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FICTION

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Fiction

- 2 **Because Of Him** by Zora del Buono
- 3 **A Thunder Rolling In From The North** by Markus Thielemann
- 4 **Everything I Know About Love Is In This Book** by Elke Schmitter
- 5 **The Rose of Nishapur** by Amir Hassan
- 6 **Salt Water** by Charles Simmons
- 7 **James Baldwin** by René Aguigah

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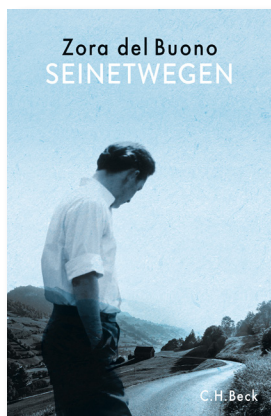
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2024
208 pages
Hardcover
€ 23.00

- **English sample translation available**
- Long awaited: the new book by the author of bestseller *Die Marschallin*
- How can an absence, how can someone who is not there, still shape a life?
- A young doctor loses his life in an accident – and a baby daughter loses her father
- The story of a search: richly detailed, intricately composed, precise and poetic
- Contemporary history through the lens of family history
- For readers of Monika Helfer, Annie Ernaux and Tove Ditlevsen

Further works published by

C.H.Beck:

Die Marschallin

Translation rights sold to

Keller editore in Italy
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Glasnik in Serbia
Black Flamingo in Bulgaria
Turon in Usbekistan
Dar Souall in Lebanon (Arabic world rights)

Zora del Buono

Because Of Him

A Novel

Press reviews of her previous novels

'A major coup... A pleasure to read, as spirited and horrifying as the past century may really have been.' - Eva Menasse, Die ZEIT on 'Die Marschallin'

'Die Marschallin' not only serves as a monument to a fascinating, contradictory figure, but brings an entire epoch to life... - Manfred Papst, Neue Zürcher Zeitung

'Del Buono works in a language whose precision becomes poetry.' - Richard Kämmerlings, Die Welt on *Gotthard*

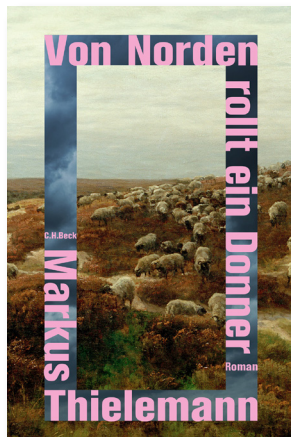
Clear, vivid prose, with no frills. - Gabriele von Arnim, Deutschlandfunk Kultur on *Gotthard*

For me, Zora del Buono is one of our most underrated authors – her work is a masterclass in pared-back form.
- Barbara Meixner, *BuchMarkt*

Zora del Buono was eight months old when her father died in a car accident in 1963. Her dead father was a great void at the heart of the family. She and her mother hardly ever spoke about him. When her mother did mention him, Zora broke off the conversation, her heart pounding. She couldn't bear her mother's pain. Now, at 60, she wonders: what happened to E.T., the then 22-year-old man who caused the accident? How has he lived with the guilt for the past 60 years?

Because of Him is the story of a search: the narrator goes looking for E.T., wanting to confront him with her family's story. Her search takes her to dark, mysterious places where she finds answers that throw up new questions. What will it do to her, knowing more about the man who killed her father than about her father himself? And how can a person heal when there will always be a void in their life?

Zora del Buono was born in Zurich in 1962 and lives in Berlin and Zurich. She studied architecture at ETH Zurich and spent five years working as a site manager in post-Reunification Berlin. She is a founding member and cultural editor of the magazine *mare*. Her books *Gotthard* (2015), *Hinter Büschen an eine Hauswand gelehnt* (2016) and *Die Marschallin* (2021) are also published by C.H.Beck.



2024
280 pages
Hardcover
€ 23.00

- A literary exploration of the social and political climate in the West German provinces
- About homeland and violence, repression and silence, tradition and responsibility
- Can the desire to protect one's homeland ever justify violence?
- A chronicle of Lüneburger Heide in all its ambivalence

Markus Thielemann

A Thunder Rolling In From The North

A Novel

Every day, nineteen-year-old Jannes and his family drive the sheep over the heathland of Lüneburger Heide. But there is growing unease in the area: the wolf is back. More and more sheep are being killed, and these deaths cause conflicts in the village which quickly turn political.

As the situation escalates and threatens to culminate in vigilante justice within the community, Jannes takes refuge with his sheep on the heath. Until he starts running into a strange woman there.

He decides to follow her, and little by little he starts to learn the secrets of this supposedly idyllic landscape. He stumbles across violence, nationalist ideology – and a profound silence. With his compelling anti-Heimatroman, Markus Thielemann looks deep into the abyss of a 'quintessentially German' idyll.

Markus Thielemann was born in 1992 and lives in Hannover. He studied geography and philosophy in Osnabrück, and then literary writing in Hildesheim. *Thunder Rolling in From the North* is his second novel.

Elke Schmitter

Everything I Know About Love Is In This Book

A Novel

They stand in the half-darkness, in this moment which is without shyness, without triumph and without embarrassment. Everything stands still. Dialogue without words. Feeling, touching. Smooth skin, an elbow; a nipple hardening. Muscles, soft tissue. Hair. Islands you pause at. A rapidly beating heart. A feeling of calm that descends until the next touch comes and sweeps all calm away. When they move apart, eventually (they do not look at the time), this too is without reflection, without comment; it was enough. Nothing has ever been so enough.

Everything I Know About Love is in This Book is a story about the joy and the agony of love, about longing, closeness and not knowing how to go on. It is an Einbildungsroman – a novel of imagination – but it is also a Bildungsroman: an education, an experience, complete with footnotes. What do we now know about our internal ‘chemical factories’, about narcissism, ghosting and the mystery of spontaneous attraction? And were lovers from previous centuries similar to us in these respects? A polyphonic book about the most emotional subject there is – for anyone who has been in love, who is in love now, or for whom it is an alien condition or one they have forgotten.

Elke Schmitter studied philosophy in Munich. She is a freelance author and, after many years writing mainly for *taz* and *Der Spiegel*, now writes primarily for *Die Zeit*. Her debut novel *Frau Sartoris* (2000) was translated into more than 20 languages. Her novel *Inneres Wetter* (2021) is also published by C.H.Beck.



2024
352 pages
Hardcover
€ 24.00

- What love does to us – explored in virtuoso fashion by Elke Schmitter
- A wise book about the most emotional subject there is
- A diaristic literary novel about love
- For anyone who has been in love, who is in love now, or for whom it is an alien condition or one they have forgotten
- 'Schmitter has a real flair for such questions, and a sophisticated language for emotions and the human urge to classify them.' - Marie Schoeß, NDR Kultur, on *Inneres Wetter*
- For readers of Eva Illouz's non-fiction book *Warum Liebe wehtut*, Jenny Erpenbeck's novel *Kairos*, Siri Hustvedt, William Boyd, Leanne Shapton and Chris Kraus

Amir Hassan Cheheltan

The Rose of Nishapur

From the author of the novel 'Der Kalligraph von Isfahan'

In 2015, young Englishman David fulfils a long-cherished dream and travels to Iran, the homeland of his favourite poet Omar Khayyam. The country is still severely disrupted following the protests several years before – travellers from the West are advised to exercise extreme caution.

But David's Iranian friend Nader and his girlfriend Nastaran welcome him to Tehran and show him the mysterious corners of this exciting yet ravaged country. Out of their shared passion for Khayyam, a love triangle develops. But in a country that tramples on the rights and freedoms of its own citizens, this relationship is doomed to fail. 'The Rose of Nishapur' is a poignant novel about love, jealousy and the breaking of taboos in an authoritarian state, about the tension between East and West and about the incredible power of literature in helping people escape their own lives.

Amir Cheheltan was born in Tehran in 1956. He studied electrical engineering in England, took part in the Iraq War and has published novels and short story collections in Tehran. His novels 'Der Kalligraph von Isfahan' (2015), 'Der Zirkel der Literaturliebhaber' (2020) and 'Eine Liebe in Kairo' (2022) are also published by C.H.Beck.

Jutta Himmelreich studied Romance Studies, American Studies and Ethnology in Frankfurt, Tucson (Arizona) and Paris. She has been a translator and interpreter since 1985, working with German, English, French, Spanish and Farsi.



2024
280 pages
Hardcover
Translated from
Persian by Jutta
Himmelreich
€ 23.00

- The story of a ménage-à-trois in a repressive regime
- About a canonical figure in Persian literature: Omar Khayyam
- 'World literature before it was something different.' - Stefan Weidner, Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung on *Eine Liebe in Kairo*
- 'Seen through the lens of an amour fou, this novel gets to the root of the conflict in the Middle East.' - Ingo Arend, Deutschlandfunk on *Eine Liebe in Kairo*

Previous works have been sold to France, Libanon and Lithuania

Charles Simmons

Salt Water

A Novel

'In the summer of 1963 I fell in love, and my father drowned.' So begins this story of a summer that changes everything. Fifteen-year-old Michael is spending the holidays with his parents on the Atlantic coast, as he does every year. But this year something is different: the seductive Mrs Mertz and her twenty-year-old daughter Zina have moved into the guesthouse next door. Michael is not the only one to be captivated by the otherness and openness of the two women. He promptly falls in love with the beautiful Zina and finds himself hopelessly at the mercy of her caprices. But when he sees his romantic feelings betrayed in the cruellest way, the innocent world of his childhood is destroyed, and the summer takes a tragic turn. In this retelling of Turgenev's novel 'First Love', Simmons paints a sensitive and almost wistful picture of the loss of childhood innocence that comes with the turmoil of first love. It is set against a backdrop of a summer by the sea, full of colour and atmosphere.

Charles Simmons (1924 – 2017) was the editor of the New York Times Book Review. His acclaimed novel 'Salt Water' made his name in Europe as well as the United States. He lived and worked in New York.



2024
136 pages
Paperback
€ 14.00

World rights except English, Italian, Spanish, French available with C.H.Beck

Originally written in English

- 'A small masterpiece.' - Barbara von Becker, Frankfurter Rundschau
- **A classic, now available in paperback again: 75.000 copies sold** in Germany
- '[His style] is succinct but not cold, pared-down but not dry, calm but not placid... The wonderful thing about this book is that it is actually better than Turgenev's.' - Harald Jähner, Berliner Zeitung
- 'Here we find the images we strive for in life.' - Martin Lüdke, Die Zeit

Translation rights sold to
Cossee in Netherlands

René Aguigah

James Baldwin

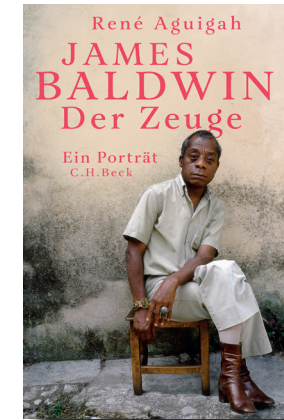
The Witness - A Portrait

René Aguigah's brilliant portrait of James Baldwin
2 August 2024 marks 100 years since James Baldwin's birth

James Baldwin (1924-1987) is one of the most important writers of the 20th century. During his lifetime, his novels 'Giovanni's Room' and 'The Fire Next Time' made him famous and earned him a place on the cover of Time Magazine. But Baldwin was Black and gay, the society in which he lived racist and homophobic. Out of this tension, a unique body of work was born. This work threw open the gates to the generations of activists that came after him.

In his elegantly written portrait, Baldwin expert René Aguigah traces Baldwin's life from his upbringing in poverty in Harlem to his move to Paris, as he fled the everyday racism he experienced in the USA. He also depicts Baldwin's rapid rise to become a sought-after speaker, and his relationships with Martin Luther King and Malcolm X. Above all, however, Aguigah's essayistic book looks at what Baldwin can still teach us today. He explores the relationship between Baldwin's artistry and his activism, the tension between his literary work and his politics, his advocacy for minorities and his universalist convictions. In his novels and essays, Baldwin, who was so very familiar with hate, sticks to love as a source of hope. Aguigah portrays him as a witness to an era of violence and injustice that are still with us today.

René Aguigah is a cultural journalist and head of the department of literature, philosophy and religion at Deutschlandfunk Kultur.



2024
208 pages with
6 illustrations
Hardcover
€ 24.00

- 'You gave me a language to dwell in.'
- Toni Morrison, winner of the Nobel Prize for Literature, on James Baldwin
- An eloquent witness to violence and injustice
- The hope of love in times of hate

Translation rights sold to Keller editore in Italy Beletrina in Slovenia

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