



RIGHTS GUIDE

Fall 2024

Galiani Berlin

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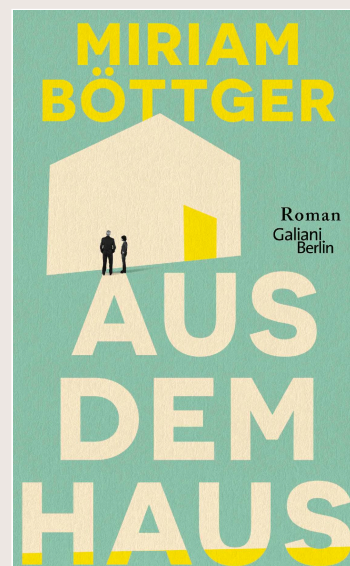
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Miriam Böttger

Out of the House

- A must-read for anyone driven to despair by family madness
- Funny, laconic, wonderfully wicked, and affectionate: a novel about a move that gets out of control



September 2024 · 224 pages



© Captivation studios

Miriam Böttger is a journalist and an avid reader of David Foster Wallace and Thomas Bernhard. She has been writing for as long as she can remember, but never had the time to submit her novel to a publisher. That changed a few months ago.

A mother whose pessimism has a seductive pull. A father who obfuscates when asked to talk about himself. And a supposed house of misfortune that it is finally time to leave behind. Miriam Böttger’s ludicrous, tragicomic, and enigmatic novel is for anyone who also struggles with their family.

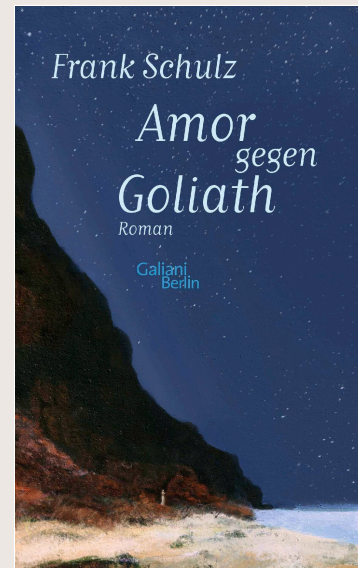
“Every family is actually a sect in itself, with some special idea or delusion around which everything revolves,” muses the first-person narrator in Miriam Böttger’s novel. “Often these are obvious things like the children’s genius, academia, money, fitness, social status.” Sometimes, however, they are also absurdities. Her family’s *idée fixe* is the conviction that they will only ever have bad luck in life, the assumption of a familial predisposition to misfortune. And the physical manifestation of this idea is the family *house*, which may look bright and innocent to others, but which (they all agree) has prevented its inhabitants from living their full life for decades.

The parents’ decision to finally give up the house and move into a smaller apartment should come as a relief. But no sooner is the house sold than they see this “magnet of misfortune” in a completely new light. As moving day approaches, the father’s daily telephone reports to his daughter become increasingly bizarre. And she realizes that what’s at issue here isn’t the move, but something else entirely.

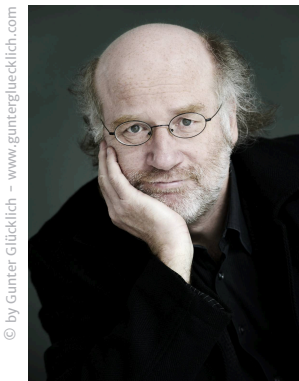
Frank Schulz

Cupid vs. Goliath

- A novel that takes us into the heart of the climate movement, to the heights of German language artistry and into the hell of an anxiety disorder



September 2024 · 752 pages



© by Gunter Glücklich - www.guntergluecklich.com

Frank Schulz, born in 1957, has received numerous awards for his novels, including the Hubert Fichte Prize, the Irmgard Heilmann Prize and the Kassel Literature Prize for Grotesque Humor.

Cathi, a popular and esteemed psychologist and in her spare time a highly active climate crisis campaigner, wants to finally relax on a Greek island - and mend her relationship with her beloved but increasingly odd husband, ex-stage performer Ricky. Ricky tries to hide from the world and his wife that he suffers from severe anxiety disorders; instead of composing new songs, he hides away all day in his rehearsal room, where he does nothing but swallow tranquilizers and combat his fear of being afraid. The additional fear of losing his idolized Cathi drives him to delicately irritating acts of jealousy.

Next door is the flamboyant Philipp, a journalist and womanizer, who knows all the tricks of the trade, and who wants to land a coup: A man called 'Konfusius' is causing quite a stir on the Internet with his bizarre appearances and eloquent sermons against nature-destroying mankind. But nobody knows who he is or what drives him. Büttner suspects him to be on the island, and he wants a big story.

With so much need for recreation and so much to talk about, Cathi and Philipp soon become threateningly close. And there are other disasters on the horizon besides climate change.

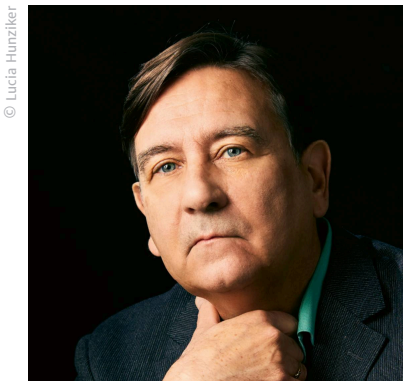
Alain Claude Sulzer

Almost Like a Brother

- "Sulzer tells his story with the stylistic confidence of a master! An incredibly powerful book!" – literaturblatt.ch
- Finnish, Slovak and Spanish rights with KiWi, all other rights with United Agents



August 2024 · 192 pages



© Lucia Hunziker

Alain Claude Sulzer, born in 1953, lives in Basel, Berlin and Alsace. His books have been translated into all the major languages. He has received numerous awards for his work, including the Prix Médicis Étranger, the Hermann Hesse Prize and the City of Basel Culture Award.

Alain Claude Sulzer explores existential questions about friendship and goodbyes, (homo)sexuality, art and fame through the shared life story of two very different men.

They grow up like brothers in the Ruhr area of the seventies. But unlike the narrator, Frank is drawn out into the world at an early age: he wants to live as an artist, decides to go to New York, paints obsessively, but without success. Only when he is terminally ill does he return to his hometown.

After a long time, the friends meet for the last time on Frank's deathbed. As different as their lives are, the bond forged in childhood is deep. After Frank's death, the narrator keeps receiving his paintings; well-packed, they arrive at his door. However, they remain alien to him, just like Frank's homosexuality.

Decades later, by chance, the narrator discovers Frank's paintings in a gallery. It is a mystery how they got there - and what a strange attraction they have: The art world celebrates the unknown painter as a genius, and the narrator finally recognizes the fascination that emanates from his friend's works. And what's more, he recognizes himself in the large-format painting of a naked man.

Marcus Bensmann, CORRECTIV

No One Can Say They Didn't Know. The AfD's Outrageous Plans

- SPIEGEL Bestseller



July 2024 · 256 pages

Marcus Bensmann reported for German media from Central Asia, the Caucasus, Afghanistan, Iran, and Iraq for twenty years. Since 2014 he has been doing research for CORRECTIV, among other things as an expert on the New Right.

CORRECTIV is a non-profit media organization founded in 2013 to strengthen democracy.

In this book, Marcus Bensmann brings together the findings of many years of research into the Alternative for Germany (AfD) by the network CORRECTIV. Based on the party's own statements, he reconstructs its plans: from the secret meeting in Potsdam to the planned abolition of fundamental rights.

As an expert on right-wing extremism for the research network CORRECTIV, Marcus Bensmann has attended party conferences, district assemblies, and other meetings of the right-wing scene for years, analyzed the statements and programs of right-wing networks and books by their protagonists, and followed the development of the AfD which started out as an anti-Euro party before its takeover by the radical nationalist wing and the remarkable radicalization of the party leadership.

Drawing on the results of many years of research by CORRECTIV, in this book Bensmann pieces together the plans being pursued by the radical party leadership and its whisperers, and what's in store for Germany if they are actually able to do what they really want: the deportation of millions of people, a turn towards Russia and China and the abolition of universal human rights.

Kat Menschik, Russ Hodge

Masters of Survival. On Freeze-Resistant Fish, Radiation-Resistant Tardigrades, and Self-Healing Amphibians

- A book about the almost unbelievable variety of living creatures and the superpowers of the animal kingdom
- Complete English text available
- Beautifully illustrated by Kat Menschik



October 2024 · 240 pages

Russ Hodge is an author at the Max Delbrück Center for Molecular Medicine in Berlin where he presents what his colleagues have discovered over the course of years of often painstakingly meticulous work to the public clearly and vividly.

Kat Menschik is an illustrator who has always had a weakness for scientific texts that explain things well and for the strangest animals.

There are animals that can survive in ice, change sex, are unaffected by radioactivity, hardly age, or can replace entire limbs. Is there something we can learn from these animal superheroes?

Naked mole rats race through their tunnels like bumper cars that don't have right of way. And yet these apparently reckless hooligans have an impressively sophisticated social structure in which everything is shared. Giraffes have incredibly high blood pressure, but no cardiovascular damage. Nightingales can memorize over 200 songs, and tardigrades would even survive in space.

Russ Hodge writes about muscular female mole fighters, messy bachelor mole fighters, and their non-binary conspecifics. Along the way, he also explains the complex biology of sex and what we can learn from it to fix some of the world's problems. Often the top scientists researching these animals are just as strange as the objects of their study – which is hardly surprising considering that you have to learn the ancient art of catching moles in Spain before you can do this research.

Kat Menschik showcases each of these zoological masters of survival in beautiful illustrations, turning even the futuristic-looking tardigrade into a star.

Sven Regener

Between Depression and Wisecracking. Humor in Literature

Sven Regener

Zwischen
Depression und
Witzelsucht:
Humor
in der Literatur

Galiani Berlin

August 2024 · 96 pages



© Charlotte Goltermann

Ever since Sven Regener began publishing novels, he has been surprised that they are considered witty, funny, humorous, even though they actually tell sad stories about people who don't have it easy in life and for whom failure is always more likely than success.

This is why, in his new book, the author decided to explore the subject of humor. He arrives at astonishing results, examining the nature of art, emotion and humor and how they are connected.

Sven Regener is a musician (*Element of Crime*) and writer. His novels *Herr Lehmann* (2001), *Neue Vahr Süd* (2004), *Der kleine Bruder* (2008), *Magical Mystery oder: Die Rückkehr des Karl Schmidt* (2013), *Wiener Straße* (2017) and *Glitterschnitter* (2021) were all bestsellers. Many have been adapted to film and *Herr Lehmann* was translated into many languages.

Stefan Schomann

On the Nature of Rivers

- Fascinating nature writing about rivers around the world
- Extensive English summary available
- English sample translation by David Dollemayer available soon



October 2024 · 368 pages



© Jürgen Blume

Stefan Schomann, born in Munich in 1962, studied literature and works as a freelance writer. His reportages, portraits, and feature articles appear in leading German newspapers and magazines. He has written numerous books, including one about the Red Cross, two about horses, and three about China. Together with photographer Holger Lorenz, he produced an opulent coffee table book on the American Southwest for *National Geographic Germany*. His latest work *In Search of Wild Horses* (2021) was praised by the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung as “probably the most extraordinary book ever written about horses” and was **translated into Spanish**.

They are lifelines and carriers of secrets, borders and trade routes, reservoirs and places of power. They bring fertility and destruction, awaken both nameless discomfort and debilitating longing. Our fascination with rivers and their stories remains unbroken.

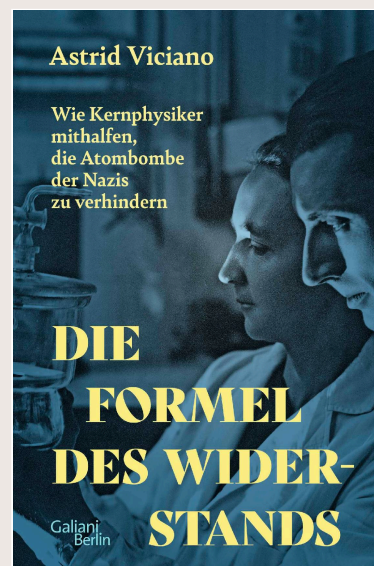
Stefan Schomann has spent years traveling on and along rivers, from mighty currents like the Amazon to tranquil ones like the Hase in Emsland, Northern Germany. He dives into the source of the Sorgue, rafts in the Himalayas, explores the karst caves dug by the Reka, accompanies a sea rescuer in South Africa’s Pondoland and a bird whisperer on China’s Nujiang. He dedicates himself to some of the last primeval landscapes on earth, wanders through mythological realms, and devotes himself to the rivers of paradise as well as those of the underworld.

His stories meander and flow. He tries to plumb the essence of water and probes the world for examples of a contemporary approach to nature. Brimming with curiosity, he lingers with the people who live on the rivers’ shores.

Astrid Viciano

The Formula of Resistance. How Nuclear Physicists Helped Prevent the Nazis' Atomic Bomb

- As riveting as a thriller: How a German physicist helped the French Resistance protect nuclear research from the Nazis
- English sample translation by Alexandra Roesch available



October 2024 · 240 pages

© Ute Hieke



Astrid Viciano has been a science journalist for over twenty years. She has worked as an editor for *stern*, *Die Zeit*, and *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, among other outlets. Her work has won several awards, including the Holtzbrinck Award for Business Journalism. For several years she lived in Sceaux, the suburb of Paris where Marie Curie lived with her family.

Paris, 1940: The French capital is occupied by the Wehrmacht and the Nazis are very much interested in getting their hands on the research of Irène and Frédéric Joliot-Curie for their own uranium project. German physicist Wolfgang Gentner is ordered to the Collège de France to report on their findings and supervise their work. But the Joliot-Curies are long-time friends of his, and the assignment marks the beginning of a covert collaboration.

Shortly before Hitler seized power in 1933, Gentner and Frédéric Joliot-Curie met at the Institut du Radium in Paris. Gentner was doing research on artificial radioactivity together with Marie Curie's daughter Irène and her husband Frédéric – experiments that would earn the Joliot-Curies the Nobel Prize.

In 1940, Gentner returned to Paris for the German uranium project. He was supposed to supervise Joliot-Curie's research and provide the Nazis with important findings for the construction of an atomic bomb. But his French colleague had begun to work undercover for the Resistance, and the laboratory became a center of the movement. Even as he pretended to cooperate with the Nazis, Gentner constantly came up with new pretexts to prevent the Germans from entering the laboratory and to secure the release of French Resistance fighters from the clutches of the Waffen SS – a double game in which Gentner risked everything and saved his friends' lives on more than one occasion.

CONTACT

Rights Director: Iris Brandt · ibrandt@kiwi-verlag.de

Foreign Rights Manager: Aleksandra Erakovic · aerakovic@kiwi-verlag.de

Foreign Rights Manager: Mona Pfletschinger · mpfletschinger@kiwi-verlag.de

Agents

Albania / Bosnia / Bulgaria / Croatia / Czech Republic / North Macedonia / Serbia / Slovakia / Slovenia:
Corto Literary Agency · Ms. Andrea Spužević Golemac · E-Mail: andrea@cortoliterary.com

Brazil: LVB&Co. Agência e Consultoria Literária
Ms. Anna Luiza Cardoso · E-Mail: annaluiza@lvbco.com.br

China / Taiwan: Bardón-Chinese Media Agency
Ms. Yu-Shiuan Chen · E-Mail: yushiuan@bardonchinese.com

France: Stefanie Drews Agency
Ms. Stefanie Drews · E-Mail: stefanie.drews@orange.fr

Greece: Ersilia Literary Agency
Evangelia Avloniti · E-Mail: info@ersilialit.com

Hungary: Balla-Sztojkov Literary Agency
Ms. Rita Tillai · E-Mail: ballalit@ballalit.hu

Italy: Berla & Griffini Rights Agency
Ms. Vanessa Maus · E-Mail: maus@BGagency.it

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Netherlands: Marianne Schönbach Literary Agency
Ms. Marianne Schönbach · E-Mail: m.schonbach@schonbach.nl

North America (English Rights): Cecile B Literary Agency
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Russia / Ukraine: Literaturagentur Maria Schliesser
Ms. Maria Schliesser · E-Mail: schliesser.maria@gmail.com

Scandinavia: Marianne Schönbach Literary Agency
Ms. Marianne Schönbach · E-Mail: m.schonbach@schonbach.nl

Spain / Portugal / Latin America: Agencia Literaria Carmen Balcells
Ms. Anna Bofill · E-Mail: a.bofill@agenciabalcells.com

Turkey: AnatoliaLit
Ms. Amy Spangler · E-Mail: amy@anatolialit.com