

# Diogenes

Lukas Hartmann & Julia Dürr (Ill.)  
*The Magic Braces*

Published by Diogenes as *Die magische Zahnspange*  
Original title: *Die magische Zahnspange*



The new stroke of genius from the Swiss bestselling author Lukas Hartmann is a fast-paced adventure novel and an exciting guessing game for young heroes – for all the children who have ever had dental braces – or who ever wanted them.

Who has not wished they could finally be good at school? Know the capital of Madagascar, how many kilos a hippopotamus weighs and how many grams an earthworm. It is a little odd that shy Tobi suddenly knows all the answers after he gets his dental braces. His classmates, at first full of surprised admiration, soon get suspicious, and Tobi also starts to find the whole thing uncanny.

About the dream of being a hero, and the question of who to trust – other people or ourselves?

Children's book for ages 10 and above

## Book factsheet

Children's books  
240 pages  
11.6 x 18.4 cm  
October 2018

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### 🎬 Movie adaptations

#### 2007: *Die Prinzessin von Sansibar*

Director: Tina Diaz

Screenplay: Tina Diaz

Cast: Dokumentarfilm mit Spielszenen

#### 1992: *Anna annA*

Director: Greti & Jürgen Brauer Kläy

Screenplay: Lukas & Greti Kläy Hartmann

Cast: Lea Hürlimann, Wanda Hürlimann, Ilona Schulz

#### 1989: *Pestalozzis Berg*

Director: Peter von Gunten

Cast: Gian Maria Volonté, Rolf Hoppe, Mathias Gnädinger, Corinna Harfouch

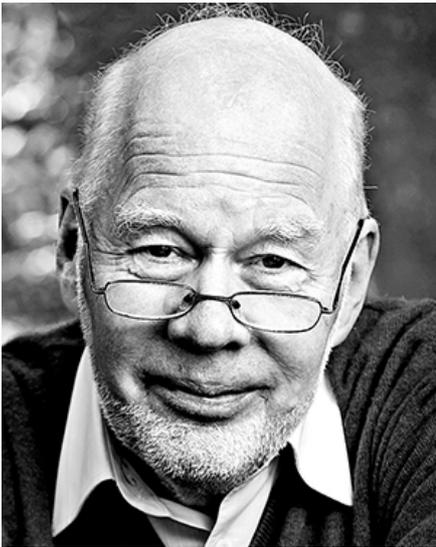
### 🏆 Awards

- 2018 ›Literaturpreis‹ Kanton Bern für *Ein Bild von Lydia*
- 2016 Generationenbuchpreis ›Prix Chronos‹ für *Mein Dschinn*
- 2010 ›Grosser Literaturpreis von Stadt und Kanton Bern‹ für sein Gesamtwerk
- 2010 ›Sir Walter Scott-Literaturpreis‹ für *Bis ans Ende der Meere*
- 2001 Ehrenliste des Österreichischen Kinder- und Jugendbuchpreises: *Leo Schmetterling*
- 1996 Preis der Schweizerischen Schillerstiftung für *Die Mohrin*
- 1995 Schweizer Jugendbuchpreis für *So eine lange Nase*
- 1995 ›Luchs 108‹ von *Die Zeit* und Radio Bremen für *Die Mohrin*
- 1993 Buchpreis der Stadt Bern für *Die Seuche*
- 1988 Werkjahr der Pro Helvetia sowie von Stadt und Kanton Bern für *Einer stirbt in Rom*
- 1983 Werkjahr der Pro Helvetia für *Aus dem Innern des Mediums*
- 1980 Buchpreis der Stadt Bern für *Pestalozzis Berg*
- 1980 Buchpreis der Schillerstiftung für *Pestalozzis Berg*

### Praise

Lukas Hartmann

›Lukas Hartmann develops great poetic power, full of sensibility and eloquent silence.«  
– Neue Zürcher Zeitung



**Praise (cont'd)**

»Lukas Hartmann immerses himself totally in his characters. He has a particular interest in figures who are in danger of being swallowed up by history. He is driven by a strong sense of justice, empathy and meticulousness.« – Beatrice Eichmann-Leutenegger / Neue Zürcher Zeitung

»A virtuoso of the historical novel.« – Charles Linsmayer / NZZ am Sonntag, Zurich

»Lukas Hartmann knows how to write history in a way that puts the present in a different light.« – Augsburgs Allgemeine

Lukas Hartmann, born in Berne in 1944, studied German and psychology. He was a teacher, journalist and media consultant. Today, he is a freelance writer living in Berne, writing books for adults and children. He is one of Switzerland's best-known authors and his novels regularly feature on the bestseller lists.



**Wild Sophie**  
256 pages  
2017



**My Djinn**  
208 pages  
2014  
🏆 Award winner  
📈 Bestseller



**All the Missing Things**  
96 pages  
2011



**Such a Long Nose**  
208 pages  
2010  
🏆 Award winner



**Anna annA**  
288 pages  
2009  
🎬 Movie Adaptation