

Writers in Stuttgart

Monthly Meeting on January 10th, 2026

Chair: Kat Breeden

Minutes taker: Andrea

Attendees: Andrea, Stefan, Kat B, Marco, Cindy, Erica (online), Barbara (online), Katharine Schmid, Jaemee

TOP 1: Introductions

TOP 2: 2027 Public Reading Dates & venues

TOP 3: Possible themes for 2027 public readings

TOP 4: Prompt options by Barbara – alternatively: write what you're working on

TOP 5: Round of critiques

TOP 6: Yearly Membership Dues of 35€ per person

TOP 7: Monthly Meeting Dates 2026

TOP 8: Next Month's issue: Our Website

TOP 1: Introductions

Jaemee from the US, spouse of US military, nurse presently not working in Germany;

Stefanel from Romania (but we may call him Stefan), nurse, working in Germany since 2021;

Andrea, in the group for twelve years, enjoys public readings of this group;

Kat B from the US, teacher;

Marco Pawlidis (27), first-time public reading last fall, writes horror fiction;

Cindy (66), concerned about AI as a motivation killer, memoir in cooking, teacher;

Erica (79), maybe writing micro prose rather than an official memoir;

Barbara from Jamaica, a plotter of poems, teaches English and writing, is a mother and a gardener, getting a death dooler certification;

Katharine S., from New York, in the group for over a decade, freelance editor, translator German to English, in Germany for 27 years, mostly poetry, wants to collect some of her stories

TOP 2: 2027 Public Reading Dates & venues

Generally, we've agreed on having April and October readings.

Katharine S. talked to Helen Pavel at Dreigroschen Theater, who suggested for the Writers in Stuttgart to present on Saturday, April 10th or Sunday, April 11th. The members present at today's meeting would prefer Friday, May 8th or Saturday, May 9th, Friday, June 12th and Saturday, June 13th.

Cindy says that even though N.E.A.T. had cuts, we could also ask Merlin directly if we decided to want to ask Merlin. Maybe we could consider this for 2027.

Forum hasn't replied to Jadi's request.

The DAZ is expected to reply to Andrea, who will then send an e-mail to everybody who is on the 2027 WiS members mailing list.

TOP 3: Possible themes for 2027 public readings

The members present made the following suggestions:

Transformations (2) & **Witness (6)** ("I see. You see. I see you see. You see me see."), Dumbfounded (1), Lost & Found (1), Legacy, **Scream Time (7)**, Visions & Revisions (0), Devotion (1), Transcendence (1), Can someone hear me when AI is so loud?, **Natural Intelligence (4)**, Face Time (1), Governing by Reality T.V. (0)

Final vote:

Witness (6); Scream Time (1); Natural Intelligence (3)

TOP 4: Prompt options by Barbara – alternatively: write what you're working on (25mins)

Terrence Hayes: "Taffeta" poem in his book "So to Speak": "You're not you for long. I'm not trying to change the world. I'm trying to change myself. So that the world will seem changed." **OR:**

"In the beginning..." We are at a time where we have to transcribe our own beginnings and to imagine something new.

Sharing prompt results:

Stefan: Happy birthday to the 96th birthday! Eulogy. On your tombstone will be written what you have accomplished. The version of you, you carried more than 60 years ago.

Cindy: Change the world. Be careful what you wish for. Worse is always possible. "It's all my fault" – tattooed on my forehead for five decades. Self-optimization. Longevity. Balance. A benign dictator. Trust.

Barbara: Requiem. A time of teeth. A time of tears. Between a rock and a hard place – be water.

TOP 5: Round of critiques

#1: Erica: ‘Playing well alone’ (memoir); ‘Why I sleep poorly’ (on a kid having nightmares)
‘In the beginning...I probably slept like a baby.’ Lying on a pile of dead bodies.

TOP 6: Yearly Membership Dues of 35€ per person

Members who have paid:

1. Barbara
2. Erica
3. Jadi
4. Andrea
5. Stefan
6. Jaemee
7. Marco

After January 17th, 2026, Andrea will contact Tom Coats to update the membership roster of the website, create a new password.

TOP 7: Monthly Meeting Dates 2026

January 10th, February 28th, March 21st, April 18th, May 9th, June 13th, July 11th, 2026.

TOP 8: Next Month’s issue

Our Website