

FOREIGN RIGHTS CATALOGUE
CHILDREN'S BOOKS
FICTION
Bologna 2021





Ta-da! Presenting ... the Smallest of All!

5+

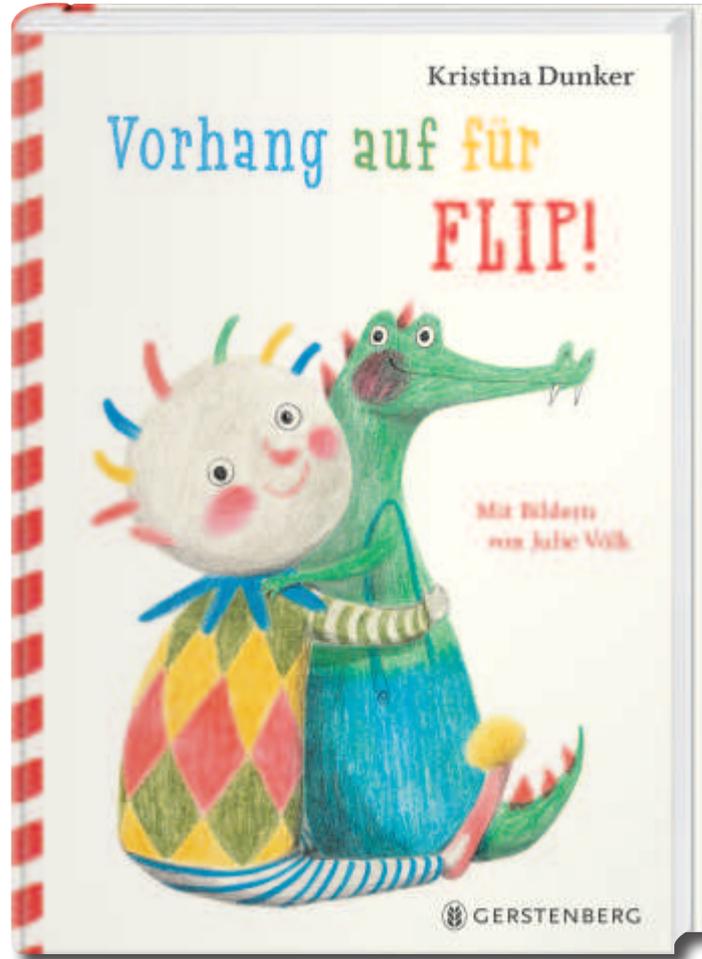
Kristina Dunker · Julie Völk

The Curtain Rises for Flip!

Vorhang auf für Flip!

144 pages,
with coloured illustrations
16,5 x 23,2 cm, hardcover
€ 15.00

All rights available



Flip and Toothy the Crocodile can hardly sleep. Tomorrow the tiny puppets will go on stage in front of real children! Grandmother thinks they're not ready yet, and Flip is afraid he'll forget his lines! Even the drive to school is an adventure. Then, just before the show, the puppeteer gets sick.

Flip and Toothy have to decide whether to go ahead on their own without her. Curses!! What should they do?

A warmhearted, expressive and pun-filled read-alone book, vividly illustrated by Julie Völk.

Kristina Dunker, born 1973 in Dortmund, studied art history and archaeology and works as a freelance journalist. She published her first book at age 18. Since then she has produced and won awards for several children's books. *The Curtain Rises for Flip* is her first book for Gerstenberg.

Julie Völk, born in 1985 in Vienna, grew up in rural Lower Saxony. As a girl, she drew fashionable princesses, then later orphans and especially designed houses for them. Völk studied illustration at the HAW in Hamburg. Her celebrated debut together with author Kim Fupz Aakeson, *The Lion Girl*, was awarded with the Serafina and Troisdorfer Picture Book prizes in 2015. The artist lives with her family in Austria.

Parents are so Annoying!

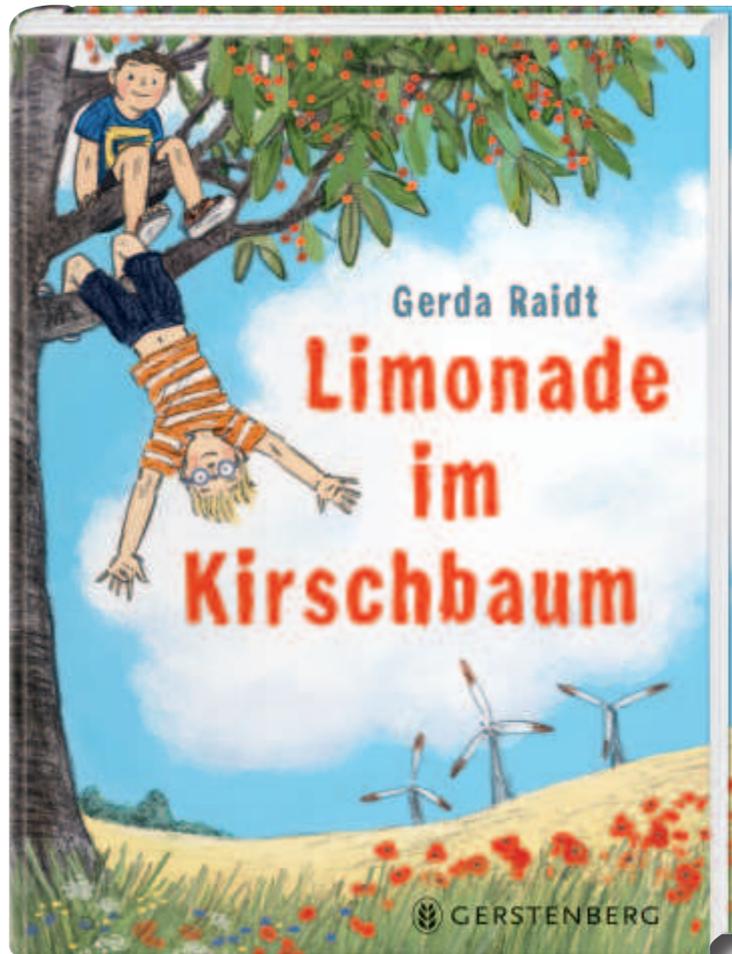
8+

Gerda Raidt

Lemonade in the Cherry Tree *Limonade im Kirschbaum*

144 pages,
with black-and-white illustrations
14 x 18,5 cm, hardcover
€ 13.00

All rights available



Max is kind of a recluse – instead of going outdoors he'd rather hang out in his room and listen to audiobooks. It's the same when they go to their cabin, even though they have a zip line and trampoline. His parents give it one last try to get him outside – they'll help him build a treehouse. Then something happens that Max would never have ima-

gined. Building the treehouse sets in motion a whole chain of events that blows the townspeople – and Max's parents – away, and leaves Max with skinned knees and a true friend.

A warm, amusing and nimbly paced summertime story for outdoorsy types and bookworms alike!

Gerda Raidt, born 1975 in Berlin, studied graphic design and took a scholarship in Leipzig, where she now works as a freelance author/illustrator. *Lemonade in the Cherry Tree* is her first children's storybook.





»A Book For All Catlovers!«

NEW

7+

Silke Lambeck · Carsten Teich

**What Does our Tomcat
Do While I'm Asleep?**

***Was macht der Kater,
wenn ich schlafe?***

128 pages, with colored illustrations

17 x 23,5 cm, hardcover

€ 15,00

All rights available



What does our tomcat do while I'm asleep? That's what Fritze asks one morning when her tomcat Mika comes home unusually late. Everyone she asks has a different explanation: Mika's out taking a walk, says Grandpa. Papa says Mika sings in the tomcat choir. Mama says he's out visiting. And Timmy, the babysitter, maintains

that Mika is somewhere spying. Really?, thinks Fritze. None of them are cats – how do they know? What would Mika tell us? And then, Mika tells us his own story .

A book for reading and reading aloud. For the whole family, and for anyone who loves cats.

Silke Lambeck grew up in Berlin. She studied German Studies and Theater Studies and ultimately became a journalist. For over ten years, she has written books for children and adults such as *Herr Röslein*, which got rave reviews from both readers and critics. Her children's novel *My Friend Otto, the Wilde Life and I* was nominated for the *Deutscher Jugendliteraturpreis 2019*. She lives with her family in Berlin, which remains her favorite city.



For all fans of Otto and Matti – Readers of All Ages will Love The Santa Project!



9+

Silke Lambeck
Barbara Jung

The Santa Projekt Das Weihnachtsmann- Projekt

208 pages,
with black-and-white illustrations,
16 x 21 cm, hardcover
€ 14,00

All rights available



This year will be different, Paul's mother declares: we're going to have a quiet Christmas without the relatives! Grandma is appalled, and Paul's little sister Frida is furious. As if that weren't enough, Frida's teacher says there's no Santa! Paul can't bear to see Frida disappointed – he's determined to prove that there really is a Santa. On top

of that, somehow he's got to pull his family together and make sure they have a real Christmas. But that's easier said than done . . .

Funny, spirited and original, here's a Christmas story for reading – and reading aloud – for the whole family.

Silke Lambeck grew up in Berlin. She studied German Studies and Theater Studies and ultimately became a journalist. For over ten years, she has written books for children and adults such as Herr Röslein, which got rave reviews from both readers and critics. She lives with her family in Berlin, which remains her favorite city.

Barbara Jung, 1968 born in Karlsruhe, studied communicational design at the University of Applied Sciences Mainz. After she has finished her degree she is working as a freelance illustrator. Today she lives in Frankfurt am Main and works for various children's book publishers. She likes stories with a sense of humor and crazy characters.

The Fun Continues!

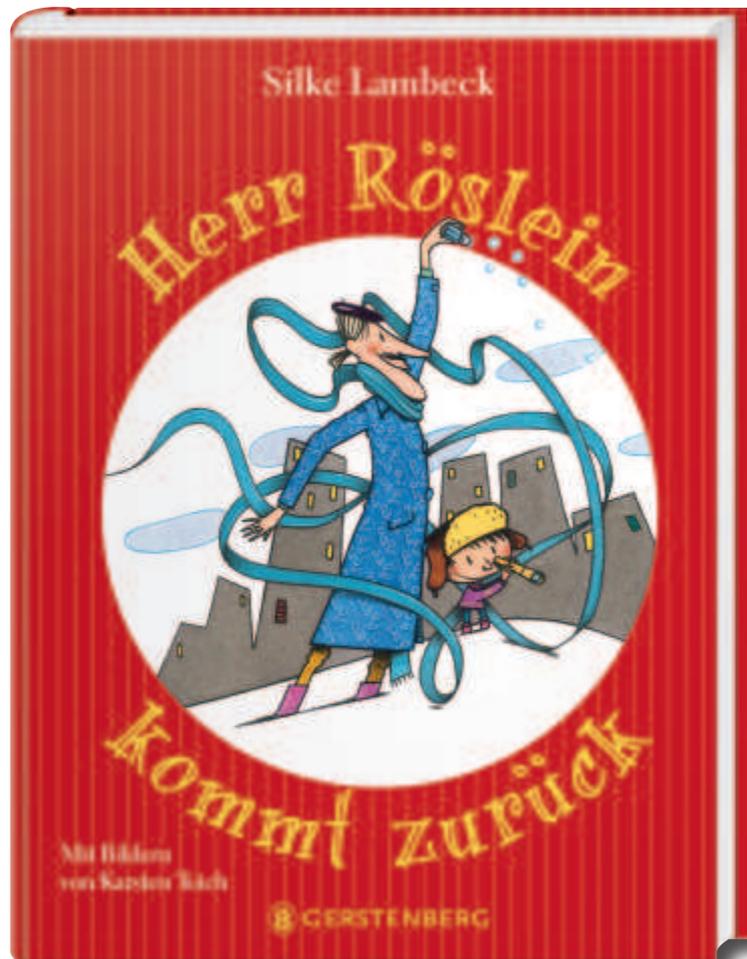
8+

Silke Lambeck
Karsten Teich

Mr. Flowers Returns
Volume 2
Herr Röslein
kommt zurück
Band 2

64 pages, fully coloured
22 x 28 cm, hardcover
€ 13.00

**Rights sold to France, Spain,
Catalonia, Russia, Turkey**



Calling Mr. Flowers! We need you! Though a telescope, Moritz has witnessed the kidnapping of the ice cream vendor Pippa. His friendly neighbor with the gray ponytail and the secret magical powers would be a big help right now!

Everyone could use a friend like Mr. Flowers! Here's another warm and funny story that's sure to become a classic.

Silke Lambeck grew up in Berlin. She studied German Studies and Theater Studies and ultimately became a journalist. For over ten years, she has written books for children and adults such as Herr Röslein, which got rave reviews from both readers and critics. She lives with her family in Berlin, which remains her favorite city.

The illustrator **Karsten Teich** was born in 1967 in Hannoversch Münden. After earning an arts degree at the Kunsthochschule Kassel, he worked for a number of magazines and daily newspapers and wrote and designed very successful children's books. Today he lives with his family in Berlin.

Just like Magic, Here Comes Mr. Flowers!



8+

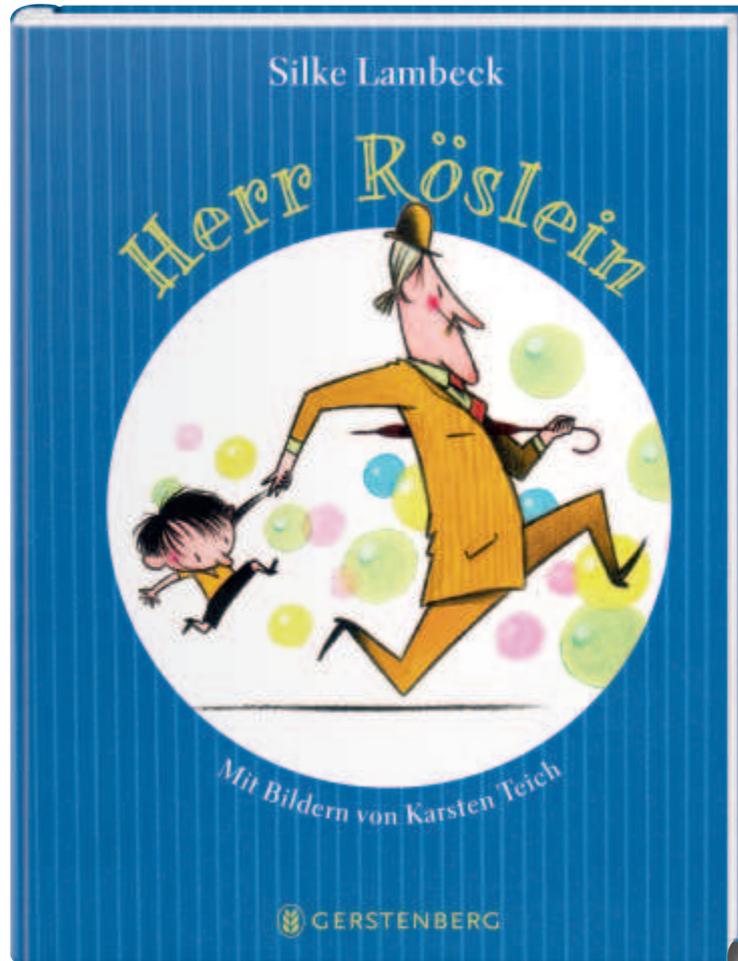
Silke Lambeck · KarstenTeich

**Mr. Flowers-
Volume 1**

**Herr Röslein
Band 1**

128 pages,
with black-and-white illustrations
16 x 21,5 cm, hardcover
€ 13.00

**Sold to France, Korea, Spain,
Catalonia, Russia and Turkey**



Ever since Mo moved to the new city with his family, things have been pretty messed up at home and at school. Then Mo meets Mr. Flowers in the apartment stairway. Right away Mo senses something different about the friendly older man with the gray ponytail. It turns out that he

bakes awesome cookies, knows where to find tucked-away umbrellas, tames tigers at the zoo – and can make the most unbelievable things come true . . .

This charming story is told with compassion and good humor, and will warm the hearts of children – of all ages!

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The author and illustrator **Karsten Teich** was born in 1967 in Hannoversch Münden. After earning an arts degree at the Kunsthochschule Kassel, he worked for a number of magazines and daily newspapers and wrote and designed very successful children's books. Today he lives with his family in Berlin.

More Adventures in Berlin



8+

Silke Lambeck · Barbara Jung

My Friend Otto, the Big Secret, and I

Mein Freund Otto das große Geheimnis und ich

184 pages, black-and-white
16 x 21 cm, hardcover
€ 13.00

All rights available



It's going on a lot in Matti's and Otto's lives. Matti has a VERY strange feeling when he's looking at Mina, who is the new girl in their class and very good in playing soccer. Recently Otto has begun to comb his hair. And as if that was not strange enough, Matti's dad suddenly appears in front of their door, the dad who didn't get in touch with him for more than five years. But Otto's mum moves out. For now.

To make friends with Mina is a little bit difficult, because she doesn't even want to tell where she lives. However

Silke Lambeck grew up in Berlin. She studied German Studies and Theater Studies and ultimately became a journalist. For over ten years, she has written books for children and adults such as *Herr Röslein*, which got rave reviews from both readers and critics. She lives with her family in Berlin, which remains her favorite city.

Matti and Otto want to give her extra lessons in Math, so that she won't be bothered by the horrible Misses »Streiter« anymore. A great mess for the two boys. But they absolutely need to find out what's wrong with Mina...

A modern city children story about boys in love, parents without any plans and tough girls. About »Hotte Zimmermann«, »Bruda Berlin« and the »Horrific Twins«. A story about big secrets and great emotions.

Barbara Jung 1968 born in Karlsruhe, studied communicational design at the University of Applied Sciences Mainz. After she has finished her degree she is working as a freelance illustrator. Today she lives in Frankfurt am Main and works for various children's book publishers. She likes stories with a sense of humor and crazy characters.
www.barbara-jung.de

Adventure in Berlin



8 +

Silke Lambeck · Barbara Jung

**My Friend Otto,
the Wild Life, and I**
**Mein Freund Otto,
das wilde Leben
und ich**

184 pages,
black-and-white
16 x 21,5 cm, hardcover
€ 12.95

Sold to Russia



»Otto once said that our lives are far too tame and since then I've been thinking about the wild life. Maybe he was right. But if he was right, then what should we do?«
Matti and Otto have known each other their whole lives, except for the first three weeks. They live in a place where everyone goes on vacation: downtown Berlin. They go to yoga and play the piano. Matti laughs all the time and Otto

can't sing. So everything's pretty normal – too normal???
One day at school they discover a video of Brotha Berlin rapping on YouTube and decide that something's got to change! The only question is how ... A big-city story for the children of today. It's a tale about friendship, oddball teachers and weirdo neighbors, real estate sharks and dangerous gangsters, mothers and fathers – in other words,

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A Vacation at the Sea

8 +

Jens Sparschuh • Julia Dürr

The Old Man and the Guinea Pig

Der alte Mann und das Meer- schweinchen

160 pages,
black-and-white illustrated
15,7 x 21 cm, hardcover
€ 12.95

Sold to Turkey



Angelina can't wait: for the first time ever, her whole family is traveling to the sea for vacation. The guinea pig Otilie will of course be coming along too. It's silly, though, that no one read the fine print in the contract for the vacation house: „All Pets are strictly forbidden.“ What to do now?

Luckily, Mr. Möhring, the neighbor, is happy to take Otilie. But the old man is a bit strange. Just in case he has questions, Angelina leaves him the book *You and Your*

Guinea Pig. Then Mrs. Waller shows up at the door with a big bunch of parsley, Otilie's favorite food, and wants to travel with Mr. Möhring to the sea. They decide to bring Otilie along!

An entertaining guinea pig tale with lots of funny words and images.

Julia Dürr, born in 1981 in Frankfurt am Main, studied illustration in Münster. She has been living and working in Leipzig and Berlin since 2010. In 2009, her book *Im Dunkeln* was called one of the „best German books“ by the Stiftung Buchkunst.

Jens Sparschuh, born 1955 in Chemnitz, studied philosophy and logic in Leningrad. He graduated from Humboldt University in 1983 and has been working in Berlin as a freelance writer ever since. He writes novels for both children and adults as well as poems and radio plays. Among other distinctions, he was awarded the Anna Seghers Prize by the Academy of Arts in Berlin.

A Tale of Dangerous Pirates and Daydreaming Boys



Jens Sparschuh · Julia Dürr

Jakobs Muschel



? +

Jens Sparschuh · Julia Dürr

Jakob´s Shell

Jakobs Muschel

64 pages, fully coloured

18,5 x 24 cm, boardbook

€ 13.95

Sold to Turkey, China

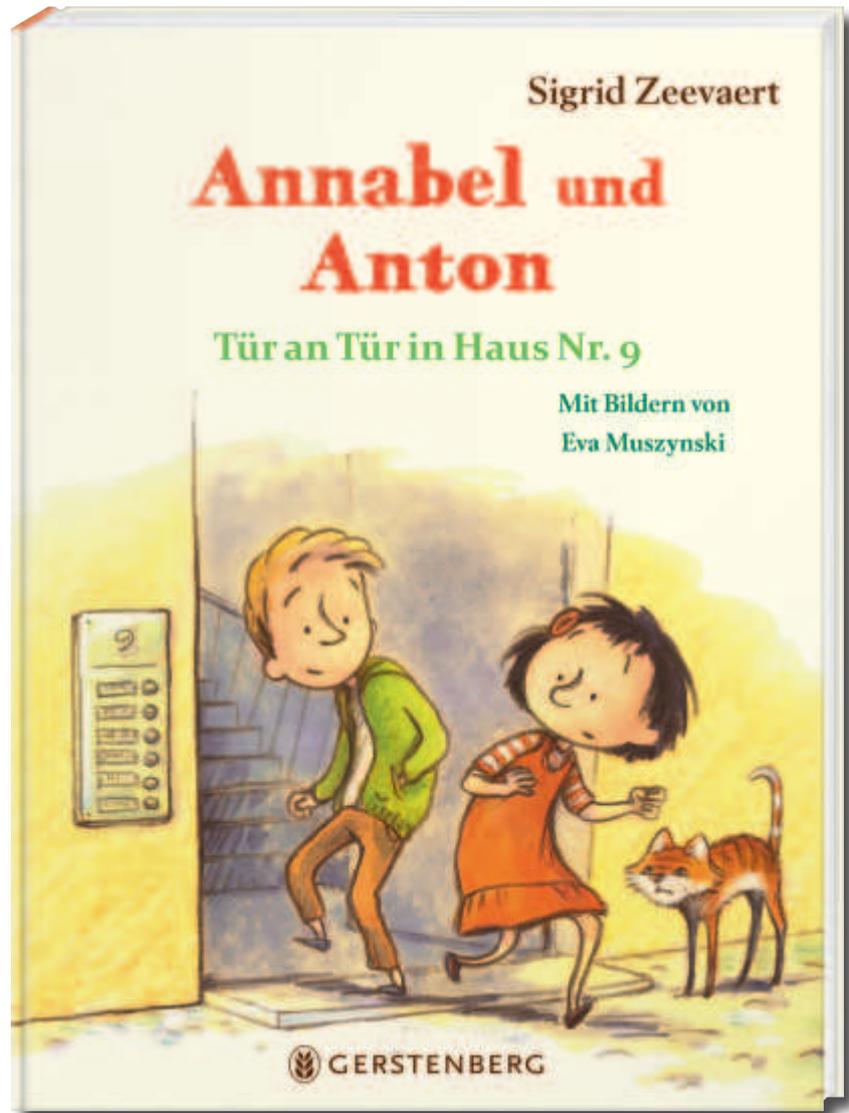
When Jakob holds his shell to his ear, he hears the sound of the ocean. And when he closes his eyes, he can even see it. One day, while he's sitting on the jungle gym between the apartment buildings, who shows up but Jonas — Jonas the cool kid with the expensive tennis and sharp tongue who always picks on him. Quick as a flash, Jonas swipes Jakob's shell. Jakob takes one look down and, frightened of falling, holds on tight with both hands. He closes his

eyes and suddenly he can see him: Jonny the pirate, the notorious thief of the high seas. With that wart on his nose, he sure looks a lot like Jonas. A storm closes in and the pirate ship goes down. Unfortunately not all of the pirates can swim. Does Jonas know how? A humorous story about little tough guys, big dreamers, and the power of the imagination.

Jens Sparschuh, born in 1955 in Karl-Marx-Stadt (today Chemnitz), grew up in East Berlin. He studied philosophy and logic in Leningrad (St. Petersburg) and completed a doctorate in 1983 at Humboldt University. Since then, he has lived in Berlin as a freelance writer. Sparschuh writes radio plays and novels for children and adults.

Julia Dürr, born in 1981 in Frankfurt am Main, studied illustration in Münster. She has lived in worked in Berlin since 2010. Dürr also illustrated Jens Sparschuh's children's book *Der alte Mann und das Meerschweinchen* (*The Old Man and the Guinea Pig*), which was awarded the Prix Chronos in 2018.

A new Friend next Door



8 +

Sigrid Zeevaert

Annabelle and Anton

Annabel und Anton

128 pages

black-and-white illustrations by

Eva Muszynski

16 x 21,5 cm, hardcover

€ 12.95

All rights available

Annabelle has never been so enraged in her whole life! Everyone is against her- Mommy, Daddy, even her little brothers Tilli and Bob. She always has to clean up her room. Mommy is always mad at her but never has time for her. She wishes she were very far away. Like in Africa.

One day, new neighbors move in next door. Unfortunately the new kid isn't a girl but a boy named Anton. In time, though, Annabelle discovers that Anton is very different from her little brothers. Suddenly Annabelle's whole life seems different and many exciting things happen

Sigrid Zeevaert, born in 1960, began to write while still studying to be a teacher. Besides short stories and some work for television, she has written numerous books for children and young people, many of them winning awards. She lives in Aachen with her family.

Eva Muszynski was born in 1962 in Berlin and studied graphic design at the Hochschule der Künste in the same city. Earlier an illustrator for adult comics, she has focused on illustrating and writing children's books since 1997. She lives with her family in Berlin.

Big brother, little brother

7 +

Sigrid Zeevaert · Julie Völk

**Nino and
the Circus Caravan**
*Als Nino fast in
den Zirkuswagen zog*

176 pages, fully coloured,
16 x 21,5 cm, hardcover
€ 13.95

All rights available



Great aunt Ella moves to a retirement home and her old circus wagon goes to spend its old age in Nino and Floris's garden! The wagon is bright yellow. For Nino, it's the greatest, most adventurous playgroun imaginable: you can sleep in it, practice circus tricks in it, and bake bread at the campfire in front of it.

Nino is the smallest of all, and his big brother Flori, who's just a year older, hardly ever lets him play when his

friends come over. But the circus car is there for everyone to use – isn't it?

In this lively, compassionate book, Sigrid Zeevaert tells the story of two very different brothers and of how a colourful old circus car gets things rolling. Nino not only finds a best friend, but he also becomes closer to his older brother in a very unexpected way during the dispute over the car.

Sigrid Zeevaert, born in 1960, began to write while still studying to be a teacher. Besides short stories and some work for television, she has written numerous books for children and young people, many of them award-winning. She lives in Aachen with her family.

Julie Völk, born in 1985 in Vienna, grew up in rural Niedersachsen. She studied illustration at the HAW in Hamburg. *The Lion Girl*, her celebrated debut book together with author Kim Fupz Aakeson, was awarded the Serafina and Troisdorfer Bilderbuchpreis in 2015. Völk lives with her family in Austria.

What's Normal Anyhow?

9 +

Sylvia Heinlein • Anke Kuhl

Every Wednesday

or „Let's just Go!“
said Auntie Hulda

Mittwochtage

oder »Nichts wie weg!«,
sagt Tante Hulda

128 pages,
black-and-white illustrations
16 x 21,5 cm, hardcover

€ 12.95

**Sold to Czech Republic,
France, Italy, Korea,
Poland, Russia**



When Sarah's mother decides single-handedly that Auntie Hulda is to leave her city home for a shared flat in the country that provides better care, Sarah and Auntie Hulda are at the end of their tether. So they board a train and do a runner. Along the way they encounter sundry diverse characters before eventually ending up at a disused chocolate factory squatted by artists. When Sarah's mother finds them there she finally realizes that there is no such thing

as „normal“. And that she cannot just take decisions over Sarah's and Auntie's heads. And that what really matters to Sarah is quite different from what she thought.

A special kind of road movie, bristling with comic situations, whose wit and lightness of tone make it a pleasure to read.

Sylvia Heinlein, born in 1962, lives in Hamburg with her family. After studying art history, literature and politics she went on to work as journalist for German radio, and as an editor for various magazines. She started writing children's books and non-fiction books in 2000 and is now working as a freelance journalist.

Anke Kuhl, born in 1970, lives and works in Frankfurt. She studied art at Mainz University and visual communication at the HFG in Offenbach. After graduating in 1998 she started working as a freelance illustrator and graphic artist at „Labor“, a workshop she shares with other artists. She was awarded the Troisdorfer Bilderbuchpreis in 2002.

Botzplitz



8 +

Sabina J. Kirschner

Botzplitz:

A Grandfather

for every Occasion!

**Volume 1: The secret
of the bear cave**

Botzplitz!

Ein Opa für alle Fälle

Das Geheimnis der Bärenhöhle

208 pages

black-and-white illustrations

16 x 21,5 cm, hardcover

€ 12.95

All rights available

Brothers Linus and Finn figure that a camping trip with Grandpa is guaranteed boredom. But they couldn't be further from the truth! Hans Botzplitz is no regular Grandpa - he's a private investigator (ok, or was - now he's retired). But he left behind several unsolved cases and even more old enemies who are just waiting to teach the old warhorse a lesson.

Sabrina J. Kirschner, born in Freiburg in 1984, studied business administration and film in Wiesbaden and London. Back then she discovered her love for writing and decided to begin a second course of study in English literature and creative writing at the London Metropolitan University. Nominated for the Sandra Ashman prize for her short story „The Dead“, she later worked as a translator and children's book editor, until she decided to focus entirely on writing.

Sabrina J. Kirschner is a passionate horsewoman and lives with her boyfriend and their daughter in Munich.



8 +

Sabina J. Kirschner

Botzplitz:

A Grandfather

for every Occasion!

**Volume 2: The Mystery
of the Golden Ring**

Botzplitz!

Ein Opa für alle Fälle

Das Rätsel um

den goldenen Ring

208 pages

black-and-white illustrations

16 x 21,5 cm, hardcover

€ 12.95

All rights available

They've barely reached the remote mountain valley before strange things start to happen: a fire breaks out at night across the lake and almost destroys the camper of Charlotte and her family. All signs point to Bertie, an old colleague of Grandpa's who is both corrupt and incredibly dangerous, and to a mysterious apparatus, the Portatele.

In volume 2 and volume 3, Linus and Finn's journeys along Grandpa's path continue in Iceland and London!



8 +

Sabina J. Kirschner

Botzplitz:

A Grandfather

for every Occasion!

**Volume 3: The Hunting
for the Cat Baron**

Botzplitz!

Ein Opa für alle Fälle

Die Jagd nach

dem Katzenbaron

208 pages

black-and-white illustrations

16 x 21,5 cm, hardcover

€ 12.95

All rights available

A story about a great friendship



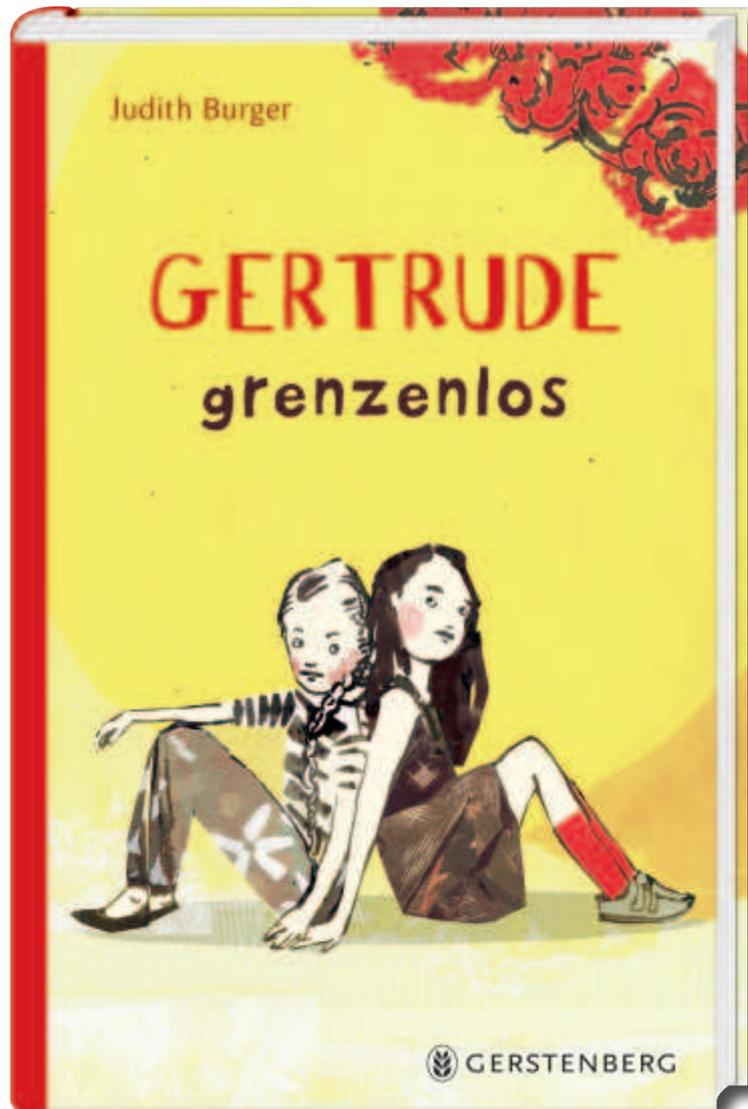
10+

Judith Burger
Ulrike Möltgen (Illustrations)

Gertrude Beyond Borders *Gertrude grenzenlos*

240 pages
14 x 22 cm, hardcover
€ 12.95

All rights available



Who names their child Gertrude?! Gertrude is the new kid in Ina's class and she's different from all the other girls that Ina knows. She's got Western clothes, a smile that'll bowl you over, and the bluest eyes you've ever seen. But Gertrude is also different because her father is a poet and her family has applied for an exit visa. In the DDR of the late 70s, this meant they were enemies of the state.

Not only is the school against their friendship, but Ina's mother is up in arms. Things go off the rails. What to do when you've found the friend of a lifetime but everything's so complicated? Ina and Gertrude forge a plan they call »Commando Rose« to protect their friendship against all odds. A story about a great friendship—told with a gripping and direct poignancy.

Judith Burger was born in Halberstadt in 1972 and is happy to have lived in Leipzig for over 20 years. She studied cultural and theater studies and works for MDR Kultur today. *Gertrude Beyond Borders* is her debut. www.judith-burger.de

Ulrike Möltgen, born 1973 in Wuppertal, studied communication design in her hometown and completed a diploma under Wolf Erlbruch. She has published over 50 picture books, which have received numerous awards.

Roberta is absolutely sure: she is in love!



10+

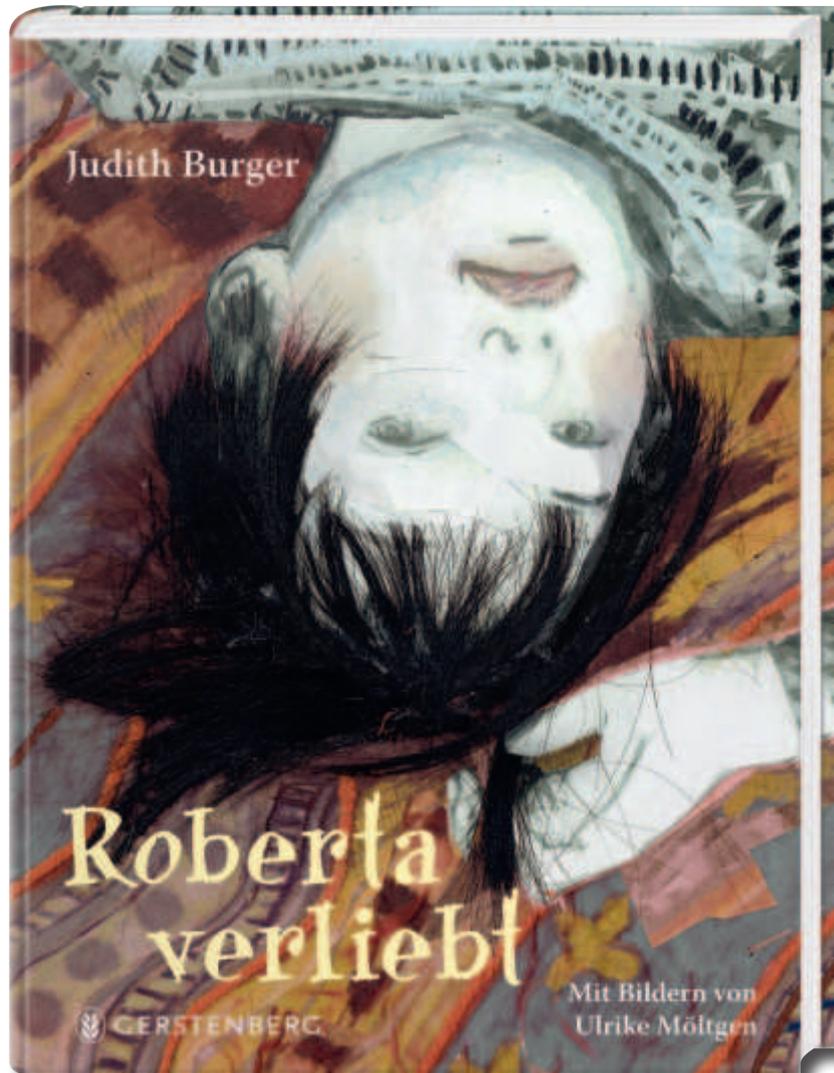
Judith Burger ·
Ulrike Möltgen (Illustrations)

Roberta

Roberta, verliebt

184 pages,
with black- and white illustration,
16 x 21cm, hardcover
€ 13.00

All rights available



She fell in love with Felix, the new one in her drawing course. From now on she has to think of him, always and everywhere! But she is just eleven years old and her mom thinks an eleven year old girl isn't yet able to fall in love with anyone. However Felix stays in her mind, in her heart and in her tummy, he is simply everywhere. Unfortunately

she doesn't even know where he lives. How can she meet him again? How can she tell him about her feelings for him? And how can she make him also to fall in love with her?!

Fortunately, to be in love with someone else doesn't only mean to be lovesick, it also grants one superpowers!

Judith Burger was born in Halberstadt in 1972 and is happy to have lived in Leipzig for over 20 years. She studied cultural and theater studies and works for MDR Kultur today. Gertrude Beyond Borders is her debut.
www.judith-burger.de

Ulrike Möltgen, born 1973 in Wuppertal, studied communication design in her hometown and completed a diploma under Wolf Erlbruch. She has published over 50 picture books, which have received numerous awards.

»Nothing stays the same. Everything changes. Especially oneself.«

NEW

11 +

Judith Burger

**Ringo, Me and The
Completely Clueless
Summer**

***Ringo, ich und
ein komplett
ahnungsloser Sommer***

176 pages,
14 x 22 cm, hardcover
€ 14,00

All rights available



Outside, the world zooms by. Asta sits in the train, anticipating what promises to be the best summer ever. Because in Geschrey, the most remote place in the world, the days are longer, the rain is gentler, and time passes slower than anywhere else – and it's also where Ringo lives. Asta and her best friend will swim in the lake, hang out, eat ice cream, and act silly. Not to mention act in a play: this summer for the first time, Asta will have

a small role in the summer theater run by Asta's parents.

But instead, everything turns out wrong. All of a sudden Ringo is the star of the play and Asta is left high and dry. Will their friendship survive?

A summer story full of poetry and lightness. And the history of a great friendship.

Judith Burger was born in Halberstadt, Germany and twenty years ago adopted Leipzig as her home. She studied theater, and now she works for MDR German radio. Her debut novel, *Gertrude No Boundaries*, received rave reviews and won the Gustav Heinemann Peace Prize for Young Readers in 2019.

A book about childhood in the postwar era



10 +

Anke Bär

Cherry Thief

**Kirschendiebe - oder
als der Krieg
vorbei war**

240 pages

16,5 x 23 cm, hardcover

€ 18.00

All rights available

»It's the luckiest thing in the world that we ended up here, even if the unluckiest thing in the world got us here.« Lotte lives in a forester's house, although her father isn't a forester. The reason is that the war took the life of her cousin Knut's father as well as an eye from the teacher Fettig. Since the horrible Ms. Gressmann has been running the forester's house, many things have been forbidden,

such as picking cherries. But Lotte won't let that keep her down. If you want cherries, you just have to steal them. And she thinks it's ridiculous that only the boys are allowed to wear *Lederhosen*. A book about childhood in the postwar era that offers much to discuss between the generations.

Anke Bär, born in Erlangen in 1977, studied Cultural Studies and Aesthetics and Applied Arts in Hildesheim. Today she lives as a freelance illustrator in Bremen. *Williams's Journey*, her debut book, and *Endres the Merchant's Son* were nominated for the German Youth Literature Prize.

From Hamburg to New York: A Time Travel Adventure Story



10+

Cornelia Franz

**How I Saved
Einstein's Life**

***Wie ich Einstein
das Leben rettete***

192 pages, with vignettes

14 x 21,5 cm, hardcover

€ 14.00

**Sold to Hungary, Russia
and Turkey**



It's shortly before midnight on February 28, 2020, and Emily is on board the Queen Mary 2, sailing toward New York. Tomorrow is her 12th birthday and the ocean crossing is her birthday present.

Suddenly, she finds herself in an entirely new place and time -- on board a refugee ship in the year 1913!

The same happens to Lorenzo and Malik, who have made this trip before. They relate the news that after the ship

arrives in New York, a fire will break out, killing and injuring many on board. They must prevent this catastrophe! Somehow they have to find a way to travel back in time. If there's anyone that can help, it's Albert Einstein.

A suspenseful adventure story that looks back in time to 1913, when many German citizens left everything behind to start a new life in a foreign land.

Author **Cornelia Franz**, born 1956 in Hamburg, pursued German and American studies. After a bookstore apprenticeship she worked in publishing for many years, then in 1993 began writing travel guides, novels, and books for children and young readers. *How I Saved Einstein's Life* is her first book for Gerstenberg.

Illustrator **Petra Baan**, born 1977 in the Netherlands, studied in Utrecht. She is a professional illustrator, graphic designer and printmaker for book and magazine publishers. She lives in Berlin with her daughter.

The Hour of the Jester



**Nominated for
the Deutscher
Jugendliteratur-
preis 2004**

11 +

Lilli Thal

Mimus

Mimus

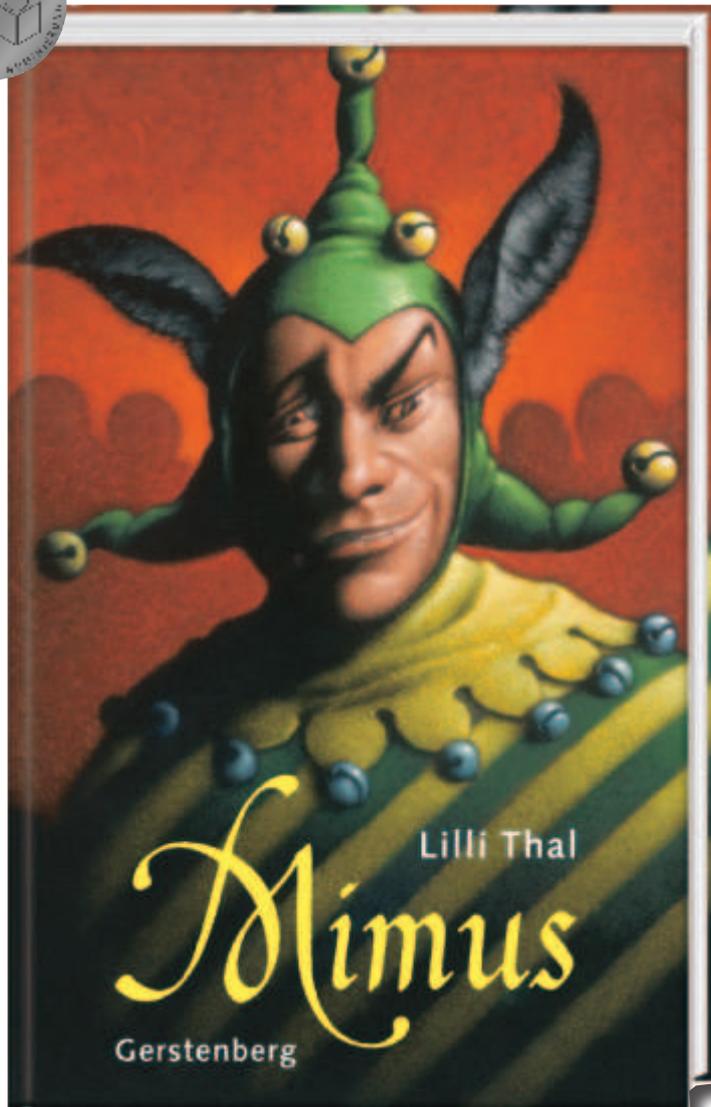
448 pages

14 x 22 cm, hardcover

€ 15.90

**Sold to Australia,
North America, UK, France,
Japan, Korea, South Africa,
Spain, Russia**

English translation available



A war is being waged between the Kingdom of Vinland and the Kingdom of Monfiel – a war that is older than Florin, the King of Monfiel's only son. But now, in the early autumn of 1340, the two long-time enemies make peace, and a banquet is given at King Theodo of Vinland's court to seal the peace treaty.

How was Florin to know that the whole show is a trap? There is no celebration awaiting him at the court of Vinland, but sheer horror. He has to look on helplessly while his father and his followers are cruelly humiliated in front of the assembled courtiers. Only by a hair's breadth does

Florin escape being flung into the dungeon along with the others: on a whim, King Theodo makes him his jester's apprentice. So Florin comes to meet Mimus. Florin loses everything he had: his position as crown prince, his freedom, his identity. What's more, any day may bring death to him and his father. When the situation at the court escalates and the possibility of escape seems more remote than ever, the jester's hour has come ...

Mimus is an adventure novel that bristles with sparkling wit – a jester's story without laughter is unthinkable – and turns the world of the Middle Ages.

Lilli Thal is an historian. She lives in the South of Germany, together with her husband, two children and a dog. Her debut (*Kommissar Pillermeier*) created quite a stir in the newspapers and was awarded the *Martin* as Best Children's Mystery in 2002. Her historical novel *Mimus* has been nominated for the *Deutscher Jugendliteraturpreis 2004*.

Drafted and sent as Spies into an Enemy Land ...



13 +

Lilli Thal

**The Puppeteers
of Flore**

***Die Puppenspieler
von Flore***

480 pages,
14 x 22 cm, hardcover
€ 19.95

**All rights available
English outline available**

Twenty young adults are kidnapped by the Coronan secret service and brought to a camp in the desert, where they are prepared for their upcoming mission as spies in the most dangerous military dictatorship in the world: Flore, Corona's arch nemesis.

At the camp they wait for their leader, an agent obsessed with one single goal: to overthrow the powerful Marshal

Utuk, the head of the secret service in Flore. Tamaso infiltrates the marshal's house, which he discovers as a place of both horror and of light: while people are tortured and murdered in the basement, on the second floor a puppet show is taking place. But the puppeteers are literally playing with their lives, as are Tamaso and the other young agents. Coup attempts, traitors, double deals: this is living on the edge, and not everyone will survive.

Lilli Thal is an historian. She lives in the South of Germany, together with her husband, two children and a dog. Her debut (*Kommissar Pillermeier*) created quite a stir in the newspapers and was awarded the *Martin* as Best Children's Mystery in 2002. Her historical novel *Mimus* has been nominated for the *Deutscher Jugendliteraturpreis 2004*.

»Improving the World« – Really!!?

12+
Stepha Quitterer
**A Beginner's Guide to
Improving the World**
*Weltverbessern
für Anfänger*
288 pages
14 x 22 cm, hardcover
€ 16.00

All rights available



Mina's school announces an essay competition: A Beginner's Guide to Improving the World. Really!? First prize – a trip to Tallinn, Estonia – goes to the class with the most enthusiasm for the subject. That leaves Mina cold at first. But then her grandma goes into a nursing home and all of a sudden it's clear where a person could have a clear impact on someone's daily life. So Mina organizes a nursing home visiting service – not an easy assignment for

a class that even the school psychologist avoids. What's more, she has to deal with toxic classmates, a failed romance, boring teachers and her parents' split-up. After a rough start, what follows is a total surprise, not just for Mina . . . !

This bold and pitch-perfect debut novel by Stephanie Quitterer sets off ideas like fireworks. It's a rousing, high-spirited tale of idealism and inter-generational friendship.

Stepha Quitterer was born 1982 in Lower Bavaria and worked with street kids in Rio de Janeiro before. She studied politics in Berlin and Kairo. In Munich she studied stage direction and worked as direction assistant at the German Theater in Berlin. Since 2015 she lives with her daughter as a freelance author in Berlin. *A Beginner's Guide to Improving the World* is her first youth novel.

Imagine There's a War, and You're in Love

13 +

Gudrun Pausewang

**We'll Meet Again,
Don't Know Where,
Don't Know When**

***Au revoir bis
nach dem Krieg***

192 pages

14 x 22 cm, hardcover

€ 14.95

Sold to Korea



Hanni loves Philippe. And Philippe loves Hanni. But this must remain a secret because the world's at war. Philippe is a French POW working on the estate of Hanni's parents. If people were to find out about Hanni's love for a young student from Paris, the consequences would be disastrous - and not just for the two of them. Any fraternizing with the prisoners is strictly forbidden and there is a heavy penalty for love affairs between Frenchmen and German women. After all, that would be an act of betrayal towards

the German soldiers who're risking their lives for their nation and their fatherland. So Hanni and Philippe have to separate, at least for the time being. But they'll meet again when the war is over - of course, they will!

For her novel for adolescents, Gudrun Pausewang, a contemporary witness, has turned her attention to a not so well-known aspect of the war. Her account of the lovers' dilemma is intense and straightforward.

Gudrun Pausewang, born in Eastern Bohemia in 1928, studied education and worked as a teacher at an elementary school. She spent a lengthy period living in South America. Gudrun Pausewang writes books for children and adults. Her awards include the *Gustav-Heinemann-Friedenspreis*, the *Deutscher Jugendliteraturpreis*, and, in 2009, the *Großer Preis der Deutschen Akademie für Kinder- und Jugendliteratur* for her oeuvre. Her books have been translated into many languages.

Military Mail for Pauline

13 +

Maja Nielsen

Military Mail for Pauline

Feldpost für Pauline

96 pages

14 x 22 cm, hardcover

€ 9.90

All rights available



A letter for Pauline Lichtenberg! Military Mail from World War I – delivered with a delay of nearly 100 years! What seems to be an odd PR story at first turns out to be a touching journey into the past for 14-years-old Pauline. Who was her namesake Pauline to whom the love letter was addressed? Who was Wilhelm that wrote this military mail from a trench in Verdun to his fiancée back at home? And what was it all about, this World War I? Who fought against whom – and why was that?

With an investigative curiosity, Pauline is going about figuring out the secret of this letter together with her granny Lieschen. She learns about a real big love during a terrible time – and also she encounters herself newly in a very surprising way.

Maja Nielsen is a writer of adventure stories which have variously been published as books, audio books or radio reportages. Her contributions to our series *Adventure!* are written in collaboration with experts on the respective subjects.

15th January 2019 – the Centenary of Rosa Luxemburg's death



13 +

Maja Nielsen

A Crime in Eden 1919

Tatort Eden 1919

192 pages,
14 x 22 cm, hardcover
€ 9.95

All rights available

From Breckerfeld to Berlin! The 17-year-old Biko can hardly believe his luck. He actually got into the famous Artistenschule, a training academy for circus performers in Berlin! An old suitcase in the lost and found at the Artistenschule sends him 100 years back in time to a tumultuous time in Berlin – the era of the First World War, the November Revolution, and the murder of Rosa Luxemburg. A Crime in

Eden in 1919 – a genuine political crime story begins. But modern-day Berlin is also very exciting: As the son of an African, Biko is presumed to be one of the many refugees who've arrived in the city. And all of a sudden, he finds that there is much more at stake than his dream of being a performer ...

Maja Nielsen's stories have been released as books, audiobooks, and radio features. Her hit series *Adventure!* with Gerstenberg Verlag has garnered numerous awards

»LFF – The Hackers’ Tag«

NEW

14+

Dirk Reinhardt

Perfect Storm

Hackerroman

368 pages, fully coloured,
14 x 22 cm, hardcover

€ 18,00

All rights available



LFF – that’s Dylan, Luisa, Felix, Boubacar, Kyoko and Matthew. These young hackers from all over the world got to know each other through a computer game. When they learn about human rights abuses in the Democratic Republic of Congo, and that two US corporations are involved, they decide to hack into the suspects’ network. If they can just manage to post some compromising

material online, the revelations will create a worldwide storm of outrage. But, a young agent of a private American security firm is on their trail . . .

A gripping thriller about six teens unwilling to stand by and do nothing while an unscrupulous international concern with life-threatening activities reaps millions.

Dirk Reinhardt was born in 1963 and studied history and German studies. He worked as a researcher at the University of Münster and as a freelance journalist before devoting himself entirely to writing books. His novels *Train Kids* and *Over the Mountains and Over the Sea* were both nominated for the *German Youth Literature Prize*.

An atmospheric novel about saying goodbye and beginning anew – poetic and spellbinding



**Nominated for
the Deutscher
Jugendliteratur-
preis 2020**

13 +

Dirk Reinhardt

**Over the Mountains
and Over the Sea
*Über die Berge und
über das Meer***

320 pages
14 x 22 cm, hardcover
€ 14.95

**Sold to Slovenia
English outline available**



Every year in spring, the nomads stop by Soraya's village on their way to their summer home in the Afghan mountains. Accompanying them is Tarek, who knows sheep better than anyone else and is a wonderful storyteller. But this year Soraya waits for him in vain. According to an old tradition, as the seventh daughter in her family, she was raised as a boy and was able to move freely and attend school. But as a 14-year-old, she has reached the age where she

should be living as a girl again in the quiet of her home. In fact the Taliban has, in no uncertain terms, mandated that she do so. They have also threatened Tarek and expect him to put his excellent animal tracking abilities to work for them. The nomads' plight worsens dramatically. Tarek and Soraya can see no other way and each journey out into the world, without knowing where the other is or what they're doing. Unexpectedly, they cross paths in the mountains.

Dirk Reinhardt, born in 1963, studied History and German Studies. He worked as an adjunct faculty member in the History department at the University of Münster and as a freelance journalist. Today he is dedicated to writing books full time. His hit novel *Train Kids*, now in its 8th printing, was awarded numerous prizes, including the *Friedrich Gerstäcker Prize*, and was nominated for the *Deutscher Jugendliteraturpreis*.

The Long Journey to the North



**Nominated for
the Deutscher
Jugendliteratur-
preis 2016**

13 +

Dirk Reinhardt

Train Kids

Train Kids

320 pages,
14 x 22 cm, hardcover
€ 14.95

**Sold to Spain, Mexico, Japan
and Slovenia**



Miguel, Emilio, Jaz, Ángel, and Fernando embark on their journey. These five teenagers only just met, but they have an important goal in common: to make it across the border into the USA. None of them knows what awaits them on their trip – not even Fernando, who's done this once before. "Out of one hundred people that cross the river, barely ten make it through Chiapas, barely three to the border in the north, and only one makes it over," he explains. If they stick together, though, they might just have a chance. Ahead of them lies over 2,500 kilometers of travel as blind passengers on freight trains. Hunger, thirst, heat, and cold

are their enemies, but that's not all. The freight trains are governed by their own rules and many potential dangers lurk: accidents, bandits, corrupt policemen, drug dealers, and human trafficking. Will the five teens ever reach their goal in the north?

An exciting adventure novel about five adolescents who are there for each other even in extreme situations. Based on the difficult situation in Mexico, this story grapples with a controversial issue that has also become a sad reality in Europe.

Dirk Reinhardt, born in 1963, studied history and German. After receiving his doctorate he worked as a research fellow at the Universität Münster's Historical Institute until 1994. Since then he has been active as a freelance journalist. The first of his many children's books was published in 2009.

The Story of a Family during World War I

All rights available

14 +

Herbert Günther

**The Time
of Big Words**

**Zeit
der großen Worte**

272 pages

14 x 22 cm, hardcover

€ 14.95

All rights available



“Sarajevo”: a wonderfully soft-sounding word. Fourteen-year-old Paul happens to hear it in passing one day. But what sounds to him at first like the name of a magic spell actually represents a story in the making, an event that would later go down in history as one of the greatest war tragedies of the 20th century. Paul’s daily life is filled with many other emotionally charged words that stir up a passion and hunger for war. Like so many other citizens, Paul’s father and brother Max sign up as volunteers to help fight for their beloved fatherland. Paul stays behind with his mother and small sister Gertrud. Together they try to keep

the family’s general store afloat until Father and Brother come home.

But everything happens differently than planned. The war will end up lasting four years rather than a few months as they’d been told. Paul’s family seems on the verge of breaking to pieces. It is the women in Paul’s life, his mother, Helene, Louise, and Ida who provide him with orientation and stability during this dramatic time. Inside of him, a question grows more and more urgent: what are the meanings that hide behind all those big words, and which words could someday belong to him?

Herbert Günther was born in 1947. He lives in Friedland near Göttingen, together with his family, his dog, and lots of books. After an apprenticeship as a bookseller, he worked as a publisher’s reader and was running a bookshop for children’s books. A freelance writer since 1988, he has written screenplays for children’s films for German television. He has also translated English children’s and young readers’ books together with his wife Ulli.

Do we still know the Value of Peace and Freedom?

14 +

Herbert Günther

Peace Since Yesterday

***Seit gestern
ist Frieden***

256 pages,
14 x 22 cm, hardcover

€ 14.95

All rights available



Since yesterday, there has been peace. Like most girls born in 1931, Hanne was a devoted member of the League of German Girls, a Nazi youth group. When the war ended, nothing she was brought up to believe was true anymore. Adam, an English soldier, is one of the occupying troops in her village. Hanne is the first to notice: something that no one would have thought possible just a short time

ago starts to develop between Julia, her best friend, and the young Englishman. Freedom instead of dictatorship, listening to your own thoughts and feelings, choosing the path you want for your life – for Hanne this is a whole new experience. She unveils a curiosity within herself for life and love.

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A Story of Hope

14 +

Johannes Herwig

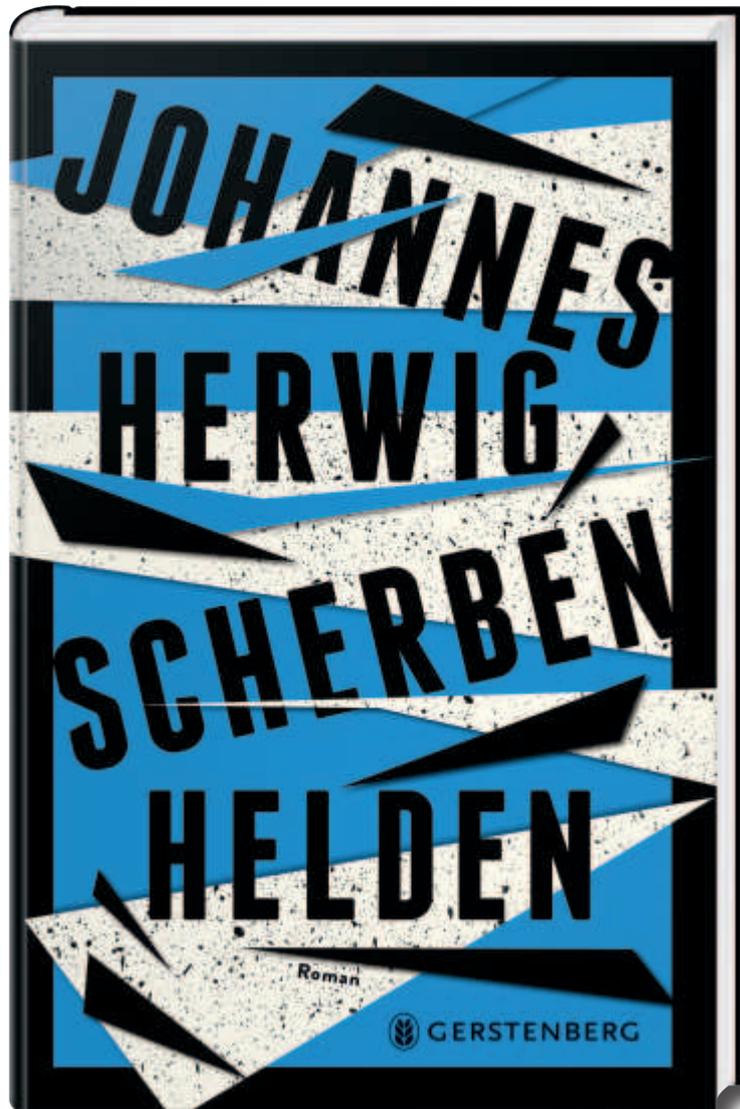
Heroes of the Shard

Scherbenhelden

272 pages,
14 x 21,5 cm, hardcover
€ 16,00

Publication Date: Juni 2020

All rights available



Leipzig, 1995: The city is in an upheaval. Nino lives alone with his father and has the usual headaches of a fifteen-year-old: stress in school, a first love. One day he and his best friend Max are caught shoplifting, then he's beaten up by a group of punks that one day will claim him as their own. Then comes more aggravation: conflict with his father, feelings for a girl who carries a dark secret, and daily threats from neo-Nazis that seem to be everywhere.

What's more, Nino is determined to find out why his mother left him and his father behind just before the fall of the Berlin Wall.

Johannes Herwig (*Until the Stars Tremble*) has set against the background of German unification this raw and emotional portrait of youth in the grip of change and aimlessness. This is a story of hope.

Johannes Herwig, born 1979 in Leipzig, knew as a child that he wanted to become a writer. He studied sociology and psychology then founded a photo gallery in Dresden before he took up writing. His debut novel, *Until the Stars Tremble*, was nominated for the German Youth Prize for Literature and was awarded the Paul Maar Prize for young writers.

Wild, Colourful, Rebellious!



14 +

Johannes Herwig
**Until the Stars
Tremble
Bis die Sterne
zittern**

256 pages

14 x 22 cm, hardcover

€ 14.95

English sample translation

Sold to Russia



Leipzig, 1936. On the first day of the summer holidays, 16-year-old Harro gets into a fight with members of the Hitler Youth. He unexpectedly gets help from like-minded people who, like him, want nothing to do with the Nazi ideology. In the year that follows, everything changes for Harro. Conflicts with his parents and trouble at school, nights at campfires, political action, first love – and above all, the fear that his wild activities might have dangerous consequences.

The "Leipzig Meuten", a group of oppositional youth gangs, inspired Johannes Herwig's debut. His discussion of growing up in a dictatorship is powerful, thrilling, and emotional. The questions he poses are as applicable now as they were then: should one participate, should one quietly adjust, or should one resist?

Johannes Herwig, born in 1979 in Leipzig, already knew as a child that he wanted to be a writer. He studied sociology and psychology and founded the Dresden film gallery Phase IV before devoting himself to his true calling and starting work on his novel about the Leipzig Meuten.

Joran Nordwind

13 +

Lilli Thal

Joran Nordwind

Joran Nordwind

Cover illustration by Einar Turkowski

368 pages

14 x 21 cm, hardcover

€ 16.95

Sold to South Africa

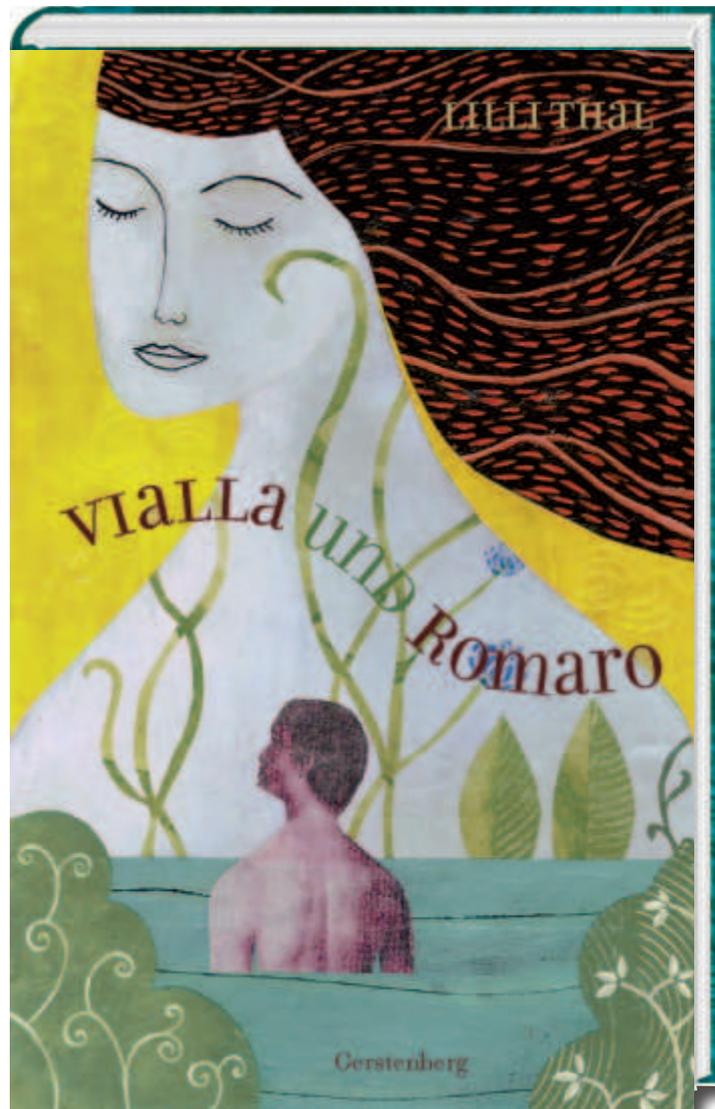


Tough luck for Joran Nordwind - en route to his first rendez-vous the young butterfly is captured by wasps and carried off to the stony kingdom of bugs just behind the big waterfall. Here King Leobard rules with an iron hand, in a twilight world far away from sunshine and blue skies. Joran becomes servant and personal messenger to the Queen. It doesn't take him long to realize that things are not what they seem in this musty murky world of bugs. The king hates his son and keeps him a prisoner, while driven by a mother's love the queen does everything to

save her son. A deep rift runs through the kingdom: A group of dissenters hatch a plan to escape from their dark world of rock - and they're led by the king's son himself, no less! Ever athirst for adventure, Joran casts in his lot with these rebels: Not only is he desperate to see the sunlight again, but as he gets better acquainted with the Prince and his followers, he conceives a strong sympathy for their ideas and ideals. But will they find enough supporters among the bugs to start a revolution against the king?.

Lilli Thal is an historian. She lives in the South of Germany, together with her husband, two children and a dog. Her debut (*Kommissar Pillermeier*) created quite a stir in the newspapers and was awarded the *Martin* as Best Children's Mystery in 2002. Her historical novel *Mimus* has been nominated for the *Deutscher Jugendliteraturpreis 2004*.

A Powerful and Magical Parable on the Tribulations of a First Great Love ...



13 +

Lilli Thal

Vialla and Romaro

Vialla und Romaro

304 pages

14 x 22 cm, hardcover

€ 13.90

Sold to Spain

In village where Vialla lives with her family. A wedding procession makes its way to the next village. When Vialla meets Romaro it's love at first sight. But the two look too much alike, and in this secluded forest world the villagers dread the risk of incest. Vialla is urged to choose someone else, but she won't have it! For her, it's Romaro or no one else. And Romaro feels the same. So they run away, searching for a village deep in the heart of the forest which will welcome them. But the Wild Forest does its name full justice. They quickly lose their way in this green jungle

where hidden dangers lurk. When they come to a pond a beautiful girl appears and addresses Romaro. Vialla, however, is deeply frightened because she can see the girl's true nature – she's a demon who lurks in the forest waiting for her prey and who casts a spell over her victims. Romaro leaves with the girl, and Vialla is left behind. Romaro believes to be inside a palace, it really is just the trunk of a tree; the servants in their splendid liveries are just small animals of the forest; the tasty dishes are but roots and grass ... Vialla tries to bring Romaro back to reality. But ...

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