

# Diogenes

Ingrid Noll  
*Lunchtime*

Published by Diogenes as *Der Mittagstisch*  
Original title: *Der Mittagstisch*



Ingrid Noll  
*Der  
Mittagstisch*

*Roman · Diogenes*

Nelly just got rid of Matthew. But being a thirty-something single mum, she has to find a way to earn some extra money. Luckily, she has plenty of space and a talent for cooking, so Nelly invites paying guests over to her house for lunch. Among the few women are more interesting men: a captain, who has not been at sea in ages, a very tanned sports instructor, an insurance salesman and an equally handsome and smart electrician. Unfortunately, the latter does not turn up alone. The good thing is though, that his better half suffers from a nut allergy... Ingrid Noll cooks up something special, where she mingles with people as well as with ingredients.

## Book factsheet

Crime Fiction, Contemporary Literature,  
Bestseller  
224 pages  
11.6 x 18.4 cm  
September 2015

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### Bestseller

Spiegel Bestseller

### Movie adaptations

#### 2009: *Ladylike. Jetzt ers recht!*

Director: Vanessa Jopp  
Screenplay: Christian Schnalke  
Cast: Monika Bleibtreu, Gisela Schneeberger,  
Günther Maria Halmer

#### 2000: *Kalt ist der Abendhauch*

Director: Rainer Kaufmann  
Screenplay: Ralf Hertwig  
Cast: Fritzi Haberland, August Diehl, Heinz  
Bennent, Gisela Trowe

#### 1999: *Die Häupter meiner Lieben*

Director: Hans-Günther Bücking  
Cast: Heike Makatsch, Christiane Paul

#### 1999: *Der Hahn ist tot*

Director: Hermine Hunthgeburd  
Cast: Gisela Schneeberger, August Zirner

#### 1997: *Die Apothekerin*

Director: Rainer Kaufmann  
Cast: Katja Riemann, August Zirner, Jürgen  
Vogel

#### 1993: *Bommels Billigflüge*

Director: Claus-Michael Rohne  
Screenplay: Ingrid Noll  
Cast: Rosemarie Fendel, Dominique Horwitz,  
Tina Ruland

### Awards

2025 Bundesverdienstkreuz der  
Bundesrepublik Deutschland  
2023 Ehrenbürgerin von Weinheim  
2019 Ehrenkriminalhauptkommissarin der  
Mannheimer Polizei  
2016 Ehrenkommissarin der Bonner Polizei  
2005 ›Friedrich-Glauser-Preis – Ehrenpreis der  
Autoren‹ für das Gesamtwerk  
2002 Verleihung der ›Verdienstmedaille des  
Landes Baden-Württemberg‹ durch  
Ministerpräsident Erwin Teufel  
1994 ›Friedrich-Glauser-Preis‹ für *Die  
Häupter meiner Lieben*



Ingrid Noll, born in Shanghai in 1935, studied German philology and art history in Bonn. She has three children and four grandchildren. After her children left home, she began writing crime stories, which all became instant bestsellers. In 2005 she received the ›Glaser Prize of Honour‹ for her oeuvre.

## Praise

### Lunchtime

»The ensemble of characters is full and affectionately drawn and the story told with charm and lightness of touch.« – Stefan Sprang / Hessischer Rundfunk, Frankfurt

»A masterpiece of black humour.« – Dagmar Kaindl / News, Wien

»A wise novel [...] humorously and entertaining.« – Thomas Groß / Mannheimer Morgen

### Ingrid Noll

»Ingrid Noll is one of the best German storytellers.« – Angela Gatterburg / Der Spiegel, Hamburg

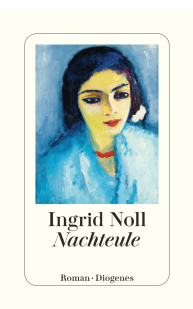
»Ingrid Noll has a distinct talent for finding the horror in day-to-day life.« – Karin Oehmigen / SonntagsZeitung, Zürich

»Ingrid Noll is often referred to as Germany's ›Queen of Crime‹, and she fully deserves this title.« – The Sunday Times, London

»Riveting reading – we are captivated precisely because it is all so familiar.« – Dieter Hildebrandt / Sender Freies Berlin

»Ingrid Noll has truly mastered the art of the comic crime novel.« – Ulli Wagner / SR3, Saarbrücken

»Still the most original crime writer in the German language.« – Christel Freitag / NDR Kultur, Hamburg



*The Night Owl*  
304 pages  
2025



*Greetings from the Kitchen*  
304 pages  
2024  
**Bestseller**



*Tea Time*  
320 pages  
2022  
**Bestseller**



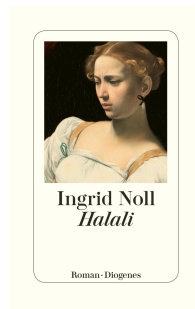
*Fickle Flames*  
304 pages  
2021  
**Bestseller**



*With Love, Karl*  
336 pages  
2020  
**Bestseller**



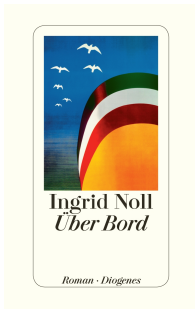
*Good as Gold*  
368 pages  
2019  
**Bestseller**



*Tally-Ho*  
320 pages  
2017  
**Bestseller**



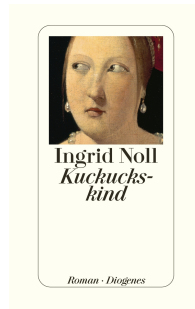
*Till Greed Do Us Part*  
256 pages  
2014  
**Bestseller**



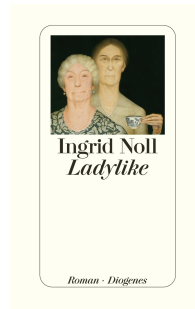
**Overboard**  
336 pages  
2012  
🏆 **Bestseller**



**Word of Honour**  
336 pages  
2010  
🏆 **Bestseller**



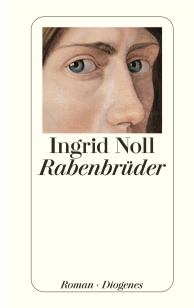
**Cuckoo's Child**  
352 pages  
2008  
🏆 **Bestseller**



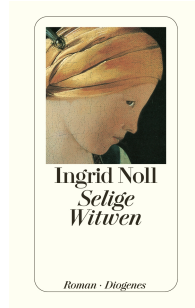
**Ladylike**  
336 pages  
2006  
🎬 **Movie Adaptation**  
🏆 **Bestseller**



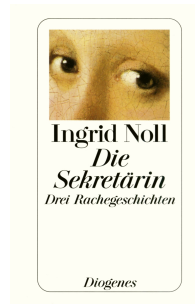
**False Tongues**  
256 pages  
2004  
🏆 **Bestseller**



**Rabenbrüder**  
288 pages  
2003  
🏆 **Bestseller**



**Blissfully Widowed**  
272 pages  
2001  
🏆 **Bestseller**



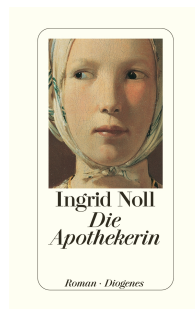
**The Secretary**  
96 pages  
2000  
🏆 **Bestseller**



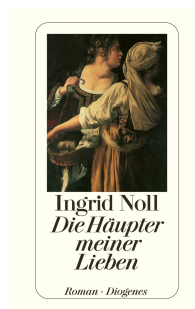
**Red Rose**  
288 pages  
1998  
🏆 **Bestseller**



**Cold is the Evening's Breeze**  
256 pages  
1996  
🎬 **Movie Adaptation**  
🏆 **Bestseller**



**The Pharmacist**  
256 pages  
1994  
🎬 **Movie Adaptation**  
🏆 **Bestseller**



**Head Count**  
288 pages  
1993  
🎬 **Movie Adaptation**  
🏆 **Bestseller**



**Hell Hath No Fury**  
272 pages  
1991  
🎬 **Movie Adaptation**  
🏆 **Bestseller**