

Hans Werner Kettenbach *Schmatz*

Published by Diogenes as *Schmatz*
Original title: *Schmatz oder Die Sackgasse*

Uli Wehmeier's whole life is called into question. His wife can no longer cope with his obsession for his work as a copywriter. In the advertising agency, he feels more and more constricted and suffocated because the new creative director bullies him. Wehmeier reacts in his own way: he toys with the idea of murder, as if that could remove the threat to his existence.

In his clear, unadorned language, Hans Werner Kettenbach tells the story of how Uli Wehmeier thinks through every detail of his plan – and how his realisation that he has no way out comes too late.

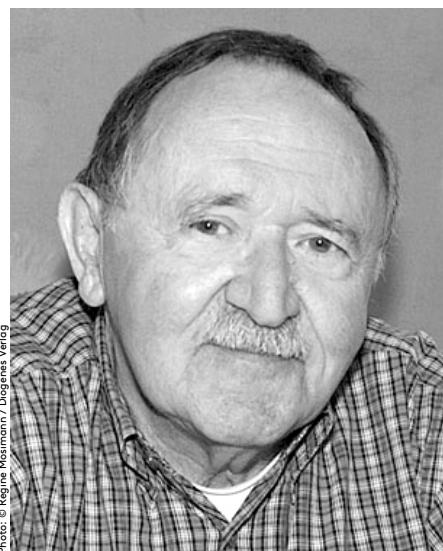


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Hans Werner Kettenbach (1928 - 2018) studied many things over the years in four universities; he has worked as an advertising salesman, a shorthand secretary for the football magazine ›Kicker‹, a radio editor and finally as the editor of a newspaper. He wrote his first novel at the age of fifty. He has written a total of fourteen, five of which have been filmed. Critics have compared them to the works of Sjöwall/Wahlöö (›Plärrer‹), Simenon and Patricia Highsmith (›FAZ‹). In 2009 Kettenbach was awarded the ›Ehrengläuser‹ prize for crime writing for his life's work.

Book factsheet

Contemporary Literature
320 pages
11.6 x 18.4 cm
September 1987

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Movie adaptations

2002: *Nancy & Frank - A Manhattan Love Story*

Director: Wolf Gremm
Screenplay: Jonathan Brett
Cast: Hardy Krüger Jr., Frances Anderson, Gottfried John

1998: *Glatteis*

Director: Michael Gutmann
Cast: Günter Lamprecht, Hilde van Mieghem, Gottfried John, Elfriede Irrall

1995: *Davids Rache*

Director: Hartmut Griesmayr
Cast: Habich Matthias, Roth Wolf, Reinhart Christine

1989: *Tennessee Nights*

Director: Nicolas Gessner
Cast: Julian Sands, Stacey Dash, Rod Steiger, Ned Beatty

1987: *Im Jahr der Schildkröte*

Director: Ute Wieland
Cast: Heinz Bennent, Karina Fallenstein, Anke Tegtmeier, Arpad Kraupa

Der Feigenblattpflücker

Director: L. Niemeier

Ein Fall für Onkel

Director: Ulrich Stark

Awards

- 2009 ›Friedrich-Glauser-Ehrenpreis‹ für seine Verdienste um die deutschsprachige Kriminalliteratur
- 1988 Deutscher Krimi-Preis für ›Schmatz oder Die Sackgasse‹
- 1977 Jerry-Cotton-Preis für ›Grand mit Vieren‹



Aunt Joice and the Joy of Life
432 pages
2010



The Stronger Sex
448 pages
2009



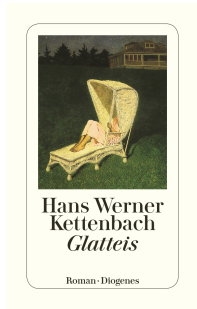
A Visit to Dr. Buzzard
368 pages
2006



Small Town Affairs
512 pages
2004



The Rival
528 pages
2002



Black Ice
272 pages
2001
 **Movie Adaptation**



Grand With Four
240 pages
2000



The Treasure-Hunters
544 pages
1998



David's Revenge
304 pages
1994
 **Movie Adaptation**



Der Feigenblattpflücker
288 pages
1992
 **Movie Adaptation**



Pascha
368 pages
1987



Sterbetage
248 pages
1986
 **Movie Adaptation**



Behind the Horizon
304 pages
1986
 **Movie Adaptation**



Minnie
320 pages
1984
 **Movie Adaptation**