

**C.H.BECK
FOREIGN
RIGHTS
NEWS**

**S P R I N G
2 0 2 6**

Recent sales fiction

Zora del Buono, *Seinetwegen*

sold to Editions Zoé/France Gelves/Lithuania, Maredulce/Spain,
Koridor/Turkey, BooksXXI/Ukraine

Heimito von Doderer, *Die Strudlhofstiege*

sold to Plon/France

Annett Gröschner, *Schwebende Lasten*

sold to Liliana Levi/France, Cossee/Netherlands,
IS Kultur/Turkey

Hans Pleschinski, *Der Flakon*

sold to Atut/Poland

Norbert Scheuer, *Winterbienen*

sold to Mashtots, Armenia and Goga/Slowenia

Markus Thielemann, *Von Norden rollt ein Donner*

sold to JC Lattes/France

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

we proudly present our latest Foreign Rights Guide and we are very much looking forward to meeting you again in London or Frankfurt to talk about all our new titles!

Your C.H.Beck Foreign Rights Department



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Oliwia Hälterlein **Daughterhood**

- What remains of a family when the last daughter does not want to have children?
- Current discourses: reproductive self-determination, multilingualism, classism
- For readers of Iris Wolff, Emilia Smechoswki, and Sasha Maria Salzmann

368 pages
Hardcover

The stories of women are not forgotten — more often, they are never told at all

When Waleria learns she cannot have children, the news awakens something unexpected in her — even though she never longed for children of her own. What does it mean to be the last in her family's line? What legacy does she owe to the women who came before her? With delicacy and vitality, Oliwia Hälterlein spins the interwoven story of three generations of women. Marianna, the grandmother, born at the end of the Second World War, lived the life of a peasant in the Polish countryside. Her daughter Róża, shaped by the socialist People's Republic of Poland, grew up in the same village but, by chance, discovered Gdańsk and the fervor of the Solidarność revolution. At the end of the 1980s, Róża she leaves Poland for West Germany with her daughter Waleria. Growing up in reunified Germany, Waleria lost her mother tongue — and with it, the language of her babcia (grandmother).

With poetic clarity and narrative finesse, Hälterlein entwines everyday life and memory, body and language, origin and future — illuminating the invisible thread that binds the women of a family across time.

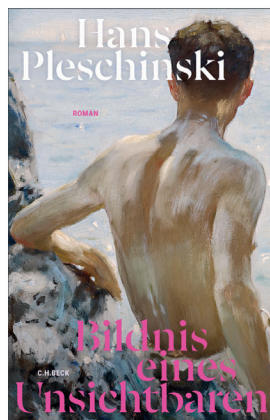
Oliwia Hälterlein born in Bydgoszcz in 1986, studied Slavic studies, comparative literature, cultural studies, and theatre studies in Salzburg, Krakow, and Berlin, and is a graduate of the renowned German Literature Institute in Leipzig (DLL), where she studied creative writing. *DAUGHTERHOOD* (*Wir Töchter*) is her debut novel. Her essay *The Hymen Does Not Exist* (*Das Jungfernhäutchen gibt es nicht*) was published in the

Hans Pleschinski

Portrait of an Invisible Man

- The rediscovery of an epoch-making novel
- About the reality of life for a generation that set out to break bourgeois taboos
- *Pleschinski has written a tragic book about AIDS, but it is far more accurate to say that he has written a wonderful book about love.*
- Wiener Zeitung

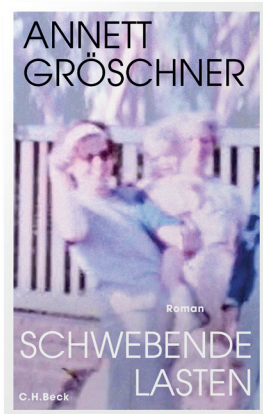
336 pages
Hardcover



A novel about a great love in times of sexual liberation

New Year's Eve 1999 in Paris. The seventies and eighties in Munich. The postwar period in West and East Germany. The art scene and literary world, unwavering love and wild adventures. Against this colorful backdrop, Hans Pleschinski sketches the portrait of his lifelong companion, one of the last bohemians at the close of the 20th century. A Munich gallery owner is found dead in his apartment — by his boyfriend. Their relationship had lasted twenty-three years: of passionate love and artistic exchange, of luxury and poverty, of mourning for those dying all around them, of fear of their own death and of irrepressible joy in life. First published in 2003, it tells of the reality of a generation that set out to break bourgeois taboos, and whose new self-confidence was dealt a murderous blow by AIDS. The elegance and breathlessness of his storytelling won't let go until, at the end of the novel, the spell of the greatest threat is broken. One lays down a book about moments of happiness, catastrophes, and exuberance for life — the confessions of a survivor from an almost vanished world.

Hans Pleschinski, born in 1956, lives as a freelance author in Munich. Among others, he was awarded the Hannelore Greve Literature Prize (2006), the Nicolas Born Prize (2008), Chevalier dans l'ordre des Arts et des Lettres of the Republic of France (2012), 2014 the Literature Prize of the City of Munich and the Lower Rhine Literature Prize and the Literature Prize of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation (2020). He is a member of the Bavarian Academy of Fine Arts.



282 pages
Paperback
first publ. in HC 2025
40.000+ sold

Annett Gröschner **Suspended Loads**

Full of experience and hungry for dreams. There's no better way to describe a person's life.
- Julia Schoch

Even though Hanna may not seem like a heroine at first glance, on closer inspection she certainly is. The story is serious, humorous and down-to-earth.
- rbb

A book of enormous existential power with a heroine you won't soon forget. - WDR TV lesen
With Hanna Krause, Gröschner has created a female character who you feel you have known from the very beginning. Accompanying her on her journey through a difficult life is a rewarding experience. - mdr TV artour

Sold to France/Liana Levi, the Netherlands/Cossee and Turkey/IS Kültür

A novel about the end of the industrial age and its heroines in eastern Germany — and about an ordinary woman in this unfathomable 20th century

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. Later, 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.

Annett Gröschner, born in Magdeburg in 1964, has lived in Berlin as a writer since 1983. She has received numerous awards, most recently the Berlin Grand Art Prize (Fontanepreis), the Klopstock Prize, and the Mainz City Writer Literature Prize from ZDF, 3sat, and the state capital of Mainz.

Jonas Lüscher

Kraft

'In Lüscher's Power (Kraft) lies wit, madness and influence. It is a novel about the present written in the language of another era.'

- Andreas Platthaus, FAZ

'A clever, science-skeptical, contemporary novel (...), which is currently unparalleled in recent German-language contemporary literature.'

- Gerrit Bartels, Deutschlandradio Kultur

'A story about a man and a million dollars that grabs you with both hands and literally sucks you into our hero's existential predicament.'

- Denis Scheck, ARD

Sold to Croatia/Edicije Bozicevic,
Denmark/ Jensen+Dalgaard, **Egypt**/Al Arabia,
France/Autrement, **Hungary**, **Netherlands**/
 Wereldbibliotheek, **Russia**/Aris, **Serbia**/Kosmos,
Spain/Vegueta Ediciones, **USA**/Farrar Straus
 Giroux/Picador paperback



Paperback (first publ. in
 HC 2017)

65.000 copies sold
 237 pages

**Awarded the
 Swiss Book Prize**

Richard Kraft, professor of rhetoric in Tübingen, unhappily married and financially strained, is invited by his professor to Stanford University. In reference to Leibniz's answer to the question of theodicy, Kraft is to justify in an 18 minute lecture why everything that exists is good and why we are nevertheless capable of it. The best answer will be rewarded with one million dollars. Kraft thinks this will be easy, but to his one surprise, this journey turns into a nightmare and we find him standing before the ruins of his life. Comic, furious, and wicked, Jonas Lüscher tells in this novel the story of a power elite ready to break any taboo, unstoppable by anything or anyone.

Jonas Lüscher, born in Switzerland in 1976, lives in Munich. His novella *Barbarian Spring* (*Frühling der Barbaren*, 2013) was longlisted for the German Book Prize, nominated for the Swiss Book Prize in 2017, adapted at various theatres and sold to 19 territories. Lüscher has won the Hans Fallada Prize and the Prix Franz Hessel, among others. In fall 2026, the paperback edition of his novel *Verzauberte Vorbestimmung* (Enchanted Destiny) will be published by C.H.Beck.

Ulrich Woelk

Brighter Days

- 'Woelk narrates in a cautious and reserved way, thereby creating an inimitable emotional tension'.
- Jörg Magenau, Süddeutsche Zeitung
- A social novel that reflects the heated reality of its time
- 'We all observe the present incessantly. But it is perhaps only literature that can capture it in words for half an eternity.'
- Judith von Sternburg, FR, on *Mittsommertage*



317 pages
Hardcover

What remains when everything changes?

When the world changes, we need stories that offer us stability — *Brighter Days* is one of them. Woelk guides his protagonist Ruth through a phase of existential upheaval, narrating with literary elegance about shifting values and the search for closeness. His novel is a compelling portrait of a generation that feels its distance from the present growing ever wider.

Ruth, a professor of philosophy at Humboldt University, lives alone in Berlin-Moabit. Her marriage to Ben belongs to the past, while her fragile yet intimate bond with his daughter endures. Her students seem younger with each passing year, and the widening gap between them unsettles Ruth as much as the divisions in society itself. Then cracks appear in her private life, in what she thought was a secure past: the death of her father confronts Ruth with a family secret that shakes her very identity.

With subtle irony and deep empathy, Woelk sketches the portrait of a woman facing the questions of her time. *Brighter Days* is a wise, moving social novel about generations, identity, and the longing to belong — a literary mirror of our present.

Ulrich Woelk lives as a freelance writer in Berlin. He studied physics and philosophy. His first novel, *Freigang*, was published in 1990. In 2019, he achieved great success with *The Summer of My Mother*, which was longlisted for the German Book Prize and sold to Spain/Maeve. His novel project *For a Life* was awarded the Alfred Döblin Prize.

Kurt Drawert

Dresden

Paperback (first published in HC in 2020)
294 pages

Fifty years after moving away as a child, Kurt Drawert returns to Dresden as city writer — to his mother's city, which is both familiar and foreign to him. In his autobiographical novel, he takes a sharp look at family tensions, personal ruptures, and the wounds of the city. It deals with his difficult relationship with his father and brothers, political tensions in Dresden, and the search for a language for personal and collective history. With sensitivity, wit, and great linguistic power, Drawert tells of longing, conflicts, and memories.

Kurt Drawert, born in 1956 in Hennigsdorf near Berlin, lives as an author of poetry, prose, drama, and essays in Darmstadt, where he also heads the Centre for New Literature. His literary work has received numerous awards, including the Jürgen Ponto Foundation Prize, the Uwe Johnson Prize, the Ingeborg Bachmann Prize, the Lessing Prize of the Free State of Saxony, the Walter Kempowski Prize, and the Italo Svevo Prize.



Markus Gasser

Lil A Novel

'A novelistic triumph, a beautifully crafted story. It is a fantastic book.' - Daniel Kehlmann on his previous book, *'The Conspiracy of the Crows'*

'A biting satire on upper-class patriarchy. Wonderful.' - Peer Teuwsen, NZZ am Sonntag

Paperback (first published in HC 2024)
238 pages

A fearless woman fights back against a society that wants to break her

She is an anomaly in the New York of 1880, and not only among the city's most prominent and wealthy families, the Belmorals and the Vandermeers. For a long time, railway magnate Lillian Cutting (with her loyal husband Chev at her side) has managed to outwit even the most cunning speculators. But she has also made some powerful enemies. Because of this, her son Robert thinks it will be easy, after Chev's death, to get an overzealous psychiatrist to declare Lillian insane and have her locked away in an institution. But Lil fights back against a society that denounces idiosyncrasy as illness.

Fast-paced, funny and bold, Markus Gasser's book shows how a fearless woman takes creative revenge on her supercilious tormenters. 'Lil' is a universal story full of anger and consolation, a story about the pursuit of big bucks, about sly sons and hostile daughters, about the right to determine the course of our own lives, and about the kind of power struggles we still engage in today. It is narrated by Lil's descendant Sarah, who has her own scores to settle with psychiatry's insidious methods.

Markus Gasser is an author, university lecturer and the creator of the popular YouTube channel 'Literatur ist alles'. His novel *Die Verschwörung der Krähen* was published by C.H.Beck in 2022.