

Diogenes

Martin Suter
Small World

Published by Diogenes as *Small World*
Original title: *Small World*



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Roman · Diogenes

Small World is a case study, social novel and thriller at one and the same time. Konrad Lang, in his mid-sixties, is suddenly confronted by vivid pictures from his childhood. And the down-at-the-heel old man is drawn as if by magic to the villa of his former »family«, where people are reluctant to remember him. What is he up to? asks above all eighty-year-old Elvira Senn, the incontestable head of the family and grand old lady of the renowned Swiss Koch works. She is irritated by Konrad's growing powers of recollection - and with good reason: Elvira has something to hide.

Konrad's childhood and youth were extremely unusual. As the illegitimate child of a maidservant, and playmate - or lackey - of a millionaire's son of the same age, he grew up in the world of the rich without ever being accepted into it.

And now the confused old man wants only one thing: to be accepted into the bosom of the family, which did not always treat him well. Elvira Senn believes he is in need of care and takes him in. But as time goes on she feels more and more threatened by Konrad, particularly as he finds, unexpectedly, a protectress among the members of the family. A dramatic race begins, a race against time, against a mysterious illness, and against the old lady's increasing panic. It ends in an almost cheerful finale.

Book factsheet

Contemporary Literature
336 pages
11.6 x 18.4 cm
September 1997

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Translation rights currently sold:

English/UK (Harvill Secker)
French
Italian (Sellerio)
Singhalese (Vidarshana)
Spanish/world (Libros del Asteroide)

Bestseller

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*

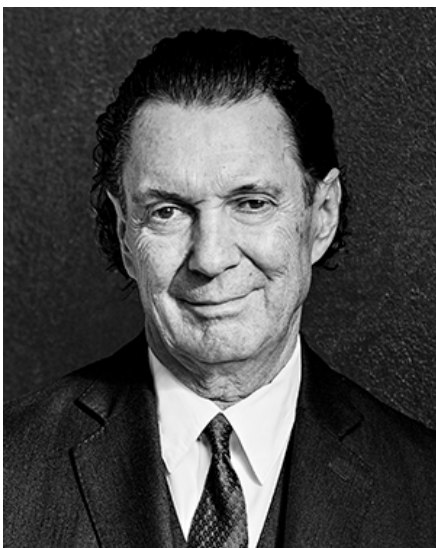
Director: Thomas Berger
Screenplay: Martin Rauhaus
Cast: Heino Ferch, Samuel Finzi, Andrea Osvárt

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



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



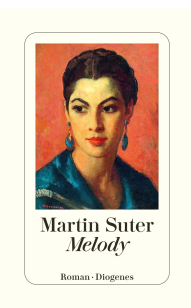
Love and Fury
304 pages
2025
Bestseller



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)

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 Grauwiler, 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 Gspöner
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 Gspöner
Screenplay: Alexander Buresch
Cast: Daniel Brühl, Hannah Herzprung, Henry Hübchen

2006: Un ami parfait

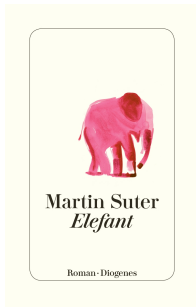
Director: Francis Girod
Screenplay: Philippe Cougrand
Cast: Antoine de Caunes, Carole Bouquet, Martina Gedeck

1999: Beresina oder Die letzten Tage der Schweiz

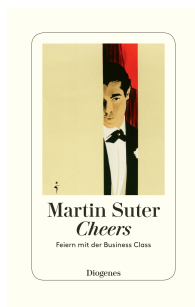
Director: Daniel Schmid
Cast: Elena Panova, Geraldine Chaplin, Martin Benrath

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*



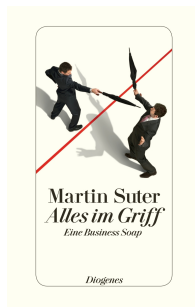
Elephant
352 pages
2017
🏆 **Bestseller**



Cheers
224 pages
2016



Montecristo
320 pages
2015
🏆 **Award winner**
🏆 **Bestseller**



Everything Under Control
128 pages
2014



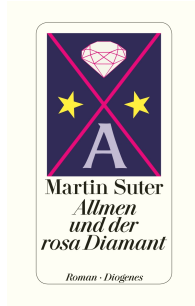
Allmen and the Vanished Maria
224 pages
2014
🏆 **Bestseller**



Allmen and the Dahlias
224 pages
2013
🎬 **Movie Adaptation**
🏆 **Bestseller**



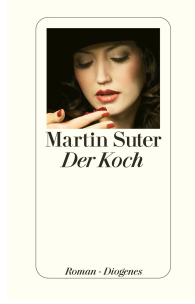
The Time, the Time
304 pages
2012
🏆 **Bestseller**



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)**

- 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 Sittges für *Jenatsch*

Praise

Small World

›Suter has succeeded in writing an excellent book on the unusual world of forgetfulness.« – Le Monde, Paris

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

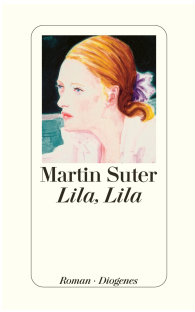
›Suter's writing is filmic – fast-paced, taut, with succinct dialogue.« – Martin Ebel / Tages-Anzeiger, Zurich

›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

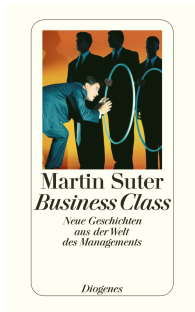
›Martin Suter: the grand master of German-language popular fiction.« – Spiegel Bestseller, Hamburg

›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



Lila, Lila
352 pages
2004

 **Movie Adaptation**
 **Bestseller**

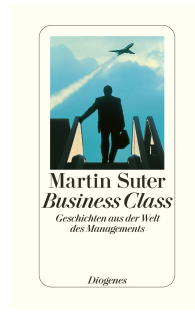


Business Class II
240 pages
2002



A Perfect Friend
352 pages
2002

 **Award winner**
 **Movie Adaptation**
 **Bestseller**



Business Class I
240 pages
2000

 **Award winner**

Praise (cont'd)

»With his brilliantly smooth narrative style, Martin Suter reaches readers all over the world.« – Rose-Maria Groppe / Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung



The Dark Side of the Moon
320 pages
2000

 **Movie Adaptation**
 **Bestseller**