<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LITERARY FICTION</th>
<th></th>
<th>STRONG WOMEN SERIES</th>
<th>UPMARKET COMMERCIAL FICTION</th>
<th>CRIME / THRILLER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hengameh Yaghoobifarrah</td>
<td>1</td>
<td><strong>Courageous Women caught between Art and Love</strong> – the bestselling Series</td>
<td>Lena Johannson</td>
<td>Petra Johann</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ministry of Dreams</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>20</td>
<td>The Woman from the Beach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alexander Osang</td>
<td>2</td>
<td><strong>Caroline Bernard</strong></td>
<td>Wolf Serno</td>
<td>Maximilian Rosar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Almost Dawn</td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>The Woman from Montparnasse</strong></td>
<td>Große Elbstraße 7</td>
<td>The Silence of the Dead</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patricia Holland Moritz</td>
<td>3</td>
<td><strong>Michelle Marly</strong></td>
<td>Hans Meyer zu Düttingdorf</td>
<td>Michel Jensen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kassbergen</td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Romy and Her Way to Paris</strong></td>
<td>The Amber Girl</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Olga Grjasnowa</td>
<td>4</td>
<td><strong>Bettina Storks</strong></td>
<td>Sabine Hofmann</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Lost Son</td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Dora Maar and the Two Sides of Love</strong></td>
<td>Land of Rubble</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Cemile Sahin</td>
<td>5</td>
<td><strong>Leah Hayden</strong></td>
<td>Agnès Gabriel</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Dogs Die</td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Miss Guggenheim</strong></td>
<td>Merci, Monsieur Dior</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jana Revedin</td>
<td>6</td>
<td><strong>Sophie Benedict</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Margherita</td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>The Grace of Love</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>MODERN CLASSICS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Hans Fallada</td>
<td>7</td>
<td><strong>Thérèse Lambert</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Lilly and Her Slave</td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>The Rebel</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ferdinand, Sarkowicz</td>
<td>8</td>
<td><strong>Pia Rosenberger</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Ferdinand, the Stranger</td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>The Sculptress</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Boehncke, Sarkowicz</td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Sylvia Frank</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>The House of Winds</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Stephanie Schuster</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Milena and the Letters of Love</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Beate Rygiert</strong></td>
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<td><strong>The Pianist</strong></td>
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When the police come knocking on her door, Nas’ world falls apart: her sister Nushin is dead. A car accident, the officers say. Nas is convinced it was suicide. They had overcome everything together: migration to Germany, the loss of their father, the emotional absence of their mother, Nushin’s unplanned motherhood. Nas takes in her niece, despite not having room for a child in her life. Even when she discovers that Nushin was keeping secrets, Nas swallows the betrayal and does everything she can to reconstruct her sister’s story – and realises that Nushin would never have abandoned her.

Ministry of Dreams is a novel about the family you choose and the family you’re stuck with, a debut about the unconditional loyalty between siblings that also penetrates the dark corners of present-day Germany.

Hengameh Yaghoobifarah (they/them), born in 1991 in Kiel, studied Media and Cultural Studies and Scandinavian Studies in Freiburg and Linköping. After a while living in Vienna, they moved to Berlin in 2014, where they have been working as an editor for Missy Magazine ever since. Hengameh Yaghoobifarah is also a freelance writer for German media outlets, for example the Habibitus column for the taz newspaper. In 2019, they joined forces with Fatma Aydemir to publish the widely acclaimed anthology Your Homeland is our nightmare.
That’s how everything happened – as far as I can remember.

Their paths cross, run in parallel for a long time, before Alexander Osang decides to write down Uwe’s story – and sets out with him on a cruise to St. Petersburg. Over the course of four white nights, Uwe tells the story of his life. It’s a story that takes place on all continents, amongst Chinese car smugglers in Hong Kong, Russian ballet dancers on Fire Island and Berlin prostitutes, in the supermax prison ›Stammheim‹, in the boot of an Argentinian diplomat’s escape car, in private banks on Wall Street, with the Russian mafia and in a garden in Berlin, where a family’s treasures have been buried.

Osang assumes this is his chance to write a text about an East-German boy’s longing to see the world. A text about the never-ending search for paradise, which he too had always believed to exist on the other side of the Berlin Wall. But on the final night, after several vodkas and shortly before dawn breaks, Uwe lets the reporter in on a secret, leaving him lost behind as if in a dream ...

Alexander Osang creates a vivid and astonishing narrative of a time of upheaval, and of how the memories of a lifetime are compressed into a narrative in which the truth is possibly the least important aspect. And ultimately, he sets out on a journey to get closer to himself, driven by the question as to how he became the person he is today.

Alexander Osang, born in Berlin in 1962, studied in Leipzig and worked as Chief Reporter for the Berliner Zeitung after the Fall of the Berlin Wall. Since 1999, he has been working as a reporter for SPIEGEL, from New York for eight years and from Tel Aviv up until 2020. His reports have been awarded the Egon Erwin Kisch Prize and the Theodor Wolff Prize numerous times. Today he lives with his family in Berlin. His most recent novel, The Life of Elena Silber, was nominated for the German Book Prize.
"You had to be a certain type of person to live here, to endure it here, to die here – without already being crazy."

It’s the mid-seventies, in an industrial town at the foot of mountains full of ore: After her parents separate, young Ulrike goes to live with her father in Kassbergen, a district looking over the city’s chimneys, where the air is cleaner and the people tell each other stories of a glorious past behind closed doors. Growing up in the eighties, Ulrike is surrounded by this past, discovering hidden beauty and chasms piece by piece. An insecure little girl turns into a rebellious teenager who no longer stands for being fed lies and appeasements. She then meets Gonzo, a punk who introduces her to the world of artists and writers, to the world of the non-conformists. When he is arrested by the Stasi, Ulrike is left to fend for herself...

Patricia Holland Moritz tells the story of a girl who must get to the bottom of her family’s past and her town in order to find her own path.

Patricia Holland Moritz was born in Karl-Marx-Stadt, today known as Chemnitz. She worked as a bookseller in Leipzig before leaving the GDR and working as a forwarding merchant in Paris. She later went on to study North American Studies in Berlin and became a booker for various bands. Today she works at a large publisher in Berlin.

"The two large neighbouring towns were home to a royal residence and flourishing trade centre. All that remained for the town surrounding Kassbergen was work that demanded physical strength. The air here was thick with the scent of an industrial town, which spat out its emissions all over the pavements, roofs and farmland."
Akhulgo, 1838: Jamalludin grows up in the Caucasus, the son of a powerful imam. When Tsar Nicolas I inflicts war on the region, he demands the boy as collateral. And so young Jamalludin ends up in Saint Petersburg, at the tsar’s sumptuous court. The despot intends to raise his adversary’s son as a Russian, aiming to send him back to the Caucasus as an ally. Jamalludin is torn between longing for his parental home and the possibilities offered by Petersburg. Only fifteen years later Jamalludin is allowed to return to his family – but also there he remains a stranger.

In eloquent and urgent language, Olga Grjasnowa tells us a story from a world unknown, yet one directly related to our own. A tale of a holy war and a child caught between two cultures, who must find his own way.

Olga Grjasnowa was born 1984 in Baku, Azerbaijan and is one of the most admired young German authors. She has spent many years living abroad in Poland, Russia, Israel and Turkey. Her celebrated debut novel All Russians Love Birch Trees was awarded the Klaus-Michael Kühne Prize and the Anna Seghers Prize. Her most recent and bestselling publication was God Is Not Shy. All her novels have been adapted for the stage and translated into several languages. Olga Grjasnowa lives with her family in Berlin.

»The precision and consistency with which Olga Grjasnowa tells this story is impressive. A great novel, gripping and full of wisdom.« ttt/ ARD

»Writing in her uniquely sensitive yet matter-of-fact style, she stays very close to her protagonist, driving the story relentlessly onwards to the bitter end.« NDR KULTUR

»Sharply written, the book manages to interweave a thrilling period in history with the fate of a human life.« HAMBURGER ABENDBLATT

»The novel is a great read and utterly compelling. The main character, Jamalludin, is convincing and draws readers under his spell.« DIE PRESSE
Nine people whose lives are dominated by Turkish soldiers’ torture, violence and abductions. Among them: a mother who loads her dead son onto a pickup truck. A man who lays his sleeping daughter under a bush before setting fire to his house. A woman kept in a kennel, chained up like a dog. Nine people who find exile in a tower block in the west of Turkey. Yet as they share the stories of their escape, the military’s systematic terror catches up with them again.

*All Dogs Die* is a chronicle of individuals in the face of violence and obliteration – told in determined, clear, deeply moving style.

*Cemile Sahin* is a visual artist and writer, born in Wiesbaden in 1990. She studied in London and Berlin and was awarded the ars viva prize for fine art. Her artwork takes as its starting point the interplay of images or stories, which she stages anew in her films and writing. The effect is to question the functionalization of media and stress the importance of a variety of perspectives in writing stories. Her debut novel *Taxi* (Korbinian Verlag) is followed by *All Dogs Die*. She received the Alfred Döblin Medal for her writing.

>The determination, clarity, rigour and certainty in Cemile Sahin’s tone is a force to be reckoned with.« FAS

>All Dogs Die is subtly constructed, cleverly conceived, linguistically powerful. Sahin manages to depict trauma by working with repetition, by focusing exclusively on what actually happened to the characters in those places.« TAZ

>All Dogs Die is not only one of the most impressive books of the year, it’s also one of the darkest. A world as Kafkaesque and nightmarishly brutal as Sahin describes is encountered nowhere else in contemporary German literature – although many of the refugees who have fled to Germany in the past few years have similar experiences to report.« FAS
The story of Margherita – First Lady of Venice

1920. Twenty-five-year-old Margherita, a newspaper delivery girl from the small town of Treviso, in northern Italy, becomes the First Lady of Venice when she marries a nobleman, Antonio Revedin. Margherita’s meteoric rise is inextricably interwoven with the famous city itself. Peggy Guggenheim becomes her best friend, and the parties she throws for artists – to which she invited such luminaries as Greta Garbo, Coco Chanel, Clark Gable and Pablo Picasso – become legendary.

Yet Venice’s renaissance as a meeting point for the international avant-garde ends in the mid 1930s with an economic crisis and the looming advent of fascism. It’s not just the city that seems to be foundering once more but also, after the death of Margherita’s husband, the name of a great family. Margherita Revedin, however, masters her social and financial decline with aplomb.

Writing sensitively and evocatively, Jana Revedin tells the story of an extraordinary and unjustly forgotten woman, bringing a whole era vividly to life.

Jana Revedin, born in Konstanz in southern Germany in 1965, is an architect and writer. After studying architecture and urban planning in Buenos Aires, Princeton and Milan, she did her doctorate at the University of Vienna and today is a full professor of architecture and urban planning at the Ecole Spéciale d’Architecture in Paris. In 2018 her bestselling book on Ise Frank, Everybody Here Calls Me Frau Bauhaus, was published. Since 1991 she has been married to Antonio Revedin, director of the Venice Port Authority and grandson of Margherita Revedin. They live in Venice.

»Anyone who wants to dream a little while about the beauty of this fairy-tale city will be swept off into another age in Jana Revedin’s novel, and won’t put the book down until they have finished reading this fascinating story.« WDR

»A journey into a fascinating city, in a fascinating age, about a fascinating woman and then back to reality.« HR 2 KULTUR

»Jana Revedin tells a compelling tale about the forgotten life of Margherita, a newspaper delivery girl who took the future of Venice in hand as the Countess Revedin.« BUCHJOURNAL
What a discovery: Fallada’s lost court records from 1926 – with unpublished stories

It was the turning point before he became a best-selling author: Hans Fallada had turned himself into the police in September 1925 following repeated cases of embezzlement in Northern Germany. He was then taken into custody. As he was an alcoholic with a morphine habit, a court-appointed doctor was assigned to assess the extent to which Fallada could be made accountable. This report was thought to be lost and has only recently been rediscovered. It is an extraordinary find: Not only has it brought new biographical details to light, but also a literary sensation – unpublished stories by Hans Fallada that do not shy away from topics that were considered taboo at the time.

The title character Lilly is an untamed girl. She simply wants to »play« with a young man again, but ends up losing control of the situation and is raped. She manages to stop anyone from finding out and is even able to keep her pregnancy and abortion a secret. In the end, she is admitted to a sanatorium, where she engages in a »duale« with an author …

Rudolf Ditzen, writing under the pseudonym Hans Fallada (1893–1947), was, among other things, a potato specialist and administrator on various manor estates before his fourth novel, Little Man, What Now? (1932), turned him into an overnight star. He spent the Nazi era in seclusion on his estate in Carwitz as an »undesirable«, merely tolerated author. In 2011, his final book, Alone in Berlin (1947), became a huge success, making him once again an international best-selling author around 65 years after his death.

Hans Fallada
Lilly and Her Slave
With Unpublished Stories
Edited by Johanna Preuß-Wössner and Peter Walther
Stories. 240 pp.
Aufbau. Hardcover
2021, April
Sample translation available soon

Johanna Preuß-Wössner, Doctor of Forensic Medicine, runs the Institute of Forensic Medicine at the University Medical Center Schleswig-Holstein in Kiel.

The enfant terrible of the Grimm Family

The Brothers Grimm are much debated. Yet their brother Ferdinand, who compiled a collection of folklore and fairy tales of his own, has been forgotten. This unfortunate member of the family lived until he was 55 years of age, miserable and abandoned.

More than anything, Ferdinand Grimm wanted to be successful in the world of literature and folk tales. He collected and published fairy tales and legends, was an expert on the writing culture of the time, and wrote wonderful letters. But the ›Brothers Grimm‹ only ever consisted of Jacob and Wilhelm. He helped his brothers write legends and fairy tales, and was an extremely motivated collector who, unlike his brothers, also approached other people, listening to their stories on long walks. He published his three anthologies under various pseudonyms – probably so as not to tread on his brothers’ toes. The result is a tremendous, largely unknown treasure, which this book draws from.

In Ferdinand, the Stranger Boehncke and Sarkowicz bring together legends, fairy tales and letters, as well as an extensive biographical essay – finally doing justice to this unknown Grimm brother.

Heiner Boehncke (born in 1944) and Hans Sarkowicz (born in 1955) are well-known amongst readers of Die Andere Bibliothek. They have a loyal readership and their many events are well-visited. They have already given their readers numerous volumes through Die Andere Bibliothek, including Monsieur Göthé (Volume 391) and the Memoirs of Emil Grimm, the Painter-Brother (folio volume, 2015).

»Heiner Boehncke and Hans Sarkowicz are a prolific and meticulous research team and author duo, and their new book is beautiful. Ferdinand, The Stranger is not simply a compilation of the ›Fairy Tales and Legends by the Unknown Grimm Brother‹ – it also attempts to shed light on the complex dynamics of the Grimm Family.« FAZ

»Thanks to Boehncke and Sarkowicz, Ferdinand Grimm is finally being noticed. The book includes short folk tales – the ›Castle and Mountain Tales‹ – which were first published after his death, the story ›Aunt Henriette‹, texts from the estate and letters, which are shared at the end in a beautifully illustrated biographical exploration.« NEUES DEUTSCHLAND
STRONG WOMEN BETWEEN ART & LOVE
Paris, 1929: Simone de Beauvoir starts rebelling at a young age – she wants to be more than just the daughter of a good family. She wants to lead a free, independent life, and she wants to write. She then meets Jean-Paul Sartre, *enfant terrible*, genius and soon to be her lover. They make a pact to safeguard their love and sexual freedom. Together they shape the philosophy of existentialism and form the core of Bohemian Paris. But, for a long time, Simone is unable to achieve her dream of becoming a writer – no book publisher wants to read such astute texts written by a woman. And she also has to fight for her relationship with Sartre – free love comes at a high price.

Caroline Bernard narrates the life of daring thinker Simone de Beauvoir as one woman’s thrilling journey of discovery and a unique and beautiful love story. A life full of love affairs at the centre of Bohemian Paris with Albert Camus, Lucian Freud, Ernest Hemingway and many more.

*Caroline Bernard* is the pseudonym of Tania Schlie, a literary scholar who has worked as a freelance author and editor for twenty years. She has previously published eleven novels and about as many non-fiction books on cultural-historical topics. She loves coming up with stories about strong women. Through Simone de Beauvoir, Caroline Bernard makes a very special connection: only after reading de Beauvoir’s analysis of the woman’s role in our world did she have the courage to question traditions and make uncomfortable decisions – and to begin writing.
Romy Schneider – the greatest actress of her time

Paris, 1958. A young Romy Schneider starts to rebel: instead of allowing herself to be confined to her sweet Sissi image, she wants to develop her skills as an actress. She then falls in love with rebellious young actor Alain Delon – and follows him to France. While the German public is seething with anger, Romy makes the most of her freedom in Paris. Her career, however, comes to a halt – until Luchino Visconti makes her an offer she can’t refuse. But will she be able to survive her first major role on the stage – in French? On Visconti’s recommendation, she meets Coco Chanel, and an intense friendship soon develops. And thanks to Coco’s advice, Romy transforms into that elegant style icon that shines under Visconti’s direction and becomes the grande dame of French cinema. Meanwhile, her relationship with Alain enters a state of crisis …

A wonderful novel about a unique and fascinating woman and her search for her path as an artist, as a lover – and for herself.

Michelle Marly is the pseudonym of a bestselling German author who grew up in the world of cinema and music. For many years she lived in Paris, but today she lives with her husband and dog in Berlin and Munich. Rights to her bestselling novel Mademoiselle Coco and the Scent of Love were sold to 20 countries. The novel spent months on the bestseller list, selling more than 200,000 copies.

»I want to be very French in nature – in how I live, how I sleep and how I dress.«

»There are three people who have changed my life: Alain, Visconti and Coco Chanel.«
Dora Maar and Pablo Picasso – a passionate love as special as their art

Paris, 1936: Dora is a successful photographer at the centre of the Surrealist world of André Breton and Man Ray. The eccentric young woman then meets Pablo Picasso – and a love both passionate and abysmal ignites between the two. Dora's dark sensuality shapes Picasso's paintings from then on and inspires his first political works – most notably Guernica. But he cannot accept another artist by his side, and Dora's creative development starts to stagnate. Their arguments become more and more intense. Until Picasso meets the younger Françoise Gilot – and Dora has to find her way back to art to bury her love …

A gripping novel about Picasso's only love, who herself was an extraordinary photographer and painter, researched exceptionally by a renowned author.

Bettina Storks, born near Stuttgart in 1960, is an author with a PhD in Literature. She lives near Lake Constance. Her novels unite her enthusiasm for fascinating female figures, her high standards for thorough research and her love of France. She visited Dora Maar's house during a trip to Ménerbes, and began looking into her life and work. She discovered much more than just Picasso's Weeping Woman – she discovered a multifaceted artist who was emancipated, much sought-after and renowned for her artistic legacy.

A dark, heart-wrenching love between two great artists
»I was an emancipated woman long before there was a name for it.«

Desperate to cast off the expectations of her old, well-established family, Peggy, a self-assured young woman, travels to Europe. There she becomes one of the most glittering figures of the Bohemian scene in Paris. She has a passionate affair with Samuel Beckett and befriends Marc Chagall and Piet Mondrian. When the looming threat of Nazism becomes impossible to ignore, Peggy Guggenheim flees to Lisbon in 1941. With her new lover, the painter Max Ernst, she then travels to the USA. Yet hardly have they arrived before Max is arrested as an enemy alien, and Peggy is terrified her lover might be sent back to Germany. Meanwhile she is determined to realise her greatest dream: to have her own museum, where she can exhibit her collection of European modernist art. Peggy and Max marry, but it’s not easy for Max to find his feet among the community of exiled artists in the USA and play second fiddle to his influential wife. Soon Peggy is faced with a decision: will she pour all her energies into saving her marriage, or will she forge her own path and finally fulfil her dream of setting up her own gallery in the male-dominated world of art?

Leah Hayden studied German, political science and philosophy in Heidelberg and the USA, where for a long time she lived near New York. Through her uncle, who was a painter, she developed an early fascination with the world of art. Today Leah Hayden lives with her husband and two dogs in Salerno, near Naples, working as a freelance author. She returned to New York to do research for this novel, seeing the city anew through the eyes of Peggy Guggenheim.

A uniquely moving novel about Peggy Guggenheim – the fascinating and courageous gallerist who helped bring abstract art to mainstream attention.
Grace Kelly is an icon: muse, star and a woman of unconditional love

1950: Against her parents’ wishes, Grace moves to New York to become an actress. She is soon immersed in the glittering life of the city’s artistic and cultural bohemians, but as a woman in a man’s world she has repeated brushes with its dark side. Yet she manages to hold her own. Indeed, her life is characterised by an unwavering desire for emancipation – from her parents, from Hollywood’s powerful elite, and from social expectations. Grace manages to remain true to herself even as she achieves the fame she’s always dreamed of. At the apex of her career she meets her greatest love. And she is faced with a decision: is her love strong enough for her to sacrifice everything and bid farewell to the film business forever?

Sophie Benedict is the pseudonym of the bestselling author Steffi von Wolff. Wolff, a journalist born near Frankfurt in 1966, worked as a radio host and editor for many years. In The Grace of Love she shadows her favourite actress, Grace Kelly, through her most successful years.

»Grace Kelly’s apparent frigidity was like a mountain covered with snow, but the mountain was a volcano.« Alfred Hitchcock

»A great novel about the iconic Grace Kelly: muse, star and unconditional lover.« Buch-Magazin

Sophie Benedict
The Grace of Love
Novel. 448 pp.
atb. Quality Paperback
2020, May

RIGHTS SOLD:
Spain (Planeta)
Hungary (Kossuth)
Serbia (Laguna)
Czech Republic (Albatros)
»Believe me, the world won’t give you any gifts. If you want to have a life, steal it.« LOU ANDREAS-SALOMÉ

From a young age, Lou wants to be anything but a conventional woman: as a teenager she rebels against her parents, and her sharp mind attracts men like Paul Rée and Friedrich Nietzsche. But she never lets this triangle relationship turn into anything romantic. Finally, she actually marries – under the condition that the marriage remains platonic. She fears that a traditional relationship would jeopardise her freedom of thought and her freedom as a woman. Now an established writer, she meets the young René Maria Rilke – and for the first time experiences the connection between intellectual and physical love. But Rilke becomes increasingly instable, restricting her life more and more. Must Lou turn her back on love to remain free?

A gripping, excellently researched novel about the extraordinary, tragic love between Lou Andreas-Salomé and Rainer Maria Rilke.

Thérèse Lambert is the pseudonym of our author Ursula Hahnenberg, who grew up in Munich and lives with her family in Berlin. Growing up with three brothers and later studying Forestry, she learnt to stand her ground as a woman from a young age. This has had a large impact on her writing and her special passion for strong women like Lou Andreas-Salomé.

Nothing is more important to her than freedom, until Lou Andreas-Salomé meets her first true love – the young poet Rainer Maria Rilke.
Paris, 1881: Seventeen-year-old Camille Claudel knew from an early age that she wanted to be a sculptor. But because she’s a woman, it is not possible for her to study at the École des Beaux-Arts. She rents a studio with two friends and delves into the bohemian world. Her sculptures soon catch the attention of a much older man, Auguste Rodin. He fosters her talent and teaches her — Camille becomes an indispensable employee of his, and later also his lover. But she wants to be more than just one of his muses.

Muse, nude model, sculptor — the story of one of the most prominent artists of the 19th century who rebels against social constraints and stands her ground in a male discipline.

Pia Rosenberger completed an apprenticeship in hand weaving before going on to study Art History, Literature and Education. She has lived with her family in Esslingen for over 20 years and works as an author, journalist, museum educator and city guide. In carrying out research for this book, she was immediately fascinated by Camille Claudel. She was drawn in by the talent of this exceptional artist, as well as her stubbornness, fearlessness and her ability to turn sadness into art.

With many greats of the fin de siècle: Auguste Rodin, Claude Debussy, Alfred Boucher, Paul Claudel, and many more
The love of an unforgettable summer – and a serious decision

June 1934: Asta Nielsen, the Danish film star, is spending a relaxed summer on the northern German island of Hiddensee, bathing in the sea and drinking Turkish coffee. She finds herself in distress during a boat trip one day, and Kai, one of the fishermen, comes to her rescue. He is also the person who comforts her when she finds out that her friend, Joachim Ringelnatz, is ill. One day, Nazi officials arrive on the island and make the famous actress an offer. She makes a decision that will change her life forever – and her love for Kai.

A magnificent novel about Asta Nielsen – a glamorous diva and strong-minded, brave woman. Based on a true story.

Sylvia Frank is the pseudonym of a German husband and wife, a successful author duo living on the island of Rügen. Sylvia Vandermeer, born in 1968, is a qualified businesswoman. She also studied Biology, Psychology and Fine Art. Today she works as a freelance author and painter. Frank Meierewert, born in 1967, has a PhD in Ethnology, and has worked as a freelance author since 2008.

»The primitive island of Hiddensee is like an oasis in the middle of the Baltic Sea, underneath an unbelievably big blue sky, immersed in light and colours that are even brighter than any other place I know of in the North.« ASTA NIELSEN
What good is love if it’s only in your head?

Prague, 1916: Young Milena is self-assured and eager for adventure. She loves spending her days in coffee houses, the centres of bohemian life. There she meets the enigmatic writer Franz Kafka. It’s clear from the outset that the two are connected by more than just literature. Then, however, her father banishes her from home. She marries the literary critic Ernst Pollak and lives with him in Vienna, but the marriage fails and Milena falls into poverty. In desperation she writes to Kafka, suggesting she translate his work into Czech. An unparalleled romance soon develops through their letters … but it’s not long before Milena wonders whether this passionate love exists in real life or simply on paper.

The story of an emancipated woman and journalist who defied all the odds of her era.

Stephanie Schuster, born in 1967, studied graphic design. For many years she illustrated the books of other authors before she herself began to write. Today she works as a writer, painter and illustrator. She lives with her family on Lake Starnberg in Bavaria. When she read Kafka’s Letters to Milena she became fascinated by the woman to whom they are dedicated, and wanted to find out more about her. Since Milena’s letters to Kafka are still missing, she wondered how she might have replied. And thus the idea for this novel was born.
Music is the AIR I breathe.«

Clara Schumann

Leipzig, 1835: Sixteen-year-old pianist Clara plays to sold-out houses, spending five months touring with her father. It might sound harmonious, but in reality it’s sheer hell. The two of them are hopelessly at odds. The reason? Clara is in love. Her father disapproves of her settling down too soon – and definitely not with the admittedly gifted yet thoroughly unsuitable Robert Schumann, a man who seems incapable of coping with life. Every day she waits in vain for a letter from Robert. Is her father hiding her beloved’s messages from her? Yet Clara, who has inherited not just her father’s musical talents but also his stubbornness, is determined to fight for her relationship.

The story of one of the most significant virtuosos of our age – a richly informative and deeply emotional narrative.

Beate Rygiert was born in Tübingen and grew up in the Black Forest. At the age of twelve she wrote in her diary: »Actually I’d like to be a writer!« She made this dream a reality after finishing her studies in music, theatre and Italian literature in Munich and Florence, and after a few years as an opera dramaturg on various German stages. Today she lives with her husband in the Black Forest, Andalusia and often in France.
The bestselling *Nivea Saga* – authentic and moving

The saga begins with pharmacist Oscar Troplowitz’ return to Poznan where he worked in a pharmacy as a trainee before finishing school in his hometown Wroclaw. When he and Gerda, his former boss’ daughter, meet again, it soon becomes clear that they make a great couple. Then a unique business opportunity arises and Oscar Troplowitz takes over the Beiersdorf laboratories. Within just a short period of time, he turns them into a large-scale industrial operation with its own factory premises. And, of course, he is not alone on his journey – Gerda follows him to Hamburg and marries him.

Lena Johannson embeds the fascinating true story of the Troplowitz couple in a gripping and moving plot told from the perspective of three very different women: fictitious worker Antonia, known as Toni, joins the company. Here she has to fight for her place in a world of business dominated by men. And painter Irma also plays an important role. She helps Gerda organise art salons where she exhibits her own paintings – shocking works whose creator the two women initially keep a secret.

Lena Johannson, born in Reinbek, near Hamburg, in 1967, was a bookseller before becoming a freelance author. She lives close to the Baltic Sea. The history of Hamburg and especially its warehouse district with its old trading offices have fascinated her ever since she was a little girl. Her passions include writing, travelling – and chocolate, of course. At Aufbau she also published her *Elbchaussee Saga* about the fate of a Hamburg based family of chocolate traders and manufacturers. It was a Spiegel bestseller and is currently translated to Spanish and Italian.
Years of suffering, years of love

When Florence, meanwhile an experienced ophtamologist, travels from New York to Hamburg with her father Benno, she looks forward to seeing her aunt again. But Vicki’s condition is pitiful – an insidious illness has forced her to give up her job at the hospital. Even her stately home is decaying more and more. She has almost resigned herself to dying. Florence and Benno, who has become a famous and successful painter in the US, literally save her life – and the two start making plans right away. They move in with Vicki and decide to renovate the house. They soon find a suitable architect, and even though he has given himself another name, Aron Salomon is aware of the dangers that await him as a Jew in Germany. The Nazis are also in power in Hamburg, and start establishing their terror regime. When Florence and Aron fall in love, he has to confess something to her: he is part of an organisation that helps Jews leave the country.

Wolf Serno meticulously researched the story of the zur Haiden Family from the thirties up until the end of the war. For many years Wolf Serno was a successful copywriter and lecturer before he started writing novels. His novel The Wandering Surgeon became an international bestseller. He lives with his wife and two dogs in Hamburg and Northern Jutland.

The long-awaited 2nd volume of the successful Hamburg Saga about a family of doctors
My heart is in your hands

Helena’s parents run a bed and breakfast on the Atlantic coast of Argentina, where she gets to know and love a German sailor named Karl. Following the unexpected death of her mother, there is not much keeping Helena in her hometown. The only difficult thing is having to leave her father behind when she moves to the northern German coast with Karl. But the Second World War is about to break out there, and Karl also has to go and fight.

Decades later, Helena’s son Robert travels from Buenos Aires to Germany to trace his German roots. He takes his mother’s puzzling inheritance with him – an amber stone. But why does it say on the old family grave that he and his mother were buried there in 1945? And who is that other woman in the old photos?

Hans Meyer zu Düttingdorf, born in 1967, is a university lecturer, corporate coach and musician. He learnt to love Argentina through his partner, Juan Carlos Risso. They came up with the idea for The Amber Girl together. His earlier novels, The Bandleon and Our Side of Heaven, have been translated into French and Spanish. The couple live in Berlin and in Necochea on the Atlantic coast of Argentina.
Germany, 1946:
A girl’s fight for survival

The war has come to an end, but the fight for survival is far from over. While searching for wood amongst the rubble, twelve-year-old Hella stumbles upon a dying man near a mine. She pulls his eyes shut and, as compensation, takes his coat to sell on the black market. But sewn into the lining are valuable ration stamps for butter. Martha, Hella’s mother, and Edith, a woman they have taken in as a lodger, want to use this opportunity to finally get their hands on some money – but they have no idea what they are letting themselves in for. It isn’t long before the police are on their trails, as well as dangerous black-market traders.

A powerful, thrilling novel about the turmoil of the post-war years.

Sabine Hofmann, born in 1964, studied German and Romance Studies. She has written three crime novels about the post-war period in Spain together with Rosa Ribas. She is currently fascinated by analysing how the German post-war period has affected her childhood memories, with the stories told by her parents and grandparents playing such a big role in her own childhood. She lives in Erbach in Odenwald with her husband, child and cat.
»Happiness is the secret to all beauty.« Christian Dior

France, 1947: Fleeing the confines of life as a housewife in the provinces, Célestine arrives in Paris, where she meets the reclusive designer Christian Dior. The young woman inspires the couturier with her natural femininity, becoming his private secretary and muse. Everyone is struggling in the aftermath of the war, but the world is on the brink of change and people are longing for beauty: Dior’s feminine New Look rapidly becomes an international sensation. In this new life of opulence and haute couture, Célestine almost loses herself, but then she finds it – love …

A young woman searching for happiness in post-war Paris meets the fashion designer whose New Look is on the verge of extraordinary success.

Agnès Gabriel is a German author and journalist. She writes historical novels and novels for women under various pseudonyms. Her books have been translated into several languages. The author lives with her family on Lüneburg Heath in northern Germany.

A novel about Christian Dior, who brought women a new kind of elegance
The epic saga of the Nibelungs – gripping, atmospheric and told like never before

Siegfried of Xanten has only one goal: to be the strongest warrior his country has ever seen. To this end, he fights a dragon and captures its cursed golden treasures. He then heads to the Suava Forest to have a sword made by a legendary blacksmith. But to his surprise, the blacksmith is a beautiful woman – none other than Queen Brunhild herself. The pair fall in love. However, Brunhild’s visionary predicts that Siegfried will betray her one day.

A little later, as Siegfried rushes to help defend the Kingdom of Burgundy against the Saxons, the king’s daughter, Kriemhild, falls in love with him – and the fate that will soon bring sorrow upon entire nations takes its course.

Siegfried of Xanten and the fatal love of two women – for readers of George R.R. Martin, Diana Gabaldon and Madeline Miller.

Roman Wolf lives near Berlin. He started taking a close interest in German mythology and the legend of Siegfried while he was still at university. The Nibelungs is his first novel.

»A unique and wonderful perspective of the old German heroic epic.«
Helga Glaesener
The legend lives on

Her mother often spoke to her about Christianity, the new religion of love, and about her powerful grandfather Gerold, who nonetheless could not prevent her being abducted and taken to Denmark. When she loses her mother and is forced to kill her brutal father in self-defence, Freya flees south, trying to find her grandfather. When she finally makes it to Dorstadt, she learns that Gerold is now living in Rome, working as a bodyguard for the pope. Freya, in disguise, manages to reach the Holy City in 858. Once there she witnesses Gerold’s murder – it emerges that the pope he has been protecting is actually female: Johanna, a wise woman with a gift for healing, who is pregnant with his child. Freya decides to find out who is behind the murder of Pope Joan, even if it means making powerful enemies.

An opulent, powerfully written novel about a girl who squares up to the enemies of Pope Joan. An epic journey stretching from the villages of Denmark to the holy halls of Rome, inspired by the international bestseller Pope Joan by Donna Cross.

Helga Glaesener originally studied mathematics and computer science before deciding to become a freelance author. Her very first novel, The Saffron Trader, became a bestseller. She now lives in Oldenburg.

»A complex, compelling historical novel based on the international bestseller Pope Joan.« Hörzu

As thrilling as Game of Thrones, but with a feminist touch
A thriller that’s like going for a swim in the pounding waves – cold shivers guaranteed

Rebecca’s life is almost perfect: she lives with her wife Lucy and their young daughter Greta in a dream house on the northern coast of Germany. But during the week when Lucy is away on business, Rebecca feels lonely. When she goes for a walk on the beach one morning, she suddenly finds a naked woman standing in front of her claiming that her clothes were stolen while she was swimming. Rebecca finds Julia pleasant. She helps her, and the two become friends. They meet up every day from then on, until Julia disappears from Rebecca’s life just as quickly as she came into it. Rebecca starts searching for her, but soon realises that she’s chasing after a ghost.

Why does Lucy react so strangely when Rebecca mentions Julia’s special characteristic – one brown eye and one green eye? Why does she want Rebecca to stop searching for her? Rebecca doesn’t understand – until she discovers a photo of Julia on Lucy’s phone. Rebecca now has to make a decision to protect her loved ones.

Psychological thriller with unexpected twists and beautiful scenes.

Petra Johann, born in 1971, has a PhD in Mathematics. She worked in research and in the software industry for several years before finding her true vocation – killing people, even if only on paper. Petra Johann grew up in the Ruhr region and now lives in Bavaria.

»I never would have thought that I would tell my story one day. Until recently, my life was completely normal, with a job, family, friends and my share of happiness – as well as unhappiness. But when I met Julia, I thought I had overcome the unhappiness. How could I have been so naive?«

Petra Johann
The Woman from the Beach
Thriller. 448 pp.
atb. Quality Paperback
2021, February
A murder shocks Frankfurt

Frankfurt, May 1967: When a corpse is pulled out of the Main river, Inspector Preusser is handed the investigation. The dead man is Simon Mandel, a young American journalist who was reporting on the Auschwitz trials in Frankfurt, and so the case takes on a volatile political dimension. Although he is pressured to treat it like a robbery-motivated killing, Preusser has his doubts. Evidently the American was looking for files on Jewish children who were placed with party bigwigs during the war. Since the dead man’s notes are nowhere to be found, Preusser follows in his footsteps through Frankfurt and to Berlin, where Mandel had conducted research into the Nazi era at a documentation centre. His primary focus was the concentration camp at Ravensbrück. When a woman who was married to an SS man is murdered, Preusser believes he is finally on the right track.

Maximilian Rosar is a professor of business administration, and lives with his wife and two daughters in Trier, in southwest Germany. The Silence of the Dead is his first novel in the series about Inspector Preusser. Writing under the pseudonym Paul Walz, he has previously published four crime novels and several short stories.

»People forget too easily and too quickly, and they usually also have the special gift of forgetting things they don’t want to think about.« Konrad Adenauer

Maximilian Rosar
The Silence of the Dead
atb. Quality Paperback
2020, September

RIGHTS SOLD:
Italy (Emons)

»Maximilian Rosar creates authentic characters and an exciting, fascinating plot. He wraps the criminal case up in the social upheavals of the time, skilfully linking the two together.«
Blog Schreiblust-Leselust
The deadly perils of a fresh start

May 1945: The Second World War has been over for a few hours when Inspector Druwe is called to the naval base in Flensburg in northern Germany. He is asked to help set up a new police unit. Then he receives some strange news – from Werner Grell, a secret service agent who has gone underground. Grell tells him about explosive material he got from the former head of military intelligence, Wilhelm Canaris, on major figures in the Nazi party as well as leading industrialists. Hesitantly, Druwe confides in the British military. They appear extremely interested, but the first secret meeting between Grell and a captain in the British military ends in disaster when both are found dead in a warehouse. It looks like they shot each other – but Druwe has his doubts.

In the second novel in this crime series, Inspector Druwe investigates a double murder – and ends up once more caught in the middle.

Michael Jensen was born in northern Schleswig-Holstein in 1966. He lives with his family in Hamburg and Flensburg. His main job is as a doctor and therapist. He has gathered together his professional experiences into two non-fiction books. He is particularly interested in the psychological long-term consequences of the Second World War, especially in the descendants of the victims and perpetrators.

»The strength of this book is the intensity with which the author forces himself and the reader to confront the issue of guilt.« Bayerischer Rundfunk

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Michael Jensen
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atb. Paperback
2019, July
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