



# recommended



## RECOMMENDED LITERATURE, MOVIES & MUSIC

### GERMANY

> *Erik Larson. (2011). In The Garden of Beasts.*

When an American couple arrives in Berlin in the 1930s, the wife is impressed by the Germans, thus having affairs with a wide range of men, including a high Gestapo officer. The romance turns into a horror story when violence and murders are discovered.

> *Ian McEwan. (1998). The Innocent: A Novel.*

A member of a British-American surveillance team in Cold War Berlin and his relationship with a West-Berliner enigmatic woman.

> *Jake Wallis Simons. (2011). The English German Girl.*

A tale of a girl who manages to escape in the 1930s from Berlin on a kindertransport train to England and makes a vow not to rest until her family is safe.

### Recommended Movies on Berlin

> *Valkyrie. 2008. Director: Bryan Singer*

The movie tells the story of the assassination and political coup plot by desperate German Army officers against Hitler during World War II.

> *The Counterfeiters. 2007. Director: Stefan Ruzowitzky*

A true story of the largest counterfeiting operation in history, set up by the Nazis in 1936.

> *The Lives of Others. 2006. Director: Florian Henckel von Donnersmarck*

This Oscar winning movie tells the story of an agent of the Stasi, the secret police in 1984's East Berlin, who becomes involved in the life of the couple he was observing.

> *Go for Zucker. 2004. Director: Dani Levy*

A German comedy film about a Jewish journalist in Berlin after 1989. After his mother dies he meets his little brother who was left behind the Iron Curtain in East Germany.

> *Walk on Water. 2004. Director: Eytan Fox*

An Israeli Mossad agent pretends to be a tourist guide and befriends the grandchildren of a Nazi war criminal.

> *Rosenstrasse. 2003. Director: Margarethe von Trotta*

The story of the courageous protest of many German Women upon the arrest of their Jewish husbands in Berlin of 1943.



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#### Recommended Music of Berlin

- > *Lounge Jewels: Sharon Brauner Sings Yiddish Evergreens / Sharon Brauner*  
Brauner combines her childhood Yiddish songs with elements from jazz, pop, Balkan folk, Arabic music and southern American rhythms.
- > *Jewdyssee / Maya Saban*  
In this album, the West-Berlin born singer of Israeli origin takes the audience on a musical odyssey through past, present and future.
- > *Lost Causes / Daniel Kahn & Painted Bird*  
This 2011 winner of CD of The Year of the Association of German Record Critics is a mix of Klezmer music with radical Yiddish songs, political cabaret and punk folk. Though Daniel Kahn, the founder of this Klezmer band is in fact an American, the band is based and works in Berlin and sings in English, Yiddish and German.
- > *Yiddish Troubadour / Karsten Troyke*  
The German, non-Jewish singer's latest album includes a selection of recordings from the past two decades that covers traditional Yiddish songs of the shtetl, klezmer music and Yiddish songs of pop and swing.