

Authors

ELISA GUIDOTTI grew up in Italy and studies Anthropology in Heidelberg.

EMILY RAGUSE likes to write about whatever comes to her mind or is happening around her, as long as it puts a smile on her readers' faces, be it gory German fairy tales or Oscar-worthy screenplays with musical sound effects. Pink hair made her famous, blue hair made her unrecognisable. Is she Italian? She knows a lot about pizza. Is she British? Her accent would make you think so. Besides being a walking historical lexicon, an excessive user of fingerguns, and hoarder of amazing random facts, she gets intense pleasure out of being bought banana bread or taken out for Korean food. If you're lucky, you might also get a taste of her unrivalled entertainment skills, which will probably land her a job as a professional stand-up comedian one day – or maybe she'll just become the narrator of her own batch of Hitler documentaries.

ERIK HAUSER has published numerous short stories and novellas in English and German magazines and anthologies, among them *Odem des Todes*, which was short-listed for the Vincent-Preis for best horror story in 2011. *Jenseits des Rheins*, a collection of interrelated stories set in the Rhein-Neckar-Region, appeared in 2016, to critical acclaim. His debut novel, *Die Traurigkeit der Wölfe*, will hopefully be out by 2020. He has, from time to time, tried unsuccessfully to communicate not only with plants, but also with cats and dogs, cars, computers, coffee-machines, his wife and three children. Website: www.erikhauser.de

FELICIA MARGONO is a hobbyist writer aspiring to be more.

GIUSEPPINA AGOSTINETTO LESLE grew up in Italy but spent a large part of her life in the picturesque town of Ladenburg near Heidelberg. A long-standing member of the Creative Writing Group Heidelberg, she writes short stories on memory, her past, and the human condition.

HANS-PETER SCHÖNI has been a member of the Heidelberg Creative Writing Group for seventeen years, proving that you can find not only entertainment but also a gainful employment and the love of your life while sipping peppermint tea and having your work torn to pieces by your peers. When he is not writing, he is wrangling unruly databases, helping his colleagues at work to help people with handicaps, and running way too many role-playing games.

JAMES FABLE studies Comparative Literature with Philosophy at the University of Heidelberg, Germany. In August 2019, he published *In Search of Myanmar: Travels through a Changing Land*, a humorous travelogue based on his time spent working as a travel journalist in Myanmar. The first chapter can be downloaded for free from his website: www.jamesfable.com. His short story in this collection was inspired by his friend Ben's very specific way of eating yogurt. Reading about his own curious habit proved a deeply traumatic experience for Ben.

JOANNA LIGON is a student of English and Philosophy, with German and American roots. She justifies her obsessive Netflix- and movie-watching with maybe wanting to be in the film industry someday. Until then, she will continue judging and writing about the world's news and issues.

JULIA GOEDEKE studies Psychology and is currently spending a semester abroad, at the University of Sydney, Australia. Between classes on US politics, project management, and the future of the world of work, she enjoys being part of various societies, including the Running Club, Shades, and, above all, the Chocolate Society. Her contribution to this reader was truly an effort pieced together between readings, lectures, and, admittedly, lots of touristing and food. But she's been a member of the Creative Writing Group since her first semester and was never going to miss participating in this reader for the world, even though she was on the complete other side of it.

KATIE GRAY is adventurous and enjoys traveling in her free time. She is a senior at Georgia State University, majoring in journalism with a focus on multimedia reporting and a minor in English. Gray has experience in news reporting through Panther Report, a student-run news station at Georgia State University. She is also a proud member of the National Association of Black Journalists. She enjoys writing human interest stories and she intends to work internationally. Gray

is constantly finding new ways to learn by putting herself outside of her comfort zone. When she's not traveling the world or writing new stories, she enjoys reading classic literature, hiking, and spending time with her loved ones.

KLAUDIA STEFANIA NAEMI RZEŹNICZAK was born in Łódź in Poland and moved to Germany at the age of six. So far, she has mostly written poems in Polish and German, though in recent years she has begun composing in English as well. One of her favourite aspects of writing is the search for felicitous metaphors, and if she could have a superpower or invent a machine, it would be one that enabled her to capture moments, impressions, feelings, and smells. Since her technological endeavours have not yet proven successful, she tries to do this by writing.

LALLE OLOSTA: "A rowin stane gaithers nae fug."

LEONIE LIESKE was born in Berlin in 1994 and only reluctantly left her beloved home town to do her English master's degree in Heidelberg. She was delighted, however, to meet amazing people in the Creative Writing Group there. She loves reading, traveling, and cute kittens. Her goals are to find some kind of employment involving books and to be able to see as much of the world as possible. She thinks that the most important function of literature is to remind us that every single other person is just as complex, interesting and worthy of empathy as we ourselves, and she hopes to write stories which accomplish that.

MAXINE is a nineteen-year-old student of English and German whose love for writing began when she was six years old; since then, it has been steadily growing as she devours books and fills notebook after notebook with crazy ideas and unnecessarily long sentences. Somehow, one of them ended up in this book. She hopes to continue creating stories and to bring the worlds that she dreams up closer to whoever reads them.

MILICA RODIĆ is a future doctoral candidate in Linguistics, an English teacher, and an aspirant poet. She often finds it easier to write than to speak. She likes to think she is kind, responsible, and patient, but she knows she is stubborn, indecisive, and complicated. She enjoys life's little pleasures as well as all the challenges life has to offer. Likes to drift into the unknown. Loves her pets, cheese, raspberries, and chocolate. Her daily dose of relaxation and pampering includes at least one movie.

She is still unsure what her role in the world is, but she is hoping to become the very best version of herself.

MINU DIETLINDE TIZABI is a medical doctor and scientist – and a writer since early childhood. A lifelong obsession with English literature and a fondness for the language made her decide to write her debut novel entirely in English, to the utter bewilderment of friends and family alike. Her dream is to get published one day, because she thinks the story of Asoula, Lapica, Elektra, and Bot must be told. Until then, she is busy following untrodden trails across time and space. Loves blending different genres, omniscient narrators, and multiple points of view (in no particular order). Biggest challenge in writing: too many unrelated ideas hitting her tiny head at once.

When MONIKA PLEYER isn't writing sad poetry inspired by *The National*, she's working as a lecturer of English linguistics, teaching students about impoliteness and why Draco Malfoy wasn't such a bad guy after all. She also loves to read Stephen King, whose tenets on writing she follows religiously. In her free time, she plays Jugger (a sport based on a postapocalyptic film), shouts at her favourite football teams, and runs around fields pretending to be a pirate.

After a storied career in the San Francisco Bay Area working as a legal receptionist, obituary writer, astrology assistant, waitress, and pesto-maker extraordinaire, NATALIE STEVENSON now lives in Heidelberg, where she studies literature. Her poems and articles have appeared in *Prairie Margins*, *Ink Sweat and Tears* and *California Magazine*, among others.

PIA KLEIN grew up in Hannover and discovered her passion for writing in elementary school, probably while she was scribbling on tables or beating up taller children. She has since learned to focus her aggression on composing elaborate complaint emails to be sent to global players, and accidentally picked up poetry along the way. Demonstrating 21 marvellous years of hands-on life experience, she refuses to take anything seriously.

RUBEN NEIDINGER is a Classical Archaeologist, who ended up in creative writing by chance. He writes his stories about the exploration of foreign cultures, ancient and current, inspired by his travels and his work. After all, it is stories that enable us to understand the past, the present, and often ourselves as well.

SONALI BEHER was born in 1997 in gorgeous Gießen, Germany, and currently studies political science and English literature and linguistics at the University of Heidelberg. She is the daughter of Indian and British-Indian immigrants. Her writing includes prose as well as satirical and journalistic texts.

TRISTAN WOLF is a history student, haggis-lover, punk™, writer, and illustrator. A full bio would exceed these pages. What you need to know is that he will make a living as a writer while listening to David Bowie's music.