

LitAg Kossack

*foreign rights
autumn 2023*

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Hamburg, Germany

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Swiss Book Prize Winner

Martina Clavadetscher

The Invention of Disobedience

Recommended by *New Books in German*
English sample available

Nominated for prix medicis 2023 !



288 pages, Unionsverlag, 22.00 €
Publication Date: 2021
Rights sold: France (Ed. Zoé)

Three women in three worlds and the search for the heart of things. And they are all, without suspecting it, tied to each other.

“Instead of concentrating on, as is so often the case, the male creator-genius and his creation or a martial uprising of machines, Clavadetscher focuses on invented female mavericks. Her AI novel pays poetic homage to the oldest programming language of all, the imagination.”
(WOZ Die Wochenzeitung)

Martina Clavadetscher, born in 1979, is an author and playwright with degrees in German literature, linguistics and philosophy. She was the author in residence at the *Luzern Theater* and won the *Essen Prize for Authors*. For her fiction, she was awarded the *Marianne and Curt Dienemann Foundation Prize*, and most recently the *Swiss Book Prize*.

Sepp Mall

A Dog Came to the Kitchen

Nominated for the German Book Prize 2023 (Longlist)

War and the Nazi era from the point of view of a child. A novel about South Tyrolean emigration and Nazi crimes against people with disabilities.



192 pages, Leykam Publ., 24.00 €

Publication Date: August 2023

A novel against oblivion: about Nazi "euthanasia", fellow travelers, emigration and returning home.

A family from South Tyrol decides to emigrate to the German Reich in 1942 in the course of the "Option". The 11-year-old Ludi tells of the last days in the village and the first stop in the German Reich: Innsbruck. On the orders of the doctors, his disabled brother Hanno has to be taken to an asylum near Hall. The rest of the family moves on to Upper Austria. The father is drafted into the Wehrmacht and Hanno does not return either. A letter from a "sanatorium and nursing home" of the Reich is all that the family has left of him. Sepp Mall is considered one of the most important writers in South Tyrol, whose work deals with complex themes of recent contemporary history. How can the incomprehensible be understood and how does one survive a collective trauma?

Sepp Mall, born in 1955 in Graun (South Tyrol) lives as a writer in Merano. His novel "Wundränder" was chosen as an "Innsbruck reads" book in 2005 and is now school reading. His most recent publications are his novel "Hoch über allem" (Haymon 2017) and the poetry collection "Holz und Haut" (Haymon 2020).

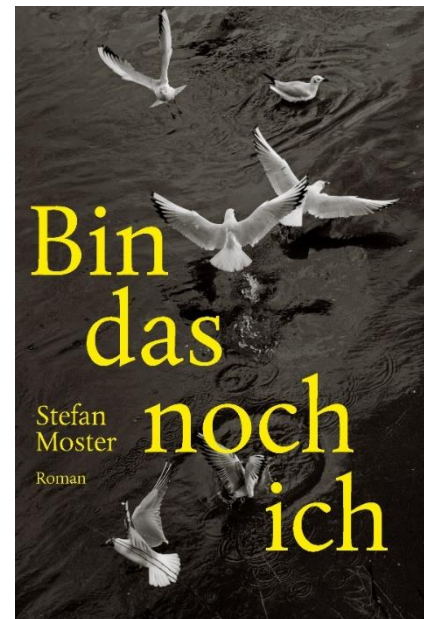
Stefan Muster

Am I Still Me?

"Stefan Muster is a precise, sensitive observer."
SWR 2

"Comedy that arises primarily from an observant gaze and precise language, effective all the way down to the dialogues." Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

"With this novel, Stefan Muster catapults himself into the forefront of contemporary German literature."
Denis Scheck, Deutschlandfunk about
"Neringa or The Different Kind of Homecoming"



mare

272 pages, Mare Publ., 24.00 €
Publication Date: August 2023

"If I'm no longer a musician, what am I then?"

Music is Simon's profession and his vocation. However, one fateful day during a summer tour through Finland, as he performs Bartók's Solo Violin Sonata in a church, disaster strikes: two fingers of his left hand betray him, forcing Simon to cancel the concert. He senses that this is not a one-time failure, but an incurable defect. Still reeling from shock, a fellow musician offers to lend him her holiday cottage on an archipelago island, granting Simon a retreat to contemplate his predicament. Setting out alone, he acquaints himself with the island's natural elements - the sea, the trees, the seagulls, learning to navigate a boat and chop wood. He embarks on a quest to find an answer to the question of what he can be without his violin. Stefan Muster proves himself a master of nature writing and music writing and explores the significant theme of how a person must reinvent themselves from one moment to the next.

Stefan Muster, born in 1964 in Mainz, lives in Berlin and in Porvoo, Finland. His most recent works include the novel "Solo Journey," which was awarded the Martha Saalfeld Prize in 2019, and the essay "The Foundation of the Iceberg: An Arctic Longing" in 2022, both published by Mare Publ.

Eva Reisinger

Killing Men

Eva Reisinger tells a scandalous story about power, friendship and female cohesion in an unusual setting. A tour de force through urgent contemporary issues and full of pop-cultural poetry.

The unsparing novel debut of the author of the non-fiction bestseller "Was geht Österreich?"

**Shortlisted for Austrian Book Prize 2023
(Best Debut Novel)**



288 pages, Leykam Publ., 24.00 €
Publication Date: August 2023

Rapidly told utopia of a defensible feminism in an Austrian village.

Anna Maria lives a typical big city life: she works in a hip company, goes partying with her girlfriends on weekends and has a complicated ex-relationship. Until she meets Hannes at the bar of a nightclub. He's from Engelhartskirchen, an Upper Austrian village she's never heard of before. And she certainly doesn't expect to wake up one morning with Hannes in this nest. When it does happen, the clichés greet her at first: cows, dumplings, church tower bells. But then Anna Maria notices that not everything wants to fit into the picture. Why is there a female priest, even though the village is Catholic? How come the women here celebrate much louder than elsewhere? Where have the men gone? And what does all this have to do with Kathrin Glock?

Eva Reisinger, born in 1992, grew up in the Upper Austrian province between "Zeltfest" and Wodkabull. She studied journalism in Vienna, worked in media houses in Hamburg, Berlin and Istanbul. From 2017, she built up an Austria focus for ZEIT's young medium and reported as a correspondent from the neighboring country. Her first book "Was geht, Österreich?" was published by Kiepenheuer & Witsch in 2021. For her debut novel, she received the Start Literary Scholarship of the City of Vienna. She lives as a freelance writer in Vienna with her dog Frieda and dreams of matriarchy.

Wolfgang Wissler

Straffer's Night

»What is remarkable about the book is not only the story and the impressive historical research, but also the way it is told. Wissler's short, pointed sentences move the plot rapidly forward and leave the readers breathless.«



240 pages, Pendragon Publ., 22.00€
Publication Date: August 2023

The shadows of the past are invisible at night.

Under Adolf Hitler, Erich Straffer used to be a merciless and feared general of the SS. 20 years later, he's a mere night guard slinking through dark factory halls. The Miracle on the Rhine is a farce to him and he doesn't believe in the reconstruction of Germany. Irritated and broken, he doesn't know how to live in this new world. He struggles through meaningless days in wait of a reckoning that doesn't come. Then, after many lonely nights spent in forsaken buildings, he gets a new colleague. A young man from Tel Aviv, a Jew who has come to Germany in search of his uncle's murderer. Straffer realises that it can't be coincidence. Has the time of reckoning finally come?

Wolfgang Wissler was born in 1960 in Basel. Today he lives in Constance. He works as a political editor at a daily newspaper and writes books in his free time. In 2021, he published "Kolumbus, der entsorgte Entdecker" (Hirzel Publ.).

Mathijs Deen

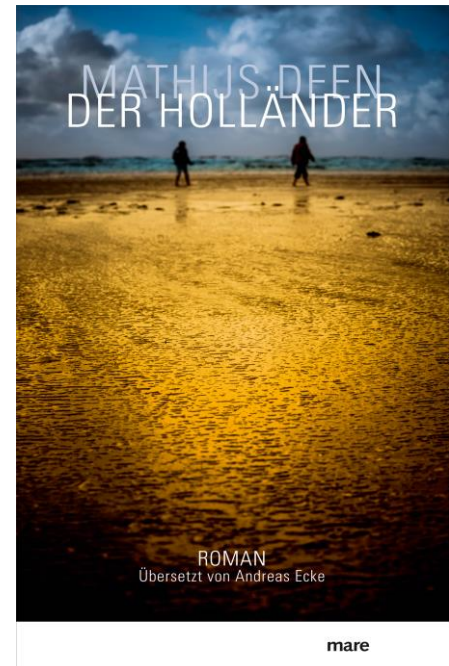
The Dutchman

A literary crime novel with an idiosyncratic, Congenial investigator, intercultural wit and the local colour of the German and Dutch North Sea coast.

Top title - prelude to a series

SPIEGEL bestselling title

Film rights sold to Warner Bros. !



272 pages, mare Publ., 20.00 €

Publication Date: February 2022

German Translation by Andreas Ecke

English sample available

Rights sold: Netherlands (Alfabet)

Vol II: The Diver 02/23

Vol III: The Saviour 03/24

A dead body in the mudflats between Holland and Germany - a case for Liewe Cupido, called "the Dutchman".

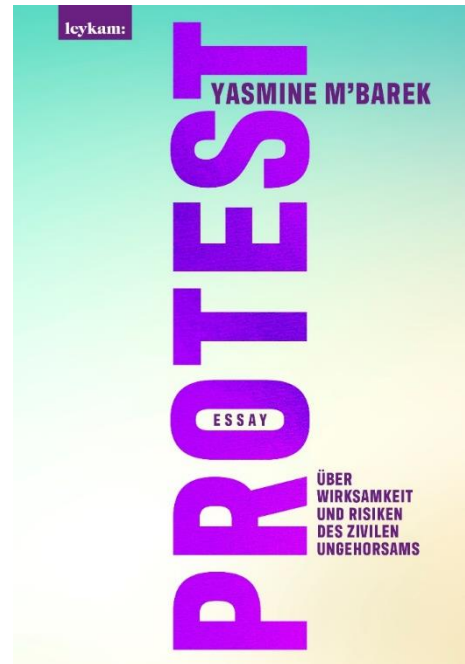
It was supposed to be a quiet trip across the Wadden Sea for Geeske Dobbenga, her last before she retires from the Dutch Border Guard. But in the Ems estuary, her patrol boat comes across a corpse. Before the tide carries it away, Geeske and her crew take it to Delfzijl in the Netherlands. This is where the problems begin: The dead man was German, and the place where he was found is in disputed border territory. While the dispute over jurisdiction escalates on both sides of the border and the questions surrounding the dead mudflat walker increase, the Federal Police See in Cuxhaven secretly sends an investigator to Delfzijl: Liewe Cupido, German by birth but raised on the Dutch island of Texel. His German colleagues call this headstrong, taciturn guy: the Dutchman. Who, if not he, could solve the case?

Mathijs Deen, born in 1962, is a writer and radio producer. He has published novels, columns and a volume of short stories that was nominated for the prestigious *AKO Literary Prize*. In 2018, he was awarded the *Halewijn Prize* for the literary quality of his work. So far *mare* has published his novels *Unter den Menschen* (2019) and *Der Schiffskoch* (2021).

Yasmine M'Barek

Protest

An emphatic essay on forms of protest and their consequences.



112 pages, Leykam Publ., 18.00 €
Publication Date: September 2023

Whether climate protests or corona protests, spirited expressions of displeasure are currently occurring frequently and in a wide variety of forms.

But what kind of protest can really bring change? Do activists plastered on streets help or hurt climate policy? Do open letters change anything in "Realpolitik"?

And if not, why protest at all?

Yasmine M'Barek is one of the most influential young journalists in the German-speaking world, argues casually and precisely what can help sensibly and democratically to change conditions and which actions are counterproductive. Because a society always gets the protests it deserves.

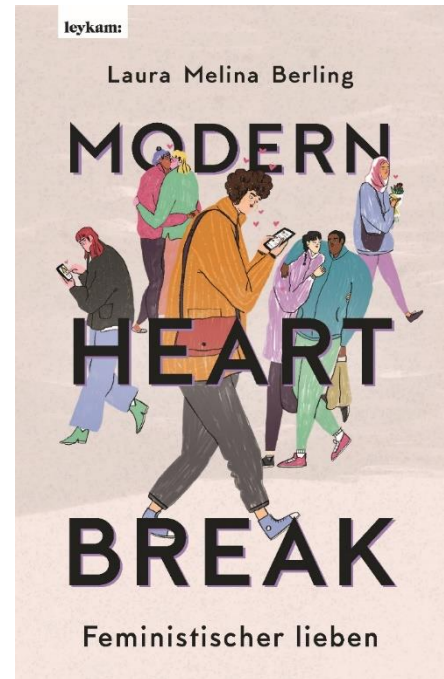
Yasmine M'Barek, attended the Cologne School of Journalism for Politics and Economics and is an editor at ZEIT Online in Department X. In 2020, she was voted one of the "Top 30 under 30" journalists by "Medium Magazin". "Radikale Kompromisse" (Hoffmann & Campe) was published in March 2022. Yasmine is a regular guest on political TV shows and hosts the new ZEIT podcast "Ehrlich jetzt". She regularly hosts the news podcast "Apokalypse und Filterkaffee" with Markus Feldenkirchen. She lives in Cologne and Berlin.

Laura Melina Berling

Modern Heartbreak

Love apart from patriarchy.

"Modern Heartbreak" is personal, analytical, critical - and it gives hope in times when love is desperately needed.



224 pages, Leykam Publ., 18.00 €
Publication Date: September 2023

The beginning idea of the book is sad:

Laura Melina Berling shows us the story of her heartbreak. Starting from her own heartbreak, she weaves a great story about love in modern times. About how patriarchal patterns, gender stereotypes and other power structures constantly interfere in our love lives and decide who we desire and why. She takes a look at the history of love and wonders why she and so many others are not happy. Why we swipe and swipe, but still don't know. What is love and what is not? Can we make love more intersectional, more critical of power, more feminist? How do we socially deal with loss and separation, and how do our private stories interweave with romantic clichés?

The well-known blogger *Little feministblog* about romantic love in the field of tension between longing, gender stereotypes and online dating.

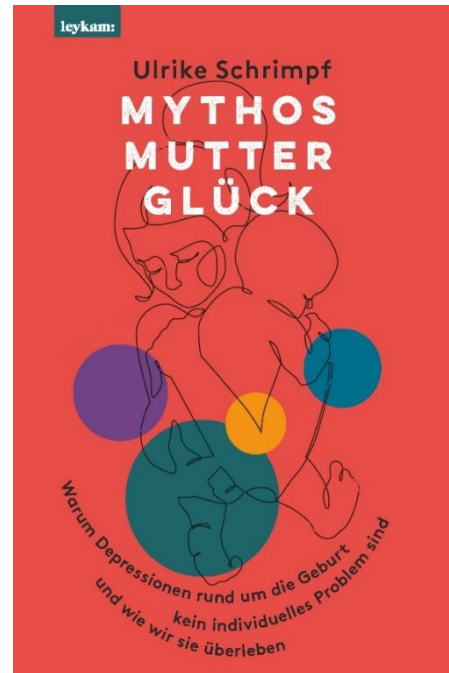
Laura Melina Berling, actually called Lina, is on the internet as a feminist blogger and on Instagram as @littlefeministblog. She is primarily concerned with the topics of the body, sexuality, mental health, intersectionality and gender. She also works as a freelance writer and advises young people in difficult life situations as a social pedagogue.

Ulrike Schrimpf

The Myth of Maternal Happiness

Why depression around birth is not an individual problem and how we survive it.

In a touching and informative way, Ulrike Schrimpf describes the clinical picture and treatment options for postpartum depression and writes about how she managed to summon up the courage to have another child afterwards. A social problem: Why we need to talk about the taboo of depression around birth.



256 pages, Leykam Publ., 23.00 €
Publication Date: September 2023

A personal story interwoven with scientific facts and a hopeful look ahead.

Pregnancy, birth and the first years with a child are presented in our societal narrative as something taken for granted, resulting in a happy ending for all involved.

Ulrike Schrimpf suffered from postpartum depression after the birth of her second son. She shares her experiences here in a compelling blend of personal memoir, scientific exploration, and valuable insights into the thoughts and feelings of sufferers. In a touching and informative way, she describes the clinical picture, treatment options, and how she managed to muster the courage to have another child afterwards. We need to talk about motherhood and parenthood in a realistic and nuanced way in order to expose false ideals and to pave the way for political and social changes that really help parents and children - and thus all of us.

Peripartum depression affects up to 27 percent of all mothers and at least 5 percent of all fathers.

Ulrike Schrimpf studied General and Comparative Literature and French Philology. Since 2010, she lives and works as a freelance writer, literary critic and lecturer in Vienna. She has published novels, poetry, technical and non-fiction books, for which she has received various awards and grants. Her current novel "Lauter Ghosts" (Literatur Quickie Verlag) was published in 2023.

Niklas Frank

**Ready to Exterminate Again?
We German anti-Semites**

Bestselling author: a „seismograph against hypocrisy“

Provocatively clear



120 pages, Dietz Publ., 16.00 €
Publication Date: October 2023

Whether terrorism as in the cities of Halle and Hagen, whether attacks on synagogues or violence against Jewish people: we must finally acknowledge what exists within us. Anti-Semitism is currently crawling out of all holes in German society again because we non-Jewish Germans have never seen it as part of us and fought against it. In 2022 alone, there were more than 1,500 criminal acts against Jews and Jewish institutions - more than 5 per day!

Niklas Frank collects evidence, interviews people and gives vent to his bewilderment: we Germans are still valiant anti-Semites, and Germany is once again a country where Jews have to fear for life and limb. Let us finally admit this! Because otherwise we will never manage to really change this terrible side in us. The following people have their say: Jaron Engelmayer, Felix Klein, Jörg Lauster, Meron Mendel, Robert Schindel, Volker Schlöndorff, Eva Umlauf and Michael Wolfssohn.

Niklas Frank, born 1939, is the son of the NS-mass murderer Hans Frank. Niklas Frank was a reporter for the magazine STERN for more than two decades and, after two books against his parents ("The Father" and "My German Mother"), with "Brother Norman!" completed an unsparing trilogy about his family, which rose thanks to Hitler. In the bestseller "Dark soul, coward mouth," he dealt with denazification. In "Off to Dictatorship!" he drew frightening parallels in the behavior and rhetoric of today's politicians to the Nazi era. In "My Family and its executioner" he published the unique correspondence between Hans Frank, who was sentenced to death in the Nuremberg trials, and his family - with his usual biting commentary.

Joanna Beata Michlic

Through the Eyes of the Children

Family, war, identity, and nationality: How the Holocaust shaped Polish Jewish child and adolescent survivors

About the lives of the children of the Holocaust

New view in Shoa-research

Gives the children a voice

Touching, insightful



ca. 380 pages, Dietz Publ., ca. 28.00 €

English translation published by

University of Nebraska Press

German ed. with two updated chapters

Publication Date: November 2023

What did the Holocaust bring about in children and young people who survived it?

Polish historian Joanna Beata Michlic tries to find answers. She devotes herself to that group often overlooked by researchers and presents an "intimate social history" of the youngest survivors during and after the Holocaust. Her focus is on the subjective view of the surviving children from Poland and Western Europe, the consequences of their traumatic experiences for themselves, their families and their further lives.

The Holocaust did not end for the persecuted children in 1945. They had to find their way under changed conditions, rebuild their social identities and relationships with adults and peers. The author questions portrayals that exaggerate the children's struggle to survive, praise their emotional strength, and celebrate their successful postwar lives. Reality was more fragile. In this volume, through autobiographical texts and documents, we learn much about how the children learned to deal with the immediate reality after the war, their memories of genocide, and the challenges of postwar societies.

Joanna Beata Michlic, social and cultural historian with Polish roots, has taught and researched in Israel, the US and the UK. Currently a visiting professor of Holocaust and Contemporary History at Lund University, Sweden. She is founder and first director of the HDI Project on Families, Children and the Holocaust at Brandeis University. Associate editor of *Genealogy Journal*. Recipient of numerous academic awards and fellowships, most recently the 2017-2021 Gerda Henkel Fellowship. Author and editor of several books on Jewish-Polish relations and Jewish history. Michlic lives in London.

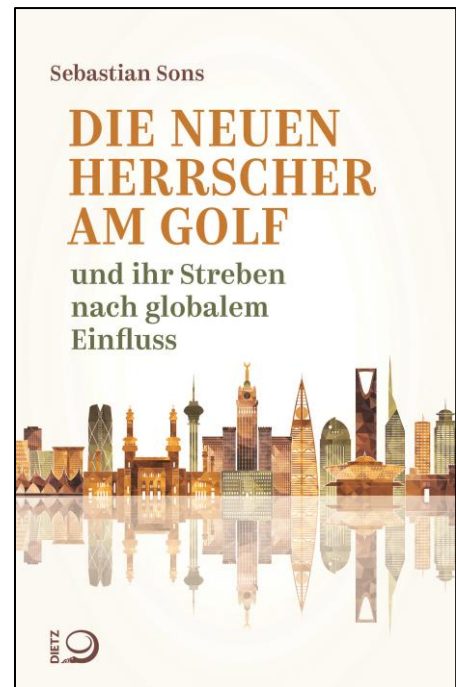
Sebastian Sons

**The New Rulers in the Gulf
and Their Quest for Global Influence**

Overall portrait of the new global power center

Author is a long-standing political analyst on the Gulf States

30.11. – 12.12.2023: UN-Climate Conference in Dubai



200 pages, Dietz Publ., 19.90 €
Publication Date: October 2023

The nature of Gulf Arab societies and the European strategy

The Gulf states of Saudi Arabia, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Kuwait, Bahrain and Oman have used their oil and gas wealth to exert increasing influence worldwide - in politics, business and sports. Their ambitious rulers compete for power and pursue their own political and economic interests without compromise. This increasingly dominant role of authoritarian monarchies poses fundamental challenges for the international community. Sebastian Sons describes the complexity and multi-layered nature of Gulf Arab societies, which are undergoing major changes in search of a new identity. The Gulf monarchies are simultaneously pursuing an independent policy toward the West and intensifying cooperation with authoritarian powers such as China and Russia. They disregard human rights, but also push for social and economic change. German and European foreign policy must counter this contradiction with a long-term strategy.

Sebastian Sons, born in 1981, PhD, holds a doctorate in Islamic studies and Political Science and conducts research on the foreign, development, sports and social policies of the Arab Gulf monarchies. He is a researcher at the research institute CARPO - Center for Applied Research in Partnership with the Orient and has worked at the German Council on Foreign Relations and the German Society for International Cooperation. He has already published several books on these topics.

Kerstin Ehmer

**This Freedom
Means Everything to
Me**

*Artist, Mother, Adventurer:
The Grand Biography
of Kathleen Scott*



mare

384 pages, Mare Publ., 28,00 €
Publication Date: September 2023

Not just wife of one the best known Polar Explorers

In 1907, just a day after their chance encounter at a London tea gathering left him captivated by her unconventional free spirit, Robert Falcon Scott penned a message to sculptor Kathleen Bruce, expressing: "Anything you want, but let me come to pick you up."

Kathleen, an orphan and the youngest of eleven children raised by an uncle, had learned to make her own decisions from a tender age. Despite her modest means and youthful years, she pursued her art studies in Paris, nurtured friendships with luminaries such as Auguste Rodin, Isadora Duncan and George Bernard Shaw, served as a voluntary aid worker in the Macedonian war, and slept under the open sky in men's clothing during her travels. As Scott's wife, she not only became his closest confidante but also the driving force behind his South Pole expedition. Even in widowhood, her life remained an epitome of boundless exploration, associated with renowned figures, artistic pursuits and not least, ambitious political endeavours that could have easily sufficed for two lifetimes.

Kerstin Ehmer, born in Hamm (Westphalia), studied Theatre and Film studies, American studies, and Philosophy at the FU Berlin. In the 1990s, she worked as a documentary journalist and lifestyle photographer. In 2001, she and her husband opened the Berlin Victoria Bar, where she annually invites female artists to design the bar for a month. In 2013, her non-fiction book "The School of Inebriation" was published, followed by "The White Ape" in 2017, the start of her successful crime series featuring Detective Spiro in 1920s Berlin.

Almut Tobis and Norbert Poeplau

Healing Power from the Beehive

*Homemade natural remedies from
beekeeping appropriate to the nature*

With a foreword by Sarah Wiener!



160 pages, pala-verlag, 19.90 €

Foreword and photos included (except six photos)

Publication Date: November 2022

When fascination for honey bees meets enthusiasm for natural medicine and handmade products, then ointments, tinctures or poultices are created from bee products for health and well-being. In this book, master beekeeper Norbert Poeplau provides exciting insights into the life of the bee colony. He explains how high-quality ingredients for the medicine are created while beekeeping in accordance with the nature of the bees. He also explains how bees are kept in compliance with animal-ethical aspects. Almut Tobis describes from a medical point of view the beneficial properties of honey, beeswax or propolis and reveals her tried and tested recipes for effective remedies.

Even the preparation of thyme-wax compresses, cough honey, propolis lotions or wind-and-weather balm strengthens body, mind and soul. Ailments are alleviated with their help, the immune defence is strengthened. The book offers an appreciative approach to bee products - whether you have your own apiary or not - and vividly describes the applications of self-produced natural remedies from the realm of honeybees.

The physician **Dr. med Almut Tobis** with a focus on anthroposophical medicine has been engaged for many years in various manufacturing processes of homemade remedies. She works as a school doctor at Waldorf schools and offers seminars on the production of natural remedies from bee products.

Master beekeeper **Norbert Poeplau** is responsible for the care of bee colonies in the school and experimental apiary of Mellifera, the German association for beekeeping in accordance with nature.

Peter Wohlleben

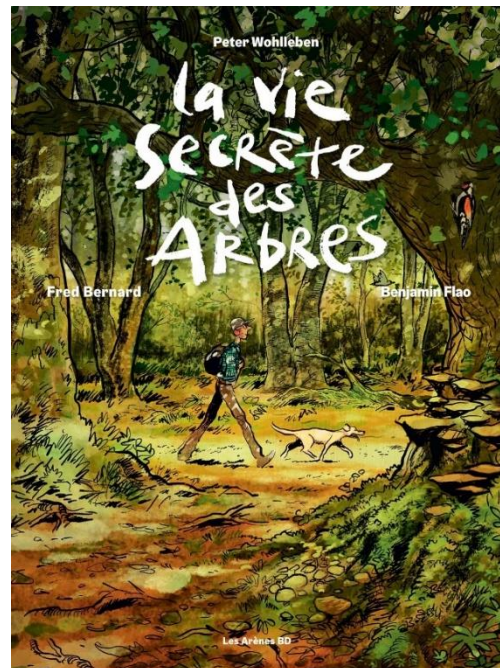
The Hidden Life of Trees

A graphic novel adaptation

A creative, enchanting graphic novel adaption of the worldwide bestseller Hidden Life of Trees

A beautiful graphic novel, full of wonder for adults and children alike

Two experienced graphic artists to illuminate this story in full color



220 pages, Les Arenes Publ., 29.90 €
English and French translation available
Publication Date: September 2023

The graphic novel adaptation of the 2017 bestseller.

For Peter Wohlleben, the best way to make people aware of nature conservation and the forest is to make them fall in love with it. If knowledge is better delivered through emotion and aesthetic pleasure, a graphic novel seems the most suitable format to serve Peter Wohlleben's vision. In this enchanting adaptation, we follow a humble forester through his childhood in the urban center of Bonn, during his education, and the career he lands upon. He invites us to join his journey through life and through the trees, and he speaks to respecting the natural elements around him. This graphic novel puts fundamental knowledge on the survival of our planet and, through a sensational and delightful immersion into organic life, reveals a new vision of trees.

Peter Wohlleben is the expert on trees worldwide. His bestseller "The Hidden Life of Trees" was translated into 40 languages.

Benjamin Flao was born in Nantes in 1975. He is a scriptwriter, cartoonist and colourist of comics. He is notably the author of "Kililana Song" (Ouest France-Quai des bulles prize, nominated for the official selection at the Angoulême Festival) and "L'Âge d'eau".

Fred Bernard is an author, screenwriter and illustrator. He is the author of "La Tendresse des crocodiles" (2003), "L'Ivresse du poulpe" (2004), "Lily Love Peacock" (2006), "Les Chroniques de la Vigne" and "Les Chroniques de la Fruitières".