

# FOREIGN RIGHTS FICTION AUTUMN 2024



HANSER LITERATURVERLAGE

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# NEW RELEASES FICTION

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A portrait of Arno Geiger, a bald man with a serious expression, wearing a dark blue jacket over a blue t-shirt. He is standing in front of a window with a grid pattern. His right arm is extended to the right side of the frame.

# ARNO GEIGER

»» In every person  
lives a retired king. ««

What am I when I have left everything behind?



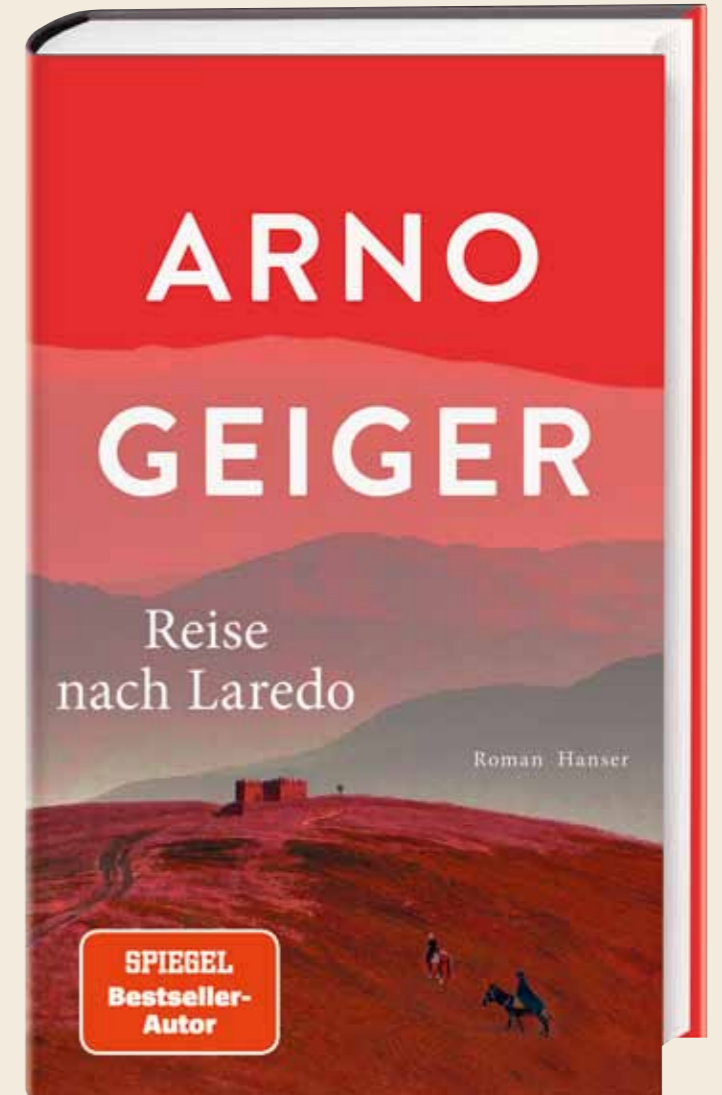
**Arno Geiger** was born in 1968, lives in Vienna and Wolfurt. His work has been published by Hanser, most recently *Unter der Drachenwand* (novel, 2023), *Der Hahnenschrei* (Drei Reden, 2019) and *Das glückliche Geheimnis* (2023). He has received, among numerous others, the German Book Prize (2005), the Hölderlin Prize (2011), the Europese Literatuurprijs (2019) awarded in the Netherlands and the Rheingau Literature Prize (2023).

- A major new novel by Arno Geiger – surprising, existential and human
- A touching story about what truly matters in life: friendship, love and letting go

ARNO GEIGER

English sample translation available

Karl lives in seclusion in a remote monastery in Spain. He is sick, merely waiting for his life to end. But then he meets eleven-year-old Geronimo, and together they decide to ride off one night on a horse and a mule. They embark on wild adventures and find companions on their way to Laredo. Karl experiences all the things he has not yet had despite his power, fame and wealth: friendship, love, carefreeness and the freedom of living in the moment. This new fantastically magical novel by Arno Geiger celebrates everything that matters in life.



Sales  
France (Gallimard), Netherlands (Bezige Bij)



Arno Geiger  
**The Journey to Laredo**  
272 pages  
August 2024

Who's afraid of their own family?

**JULY**

»Sometimes it was as if I hated my own husband.«

**AUGUST**

»I don't understand why she wanted to go to Gran Canaria of all places. Aren't there any beaches in Israel?«

**SEPTEMBER**

»There's soon going to be a disaster.«

The new novel by

**OLGA  
GRJASNOWA**



English sample  
translation  
available

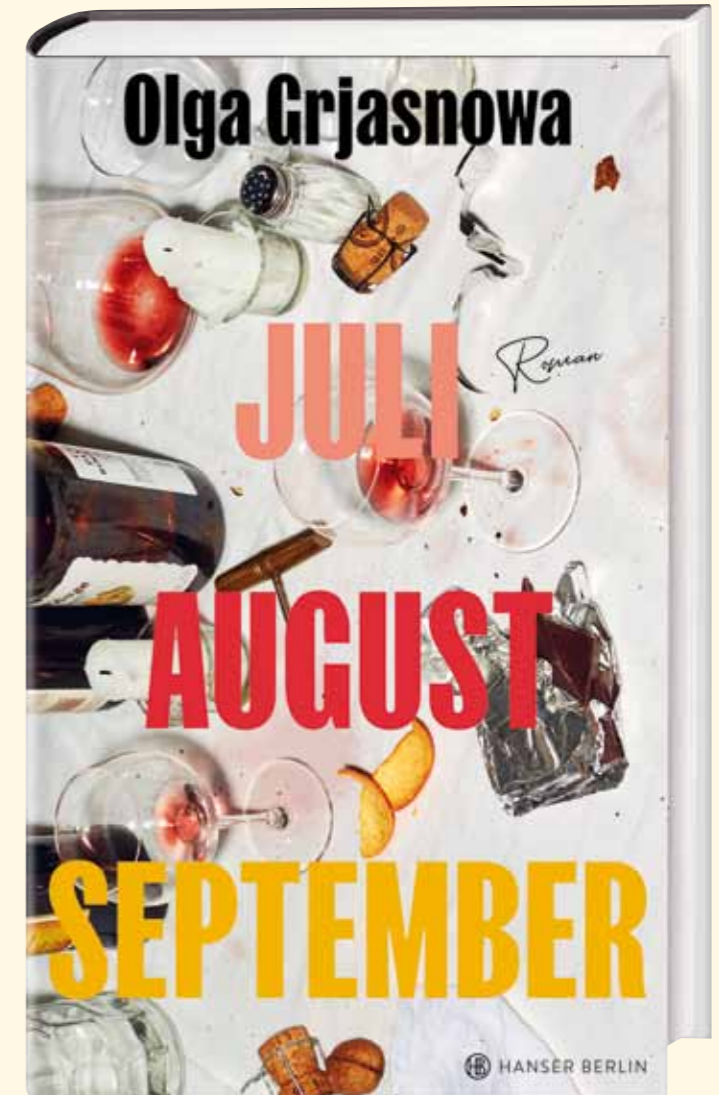
»Olga Grjasnowa  
proves herself to  
be a smart chro-  
nicler of modern  
aberration.«

Publishers Weekly



## OLGA GRJASNOWA

Lou's second husband is a catch – even her mother must see that. Sergei is a pianist and a Jew, just like Lou. But their daughter Rosa has never been to a synagogue – they're just a regular Jewish family in Berlin. The question is whether they are still a family, and what that even means. To find out, Lou accepts her aunt's invitation to her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. In a run-down resort on Gran Canaria, the entire ex-Soviet clan from Israel comes together, united only by mutual resentment. Lou drinks to soften their jibes and her sense of emptiness before she realizes that the answer to all her questions can be found in Tel Aviv's scorching heat. An incredibly timely novel, written with Grjasnowa's signature wry wit, about a woman whose fragmented identity doesn't add up to a whole. Until everything unexpectedly falls into place.



Sales  
All rights available

Olga Grjasnowa  
**July, August, September**  
224 pages  
September 2024

**Olga Grjasnowa**  
was born in Baku, Azerbaijan. She has spent long periods abroad in Poland, Russia, Turkey, the USA and Israel. She has published an essay and four novels to date, most recently *Der verlorene Sohn* in 2020. Her work has been translated into 15 languages and has been adapted for radio and the stage. She lives in Vienna where she is a professor at the University of Applied Arts.

Olga Grjasnowa on Instagram: [@olga\\_grjasnowa](#)

- Olga Grjasnowa's new novel, a writer who revolutionized modern German literature
- A complex portrait of a contemporary Jewish family in Berlin



»The art of her narrative style is revealed in the fine balance between cool and emotional passages.«

Nicole Hennenberg, Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

#### Ljuba Arnautović

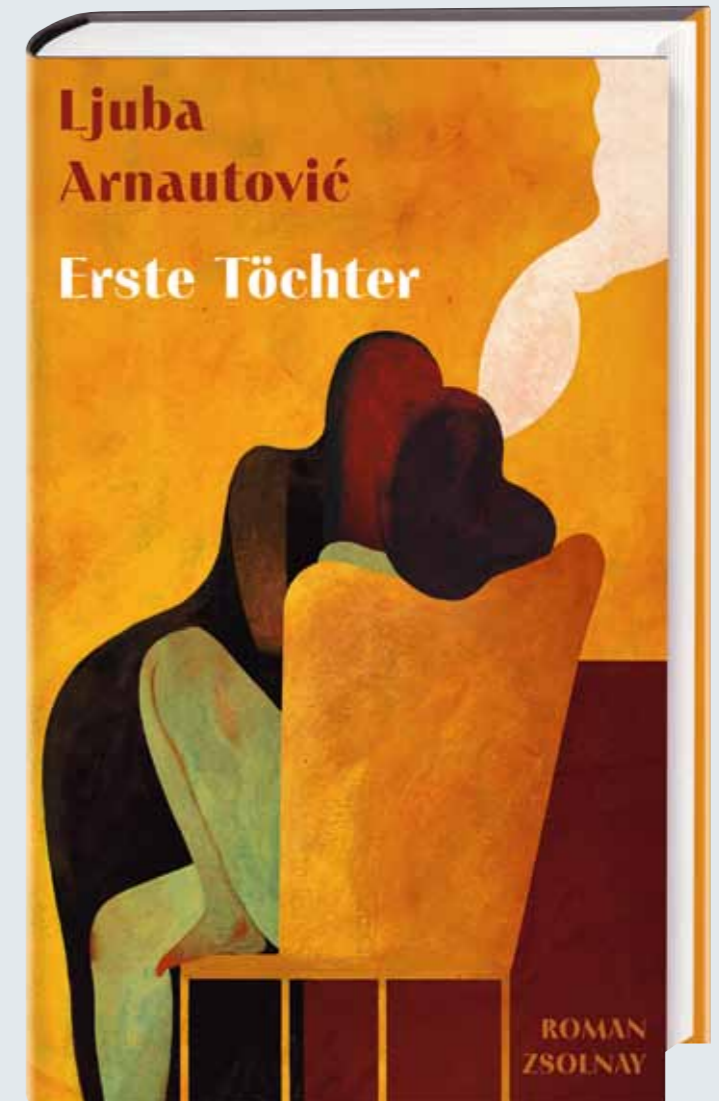
was born in 1954 in Kursk (USSR) and lives in Vienna. After studying social pedagogy, she worked for the documentation archive of the Austrian resistance, as a Russian translator and a radio journalist. Her first novel, *Im Verborgenen* was shortlisted for the Austrian Book Prize 2018. In 2021 her second novel *Junischnee* was published by Zsolnay.

- Arnautović's sober family story spans the drama of the 20<sup>th</sup> century
- Highly political yet highly poetic
- For readers of Natascha Wodin

## LJUBA ARNAUTOVIĆ

After spending twelve years in a gulag, Karl returns to Vienna with his Russian wife and two daughters. In post-war Austria, people do not want to know anything about his experiences. He and his family have to climb the social ladder as quickly as possible. Karl sets about doing this unscrupulously, not only using his Russian skills but also the women surrounding him, marrying and divorcing according to how it benefits him. Those who pay the price for Karl's race to regain status are his daughters Lara and Luna who are separated and grow up in different worlds: one in humble conditions with her mother in Vienna, the other, with her father and his new middle-class family in Munich. The two girls, once so important to each other, drift further and further apart. In the end, however, they manage to find their way back to one another.

Ljuba Arnautović writes »in clear, poetic language, without sentimentality« (ORF 1) about herself – and the upheavals of a century.



#### Sales

All rights available

#### June Snow:

Croatia (Leykam international), Italy (Keller), Serbia (Futura Nojzac)



#### Ljuba Arnautović First Daughters

160 pages  
August 2024



»A touching,  
extraordinary  
debut!«

Dana Grigorcea

»The characters in this  
novel are themselves like  
the feathers of a peacock:  
iridescent, proud and  
sadly beautiful.«

Daniela Dröscher



#### Maria Bidian

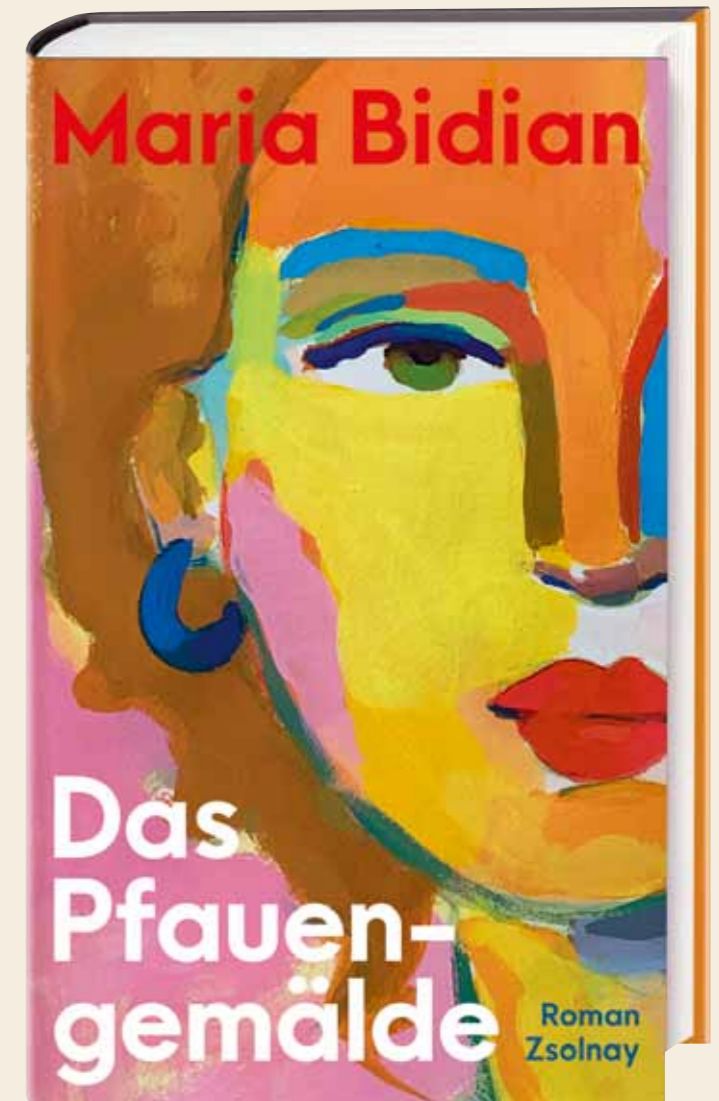
was born 1988 in Mainz, and divides her time between Berlin and a small village in Transylvania, where she is renovating an old farmhouse. *The Peacock Painting* is her first novel.

- A family saga by a new, promising voice
- Melancholic and reflective, light and funny
- For readers of Iris Wolff

## MARIA BIDIAN

In the summer two years after her father's sudden death during a mountain trip in Transylvania, Ana climbs aboard a train to Romania. Her trip to her father's home country is prompted by the fact that her family's property, which the communists confiscated and the family has struggled to get back for decades, is now being returned. While Ana's relatives are only interested in the legendary house for very different reasons, Ana wants to find one thing in particular: the peacock painting, a family heirloom that her father talked about very often. For her the picture ties together dozens of memories, wishes, hopes, and longings.

Is it possible to let go and remember at the same time? How can we hold onto love? Told in highly contemporary language with a thoroughly modern protagonist, Maria Bidian's rousing debut novel takes a fresh look at Romania's past and present. Melancholic, funny, political and very personal.



#### Sales

All rights available

#### Maria Bidian

[The Peacock Painting](#)

320 pages  
July 2024

# MITHU SANYAL

*Identitti* was a bestseller  
and top favourite in 2021.  
Now the journey continues!

»Rousing, political, acerbic«

Andreas Busche, Der Tagesspiegel

»Propels the debates into overdrive«

Claudia Kramatschek, Deutschlandfunk Kultur

»A must-read!«

Gert Scobel, 3sat Buchzeit

»Never-ending fun«

Sigrid Löffler, Der Falter

*Antichristie* puts the whole world into German literature – funny, whip-smart and scathingly political.



**Mithu Sanyal**

was born in 1971 in Düsseldorf and is a cultural academic, writer, journalist and critic. Her non-fiction book *Vulva. Das unsichtbare Geschlecht* was published in 2009. In 2016, it was followed by *Vergewaltigung. Aspekte eines Verbrechens*. In 2021, Hanser published her first novel *Identitti*, which was shortlisted for the German Book Prize and was awarded the Ruhr Literature Prize and the Ernst Bloch Prize in 2021.

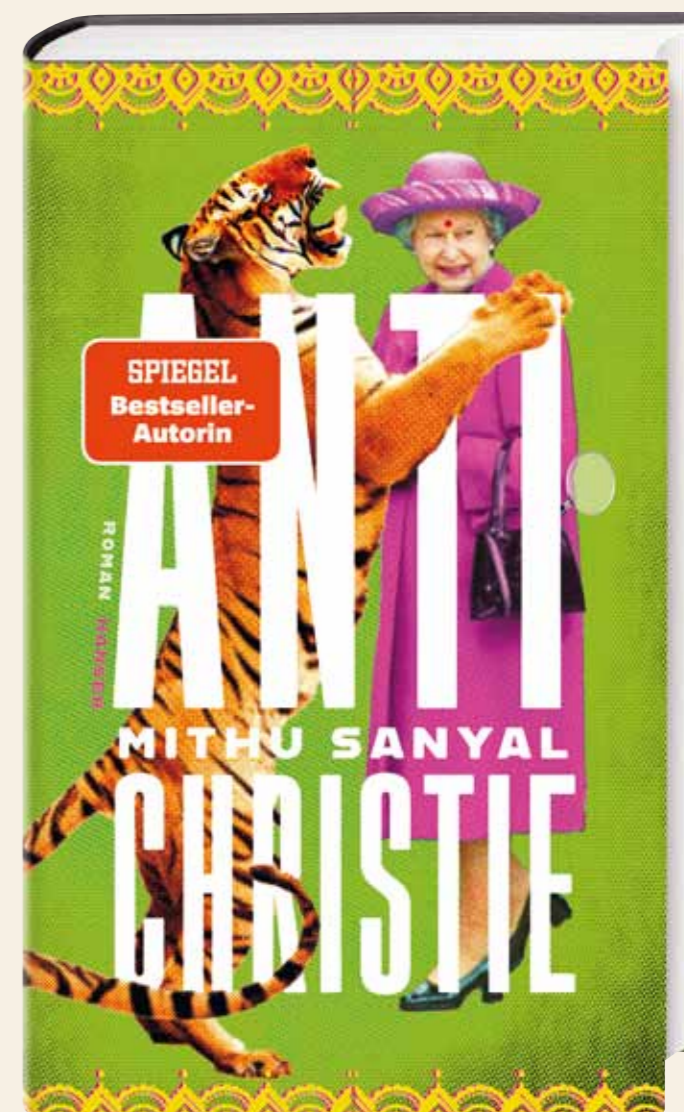
Mithu Sanyal on Instagram: [@mithumelanie](#)

- **What is colonialism and how does it shape us all? This novel opens the debate**
- **A book that achieves the impossible – clever and funny, off-the-wall and utterly logical**

MITHU SANYAL

English sample translation available

It's 2022 in London and the Queen is dead! Durga, an international Indian/German screenwriter with a huge appetite for rebellion and hallucinations runs past the mourners. While Mithu Sanyal's celebrated debut *Identitti* explored identity politics, *Antichristie* digs deep into colonialism and the violence within us all. Durga has been hired to do a film adaptation of the imperial Agatha Christie thrillers. But suddenly, she's thrown back to 1906. She meets Indian rebels whose battles are far from non-violent like Gandhi's. And then the first bomb explodes. What kind of resistance is right in a wrong world? Mithu Sanyal writes with unparalleled wit and tenderness. *Antichristie* brings the whole world into a work of German-language literature.



**Sales**  
All rights available

**Identitti:**  
Arab (Al-Kamel), Denmark (Straarup), Italy (Keller), Netherlands (Cossee), Serbia (Kontrast), Spain (Consonni), UK/USA (Astra House)



Mithu Sanyal  
**Antichristie**  
400 pages  
September 2024

»After reading this book you will see the present with different eyes.«

Charlotte Gneuss



**Clemens Böckmann** studied in Hildesheim, Kiel, Leipzig, Lisbon and Tel Aviv. In 2018, he completed his master's degree in language and design with Oswald Egger at the Muthesius University of Fine Arts and Design in Kiel. Since then, he has lived in Leipzig and works as a writer, event organizer and publisher.

- Commentators on East Germany should know about life stories like this one
- The success of books by Dirk Oschmann and Anne Rabe proves the need to tell the GDR's story differently
- A literary testimonial to a woman at the bottom of the barrel

## CLEMENS BÖCKMANN



Who is Uta? Her Stasi files describe her as »tall«, »slim«, »highly intelligent and sometimes very cunning.« They call her a »nymphomaniac« and note that she »chain-smokes and knocks back large quantities of alcohol«. But is that the whole story? How can a hopeful, passionate woman who was caught up in the contradictions of her time best be described? For over forty years Uta was a sex worker. Employed by the Stasi from 1971 to lure men, she was both perpetrator and victim. In his disturbing novel, Clemens Böckmann, Uta and the Stasi files tell the story of her life. In doing so, no »truth« about the GDR or the exploitation of women appears; only the outline of a person everyone has forgotten.

Sales  
All rights available

Clemens Böckmann  
**Whatever You Can Get**  
416 pages  
August 2024

English sample  
translation  
available

»When We Were Swans points the projector at the back of the screen – a furious, vulnerable, unbribable novel.«

Dincer Gücyeter



# BEHZAD KARIM KHANI

A boy whose yearning for violence leaves a hollow behind it in the shape of Germany. In a tower block in Bochum, he lives in a place where the kitchens have no doors and the hallways smell of poverty, herbs and spices. Here live welfare queens and large families. It's the 1980s, and the boy's family has fled Iran. His parents, whose language has fifteen different ways to say ›pride‹, are artists and revolutionaries. But Germany has put their pride to the ultimate test, resulting in their tight-lipped resignation – and their son's fury, which gets increasingly out of control. Because out on the streets of the housing estate, a whole different kind of war rages. Behzad Karim Khani writes about a bleak country that – at least in theory – could be his home. And about the kind of freedom that only comes from being different.



Sales  
All rights available



Behzad Karim Khani  
**When We Were Swans**  
208 pages  
August 2024

**Behzad Karim Khani** was born in Tehran and comes from a family of artists. When he was ten years old, he came to Germany with his parents and they settled in the Ruhr area. He has lived in Berlin since 2003. His debut novel *Hund, Wolf, Schakal* was published by Hanser Berlin in 2022.

Behzad Karim Khani: On Instagram and Facebook

- An autobiographical novel by the new rising star of German literature
- The truth and trials of growing up in a West German tower block
- An unrivalled voice that masters the poetry of life's underbelly



»Judith  
Taschler  
knows how  
to captivate  
the reader.«

Sebastian Fasthuber, Falter

#### Judith W. Taschler

was born in 1970 in Linz, and grew up with six siblings and numerous animals and books in a big yellow house in the Mühlviertel region. After studying history and German language and literature, she worked as a teacher for several years. She lives in Innsbruck. Her novel *Die Deutschlehrerin* was awarded the 2014 Friedrich Glauser Prize. Her novel *Über Carl reden wir morgen* was published in 2022 by Zsolnay.

- An epic family novel spanning several generations
- For readers of Dörte Hansen and Daniela Krien

## JUDITH W. TASCHLER

Elisabeth is the youngest of the four Brugger children and has long since left the family home in a country mill. While working as hospital nurse on the front, she sees a lot of suffering during the First World War. She then studies medicine and marries the son of an established line of Viennese doctors, who returns injured from the southern Front.

Together, the couple set up a doctor's surgery. Elizabeth cannot ignore the misery of women who, in their despair, visit backstreet abortionists. She tries to abide by the law and prevailing morals while helping these women. But she wonders how far she is willing to go. And she's very close to her brother Eugene – the only person who knows about his affair with the wife of his twin brother Carl. When Eugene hides a family from the SS, he himself becomes a wanted person.

Was it Carl who betrayed him?



#### Sales

All rights available



Judith W. Taschler  
**It's Only Light at Night**

320 pages  
August 2024

**WINNER** of many prestigious **INTERNATIONAL PRIZES:**

»It is difficult to escape  
the creative pull of  
Cărtărescu's prose.«

Ulrich M. Schmid, Neue Zürcher Zeitung

»Cărtărescu is one of the great  
literary voices of Central Europe.  
He daringly questions our usual  
way of looking at the world,  
suggesting that rationalism  
is merely an attempt to create  
order. In fact, the world is made up  
of the nuances of our fantasies.«

Olga Tokarczuk

»A Shakespeare for our time.«

Aftonbladet

**MIRCEA CĂRTĂRESCU**

- THE VILENICA PRIZE (2011)
- THE LEIPZIG BOOK AWARD FOR EUROPEAN UNDERSTANDING (2015)
- THE PREMIO FORMENTOR (2018)
- THE THOMAS MANN PRIZE (2018)
- THE PREMIO FIL DE LITERATURA (2022)
- THE LOS ANGELES TIMES BOOK PRIZE (2022)
- THE MONDELLO INTERNATIONAL LITERARY PRIZE (2024)
- THE DUBLIN LITERARY AWARD (2024)



»Cărtărescu has the lively imagination of a child and the linguistic skills of an old master.« Malte Herwig, Der Spiegel

»This writer has gone all out.« Burkhard Müller, Die Zeit

#### Mircea Cărtărescu

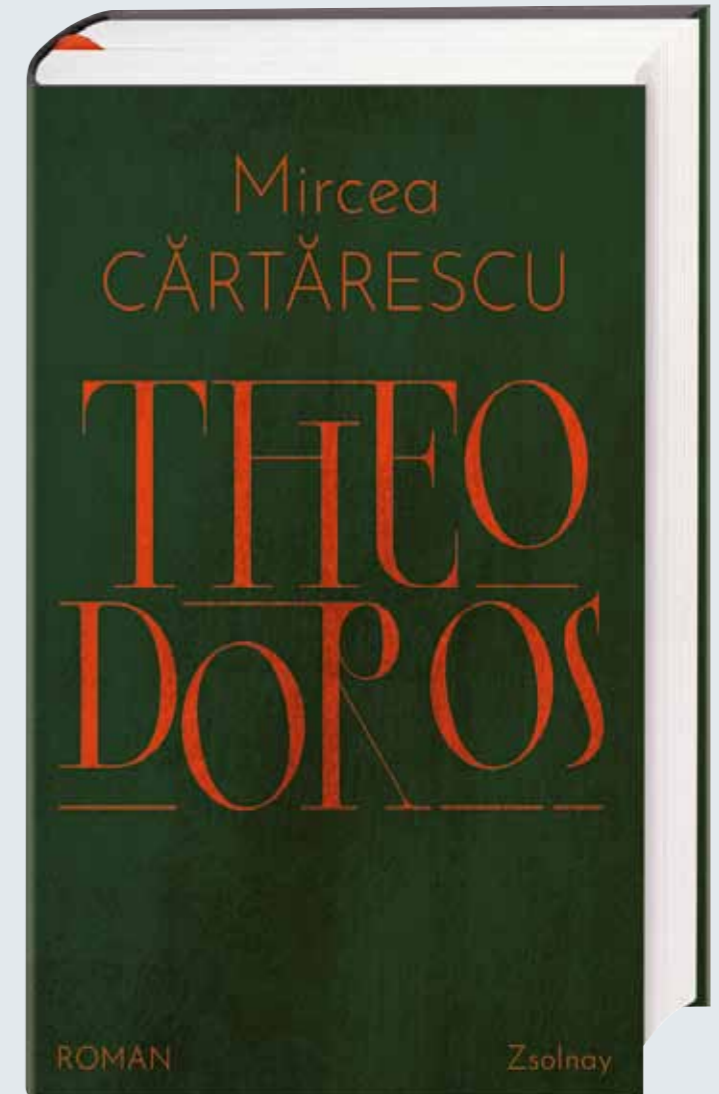
was born in 1956 in Bucharest where he still lives. His work has been translated into many languages and won many prizes, among them the Leipzig Book Award for European Understanding (2015), the Premio Formentor, the Thomas Mann Prize (both in 2018), the Premio Fil de Literatura and the Los Angeles Times Book prize (both in 2022), and in 2024 the prestigious Modello and the Dublin Literary award. Zsolnay published his *Orbitor trilogy*, the story collection *Die schönen Fremden* (2016), the novel *Solenoid* (2019) and *Melancolia* (2022).

- One of the most important writers in the world
- Literary and historical, yet relevant to the present

## MIRCEA CĂRTĂRESCU

In 33 chapters, Mircea Cărtărescu interweaves the historical, the fantastical and the philosophical with spine-tingling stories to create a world that reaches into the present day and even the Last Judgment. Here, we encounter the Emperor of African Emperors, Queen Victoria of England, Tudor, an inquisitive child, the Queen of Sheba, and her son Menelik of Ethiopia who founded the oldest dynasty in the world.

»The barrel of the pistol still in his mouth, his brain scattered on the red table.« On Easter Sunday in 1868, before the British colonial army razed the mountain fortress of Magdala and took the Ethiopian Emperor Theodoros hostage, the ruler put an end to his own life. By portraying Theodoros in three different roles, Cărtărescu shows him as a crowned despot, a looting pirate in the Aegean and his humble beginnings as a servant boy from Wallachia. An epic novel by one of the most eloquent writers in the world.



#### Sales

(Original Romanian edition: Humanitas)  
Bulgaria (Hermes), France (Noir sur Blanc), Italy (Saggiatore), Spain (Impedimenta), Sweden (Bonniers), UK/USA (Deep Vellum)

#### Solenoid:

Sold in 19 countries



#### Mircea Cărtărescu **Theodoros**

(Original Romanian Title: Theodoros)  
670 pages  
September 2024





»An anatomy of a loss that gives rise to a terrible suspicion. Jessica Lind's succinct account of motherhood is unique and fraught.« Doris Knecht

**Jessica Lind**

was born in St. Pölten, Austria, in 1988 and now lives in Vienna with her family. She studied screenwriting at the Filmakademie Wien and worked as a dramaturge on Jessica Hausner's *Little Joe*, which premiered at Cannes in 2019. In 2015, she won Open Mike with the story *Mama*, which she turned into her eponymous debut novel (2021). Her second novel, *Little Monsters*, is her first book to be published by Hanser Berlin.

Jessica Lind: on Instagram

- A mother, a child, and the stranger between them — a spellbinding novel about the destructive power of the unsaid
- Jessica Lind's lucid writing traces the outlines of intergenerational trauma

JESSICA LIND

Pia and Jakob sit opposite their son's teacher in classroom 2B. There has been an incident involving a girl. Aghast, Pia listens to the accusations against her eight-year-old – nobody doubts his guilt. But isn't he a good boy, smart and sensitive? That's his father's firm opinion.

Pia's not so trusting. And her mistrust throws her back to her own childhood, making her feel insecure. Keeping a close eye on her son from then on, she realizes he is becoming more of a stranger to her every day. When she tries to protect her family, Pia is finally confronted with her past. A compelling psychological drama about the illusion of a happy childhood.



**Sales**  
All rights available

Jessica Lind  
**Little Monsters**  
256 pages  
July 2024

»This love story against all odds, and a family that breaks all norms, gets under your skin. The tenderness of Jayrôme Robinet's writing is delightful.«

Mithu Sanyal



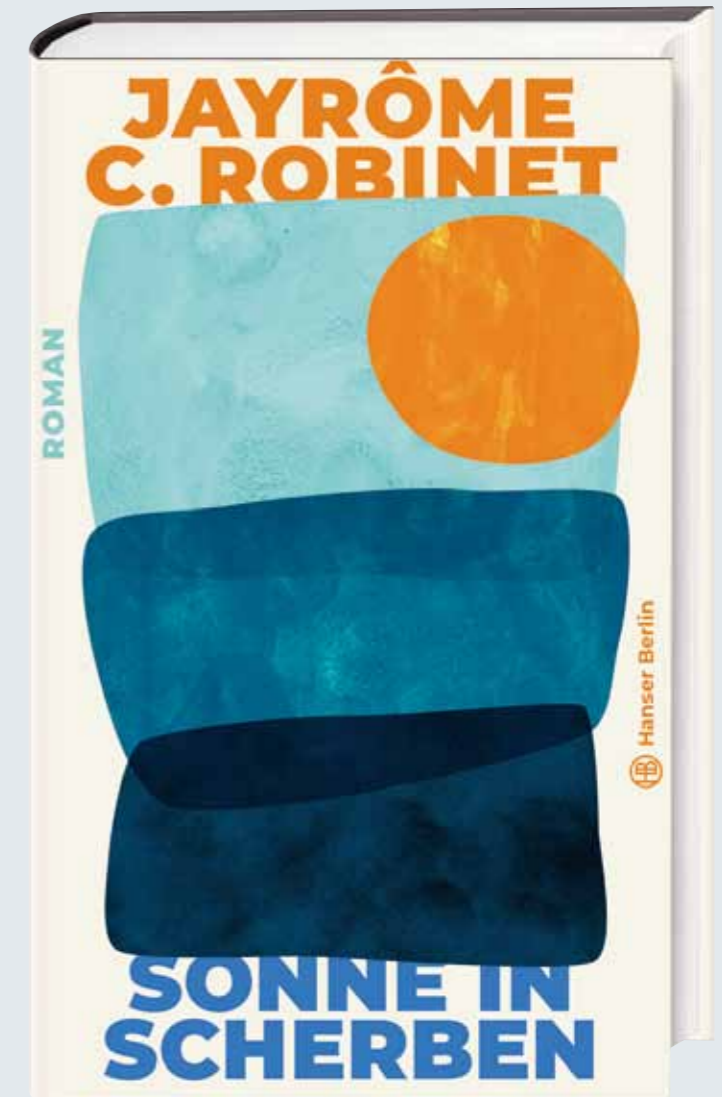
**Jayrôme C. Robinet**

who was born in 1977 in northern France, is a spoken word artist, writer and translator. His most recent publications are *Mein Weg von einer weißen Frau zu einem jungen Mann mit Migrationshintergrund* (Hanser Berlin, 2019) and a story in the anthology *Glückwunsch* (Hanser Berlin, 2023). Jayrôme C. Robinet has received numerous awards and scholarships. He lives in Berlin.  
[https://www.instagram.com/jayrome\\_robinet/](https://www.instagram.com/jayrome_robinet/)

- Robinet completely reinvents the family novel, giving a young, diverse literary scene its own voice
- A stirring modern novel about new gender roles and societal norms

JAYRÔME C. ROBINET

Kyler and Angèle are a happy couple, and no one can resist their charm and easy-going nature. But when their desire for a child results in a pregnancy for Kyler – a trans man – the media leaps on their case, stirring up unprecedented animosity. Angèle especially nearly buckles under the pressure. When their baby dies a few days after the birth, she does something unforgivable that changes not only her life forever. With great tenderness for his characters, Jayrôme C. Robinet explores new forms of family, unconditional love and the emotional baggage our backgrounds leave us with. In his inimitable, lyrical tone, Robinet has produced a moving and thoroughly modern novel about families.



Sales  
All rights available

Jayrôme C. Robinet  
**The Shattered Sun**  
352 pages  
August 2024



»Reading this book is like palpitations in slow motion. It hurts, and that's a good thing.«

Fatma Aydemir

»What a ride!«

Ronya Othmann

**Selma Kay Matter**

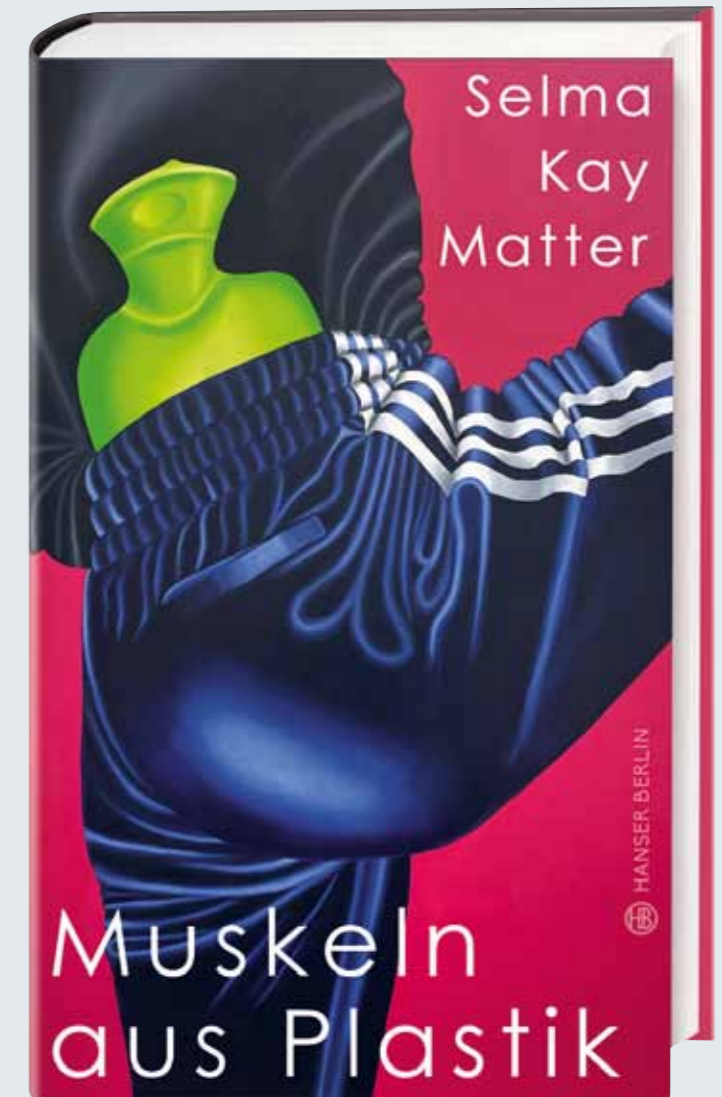
was born in 1998 in Zurich and is studying Creative Writing for the Stage at the University of the Arts in Berlin, after having studied literature, theatre and philosophy at the University of Hildesheim. Matter is the playwright of *Alice verschwindet*, *Alias Anastasius* and *Grelle Tage*, which was published in 2023 by Suhrkamp Theaterverlag and awarded the Hans Gratzner Prize in 2022 and the Nestroy Prize in 2023. *Plastic Muscles* is their first prose work.

• A literary exploration of long Covid – the first of its kind in contemporary German literature

• A hybrid memoir-essay in the tradition of Maggie Nelson, Susan Sontag and Moshtari Hilal

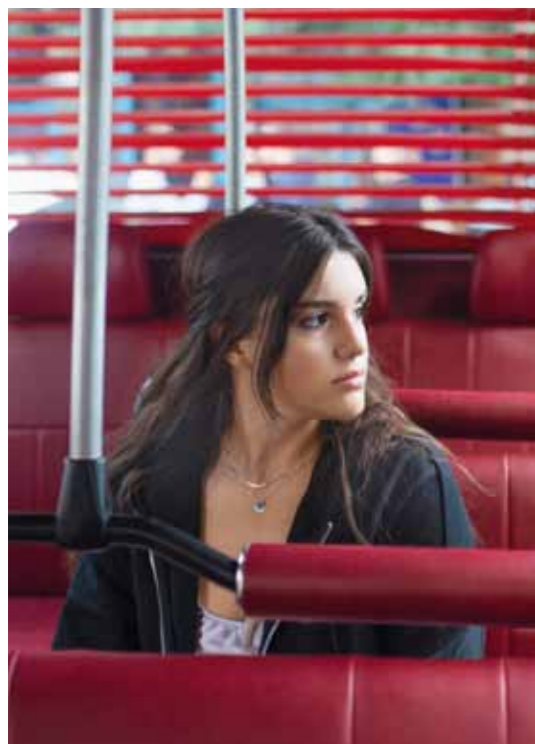
SELMA KAY MATTER

Kay has a serious crush – and is seriously ill. On the heels of the crush comes a crash, severe heart palpitations are followed by migraines, and smooching makes Kay's limbs ache. The only thing that helps them cope with long Covid is their desire for Aron and a strong, androgynous body. *Plastic Muscles* is an exploration of chronic illness and transness – and how society defines and discusses ›healthy‹ bodies. Does a language for pain even exist? Eschewing traditional genres, Selma Kay Matter explores the thin line between pleasure and pain, imagining new forms of care, intimacy and queer resistance in an intuitive and moving essay.



Sales  
All rights available

Selma Kay Matter  
**Plastic Muscles**  
192 pages  
September 2024



**Fatma Aydemir**

was born in Karlsruhe in 1986 and lives in Berlin. Her debut novel *Ellbogen* was published by Hanser in 2017 and was awarded the Klaus Michael Kühne Prize and Franz Hessel Prize. In 2019, she co-edited the anthology *Eure Heimat ist unser Albraum* together with Hengameh Yaghoobifarah. Her second novel *Dschinns* (Hanser, 2022) was awarded the Robert Gernhardt Prize and the LiteraTour Nord 2023 Prize.

- In cinemas from September 2024!
- Gripping and emotional – an adolescence spent between Istanbul and Berlin

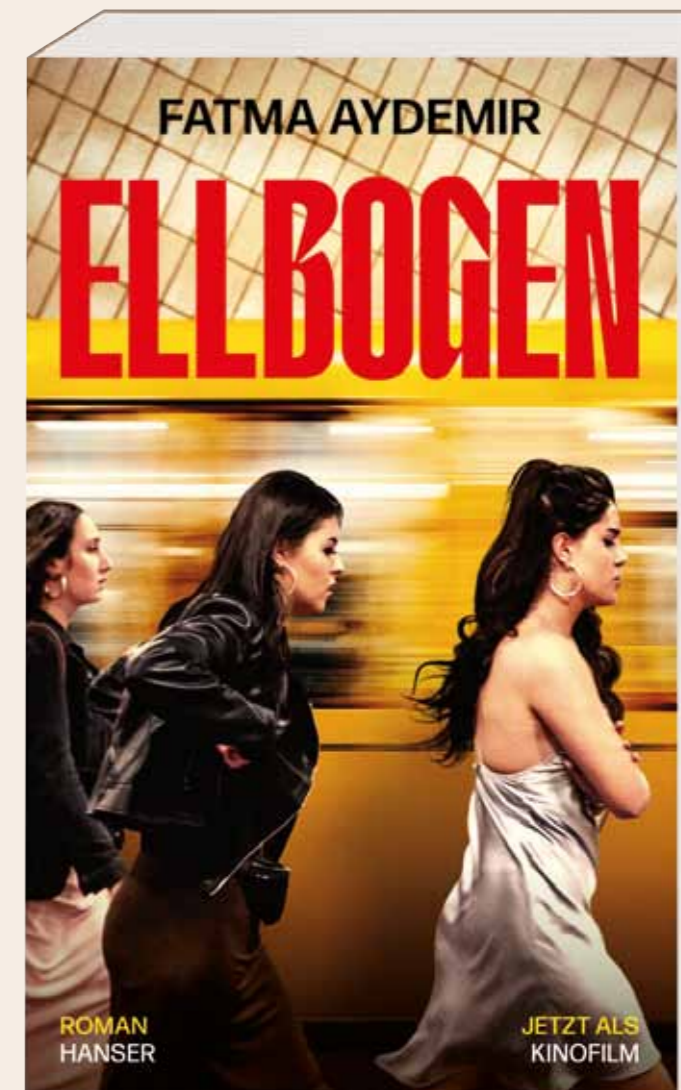
# FATMA AYDEMIR

The debut of the bestselling author of *Djinns*

She's seventeen. She was born in Berlin. Her name is Hazal Akgündüz. Her life could turn out like any other person's. Until she makes fatal mistakes while searching for her roots. At first, it's just a stolen lipstick. But soon, she turns to cold-blooded violence. To escape the police on her trail, Hazal flees to a city she's never visited before – Istanbul. In warm-hearted, furious prose, Fatma Aydemir's novel tells a story that stands for the lives of many people stuck between two cultures and their search for a place in the world. With a presentiment of the life Hazal is facing, you root for her and want to run alongside her through the night.

»Elbow hits with all the force of a kick in the stomach.«

Christian Möller, WDR



Sales  
All rights available

*Djinns* has sold in 17 countries



Fatma Aydemir  
**Elbow**  
288 pages  
September 2024



»Like Annie Ernaux, Monika Helfer is the master of the short form.«

Elke Schmitter, Die Zeit

**Monika Helfer** was born in 1947 in Au/Bregenzerwald, is a writer and lives with her family in Vorarlberg. She has published numerous novels, stories and children's books. Hanser has published the novels *Die Bagage* (2020), *Vati* (2021), *Löwenherz* (2022) and *Die Jungfrau* (2023). She has won numerous awards.

- 365 stories about everyday people told over an entire year
- A major writer's book on life: personal, honest, clever
- SPIEGEL bestselling author

# MONIKA HELFER



365 personal, honest, astute stories about the world and life. Monika Helfer turns everyday moments into great stories, pulls you into adventures and encounters, and takes you on literary expeditions through nature. Spanning an entire year, this book of life draws us into Helfer's rich universe full of curiosities and beauty. After reading, you are left with a lasting sense of amazement at the cruelty, beauty, madness, melancholy and humour of the human race.

**Sales**  
All rights available

Her previous works have sold in 20 countries



**Monika Helfer**  
**How the World Went On**  
Stories for every day  
704 pages  
October 2024



## A tender ode to the power of human relationships

### Irma Nelles

was born in 1946 and grew up on Nordstrand. For many years she worked as a teacher before becoming the assistant and later office manager to Rudolf Augstein, founder and CEO of Der Spiegel. *Der Herausgeber. Erinnerungen an Rudolf Augstein* is the title of a memoir she wrote about her tenure at Der Spiegel. She divides her time between the Eifel and Greece with her husband. Many of the characters in her story she met in real life; others, like the ›Countess of the Halligen‹, she knew from stories she grew up hearing.

- A richly evocative novel that paints a vivid picture of life on the Halligen islands
- Countess Diana von Reventlow lives a secluded life, sheltered from the chaos of war – until an English pilot crashes his plane on the mudflats, shaking her life to the core

## IRMA NELLES

An 80-year-old reclusive countess experiences conflicting emotions when she encounters an enemy pilot after his accident on the Halligen island of Südfall close to her home. Against all odds, a fragile connection develops between the two of them. Irma Nelles' late debut novel, evocative and tinged with suspense, is about a historically documented countess whose existence on the German island of Südfall is shrouded in secrets and legends to this day.



Sales  
All rights available

Irma Nelles  
**The Countess**  
208 pages  
July 2024

»You have to read these sentences as if tracing the outline of a sculpture with your fingers.«

Ijoma Mangold, Die Zeit



**Botho Strauß**

was born in Naumburg/Saale in 1944, lives in the Uckermark. In addition to a four-volume edition of his plays, Hanser has most recently published the following volumes of prose: *Herkunft* (2014), *Oniritti Höhlenbilder* (2016), *zu oft umsonst gelächelt* (2019) and *Nicht mehr. Mehr nicht* (*Chiffren für sie*, 2021).

• **These observations of the world are as powerful as they are sensitive**

BOTHO STRAUSS

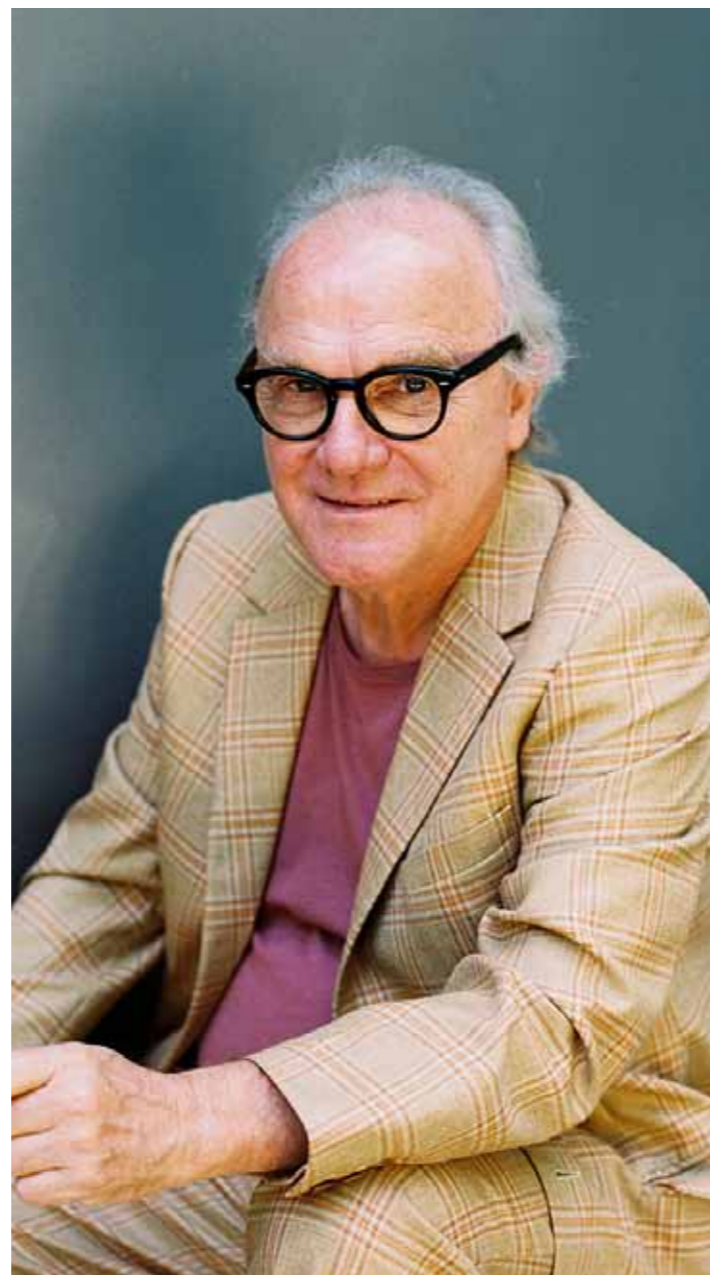
An old poet eagerly awaits his son's arrival. But he waits in vain, »sighing the heaviest of all human sighs before falling asleep: »And I was so looking forward to seeing you!«  
*The Shadow Whispers* follows individuals and couples, shining a light into the cracks in idylls and speaking to the corruptibility of humans. At times Strauß's writing is melancholic, at others, humorous. His observations of the world are as powerful as they are sensitive. »The great songs have already sung of it. Nothing unknown or unimaginable is about to happen.«



**Sales**  
All rights available

**Botho Strauß**  
**The Shadow Whispers**  
256 pages  
October 2024

»From  
now on we  
console our-  
selves with  
stories«



**Michael Köhlmeier** was born in 1949 in Hard am Bodensee and now lives in Hohenems/Vorarlberg and Vienna. Hanser has published his novels *Abendland* (2007), *Zwei Herren am Strand* (2014) *Matou* (2021), *Frankie* (2023) and *Das Philosophenschiff* (2024), as well as *Die Märchen* (with illustrations by Nikolaus Heidelbach, 2019) and the poetry collections *Der Liebhaber bald nach dem Frühstück* (2012) and *Ein Vorbild für die Tiere* (2017). Michael Köhlmeier has received numerous awards.

- **New poems by prizewinning writer Michael Köhlmeier**
- **Arranged as a song cycle at the Bregenz Festival on 28 July 2024**
- **Michael Köhlmeier turns 75 on 15 October 2024**

# MICHAEL KÖHLMEIER

People in the world of Michael Köhlmeier's poetry appear harmless at first glance. Yet while they crave puff pastries filled with redcurrants like the rest of us, they commit one crime after another. They curse, cheat, rob and murder. Families are gangs, and a friend's house stands beside his enemy's. Sins pile all the way up to heaven. Michael Köhlmeier's poems are music, and his language sings.

»Our region  
where nothing ever happened  
that was of note  
had its own plot.«



Sales  
All rights available



**Michael Köhlmeier**  
**In the Country of Uz**  
Poems  
128 pages  
July 2024



# BACKLIST HIGHLIGHTS

# MICHAEL THE KÖHLMEIER PHILOSOPHER'S SHIP

A great novel about memory and truth – the life story of a hundred-year-old from St Petersburg to Vienna

»Michael Köhlmeier knows how to capture the great figures of world history in a mesmerizing way, and depicts imagined private moments, making them shine.«

Wiebke Porombka, Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

»When Michael Köhlmeier tells stories, all sense of time falls away. There are only people and their emotions and fates, and they become as close to us as if they were contemporaries.«

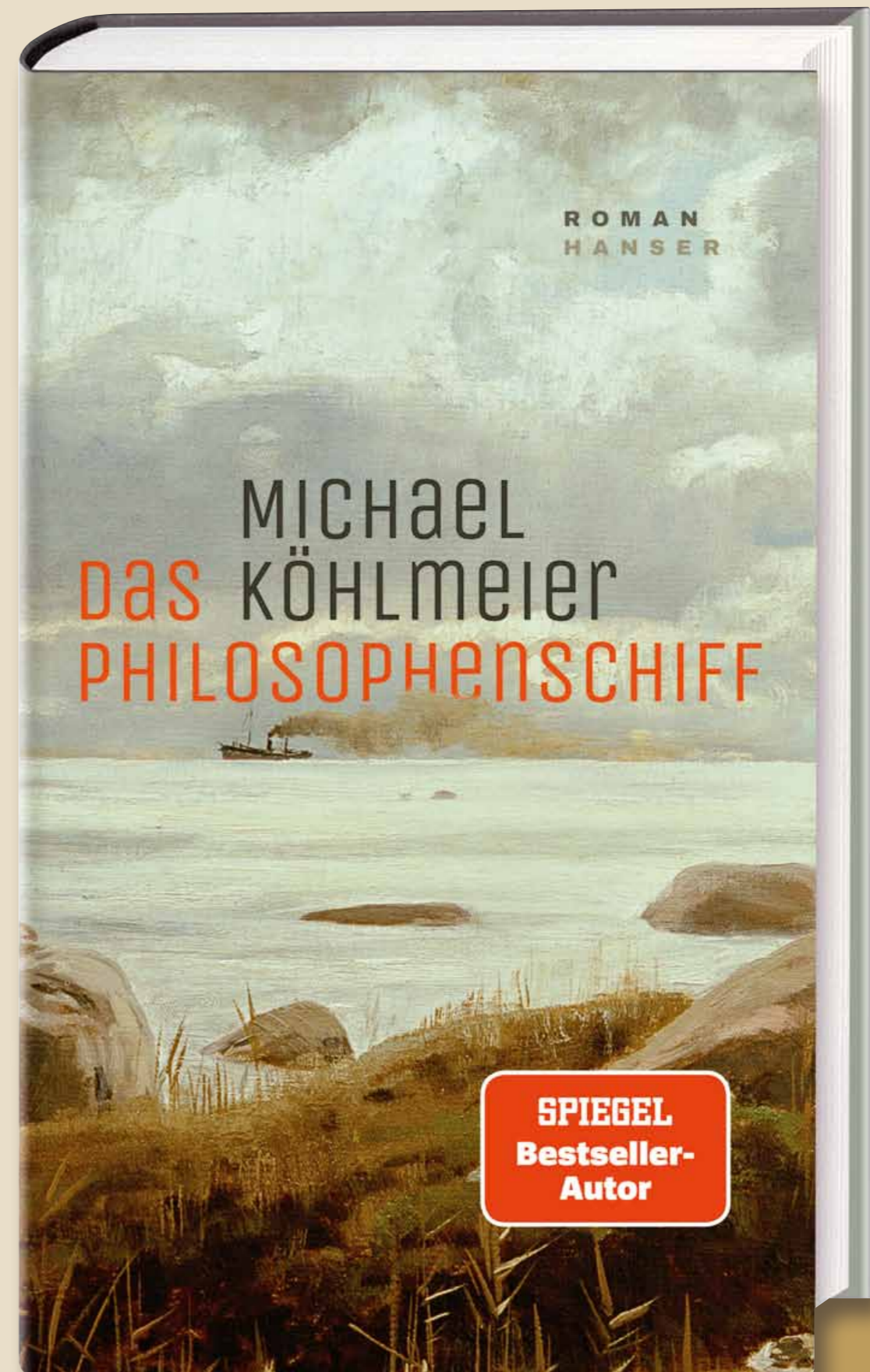
Dorothea Zanon, Der Standard

»A storyteller who is both passionate and calculating, who approaches his work with a pure joy to invent and reflect.«

Karl-Markus Gauß, Süddeutsche Zeitung

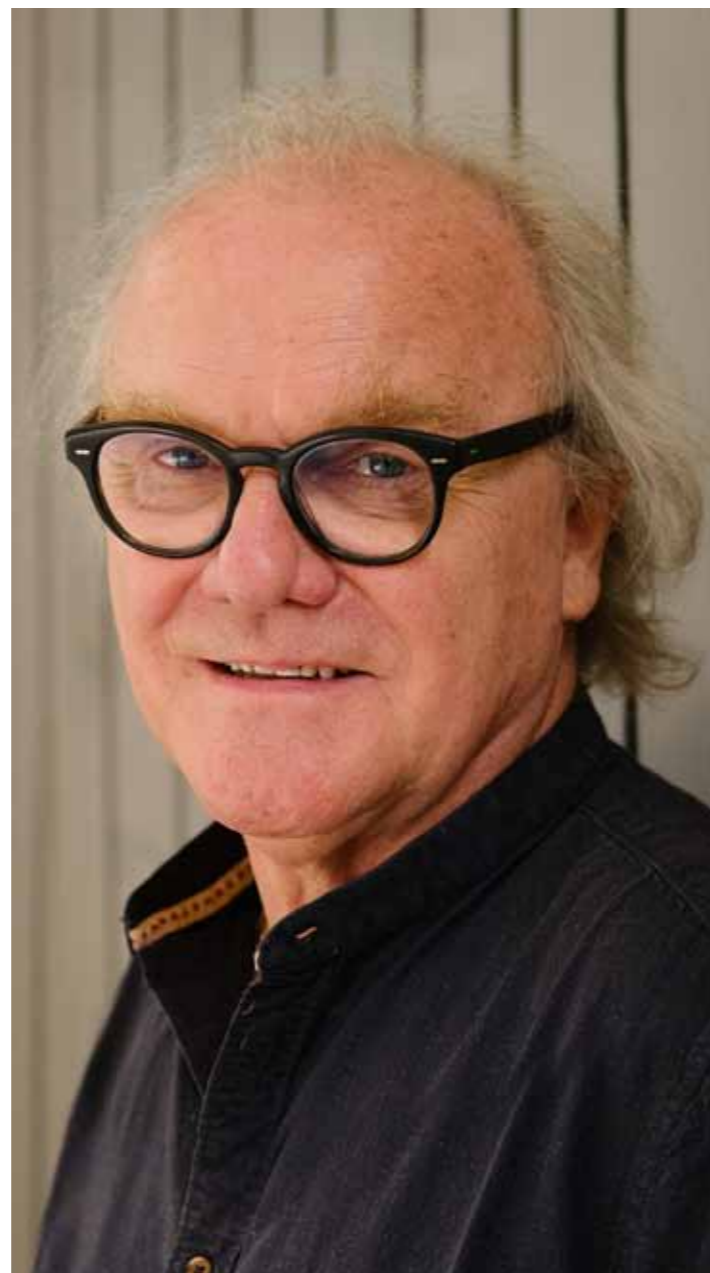
Featuring Lenin on the sun deck – an almost true story by »first-rate storyteller, Michael Köhlmeier.«

Denis Scheck, ARD Druckfrisch



»Köhlmeier observes and understands like no other.«

Sandra Kegel, FAZ

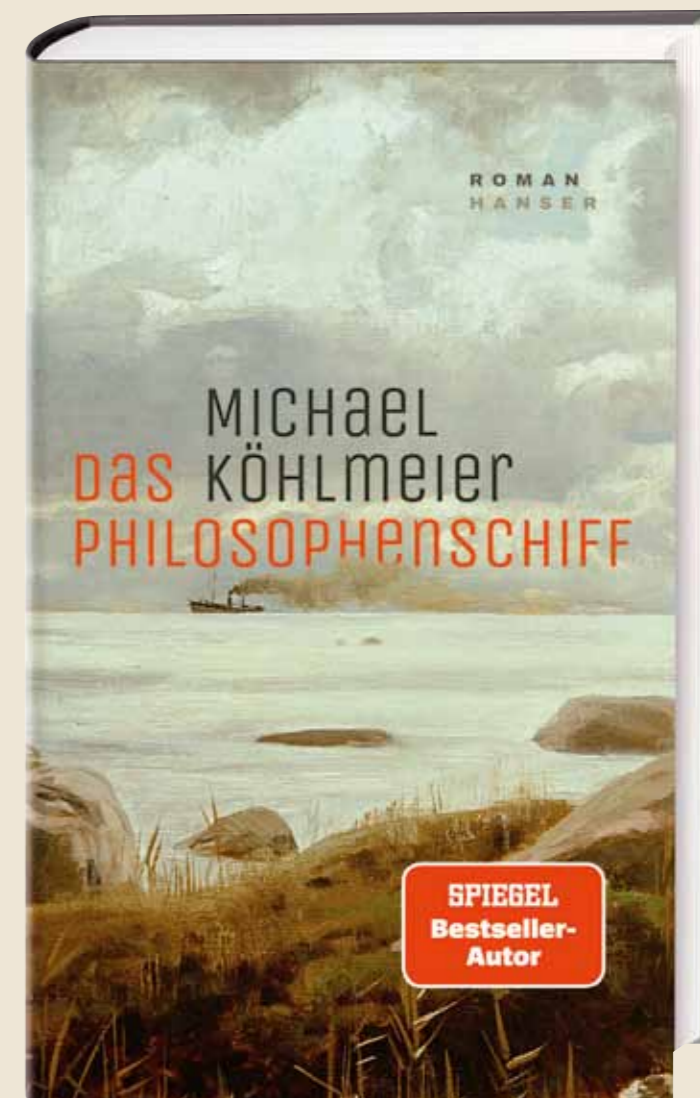


**Michael Köhlmeier** was born in 1949 in Hard am Bodensee and now lives in Hohenems/Vorarlberg and Vienna. Hanser has published his novels *Abendland* (2007), *Zwei Herren am Strand* (2014), *Matou* (2021) and *Frankie* (2023) as well as two volumes of poetry and *Die Märchen* (with illustrations by Nikolaus Heidelbach, 2019). Michael Köhlmeier has received numerous awards.

- Based on the true story of Lenin's deportation of Russian intellectuals via »philosophers' ships«
- The story of a 100-year-old woman and an epic journey from Saint Petersburg to Vienna

# MICHAEL KÖHLMEIER

For her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday, architect Anouk Perleman-Jacob invited Michael Köhlmeier to write her life story as a novel. Born in Saint Petersburg, she lived through the Bolshevik terror. On Lenin's orders, she was deported as a little girl along with her family and other intellectuals on so-called »philosophers' ships.« For five days and nights, their boat drifted in the Gulf of Finland until the last passenger sent into exile boarded: It was Lenin himself.



**Sales**  
Croatia (Leykam), Italy (La Nave di Teseo)



**Michael Köhlmeier**  
**The Philosopher's Ship**  
224 pages  
January 2024

Full english translation available



Cordelia Edvardson's novel is  
 »a major work by a witness of  
 the Holocaust.« Daniel Kehlmann

**Cordelia Edvardson** (1929–2012), born in Munich, lived in Berlin with her mother, the writer Elisabeth Langgässer, until 1943. At the age of 14, she was deported via Theresienstadt to Auschwitz. When the war ended, she worked as a journalist in Sweden. During the Yom Kippur War in 1973, she moved to Israel. For *Burned Child Seeks the Fire* (first published by Hanser in 1986), she received the Geschwister-Scholl Prize.

**Ursel Allenstein**, born in 1978, translates from Danish, Swedish and Norwegian. She has translated the works of Tove Ditlevsen, Jonas Eika and Karin Smirnoff, among others. She has received many awards for her translations, most recently the Jane Scatcherd Prize of the Ledig-Rowohlt Foundation.

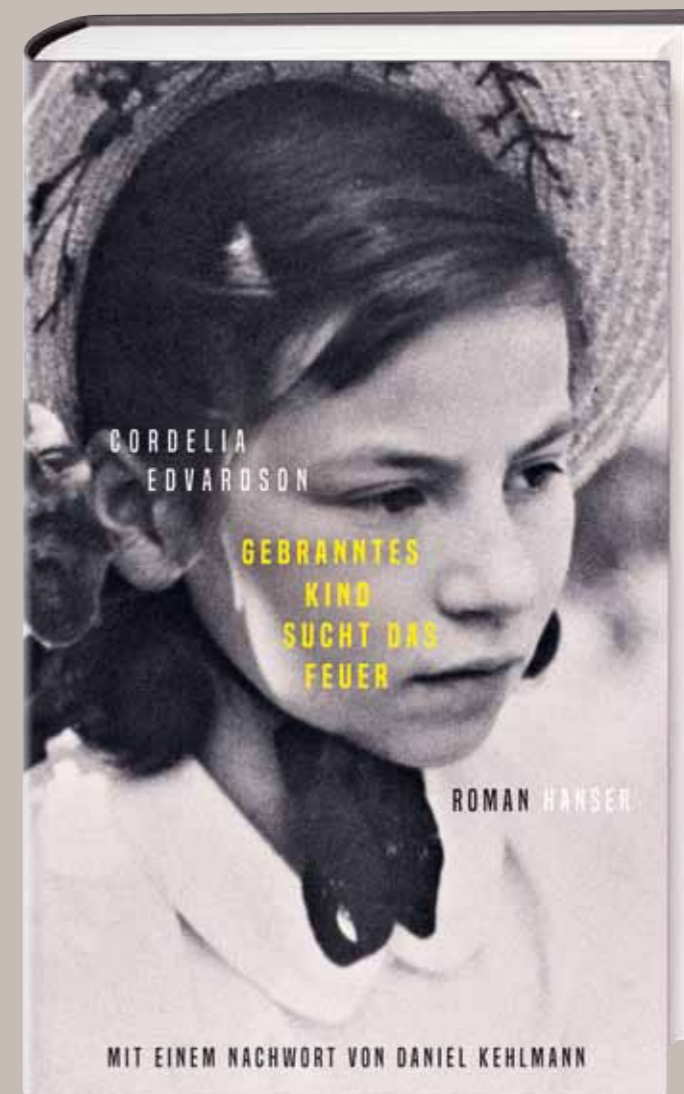
• **The haunting psychogram of a mother-daughter relationship under National Socialism**

• **With an afterword by Daniel Kehlmann:**  
 »I was deeply affected and devastated.«

• **A startling literary rediscovery, in a new translation by Ursel Allenstein**

# CORDELIA EDVARDSON

A literary rediscovery:  
 »The girl had always felt that there was something wrong with her.« Cordelia, born out of wedlock, is a »three-quarter Jew.« Her mother is a well-known writer and devout Catholic. At a decisive moment, she does not protect her daughter but saves herself instead. At the age of 14, Cordelia Edvardson is deported to Auschwitz. Her novel is the painful exploration of her own mother's betrayal, a tentative search for identity, and an attempt to face the horrors of the past.



**Sales**  
 Denmark (Klara W.), France (Bourgois), Greece (World Books), Netherlands (Cossee), Spain (Edhasa Argentina), Sweden (Faethon), Turkey (Siren)

**Cordelia Edvardson**  
**Burned Child Seeks the Fire**  
 Original language: Swedish  
 With an afterword by Daniel Kehlmann  
 144 pages  
 August 2023

An exciting  
rediscovery

*Marlen  
Haushofer  
and her  
early novels*



**Marlen Haushofer (1920-1970)**

born in Frauenstein, studied German literature in Vienna and Graz. Her work comprises novels, stories, radio plays and books for children. In 1968 she received the Austrian State Award for Literature.

The Frankfurter Allgemeine recently celebrated Haushofer's early feminist approach and her »illusionless, highly conscious female characters, locked in a world of no opportunities, who express an attitude to life that was perceived as restrictive«.

- One of the most important Austrian authors, best known for her novel *The Wall*
- Sensible portraits of women of the post-war generation trying to break free

## MARLEN HAUSHOFER



*A Handful of Life* is an incredibly modern portrait of a woman who refuses to accept the role assigned to her, ultimately leaving her husband and her child. Twenty years later, she returns to her hometown and has to finally confront her past: A summer in the country-side, her experiences at convent school, her depressive moods, a love affair with her boss, her middle-class married life, her faked suicide and her husband's second marriage to her friend Käthe. Has she found what she had hoped for, or is it just »a handful of life«?



*A Door Concealed* portrays a woman's struggle to cope with a difficult existence. Told from the perspective of a first-person narrator and punctuated by diary entries filled with illuminating thoughts and insights, the novel conveys the inner life of thirty-year-old librarian Annette and her ultimately futile attempt to break out of the routine that has her trapped. It is a first-class novel about the psychology of a woman and the psychological differences of men and women.

**Sales**

Croatia (Leykam International), France (Actes Sud), Spain (Contraseña), UK (Vintage Classics)

**Marlen Haushofer**

**A Handful of Life**  
160 pages  
First published in 1955

**A Door Concealed**  
200 pages  
First published in 1957

»Toxische Pommes is funny online – and as a writer. But these gems of stories that make up a Balkan mosaic, pack a punch with their emotion, absurdity and political narrative. As a whole, they are a huge find.«

**SAŠA STANIŠIĆ**

»Funny, sensitive, affectionate, self-deprecating, laconic – and sad, but you'll only know that once you stop grinning.«

**VERENA ALTENBERGER**

»This book has a bone-dry humour and is often quite brutal, and when you've got used to this combination, you'll be taken by surprise by tender melancholy.«

**JOSEF HADER**

174.000 followers on Instagram +++ 93.500 followers on TikTok

# TOXISCHE POMMES





»I don't know whether it hurts more to be pulled from your roots or never to have taken root in the first place.«

In real life **Toxische Pommes** is called Irina. She's in her early thirties and works as a lawyer in Vienna. She has been a comedy hit on TikTok and Instagram, where she has hundreds of thousands of followers and plays to sold-out audiences in the cabaret programme *Ketchup, Mayo & Ajvar*.

• **How to become the perfect immigrant?**

• **»A hilarious, dazzling satire«**

Süddeutsche Zeitung

English sample translation available

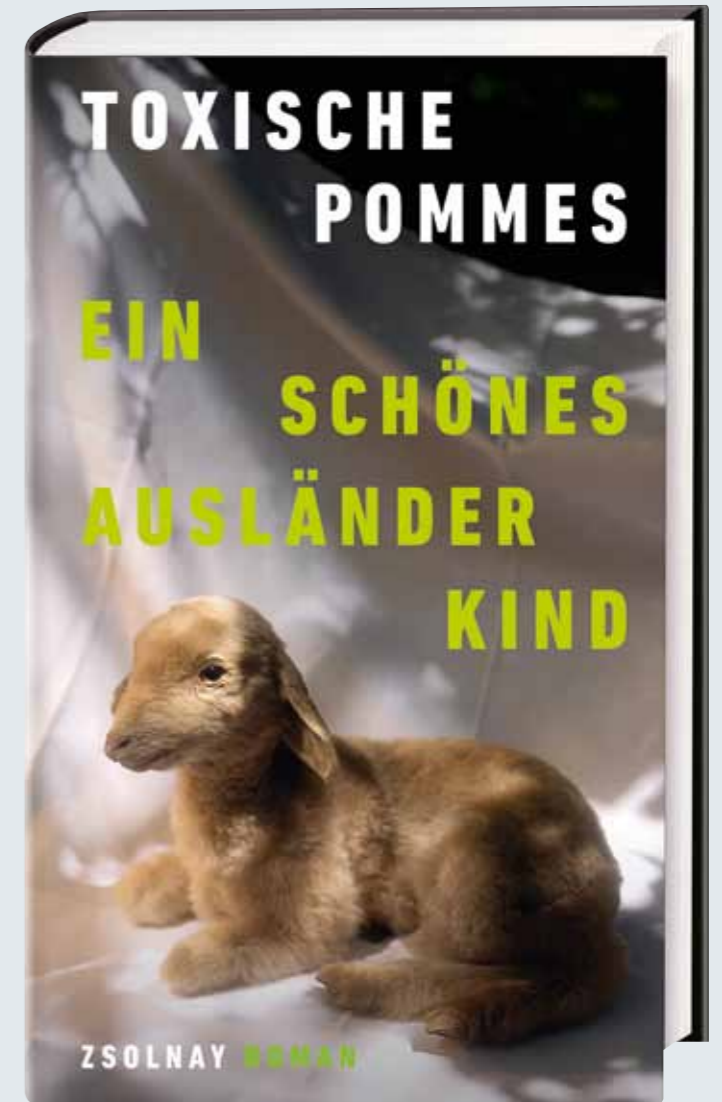
## TOXISCHE POMMES

The narrator's family escapes to Austria because of the Balkan war when she is still a very small child. They find refuge with a family close to Vienna, but their host, a teacher, demands housework and ›friendship‹ duties in exchange for her hospitality.

So the mother cleans, cooks and waits on the host even though she is a qualified pharmacist. Meanwhile, the girl's father, a trained engineer, can't find work as he doesn't speak German and thus becomes increasingly relegated to the role of father and house husband.

In the second part, the narrator blossoms into the perfect, ultra-integrated immigrant child, complete with citizenship, a university degree and a job in the civil service.

On her path to becoming the perfect immigrant child the wonderfully laconic *Toxische Pommes* parodies Balkan mentality and hipsterism, and exposes everyday microaggressions. A touching, funny novel that speaks from the heart to many people's experiences.



Sales  
All rights available

**Toxische Pommes**  
**The Perfect Immigrant Child**  
208 pages  
March 2024



»I read Eva Viežnaviec's novel and recognised the village where I grew up. She brought it back to life in my soul.«

Svetlana Alexievich

#### Eva Viežnaviec

was born near Minsk in 1972 and has worked as an author and journalist since 1994. *What Is It You Seek, Wolf?* was awarded the highest prize for prose in Belarus in 2021. Substantial parts of the novel were written during her stay as a Lion Feuchtwanger fellow at Villa Aureore in Los Angeles.

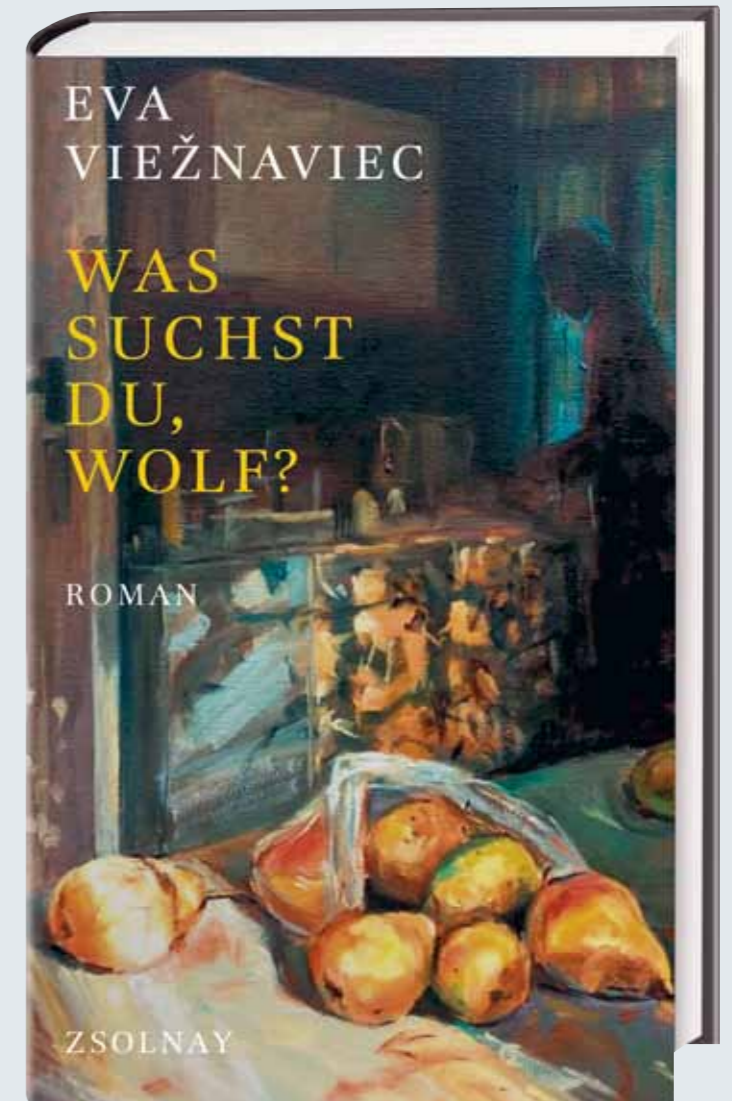
- An epic contained in a small volume
- A tribute to the women of a whole generation

## EVA VIEŽNAVIEC

English sample translation available

The short novel *What Is It You Seek, Wolf?* by Eva Viežnaviec caused a literary sensation in Belarus and was awarded the country's highest award for prose, the Jerzy Giedroyc Literature Prize, in December 2021.

The book sets off down the road like a modern-day beatnik novel. On an alcohol-fuelled trip, protagonist Ryna travels from Germany to Belarus for her grandmother's funeral. The old lady was a traditional healer who was considered a witch by her neighbours and tried to teach Ryna the »arts« of herbal medicine. Ryna's inner dialogue with her beloved grandmother imperceptibly turns into a monologue. What follows is the intrepid 100-year-old woman's account as a survivor of the First World War, the October Revolution and civil war, collectivisation and Second World War – the entire twentieth century with all its atrocities. The story ends in the present, a time when Ryna has found peace, thanks partly to her grandmother's wealth of experience. Without glorifying events, this melancholic, harrowing book draws hope from the magic of everyday life.



#### Sales

(Original Belarusian Edition: Pflaumbaum)  
Czech Republic (Pavel Mervat), Denmark (Palomar),  
France (Noir sur Blanc), Norway (Existenz), Poland  
(KEW), Spain (Gatopardo), Sweden (Ersatz)

Eva Viežnaviec  
**What Is It You  
Seek, Wolf?**

(Original Belarusian title:  
Па што ідзеш, воўча?)  
144 pages  
February 2023





»In language both visually rich and haunting, Eva Viežnaviec tells of her beloved grandmother and illuminates at the same time a piece of everyday history from Eastern Europe in the 20<sup>th</sup> century ... A novel that acts as a conversation between the living and the dead, a book full of hope – highly recommended.«

Terry Albrecht, WDR5 Bücher

»Strong and clear like vodka.«

Judith Leister, Neue Zürcher Zeitung

»A literary thunderbolt ... An overwhelming novel, a challenge, a study of man, a history lesson, a psychogram of power and powerlessness – grand, important literature!«

Bernd Melichar, Kleine Zeitung

»In clear, almost harsh sentences, Viežnaviec's densely-woven family story spanning five generations tells of people instead of politics ... This book is a tribute to the women of Belarus, who are an example of how to survive on scorched earth.«

Cornelius Wüllenkemper, Deutschlandfunk Büchermarkt

»The reading develops a force that resonates for a long time.«

Roberta de Righi, Münchner Abendzeitung

»It hits with the force of a sledgehammer ... Powerful and, despite all the brutality, highly poetic. In a concise language, fed with historical details, Viežnaviec succeeds in bringing the monstrous upheavals and darkness in short episodes to life so vividly that the reader becomes dizzy over the course of such a condensed journey through time.«

Ingo Petz, Standard Album

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**Cordelia Edvardson**  
**Marlen Haushofer**  
**Toxische Pommes**  
**Eva Viežnaviec**