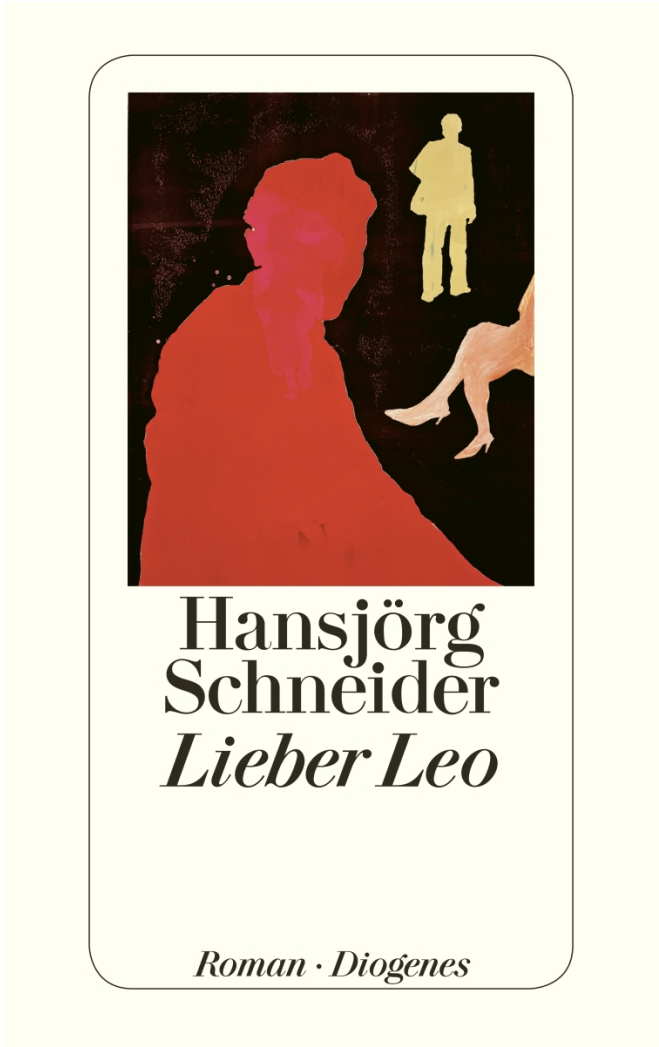
Diogenes

Book factsheet

Hansjörg Schneider
Dear Leo

Published by Diogenes as *Lieber Leo*
Original title: *Lieber Leo*



His girlfriend Bea has left him without as much as a goodbye, after ten years together. His search for her takes the unnamed narrator, a screenplay writer in his early forties, to the sites of their love and his biography: Ticino, Basel, his father's house in Aargau, Paris in May 1968 . . .
In the New World, in San Francisco, the narrator finally finds Bea. And he discovers that his best friend Leo had something to do with her disappearance.
Back in Europe to confront Leo, the narrator finds out he has passed away. In Berlin, he begins to write a letter to his dead friend: Dear Leo . . .
Love and friendship, farewells and separations, looking back and setting out are the themes of this novel, written in the form of a long letter.

Contemporary Literature
304 pages
11.3 × 18 cm
June 2016

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Translation rights currently sold:
Turkish (Alfa)

Movie adaptations

2011: Hunkeler und die Augen des Ödipus. TV-Verfilmung SF 1
Director: Christian von Castelberg
Screenplay: Dominik Bernet
Cast: Mathias Gnädinger, Axel Milberg, Marie Leuenberger

2011: Silberkiesel. Hunkeler tritt ab
Director: Markus Fischer
Screenplay: Dominik Bernet
Cast: Mathias Gnädinger, Gilles Tschudi, Charlotte Heinimann, Cynthia Coray und Ercan Durmaz.

2009: Hunkeler und der Fall Livius
Director: Stefan Jäger
Screenplay: Dominik Bernet
Cast: Matthias Gnädinger, Klaus Henner Russius, Gilles Tschudi, Jean Pierre Gos

2008: Hunkeler macht Sachen
Director: Markus Fischer
Screenplay: Dominik Bernet
Cast: Mathias Gnädinger, Charlotte Heinimann, Oliver Tobias

2005: Tod einer Ärztin
Director: Markus Fischer
Screenplay: Markus Fischer
Cast: Mathias Gnädinger, Charlotte Heinimann, André Jung

2004: Das Paar im Kahn
Director: Marie-Louise Bless
Cast: Mathias Gnädinger, Gilles Tschudi, Andrea Bettini

1981: Sennentuntschi. Fernsehspiel
Director: Hansjörg Schneider
Cast: Joseph Arnold, Walo Lüönd, Hanspeter Müller-Drossaart, Maja Stolle

Awards

2018 ›Ehrendoktor‹ der Philosophisch-Historischen Fakultät der Universität Basel
2016 ›Ehrenpreis Burgdorfer Krimitage‹ für *Hunkeler*-Reihe
2005 ›Friedrich-Glauser-Preis‹ für *Hunkeler macht Sachen*

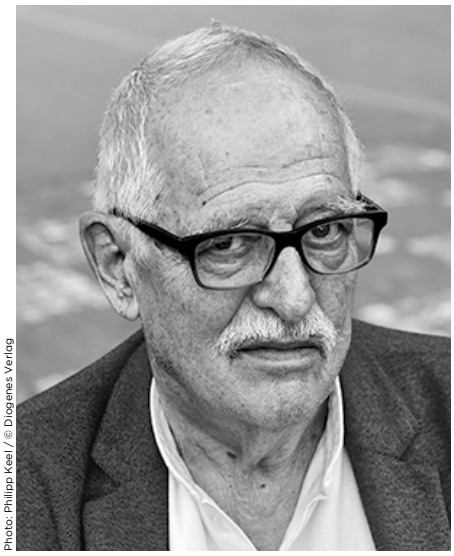


Photo: Philipp Keel / © Diogenes Verlag

Hansjörg Schneider, born in Aarau, Switzerland, in 1938, worked as a teacher and journalist. For a long time, he was one of the most performed playwrights in the German language and his *Hunkeler* crime novels are regularly on the Swiss Bestseller list. Hansjorg Schneider has received numerous awards, among them the ›Friedrich Glauser Prize‹ in 2005. He lives and writes in Basel.



Sparrows at the Fountain
208 pages
2023
Bestseller



The Owl over the Rhine
288 pages
2021
Bestseller



Hunkeler in the Wilderness
224 pages
2020
Bestseller



In the Café and on the Street
240 pages
2019



Child of the Aare
352 pages
2018
Bestseller



Hunkeler's Secret
208 pages
2015



Hunkeler and the ›Golden Hand‹
240 pages
2013



The Murder of Anton Livius
256 pages
2013
Movie Adaptation
Bestseller

Awards (cont'd)

2003	Schweizer Schillerpreis
1998	Wetzlarer Phantastikpreis
1986	Aargauer Literaturpreis
1986	Literaturpreis der Stadt Basel
1981	Werkjahr des Kantons Zürich
1979	Werkjahr der Pro Helvetia
1977	Stipendiat des Berliner Künstlerprogramms (DAAD)
1976	›Preis der Welti-Stiftung für das Drama‹ *Der Erfinder*

Praise

Dear Leo

»With *Dear Leo* and *The Watermark* Hansjorg Schneider has written important novels.« – Beatrice von Matt / Neue Zürcher Zeitung

»*Dear Leo* is a long letter for a short goodbye. It is Hansjörg Schneider's best novel, also stylistically.« – Christine Richard / Die Zeit (Swiss edition), Zurich

»This is a novel about Basel, a novel about love, a novel about personal development, and above all it's a very honest man's novel. [. . .] For locals, lovers, the lonely, for everyone: *Dear Leo* – Hansjörg Schneider's best book.« – Christine Richard / Basler Zeitung

»The book is a prime literary and political document of its time; very few other novels capture the post-1968 era of new beginnings and upheaval as subtly and convincingly. Simply an all-round achievement.« – Frank Dietschreit / rbb kulturradio, Berlin

Hansjörg Schneider

»Hansjörg Schneider is a talented and conscientious storyteller.« – Sabine Brandt / Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

»Hansjörg Schneider has created a wonderful protagonist: rugged, awkward and likeable.« – Volker Albers / Hamburger Abendblatt

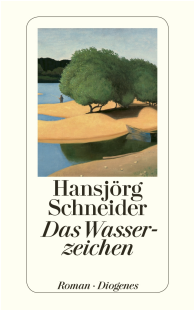
»Hansjörg Schneider's crime stories will have you hooked. As soon as a murderer is caught, you are already longing for the next one to appear.« – Benedikt Scherer / Tages-Anzeiger, Zurich

»Ideal for anyone who enjoys Martin Beck, Wallander and Maigret.« – crimefictionlover.com

»Hansjörg Schneider is very addictive! Definitely one of the greatest German speaking authors.« – Jochen Schmoldt / Plärrer, Nürnberg



The Basel Killings
288 pages
2013
Award winner
Movie Adaptation



The Watermark
304 pages
2013



Hippos under the House
224 pages
2012



Night Book for Astrid
128 pages
2012



Death of a Doctor
240 pages
2011
Movie Adaptation
Bestseller



The Couple on the Barge
224 pages
2011
Movie Adaptation
Bestseller



The Fluttering Man
160 pages
2011
Bestseller



Silver Pebbles
240 pages
2011
Movie Adaptation
Bestseller



Hunkeler and the Eyes of Oedipus
240 pages
2010
Movie Adaptation
Bestseller