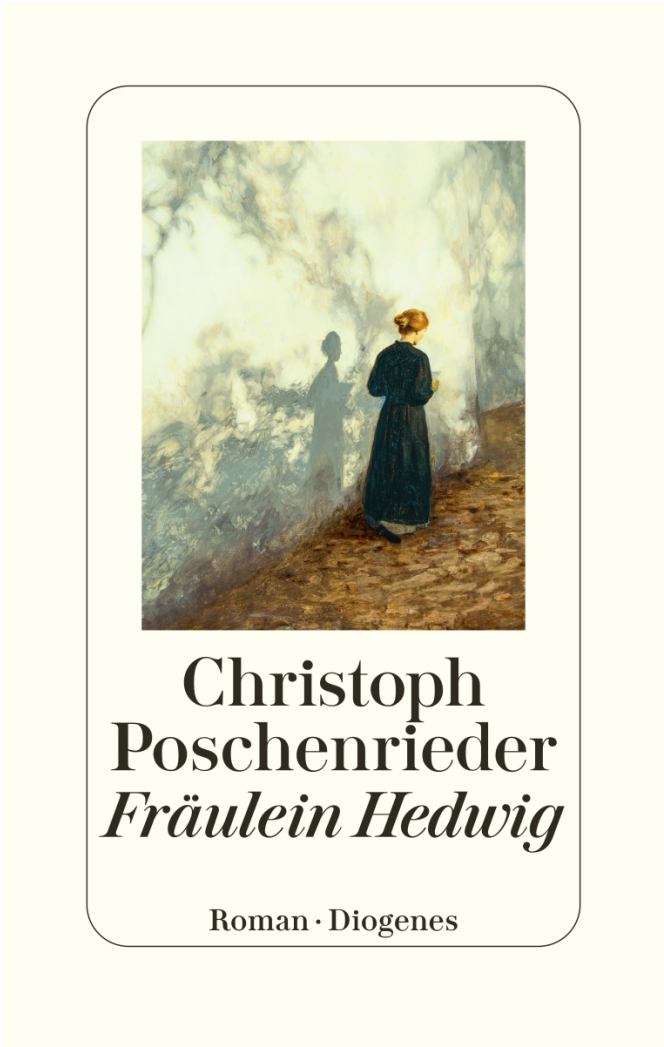
Diogenes

Book factsheet

Christoph Poschenrieder
Miss Hedwig

Published by Diogenes as *Fräulein Hedwig*
Original title: *Fräulein Hedwig*



Hedwig is an unmarried woman who works in the countryside as a primary school teacher. Already at a young age, she frequently reports being ill. The pastor sees her as a lost soul; the doctor diagnoses a nervous disorder — and her family doesn't understand her.

It is the turn of the 20th century — an old era gives way to modernity, and Hedwig is leading a quiet, solitary life. Her emotional outbreaks begin to increasingly unsettle those around her. Eventually, the rise of the Nazi dictatorship puts her life as a mentally ill woman in grave danger.

Contemporary Literature
336 pages
11.6 × 18.4 × 2.6 cm
November 2025

Contact:
Susanne Bauknecht, Rights Director, susanne.bauknecht@diogenes.ch and Suzanne Hégelé, Film Rights Manager, suzanne.hegele@diogenes.ch

Awards

2019	›Stern des Jahres‹ der *Münchner Abendzeitung* für *Der unsichtbare Roman* als der beste Roman
2017	Arbeitsstipendium der Landeshauptstadt München für sein sechstes Romanprojekt *Meyrink und die Macht des Wortes*
2016	Mit dem Rom-Preis verbundenes Stipendiat des Deutschen Studienzentrums in Venedig
2015	›Bamberger Villa-Concordia-Stipendium‹ für einen elfmonatigen Aufenthalt ab April 2015

Praise

Miss Hedwig

»Impressive is the composure, laudable the diligence with which Poschenrieder has reconstructed the biography of this woman [...].« – Erich Hackl

Christoph Poschenrieder

»Christoph Poschenrieder's light story telling is both stylistically brilliant and highly readable.« – Eckart Baier / Buchjournal, Frankfurt

»What a quick-witted narrator!« – Karin Grossmann / Sächsische Zeitung, Dresden

»He has so much fun with his writing, this Christoph Poschenrieder – one of the best German authors around today.«
– Kristian Thees / SWR, Stuttgart

»Christoph Poschenrieder dresses heavy subjects in lightness and humour.«
– Barbara Schulz / Der Spiegel, Hamburg

»Poschenrieder's novels captivate the reader with their depth, ambiguity and intelligent humour.« – Ditta Rudle / Buchkultur, Vienna

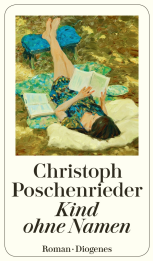
»Poschenrieder, philosophy graduate and trained journalist, knows how to present serious topics with a light touch.« – Steffen Radlmaier / Nürnberger Nachrichten

Photo: © Daniela Agostini / Diogenes Verlag

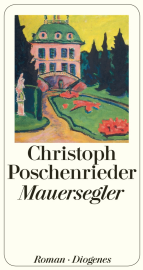
Christoph Poschenrieder, born in Boston in 1964, studied philosophy in Munich and journalism in New York. He has worked as a freelance journalist, documentary film maker, technical writer and novelist. Today, he works as a tram driver in Munich. His debut, the critically acclaimed *The World in the Head,* was an international hit, while *A Grain of Sand* was nominated for the ›German Book Prize‹ in 2014.

For a Lifetime
304 pages
2022

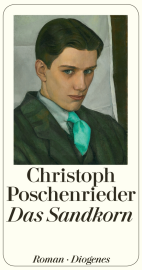
The Invisible Novel
272 pages
2019
Award winner



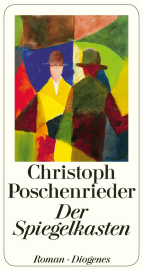
A Child with No Name
288 pages
2017



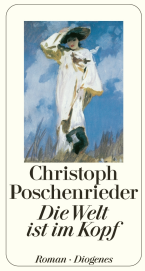
Common Swift
224 pages
2015
Bestseller



A Grain of Sand
416 pages
2014



The Mirror Box
224 pages
2011



The World in the Head
352 pages
2010