

# RIGHTS GUIDE GRAPHIC NOVEL

Complete List



**KNESEBECK**  
*Das besondere Buch*



# ROMEO & JULIET

## GRAPHIC NOVEL BASED ON SHAKESPEARE

Alwina Calma, Sarah Raffelt

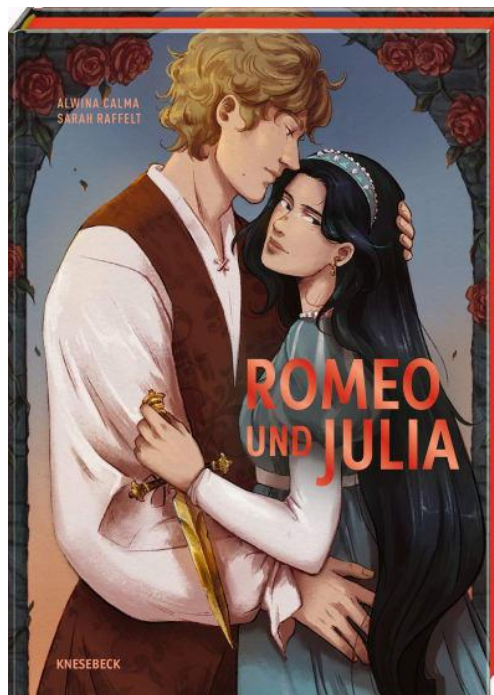
### Shakespeare's tragedy in captivating illustrations

They come from feuding worlds and yet find each other. Romeo and Juliet fall in love completely, quickly, and against every rule. Their love is a beginning and a great risk. This graphic novel brings Shakespeare's world-famous tragedy to the page with a contemporary aesthetic and powerful emotion. Every scene is filled with intensity, inner conflict, and the urgency of two young people who want more than life allows them. For everyone who loves the classics - and for anyone who wants to feel how timeless great emotions truly are.



Shakespeare's most famous love tragedy as a visually stunning graphic novel—intense, modern, and compelling

Forbidden love, powerful emotions, youthful rebellion—timeless and more relevant than ever



17 x 24 cm | hardcover, colour cut | 128 pages  
colour illustrated throughout | € 25.00 |  
ISBN 978-3-98962-092-6

Publication: November 2026

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GRAPHIC NOVEL



### The Author

Alwina Calma works as an author and online editor in Berlin. She supplemented her teaching degree with further training in psychology and soon stumbled across her childhood flipbooks during her traineeship, which revitalised her creative side. Since then, she has been writing novels and screenplays, runs the screenwriting blog Story Twister and is a member of the German Screenwriting Association.



### The Illustrator

Sarah Raffelt is a qualified psychologist and freelance artist. She has been drawing artwork in digital and traditional media for over 15 years, which she shares on social media under the name @abbinaly. Inspired by her love of manga and comics, she published her first graphic novel, *As You Like It*. When she's not creating, she spends time with her cat Sammy.

# TWELFTH NIGHT

## GRAPHIC NOVEL BASED ON SHAKESPEARE

Alwina Calma, Sarah Raffelt

### Shakespeare meets New Adult

Shakespeare? Yes, but with romance, please! No one perfected the play of emotions as much as the master of drama. Reinterpreted and with modern drawings, this graphic novel adaptation of the play of the same name enchants with unique characters and explores human desire. Viola, stranded and disorientated, falls in love with Duke Orsino. The only annoying thing is that she works for him under a false identity. Does a love based on secrets and lies even stand a chance? A light-hearted play full of trials and tribulations and great romantic feelings that shows the complexity of human relationships. Not just for Shakespeare fans, but for all romance enthusiasts!

A graphic novel that combines classic tropes such as 'From Enemy to Lover' and 'Forbidden Love'

A story that raises questions about identity and gender roles while tapping into the zeitgeist



17 x 24 cm | hardcover, colour cut | 128 pages  
colour illustrated throughout | € 25.00 |  
ISBN 978-3-95728-981-0

Publication: October 2025

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### The Author

**Alwina Calma** works as an author and online editor in Berlin. She supplemented her teaching degree with further training in psychology and soon stumbled across her childhood flipbooks during her traineeship, which revitalised her creative side. Since then, she has been writing novels and screenplays, runs the screenwriting blog Story Twister and is a member of the German Screenwriting Association.



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# PRIDE AND PREJUDICE

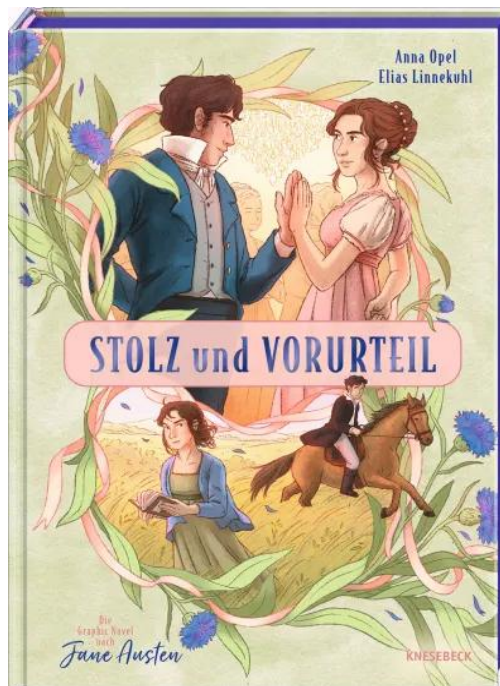
## GRAPHIC NOVEL BASED ON JANE AUSTEN

Anna Opel, Elias Linnekuhl

The most famous enemies-to-lovers story as charming graphic novel

Elizabeth Bennet does not want a man like Mr Darcy at any price. Too arrogant, too cold, too rich. And yet: something flickers when they meet. Her quick wit, his nobility... could they be a good match after all? Does love even stand a chance when prejudice and wounded pride cloud their vision?

With this graphic novel, Elias Linnekuhl and Anna Opel take us into a world of balls and intrigue, social constraints and painstakingly concealed feelings. The most popular enemies-to-lovers romance in world literature is retold in an exciting new way. A must for Jane Austen fans and anyone who wants to be there when love finds its way.



17 x 24 cm | hardcover, colour cut | 144 pages  
colour illustrated throughout | € 25.00 |  
ISBN 978-3-95728-065-0

Publication: April 2026

WORLD RIGHTS AVAILABLE

Jane Austen's most beloved novel - reimagined and beautifully illustrated

A timeless social novel, retold for young adult and romance fans

Poetic language meets artistic illustrations that bring the characters to life



### The Author

**Anna Opel** is a freelance author and dramaturge based in Berlin. She studied history and theatre studies and believes in the power of language. She writes books and essays. Her favourite things to tell are “untold female stories” and everything that is left out of the official annals.



### The Illustrator

**Elias Linnekuhl** is a 2D animator and illustrator from Hamburg. He graduated from HAW Hamburg and has been working as an illustrator and comic artist for publishers, animated films and various publications since 2019. When he's not up to his ears in work, he can be found enjoying nature or animating his future short film.

# SENSE AND SENSIBILITY

## GRAPHIC NOVEL BASED ON JANE AUSTEN

Anna Opel, Stella Langecker

### Jane Austen, reinterpreted for new adult readers

Jane Austen's classic has been enthralling readers for over 200 years - now it is being published for the first time as an atmospheric graphic novel retold for young adults. Elinor favours reason, Marianne follows her feelings. But when love turns their lives upside down, they both have to make a decision: Head or heart? This modern adaptation captures the timeless question of love and self-determination - intense, touching and more immediate than ever. Artful, handdrawn illustrations bring historical England to life. Each page is a visual masterpiece full of emotion and depth - perfect for Austen fans and anyone who is sensible but still loves big feelings.



17 x 24 cm | hardcover, colour cut | 144 pages  
colour illustrated throughout | € 25.00 |  
ISBN 978-3-95728-971-1

Publication: August 2025

WORLD RIGHTS AVAILABLE

Jane Austen's debut novel as an enchanting graphic novel for the first time

250th birthday of Jane Austen in December 2025



### The Author

Anna Opel is a freelance author and dramaturge based in Berlin. She studied history and theatre studies and believes in the power of language. She writes books and essays. Her favourite things to tell are untold female stories and everything that is left out of the official annals.



### The Illustrator

Stella Langecker actually studied biology but dropped out shortly before her master's degree to devote herself entirely to drawing. She is now a freelance illustrator and incorporates animals and plants into her work wherever possible. She prefers to work classically with pencil, pen, brush and watercolours.

# THOMAS MANN - 1949

## RETURN TO A FOREIGN HOMELAND

Julian Voloj, Friedhelm Marx,  
Magdalena Adomeit

### Thomas Mann Year 2025

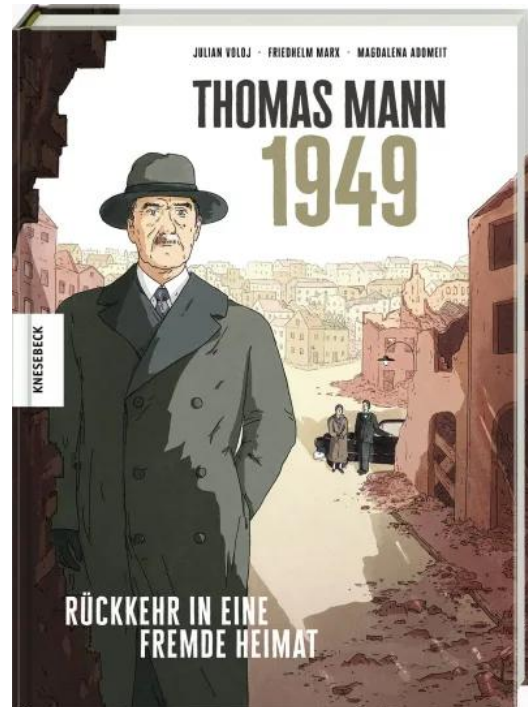
He was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1929, and in 1933 he was driven into exile as one of the most vocal opponents of National Socialism. Thomas Mann's relationship with Germany remained complicated from then on. He emigrated to the USA in 1938 and only set foot on German soil again in 1949: at the invitation of the Goethe Year in East and West Germany. With his wife Katia, he through Germany, gave speeches in both parts of Germany, and was both acclaimed and criticized. Based on diaries, letters, travelogues and the memories of his Swiss driver, the graphic novel tells the story of this ten-day return, an extremely politically charged chapter in the life of Thomas Mann and his family.

Thomas Mann's first trip to Germany after emigrating into exile, realized as a multi-faceted graphic novel with deep insights into important phases of his life

On the 150th birthday of Thomas Mann in June 2025

With the participation of one of Germany's leading Thomas Mann experts

>What makes the graphic novel worth reading is its masterful handling of the condensation of time.<-  
FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE ZEITUNG



19.0 x 26.0 cm | hardcover | 96 pages |  
colour illustrated throughout | € 24.00 |  
ISBN 978-3-95728-896-7

Publication: February 2025

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### The Authors

**Julian Voloj** was born in Münster and is the author of numerous internationally successful graphic novels. Most recently, his biography *Bobby Fischer: A chess legend between genius and madness* (2022, illustrated by Wagner Willian) was published by Knesebeck Verlag. He has lived and worked in New York since 2003.

**Prof. Dr. Friedhelm Marx** is a literary scholar and holds the Chair of Modern German Literature at the University of Bamberg. His research focuses on the work of Thomas Mann, modern literature and contemporary German literature. Friedhelm Marx has been Vice President of the German Thomas Mann Society since 2006.

### The Illustrator

**Magdalena Adomeit** is an illustrator and traveler. She studied illustration at the HAW in Hamburg and previously gathered inspiration in the wide world. She captures her discoveries with realistic and imaginative strokes.

# SOPHIE SCHOLL

Ingrid Sabisch, Heiner Lünstedt

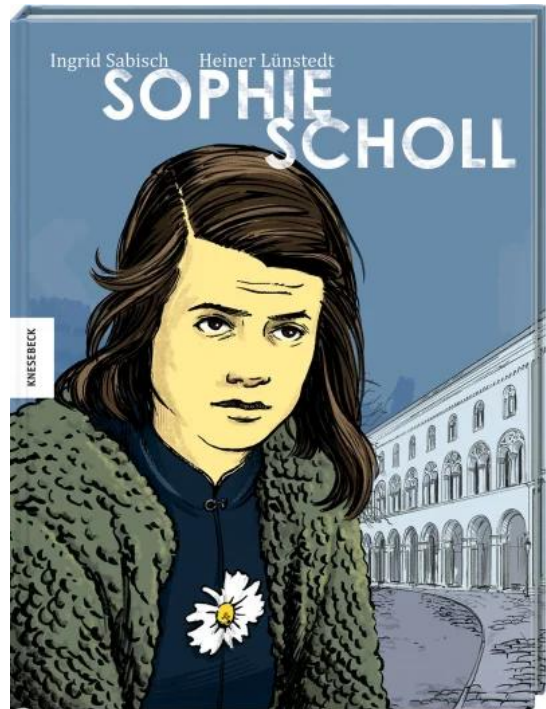
## Love and life during dark times

Of course, the terrible things I heard from the Nuremberg Trials, about the six million Jews and the people from other races who were killed, were facts that shocked me deeply. But I wasn't able to see the connection with my own past. I was satisfied that I wasn't personally to blame and that I hadn't known about those things. I wasn't aware of the extent. But one day I went past the memorial plaque which had been put up for Sophie Scholl in Franz Josef Street, and I saw that she was born the same year as me, and she was executed the same year I started working for Hitler. And at that moment I actually sensed that it was no excuse to be young, and that it would have been possible to find things out. <

This moving quote by Traudl Junge, Hitler's personal secretary, shows the impact the Weiße Rose had on the German youth and the Germans in general. Sophie Scholl was the central figure of this movement, a young fearless girl, facing a ruthless system. This comic biography depicts her fight against the Nazi dictatorship, war and injustice. And even more: her romantic but also complicated love to the soldier and officer Fritz Hartnagel, with whom she exchanged her thinking in conversation and in very intimate letters, that make us understand her growing into an ardent adversary of Fascism.

A comic biography of a girl that resisted to Nazi terror and dictatorship

Based on her life and her letter to her boyfriend Fritz Hartnagel



22.0 x 29.0 cm | hardcover | 56 pages | colour illustrations throughout | € 20.00 | ISBN 978-3-86873-807-0

Publication: September 2015

SOLD TO: Italy, Czech Republic



## The Authors

**Heiner Lünstedt** is a leading comic specialist and co-director of the Munich Comicfestival. His publications include the adventure series *Die Weltenbummler*.



**Ingrid Sabisch** has published a comic on the life of Albrecht Dürer and three graphic novels *41,3 kg - Magersucht*, *Mythos Mutti* and *Schwangerschafts-streifen*. With Heiner Lünstedt she published the comic biography *Willy Brandt* in 2013.

# KANT

## ABOUT THE WAY OF THOUGHTS

Jörg Hülsmann

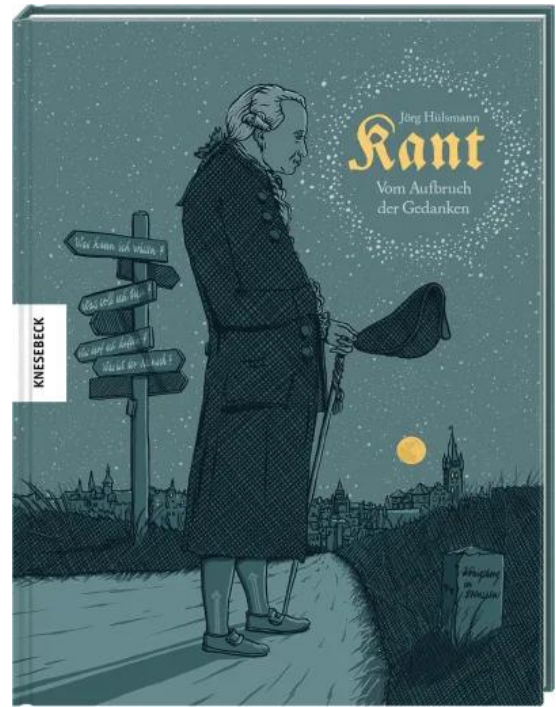
›Have the courage to use your own mind.‹

What can I know? What should I do? What can I hope for? What is man? Kant developed his philosophy on the basis of these four questions. But who was the mastermind of the Enlightenment, whose thoughts are more relevant today than ever? Jörg Hülsmann traces Kant's exciting life and explains his central philosophical ideas in an easy-to-understand way. This uniquely illustrated journey of thought invites us to think in a whole new way about what it means to be human.

The life and philosophy of Immanuel Kant as a pioneering thinker of the Enlightenment, realized as an easily accessible graphic novel in a unique cartographic style

What can I know? What should I do? What may I hope?  
What is man? - this graphic novel approaches Kant based on his four most important questions

›Hülsmann's drawings in this great graphic novel are extremely accomplished and well worth looking at.‹  
- LEBENSWERT



19.4 x 25.5 cm | hardcover | 96 pages | colour illustrations throughout | € 24.00 | ISBN 978-3-95728-800-4

Publication: March 2024

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### The Author and Illustrator

Jörg Hülsmann, born in 1974, studied illustration in Düsseldorf and Hamburg. Since 2003, he has been working as a freelance illustrator for book publishers, magazines and newspapers, including S. Fischer, Die Andere Bibliothek, Suhrkamp, DuMont, Bücher-gilde Gutenberg, Frankfurter Rundschau and others.

# THE DEATH IN VENICE

BASED ON THE NOVELLA BY

THOMAS MANN

Susanne Kuhlendahl

›Such was Venice, the wheedling, shady beauty, a city half fairy tale, half tourist trap‹ - Thomas Mann

*Death in Venice* is a famous novella by Thomas Mann and one of the classics of German literature. It tells the story of the writer von Aschenbach, who, while staying in Venice, becomes infatuated with a delicate, sickly Polish boy named Tadzio. Recognising in Tadzio the essence of beauty, von Aschenbach rethinks his conception of art, while at the same time, his love for the boy draws him inexorably towards his tragic end. Susanne Kuhlendahl's watercolour illustrations present this famous tale of decline and decadence in a new and exciting form as a graphic novel.



21.5 x 29.0 cm | hardcover | 96 pages |  
colour illustrations throughout | € 22.00 |  
ISBN 978-3-95728-268-2

Publication: September 2019

**SOLD TO:** Brazil

# VIRGINIA WOOLF

THE COMIC BIOGRAPHY

Susanne Kuhlendahl

The dramatic life story of the author of *Orlando*, *Mrs Dalloway* and *A room of One's own*, interpreted for the first time as a graphic novel

This graphic biography of Virginia Woolf sketches a detailed and sensitive picture of one of the literary giants of the 20th century and shows how central writing was to her life. Plagued by spiritual crises throughout her life, with her sharp pen, the renowned author nevertheless left her mark in a male-dominated world and was a pioneer in the fields of emancipation and feminism, sexuality and gender identity. Her long inner struggle ended with suicide - yet Virginia Woolf was not a victim, but a strong and feisty woman whose work still bears testimony to her genius. For the first time, a graphic novel sheds light on the life of one of the most important female authors of the 20th century.



21.5 x 29.0 cm | hardcover | 128 pages |  
colour illustrations throughout | € 25.00 |  
ISBN 978-3-95728-488-4

Publication: September 2021

**SOLD TO:** Korea, China



## The Author and Illustrator

Susanne Kuhlendahl is an illustrator. While there are many ways to gain access to the hearts and minds of readers, she chooses the path of generating understanding and elucidation by means of images. Her particular passion is for telling complex stories in pictures, in graphic novels which allow the reader to experience emotions and events firsthand. A qualified designer, she works for well-known publishers of textbooks, children's and handicrafts books and calendars, is married and has three grown-up children.

# METAMORPHOSED

FRANZ KAFKA - LIFE LOVE LITERATURE

Alexander Pavlenko, Thomas Dahms

## The life of a writer of the century

Kafka's works are as complex as they are unfathomable. Throughout his life, the sensitive writer wrestled with his inner demons and weaved his experiences in enigmatic stories. With his unusual view on society and man, he created worlds that fascinate to this day. Unique illustrations trace Kafka's life, illuminate his love affairs, and provide insights into the abysses and brokenness of the most famous literary figure of the last century.

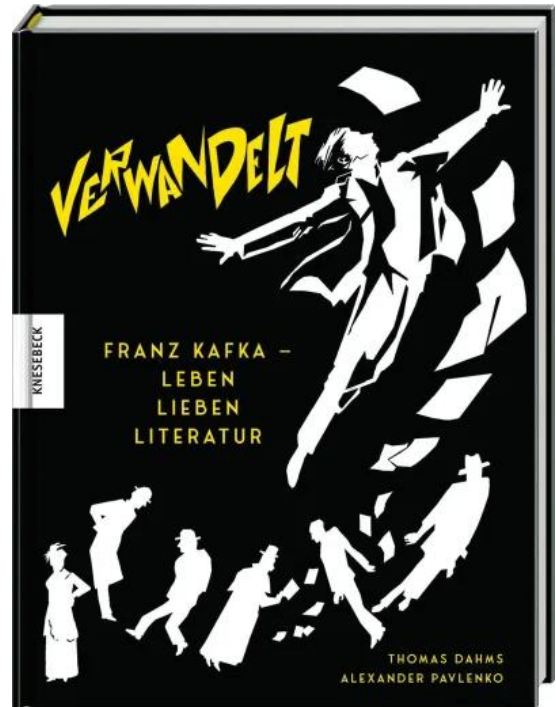
Family, love and the work of Franz Kafka skillfully woven into a graphic novel - a unique and easy-to-understand approach to the great writer

Full of original quotes, diary excerpts and extracts from his works

100th anniversary of Franz Kafka's death in June 2024

›Alexander Pavlenko's pictures are reminiscent of woodcuts and usually make do with two colors in addition to black and white and which, despite the color reduction, appear enormously dynamic and lively.‹

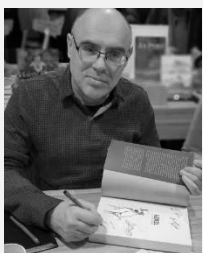
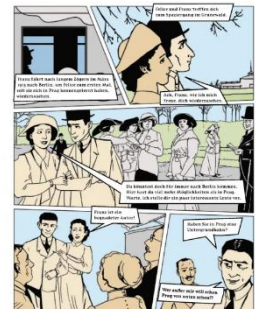
- DER FREITAG



19.4 x 25.5 cm | hardcover | 128 pages | colour illustrations throughout | € 24.00 | ISBN 978-3-95728-806-6

Publication: March 2024

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## The Illustrator

Alexander Pavlenko publishes numerous comics and graphic novels in Germany and France. His graphic novel *Herzl. A European History* has been published internationally, including Germany, France, Israel and the Czech Republic. He also illustrates modern literature and works by E.T.A. Hoffmann and Oscar Wilde.



## The Author

Dr. Thomas Dahms studied history in Germany and Great Britain and taught in Poland. In 2008, he took over the Ostfalia publishing house, where the series *German History in Comics* is published.

# THE SANDMAN

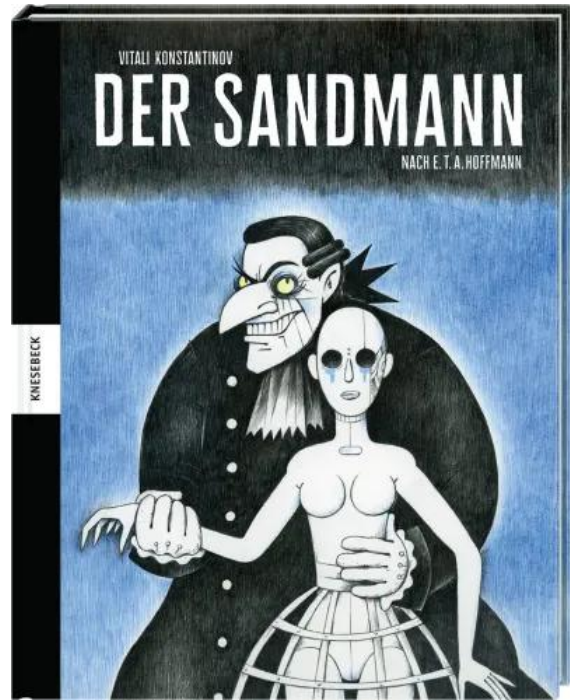
BASED ON THE WORK BY

E. T. A. HOFFMANN

Vitali Konstantinov

**A somber love between madness and artificial intelligence**

Nathaniel lost his father some years ago and blames his father's friend - the alchemist Coppelius - for his death. He is obsessed with revenge, and at the beginning of the story, believes he has recognised Coppelius in a barometer seller in the town. After increasingly working himself into a state about what he believes to be the evil machinations of Coppelius, Nathaniel argues with his childhood sweetheart Clara and turns his affections to the daughter of his professor - Olympia - who is a prisoner in her apartment. After one dance with Olympia, Nathaniel makes her a proposal of marriage, only to discover that she is a robot. The story culminates with Nathaniel, driven into madness at having been deceived in this way, attempting to throw himself and Clara to their deaths from the steeple of the town church. In this book, Vitali Konstantinov interprets Hoffman's brooding tale in his fine, linear style.



21.5 x 29.0 cm | hardcover | 48 pages | colour illustrations throughout | € 22.00 | ISBN 978-3-95728-181-4

Publication: September 2019

**WORLD RIGHTS AVAILABLE**

One of the most widely read horror stories in German Romanticism, interpreted as a thrilling graphic novel

A timeless story about the nature of man, artificial intelligence, delusion and deception

Konstantinovs drawing style catches the character of the book template perfectly

›Vitali Konstantinov's interpretation of ›The Sandman‹ is visually stunning and gleefully irreverent.‹ - BÜCHERMAGAZIN



## The Author and Illustrator

**Vitali Konstantinov**, born near Odessa, Ukraine in 1963, studied art and architecture in Russia and graphical art, painting and the history of Byzantine art in Germany. He taught book illustration, for example at the University of Applied Sciences in Hamburg. His books have won numerous prizes, including the award for the Most beautiful German book from the Buchkunst foundation for *Seltsame Seiten*.

# THE SECOND DISCOVERY OF THE WORLD

## ALEXANDER VON HUMBOLDT'S EXPEDITION TO SOUTH AMERICA

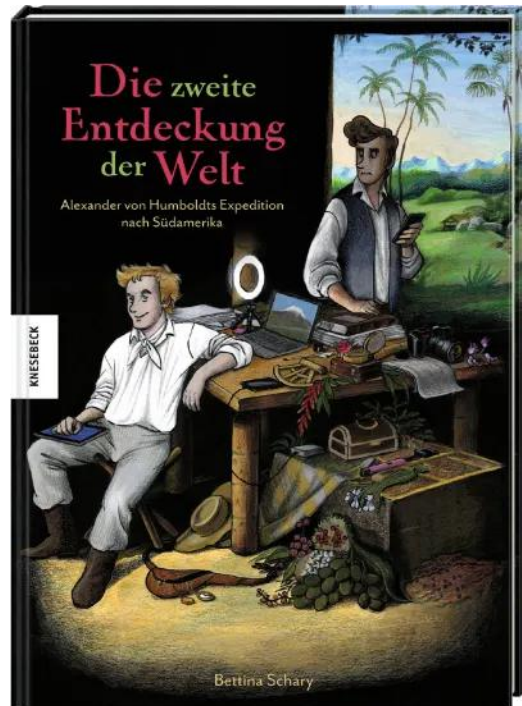
Bettina Schary

You have reached your destination!

For more than five years, Alexander von Humboldt and Aimé Bonpland travelled South America, collecting, measuring and documenting everything they found: flora, fauna or mountains. Over a distance of around 8000 kilometres, they crossed steppes, rivers and jungles, climbed volcanoes, sleeping in forests and caves. Humboldt was an ingenious networker, and in this book, in her debut work as an illustrator, Bettina Schary captures his achievements and adapts them humorously and instructively for the reader of today.

The historic journey of the great scientist and his companion Aimé Bonpland, depicted for the first time in a humorous graphic novel

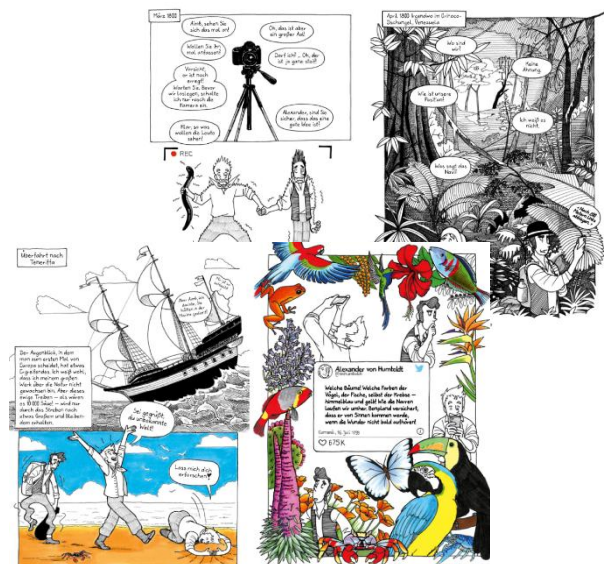
Social media meets history: Alexander von Humboldt as a blogger who posts his observations on the road and gives interviews on talkshows



18.7 x 26.5 cm | hardcover | 96 pages | colour illustrations throughout | € 22.00 | ISBN 978-3-95728-667-3

Publication: March 2023

WORLD RIGHTS AVAILABLE



### The Author and Illustrator

**Bettina Schary**, born in 1989, studied German, theatre and media sciences and media management. She works as a communication expert in Berlin. Drawing (for preference in the traditional way with pencil and coloured pencils, ink, copy markers and watercolours) is an integral part of her life. Her passions are hiking, podcasts and playing with language. Her favourite word is ›Waldeinsamkeit‹ - the solitude of the forest.



## MYTH BEETHOVEN

### THE COMIC BIOGRAPHY

Moritz Stetter

#### A symphony for the maestro

In this graphic novel, told in episodes, Moritz Stetter takes an unusual and impressive look at the life of a musical genius: following the rhythm of a Beethoven composition, the story examines important stations in the life of the famous composer in selected episodes. It tells of Beethoven's exceptional genius and his popularity with audiences, his condescending attitude towards contemporaries and the gradual loss of his hearing. A fresh view of one of the greatest composers of all time.

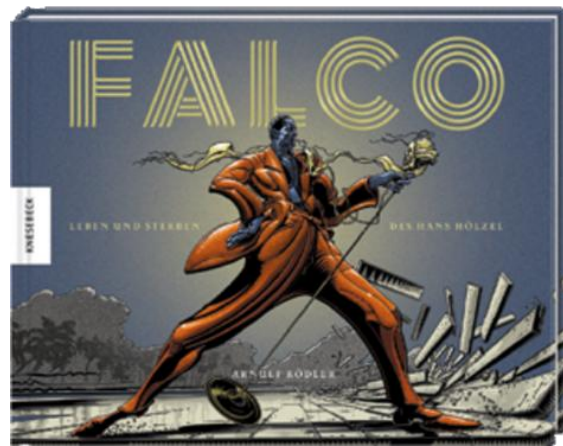
22.0 x 29.0 cm | hardcover | 96 pages |  
colour illustrations throughout | € 25.00 |  
ISBN 978-3-95728-441-9

Publication: September 2020

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#### The Author and Illustrator

**Moritz Stetter**, born in 1983, is a freelance cartoonist and comic illustrator. He is best known for his comic biographies *Bonhoeffer* and *Luther*. His Kafka adaptation *The Judgement* was published by Knesebeck.



## FALCO

### THE LIFE AND DEATH OF HANS HÖLZEL

Arnulf Rödler

#### Out of the dark - into the light

›Der Kommissar‹, ›Jeanny‹ or ›Rock Me Amadeus‹: Falco's songs were often well ahead of their time. And while Hans Hölzel was someone with many fears he never learned to handle, Falco kept them at bay with song. It is this dichotomy in the life of the bad boy and superstar which author Arnulf Rödler so ingeniously captures in his debut work. This impressive biography, a fast-paced and hypnotic account which begins with the singer's last hours, leads us through the world of Falco's imagination, his revolutionary albums and the milestones in his life. Falco was so much more than a German rapper in a satin suit ...

26.0 x 19.5 cm | hardcover | 96 pages | colour  
illustrations throughout | € 22.00 |  
ISBN 978-3-95728-701-4

Publication: January 2023

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#### The Author and Illustrator

**Arnulf Rödler** was born in 1976, attended the Höhere Graphische Lehr- und Versuchsanstalt and the Academy of Fine Arts in Vienna. He then worked as a freelance artist and illustrator for magazines and commercials. At the same time, he published numerous comics in fanzines and anthologies; he also performs as a vocalist with a focus on Noise, electroacoustics and experimental improvisation.

## CONTACT KNESEBECK

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