

RIGHTS CATALOGUE

FICTION NON-FICTION



LBF
2024

KEIN&ABER

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CONTENT

4 About Kein & Aber

FICTION

- 6 FRANZISKA GÄNSLER – *ISLANDS OF LIGHT*
7 FRANZISKA GÄNSLER – *ETERNAL SUMMER*
8 SIMONE MEIER – *IGNITED*
9 MILENA MOSER – *DREAMING OF FLYING*
10 JULIAN SCHMIDLI – *TIME OF THE SWIFTS*
11 IRINA KILIMNIK – *SUMMER IN ODESSA*
12 MANUEL BUTT – *SEAHORSES IN THE HANDS OF IDIOTS*

NON-FICTION

- 14 OSKAR JENNI (ED.) – *CHILDHOOD, A REASSURANCE*
15 TANJA RAICH (ED.) – *FREEDOM*
16 GABRIEL/SCHEU – *SENTENCES ABOUT SENTENCES*
18 AREŽINA/MÜLLER – *SAME SAME BUT DIFFERENT*
20 VERENA FRIEDERIKE HASEL – *THE STABLE CHILD*
22 GERK/MONI PORT – *TIME OUT*

BACKLIST

- 25 AYELET GUNDAR-GOSHEN – *WHERE THE WOLF LURKS*
26 SVEN PFIZENMAIER – *OUTSIDE THE PEOPLE
ARE CELEBRATING*
27 FABIO LANZ – *THE GUILLOTINE*
28 MAX KÜNG – *UNKNOWN FRIENDS*
29 PIPPO POLLINA – *THE OTHER*
30 ROBERT SEETHALER – *THE TOBACCONIST*
31 TAXIS WÜRGER – *THE CLUB*
32 ANNABELLE HIRSCH – *A HISTORY OF WOMEN IN 100 OBJECTS*
34 URSUS WEHRLI – *USELESS THINGS*
36 URSUS WEHRLI – *TIDYING UP THE WORLD*
38 HEIDENREICH/MÜLLER – *HOME STORIES*
40 LARS REICHARDT – *A FOREVER ROOM*
41 FALLER/VIDALI – *HUNDRED – FRIENDS*
42 KROGERUS/TSCHÄPPELER – *COLLABORATING*

PREVIEW FALL 2024

- 45 KROGERUS/TSCHÄPPELER – *THE RULES BOOK*
46 SVEN PFIZENMAIER – *RATTLER*
47 ANUSKA ROSHANI – *TRU-BOY*



ABOUT KEIN & ABER

Kein & Aber, founded in 1997, is an independent publishing house based in Zurich and Berlin, which covers the whole German speaking market and stands for literary and quirky stories, intelligent entertainment as well as beautifully and lavishly designed books.

Our list includes outstanding contemporary voices and wonderful classic writers alike. More than once we have published exceptional books that have become international bestsellers or were adapted into film and TV series.

FICTION

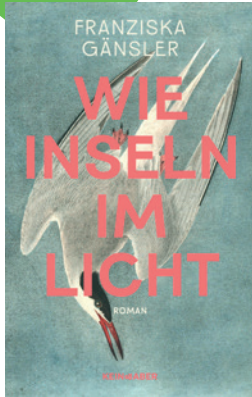


Franziska Gängler

ISLANDS OF LIGHT

A stirring quest through the past
full of grief and love

RECOMMENDED
BY NEW BOOKS
IN GERMAN



WIE INSELN IM LICHT
Kein & Aber, March 2024
208 pages, Hardcover

World rights available
English samples available



© Bahar Kaygusuz

When Zoey's little sister disappears, Zoey is still a child herself. Her memories of that time are fragmented and contradictory. Why didn't anyone search for her sister? And why did her mother act so strange, as if her sister had never even existed? After her mother's death, Zoey travels to the Atlantic coast of France, back to the place where the three of them had lived happily together, before the night that changed everything. Here, Zoey begins to dig deeper. She immerses herself in the long forgotten and memories well up to the surface, slowly rising from the deep ocean of the past, appearing like islands in the light.

Suddenly Zoey is forced to ask questions that she has suppressed, had been forced to suppress, for decades. What really happened back then? Along with Marlène, whom Zoey meets at her hotel, she starts to uncover the secret of Oda's disappearance, while at the same time bidding farewell to her mother, who gradually emerges in a different light.

About the author

Franziska Gängler, born in 1987 in Augsburg, studied art and English in Berlin, Vienna, and Augsburg. In 2020, she made the short list for the Blogbuster Prize and was a finalist in the 28th Open Mike competition. After her highly acclaimed debut, *Eternal Summer*, which was sold to several territories, she is now releasing her second novel *Islands of Light*. Franziska divides her time between Augsburg and Berlin.

Franziska Gängler

ETERNAL SUMMER

A searing debut

RECOMMENDED
BY NEW BOOKS
IN GERMAN



EWIG SOMMER
Kein & Aber, July 2022
208 pages, Hardcover

World rights available
English samples available

sold to

France (Ed. Astrid Franchet)
Spain (Galaxia Gutenberg)
USA (Other Press) (World English)
Filmoption

An intense, enthralling and exciting debut about female solidarity and the question of how we can trust the people we find attractive.

When Iris took over the family hotel from her grandfather, Bad Heim was still a popular spa town. But now relentless forest fires rage in the area, spewing smoke into the air. The summers are dry and hot and never seem to end. Guests have become a rare sight. But suddenly, a young mother turns up with her small daughter and asks for a room. Something doesn't seem right about her. Does she need help? Or even pose a threat? Franziska Gängler's debut conjures up the heat of the fires, ash that falls on the skin and the all-pervading smell of smoke. Yet you will want to stay with these women in this inhospitable place as they draw closer together and prepare to fight for their freedom.

»This book took my breath away! Franziska Gängler tells a thrilling, poetic story about two women who have more in common than they think.«
VERENA KESSLER

»If you want to read a gripping new novel, this is the book for you! It's fascinating how Franziska Gängler keeps up the brooding atmosphere. An explosive story that – literally – burns itself onto your mind.«
MAREIKE FALLWICKL

»Climate fiction, a tender love story and a meditation on whether to stay or go. A daring, profound book.« ARIADNE VON SCHIRACH

Simone Meier

IGNITED

About Johanna van Gogh-Bonger – the woman
who made Vincent van Gogh world famous

A SWISS
BESTSELLER



DIE ENTFLAMMTEN
Kein & Aber, Feb 2024
272 pages, Hardcover

World rights available
English samples available
Translation subsidies
possible

sold to
Netherlands (Meridiaan)



© Ayse Yavas

Art history student Gina, the daughter of an author who has tried unsuccessfully for the past twenty years to write his second novel, is young and pretty, though not very diligent. But then she stumbles across Jo van Gogh-Bonger. Jo was 28 when her husband Theo van Gogh died due to syphilis. Shortly before that, Theo's brother Vincent had shot himself. This tremendous love, which only lasted two years, resulted in one of the most spectacular success stories in the history of art, because Jo – whose marriage left her with nothing but a baby and hundreds of works by the unknown artist Vincent van Gogh – decided to make her deceased brother-in-law world famous. And the young woman succeeded.

Fascinated, Gina follows Jo's trail, reflects on the similarities between her own family history and Jo's, and gradually blends the two into one. Eventually her preoccupation with Jo becomes a passionate and ecstatic novel about love and art.

»Simone Meier writes like an artist painting backwards: layer by layer she reveals the story behind the story – stylish, elegant and also a little bit magical.«
KATJA KULLMANN



Chosen for
Books at Berlinale 2024

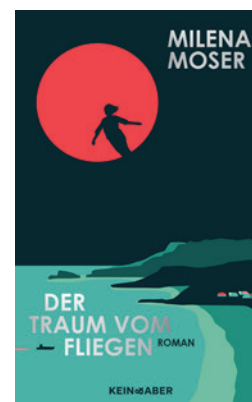
About the author

Born in 1970, Simone Meier is an author and journalist. After completing degrees in German literature, American studies and art history, she worked as a culture editor for *WochenZeitung*, *Tages-Anzeiger*, and since 2014 for *Watson*. She has won an array of prizes and grants. Kein & Aber has published her novels *Fleisch*, *Kuss* and *Reiz*. Simone lives and writes in Zurich.

Milena Moser

DREAMING OF FLYING

About growing up and gaining strength



DER TRAUM VOM FLIEGEN
Kein & Aber, Nov 2023
260 pages, Hardcover

World rights available
English samples available
Translation subsidies
possible



© Barak Shrama

When Sofia is taken by her fathers to the Los Pajaritos private clinic on the northwest coast of the United States, she is not planning on losing weight; after all, she put the weight on for a reason. Sofia wants to avoid losing her grip on reality at all costs, and her excess weight gives her support.

But she hadn't reckoned with the other residents at the clinic. Not with her roommate Emerald, who has decided to befriend Sofia, nor with Zach, who seems so strange at the beginning but ends up being the one who manages to see her for who she is.

Milena Moser's character Sofia, whom we already know from *Land der Söhne* (*Land of Sons*) and *Mehr als ein Leben* (*More than One Life*), is now twenty years old and the protagonist of the story. She finally gets her own book, because, as she herself says: »I have more to say than all of you put together.«

»[An] entertaining and very imaginative novel.«
PETER TWIEHAUS, ZDF MOMA

»With *Der Traum vom Fliegen*, bestselling author Milena Moser presents a coming-of-age novel that tells a very contemporary and touching story about the effects of the pandemic on young people.«
BARBARA GESCHWINDE, WDR5 BOOKS

About the author

Milena Moser, born in Zurich in 1963, is one of Switzerland's most successful writers. In 2015 she emigrated to Santa Fe and now lives in San Francisco.

By the same author

Das schöne Leben der Toten (*The Beautiful Life of the Dead*),
Kein & Aber, March 2018, 176 pages
Das Land der Söhne (*Land of Sons*), Kein & Aber, May 2020, 415 pages
Mehr als ein Leben (*More than one life*), Kein & Aber, Feb 2022, 560 pages

Julian Schmidli

TIME OF THE SWIFTS

An entertaining debut about friendship,
first love and home



ZEIT DER MAUERSEGLER
Kein & Aber, Aug 2023
272 pages, Hardcover

World rights available

Nino and Tschüge are outsiders. Teased by the other kids, they are two unstoppable heroes in their own world, like Bud Spencer and Terence Hill. Double trouble. Until the day they get cow dung thrown at them on the way to school. At least they have each other, but when Leila, the quiet girl from Kosovo, appears in the village, their friendship is shattered.

Fifteen years later, Tschüge asks Nino to accompany him on a bachelor's trip to Kosovo, where Tschüge and Leila's wedding is to take place. For old times' sake. But when they set off in Nino's tiny old Fiat 500 Giardiniera, they realise how different they have become. On a turbulent journey through the Alps, Italy and the Balkans, they explore the value of their friendship and the question of how many secrets it can bear. Like swifts, they are on the move, without pause, always at the limit, until at some point their hearts can no longer keep up. At the end of the journey, the world is still the same, but the two friends have changed forever.

After leading different lives, the two childhood friends find themselves on an adventurous road trip and uncover the secrets they kept from each other. A refreshing and humorous debut about distorted images of masculinity, the meaning of true friendship and the resistant feeling of love.

»Julian Schmidli has written a book that really tells a story. It's great! ...
A delicately portrayed male friendship.« NORA ZUKKER, TAGES-ANZEIGER

About the author

Julian Schmidli, born in 1985, grew up in Lucerne, is an award-winning investigative journalist and filmmaker. His debut novel is based on his own experiences and travels over the last ten years. He lives in Zurich.



© Anne Morgenstern

Irina Kilimnik

SUMMER IN ODESSA

A remarkable novel about love, betrayal, and a Ukrainian summer
in which the first major cracks become visible

RECOMMENDED
BY NEW BOOKS
IN GERMAN



SOMMER IN ODESSA
Kein & Aber, Feb 2023
288 pages, Hardcover

World rights available
English samples available

»The city passes us by, with its problems and hardships, with its beautiful façades that hide fear and insecurity, and with the people who both love and betray their neighbours.«

Irina Kilimnik's entertaining and emotive debut is about an unforgettable family and a city on the cusp of a new era.

Sometimes you only notice that the sky has long since darkened when you hear the rumble of thunder.

Together with her mother, her two aunts and three cousins, Olga lives in an all-female household, with the exception of her grandfather, who rules over everyone like a bad-tempered king. It's because of him that Olga has to study medicine – his instruction to her as the last-born girl. She manages to get through boring everyday life at uni only with the help of her Indian fellow student Radj and her best friend Mascha, who bring variety into her life. Things change when David, an old friend of her grandfather, shows up, carrying a long-kept secret. Olga soon suspects that it will turn her life completely upside down as soon as it comes to light. Will Olga get the opportunity to break out of her rigid structure? It's the summer of 2014, heat lies over the city, and carefree Odessa is facing a turning point.

»The wonderful thing about this novel by Irina Kilimnik is that it could be set only in Odessa and at the same time in any family in the world.« NDR KULTUR

About the author

Irina Kilimnik was born in Odessa (Ukraine) in 1978 and came to Germany at the age of fifteen, where she later studied medicine and media publishing. She is the author of numerous essays, book reviews and short stories, was a participant in the 18th Klagenfurt Literature Course and won two prizes at the MDR Literature Competition. She lives in Berlin.



© Simone Hawlisch

Manuel Butt

SEAHORSES IN THE HANDS OF IDIOTS

A wild ride through the summer of 1996



ZIERFISCHE IN HÄNDEN
VON IDIOTEN
Kein & Aber, March 2023
384 pages, Hardcover

World rights available



© Igor Hartmann

Climb aboard and travel through Europe in the summer of 1996 with Tobi and his friends. Between empty Aquarius cans and packs of vanilla vla, a mix of Macarena, Brit Pop and the ringing of the Nokia Communicator in your ears, you too will realise: Freedom lies beyond the limits you set for yourself.

Summer '96: Take That have split up, the world is dancing the Macarena, and Germany's national football coach Berti Vogts is fighting for professional survival at the European Championships. There are also problems in the Schleswig-Holstein province: Tobi's parents are going on a two-week holiday. Fourteen days in which Tobi wants to sleep with Lisa for the first time, his driving test is going to take place and he is supposed to take care of his father's seahorses. None of it will work out: Lisa breaks up with him, her best friend Georg is annoying, and Tobi's uncontrollable friend Scholzen moves in with him.

When Georg receives a message from his mother in London, who everyone thought was dead, the four of them decide to hijack their driving school car and travel from the Baltic Sea via the Netherlands to England. Without money, without a plan, but with seahorses in the boot.

»A hilarious novel from comedy writer Manuel Butt.« DONNA

»Really funny and worth reading!« RBB RADIOEINS

About the author

Manuel Butt has been writing comedy for television for over twenty years. He wrote scripts for the series *Pastewka*, has been a writer for the *heute* show for ten years and won the German Comedy Award in 2018 as head writer of the satire show *Mann, Sieber!* Most recently he wrote for *LOL – Last One Laughing*. Manuel Butt lives in Berlin.

NON-FICTION

KEIN&ABER

Oskar Jenni (ed.)

CHILDHOOD A REASSURANCE

What Do We Really Know About Childhood Today?



KINDHEIT
Kein & Aber, May 2024
256 pages, Softcover

World rights available

Factual, Non-Ideological, Objective – A Fundamental Assessment

Childhood is a subject of controversial discussion in our society: The prevailing notion that children should be nurtured as early as possible in order to be competitive later on in life often overshadows their inherent differences and abilities. Children who do not smoothly conform are quickly pathologised, and it seems as if childhood is increasingly characterised by risk, illness, and dysfunction.

Parents feel pressured to be perfect, striving to make their children as successful as possible. The challenge manifests on multiple levels, from navigating digital media to providing optimal support, and the right balance between freedom and control for a child.

This book presents current developments and their underlying causes. The goal is to contribute to a more relaxed approach to parenting and to temper the ongoing debate that oscillates between romanticising and perfecting childhood.

Featuring 8 chapters on the central childhood themes: Happy Children, Good Parents, Digitised Society, School and Appropriate Education – authored by an interdisciplinary scientific team from the Think Tank of the Zurich Academy, established in 2018.

The 11 contributors work in the fields of anthropology, developmental psychology and paediatrics, educational science, ethics and philosophy, political science, psychology, communication science, and economics.

Tanja Raich (ed.)

FREEDOM

The Anthology on a Contested Right



FREI SEIN
Kein & Aber, March 2024
240 pages, Hardcover

World rights available

We all want to be free! It is fortunate that freedom is enshrined in the constitution. However, we often mean very different things by it. The same word is fervently shouted by different voices: representatives of all parties, demonstrators of every persuasion, and many people with very different goals.

But do we actually have the »freedom to be free« (Hannah Arendt)? What does freedom truly mean for the individual? And what conclusions can be drawn for society? Twenty authors embark on a search for traces in their own lives, providing enlightening and surprising insights into central aspects such as consumption, body, populism, work, class, literature, and love.

It sounds paradoxical: Freedom, of all things, is a contested concept. It is the smallest common denominator of our society, but also the origin of the greatest conflicts. What does it really mean? And to what extent do we feel much less free than we should? Freedom offers twenty new perspectives on the sun in the planetary system of our values.

»The compilation is a multifaceted choir where every note hits the mark.«
BUCHKULTUR about *Paradise is Female*



© Minitta Kandelbauer

About the editor

Tanja Raich was born in 1986 in Merano (Italy) and lives in Vienna. She works as an editor, author, and program director for children's books and literature. Her recent novels include *Jesolo* and *Heavier Than Light*, as well as the anthology *Paradise Is Female*.

Markus Gabriel · René Scheu

SENTENCES ABOUT SENTENCES

ABC of quick thinking



SÄTZE ÜBER SÄTZE
Kein & Aber, Aug 2023
160 pages, Hardcover

World rights available
English samples available

A guide through our hyper-complex present day world.

D like Daily

Daily life is the desperate, repeated attempt to escape metaphysics and politics.

L like Love

Those who love are ready to give up their own freedom for the sake of someone else's freedom.

Z like Zeitgeist

Zeitgeist is the constellation of errors that are currently believed to be true.

We live in an age of hyper-complexity. It sounds more complicated than it is. The basic idea is simple: complex is not just complicated, so not just hard to fathom because it is so obscure or multi-faceted, but actually impossible to understand, predict or control. In a hyper-complex world, feedback and unintended side effects shape our lives in an endless loop. Progress seems impossible, we are stuck in a crisis, from which some consider the only way out to be the end of the world, humanity or even life itself.

This book offers the mental tools to react to the apocalyptic undertone with focused awareness and serenity. It circles the big issues of our time – and the small ones that pack a punch.

Three alphabets with simple sentences that are the opposite of opinions – a brilliant instruction manual to cope with the modern world. The first ABC is dedicated to philosophical thinking, the second to Zeitgeist, and the third to daily life.

»A philosophical handbook to get a better grip on the problems of everyday life.« MARKUS BRÜGGE, WDR5 SCALA

»The book is a jewel box of 78 thought-provoking crystals.«
WOLFGANG PICHLER, GENERAL-ANZEIGER



© Jana Dehnen

About the authors

Markus Gabriel, born in 1980, is a philosopher, author and founder of New Realism. He was the youngest German professor of philosophy and has been a professor at the University of Bonn since 2009. He has been Academic Director at The New Institute in Hamburg since 2022. He became a bestselling author with *Warum es die Welt nicht gibt* (Why the World does not exist), which was published in 2013. His most recent publication was *Der Mensch als Tier: Warum wir trotzdem nicht in die Natur passen* (Humans as Animals: Why We Still Don't Fit into Nature).



© Andy Gawlowski

René Scheu, born in 1974, is a journalist, philosopher, translator and Managing Director of IWP. He headed the feature section of the *Neue Zürcher Zeitung* from 2016 to 2021. Before that, he was editor-in-chief and publisher of the magazine *Schweizer Monat*.

Andrea Arežina · Salome Müller

SAME SAME BUT DIFFERENT

Young women talk about growing up



GENAUSO, NUR ANDERS
with Illustrations by
Fanny Roshani
Kein & Aber, Sept 2023
192 pages, Softcover

World rights available

English sample available

»When I understood that periods are part of being a woman, I thought: I want that too.« LIV, 17 years old

»When I close my eyes, I see myself in a different body, the body of a man.« YURI, 18 years old

What does growing up in the current time mean for young women? This is the question that Salome Müller and Andrea Arežina asked themselves when they thought back to their own youth. Back to insecurity, shame, the pressure to be thin, the closeness and competition among best friends, the worry of being excluded and not belonging, the feeling of helplessness when men stared at them and followed them home, and the feeling of fear.

How is it for young women today? They have grown up with social media, have heard of #MeToo, and have experienced feminism as a new power. LGBTQIA+ is a familiar term.

Do they feel more self-determined and free? Has being a woman become easier?

Young women talk about themselves – about falling in love and sex, about peer pressure and bullying, about relationships and their first high.

»The book *Genauso, nur anders* gives insights into the lives of young women. Like a big sister it tells them: You are not alone, it's okay how you feel and what you think. Andrea Arežina and Salome Müller were touched when many of the young women they interviewed replied at the end of the interview: »Thank you for listening to me.« CH MEDIA

»The two journalists Salome Müller and Andrea Arežina have explored how girls are growing into a new force in times of social media, #MeToo and feminism.« NZZ-BELLEVUE



© Dominique Meienberg



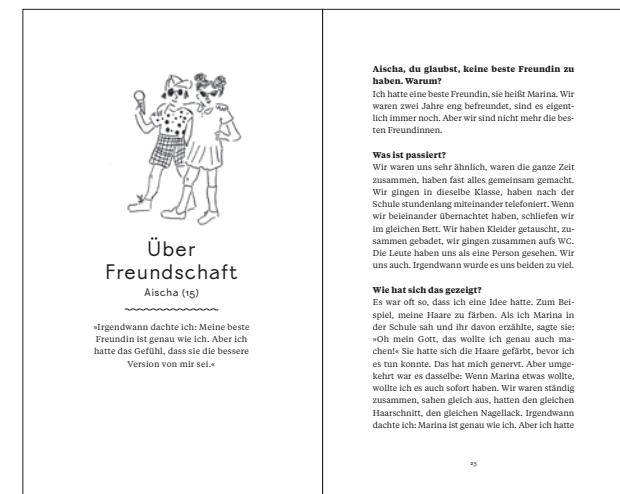
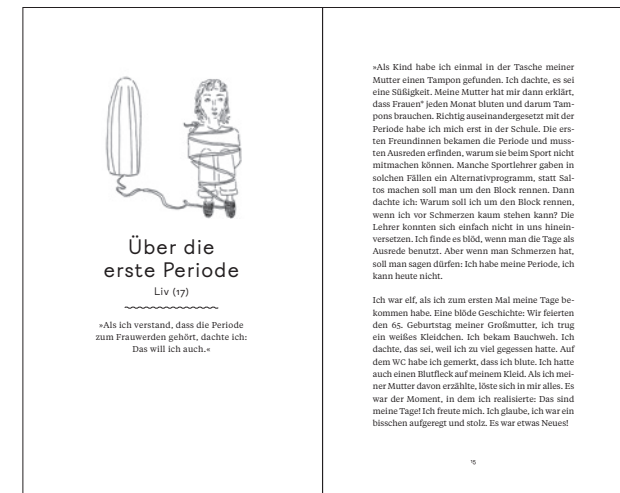
© Dominique Meienberg

About the authors

Andrea Arežina, born in 1984 in Zurich, spent her early years in the former Yugoslavia. In Switzerland, she later worked as a kindergarten teacher, and then as a campaign manager, until she switched to journalism. She is now studying literary writing at the Swiss Literature Institute in Biel and writes for print and online media.

Salome Müller, born in Glarus in 1987, studied German literature in Fribourg and Zurich and published her first book *Love Pa, Briefe an meinen Vater* (*Love Pa, Letters to My Father*) in 2018. She lives in Zurich and works at the Swiss office of *DIE ZEIT*.

Excerpts from the book



Verena Friederike Hasel

THE STABLE CHILD

Learning for tomorrow's world



DAS KRISENFESTE KIND
Kein & Aber, Sept 2023
176 pages, Softcover

World rights available

English sample available

Today's schools decide what our world will look like tomorrow and whether our children will be well-equipped to get through difficult times. Artificial intelligence will take over more and more tasks, many jobs will disappear, and new ones will be created.

Verena Friederike Hasel addresses the issue of what and how children should be educated in the 21st century. She travels to places in Finland and Germany, where the future has already begun. She explains the psychological foundations of new learning methods, dispels common misconceptions and presents a very specific picture of how teachers, mothers and fathers can best promote and encourage skills such as self-regulation, personal responsibility, creativity, a sense of community and communication.

A personal and political, theoretical and practical book on a subject that concerns everyone who cares about children.

What do teachers and parents need to do so that children are motivated to perform, but also learn about critical thinking, develop emotional intelligence and find their place in the world?

We cannot prepare children for the world of tomorrow with yesterday's methods.

Education for the 21st century – what we can learn from the best like Finland

»Children need motivated teachers who are well educated. In her new book *Das krisenfeste Kind: Lernen für die Welt von morgen*, author Verena Friederike Hasel explains why this is the key to children learning to succeed in life.« KARSTEN UMLAUF, SWR 2 KULTUR AM MORGEN

»An absolutely recommended and timely read – not only for parents and teachers!« LAND & FORST

»A passionate plea for a bold transformation.« N-TV.DE



© Christine Rogge

About the author

Verena Friederike Hasel, born in Berlin in 1978, is a psychologist, screenwriter and journalist. She was nominated for the Theodor Wolff Prize and received the German Reporter Prize in 2018. She is the author of five previous books, including *Der tanzende Direktor* (*The Dancing Principal*), narrative non-fiction, in 2019. She was the co-initiator of the #wirfürschule hackathon 2021. She lives in Germany and New Zealand with her husband and three daughters.

Andrea Gerk · Moni Port

TIME OUT

Little bursts of happiness



PAUSE!
Kein & Aber, Oct 2023
192 pages, Hardcover

World rights available

The joy of time outs

By the successful team of *Fünfzig Dinge, die erst ab fünfzig richtig Spaß machen* (Fifty Things That Bring True Joy Only after Fifty)

It seems like nothing, but in reality, it can be everything.

Time out is much more than the insignificant in-between, it is what actually gives things purpose, rhythm, structure, space, and meaning. Time out is often the very condition for the real thing.

It passes by unnoticed like a delicate cloud in the sky – the brief time out between two intense work phases, between the third and fourth acts of an opera or the fifth and sixth period at school, in parliament's summer recess, or in television and football fixtures: it seems like an insignificant in-between, an expedient gap in the busy daily routine, as fleeting as a whim and sometimes hard to bear, because what matters is what happens before and after, isn't it?

Time out does not deserve the lack of attention and love that it gets. In truth, it is a veritable miracle worker, a cornucopia that gives meaning and significance to every piece of music and to our existence.

»A tribute to the best time of the day... a very enjoyable read and a great gift.«
BLOGZINE IMMERSCHICK

»Andrea Gerk once again researched and wrote a fabulous gift book about something we all desire: a time out!« BÜCHERMAGAZIN

time out



© Wassilios Nikitakis



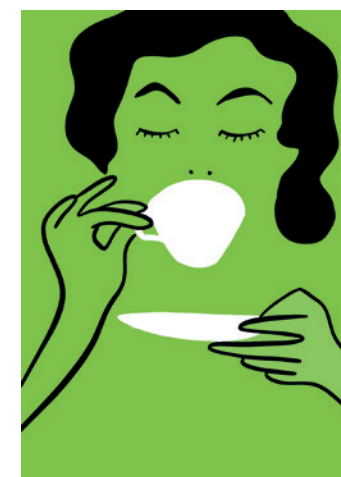
© Privat

About the author

Andrea Gerk, born in 1967, works as a writer and presenter for public radio stations. Previous titles include: *Lesen als Medizin* (Reading as Medicine, 2015) and *Lob der schlechten Laune* (Praise of the Bad Mood, 2017). Together with Moni Port, she also wrote: *Fünfzig Dinge, die erst ab fünfzig richtig Spaß machen* (Fifty Things That Bring True Joy Only after Fifty, 2019) and *Ich bin da mal raus* (I'm Out of Here, 2021). She lives in Berlin with her family.

Moni Port, born in 1968, illustrator, graphic designer and author, was part of the Frankfurter Labor Ateliergemeinschaft for 20 years. She now has her own studio (studio soundso) in the north of Frankfurt. She has illustrated and written numerous books, including *Das mutige Buch* (The Brave Book) and *Sie müssen den Schmerz wegatmen* (You Need to Breathe Away the Pain, together with her husband, the illustrator Philip Waechter). She also illustrated two Andrea Gerk books: *Fünfzig Dinge, die erst ab fünfzig richtig Spaß machen* (Fifty Things That Bring True Joy Only after Fifty) and *Ich bin da mal raus* (I'm Out of Here).

Excerpts from the book



BACKLIST

Ayelet Gundar-Goshen

WHERE THE WOLF LURKS

Our kids are the biggest mystery

AN
INTERNATIONAL
BESTSELLER



WO DER WOLF LAUERT
Kein & Aber, July 2021
352 pages, Hardcover

Original Hebrew title
Relocation
Published in Israel by
Achuzat Bayit

World rights available
Translation subsidies
possible
English manuscript available

sold to
Brazil (Todavia)
Czech Republic (Garamond)
France (Presses de la Cité)
Italy (Neri Pozza)
Netherlands (Cossee)
Portugal (Elsinore)
Russia (Sindbad)
Slovakia (Artforum)
UK (Pushkin)
USA (Little Brown)

Lilac Schuster lives the American dream: A house with a pool in the heart of Silicon Valley, a husband who is a CEO of an Israeli-US start-up, and a son whom she dearly loves. But then, Jamal Jones, a classmate of Adam's, collapses and dies at a party. It is only later that Lilac learns that Jamal had been bullying her son. Lilac's concern about her son turns into a disturbing uneasiness: Maybe Jamal's death wasn't an accident after all? Lilac sets off on a detective trail after her own son. Her journey leads her to Annabella Jones, Jamal's mother. The encounter between these very different women is a source of resentment, but also of compassion and grace. As the tension between them surges, the two mothers are looking for truth and forgiveness.

A novel of psychological ingenuity about how the people we think we know best often remain the biggest mystery to us – our children.

»Where the Wolf Lurks is a daring novel that is asking us not just what we know about our own children but what we are willing to discover about ourselves.« DROR MISHANI

»Where the Wolf Lurks is not a thriller. But it's extremely thrilling. Human beings are thrilling when Ayelet Gundar-Goshen is the one writing about them.« ESHKOL NEVO

»Gundar-Goshen is adept at instilling emotional depth.« NEW YORK TIMES

Sven Pfizenmaier

OUTSIDE THE PEOPLE ARE CELEBRATING

This novel will delight your imagination

WINNER
»ASPEKTE«-
LITERATURPREIS



DRAUßEN FEIERN DIE LEUTE

Kein & Aber, March 2022
336 pages, Hardcover

World rights available
English samples available
Filmoption sold to
Schiwago Film



© Svenja Trierscheid

An exuberant, bold and strident debut about living in the back country and being different in an environment that has no place for outsiders. And about an owl that peddles drugs.

A normal village in Lower Saxony: a traffic circle in the middle, the city bank next to it, and the annual Onion Festival in September. But not everyone here fits into the staid structure of village life. Timo, Valerie, and Richard have been outsiders since birth. As gradually more and more young people begin disappearing across the country, the three friends realize they might not be alone in their desire to run off and break free. Together they set off in search of the missing, but what they find is something they never could have expected.

»Sven Pfizenmaier is a magician and a world wanderer. His subtle, hypnotic, yet incredibly funny novel seems to speak directly to the subconscious.«
ALINA BRONSKY

»The author is like that ominous and charismatic person at a party, who spins story after story full of gossip, and you keep listening to him, even after the beer in your hand has gone stale.« PHILIPP WINKLER

About the author

Sven Pfizenmaier, born in Celle in 1991, studied German and English philology in Berlin. He was an open mike candidate in 2018 and received a scholarship from Literaturwerkstatt Graz. His debut *Outside the People are Celebrating* was nominated for the lit.COLOGNE 2022 debut prize. Sven Pfizenmaier lives in Berlin.

Fabio Lanz

THE GUILLOTINE

Sarah Conti's Second Case



DAS FALLBEIL. SARAH CONTI'S ZWEITER FALL
Kein & Aber, Jan 2023
368 pages, Hardcover

World rights available



© Dominique Meienberg

Zurich's *Kunsthaus* museum just won't settle down.

Sarah Conti's second case leads the investigator into the dark depths of Zurich's art scene. After the opening of an exhibition on the art of North Korean dissidents, the body of a woman is discovered in the new Chipperfield building of the Zurich *Kunsthaus*.

The murder weapon: a provocative work of art.

The murder victim: a sharp-tongued cultural journalist who made more enemies than friends with her work.

The crime: an almost artistically staged execution.

The deeper Sarah Conti delves into the labyrinth of possible perpetrators, the more confusing the clues become. In her search for the murderer, the inspector is drawn into a world in which money and silence form an unholy alliance.

About the author

Fabio Lanz, born in Zurich, had a career in various fields before he discovered writing. He lives in Zurich and in Provence.

By the same author

Ein kaltes Herz. Sarah Contis erster Fall (A Cold Heart. Sarah Conti's First Case), Kein & Aber, Oct 2021, 336 pages

Max Küng

UNKNOWN FRIENDS

A SWISS
BESTSELLER

FREMDE FREUNDE
Kein & Aber, May 2021
432 pages, Hardcover

World rights available

Filmoption sold to
Catpics



© Maurice Haas

Three families, nine people, together on vacation in France. The goal: to turn strangers into friends. But is it really that simple? With plenty of charm, wit and a keen eye, Max Küng writes about the smooth exterior of an imposed kindred spirit and stares deep into the abyss of what first appear to be fine cracks.

On the one hand, the invitation sounds perfect. Six days in a holiday cottage in France. A break from everyday routine, rounded off by apple-picking in the orchard, and homemade apple juice to take back home. On the other hand, the parents of Laurent, Quentin and Denis only know each other from parents' evenings. No wonder that behind the façade of this perfect holiday idyll, emotions quickly begin to seethe. Might the hosts Jean and Jacqueline have ulterior motives with their invitation? What about the strangely chilly mood between Bernhard and his wife, Veronika? Is Filipp as good a partner to his girlfriend Salome as his attractive appearance suggests? And what's with all the weird goings-on that even the perfectionist Jean can no longer ignore?

»Highly entertaining« BUCHMARKT

»A read as light as air, like fresh baguette.« MYSELF

About the author

Max Küng, born in 1969 in Maisprach near Basel, has been a reporter and columnist at the *Tages-Anzeiger* magazine since 1999. He has also been a DJ, amateur racing cyclist and theatre musician. Most recent publications are his column collection *Die Rettung der Dinge* (*Saving Things*) and his novel *Wenn du dein Haus verlässt, beginnt das Unglück* (*When You Leave the House, the Bad Luck Begins*). Max Küng lives in Zurich.

Pippo Pollina

THE OTHER

How a secret changes two lives forever



DER ANDERE
Original Italian title: *L'altro*
Kein & Aber, Oct 2022
480 pages, Hardcover

World rights available
Italian manuscript available
Translation subsidies
possible



© Lena Semmelroggen

A profound novel about family, identity and dislocation that depicts how organized crime has been able to take hold of the very core of society and how much courage is needed to take a stand against it.

Leonardo Conigliaro, called Nanà by family and friends, is a practicing physician in Camporeale, a Sicilian village, where the Honoured Society has always been a powerful force. Frank Fischer, raised in Wolfsburg by a single mother, is a rising star in German journalism and renowned for his investigative research methods. Both men are born in the late 1950s, but seemingly have nothing else in common, until Nanà discloses a well-kept secret and is confronted with an old family debt. In reunited Germany, Frank and Nanà inevitably cross paths, and the ensuing decision changes both men's lives forever.

»Pollina, who is a singer and involved in the anti-mafia movement, knows what he's writing about.« DER STANDARD

sold to

France (Radici)
Italy (Squilibri)

About the author

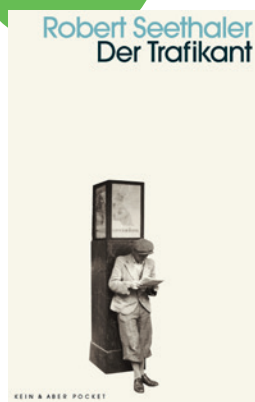
Pippo Pollina, born in 1963 in Palermo, visited a conservatoire and studied law. Early on, he engaged himself in the Anti-Mafia Movement and worked for the magazine *I Siciliani*, which was founded by Giuseppe Fava. After Fava was murdered by the Mafia, Pollina left Sicily in 1985, and traveled the world as a street musician. Pollina, who is a long-time resident of Zurich, has earned numerous awards for his musical work, has recorded several albums and has performed on many big stages. *The Other* is his first novel.

www.pippopollina.com

Robert Seethaler

THE TOBACCONIST

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DER TRAFIKANT
Kein & Aber, Aug 2012
256 pages

World rights available

A young tobacconist is trying to win the heart of his love with the help of Sigmund Freud: 17-year-old Franz Huchel leaves his home village in 1937 to seek his fortune in Vienna: his unusual friendship with Sigmund Freud, his love for the music-hall dancer Anezka and the intensifying political and social situation force him to see life through completely new eyes. A story, both hilarious and tragic.

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English worldwide (Anansi)
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Sweden (Thoren och Lindskog)
Serbia (Booka)
Spain (Salamandra)
Turkey (Jaguar Kitap)



© Sinissey Photography

About the author

Robert Seethaler, born in Vienna in 1966, was awarded the Buddenbrookhaus Debut Prize in 2007 for his novel *Die Biene und der Kurt*. He has received numerous grants, including the Alfred Döblin Fellowship of the Academy of Arts. In 2008, his second novel *Die weiteren Aussichten* (*The Further Prospects*) was published. *Jetzt wirds ernst* (*It's Getting Serious*) was published in 2010, followed in 2012 by the bestseller *The Tobacconist*, which was made into a movie 2018 with Bruno Ganz in the leading role. Robert Seethaler lives and writes in Vienna and Berlin.

TAKIS WÜRGER

THE CLUB

MORE THAN
120'000
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DER CLUB
Kein & Aber, Feb 2017
240 pages

World rights available

An original and catching combination of a touching love story, mystery and coming-of-age that shows that the evil in men is often found where least expected: in the academic clubs of the upper class, a polished surface with wicked power structures underneath.

sold to

Czech Republic (Host)
France (Slatkine)
Italy (Roberto Keller)
Korea (Taurus Books)
Russia (Ripol)
USA (Grove/Atlantic)



© Sven Döring

About the author

Takis Würger, born in 1985, was a reporter for the news magazine *Der Spiegel* and reported from Afghanistan, Libya and Iraq. His reportages won him numerous awards, including the German Reporter Award and the CNN Journalist Award. At the age of 28, he quit his job as a reporter and went to England to study the history of ideas at Cambridge University, where he was boxing for Cambridge University Amateur Boxing Club and became a member of various student clubs.

Annabelle Hirsch

A HISTORY OF WOMEN IN 100 OBJECTS

A walk through female history



DIE DINGE. EINE
GESCHICHTE
DER FRAUEN IN 100
OBJEKTEN
Kein & Aber
Sept 2022
416 pages, Hardcover

World rights available
English samples available

sold to
France (Les Arènes)
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Italy (Garzanti)
Poland (TERYTORIA)
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Taiwan (Rye Field Pub.)
UK World English (Canongate)
USA (Crown)
Filmoption rights sold

Audio book featuring
100 notable women.

What do handprints on early cave paintings tell us about the role of women in hunting? What does a mobile phone have to do with femicides? Or Kim Kardashian's diamond ring with Elena Ferrante?

There are countless ways to tell the history of women, and this book does it through objects. Hirsch takes a hundred everyday objects both subtle and bold from the areas of fashion, medicine and art that testify to women's desire for freedom and their rebellious acts. But they also represent the myths and norms that have long been used to reduce their power. Annabelle Hirsch creates a cosmos of women and their belongings. We encounter an ancient Amazonian doll, a Lilith amulet, the nun's crown of Hildegard von Bingen, Venetian stilts, a bidet, a hunger strike medal, a plate belonging to Vanessa Bell, an American slave's cotton bag, Hannah Arendt's brooch, a »100 km/h coat«, a Tupperware box and much more.

»Such a satisfying and educational insight into the minds and activities of our united ancestors and a reminder, lest we forget, that women are and have always been, whether quietly or vociferously, on the periphery or centre stage, the engine, the glue, the inspiration behind it all.« GILLIAN ANDERSON

»I adored this book! Our history and our power are not just ideas, but play out in the ways we interact with the physical world. Hirsch's intimate observational gifts turn that world into a rousing, living record of all that we have wrestled with.« OLIVIA COLMAN

»A fantastic cabinet of curiosities that rethinks the role of women in history. Educational, funny – a joy!« LEILA SLIMANI

»I love this book. Annabelle Hirsch tells a new feminist history of the world in a stirring, provocative and carefully researched way.« LAUREN ELKIN



© Tanja Kernweiss

About the author

Annabelle Hirsch, born in 1986, has German and French roots. She studied art history, dramatics and philosophy in Munich and Paris, and worked as a freelance journalist for FAS and FAZ, Zeit Online, and several other magazines. She writes short stories and translates French literature. She lives in Paris, Rome, and Berlin.

Excerpts from the book



Ursus Wehrli

USELESS THINGS

A catalogue of things that nobody needs and yet nobody wants



Ursus Wehrli
UNNÜTZE DINGE
Ein Katalog von Sachen,
die niemand braucht und
trotzdem keiner will
Kein & Aber, March 2023
96 pages, Hardcover

World rights available
English samples available



© Dylan Wiedler

»My report would state: Mr Wehrli has an above-average interest in unnecessary things. I am particularly interested in things that have no purpose. I am always searching for the meaning in nonsense, trying to change the perspective or to question the circumstances. Or perhaps simply to defy rationality, efficiency and expedience. I have been surviving on that for quite a long time. And I thrive on it.«

I am sure you have never thought about why you don't have a table with a dent in it, a puddle for your living room or a shallow bathtub.

Here comes that book that you have managed to get by fine without: a book with a catalogue of things that you don't have and don't need.

»You often don't realise you are lacking something until you don't need it.«
FROM KAZAKHSTAN

»If you don't like this book, then maybe you won't like another one either.«
AMAZON.COM

»Nobody was waiting for this catalogue – now it is here!« THE PUBLISHER

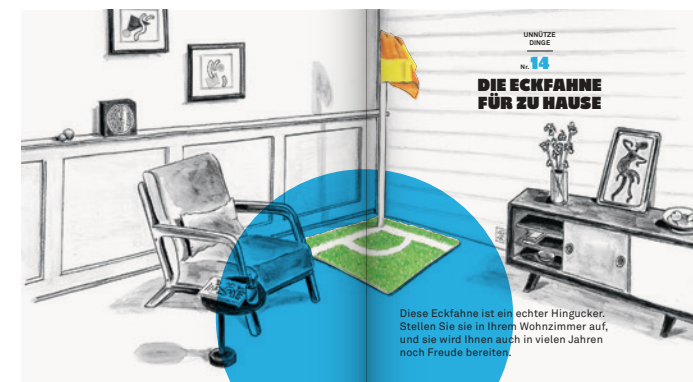
About the author

Ursus Wehrli was born in 1969. He is left-handed, a trained typographer and likes to change perspective. He has been touring between Wattwil, Basel, Berlin and New York for more than 30 years with Nadja Sieger as the comedy duo URSUS & NADESCHKIN.

By the same author

Kunst aufräumen, (*Tidying Up Art*, 2002), *Noch mehr Kunst aufräumen* (*Tidying Up More Art*, 2004), *Die Kunst, aufzuräumen* (*The Art of Tidying Up*, 2011), *Heute habe ich beinahe was erlebt – Ein Tagebuch* (*Today I Almost Experienced Something – A Diary*, 2020), *Welt aufräumen* (*Tidying Up the World*, 2021)

Excerpts from the book



FROM THE SAME AUTHOR

TIDYING UP THE WORLD



Welt aufräumen
Kein & Aber, Oct 2021
48 pages, Hardcover

World rights available

sold to
Netherlands (De Harmonie)

The success story continues.

Life is messy. Luckily Ursus Wehrli keeps tidying it up. After *Kunst aufräumen* (Tidying Up Art) and *Die Kunst, aufzuräumen* (The Art of Tidying Up), in which he organised art and everyday objects, Mr Wehrli now turns to fixing up the world! The world is sorted into religions, seasons by colour, and clouds according to size. Social structures are straightened up, political hierarchies levelled, and Wehrli's ingenious tidying up idea goes a step further, giving us a surprising, refreshing and new perspective on our everyday lives.

»An ingenious idea by a tidy Swiss writer.« DIE WELT



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Kein & Aber, 2011
48 pages, Hardcover



Kein & Aber, 2004
48 pages, Hardcover



Kein & Aber, 2002
48 pages, Hardcover

Elke Heidenreich · Daniel Müller

HOME STORIES

Animals through the keyhole



Homestories
Tiere durchs Schlüsselloch
beobachten
Kein & Aber, March 2023
112 pages, Hardcover

World rights available

Elke Heidenreich and Daniel Müller reveal the secret lives of animals

A crime-addicted mouse? A parrot with a mother complex? A duck with wanderlust? A love-struck okapi?

Elke Heidenreich and Daniel Müller have taken a look around the animal kingdom, dared to look through the keyhole and discovered: animals are personalities, too, with everyday concerns and secret dreams.

For the first time, Daniel Müller's animals show themselves in their previously hidden environment, and Elke Heidenreich wittily and charmingly reveals backgrounds and secret longings.

»An entertaining gem made of paper that will inspire the imagination of young and old.« *STYLE MAGAZINE – NZZ AM SONNTAG*

»Conclusion: a big appreciative meow.« *NÜRNBERGER ZEITUNG*

»An extremely successful example of how visual arts and literature can mutually enrich each other.« *BR*



© Leonie von Kleist

About the authors

Elke Heidenreich worked many years as a freelancer for radio and television where she hosted various talk shows. She also wrote numerous television plays and series. She is a sought-after literary critic and a successful book author.



© Leonie von Kleist

Daniel Müller was born in Baden in 1964 and studied at the School of Applied Arts in Lucerne and at the Zurich School of Design. His work can be found in various magazines and books. Kein & Aber has published several books containing his illustrations. www.illumueller.ch

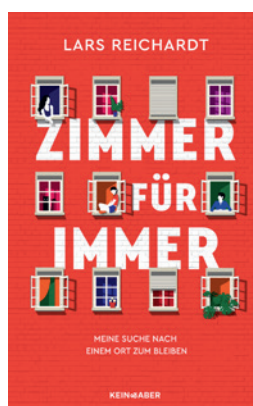
Excerpts from the book



Lars Reichardt

A FOREVER ROOM

My search for a place to stay



ZIMMER FÜR IMMER
Meine Suche nach einem
Ort zum Bleiben
Kein & Aber, April 2023
256 pages, Hardcover

World rights available
English samples available



© Enno Kapitza

How do we want to live?

Sounds idyllic: a small house on the outskirts of Munich with its own garden. This is where Lars Reichardt lives together with a variety of quaint residents in a shared-living arrangement: Birgit is an entomologist, Li from China is young and fashion-conscious, Rudi is a prominent rock video producer from Austria.

What other living concepts might there be for someone who does not want to live as a small family unit or as a single person? This is a question many people ask themselves today in the face of overpriced rents and increasing isolation. Lars Reichardt looks at various models: an aging commune in Italy, a self-sufficient village that operates in a socially fair and ecologically sustainable manner, a Jesuit community, a multi-cultural housing cooperative and a two-woman flat-sharing arrangement, united by the fact that they were both married to the same man. He speaks to an architect and real estate developer – all of this to inspire us with new ideas.

With regard to the question of how we live, there is a remarkable lack of imagination. Is there really nothing beyond being a couple, a family or a single person? An inspiring excursion into other living models.

About the author

Lars Reichardt studied philosophy and works for the *Magazin* of the *Süddeutsche Zeitung*. His first novel *Barbara. Das sonderbare Leben meiner Mutter Barbara Valentin* (*Barbara. The Curious Life of My Mother Barbara Valentin*) was published in 2018. He lives in Munich.

Heike Faller · Valerio Vidali

HUNDRED

FRIENDS

This is a book for children and adults, families and friends. A book for celebrating life's milestones, for flicking through, forwards or backwards, for inspiration, for sharing with the ones you love.

Heike's short, insightful prose and Valerio's colorful images bring to life the many emotions friendship evokes: envy, admiration, competition, love, hate, joy, disappointment, closeness, distance, fun and many more.



HUNDERT
Kein & Aber,
March 2018
208 pages,
Hardcover

World rights
available

sold to

China (Gingko), France (Editions du Seuil), Greece (Key Books), Italy (DeA Planeta), Japan (Kanki Publishing), Korea (Sakyejul), Netherlands (Luitingh-Sijthoff), Norway (Spartacus), Poland (Format), Portugal (Intrinseca), Russia (Azbooka)), Spain (Salamandra), Taiwan (CommonWealth), UK (Penguin), USA (Celadon)



FREUNDE
Kein & Aber,
Feb 2020
180 pages,
Hardcover

World rights
available

sold to

China (Gingko), France (Editions du Seuil), Korea (Sakyejul), Poland (Format), Taiwan (Delightpress)

About the authors

Heike Faller is an editor at *ZEITmagazin*, had the idea for these books when she looked at her new-born niece and imagined all that she had ahead of her. She herself is 46ish and feels she is still learning brand new things about life.

Valerio Vidali is an Italian illustrator living in Berlin. He works for international magazines and publications. His works have won several awards.

Mikael Krogerus · Roman Tschäppeler

COLLABORATING

A guide to achieving great things together



ZUSAMMENARBEITEN

Kein & Aber

Sept 2022

176 pages, Softcover

World rights available

sold to

France (Leduc), Holland
(Podium), Israel (Tchelet),
Turkey (Kitap), UK (Profile),
USA (Norton)

More is more.

When we collaborate, everything works out better. Even a lone wolf needs a team to help get started, contribute, review, improve and press ahead.

When it comes to collaboration, we immediately think of meetings, team building, roles, communication and feedback. All of this is valid and vital – but there's actually much more to it. Collaboration consists of some fundamental issues that are rarely talked about:

How do I work with people I don't like?

How do we make group decisions if not
everyone has the same opinion?

Do we need a boss?

Hardly anyone learns how to form a team from a group of people. Or how to get better or stay good. Or how to grapple with conflicts without hurting the other person. Or how to celebrate successes and overcome crises. With this book, you can start collaborating properly.

»Everyone will find enlightening tips for everyday life here. That's a promise.« BADISCHE ZEITUNG

Excerpts from the book



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Mikael Krogerus · Roman Tschäppeler

THE RULES BOOK

44 unwritten laws that will help you make smarter decision.

THE RULES BOOK
Kein & Aber, Fall 2024
Softcover

World rights available

The Rules Book is a comprehensive list of unwritten rules and laws, that will help you think more clearly and make smarter decisions.

Some laws are more intuitive, some are backed by evidence. Some are world famous (Parkinson's Law; Pareto Principle), some well kept secrets (Agnes Allen Law). But they all have one thing in common: They do not correspond to teaching theory, but to real life experience. They describe the inner logic of modern (working) life better than any MBA program.

The lessons in this little book are simple, practical, and timeless.

Some favorites:

Box's Law: *All models are wrong, but some are useful.*

Hofstadter's Law: *It always takes longer than you expect, even when you take into account Hofstadter's Law*

Hanlon's Razor: *Never attribute to malice that which is adequately explained by stupidity.*



© Guy Perrenoud

About the authors

Mikael Krogerus, born in Stockholm, and Roman Tschäppeler, born in Bern, completed their studies at the Kaospilot School in Denmark in 2003. Mikael Krogerus writes as an editor for *Das Magazin* of the *Tages-Anzeiger*, while Roman Tschäppeler conceives and produces films, cultural projects and campaigns.

Sven Pfizenmaier

RATTLER

SCHWÄTZER
Kein & Aber, Fall 2024
Hardcover

World rights available

When Meikel accompanies his friend Eddi on a bizarre hunt for meteorites in the Berlin outskirts, he already has a bad premonition. It would not be the first time that Eddi's gossip has turned Meikel's life upside down, but he would never have guessed that this is just the beginning of a chain of unpredictable events that will push the boundaries between entire worlds. And, in the end, he has to decide which enemy he really wants to defeat: his own drug addiction, the ghosts in the former scene club or the members of the Mecklenburg-Vorpommern Dental Association?

After *Outside the People are Celebrating* comes with *Rattler* a hilarious and touchingly tragic story about meteorites, hauntings, friendship and other inexplicable coincidences.



© Svenja Trierscheid

About the author

Sven Pfizenmaier, born in Celle in 1991, studied German and English philology in Berlin. He was an open mike candidate in 2018 and received a scholarship from Literaturwerkstatt Graz. His debut *Outside the People are Celebrating* was nominated for the lit.COLOGNE 2022 debut prize. Sven Pfizenmaier lives in Berlin.

Anuschka Roshani

TRU-BOY

My Summer with Truman Capote

TRU-BOY (working title)
Kein & Aber, Fall 2024
Hardcover

World rights available

He knows them all, and they all think they know him. Truman Capote's writing career is of a larger than life-calibre: child prodigy, inventor of the non-fiction novel, bestselling author, host of the *Party of The Century*, darling of pop culture. Novels such as *Breakfast at Tiffany's* or *In Cold Blood* conquered an audience of millions worldwide, but his long-heralded portrait of New York's high society was only published posthumously and as a fragment. To this day, it remains a mystery whether he ever finished *Answered Prayers* or had to sacrifice it to his addictions – or whether, as legend says, it is actually in a bank safe somewhere in the USA.

In *Tru-Boy*, Anuschka Roshani sets off in search for clues to find out from Capote's last companions and friends who the man behind the myth really was – and, above all, to find the lost manuscript. Lo and behold, she finally finds it: A literary detective story about the legendary and dazzling Truman Capote and his last masterpiece.



© Noë Flum

About the author

Anuschka Roshani studied behavioural biology and attended the Henri Nannen School of Journalism before working as an editor and reporter at *Spiegel* for many years. Born in Berlin, she has lived with her family in Zurich since 2002. She is the editor of Truman Capote's collected works, published by Kein & Aber.

By the same author

Komplizen (Accomplices), Kein & Aber, March 2018, 256 pages
Gleissen, Kein & Aber, Oct 2022, 176 pages



KEIN&ABER

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