

**Otto A. Böhrer**  
***The Adventure of Inspiration***

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#### Awards

- 2007 Wetterauer Kulturpreis für sein Gesamtwerk
- 2002 Kulturpreis für Literatur des Landkreises Cuxhaven
- 2002 Mitglied des Internationalen P.E.N.-Clubs.
- 2001 Erich-Fried-Preis der Republik Österreich

What do you know about Goethe? And Schiller? Dates and facts are often quickly forgotten – but these portraits, sketched with a lively, knowledgeable hand, stay in your mind. That is because Otto A. Böhrer turns his gaze on the writers' souls, on the very source of their inspiration.

Inspiration is the »light of a wonderful insight« (Descartes), »with which there can be no choice, no improvement and no messing around« (Thomas Mann), »you listen, you do not seek, you take, you do not ask who is giving« (Friedrich Nietzsche).

The inspirations which form the focus of this book often turn out to be unspectacular. They result almost incidentally from moods and experiences and yet become recognisable with hindsight as the initial spark for actions and works.



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Otto A. Böhmer, born in 1949 in Rothenburg ob der Tauber, lives as author and literary critic in Wöllstadt, Hessen. He did his doctorate on Johann Gottlieb Fichte. He was awarded the ›Erich Fried Prize‹ in 2001. At Diogenes he has published several biographies of poets, like Goethe, Schiller, Eichendorff, Heine and Nietzsche.