

**Martina Borger & Maria Elisabeth Straub**  
***Cats' Tongues***

Published by Diogenes as *Katzenzungen*  
Original title: *Katzenzungen*

General Fiction  
368 pages  
11.6 x 18.4 cm  
September 2001

World rights are handled by Diogenes

## Awards

Martina Borger

2002 ›Frauen-Krimi-Preis‹ der Stadt  
Wiesbaden für *Kleine Schwester*

Maria Elisabeth Straub

2002 ›Frauen-Krimi-Preis‹ der Stadt  
Wiesbaden für *Kleine Schwester*



Really, it was supposed to be a carefree jubilee outing. For the tenth time, three women friends in their early forties set out on their short annual excursion, this time to Bruges in Belgium: Dodo, impulsive and energetic, a single parent, frequently in financial difficulties; the beautiful, reserved Claire, who has made a career as a gallery owner in Munich; and the down-to-earth Nora, a mother and the wife of a lawyer, the only one of the three to have stayed where they all come from, in Pinneberg in northern Germany. That is where they grew up together, went to school, passed through adolescence and first love affairs, shared joys and sorrows – and cats' tongues, the symbol of a carefree, intensive friendship.

But the outing which began so lightly develops into a journey into the past which, as it soon transpires, was nothing like as carefree as it had seemed. Long and carefully guarded secrets come to light, and the much-mooted friendship is sorely tried.

*Cats' Tongues* tells the story of three women who are closely bound up with each other from three different perspectives. Gradually, a picture forms out of the different points of view, a picture that is as multi-faceted as life and the three protagonists themselves – in turn witty, sad, hurtfully callous, and surprisingly loving.



Photo: Maurice Haas / © Diogenes Verlag

Martina Borger, born in Bavaria in 1956, worked as a journalist, script editor and film critic, before turning to screenwriting. She has worked as a storyliner and head writer on several tv series. In collaboration with Maria Elisabeth Straub she published her first novel, *Cats' Tongues*, in 2001, followed by *Little Sister* (2002), *In the Ring* (2004) and *Summer with Emma* (2009). She is the sole author of her 2007 novel *Dear Luca*. Martina Borger lives in Munich.



Photo: © Regine Mislmann / Diogenes Verlag

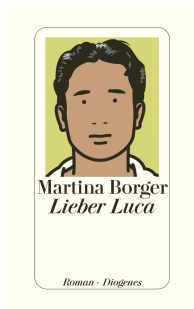
Maria Elisabeth Straub was born in 1943 in Schleswig-Holstein. She studied art history and German philology and has worked as a freelance author since 1970. Together with her co-author Martina Borger, she has published three novels so far. Maria Elisabeth Straub lives in Germany's far north.

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**We'll Catch up on It  
Later**  
304 pages  
2020

 **Bestseller**



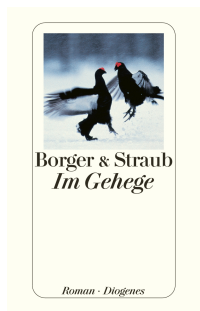
**Dear Luca**  
208 pages  
2007



**The Gift**  
336 pages  
2006

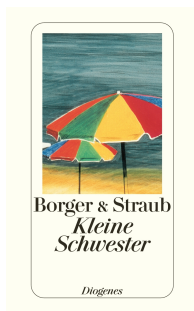


**Summer with Emma**  
416 pages  
2009



**In the Ring**  
384 pages  
2004

 **Movie Adaptation**



**Little Sister**  
224 pages  
2002

 **Award winner**