

# Preview Illustrated Books Spring 2025





### Wood Ants

Superheroes with six legs



Photographer: Ingo Arndt, Author: Jürgen Tautz

#### SPECIFICATIONS

21.5 x 28.5 cm, hardcover

approx. 192 pages

200 photographs

Retail price € 40.00

978-3-95728-840-0

Publication: March 2025

World rights available

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#### A WHOLE YEAR OF A WOOD ANT COLONY

Wood ants are amazing. They are architects, indoor climate engineers, hunters, gardeners, livestock keepers, cleaners and real musclemen who even take on wild boars. Occasionally they even help birds with their plumage care. The tiny insects, which already existed on earth with the dinosaurs, are masters of division of labor and cooperation. Ingo Arndt and Jürgen Tautz have observed wood ants and their remarkable behavior throughout the year, many of which have been captured on camera for the first time. In unique images and descriptive texts, the two show how wood ants organize themselves and the important role they play in the forest ecosystem.

#### THE PHOTOGRAPHER AND THE AUTHOR

**Ingo Arndt** has been one of the world's outstanding nature photographers for many years. He has been traveling the globe for almost 30 years, always in search of exciting photo reportages from the natural world. He has received numerous awards, including the World Press Photo Award. He has also won the coveted Wildlife Photographer of the Year Award many times. Born in Hesse, he lives near Frankfurt.

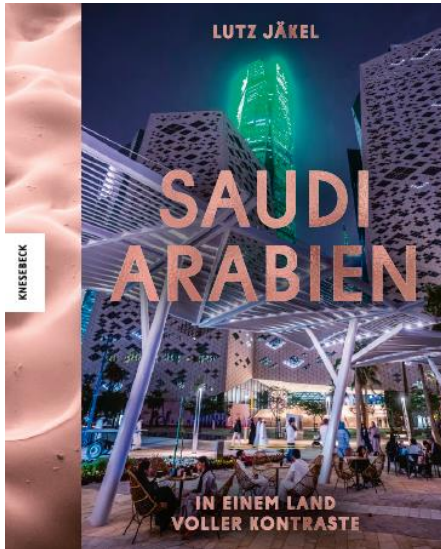
**Prof. Dr. Jürgen Tautz** is a behavioral scientist, sociobiologist and bee expert. As professor emeritus at the Biocenter of the Julius-Maximilians-Universität Würzburg, he heads the interdisciplinary environmental research and education projects HOBOS (H0ney-Bee Online Studies) and we4bee. He is also an internationally award-winning science communicator and author of successful popular science books on bees, some of which have been translated into over 20 languages.

#### USPs

- The multi-award-winning nature photographer Ingo Arndt shows sensational, never-before-seen images of the wood ant and its fascinating behaviors
- Informative texts by ant expert Jürgen Tautz convey the latest findings in ant research in an entertaining and accessible way

## Saudi Arabia

In a country of contrasts



Draft cover

Photographer/Author: Lutz Jäkel

### SPECIFICATIONS

20.5 x 25.5 cm, hardcover

approx. 192 pages

150 photographs

Retail price € 35.00

978-3-95728-897-4

Publication: April 2025

World rights available

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### SAUDI ARABIA UP CLOSE

Saudi Arabia was virtually sealed off until 2019, when it opened its doors to tourism. Lutz Jäkel has traveled through this contradictory country by car, train and bus. In unique pictures and informative and personal texts, he takes us on an extraordinary journey. We meet the kingdom's first female DJ, listen to the mu-ezzin in Medina and cruise through Khobar with Harley riders. We travel from the capital Riyadh through the desert, along the coast and through spectacular mountain regions. Based on his many encounters, Lutz Jäkel brings us closer to a country caught between tradition and transformation and does not leave out critical issues such as the women's and human rights situation.

### THE PHOTOGRAPHER AND AUTHOR

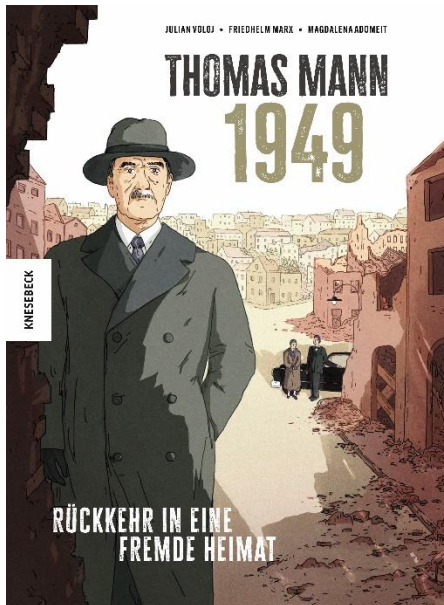
**Lutz Jäkel** is a photojournalist, author and lecturer. He grew up in Istanbul, studied Islamic Studies in Hamburg and lived for a time in Syria and Yemen. He has been traveling and photographing the world and writing about it for many years. His photos and reports appear in Stern, SPIEGEL and GEO, among others. His work has received numerous awards. Lutz Jäkel lives in Berlin.

### USPs

- Insights into a largely unknown, beautiful country that is slowly opening up to tourism
- A region between Islamic tradition and dazzling modernity, brilliantly captured by photographer and Islam expert Lutz Jäkel
- With many views into the everyday life of the people

### Thomas Mann - 1949

Return to a foreign homeland



Author: Julian Voloj/Friedhelm Marx,  
Illustrator: Magdalena Andomeit

#### SPECIFICATIONS

19 x 26 cm, hardcover

96 pages

colour illustrated throughout

Retail price € 24.00

978-3-95728-896-7

Publication: February 2025

World rights available

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#### 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.

#### THE AUTHOR

**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.

**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.

#### USPs

- 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

### Wanderlust

Or how you first put your finger on the globe and then discover the world - and yourself at the same time



draft cover

Author: Julia Finkernagel

#### SPECIFICATIONS

13.6 x 21 cm, softcover with flaps

approx. 272 pages

Retail price € 20.00

978-3-95728-926-1

Publication: February 2025

World rights available

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#### AN ENJOYABLE READ, EVEN FOR THOSE WHO PREFER TO SPEND THEIR VACATION ON THE BALCONY

Julia Finkernagel knows how to travel. With her successful TV series and the *Eastwards* books, she motivates her audience to discover the world near and far. From numerous readings, Julia knows the questions about jumping into the unknown, challenges, her encounters and practical travel tips. In her new book *Wanderlust*, she provides answers: personal highlights and downfalls, a short guide to adventures from the Arctic to the desert, plus packing tips to ensure survival. She also offers undogmatic travel coaching on how to deal with fears, cultural codes, travel pitfalls, communication problems and homesickness. A clever book that inspires with amusing stories and encourages travel.

#### THE AUTHOR

**Julia Finkernagel** was a manager before she set off on a sabbatical and backpacking trip. Due to her witty travel reports, she was hired by MDR in 2008 and got her own travel series *Ostwärts*. The award-winning filmmaker and bestselling author of *Eastwards* and *Eastwards again and again* (both Knesebeck), among others, now also works as a coach.

#### USPs

- The ultimate travel book by SPIEGEL bestselling author and popular TV travel presenter Julia Finkernagel
- Tried-and-tested travel hacks and interesting facts about different types of travel from desert to ice, from mail ship to Transsib, from spontaneous trips to sabbaticals
- Humorous, relaxed, pointed and full of personal travel anecdotes

### Feminist AI

How we should shape artificial intelligence  
to make the world fairer for everybody



draft cover

Author: Eva Gengler

#### SPECIFICATIONS

13.6 x 21 cm, softcover with flaps

approx. 240 pages

Retail price € 20.00

978-3-95728-937-7

Publication: February 2025

World rights available

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#### WHY YOUR NAVIGATION DEVICE DOESN'T UNDERSTAND YOU IF YOU'RE A WOMAN

In a world where artificial intelligence (AI) is increasingly shaping our decisions, an uncomfortable truth is revealed: these systems are not neutral. Infused with patriarchal structures, AI often disadvantages women, people of color and other marginalized groups in areas such as recruiting, lending and generative AI. Eva Gengler researches AI and power from a feminist perspective. She shows how deeply rooted injustices are in society and AI and how a critical, intersectional feminism can help to break down these power structures. Her book is a call to all of us to shape and use feminist AI to create a fairer world.

#### THE AUTHOR

**Eva Gengler** is a business information scientist and expert in feminist AI. After working in strategy consulting and IT consulting, she now researches AI and power from a feminist perspective at Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg. She is co-founder of enableYou and feminist AI and a sought-after speaker.

#### USPs

- From navigation systems to job applications: where women are disadvantaged by AI, what needs to change and how this can be achieved
- Eva Gengler is a young, eloquent scientist who is strongly committed to the topic
- lively and accessible explanation of a controversial but far-reaching change in our society from a feminist perspective



### Be happy, you'll get older anyway

What you can do from today for a long and happy life



Cover to come

**Author: Diane Hielscher**

#### **SPECIFICATIONS**

15 x 21.5 cm, softcover with flaps

approx. 240 pages

Retail price € 25.00

978-3-95728-927-8

Publication: March 2025

World rights available

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#### **THE KEY TO A FULFILLING LIFE - NOW AND IN OLD AGE**

When it comes to a healthy and happy life, we already know that we should exercise, how important nutrition is and that stress makes us ill. But what about our soul? How can we consciously and purposefully use our thoughts and feelings to age happily? Diane Hielscher reveals how we can question and actively shape our assumptions about ageing. With a holistic approach based on happiness research, psychology and neurology, this book offers concrete strategies to shape aging happily. The best thing about it? We don't have to wait for old age for the positive effects, because they start immediately!

#### **THE AUTHOR**

**Diane Hielscher** is a radio presenter, podcaster and author. She deals with the topics of neurology, psychology and philosophy, and "living consciously" is also one of her professions. She was awarded the German Radio Prize. The jury's statement said: "She has surprising approaches to complex issues and communicates them in a fresh, pointed and entertaining way."

#### **USPs**

- This book shows how a good and happy life is possible in old age and what you can do to achieve this today
- The latest findings from neurology and happiness research, presented in an entertaining and understandable way in a "guide to happy ageing"

### Your Mental Health Guide

Everything you need for your mental health  
- 12 components for a healthy life



draft cover

**Author: Dominique de Marné**

#### SPECIFICATIONS

15 x 21.5 cm, softcover with flaps

approx. 240 pages

Retail price € 25.00

978-3-95728-935-3

Publication: February 2025

World rights available

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#### A MUST-READ FOR OUR FAST-PACED WORLD

Our teeth? We take care of them, of course! And our mental health? Maintaining it can be just as easy. Dominique de Marné shows us how! With the help of 12 components, she provides relevant information and helpful tips on mental health in an entertaining way. This book is a reference work for dealing with emotions, crisis competence and mindfulness - in bite-sized chunks and with a practical focus. It's not just about "me-time" and "feel-good strategies". We learn how we can prevent mental illness and actively improve our mental health - and have fun at the same time. This book makes everyone healthier and happier.

#### THE AUTHOR

**Dominique de Marné** shows how much fun mental health can be and why our view of mental health needs to change. After suffering from mental illness herself for 15 years, she is now changing the way the topic is talked about - more openly, earlier, more normally. She is an entrepreneur, author, speaker and one of the leading mental health speakers with experiential expertise in Europe.

#### USPs

- A low-threshold, entertainingly written introductory and basic work on mental health - practical and scientifically sound
- A daily companion that motivates and helps to overcome mental overload in the long term
- Holistic approach with helpful tools and exercises



### A wing chair, twelve questions and a journey to yourself

A story about the power of change



Author: Tanja Köhler, Illustrator: Nicole Pfeiffer

#### SPECIFICATIONS

11 x 18 cm, softcover with flaps

approx 128 pages

illustrated

Retail price € 12.00

978-3-95728-922-3

Publication: December 2024

World rights available

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#### AN INNER JOURNEY TOWARDS HAPPINESS AND CHANGE

It all begins with the search for the right place for a wing chair. We enter the world of a woman's thoughts and accompany her on an inner journey. Together with her, we gain insights and are encouraged to reflect on our own life situation. How important are we to ourselves? What do we long for? And what do we do to lead a happy life? This realistic story about the power of change asks us twelve big questions. And it gives us the certainty that we can grow into our answers and that we, just like the woman, will find our own personal place of well-being.

#### THE AUTHOR

**Tanja Köhler**, born in 1968, lives at the foot of the Swabian Alb. The multi-award-winning psychologist, bestselling author and systemic consultant has been practising as a coach for over 20 years and can be heard weekly on the radio with her own show "Sag mal Tanja?!". She loves good conversation, delicious cappuccino and long walks in the countryside with her dog.

#### USPs

- Narrative life coaching from psychologist and bestselling author Tanja Köhler
- A journey to yourself: Create clarity in your own life with twelve questions, let go of the old and initiate change
- Inspiring, true-to-life and empowering: an entertaining story that offers guidance on the big questions in life

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