



RIGHTS CATALOGUE

FICTION NON-FICTION GIFT BOOKS

2021/2022



**LBF
2022**

KEIN&ABER

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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 wonderful stories, intelligent entertainment and beautifully and lavishly designed books.

Our German list includes literary talents such as **Milena Moser**, **Sven Pfizenmaier** and **Philipp Tingler**, and more than once we have published exceptional books that have become international bestsellers, for instance stand-up comedian **Ursus Wehrli**'s tidying up series in *Kunst aufräumen*, *Noch mehr Kunst aufräumen*, *Die Kunst, aufzuräumen* and *Welt aufräumen*; or *50 Erfolgsmodelle* by **Mikael Krogerus** and **Roman Tschäppeler**, which has been translated into more than 26 languages.

Furthermore, we are proud to be the German-language home of many great British and American writers. Our list includes outstanding contemporary voices such as **Bryan Washington**, **Anne Tyler**, **Gabriel Krauze**, **Laila Lalami**, **Rebecca Wait** and **Kewin Kwan**, as well as wonderful classic writers as **Truman Capote**, **Kurt Vonnegut**, **Dorothy Parker**, **Flann O'Brien** and **Steve Tesich**. In recent years, we have also introduced new European authors to our list – for example Italian writer **Remo Rapino** whose novel *Das wundersame Leben des Liborio Bonfiglio* was awarded with the prestigious Premio Campiello, or French novelist **Victor Jestin**. Our recent publications include bestselling authors, **Elif Shafak** (Turkey) and the marvellous novelist **Ayelet Gundar-Goshen** (Israel).

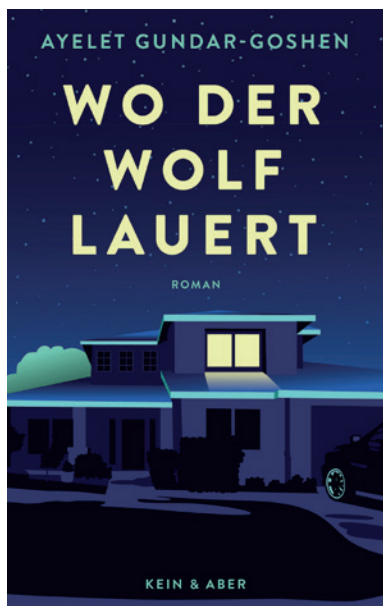
RIGHTS CATALOGUE

FICTION

Ayelet Gundar-Goshen

WHERE THE WOLF LURKS

Our kids are the biggest mystery of our lives.



Kein & Aber, July 2021
352 pages, Hardcover

Relocation (original title)
Published in Israel by Achuzat Bayit

World Rights available
Translation subsidies possible

SOLD TO
Brazil (Todavia), France (Presses de la Cité), Italy (Neri Pozza), Netherlands (Cossee), Portugal (Elsinore), Russia (Sindbad), Slovakia (Artforum), USA (Little Brown)

ON THE ISRAELI
BESTSELLER LIST SINCE
JANUARY 2022!

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

»A suspenseful and unexpected novel about a mother's fears, racism, guilt and the destructive mechanisms of an American high school.« MAREIKE FALLWICKL

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

»It's been a while since I read such a good book that touched me so deeply and strongly... Wonderful.« AMOS OZ ON *LIAR*



© Tal Shahar

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Ayelet Gundar-Goshen is an Israeli writer and psychologist. She is bestselling author of the novels *ONE NIGHT*, *MARKOVITCH*, *LIAR* and *WAKING LIONS*, the latter is being adapted for a TV series in the US. She has written a number of screenplays, and her articles have been featured in *The New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal* and *The Guardian*. Her work has been translated into 16 languages. After having lived in California, Ayelet Gundar-Goshen now lives in Tel Aviv again.

AWARDS

Waking Lions is included in New York Times' 100 Notable Books of 2017.

Jewish Quarterly Wingate Prize (UK, 2017)

French WIZO Prize (2017)

ADEI-WIZO Prize (Italy, 2016)

Berlin Today Award for the screenplay of the short film *Batman at the Checkpoint* (Berlin, 2012)

Sapir Prize for Debut Fiction (2012)

IEMed European Short Story Competition (Barcelona, 2010), 2nd prize

Gottlieb Screenplay Prize (2010)

BY THE SAME AUTHOR

THE LIAR

Ha-Schakranit we ha-Ir (Achuzat Bayit), 2017

Sold to: England, USA, Italy, Netherlands, France, Korea, Russia, Slovakia, Greece, Portugal, Spain, Germany

WAKING LIONS

Leha'ir Arajot, 2014 (Kinneret, Zmora-Bitan, Dvir Publishing House)

Sold to: UK, USA, Italy, Turkey, France, Netherlands, Romania, Russia, Slovakia, Spain, Poland, Czech Republic, Portugal, Germany
Waking Lions is included in New York Times' 100 Notable Books of 2017.

ONE NIGHT, MARKOVITCH

Laila echad, Markowitz, 2012 (Kinneret, Zmora-Bitan, Dvir Publishing House)

Sold to: UK, Italy, Netherlands, France, Spain, Romania, Russia, Portugal, Brazil, Turkey, Slovakia, Germany

MORE THAN
410'000 COPIES
SOLD IN GERMAN

Marion Karausche

THE EMPTY SEAT



Der leere Platz
Kein & Aber, September 2021
256 pages, Hardcover

World Rights available

A mother fights for her son. A moving mother-son story and a remarkable German-language debut

A family goes off the rails after their son falls ill with schizophrenia. An unsparing, radical novel about the devastation caused by a mental illness. Morocco, whitewashed houses, radiant sun, bright colours, exotic smells – against a picture-perfect backdrop, the drama of a mental illness unfolds, striking at the heart of a family. Kai, the son, has finished school and is about to embark on his life. But then he does not return from his holiday with friends and breaks off contact with his parents. Even before this event, his parents had been puzzled by certain things. A strange expression in their son's eyes, for example, or his sudden inability to make a decision. A call from a psychiatric hospital in Germany confirms their suspicions. Kai has been admitted after setting fire to his car. From then on, the family feels as if it belongs to another planet. His mother, father and sister are all held captive by his disease and anxiety. A powerful, harrowing book about how to hold on to happiness when misfortune comes knocking.

»A mother can only be as happy as her most unhappy child.« SARAH HRDY



© Tom Schneider

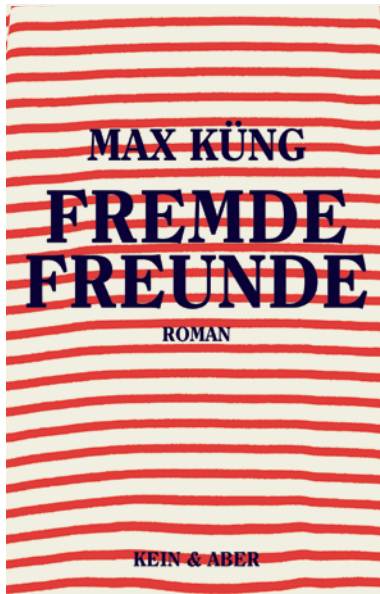
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Marion Karausche, who was born in Germany, grew up with her three siblings in Madagascar. She studied at the Sorbonne, Paris (Masters in Langues Etrangères appliquées) and then worked as an interpreter (French, English, German). Until early 2021, she lived with her husband and two children in the Middle East, where she worked as a translator for the Goethe Institut in Beirut and a language teacher at an American school.

The Empty Seat is her first book.

Max Küng

UNKNOWN FRIENDS



Fremde Freunde
Kein & Aber, May 2021
432 pages, Hardcover

World Rights available
Translation subsidies possible

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?



© Maurice Haas

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.

THE SWISS
BESTSELLER
18'000
COPIES SOLD

Fabio Lanz

A COLD HEART

Sara Contis First Case



Ein kaltes Herz, Sarah Contis erster Fall
Kein & Aber, October 2021
336 pages, Hardcover

World Rights available

Translation subsidies possible

SOLD TO
Russia (Sindbad)

Independent, a diehard single woman, with a calling to the piano, but a passion for police work — meet Zurich's Inspector Sarah Conti! This is Sarah Conti's first case. The inspector of the Zurich police force is called to investigate a murder that is unlike anything she has seen before. The brutal execution of a lawyer and member of the establishment leads deeper into entanglements of guilt and atonement in a political setting where evil has been elevated to an art form.

When Sarah Conti is summoned to the crime scene one stormy October night, she can't believe her eyes. A horribly disfigured corpse lies in a park next to Zurich's lake promenade. The deceased was a man of distinction. But it soon becomes apparent that Markus Feldmann cultivated relations with a notorious network all across Europe. Are vigilante murders now encroaching on the city of Zurich, an environment renowned for safety, cleanliness and genteel hypocrisy? The more Sarah and her team investigate, the more an abyss of silence, gloom and horror opens up. Where only recently the light of prosperity and glamour seemed to shine, dark clouds gather. In the end, the inspector has to fear for her own life.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Fabio Lanz, who was born in Zurich, had various jobs before he discovered writing. In his former career, he developed an eye for good and evil. Fabio Lanz lives in Zurich and the Provence.

Simone Meier

ALLURE



Reiz

Kein & Aber, February 2021

240 pages, Hardcover

World Rights available

Translation subsidies possible

Valerie has had a good life so far, and gradually she views the ups and downs of love with calm. Her mirror image in the young figure of Luca, however, could not be more different: everything that Valerie has put behind her still lies before him. The way that love and sex impact our lives brings the pair together at a particularly dramatic moment.

Valerie is in her mid-50s; Luca is not yet 20. She is becoming increasingly bored by the trials and tribulations of love. For him, it is all happening for the first time. She wants less of everything whereas he just wants everything. Valerie is a journalist whose eloquent articles sometimes stretch the truth; Luca is a school dropout, who prefers doing casual holiday work to flying to Mallorca. The world-weary cynic meets the impassioned idealist through Lucas' father, who is Valerie's best friend. And then a girl turns up in one of Valerie's articles who suddenly becomes very present in Luca's life.

»Simone Meier plays with words, sends thoughts on roller-coaster rides and creates an atmosphere as if with the finest sandpaper that sizzles terrifically from the very beginning.« SPIEGEL ONLINE

»Simone Meier proves herself to be a close observer of the relationship rites of today's metropolitans.« WDR 3



© Ayse Yavas

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Simone Meier, born in 1970, is an author and journalist. After studying German, American studies and art history, she worked as a culture journalist, first at the *WochenZeitung*, then at the *Tages-Anzeiger* and since 2014 at watson. She has won various prizes and scholarships. Her novels *Fleisch* (Flesh) and *Kuss* (Kiss) have both been published by Kein & Aber. She is also the co-editor of *Hemingways sexy Beine*, (Hemingway's Sexy Legs) the book that emerged from the #dichterdran hashtag, which caught the world's imagination like wildfire. Simone Meier lives and writes in Zurich.

Milena Moser

MORE THAN ONE LIFE



Mehr als ein Leben
Kein & Aber, February 2022
560 pages, Hardcover

World Rights available
Translation subsidies possible

A complex and compelling book that explores the question of identity: How much of it is actually determined by ourselves, and how much is conditioned by the people around us and the decisions we take.

Helen's childhood is anything but carefree. Her mother processes her separation from Helen's father Luc primarily with alcohol, while Luc prefers to give himself over to his job and an ever-changing lineup of girlfriends, rather than face up to his responsibilities. As a result, Helen learns sooner than she'd like how to get ready for kindergarten on her own, and how to cover for her mother's outburst in front of bystanding neighbors. Fortunately, there's also the Esposito family and their son Frank, who holds Helen's hand and shares his packed lunch with her.

One day, when Luc claims custody, Helen is faced with a fundamental decision. In which direction will her life go? Will she become a success who married her sandbox lover, but is burdened by a guilt that clouds the happiness of her own family? Or does she want to run far, far away — finally seize independence, try new things, and reinvent herself? After all, you only live once — right?



© Barak Shrama

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. Published so far by Kein & Aber are *Das schöne Leben der Toten* (2019) and *Land der Söhne* (2020).

SINCE PUBLICATION
ON THE SWISS
BESTSELLER LIST
3RD PRINT-RUN WITHIN
THREE WEEKS

Sven Pfizenmaier

OUTSIDE THE PEOPLE ARE CELEBRATING

This novel will delight your imagination



Draußen feiern die Leute
Kein & Aber, March 2022
336 pages, Hardcover

World Rights available

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's snappy cascades of sentences are a delight, and his emancipated characters are not easily forgotten - literary high comedy, copied from life.«

DANA GRIGORCEA, author of *Die nicht sterben* (That Which Doesn't Die)

»Rarely have I ever read such a casual and humorous debut: It combines coming-of-age, mystery, and magical realism — all set in the state of Lower Saxony.«

LENNARDT LOSS, author of *Und andere Formen menschlichen Versagens* (And Other Forms of Human Failure)



© Svenja Trierscheid

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

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

Pippo Pollina

THE UNKNOWN FATHER

How a secret changes two lives forever

Der fremde Vater (Working Title)
Kein & Aber, Autumn 2022
432 pages, Hardcover

World Rights available
Translation subsidies possible

A profound novel about family, identity and dislocation, that depicts how organized crime has been able to take hold in 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 honored 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.



© Lena Semmelroggen

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Pippo Pollina, born in 1963 in Palermo, visited a conservatory 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 Unknown Father* is his first novel.

www.pippopollina.com

THE FIRST NOVEL
BY THE FAMOUS
CANTAUTORE!

RIGHTS CATALOGUE

NON-FICTION

Verena Friederike Hasel · Alice Mollon

A LINE IS A PERIOD, GONE FOR A WALK

It's never too late for happy school days



*Eine Linie ist ein Punkt,
der spazieren geht*
Kein & Aber, February 2022
224 pages, Hardcover

World Rights available

An activity book that teaches children in 39 chapters, what is really important in life. A gift book for pupils between the ages of 8 and 14 – and their teachers.

Today's children and teenagers have very busy everyday-lives. Their school days are long, and then in the afternoons they rush off to violin lessons and basketball practice. A lot of things fall by the wayside. For example, the good feeling of missing out on something. Or carving a frog out of an apple. Knowing how to take care of yourself, but also knowing how to take care of others. Never condemning, but instead celebrating them. Discovering how to belong somewhere and still be free. Developing a love for the world and the courage to change it.

The author of the successful *Der tanzende Direktor* (The Dancing Director) has put her experiences into practice and written a participatory book, full of surprises, for children and young people to accompany them throughout the year.





© Christine Rogge

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Verena Friederike Hasel, born 1978 in Berlin, is a psychologist, journalist and publisher of the award-winning New Zealand magazine *North & South*. She was nominated for the Theodor Wolff Award and received the German Reporter Award in 2018. In 2019, she published *Der tanzende Direktor* (The Dancing Principal) a narrative nonfiction book about the best school in the world. She was co-initiator of the #wirfürschule Hackathon 2021. She lives in Germany and New Zealand with her husband and their three children.

Alice Mollon is a French illustrator living in London. She works for international magazines and publications, including *The New York Times*, *Vogue*, and *The Economist*. Her work has won multiple awards, including the 3x3 International Illustration Annual Merit. In 2020 she was longlisted for the World Illustration Award.

SAMMLE SCHÖNE MOMENTE



An einem kalten, nassen Januarmorgen steigt ein Mann in Washington aus der U-Bahn, stellt sich neben einen Mülleimer, holt seine Geige hervor und beginnt zu spielen. Der Mann trägt eine Baseballkappe und in seinen Geigenkasten hat er ein paar Münzen gelegt. Er hofft, dass es noch mehr werden. Viel Glück hat er nicht. Er spielt sechs Stücke, aber von den mehr als tausend Menschen, die an ihm vorbeikommen, bleiben nur sieben ganz kurz stehen. Als er nach einer knappen Dreiviertelstunde seine Geige einpackt, liegen im Kasten nicht einmal 30 Euro.

Der Mann hat die Baseballkappe aus einem bestimmten Grund auf. Er will nicht erkannt werden. Es ist nämlich nicht irgendein Straßenmusiker, der an diesem Januarmorgen in Washington spielt, sondern Joshua Bell, einer der berühmtesten Geiger der Welt. Sein Instrument ist eine echte Stradivari und fast drei Millionen Euro wert. Nur zwei Tage zuvor hat er ein Konzert gegeben, für das eine Eintrittskarte mehr als 80 Euro gekostet hat.

Jetzt auf dem U-Bahnhof will er wissen, ob Menschen auf seine Musik auch reagieren, wenn sie nicht wissen, wer er ist. Das erste Stück, das er spielt, ist die *Chaconne* von Johann Sebastian Bach. Sie gilt als eines der schwersten Musikstücke überhaupt, und Johannes Brahms, ein anderer Komponist, hat einmal gesagt, dass er verrückt geworden wäre, wenn er es geschafft hätte, so etwas Tolles zu komponieren. Das Besondere an der *Chaconne* ist, dass sie extrem viele Gefühle auf einmal ausdrückt. Die Geige klingt tieftraurig und sehnsüchtig, und zugleich flirren die Töne wie in einem schnellen Tanz. Doch all das hören die Menschen auf ihrem Weg zur U-Bahn nicht. Sie hetzen vorbei, sie tippen auf ihren Telefonen herum, sie

TRAU DICH, ETWAS ZU VERPASSEN



Ausgerechnet am Morgen einer wichtigen Besprechung kam Matilda Kahl, die für eine große Werbeagentur in New York arbeitete, zu spät ins Büro. Sie hatte so lange überlegt, was sie anziehen sollte, dass sie die U-Bahn verpasst hatte (und mochte das, wofür sie sich am Ende entschieden hatte, leider schon auf dem U-Bahnhof nicht mehr). Warum war das bloß immer so schwierig? Es gab in ihrer Firma noch nicht einmal Kleiderregeln, die sie befolgen musste. Im Gegenteil. Sie konnte anziehen, was sie wollte. Und vielleicht war gerade das ein Problem: Sie hatte zu viel Auswahl.

Matilda traf eine Entscheidung. Sie würde sich selbst eine eigene Uniform verordnen. Also ging sie einkaufen. Nach einigem Suchen fand sie eine weiße Bluse und eine schwarze Hose, die ihr gefielen. Von der Bluse kaufte sie fünfzehn Stück, von der Hose fünf. Und weil sie sich daran erinnerte, wie ihre Mutter ihr früher oft eine Schleife ins Haar gebunden hatte, kaufte sie sich noch ein schwarzes Band, das sie als Schleife für ihre Bluse benutzen konnte.

So ging sie von da an zur Arbeit. Vier Jahre lang.

Anfangs waren die anderen irritiert. »Ist das eine Wette? Bist du in einer Sekte? Oder bist du verrückt geworden? Was ist los mit dir?«

Und Matilda antwortete: »Hast du noch nie erlebt, wie toll es ist, wenn man eine Sache weniger hat, über die man nachdenken muss?«

Es gibt eine Person, die Matilda bestimmt verstanden hätte. Barack Obama, der frühere Präsident der Vereinigten Staaten, beschloss eines Tages, nur noch graue oder blaue Anzüge zu tragen. Er sagte, er habe in seinem

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Amt so viele wichtige Entscheidungen zu treffen, dass er beschlossen habe, die nicht so wichtigen einfach wegzulassen.

Es ist toll, Entscheidungen zu treffen. Es ist ein Zeichen von Freiheit. Aber es ist auch ganz schön anstrengend. Menschen, die zwischen 30 verschiedenen Marmeladen wählen konnten, waren unzufriedener als diejenigen, die nur sechs hatten.

Sie hatten Fomo. Fear of missing out. Angst, keine gute Entscheidung zu treffen. Sorge, das Falsche auszusuchen. Und vielleicht waren sie auch übellaunig, weil sie viel zu lange über etwas definitiv nicht Weltbewegendes wie Marmelade nachgedacht hatten.

Matilda hat sich von unnötigen Entscheidungen befreit. Und eines Tages haben auch ihre Kollegen und Kolleginnen begriffen, wie gut das tut. Sie riefen einen »Dress like Matilda«-Tag aus und kamen alle mit weißem Shirt, schwarzer Hose und Schleife zur Arbeit.



1. Verschenke eine Woche lang jeden Tag etwas, das du nicht mehr brauchst. Was war es und wie hast du dich dabei gefühlt?

Handwritten text in a cursive script, mostly illegible due to blurring. The text appears to be a response to the prompt above, starting with "Ich habe..." and continuing with several lines of text.

25

Anabelle Hirsch

A HISTORY OF WOMEN IN 100 OBJECTS

*Eine Geschichte der Frauen
in 100 Objekten (Working Title)*
Kein & Aber, Autumn 2022
500 pages, Hardcover

World Rights available



Isis cult



»La machine«



Pussy Hat

There are countless possibilities to tell a history of women, and this one visualizes it with the help of 100 objects.

Everyday objects, articles of fashion, medicine, and art, things that show how women were kept down, but also things that speak of their urge for freedom and the many ways in which women were always trying to rebel against the status quo. In Annabelle Hirsch's book, we encounter known and unknown heroines from history: painting stone-age women, hermaphrodites, vulva-goddesses, prostitutes, laundry-women, seamstresses, nuns, writers, slaves, spiritualists, physicians, artists, dancers, politicians, feminists, and their objects: Amazon-puppets, amulets, war games, bidets, dildos, jewellery, hats, shoes, dresses, bicycles, furniture, self-portraits, books, perfumes, figurines, postcards, porn films, vacuum cleaners, dance cards, and many more.

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 free lancing journalist for *FAS* and *FAZ*, *ZeitOnline*, and several other magazines. She writes short stories and translates French literature. She lives in Paris, Rome, and Berlin.

Nina Kunz

I THINK I THINK TOO MUCH



Ich denk, ich denk zu viel
Kein & Aber, March 2021
192 pages, Hardcover

World Rights available

Translation subsidies possible

SOLD TO

Netherlands (Noordboek)

About cravings, anxieties, the Internet and the accursed patriarchy.

Everything's »chill« – or so you might think, according to the world of Instagram in its hip pastel colours. Am I, the writer wonders, the only one who almost misses deadlines by the skin of her teeth because she's stayed up until five in the morning stuck down a rabbit-hole of useless online information? Don't the other hyper-flexible millennials feel desperate when faced with the flood of data, climate change and gender pay-gap? And how do young people deal with the discrepancy between their own First-World problems and the fairly existential crises that these issues can plunge you into?

In a clever and entertaining way, the journalist Nina Kunz deals with discomfort in the digital age and strikes the nerve of a generation in her incisive texts.



© Yves Bachmann

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Nina Kunz was born in Zurich in 1993, studied social and economic history and has worked as a columnist and journalist for *Das Magazin* since 2017. Her texts are published of the *Neue Zürcher Zeitung*, *die ZEIT* and *ZEITmagazin*. In 2018 she was awarded with the title Columnist of the Year.

ON THE SWISS BESTSELLER
LIST SINCE MARCH 2021!

NOMINATED FOR THE
CLEMENS BRENTANO
AWARD 2022

Mikael Krogerus · Roman Tschäppeler

TO DO

*A guide to starting things, sticking to
and finishing them*



Machen

Kein & Aber
176 pages
August 2021

World Rights available
SOLD TO
Hungary (HVG Kiado), Netherlands
(Podium), Portugal
(Marcador), Russia (Olympus)

These masters of minimalism, Mikael Krogerus and Roman Tschäppeler, can dissect complex theories and cut to the chase so skilfully that even the most complicated connections are laid out simply and clearly.

TO DO. It sounds pretty easy, but it's not. Krogerus & Tschäppeler's latest book is dedicated to one of the most difficult questions of modern life: How can we manage everything at once? Not only unanswered emails, short-term projects and long-term goals, but everything: caring for our children, our ageing grandparents, our dream home, our health, hobbies, friendship, love, sleep and how to run a 4-minute mile. We want and need to take care of all these things because they are important. But how? Surprising answers to this question can be found in the latest book by this best-selling duo.

Less talk, more action: how to get shit done!



© 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.

EXCERPTS FROM THE BOOK

156 **MATTHÄUS-EFFEKT**

WARUM SIE IHRE SIEGE FEIERN SOLLTEN

»Denn wer da hat, dem wird gegeben«, heißt es im Matthäus-evangelium. »wer aber nicht hat, dem wird auch das genommen, was er hat.«

Wir alle haben das erlebt: Wir begehen eine Dummheit, daraus entsteht eine zweite. Wir verschulden uns, dann machen wir Schulden, um unsere Schulden zu bezahlen. Aber umgekehrt gilt auch: Wenn wir eine Chance bekommen und sie nutzen, kommen zwei neue Chancen und dann vier. Wer beliebt ist, findet noch mehr Freund*innen, wer im Tennis einen Lauf hat, dem gelingt auch der einhändige Rückhandpassierball. Wer hat, dem wird gegeben.

Bekannt machte den Matthäus-Effekt der Soziologe Robert K. Merton (1910-2003), der feststellte, dass in wissenschaftlichen Publikationen bekannte Autor*innen häufiger zitiert werden als unbekannte, wodurch die bekannten noch bekannter werden. Es ist sowohl ein ökonomisches Prinzip (die Schere zwischen Reich und Arm wird größer) als auch ein psychologisches (Erfolg macht erfolgreich).

Was man tun kann? Die Pädagogik kennt einen Ansatz: Wenn Schüler*innen in einem Fach Schwierigkeiten haben, üben sie weniger, werden noch schlechter. Empfohlen wird, Selbstvertrauen aufzubauen: Jedes Kind sollte immer auch solche Aufgaben bekommen, die es lösen kann. Übertragen auf Ihr Erwachsenenleben: Nehmen Sie hin und wieder die breite, blaue Piste anstatt die steile, schwarze. Nicht Niederlagen, Erfolge spomen an.

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»Denn wer da hat, dem wird gegeben; wer aber nicht hat, dem wird auch das genommen, was er hat.« Matthäus 25,29.

104 **LIKEABILITY**

WIE SIE LERNEN, MIT PERSONEN ZU ARBEITEN, DIE SIE NICHT MÖGEN

Die beiden großen Parameter der Zusammenarbeit sind Kompetenz und Sympathie. In einer Matrix ergeben sich vier verschiedene Archetypen: der kompetente Egoist, der alles kann, aber mit dem man nicht zu tun haben will (Typ Elon Musk); der lebenswürdige Dummkopf, der nicht viel kann, aber mit dem man gern ein Bier trinkt (Typ Homer Simpson); der lebenswürdige Superstar, der sowohl schlau als auch sympathisch ist (Typ Regenbogen furzendes Einhorn); der inkompetente Dummkopf (Typ inkompetenter Idiot).

Es sind Karikaturen, klar, aber machen Sie doch kurz den Selbsttest: Tragen Sie in jeden Quadranten eine Person aus Ihrer Firma (oder Ihrem Leben) ein. Wir sind uns sicher, dass Sie fündig werden.

In einer Untersuchung fragten die Forscherin Tiziana Casciaro und ihr Kollege Miguel Sousa Lobo: Mit welchem der vier Typen würden Sie am liebsten zusammenarbeiten? Die wenig überraschende Antwort war, dass branchenunabhängig alle lieber mit einem kompetenten Egoisten als mit einem inkompetenten Idioten arbeiten wollen.

Die tatsächlichen Arbeitskontakte aber zeigten ein anderes Bild: Sympathie ist uns offensichtlich wichtiger als Kompetenz. »Wir stellten fest, dass es bei starker Abneigung gegen eine Person fast unerheblich ist, ob sie kompetent ist oder nicht: die Leute werden nicht mit ihr arbeiten wollen«.

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Tragen Sie zunächst Ihre Bürokolleg*innen in das Achsenkreuz ein. Und dann sich selbst.

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Denken Sie an ein aktuelles Ziel. Was hindert Sie daran, es zu erreichen?

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Mikael Krogerus · Roman Tschäppeler

THE COLLABORATION BOOK

40 models for succeeding as a team

Zusammen arbeiten

Kein & Aber, Autumn 2022
176 pages

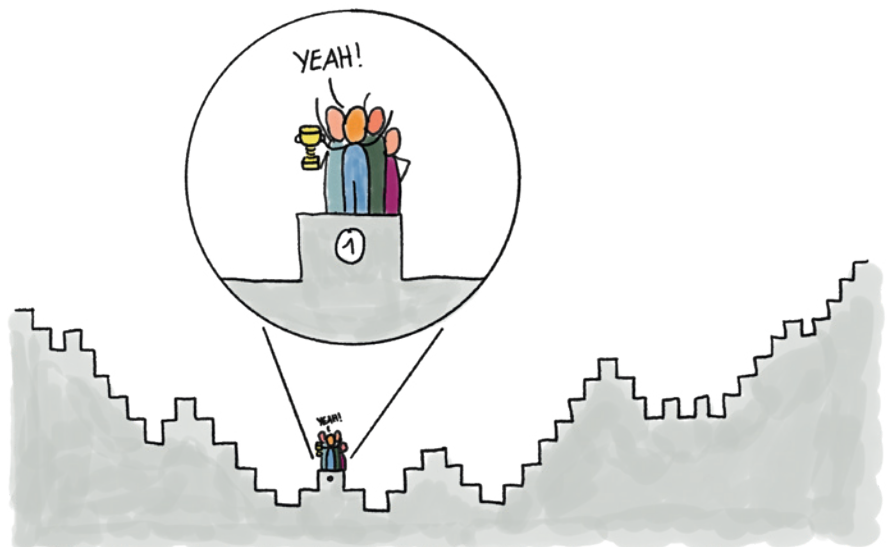
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The truth about work is: No one can do it alone. Even lone warriors need a team. Even in professions where everything revolves around individual superstars, collaboration is central.

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The ability to collaborate is arguably the most important soft skill of modern work.

The authors of the international bestseller »The Decision Book« offer in their new book practical, research-backed, clever illustrated advice that will help you tackle these important questions. Stylish and compact, this little book is a powerful asset. Whether you need to lead a team, address a conflict in a group, or work with people you don't know or trust, this unique guide – bursting with useful visual tools – will help you solve any problem and find pleasure and success in collaboration .



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25 LANGUAGES

Tanja Raich (Ed.)

PARADISE IS FEMALE

What happens when men are no longer in power?



Das Paradies ist weiblich
Kein & Aber, February 2022
256 pages, Hardcover

World Rights available

Let's turn the known world upside down: What would our lives look like, if women were in charge instead of men? 20 authors are searching for matriarchy.

We constantly talk about patriarchy. What it's responsible for, what it destroys, and what it prevents. But what exactly would change if women were actually in charge? Would the world be a fairer, more loving, and better place? Here, in 20 original contributions, German-speaking authors examine these questions, illuminating and complicating – in styles both literary and essayistic – ideas about life under matriarchy and all it touches: family, work, education, journalism, of course, but also the naming of superheroes in comics. The texts are hopeful and perplexing. They look back, they exaggerate, they deconstruct, but above all else, they emphasize one thing through their unbelievable and collective range: we are living in a time of upheaval.

Including contributions from Shida Bazayr, Mareike Fallwickl, Linus Giese, Kübra Gümüsay, Simone Hirth, Gertraud Klemm, Julia Korbik, Miku Sophie Kühmel, Kristof Magnusson, Nicolas Mahler, Barbara Rieger, Emilia Roig, Jaroslav Rudiš, Mithu Sanyal, Tonio Schachinger, Margit Schreiner, Anke Stelling, Sophia Süßmilch, Philipp Winkler and Feridun Zaimoglu.

»It's not about reversing the hierarchies, but about questioning them.«
MITHU SANYAL



© Kurt Fleisch

ABOUT THE EDITOR

Tanja Raich was born in 1986 in Merano, Italy and lives as an editor and author in Vienna. Her debut *Jesolo* was nominated for the Austrian Debut Book Prize in 2019, as well as for the Alpha Literature Prize 2019.

RIGHTS CATALOGUE

GIFT BOOKS

Frank Baumann

WHAT'S WRONG HERE?

Part II



Was stimmt hier nicht? II
Kein & Aber, February 2022
48 pages, Hardcover

World Rights available

More puzzling fun: The sequel of Frank Baumann's successful gift book *What's wrong here?* is a real challenge. Find the seven differences in 24 photographs from around the globe.

Can you keep a cool head and find all seven differences? At first glance, each set of pictures seem to be identical - but wait, here there's a spot of chewing gum missing! And are all the palm leaves really the same? Quite tricky. The *What's Wrong Here* series are books about subtle differences, that you won't want to put down. This follow-up volume is ingenious as always and promises to be fun and addictive! Frank Baumann's witty pictures take us on a journey across the globe: from snow-covered Zurich, to Broadway, into a cab, and later to a sandy beach. Unnoticed surprises await!



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Frank Baumann, born in 1957, had a career as a popular radio and television presenter, an award-winning advertiser and a TV producer. Baumann has written and illustrated various bestsellers and continues to work as an author. He lives with his wife on Lake Zurich and in the Grisons mountains.



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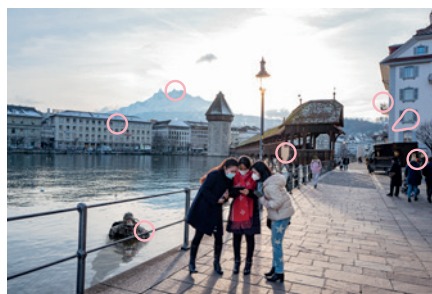
PARIS



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LUZERN

Lukas Linder · Leonie Rösler

THE ART OF A GOOD WEEK

Create your own personal memory book



Die Kunst der guten Woche
Kein & Aber, May 2022
224 pages, Hardcover

World Rights available

Once a week you should pause, consider your highs and lows and reflect on the bygone days: This book helps with entertaining short texts, briefings, and amusing and creative tasks for each week.

Life never stops dragging us by the nose with its deadlines. Everything passes by so quickly that we can hardly tell the difference between an appointment for dental hygiene and our own wedding day. You might consider pausing and shouting “carpe diem” - but life doesn’t understand Latin. That’s where this book comes in: In 52 cheerful and ironic sections structured around the weeks of the year, the author coaches us, taking a close look at every occasion that can arise in our lives - from big themes and existential dramas, to living, loving and dying, to everyday stupidity. The chapters are addressed directly to the particular owners of the book, who are invited to report on the highs and lows of their own week. Each dialog is supplemented by a weekly task. In this way, the book becomes an individual memory book, where the very personal aspects of your unique life meet with general universal truths, and creative forces are released.



ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Lukas Linder, born 1984, studied German language and literature, and philosophy. He is a playwright who has written for Theater Basel, among others, and has been awarded several prizes, including the »Kleist Prize«, the »Audience Award of the Heidelberg Stückemarkt«, and the 2021 »Kassel Prize for Comic Literature«. He has written two novels *Der Letzte meiner Art* (The Last of My Kind) (2018) and *Der Unvollendete* (The Unfinished)(2020), both published by Kein & Aber. He lives in Lodz.



Leonie Rösler, born in 1994, lives and works in Basel as an illustrator and comic artist. In addition to commissioned work, she draws comics for magazines and publishes her own titles. In spring 2020, she won a sponsorship grant from German-speaking Swiss cities for her comic *Wen kratzt Ava?*, which she is currently working on.

MEINE
WOCHE 1

Was von dieser Woche in Erinnerung bleiben soll:

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Was ich lieber wieder vergesse:

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JANUAR



To do:
Nichts tun

Das Jahr beginnen Sie am besten mit der Langsamkeit einer Siamkatze. Viele machen den Fehler, bereits in der ersten Woche sämtliche Versäumnisse des vergangenen Jahres nachholen zu wollen, weshalb sie sich zu Beginn der zweiten Woche im Krankenhaus oder in kompakterer Form auf dem Friedhof wiederfinden. Wer in den ersten Tagen bereits mit dem Joggen anfängt, wird wohl kaum bis zum Jahresende durchhalten. Als Ihr persönlicher Wochen-Coach möchte ich außerdem daran erinnern, dass Stress nicht besonders kleidsam ist. Man schwitzt zu viel, lacht zu laut und fällt oft in Ohnmacht. Allesamt Eigenschaften, mit denen niemand einen romantischen Abend verbringen möchte. Und Sie wollten in diesem Jahr doch beliebter werden. Wenn

MEINE
WOCHE 2

Was von dieser Woche in Erinnerung bleiben soll:

Was ich lieber wieder vergesse:

weniger mehr tut, dann ist nichts alles. Vor allem geht es darum, dem wichtigsterischen Jahr zu zeigen, wer hier das Zepter in der Hand hat, indem Sie etwas ganz besonders Unbedeutendes tun. Viele greifen in solchen Fällen zum Puzzle, was ich nicht uneingeschränkt empfehlen möchte, da die Gefahr besteht, nie wieder damit aufzuhören. Stärke geben: Ja. Verblöden: Nein – so lautet Ihr neues Arbeitsmotto. Ein langer Spaziergang, auf dem Sie sich länger als nötig für die Schindeldachkonstruktionen in der Region interessieren, kann bereits Wunder wirken. Oder Sie sortieren Ihre Bücher nach einem so komplizierten Prinzip, dass nicht einmal Sie selbst es begreifen. Oder Sie telefonieren zwei Stunden lang mit der telefonischen Zeitanzeige. Oder ... Ihnen wird schon etwas einfallen. Hauptsache, Sie tun nichts, was Sie später bereuen. Hauptsache, Sie tun nichts.

JANUAR



To do:
Die Liebe ins Auge fassen

Die zweite Woche ist die heikelste des Jahres. Viele wechseln sie mit der ersten und puzzeln einfach weiter. Mittlerweile spazieren Sie dreimal täglich zu den Schindeldachkonstruktionen, und die Krone, die Sie, falls Sie in der Schweiz leben, am Dreikönigstag gewonnen haben, tragen Sie jetzt schon den vierten Tag in Folge. Eines Nachts ersteigern Sie bei einer Online-Auktion eine antike Bauchamphora aus dem fünften Jahrhundert. Der Kauf hat teilweise mit Ihrer Liebe zur griechischen Mythologie und ihrer Darstellung auf kostbaren Tongefäßen zu tun, aber auch mit dem sogenannten Zweite-Jahreswoche-Phlegma. Es handelt sich dabei um eine zersetzende Krankheit, von der sich manche ein Leben lang nicht erholen. Das einzige mir bekannte Heil-

KREATIVER EINSCHU

Stellen Sie sich kurz vor (in Wort und Bild).

Moni Port · Philip Wächter

BREATHE THE PAIN AWAY!

The Back Pain Book



Sie müssen den Schmerz wegatmen!
Kein & Aber, September 2021
74 pages, Hardcover

World Rights available

A humorous, comforting book for back-pain sufferers by the well-known author and illustrator duo, Moni Port and Philip Wächter.

An illustrated book to comfort back-pain sufferers that works better than any medicine. Because, as Louis de Funès already knew, laughter is to the soul what oxygen is to the lungs. When illustrator Moni Port suffered from excruciating back pain for months, she still managed to see the funny side of things and took notes. There was a silver lining to her story because her husband is an illustrator. He supported her throughout that time, and when she was able to walk normally again, the two of them set to work on a joint project written by Moni Port and illustrated by Philip Wächter.

The result is a self-deprecating but comforting book that traces the pitfalls of modern medicine and its contradictory diagnoses and therapies.

»The fact that pain doesn't always come from the same source makes life bearable.« FRIEDRICH HEBBEL

EXCERPTS FROM THE BOOK



© Privat

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Moni Port, who was born in 1968, co-founded the LABOR studio collective in Frankfurt am Main in 1999 with Anke Kuhl and Philip Wächter, where she worked as an independent illustrator, graphic artist and author for over 20 years. Since November 2020, she has run her own studio soundso. She has written and drawn *Das mutige Buch* and *Das schlaflose Buch*, among others. The following books have been published by Kein & Aber: *Fünfzig Dinge, die erst ab fünfzig richtig Spaß machen* and *Ich bin da mal raus*.



© Privat

Philip Wächter, who was born in 1968, has illustrated and written books for children and adults, such as *Sohntage* and *Toni. Und alles nur wegen Renato Flash* or — in collaboration with the LABOR studio community — the *Kinder Künstler Kritzelbücher* and *Ich so du so*. Philip Wächter lives with Moni Port and their son in Frankfurt am Main.

Ursus Wehrli

TIDYING UP THE WORLD



Welt aufräumen
Kein & Aber, October 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 *Tidying Up Art* and *The Art of Clean 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



© Dylan Wiedler

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Ursus Wehrli has been touring for over thirty years with Nadja Sieger as the comedy duo URSUS & NADESCHKIN, on stages from Beinwil to Basel and Berlin to New York. They have received several awards, most recently the »New York Comedy Award«, the »Salzburger Stier« and the »Hans-Reinhart-Ring« Swiss theatre prize. He lives in Zurich where he works in the theatre, is a stand-up comedian and freelance artist.



EXCERPTS FROM THE BOOK



FROM THE SAME AUTHOR



Kein & Aber, 2011
48 pages, Hardcover



Kein & Aber, 2004
48 pages, Hardcover



Kein & Aber, 2002
48 pages, Hardcover

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE BACKLIST



A young tobacconist is trying to win the heart of his love with the help of Sigmund Freud: Seventeen-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.

Robert Seethaler
Der Trafikant
Kein & Aber, 2012
256 pages

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Takis Würger
Der Club
Kein & Aber, 2017
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USA (Grove/Atlantic)

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.

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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.



Heike Faller/Valerio Vidali
Hundert
Kein & Aber, March 2018
208 pages, Hardcover

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Heike Faller/Valerio Vidali
Freunde
Kein & Aber, February 2020
180 pages, Hardcover

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