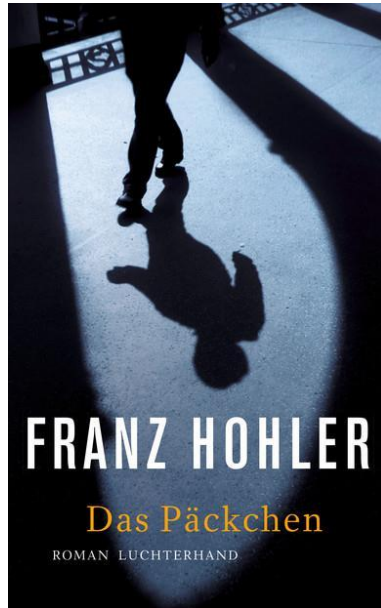


A mystifying parcel. A missing manuscript from the 8th century. A librarian facing a riddle.



Franz Hohler
The Parcel
[Das Päckchen]
Novel

Luchterhand HC
224 pages
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Franz Hohler was born in Biel, Switzerland, in 1943. He lives in Zurich and is considered to be one of his country's most prominent revue performers and writers. He has been awarded many prizes, including the Kassel Literature Prize for Grotesque Humour in 2002, the 2005 Art Award of the City of Zurich, the 2013 Solothurn Literature Prize, the 2014 Alice Salomon Prize and the Johann Peter Hebel Prize. Luchterhand has been publishing his books for over forty years.

When he happens to be in Bern on business, Zurich librarian Ernst gets a phone call that is obviously a wrong connection. There is a woman at the other end he does not know and she begs him to come to see her immediately. On a whim Ernst goes to the nearby address. Here an elderly woman gives him a small parcel, which, so she claims, is from her deceased husband's estate and Ernst is to look after it so as to prevent it from falling into wrong hands. Very much to his own amazement, Ernst agrees.

Back home, he opens the parcel and discovers an old manuscript he recognises as the missing original of the *Abrogans*, a Latin-Old High German dictionary thought to be the probably oldest German-language book ever. What, Ernst wonders, is this mysterious find all about? And what should he best do with it?

For all readers of Martin Suter.

Press

"wonderfully told, filled with suspense, and with much empathy for the characters" *Münchner Merkur*

"interesting and very entertaining reading" *Schweizer Familie*

"[the] book for book lovers, fans of Hohler's style – and for

mountaineers" *Main-Post*