Diogenes

Book factsheet

Martin Suter & Benjamin von Stuckrad-Barre
Why Are We All So Serious?

Published by Diogenes as *Alle sind so ernst geworden*
Original title: *Alle sind so ernst geworden*



Two writers offer an insight into their conversations. Whether on a sun lounger or at the bar, by the sea or in the city, these two are fizzing with wit. Everything is potential material for conversation: swimming trunks, weddings, glitter, LSD, cooking, money, birthdays - the more everyday or odd it is, the better! And because no life is purely fun, not even for the famous, the conversations even take a serious turn at times. But only at times.

Contemporary Literature, Letters and Conversations, Bestseller
272 pages
11.6 × 18.4 × 2.1 cm
January 2021

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Bestseller

1 Swiss Bestseller
4 Spiegel 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 Osvárt, Katharina Schüttler, Udo Samel

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

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

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

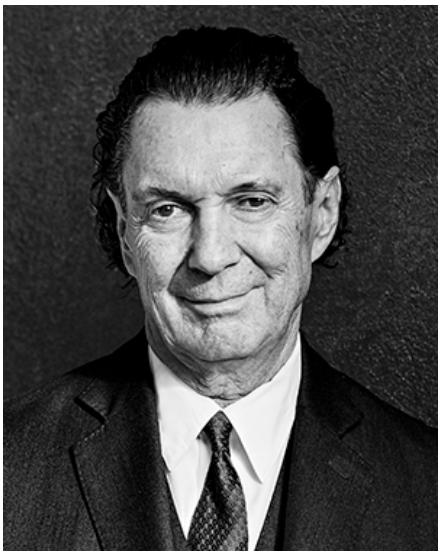


Photo: © Joël Hunn

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.

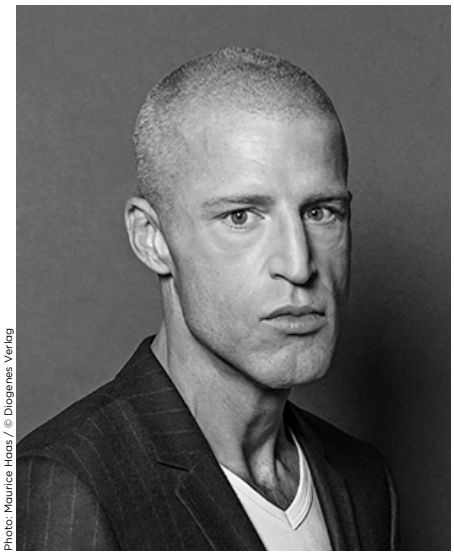


Photo: Maurice Haas / © Diogenes Verlag

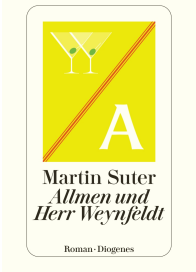
Benjamin von Stuckrad-Barre, born in Bremen in 1975, has his own keen fanbase, with *Solo Album* and *Panic Heart*.



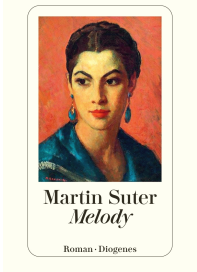
Can You See Me?
208 pages
2026



Love and Fury
304 pages
2025
Bestseller



Allmen and Mr Weynfeldt
224 pages
2024
Bestseller



Melody
336 pages
2023
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 Grauwiller, 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 Gsponer
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 Gsponer
Screenplay: Alexander Buresch
Cast: Daniel Brühl, Hannah Herzsprung, Henry Hübchen

2006: Un ami parfait
Director: Francis Girod
Screenplay: Philippe Cougrand
Cast: Antoine de Caunes, Carole Bouquet, Martina Gedeck

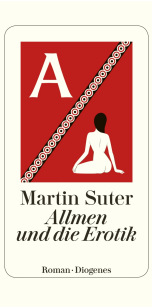
1999: Beresina oder Die letzten Tage der Schweiz
Director: Daniel Schmid
Cast: Elena Panova, Geraldine Chaplin, Martin Benrath

Awards

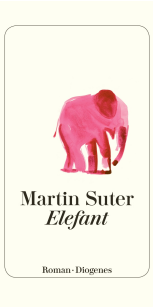
2019 ›Platin Award‹ von Universal Schweiz an Martin Suter und Stephan Eicher für 20'000 verkaufte *Song Books*
2018 *Song Book* ist eines der 25 ›Schönsten deutschen Bücher‹ der Stiftung Buchkunst
2018 Doppelte Charts-Auszeichnung für *Song Book*: ›Nummer 1 Award der Offiziellen Schweizer Hitparade‹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



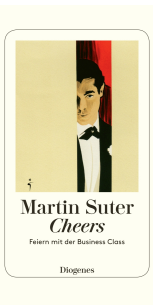
Allmen and the Koi
224 pages
2019
Movie Adaptation
Bestseller



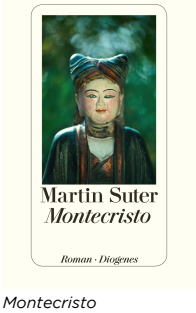
Allmen and the Erotic Figurines
272 pages
2018
Movie Adaptation
Bestseller



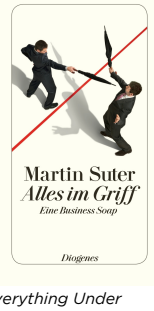
Elephant
352 pages
2017
Bestseller



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



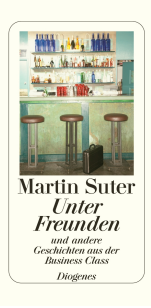
The Chef
320 pages
2010
Movie Adaptation
Bestseller



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

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 Sitges für *Jenatsch*

Praise

Why Are We All So Serious?

»Fast-paced, clever and unbelievably funny, like a dinner with Thomas Bernhard, Ricky Gervais and the Rolling Stones. Read this book, it will save your day.« – Ferdinand von Schirach / (Author)

»I wish I had been there.« – Christian Kracht / (Author)

»It is amazing to witness these chats - and you feel instantly compelled to read more by them, as individuals in their own right. Seriously.« – Tanja Kokoska / Frankfurter Rundschau

»The conversation is an inspiring, interesting read – and mostly very funny indeed.« – Gala, Hamburg

»A conversation full of gags, diverting and entertaining in book form.« – Tiiziana Arico / ORF, Vienna

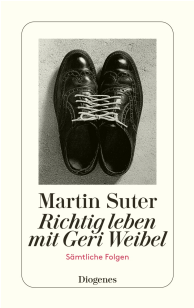
»Of course, these conversations are not devoid of ambition: Suter and Stuckrad-Barre are obsessive entertainers, whose pop-cultural associative ping-pong of thoughts is compelling.« – Stern, Hamburg

»It is as if the two gazed into the abyss for a brief moment - and then jointly built a gently swinging bridge of chatter, hoping it will last.« – Volker Weidermann / Spiegel, Hamburg

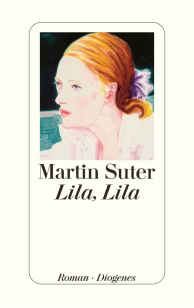
Martin Suter



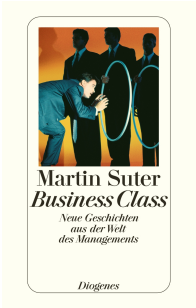
Huber Takes a Break
192 pages
2005



Living Right With Geri Weibel
224 pages
2005



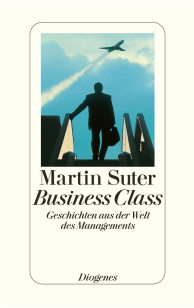
Lila, Lila
352 pages
2004
Movie Adaptation
Bestseller



Business Class II
240 pages
2002



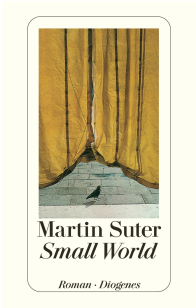
A Perfect Friend
352 pages
2002
Award winner
Movie Adaptation
Bestseller



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



No Need to Shout Like That
320 pages
2024

Praise (cont'd)

»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

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

»Martin Suter's prose is clear and sensitive without ever becoming superficial, and his characters are vivid and multifaceted.« – Samira Debbeler / Stern, 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