

Galiani
Berlin

RIGHTS GUIDE

Fall 2026

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Jacqueline Kornmüller

The Woman in the Cupboard

- A tender, poetic novel exploring chance, hidden lives, and the courage required to love
- **Topics:** loneliness and connection, art and literature, family trauma, hidden memories, the beauty of quiet lives



August 2026 · 192 pages



Jacqueline Kornmüller is an actress, director, and author. She lives and works in Vienna, and her musical theater productions are loved and celebrated by critics and audiences alike. She has published a novella *Das Haus verlassen* (*Leaving the House*, 2024) in collaboration with illustrator Kat Menschik. Her novel *aus 49* (*6 Out of 49*) was published in 2025.

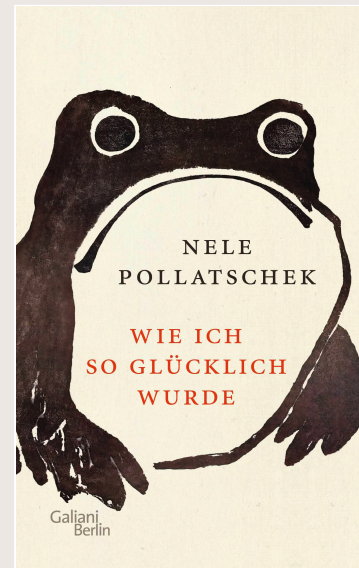
A young actor who barricades himself behind piles of books. A young woman who's had enough of the trials and tribulations of love. In her enchanting, poetic novel, Jacqueline Kornmüller tells the story of two loners, and of chance and destiny.

Unable to find a flat in a new city, a young actor temporarily moves in with a friend. The room is small; there is nothing in it but a sofa. And an old cupboard with a door that sticks. But the young man has brought nothing but books with him anyway. Just as he is stacking them into a tower, the cupboard door suddenly opens with a soft sigh. All sorts of mementos come to light – an old recipe book, a chipped tea set, a blue dress. And on the inside of the door hangs a photograph of a young woman. Her gaze is averted. And yet the young woman and the cupboard seem to want to tell the young man something...

Nele Pollatschek

How I Came to Be So Happy

- A humorous and philosophical essay that treats happiness not as a genetic gift, but as an acquired skill
- By the author of the bestseller *Minor Problems* (over 100,000 copies sold)
- **Topics:** practical life philosophy, the science of happiness, self-care, trauma



November 2026 · 160 pages



© Urban Zintel

Nele Pollatschek was born in East Berlin in 1988. She studied English literature and philosophy in Heidelberg and Cambridge. She writes for *Süddeutsche Zeitung* and was awarded the German Reporter Award in 2022. Her debut novel *Das Unglück Anderer Leute* (*The Misfortune of Other People*, 2016) won the Friedrich-Hölderlin Prize and the Grimmelshausen Prize. Her second novel *Kleine Probleme* (*Minor Problems*, 2023) **sold over 100,000 copies and was translated into Danish, Dutch and Italian.**

The ability to be happy is half inherited. Nele Pollatschek writes for all those who like herself don't have happiness in their genes.

Scientific data proves that nearly half of our baseline capability for happiness is determined entirely by hereditary genetics. Nele Pollatschek did not inherit that happy gene. Yet, one morning, she finds herself genuinely and uncharacteristically happy. Through encounters with scientists and Hindus, psychologists, philosophers, writers and footballers, she explains how that shift came about. She talks about self-care and self-discipline, explains why trigger warnings are nonsense and why trauma is better than its reputation and above all, she explains how to become happy, even if you really aren't cut out for it.

Sven Regener

Frankie and Freddie

- An odyssey through the chaotic, anarchic landscape of 1980 West Berlin
- Sven Regener's novels have sold more than 3 million copies
- Topics: West Berlin nostalgia, the anarchy of the 1980s, the search for a new life



September 2026 · 288 pages



Sven Regener is a musician with the band *Element of Crime* and a bestselling writer. In 2001 he published his first novel *Herr Lehmann* (*Berlin Blues*) which was a major bestseller as were his subsequent novels. **His books have sold more than 3 million copies and have been translated into several languages.**

A warm-hearted novel tracking the misadventures of two brothers on one cold Berlin winter night

It is December 1980, just one day before Christmas Eve, and West Berlin is buried in snow. Frankie Lehmann has spent weeks trying to get in with the squatter scene of Kreuzberg, while his older artist brother, Freddie, plans his escape to New York City. To fund his ticket, Freddie checks into a specialized clinic on the Kurfürstendamm to act as a paid guinea pig for experimental antidepressants. The trial leaves him with a severe phobia of crowds and public transit, causing him to lose an invaluable travel bag containing his life savings. Embarking on a frantic twenty-four-hour journey across a divided city, the brothers navigate broken-down cars, bizarre subcultures, and sudden romances in a poetic celebration of survival and fraternal loyalty.

Alain Claude Sulzer

Change of Scene

- A polyphonic novel about chance, necessity, and the bizarre twists of fate
- Finnish, Slovak and Spanish rights with Galiani/KiWi
- Topics: theater, fame and its transience, familial reconciliation



September 2026 · 256 pages



Alain Claude Sulzer was born in 1953. 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.

Diverse characters gather for the memorial of a once-shining director, each bringing their own grievances, hopes, and secrets.

They are all traveling to the capital for the grand memorial service of Simon Muthesius, a once-glorious theater director and legendary artistic director whose public fame had faded long before his sudden death. Traveling in separate cars, the incoming mourners dissect their relationships with the deceased: Karl, the estranged son trying to find posthumous peace; Beat, the brilliant dramaturg who fell behind; Nathalia, a demanding diva who owes her stardom to him; and Shadgi, an Iranian immigrant whom Muthesius elevated from a cleaning crew to a master make-up artist. As these larger-than-life characters converge upon two separate memorial receptions, a web of old jealousies, secret affairs, and artistic scores to settle comes to light.

“With every work, Alain Claude Sulzer demonstrates his commitment to form and an incomparable feel for language and style.” Jury’s statement for the 2025 Solothurn Literature Prize

Roland Peters, Hannes Vogel

Attack of the Tech Billionaires. How Thiel, Musk & Co. Want to Destroy Our Democracies

- A comprehensive look at the anti-democratic political ideas of tech billionaires
- **Topics:** technological totalitarianism, erosion of democracy, transhumanism



October 2026 · 464 pages

Roland Peters is a seasoned US correspondent for ntv.de who moved to New York City in 2024 to cover the shifts in American politics. **Hannes Vogel** is an investigative reporter for outlets like DIE ZEIT and an award-winning director of documentaries. They are both experts on the intersection of technology and political extremism.

This investigation exposes how an unholy alliance of tech billionaires is working to dismantle democratic values in favor of a radical, technology-driven world order.

Donald Trump is just the tip of the iceberg. Behind the scenes of global politics lies a vast network of US tech titans, including Elon Musk and Peter Thiel, who openly question whether freedom and democracy are compatible. Driven by a volatile mix of unbridled technological faith, science-fiction fantasies of Mars colonization, chip brains, and transhumanism, these elites utilize powerful political intermediaries like JD Vance to secure long-term power.

Peters and Vogel trace how these networks operate worldwide, bypassing traditional notions of human dignity and actively bolstering reactionary forces, populist movements, and far-right parties within the European Union.

Hanns Zischler

Yumiko's Paravent

- What do we do with the unlived life inside us, when we've long been living another?
- **Topics:** art, secret love affairs, Japanese-German heritage, mother-daughter relationship, death and grief



October 2026 · 176 pages



Hanns Zischler, born in 1947, is a celebrated author, fine art photographer, and actor who has worked with directors like Wim Wenders and Steven Spielberg. His historical research work, *Kafka geht ins Kino* (*Kafka Goes to the Movies*) (2017), was **translated into many languages**. In 2026 Zischler starred as Thomas Mann in the film *Vaterland* (*Fatherland*), which premiered at the Cannes Film Festival, alongside Sandra Hüller.

After the death of her mother in Japan, Hanaka discovers a bundle of letters that reveal a secret, decades-long relationship with a Berlin painter.

Hanaka, a German-Japanese archivist living in France, receives news that her estranged mother, Johanna, has passed away in Kobe, Japan. Hanaka travels across the world to close down her mother's high-end fashion studio. Tucked away inside the silk lining of an unfinished linen jacket, she uncovers a bundle of airmail correspondence spanning over twenty years. The letters were sent from a single source: an eccentric painter named Kusmín based in West Berlin during the Cold War. Realizing her mother lived a secret parallel life of profound romantic passion, Hanaka travels to Berlin to track down the painter, assembling a beautiful new picture of her family's past.

CONTACT

Rights Director: 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-Sztojtkov Literary Agency
Ms. Rita Tillai · E-Mail: ballalit@ballalit.hu

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

Japan: Japan Uni Agency
Ms. Miko Yamanouchi · E-Mail: miko.yamanouchi@gmail.com

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

North America (English Rights): Cecile B Literary Agency
Ms. Cecile Barendsma · E-Mail: contact@cblagency.com

Poland: GRAAL Ltd. Literary Agency
Mr. Tomasz Berezinski · E-Mail: tomasz.berezinski@graal.com.pl

Romania: Simona Kessler International Copyright Agency Ltd.
Ms. Simona Kessler · E-Mail: simona@kessler-agency.ro

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