

# Diogenes

Martin Suter  
*Small World*

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



## Martin Suter *Small World*

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 maid-servant, 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

General Fiction  
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

**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.

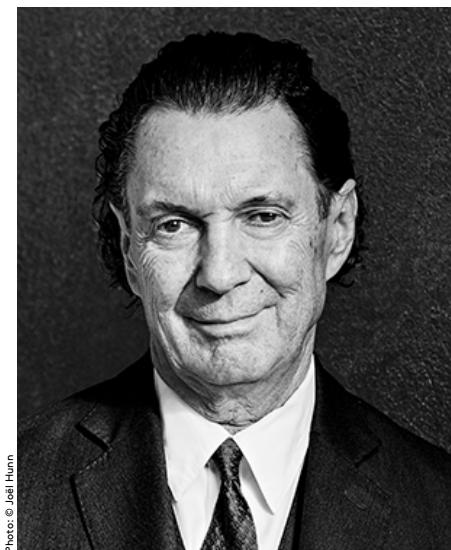
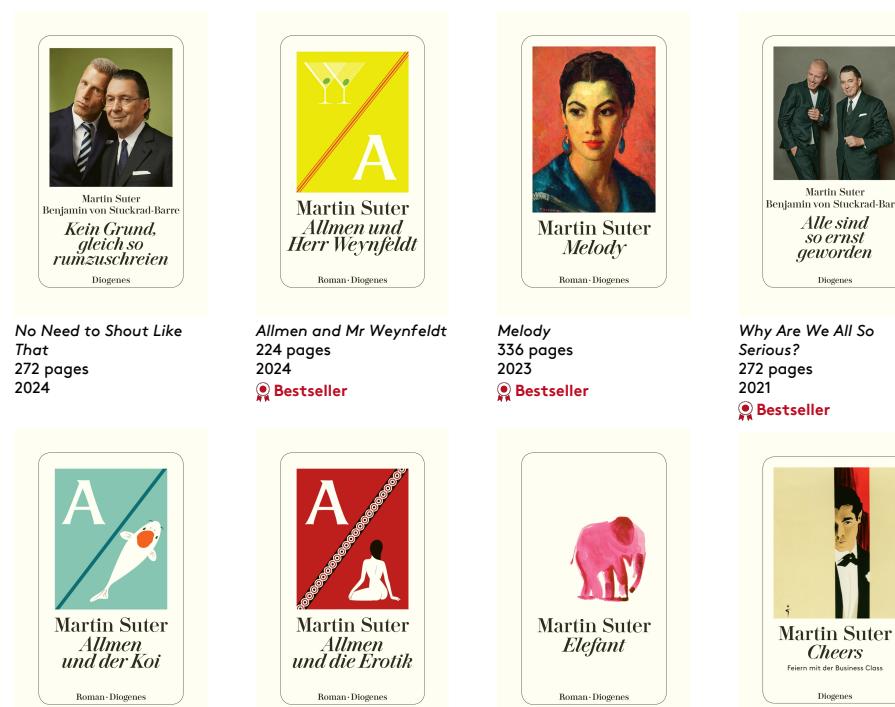


Photo: © Joël Hunz

Martin Suter was born in Zurich in 1948. His novels and his *Business Class* stories have seen huge international success. Since 2011 he has also been writing crime novels featuring Allmen, the gentleman thief, a series that is currently at seven books. A documentary film about Martin Suter was released in 2022 and screened at the Locarno Film Festival. Martin Suter lives with his family in Zurich.



Allmen and the Koi  
224 pages  
2019  
Bestseller

Allmen and the Erotic Figurines  
272 pages  
2018  
Movie Adaptation  
Bestseller

Elephant  
352 pages  
2017  
Bestseller

Cheers  
224 pages  
2016

## 🎬 Movie adaptations (cont'd)

### 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: Small World

Director: Bruno Chiche  
Screenplay: Bruno Chiche  
Cast: Gérard Depardieu, Alexandra Maria Lara, Niels Arestrup, Nathalie Baye, Yannick Renier

### 2010: Der letzte Weynfeldt / TV

Director: Alain Gspöner  
Screenplay: Alex Buresch  
Cast: Marie Bäumer, Stefan Kurt

### 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 Herzsprung, Henry Hübchen

### 2006: Un ami parfait

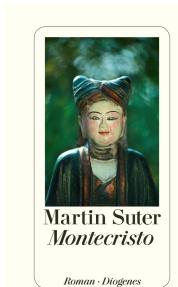
Director: Francis Girod  
Screenplay: Philippe Cougrand  
Cast: Antoine de Caunes, Carole Bouquet, Martina Gedeck

### 1999: Beresina oder Die letzten Tage der Schweiz

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

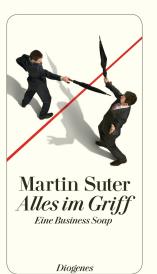
## 🏆 Awards

- 2019 →Platin Award← von Universal Schweiz an Martin Suter und Stephan Eicher für 20'000 verkaufte Song Books
- 2018 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
- 2018 Song Book ist eines der 25 →Schönsten deutschen Bücher← der Stiftung Buchkunst
- 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



Martin Suter  
*Montecristo*

Montecristo  
320 pages  
2015  
Award winner  
Bestseller



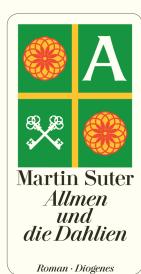
Martin Suter  
*Alles im Griff*  
*Eine Business-Saga*

Everything Under Control  
128 pages  
2014



Martin Suter  
*Allmen und die verschwundene Maria*

Allmen and the Vanished  
Maria  
224 pages  
2014  
Bestseller



Martin Suter  
*Allmen und die Dahlien*

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#### ★ 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*



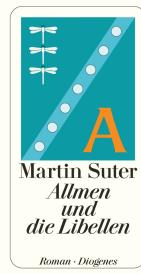
Martin Suter  
*Die Zeit,  
die Zeit*

The Time, the Time  
304 pages  
2012  
Bestseller



Martin Suter  
*Allmen und der rosa Diamant*

Allmen and the Pink  
Diamond  
224 pages  
2011  
Movie Adaptation  
Bestseller



Martin Suter  
*Allmen und die Libellen*

Allmen and the  
Dragonflies  
208 pages  
2011  
Movie Adaptation  
Bestseller



Martin Suter  
*Der Koch*

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#### Praise

##### *Small World*

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

##### Martin Suter

»Suter's gaze is fresh and wicked, his ear for dialogue infallible, his literature greatly skilful.« – Constantin Seibt / Die Wochenzzeitung, Zurich

»There is charm, irony, and undeniable elegance in Martin Suter's novels, who is probably one of the best contemporary authors.« – Pascal Bruckner / Le Nouvel Observateur, Paris

»Martin Suter will always surprise you. Each new novel is a challenge and an adventure.« – Les Echos, Paris

»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

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



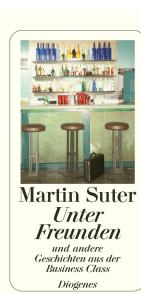
Martin Suter  
*Das Bonus-  
Geheimnis*  
*und andere  
Geschichten aus der  
Business Class*

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



Martin Suter  
*Der letzte  
Weynfeldt*

The Last Weynfeldt  
320 pages  
2008  
Movie Adaptation  
Bestseller



Martin Suter  
*Unter  
Freunden*  
*und andere  
Geschichten aus der  
Business Class*

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



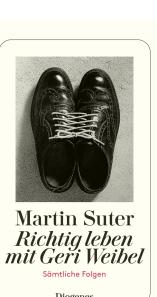
Martin Suter  
*Der Teufel  
von  
Mailand*

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Martin Suter  
*Huber  
spannt aus*  
*und andere Geschichten  
aus der Business Class*

Huber Takes a Break  
192 pages  
2005



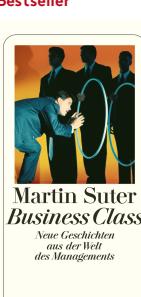
Martin Suter  
*Richtig leben  
mit Geri Weibel*  
*Sämtliche Folgen*

Living Right With Geri  
Weibel  
224 pages  
2005



Martin Suter  
*Lila, Lila*

Lila, Lila  
352 pages  
2004  
Movie Adaptation  
Bestseller



Martin Suter  
*Business Class*  
*Neue Geschichten  
aus der Welt  
des Managements*

Diogenes

Business Class II  
240 pages  
2002



Martin Suter  
*Ein perfekter  
Freund*

Roman · Diogenes

A Perfect Friend  
352 pages  
2002

⭐ Award winner  
🎬 Movie Adaptation  
⭐ Bestseller



Martin Suter  
*Business Class*  
Geschichten aus der Welt  
des Managements

Diogenes

Business Class I  
240 pages  
2000

⭐ Award winner  
🎬 Movie Adaptation  
⭐ Bestseller



Martin Suter  
*Die dunkle  
Seite des  
Mondes*

Roman · Diogenes

The Dark Side of the  
Moon  
320 pages  
2000

🎬 Movie Adaptation  
⭐ Bestseller