

# Diogenes

Lukas Hartmann  
*The Plague*

Published by Diogenes as *Die Seuche*  
Original title: *Die Seuche*



Lukas  
Hartmann  
*Die Seuche*

Roman · Diogenes

A village in the 14th century. For weeks, rumours have been heard about a terrible disease. And then it reaches the village. The helpless people try to stop the dying through faith, superstition and magic. Nobody knows why so many die and only a few survive. A young girl, Hanna, and her brother, Matthis, bury their grandmother and, although it is forbidden, flee into the forest. On the way, they meet a flagellant procession, and Matthis joins the religious fanatics, while Hanna continues her flight. She finds refuge with an old, silent fisherman, for whom she sells fish on the market. There, she repeatedly sees a child who smiles at her. She soon has the feeling that she must follow this mysterious child ...

## Book factsheet

Contemporary Literature  
224 pages  
11.3 x 18 x 1.4 cm  
April 2009

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**Translation rights currently sold:**  
Italian (Armando Dadò)

### 📺 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 ›Sir Walter Scott-Literaturpreis‹ für *Bis ans Ende der Meere*
- 2010 ›Grosser Literaturpreis von Stadt und Kanton Bern‹ für sein Gesamtwerk
- 2001 Ehrenliste des Österreichischen Kinder- und Jugendbuchpreises: *Leo Schmetterling*
- 1996 Preis der Schweizerischen Schillerstiftung für *Die Mohrin*
- 1995 ›Luchs 108‹ von *Die Zeit* und Radio Bremen für *Die Mohrin*
- 1995 Schweizer Jugendbuchpreis für *So eine lange Nase*
- 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

*The Plague*



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.

**Praise (cont'd)**

»The plague in the 14th century. A seemingly remote time becomes a distant mirror: This is a great and captivating book.« – Der Bund, Berne

**Lukas Hartmann**

»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

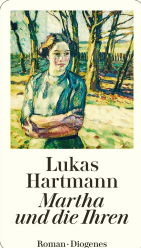
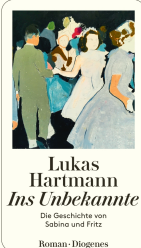
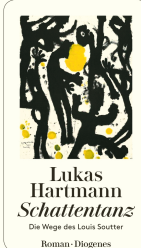
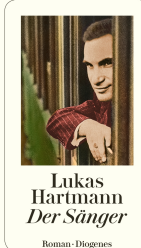



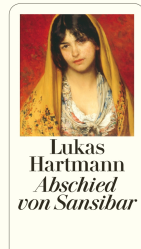
»Lukas Hartmann develops great poetic power, full of sensibility and eloquent silence.« – Neue Zürcher Zeitung

»Lukas Hartmann has an incredible affinity to the world of children.« – Carol Rosa / Berner Zeitung

»Lukas Hartmann's ability to see the world through a child's eyes is outstanding.« – Hits for Kids, Gustavsburg

»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.« – Augsburgener Allgemeine

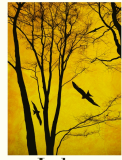
 <p><b>Lukas Hartmann</b> <i>Martha und die Ihren</i> Roman · Diogenes</p>	 <p><b>Lukas Hartmann</b> <i>Ins Unbekannte</i> Die Geschichte von Sabina und Fritz Roman · Diogenes</p>	 <p><b>Lukas Hartmann</b> <i>Schattentanz</i> Die Wege des Louis Stutter Roman · Diogenes</p>	 <p><b>Lukas Hartmann</b> <i>Der Sänger</i> Roman · Diogenes</p>
<p><i>Martha and Her Kin</i> 304 pages 2024 🏆 <b>Bestseller</b></p>	<p><i>Into the Unknown</i> 288 pages 2022 🏆 <b>Bestseller</b></p>	<p><i>Shadow Dance</i> 256 pages 2021 🏆 <b>Bestseller</b></p>	<p><i>The Singer</i> 288 pages 2019 🏆 <b>Bestseller</b></p>
 <p><b>Lukas Hartmann</b> <i>Ein Bild von Lydia</i> Roman · Diogenes</p>	 <p><b>Lukas Hartmann</b> <i>Ein passender Mieter</i> Roman · Diogenes</p>	 <p><b>Lukas Hartmann</b> <i>Auf beiden Seiten</i> Roman · Diogenes</p>	 <p><b>Lukas Hartmann</b> <i>Abschied von Sansibar</i> Roman · Diogenes</p>
<p><i>A Picture of Lydia</i> 368 pages 2018 🏆 <b>Award winner</b> 🏆 <b>Bestseller</b></p>	<p><i>A Suitable Tenant</i> 368 pages 2016 🏆 <b>Bestseller</b></p>	<p><i>On Both Sides</i> 336 pages 2015 🏆 <b>Bestseller</b></p>	<p><i>Goodbye to Zanzibar</i> 336 pages 2013 🎬 <b>Movie Adaptation</b> 🏆 <b>Bestseller</b></p>



Lukas  
Hartmann  
*Der Konvoi*

Roman · Diogenes

The Convoy  
208 pages  
2013



Lukas  
Hartmann  
*Räuberleben*

Roman · Diogenes

A Robber's Life  
352 pages  
2012

🏆 Bestseller



Lukas  
Hartmann  
*Finsteres  
Glück*

Roman · Diogenes

Dark Bliss  
320 pages  
2010

🏆 Bestseller



Lukas  
Hartmann  
*Pestalozzi's  
Berg*

Roman · Diogenes

Pestalozzi's Mountain  
208 pages  
2009

🏆 Award winner  
🎬 Movie Adaptation



Lukas  
Hartmann  
*Bis ans Ende  
der Meere*

Roman · Diogenes

To the End of the Sea  
496 pages  
2009

🏆 Award winner  
🏆 Bestseller