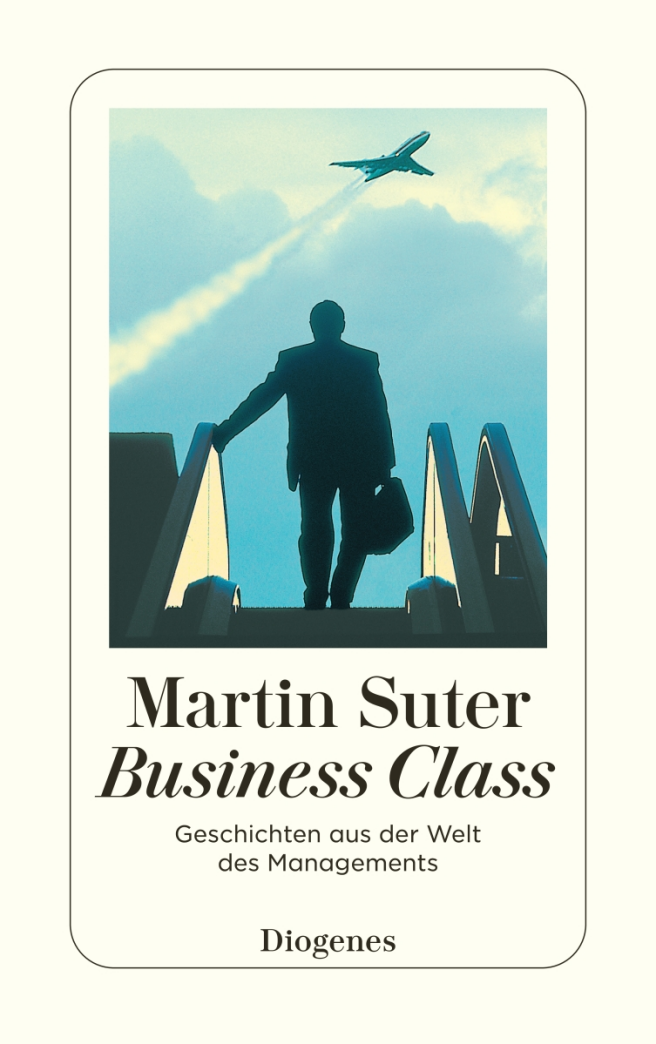
Diogenes

Book factsheet

Martin Suter
Business Class I

Published by Diogenes as *Business Class*
Original title: *Business Class*



The hierarchy is well-known: the unreachable exalted tycoons at the top of the pyramid, the harassed executives in-between, and the burnt-out workaholics further down the line. The everyday rituals of power politics: the pecking order and the struggle for the acquisition of status symbols, ingratiation and intrigues, and self-perpetuating frustration - even in the domestic bedroom. As a former advertising professional and long-standing president of the Art Directors' Club, Martin Suter knows the milieu he describes like the back of his hand. His ›Business Class‹ stories with their keen, subtle observations are not only brilliantly written satires, they also read like a manual for executives: the stress factor - for whom is it a must, for whom a taboo? The furnishings of the director's office as a manifestation of a lust for power; the ritual of greeting, and what you can do wrong; a housewife trained in the art of hosting as a possibly crucial weapon in the fight against rivals. And lots more.

Contemporary Literature, Bestseller
240 pages
11.3 × 18 × 1.5 cm
June 2002

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Translation rights currently sold:
French (Christian Bourgois)

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

2014: Der Koch
Director: Ralf Huettner
Screenplay: Ruth Toma
Cast: Jessica Schwarz, Hamza Jeetooa und Hanspeter Müller-Drossaart.

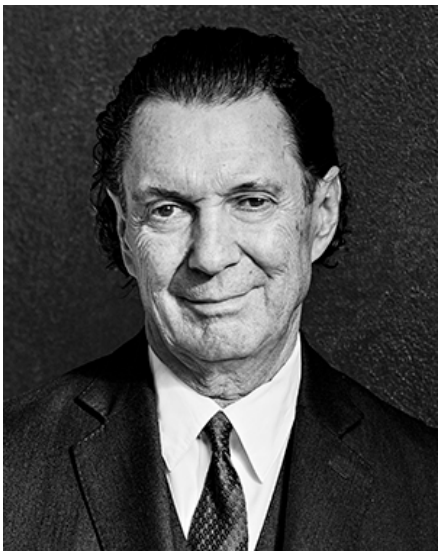
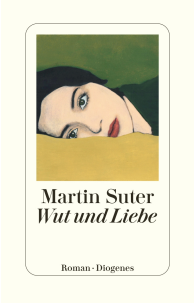


Photo: © Joël Hunn

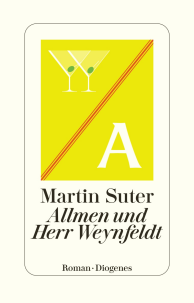
Martin Suter was born in 1948 in Zurich. His novels (including *Love and Fury* and *Melody*) and *Business Class* stories are major international successes. In addition, since 2011 the gentleman thief Allmen has been solving cases in his own crime series. Martin Suter lives with his daughter in Zurich.

Can You See Me?
208 pages
2026

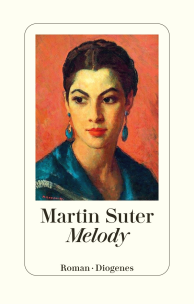


Love and Fury
304 pages
2025
Bestseller

No Need to Shout Like That
320 pages
2024



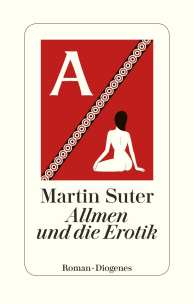
Allmen and Mr Weynfeldt
224 pages
2024
Bestseller



Melody
336 pages
2023
Bestseller

Why Are We All So Serious?
272 pages
2021
Bestseller

Allmen and the Koi
224 pages
2019
Movie Adaptation
Bestseller



Allmen and the Erotic Figurines
272 pages
2018
Movie Adaptation
Bestseller

Movie adaptations (cont'd)

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

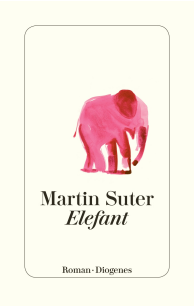
2008/2009: Lila, Lila
Director: Alain Gsponer
Screenplay: Alexander Buresch
Cast: Daniel Brühl, Hannah Herzsprung, Henry Hübchen

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

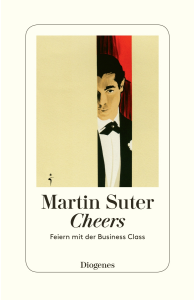
1999: Beresina oder Die letzten Tage der Schweiz
Director: Daniel Schmid
Cast: Elena Panova, Geraldine Chaplin, Martin Benrath

Awards

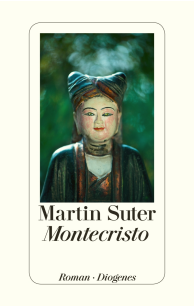
2019 ›Platin Award‹ von Universal Schweiz an Martin Suter und Stephan Eicher für 20'000 verkaufte *Song Books*
2018 *Song Book* ist eines der 25 ›Schönsten deutschen Bücher‹ der Stiftung Buchkunst
2018 Doppelte Charts-Auszeichnung für *Song Book*: ›Nummer 1 Award der Offiziellen Schweizer Hitparade‹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



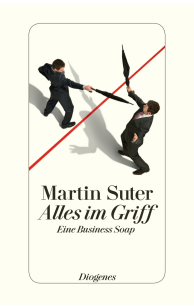
Elephant
352 pages
2017
Bestseller



Cheers
224 pages
2016



Montecristo
320 pages
2015
Award winner
Bestseller

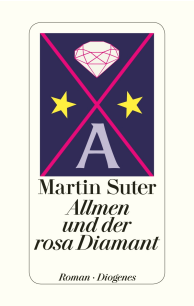


Everything Under Control
128 pages
2014

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

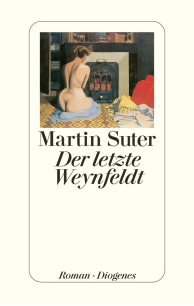


Allmen and the Pink Diamond
224 pages
2011
Movie Adaptation
Bestseller

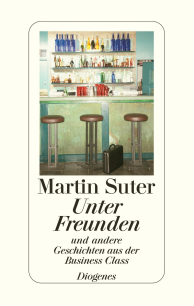
Allmen and the Dragonflies
208 pages
2011
Movie Adaptation
Bestseller

The Chef
320 pages
2010
Movie Adaptation
Bestseller

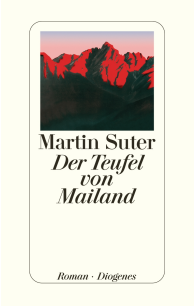
The Bonus-Mystery and Other Stories from the Business Class
192 pages
2009



The Last Weynfeldt
320 pages
2008
Movie Adaptation
Bestseller

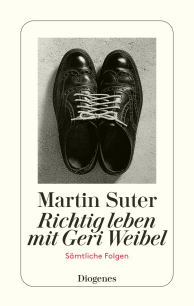


Among Friends and Other Stories from Business Class
208 pages
2007
Bestseller



A Deal with the Devil
304 pages
2006
Award winner
Movie Adaptation
Bestseller

Huber Takes a Break
192 pages
2005



Living Right With Geri Weibel
224 pages
2005

Awards (cont'd)

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

Business Class I

»Suter's columns are brilliant, full of laconic wit and – despite all reservations –a certain fondness for the objects of his irony.« – Armin Thurnher / Falter, Vienna

Martin Suter

»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

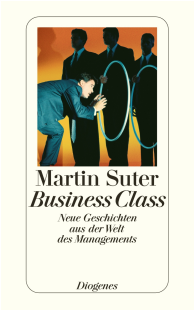
»He is known for his versatility and special gift for handling complex topics in an accessible and entertaining way.« – Samira Debbeler / Stern, Hamburg

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

»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

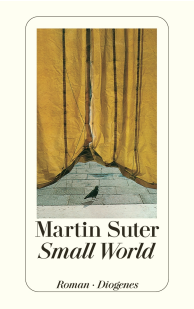
Lila, Lila
352 pages
2004
Movie Adaptation
Bestseller



Business Class II
240 pages
2002

A Perfect Friend
352 pages
2002
Award winner
Movie Adaptation
Bestseller

The Dark Side of the Moon
320 pages
2000
Movie Adaptation
Bestseller



Small World
336 pages
1997
Award winner
Movie Adaptation
Bestseller

Praise (cont'd)

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