

Foreign Rights Spring 2020

Fiction



Blanvalet ▪ btb ▪ Diana ▪ Diederichs ▪ DVA ▪ Goldmann
Heyne ▪ Limes ▪ Luchterhand ▪ Penguin ▪ Wunderraum

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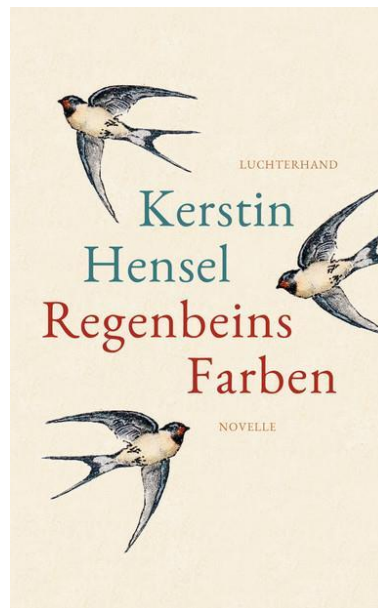
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"One of Germany's most remarkable writers."

dpa



Kerstin Hensel
Regenbein's Colours
[Regenbeins Farben]
Novella

Luchterhand
256 pages
March 2020

Kerstin Hensel was born in 1961. She worked as a nurse, studied at the German Literature Institute in Leipzig, and currently teaches at the Ernst Busch Drama School.

www.kerstin-hensel.de

A cemetery near the air corridor of an airport is the regular meeting place of three women caring for the graves of their husbands: Lore Müller-Kilian, a capricious entrepreneur's wife with a proclivity for Champagne loneliness; 80-year-old art professor Ziva Schlott; and Karline Regenbein, a modest painter working off the art world's beaten track.

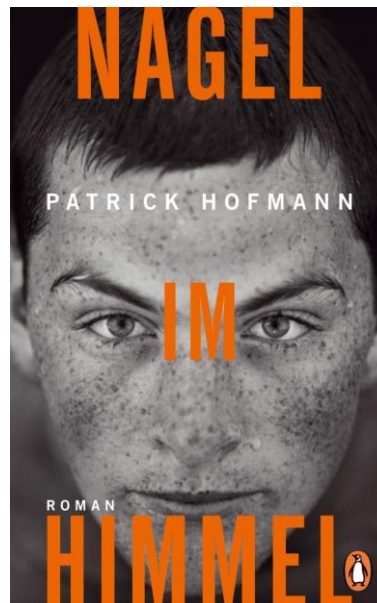
One day Eduard Wettengel appears on the scene. He, too, has been recently widowed. All of a sudden, things start to liven up in the small community of mourners. The female trio starts vying for the gallery owner's favour. Splendidly funny, with bitingly delightful entanglements taking their course.

Press

"Kerstin Hensel always manages to create highly comical moments of true feeling."

Deutschlandfunk Kultur

A modern story of heroism: about the loneliness of being different and salvation through love



Patrick Hofmann
Nail in the Sky
[Nagel im Himmel]
Novel

Penguin
304 pages
March 2020

Patrick Hofmann, born in 1971, studied philosophy, German and history in Berlin, Leipzig, Moscow and Strasbourg and wrote his PhD thesis on the philosopher Edmund Husserl. For his highly acclaimed debut, *The Last Sow*, he was awarded the Robert Walser Prize in 2010. *Nail in the Sky* is his second novel.

Numbers are Oliver's refuge. His mother ran away from the small town in Saxony shortly after his birth in the summer of 1989, and his father couldn't care less about him.

When he is seventeen, Oliver receives his first acclaim ever when is awarded a distinction at the Mathematical Olympiad in Montreal. After that, everything is different – but nothing is better. Sure, the most reputable companies want him to come and work for them, and he can make his biggest wish come true: to work on the big mathematical problem, the mystery of prime numbers. Yet this task drives him to the deepest depths of his very existence. Until physicist Ina rescues him from his loneliness.

Nail in the Sky tells the story of failure and success, dark and light, longing and love. It is a bildungsroman about brilliant science, ecstatic imagination and human greatness – astute, gripping and unforgettable.

"Behind every bend in Hohler's prose there is an unexpected turn".

Hamburger Morgenpost



Franz Hohler
Scheduled Stay
[Fahrplanmäßiger Aufenthalt]
Stories

Luchterhand
112 pages
March 2020

Franz Hohler was born in Biel, Switzerland, in 1943. He lives in Zurich and is considered to be one of his country's most prominent revue performers and writers. He has been awarded many prizes, including the Kassel Literature Prize for Grotesque Humour in 2002, the 2005 Art Award of the City of Zurich, the 2013 Solothurn Literature Prize, the 2014 Alice Salomon Prize and the Johann Peter Hebel Prize. Luchterhand has been publishing his books for over forty years.

Franz Hohler's writing is also travel. Not infrequently does it originate while he is out and about – at stations or airports, while walking or waiting.

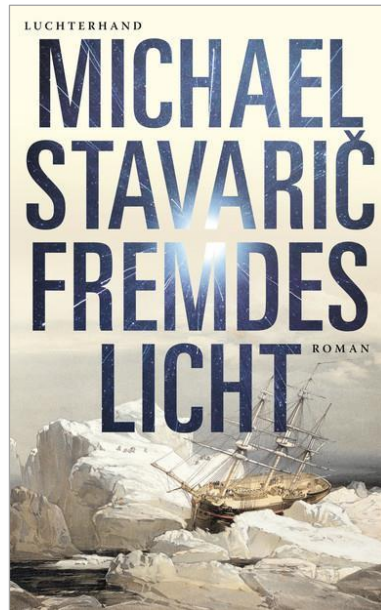
Scheduled Stay is a collection of the latest short prose works by the grand master of the short form. The stories take us far away, to Sarajevo, Odessa or to the Maidan in Kiev. Yet they also take us to a waiting room in Schwäbisch Hall or to the birch tree in front of one's own house. Brilliantly casually and spot on they open a window onto reality – the reality that is unfamiliar and the reality that is one's own. They are about what can be discovered in our increasingly small world if you only take a close look.

Praise

"Franz Hohler presents stories to his readers that you could only call incredible if they hadn't been born in the midst of everyday observations."

Roger Willemsen

When the journey into the future becomes a look into the past



Michael Stavaric
Strange Light
[Fremdes Licht]
Novel

Luchterhand
512 pages
March 2020

Michael Stavaric was born in Brno (former Czechoslovakia) in 1972 and read Bohemian studies and journalism/communication sciences at the University of Vienna, where he now freelances as a writer, translator and lecturer. He has received numerous scholarships and awards, among them the Adelbert von Chamisso Prize. His latest teaching commitments include the Stefan Zweig lectureship at Salzburg University and a literature seminar at Bamberg University.

She is in an unknown place and in icy, inhospitable surroundings. Only gradually does her memory return, and Elaine understands what has happened – that her grandfather used to live with the Inuit in Greenland and taught her how to survive in ice and snow; that she recently worked for a Swiss company in Winterthur and was involved there as a geneticist with the reconstruction of life; that Earth perished when hit by a comet and she seems to be the only survivor. As yet she has no idea what all this has got to do with her great-grandmother from Greenland.

Press

"*Gotland* wafts around within you like a frenzy of exploration that drives your own inner movie on with rousing images."
FAZ on Gotland

Warm-hearted and wild: On setting out, breaking out and loving – the life of an anti-hero



Sebastian Stuertz
The Iron Heart of Charlie Berg
[Das eiserne Herz des Charlie Berg]
Novel

btb
720 pages
March 2020

Sebastian Stuertz, born in 1974, is a media artist, music producer and podcaster, and his main job is animating graphics for films and television. He lives and works in Hamburg. *The Iron Heart of Charlie Berg* is his debut novel.

Charlie Berg has a weak heart and the sensitive nose of a dog. The only thing his parents taught him as a child was that a couple of artists should never have children.

It is the early 1990s, Charlie wants to move out and stop being the family jackass who keeps everything together while mother is at the theatre unsettling the world and father sitting around stoned for weeks in recording studios. The job at the lighthouse is within his grasp – and then everything gets out of hand: While out hunting with Granddad, not only is the stag shot at but Granddad as well. And what about Charlie's secret big love, Mayra, his video pen pal in Mexico? Doesn't have anything better to do than marry that crook Ramón ...

For fans of *Tschick*, Bov Bjerg's *Auerhaus* and Jonas Jonasson.

New poems by the winner of Germany's highest paying poetry award



Norbert Hummelt
Sun Song
[Sonnengesang]
Poems

Luchterhand
96 pages
February 2020

Norbert Hummelt, born in 1962, freelances as a writer in Berlin. He had the honour of winning the Hölty Prize in 2018 for his poetry. Previous to that he had been awarded the Rolf-Dieter Brinkmann Prize, the Mondsee Lyrik Prize, the Lower Rhine Literature Prize, and others. He has translated T.S. Eliot's poems *The Wasteland* and *Four Quartets* and also edited the poems by W.B. Yeats. Recent Luchterhand publications were *Pan's Hour* and *Purgatory*.

"shrieking they come over the wall & dive / down deep into the court & they whisk my sight / upwards always only towards the big sun ..."

The sun and its light are at the centre of Norbert Hummelt's new poems, for no matter how artistically and imaginatively we arrange our world, without sunlight we are lost. It is the artificial light of the space station passing through the sky over Berlin. It is the power that invigorates nature; steers the sight of the observer. The ring of a bell, the call of the woodpigeon whisk us away out of our rigidity, awaken longings, cause images to appear in which light and brightness are stored.

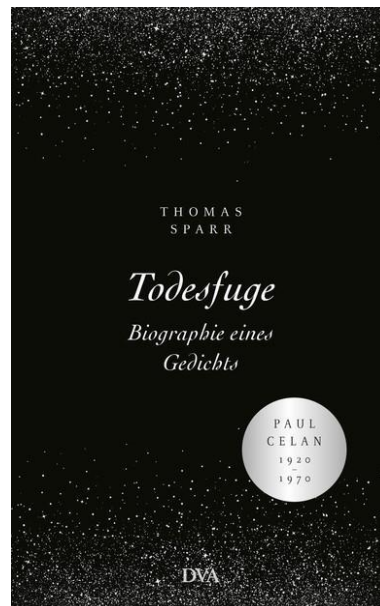
Dreams cannot be held except in verses – they vibrate in the vivid rhythms of these poems that are as simple as songs and yet packed with mystery.

Press

"What is so wonderful about Norbert Hummelt's poems is their light and floating tone."

Saarbrücker Zeitung

The story of *Death Fugue*: the first account of the international impact of Paul Celan



Thomas Sparr
**Death Fugue –
Biography of a Poem**
[Todesfuge –
Biographie eines Gedichts]

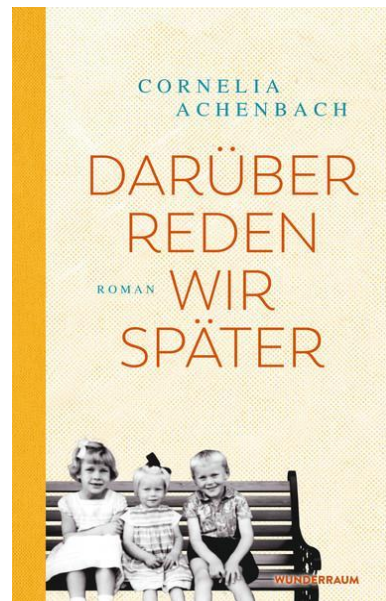
DVA
336 pages
With 30 b/w illustrations and facsimiles
March 2020

Thomas Sparr, born in 1956, studied literature and philosophy and then worked between 1986 and 1989 at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. From there he moved to the Literature Archive in Marbach. The years 1990 to 1998 saw him in charge of the Jüdischer Verlag, as chief editor of the Siedler Verlag and as editor-at-large for the Suhrkamp Verlag, in which latter activity he is still involved. He has made a name for himself with his work on Paul Celan.

No other poem after 1945 is as well-known as Paul Celan's *Death Fugue*. Written under the impact of the murder of his parents by the National Socialists, it is seen as one of the earliest literary testimonies in face of the Shoah.

Thomas Sparr has written a history of this poem which, as no other piece of post-war writing, paints a picture of an entire epoch and which even to this day still has a lasting international impact. The author starts out with the poem's genesis, covers its initially controversial reception in the 1950s and ends with writers and artists who have been inspired by it. His narrative also demonstrates that the poem, in a very special way, is an account of Celan's biography.

How can you find your way back to a life that got lost?



Cornelia Achenbach
**We'll Talk about
That Later**
[Darüber reden wir später]
Novel

Wunderrraum
240 pages
March 2020

Cornelia Achenbach, born in 1982, studied politics and Romance languages and literature and works for the *Neue Osnabrücker Zeitung*. *We'll Talk about That Later* is her first novel.

A little life in a house with a garden. The two children have long since moved out. Margret has given up her big dream of writing books. When her husband has to go to hospital she is alone in the house – a state of affairs she almost likes. She begins to ask questions. Is Gert the right man? Should she have chosen Andreas instead, all those years ago?

To give her something else to think about, her brother gives her the diaries of their deceased mother. Suddenly she is confronted by a love that survived war and flight – and an event no one has ever spoken about. Until Ingrid, their older sister, breaks through the distance of so many years and at last begins to talk.

A novel about the fragile balance between closeness and distance in relationships with those nearest to us.

For all readers of Dörte Hansen and Daniela Krien.

Some people get sent miracles. Others are sent eight-year-old Lupi ...



Lucy Astner
**God Can Sometimes also
Have a Bad Hair Day**
[Gott hat auch mal 'nen
schlechten Tag]
Novel

Goldmann Paperback
496 pages
March 2020

Lucy Astner, born in 1982, works as a scriptwriter. She writes movie comedies for Til Schweiger, Matthias Schweighöfer and others, and is just as popular as a children's book writer.

TV presenter Jacob Chrissen leads a life in clover – until he loses his wife and son in a helicopter crash. It verges on a miracle that he survived virtually unscathed. But Jacob sees no further sense in life and he doesn't believe in miracles.

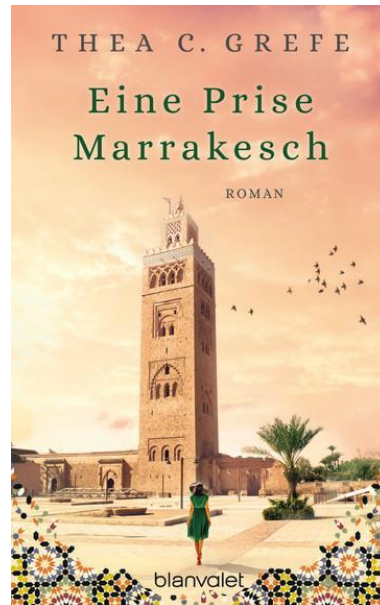
Eight-year-old Lupi, on the other hand, could do with a miracle. When she first meets Jacob she is convinced of one thing: This man must be God himself! Who else would survive a crash from the skies? And so Lupi is determined to show Jacob that life is beautiful – and that the world needs him.

Praise

"Lucy is witty, lively and entertaining – and that is also the way she writes."

*Wolfgang Petersen, film producer of
The Boat, The Neverending Story, Troy, and others*

Star-winning cuisine, a forgotten hotel and four people who find the courage to venture out again on something new



Thea C. Grefe
A Pinch of Marrakesh
[Eine Prise Marrakesch]
Novel

Blanvalet
448 pages
March 2020

Thea C. Grefe has always loved spending her time with travel, either while being whisked away by books to foreign worlds, or while on her many trips to North Africa or from Norway via Uganda to Syria. In the process she has learned that it is never too late to discover life anew and let one's dreams come true. For her latest novel set in Marrakesh she did intensive research into the recent history of Morocco and occupied herself with the recipes of Oriental delicacies that she collected locally and has adapted for everyday use.

Four people who could hardly be more different from each other meet in an old hotel in Marrakesh: Claudia, a temperamental amateur chef who is mad about reading horoscopes; Karim, a Moroccan businessman with big dreams and weighed down by cares; Charlotte, a photographer with unsuspected talents lying dormant within her; and finally Alain, a brilliant chef running away from his money problems.

They all have good reason to leave the past behind. Together they decide to kiss the hotel awake from its sleeping beauty slumbers. Not only do they stumble across a long-hidden secret in the process but also realise that it is never too late for love ...

A heart-warming story about love and friendship for all fans of *Best Exotic Marigold Hotel*.

Four girlfriends and an unforgettable summer that changed everything



Julia Holbe
Our Happy Days
[Unsere glücklichen Tage]
Novel

Penguin
320 pages
March 2020

English sample translation
available

Julia Holbe was born in 1969 and lives in Frankfurt am Main but spends part of the year in Brittany. She spent twenty years working as an editor of international literature at the S. Fischer Verlag. *Our Happy Days* is her first novel.

Lenica, Marie, Fanny and Elsa – four friends spending a never-ending summer on the Atlantic coast in France. The future lies ahead of them like a promise; they are so carefree and full of the joys of their very existence that they don't notice life laying down its path forward.

When they meet again many years later they realise that their dreams and longings still join them together like some invisible power – in spite of everything that has happened since that evening when Lenica brought Sean along.

Julia Holbe's narrative is breathtakingly emotional – the tale of the really important things in life: love and friendship, coincidence and fate, guilt and betrayal – and that we only remember the past as we want it to be.

The last message in the bottle contains the secret



Annika Kemmeter
**The Last Letter
in a Bottle**
[Die letzte Flaschenpost]
Novel

Diederichs
256 pages
March 2020

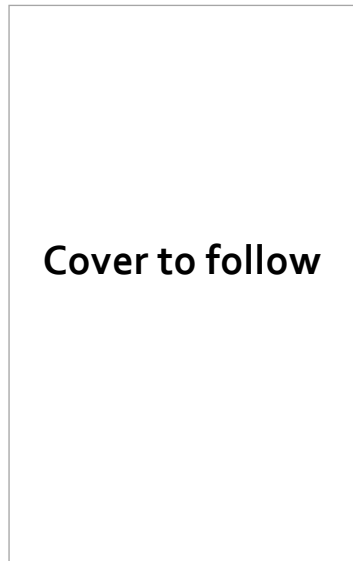
Annika Kemmeter, born in Mainz in 1985, studied literature in Munich, Paris and Fukuoka (Japan). She has presented her texts at the Leipzig Book Fair and other literary events.

Angelina is full of secrets. At least, that is how the young art history student, Janis, sees it. The fact that she is the granddaughter of the poet Otto Maaßen, whom Janis greatly admires, makes her all the more interesting.

After his death, Otto's final cycle of poems floats down the Rhine as a series of bottle messages. Janis and Angelina together set off to find the bottles and without realising it they get to the bottom of Angelina's family secret.

A fast-paced novel about trust, belonging and forgiveness.

An inspiring new novel by the internationally bestselling author of *Hector*



François Lelord

Once Upon a Time

There Was a Blue Planet

[Es war einmal ein blauer Planet]

Novel

Penguin

ca. 250 pages

July 2020

François Lelord, born in 1953, studied medicine and psychology in France and California. One day he closed his practice in Paris in order to travel and find answers for himself and his readers to the really big questions of life. *Hector and the Search for Happiness* and the following seven volumes featuring psychiatrist Hector conquered the hearts of millions of readers far beyond the borders of Germany and France. Lelord lives with his family in Paris.

Young Robin is overwhelmed when he climbs out of his space capsule. The warm sand under his feet, the gentle wind and the play of colours on the sea are so much better than any virtual reality, no matter how perfect. He is on Earth, that distant blue planet he has hitherto only known from films and hearsay.

Yet his mission is not an easy one: Will human beings be able to return to the home planet they needed to leave after a catastrophe? How should they live if happiness is to be made possible for everyone? And will Robin manage to save his big love?

The new book by the major bestselling author: an inspiring story of discovery, a thought-provoking utopia and a reflection about what we will need in the future to be happy.

For all readers of John Strelecky and Eric-Emmanuel Schmitt.

An amusing tale of self-discovery: modern, unexpected and entertaining



Alexander Wachter
In the End I Am
[Am Ende bin ich]
Novel

Diederichs
224 pages
March 2020

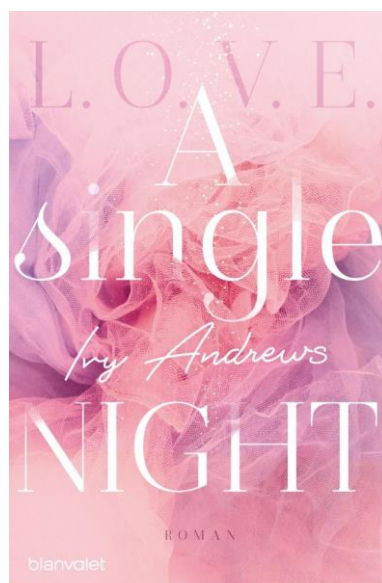
Alexander Wachter, born in 1994, has worked as a stone mason, carer, librarian, waiter, editor and social media manager. Since 2014 he has been studying English literature and computer sciences. His short stories and poems have been published in magazines and anthologies. He has been a scholarship student of the Max Weber Programme of Bavaria since 2019.

<http://www.prosathek.de/alexander-wachter.de>

"I thought about how many people there were in the city at that time, people who wanted to be held and loved. Why was I letting myself be tortured by this one person?"

His love for Aurora and the anguish it sets in motion is unbearable for Luca. He looks for consolation in numerous new relationships and gets to know women and men who only increase his longing for Aurora. He enjoys the attention and affection of the people he meets and hurts them when he rejects them. In the process, however, he finds out more and more about himself. In the end he knows what happiness means for him.

One single night can change your life forever ...



Ivy Andrews
One Single Night
 [A single night]
 L.O.V.E. series Vol. 1
 Novel

Blanvalet Paperback
 480 pages
 May 2020

Ivy Andrews alias Viola Plötz was born in 1979 and after studying communication design started freelancing as a wedding photographer and designer. In 2014 she finally decided to make her dream of a book of her own come true – a decision that led to several successful self-published novels and now the Blanvalet *L.O.V.E.* series.

When the fashion-crazy Libby meets the successful young designer Jasper Chase at the New York Fashion Week, she does not realise that only a few hours later she will be spending an unforgettable night with him.

A year and a half later their paths cross again: at the Plymouth College of Art, where Libby has enrolled in a course in fashion design. Their first meeting, however, is anything but magical and Libby finds herself wondering why she kept having to think of Jasper in the previous months, for stardom seems to have gone to his head. Yet Jasper has by no means forgotten Libby – and neither has his best friend Ian for whom the talented American girl is a thorn in the flesh ...

Grand feelings, hot flirts and glamorous fashion – the major start to a new sensational New Adult series!

The *L.O.V.E.* series continues in July:



A Single Night
 (Vol. 1)
 May. 2020



A Single Word
 (Vol. 2)
 July 2020

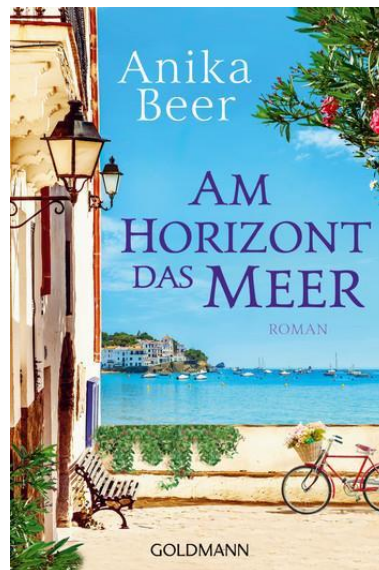


A Single Touch
 (Vol. 3)
 Sept. 2020



A Single Kiss
 (Vol. 4)
 Nov. 2020

A story about love, loss and the courage to tackle life



Anika Beer
On the Horizon the Sea
[Am Horizont das Meer]
Novel

Goldmann Paperback
304 pages
May 2020

Anika Beer grew up surrounded by stories. She learned to read when she was three, and at the age of eight she started writing her own tales. She has now published several novels for teenagers and adults.

Sofia has been dreaming of the sea ever since she can remember. Of a rugged coast and the roar of surging waves. She has no idea where these images come from, and her grandmother Emilie keeps avoiding the issue when she asks about the past.

It is not until after Emilie's death that Sofia finds a box containing letters from a fishing village on the Costa Brava. It seems that as a little girl Sofia once spent the summer there. Determined to find the sea of her dreams she sets off for Spain – and the search for her own past ...

Sometimes cloud nine is on a small island



Mina Gold
**The Summer of
Island Flowers**

[Der Sommer der Inselblumen]
Island Flower series (Vol. 1)
Novel

Penguin
592 pages
February 2020

Mina Gold, born in 1987, is a graduate in European literature and freelances as a proof-reader and publisher's editor. In order to pursue her love of beautiful things she also designs jewellery.

When Anna finds herself facing the ruins of her love life, all she wants to do is get away from Hamburg. So, without further ado, she grabs her beloved little dachshund, Prince Harry, and makes for the North Sea Island of Texel. Here she would like to realise her dream of her own flower shop where she can spoil customers with colourful bunches of flowers and the smell of coffee.

But the new beginning is more difficult than Anna had imagined, for the islanders are stubborn and boycott her business. And if that were not enough, she is confronted by a dark secret from her childhood she had always run away from and which won't give her any peace. Luckily, however, help comes to Anna in the form of the charming organic farmer Luuk, who makes her heart beat that little bit faster. And then she gets to know her charming old neighbour Roos – and together they hatch out a plan to save the shop.

**When the oranges in the trees sparkle
and the sun is high up in the sky, it is
time to fall in love ...**



Manuela Inusa
Orange Dreams
[Orangenträume]
The Californian Dreams series
Vol. 2 – Novel

Blanvalet Paperback
432 pages
April 2020

Manuela Inusa, born in 1981, even as a child knew that she was going to be a writer one day. Her short stories, novels and more than thirty self-published novelettes have reached many readers. Her bestselling *Valerie Lane* series quickly found an enthusiastic readership.

The best time of the year for Lucinda is here at last: as every July, her three best friends have come to stay with her on her beloved orange farm in sunny southern California. They are going to pick oranges, enjoy the sun, stroll down memory lane and talk about life and love – there's Jonah, for example, the attractive grocer from the neighbouring village with whom Lucinda could well imagine having more than a mere flirt.

But Rosemary, Jennifer and Michelle don't know that the farm is hardly making a profit and Lucinda is on the verge of bankruptcy. When she tells her friends that this will probably be their last summer among the oranges, they are all devastated. Then they work out a plan for saving the farm ...

The previous volume of the bestselling *Californian Dreams* series:



Winter Vanilla (Vol. 1)
[Wintervanille]

• *Spiegel* bestseller: more than 80,000 copies sold

Blanvalet Paperback
480 pages
September 2019

Full speed to happiness – two women, a little green car and the summer of their lives



Stephanie Jana /
Ursula Kollritsch
**Coco, Sophie and that
Paris Business**
[Coco, Sophie und die Sache
mit Paris]
Novel

Goldmann Paperback
448 pages
April 2020

Stephanie Jana and **Ursula Kollritsch** met through their work as freelance editors and have been best friends ever since. Together they write heartening novels and share a passion for travel, laughter and cherry liqueur.

Editor Coco and her best friend, single mum and literary agent Sophie, share all their secrets with each other. Well, almost all their secrets. To begin with, when Coco falls in love with Nik, the charming brother of her ex-husband, she keeps it to herself. She first wants to visit Nik in Paris to find out if it is serious.

But then on the spur of the moment Sophie and her 14-year-old daughter Freddy decide to go along as well, and so the trip to the city of love turns out very differently from what Coco had thought it would be. They set off in Sophie's bright green rust bucket on a turbulent trip along the picturesque lanes of Alsace straight to the summer of their lives ...

A story about nights spent dancing, deep passion and wrong decisions



Rebekka Knoll
Blue Nights
[Blaue Nächte]
Novel

Penguin
336 pages
January 2020

Rebekka Knoll, born in 1988, studied German literature and theatre science. She has already published several novels and been awarded the Kurd Laßwitz Scholarship by the city of Gotha.

Germany in the 1960s. Lotte and Emil are still children when they fall in love with each other. But when Lotte's family moves away they lose sight of one another. Many years later they meet again in the *Blue Nights* dancing club. Between closely embracing couples in jeans and miniskirts they promise each other that this is where they will find each other if ever their paths should ever part again ...

Fifty years later young Milena is waitressing in the *Blue Nights*. One evening an old man is desperate to be allowed in, maintaining that there is someone waiting for him on the dance floor. Milena sends him away, but his request gives her no peace. She delves into the history of the *Blue Nights* – and stumbles across a moving love story ...

A love as light and fleeting as a hot summer's day ...



Sylvia Lott
Dune Summer
[Der Dünensommer]
Novel

Blanvalet Paperback
448 pages
May 2020

Sylvia Lott is a freelance journalist and writer and works for various women's, lifestyle and travel magazines. Her novels *The Island Women*, *The Lilac Island* and *The Rose Gardener* were on the *Spiegel* bestseller list for weeks.

www.romane-von-sylvia-lott.de

Norderney, 1959. Ulla is leading an apparently carefree life. She is young and good-looking, married to a wealthy Hamburg publisher and spends the summer months in an upmarket resort on the North Sea coast.

Yet her stays there have a serious background: even after three years of marriage Ulla and her husband are still childless and the maritime climate is hoped to boost Ulla's health. Far away from the close city air in Hamburg she strolls along the sea front, goes bathing, parties and generally enjoys the unusually hot weather. There is talk of a summer of the century and everyone is slightly crazy. Ulla gets to know the penniless photographer Hans, who is so very different from her husband. Before long, there are tender feelings developing between them and when the summer begins to draw to a close, Ulla has to make a difficult decision ...

In the vast lavender fields in Provence happiness is just waiting round the corner.



Pauline Mai
**Happiness is
Lavender Blue**
[Das Glück ist lavendelblau]
Novel

Blanvalet Paperback
416 pages
April 2020

Pauline Mai was born in 1989. While in France she fell in love with the way of life there, the rough sea coast and macaroons. She is now living in Berlin again, where she has been working as an editor and literary scout.

"Mathilde has fallen out of the window!" When Penelope hears of Grandmother's accident she drops everything in Berlin and travels to Provence to be at her side. Spending all her time caring for someone is just what she needs at the moment, for if there is anything she does not want to occupy herself with it is her own life.

And so, bursting with enthusiasm, Penelope plunges into work at Mathilde's little guesthouse, where she soon not only has to decide between an old love and a new one, but is also reminded of her idyllic carefree childhood days. Between vast fields of lavender and French desserts she wonders when she forgot how to be happy. There is something Penelope doesn't realise: the stars over Provence are more in her favour than she thinks ...

A broken heart. A stunning stud farm on the Baltic Sea coast. And a man to lose one's heart to.



Jette Martens
**Swan Lake Estate –
Your Love in My Heart**
[Gut Schwansee –
Deine Liebe in meinem
Herzen]
Swan Lake Estate series
(Vol. 1) – Novel

Penguin
384 pages
With 1 b/w illustration
April 2020

Jette Martens, born in 1963, loves the sea, has been horse-crazy ever since her childhood and is with heart and soul a family person. She gets the best ideas for her romantic love stories while out riding on the Baltic coast or walking through the dunes. She got her inspiration for the setting of her idyllic Swan Lake Estate trilogy from a stud farm where she spends a lot of time.

Leni urgently needs to get away from it all: from her relationship and from city life in Berlin. On the spur of the moment she flees to Swan Lake estate, where there is some beautiful old furniture for sale she would like to restore. She is given a hearty welcome on the stud farm amidst the fields of rapeseed near the Baltic coast – only Nathan thinks she is a spoilt city girl.

When the opportunity unexpectedly presents itself for Leni to set up a small workshop on the magnificent estate, she can scarcely believe her luck. She ignores the fact that Nathan behaves impertinently towards her – and that every time she sees him it gives her a warm tingly feeling ...

The kick-off of a new major trilogy set on a stunning estate on the Baltic coast.

The story of a woman who dares a new beginning in life and love, and a family album full of sumptuous memories

English sample translation available



Anne Müller
Two Weeks in June
[Zwei Wochen im Juni]
Novel

Penguin
240 pages
April 2020

Anne Müller lives in Berlin. After studying theatre and literature sciences she freelanced as a radio journalist before turning to screenwriting. *Summer in Super 8*, her first literary novel, found many enthusiastic readers. *Two Weeks in June* is her new novel, which takes her back to her homeland on the Baltic Sea.

Ada loves her parents' house at the Baltic Sea with the wonderful farm garden, but now, after her mother's death, Gragaard has to be sold.

Together with her sister Toni she clears out the house and the boat shed, and a journey into the past begins: there are her mother's evening dresses, which revive the roaring summer festivals and the happy days before the father left the family. And there are the oil portraits that the Russian painter Maxim, for whose attention the girls competed, once made of them. When they find a letter from their mother to both of them in the bureau, Ada finally takes the courage to face her desires, and the farewell turns into a new beginning.

The world of perfume, a young woman with a special talent and a fateful love



Teresa Simon
The Lilly Bride
[Die Lilienbraut]
Novel

Heyne Paperback
528 pages
May 2020

Teresa Simon is the pseudonym of a well-known German writer. She loves travelling (including into the past), is interested in unusual biographies and is often inspired by atmospheric historical settings.

Cologne in the 1930s. After the death of her father, Nellie Voss has to leave commercial school and take a job with the famous perfume company 4711. She very soon realises that she has an infallible sense of smell. But more than this her mind is occupied by her hopeless love of a man she cannot have.

Cologne 2019. Nina van Geeren's small shop selling soap and fragrances is booming. Yet she would also like to develop her own perfume, and so she sets out to look for old recipes. In the process she stumbles across the name of Nellie Voss and a diary that makes her own life look very different.

Always headlong into life



Meike Werkmeister
**The Light Is Dancing
 Over the Sea**
 [Über dem Meer
 tanzt das Licht]
 Novel

Goldmann Paperback
 352 pages
 May 2020

Meike Werkmeister lives with her husband and their son in Hamburg and freelances as a journalist for various magazines. Whenever she finds the time she goes to the seaside – especially to Norderney, where she has been holidaying with her family since she was a child.

Maria has travelled half the world, never ignored an adventure. Not even in her dreams would she have thought she would end up on the little island of Norderney. But that is where she is – and she is happy. Maria loves her little beach café. She loves her family even more, her daughters Morlen and Hannah. And Simon, Hannah's father. Her life is packed and there is no time for problems.

Until Simon breaks out of their daily life together and goes away with Hannah. Maria has suddenly got time. And with the time come the questions. Is she still the old explorer of old? Has she turned into a different person? And if so – where does she really belong?

Meike Werkmeister's debut novel *Stars Can Only Be Seen in the Dark* sold 100,000 copies.

Press for *Stars Can Only Be Seen in the Dark*:

"This story, told as sensitively as authentically, had me already entirely hooked after only a few pages."
Emotion

"A novel like a best friend, one to hold fast in your heart."
Feel Good Magazine

"Meike Werkmeister has written the book of the summer – refreshing like a sea breeze, joyful, and full of emotions."
Buchmarkt

A glamorous sea-side hotel, an influential family, and a well-kept secret ...



Caren Benedikt
**The Grand Hotel –
Reaching for the Stars**
[Das Grand Hotel –
Die nach den Sternen greifen]
Novel

Blanvalet
528 pages
March 2020

Caren Benedikt is the pseudonym of author Petra Mattfeldt. After legal training she freelanced as a journalist and now mainly works as a novelist.

Rügen 1924. There it is on the promenade of Binz, white and magnificent – the impressive Grand Hotel belonging to the von Plesow family. A lot has happened here, and things have not always been easy, but Bernadette is proud of her hotel, the best in town. It was here that she brought up her children: the quiet Alexander, who one day will inherit the Grand Hotel; Josephine, the rebellious artist who is still trying to find her place in life; Constantin, always on the go, who already has his own hotel in Berlin, the Astor.

Things could hardly be better. Of course, there is the odd quarrel with her daughter, and something seems to be not quite right with the otherwise cheerful maid Marie – but all this is nothing compared to what the unannounced visit of a man could lead to who threatens Bernadette he will disclose her darkest secret ...

The first volume of an opulent Family Saga.

The glory of a grand epoch and the rise of a great dynasty



Florian Busch
**The Porcelain Heiress –
Uneasy Times**
[Die Porzellan-Erbin –
Unruhige Zeiten]
The Porcelain Saga (Vol. 1)
Novel

Goldmann
544 pages
April 2020

Florian Busch is the pseudonym of author Stephan M. Rother. He was born in 1968 and studied history, art history and philology in Göttingen. For fifteen years he was on the stage as stand-up historian "Magister Rother". Under the name of Benjamin Monferat he published the bestselling novels *World in Flames* and *The Tower of the World*.

1866: The small Strehlow porcelain manufactory is on the threshold of a glorious future. Young countess Thyra von Hardenstein is the patriarch's only heiress. She is to take control of the company one day and realize her father's dream: make porcelain, the white gold of royal tables, affordable for ordinary people.

But then the heavily pregnant Thyra is killed in a tragic carriage accident. Against all expectations, her child survives. All hopes now rest on the shoulders of young Sophie, who could take over the inheritance when she is old enough. But the girl is weighed down by a dark secret ...

The beginning of a major family saga featuring a German porcelain manufactory in the 19th century.

Press

"The author writes briskly and has developed complex characters."
Frankfurter Neue Presse

The third volume of the bestselling *The Photographer* saga

**Spiegel
Bestselling
Author**

**Rights available except: World
English**



Petra Durst-Benning
**The Photographer –
The World of Tomorrow**
[Die Fotografin –
Die Welt von morgen]
The Photographer Saga
(Vol. 3) – Novel

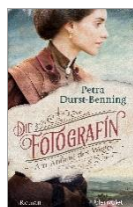
Blanvalet
480 pages
With 4 b/w illustrations
April 2020

Petra Durst-Benning has been freelancing full time as a writer for ten years. All her novels have been *Spiegel* bestsellers and are available in numerous European countries. She is also a celebrated author in the US.

After her uncle Josef's death, Mimi Reventlow has resumed her work as a photographer. But she is no longer alone for she has been joined by Anton, the son of an innkeeper. The two of them travel through the countryside and after the narrow village life are keen to at last experience the hustle and bustle of the city.

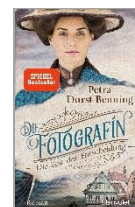
In Berlin, Anton manages to start a flourishing postcard business, while Mimi finds it increasingly difficult to find a job as a photographer. But instead of regretting bygone times, Mimi would prefer to help shape the world of tomorrow. Then she bumps into old acquaintances, such as the sheep baroness Bernadotte, who is dreaming of a great love. What neither of the two women realise is that they are still to face the biggest challenge of their lives ...

The bestselling *The Photographer* saga:



At the Beginning of the Road (Vol. 1)
[Die Fotografin –
Am Anfang des Weges]

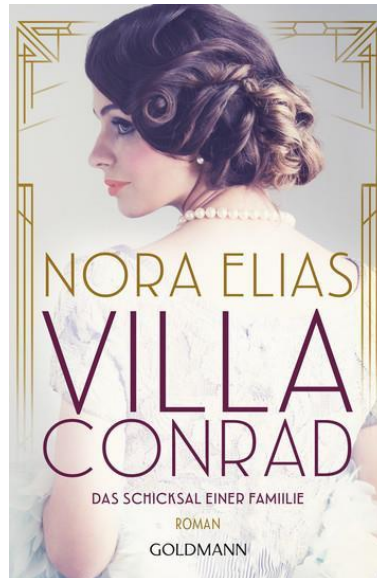
Blanvalet, 448 pages, September 2018



The Time of Decision (Vol. 2)
[Die Fotografin –
Die Zeit der Entscheidung]

Blanvalet, 512 pages, April 2019

A wealthy family in the years between the world wars and a young woman fighting for her great love



Nora Elias
**Conrad Villa –
The Story of a Family**
[Villa Conrad]
Novel

Goldmann Paperback
576 pages
January 2020

Nora Elias is the pseudonym of a writer of historical novels. She started writing as a student and is now devoting herself increasingly to recent German history. She loves traveling and long hikes. Her novel *Antonia's Daughter* was awarded the much sought-after DELIA Literature Prize in 2018.

Frankfurt in the Golden Twenties. Industrialist Günther Conrad is at the peak of his power. Yet whereas his older daughter Clara is meeting all his expectations and has married the entrepreneur Eduard Jungbluth, Conrad's son and future heir, Raiko, has taken the path of a henpecked husband.

But it is his two youngest offspring, twins Sophia and Ludwig, who Conrad worries about most. They prefer to spend their time with actors than in more refined company. When Sophia falls in love with Sinto Vincent Rubik, a catastrophe starts to loom on the horizon with the coming of the National Socialists – for Sophia takes risks for her love that threaten to sweep her family into an abyss ...

A young woman with brittle bone disease, love at second sight and the threat of World War I



Julie Hilgenberg
The Brittle Girl
[Das Mädchen aus Glas]
Novel

Diana Paperback
512 pages
April 2020

Julie Hilgenberg, born in 1991, studied journalism, works as an actress and freelances for the daily *Süddeutsche Zeitung*. The thought that very often you can't help but like someone when you get to know them properly inspired her to write *The Brittle Girl*.

Berlin, 1913. Elisa has the very rare and little researched brittle bone disease, which is why she seldom leaves her protective home. Louis is a daredevil and loves risks. Initially the marriage their parents have arranged for them seems to be a punishment, especially as Elisa is in love with her doctor, Wilhelm.

But while World War One is looming on the horizon, Elisa and Louis get closer. When both Louis and Wilhelm are eventually called up, it becomes clear how strong Elisa really is – and she finds out what true love really means.

The colours of the south, crystal-clear water and a summer that binds two young women together forever ...



Julia Kröhn
**Riviera –
Dream of the Sea**
[Riviera –
Der Traum vom Meer]
The Riviera Saga (Vol. 1)
Novel

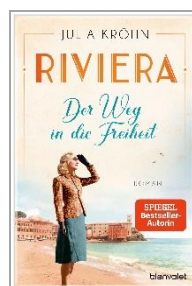
Blanvalet Paperback
464 pages
April 2020

Julia Kröhn studied history. Her big passion is not only telling stories but also delving down into history. To date she has published more than thirty largely historical novels, some of them under a pseudonym. Her latest popular book, *The Fashion House*, which was in the *Spiegel* top 20 list, is now being followed by her opulent two-volume family saga set on the sparkling Italian Riviera.

Frankfurt 1922: Salome has always wanted to swim in the sea, and one day her dream comes true when her father, the owner of a travel agency, decides to extend tourism to down south and the Italian sun – to San Remo on the picturesque Riviera. In order to break into the market he goes into cooperation with hotel owner Renzo Barbera.

Before long, the two families have close ties on a level that is more than merely professional, for Salome makes friends with Renzo's daughter, Ornella. But soon the first signs of fascism start looming over this little paradise and make further travel difficult. Events come thick and fast when Ornella falls in love with a French businessman's son with whom Salome also has a closer relationship ...

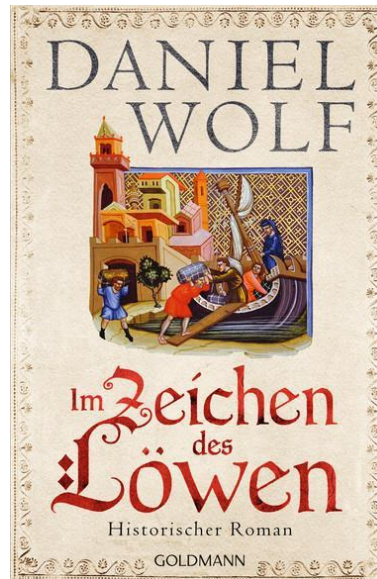
The *Riviera* Saga continues in June:



Riviera – Path to Freedom (Vol. 2)
[Riviera – Der Weg in die Freiheit]

Blanvalet Paperback
432 pages
June 2020

Young Jann Osinga is a brilliant ship builder – but he has powerful enemies and their revenge is merciless



Daniel Wolf
In the Sign of the Lion
[Im Zeichen des Löwen]
The Friesland Saga (Vol. 1)
Novel

Goldmann Paperback
928 pages
February 2020

Daniel Wolf is the pseudonym of writer Christoph Lode, who was born in 1977, first worked not only as a music teacher but also in a chemical factory and a psychiatric clinic before devoting himself entirely to writing.

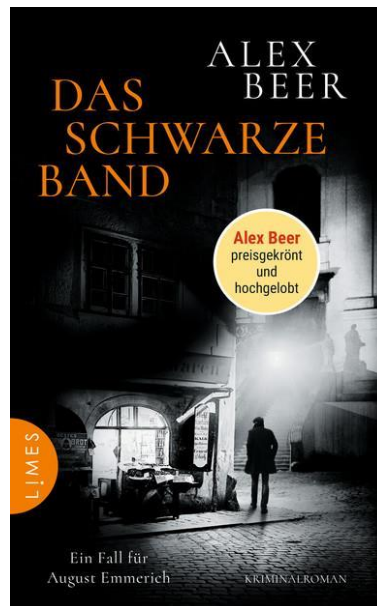
Friesland 1351: Building ships – that has always been the dream of young carpenter Jann Wilken. His aim is to revolutionise seafaring with his brilliant ideas and make a name for himself in the harbours of the Hanseatic League.

But things are not easy for Jann. He is the illegitimate son of the powerful Wilke Tammen, who loathes his bastard child and humiliates him every day. The violent-tempered Wilke is involved in a vendetta against his archenemy Enne Rycken and draws his sons into the conflict. Jann has long been in love with his childhood sweetheart Jorien. But when he is about to admit his feelings to her his village is attacked by Enne and it results in catastrophe ...

The beginning of a series featuring the influential Frisian Osinga family at the time of the Hanseatic League.

A maverick investigator, a deadly intrigue and a whole republic on the edge of an abyss ...

Award-winning
and highly
acclaimed author



Alex Beer
The Black Band
[Das schwarze Band]
A case for August Emmerich
Crime novel

Limes
352 pages
May 2020

Alex Beer, born in Bregenz, studied archaeology and lives in Vienna. Both *The Second Rider*, and *The Dark Courier*, vols. 1 and 3 of her series featuring police agent August Emmerich, were awarded the Leo Perutz Prize. *The Red Woman*, vol. 2 of the series, was nominated for the Friedrich Glauser Prize 2019. After enthusiastic reviews, the fourth novel in the series, *The Black Band*, is eagerly awaited by her fans.

www.alex-beer.com

Vienna, July 1921. The city is groaning under a heatwave, water is being rationed, and the asphalt is melting. Detective inspector August Emmerich, however, is bothered by a very different problem: because he has yet again been misbehaving he has been taken off the case of two murdered striptease artists and shut away in an elite cadet school. Here, along with some other black sheep from the police service, he is to learn better manners.

But then a colleague mysteriously dies at the school and Emmerich has again to break all the rules to find the murderer – for he finds himself facing a bloody intrigue taking him to the highest circles in the world of politics ...

Praise

"The stories Alex Beer tells also relate to the present time, but the way she tells them brings the distant past to life."

Statement of the Jury of the Leo Perutz Prize

Press

"August Emmerich ... One of the greatest crime story detectives ever in recent years."

WDR

**"Ingenious and extremely fast-paced:
this crime story has cool high tension to
offer!"**

Bernhard Aichner



Christine Brand
The Patient
[Die Patientin]
Crime novel

Blanvalet
480 pages
March 2020

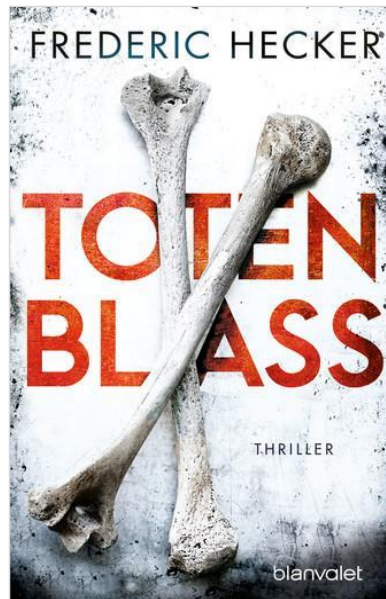
Christine Brand, born in Switzerland, is an editor of the *Neue Zürcher Zeitung*, a reporter for Swiss television and a crime reporter. Her time in court and her research and reports on police work have given her deeper insights into the world of justice and criminology. *The Patient* is her second novel after the *Spiegel* bestselling debut *Blind*.

The blind Nathaniel and his young godson Silas are an odd couple – but they have been inseparable ever since the day Nathaniel saved the life of Silas's mother. Every month they visit the coma ward of the hospital in Bern together, but today something is wrong. There is an unknown woman lying in the bed Silas's mother occupied for four years. The doctor says she has died. But there is no grave, no death certificate, no answers to Nathaniel's questions.

When journalist Milla Nova, a good friend of theirs, finds out that several coma patients have gone missing in Switzerland, she senses a scandal. Then dead bodies appear on the shores of the Aare River, shedding a different light on the matter. Nathaniel realises that the missing patient is alive – and her life in mortal danger ...

The second white-knuckle case by the bestselling Swiss writer featuring investigators Milla Nova and Sandro Bandini.

**He has been murdering for years
without being caught, killing is an
addiction to him ...**



Frederic Hecker
Deathly Pale
[Totenblass]
Thriller

Blanvalet Paperback
608 pages
March 2020

Frederic Hecker, born in 1980, studied medicine in Frankfurt. His basic medical training at the Institute of Forensic Medicine was followed by two further qualifications in the field of surgery. He now works as a plastic surgeon and spends his free time writing.

Frankfurt on a cold and damp November evening: There is a female corpse floating in the Main, naked and covered with peculiar wounds. Detective chief superintendent Joachim Fuchs and his new colleague, the young case analyst Lara Schuhmann, are facing a mystery. After the post-mortem they are convinced that they are dealing with a perfidious serial killer.

When during his investigations Fuchs gets to know witness Sophie better he is taken off the case for reasons of conflicting interests. He continues his investigations on his own – thus setting off a fatal chain of events ...

A thriller debut with a medical background featuring investigators Lara Schuhmann and Joachim Fuchs.

Two mysterious suicides take Vernau back to his own past – with deadly consequences ...



Elisabeth Herrmann
Requiem for a Friend
[Requiem für einen Freund]
Crime novel

Goldmann Paperback
480 pages
May 2020

Elisabeth Herrmann, born in 1959, worked as a journalist for *RBB* television before her breakthrough with her novel *The Nanny*. Almost all her books have been or are being filmed. Elisabeth Herrmann was awarded the Radio Bremen Crime Book Prize and the German Crime Literature Prize in 2012.

Public prosecutor Carolin Weigert is on the verge of exposing a huge bribery scandal when she suddenly and unaccountably dies. Years later the finance authorities send an auditor to check on Berlin lawyer Vernau. Shortly afterwards the man is lying shot dead in Vernau's office.

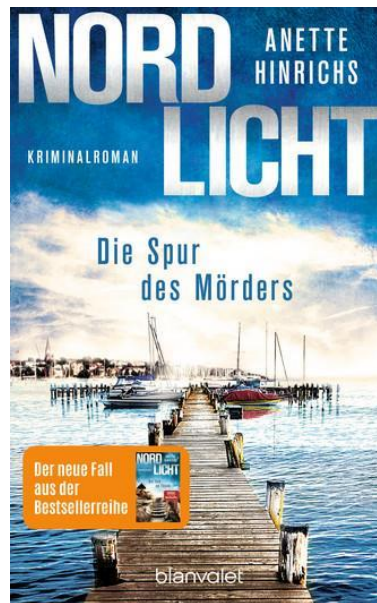
The police work on the assumption it was suicide, but Vernau has his doubts – especially when he finds out that the man was secretly doing investigations for the dead public prosecutor. A web of corruption and violence extends up to the highest circles in Berlin, and Vernau is targeted by the shadow men who eliminate anyone who gets in their way ...

1.1 million copies of the novels by the *Spiegel* bestselling author sold in German-speaking countries.

Praise

"Elisabeth Herrmann is particularly good at playing with German history."
Jan Josef Liefers

Evil knows no bounds... Two countries, two investigators, one horrible crime.



Anette Hinrichs
**Northern Lights –
The Murderer's Trail**
[Nordlicht –
Die Spur des Mörders]
The Northern Lights series
(Vol. 2) – Crime novel

Blanvalet Paperback
480 pages
April 2020

Anette Hinrichs hails from northern Germany but now lives as a freelance writer with her family in Munich. *Northern Lights – The Murderer's Trail* is the second volume in the Crime series featuring the German-Danish team of investigators, Boisen & Nyborg.

The body of 73-year-old Karl Benton is found at the foot of the Idsted Lion in Flensburg. He had been brutally kicked to death and robbed. A random victim or deliberate murder?

The retired teacher belonged to the Danish minority in the city and after the murder the media and authorities begin to worry that the peaceful coexistence in the borders is imperilled. Detective chief inspector Vibeke Boisen and her colleague Rasmus Nyborg from the Danish police are under pressure and have to deliver results quickly. Then in the dead man's basement they stumble across a hidden cavity containing something extremely volatile ...

In this case, Vibeke Boisen is not only dealing with a perfidious murderer – her investigations also stir up memories of her childhood she'd rather forget but will eventually have to face.

The previous volume in the bestselling *Northern Lights* series:



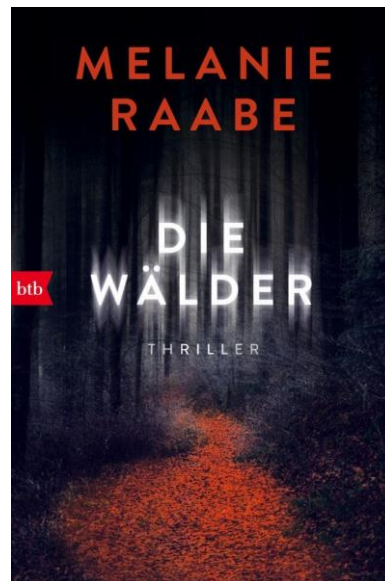
**Northern Lights –
The Dead Woman on the Beach (Vol. 1)**
[Die Tote am Strand]

• *Spiegel* bestseller: more than 120,000 copies sold

Blanvalet Paperback
480 pages
September 2019

"What starts out as a dark fairytale soon turns into a fast-paced thriller. Intense!"

Emotion



Melanie Raabe
The Woods
[Die Wälder]
Thriller

btb
432 pages
December 2019

Melanie Raabe was born in 1981. After her studies she worked as a journalist during the day and secretly wrote books at night. *The Trap* was published in 2015, followed by *The Truth* in 2016. Melanie Raabe's novels are published in over 20 countries. *The Trap* was one of the most fiercely contested books of recent years.

When Nina gets the news that Tim, her best friend since childhood days, has suddenly died, the world collapses around her. It's made all the worse when she finds out that shortly before his death he had desperately been trying to get hold of her.

And she is not the only one he had contacted. Tim not only left her one last enigmatic message but also an urgent request – to find his sister who has disappeared in the well-nigh endless woods surrounding the village that they had all grown up in. But does Nina really want to do this? Does she really want to go back to the village and the woods she had never wanted to set foot in again – ever?

Press

"Right from the start there is a distinct atmosphere in the novel – eerie and mysterious. Plus cliffhangers that dramatically increase the suspense."
Bremen Zwei

"Anyone who reads *The Woods* will love and hate them at the same time."
Cosmopolitan

"Without a doubt, Melanie Raabe belongs to the best German-speaking authors of psychological thrillers."

Hamburger Abendblatt

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