Foreign Rights Catalogue 2026



Ankerwechsel Verlag

Children's Picture Books



Hilde Biedermann
The Alone Stone
A sensitive picture book about feelings with a caring approach to conversations about mental health.



Caspar David Engstfeld
Wow, What a Bike!?
A children's book about fantastical bicycles, where creativity runs free.



Johanna Trunte & Hilde Biedermann
Grandma's Ears Can't Hear
A picture book about hearing loss in the family, told from a child's point of view.

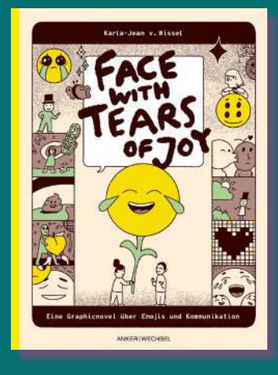
Non-Fiction Books & Graphic Novels



Konrad Staisch
What is already there
An inspiring illustrated non-fiction book about craftsmanship and creative sustainability.



Dr. med.
Bärbel Grashoff
& Marie Luisa Kerkhoff
The End of Wholeness: a graphic novel about breast cancer
One in eight women is affected by breast cancer. A graphic novel that listens and explains.



Karla-Jean v. Wissel
Face with Tears of Joy: a graphic novel about emojis and communication
Comic artist Karla-Jean v. Wissel explores emojis through the lenses of history, linguistics, philosophy, and emotion research.

Dear friends and partners,

at Ankerwechsel, we publish illustrated books that engage closely with lived experience and invite readers to look at the world with curiosity, care, and a sense of agency. Our list combines strong visual storytelling with social, emotional and cultural themes across age groups and formats.

Our illustrated children's books, such as *The Alone Stone*, *Wow, What a Bike!?* and *Grandma's Ears Can't Hear*, speak to young readers with warmth and clarity. They explore big feelings, empathy, and everyday resilience through distinctive imagery and accessible narratives that open space for conversation and connection.

Alongside these titles, our graphic novels and narrative non-fiction address an older readership (14+ and adult). Titles such as *The End of Wholeness*, a graphic novel about breast cancer, *What is already there*, a narrative nonfiction on recycling, sustainability and craft, and *Face with Tears of Joy*, a cultural history of emojis, combine personal perspectives with knowledge, reflection, and visual experimentation.

We look forward to exploring international publishing opportunities with you.

With best wishes,
Harriet Dohmeyer

Waldi the caterpillar no longer understands the world:
a heavy stone on her back – the Alone Stone – pulls her down and slows her journey. As she moves through forests and meadows, she meets other animals carrying their own stones: the No-Stone, the Little-Stone, the Heavy-Stone. Each encounter tells a story of what weighs us down, and how sadness, insecurity, and exhaustion can become lighter when shared. With luminous colors and a sensitive visual language, The Alone Stone explores emotions, friendship, and the quiet strength of community.

A picture book that speaks gently, without explanations – and yet says so much.

- **Sensitive picture book about feelings**
- **A caring approach to conversations about mental health – without being instructive.**
- **Includes interactive question page**
- **Shortlisted for the Most Beautiful German Books 2026, 2nd printing**



Hilde Biedermann
is an illustrator and artist based in Offenbach am Main, Germany. Working from her studio Hildahlia, she creates vibrant worlds where nature, imagination, and a sense of safety come together. With a bold line and playful curiosity, her illustrations are full of life – places where forest spirits whisper, dreams take shape, and stories unfold in colorful lines.

Hilde Biedermann
The Alone Stone

40 pages / 29.7 x 21.0 cm
Price: € 26.00

Age: 4+

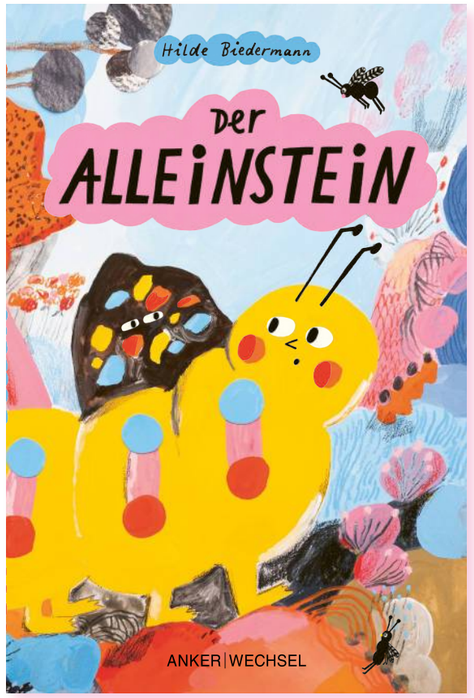
German edition out
March 2026

World Rights available



Photo: René Oberkirch





Children's Picture Book





Photo: Felix Kahlo

Caspar David Engstfeld
is a German-French artist and illustrator working under the name Krashkid. His work ranges from small-scale screen prints to large mural paintings and is characterized by a playful, narrative visual style. His murals can be found in countries including Jordan, Mexico, Slovenia, Albania, Nepal, and Georgia, as well as in Hamburg and Hanover. "Wow, What a Bike!?" marks his debut as a children's book author and illustrator.

Caspar David Engstfeld
Wow, What a Bike!?

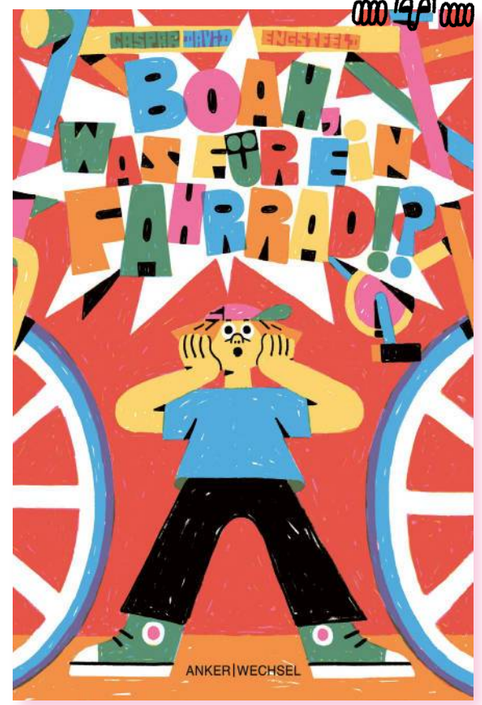
32 pages / 29.7 x 21.0 cm
Price: € 22.00

Age: 4+

German edition out
March 2025

World Rights available

SHORTLIST DEUTSCHER KINDERBUCH-PREIS 2025 SONDERPREIS ILLUSTRATION



***Wow, What a Bike!?* is a mixture of picture book and children's comic that tells the story of Loki, who wants to build a bike of their own.**

For inspiration Loki visits friends that already have fantastic bikes, each dedicated to a specific theme, such as music, flea markets, nature, etc. After chatting and getting a little gift from all of them, Loki is setting up the bike before proudly presenting it. *Wow, What a Bike!?* invites children to discover new things and celebrates the joy of community.

- **Selected for the shortlist of the German Children's Book Prize 2025 in the category "Illustration"**
- **Picture book meets children's comic: a lively reading experience in a playful layout**
- **A children's book inspired by the crazy bikes subculture – where fantastical bicycles take center stage and creativity runs through every page**







Suki's grandma is her favorite grandma.
But talking to each other is getting harder: Grandma mishears things, conversations become exhausting, and inside her head there is a roaring noise that nobody else can hear. Told from Suki's point of view, Grandma's Ears Can't Hear shows how hearing loss changes everyday family life. In the end, Grandma gets a cochlear implant – it does not simply bring her hearing back, but lets it begin anew.

An honest, warm-hearted picture book about hearing loss, patience, and the bond between a child and her grandmother.

- **The first picture book on hearing loss in grandparents from a child's view**
- **Fold-out knowledge section, medically reviewed**
- **With sensitivity reading by Deaf performer Cindy Klink**

Johanna Trunte
was born in Berlin in 1989 and works as a proofreader at a newspaper publisher. She studied cultural studies in Frankfurt (Oder) and Seville. She first encountered the topic of hearing loss in a university seminar; it became personal when someone close to her received a cochlear implant. Grandma's Ears Can't Hear is her debut as a children's book author.

Hilde Biedermann
is an illustrator and artist based in Offenbach am Main, Germany, and the creator of The Alone Stone. With a bold line, bright colors, and hand lettering, she makes sounds visible.

Johanna Trunte
& Hilde Biedermann
Grandma's Ears Can't Hear

58 pages / 22.0 x 22.0 cm
Price: € 26.00

Age: 5+

German edition out
October 2026

World Rights available

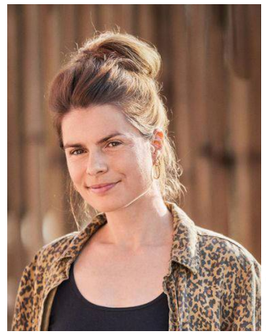
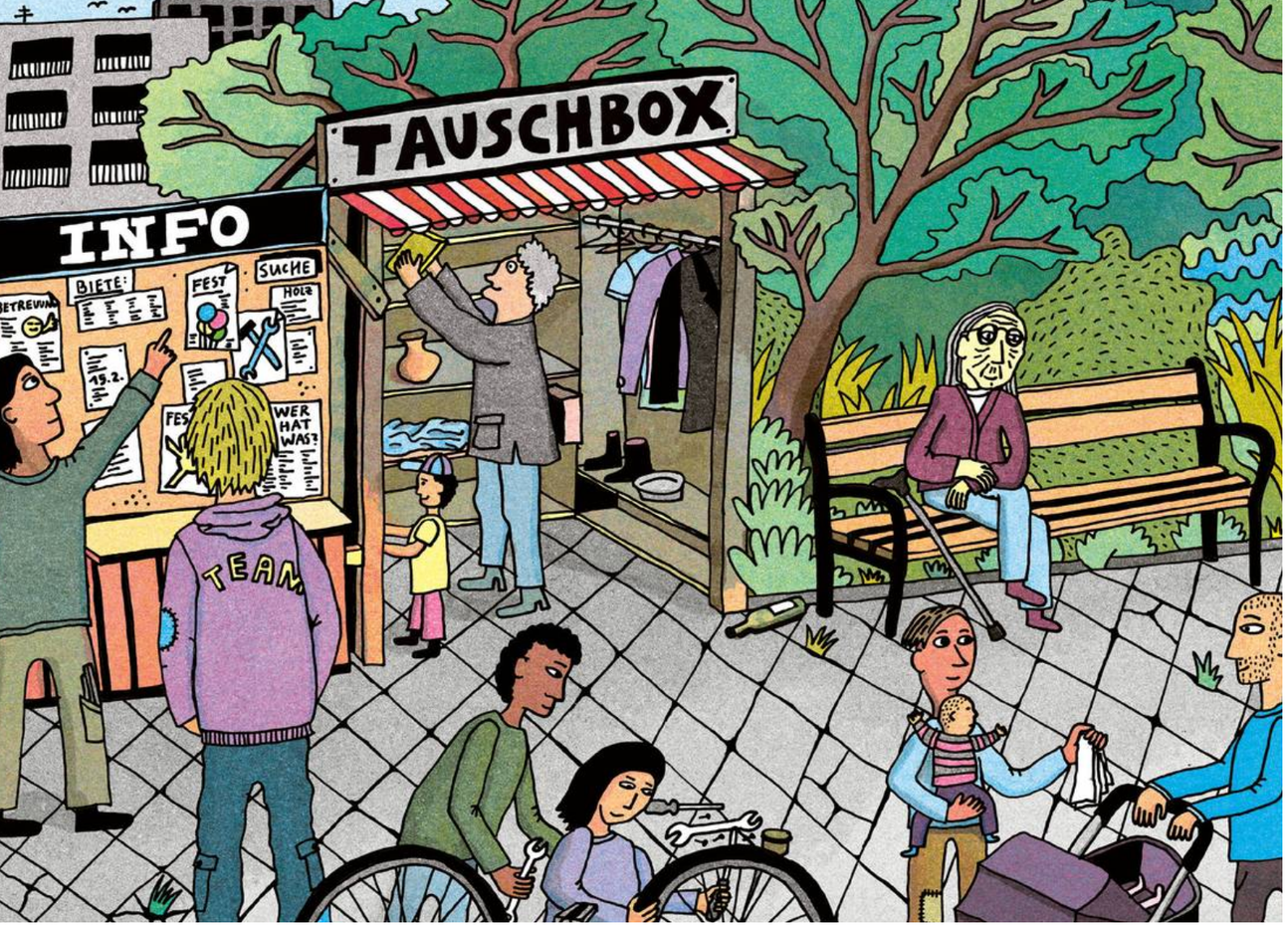

Photo: Phil Vetter


Photo: René Oberkirch



Children's Picture Book



Stuhl bepolstern

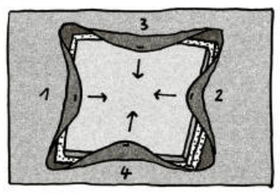
Ein schöner alter Stuhl hält oft ein Leben lang. Ist das Polster alt, fleckig oder gerissen, lässt es sich relativ leicht austauschen. Und der Stuhl lässt sich noch ein weiteres Leben lang besitzen. ← HAHA



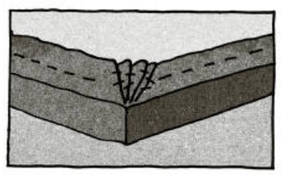
UM DEN ALTEN BEZUGSSTOFF ZU ENTFERNEN MIT EINEM SCHLITZSCHRAUBENDREHER DIE KLAMMERN HOCHBIEGEN UND DANN MIT EINER ZANGE HERAUS ZIEHEN.



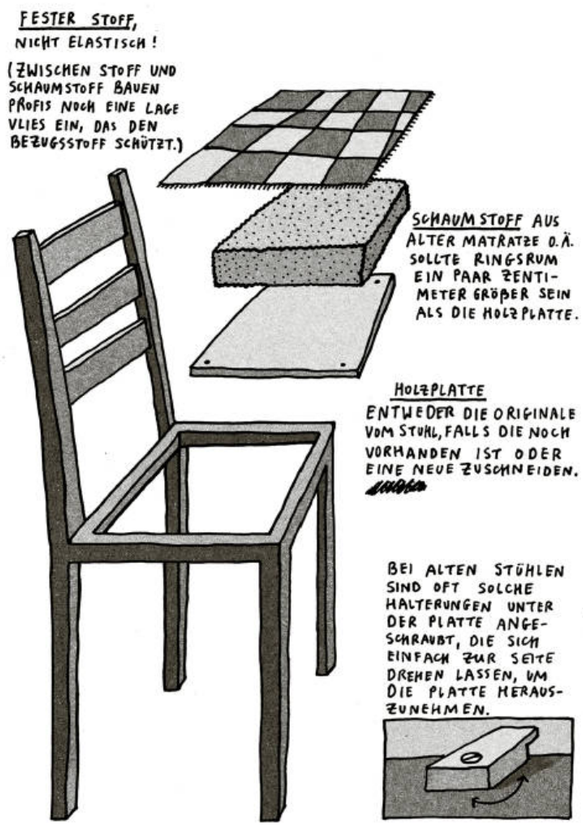
DER SCHAUMSTOFF LÄSST SICH SCHNEIDEN, WENN MAN EIN BRETT ~~MITTIG~~ ENTLANG DER ZU SCHNEIDENDEN LINIE DRAUF PRESST UND DANN MIT EINEM SCHARFEN CUTTERMESSER ENTLANGFÄHRT.



BEIM FESTTACKERN DES NEUEN STOFFS IN DEN MITTEN BEGINNEN UND DABEI SICHERSTELLEN, DASS KEINE FALTEN MEHR AUF DER OBERFLÄCHE SIND. FESTTACKERN UND DANN LANGSAM ZU DEN ECKEN VORARBEITEN.



AN DEN ECKEN DEN STOFF IN KLEINE FALTEN LEGEN UND NACHEINANDER FESTTACKERN.



Konrad Staisch
What is already there

112 pages / 25.5 x 18.0 cm
Price: € 32.00

Age: 14+

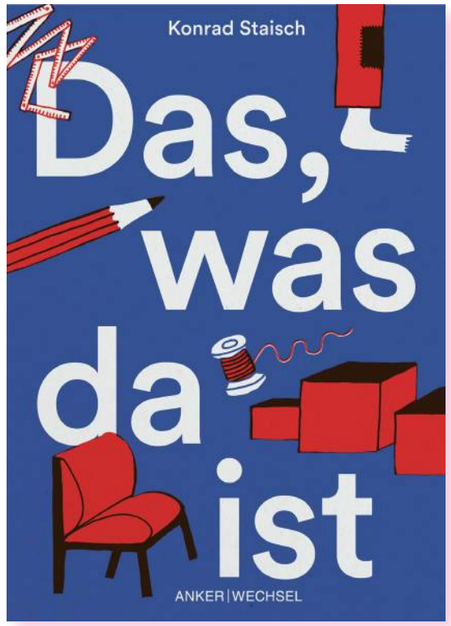
German edition out
March 2026

World Rights available



Photo: Jens Stöbe

Konrad Staisch
is an illustrator and artist based in Leipzig, Germany. Alongside his studies in illustration, he renovated a small house and discovered a passion for craftsmanship – as well as the vast amount of material wasted on construction sites. This experience sparked his desire to rescue and reuse as much as possible. Working with found materials and a reduced visual language, he aims to make the world a slightly more colorful place. In his screen-printing studio Bunte Brücke, he produces small editions of prints, postcards, and notebooks, often featuring his own drawings and those of others.



In a world where discarding often seems easier than keeping, Konrad Staisch asks what we might gain by relating differently to the things around us. Drawing on materials such as construction-site wood, glass jars, and leftover fabric or metal, he shows how discarded resources can become beautiful, durable objects – and why responsibility does not end at the living room door but extends to companies and politics. *What is already there* brings together personal observations, hands-on making, and broader social perspectives in an inspiring reflection on materials, time, and ideas.

Not a how-to guide, but a narrative nonfiction full of humor, thoughtfulness, and practical experience.

- Building ideas & materials knowledge: Makes you want to get started right away.
- An inspiring non-fiction book about craftsmanship and creative sustainability
- We don't need anything more – just a fresh perspective on what's already there.
- One of the 25 Most Beautiful German Books 2026 (Stiftung Buchkunst)



Dr. med. Bärbel Grashoff
& Marie Luisa Kerkhoff

The End of Wholeness: A graphic novel about breast cancer

160 pages / 22.9 x 17.1 cm
Price: € 32.00

Age: 14+

German edition out
September 2025

World Rights available



Photo: Tobias Rägle

Dr. med. Bärbel Grashoff
is a gynecologist based in Ulm, Germany, and has been caring for patients with gynecological conditions for over 20 years. When she herself was diagnosed with breast cancer, she suddenly found herself on the other side of the examination table – an experience that forms the foundation of this book.

Marie Luisa Kerkhoff
lives in Berlin and works as an actress, voice artist, and illustrator. Her drawings bring together medical information and emotional depth, making complex processes both accessible and deeply human.

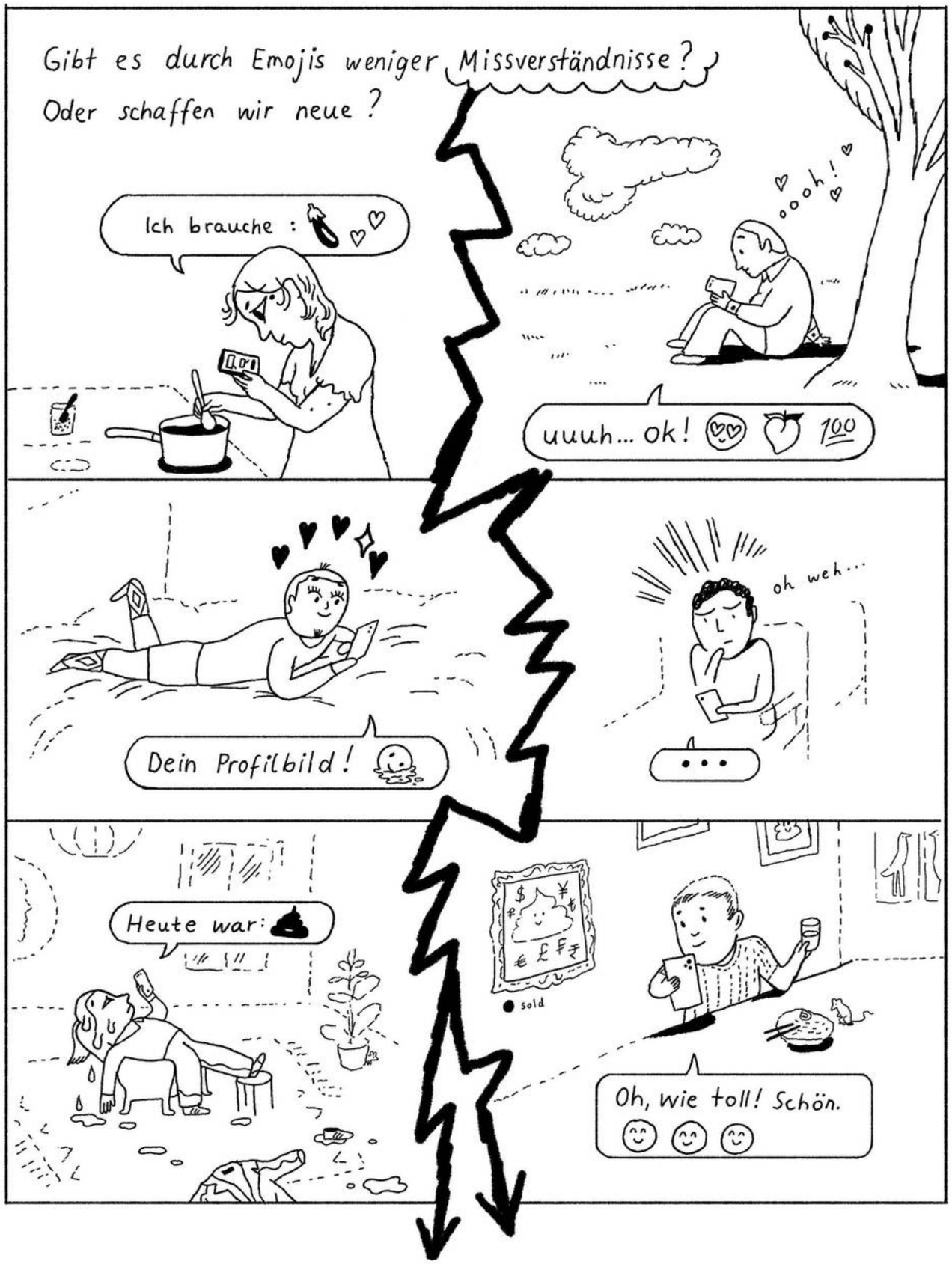


Dr. med. Bärbel Grashoff combines medical expertise and lived experience, addressing breast cancer as both doctor and patient.

Together with illustrator Marie Luisa Kerkhoff, she traces the entire journey – from early detection and diagnosis through diverse treatment options to the realities of everyday life during and after therapy – making complex medical processes visible and tangible through the graphic form. Designed as a reversible book, *The End of Wholeness* also includes a clear and accessible guide to breast cancer self-examination, combining personal experience with medical knowledge.

A nonfiction graphic novel for patients and their loved ones alike, fostering understanding, encouraging awareness, and offering orientation without oversimplifying.

- **One in eight women is affected. A book that listens and explains.**
- **A graphic novel with depth. Accessible illustrations help to make complex medical concepts understandable.**
- **Award winner in the ADC Competition 2026 (Art Directors Club Germany)**



Karla-Jean v. Wissel

Face with Tears of Joy:
a graphic novel about emojis and communication

160 pages / 22.9 x 17.1 cm
Price: € 32.00

Age: 14+

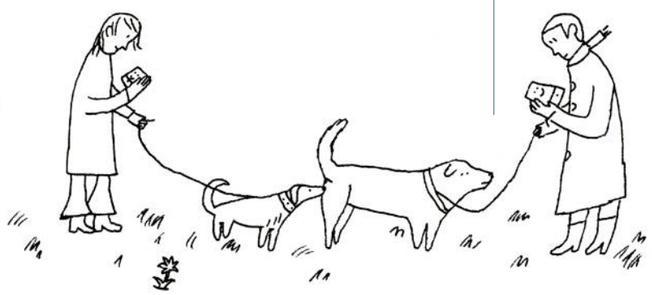
German edition out
June 2024

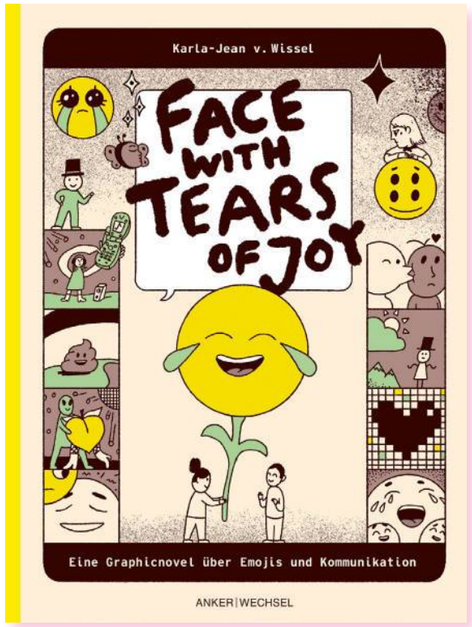
World Rights available



Photo: Fritz Heydt

Karla-Jean v. Wissel
is a comic artist and illustrator from Cologne, Germany. She studied illustration at the Hamburg University of Applied Sciences and at LUCA School of Arts in Ghent, Belgium. Today, she is passionate about immersing herself deeply in a subject and making knowledge accessible through storytelling. She lives in Berlin.





Emojis are an integral part of everyday digital communication worldwide. But what lies behind these small pictograms?
Where do they come from? Who invented the first smiley ":-)"? And how do emojis shape the way we communicate, perceive emotions, and understand one another? Are they democratic? Are they diverse? And do they really function as a global language? In *Face with Tears of Joy*, comic artist Karla-Jean v. Wissel explores emojis through the lenses of history, linguistics, philosophy, and emotion research. Blending social observation, humor and critical insight, this nonfiction graphic novel invites readers to reconsider a seemingly simple but surprisingly complex element of contemporary communication.

- **Social observations in the digital age**
- **Humorous, critical, thoughtful**
- **Selected for the White Raven International Youth Library 2025**

The White Ravens / 2025 International Youth Library

ANKER|WECHSEL

We publish illustrated books that take a closer look at society and culture – at what is visible and what is often overlooked. Our program brings together strong artistic voices, thoughtful content and distinctive design.

Working closely with authors and illustrators, we create picture books, graphic novels and narrative nonfiction that engage with contemporary questions in visually compelling ways. Each title is carefully curated and shaped through collaboration.

Founded in 2017, Ankerwechsel is an independent publishing house based in Hamburg. With a background in journalism and communication, we bring conceptual clarity and a distinct visual perspective to every project.

Our books are made for readers seeking substance and originality – visually distinctive, culturally aware and designed to resonate beyond the moment.

For foreign rights inquiries, please contact:

Harriet Dohmeyer
Foreign Rights (General)

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Photo: Jonas Langmaack

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