

# Diogenes

**Bernhard Schlink**  
***Flights of Love***

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



**Bernhard  
Schlink**  
***Liebesfluchten***

*Diogenes*

The forms of attractions and escape from love in seven stories: as suppressed longing and unwanted confusion, as desperate affairs and bold forms of escape, as the irreversible power of habit, as guilt and self-denial. All the protagonists here are entangled in their time: The past of Germany catches up with a young man where one least expects it – in the love of a picture. A successful old Sixty-Eighter juggles himself through the depths of his liberal marriage. A couple from East Berlin betrays each other – to save their marriage. A German student in New York goes to unusual lengths to save his love for an American Jewess. ›Flights of Love‹ are at the same time stories of the big city, stories about a baffled generation that always trips over the snares of its past.

## Book factsheet

Contemporary Literature  
320 pages  
11.6 x 18.4 cm  
February 2000

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### Translation rights currently sold:

Armenian (Zangak-97)  
Chinese/CN (Shanghai Translation)  
Dutch (Cossee)  
English/world (Pantheon)  
French (Gallimard)  
Greek (Kritiki)  
Korean (Sigongsa)  
Russian (Azbooka)  
Serbian (Plato)  
Spanish/world (Anagrama)  
Turkish (Dogan)

### Movie adaptations

#### 2011: **Das Wochenende**

Director: Nina Grosse  
Cast: Katja Riemann, Sebastian Koch, Barbara Auer

#### 2009: **The Reader**

Director: Stephen Daldry  
Screenplay: David Hare  
Cast: Kate Winslet, Ralph Fiennes, David Kross,  
Bruno Ganz, Karoline Herfurth, Volker Bruch,  
Hannah Herzprung und Alexandra Maria Lara

#### 2008: **The Other Man**

Director: Richard Eyre  
Screenplay: Richard Eyre  
Cast: Liam Neeson, Laura Linney und Antonio  
Banderas

#### 1991: **Der Tod kam als Freund**

Director: Nico Hoffmann  
Cast: Martin Benrath, Hannelore Elsner, Heino  
Ferch, Marianne Hoppe

### Awards

- 2024 Spanische Übersetzung von *Die Enkelin* mit dem ›Premio de las Librerías de Navarra‹ ausgezeichnet
- 2014 ›Pak Kyong-ni Prize‹ der südkoreanischen Kulturstiftung Toji für sein schriftstellerisches Schaffen
- 2003 ›Bundesverdienstkreuz 1. Klasse‹ für *Der Vorleser*
- 2002 ›Preis des German-British Forum‹ für sein Gesamtwerk
- 2001 Finnischer Literaturpreis ›Eeva Joenpelto-Preis‹ der Gemeinde Lohja
- 2001 Ernennung zum ›Chevalier dans l'Ordre de la Légion d'Honneur‹
- 2000 ›Ehrengabe‹ der Heinrich-Heine-Gesellschaft in Düsseldorf



Bernhard Schlink, born in 1944, was a Professor of Public Law and Legal Philosophy and a former judge at the Constitutional Court of North Rhine-Westphalia. His first novel, *Self's Justice*, was published in 1987; his 1995 novel *The Reader*, translated into more than fifty languages and adapted by Stephen Daldry into a film starring Kate Winslet, established his worldwide renown. He has been awarded with national and international prizes like the German ›Bundesverdienstkreuz (Order of Merit) 1st Class‹, the French ›Chevalier dans l'Ordre de la Legion d'Honneur‹ and the Italian ›Grinzane Cavour Prize‹. His latest novel is *The Late Life*.

### 🏆 Awards (cont'd)

- 2000 ›Sonderkulturpreis‹ der japanischen Tageszeitung *Mainichi Shinbun*, der jedes Jahr an einen japanischen Buchbestseller vergeben wird, für *Der Vorleser*
- 2000 ›Evangelischer Buchpreis‹ des Deutschen Verbandes Evangelischer BÜchereien für *Der Vorleser*
- 1999 Erstmals verliehener ›WELT-Literaturpreis‹ für sein literarisches Schaffen
- 1997 ›Grinzane-Cavour-Preis‹ (Italien) für *Der Vorleser*
- 1997 ›Prix Laure Bataillon‹ (Frankreich) für *Der Vorleser* (Auszeichnung für den Autor sowie für den Übersetzer Bernard Lortholary)
- 1997 ›Hans-Fallada-Preis‹ der Stadt Neumünster für *Der Vorleser*
- 1993 ›Deutscher Krimi-Preis‹ des Bochumer Krimi Archivs für *Selbs Betrug*
- 1989 Autorenpreis deutschsprachige Kriminalliteratur ›Der Glauser‹ für *Die gordische Schleife*

### Praise

#### *Flights of Love*

›That sense of displacement, caught between history and emotion, drives Schlink's book of moving short stories.« – Steven Erlanger / New York Times

›Intimate, smart, powerful.« – The Washington Post

#### Bernhard Schlink

›Schlink has won his huge popular following by bringing to bear a penetrating intelligence about the psyche of his characters and an empathy for their dilemmas. Professor Schlink may be an expert on the letter of the law, but writer Schlink is an intrepid explorer of the much trickier terrain of the human heart.« – Andrew Nagorski / Newsweek, London

›[Schlink] writes instructive tales that adeptly raise difficult questions and propose appealing answers.« – New York Times Book Review

›The German novelist Bernhard Schlink is pretty much second to none when it comes to storytelling.« – Helmut Atteneder / Oberösterreichische Nachrichten, Linz

›Schlink knows the depths of the human soul all too well. The writer and judge proves with each of his books that he knows how to transform German history into literature.« – ZeitPunkt, Leipzig

›One of the most successful and versatile German writers of our time.« – Volker Hage / Der Spiegel, Hamburg

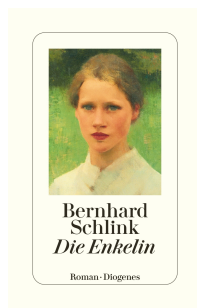
›The truly masterly aspect of Schlink's prose is its intelligence – an intelligence that is firmly rooted in common sense.« – Welt am Sonntag, Hamburg



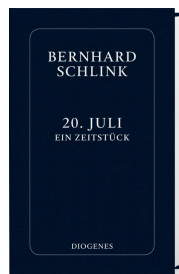
*Justice*  
208 pages  
2026



*The Late Life*  
240 pages  
2024  
🏆 Bestseller



*The Granddaughter*  
368 pages  
2021  
🏆 Award winner  
🏆 Bestseller



*The 20th of July*  
96 pages  
2021



*Colours of Farewell*  
240 pages  
2020  
🏆 Bestseller



*Olga*  
320 pages  
2018  
🏆 Bestseller



*Explorations*  
288 pages  
2015



*The Woman on the Stairs*  
256 pages  
2014  
🏆 Bestseller



Bernhard Schlink  
*Gedanken über das Schreiben*

Diogenes

Thoughts on Writing  
96 pages  
2011



Bernhard Schlink  
*Sommerlügen*

Diogenes

Summer Lies  
288 pages  
2010  
🏆 Bestseller



Bernhard Schlink  
*Das Wochenende*

Roman · Diogenes

The Weekend  
240 pages  
2008  
🎬 Movie Adaptation  
🏆 Bestseller



Bernhard Schlink  
*Vergangenheits-schuld*  
*Beiträge zu einem deutschen Thema*

Diogenes

Guilt of the Past  
192 pages  
2007



Bernhard Schlink  
*Die Heimkehr*

Roman · Diogenes

The Homecoming  
384 pages  
2006  
🏆 Bestseller



Bernhard Schlink  
*Vergewisserungen*  
*Über Politik, Recht, Schreiben und Glauben*

Diogenes

Verifications  
368 pages  
2005



Bernhard Schlink  
*Selbs Mord*

Roman · Diogenes

Self's Murder  
272 pages  
2001



Bernhard Schlink  
*Der Vorleser*

Roman · Diogenes

The Reader  
208 pages  
1995  
🏆 Award winner  
🎬 Movie Adaptation  
🏆 Bestseller



Bernhard Schlink  
*Selbs Betrug*

Roman · Diogenes

Self's Deception  
304 pages  
1992  
🏆 Award winner



Bernhard Schlink  
*Die gordische Schleife*

Roman · Diogenes

The Gordian Knot  
272 pages  
1988  
🏆 Award winner



Bernhard Schlink  
Walter Popp  
*Selbs Justiz*

Roman · Diogenes

Self's Punishment  
352 pages  
1987  
🎬 Movie Adaptation