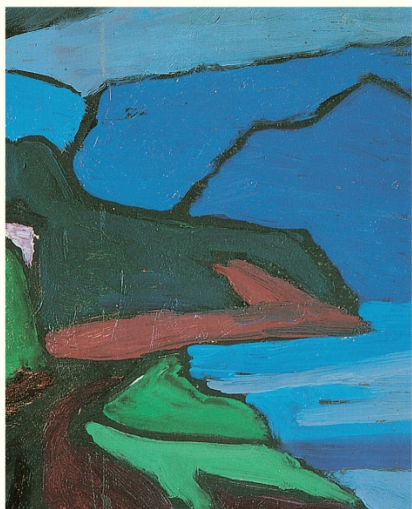


**Alfred Andersch**  
***Flight to Afar***

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

General Fiction, Compulsory Reading  
224 pages  
February 1970

Contact:  
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Hégelé, Film Rights Manager,  
suzanne.hegele@diogenes.ch

**Translation rights currently sold:**  
Chinese/CN (FLTRP)

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

#### **1962: La rossa**

Director: Helmut Käutner  
Cast: Ruth Leuwerik, Rossano 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

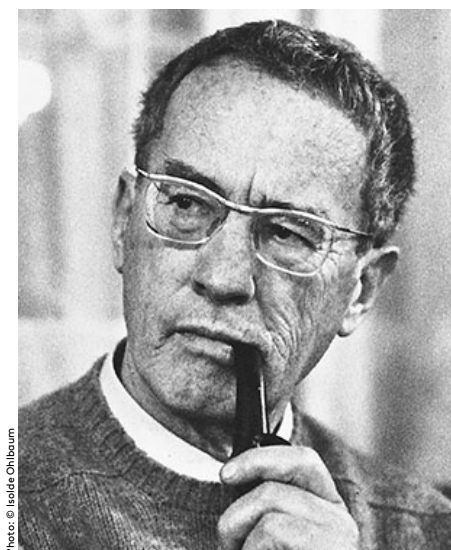


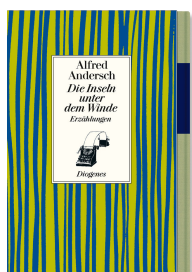
Photo: © Isolda Ohlbaum

## Praise (cont'd)

Alfred Andersch

»A master of German prose.« – Max Frisch

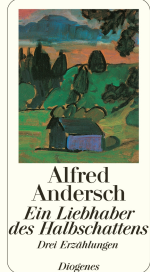
Born in 1914, Alfred Andersch attended a private Munich boys' school, which was in fact run by the father of Heinrich Himmler, as depicted in his last book ›The Father of a Murderer‹. In 1933 Alfred Andersch spent six months in Dachau concentration camp for his activities as a Communist youth leader. After deserting the Wehrmacht army in 1944, he spent over a year as a prisoner of war in America. After returning to Germany, he was the editor of several newspapers as well as a prominent novelist. A founder of ›Group 47‹, that distinguished company of German writers whose members included Heinrich Böll and Günter Grass, Andersch won the »Nelly Sachs Prize« (for ›Efraim's Book‹) in 1968. He died in 1980 in Berzona /Ticino.



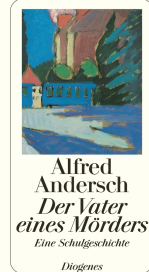
**Leeward Islands**  
544 pages  
2014



**Correspondence**  
192 pages  
2014

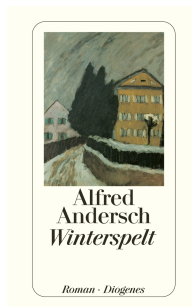


**An Admirer of Half Shadows**  
112 pages  
2006

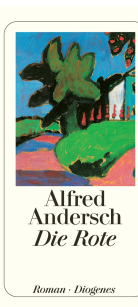


**The Father of a Murderer**  
144 pages  
1980

**Movie Adaptation**

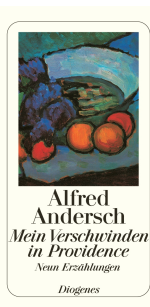


**Winterspelt**  
604 pages  
1974

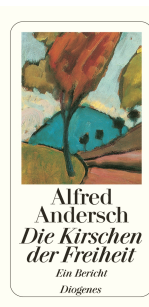


**The Redote**  
272 pages  
1972

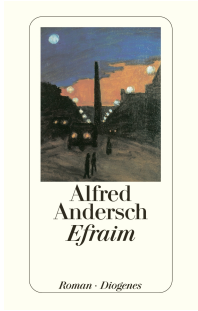
**Movie Adaptation**



**My Disappearance in Providence**  
276 pages  
1971



**Cherries of Freedom**  
144 pages  
1971



Efraim's Book  
472 pages  
1967  
🏆 Award winner