

Diogenes

Alfred Andersch
Flight to Afar

Published by Diogenes as *Sansibar oder der letzte Grund*
Original title: *Sansibar oder der letzte Grund*



**Alfred
Andersch**
*Sansibar
oder der letzte
Grund*
Roman · Diogenes

A boy dreaming of Huckleberry Finn, a mortally ill Pastor, a disillusioned Communist, a young Jewish girl running for her life - meet in a half-derelict Baltic fishing village and are drawn into a daring plan of escape from Nazi Germany. At the center of their plan is a small statue in the Pastor's church, a statue which is to be confiscated because it is politically dangerous, a statue so beautiful and powerful that it welds together the strangely assorted band of refugees.

This unusual novel - unusual in both form and content - is a masterpiece of condensed dramatic writing. Andersch investigates the many needs for flight and the strange loyalties which sometimes make escape impossible.

Book factsheet

Contemporary Literature, Compulsory Reading
224 pages
February 1970

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Translation rights currently sold:
Italian (Feltrinelli)

Movie adaptations

1993: Tochter

Cast: Rudin Denise, Fölnbacher Helmut

1988: Die Kirschen der Freiheit

Director: Stephan Reinhardt

1987: Sansibar oder der letzte Grund

Director: Bernhard Wicki

Screenplay: Karin Hagen

Cast: Peter Kremer, Cornelia Schmaus, Gisela
Stein

1985: Vater eines Mörders

Director: Carl-Heinz Caspari

1977: Winterspelt 1944

Director: Eberhard Fechner

Cast: Ulrich von Dobschütz, Katharina
Thalbach, Hans-Christian Blech

1965: Haakons Hosentaschen

Director: Martin Bosboom

Cast: Filmessay/Dokumentation (HR) von
Alfred Andersch, aus der das Buch »Hohe
Breitengrade« entstand.

1962: La rossa

Director: Helmut Käutner

Cast: Ruth Leuwerik, Rossanzo Brazzi, Gert
Fröbe

1961: Sansibar oder der letzte Grund

Director: Rainer Wolffhardt

Cast: Robert Graf, Beatrice Schweizer, Paul
Dahlke

Praise

Flight to Afar

»A wonderful book.« – Wolfgang Koeppen

»The force of Andersch's rejection of ideologies
is matched by the strength of his belief in
simple human decency: »Flight to Afar« is at
once a parable of free will and of the
responsibility of the individual.« – Marcel
Reich-Ranicki

»A master of German prose.« – Max Frisch

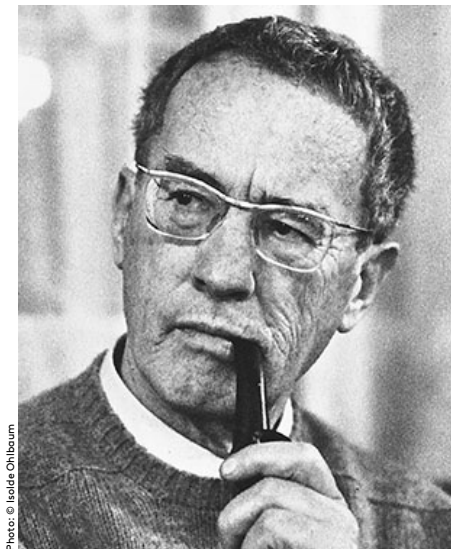


Photo: © Isolda Ohlbaum

Praise (cont'd)

Alfred Andersch

»A master of German prose.« – Max Frisch

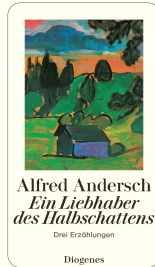
Alfred Andersch (1914 – 1980) was sent to Dachau concentration camp in 1933. After deserting from the Wehrmacht in 1944, he became an American prisoner of war. After his return to Germany, he worked as a journalist and publicist, and was one of the founders of German radio. Andersch is one of Germany's most important post-war authors, and his books are on school reading lists. Alfred Andersch died in Berzona / Ticino in 1980.



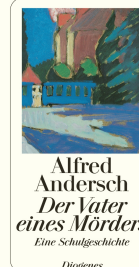
Leeward Islands
544 pages
2014



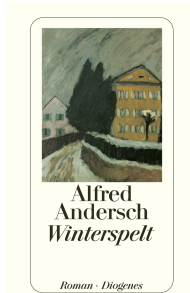
Correspondence
192 pages
2014



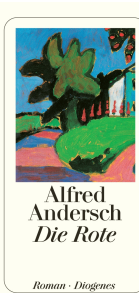
An Admirer of Half Shadows
112 pages
2006



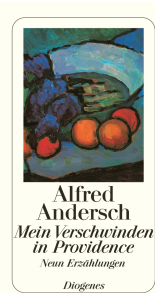
The Father of a Murderer
144 pages
1980
 Movie Adaptation



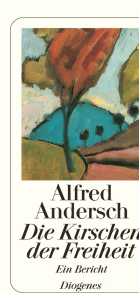
Winterspelt
604 pages
1974



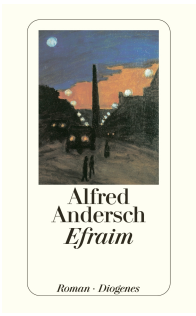
The Redhead
272 pages
1972
 Movie Adaptation



My Disappearance in Providence
276 pages
1971



Cherries of Freedom
144 pages
1971



Efraim's Book
472 pages
1967
🏆 Award winner