

LITERATURVERLAG DROSCHL

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## RIGHTSLIST SPRING 2020



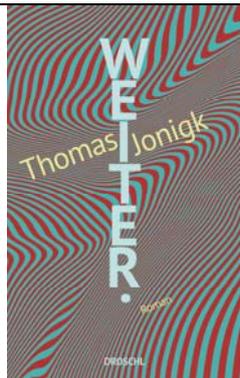
### **Bettina Gärtner: *Herrmann***

Novel, 288 pages

With wit and dry humour, Bettina Gärtner portrays middle-aged Herrmann and his middle-class life between capital and countryside. Despite being sickly and rather unambitious, Herrmann would like to climb the career ladder in his company. What he doesn't want, though, is to keep running his recently deceased father's dog breeding business. But what would the people in the village say? Then, his private and professional life is turned completely upside down within a single week as people and incidents from the past make an unexpected but disturbing appearance - above all Orban, Herrmann's friend from his youth who had disappeared to England 30 years ago.

Bettina Gärtner's novel is an original portrayal of today's times, with a humorous take on the quirky personalities we all know.

"*Herrmann* is a book straight out of our day and age - brimming with reality, tragic comedy and brilliant linguistic accuracy." (Björn Hayer, Cicero)



### **Thomas Jonigk: *Going on.***

Novel, 200 pages

How to be happy? This is the central question both protagonists from *Going On* are trying to find an answer to. In her childhood and adolescence Veronika was exposed to violence and lack of affection. Robert, freshly dumped by his long-term partner, is at rock-bottom when Veronika stumbles into his life in a café in West Berlin in May 1986. From then on things are looking up, there is a ray of hope: Life is going on.

Veronika's is slowly warming up to Robert and Robert feels a weight has finally been taken off his chest. The two strangers help each other get back on their feet. Step by step their desire - a life of love and security - takes shape. It's now up to them to take back control of their lives. What can they do for themselves? Which decisions will they take?

Thomas Jonigk portrays these two very different people with empathy and kindness and leads them out of a seemingly hopeless situation.



### **Helwig Brunner: *Gummy Bear Campaign***

One-minute novellas, 144 pages

One-minute novellas are stories reduced to a minimum which were invented by Hungarian writer István Örkényi during the age of Goulash communism. Helwig Brunner transports this pithy literary format into our times.

The subject matter of these one-minute novellas is everyday life. Brunner's razor-sharp observations reveal human, interpersonal and societal absurdities which unfailingly end in surreal, sober or grotesque punchlines.

"A rather slim but nonetheless brilliant book ... Helwig Brunner's highly polished language is pure bliss. His little stories, always dedicated to a name, a protagonist or a hero are pearls that even after repeated reading won't lose any of their irresistible charm." (Franz Becker, Musenblätter)

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