

*Literarische
Agentur
Kossack*

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AUTUMN 2022

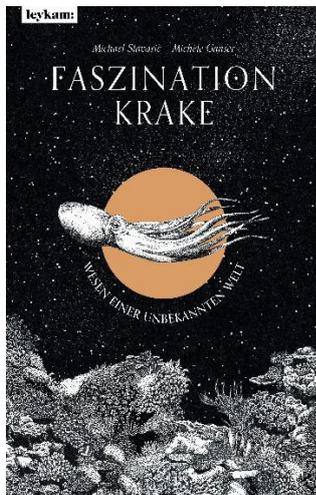
Since 1995 **Kossack Literary Agency** has been representing German-speaking authors and their works including fiction, non-fiction, children's books and books for young adults. In addition, we are representing the subsidiary rights of several German-speaking publishing houses like

mare Verlag, Kunstmann, Pendragon, Elster & Salis Verlag, Unionsverlag or **Leykam** among others.

We also sell German translation rights for international publishers and agencies like

Jenny Brown Associates (Edinburgh/UK), Birlinn Ltd. (Edinburgh/UK), New Island Books (Dublin/UK), Tuttle Publishing (USA), University of New Orleans Press (USA) and Shanghai Press (China).

HIGHLIGHTS of 2021/2022 (where we do hold world rights) include



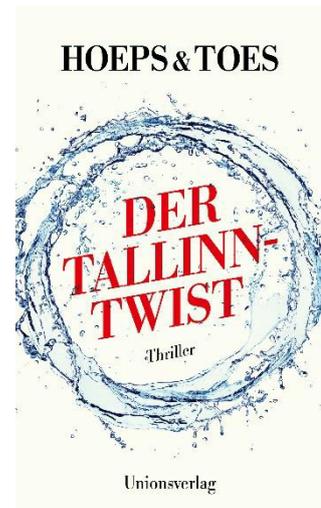
Winner of *Austrian Children's Science Book of the Year 2022 + Austrian Children's Book Prize 2022*

Rights sold:
English World (Pushkin Press), China (Yilin Press), South Korea (Hangilsa)



SPIEGEL bestselling title

Rights sold:
Netherlands (Alfabet)
Film rights



Red-hot political thriller about industrial espionage in Europe

Rights sold:
Estonia (Tänapäev)

Film rights in negotiation

Martina Clavadetscher

In Plain Sight

A radical change of perspective: at last, the women who for so long were 'seen but not heard' have been given a voice

The winner of the 2021 Swiss Book Prize gives a voice to women in famous paintings from history

Tells the stories behind the works of great artists

Multifaceted, subtle, surprising prose

Recommended by *New Books in German*



192 pages, Unionsverlag, 24.00 €
Publication date: August 2022

The girl with the pearl earring, the lady with an ermine, women in world-famous paintings by Leonardo da Vinci, Vermeer, Rembrandt, Courbet, Schiele, Munch. We see their bodies, their gazes, their clothes, captured – or held captive – in an eternal moment.

But who were they outside of that moment?

Martina Clavadetscher investigates their lives, allows them to speak, and gives them their voices back. She says: “Without these women there would be no marveling, no gazing – and more than that, without these women, art history as we know it would be inconceivable. These women were also colleagues, artists, helpers, catalysts, mirrors of their times, icons, sources of inspiration, partners, saviours.”

“Martina Clavadetscher is one of the boldest and most original voices of her generation.” NZZ am Sonntag

“Clavadetscher mixes diverse literary forms in an ingenious way, playing with sound and rhythm and creating a precise and at the same time very poetic language.” SRF

Martina Clavadetscher (born in 1979) is an author and playwright with degrees in German Literature, Linguistics and Philosophy. Her prose has earned her the *Marianne und Curt Dienemann Foundation Prize*, and in 2021 her novel *Die Erfindung des Ungehorsams* (*The Invention of Disobedience*) was awarded the *Swiss Book Prize*. She lives in Switzerland.

Lisbeth Exner

The Reality Shop – Forty-Nine Minutes

With a foreword by Elfriede Jelinek

In an apartment in an old building in Vienna, piled high with papers, six characters meet to plan an eviction.



144 pages, Elster&Salis Publ., 18.00 €
Publication Date: September 2022

There is an elderly tenant with dementia, surrounded by her vast library and a collection of candle stumps, who is trying to understand the meaning of this illustrious gathering. A bailiff with compulsive behaviors who is struggling with alcohol addiction. A property owner who is battling with her conscience. A young man from the locksmith service who turns out to be an anti-capitalist student. A removal man with a criminal past. And a hundred-and-twenty-year-old ghost who haunts the premises and cannot bring herself to leave the apartment building she acquired during the 'Third Reich'.

In her first novel, Lisbeth Exner writes succinct, incredibly rich prose. She explores the multifaceted ways in which these very different characters reflect on the themes of housing and property in the forty-nine minutes the visit lasts – from Viennese housing policy and the selling-off of Jewish property after the 'Anschluss', to the property speculation we see today; from the supposed victory of capitalism to the idea of the common good; from domestic burglary to forced eviction; from legal possibilities to individual human solutions; from the sterile room with a flatscreen TV to the dusty library.

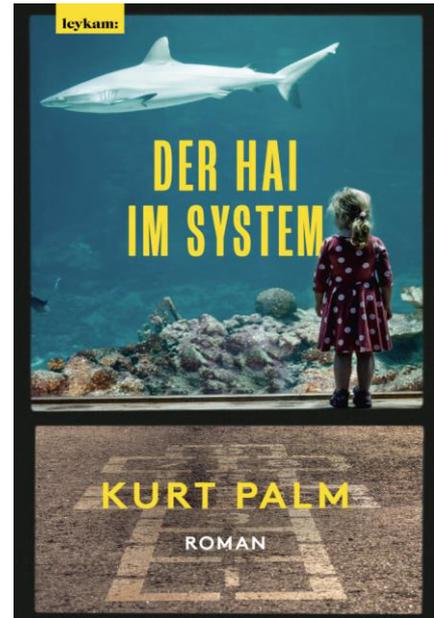
The foreword by Elfriede Jelinek is printed using old German spelling rules at her request and explores the term 'property' and its meaning, in both the material and the moral sense.

Lisbeth Exner, born in Vienna in 1964, lives with her family in Tutzing, Bavaria, and in Vienna. She has a degree in German Studies and did her doctorate on the philosopher Salomo Friedlaender/ Mynona. Exner has published monographs on Grete Weil, Leopold von Sacher-Masoch and Empress Elisabeth. With Herbert Kapfer, she co-edited a volume of letters by Richard Huelsenbeck and Franz Pfemfert, and she has also published the two-volume montage *Verborgene Chronik (Hidden Chronicle)* made up of diary entries from the First World War. *The Reality Shop* is her first novel.

Kurt Palm

The Shark in the System

*“My heart is pounding like crazy,
and my body is drenched in sweat.
I am disgusted with myself, despise myself. Fatso.
Fat pig. But there’s no going back.
What’s done is done. Death can kiss my ass”.*



304 pages, Leykam Publ., 23.50 €
Publication Date: August 2022

Franziska Steinbrenner, a teacher, has finally won the custody battle for her daughter. She teaches at a so-called “problem school” and is losing her faith in the educational system. Police officer Philip Hoffmann finds himself in a romantic dilemma. Although his wife is pregnant with his child, he started an affair with a mysterious stranger, who is now threatening to “drop the bomb” on him. Meanwhile, a man sits in an apartment and contemplates his failed life. Next to him leans a StG 77 assault rifle with 42 bullets in the magazine. The man has never met the teacher nor the policeman, but on this one day, the chain of events escalates in a fatal manner.

Kurt Palm is a master of suspense. This novel reads like a thriller, barrelling toward a headlong collision with catastrophe – a book that gives us a glimpse into the abysses of its characters’ minds and depicts in hair-raising detail the excesses of toxic masculinity.

Kurt Palm, born in Upper Austria in 1955, resides in Vienna, where he works as an author and director. Palm became famous for his celebrated TV series “Phettbergs Nette Leit Show” (1994-96). His bestseller *Bad Fucking* (Residenz, 2010) was awarded the 2011 *Friedrich Glauser Prize* as the best crime novel written in the German language that year. It was then successfully adapted to film. His most recent novels include *Strandbadrevolution* (Deuticke, 2017) and *Monster* (Deuticke, 2019).

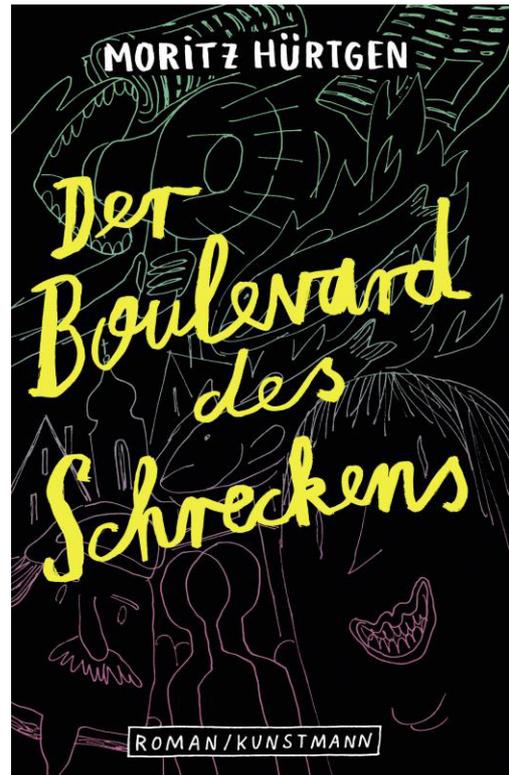
Moritz Hürtgen

Boulevard of Fear

What's the truth if it can't be invented?

A journalist at the beginning of his career.
A popular artist dying too soon.
A journey to the darkest chasms of
German provinces.

A red-hot debut on the most controversial topics
of our time! An extremely relevant novel about
politics and art, fact and fiction, and the question
of how far we are willing to go to achieve fame
and fortune.



304 pages, Publ. Kunstmann, 24.00 €
Publication Date: September 2022

Martin Kreutzer has great ambitions. But because fame and fortune don't just come to you at will, he first has to prove himself as a trainee at a Berlin-based national newspaper. Lukas Moretti was his fellow student and even then, he had already been the star among the students. Since then, he's had his breakthrough with a mix of enervating Spoken Word Poetry, Performing Arts and euphoric electronic music parties. Martin boastfully announces to his editors that he will absolutely bag this interview. He hadn't actually known Moretti all that well back then, but what's a little white lie if it gives you the chance to travel to Munich at the office's charge to kickstart your career a little?

Unfortunately, Mister Moretti doesn't want anything to do with the newspaper. Or with Martin Kreutzer for that matter. But should he let someone like Moretti ruin his career before it has even really picked up speed? And so, Martin Kreutzer spends the whole night writing until he is finally convinced that his editors will value his efforts. But then Lukas Moretti is found dead, and things start to take unpredictable turns. The office decides to assign the case to Martin and send him to Kirching, the Munich suburb where it all began and where it will all come to a disastrous end...

Moritz Hürtgen was born in 1989. He's the chief editor of the widely feared satire magazine *Titanic*. And he's no less fearsome as an author: In 2019, he published his poetry book *Angst vor Lyrik* (*Fear of Poetry*). *Boulevard of Fear* is his debut novel.

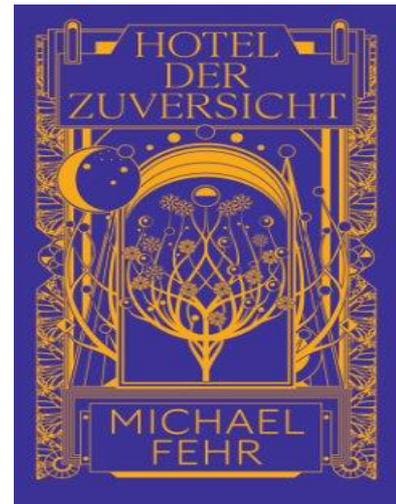
Michael Fehr
Hotel Confidence

192 pages, Publ.: Der gesunde Menschenversand, 20.00 €
 Publication: Spring 2022

While walking down the street, a simple man passes by a hotel and is flown by a bellhop on a carpet with a tangled pattern up to an extraordinary room. Welcome to Hotel Confidence!

This is where anyone and everyone appears: the businesspeople and scientists, the inventors, private detectives and spies, the fashion designer and the countess, schoolchildren, aunts and fiancés, dogs and cats, estate owners, thieves and police officers, the tightrope walker, the singer and the receptionist.

Michael Fehr sketches his characters and scenes with bold, vivid strokes, inviting his readers into a world in which other rules hold sway. Whether as dreamlike, magical events or evocative conflicts, the 48 stories illuminate the existential conditions that are part of being human.



Michael Fehr, born in 1982, grew up in Muri, in the Bern region. He pursued his post-secondary studies at the Swiss Literature Institute and the Y Institute at the Academy of Arts in Bern. Fehr is engaged professionally as a speaker, but also presents concerts based on his own programs or ones produced collaboratively. He works with plays and films, in addition to giving workshops. Fehr has been honored with numerous recognitions, including the *Kelag Prize*, which is affiliated with the *Ingeborg Bachmann Prize*, for his novel *Simeliberg*. www.michaelfehr.ch

Pedro Lenz
The Goalie's Me

192 pages, Publ.: Der gesunde Menschenversand, 25.00 €
 Publication: Spring 2010

For his novel *The Goalie's Me*, Pedro Lenz was honored in 2010 with the *Literature Prize of the Canton of Bern*. 40.000 copies sold. Rights sold to Italy, France, Hungary, Russia, Netherlands, Poland, Lithuania.

In this novel, the first-person narrator describes in colloquial language his life and experiences in the Eighties. The goalie: a young man from a village in the Central Plateau region of Switzerland, an unflagging storyteller, an equally naive and cunning rogue, who lives to tell stories and who keeps falling flat on his face in them, over and over again. The novel is carried forward by the inner monologue given by the title character and is shaped by oral expression, like many other of the texts by stage poet Pedro Lenz.



Pedro Lenz, born in 1965, lives as a freelance author and columnist in Bern. He is a member of the spoken-word ensemble *Bern is Everywhere* and the morning stories team for Radio DRS.

Sybil Schreiber

Saffron Sky

Short Stories

Following Sybil Schreiber's successful debut *Sophie hat die Gruppe verlassen* (Salis, 2018), *Safranhimmel* is a real literary coup.



208 pages, Elster&Salis Publ., 22.00 €
Publication Date: September 2022

April. An unusually warm wind blows through a 1920s cooperative housing estate. In the twenties it was on the edge of the city, but now it is a central location. Here, people live beside each other and with each other. They are all looking for something. They are all foundering. They are all wounded.

Sooner or later, each of the women ends up in hospital. Plump Beate, who scrubs her fridge, pickles cucumbers from the allotment and strokes dolls. Katja, who seeks to give meaning to her life by having an affair and does not know why she has children. Maxi, who dyes her hair bright blue and has terrible debts. Or Paula, who throws the antique wooden wardrobe out of her flat – instead of her ex-husband.

Sometimes we see the seeds of hope. When two women in love look up at the starry sky, or when a teacher dives in at the deep end in search of uncharted territory. And sometimes the comfort of hearing the strange notes of a flute from a basement room is enough to save someone from despair.

The stories in *Safranhimmel* stand alone but are also connected to each other. The language is direct, poetic and rich. And from time to time, a whimsical humour shines through. Sybil Schreiber follows her protagonists quietly and at a respectful distance. She observes in detail how Paula, Maxi and Beate search for their place, their role, and still cannot come to terms with the fact that you cannot expect too much out of life.

Sybil Schreiber was born in 1963 and grew up in Munich. She has lived in Switzerland for a long time. The former journalist and editor was awarded the *Werkbeitrag Literatur* prize by the Aargauer Kuratorium, and is currently appearing on stages across Germany with Steven Schneider, as part of the 'Schreiber vs. Schneider' tour. Following her prose debut *Sophie hat die Gruppe verlassen* (*Sophie Has Left the Group*), she was invited to the Solothurn Literary Festival and to 'Leipzig liest'. She lives with her family near Zurich and in Graubünden.

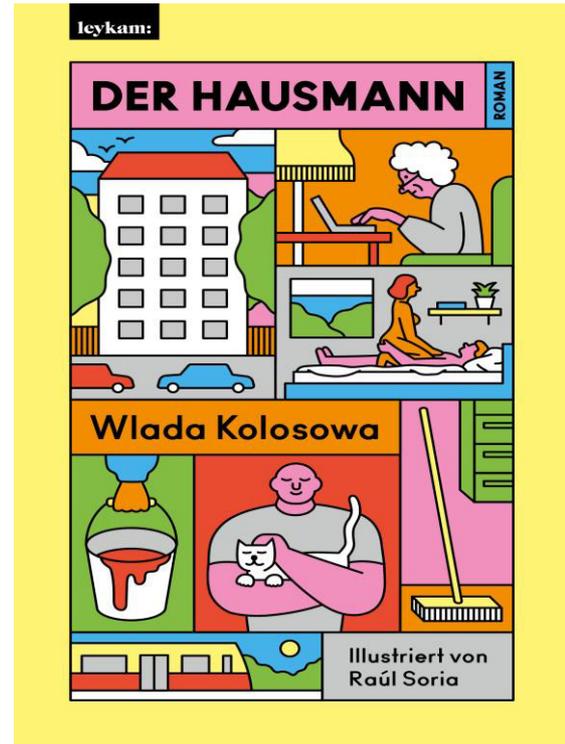
Wlada Kolosowa

The House Husband

Illustrations by Raúl Soria

“There, where I grew up, poverty was emphatically clean, always striving to be inconspicuous. This was where it flourished, verdant and healthy, as if it wished to say: *Look over here! Here I am, whether you like it or not.*”

Nominated for «Hotlist 2022» of Independent Publishers



320 pages, color illustr., Leykam Publ., 24.00 €
Publication Date: July 2022

In terms of Tim and Thea, she earns the money, and he takes care of the household. This isn't a problem until their favorable lease is terminated, and they have to move to a neighborhood on the outskirts of the city. Their new apartment building is full of cigarette butts and precarious existences. Things go well at first. Tim keeps the stairwell swept and makes friends with Maxim, a young man from eastern Ukraine. He also helps 80-year-old Frau Birkenberg set up her internet connection. But then one day, the doorbell rings. When Tim opens it, a strange man unexpectedly punches him in the face. What the hell has gone wrong?

The House Husband is an unconventional novel, combining traditional and unusual narrative styles. It presents a story about gentrification and love, poverty and slippery slopes, the excessiveness of start-up cultures, global warming, vegan dog food, doctor's sausage, and the dark net. It is the portrait of a building, a city, a society - a time that feels like today, although it might soon vanish. This is virtuoso, sensual contemporary literature.

Wlada Kolosowa, born in St. Petersburg in 1987, grew up in Germany. She studied Journalism in Berlin, as well as Creative Writing in New York with authors such as J.S. Foer and Zadie Smith. She was previously employed as an editor for *ZEIT Campus* and *Vice*, but currently works as an editor in the discovery department for *ZEIT ONLINE*. In 2017, she was awarded a prestigious *Pushcart Prize* (US) for her short fiction. Her first novel *Fliegende Hunde* (*Flying Dogs*) was published in 2018 by Ullstein.

Josefine Jespersen Series by Lotte Petri

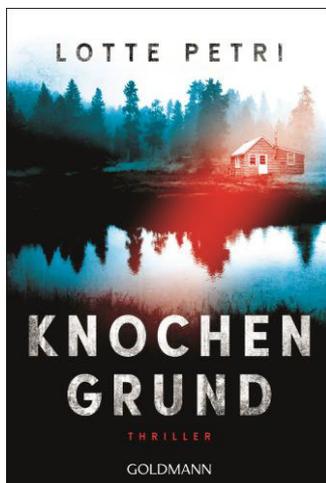
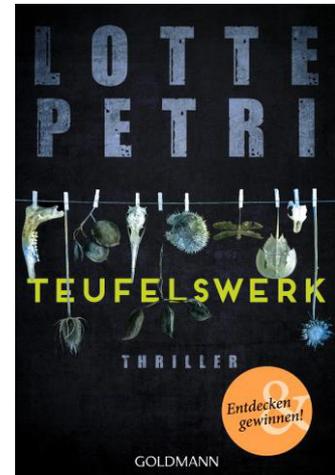
*It is said about **forensic anthropologist, Josefine Jespersen**, that she is able to make bones talk and reveal the victim's darkest secrets and truth about their brutal murders. As a bone expert she has a fine record in solving difficult cases involving bodies where only the skeleton is left.*

1st case: “The Devil’s Work” (Danish OT: *Djævelens Værk*)

English sample, German & Danish manuscript available
 German edition: 400 pages, Goldmann (PRH),
 10.00 €, Publication Date: 2020

Rights sold: Germany (Goldmann/ Penguin Random House),
 Czech Republic (Euromedia), Slovakia (Ikar), World English
 (Saga/Lindhardt og Ringhof)

Over 1000 skeletons are to be moved from *Assistens Cemetery* in Copenhagen to make way for a new metro station. This causes an outcry, with many people fearing this will disturb the peace of the graves. Forensic anthropologist Josefine Jespersen leads the exhumation work. When archaeologist Rita Magnussen is brutally murdered and pushed into an open grave with a cross carved into her skull and further cruel murders take place, everything suggests a devil-worshipping murderer is on the loose. This prompts police detective Alexander Damgaard to consult an exorcist, who is convinced that the exhumation work in the cemetery has opened a gateway to hell, and that the devil himself is the culprit.

**2nd case: “The Masked Man”** (Danish OT: *Maskemanden*)

German & Danish manuscript available
 German edition: 512 pages, Goldmann (PRH),
 10.00 €, Publication Date: December 2022

Rights sold: Germany (Goldmann/ Penguin Random House)

Josefine Jespersen is challenged, when one of the skulls in a stone age grave in the Swedish town Motala seems to be contemporary and it contains a bone fragment from another person, a child. The traces lead to Denmark where investigator Alexander ‘Xander’ Damgaard becomes in charge of the case. He discovers, that there is a connection to an unsolved Danish murder and he starts digging in the cold case file. Josefine and Xander team up together and the manhunt of a seriously deranged serial killer has begun. But who is chasing who? It seems that Josefine is in great danger – and the killer might be found among her colleagues. Will Xander be able to protect her from a dangerous murderer?

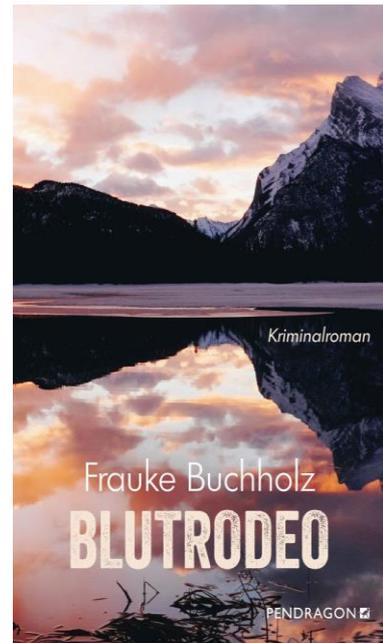
Danish author **Lotte Petri**’s first novel *The Fifth Plague* was nominated for the *Danske Banks Debutantpris*. Her crime novel *Black Notice* was named digital series of the year, and when *The Devil’s Work* was published by *Lindhardt og Ringhof* in 2017, she was shortlisted as one of the 10 best crime writers in Denmark. Lotte Petri’s works have been translated into several languages and published in the Nordic countries, Russia, the USA et al. She chairs the board of the *Danish Authors’ Society* and is a board member for the *Danish Crime Academy*.

Frauke Buchholz

Blood Rodeo

264 pages, Pendragon Publ., 18.00 €
Publication Date: September 2022

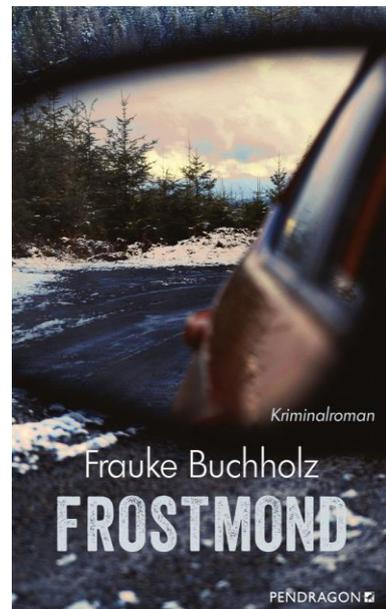
The direct sequel of »Frost Moon«, in which one of the first novel's investigators gets assigned both a new case and a new partner. This time, the focus lies on environmental issues, as a murder leads the protagonists to Fort McMurray, where oil sands mining operations are destroying the once beautiful lands of the Cree.



Frost Moon

288 pages, Pendragon Publ., 18.00 €
Publication Date: February 2021

Young indigenous women have disappeared near the Trans-Canada Highway for many years now. The police never seem to prioritize those crimes. But then the 15-year-old Jeanette Maskisin is found dead in Montreal and her death causes a large echo throughout the media. The French Canadian Sergeant LeRoux and the Anglo Canadian profiler Garner are entrusted with the case. When first visiting the Cree reservation in North Canada, where Jeanette came from, the two are confronted with distrust and rejection, because the First Nation families feel that the police never cared about them before. Time seems to run out for LeRoux and Garner as new victims are expected and even the murderer becomes a target – there is someone who seeks dreadful revenge.



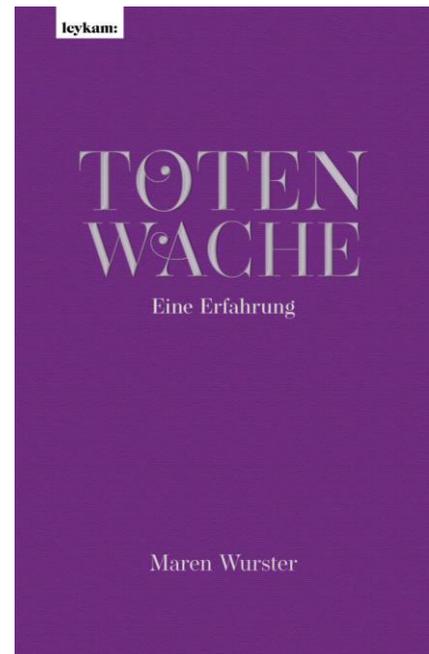
Frauke Buchholz was born in 1960 near Dusseldorf. She studied English and Romance language and literature, and received her PhD with a work on contemporary indigenous literature. She loves to travel and to discover different cultures, which brought her to live in a Cree reservation in Canada for some time. Today, Frauke Buchholz lives in Aachen and writes novels and short stories.

Maren Wurster

Wake: An Experience

An argument against the suppression of death and dying

A contribution to the significant and current topic of coping with death



144 pages, Leykam Publ., 20.50 €
Publication Date: October 2022

For three days, Maren Wurster held a wake for her father. His body was laid out in a room, which also contained a bed she could use. Her five-year-old son was there for long stretches of time, and her mother, who was suffering from dementia, also said farewell to her husband. The author even stayed overnight, sleeping soundly.

Using this personal experience as a springboard, Maren Wurster describes the philosophical, historical, and socio-critical aspects of the wake. She examines various cultural ways of coping with death in addition to current topics, such as the impossibility of providing dignified companionship to the dying during the Covid pandemic. This book is a plea for acceptance, for endurance, for biting off more than one can chew, for the feeling that is only possible in a society in which the deceased are granted a place and in which not-functioning and pain are accorded space.

What Wurster describes is a society in which death is not suppressed but is allowed to be what it is: a part of life.

Maren Wurster, born in 1976, majored in Film Studies and Philosophy in Cologne before studying Creative Writing at the German Literature Institute in Leipzig. In 2017, she published her debut novel, *Das Fell (The Fur)*. Her memoir *Papa stirbt, Mama auch (Dad Dies, so Does Mum)* was released in 2021, followed in 2022 by the novel *Eine beiläufige Entscheidung (A Random Decision)*. She lives with her son in Berlin and the Wendland region.

Peter Rudolf

World on Alert

The Return of Nuclear Deterrence

We need a new rearmament debate!

- Media focal point
- A book for the changing times



144 pages, Dietz Publ., 18.00 €
Publication Date: June 2022

Nuclear deterrence was never really gone; it just faded into the background. In an era of new conflicts between major powers – such as Russia’s war against Ukraine to be specific – this topic has attained new meaning. However, NATO member Germany has a tendency of striving to avoid the military and political problems, as well as the moral dilemma, presented by nuclear deterrence. One thing must be crystal clear though: A new debate over the legitimacy of nuclear deterrence is absolutely necessary!

The use of atomic weapons is treated here as a hypothetical possibility. Nevertheless, the paradoxical nature of deterrence logic is rooted in the threat and willingness to deploy horrifying weapons in an effort to prevent, on an ongoing basis, war from breaking out between two governments with nuclear capabilities. The supporters of this approach see it as a guarantor of “nuclear peace”. And yet confidence in the deterrence system is rooted in problematic assumptions. Already during the Cold War, the application of mutual vulnerability as the basis for strategic stability was precarious at best. Both sides lived in constant fear of the other side’s “first strike” and of technological advancements that could threaten future strategic stability. How are we supposed to live with this today?

Peter Rudolf, born in 1958, holds a Ph.D. in Political Science and works at the *Wissenschaft und Politik Foundation* in Berlin. Recent publication: *On the Legitimacy of Political Violence* (publication series of the *Federal Agency for Civic Education*).

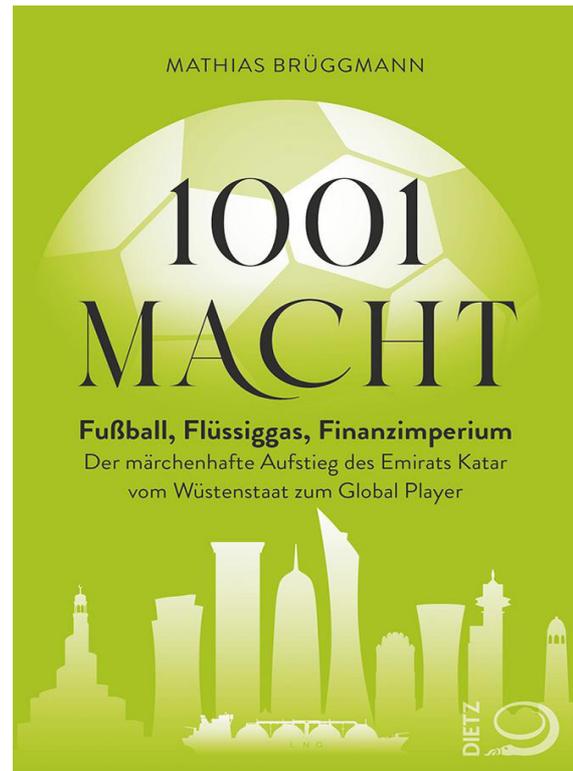
Mathias Brüggmann

**1001 Power. Soccer, Liquid Gas,
Financial Empire**

*Qatar's fairytale rise from desert nation to
global player*

**Small country, big politics: Qatar's
global goals**

- Media focal point
- Informative look behind the curtains
- Where Qatar invests its gas billions
- International correspondent for the *Handelsblatt*



200 pages, Dietz Publ., 20.00 €
Publication Date: October 2022

The World Cup and natural gas are currently putting Qatar in the global spotlight. But what do we know about this emirate on the Persian Gulf and its key players? Mathias Brüggmann has spent the past few decades reporting on the Middle East. He describes the rise of the nation from a backwater peninsula to the world's largest exporter of natural gas and one of the wealthiest countries in the world. From a pirate's nest in the shadow of Saudi Arabia and a pawn trapped between the Ottoman and British empires to an international hub for sports business and international diplomacy.

The World Cup in November and December 2022 will finally put the small desert nation of Qatar onto the international stage. Added to this are the billions Qatar has invested in the West as well as accusations of terrorist financing.

Brüggmann takes a differentiated look at these issues, in addition to those of corruption, FIFA, and the exploitation of guest workers. He describes the transformation and provides commentaries from decision-makers in the Qatar political realm, representatives from domestic and foreign companies and international organizations. A controversial and extremely fact-filled book that goes beyond clichés and prejudices.

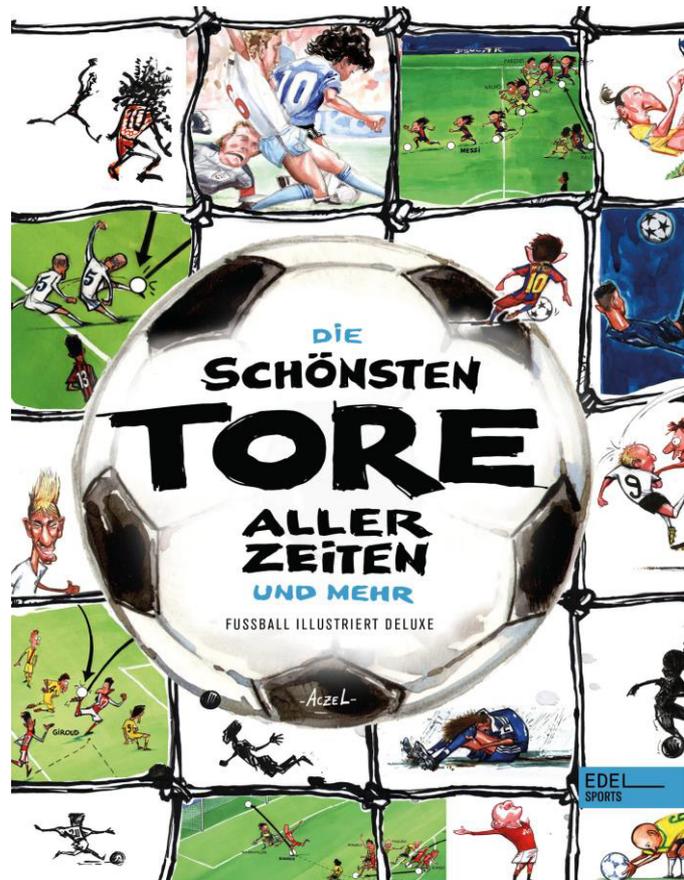
Mathias Brüggmann, born in 1965, is an international correspondent for the *Handelsblatt* and commentator on Arabic TV channels. Since the 1990s, he has regularly spent time in the Middle East. He followed the Arab Spring in Cairo's Tahrir Square, before quickly moving on to Bahrain, Iran and Tunisia. He has been a repeat visitor to Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the UAE. Brüggmann currently lives in Berlin.

Germán Aczel

**THE GREATEST GOALS OF ALL
TIMES AND MORE**

*A unique football comic about what
we love football the most for*

**Rights sold:
Korea, China**



240 pages, Edel Publ., 20.00 €
Publication Date: October 2022

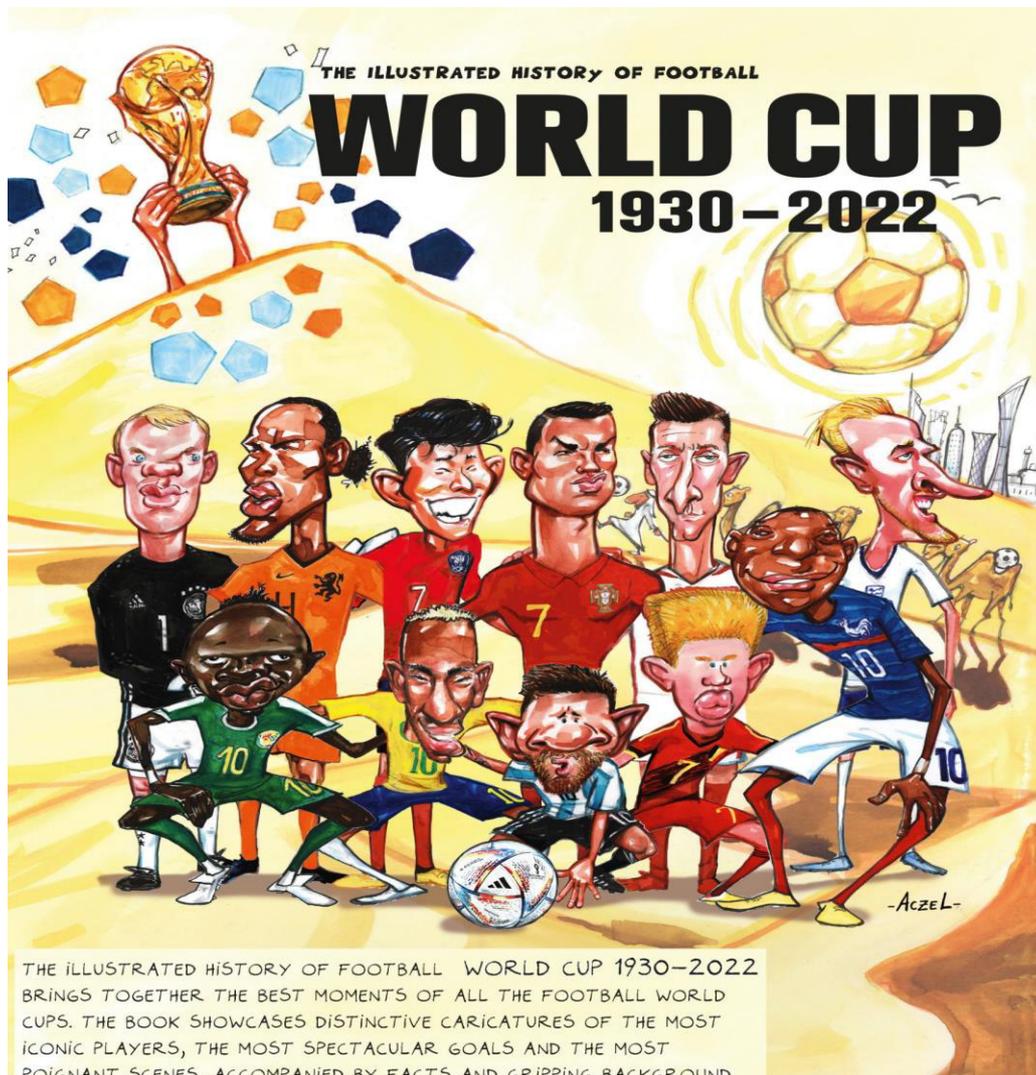
Just in time for the World Cup, the well-known comic artist Germán Aczel takes us on a journey through the greatest goals of all time. From Maradona's goal of the century to Zlatan Ibrahimovic's legendary overhead kick - Aczel draws iconic football moments to relive in his very own, wonderfully funny and informative way. The most beautiful goals are supplemented by curiosities from almost 100 years of World Cup history, including Diana Ross, who missed a spectacular kick at the World Cup opening ceremony in 1994, or Chris Brass, who managed to break his own nose while getting a goal.

The career of the Argentinian artist **Germán Aczel** began in his hometown of Buenos Aires, where he worked for the daily newspaper "La Nación", later the sports magazine "El Gráfico". At the age of 26 he moved to Munich. There he worked for the youth magazine "Bravo" for many years. He is currently drawing for the most important English football magazine "Four Four Two".

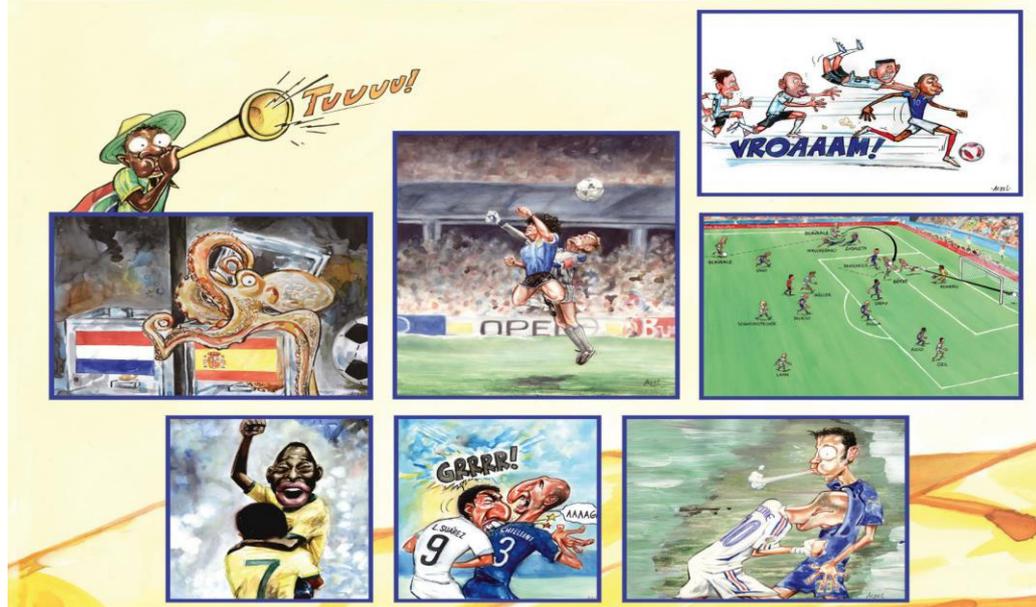
Germán Aczel: World Cup 1930 – 2022

Rights sold: France, China

Former editions: Germany, Italy, China, France, Czech Rep., UK, Greece, Korea



THE ILLUSTRATED HISTORY OF FOOTBALL WORLD CUP 1930-2022 BRINGS TOGETHER THE BEST MOMENTS OF ALL THE FOOTBALL WORLD CUPS. THE BOOK SHOWCASES DISTINCTIVE CARICATURES OF THE MOST ICONIC PLAYERS, THE MOST SPECTACULAR GOALS AND THE MOST POIGNANT SCENES, ACCOMPANIED BY FACTS AND GRIPPING BACKGROUND STORIES. THE BOOK IS THE PERFECT FOOTBALL WORLD CUP PRIMER IN COMIC STYLE FOR FANS YOUNG AND OLD.



Wolfgang Struck

Letter in a Bottle

***Distant Messages, Early Surveys and
One Legendary Experiment***

*Of floating missives and the unriddling
of the oceans*



224 pages, with four-color illustrations,
Mare Publ., 34.00 €
Publication Date: September 2022
English sample available

July 14, 1864, wind speed eleven, close to Cape Horn. A letter in a bottle is sent out on a journey which still shapes our understanding of the sea and global linkages yet today. For with this and the numerous other bottles that were stuffed with requests to be returned to the sender, the geophysicist and polar researcher Georg Neumayer founded the scientific study of maritime currents. He documented his large-scale experiment in albums in which he collected over 600 responses to his floating messages. After exploring these albums, Wolfgang Struck describes the often-puzzling routes taken by the bottles. He also dwells on the captains and passengers who set them adrift and the fishermen, beachcombers and harbor authorities who found them again. From this point, Struck then widens his view to encompass the extremely exciting scientific and sociohistorical path that letters in bottles have covered, not only since the time of Neumayer's experiment.

A richly illustrated and bibliophilic volume about an unconventional form of message transmission that has written scientific and cultural history for more than 150 years.

Wolfgang Struck is Professor for Modern German Literature at the University of Erfurt. He is interested in the multifaceted intersections between literature, knowledge and science. He has written on numerous topics, including the fatal connection between colonialism and adventure, lost explorers, and the fantasy element of sea maps.

‘My Island ...’-Series by mareverlag

Well-known authors describe stories and their personal relationship to their favourite islands in this popular series, which has been decorated with the ITB (*Internationale Tourismus Börse Berlin*) book award for best literary travel book series.

So far, 24 titles have been published, of which *Mein Nidden* by Frido Mann is the best-selling work in the series.

Rights sold: *Die Prinzeninseln* by Joachim Sartorius: UK, Turkey, Arab Emirates;

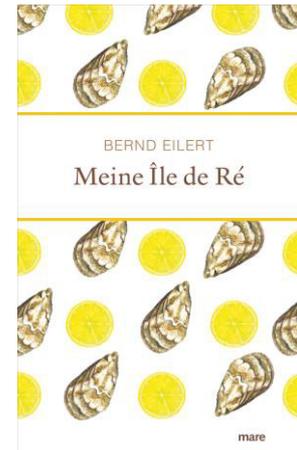
My Cyprus by Joachim Sartorius: UK; *Venice for Lovers* by L. Begley & A. Muhlstein: UK

Bernd Eilert

My Île de Ré

192 pages, mare Publ., 18.00 €, Publication Date: July 2022

Wangerooge in constant rain, parents in constant conflict: Bernd Eilert’s first childhood vacation didn’t initially result in a passion for islands. Only later, on the Île de Ré, did he finally find *his* island, which with its subtle charm and dearth of obvious tourist sites, is an ideal locale for idlers and explorers. As if we were sitting with him over an order of oysters, the author regales us with his observations about French vacation routines and reflections on historic island sites. Above all, he meditates on an artwork that he brought back from the island, a portrait of a boy in a sailor’s suit whose mysterious origins Eilert finally thinks he has uncovered.



Bernd Eilert, born in 1949, is a member of the *New Frankfurt School* and was, among other things, a co-founder of the magazine *Titanic*. For his creative work, he has been honored with the *LiteraTour Nord Prize* and the *Binding Cultural Prize*.

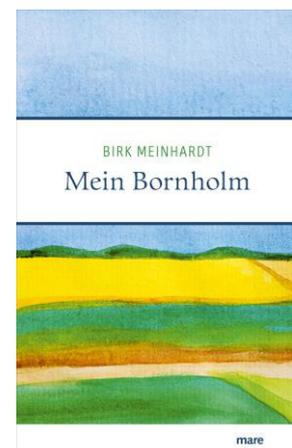
Birk Meinhardt

My Bornholm

176 pages, mare Publ., 18.00 €, Publication Date: July 2022

In flowing rhythm and finely observed scenes, Birk Meinhardt describes the gradual recognition of an island.

During the summer after the fall of the Berlin Wall, happenstance leads Birk Meinhardt to the sunny Danish island of Bornholm, where the locals greet him with flashing headlights and his children scramble up round hay bales and let the fine sand of the southern beaches trickle through their fingers. Years pass before Meinhardt returns to Bornholm. He explores the island more and more intensively, eventually forming a lasting connection to the island after riding his racing bike through the landscape along disused railroad tracks and stumbling across the traces of Bornholm native Hans Henny Jahnn, who wrote his masterpiece here.



Birk Meinhardt, born in 1959 in Berlin-Pankow, studied Journalism in Leipzig and initially worked as a sports editor. After the fall of the Wall, he wrote reportages for the *Süddeutsche Zeitung* and is primarily writing books since 2012. Meinhardt is a two-time recipient of the *Egon Erwin Kisch Prize*, and his novel *Brothers and Sisters* was nominated for the 2013 *Leipzig Book Fair Prize*.

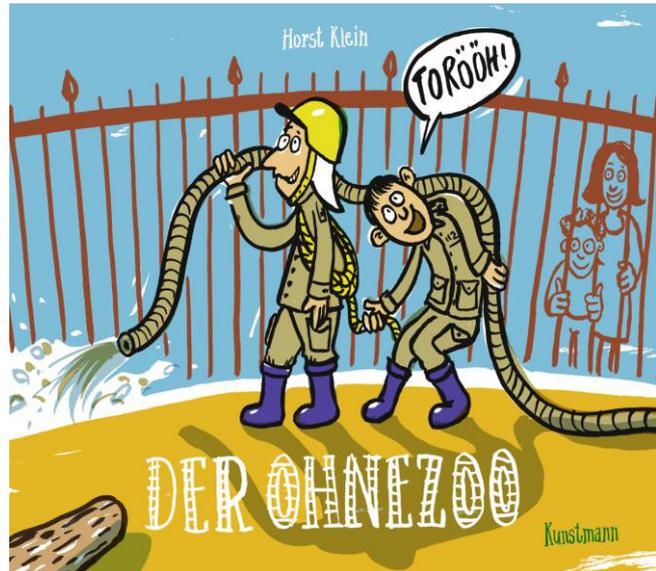


Horst Klein

THE NO-ZOO

Kids and grown-ups love it so – the happy world of the no-zoo!

Roar, welcome to the no-zoo! A zoo without animals, but with many humans trying their best to replace the animals who managed to escape their enclosures. This book is elephantastic fun to read and look at for the whole family.



64 pages, Publ. Kunstmann, 18.00 €
Publication Date: August 2022

Oh no! The zoo is missing all its animals! Animal rights campaigners and activists freed them all! But how can we now show children what lions, monkeys and elephants, hippos, llamas, and flamingos look like?

Luckily, there are plenty of dedicated parents and pensioners as well as employed and unemployed people willing to volunteer: The PEKiP-Group from the village of Oppum with bag and baggage. Hans Kopka, the handyman bringing along six hammers. And also Fritz Schurek, a retired funfair-boxer. They all climb into the enclosures, cages, and pools and give their all to replace the missing animals. Now all we need to do is find out who's been replaced by whom...

The funny illustrations accompanied by four-line rhymes – the “riddle rhymes” – make this book incredibly fun to leaf through, read to somebody, or puzzle over. Children and grown-ups will certainly love it equally.

Horst Klein was born in 1965. He spent his formative years in East Frisia before moving to Krefeld in 1989 to study Visual Communication. Initially, he had to use an atlas to find Krefeld. He did end up staying there though and now works as an illustrator and graphic designer. He has illustrated multiple books including “Alle behindert!” (“everyone’s disabled”, Klett 2019).

Elisabeth Etz, Nini Spagl

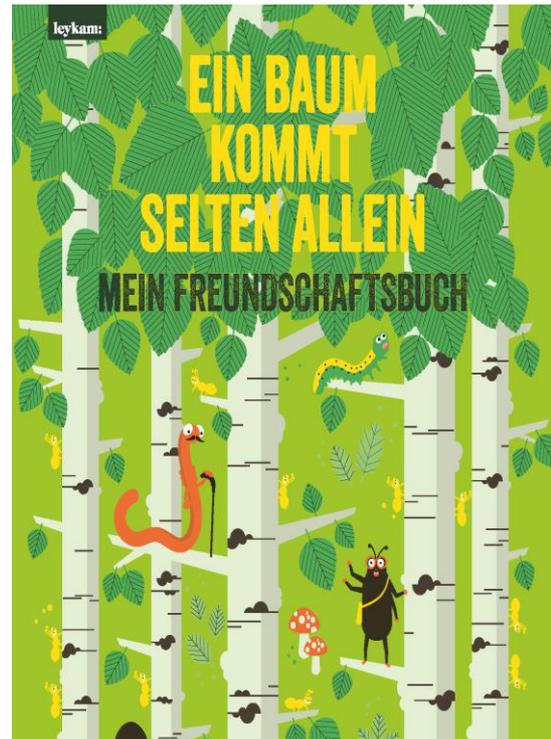
A Tree Is Rarely Alone

My Friendship Album

Do you know the trees of your friends?

On the heels of the runaway success of *A Tree is Rarely Alone* we are pleased to announce the first friendship album of this kind.

"A wonderfully delightful and valuable book."
Karin Enzenhofer, WWF Austria



96 pages, Leykam Publ., 15.00 €
Publication Date: August 2022

Have you ever asked your friends about their favorite trees, or received a tree poem, or been given leaves that someone gathered for you? This book will not only tell you everything you ever wanted to know about your friends, it will also bring the natural world into your room. An extra special friendship album with room to paste down dried leaves, along with an introduction to how to collect leaves and study trees.

- The first friendship album for your friends and their favorite trees.
- For all tree fans and those who want to become ones!

Elisabeth Etz was born in Vienna in 1979, and this is where she once again lives after spending some time in Berlin and Istanbul. Even as a small child, she wanted to be a writer, because she thought that authors didn't have to get up so early in the morning. She also likes to learn languages. Since discovering that her surname means "tree" in another language, she has also been interested in trees.

Nini Spagl, born in 1977 in Munich, studied Architecture in Innsbruck before taking a course to become a book designer in St. Pölten. She is now expanding her skill set to include animation as well.

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