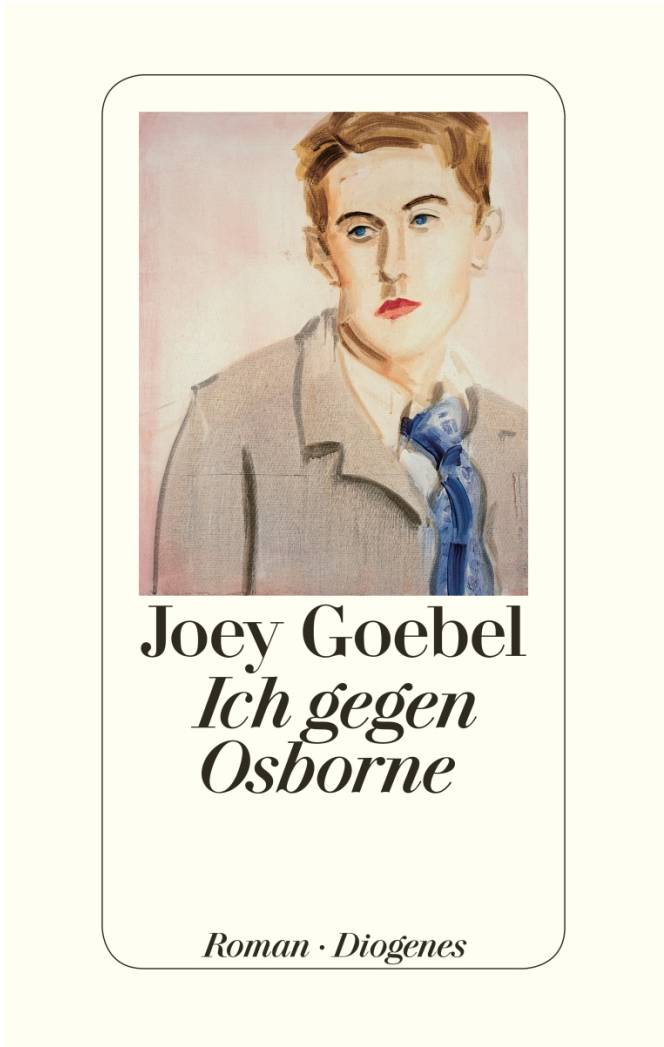
Diogenes

Book factsheet

Joey Goebel
I Against Osbourne

Published by Diogenes as *Ich gegen Osborne*
Original title: *I Against Osbourne*



It's a completely normal school day. But at Osbourne High School, shy James is stressed: wearing his recently deceased father's suit, he seems like the only responsible adult in an unrestrained, over-sexed society. He can't stand his fellow students, who want to be cool but are actually just callous and vulgar and constantly wear each other down. And now even the girl he likes, Chloe, a kindred spirit, seems to have discovered her feminine side while on holiday in Florida – and then some! Seeing no other option, James declares war: *I Against Osbourne*! Not just against the principal, whom he blackmails with knowledge about his sex-escapade with a female student, but against the entire high school. The ›outsider of all outsiders‹ resolves to stir up Osbourne High in a way that none of the hipsters ever has.

Contemporary Literature
432 pages
11.6 × 18.4 cm
March 2013

World rights are handled by Diogenes

Awards

2009 ›Festival-Preis‹ des Internationalen Festivals und Kolloquiums ›Days and Nights of Literature‹ (Rumänien)
2007 Nominierung für den Kritikerpreis in der Altersgruppe 16–18 Jahre der Jury der jungen Leser für *Freaks*
2007 ›Silberner Lufti, Lufti-Jugendbuchpreis‹ für *Freaks*
2006 Nominierung von *Torture the Artist (Vincent)* für die Longlist des ›Dylan Thomas Prize‹ in England
2006 ›Jugendbuchpreis‹ der Jury der jungen Kritiker in Wien für *Vincent*

Praise

I Against Osbourne

»I think it's great, the way Joey Goebel sees through pseudo-nonchalance and coolness without ever being schoolmasterly about it.« – Nina Anika Klotz / Petra, Hamburg

»A wonderfully told high school novel, full of humour and side swipes at the American school system, which sometimes behaves like a big kindergarten.« – Stefan Maelck / NDR Kultur, Hamburg

»Joey Goebel has written a wonderful book about the turmoil of still having to be a teenager, while already wanting to be an adult (and vice versa).« – Stefan Reis / Main-Echo, Aschaffenburg

»In ›I against Osbourne‹ Joey Goebel has managed to produce a critical consideration of school as part of modern partying society. And a sophisticated answer to the question of why a person might feel themselves to be an outsider.« – Roland Krüger / Deutschlandradio Kultur, Berlin

»A delectable work for all age groups.« – André Gross / Nordkurier, Neubrandenburg

Joey Goebel

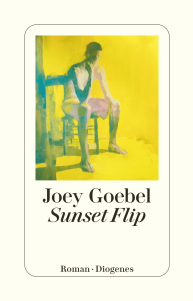
»Joey Goebel is being acclaimed as a literary discovery of the calibre of a John Irving or T. C. Boyle.« – Stefan Maelck / Norddeutscher Rundfunk, Hamburg

»So as Fitzgerald tagged his generation's excesses and delusions in ›The Great Gatsby‹ and Bret Easton Ellis did the same in the 1980s with ›Less Than Zero‹, Joey Goebel grabs the Zeitgeist by the nape of the neck and gives it a good twirl...« – Pages Magazine, USA



Photo: Nate Fish / © Diogenes Verlag

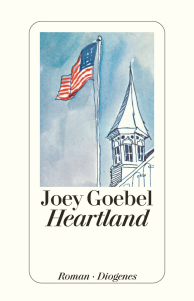
Joey Goebel, born in 1980 in Henderson, Kentucky, is a writer, scriptwriter, and musician – an internationally celebrated multi-talent. His novels *Torture the Artist, The Anomalies* and *Commonwealth* have been published in 15 languages. Joey Goebel has a son and lives in Henderson, where he teaches English literature.



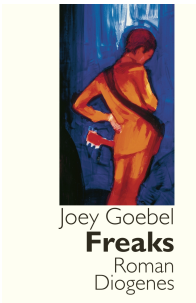
Sunset Flip
384 pages
2026



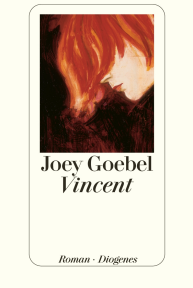
I Know It's Going to Happen for You Someday
320 pages
2019



Commonwealth
720 pages
2009



The Anomalies
208 pages
2006
Award winner



Torture the Artist
448 pages
2005
Award winner

Praise (cont'd)

»Joey Goebel is a quirky, fresh, and relevant voice for our time.« – Library Journal, USA

»There is hope as long as we have young writers like Joey Goebel.« – Die Welt, Berlin

»Joey Goebel writes with the passion and humour of a modern day Mark Twain.« – Daulton Dickey / Pop Matters

»Read this incredible author!« – Benedict Wells

»Wickedly ingenious [...] Goebel's ebulliently funny writing sparkles off the page.« – Caroline Leavitt / Boston Globe

»Like a sleepwalker, the author strolls through the pop-cultural iconic universe as earlier authors moved among the Grecian gods.« – Evelyn Finger / Die Zeit, Hamburg