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Best of Random House Germany

Non-Fiction
Spring 2014

A young couple and their extraordinary journey to freedom



Peter Wensierski
The Forbidden Journey
[Die verbotene Reise]
The true story of an
adventurous escape

DVA
256 pages
With illustrations
March 2014

[Trailer online available](#)

Peter Wensierski was born in 1954 and has been working for the *Spiegel* since 1993. Previous to that, he had regularly reported from East Germany as a documentary film maker, journalist and author of books. His book *Hitting in the Name of the Lord* (2006) about child abuse in western German children's homes in the 1950s and 1960s made this side of the past more widely known and led to a closer examination of the cases.

www.wensierski.info

In the summer of 1987, two young people living in East Berlin venture on a big adventure: they forge an invitation and are given a visa for Russia and Mongolia, destinations the two lovers of the wild have been longing to visit. Their real destination, however, is China – a country virtually out of bounds for East Germans. Caged in at home by the rigidity of the system, they make for Ulan Bator, from where they try to get to Beijing, hoping to be able to obtain passports for the West from the West German embassy there.

They are frequently in danger of being given away on their forbidden journey, but after 10,000 kilometres they find themselves standing in front of the West German embassy – and can't make up their minds to go in through the door together...

- SPIEGEL bestseller
- 20,000 copies sold

Human beings as mere commodities – the dark side of affluence



Michael Jürgs
Slave Market Europe
[Sklavenmarkt Europa]
The billion-euro business with
the human commodity

C. Bertelsmann
352 pages
March 2014

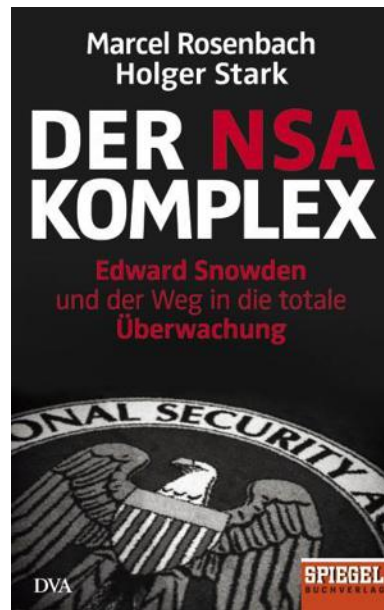
Michael Jürgs, born in 1945, has been editor in chief of *Stern* and *Tempo*. A renowned journalist, he has made a name for himself as the author of many biographies. His books *The Romy Schneider Case*, *The Axel Springer Case*, *Citizen Grass* and *The Little Truce in the Great War* have all been bestsellers.

In 1948, the slave trade was outlawed world-wide in the UN Declaration of Human Rights. Yet today humans are still being humiliated as mere commodities, forced into prostitution, put on offer for sham marriages, kept as household slaves, and children are abducted or sold by their parents. The global networking of organised crime means that human trade in all its manifold forms is today more efficient and brutal than ever before. The business is lucrative, with a world-wide annual turnover of an estimated 31 billion euros, although in reality the figures are probably much higher. And since the "commodity" itself, unlike weapons, drugs and counterfeit medicines can be sold over and over again, the risk is much lower than with many other illegal dealings.

Michael Jürgs has drawn an appalling picture of the dark side of affluence – of trade with women on the international sex market, with work slaves, with children and organs, but also of the grey zone of low wages and exploitation.

He discusses which measures must be taken – from a more decisive fight against poverty in the "supplier" countries to a better information policy, both supported by the international community of nations.

Inside the NSA, once the most secret of the world's intelligence services



Marcel Rosenbach /
Holger Stark
The NSA Complex
[Der NSA Komplex]
Edward Snowden and the road
to total surveillance

DVA
300 pages
March 2014

Marcel Rosenbach, an expert on the intelligence services who has been reporting on topics relating to web security for years, was born in 1972 and has been working for the *Spiegel* since 2001. In 2010, together with Holger Stark, he analysed the documents of the WikiLeaks whistleblowing platform for the *Spiegel* and in 2011 wrote the bestselling *State Enemy WikiLeaks*, which has been translated into 11 languages.

Holger Stark was born in 1970, and after working for several newspapers he became a correspondent in the *Spiegel* Berlin office in 2001. Since 2013 he has been reporting from Washington for the same magazine. He was awarded the Henri Nannen Prize in 2011.

Edward Snowden has disclosed how closely intelligence services watch over our lives. Ever more details of their comprehensive espionage activities are being revealed almost daily. *Spiegel* authors Marcel Rosenbach and Holger Stark have been able to analyse large sections of the documents from the data bank of the NSA and British GCHQ made available by Edward Snowden and classified as "top secret". They discuss how the intelligence services in democratic societies have been able to become so powerful and why those responsible rejoice in internal documents that "the golden age of surveillance" has broken out.

In their book, the two bestselling authors have revealed the true dimensions of a surveillance apparatus that threatens not only our private sphere but also the very foundations of democratic societies – and hence even those of us who have always thought they had nothing to hide. This book is an important contribution to the necessary international debate on the right balance between freedom on the one hand and, on the other, states promises of security in a digital age.

George Soros on the future of the European continent

Full English
manuscript
available

Rights sold to:

Greece (Patakis), Italy (Hoepli),
US/Engl. world (Public Affairs)

George Soros, born in Budapest in 1930, is Chairman of the Soros Foundation and one of the world's most legendary financial investors. Critics accuse him of betting against the euro and using his pro-European ideas primarily for his own speculative interests. At the same time, Soros campaigns around the world for the promotion of democracy.

www.georgesoros.com

Gregor Peter Schmitz, 36, is the *Spiegel's* EU correspondent in Brussels. He previously headed the Brussels office of an international think-tank.



George Soros /
Gregor Peter Schmitz
**The Tragedy of the
European Union**
[Wetten auf Europa]
Why Germany has to save the
euro in order to save itself

DVA
192 pages
February 2014

George Soros is one of the most controversial investors of our time. Admired by many for his successful financial dealings and dedicated philanthropy, he is criticised by others as a ruthless speculator and crisis profiteer. Soros has close personal ties to Europe: his life story exemplifies the ambitions and difficulties of the European project, which is currently experiencing the worst and most prolonged crisis in its history. As a Holocaust survivor who grew up in Hungary, it was clear to Soros from a very young age what war really means, and why securing peace is an essential pillar of the idea of the European Union.

In conversation with Gregor Peter Schmitz, Soros speaks in detail for the first time about his responsibilities as an investor, as well as about the opportunities and risks of the current crisis facing the European Union.

Press

"A discussion that is as polemical and wise as it is unapologetic." *die tageszeitung*

"This gripping book is easily accessible even for readers who are not into political economics." *Stuttgarter Zeitung*

"The book is a passionate plea for a united Europe [...] It is an unusual and highly controversial approach." *Die Zeit*

Incredible, mysterious, hair-raising and fascinating puzzles posed by the Earth



Axel Bojanowski
The Earth Has a Leak
[Die Erde hat ein Leck]
And other mysterious
phenomena of our planet

DVA
240 pages
With 7 b/w illustrations
April 2014

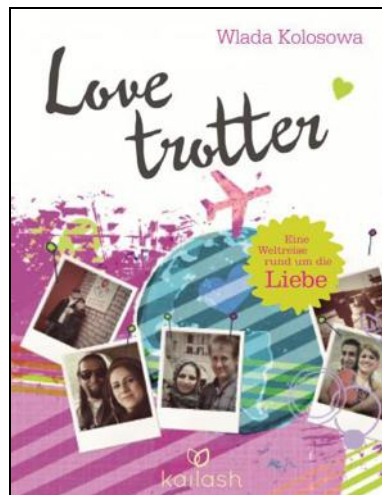
Axel Bojanowski was born in 1971, is a qualified geologist and has been working as a science journalist for the *Süddeutsche Zeitung* and *Stern* since 1997 and, more recently, for *Spiegel online*. He is also a lecturer and writes a monthly column in the internationally renowned science magazine *Nature Geoscience*. His column "Count Seismo" on the Earth's big mysteries appears regularly on *Spiegel online*.

As he already did in his *Two Days of Rain are Followed by Monday*, Axel Bojanowski has in this book again written of the latest research concerning amazing puzzles posed by the Earth. Why is the Earth tilted, for example? And what is the quick crack of the world all about? Can the mystery of the polished boulders and stones in the Atacama Desert be solved?

Precise, entertaining and easy to understand: Axel Bojanowski goes into the big questions of geoscience and climate research – and his feeling for quirky details is magnificent.

- 15,000 copies sold of *Two Days of Rain are Followed by Monday*

5 months, 5 continents and a suitcase full of love stories



Wlada Kolosowa

Lovetrotter

[Lovetrotter]

A journey round the world in the cause of love

Kailash

256 pages

With 30 4-c illustrations

March 2014

Wlada Kolosowa, 26, is an author and freelance journalist, contributing to *Spiegel online*, *jetzt.de*, the *Tagesspiegel* and others. After studying psychology and journalism she now studies creative writing in New York.

www.wladakolosowa.de

How does the world love? This is the question Wlada Kolosowa asked and set off for five months in search of lovers – in Egypt, Iran, Cambodia, China, Brazil, Russia, the USA and Turkey. She encounters all forms and notions of love, from romantic love, marriages of convenience, forbidden, hidden and even impossible love – and again and again the miracle of love.

Love in distant countries, however, is never as we think it is. Surprises and turnarounds are to be found precisely where we do not expect them.

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