

Rights Catalogue
Spring 2025



Britta Teckentrup

Big Hedgehog and Little Hedgehog: The Birthday

In the fifth volume of the beloved series featuring Big Hedgehog and Little Hedgehog, it's all about birthday celebrations.



It's Little Hedgehog's birthday. Its friends organize a surprise party—of course, Little Hedgehog doesn't know about it and thinks everyone has forgotten. And so, Little Hedgehog experiences a wide range of emotions on this important day: from great despair to enjoying the best day of his life.



A very heartfelt book with depth, which makes it easy to talk about the big expectations and very intense feelings a child may have before and on their birthday.

- The perfect gift, not only for birthdays
- Heartwarming stories from the world of children, beautifully illustrated by Britta Teckentrup



32 pages, hardcover
21,5 x 28,5 cm
Colour throughout
From 3 years onwards

Following countries hold options:
France, Italy, Japan, Netherlands,
Russia, UK/US, Taiwan, Korea)

The author/illustrator:

Britta Teckentrup, born in 1969 in Hamburg, studied Visual Arts in London. She is author and illustrator of many picture books as well as non-fiction picture books and has received numerous awards. Her books have been translated into a lot of different languages. Today she lives in Berlin with her Scottish husband and her son Vincent.

For more information:

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Miriam Koch

Fiete Anders

When you're a sheep among sheep and you feel safe,
everything is fine ...



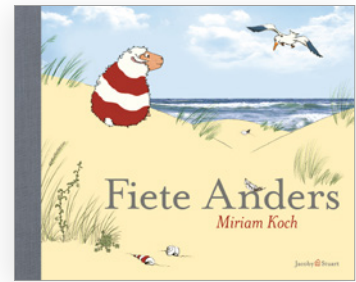
But for Fiete, it's different, because he is different, as he is striped in red and white. Deep in his heart, he feels that there must be a place somewhere where being different feels right. Driven by this longing, he sets off in search of it. But Fiete never feels quite at home, and his heart grows heavier. Exhausted and discouraged, he finally climbs into a train, curls up in a box to find at least some comfort and warmth, and falls asleep.



When he wakes up, he can hardly believe his eyes and ears: there is a rustling that makes a wave of bliss ripple down his back, and there stands something big, just as different as he is.

A lighthouse! Finally, Fiete has found his place!

- A wonderful declaration of love for the sea
- An encouragement for everyone who feels a little different



32 pages, Hardcover
26 x 21 cm,
Colour throughout
Ages 3 and up
Available again

All rights available

The author:

Miriam Koch studied communication design in Trier and has been working as a freelance author and illustrator for renowned publishing houses since 2008. Her books have been translated into numerous languages, adapted into audiobooks, and brought to theatre stages. Her special love for nature and animals is what particularly inspires her visual worlds.

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Dieter Böge | Bernd Mölck-Tassel

And what does Mummy say?

This book is about the statements and opinions that children constantly encounter in everyday life.



Aunt Eleonore praises her niece, the woman at the window talks to herself, the man on the radio says, "Exactly 2:15 PM—not a cloud in the sky." Dr. Annabel says, "It's not that bad." But whether dolphins really are or are not fish, as the teacher says, or if all animals have a soul, as the neighbour claims, perhaps it would be better to make sure and ask Mummy ...



Each double-page spread features a little bird wearing boots, that accompanies the readers throughout the book, listening to what people say. In the end, it is revealed—much to everyone's surprise—that the little bird is a mother too, with children and a home of its own. "Just imagine that!" says Mom.

- A beautifully poetic book about the power of words and conversations.
- The dynamic interplay between text and images encourages readers to pause, question, reflect—and truly engage in meaningful dialogue.



48 pages, Hardcover
29 x 25 cm,
Colour throughout
Ages 5 and up

All rights available

The author:

Dieter Böge is a picture book author and translator. He has taught drawing, painting, and illustration at HAW Hamburg and is the chairman of the jury for the Hamburger Bilderbuchpreis. In the *Verein Neues Bilderbuch*, he advocates for the promotion of picture book art.

The artist:

Bernd Mölck-Tassel is a professor of illustration at HAW Hamburg. He has been working with Dieter Böge for over 30 years. Their joint picture books, as well as the comic strip *Dr. Domino's World History* in the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Sonntagszeitung*, have received numerous awards.

By the same authors:

Wir Menschen (rights sold to France, Italy, Spain, Latvia) & **Opa Mammut** (rights sold to France, Spain, South Korea, Russia)

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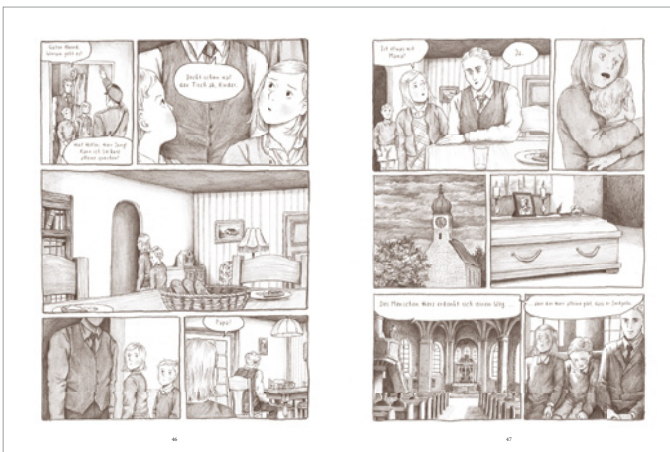
Ingo Haeb | Luise Mirdita

Ingrid and Paul—The Turbulent Story of Two Siblings

How resilient can young people be when the ideology that surrounds them is inhuman?



The graphic novel tells the story of two siblings who, during the Nazi era, search for their identity in between conscience and ideology. They become fierce opponents but eventually reunite in the resistance as young adults.



The 13 episodes, each set in a year between 1933 and 1945, offer insights into the daily life of this time. They show how the siblings grow up under the pressure of forced ideology. The story focuses on their emotional relationship, while also shedding light on many different aspects of this dark era. At the end of every episode is a historic contextualization.

The aesthetic of the graphic novel is classic and naturalistic, with hand-drawn pencil sketches that create a claustrophobic atmosphere. Over time, the drawing style increasingly reflects the suffocating feeling of the dictatorship.

- A story easily accessible to young readers
- Relatable, emotionally compelling characters



176 pages, hardcover
19 x 25.5 cm
Colour throughout
Ages 14 and up

All rights available

The author:

Ingo Haeb, born 1970 in Hamburg, studied directing at the Academy of Media Arts in Cologne and screenwriting at the German Film and Television Academy Berlin. He has worked as a professor at the Academy of Media Arts Cologne. His films have received numerous awards, including the Max Ophüls Prize, the Eurovision Promotion Award, and he has been nominated multiple times for the Grimme Prize.

The artist:

Luise Mirdita, born in 1994 in Freilassing, studied art history at the University of Salzburg. She then pursued a degree in illustration at HAW Hamburg, focusing on media for children. *Annika und das Angstschwein* is the impressive debut work of an extraordinarily talented illustrator.

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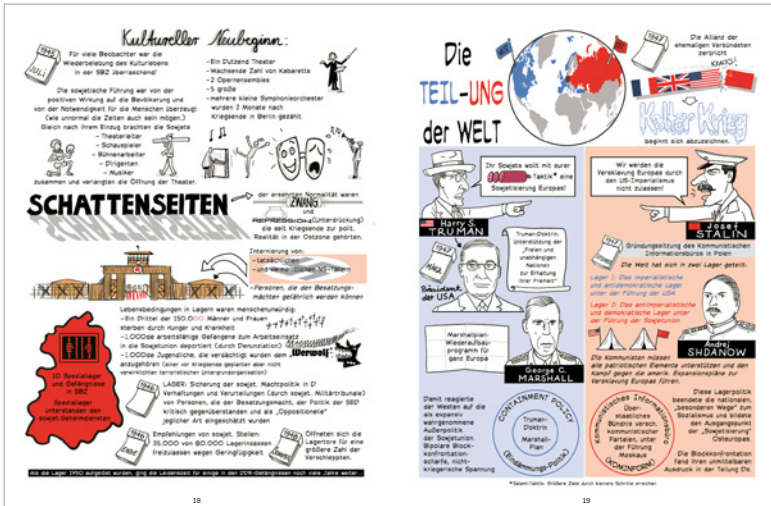
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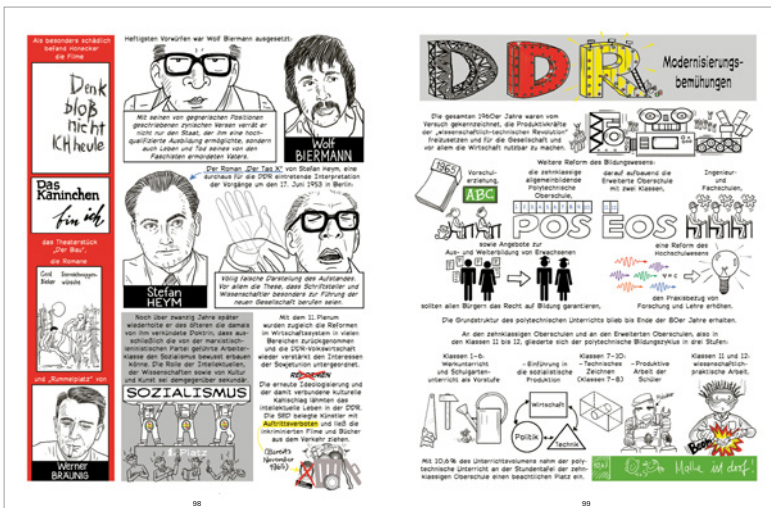
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Ulrich Mählert |
Thomas Henseler | Susanne Buddenberg
Small Illustrated History of the GDR
The history of the GDR has never been told this way before.



Small Illustrated History of the GDR outlines the 40 years of the GDR, from the start to its end. Thomas Henseler and Susanne Buddenberg have used a non-fiction book as their basis, broke it down into small text bites, and enhanced it with numerous illustrations, sketches, comics, and symbols.



The GDR as a pawn of world powers, the development of the SED, the power struggles of the mighty ones behind the scenes are insightfully visualized. Names become faces, historical dates turn into calendar pages, and metaphors are taken literally, so that even younger readers can visualise the GDR.

- The comic adaptation is based on Dr. Ulrich Mählert's longseller *Small History of the GDR*
- A non-fiction comic that presents compact knowledge on cleverly designed pages for a younger audience in an entertaining way



160 pages, Paperback with flaps,
21 x 27,5 cm,
Colour throughout

All rights available

The author:
Ulrich Mählert, born in 1968, studied Political Science, English, and German. From 1994 to 1998, he was a research assistant for an international project on the history of party purges in Stalinism. From 1999 to 2020, he led the Department of Science at the Federal Foundation for the Reappraisal of the SED Dictatorship. He has written numerous books on the history of the GDR and Communism.

The artists:
Thomas Henseler is a comic author. He collaborates with **Susanne Buddenberg** to develop comic stories aimed at engaging a younger audience with political and historical content. So far seven graphic novels have been published on the history of the division of Germany.

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Judith Drews

It's about the Children.

The New Conference of the Animals



The Conference of the Animals was Erich Kästner's first novel after the Second World War. It tells the story of the representatives of all animal species on Earth who, due to the political failures of humans, convene an international conference to achieve world peace. Inspired by this book, Judith Drews has written a new *Conference of the Animals*, as once again today, the animals must come together to ensure world peace. It's about the children, just as it was back then, because they deserve a safe future—and for that, unfortunately, they depend on the help of the animals.

The last *Conference of the Animals* was 75 years ago, and humans have not kept their promises. Conference after conference takes place everywhere, and yet—NOTHING happens. Once again, the wisdom of animals is called upon.



“A thought-provoking piece: 75 years after Erich Kästner's *The Conference of the Animals*, Judith Drews is once again calling a meeting. Whether it's about climate change or wars, the future is still at stake. An urgent appeal to finally take action.”

Editorial Team, Börsenblatt

“In 1949, Erich Kästner published *The Conference of the Animals*, a children's book against war. Now, illustrator Judith Drews invites us to a new conference. The motto remains: 'It's about the children, but this time the plea also includes environmental protection. The fact that characters from many children's books—animals!—act as political beings and speak to the conscience of humans is, and remains, the striking sensation. Drews picks up on this, somehow naive (like the original), and precisely because of this, uncompromisingly urgent.”

Hans ten Doornkaat, Neue Zürcher Zeitung



48 pages, hardcover
21 x 28 cm,
Colour throughout
From 5 years onwards

All rights available

The author/illustrator:

Judith Drews studied illustration in Hamburg and works in the studio she founded as a freelance illustrator and designer for publishers at home and abroad. She has received numerous national and international awards. So far, she has published more than 50 books. She lives with her husband, their two daughters and a tigress, who pretends to be a house cat and many other animals in a house with a garden in Berlin.

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Hannes Wirlinger

The Princess of Ravens



Margret and Josua live on a remote farm. The siblings share a close relationship and a love of the forest. Margret is highly sensitive; noise sends her into a panic. Moreover, she sees people in colours and her surroundings in numbers. She meticulously documents her life in diaries. Josua has the urge to protect Margret because she is bullied at school.

One day Josua meets the mysterious Sarah and her two ravens in the forest, and the siblings become friends with her. But

while Margret feels that something is wrong with Sarah, a tender love blossoms between Josua and Sarah. When Sarah leaves the village to fulfil an assignment, countless ravens appear around the courtyard. After Sarah's return, the two girls spend a night in the forest. The next morning, Josua makes an incredible discovery ...

"An extraordinary reading experience, whose dark fascination one must embrace—not only to uncover the true meaning of the ravens, which appear in their hundreds, if not thousands. In ancient times, they were revered as magical and divine, while in the Middle Ages, they were seen as harbingers of death and misfortune." *Andrea Wanner, titel-kulturmagazin.net*

"An unlikely pair of siblings. A mysterious stranger who arrives with a mission—accompanied by two tame ravens. The illustrations further enhance the atmosphere of the story." *Nadja Kupsa, Der Standard*

"It explores themes such as being different, friendship, tender love, and adolescence in a mythical setting. Once again, the locations are described in vivid detail. The narrative itself creates poetic imagery through language, and the ravens, as symbolic creatures, reinforce the mysticism of both the setting and the characters." *CRO, Vorarlberger Nachrichten*

"A thrilling, dark, and mysterious story. [...] A book perfectly suited for Ulrike Möltgen." *Ute Wegmann, DLF, Beste 7*

"In Hannes Wirlinger's second young adult novel, the readers—but not the first-person narrator—realize from the very beginning where the story is headed. Yet, one follows it spellbound." *Dina Netz, Eselsöhr*



240 pages, hardcover
14,2 x 21 cm
From 14 years onwards

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The author:

Hannes Wirlinger, born in 1970, studied communication and political science. Since 2003 he has been a freelance screenwriter and author in Vienna and has written numerous TV crime thrillers. Recently, he has increasingly focused on texts for children and young people. He loves life and is curious to see what else it has in store for him.

The illustrator:

Ulrike Möltgen, born in 1973 in Wuppertal, studied communication design in Wolf Erlbruch's class. She taught at the Folkwang University of the Arts in Essen and her work has won numerous awards and been shown in exhibitions. Ulrike Möltgen is best known for *Der Mondbär* (*The Moon Bear*). She lives with her son in Wuppertal.

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Eva Rottmann

Fucking Fucking Good

Everything teenagers (and not just them) always wanted to know about sex (and the first time) but were afraid to ask.

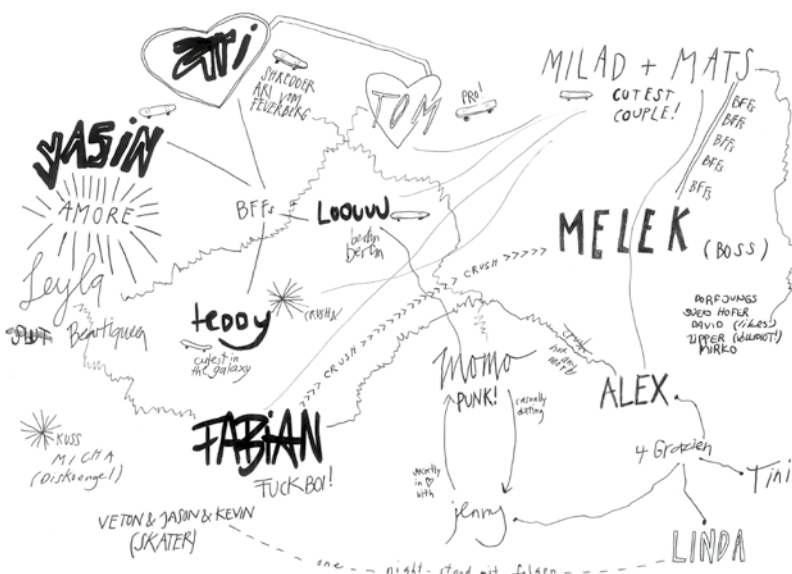
Eva Rottmann manages to write authentically, very humorously, and at the same time sensitively about being in love and wanting to be in love, about having sex (for the first time) and wanting to have it. The protagonists and their dreams are diverse and suggest that it's a broad field. This is not a sex educational book, but YA fiction (in 10 short stories and 12 interludes) at its best, giving its readers more aha-experiences than any educational book could ever manage.

"Rottmann has created such an important book here, one that shows that not everything has to be perfect when it comes to sex and that everyone thinks and feels differently about it. In my opinion, a must-read for anyone starting to take an interest in this topic."

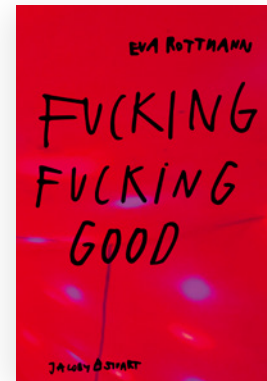
Sarah Schmidt, Osiander Bookshop

"Rottmann succeeds in taking adult readers into the great desires and insecurities of teenage love by combining the right situations with the right language. [...] *Fucking Fucking Good* should not be missing from any (school) library."

Academy for the Promotion of Reading



Familiar characters appear from *Mats and Milad* and *Close to the Edge*. A small network becomes visible, in the strictest sense of the word.



176 pages, hardcover
14,2 x 21 cm
From 14 years onwards

All rights available

The author:

Eva Rottmann, born in 1983 in Wertheim, lives with her children in Zurich, writes plays and fiction, develops her own performances and theater projects, brings literature into schools and works as a teacher at the Zurich University of the Arts. She has received several awards for her work.

Nominated for the
**Swiss Children's and Youth
Book Award 2025**

Nominated for the
Luchs of the Year

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Eva Rottmann

Close to the Edge

My name is Ari, and this is the story of my first love. It doesn't end well, I'll tell you that right now. So if you're into happy endings, you better put this down and go buy some ice cream. I honestly don't give a shit. You can do whatever you want. I'll just tell you what's coming up.

This is how the new book by Eva Rottmann starts. Immediately, it's clear that it is another story with "gripping dialogues, convincing characters and of literary quality" as the jury of the renowned Paul Maar Prize 2021 wrote about Rottmann's first book.

Every day, a group of friends meets up at the skatepark, for Ari, the main character, a lifesaving activity. Ari can hardly remember life before she got the skateboard as a present from her father. Her mother couldn't handle family life and went away years ago, but Ari seems to be happy with her father Bob, her apprenticeship in a painting company and the friendship with her skating-buddies, who see her as 'one of the guys'.

But then, a new boy shows up in the skatepark: *"He was quite impressive, I had to admit. Confidently and without any hesitation, he flipped and turned the board and his feet, everything looked so incredibly easy with him."* And when—on top of that—her mother comes back into town, her life turns upside down: Is she really happy with the fact that she is always seen as one of the guys? And does her mother deserve another chance?

Eva Rottmann sensitively writes about the ups and downs of teenage life. Fast-paced and humorous dialogues, close to the everyday language of young people, make you want to be 'one of the guys'.

"Eva Rottmann tells a sensitive and straightforward story about young people and big feelings. [...] She tells Ari's story in a very direct, heartfelt tone—unsentimental and self-ironic, but at the same time brash and precise. [...] It's about about decisions and opportunities, including those that are missing."

Hartmut El Kurdi, ZEIT

"Eva Rottmann presents an impressive and readable coming-of-age story that is consistently told from the perspective of the 17-year-old protagonist. A wonderful young adult novel that successfully addresses the fragility of the adolescent psyche."

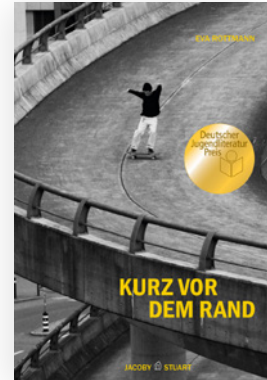
Simone Leinkauf, BuchMarkt

"What many authors don't succeed in doing is getting into a subculture like skating—Eva Rottmann manages this wonderfully."

Robert Elstner, DLF, Best 7

"Eva Rottmann's narrative is fast, cool, and very approachable."

Christine Knödler, Süddeutsche Zeitung



200 pages, hardcover
14,2 x 21 cm
From 12 years onwards

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all other rights available**

The author:

Eva Rottmann, born in 1983 in Wertheim, lives with her children in Zurich, writes plays and fiction, develops her own performances and theater projects, brings literature into schools and works as a teacher at the Zurich University of the Arts. She has received several awards for her work.

Winner of the
**German Youth Literature
Award 2024**

Nominated for the
**Swiss Children's and Youth Book
Award 2024**

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Kristina Heldmann

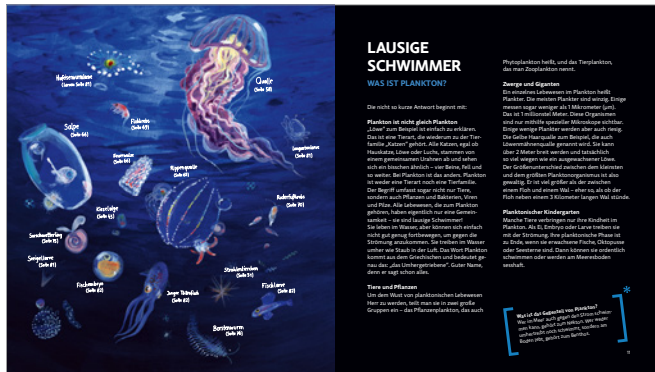
Hello Plankton!

Tiny but mighty, no plankton, no life

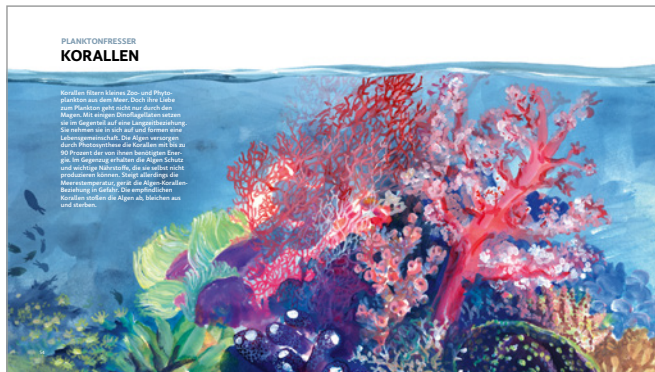
Did you know ...

- that a jellyfish is plankton?
- that there are more animals in a bucket full of ocean water than in a zoo?
- that plankton and plastic are relatives?

These (fun-)facts and much more information are given in this stunning new book. And it's about time! Because even though plankton is very small, it is inevitable to life on earth, as it provides 50% of our oxygen and makes up 90% of the ocean's biomass.



Four internationally leading scientists in the field have written texts about “monsters”, “aliens” and “superheroes”, they explain what plankton is, who is eaten by whom, what plankton has to do with us, what impact plankton has on the climate and what impact we have on the plankton, and much more. Even more information is given in the magical illustrations by Kristina Heldmann.



Plankton with rainbow eyelashes or cucumber with hair come to life, and other vibrant illustrations make the unseen kindergarten of the oceans visible.



96 pages, hardcover
25 x 30 cm
Colour throughout
From 9 years onwards

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English translation available

The scientists:

Iñaki Ruiz-Trillo is an ICREA Research Professor at the Institut de Biologia Evolutiva (CSIC-UPF), **Aaron Straight** is Chair of Biochemistry and Professor, by courtesy, of Chemical and Systems Biology at Stanford University, **Annika Guse** is Principal Investigator at the Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität in München, and **Alejandro Sánchez Alvarado** is a molecular biologist, an investigator of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, and executive director and Chief Scientific Officer of the Stowers Institute for Medical Research.

The illustrator:

Kristina Heldmann is a freelance illustrator based in Berlin, Germany. She graduated with a degree in Visual Arts from the Braunschweig University of Arts in 2000 and has been illustrating professionally ever since. Her work has been commissioned and featured in national and international publications, books and campaigns.

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WE CELEBRATE 16 YEARS OF FAIRY TALE COMICS AS WELL AS THE 7TH PRINT RUN AND 9 FOREIGN EDITIONS



A delightfully witty, slightly scary comic-book version of some of the most famous Grimm fairy tales, sure to engage even the most reluctant reader—and everyone else.

As well as traditional favourites as *The Frog Prince*, *Tom Thumb* and *Little Red Riding Hood*, lesser-known tales like *Jorinda and Jorindel* and *Lucky Hans* are included.

Mixing irreverent humour and creepiness, master author and illustrator Rotraut Susanne Berner presents Grimm's characters as both recognizable and very modern, the perfect way to bring these tales to the contemporary child.



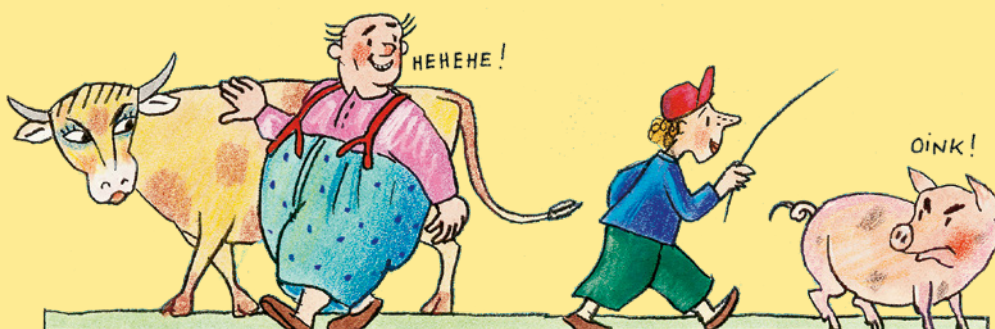
48 pages, hardcover
21 x 28 cm
Colour throughout
From 4 years onwards

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English translation available

The author/illustrator: **Rotraut Susanne Berner**, born in 1948, is one of the best-known contemporary illustrators and book designers even beyond the German-speaking countries. The freelance author and illustrator has been nominated several times for the most important international awards, the Astrid Lindgren Memorial Prize and the Hans Christian Andersen Prize. She received the latter in 2016. In 2006, she was awarded the Special Prize of the German Youth Literature Prize for her complete works. She lives in Munich.

Translation: Shelley Tanaka



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Thomas Harding & Britta Teckentrup

The House on the Farm

This is the exciting story of a remarkable woman and a remarkable house.

In the north-eastern corner of the USA, near the city of Auburn, stands a red brick house. It was built 130 years ago, it has served as a farmhouse, a home for the elderly, a museum and a refuge for enslaved women, men and children. It was the setting for an extraordinary history: the American Revolutionary War, the Underground Railroad, the American Civil War, the fight for women's suffrage, and a safe place for Harriet Tubman, her family and many others.



Harriet Tubman (1822–1913) was born into slavery on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. In 1849 she fled north, but soon returned to help her parents and other relatives escape. In 1859, she bought 7 acres of land from Frances Seward, just outside Auburn. She returned to the South at least thirteen times to help free enslaved people. During the American Civil War, she worked as a scout, spy and nurse. She was the first woman to lead an armed military operation in the US Army. Harriet Tubman lived in the house on the farm with her large family for more than fifty years.



By the same artist:
The House on the Canal

"On the whole, this results in a book that is pleasant to leaf through, which looks at its surroundings and inner life from the perspective of the building in emotive short texts and illustrations." Michael Schmitt, Süddeutsche Zeitung

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56 pages, hardcover
28 x 25 cm
Colour throughout
From 6 years onwards

All rights available

English translation available

The author:

Thomas Harding, born in 1968, is a multi-award-winning bestselling author whose books have been translated into over 20 languages. As a journalist, he writes for The Guardian, among others, and also works as a radio and television presenter. He is chairman of the association Alexander-Haus e. V. and lives with his family in London.

The illustrator:

Britta Teckentrup, born in 1969 in Hamburg, studied Visual Arts in London. She is author and illustrator of many picture books as well as non-fiction picture books and has received numerous awards. Her books have been translated into a lot of different languages. Today she lives in Berlin with her Scottish husband and her son Vincent.

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Britta Teckentrup

A Celebration of Fruit and Fruits



"My grandmother's garden teemed with fruits. My swing nestled in the shade of a quince tree, and I had my first climbing adventures on the little cherry tree behind our house. And I picked raspberries, my all-time favourites – but are they even considered berries? Today, I've come to learn that raspberries aren't true berries; they're actually stone fruits, just like cherries."

"My journey through art led me to a profound fascination with the diverse representations of fruit in art history. Exploring this realm has been incredibly exciting and a true aesthetic delight. In this book, I'm eager to share my enthusiasm for this world with you."

Britta Teckentrup



Throughout history, people have been captivated by the allure of sweet, vibrant fruits, immortalizing their beauty in poems and art since ancient times. Others dedicated considerable effort to organizing the rich diversity of fruit species and varieties within the structured realm of botany. Britta Teckentrup unites these age-old traditions in a sensory feast.



160 pages, Hardcover
18 x 25 cm
Colour throughout

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English translation available

The author/illustrator:

Britta Teckentrup, born in 1969 in Hamburg, studied Visual Arts in London. She is author and illustrator of many picture books as well as non-fiction picture books and has received numerous awards. Her books have been translated into a lot of different languages. Today she lives in Berlin with her Scottish husband and her son Vincent.

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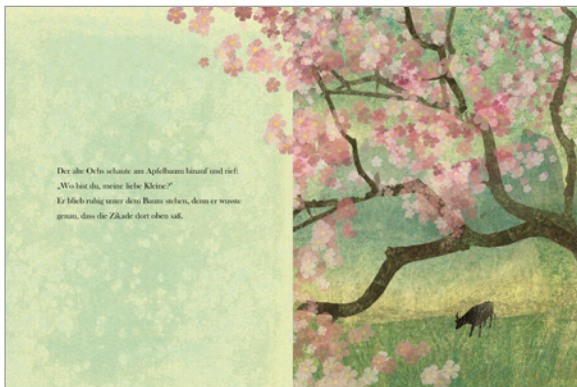
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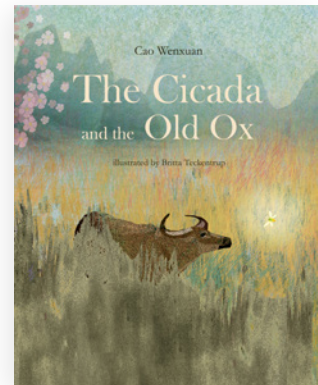
Cao Wenxuan & Britta Teckentrup **The Little Cicada and the Old Ox**

A lyrical picture book by two internationally renowned award winners

Hans Christian Andersen Award winner Cao Wenxuan, well known for his books – for example *The Grass House*, *Bronze* or *Sunflower* –, has joined forces with award winning and internationally acclaimed illustrator Britta Teckentrup. Their book *The Little Cicada and the Old Ox* is not only a beautiful and touching ode to unconditional friendship but also about slowing down and letting nature determine time.



When a cicada saves the life of an old, stubborn ox, a lifelong friendship takes its beginning, as from that day on, the two are inseparable. Often, the cicada rests on an apple tree but even more often, it lands on one of the horns of the old ox or on his back and accompanies him to the meadow on the bank of the river. They spend all of their time together until the cicada has to leave this world ... The old ox promises to watch over the cicada's children. After the larva's have gone underground (like cicadas are known to do), the old ox stands guard by the apple tree, day and night, year after year. And one night, the little cicadas finally emerge from the earth and climb up the apple tree, one by one. The old ox watches them and marvels and can't get enough of them. But at some point, his eyes close. Perhaps he has fallen asleep. Or maybe he is already on his way to heaven, looking for his little cicada ...



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The author:

Cao Wenxuan is a professor of Chinese literature and children's literature. He is the author of several celebrated books for young readers. His fluid, poetic prose depicts honest, sometimes raw, and often melancholy moments of life. He has also received significant recognition for his academic research and teaching in the field of children's literature, and he was the first Chinese author to win the Hans Christian Andersen Award.

The illustrator:

Britta Teckentrup, born in 1969 in Hamburg, studied Visual Arts in London. She is the author and illustrator of many picture books as well as non-fiction picture books and has received numerous awards. Her books have been translated into a lot of different languages.

Winner of the
Japanese Illustration Award JIA

For more information:

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