

## Leon Und Louise Alex Capus

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L é on und Louise Northwestern University Press

Germany, in the final years of the Third Reich. Hermann Karnau is a sound engineer obsessed with recording the human voice in all its variations—the rantings of leaders, the roar of crowds, the rasp of throats constricted in fear—and indifferent to everything else. Employed by the Nazis, his assignments take him to Party rallies, to the Eastern Front, and into the household of Joseph Goebbels. There he meets Helga, the eldest daughter: bright, good-natured, and just beginning to suspect the horror that surrounds her... Based on an acclaimed novel by Marcel Beyer, *Voices in the Dark* is the first fictional graphic novel by Ulli Lust, whose award-winning graphic memoir *Today Is the Last Day of the Rest of Your Life* appeared in English in 2013. It is the story of an unlikely friendship and of a childhood betrayed, a grim parable of naïveté and evil, and a vivid, unsettling masterpiece. This NYRC edition is a trade paperback and features full color throughout and new English hand-lettering.

*A Price to Pay* Abrams

A tale of love's triumph against improbable odds and the vicissitudes of history.

L é on et Louise Rodopi

With brilliantly vivid irony, a mosaic of voices tells the true story of Switzerland's most notorious bank robbers: Kurt Sandweg and Waldemar Velte. As 1933 draws to a close, the pair arrive in Basel from Wuppertal, Germany. Rebels on the run, they are searching for an escape from the confines of a callously regimented society left impoverished by the Depression and the onset of Nazi power. However, their desperation leads them to a realm outside reality, on a destructive path of vengeance for the world's abhorrent lack of justice. Resolute on their doomed mission, neither expected to fall in love. Seen through the benign eyes of Dorly Schupp, the agonising humanity of their relationships are sharply juxtaposed against the reckless cruelty of their crimes.

Yet in a world equally heartless and unremitting, who should shoulder the blame? Capus relates the portrait of these chillingly charismatic figures in a curious blend of documentary and narrative where precision of detail collides with an economy of emotion, and leaves the desolation of their situation stark and blindingly poignant. Suspended between the tragic and comic, Capus's novel mimics the absurd idiosyncrasies of life where often nothing but interpretation is left to determine the sacred from the profane.

“ Wenn sie das Wort Ich gebraucht ”. Amazon Publishing

„ L é on und Louise “ sind nicht nur ein Paar zum Verlieben - der gleichnamige Roman von Alex Capus eignet sich in besonderer Weise als geographische und literarische Reisebegleitung durch die Normandie nach Paris. . In einem pers ö nlichen Interview mit Alex Capus verr ä t dieser, dass es sich bei der Romanfigur L é on um seinen eigenen Gro ß vater handelt. Das vorliegende Buch f ü hrt die Leser also nicht nur zu Schaupl ä tzen des Romans, die den Autor zu seinem Buch inspiriert haben, sondern informiert gleichzeitig mit Ausz ü gen aus dem Interview unterhaltsam ü ber biografische Hintergr ü nde des Autors; pers ö nliche Geschichten, die mit den Orten verbunden sind und andere vergn ü gliche Begebenheiten. Annette Derksen l ä dt den Leser und Reisenden ein, in die literarische Welt des Romans einzutauchen und sich auf eine reale Reise auf den Spuren der bezaubernden Romanhelden zu begeben. „ Die gro ß e Liebe, wissen Sie, das ist ganz einfach. Wenn man an sie glaubt, kann es sie geben, wenn man nicht an sie glaubt, dann gibt es sie nicht. “ Auszug aus dem Interview mit Alex Capus

Leon and Louise Haus Pub.

Debut novel. Paris, 1945-46. The war had finished and life is starting to return to normal in Monsieur Albert's dressmaker's shop. This is a chronicle of survival which explores Jewish memory in the immediate post-war years in France.

**The Stories of Heinrich Böll** Graywolf Press

Alex Capus's novels have been runaway best-sellers in Germany, and his novel *Léon and Louise* received widespread critical acclaim on its English publication in 2012. *A Price to Pay*, the fourth of Capus's novels to be published in English, tells the interwoven stories of three disparate figures from interwar Switzerland: pacifist Felix Bloch, who ends up working on the Manhattan Project; Laura d'Oriano, who wants to become a singer but instead becomes an Allied spy in fascist Italy; and Emile Gillieron, who accompanies Heinrich Schliemann to Troy and becomes one of art's greatest forgers. Taking off from the only moment in history when all three were in the same place—a November day in 1924 at Zürich Station—Capus traces their diverging paths as they secure their places in the annals of history—but at what price?

**My Wounded Heart** Houghton Mifflin Harcourt

A Russian mafia thriller, a road-movie adventure and an elegantly written love story.

### **The Lavender Keeper** Haus Publishing

Zwei junge Leute verlieben sich, aber der Krieg bringt sie auseinander: Das ist die Geschichte von Léon und Louise. Sie beginnt mit ihrer Begegnung im Ersten Weltkrieg in Frankreich an der Atlantikküste, doch dann trennt sie ein Fliegerangriff mit Gewalt. Sie halten einander für tot, Léon heiratet, Louise geht ihren eigenen Weg - bis sie sich 1928 zufällig in der Pariser Métro wiederbegegnen. Alex Capus erzählt mit wunderbarer Leichtigkeit und grosser Intensität von der Liebe in einem Jahrhundert der Kriege, von diesem Paar, das gegen alle Konventionen an seiner Liebe festhält und ein eigensinniges, manchmal unerhört komisches Doppelleben führt. Die Geschichte einer grosse Liebe, gelebt gegen die ganze Welt.

*The Sinner* Farrar, Straus and Giroux

Ernesto is the perfect waiter-and his private life seems to embody the qualities he brings to his profession. But inwardly this polite and dignified man is in the grip of a violent passion, aroused thirty years before, when he fell in love with a young waiter-in-training named Jakob. Jakob broke his heart when he fled Nazidominated Europe for a new life in America with his lover, Julius Klinger, a celebrated German intellectual. Nursing his wounds, Ernesto slinks even deeper into his well-ordered world, hardening into what had only previously been a role. And then, after decades of silence, he receives a letter from a distraught and penniless Jakob asking for help. And Ernest must decide if he will finally take action. Set against the backdrop of a genteel Swiss hotel, and moving skillfully between two time periods, this exquisitely written story of a lifelong passion is rich in tension and emotion, exploring the nature of love and betrayal, memory, and regret.

### **Heroes Like Us** Haus Publishing

Max has been married to Tina for twenty-five years. She is the love of his life, but now he must come to terms with the fact that she is to spend a year away on a work assignment—away, for the first time, from their home, their children and their life together. Her absence leaves him feeling like an Odysseus in reverse: he stays put while his Penelope goes out into the world. Max, alone with his three teenage sons for the first time, is left contemplating life and the daily routine of the little bar of which he is the proprietor. As he spends more time with the regulars their problems begin to become his own. This new novel by Alex Capus is a hymn to trust, friendship and life's small pleasures. Told with his trademark humor, *Life is Good* is a novel about finding contentment in rootedness as the world speeds up.

### **Léon and Louise** Bloomsbury Publishing USA

The comic life of Klaus Uhlzscht, a rookie secret policeman in East Germany, keeping his fellow citizens under close surveillance, but never quite sure what to look for. Relief from boredom comes when his penis changes size.

*Léon y Louise* Actes Sud Editions

Written by award-winning African novelist Mariama Bâ and translated from the original French, *So Long a Letter* has been recognized as one of Africa's 100 Best Books of the 20th Century. The brief narrative, written as an extended letter, is a sequence of reminiscences —some wistful, some bitter—recounted by recently widowed Senegalese schoolteacher Ramatoulaye Fall. Addressed to a lifelong friend, Aissatou, it is a record of Ramatoulaye's emotional struggle for survival after her husband betrayed their marriage by taking a second wife. This semi-autobiographical account is a perceptive testimony to the plight of educated and articulate Muslim women. Angered by the traditions that allow polygyny, they inhabit a social milieu dominated by attitudes and values that deny them status equal to men. Ramatoulaye hopes for a world where the best of old customs and new freedom can be combined. Considered a classic of contemporary African women's literature, *So Long a Letter* is a must-read for

anyone interested in African literature and the passage from colonialism to modernism in a Muslim country. Winner of the prestigious Noma Award for Publishing in Africa.

### **So Long a Letter** A&C Black

On a business trip to Tunisia, Preising, a leading Swiss industrialist, is invited to spend the week with the daughter of a local gangster. He accompanies her to the wedding of two London city traders at a desert luxury resort that was once the site of an old Berber oasis. With the wedding party in full swing and the bride riding up the aisle on a camel, no one is aware that the global financial system stands on the brink of collapse. As the wedding guests nurse their hangovers, they learn that the British pound has depreciated tenfold, and their world begins to crumble around them. So begins *Barbarian Spring*, the debut novel from Jonas Lüscher, a major emerging voice in European fiction. The timely and unusual novel centers on a culture clash between high finance and the value system of the Maghreb. Provocative and entertaining, *Barbarian Spring* is a refreshingly original and all-too-believable satire for our times.

*What News of the War?* Penguin Group Australia

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*1933 Was A Bad Year* New York Review of Books

Als Max und Tina in ihrem Auto eingeschneit auf einem Alpenpass ausharren müssen, erzählt Max eine Geschichte, die genau dort in den Bergen, zur Zeit der französischen Revolution, ihren Anfang nimmt. Jakob ist ein Knecht aus dem Greyerzerland. Als er sich in Marie, die Tochter eines reichen Bauern, verliebt, ist dieser entsetzt. Er schickt den Jungen erst in den Kriegsdienst, später als Hirte an den Hof Ludwigs XVI. Dort ist man so gerührt von Jakobs Unglück, dass man auch Marie nach Versailles holen lässt. Meisterhaft verwebt Alex Capus das Abenteuer des armen Kuhhirten und der reichen Bauerntochter mit Max` und Tinas Nacht in den Bergen. Ein hinreißendes Spiel zwischen den Jahrhunderten. Alex Capus` schönste Liebesgeschichte seit "Leon und Louise".

### **The Russian Passenger** Waveland Press

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Leon in Louise Haus Publishing

Capus takes us on an exploratory journey via the loss of a Spanish vessel laden with gold and jewels in the South Seas, the burial of treasure, an ancient map, and a long and dangerous voyage across the Pacific, to prove that Robert Louis Stevenson's "treasure island" actually exists; and that it exists in a place quite different from where hordes of treasure-hunters have been seeking it for generations. In fact, he posits, it was for this reason alone that Stevenson spent the last five years of his life in Samoa. On a long trip round the Pacific islands with the idea of writing articles for American periodicals, Stevenson, travelling with his beloved wife, Fanny, and stepson Lloyd Osbourne, had no notion of stopping at Samoa when their ship made landfall in December 1889. Yet, only six weeks later, at the age of 39, he would invest all his available assets in a patch of impenetrable jungle and spend the rest of his life there. This book traces what led Stevenson to Samoa and the origins of his famous story. For facing him from this unlikely spot was another island – a conical isle, Tafahi, where legends abound, and it was, Capus suggests, this isle that would cause him to change the course of his life.

*Léon ja Louise* Haus Publishing

An enthrallingly expansive family saga set against the backdrop of the collapse of East German communism, from a major new international voice \* Over 450,000 copies sold in Germany alone \* Rights sold in 20 countries \* Winner of the German Book Prize \* A PW "First Fiction" pick \* In Times of Fading Light begins in September 2001 as Alexander Umnitzer, who has just been diagnosed with terminal cancer, leaves behind his ailing father to fly to Mexico, where his grandparents lived as exiles in the 1940s. The novel then takes us both forward and back in time, creating a panoramic view of the family's history: from Alexander's grandparents' return to the GDR to build the socialist state, to his father's decade spent in a gulag for criticizing the Soviet regime, to his son's desire to leave the political struggles of the twentieth century in the past. With wisdom, humor, and great empathy, Eugen Ruge draws on his own family history as he masterfully brings to life the tragic intertwining of politics, love, and family under the East German regime.

**Königskinder** Haus Publishing

A gripping psychological thriller, *The Camera Killer* will keep listeners tuned to the very end as the mystery unravels.

*By Blood* Harper Collins

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