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### C.H.BECK | FICTION



2025 396 pages with 1 family tree Hardcover € 26.00

### • Sample translation available

- The latest novel from this multiple-prizewinning author
- About a fateful night during the last days of the Second World War, whose consequences reach into the present day
- Three generations of women growing up without fathers
- A Jewish child who has to keep taking on new identities in order to survive
- For readers of Julia Franck, Zsuzsa Bank, Nicole Krauss and Siri Hustvedt

#### Rabea Edel

# A Portrait Of My Mother With Ghosts

#### A Novel

#### Press reviews of her previous novels

'Through constantly surprising images, Rabea Edel describes the derailment of feelings. Full of astonishing dialogues and portraits, she has produced a novel about the destructive power of dependency, about the way people harden themselves against happiness.' - Herta Müller, winner of the Nobel Prize for Literature, on 'Das Wasser, in dem wir schlafen'

'There is a kind of comfort in Edel's language, in the restraint with which she writes. A truly enriching work.'
- Daniel Banai, Haaretz

In this book, Rabea Edel tells the moving story of her mother's life and paints a portrait of an entire postwar generation growing up in the shadow of violence and under a veil of silence. This is a novel about the power of love and about people reclaiming their own history through language.

Raisa lives alone with her mother Martha and has always done. She has no memory of her father. Her name is the only thing she got from him – that's for the best, says Martha. But then Raisa starts asking questions. When the neighbour boy Mat disappears, Martha finally starts talking: About her grandmother Dina. About lies that protect and lies that endanger. About the love of her life, and about her greatest loss.

A fateful night during the last days of the Second World War links Martha's family with Jacob, a local Jewish child who always has to disappear behind new identities in order to survive.

This is a novel about family which spans the 1920s, the American occupation in Bremerhaven, a 1980s childhood in the Federal Republic of Germany, and present-day New York. A book that is like a kaleidoscope, focusing mainly on women – and on women's ability to constantly reinvent themselves.

Rabea Edel was born in Bremerhaven in 1982, and lives by the Moselle river and in Berlin. She was an Open Mike Prize winner and has been awarded grants by the Jürgen Ponto Foundation and the Academy of the Arts. Her debut novel, Das Wasser, in dem wir schlafen, was critically acclaimed and won several prizes, including the Kunstpreis Literatur Berlin-Brandenburg and the Nicolas Born Förderpreis. Her second novel, Ein dunkler Moment, was equally well received. In 2021 she published the art book A Second Beating Heart and exhibited her own photography. Her radio play Ihre Geister Sehen (Deutschlandfunk Kultur), featuring the actor Sandra Hüller, won the ARD Radio Play Prize.

#### Annett Gröschner

# **Suspended Loads**

A Novel

Annett Gröschner tells nothing less than the story of an entire life – that of florist and crane operator Hanna Krause. And she goes even further that that – she transforms a life into literature, with the kind of power and poetry only found in writing that is vivid, realist, bursting with life.

Hanna Krause was a florist before life made her a crane operator. She lived through two revolutions, two dictatorships, an uprising, two world wars ending in two defeats, two democracies, and the leadership of the Kaiser and many others; she experienced good times and bad times; she gave birth to six children and was unable to bury two of them, which pained her until the end of her life. Later, long after she had bid goodbye to her florist's shop, she worked as a crane operator in the hall of a state-owned heavy machinery plant in Magdeburg where she had an excellent view of the relationships of the people ten metres below her. She died before she got to the point where she no longer understood the world. Right up until her death, Hanna Krause was a woman who took life as it came. Her only credo: stay decent. Annett Gröschner's 'Suspended Loads' is an outstanding novel about the end of the industrial age and its protagonists in East Germany. It is the story of a century – a story which helps us understand how our mothers and grandmothers came to be the women they were for us. And it is a story of women in production and reproduction, and of a tender little plant in the factory yard called Hope.

Annett Gröschner was born in Magdeburg in 1964 and has lived in Berlin since 1983. Since 1997 she has been working as an interdisciplinary writer, journalist, lecturer and performer. She is best known for her novels *Moskauer Eis* (2000) and *Walpurgistag* (2011). Her bestseller *Drei ostdeutsche Frauen betrinken sich und gründen den idealen Staat*, written with Peggy Mädler and Wenke Seemann, was published by Hanser in 2024.

Annett Gröschner has won numerous prizes, most recently the Großer Kunstpreis Berlin (Fontane Prize), the Klopstock Prize and the Berlin Art Prize, awarded by the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of the Arts.



2025 282 pages Hardcover € 26.00

### • Sample translation available

- From the author of the Spiegel Bestseller Drei Frauen betrinken sich und aründen den idealen Staat
- A multiple-prizewinning author: Großer Kunstpreis Berlin (Fontane Prize), Klopstock Prize, and more
- One of the most important voices of her generation
- Annett Gröschner's Walpurgistag is a powerful masterpiece, a modern picaresque novel in which the hero is one of many; always the one with whom this extraordinary storyteller lights the fire of language.
  - Antje Rávic Strubel
- For readers of Jenny Erpenbeck, Julia Schoch and Robert Seethaler

#### **C.H.BECK | FICTION**



2nd edition 2025 176 pages Hardcover € 24.00

- Full of grief and beauty
- Truth and lies in life and love
- A Swiss homme de lettres and European intellectual - Sandra Kegel, Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung
- A pioneer of otherness Joseph Hanimann, Süddeutsche Zeitung

Adolf Muschg

# **Not My Life**

Stories

Not My Life is a dense, moving story about truth and lies, and about the life and loves of August Mormann. It is perhaps Adolf Muschg's most personal literary text, and his legacy.

August Mormann, eighty years old, an increasingly fragile former grammar school teacher of ancient languages, and the author of passionate essays about Europe, is looking into a burial plot for himself in a Zurich cemetery. His much younger third wife Akiko Kanda, who is from Japan, wants to be buried with him one day. It is a moving proof of love in a complicated marriage. This, and the discovery that the adjoining grave is occupied by his former classmate Robin, who helped August when he was an orphaned boy abandoned by his half-siblings, and to whom he owes his spiritual survival, leads Mormann to re-evaluate his life and the rules by which he has lived it. When he returns from Trieste, where he had been attending a conference on Europe that was overshadowed by Russia's invasion of Ukraine, he finds that his wife has disappeared. Mormann redoubles his efforts to find out more about his former classmate and to learn more about himself. But Robin, and his wife Aki, will only ever appear to him as epiphanies from now on.

Adolf Muschg used to be a Professor of German Language and Literature at the ETH in Zurich and President of the Berlin Academy of the Arts. His large body of work has won numerous prizes, including the Hermann Hesse Prize, the Georg Büchner Prize, the Grimmelshausen Prize and most recently the Swiss *Grand Prix de Littérature*.

#### Achim Zons

# **Of Sheep And Wolves**

#### Thriller

Highly topical, fast-paced and full of acerbic wit, political thriller 'Of Sheep and Wolves' is about the machinery of power surrounding the US election, and its impact on a news desk in Munich.

Never has the *Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung* been in possession of such explosive material: the newspaper has acquired the secret medical records of the former president, which suggest that the man who was once the most powerful individual in the world is suffering from a potentially deadly genetic disorder. This is sensational news, given that Adam Rycart says he intends to stand for re-election. But making an enemy of the former president is not without its dangers. When a journalist, conman and model is murdered, the paper's chief reporter David Jakubowicz finds himself under investigation. For the newspaper, everything is at stake: they have the opportunity to break a sensational story, but the revelations could also plunge them into financial ruin. Publisher Helen Christensen suspects that in pushing to publish the medical records she is fighting a losing battle. But perhaps there is a way of saving the newspaper and stopping Rycart from running again?

Achim Zons studied law, politics, history and philosophy in Heidelberg and Munich. After graduating and doing a doctorate, he stayed on at the university as a lecturer and went on to write for the Süddeutsche Zeitung as an editor for over 30 years. He now works as a screenwriter and lives in Munich.



2025 366 pages Softcover with flaps € 18.90

- A newspaper fights for democracy and press freedom
- Following on from Wer die Hunde weckt and Beim Schrei des Falken, this is the third book in the Jakubowicz series
- A suspenseful literary thriller set against the backdrop of the US election
- For readers of Don Winslow and John LeCarré

### **C.H.BECK | FICTION**



2025 251 page Paperback € 16.00

- Number 1 on the ORF Best Books List August and September 2023
- Sabine Gruber finds a language for the incomprehensible. Deutschlandfunk, Undine Fuchs
- A deeply sad book, which in its literary power and beauty can give a great deal to a great many people. - Deutschlandfunk Kultur Lesart, Joachim Scholl

Sabine Gruber

## The Duration Of Love

A Novel

## For the first time in paperback

One morning, translator Renata Spaziani goes to answer a knock on the door of her flat in Vienna to find a police officer on the doorstep. The news he gives her changes everything: Konrad Grasmann, the love of her life, with whom she has lived with for the past twenty-five years, died in a car park the previous day. He was only in his early sixties.

His family were informed immediately; Renata was not. As she tries to come to terms with the shock of their close partnership coming to such a sudden end, she wishes she could die too, and yet somehow she clings to life. She also has to contend with the fact that Konrad's family do not respect their relationship. Renata and Konrad were not married, and he did not leave a legally binding will. Renata suffers a double loss... Poignant, poetic and wise, angry and funny by turns, this is a story about what it feels like to go on living without your other half.

Sabine Gruber is a freelance writer based in Vienna. She has been awarded numerous prizes and grants for her work, which includes stories, poems, radio plays and stage plays as well as her novels *Aushäusige*, *Die Zumutung* (C.H.Beck, 2003), *Über Nacht* (C.H.Beck, 2007), *Stillbach oder Die Sehnsucht* (C.H.Beck, 2011) and *Daldossi oder Das Leben des Augenblicks* (C.H.Beck, 2016). These prizes include the Anton Wildgans Prize, the Veza Canetti Prize and the Austrian Art Prize for Literature. Sabine Gruber was nominated for the German Book Prize for *Über Nacht* and the Austrian Book Prize for *Daldossi oder Das Leben des Augenblicks*.

Grete Weil

## The Road To The Border

A Novel Edited by Ingvild Richardsen

The Road to the Border is Grete Weil's great novel about everyday life and resistance in the Nazi era. Written while the author was in hiding in Amsterdam in 1944, this moving book deals with a young woman's flight from Germany in 1936 and a great love affair which ends in tragedy.

The 'awkwardness of the beginning' poses a Herculean task for philosophy: how can a truly philosophical realisation be arrived at? How has this problem of the systematic starting point been solved in the history of philosophy? Referring to Hegel, Vieweg draws a logical map of all kinds of philosophical opening moves, in which the intellectual fascination of philosophising becomes tangible.

Weil tells the story of a young Jewish girl from Munich, Monika Merton, whose husband has already been killed in the concentration camp Dachau. Monika is now wanted by the Gestapo herself, so she sets out to cross the border into Austria, covering the last leg of the journey on foot and on skis. She is accompanied by a young acquaintance, the poet Andreas von Cornides, and she tells him her story: scenes from her life in Munich and the turbulent, fast-paced, frenzied Berlin of the early 1930s, her love for her cousin Klaus, her marriage, her travels, the various crises in her life, and her work at an alternative rural school in Bavaria – until Hitler came to power. 'The Road to the Border' is an important work of German literature, impressive and moving, wise and clear-sighted.

Grete Weil (1906-1999) studied German in Munich and then did an apprenticeship as a photographer. In 1935 she followed her husband Edgar Weil into exile in Amsterdam. After the war she lived in West Germany, and her literary work, which won numerous prizes, was devoted mainly to remembering the persecution and annihilation of European Jews.

**Ingvild Richardsen** is a literary and cultural scholar whose research focuses on the women's movements and forgotten women authors of the 19th and 20th centuries, on Jewish heritage, and on the Nazi era. She teaches and researches at the University of Augsburg.



2025 400 pages with 5 illustrations Paperback € 18.00

- Sample translation available
- For the first time in paperback
- An asset to the literature of exile and the Shoah. Albert C. Eibl, Die Presse

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