

# Diogenes

**Martin Suter**  
*The Chef*

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



**Martin Suter**  
*Der Koch*

*Roman · Diogenes*

Maravan, 33, a Tamil asylum seeker, is working as a kitchen hand in a top hotel in Zurich, at a level far below his abilities. For Maravan is a gifted and passionate cook. In Sri Lanka his great aunt had introduced him to the art of cooking, and not least into the secrets of aphrodisiac cuisine. When he is fired, his colleague Andrea encourages him into a deal of a very special kind: joint catering for love menus. At first they cook for couples with whom they are put in touch by a sex therapist. But word gets around about the success of Love Food, and a much wealthier clientele starts showing an interest: men from the world of politics and business – and from the grey zones on their margins. Maravan is worried that the business could become ›unsavoury‹ – and indeed it does. But he is in urgent need of the money in order to enable his family back in Sri Lanka to survive.

## Book factsheet

Contemporary Literature  
320 pages  
11.6 x 18.4 cm  
February 2010

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### Translation rights currently sold:

Arabic (Al Kotob Khan)  
French  
Italian (Sellerio)  
Spanish/world (Lumen)

### 📌 Bestseller

#1 Spiegel Bestseller  
#1 Swiss Bestseller  
#1 Austrian Bestseller

### 🎬 Movie adaptations

**2023: Allmen und das Geheimnis des Koi**  
Director: Sinje Köhler  
Screenplay: Martin Rauhaus  
Cast: Heino Ferch, Samuel Finzi, Andrea  
Osvart, Uwe Kockisch

**2022: Alles über Martin Suter. Ausser die  
Wahrheit.**  
Director: André Schäfer  
Screenplay: André Schäfer  
Cast: Bekannte und unbekannte Schauspieler

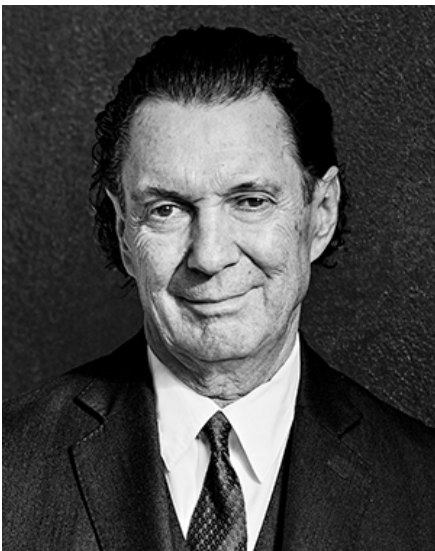
**2021: Allmen und das Geheimnis der Erotik**  
Director: Thomas Berger  
Screenplay: Martin Rauhaus  
Cast: Heino Ferch, Samuel Finzi, Christoph  
Bach, Isabella Parkinson

**2019: Allmen und das Geheimnis der Dahlien**  
Director: Thomas Berger  
Screenplay: Martin Rauhaus  
Cast: Heino Ferch, Samuel Finzi, Andrea  
Osvart, Katharina Schüttler, Udo Samel

**2017: Allmen und das Geheimnis der Libellen**  
Director: Thomas Berger  
Screenplay: Martin Rauhaus  
Cast: Heino Ferch, Samuel Finzi, Andrea Osvart

**2017: Allmen und das Geheimnis des rosa  
Diamanten**  
Director: Thomas Berger  
Screenplay: Martin Rauhaus  
Cast: Heino Ferch, Samuel Finzi, Andrea Osvart

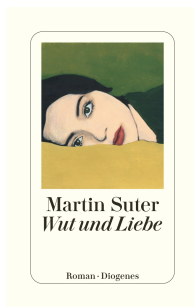
**2015: Die dunkle Seite des Mondes**  
Director: Stephan Rick  
Screenplay: Catharina Junk  
Cast: Moritz Bleibtreu, Nora von Waldstätten  
und Jürgen Prochnow



Martin Suter was born in 1948 in Zurich. His novels (including *Love and Fury* and *Melody*) and *Business Class* stories are major international successes. In addition, since 2011 the gentleman thief Allmen has been solving cases in his own crime series. Martin Suter lives with his daughter in Zurich.



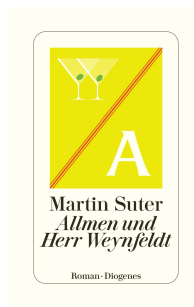
*Can You See Me?*  
208 pages  
2026



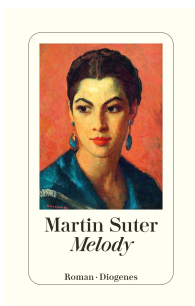
*Love and Fury*  
304 pages  
2025  
**Bestseller**



*No Need to Shout Like That*  
320 pages  
2024



*Allmen and Mr Weynfeldt*  
224 pages  
2024  
**Bestseller**



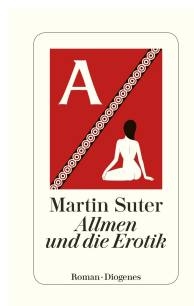
*Melody*  
336 pages  
2023  
**Bestseller**



*Why Are We All So Serious?*  
272 pages  
2021  
**Bestseller**



*Allmen and the Koi*  
224 pages  
2019  
**Movie Adaptation**  
**Bestseller**



*Allmen and the Erotic*  
*Figurines*  
272 pages  
2018  
**Movie Adaptation**  
**Bestseller**

**Movie adaptations (cont'd)**

**2014: Der Koch**

Director: Ralf Huettner  
Screenplay: Ruth Toma  
Cast: Jessica Schwarz, Hamza Jeetooa und Hanspeter Müller-Drossaart.

**2012: Der Teufel von Mailand (TV)**

Director: Markus Welter  
Screenplay: Thomas Berger  
Cast: Regula Grauwiler, Ina Weisse, Max Simonischek

**2011: Nachtlärm**

Director: Christoph Schaub  
Screenplay: Martin Suter  
Cast: Alexandra Maria Lara, Sebastian Blomberg

**2010: Der letzte Weynfeldt / TV**

Director: Alain Gspöner  
Screenplay: Alex Buresch  
Cast: Marie Bäumer, Stefan Kurt

**2010: Small World**

Director: Bruno Chiche  
Screenplay: Bruno Chiche  
Cast: Gérard Depardieu, Alexandra Maria Lara, Niels Arestrup, Nathalie Baye, Yannick Renier

**2009: Giulias Verschwinden**

Director: Christoph Schaub  
Screenplay: Martin Suter  
Cast: Corinna Harfouch, Bruno Ganz, Stefan Kurt

**2008/2009: Lila, Lila**

Director: Alain Gspöner  
Screenplay: Alexander Buresch  
Cast: Daniel Brühl, Hannah Herzprung, Henry Hübchen

**2006: Un ami parfait**

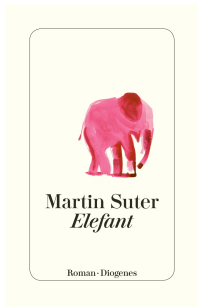
Director: Francis Girod  
Screenplay: Philippe Cougrand  
Cast: Antoine de Caunes, Carole Bouquet, Martina Gedeck

**1999: Beresina oder Die letzten Tage der Schweiz**

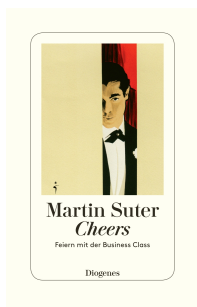
Director: Daniel Schmid  
Cast: Elena Panova, Geraldine Chaplin, Martin Benrath

**Awards**

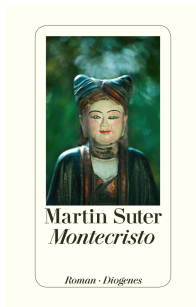
- 2019 ›Platin Award‹ von Universal Schweiz an Martin Suter und Stephan Eicher für 20'000 verkaufte *Song Books*
- 2018 *Song Book* ist eines der 25 ›Schönsten deutschen Bücher‹ der Stiftung Buchkunst
- 2018 Doppelte Charts-Auszeichnung für *Song Book*: ›Nummer 1 Award der Offiziellen Schweizer Hitparade‹ für Stephan Eicher und Martin Suter und ›Nummer 1 Award der Schweizer Bestsellerliste‹ für Martin Suter
- 2015 ›Literaturpreis des Wirtschaftsclubs‹ im Literaturhaus Stuttgart für *Montecristo*



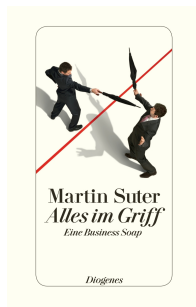
**Elephant**  
352 pages  
2017  
🏆 **Bestseller**



**Cheers**  
224 pages  
2016



**Montecristo**  
320 pages  
2015  
🏆 **Award winner**  
🏆 **Bestseller**



**Everything Under Control**  
128 pages  
2014



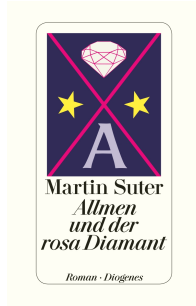
**Allmen and the Vanished Maria**  
224 pages  
2014  
🏆 **Bestseller**



**Allmen and the Dahlias**  
224 pages  
2013  
🎬 **Movie Adaptation**  
🏆 **Bestseller**



**The Time, the Time**  
304 pages  
2012  
🏆 **Bestseller**



**Allmen and the Pink Diamond**  
224 pages  
2011  
🎬 **Movie Adaptation**  
🏆 **Bestseller**



**Allmen and the Dragonflies**  
208 pages  
2011  
🎬 **Movie Adaptation**  
🏆 **Bestseller**



**The Bonus-Mystery and Other Stories from the Business Class**  
192 pages  
2009



**The Last Weynfeldt**  
320 pages  
2008  
🎬 **Movie Adaptation**  
🏆 **Bestseller**



**Among Friends and Other Stories from Business Class**  
208 pages  
2007  
🏆 **Bestseller**



**A Deal with the Devil**  
304 pages  
2006  
🏆 **Award winner**  
🎬 **Movie Adaptation**  
🏆 **Bestseller**



**Huber Takes a Break**  
192 pages  
2005



**Living Right With Geri Weibel**  
224 pages  
2005



**Lila, Lila**  
352 pages  
2004  
🎬 **Movie Adaptation**  
🏆 **Bestseller**

## 🏆 Awards (cont'd)

- 2010 ›Swift-Preis‹ der Stiftung Marktwirtschaft für Wirtschaftssatire in Kronberg, Frankfurt a. M., für seine *Business Class*-Kolumnen
- 2010 ›SwissAward‹ vom Schweizer Radio und Fernsehen (SRF) in der Kategorie Kultur
- 2007 ›Friedrich-Glauser-Preis‹ in der Sparte Kriminalroman für *Der Teufel von Mailand*
- 2003 ›Deutscher Krimipreis‹ (Platz 2) in der Kategorie ›National‹ des Bochumer Krimi-Archivs für den Roman *Ein perfekter Freund*
- 2002 In der Reihe ›Das Literarische Quartal‹ des Kulturmagazins ›Aspekte‹ im ZDF wurde *Ein perfekter Freund* zum Quartalsbuch Frühjahr 2002 gewählt
- 1998 ›Prix du premier roman étranger‹ für *Small World* in französischer Übersetzung
- 1997 Ehrengabe des Kantons Zürich für *Small World*
- 1995 Preis der österreichischen Industrie am Joseph-Roth-Wettbewerb in Klagenfurt für die Kolumne *Business Class*
- 1987 ›Best Screenplay‹ beim Festival des phantastischen Films in Sittges für *Jenatsch*

## Praise

### The Chef

»An oeuvre, which is remarkable documented, with a rhythm as captivating as appetising.« – Le Monde, Paris

»Martin Suter is a virtuoso in the refined drawing together of strands of plot.« – Tages Anzeiger, Zurich

»Simply fantastic!« – Neon, Munich

»Suter's success is phenomenal.« – NZZ am Sonntag

»A smooth design-bestseller« – Der Spiegel, Hamburg

### Martin Suter

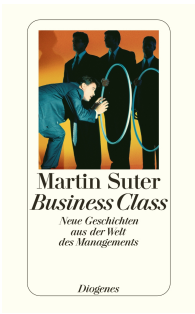
»Martin Suter will always surprise you. Each new novel is a challenge and an adventure.« – Les Echos, Paris

»Suter's gaze is fresh and wicked, his ear for dialogue infallible, his literature greatly skilful.« – Constantin Seibt / Die Wochenzeitung, Zurich

»Suter's writing is filmic – fast-paced, taut, with succinct dialogue.« – Martin Ebel / Tages-Anzeiger, Zurich

»Martin Suter reaches a huge audience with his novels. He writes exciting, well-constructed and almost cinematic stories; he captures his readers with lean, artful plots.« – Wolfgang Höbel / Der Spiegel, Hamburg

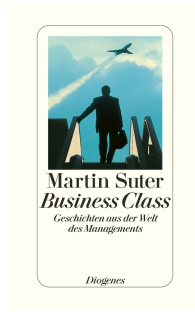
»He is known for his versatility and special gift for handling complex topics in an accessible and entertaining way.« – Samira Debbeler / Stern, Hamburg



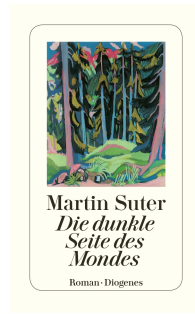
*Business Class II*  
240 pages  
2002



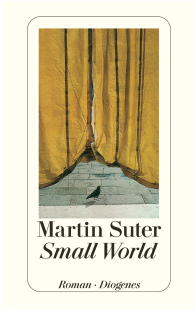
*A Perfect Friend*  
352 pages  
2002  
🏆 Award winner  
🎬 Movie Adaptation  
📈 Bestseller



*Business Class I*  
240 pages  
2000  
🏆 Award winner



*The Dark Side of the Moon*  
320 pages  
2000  
🎬 Movie Adaptation  
📈 Bestseller



*Small World*  
336 pages  
1997  
🏆 Award winner  
🎬 Movie Adaptation  
📈 Bestseller

### Praise (cont'd)

»Martin Suter: the grand master of German-language popular fiction.« – Spiegel Bestseller, Hamburg

»There is charm, irony, and undeniable elegance in Martin Suter's novels. He is probably one of the best contemporary authors.« – Pascal Bruckner / Le Nouvel Observateur, Paris

»With his brilliantly smooth narrative style, Martin Suter reaches readers all over the world.« – Rose-Maria Gropp / Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung