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Reading time 4 min 19 sec

# Hej, my lovely Bookworm!

Yay! I'm back — from a turbulent\* vacation — and the much-needed time off.

I was leaving at the end of August for a 1-week vacation with a packed fitness and workout schedule.

Not sure if I should say where or not because I'm afraid you'll stalk me next time I go there.

(Kidding! I'd love to run into you, my lovely Bookworm. Assuming you're not one of the few who've been emailing me **some very weird stuff lately.**)

More because the destination has become such a cliché and the place I found is a hidden gem and sort of secret escape.

Especially this summer.

It seems like every entrepreneur/ freelancer/business owner/self-employed/ influencer/ digital nomad/ author or creative is currently in this region of the world, sitting on white sands beach looking at the clear, clean water, visiting hidden bays of the nature reserve, counting jellyfish or lying in a roofed wicker beach chair, pouting tragically over-inflated lips for the camera.

If you don't know **what region I'm talking about**, let's just say, that if I post any selfies from there, I'll probably have the Baltic Sea behind me and a plate of fish delicacies like a German \*Fischbrötchen\* (fish bun) and a glass of cold Radler (shandy) in the foreground.

And, as always, I'll be wearing never the same thing every day. (Ya know I like the Mix 'n' Match style).

(Especially not, when to switch sports apparel 4 times a day. Starting at 8 a.m. with 90 minutes of power walking on the beach followed by 90 minutes of Yoga\*\* and the same after lunch on repeat.)

I don't know in advance *which* fabric thing I want/need to wear due to the changing weather conditions, which is why I overpack.

TBH, I overpack — *always*.

I didn't write this #LoveLetterToBookworms in advance, but I know myself well enough to tell you with certainty that before I even started packing...

And that when I do, I'll sit on my carry-on suitcase and grunt and sweat and swear while trying to zip it. (That's why I use soft luggage — flexible and foldable trolleys or a roll travel bag with 4 wheels and a telescopic handle and not hard shell suitcases.)

Those who've seen me doing this were shaking their head and saying, "Can't even watch."

And I'll say, "I need *options*."

Luckily, there's an outer pocket on the trolley for my digital devices, which means I don't have to decide if I'm bringing them or not.

Anyway, I'm torn.

I've front-loaded all my ideas for this #LoveLetterTo Bookworms and put it on a list, so I don't have to think about them while I'm away.

But I do like to keep up my daily habit of writing things down, especially since there's so much more to write about **when I travel**.

At least you'll have a story.

And who knows, I might feel like writing a fresh #LoveLetterToBookworms from you-know-where. (**You do know, right?** Write me back and ask if not!)

You'll hear from me, either way.

Ah, before I go... here are the 3 bullet points from my what-I-wanted-to-tell list:

- **Better be ready for higher (de)fences:** Publishers, Literary agents, Foreign Rights and Licensing peeps are about to change their submission guidelines (I did already.) and will ask: "Can you prove

your book (cover, artwork etc.) is not AI-generated?"

- **Artists aren't happy:** An author and agent publicly said AI's writing unauthorized books being sold/reviewed under her name on Amazon/Goodreads. Amazon's first response was frightening: "Please provide us with any trademark registration numbers that relate to your claim." When she posted a well-read thread on X, formerly known as Twitter, several authors responded saying they'd had similar experiences. Not having a trademark for your own name, could mean, online platforms can close your 'complain case' and say the AI-generated or copycat books won't be removed from sale. Be alert!

**Update:** Amazon has issued new AI guidelines for its KDP platform.

- **Are your Google Docs safe from AI training?** Google states that it doesn't use any of your content but I've seen authors writing on X, that they noticed otherwise. Be aware, that *Google Workspace* has an AI that is *a/ways* reading the content you write on it. Remember nothing is private on the internet.

And finally, wish me luck with that zipper. The zipper pull came off – now I'm trying to fix or replace it. ;)

Is there something you wanted to tell or ask me? Just hit reply.

With endless love and encouragement, 

xoxo

Claudia — your global book publishing co-pilot

\*I had a car breakdown in the middle of nowhere and the car help service ADAC I'm a member of ('General German Automobile Club' – Europe's largest automobile association) couldn't find me.

A special 'Thank You!' goes to ... the Bavarian strangers who helped me. The couple did everything they could to help (he was a craftsman, roofer and car specialist and she was there to comfort me), staying to wait so that I wasn't alone in a creepy situation until the ADAC arrived after hours to help me. (Cash only help! But this is another story...)

Anyway, I cannot thank enough those two for stepping in and helping. They instantly restored my faith in the kindness of strangers.

**\*\*** For the very first time I attended a Yoga class. (I'm always trying new things and learning new things.) I thought it was all “Oh, ah...show yer bra...” To my surprise Yoga did what doctors couldn't: Since my **serious rollerskating accident** (meniscus was torn) I often had a swollen knee, could hardly walk and had to wear a knee sleeve. This excellent Yoga practice (Yin Yoga and Hatha Yoga) that included deep stretches helped to relieve my knee injury pain.

**P.S.** My travel bag may not close properly at the moment, but applications for my **RISE & SHINE Submissions | The Wittmann Agency** absolutely will — on 31. October.

If you've missed the notifications about it, everyone's classic favourite is **HERE**.

I won't be sending multiple E-Mails to remind you. If you think you want in, **APPLY NOW!** And if you know for sure you want in, can't hurt to drop me a note or let me know right in your application.

Unlike with online dating, being overly enthusiastic or energetic helps your chances with The Wittmann Agency. So, don't wait!

I'm an ex-corporate girl, a creative and global book publishing and licensing expert and the host of the Love Letter To Bookworms. Welcome to my virtual living room!

For occasional and awesome social updates, here is where to find me on X, formerly known as **Twitter** – **YouTube** – **Pinterest** – **Xing** – **Kress** – **Linktr.ee** –and **VGSD** (Member of the Association of Founders and Self-employed in Germany) and in your **E-Mail** (Love Letter To Bookworms).





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Thank you for reading and sharing, xoxo Claudia





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