from prison early.

Women are not only more cunning, they are also more violent than we assume. Here's the background. International research on female psychopaths only began to intensify during the 2000s. It was triggered by the surprising findings of a female Canadian psychologist who analyzed incarcerated women using Robert Hare's psychopathy checklist. She discovered that they differed significantly from men, which unleashed a wave of revaluations of historical cases and recent offenses. Women instrumentalize people in their environment, even their own children, to commit their horrible crimes. Women are also more likely to direct violence toward people in their surroundings: mothers and wives kill their husbands, lovers, former lovers, and very frequently their own children. In female offenders, the type of psychopathy tends to lie in the histrionic and borderline areas, whereas male psychopaths are more inclined to be narcissistic and antisocial personalities.

### Also available:



#### SADISTS

528 pp  
February 2015



#### ON THIN ICE

347 pp  
October 2013



Lydia Benecke  
FEMALE PSYCHOPATHS  
The Psychology of Evil in  
Women

Psychopathinnen. Die  
Psychologie des weiblichen  
Bösen  
250 pages  
Hardcover  
February 2018

Victoria Bindrum explains why and how we can live better lives if we drop our expectations of happiness

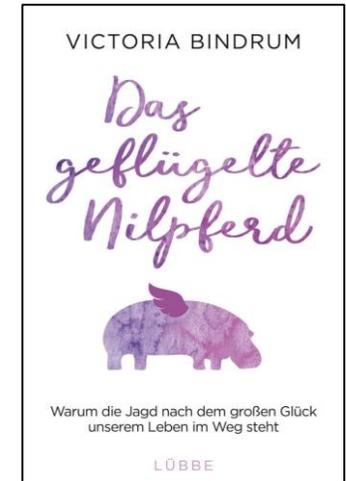
For readers of Paul Watzlawik and Rebecca Niaza-Shahabi

**Victoria Bindrum** was born in 1987. She is a licensed psychologist who specializes in clinical psychology, psychotherapy, and continuing education in acceptance and commitment therapy. She has years of experience helping people in problem situations to regain their professional and personal orientation. In addition, she has conducted research on the factors that generate and maintain well-being.

## The popular nonfiction title on acceptance and commitment therapy

Happiness is like a winged hippopotamus. You can imagine exactly how it looks, but that doesn't mean in any way that it actually exists. Our need for happiness is one of evolution's clever tricks. The prospect of a better life motivates us and drives us to peak performance; we optimize ourselves to compete in the survival of the fittest. Yet our search for happiness can also be awfully disappointing, frustrating, and exhausting. Above all, the long-term outcome is always the same: failure. It's time to take a hard look at the workings of our minds and rediscover our lives from the ground up.

What happens if we give up our search for happiness and stop focusing our energy on an unachievable goal? If we ask ourselves, for a change, what all the nonsense is really about we realize that the pursuit of happiness is a treadmill. The harder we work, the more time and energy we waste on a goal we will never reach because it simply doesn't exist. So instead of despairing that we haven't found the happiness of our lives, or pressuring ourselves with our pursuit of happiness for so long that we burn out, we can choose a third option, namely, giving up once and for all. There is no road that leads to happiness. The good thing is that you don't need one, either. Because as soon as you casually toss the supposed key to happiness over your shoulder, you start to feel something: the sweet sensation of freedom, relaxation, and life - just as it is.



Victoria Bindrum  
**THE WINGED HIPPOPOTAMUS**  
**Why Chasing Perfect Happiness**  
**Hinders Our Lives**

**Das geflügelte Nilpferd.**  
**Warum die Jagd nach dem**  
**großen Glück unserem Leben**  
**im Weg steht.**  
**240 pages**  
**Paperback**  
**November 2017**

## A touching story that shows how powerful a mother's love can be

Yvonne is in a happy relationship with Martin. They are in the process of planning their summer vacation when she sits in the bathtub and discovers a lump in her breast. A few days later, she receives the shocking diagnosis: a very aggressive form of breast cancer. She needs immediate surgery. Soon thereafter they start her on a high-dose chemotherapy. So it seems she was lucky; things could have been much worse.

Then, however, her doctors discover something else. Yvonne is eleven weeks pregnant. Her doctors are certain: The pregnancy has to be terminated, as the chemotherapy harms the unborn baby and if it survives at all, it will end up with severe disabilities. But for Yvonne, nothing is certain. She wants to keep the baby and delay her chemotherapy even if it means putting her life at risk. Her doctors strongly advise against it and even threaten her with terminating her treatment. Yvonne has only a few days to make her decision and find a physician who is willing to walk this difficult road with her.

**Yvonne Remmert** (40), lives with her husband, Martin, and her two children, Alina (17), and Zoe May (2), in the Westphalian town of Lippstadt.

In the end, it is her gynecologist who places phone calls to experts from all over the country and finds out: The baby will have the chance to be born healthy provided they considerably reduce the chemotherapy dose and Yvonne stays away from all medication that is normally given to treat the side effects.

The following six months are filled with fear and uncertainty. Yvonne suffers from terrible bone pain, can't keep her food down, and there are days when she feels so miserable that she doesn't know whether she is going to survive. But there is Martin, who sits by her bedside, day after day after day, supporting her in every way he can. Then, in the end of October, little Zoe comes into the world. The doctors call it a miracle: For Zoe is as healthy as can be. But now Yvonne has to fight for her own life, has to undergo treatment for almost a year before she can say: *I am feeling great and I will see this wonderful child grow up.*



**Yvonne Remmert**  
**WHEN MY LUCK BETRAYED ME**  
**Having cancer and being**  
**pregnant. I risked my life for the**  
**life of my baby**

**Als das Glück mich verriet.**  
**Krebskrank und schwanger. Ich**  
**riskierte meine Leben für das**  
**meines Babys**  
**240 pages**  
**Hardcover**  
**February 2018**

**A defenseless child. An adolescent in despair who faces life with enormous courage**

**Svenja Wagner** was born in Menden in 1969 as the child of two teachers. Shortly after her 18<sup>th</sup> birthday, she ran away from home and spent a year living alternately on the streets and with an acquaintance. After that, she moved to Bavaria. With the exception of two extended stays in Greece and Spain, she continues to live in Munich to this day.

### A thrilling story about liberation from a terrible childhood

Antje was a happy child who loved her mother more than anything. But then her father began to beat her mother, plunging the woman into a deep depression. For eight-year-old Antje, their divorce came as a great relief; she hoped for a new beginning.

Yet even then, her mother continued to be harassed by her former husband, driving her to suicide three years later. Antje fell into despair. She believed that her father had contributed to her mother's death and was therefore placed with a foster family where she was maltreated. The subject of her mother was declared taboo; she was forced to call her foster parents Mom and Dad; and her foster father beat and abused her. The authorities offered her no support whatsoever.

After fleeing back to her father, she was ridiculed there as well, humiliated and abused. At 18, she ran away and lived entirely on her own. For a number of years, she worked in various commercial professions and as a human resources representative. She has been studying psychology at the University of Munich since 2013.

Based on a psychological expert opinion confirming the circumstances described in her book, she received official permission to drop her father's last name and to assume her current name, which is her mother's maiden name.



**Svenja Wagner**  
**AND I HAD TO STAY**  
**My father Drove My Mother**  
**to Suicide and Destroyed**  
**My Childhood**

**Und ich musste bleiben.**  
**Mein Vater trieb meine Mutter**  
**in den Suizid und zerstörte**  
**meine Kindheit**  
**288 pages**  
**Hardcover**  
**December 2017**

## A fascinating insight into the mental world of a schizophrenic

Schizophrenia affects about one percent of the population. Felix Longolius is one of the few who speak openly about their illness.

Longolius had just finished secondary school when he lost his sense of reality. Delusional ideas crept into his life. He thought he was communicating telepathically with politicians and aliens, and believed that as the world police, he was responsible for war and peace. Ultimately, he landed in a psychiatric clinic with a diagnosis of schizophrenia. In the intervening 15 years, he has been living with the disease that almost destroyed his life. Having catapulted him to immeasurable heights, the illness continues to tantalize him even though the crash to the ground of factual reality is inevitable.

Although schizophrenia almost destroyed his life, to this day he yearns for its delusions and struggles with them. Is there perhaps something positive to be seen in the dark aspects of his fate as well? If van Gogh had been a normal person, he might well have been a lesser painter. And John Nash's flashes of mathematical inspiration came over him much like hallucinations.

This book challenges the stigma of insanity and sensitizes us to a fascinating mental world beyond social conventions. One that is sometimes no less worth living, and will be in our midst for as long as there are psychotics. After all, what does it mean to lead a "normal" life? The author's recollections invite readers to shift their perspective as they search for an answer to this question.

**Felix Longolius** was born in 1980. He studied journalism, held various jobs in the IT department of a publishing house, and would be leading a different life today if he hadn't developed schizophrenia at age 22. He lives in Hamburg.

**Charlotte Krüger** has a degree in philosophy and political science. She works as an independent journalist and author in Berlin.



**Felix Longolius**  
**I COULD BE WRONG**  
**My Life between Insanity**  
**and Reality**

**Ich mag mich irren**  
**Mein Leben zwischen Wahn**  
**und Wirklichkeit**  
**272 pages**  
**Hardcover**  
**November 2017**

**Computer games, alcohol, cocaine, cannabis, eating disorders – the dramatic stories of parents, whose children managed to get out of their addiction – or missed their chance**

**Sonja Vukovic** worked as a journalist with an emphasis on biographies, social criticism, and social policies for magazines like „Die Welt“, „stern.de“, and „Spiegel“. She was awarded the „Grimme Online Award“ as well as the „Axel-Springer-Preis“. In 2013, she published her international bestseller „Christiane F. – My Second Life“. After setting up the „F. Foundation“ for addiction prevention and addiction education, she is now working on new books. Today, Sonja Vukovic lives in Berlin and is mother of a daughter.

## What can you do when your child falls prey to an addiction?

Many parents see the need to do something but feel helpless: The Internet takes up more and more space in their child's life, smoking pot seems to have become an integral part of normal life, and an ever increasing number of girls and boys are starving themselves for approval. Do we really want to put up with teenagers drinking themselves into a coma? When does a permissive parenting style become negligent parenting? How much parental authority is a must? What are the don'ts that make it just worse? Where can parents get help when they fear: My child suffers from an addiction?

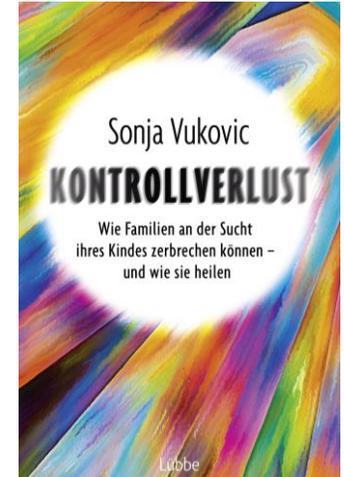
Addiction is an issue that journalist Sonja Vukovic has been studying for years. She is the daughter of an alcoholic and she fought a 13-year battle against an eating disorder. Today, she is healthy – and she is a mother. Her theory is: Addiction is a symptom. The underlying causes run much deeper. They are multifaceted and complex. And it's not all the parents' fault! But it is the parents who can do a lot to protect their child from an addiction. In eight different case stories, Vukovic allows people to talk, who do not have a lobby and usually don't get heard anywhere: fathers and mothers of addicted children. How did it happen? What helped? Where did the pain destroy the entire family? These stories do not only go under your skin but they also describe possible ways out of addiction and codependency.

### Also available:



### OVER AND DONE

288 pp  
September 2016



**Sonja Vukovic**  
**LOSS OF CONTROL**  
**How a child's addiction can break up families – and how they can heal**

**Kontrollverlust**  
**Wie Familien an der Sucht ihres Kindes zerbrechen können – und wie sie heilen**  
**320 pages**  
**Hardcover**  
**January 2017**

**A personal, dedicated, and informative book about the positive aspects of living without sugar**

## From sugarholic to health expert. Anastasia Zampounidis shows readers how to lead sweet lives without sugar

Anastasia Zampounidis is a “dry sugarholic.” For decades she reached for sweets when she wanted to comfort, reward, or calm herself. Without noticing at first, she slipped into a vicious cycle of craving, euphoria, and exhaustion, followed by renewed craving for her “drug.” Then she came into contact with traditional Chinese medicine, started her withdrawal, and realized what fantastic results she was having. The craving disappeared, her mood swings were history, she lost weight without dieting, her skin cleared, she felt fitter, and in addition, at age 48 she looks a good 10 years younger than she actually is.

So what’s all this about sugar? What effect does it have, what are all the foods that have it (caution: almost all processed foods contain it), and how can you find a snack that isn’t full of sweet poison? Anastasia Zampounidis became an expert on sugar, trained as a phytotherapist, and delved deep into Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM).

This book reports her personal journey out of sugar hell. It enlightens readers on the effects of sugar and its alternatives, provides insights into TCM, and presents tips and recipes for sugar-free fun.

**Anastasia Zampounidis** was born in 1968. Among other projects, she worked on the ZDF documentary *Die Zuckerfalle* (The Sugar Trap). She has been living sugar-free for 11 years. In exchange, she has gained enormous energy and *joie de vivre*.



**Anastasia Zampouni**  
**SUGAR-FREE FOREVER**  
**Slim, Healthy, and Happy**  
**without the Sweet Poison**

**Für immer zuckerfrei -**  
**Schlank, gesund und**  
**glücklich ohne das süße Gift**  
**240 pages**  
**Hardcover**  
**October 2017**

A book that will light up your everyday life

For people who like to stay at home but still have fun experiences

Produced in a beautiful four-color layout, this book makes the perfect present

For nature lovers and fans of DIY

You don't have to search far and wide for the most beautiful things in life. They are very close by and just waiting to be discovered. Watch butterflies in May, sleep under the starry sky in June, gather mushrooms in September, visit your favorite library in October, or a night flea market in December.

This book presents ingeniously simple and relaxing ideas for things to enjoy and experience every day of the year. At the same time, it casually conveys a great deal of knowledge about animals and nature, about cooking and hiking, and the country and its people.

Elisa Buberl is 25 years old. She is a hiker and reader who loves tea, cats, colorful clothing, and good food. Although she prefers rugged trails and unusual adventures, she always finds her way back to her hometown of Cologne, where she writes, paints, and studies - depending on what she fancies at the moment.



Elisa Buberl  
IT'S NICE HERE!  
365 Adventures that Begin  
Right at Your Front Door

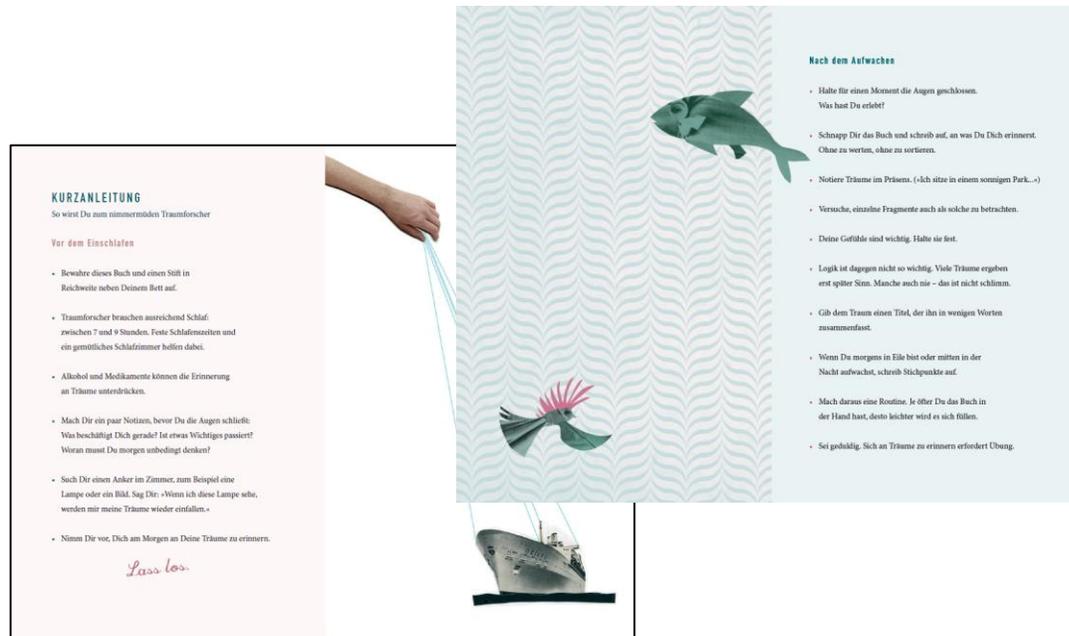
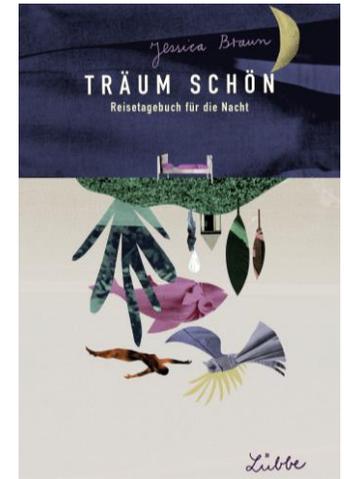
Schön hier!  
365 Abenteuer, die direkt vor der  
Haustür beginnen  
288 pages  
Paperback  
December 2017

## The creative journal for tireless dream researchers

Beautiful design and many illustrations – a perfect gift for friends or for yourself

Interesting information about dreams, questionnaires, and check lists, and a lot of space to record your nighttime adventures

Since the beginning of time, we have been fascinated by our dreams and tried to interpret them. That's not surprising: at night, we experience the most spectacular things and often, they reflect thoughts and feelings that we haven't yet processed. To make sure that we don't forget what we dreamed after waking up, we are now able to record everything in this beautifully designed diary. Questionnaires and checklists help us to make sense of the experiences we had at night. Scientific tips tell us how to best prepare for a good night of sleep and use our dreams in a positive way to our advantage.



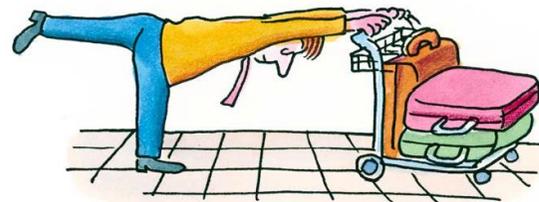
Jessica Braun, born in 1975, works as a freelance journalist for DIE ZEIT, WIRTSCHAFTS-WOCHE, SALON, and GLAMOUR, to name just a few. Beautiful dreams and the latest in sleep research are among the topics she has been reporting on repeatedly. Jessica Braun lives in Berlin.

Jessica Braun  
**SWEET DREAMS. A DIARY FOR OUR NIGHT TRAVELS**

Träum schön.  
Reisetagebuch für die Nacht  
224 pages  
Paperback  
February 2018

## Huge fun for all railway travelers and yoga fans

Yoga is not just a collection of gymnastic exercises but also a decision of the mind that can affect many areas of life and living environments. Klaus Puth takes action now in the one spot where a little bit of exercise and, even more importantly, relaxation are - without any doubt - of the essence: in the railroad car. From SLEEPING CONDUCTOR via THE HUGE FARE INCREASE to BROKEN TRAIN TOILET – with these exercises you will even survive a stop on the tracks in the middle of nowhere.

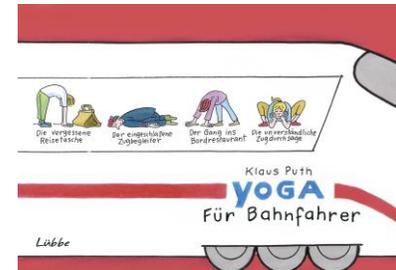


Der abgestellte Kofferkuli



Den Tarifdschengel durchqueren

**Klaus Puth**, born in 1952, is not only the creative mind behind cartoon characters like his yoga cows and his cheerful geese; he created an entire cosmos inhabited by many, many animals. The drawer and illustrator is known for being quite a busy bee and lives with his family in Mühlheim on the Main, district of Offenbach.



**Klaus Puth**  
**YOGA FOR RAILWAY**  
**TRAVELERS**

**Yoga für Bahnfahrer**  
**48 pages**  
**Hardcover**  
**November 2017**