CENES DEPARTMENT

THE LIBRARY OF EASY READERS

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Volume 2

GERMAN CLASSICS, BIOGRAPHIES & ESSAYS, CARTOONS, CHILDREN’S BOOKS, CRIME & CULTURE, ALLTAGSGESCHICHTEN, LOVE STORIES & NON-FICTION

Historischer Bibliothekssaal, Oberlausitzische Bibliothek der Wissenschaften in Görlitz

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All books can be signed out by CENES faculty members and by all students who are currently enrolled in any of the Department’s courses.

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S. Werner, *Die Legende des Piraten Störtebeker.* Language Level: A1

**Biography.**

**CONTENT**
Klaus’ life suddenly changes when his parents are murdered by knights. Discover how he becomes the fearsome pirate Störtebeker – a legend on the North Sea. But he's a romantic pirate – no matter what, he cannot forget his first love, Trebele.


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Achim Seiffarth, *Frauen aus Deutschland.* Language Level: A1-A2

**Short biographies.**

**CONTENT**
Female philosophers, dancers, painters, and politicians: Women do change the world! However, their lives were often more difficult than those of their male counterparts. The short biographies in this book portray a wide range of women, including Hildegard von Bingen, Bertha von Suttner, Angela Merkel, Nina Hagen and many more. [My translation of the publisher's plot summary]

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**Short biographies.**

**CONTENT**
**Biography.**

**CONTENT**
Young Bach’s life certainly isn’t easy: orphaned as a child, he must give up his studies. He works as an organist in churches and courts, where he is employed by princes and noblemen, but never stops studying and learning – organ music first and, later on, Italian and French music. All of these experiences will flow into his music, as he creates his immortal masterpieces! [Plot summary: http://www.blackcat-cideb.com]

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Achim Seiffarth, *Marlene Dietrich.*  
**Biography.**

**CONTENT**
Marlene Dietrich was born in Berlin in 1901. The actress quickly became a star both in Germany and in the USA. During her long career, she worked together with Billy Wilder, Fritz Lang, Orson Welles and Alfred Hitchcock. And she is still remembered today as the singer of "Lili Marlene" and "Sag mir, wo die Blumen sind." [My translation of the publisher’s plot summary]

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Sabine Werner, *Albert Einstein.*  
**Biography.**

**CONTENT**
Who was Albert Einstein? His Theory of Relativity revolutionized the world of physics. Einstein was influential in world politics and he fought for peace. The public media loved him and he became as famous as a pop star. This biography tells us about Einstein’s childhood in Germany and his life until his emigration to the USA. [My translation of the publisher’s plot summary]
Achim Seiffarth, *Johann Wolfgang von Goethe*. Language Level: B1

Biography.

**CONTENT**

There is no German culture without Johann Wolfgang von Goethe. But what do we know about Goethe’s life and death? This biography tells the reader about the author’s studies and his writing, his various love affairs as well as his famous friendship with Friedrich Schiller. [My translation of the publisher’s plot summary]

Sabine Werner, *Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart*. Language Level: B1

Biography.

**CONTENT**

The life of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, one of the greatest musicians and composers of all time: his beginnings as a ‘child prodigy’, the long, exhausting journeys across Europe, his youth, his successes and failures until his premature death in extreme poverty. The episodes – both dramatic and comic – of Mozart’s life make for fascinating and stimulating reading. [Plot summary: http://www.blackcat-cideb.com]

Yoko Tawada, *Das Fremde aus der Dose*. Years 3 - 4

Essay.

**CONTENT**

Yoko Tawada is a Japanese author who lives in Berlin. In this short essay, she writes about the clash of two cultures. [My translation of the publisher’s plot summary]
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CRIME & CULTURE

Lernkrismis - Kurzkrimis: Der stille Tod
Language Level: A1
and two more detective stories.

Detective stories.

CONTENT
A mysterious death at an idyllic winery; a young woman who
does not survive a night of dance; and a private detective gone
astray. Three exciting mysteries written in easy German. [My
translation of the publisher’s plot summary]

Lernkrismis - Kurzkrimis: Der Tote im Moor.
Language Level: A1

Detective stories.

CONTENT
A dead body in an uncanny moor landscape, a deadly meeting with an
internet acquaintance and the mysterious death of an aging folk singer.
Three mysteries for beginners of German. My translation of the publisher’s plot
summary]

Tatort DaF: Verschollen in Berlin.
Language Level: A1-A2

Crime & Culture.

CONTENT
Jan has a date with his girlfriend Maja under the glass dome of
the Berlin Reichstag. But she does not show up. What has
happened? Where can Maja be? The reader accompanies Jan on
his search for Maja. [My translation of the publisher’s plot summary]
**Lernkrimi- Kurzkrimi: Blutige Schatten.**  
Language Level: A2

Detective stories.

**CONTENT**
A mysterious murder case in Graz, a seriously injured female film director at the Munich opera, and a dangerous conflict between old friends. High tension – in German! [My translation of the publisher's plot summary]

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**Lernkrimi- Kurzkrimi: Tatort St. Pauli.**  
Language Level: A2

Detective stories.

**CONTENT**
A shot man in a car, a murdered music producer, a brutal fight in the Hamburg St. Pauli and a dead bar owner. Four short exciting mysteries for learners of German.[My translation of the publisher’s plot summary]

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**Marion Schwenninger, Ein Fall für Tessa.**  
Language Level: A2

Detective story.

**CONTENT**
During the summer break, Tessa’s mother brings home a stack of detective novels from the flea market. “Old books often have their secrets,” says Tessa’s mother. And indeed, in a book about master detective Sherlock Holmes, Tessa stumbles upon a mysterious message . . . [My translation of the publisher’s plot summary]
Tatort DaF: Der Schützenkönig vom Chiemsee. Language Level: A2

Crime & Culture.

CONTENT
Everybody is looking forward to the marksman’s festival in Seebruck. But then something terrible happens. Who is involved? And will the police be able to solve this crime? [My translation of the publisher’s plot summary]

Tatort DaF: Kalt erwischt in Hamburg. Language Level: A2

Crime & Culture.

CONTENT
Every morning and every night, Klaas Hansen plays his trumpet on the Michel in Hamburg. But on this Saturday night he is not playing. Where might he be? A female journalist is the last person to have seen him. [My translation of the publisher’s plot summary]

Tatort DaF: Die Loreley lebt! Language Level: A2

Crime & Culture.

CONTENT
Strange things happen on a boat trip on the Rhine. Passengers on board see a woman with blond hair – just like the Loreley. Suddenly she is there, and then she disappears again. Then fog descends on the ship and it stops moving. [My translation of the publisher’s plot summary]
**Tatort DaF: Böses Erwachen in Heidelberg.** Language Level: A2-B1

**Crime & Culture.**

**CONTENT**
Due to heavy snowfall, Emma’s train is delayed in Heidelberg. Emma passes the time by exploring the historical inner city and the ruins of the castle. Suddenly she is overcome by the uncomfortable feeling of being followed . . . [My translation of the publisher’s plot summary]

**Tatort DaF: Das Auge vom Bodensee.** Language Level: A2-B1

**Crime & Culture.**

**CONTENT**
The world-famous Swiss watches are of very good quality but they are very expensive as well. Gerd, Hanna and Urs from the three countries around Lake Constance are involved in shady deals with Swiss watches. However, the eye of Lake Constance sees everything and has already infiltrated their group. [My translation of the publisher’s plot summary]

**Tatort DaF: Die Lerche aus Leipzig.** Language Level: A2-B1

**Crime & Culture.**

**CONTENT**
Lately many strange things are happening to Udo Geißler: his letters don’t arrive anymore, his credit cards are cancelled and his shoes don’t fit him any longer. Why does all of this happen? Geißler finally gets his answer in the museum at the “Round Corner.” [My translation of the publisher’s plot summary]
**Tatort DaF: Frankfurter Geschäfte.** Language Level: A2-B1

**Crime & Culture.**

**CONTENT**

On Shrove Tuesday, a “fool” in costume robs a bank in ‘Manhattan.’ Did he really only turn into a thief because he saw an opportunity to do so? [My translation of the publisher’s plot summary]

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**Tatort DaF: Gefährliches Spiel in Essen.** Language Level: A2-B1

**Crime & Culture.**

**CONTENT**

Friso Breugel is a journalist who wants to write an article about buildings in the Ruhr industrial area. But why are so many accidents happening to him lately? Is there someone behind all of this? Together with Breugel, the reader can experience a dangerous time in the city of Essen. [My translation of the publisher’s plot summary]

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**Tatort DaF: Das Herz von Dresden.** Language Level: B1

**Crime & Culture.**

**CONTENT**

71-year-old Ruth Brämig becomes the witness of a theft: A young man steals the collection box containing money for the reconstruction of the Frauenkirche in Dresden. The old lady cannot tolerate this. But she is not the youngest anymore so what can she do? So she simply decides to deal with this young man in her very own way. . . [My translation of the publisher’s plot summary]
**Tatort DaF: Heiße Spur in München.** Language Level: B1

**Crime & Culture.**

**CONTENT**
Paola is visiting her friend Karl in Munich. She plans to have a good time there but suddenly she gets sick. Has her strange sickness something to do with the herbs that she bought on the Viktualienmarkt? And why is someone following her around in the city? [My translation of the publisher's plot summary]

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**Tatort DaF: Wiener Blut.** Language Level: B1

**Crime & Culture.**

**CONTENT**
Ballet dancer Eva Hájková comes to Vienna. She wants to enroll at Ms Neururer’s well-known ballet academy and she also hopes to be offered a part in a movie. But someone wants to prevent her success by all means. Who is behind this? And will Eva be successful after all? [My translation of the publisher’s plot summary]

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**Franz Specht, Die schöne Frau Bär.** Language Level: B1

**Crime & Culture.**

**CONTENT**
Frau Bär visits Müller’s detective bureau because she is afraid. Someone secretly watches her, takes photos of her and then sends her the photos. She needs to know who this mysterious person is . . . [My translation of the publisher’s plot summary]
### Elke Burger, *Der Filmstar.*  
**Language Level:** A1

**Photo story.**

**CONTENT**

In this short photo story we find out how the young actor Gasan got into acting: We follow him on his first job interview for a position in event planning and then learn how he eventually got his job as an actor. [Publisher’s English plot summary]

### Elke Burger, *Eine Liebesgeschichte.*  
**Language Level:** A1

**Photo story.**

**CONTENT**

Jenny and Dezsö met during the filming of the Berliner Platz DVD. Dezsö can’t stop thinking about Jenny and finally gets up his courage to ask her out. Jenny invites him to her birthday party instead and Dezsö is in for a surprise. [Publisher’s English plot summary]

### Elke Burger, *Glück gehabt.*  
**Language Level:** A1

**Photo story.**

**CONTENT**

Felice is a student and desperately needs a new apartment since her neighbors have the annoying habit of playing their music very loudly early in the morning. [Publisher’s English plot summary]
Leo & Co., Das schnelle Glück. Language Level: A1-A2

Contemporary life.

CONTENT
The jackpot is at 10 million Euros and Anna, Paco, Felipe and Benno want to try their luck and buy a ticket - and it looks like they won! But suddenly the ticket disappears . . . [Publisher's English plot summary]

Leo & Co., Die Neue. Language Level: A1-A2

Contemporary life.

CONTENT
The new waitress’ name is Beata -- which means “the lucky one.” But in this story, Leo is one who feels really lucky. He falls head over heels for Beata, but not all of his friends think these changes are for the better. [Publisher’s English plot summary]

Leo & Co., Die Prinzessin. Language Level: A1-A2

Contemporary life.

CONTENT
Veronika Meier is taking a night class, and now she desperately needs a babysitter for daughter Iris. Leo comes to her aid as substitute grandpa. Iris thinks that's a great idea, but Leo is a little out of his wits. [Publisher’s English plot summary]
**Leo & Co., Ein Hundeleben.** Language Level: A1-A2

Contemporary life.

**CONTENT**

Benno, the guy with the big heart, agrees to watch his friend's puppy while he is gone on vacation. But then the friend does not return and the dog gets bigger and bigger . . . [Publisher’s English plot summary]

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**Leo & Co., Gebrochene Herzen.** Language Level: A1-A2

Contemporary life.

**CONTENT**

Anna and Paco are in love. An accident threatens their happiness. Love, jealousy, lies, blackmail – but all is saved in the end! [Publisher’s English plot summary]

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**Leo & Co., Miss Hamburg.** Language Level: A1-A2

Contemporary life.

**CONTENT**

Anna participates in a modeling contest. Her friend Veronika, Oma Trude and Leo think it is a great idea. But she tries to keep it from her boyfriend Paco until he sees her image on the title page of a magazine. [Publisher’s English plot summary]
Leo & Co., *Schwere Kost.* Language Level: A1-A2

Contemporary life.

**CONTENT**

Leo is sick. Luckily Anna’s grandmother helps out with the restaurant. But Leo is not too fond of her hearty cooking. His plan is not only to get well quickly, but young and slim as well. [Publisher’s English plot summary]

Thomas Henseler, *Tunnel 57.* Language Level: A2

Graphic novel.

**CONTENT**

This is a graphic novel based on historical documents, photos and interviews. It portrays the legendary story of ‘tunnel 57,’ a secret tunnel between East and West Berlin through which citizens of East Germany escaped to the West. [My translation of the publisher's plot summary]

Leicht & Genial., *Das Rockfestival.* Language Level: A2

Contemporary life.

**CONTENT**

Jakob and Felix are high school friends. They would like to travel to a rock festival but where would they get the money for the tickets? [My translation of the publisher’s plot summary]
Leo & Co., *Speed Dating*. Language Level: A2

Contemporary life.

**CONTENT**
Where and in which way would one find a new girlfriend or boyfriend? Obviously at the workplace, at the bar or in a sports team. One could also participate in a speed dating event. But can one really get to know a person in only 8 minutes? [My translation of the publisher’s plot summary]

Leonhard Thoma, *Eine Frau, ein Mann*. Language Level: A2

Short stories.

**CONTENT**
This book contains fourteen short stories about personal happiness, which is not always easy to find. It is also about the luck that is sometimes necessary for finding happiness. [My translation of the publisher’s plot summary]

Abbas Khider, *Ohrfeige*. Language Level: A2-B1

Novel. (In einfacher Sprache)

**CONTENT**
Desperate for someone to listen to his story, an Iraqi refugee ties up an immigration authority official and slaps her. After an interminable spell in German asylum institutions, Karim Mensy has just been told that he is going to be deported. Karim had arrived in Germany on a lorry, expecting to find himself in Paris, the supposed destination of his illegal journey across Europe. He then spends three long years being shunted from one institution to another in a maze of bureaucracy, only to find himself faced with deportation. [Plot summary: archive.new-books-in-german]
Leonhard Thoma, *Die Blaumacherin.* Language Level: A2-B1

**Short stories.**

**CONTENT**

These short, manageable texts tell of interpersonal relations that everyone can relate to. At the same time they provide impressions of German contemporary life and reality. [My translation of the publisher’s plot summary]

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Leo & Co., *Hinter den Kulissen.* Language Level: B1

**Contemporary life**

**CONTENT**

For Paco, a dream comes true: three days of rock music at the festival “Rock am See.” His cousin Felipe has managed to get his hands on super cheap tickets. But the trip ends up to be full of unplanned surprises. [My translation of the publisher’s plot summary]

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Leonhard Thoma, *Das Wunschhaus.* Language Level: B1

**Short stories.**

**CONTENT**

The three short stories in this collection deal with a failed blind date that turns out to be a success; with a summer trip to the beach that is full of obstacles; and with a glimpse of a beautiful world that leaves a lot of questions open. [My translation of the publisher’s plot summary]
### Leonhard Thoma, *Der Ruf der Tagesfische.* Language Level: B1

**Short stories.**

**CONTENT**
This book contains four entertaining stories that deal with conflicts in friendships or romantic relationships. [My translation of the publisher’s plot summary]

### Leonhard Thoma, *Der Taubenfütterer.* Language Level: B1

**Short stories.**

**CONTENT**
This book contains four short stories that describe unusual encounters between people. [My translation of the publisher’s plot summary]

### Leonhard Thoma, *Murmeltiere.* Years 3 - 4

**Short stories.**

**CONTENT**
In twelve short stories, Thoma portrays various aspects of everyday life in today’s Germany. He talks about people’s adventures and dreams, about funny coincidences and about trying to get along with each other. [My translation of the publisher’s plot summary]
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**MODERN LOVE STORIES**

**Anna, Berlin.**
**Language Level: A1**

Love story.

**CONTENT**
Anna is still living with her parents, who want her to work in the family firm. But Anna would rather establish an Internet company with a friend. Then she meets a man in a disco . . .
[
Publisher’s English plot summary]

**David, Dresden.**
**Language Level: A1**

Love story.

**CONTENT**
David has given up his university studies and is working as a waiter in his parents’ restaurant. Mandy’s parents also have a restaurant in the same street. Mandy is very athletic and good-looking. David thinks that Mandy may be his dream woman. But then he meets a mysterious woman in black . . .
[
Publisher’s English plot summary]

**Franz, München.**
**Language Level: A1**

Love story.

**CONTENT**
Franz is expected to take over the village pub from his father, but he refuses. The village is too claustrophobic for him, he wants to move to town and go out into the great wide world. He celebrates success as a star cook . . .
[
Publisher’s English plot summary]
**Julie, Köln.**  
Language Level: A1  

Love story.  

**CONTENT**  
Julie is so extraordinarily beautiful that people suggest she apply to become a model. Her parents think this is a grand idea, but Julie is against such commercialization of her personality. Nevertheless, she participates in the casting . . . [Publisher’s English plot summary]

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**Lara, Frankfurt.**  
Language Level: A1  

Love story.  

**CONTENT**  
Lara applies for a job with an exclusive private bank in Frankfurt. She meets Peter, one of the directors of the bank. He introduces her to the Frankfurt jet set, and the two of them come closer. But then there is the mysterious stranger in the Café „Rothschild“ . . . [Publisher’s English plot summary]

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**Tina, Hamburg.**  
Language Level: A1  

Love story.  

**CONTENT**  
Tina returns to Hamburg from her studies in the U.S.A. Her father wants her to marry the son of his wealthy friend. But Tina has other plans. She runs into old friends at the tennis club . . . [Publisher’s English plot summary]
Love story.

**CONTENT**

Vera is single and shortly before her university exams. The university is the centre of her life. She studies day and night and never goes out. But one day she gets fed up and goes to a bar. There, she sees the hip student Marco with an unfamiliar man.

[Publisher’s English plot summary]