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# Reader Bernhard Schlink

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The Reader  
Guilt about the Past  
Still Alive  
The Gordian Knot  
Play for a Kingdom  
This Way for the Gas, Ladies and Gentlemen  
The Reader  
Discussion Notes on Bernhard Schlink's The Reader  
The Innocent  
Tell Me Everything  
Tearing the Silence  
So Long a Letter  
Olga  
A Good Hard Look  
Fear of Falling  
Self's Murder  
German Culture, Politics, and Literature Into the Twenty-first Century  
The Language of Silence  
Homecoming  
Terms of Engagement  
Self's Punishment  
Reading Dance  
The Weekend  
The Woman on the Stairs  
Reader  
Flights of Love  
The Reader  
The Third Man and Other Stories  
The Reader by Bernhard Schlink (Book Analysis)  
The Weekend  
Guilt about the Past  
Olga  
Summer Lies  
Self's Deception  
Jacob the Liar  
Summer of '42  
Reader  
Pog  
The Reader  
How Your House Works

## LANE SHELDON

The Reader Constable  
From Bernhard Schlink, the internationally best-selling author of *The Reader*, come seven provocative and masterfully calibrated stories. A keen dissection of the ways in which we play with truth and less-than-truth in our lives. *Summer Lies* brims with the delusions, the passions, the outbursts, and the sometimes irrational justifications people make within a mélange of beautifully rendered relationships. In "After the Season," a man falls quickly in love with a woman he meets on the beach but wrestles with his incongruous feelings of betrayal after he learns she's rich. In "Johann Sebastian Bach on Ruegen," a son tries to put his resentment toward his emotionally distant father behind him by proposing a trip to a Back festival but soon realizes, during his efforts to reconnect, that it wasn't his father who was the distant one. A philandering playwright is accused to infidelity by his wife in "The Night in Baden-Baden," but he sees her accusations as nothing more than a means to exculpate

himself of his guilt as he carries on with his ways. And in "Stranger in the Night," an obliging professor becomes an accomplice—not entirely unwittingly—to the temporary escape of a charismatic fugitive on a delayed flight from New York to Frankfurt. The truth, as once character puts it, is "passionate, beautiful sometimes, and sometimes hideous, it can make you happy and it can torture you, and it always sets you free." Tantalizingly, so is the act of telling a lie—to others and to ourselves.  
Guilt about the Past  
Collector's Library  
A broad selection of Graham Greene's masterful short stories, including Cold War classic novella, *The Third Man*. Rollo Martins, a failing novelist, is invited to Vienna by his best friend, Harry Lime. The city he arrives in is unrecognisable - torn apart by the Second World War and shared between the occupying Allies. What's more, Harry is dead, and the circumstances look suspicious... Determined to uncover the truth, Martins must pick through the rubble of this broken city in search of answers. Accompanied here by

twelve further stories that exhibit the full range of Greene's masterly storytelling, *The Third Man* is an atmospheric noir that oozes with suspense. With an introduction by Professor Richard Greene.

*Still Alive* Scholastic Inc.  
As a young man, Gerhard Self served as a Nazi prosecutor. After the war he was barred from the judicial system and so became a private investigator. He has never, however, forgotten his complicity in evil. Hired by a childhood friend, the aging Self searches for a prankish hacker who's invaded the computer system of a Rhineland chemical plant. But his investigation leads to murder, and from there to the charnel house of Germany's past, where the secrets of powerful corporations lie among the bones of numberless dead. What ensues is a taut, psychologically complex, and densely atmospheric moral thriller featuring a shrewd, self-mocking protagonist.  
*The Gordian Knot* Penguin  
"A chronicle of one summer in a boy's coming of age"—the international bestselling classic that became the basis for the Oscar-winning film (Medium). Captivating

and evocative, Herman Raucher's semi-autobiographical tale has been made into a record-breaking Academy Award-winning hit movie, adapted for the stage, and enchanted readers for generations. In the summer of 1942, Hermie is fifteen. He is wildly obsessed with sex, and passionately in love with an "older woman" of twenty-two, whose husband is overseas and at war. Ambling through Nantucket Island with his friends, Hermie's indelible narration chronicles his frantic efforts to become a man, especially one worthy of the lovely Dorothy, as well as his glorious and heartbreaking initiation into sex. "Mr. Raucher scores most tellingly. His recall of nervous teen-age gaucheries is dead accurate, hilarious, tinged with sadness."—The New York Times Book Review "A charming and tender novel . . . The overall effect is one of high hilarity. Raucher is a comic-artist who is able to convey the fears and joys . . . of the boy and at the same time give older readers a wrench in the heart."—Publishers Weekly  
[Play for a Kingdom](#) The Feminist Press at CUNY

'One of a kind. Utterly fantastic.' Eoin Colfer on Tin David and Penny's strange new home is surrounded by forest. It's the childhood home of their mother, who's recently died. But other creatures live here ... magical creatures, like tiny, hairy Pog. He's one of the First Folk, protecting the boundary between the worlds. As the children explore, they discover monsters slipping through from the place on the other side of the cellar door. Meanwhile, David is drawn into the woods by something darker, which insists there's a way he can bring his mother back ...  
[This Way for the Gas, Ladies and Gentlemen](#) Vintage Crime/Black Lizard  
 INTERNATIONAL BESTSELLER • Hailed for its coiled eroticism and the moral claims it makes upon the reader, this mesmerizing novel is a story of love and secrets, horror and compassion, unfolding against the haunted landscape of postwar Germany. "A formally beautiful, disturbing and finally morally devastating novel." —Los Angeles Times When he falls ill on his way home from

school, fifteen-year-old Michael Berg is rescued by Hanna, a woman twice his age. In time she becomes his lover—then she inexplicably disappears. When Michael next sees her, he is a young law student, and she is on trial for a hideous crime. As he watches her refuse to defend her innocence, Michael gradually realizes that Hanna may be guarding a secret she considers more shameful than murder.

[The Reader](#) Camden House

Bernhard Schlink brings to these seven superbly crafted stories the same sleek concision and moral acuity that made *The Reader* an international bestseller. His characters—men with importunate appetites and unfortunate habits of deception—are uneasily suspended between the desire for love and the impulse toward flight. A young boy's fascination with an eerily erotic painting gradually leads him into the labyrinth of his family's secrets. The friendship between a West Berliner and an idealistic young couple from the East founders amid the prosperity and revelations that follow the collapse of communism.

An acrobatic philanderer (one wife and two mistresses, all apparently quite happy) begins to crack under the weight of his abundance. By turns brooding and comic, and filled with the suspense that comes from the inexorable unfolding of character, *Flights of Love* is nothing less than masterful.

[Discussion Notes on Bernhard Schlink's The Reader](#) Vintage

"Guilt about the Past" explores the phenomenon of guilt and how it attaches to a whole society, not only to individual perpetrators. It considers how to use the lesson of history to motivate individual moral behavior, how to reconcile a guilt-laden past, and the role of law in this process. Based on the Weidenfeld Lectures author Bernhard Schlink delivered at Oxford University, "Guilt about the Past" is essential reading for anyone wanting to understand how events of the past can affect a nation's future. Written in Schlink's eloquent but accessible style, these essays tap in to the worldwide interest in the aftermath of war and how to forgive and reconcile the various legacies of the past.

*The Innocent* Vintage

In May of 1864, a company of Union soldiers and a company of Confederates challenge each other to a series of baseball games in between bloody battles.

**Tell Me Everything** Vintage

Gerhard Self, the dour private detective, returns in this riveting crime novel about terrorism, governmental cover-up, and the treacherous waters where they mix. Leo Salger, the daughter of a powerful Bonn bureaucrat, is missing, and Self has been hired to find her. His investigation initially leads him to a psych ward at a local hospital, where he is made to believe that Leo fell from a window and died. Self soon discovers, however, that Leo is alive and well and that she was involved in a terrorist incident the government is feverishly trying to keep under wraps. The result is a wildly entertaining, superbly nuanced thriller that follows one detective's desire to uncover the truth, wherever it may lead.

**Tearing the Silence** Berrett-Koehler Publishers

"Two world wars and the passage of more than a century do not overshadow [Bernhard

Schlink's] story of lovers who never fully belong to each other, just as they never fully belonged to the world."—Booklist "A brilliant novel about history and the nature of memory."—Evening Standard

A sweeping novel of love and passion from author of the international bestseller *The Reader* about a woman out of step with her time, whose life is witness to some of the most tumultuous events of modern age. Abandoned by her parents, young Olga is raised by her grandmother in a Prussian village in the early years of the twentieth century. Smart and precocious, endearing but uncompromising, she fights against ingrained chauvinism to find her place in a world run by lesser men. When Olga falls in love with her neighbor, Herbert, the son of a local aristocrat, her life is irremediably changed. While Herbert indulges his thirst for exploration and adventure, Olga is limited by her gender and circumstance. Her love for Herbert goes against all odds and encounters many obstacles, but even when they are separated, it endures

Unfolding

across decades—from the late nineteenth to the early twenty-first century—and across continents—from Germany to Africa and the Arctic, from the Baltic Sea to the German south-west—Olga is an epic romance, and a wrenching tale of a woman's devotion to a restless man in an age of constant change. Though Olga exists in the shadows of others, she pursues life to the fullest and her magnetic presence shines—revealing a woman complex, fascinating, and unforgettable. Told in three distinct parts, brilliantly shifting from different points of view and narrative formats, Bernhard Schlink's magnificent novel is a rich, full portrait of a singular woman and her world. Translated from the German by Charlotte Collins

**So Long a Letter** John Wiley & Sons

"Based on the novel by Bernhard Schlink"--Cover.

**Olga** Diversion Books  
Swept up as a child in the events of Nazi-era Europe, Ruth Kluger saw her family's comfortable Vienna existence systematically undermined and

destroyed. By age eleven, she had been deported, along with her mother, to Theresienstadt, the first in a series of concentration camps which would become the setting for her precarious childhood. Kluger's story of her years in the camps and her struggle to establish a life after the war as a refugee survivor in New York, has emerged as one of the most powerful accounts of the Holocaust. Interwoven with blunt, unsparing observations of childhood and nuanced reflections of an adult who has spent a lifetime thinking about the Holocaust, *Still Alive* rejects all easy assumptions about history, both political and personal. Whether describing the abuse she met at her own mother's hand, the life-saving generosity of a woman SS aide in Auschwitz, the foibles and prejudices of Allied liberators, or the cold shoulder offered by her relatives when she and her mother arrived as refugees in New York, Kluger sees and names an unexpected reality which has little to do with conventional wisdom or morality tales. *Still Alive* is a memoir of the pursuit of selfhood against all odds, a fiercely bittersweet coming-of-age story in

which the protagonist must learn never to rely on comforting assumptions, but always to seek her own truth.  
*A Good Hard Look*  
Hachette UK  
From the New York Times bestselling author of *Hello Beautiful* and *Dear Edward*, a novel set in Flannery O'Connor's hometown of Milledgeville, and a tragedy that forever alters the town and the author herself "A wholly believable world shaped by duty, small pleasures, and fateful choices."—O, The Oprah Magazine  
Forced by illness to leave behind a successful life in New York, literary icon Flannery O'Connor has returned to her family farm in the small town of Milledgeville, Georgia. With her health and time both limited, all she wants is to be left alone to write. But Flannery's plans are soon upended by Melvin Whiteson, a banker from Manhattan who has recently married the town belle. Melvin is at loose ends with his new life; though he has every opportunity, he's not sure where to begin. Flannery knows exactly what she wants, but is running out of time. Through their unusual and clandestine friendship, both will come

to reflect on the decisions they have made and the paths they have chosen. Literary history and fiction gracefully intersect in this emotionally charged novel of small town Southern life, which asks us all to consider how we can live our lives to the fullest.

Fear of Falling Arcade Publishing

Gerhard Self, the seventy-something, sambuca-drinking, Sweet-Afton smoking sleuth returns in a riveting new mystery about money-laundering, murder, and mafiosi. Despite his failing health and his girlfriend's pleading, Gerhard Self won't stop doing what he does best—investigating. And his most recent case is one of the most intriguing of his career. Herr Welker desperately wants to write a history of his bank, but to do so he needs Self to track down a mysterious silent partner. Self takes the job, but is soon accosted by a man who frantically hands him a suitcase full of cash and speeds off in a car, only to crash into a tree, dying instantly. Perplexed, and convinced there is more to the case than he is being told, Self follows the money. Soon he finds himself traveling to eastern Germany, where he encounters some of

the most unsavory villains he has met yet.

Self's Murder Waveland Press

A #1 INTERNATIONAL BESTSELLER 'Bernhard Schlink speaks straight to the heart' New York Times 'Brilliant... A tale of love and loss in 20th century Germany' Evening Standard 'A cleverly-constructed tale of cross-class romance' Mail on Sunday 'A poignant portrait of a woman out of step with her time' Observer Olga is an orphan raised by her grandmother in a Prussian village around the turn of the 20th century. Smart and precocious, she fights against the prejudices of the time to find her place in a world that sees her as second-best. When she falls in love with Herbert, a local aristocrat obsessed with the era's dreams of power, glory and greatness, her life is irremediably changed. Theirs is a love against all odds, entwined with the twisting paths of German history, leading us from the late 19th to the early 21st century, from Germany to Africa and the Arctic, from the Baltic Sea to the German southwest. This is the story of that love, of Olga's devotion to a restless man - told in thought, letters

and in a fateful moment of great rebellion.

**German Culture, Politics, and Literature Into the Twenty-first Century**

BrightSummaries.com Focusing on individual authors from Heinrich Boll to Gunther Grass, Hermann Lenz to Peter Schneider, *The Language of Silence* offers an analysis of West German literature as it tries to come to terms with the Holocaust and its impact on postwar West German society. Exploring postwar literature as the barometer of Germany's unconsciously held values as well as of its professed conscience, Ernestine Schlant demonstrates that the confrontation with the Holocaust has shifted over the decades from repression, circumvention, and omission to an open acknowledgement of the crimes. Yet even today a 'language of silence' remains since the victims and their suffering are still overlooked and ignored. Learned and exacting, Schlant's study makes an important contribution to our understanding of postwar German culture.

**The Language of Silence** Vintage Tadeusz Borowski's concentration camp stories were based on his

own experiences surviving Auschwitz and Dachau. In spare, brutal prose he describes a world where where the will to survive overrides compassion and prisoners eat, work and sleep a few yards from where others are murdered; where the difference between human beings is reduced to a second bowl of soup, an extra blanket or the luxury of a pair of shoes with thick soles; and where the line between normality and abnormality vanishes. Published in Poland after the Second World War, these stories constitute a masterwork of world literature. For more than seventy years, Penguin has been the leading publisher of classic literature in the English-speaking world. With more than 1,700 titles, Penguin Classics represents a global bookshelf of the best works throughout history and across genres and disciplines. Readers trust the series to provide authoritative texts enhanced by introductions and notes by distinguished scholars and contemporary authors, as well as up-to-date translations by award-winning translators.

**Homecoming** Vintage

From the author of the international bestselling novel *The Reader* comes a compelling collection of six essays exploring the long shadow of past guilt, not just a German experience, but a global one as well. I know of no other writer who engages with the struggle between the individual and the political world as deftly - and poetically - as Bernhard Schlink.' - *The Herald* Bernhard Schlink explores the phenomenon of guilt and how it attaches to a whole society, not just to individual perpetrators. He considers how to use the lesson of history to motivate individual moral behaviour, how to. *Terms of Engagement* University of Queensland Press(Australia) The updated and highly illustrated guide to understanding how just about everything in your house works! The revised and updated third edition of *How Your House Works* is a hands-on guide that gives you the low-down on why your faucet is leaking, your dishwasher is overflowing, or your furnace is on the fritz. This comprehensive book is your reference to virtually everything in your house with richly illustrated explanations of

electrical systems, heating and air conditioning, plumbing, major household appliances, foundation, framing, doors, and windows. This must-have book answers most questions homeowners face when repairs are needed or when a new house or addition is in your future. *How Your House Works* is filled with easy-to-understand illustrations that show how things should be put together and how they function. The book also highlights issues outside the house as well as clock thermostats, ventless gas heaters, moisture and mold, and passive solar heating. Using the illustrations and the author's clear explanations might save you the expense of calling a professional. This invaluable guide: Offers a colorful resource to home electrical systems, HVAC, plumbing, major household appliances, foundation, framing, doors and windows, sustainability, and much more Includes easy-to-follow information for troubleshooting problems Contains dozens of new full-color illustrations Presents new chapters on solar power and smart home technologies Helps

homeowners save money on many common household repairs. Written for homeowners with little or no knowledge of home

maintenance or repair, *How Your House Works* is your illustrated and updated guide to

understanding how appliances, electrical, plumbing, heating, air conditioning, and more work!