

**Ingrid Noll**  
***Blissfully Widowed***

Published by Diogenes as *Selige Witwen*  
Original title: *Selige Witwen*



**Ingrid Noll**  
***Selige  
Witwen***

*Roman · Diogenes*

Was there ever a closer women's friendship than that between Maja and Cora in ›Die Häupter meiner Lieben‹? Yet it is not only from men that the merrily murdering maidens emancipate themselves, but from each other too, when the fight for happiness begins...

It was and is nothing new, the fact that men hardly look at me when Cora is by my side. How can my straight, light brown hair compete with her red lion's mane? My grey eyes with her green ones? People trying to be kind say I am small but fine, whereas Cora is described as a »dream woman« or a »thoroughbred«. From afar, probably nobody sees me at all.

This is what Maja is thinking as she longs to escape from the shadow of her friend. And yet they are really so inseparable. After all, good girls go to heaven, and Maja and Cora can go anywhere they please if they stick together. It is not only in Tuscany that there are so many battles to be fought for villas and riches. Frankfurt am Main is another tough place: the two friends help some other women in their fight against a pimp and a lawyer with close associations with the red-light milieu.

Maja impresses Cora by her spectacular actions; as in times gone by, they join forces and vanquish the enemy, thereby relieving other women of their burdens...

## Book factsheet

Crime Fiction, Contemporary Literature  
272 pages  
11.6 x 18.4 cm  
February 2001

World rights are handled by Diogenes

### Bestseller

Spiegel Bestseller

### Movie adaptations

#### **2009: Ladylike. Jetzt ers recht!**

Director: Vanessa Jopp  
Screenplay: Christian Schnalke  
Cast: Monika Bleibtreu, Gisela Schneeberger, Günther Maria Halmer

#### **2000: Kalt ist der Abendhauch**

Director: Rainer Kaufmann  
Screenplay: Ralf Hertwig  
Cast: Fritzi Haberland, August Diehl, Heinz Bennent, Gisela Trowe

#### **1999: Die Häupter meiner Lieben**

Director: Hans-Günther Bücking  
Cast: Heike Makatsch, Christiane Paul

#### **1999: Der Hahn ist tot**

Director: Hermine Hunthgeburst  
Cast: Gisela Schneeberger, August Zirner

#### **1997: Die Apothekerin**

Director: Rainer Kaufmann  
Cast: Katja Riemann, August Zirner, Jürgen Vogel

#### **1993: Bommels Billigflüge**

Director: Claus-Michael Rohne  
Screenplay: Ingrid Noll  
Cast: Rosemarie Fendel, Dominique Horwitz, Tina Ruland

### Awards

- 2025 Bundesverdienstkreuz der Bundesrepublik Deutschland
- 2023 Ehrenbürgerin von Weinheim
- 2019 Ehrenkriminalhauptkommissarin der Mannheimer Polizei
- 2016 Ehrenkommissarin der Bonner Polizei
- 2005 ›Friedrich-Glauser-Preis – Ehrenpreis der Autoren‹ für das Gesamtwerk
- 2002 Verleihung der ›Verdienstmedaille des Landes Baden-Württemberg‹ durch Ministerpräsident Erwin Teufel
- 1994 ›Friedrich-Glauser-Preis‹ für *Die Häupter meiner Lieben*

### Praise

*Blissfully Widowed*



Ingrid Noll, born in Shanghai in 1935, studied German philology and art history in Bonn. She has three children and four grandchildren. After her children left home, she began writing crime stories, which all became instant bestsellers. In 2005 she received the ›Glaser Prize of Honour‹ for her oeuvre.

**Praise (cont'd)**

»Ingrid Noll writes books that move in a deceptive no-man's land between thrillers and family dramas, between women's books and cosy horror.« – Joachim Kronsbein / Der Spiegel, Hamburg

»The insolence with which Ingrid Noll depicts her murderesses as persecuted innocents is superb. What a subversive joke!« – Wilhelmine König / Der Standard, Vienna

**Ingrid Noll**

»Ingrid Noll is one of the best German storytellers.« – Angela Gatterburg / Der Spiegel, Hamburg

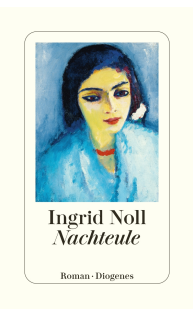
»Ingrid Noll has a distinct talent for finding the horror in day-to-day life.« – Karin Oehmigen / SonntagsZeitung, Zürich

»Ingrid Noll is often referred to as Germany's ›Queen of Crime‹, and she fully deserves this title.« – The Sunday Times, London

»Riveting reading – we are captivated precisely because it is all so familiar.« – Dieter Hildebrandt / Sender Freies Berlin

»Ingrid Noll has truly mastered the art of the comic crime novel.« – Ulli Wagner / SR3, Saarbrücken

»Still the most original crime writer in the German language.« – Christel Freitag / NDR Kultur, Hamburg



*The Night Owl*  
304 pages  
2025



*Greetings from the Kitchen*  
304 pages  
2024  
**Bestseller**



*Tea Time*  
320 pages  
2022  
**Bestseller**



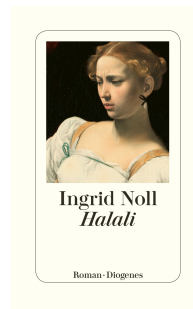
*Fickle Flames*  
304 pages  
2021  
**Bestseller**



*With Love, Karl*  
336 pages  
2020  
**Bestseller**



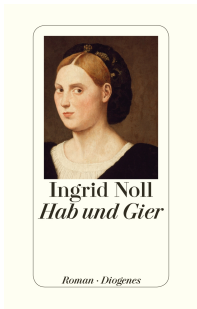
*Good as Gold*  
368 pages  
2019  
**Bestseller**



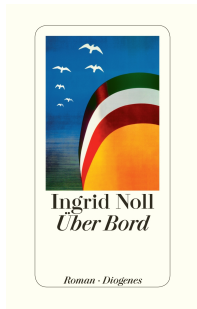
*Tally-Ho*  
320 pages  
2017  
**Bestseller**



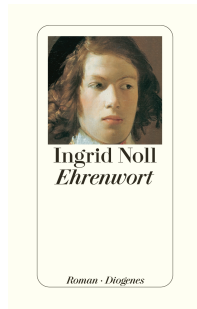
*Lunchtime*  
224 pages  
2015  
**Bestseller**



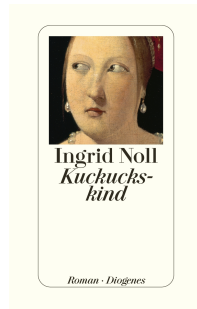
**Till Greed Do Us Part**  
256 pages  
2014  
📺 **Bestseller**



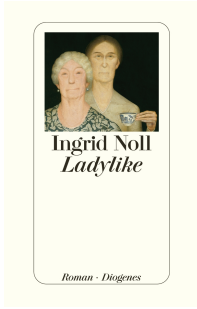
**Overboard**  
336 pages  
2012  
📺 **Bestseller**



**Word of Honour**  
336 pages  
2010  
📺 **Bestseller**



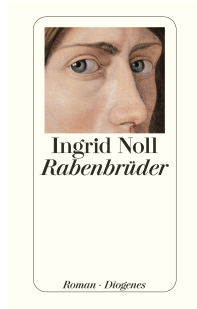
**Cuckoo's Child**  
352 pages  
2008  
📺 **Bestseller**



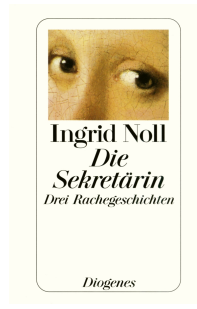
**Ladylike**  
336 pages  
2006  
📺 **Movie Adaptation**  
📺 **Bestseller**



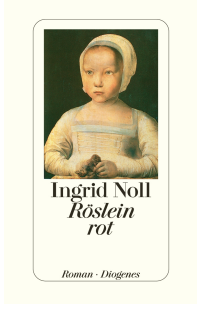
**False Tongues**  
256 pages  
2004  
📺 **Bestseller**



**Rabenbrüder**  
288 pages  
2003  
📺 **Bestseller**



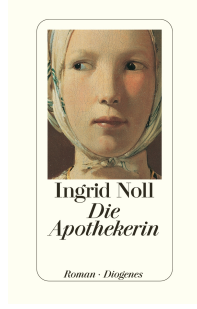
**The Secretary**  
96 pages  
2000  
📺 **Bestseller**



**Red Rose**  
288 pages  
1998  
📺 **Bestseller**



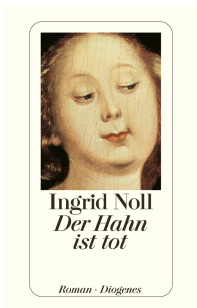
**Cold is the Evening's Breeze**  
256 pages  
1996  
📺 **Movie Adaptation**  
📺 **Bestseller**



**The Pharmacist**  
256 pages  
1994  
📺 **Movie Adaptation**  
📺 **Bestseller**



**Head Count**  
288 pages  
1993  
📺 **Movie Adaptation**  
📺 **Bestseller**



**Hell Hath No Fury**  
272 pages  
1991  
📺 **Movie Adaptation**  
📺 **Bestseller**