

Diogenes

Hans Werner Kettenbach
The Stronger Sex

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Hans Werner
Kettenbach
*Das starke
Geschlecht*

Roman · Diogenes

29-year-old solicitor Alexander Zabel realises too late what he has let himself in for with this client: Herbert Klofft, in his late seventies, founder and owner of »Klofft Valves« is an autocrat, despot and macho. Now bound to a wheelchair, he has fired a young top employee without notice or compensation – an entirely justified move, as he sees it; completely unacceptable in the eyes of his former employee who was also his mistress and who is intent on suing Klofft for damages. An act of personal revenge, agrees Klofft's wife Cilly, an attractive woman in her seventies with a still rather active sex life. Zabel not only sees a lawsuit coming, in which the other party has the better cards in any case, but he is also beginning to understand that he is dealing with a client belligerent enough to manipulate the evidence if necessary. And he is faced with a wife who makes good use of her still considerable erotic charm to beguile the young man.

Book factsheet

Crime Fiction, Contemporary Literature
448 pages
11.6 x 18.4 cm
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Translation rights currently sold:
English/world (Bitter Lemon)

Movie adaptations

2002: Nancy & Frank - A Manhattan Love Story

Director: Wolf Gremm
Screenplay: Jonathan Brett
Cast: Hardy Krüger Jr., Frances Anderson,
Gottfried John

1998: Glatteis

Director: Michael Gutmann
Cast: Günter Lamprecht, Hilde van Mieghem,
Gottfried John, Elfriede Irrall

1995: Davids Rache

Director: Hartmut Griesmayr
Cast: Habich Matthias, Roth Wolf, Reinhart
Christine

1989: Tennessee Nights

Director: Nicolas Gessner
Cast: Julian Sands, Stacey Dash, Rod Steiger,
Ned Beatty

1987: Im Jahr der Schildkröte

Director: Ute Wieland
Cast: Heinz Bennent, Karina Fallenstein, Anke
Tegtmeier, Arpad Kraupa

Der Feigenblattpflücker

Director: L. Niemeier

Ein Fall für Onkel

Director: Ulrich Stark

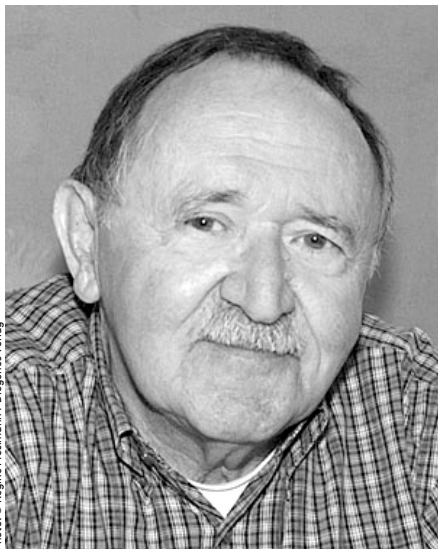
Awards

- 2009 ›Friedrich-Glauser-Ehrenpreis‹ für seine Verdienste um die deutschsprachige Kriminalliteratur
- 1988 Deutscher Krimi-Preis für ›Schmutz oder Die Sackgasse‹
- 1977 Jerry-Cotton-Preis für ›Grand mit Vieren‹

Praise

The Stronger Sex

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Praise (cont'd)

»Kettenbach succeeds in finding a tragicomical balance between pallation and distance and therefore turns his book into one with quality and literary style.« – Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger

Hans Werner Kettenbach (1928 - 2018) studied many things over the years in four universities; he has worked as an advertising salesman, a shorthand secretary for the football magazine »Kicker«, a radio editor and finally as the editor of a newspaper. He wrote his first novel at the age of fifty. He has written a total of fourteen, five of which have been filmed. Critics have compared them to the works of Sjöwall/Wahlöö (»Plärrer«), Simenon and Patricia Highsmith (»FAZ«). In 2009 Kettenbach was awarded the »Ehrengläuser« prize for crime writing for his life's work.



Aunt Joice and the Joy of Life
432 pages
2010



A Visit to Dr. Buzzard
368 pages
2006



Small Town Affairs
512 pages
2004



The Rival
528 pages
2002



Black Ice
272 pages
2001

 **Movie Adaptation**



Grand With Four
240 pages
2000



The Treasure-Hunters
544 pages
1998



David's Revenge
304 pages
1994

 **Movie Adaptation**

Der Feigenblattpflücker
288 pages
1992
📺 **Movie Adaptation**

Schmatz
320 pages
1987
🏆 **Award winner**



Sterbetage
248 pages
1986
📺 **Movie Adaptation**



Minnie
320 pages
1984
📺 **Movie Adaptation**