On July 25, 1967, Holocaust survivor Paul Celan and antisemitic philosopher Martin Heidegger met each other. Two other meetings followed. This is the fascinating story of the two poets and philosophers, and their secretive meeting, which qualifies as an extraordinary event in German intellectual history.

What connected the most influential German philosopher of the twentieth century and the stellar post-war poet, who dedicated one of his most important poems, *Todtnauberg*, to this meeting?

Armed with new research and sources, Hans-Peter Kunisch has crafted a tight, lively and vibrant account. None of us has ever felt this close to Paul Celan and Martin Heidegger.

HANS-PETER KUNISCH, born in 1962 in Visp, completed degrees in German, theater studies and philosophy, and wrote his dissertation about Musil, Schnitzler and Kafka. After residing in Paris and Munich, he now lives in Berlin. He researched the meeting at Todtnauberg in archives located in Berlin, Marburg and Paris, and he interviewed the last living witnesses of this event. He writes for DIE ZEIT, SZ, NZZ, WDR Radio, and Deutschlandfunk Kultur, as well as for the Philosophie-Magazin.

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This book has the power to change your life.

She actually has everything she has ever dreamed of, but the young woman is, nonetheless, increasingly discontent. She frequently has no idea how to manage the daily balancing act between career and family. One day, while walking through the woods, she encounters an old woman, who shares with her the four questions of life that can change everything. The young mother isn’t quite convinced by this claim, but she still decides to figure out how the process functions. The first question is: What do I actually want?

And the process actually works. She slowly begins to believe in the power of the questions, but then one question plagues her into a major crisis: What do I actually need? Suddenly, so many things seem to be under scrutiny.

The old woman doesn’t have any easy answers, much to the young mother’s disappointment. Instead, the old woman offers to reveal the final question to her. This one has the greatest power to catalyze far-reaching change. Is she ready for this?

• A very personal debut from an auspicious author
• Realistic, inspiring, encouraging
• For fans of John Strelecky’s *The Why Café*

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Tessa Randau
The Forest, Four Questions, Life, and I
A Meeting that Changed Everything

TESSA RANDAU, born in 1976, worked as a departmental head at a women’s magazine. When she was faced with the next career step, she decided to rethink her life. She made a choice for a more personal latitude, and consulted on stress and burnout. This is her first book. It is based on her experiences and came about as a result of her wish to help as many people as possible to find their own personally fulfilling way in life. She lives with her family in the Koblenz area.

The poet and the philosopher. Death Fugues and Black Books — The Meeting in Todtnauberg

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Hans-Peter Kunisch
Todtnauberg
The Improbable Encounter of Paul Celan and Martin Heidegger

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The prominent doctor and journalist Dr. Marianne Koch explains the functions of the human body and its most frequent illnesses, as well as their prevention and treatment. The author describes the heart and blood vessels, breathing, muscles, bone structure, digestion, hormones, the immune system and the human body as a whole. Dr. Koch elaborates on the most frequent infections and chronic diseases and their possibilities of treatment.

Total sales: 100,000 copies

"Our body’s defenses are phenomenal. And there is a lot we can do to foster them."

Millions of microorganisms have colonized us: bacteria, viruses, fungi, parasites. Most of them are harmless, but some of them are malignant pathogens. Without a functioning immune system, we wouldn’t be able to survive. In this book, the doctor and award-winning medical publicist highlights what we can do every day to support our physical defenses. She also explains the specific mechanisms our bodies use to mount a defense against the pathogens and how they can compensate for mismanagement within our internal system.

Day after day, Marianne Koch implements what she promotes, and she is the best evidence of how much we can do for ourselves, since she is in the best of health. According to scientists, there’s no hard and fast rule. Countless scientific studies leave us in no doubt that our lifestyle has a major influence on how youthful and energetic we will be in later life.

In this guide to everlasting health, Marianne Koch makes use of the latest research to introduce a multitude of techniques for remaining youthful and mentally alert. She shares with us a wealth of practical hints and tips. Her unmistakable tone and rich prose style enable her to convey better than almost anyone else the “intelligent” way to age, how to treat your mind, body and soul wisely, so that energy and quality of life are retained into a ripe old age.
We often get in our own way: we set up mental barriers, question ourselves constantly, look on the black side of things, lack courage, and fear the unknown. This is called self-sabotage, and it can erode our self-confidence. Experienced trainer Jacqueline Koeppen knows how we can end these negative mental spirals and how we can actively shape our lives. In order to achieve this, she describes five phases for change: realization, contemplation, feeling, discussion, and action.

Over one hundred concrete prompts focus on the typical variations of self-sabotage, ranging from aimlessness to uncertainty. Koeppen provides readers with effective and proven strategies with which to overcome old thought patterns and mental blocks, and to maximize personal potential.

Jacqueline Koeppen, born in 1979, is a communication trainer, and a coach and expert for self-efficacy. Under the motto “Success is always a question of strategy,” this shooting star of the self-empowerment scene helps people to fundamentally and sustainably change themselves within a short span of time.

A manual for self-coaching: the household motivation book
Includes numerous exercises, action strategies, and practical tips for how you can overcome mental blocks – this is how self-empowerment occurs

Your inner critic is calling? Call back!

The little saboteur is an element of our personality. It is the reason why we often take things that are important to us to a certain point, but fail to see them through to the end. It is because of this saboteur that we can give others good advice that we never make use of ourselves as we torpedo our own goals. The more we learn about our personal saboteur, the more successful we will be at foiling its sabotage attempts and shedding outdated assumptions and beliefs.

The author has developed a concept that distinguishes itself from previous approaches on how to deal with inner resistance. This method focuses on giving problems a certain shape and then conceptualizing these in a playful manner. The reader will be guided through assuming various roles and developing solutions that utilize both curiosity and fantasy.

- A manual that offers creative problem-solving strategies that are “tried and tested”
- For all those interested in the concept of the inner critic
Today, many doctors practice "reparatory medicine" with their patients, instead of simply searching for the causes of their complaints. Assisted by doctor and writing therapist Silke Heimes, we will become the best experts on our own health. Her prescription: twelve weeks of writing, fifteen minutes every day. These might be the effects of daily writing:

- reduce your blood pressure
- strengthen your immune system
- lessen gastrointestinal problems
- open up your respiratory system
- reduce anxiety
- help battle depression
- make you healthy and happy

We will learn how to once again recognize our bodies’ warning signals as such, through clear, motivational writing prompts. We will also discover a good way to cope with physical and mental ailments, and how to recognize what makes us healthy and well-balanced.

The author is an expert in two fields: medicine and writing therapy

Charmingly designed workbook for physical and emotional well-being

A 12-week program for improved health and balance

For readers of Andreas Michalsen and Dominik Spenst’s *The 6-Minute-Diary*

A second title is in preparation

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Sandra Winkler

Understanding Children

Everything You Need to Know about Pacifier Throwers, Veggie Holdouts, and Mattress Jumpers

Why do children always eat the same things? Why do they always dawdle? Why are boys eventually arrayed against the girls? Why do toddlers throw everything? Why do children pick their noses all the time?

Our little fellow humans are strange creatures. They mainly move by skipping, rarely do what they are told, and want to subsist on noodles and sweets. Sandra Winkler, mother of two daughters, gets to the bottom of this matter. Using findings from the fields of psychology, development pediatrics, and neurology, she provides an entertaining and vivid description of why little ones operate so differently than we do.

A book that will enable us to understand children better, while opening our eyes to the wonderful and wondrous aspects of them.

The extraordinary behavior of young children scientifically explained and humorously told

The ideal gift book – charmingly illustrated

For readers of Danielle Graf’s *The child I wished to have so badly* and Louis and Joe Borgenicht’s *Baby Owner Manual*
Despite Parkinson’s: “My new adventure is called life”

Christian Jung was in his mid-forties when he received his Parkinson’s diagnosis. As a scientific journalist, Jung was able to quickly figure out what this finding meant for him. Theoretically, at least – because he couldn’t really know what it would be like to live with a disease that would progress unrelentingly. When he reached the point that his mobility became so limited that he had to crawl painstakingly into the bathroom at night, he decided to undergo an operation and have a brain pacemaker implanted. With this step, his second life began.

In this book, Christian Jung tells his story and describes the current state of research into Parkinson’s. He presents the disease’s basic mechanisms, treatment and pharmaceutical options, drugs, and therapies. One More Flying Start is a book that promotes hope and courage: informative, critical, open, and funny, through and through.

- The fascinating story of a patient whose brain pacemaker has given him a new lease on life
- A helpful advice book that presents all there is to know about Parkinson’s, including the current state of research related to treatment options, pharmaceutical options, drugs, and therapies

Christian Jung
One More Flying Start
My Second Life with a Brain Pacemaker: Instructions on how to Live with Parkinson’s

288 pages
April 2020

Christina Berndt
Individuation
These days, many people are searching for their “true selves”. However the “I” isn’t a fixed quantity, but in constant flux. Christina Berndt has dedicated herself to the big, intriguing question of how we become what we are. She focuses on the creation and development of our personalities, and on the classic turning points in our lives. Which mental tools help to shield us from negative influences and enable us to better utilize the positive ones? Our personalities exist in a constant feedback loop with our lives. Major life decisions and even minor experiences have a strong impact on our identities.

Rights sold: Italy

Contentment
Contentment is a pretty reliable emotion. It may be less thrilling than the euphoria of happiness, but it has the advantage of being a great deal more stable and enduring. Rooted in a basically positive mindset – a fundamentally life-affirming attitude – contentment is governed more by the mind than the heart; it is the result of cognitive processes. This gives it an unbeatable edge: we can influence our sense of contentment far more than the inherently transient feeling of happiness. What’s more, contentment is a wellspring of creativity – and it is a strategy we can learn. The central question is: what really matters to ME?

Rights sold: Brazil, Italy, Taiwan

Resilience
Stress, burnout and depression are the afflictions of our time. Many of us seem unable to handle the ever-increasing speed and complexity of life. What we need more than ever is a coping strategy – an inner strength we can rely on in times of crisis. Resilience: that’s what psychologists call the mysterious force that keeps us from falling apart and brings us back from the brink in the wake of adversity. Christina Berndt explains what it is that makes us strong and reveals the secrets of harnessing the power of resilience, offering strategies to help steer our way through the jungle of everyday life.

Rights sold: Brazil, PR China, Czech Republic, Denmark, Italy, Korea, Latvia, Norway, Poland, Russia, Serbia, Spain (cast.), Taiwan

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**Charles P. Kindleberger**  
*The World in Depression*  
1929-1939

A classic that has much to tell us about the past, as well as quite a bit about the present.

The US Stock Market crash of 1929 was the result of a typical speculation bubble. However, in this special situation, the crash catalyzed a downward spiral in other economic sectors and in numerous countries. It was followed by bank crises, a reduction in demand, unemployment, and protectionist tariff policies. The US used protectionism as an escape route, and the country functioned according to the motto, “Ruin your neighbors the way you yourself have been ruined.”

According to Charles Kindleberger, this catastrophe could have been averted. The national economist and economic historian was one of the architects of the Marshall Plan. He was not only knowledgeable about how a national economy functioned in theory - he knew its realities. His brilliant intellect and practical experiences shape this classic work, which has as much to tell us about our own day and age as it does about the past.

**PRESS ACCLAIM TO THE ORIGINAL EDITION:**

“[Kindleberger] has written perhaps the finest analytical account of the run-up to the Great Depression and the ensuing run-down from it into mild recovery and eventual world war. [This] brilliant book remains a carefully documented admonition to our leading spirits to ‘look to the ends’ of what they are currently about.”

*Times Literary Supplement*

“The World in Depression, 1929-1939 is the best book on the subject.”

*John Kenneth Galbraith*
Thomas Jäger, Verena Diersch, Stephan Liedtke

What Europe May Know
The US Intelligence Services and European Politics

THOMAS JÄGER is a professor for International and Foreign Policy at the University of Cologne, and he is a member of the North Rhine-Westphalian Academy for the Arts and Sciences. He primarily focuses on matters of foreign and security policies.

VERENA DIERSCH holds degrees in political science, and she was a research fellow in the department of International and Foreign Policy at the University of Cologne. Her researches focus on security policy, specifically intelligence and cyber-security.

STEPHAN LIEDTKE studied political science. He was a research fellow in the department of International and Foreign Policy, and is the former editor of The Journal for Foreign and Security Policy.

Information is this millennium’s raw materials - knowledge is power. This is true for business competition in general, and especially for countries.

In this struggle for dominance, the big players are the ones determining the direction and speed of progress, and the quality of information. In a two-fold sense, the European Union is in a disadvantaged position. On the one hand, it lacks large, market-dominating digital enterprises, such as Microsoft, Apple, Google, and Huawei. On the other hand, the Europeans are adverse to joint intelligence operations. This situation compels the EU countries to cooperate with the US intelligence services, despite the fact that the political interests of the US are deviating increasingly from those of the EU. In addition, the US intelligence services are just as willful as they are self-serving. This book illuminates their goals and practices, and explains why they are allowed to do what they do in other countries and what they are prohibited from doing in the US. It also poses one pivotal question: What are the odds that these services are controlling the European allies and their policies via the selective sharing of information?

Daniele Ganser

USA – The Ruthless Empire

304 pages
April 2020

Many people view the US as the greatest threat to world peace. Why is this? This book explains the background factors, motives, and resources of this world power.

In the eyes of many, the US exerts the strongest destabilizing influence on world events and, thus, presents the greatest threat to world peace. World power #1 hasn’t acquired this top position by chance. Since 1945, no other nation has bombed as many other countries or toppled as many governments as the US. It maintains the most military bases, exports the most weapons, and has the highest defense budget in the world.

Daniele Ganser impressively describes how the US drives a global policy in which violence is the central element.

Illegal Wars
From Cuba to Syria: A History of Sabotage by NATO Nations and the UN

304 pages
October 2013

A worldwide ban on wars went into effect with the establishment of the UN. Military intervention is only permitted in two exceptions (self-defense or by mandate of the UN Security Council). However, the reality is quite different. This book describes how illegal wars have been carried out both in the past and in the present and reveals how the UN regulations are intentionally circumvented, with special focus on the inglorious role played by the NATO nations.

Over 80,000 copies sold
Rights sold: Czech Republic, France, Italy, Mongolia, Serbia
Reason serves as humanity’s sharpest weapon. As a result of their logic and reason, humans are positioned above other creatures. The human is the best that millions of years of evolution has produced – its ultimate high-end model. At least, that is the story.

However, the reality is that in the face of presumed threats, people quickly follow ancient instincts, the ones that have proven successful over the evolutionary process’s millions of year: stereotypical automatisms and emotional shortcuts that often lead to biased assessments. These mechanisms function in opposition to the ideas of the Enlightenment and humanism, and they play into the hands of the populist masses. Frank Urbaniok provides a nuanced analysis of the fatal consequences that can arise from this situation for both the individual and society at large.

- An analysis of human behavior when dealing with strangers and the unknown
- An astute psychological profile of human nature with highly relevant socio-political implications
- Academic approach to the topic

One question in particular is a long-burning topic for conversation around more than just the proverbial water cooler: Does the German justice system deliver overly lenient sentences - show too much forbearance - toward convicted criminals? Especially when it comes to spectacular, brutal, and violent criminals, but also when it comes to crimes by minors, the courts are frequently accused of being excessively soft in their judgments. Against the background of an ongoing contentious debate, one of Germany’s leading criminologists analyzes the current state of criminality. The author also problematizes the potentialities and limitations of the criminal justice system, and examines in detail the situation faced by victims. Kinzig presents an engagingly low-key analytical study of this matter, without falling into legalese.

PROF. JÖRG KINZIG is a criminologist and penologist, as well as the director of the Institute of Criminology at the University of Tübingen. His research focuses are: the appropriate treatment of dangerous criminals, the study of so-called organized crime, and the reaction of the State to investigations into standard violations.

We are all deeply committed to the right “to be the way we are,” to be different than other people. The claim to personal identity is literally everywhere, on the social media, in preferences related to clothing and music, in politics, and in the selection of food items. However, what is actually meant with identity? The answer isn’t all that simple, because identity is multi-faceted in nature: the identity of refugees versus that of Westerners, the identity of the nation and the legal system, the identity of our heritage and our landscape, etc.

“Identity” has become a universally applied concept that has now been forced to function in many contexts on both the individual and collective levels. This book explores a concept that controls our thought and emotional processes, and that has long been a central, contentious question in the political realm.

FLORIAN COULMAS was a professor of the culture and history of modern Japan at the University of Duisburg. He currently leads the German Institute of Japanese Studies in Tokyo. In 2016, he received the prestigious Meyer Struckmann Prize for Historical and Sociological Research.
Sabine Asgodom
Queen of Fucking Everything

It’s my turn now!

Enthusiastic, angry, energized – these words hit the nail on the head when it comes to the attitude toward life of many women between the ages of 40 and 60. They have achieved a lot, shouldered a lot, and swallowed a lot. Now their dreams of independent, self-determined lives is growing. “This can’t be all there is!”, one woman says. ”Enough is enough!”, declares another. “And now it’s my turn”, many announce. But how can women transform negative feelings, such as disappointment, anger and frustration, into positive energy that will generate the strength they need to affect change?

Sabine Asgodom has already helped thousands of women transform disappointment into energy and develop a vision for their lives from limited perspectives. In her teaching-laughing-solution book, she takes readers through fifteen steps to reach their goals. Step by step, they will succeed at becoming the “Queen of Fucking Everything” in their own lives.

Arye Sharuz Shalicar
“A Wet Dog is Better than a Dry Jew”

“To the Germans, I was a foreigner, to the Muslims a Jew, and to the Jews a juvenile delinquent.”

Arye Sharuz Shalicar was born in Germany, the son of Jewish immigrants from Iran. His background wasn’t an issue for him until his family moved to Wedding, a Berlin neighbourhood with a high proportion of Muslim immigrants. There, anti-Semitism is the order of the day, and when 15-year-old Shalicar’s friends find out he is Jewish he becomes the target of their aggression. With the help of a Kurdish friend he succeeds in “working his way up” the youth gang hierarchy.

Even at this point, his Jewish background doesn’t interest him much. As time passes though, he realizes that he needs to concentrate on graduating from high school, so he starts to pull out of the gang scene. This is the point that he starts to become more interested in his Jewish heritage.

In the end, he emigrates to Israel in 2001. A powerful coming-of-age story set in the heart of Germany. The title of the book refers to an Iranian saying: A “wet dog” is better than a “dry Jew”.

- Currently adapted to the screen with Kida Ramadan
- Film will be released in autumn 2020