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By the time you read my editorial, Labour Weekend is over. With a little bit of luck the weather improved, and we could spend it in the garden, planting those tomatoes that traditionally have to be planted on Labour Weekend. Friends told me that in their childhood, Labour Weekend was the beginning of the swimming season; however, I can't see me go for a swim any time soon.

Something else will start soon, though: the visitors' season. My first visitors will come in early November, the next ones in mid November, the third confirmed visitors in January - and in between probably some who were not quite sure yet and some I don't even know of. Of course I look forward to see old friends; old in this context does not necessarily mean that the friends are old; it's rather the age of the friendship. It feels so good to catch up with old friends. We keep in touch by phone and by email and by old-fashioned letters, but going for a bushwalk together or having a picnic on the beach or a cup of coffee in the garden and having long evenings together is still the best way to keep our friendships alive.

There are other visitors, too: former neighbours' cousins' daughters' friends' sons for example, people you never met in Switzerland and don't particularly want to meet now, but they have your address, and you cannot say no, and sometimes you are not even asked. To be fair: Most of these strangers turn out to be pleasant enough; they come, you have a day or two together, and they go. They might send you a postcard or a few photos when they are back in their own country, thanking you again - and that's it. But every now and again one of these cousin's neighbours' daughter's son's friend strikes a chord, and you find a precious new friend. No, you don't 'find' a new friend; this new friendship is an unexpected, exhilarating wonder. Some wonders really do happen - if we let them.

Trudi

Gratisbücher!

Bö: So simmer!
Nico: Wer lacht, hat mehr vom Lesen
Traugott Vogel: De Baschi bin Soldate
Dr. med. Wilhelm zur Linden: Das gesunde Kind (1963)
Das kranke Kind (1963)
Minnie Randell: Erziehung zur Geburt (1949)
Katzensinne - was sie fühlen, denken, lieben, kommentiert von Kater Francis
Ferdinand Brunner: Wie sag ich's meiner Katze?
Antony Alpers: Delphine, Wunderkinder des Meeres
Joy Adamson: Die Löwin Elsa und ihre Jungen

Kreative Schweiz; Grosser Fotopreis der Schweiz (1978)
Rudolf Pörtner: Bevor die Römer kamen
Friedrich Salzmänn: Bürger für die Gesetze (1949)
Walt Disney: Die Wüste lebt
Loren Eiseley: Von der Entstehung des Lebens und der Naturgeschichte des Menschen
Isaac Asimov: Geschichte der Biologie
Alvin Toffler: Der Zukunftsschock

Da muss doch einfach etwas darunter sein, was man lesen möchte! Wem darf ich ein Päckli schicken? Phone, write or email me with your request.

Trudi Brühlmann

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