

Peter Bieri

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# HOW DO WE WANT TO LIVE?

From the series "Keeping Uncalm"

Klappenbroschur, 96 Pages, 140 x 220

ISBN: 9783701715633

€ 20,00 incl. VAT

Release date: 06.09.2011

The philosopher and author Peter Bieri aka Pascal Mercier explores central questions of human existence.

We all want to determine our own lives. Our dignity and happiness depend on it. What exactly does that mean? Our thoughts, feelings and actions are based on the circumstances of our life stories. What does it mean to be able to change our lives instead of just letting life happen to us? What role does self-awareness play in all this? When do others help the process of self-determination and when do they become obstacles? How are self-determination and cultural identity connected? And what role can literature play in all this? Bieri's contemplations in this book are a sequel to his observations in "Handwerk der Freiheit" (2001).

## PETER BIERI

born 1944 in Bern, has been a professor for Analytical Philosophy at the Freie Universität Berlin. Previously he also worked as a professor in Heidelberg, Bielefeld and Marburg. He is a member of the Göttinger Akademie der Wissenschaften, has received the Lichtenberg-Medaille and was appointed honorary doctor of Universität Luzern. Under the pseudonym Pascal Mercier, Bieri published four novels including "Nachtzug nach Lissabon" and "Lea". He has received the Marie-Luise Kaschnitz Prize and the Premio Grinzane Cavour for his literary work.