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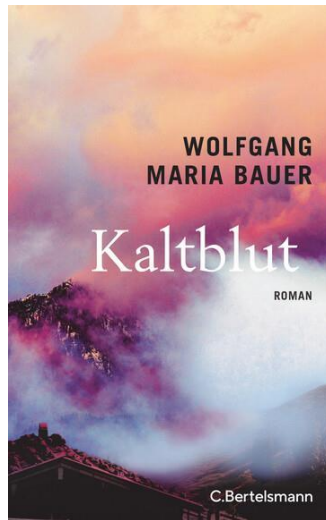
**Best of
Penguin Random House
Verlagsgruppe**

**Fiction
Spring 2025**

Penguin
Random House
Verlagsgruppe

For more information please visit
www.foreignrights.penguinrandomhouse.de

A fatal accident, love between two outsiders, and a life-sapping small town in the mountains



English sample translation available

Wolfgang Maria Bauer, born in 1963 in Munich, is an actor, director and writer who has appeared on many of Germany and Austria's most prestigious theatre stages and played numerous roles on both the big and the small screen. He has won, among others, the German Artistic Directors' Prize and the Mühlheim Goethe Prize, been named Actor of the Year and received the Bavarian state medal for his writing for stage and radio. He lives on the shores of Lake Starnberg in Bavaria. "*Cold-blooded*" is his first novel.

Wolfgang Maria Bauer
Cold-blooded
[Kaltblut]
Novel

C. Bertelsmann
224 pages
March 2025

Stubber is a taciturn loner, strange and inscrutable. He is a blasting specialist, like his father, and has never liked his little home town in the mountains. His fellow townsfolk don't like him either: not only do they blame him for an explosion in which eleven men died, but now Stubber has disappeared and abandoned his child too. "He's a cold one," they say. Driven from his home town, he roams the mountains for years. As he traverses pastures and snow-covered slopes, he recalls episodes from the past; and with each step, his longing for Alaska grows – Alaska, the woman with those strangely glistening blue eyes, and his one true love.

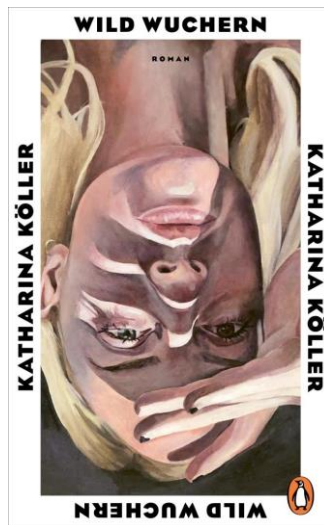
An atmospheric, captivating novel that tells the story of a fossilised town and its inhabitants.

- For fans of Robert Seethaler (*A Whole Life*) and Andrea Maria Schenkel (*The Murder Farm*)

“Back where I was planted, I was like a dainty flower in a pot. Now I’m here, and I’m growing.”



English sample translation available



Katharina Köller
Sprawling Wildly
[Wild wuchern]
Novel

Penguin Verlag
208 pages
February 2025

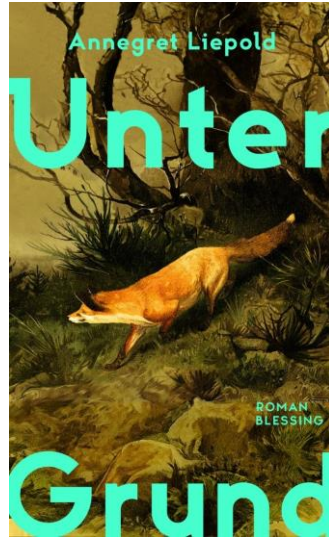
Katharina Köller was born in Austria in 1984. After studying philosophy and acting, she’s worked as a freelance author, actor, and theatre maker since 2011. Her debut novel "Was ich im Wasser sah" ('What I Saw in the Water') was published in 2020 and won the City of Wetzlar’s Fantasy Prize. Katharina Köller lives with her family in Vienna and Innsbruck.

They couldn’t be more different: Marie, the sharp-tongued Viennese lady, a creature of luxury, simultaneously pampered and despised by her husband Peter. And Johanna, the ‘wild animal in a human body’. Johanna stopped speaking in adolescence and left humanity behind, leading a hermit life on a remote mountain pasture for years. The cousins have not seen each other since she moved there. But now Marie is hurrying up the mountain to Johanna’s hut, panicked, covered in blood. She is on the run from her violent husband and a world in which much, unnoticed, has gone awry. For the two women, this marks the beginning of an extraordinary test of strength to claim their place in this world, and their right to live on their own terms.

In her poetical and political novel – fairy tale, parable and pulsating critique of civilisation all in one – Katharina Köller celebrates two women who empower each other and make each other believe in change.

- **Selected by *New Books in German*:** "A diverting and highly readable novel which explores widely relevant themes of domestic abuse and the tension between our materialistic, capitalist society and the longing for a simpler, rural existence."
- **12,000 copies sold upon publication**

When home feels like a foreign country: a young woman returns to the village where she grew up. She faces a wall of silence – and dark secrets from the past.



Annegret Liepold
Underground
[Unter Grund]
Novel

Blessing
256 pages
February 2025

English sample translation
available

Annegret Liepold, born in 1990, studied comparative literature and political science in Munich and Paris. She has received several grants and awards for her debut novel "*Underground*", including the Leonhard and Ida Wolf Memorial Prize for Literature, an invitation to the 15th writing workshop of the Jürgen Ponto Foundation, and a stipend from the city of Munich. She works for the Bavarian Writing Academy at the Munich Literary Institute.

When young teacher Franka sits in on a trial at which five people stand accused of being members of a neo-Nazi group, she is deeply shocked by what she hears. She returns to her village, to the pit lakes and mirror carps, and to the silence that prevails in her family – and not only since her father died: even her grandmother had her secrets to hide. Franka finally decides to face up to the past: she recalls the 2000s, when Germany dreamed of winning the Soccer World Cup at home; when she found like-minded new friends in Patrick and Janna, who covered up their insecurity with brawling, and their frustration with punches; and when she herself descended into a far-right mire. Now, Franka has to ask herself some difficult questions – about her own culpability, as well as her family's.

A sensitive and vividly written novel that reveals the legacy of far-right ideas handed down through the generations.

Two women from two very different worlds – with a shared dream of freedom and love...

SPiegel
BESTSELLING
AUTHOR

Rights sold prior publication to:
Italy (Giunti), The Netherlands
(Meulenhoff Boekerij)

English exposé available

With sales totalling over two million copies, **Corina Bomann's** popular historical sagas are regular bestsellers, and her readers adore her courageous women, passionate emotions and moving stories – including, most recently, the *Waldfriede Clinic* saga, which charts the eventful story of a hospital in Berlin. Her new series, "*Die Frauen vom Rosenhag*" ('The women of Rosenhag'), is set in Sweden, where two courageous heroines fight for their freedom and for love.



Corina Bomann
**The Women of the
Rosenhag: Dream of a
New Beginning**

[Die Frauen vom Rosenhag.
Traum vom Neubeginn]
The Rosenhag Duology (Vol. 1)
Novel

Penguin Verlag
592 pages
May 2025

Karlskrona, Sweden, 1910. Liv feels constricted – and not just by the corset she puts on every day. Her loveless marriage to shipowner Sten Boregard, too, is stifling her. Her desire for freedom grows stronger when she meets Marlene, a sailor's widow, who has been ostracised by the other sailors' wives ever since her husband and his crew died on the high seas. But Marlene won't let anyone bring her down, and Liv is impressed by her free spirit and energy. The pair become close friends, and when Liv unexpectedly inherits a rose-covered gamekeeper's cottage in the woods, she and Marlene boldly decide to create a refuge where women can fulfil their true potential. They secretly breathe new life into 'Rosenhag' and its wildflower garden – but little do they know that not only their secret, but they themselves, are in grave danger...

- **Spiegel bestselling author: more than two million copies sold of Corina Bomann's novels**

Upcoming – the finale of the Rosenhag series:

**The Women of the Rosenhag:
Longing for Freedom (vol. 2)**

August 2025
ca. 560 pp

Rights sold to: Italy (Giunti), The
Netherlands (Meulenhoff Boekerij)

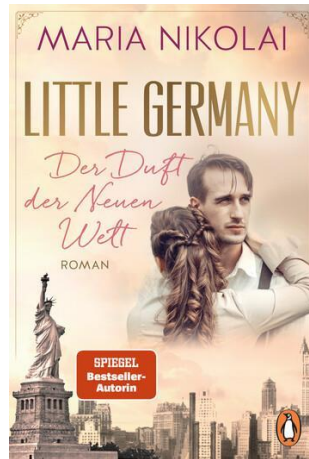


Two women, two worlds, two lives at a crossroads

SPIEGEL
BESTSELLING
AUTHOR

English sample translation
available

Maria Nikolai loves the stuff of history and tender love stories. With her debut "*The Chocolate Villa*" she wrote her way into the hearts of her readers, and spent many months in the bestseller lists. The saga sold about half a million copies. Maria Nikolai's fans were also enchanted by her second historical fiction trilogy, set on picturesque Lake Constance towards the end of the First World War. "*Little Germany*", her new émigré saga, tells the story of two bold young women seeking their fortune in the New World.



Maria Nikolai

Little Germany: The Scent of a New World

[Little Germany - Der Duft der Neuen Welt]

The Little Germany saga (vol. 1)
Novel

Penguin Verlag
656 pages
May 2025

Germany, 1901. Domestic servant Lissi has embarked on a foolish affair with the scion of the family she works for. But her hopes of a romantic wedding are shattered, and when she finds herself pregnant, alone and desperate, she decides to leave her home town. Meanwhile, Julia Varrell has been lured into an arranged marriage under false pretences. She, too, wants out. And so Lissi and Julia find themselves on board a ship bound for New York.

The two of them quickly become close friends, and agree to help each other make a fresh start. A bakery in Manhattan's Little Germany offers them work and a roof over their heads. Soon, the bakery and its heavenly sweet pretzels gain a reputation among the upper echelons of New York society. What no one suspects, though, is that disaster is looming on the horizon – one that will disrupt not only Julia's and Lissi's lives, but the whole of Little Germany...

- **Based on a true story**
- **Spiegel bestselling author: Maria Nikolai's *Chocolate Villa* and *Lake Constance* sagas have sold over 680,000 copies in the German-speaking markets**

Upcoming – the finale of the Little Germany saga:

**Little Germany:
The Taste of Freedom
(vol. 2)**

October 2025
ca. 400 pp



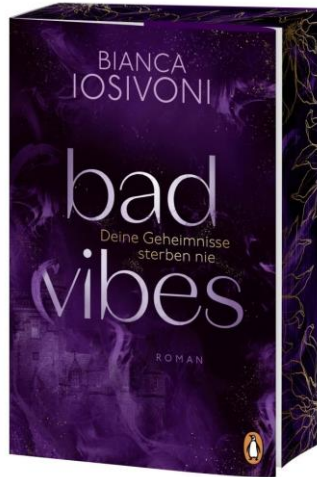
New Adult

It is his best friend Dahlia whom bestselling author Jake calls shortly before his violent death – and she is determined to find out what happened to him



English sample translation available

Bianca Iosivoni is one of Germany's most popular and successful new adult authors. She loves thrilling rollercoaster romances, but also smart thrillers with a twist. Following the huge success of "Sorry", "Bad Vibes" is her second unputdownable suspense novel – a spicy murder mystery with breathtaking twists, which will give you goosebumps as well as butterflies.



Bianca Iosivoni

Bad Vibes: Secrets Never Die

[BAD VIBES. Deine Geheimnisse sterben nie]
Thriller

Penguin Verlag
720 pages
February 2025

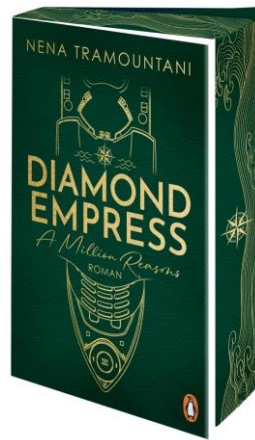
When Dahlia arrives at the gates of MacRaven Manor, a shiver runs down her spine: dark shadows have wrapped their tendrils around this Highland castle, shadows as dark as the secrets of the people who live there. Dahlia has come to pay her last respects to her best friend Jake – or, as the world knew him, bestselling author JJ Burnett – who has died in what seems was a tragic accident. When she unexpectedly inherits a big part of his estate, though, his family are outraged. What none of them know is that Dahlia is on a secret mission: she is convinced that Jake's death was anything but an accident, and intends to bring his killer to justice. While searching for clues, she gets much too close to Jake's twin Evan – but also to mysterious Ayden. What starts as a seductive game for the threesome gradually turns dangerous – soon, Dahlia doesn't know who she can still trust. Only one thing is clear: she has to uncover the truth before it's too late.

- Tropes: Spice & Thrills, Secrets & Lies, Enemies to Lovers, Dark Past, Forced Proximity
- #5 *Spiegel* bestseller with 55,000 copies sold
- *Spiegel* bestselling author with more than 900.000 copies sold in the German-speaking markets

The goal: break into the safe. The chances of success: low. The motive: eat the rich!

English sample translation available

Nena Tramountani is a hugely popular New Adult and fantasy novelist. Following her *"Soho Love"* and *"Hungry Hearts"* series, she has now embarked on an exciting new chapter in her career: her highly addictive *"Stolen Dreams"* series is packed with intense feelings and electrifying cliffhangers, and combines three irresistible love stories with a gripping heist.



Nena Tramountani **Diamond Empress: A Million Reasons**

[Diamond Empress. A Million Reasons]

The Stolen Dreams series (Vol. 1)
Novel

Penguin Verlag
528 pages
March 2025

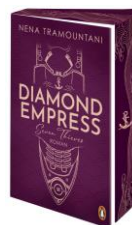
Pianist Noemi feels trapped. Thanks to a series of missteps, she has no job and no money. Desperate, she joins the luxury liner Diamond Empress on its 100-day-long maiden voyage to play piano for the rich and famous. When she meets handsome acrobat Victor on her very first day, the trip promises to be more fun than expected. And when the pair accept an invitation to a secret meeting in the ship's library at midnight, they enter a world of thrills and temptation: there's a gang of thieves on board, and they're planning the biggest robbery in history. But to prove they're worthy of joining the gang, Noemi and Victor must pass a test that brings them unexpectedly close to each other – and suddenly, Noemi realises that she isn't risking just her freedom and her life on board the Diamond Empress, but also her heart.

- For fans of "Ocean's 11" and "Money Heist" (La casa de papel)
- Tropes: Secret Identity, Opposites Attract, Strangers to Lovers, Only One Bed, Found Family, Eat the Rich

Upcoming:

Diamond Empress: Seven Thieves
(vol. 2)

July 2025
ca. 464 pp



Diamond Empress: One Heist
(vol. 3)

November 2025
ca. 464 pp



Amid roaring waves, the scent of roses and golden beaches, Iris searches for a fresh start

**SPIEGEL
BESTSELLING
AUTHOR**



Manuela Inusa
Sea of Flowers

[Blumenmeere]
The Coastlines series (vol. 1)
Novel

Heyne Taschenbuch
448 pages
March 2025

Manuela Inusa, born in 1981, knew even as a child that she was going to be a writer one day. She trained as a bilingual assistant, but shortly before her thirtieth birthday decided it was now or never. Ever since, she regularly enchants numerous readers with her emotive novels, and her popular "*Valerie Lane*" and "*California Dreams*" series were almost instant bestsellers.

Artist Iris lives in Boston with her partner Tristan. She and best friend Mia are almost like sisters, and have been there for each other since childhood. When Iris discovers that Tristan and Mia are having an affair, there's a terrible fight. Mia gets upset, runs into the road without looking, and is killed by a car. Wracked by grief and guilt, Iris finds refuge at her grandma June's house on Martha's Vineyard. As she rediscovers her zest for life, the only question is: can this magical place, with its endless beaches and gentle waves, open her up to the possibility of new love?

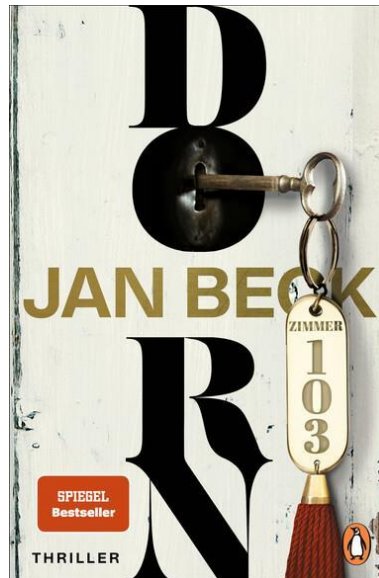
- **The start of a new tetralogy: in the four novels of the Coastlines series, Manuela Inusa tells the stories of several young women who all suffer a terrible blow of fate and then find healing, peace and love in a distant, idyllic seaside resort**
- ***Spiegel* bestselling author with more than 1,5 million copies sold**

A derelict hotel as a museum for unsolved cases – forensic psychologist Simon Dorn is determined to find the truth

**SPIEGEL
BESTSELLING
AUTHOR**

English reader's report available

Jan Beck was a lawyer before turning to writing. His thrillers featuring Inga Björk and Christian Brand have all been bestsellers. When he isn't writing, he loves spending time in nature, especially in forests. "*Dorn: Room 103*" is the first in a new thriller series featuring forensic psychologist Simon Dorn and tough young detective Lea Wagner, set in the Austrian Alps, Vienna and Hamburg.



Jan Beck

Dorn: Room 103

[Dorn]

A Case for Simon Dorn und Lea Wagner (Vol. 1)

Thriller

Penguin Verlag

384 pages

January 2025

Forensic psychologist Simon Dorn has retired following one tragedy too many, and taken up residence in the disused Hotel Dornwald in the mountains near Salzburg. There, he is continuing the investigations that won't let him go. Room by room, he has transformed the hotel into a museum of unsolved cases. His only connection to the outside world is Karla Hofbauer from the Vienna cold case team. When Hofbauer is murdered in Hamburg, everything points to a serial killer. Young police detective Lea Wagner follows Hofbauer's trail to Austria, and intrudes on Dorn's solitude. But Dorn and Wagner soon join forces to hunt a killer who knows no bounds.

- ***Spiegel* bestseller: more than 24,000 copies sold**
- ***Spiegel* bestselling author: Jan Beck's *Björk & Brand* series has sold over 275,000 copies**

From our backlist:



Penguin
480 pages
October 2024

Rights sold to:
Bulgaria (Era), Hungary (Kossuth),
Italy (Giunti), Poland (Skarpa),
Russia (Azbooka), Slovak Republic
(Verbarium)

#1
SPIEGEL
BESTSELLER

Lisa Graf

Lindt & Sprüngli: Two Families, One Passion

[Lindt & Sprüngli – Zwei Familien, eine Leidenschaft]

The Lindt & Sprüngli saga (vol. 1)

As irresistible as chocolate – the remarkable story of two families and a 200-year-old chocolate dynasty

Zurich, 1826. Little Rudolf Sprüngli's mother is in the hospital, and he has spent his last few pennies to buy her a bar of chocolate. He puts all his hopes into this mysterious thing called 'chocolate', and miraculously, his mother recovers. From then on, Rudolf plans to become a chocolatier. Years later, all grown up, his dream remains. Soon, he'll be opening the Confiserie Sprüngli in Zurich, where he'll sell the finest chocolates. Chocolate that melts in your mouth like butter, and makes your heart beat faster. But in a few days, Katharina will marry someone else. Are Rudolf's tireless ambition and hard work enough to make his dreams come true? And what if someone else has the same dreams?

- **#1 Spiegel bestseller: 95,000 copies sold**
- **Lisa Graf's novels have sold more than half a million copies in the German-speaking markets**

Upcoming:

**Lindt & Sprüngli:
Two Rivals, One
Dream
(vol. 2)**

October 2025
ca. 480 pp

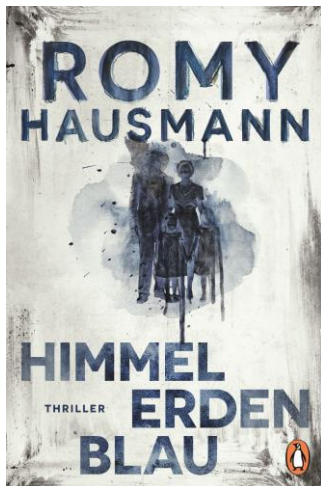


**Lindt & Sprüngli:
Two Heirs, One
Dynasty
(vol. 3)**

October 2026
ca. 480 pp



Upcoming Highlight:



Penguin Verlag
ca. 400 pages
August 2025

Rights sold prior publication to:
Italy (Giunti), Poland (Foksal),
Russia (Eksmo), UK/World
English (Quercus)

**English sample translation
available**

Romy Hausmann was born in East Germany in 1981, and her family later fled to the West. She is "one of the most successful thriller authors in Germany." (Sunday Times). Her debut novel "Liebes Kind" ("Dear Child") immediately landed at number 1 on the SPIEGEL bestseller list. The Netflix series of the same name won the [International Emmy Award](#) in November 2024. All of her books are SPIEGEL bestsellers and her works are published with great success in 30 countries.

Romy Hausmann

Darling Mine

[Himmelerdenblau]

Novel

The long-awaited major thriller by international bestselling author Romy Hausmann

Theo Nowak is 72 years old and suffers from dementia. He is finding it increasingly difficult to cope with everyday life and is forgetting more and more - except for one thing: the fact that his then 16-year-old daughter Julie was abducted 20 years ago, one night, directly from her parents' home. When podcaster Liv Keller takes on the case and joins Theo in his search for clues, he suddenly receives emails that sound as if they were written by Julie. Theo is convinced that his daughter is still alive and is being held somewhere by her kidnapper. It is clear to him that he must find her before his illness makes him forget that she ever even existed. It is his last great task, during which he finally uncovers something that would have been better left hidden...

- **More than 1.2 million copies of the author's books sold worldwide, with over 560,000 copies sold of her translated books combined**
- **The rights for Romy Hausmann's books have been sold to 30 countries**

International press on Hausmann's backlist (selection):

"Hausmann creates a dark solar system strewn with twinkling stars." *New York Times* on "Dear Child"

"Hausmann is a force to be reckoned with." *David Baldacci* on "Dear Child"

"Outstanding debut [...]. This darkly disturbing thriller definitely marks Hausmann as a writer to watch." *Publisher's Weekly* on "Dear Child"

"Terrifying and fiercely compelling." *Daily Mail* on "Perfect Day"

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