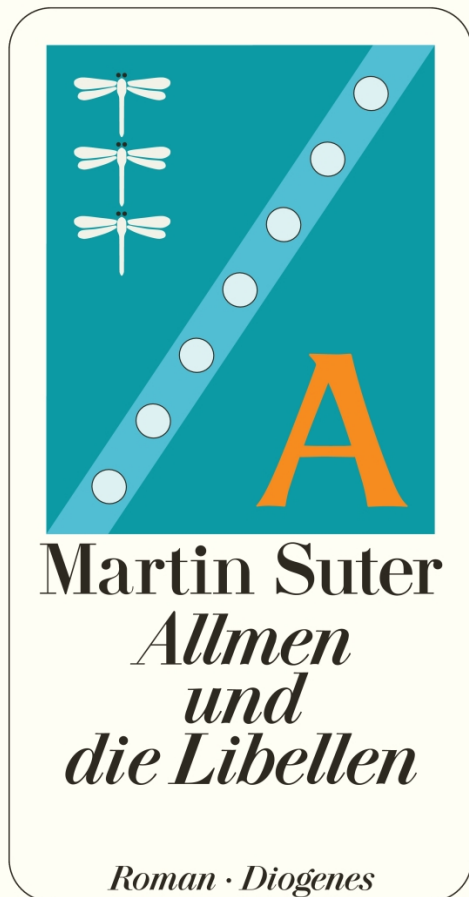


# Diogenes

Martin Suter

*Allmen and the Dragonflies*

Published by Diogenes as *Allmen und die Libellen*  
Original title: *Allmen und die Libellen*



Johann Friedrich von Allmen, elegant gentleman, playboy and art collector, has managed over the years to blow the millions he inherited from his father. After selling off his grand estate, he moves into the modest gardener's residence with his worldly-wise Guatemalan factotum Carlos. He is as expert in his dealings with debts and creditors as he is bad with money. Then, after a tipsy night at the opera, a voracious young woman called Jojo drags him off to her father's lakeside villa, where he discovers a collection of five enchanting Art Nouveau bowls, each one worth a small fortune. And each one encumbered with a secret. A challenge, which could give him the chance to grow as a person, or one that could cost him his life.

Book factsheet

Crime Fiction, Contemporary Literature  
208 pages  
11.6 x 18.4 cm  
January 2011

World rights are handled by Diogenes

**Rights currently sold:**

English/USA (New Vessel)  
French (Christian Bourgois)  
Italian (Sellerio)

**📌 Bestseller**

Spiegel Bestseller

**🎬 Movie adaptations**

**2023: Allmen und das Geheimnis des Koi**

Director: Sinje Köhler  
Screenplay: Martin Rauhaus  
Cast: Heino Ferch, Samuel Finzi, Andrea Osvart, Uwe Kockisch

**2022: Alles über Martin Suter. Ausser die Wahrheit.**

Director: André Schäfer  
Screenplay: André Schäfer  
Cast: Bekannte und unbekannte Schauspieler

**2021: Allmen und das Geheimnis der Erotik**

Director: Thomas Berger  
Screenplay: Martin Rauhaus  
Cast: Heino Ferch, Samuel Finzi, Christoph Bach, Isabella Parkinson

**2019: Allmen und das Geheimnis der Dahlien**

Director: Thomas Berger  
Screenplay: Martin Rauhaus  
Cast: Heino Ferch, Samuel Finzi, Andrea Osvart, Katharina Schüttler, Udo Samel

**2017: Allmen und das Geheimnis der Libellen**

Director: Thomas Berger  
Screenplay: Martin Rauhaus  
Cast: Heino Ferch, Samuel Finzi, Andrea Osvart

**2017: Allmen und das Geheimnis des rosa Diamanten**

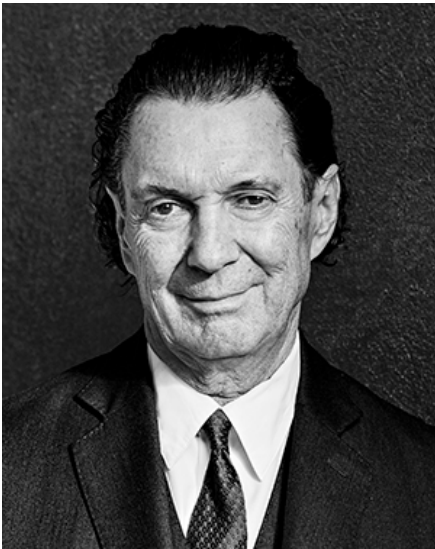
Director: Thomas Berger  
Screenplay: Martin Rauhaus  
Cast: Heino Ferch, Samuel Finzi, Andrea Osvart

**2015: Die dunkle Seite des Mondes**

Director: Stephan Rick  
Screenplay: Catharina Junk  
Cast: Moritz Bleibtreu, Nora von Waldstätten und Jürgen Prochnow

**2014: Der Koch**

Director: Ralf Huettner  
Screenplay: Ruth Toma  
Cast: Jessica Schwarz, Hamza Jeetooa und Hanspeter Müller-Drossaart.



Martin Suter was born in 1948 in Zurich. His novels (including *Love and Fury* and *Melody*) and *Business Class* stories are major international successes. In addition, since 2011 the gentleman thief Allmen has been solving cases in his own crime series. Martin Suter lives with his daughter in Zurich.



*Can You See Me?*  
208 pages  
2026



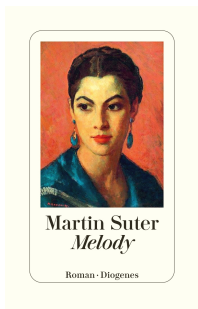
*Love and Fury*  
304 pages  
2025  
**Bestseller**



*No Need to Shout Like That*  
320 pages  
2024



*Allmen and Mr Weynfeldt*  
224 pages  
2024  
**Bestseller**



*Melody*  
336 pages  
2023  
**Bestseller**



*One of You*  
384 pages  
2022  
**Bestseller**



*Why Are We All So Serious?*  
272 pages  
2021  
**Bestseller**



*Allmen and the Koi*  
224 pages  
2019  
**Movie Adaptation**  
**Bestseller**

**Movie adaptations (cont'd)**

**2012: Der Teufel von Mailand (TV)**

Director: Markus Welter  
Screenplay: Thomas Berger  
Cast: Regula Grauwiler, Ina Weisse, Max Simonischek

**2011: Nachtlärm**

Director: Christoph Schaub  
Screenplay: Martin Suter  
Cast: Alexandra Maria Lara, Sebastian Blomberg

**2010: Der letzte Weynfeldt / TV**

Director: Alain Gsponer  
Screenplay: Alex Buresch  
Cast: Marie Bäumer, Stefan Kurt

**2010: Small World**

Director: Bruno Chiche  
Screenplay: Bruno Chiche  
Cast: Gérard Depardieu, Alexandra Maria Lara, Niels Arestrup, Nathalie Baye, Yannick Renier

**2009: Giulias Verschwinden**

Director: Christoph Schaub  
Screenplay: Martin Suter  
Cast: Corinna Harfouch, Bruno Ganz, Stefan Kurt

**2008/2009: Lila, Lila**

Director: Alain Gsponer  
Screenplay: Alexander Buresch  
Cast: Daniel Brühl, Hannah Herzsprung, Henry Hübchen

**2006: Un ami parfait**

Director: Francis Girod  
Screenplay: Philippe Cougrand  
Cast: Antoine de Caunes, Carole Bouquet, Martina Gedeck

**1999: Beresina oder Die letzten Tage der Schweiz**

Director: Daniel Schmid  
Cast: Elena Panova, Geraldine Chaplin, Martin Benrath

**Awards**

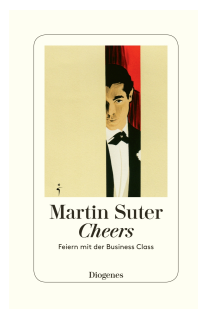
- 2019 ›Platin Award‹ von Universal Schweiz an Martin Suter und Stephan Eicher für 20'000 verkaufte *Song Books*
- 2018 *Song Book* ist eines der 25 ›Schönsten deutschen Bücher‹ der Stiftung Buchkunst
- 2018 Doppelte Charts-Auszeichnung für *Song Book*: ›Nummer 1 Award der Offiziellen Schweizer Hitparade‹ für Stephan Eicher und Martin Suter und ›Nummer 1 Award der Schweizer Bestsellerliste‹ für Martin Suter
- 2015 ›Literaturpreis des Wirtschaftsclubs‹ im Literaturhaus Stuttgart für *Montecristo*
- 2010 ›Swift-Preis‹ der Stiftung Marktwirtschaft für Wirtschaftssatire in Kronberg, Frankfurt a. M., für seine *Business Class*-Kolumnen
- 2010 ›SwissAward‹ vom Schweizer Radio und Fernsehen (SRF) in der Kategorie Kultur



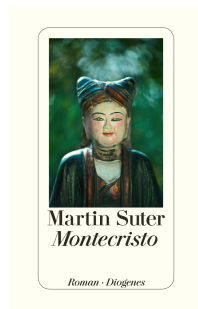
**Allmen and the Erotic**  
Figurines  
272 pages  
2018  
🎬 **Movie Adaptation**  
📈 **Bestseller**



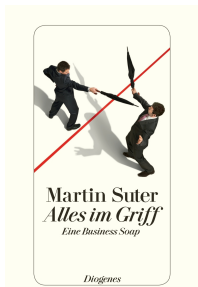
**Elephant**  
352 pages  
2017  
📈 **Bestseller**



**Cheers**  
224 pages  
2016



**Montecristo**  
320 pages  
2015  
🏆 **Award winner**  
📈 **Bestseller**



**Everything Under Control**  
128 pages  
2014



**Allmen and the Vanished**  
Maria  
224 pages  
2014  
📈 **Bestseller**



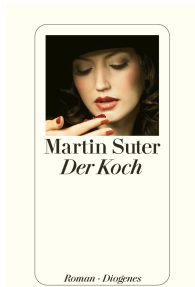
**Allmen and the Dahlias**  
224 pages  
2013  
🎬 **Movie Adaptation**  
📈 **Bestseller**



**The Time, the Time**  
304 pages  
2012  
📈 **Bestseller**



**Allmen and the Pink**  
Diamond  
224 pages  
2011  
🎬 **Movie Adaptation**  
📈 **Bestseller**



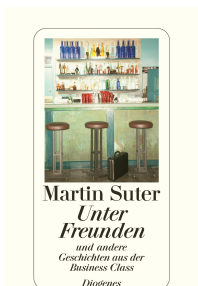
**The Chef**  
320 pages  
2010  
🎬 **Movie Adaptation**  
📈 **Bestseller**



**The Bonus-Mystery and**  
Other Stories from the  
Business Class  
192 pages  
2009



**The Last Weynfeldt**  
320 pages  
2008  
🎬 **Movie Adaptation**  
📈 **Bestseller**



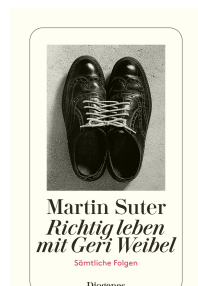
**Among Friends and Other**  
Stories from Business  
Class  
208 pages  
2007  
📈 **Bestseller**



**A Deal with the Devil**  
304 pages  
2006  
🏆 **Award winner**  
🎬 **Movie Adaptation**  
📈 **Bestseller**



**Huber Takes a Break**  
192 pages  
2005



**Living Right With Geri**  
Weibel  
224 pages  
2005

## 🏆 Awards (cont'd)

- 2007 ›Friedrich-Glauser-Preis‹ in der Sparte Kriminalroman für *Der Teufel von Mailand*
- 2003 ›Deutscher Krimipreis‹ (Platz 2) in der Kategorie ›National‹ des Bochumer Krimi-Archivs für den Roman *Ein perfekter Freund*
- 2002 In der Reihe ›Das Literarische Quartal‹ des Kulturmagazins ›Aspekte‹ im ZDF wurde *Ein perfekter Freund* zum Quartalsbuch Frühjahr 2002 gewählt
- 1998 ›Prix du premier roman étranger‹ für *Small World* in französischer Übersetzung
- 1997 Ehrengabe des Kantons Zürich für *Small World*
- 1995 Preis der österreichischen Industrie am Joseph-Roth-Wettbewerb in Klagenfurt für die Kolumne *Business Class*
- 1987 ›Best Screenplay‹ beim Festival des phantastischen Films in Sitges für *Janetsch*

## Praise

### *Allmen and the Dragonflies*

›A refined game of cat and mouse, in which little actually is as it seems.« – Focus, Munich

›Instead of gory horror scenes, Suter serves up enjoyable, understated, slightly old fashioned detective fare, which leaves us hungry for more.« – Frauke Kaberka / stern.de, Hamburg

›One could imagine few things more relaxing than a second novel with this team in the leading roles.« – Sebastian Hammelehle / Spiegel Online, Hamburg

›A very nice picaresque novel.« – Hendrik Werner / Weser-Kurier, Bremen

›An exquisite pleasure. An ingenious detective paper chase.« – Hartmut Wilmes / Kölnische Rundschau

›These enchanting and quirky crime novels are reminiscent of Agatha Christie and Arthur Conan Doyle.« – Ulf Heise / MDR, Leipzig

›A rollicking good time [...] Bestselling Swiss author Martin Suter may have a classic on his hands in this contemporary crime novel, the first of a series featuring the memorable character of Johann Friedrich von Allmen, gentleman thief.« – Ursula Fuchs / The Winniepeg Free Press

### Martin Suter

›Martin Suter will always surprise you. Each new novel is a challenge and an adventure.« – Les Echos, Paris

›Suter's gaze is fresh and wicked, his ear for dialogue infallible, his literature greatly skilful.« – Constantin Seibt / Die Wochenzeitung, Zurich

›Suter's writing is filmic – fast-paced, taut, with succinct dialogue.« – Martin Ebel / Tages-Anzeiger, Zurich



*Lila, Lila*  
352 pages  
2004

 **Movie Adaptation**  
 **Bestseller**

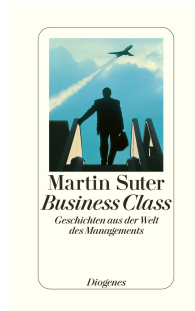


*Business Class II*  
240 pages  
2002



*A Perfect Friend*  
352 pages  
2002

 **Award winner**  
 **Movie Adaptation**  
 **Bestseller**



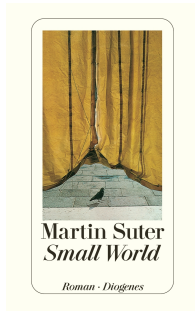
*Business Class I*  
240 pages  
2000

 **Award winner**



*The Dark Side of the Moon*  
320 pages  
2000

 **Movie Adaptation**  
 **Bestseller**



*Small World*  
336 pages  
1997

 **Award winner**  
 **Movie Adaptation**  
 **Bestseller**

## Praise (cont'd)

»Martin Suter reaches a huge audience with his novels. He writes exciting, well-constructed and almost cinematic stories; he captures his readers with lean, artful plots.« – Wolfgang Höbel / Der Spiegel, Hamburg

»He is known for his versatility and special gift for handling complex topics in an accessible and entertaining way.« – Samira Debbeler / Stern, Hamburg

»Martin Suter: the grand master of German-language popular fiction.« – Spiegel Bestseller, Hamburg

»There is charm, irony, and undeniable elegance in Martin Suter's novels. He is probably one of the best contemporary authors.« – Pascal Bruckner / Le Nouvel Observateur, Paris

»With his brilliantly smooth narrative style, Martin Suter reaches readers all over the world.« – Rose-Maria Gropp / Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung