

Lukas Linder

## The Imperfect Man

How do you find happiness?

### About the Book

Anatol doesn't have it easy. Despite his degree in humanities, he earns his living as a dogsbody in a nursing home. His career as a writer hasn't taken off yet either, not to mention his hopeless attempts to impress the opposite sex.

When he is invited to give a lecture on the «internet of mushrooms» at a scientific conference in Poland, he takes a leap into the unknown. Away from his usual environment, Anatol experiences new feelings – but above all, gets to know himself.

Once again Lukas Linder proves his talent for creating up-close characters – and for showing, in his unsparing yet witty way, how hard it is to want to be someone else all of a sudden.



### Specifications

Kein&Aber  
288 pages  
Hardcover  
September 2020  
World Rights available



LUKAS LINDER, born in 1984 in the canton of Zurich, studied German and philosophy in Basel. He is a playwright who has written dramas for the Theater Basel and has received several prizes, including the Kleist Förder Prize and the Audience Prize of the Heidelberg Stückemarkt. His first novel *The Last of My Kind* was published in 2018 by Kein & Aber.

Lukas Linder

## The Last of My Kind

The von Ärmels were already around in the 14th century, which is obvious from their appearance. To make matters worse, young Alfred now has the job of preserving his family's genes for a new era. That's unfortunate for Alfred. But even more so for his genes who could not have a worse ambassador.

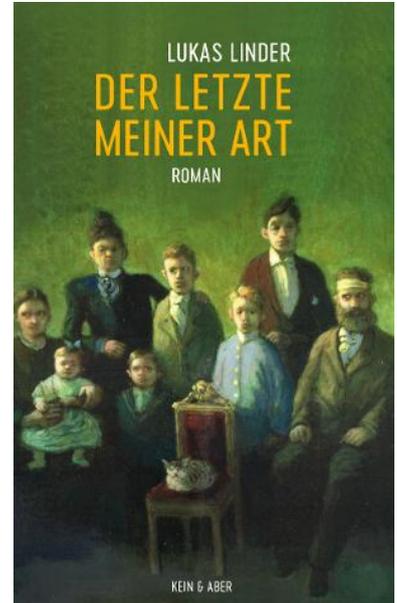
### About the Book

Alfred is the youngest descendant of the von Ärmels whose heyday is well and truly over. Compared to his much idolised but crazy mother, brilliant brother and eccentric father, he feels like a caricature. Nevertheless, he has taken on the mission to bring new fame to his old, established family. His dream is to be a hero. And he has several options as to how to go about it. He could, like his role model and namesake, kill forty Frenchmen, win a singing competition or open a hotel with Ruth, because love always wins! But does Alfred really have what it takes to be a hero?

Lukas Linder writes about everyday life and family constellations with such precision, ruthlessness and wit that readers will be tempted to take a hard look at their own lives.

*"This is the rare case of a hilarious book that makes you laugh out loud every time you pick it up."* WDR 4, Elke Heidenreich

*"The melancholic and subtly grotesque voice of 'The Last of My Kind' makes it especially delightful. A beautiful, bizarre family tale that is wonderfully easy and great fun to read!"* belletristiktipps.de



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272 pages  
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Martin Meyer

**CORONA**

Fiction

What Books Teach Us Right Now

**About the Book**

A bookseller is stuck in quarantine. He is also ill. What should he do? He heads for the bookcase and picks out the books on the topic of past epidemics. Isn't literature a mirror of life – and therefore also of death? Since the epidemic broke out and cast a spell over everything, Matteo has been confined to his apartment. The city where he lives has been declared a state of emergency, and people can only move under strict regulations. But Matteo has a plan. He decides to pick six books from his shelves to help him cope with the unprecedented period of the pandemic as well as his own illness. All six books he chooses, from the Old Testament to the present day, are about epidemics. Through reading, Matteo gains insights and an understanding that is relevant to his life. At the same time, he remembers earlier times, which, under the dramatic conditions of the epidemic, appear in a new light. Will Matteo survive? Can books save him?

The book on the current crisis.



MARTIN MEYER was born in 1951 and is a journalist, publicist and author. In 1974 he joined the feature section of the Neue Zürcher Zeitung, which he headed for 23 years, and was awarded the Kythera Prize and the Ludwig Börne Prize, among others. His publications include Albert Camus. Die Freiheit leben (2013), Gerade gestern. Vom allmählichen Verschwinden des Gewohnten (2018) and Classics! (2019), together with Rüdiger Safranski and Michael Krüger.

MARTIN MEYER

**CORONA**

ERZÄHLUNG

KEIN &amp; ABER

**Specifications**

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208 pages

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June 2020

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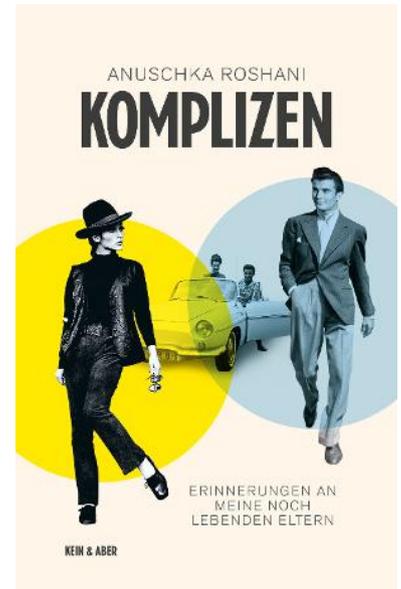
Anuschka Roshani

## The Accomplices

### About the Book

We are prone to believe that the people we love never grow old – until we witness a certain frailty in our own parents, who seemed forever young and beautiful. And suddenly, we ask ourselves how we became who we are. Anuschka Roshani revisits the story of her parents and tries to reconstruct what she knows about them: despite not even knowing the exact date of her father's birth.

He came to Freiburg from Tehran in 1955 and became a passionate surgeon, womanizer and car lover. Her mother, a model, was blessed with beauty and a big heart. They are the dazzling protagonists of this family story, which is not only a journey back in time, but illuminates the present day of a middle-aged woman.



### Specifications

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256 pages

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ANUSCHKA ROSHANI was born in 1966 in West Berlin. She studied behavioural biology and attended the Henri Nannen School of Journalism before becoming an editor and reporter for Der Spiegel. She has been living in Zurich with her family since 2002, where she works for Das Magazin. She has edited the complete works of Truman Capote for Kein & Aber.

Leona Stahlmann

## The Flaw

A bold debut by an exciting new voice.

### About the Book

When you realise you are different from everyone else in your village, the course you take in life will not tolerate half measures. Leona Stahlmann writes in an unparalleled manner about home, belonging and sexual awakening in a rural setting. Mina is growing up in the deepest Black Forest. Soon she realises that she's different from her friends. Only Vetko, an outsider, seems to understand her. The two quickly become close and their secret relationship takes on sinister aspects: desire and pain become blurred, and the limits of their experiences increasingly encroach on their lives. Mina feels that her desire is flawed. What's wrong with her? And when Vetko demands something that she's not willing to give, she runs away to the city. But will she find something there that feels just like her connection with Vetko? In unusual, vibrant language, Leona Stahlmann writes about people and human nature, and the full brutal force with which they can collide.

*“‘The Flaw’ has tremendous poetic power. (The book) sensitively explores the gap between desire and its suppression, between individuality and the desire for the norm.” Hamburger Abendblatt*

*“In her debut novel ‘The Flaw’, Leona Stahlmann shows an unusual understanding of sexuality, identity and home.” ZEIT online*

*“Full of suspense and forgoing any voyeurism, Stahlmann’s story tells of Mina’s search for sexual identity with a precision and poetry that is rarely found.” NDR Culture*



### Specifications

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272 pages  
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LEONA STAHLMANN, born in 1988, lives in Hamburg and works as an author, copywriter and event organiser. In 2017 she won the Hamburg Förderpreis for Literature, was a scholarship holder of the novel workshop of the Literatureforum in the Brecht-Haus, Berlin, in 2018 and also won the first Wortmeldungen Förderpreis Award. The Flaw is her debut novel.

Philipp Tingler

## Guess who's staying for dinner

An important meal. An uninvited guest. And subjects that no one wants to talk about bursting into the open.

### About the Book

Franziska is about to have the most important dinner of her life. Or of the year, at least. Her career hinges on it. And recently it hasn't quite been going to plan. Franzi is as stressed by this as by her brother's upcoming visit. But at least her marriage is hunky-dory. Isn't it? Anyway, this is a very important dinner. And then, through the door bursts Conni Gold. The friend Franzi never wanted. And then nothing goes according to plan anymore.

*"Tingler's writing humorously depicts the tension that bubbles under the surface of couples." Kulturtipp*

*"Tingler has a sure feel for punchlines and doesn't shy away from clichés or corny jokes, which adds to the humour of the awkward conversations. And besides its numerous dialogues, the novel is told in an elevated narrative tone." Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*

*"Fantastically incisive book. Every joke hits home. The dialogues are highly polished while the book can be read as a commentary on our hysterical, hectic times." rbb radioeins*



### Specifications

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PHILIPP TINGLER was born in (West) Berlin and has won several awards. His publications with Kein & Aber include the novels *Fischtal* and *Doktor Phil*. He is also a critic on the programme *Literaturclub* for the Swiss television station SRF and is widely read as a columnist. Philipp Tingler lives in Zurich.

Saskia Luka

## Day by Day

A graceful debut about family, home and loss.

### About the Book

Three strong, wilful women suddenly find themselves living under one roof: Maria, who has recently lost her husband, her 17-year-old daughter Anna, who is researching her family's roots, and Maria's mother Lucia, whom Maria has brought to Bavaria from her small village in Croatia without her proper consent. This constellation is already a challenge for all three women. But there's also a fundamental question that Maria can't shake off: if the love of your life dies and your only home is taken away from you, where do you start looking for a new one? A touching proclamation of love for life with its many uncertainties and sudden farewells.

*"This heavy subject matter is handled with a light touch in the best sense and is filled with a love for life." Welt am Sonntag Kompakt*

*"'Day by Day' is a sensitive and evocative exploration of what it means to have roots and a home country." Vogue*

*"Saskia Luka writes knowledgeably about roots, nationality, family, abandoned villages and the war in Yugoslavia." Berliner Zeitung*

*"A touching debut about how where we come from shapes the meaning of home — and what it takes to be free for your own future." emotion*



### Specifications

Kein&Aber  
304 pages  
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SASKIA LUKA was born in Cologne in 1980. After studying German in Bonn, she worked in the press and public relations sector and as a freelance copywriter in Berlin. Saskia Luka is married and has two children. Nowadays she lives with her family between Berlin and the Dalmatian island of Brač.