



Foreign Rights Fall 2022

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Essays



Berzbach, Frank

I believe in angels, some ride the bus

Essays with a spiritual intent

128 pages, release August 2022

Life is not a college course

“What you see on your way from one gallery to another is, in fact, way more exciting than what is being exhibited there“, Andy Warhol once told a budding art historian. Figuratively speaking, this might also be true of the way between places of faith, between place of work and museum, super market and bookstore. Frank Berzbach likes to look at these in-betweens – by talking to people and keeping his eyes open, by losing himself in music or texts, strolling around and working. In this book he writes about the ways between the “galleries of his life“ and in doing so, he contemplates questions to which there are no final answers, i. e. philosophy in its classical meaning. He thinks about life and death, loneliness and life on the road, ordinary experiences and hidden beauty. And time and again, it is about love and its deepest reason – God.

- essays on the art of discovering the extraordinary in the ordinary
- uncommon linkage of philosophical and spiritual topics



Frank Berzbach, PhD, teaches pedagogics of literature and philosophy at the University of Applied Sciences in Cologne. Aside from his penchant for bicycles, disc records and books, he also has a strong interest in tattoos and monasteries. Frank Berzbach lives in Cologne and St. Pauli.



Spiritual Non-Fiction Book, Selfhelp

Tatschmurat, Carmen

Reforming my life

Benedictine impulses for situations of radical change

144 pages, release August 2022

Finding support in life anew

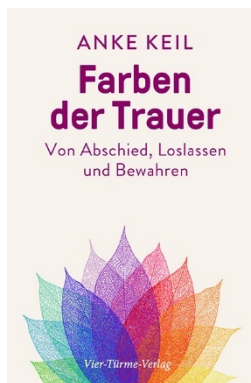
Situations of radical change, be they planned or unforeseen, often turn around our whole life. Whatever the reason – breaking up with a partner, moving, retiring, or the death of a loved one: All of a sudden, nothing is what it was like before. If familiar structures and certitudes disappear, we need to find new “guardrails“, create a new daily routine. We need new rituals that offer support and give the day a structure in order for us to feel at home again in our new life. This is the situation sister Carmen Tatschmurat found herself in when she withdrew from her position as abbess in 2021. Suddenly, nothing was what it had been – she had to work out a new daily routine, find rituals and “guardrails“ that offered support and orientation and helped structure the day so she could feel at home in her new life. To begin with, she directs our attention to the following questions: how can my way continue – practically, spiritually? What might new opportunities look like? This book provides supportive and often quite practical answers to these and many more questions.

- a companion through difficult times that helps the reader cope with a new and radically different situation – spiritual support in life with practical advice and solutions



Carmen Tatschmurat studied sociology in Munich before doing research and teaching in fields as various as fringe groups, gender topics and spirituality. After her partner had died she joined the Benedictine abbey of Venio, Munich. From 2010 until 2020 she was in charge of the convent, being their abbess as from 2013. She

withdrew from the office in 2021 in order to take a sabbatical.



Keil, Anke

Colours of grief

Thoughts and helpful suggestions on taking leave, letting go and finding support

122 pages, release August 2022

Selfhelp, Non-Fiction

Do you know stripy days?

When asked about the colour of grief, most people probably tend to answer – “black“. When asking the mourners themselves, one quickly realizes it can be quite colourful. Moreover each colour represents a certain aspect of this complex feeling which often is so hard to grasp. Anke Keil has traced these colours of grief, and transformed them into touching, practical texts straight from the mourning heart. Apart from that, every colour features a helpful suggestion: a physical exercise, a creative idea, an impulse for writing – whatever fits the given situation. The exercises support and broaden the texts, they are, however, also about resilience as well as discovering and using your own resources that will help you learn to live with the grief.

- including many practical ideas and impulses
- a new and colourful, fearless approach to a taboo issue



Anke Keil studied theology and general rhetoric. She works as a copy editor and lives in Esslingen with her husband and four children. After her daughter was stillborn in 2015, she and her husband founded a support group for parents that have lost a child at an early age. Her first book “When Mrs Grief moved in“ helps many families learn to live with their grief.

Debatebook, Political Non Fiction



Alt, Jörg

Resist!

Against an economy that kills

180 pages, release August 2022

We cannot go on like this!

Increasing weather extremes indicate that the climate emergency draws nearer. At the same time it is well-known what is supposed to be done in order for this development to slow down or be stopped entirely. Parts of the climate justice movement intend to raise awareness by performing acts of civil disobedience and resistance. Are such actions justified? In this book the author seeks to answer questions such as these and other burning issues.

- reflections on civil disobedience as a means of passive resistance
- “actions speak louder than words“ – a plea for dedicated action



Father Jörg Alt, PhD, SJ, is a Jesuit priest who works for *Jesuitenmission*, the mission arm of the Society of Jesus in Germany, in fields such as research, networking and advocacy. Apart from writing, he is part of the pastoral care programme of Nuremberg University. His recent publications (with *Vier Türme Publishing*) include “Act!“ and “Simply start!“



Theological Non-Fiction

Leitschuh, Marcus; Sr. Katharina Kluitmann (Ed.)

We see different ways!

The contribution of the orders to the Synodal Path and the future of the Church

144 pages, release August 2022

Splitting up power?

No problem!

Two members of the synodal assembly, the editors Marcus Leitschuh and Sr. Katharina Kluitmann have first-hand experience of the significance of the orders in this process, their constructive contributions as well as the courage and strength they bring about. Many bishops seem to be downright surprised by the calm clarity in which members of the order report on splitting up power, female participation and leadership, all of which have been time-tested. Theologians might have smart answers on the Synodal Path, yet members of the order keep getting to the heart of the subject in a clear, intelligible way.

In this book the members of the order, who significantly help shape the synodal process, have their say, e. g. Sister Franziska Dieterle OSF, Brother Simon Hacker OP, Sister Philippa Rath OSB, Father Bruno Robeck OCist, Sister Bettina Rupp SSpS. Clearly and forward-looking, they write about a Church that deems diversity a strength, whose messages are intelligible to everybody and that is capable of reading the signs of the times.

- the only book on the role of the orders in the context of the Synodal Path
- upcoming synodal plenary meeting shortly before the publication of the book



Marcus Leitschuh is the headmaster of a comprehensive school in the district of Kassel, where he also teaches German and religious education. Furthermore he was an advisor for the commission on youth ministry of the German Bishops' Conference. Marcus Leitschuh has been a member of the Central Committee of German Catholics for 22 years.

As a delegate for representing the laity, he supports their efforts on the Synodal Path. He has hosted events at festival-like gatherings such as Katholikentag and Kirchentag, and people regularly listen to his radio impulses on radio stations such as hr4 and Domradio.



Sister Katharina Kluitmann OSF, PhD, studied psychology at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome. She is the co-founder of “*Centro*“, an institution in the diocese of Münster which provides psychological support for people working for the Church; furthermore she was in charge of the Sisters of St. Francis of Lüdingshausen for ten years, and currently is the head of the

original Dutch province. She was chairwoman of the Conference of the leaders of the German orders from 2018 until May 2022 for which she participated in the Synodal Path.



Personal Story, Life Design Non-Fiction

Otto, Joanna Maria

“Monastery as a stage of life“?

New ideas for an old way of living

144 pages, release August 2022

Forever and ever?

On joining the Dominican Order, Joanna Maria Otto meant to stay for good. However, it did not turn out the way she had expected, and eventually became a “monastery retreat“. In this book the author tells us about the stages of growing as well as the stumbling blocks on her way that showed her what joining a monastery really means. Yet when she left, she was well aware of the fact that failing with this life plan was just another transition into a new stage of her life; she realized that living in a monastery can be an important chapter in her life in order for her to become who God meant her to be. Apart from that, Joanna Maria Otto makes suggestions as to what a new kind of living in a monastery might look like, what is important and what ought to be renewed or changed in ancient tradition to be taken into the modern age – for many orders, an issue worth considering, especially today when it seems to have become a question of survival.

- basis for discussion for a form of religious life in the future
- personal and honest insights into living in a monastery



Joanna Maria Otto, studied biology and psychology and holds a PhD in neurobiology. She worked as a research assistant at the university hospital in Freiburg and for a period of four years, lived as a contemplative member of the Dominican order. Today she is an author and gives lectures on science and religion as well as courses on Meister Eckhart’s concept of *Gelassenheit* (calmness, humility). Apart from that she offers consultation on “monastery retreat“ for individuals interested in the topic and religious communities alike.

Essay, Personal Story



Grün, Anselm

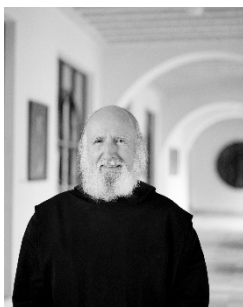
Why I remain in the Church

48 pages, already published

Stay!

„The abuse crisis and the church officials' silence during all these years have shaken the very foundations of the Church and society alike. The Church must confront this shock and shame, yet it must not be paralysed. And the Church must not come to believe that it was obsolete and irrelevant for our society. Contrary to this pessimistic attitude I want to provide encouraging thoughts in favour of remaining in the Church, despite everything. I want to show ways by means of which the institutional church and Christians can respond to the current situation and renew it from within.“ Father Anselm Grün

- highly topical, virulent issue
- very personal and open book by the famous monk



Father Anselm Grün is deemed the most famous of German monks. His books touch a vast audience regardless of religious denomination. He takes his ideas and topics in his books from personal conversations with his readers.



Workbook, Life Design, Spiritual Non Fiction

Grün / Wu

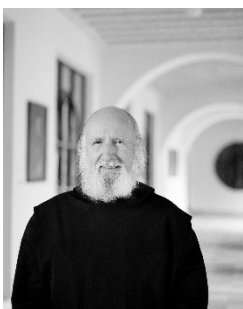
Self-determined in old age

160 pages, release September 2022

Keep our responsibility

To turn old age with dignity in their late years is what most people wish for. Especially in the second half of our life it is important for us to make decisions that determine the course of our life in old age. As for that, spirituality can be of great help for us. For faith reminds us of our inviolable dignity. At the same time faith invites us to make peace with our past and to integrate it into our life. Our past shows us ways to lead authentic lives and to fulfill our self-realisation even now. This book is supposed to be a companion for people on their way to aging with dignity, to a self-determined growing older. Therefore the authors provide exercises that may help shape one's own age in such a way to become and remain coherent.

- important issue in a society continuously growing older
- linking psychological and spiritual insights resulting in a holistic approach



Father Anselm Grün is deemed the most famous of German monks. His books touch a vast audience regardless of religious denomination. He takes his ideas and topics in his books from personal conversations with his readers.

Hsin-Ju Wu is the chief editor at South & North Publishing in Taipei City, Taiwan. Currently she is a doctoral candidate at the Institute of Diaconal Studies at the University of Heidelberg. Her recent publication (together with in co-authorship with Anselm Grün) has been “Why is it always me?”





Philosophical Non Fiction, Narrative Non-Fiction

Heyes, Zacharias

The little Monk and the Gift of Trust

128 pages, release September 2022

You can do it!

“Come in!“, the abbot called from inside. The little Monk entered the room. Standing by the bookshelf taking out some books, the abbot was in high spirits. “Holiday reads, you know?“, he said cheerfully. „I am off for a couple of days – besides, there is something I was going to ask you!“ “Well... of course“, stammered the little Monk, who for some reason had expected something completely different. The abbot put the books into the rucksack he had ready at hand and said in passing: “I want you to run our monastery in the meantime.“ The little Monk struggled for air and didn’t really know what to say: “I ... but I ...“. “Don’t worry! You can do it!“, the abbot chimed in. “I trust you!“ The little Monk didn’t see that coming. And he is somewhat afraid – isn’t it too big a task for him? But then he summons up all his courage and gets to work. What he learns in the process: someone you put your trust in will put their trust in others – confidence and self-esteem included – free of charge! And how all this is related to stuffed paprika you will only find out in this book!

- highly anticipated: Volume 5 of the celebrated “Little Monk“ series
- inviting readers to smile and peruse, a gift for others or for oneself



In real life, **Zacharias Heyes** already is a “big Monk“. He is a member of the convent at Münsterschwarzach Abbey, author, leads numerous courses and works at the forge of the monastery. With the “Little Monk“ series he takes his readers on a journey to the roots of Benedictine spirituality.

Debatebook



Hose, Burkhard

Betraying the gospel?

For a Church that convertes to human rights

144 pages, release September 2022

Human dignity shall be inviolable

The Church raises its voice for complying with human rights on the global stage. On the inside, however, not complying with human rights principles almost seems to be an identity trait in one respect or another. It is no coincidence that the Vatican is one among but a few states which up until today, have not yet signed the International Bill of Human Rights. Apart from this formal kind of support both ecclesiastical daily routine and church structures fall short of complying with the human rights. The abuse crimes, continuous discrimination of the queer and a lack of gender equality in regard to the access to church office point to the current state of affairs. Burkhard Hose is convinced: If the Church does not make up for this deficiency in regard to human rights, it will not be sustainable in the future. When addressing this issue, the author does not do so on a theoretical level, but by linking connecting the experiences he has gained as a passionate advocate of the democratic process within the Church, in favour of gender equality and against exclusion and discrimination, with a biblical perspective on human rights.



➤ highly topical issue for a change that is badly needed for the Church to remain sustainable

Burkhard Hose is a priest and diocesan moderator at the Katholisches Bibelwerk e. V. in Würzburg. Besides that, the “Studentenpfarrer“ (= priest for the students) is a university minister of the Catholic University Congregation (= Katholische Hochschulgemeinde (KHG)) in Würzburg. Burkhard Hose regularly comments on important issues in society and Church, recently in “Systemrelevant – Neue Maßstäbe für unsere Gesellschaft“ (Essential Work – New Yardsticks for Our Society).

Giftbooks, Calendars, Gift Booklets



Spiritual Non Fiction Book, Gift book by Anselm Grün

Grün, Anselm

Confidence in every new day

Companion through the year

330 pages, release 19th September 2022

Hope for every day

Pausing for a moment, seeing everyday life in a new light, gaining courage and strength for the day – this is what Father Anselm Grün’s texts invite you to do in this companion through the year. Every month has its own particular theme which on the one hand corresponds to the circle of the year, on the other hand takes up on themes of the ecclesiastical year. The texts seek to be companions that are supposed to prevent us from being determined by external appointments and job requirements; instead, we are supposed to see what we do in a new light. The ritual of reading a text at a particular time every day may help. That way we may see everything we experience in a new, more mindful way, and put trust and confidence in every new day, no matter how beautiful or hard it might come along.

- wonderful gift book for many occasions
- for daily readings, it might also be used in groups, or preparation of church service

Calendar by Anselm Grün



Grün, Anselm

Time of fulfilment

The Advent calendar from the monastery

98 pages, release 19th September 2022

Finding peace

Unlike any other time of the year, Advent and Christmas are associated with a deep yearning for peace and reconciliation, silence and security. With this calendar, Anselm Grün wants to accompany us through these special weeks leading up to Christmas. His personal impulses invite us to partaking in meditative silence, to being with ourselves. In this way, the calendar opens our eyes for the deeper meaning of this special time and lets us see the miracle of Christmas, the incarnation of God, in a whole new light.

- turnover generator on the Advent table – successfully introduced, with sales figures annually rising



Grün, Anselm

Thrive

Fasting calendar from the monastery

98 pages, release **January 2023**

Unfold

The same way nature starts to bloom in spring, so we begin to grow anew. Knowing that even after the coldest and darkest of winters spring powerfully returns, that life will find a way, gives confidence which helps us through hard times. A calendar giving hope and inviting us to look at things with the eyes of the heart.

- title with high turnover and loyal customers
- fasting as the current trend

Gift booklets by Anselm Grün



Grün, Anselm

Bless my day

Münsterschwarzacher gift booklet

32 pages, release September 2022

With God on our side

Everyone yearns for words of blessing, a companion through the day. If we get involved with God in the morning, we can accept the day as a present. And if we turn to God in the evening, it is there where we can find rest and peace.



Grün, Anselm

The art of growing old

Münsterschwarzacher gift booklet

32 pages, release 19th September 2022

Discover the positive sides of old age

In sympathetic words, Anselm Grün describes the challenges of growing old: accepting, letting go and becoming reconciled. He shows how this chapter in one's life becomes a time of blooming and growing.

Giftbook



Fritsch, Marlene

Holy nights

The secret of particular hours

144 pages, release 19th September 2022

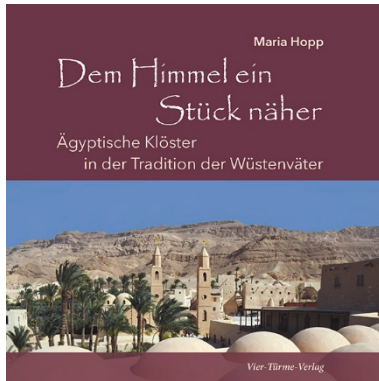
Every time it is getting dark...

This book is all about the peculiar time between sunset and sunrise, but also about the special nights we encounter throughout the calendrical and ecclesiastical year: Twelfth Night and Halloween, Easter Vigil and Holy Night, “Carnival“ and Saint John’s Eve. Exciting things from the history of mankind are to be discovered here, to whom nights have long been a time of special danger, as well as texts from poetry and literature, that put nocturnal feelings and experiences into poetic words. They are complemented by practical and new ideas on how to celebrate these special nights nowadays – with little rituals, recipes, recommended readings and tips for body and soul.

- including new ideas for particular nights throughout the year
- a special gift for those who love the nighttime, and for everyone else



Born in 1972, **Marlene Fritsch** studied Catholic theology and German before working for a publishing house for some years. She has been a free-lance editor and author since 2008, and lives in her hometown of Trier. Besides that, she is a certified hiking guide and grief counsellour.



Giftbook, Picturebook

Hopp, Maria

A little closer to heaven

Egyptian monasteries in the tradition of the Desert Fathers

185 pages, with many photographs, release August 2022

Down through the ages up until today, Egyptian monasteries have been breathing the spirit of early Christian monasticism. Their imposing buildings and impressive frescoes bear witness to a deep and authentic spirituality. Photographer Maria Hopp has had the opportunity of looking behind these monastic walls. Not only do the numerous photos display their architecture and arts, they also highlight the calmness and friendliness of the people whose life and faith have indelibly been marked by these powerful places.

- exciting and impressive photographs
- tradition of the Desert Fathers today



Born in 1952, **Maria Hopp** was a photographer a photographer for the German daily paper „Schwarzwälder Bote“ for many decades. Her forte is her keen sense of portraying people and their environment in a realistic and emotional manner.

Calendar



Keil, Anke

Different from what we expect

An Advent calendar for the quotidian and imperfect

52 pages, release 19th September 2022

The beauty of the imperfect

Advent and Christmas time: cuddling in front of the fireplace, baking homemade biscuits, time for books, for silence – this is how we usually imagine it. And then this holy time turns out to be quite different. Because Advent is packed with appointments. Or because the biscuits start to burn in the oven and every day you stumble over your own and other people’s expectations – and fall. Or it may be, a dear person has just died, or you get hit by another cruel stroke of fate and you do not feel like singing “Joy to the world“ at all. This calendar is a loving companion for those who have many good resolutions, yet fail in the attempt to handle their expectation management. A calendar from 1st December until New Year’s Eve for everyone of us whose Advent just turns out to be quite different from what we had expected.

- Advent calendar for those who are going through hard times
- unusual, touching texts beyond the romance of Christmas



Anke Keil studied theology and general rhetoric. She works as a copy editor and lives in Esslingen with her husband and four children. After her daughter was stillborn in 2015, she and her husband founded a support group for parents that have lost a child at an early age. Her first book “When Mrs Grief moved in“ helps many families learn to live with their grief.