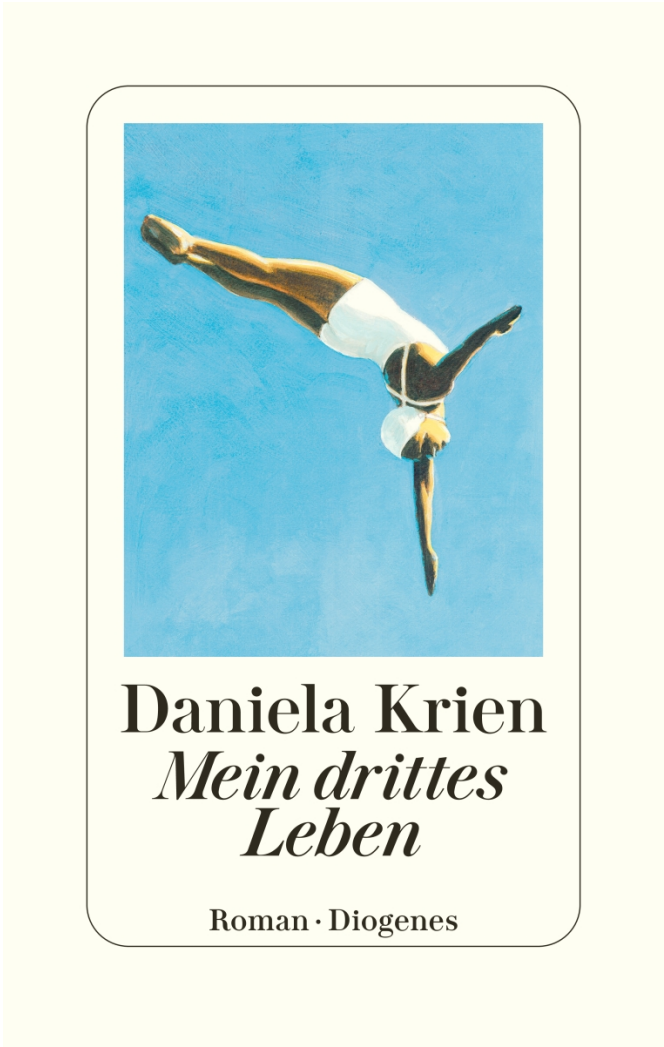
Diogenes

Book factsheet

Daniela Krien
My Third Life

Published by Diogenes as *Mein drittes Leben*
Original title: *Mein drittes Leben*



She had everything, and she lost everything. Following the death of her 17-year-old daughter Sonja and a cancer diagnosis, Linda leaves behind everything that had previously defined her: her work at a Leipzig art foundation; her husband Richard; her family and friends. Feeling distraught and vulnerable, she flees to an old farmhouse in the Saxon countryside.
And it ends up being another woman's daughter who brings her back to life from the brink of the abyss.

Contemporary Literature, Bestseller
304 pages
11.6 × 18.4 × 2.4 cm
September 2024

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Slovenian (Mladinska)
Spanish/world (Vegueta)
Turkish (Sel)

Bestseller

#3 Spiegel bestseller

Movie adaptation

2023: Irgendwann werden wir uns alles erzählen
Director: Emily Atef
Screenplay: Amily & Daniela Krien Atef
Cast: Marlene Burow, Felix Kramer und Cedric Eich

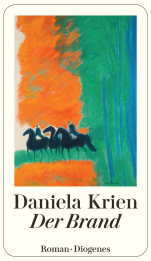
Awards

2025 ›Walter-Hasenclever-Literaturpreis‹ der Stadt Aachen
2025 ›Gellert-Preis‹ in der Kategorie Literatur
2024 Englische Übersetzung von *Der Brand* auf der Longlist des ›Dublin Literary Award‹
2024 *Mein drittes Leben* auf der Longlist des ›Deutschen Buchpreises‹
2024 *Mein drittes Leben* für das ›Lieblingsbuch der Unabhängigen‹ nominiert
2022 *Irgendwann werden wir uns alles erzählen* für den ›Deutschen Drehbuchpreis‹ nominiert
2021 *Der Brand* für das ›Lieblingsbuch der Unabhängigen‹ nominiert
2020 *Die Liebe im Ernstfall* auf der Shortlist für den Literaturpreis ›Text & Sprache‹ des Kulturkreises deutsche Wirtschaft
2020 ›Sächsischer Literaturpreis‹ für ihre bisherigen Prosawerke
2019 *Die Liebe im Ernstfall* für ›Lieblingsbuch der Unabhängigen‹ nominiert
2015 ›Nicolas-Born-Debütpreis‹ für *Muldental* (Erzählband)

Photo: Maurice Haas / © Diogenes Verlag

Daniela Krien, born in Neu-Kaliß, Germany, in 1975, studied communication, media, and cultural studies in Leipzig. Since 2010 she has been a freelance writer. Her novels *Love in Case of Emergency* and *The Fire* were on the bestseller list for months and have been translated into numerous languages. Daniela Krien has two daughters and lives in Leipzig.

Someday We'll Tell Each Other Everything
272 pages
2022
Award winner
Movie Adaptation
Bestseller



The Fire
272 pages
2021
Award winner
Bestseller

Muldental
240 pages
2020
Bestseller

Love in Case of Emergency
288 pages
2019
Award winner
Bestseller

Praise

My Third Life

»Her writing can be empathetic as well as sharp-tongued and shows her to be a clever judge of character.« – Franziska Wolffheim / Tagesspiegel, Berlin

»In unambiguous sentences, Krien is adept at conveying the truth about people and about life.« – Thomas Andre / Hamburger Abendblatt, Hamburg

»What she touched on in an earlier novel comes to life here: ›Love is not romance. Love is an act. Love must be viewed from a serious point of view.‹« – Claudia Ingenhoven / SWR Kultur, Stuttgart

»A moving read that reveals Daniela Krein's discreet narrative artistry.« – Katrin Schumacher / MDR Kultur, Leipzig

»It is narrated in such a way that the gravity of the beginning is not lost, and that's what makes this book so big and important.« – Cornelia Geißler / Berliner Zeitung, Berlin

»Once again, Daniela Krien demonstrates an unerring instinct for the psychological hardships of her characters.« – Rainer Moritz / Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Zurich

»Like a soothing balm, Krien lends this transformation to the story without running the risk of slipping into saccharinity.« – Axel Hill / Kölnische Rundschau, Cologne

»This book absolutely deserves, at the very least, to be on the longlist [for the ›German Book Prize‹].« – Stephanie von Oppen / Deutschlandfunk Kultur, Cologne

»Grief transforms, grief won't occupy every corner forever, and it's possible to live with it – that's what Daniela Krien tells about, in a touching and coherent way.« – Karin Grossmann / Sächsische Zeitung, Dresden

»*My Third Life* is a great novel of consolation for all those who are forced, by fate, to abandon their life plan.« – Michael Hametner / Der Freitag, Berlin

»Krien's book impresses by almost celebrating a certain lightness, in spite of the abysmal grief and the harshness of fate.« – Katrin Kaiser / Abendzeitung, Munich

»This is great material, that's presented here with linguistic elegance and psychological aptitude.« – Tanya Lieske / Deutschlandfunk, Cologne

»Besides all the grief, *My Third Life* is once again a book about love and what identifies it in case of emergency.« – Sally-Charell Delin / SR2 Kulturradio, Saarbrücken

»Her best yet.« – Andreas Platthaus / Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, Frankfurt

»She just writes in a way that draws you in from the very beginning.« – Elke Heidenreich / WDR4, Cologne

»A stunning book.« – Barbara Beer / Kurier, Vienna

Praise (cont'd)

»Krien writes so beautiful; present, sharp, analytical, slightly humorous and unsentimental despite the heavy subject matter.« – Cathrine Krøger / Dagbladet, Oslo

Daniela Krien

»Like her great predecessor Jane Austen, the German writer Daniela Krien is an expert in relationships.« – Denis Scheck / ARD, Mainz

»And there it is again – love – and the question of what consistency it actually has. Krien depicts it masterfully.« – Katrin Schumacher / MDR Kultur, Leipzig

»›Knowledge of human nature and the wisdom of life‹ - yes, that may be the secret of Daniela Krien's literature. A knowledge of human nature and a wisdom that's reflected in her style.« – Rainer Moritz / Laudatio Sächsischer Literaturpreis

»Daniela Krien is a master of the succinct form.« – Rainer Moritz / Deutschlandfunk Kultur, Cologne

»Daniela Krien's books possess an immense feel for contemporary voices.« – Knut Cordsen / BR24, Munich

»The author adeptly turns an unsparing gaze on the simple, the succinct, on that which is wordlessly endured in a marriage, and captures it within language.« – Nora Zukker / Tages-Anzeiger, Zurich

»Her style is clear and unadorned. And yet her language is never banal; it is always artfully literary.« – Anke Jahns / NDR Kultur, Hamburg

»Krien is masterful when it comes to letting her characters' everyday lives illuminate the big questions.« – Richard Kämmerlings / Welt am Sonntag, Berlin

»Along with her wit and crystal- clear gaze, Krien is also a master of compassion.« – Angela Wittmann / Brigitte, Hamburg

»›Knowledge of human nature and the wisdom of life‹ — yes, that may be the secret of Daniela Krien's literature. A knowledge of human nature and a wisdom that's reflected in her style.« – Rainer Moritz / Laudatory speech ›Saxonian Prize for Literature‹ 2020

»[Daniela Krien's] books are filled to the brim with wisdom.« – Anne-Dore Krohn / rbb, Berlin

»Daniela Krien is a European Elizabeth Strout.« – Knut Hoem / NRK, Oslo