

# Diogenes

Benedict Wells  
*The Truth About Lying*

Published by Diogenes as *Die Wahrheit über das Lügen*  
Original title: *Die Wahrheit über das Lügen*

## Book factsheet

General Fiction  
256 pages  
11.6 x 18.4 cm  
September 2018

World rights are handled by Diogenes

Film rights are handled by Diogenes

**Rights currently sold:**  
Dutch (Meulenhoff Boekerij)  
French (Slatkine)

### Bestseller

# 9 Spiegel Bestseller

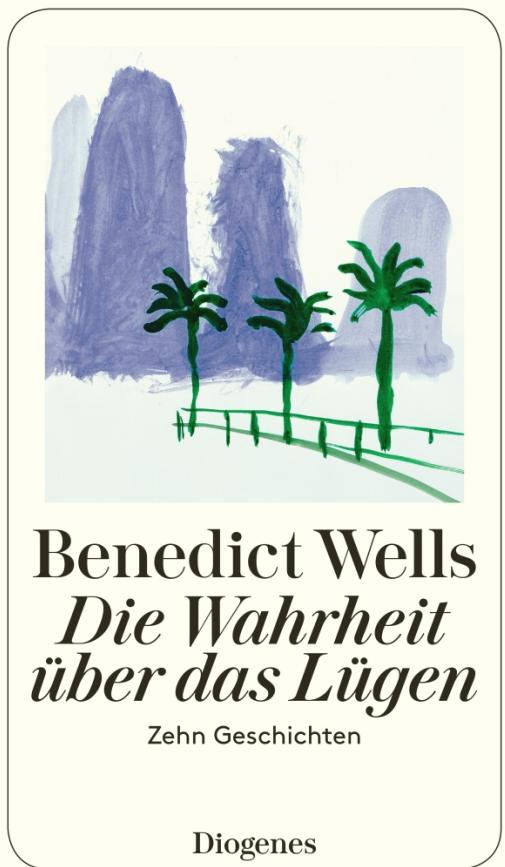
### Movie adaptation

#### *Becks letzter Sommer*

Director: Frieder Wittich  
Screenplay: Oliver Ziegenbalg  
Cast: Christian Ulmen, Nahuel Pérez Biscayart,  
Eugene Boateng, Friederike Becht, Fabian  
Hinrichs

### Awards

- 2022 >Deutscher Jugendliteraturpreis< in der Kategorie *Preis der Jugendjury für Hard Land*
- 2022 Platz 3 für *Hard Land* beim >LovelyBooks-Leserpreis< in der Kategorie *Literatur*
- 2022 Benedict Wells wurde neu in das PEN-Zentrum Deutschland aufgenommen.
- 2021 *Hard Land* ist >Das Lieblingsbuch< des Deutschschweizer Buchhandels
- 2021 *Hard Land* für >Lieblingsbuch der Unabhängigen< nominiert
- 2020 *Die Wahrheit über das Lügen* auf der Shortlist für den Literaturpreis >Text & Sprache< des Kulturreises deutsche Wirtschaft
- 2018 >Euregio-Schüler-Literaturpreis< für *Vom Ende der Einsamkeit*
- 2016 >Literaturpreis der Europäischen Union< Deutschland an Benedict Wells für *Vom Ende der Einsamkeit*
- 2016 >Buchpreis Familienroman< der Stiftung Ravensburger Verlag für *Vom Ende der Einsamkeit*
- 2016 >Lieblingsbuch der Unabhängigen< anlässlich der Woche unabhängiger Buchhandlungen (WUB) in Deutschland für *Vom Ende der Einsamkeit*
- 2016 >DER LESERPREIS< Bronze-Auszeichnung bei Lovelybooks.de für *Vom Ende der Einsamkeit*
- 2016 >Bronze-< Auszeichnung in der Kategorie >Buch des Jahres< für *Vom Ende der Einsamkeit*, gewählt von den Buchmarkt-Lesern
- 2009 >Bayerischer Kunstförderpreis< in der Sparte Literatur u. a. an Benedict Wells für seinen Debütroman *Becks letzter Sommer*



Ten great stories written over ten years provide multifaceted insights into how a writer develops. Touching, surprising and tragic, funny, wise and fun – Benedict Wells can turn his hand to anything. These are stories about everything and nothing. Stories about the misfortune of being free, and about a woman facing an existential decision. About a place where no one goes voluntarily, yet which still becomes a home. About a struggling present-day screenwriter catapulted back to the New Hollywood of 1973, giving him four years's time to steal the most famous movie idea of the 20th century. Last but not least a story from the world of *The End of Loneliness*, that casts a light on a dark family secret. Ten very different stories from a world in which lies, dreams truths flow together. By turns touching, funny, surprising, and often unforgettable.



Photo: © Roger Eberhard

Benedict Wells, born in Munich in 1984, moved to Berlin after completing school and focused on his writing, earning a living with various jobs. His fourth novel, *The End of Loneliness*, spent more than a year and a half on the *Spiegel* Bestseller list, was awarded the 2016 »European Union Prize for Literature«, among other awards, and has been published in 38 languages. His latest novel *Hard Land* was awarded the independent young adult jury's »German Youth Literature Award« in 2022. After several years in Barcelona, Benedict Wells now lives in Zurich.

## Praise

### *The Truth About Lying*

»Stories which effortlessly portray all the facets of the human condition.« – kjk / Münchener Merkur, 2018-10-19

»Ten everyday and fantastical stories with a quiet but lasting after-effect. [...] Magical.« – Cosmopolitan, Munich

»It is hard to say which story appeals the most, they are all very well written [...].« – Manuela Haselberger / Freie Presse Chemnitz

»He manages to debate big emotional themes without any pathos.« – Carsten Schrader / kulturnews, Hamburg

»And all of this in a laconic and exact tone, which I like so much about Benedict Wells.« – Klaus Sturm with Kristian Thees / SWR 3, Stuttgart

## Benedict Wells

»This 23-year-old Berliner is the shooting star in Germany's young literary scene: a multi-talented virtuoso with a touch of madness.« – Jan Drees / 1Live, Cologne

»Benedict Wells is probably the biggest talent our country has seen in the past few years.« – Kester Schlenz / Stern, Hamburg

»The German Wunderkind« – Paula Coccozza / The Guardian, London

<p><b>The Stories Inside Us.</b> 416 pages 2024</p> <p>Roman · Diogenes</p>	<p><b>Hard Land</b> 352 pages 2021</p> <p> </p>	<p><b>The End of Loneliness</b> 368 pages 2016</p> <p> </p>	<p><b>Almost Ingenious</b> 336 pages 2011</p> <p></p>
<p><b>Spinner</b> Roman · Diogenes</p>	<p><b>Beck's letzter Sommer</b> 464 pages 2008</p> <p> </p>		
<p><b>Crank</b> 320 pages 2009</p>			