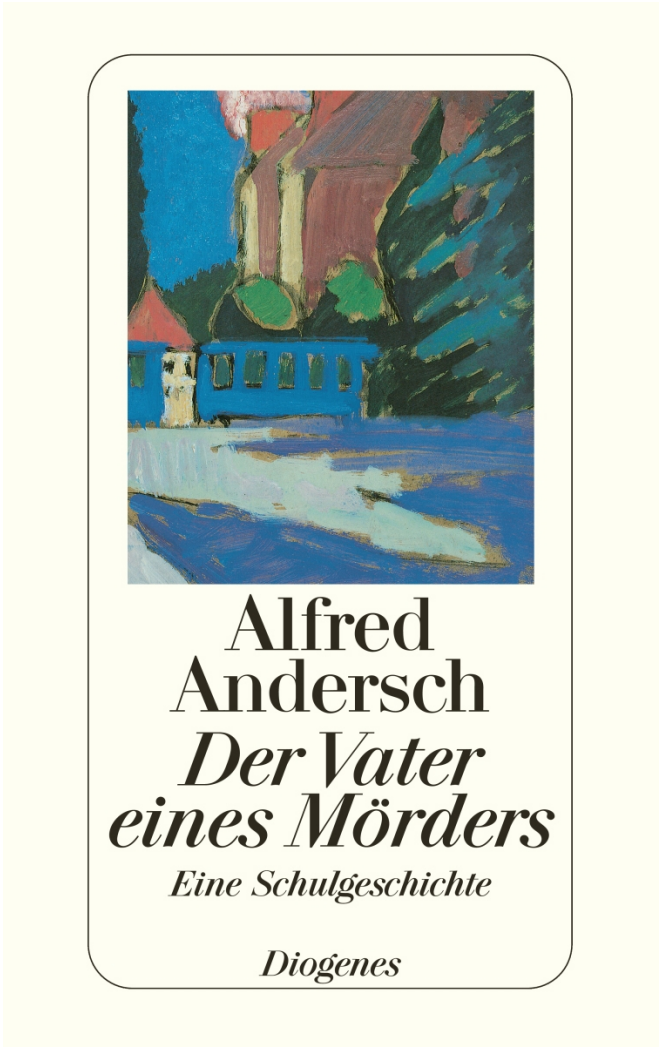
Diogenes

Book factsheet

Alfred Andersch
The Father of a Murderer

Published by Diogenes as *Der Vater eines Mörders*
Original title: *Der Vater eines Mörders*



An eighth grade Greek lesson at a Gymnasium in the late 1920s: What begins as an ordinary class for student Franz Kien takes a sudden turn when headmaster Himmler enters the classroom, turning the lesson into a humiliating ordeal for Franz. In this chillingly topical text, Andersch shows how the darkest chapter of German history began to unfold in classrooms.

Contemporary Literature, Compulsory Reading
144 pages
11.6 × 18.4 cm
February 1980

World rights are handled by Diogenes

Rights currently sold:
English/USA (New Directions Publishing Corp)
Greek (Patakis)

Movie adaptations

1993: Tochter
Director: Guy Kubli
Cast: Rudin Denise, Förnbacher Helmut

1988: Die Kirschen der Freiheit
Director: Stephan Reinhardt

1987: Sansibar oder der letzte Grund
Director: Bernhard Wicki
Screenplay: Karin Hagen
Cast: Peter Kremer, Cornelia Schmaus, Gisela Stein

1985: Vater eines Mörders
Director: Carl-Heinz Caspari

1977: Winterspelt 1944
Director: Eberhard Fechner
Cast: Ulrich von Dobschütz, Katharina Thalbach, Hans-Christian Blech

1965: Haakons Hosentaschen
Director: Martin Bosboom
Cast: Filmessay/Dokumentation (HR) von Alfred Andersch, aus der das Buch »Hohe Breitengrade« entstand.

1962: La rossa
Director: Helmut Käutner
Cast: Ruth Leuwerik, Rossanzo Brazzi, Gert Fröbe

1961: Sansibar oder der letzte Grund
Director: Rainer Wolffhardt
Cast: Robert Graf, Beatrice Schweizer, Paul Dahlke

Praise

The Father of a Murderer

»An extremely intense, artful, absorbing prose masterpiece.« – Hanjo Kesting / Der Spiegel, Hamburg

»The text reveals one of Andersch's undeniable strengths, the interweaving of the public and the private, the personal and the political.« – Rhys W. Williams / new books in german

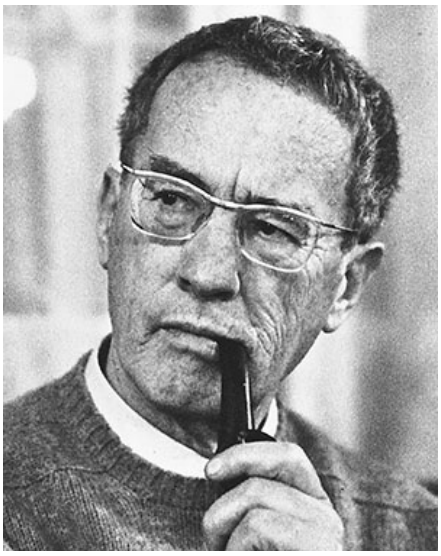


Photo: © Isolde Ohlbaum

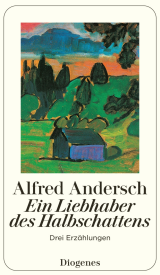
Alfred Andersch (1914 – 1980) was sent to Dachau concentration camp in 1933. After deserting from the Wehrmacht in 1944, he became an American prisoner of war. After his return to Germany, he worked as a journalist and publicist, and was one of the founders of German radio. Andersch is one of Germany's most important post-war authors, and his books are on school reading lists. Alfred Andersch died in Berzona / Ticino in 1980.



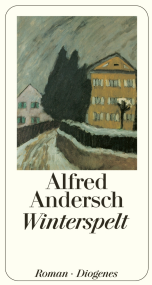
Leeward Islands
544 pages
2014



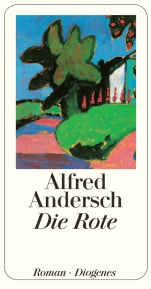
Correspondence
192 pages
2014



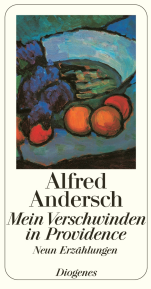
An Admirer of Half Shadows
112 pages
2006



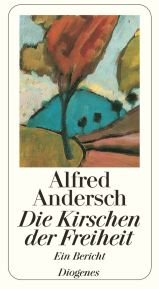
Winterspelt
604 pages
1974



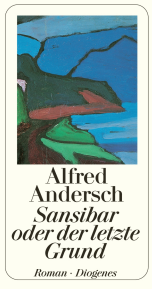
The Redhead
272 pages
1972
Movie Adaptation



My Disappearance in Providence
276 pages
1971



Cherries of Freedom
144 pages
1971

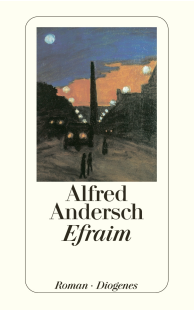


Flight to Afar
224 pages
1970

Praise (cont'd)

Alfred Andersch

»A master of German prose.« – Max Frisch



Efraim's Book
472 pages
1967
Award winner