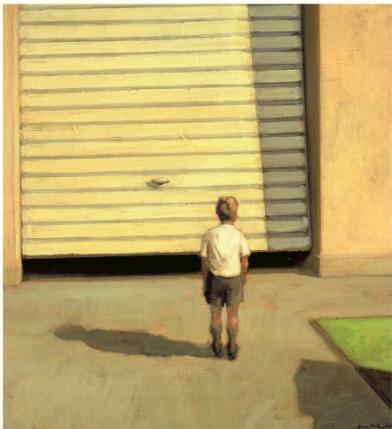


# Diogenes

Lukas Hartmann  
*Dark Bliss*

Published by Diogenes as *Finsternes Glück*  
Original title: *Finsternes Glück*



## Lukas Hartmann *Finsternes Glück*

Roman · Diogenes

A moving novel about security and loss, about family bonds which we cannot escape and those of our own making. 11 August, 1999 – total eclipse of the sun. Like thousands of others, a family of five drives to Alsace where the natural spectacle is particularly impressive. Only the youngest son, however, returns from this excursion alive. In the night Eliane Hess, psychologist and single mother, is called to the hospital: eight-year-old Yves, miraculously unscathed, is in shock. He chatters nervously on and on – just not about what really matters. What does he remember of the accident? Did his father smash the car into the tunnel wall on purpose? Piece by jigsaw piece, Eliane is discovering a picture of a family headed towards catastrophe with their eyes open. And it is becoming increasingly difficult to keep a professional distance. Yves's fate horrifies and fascinates Eliane – in the same way the Isenheim Altarpiece has since her youth, of which it is said that a solar eclipse is represented on its first panel. When a tug-of-war over the boy's future begins between his relatives, Eliane reaches an unorthodox decision that will irrevocably change her life and that of her two daughters.

## Book factsheet

General Fiction  
320 pages  
11.6 x 18.4 cm  
September 2010

Contact:  
Susanne Bauknecht, Rights Director,  
[susanne.bauknecht@diogenes.ch](mailto:susanne.bauknecht@diogenes.ch) and Suzanne Hégelé, Film Rights Manager,  
[suzanne.hegele@diogenes.ch](mailto:suzanne.hegele@diogenes.ch)

### Bestseller

Swiss Bestseller

### Movie adaptations

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

Director: Tina Diaz  
Screenplay: Tina Diaz  
Cast: Dokumtarfilm 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

*Dark Bliss*

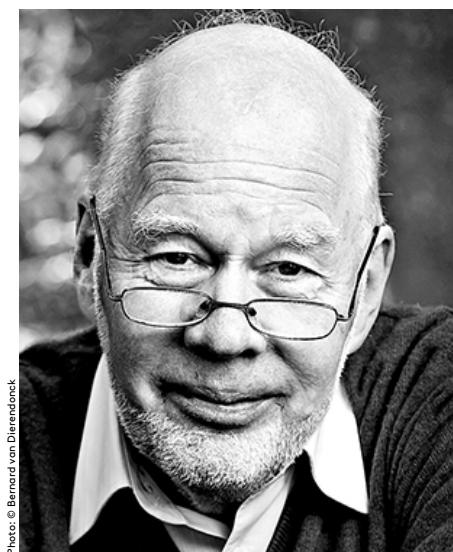


Photo: © Bernard van Dierendonck

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)

»Lukas Hartmann is writing about the psychic injuries of this child with the sure instinct of someone who has written great children books for years.« – Westdeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung, Essen

Lukas Hartmann

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

»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.« – Augsburger Allgemeine

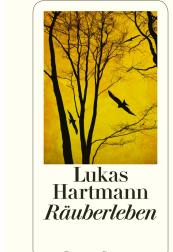
<b>Lukas Hartmann Martha und die Ihnen</b> Roman · Diogenes	<b>Lukas Hartmann Ins Unbekannte</b> Die Geschichte von Schön und Fette Roman · Diogenes	<b>Lukas Hartmann Schattentanz</b> Die Wege des Louis Seutter Roman · Diogenes	<b>Lukas Hartmann Der Sänger</b> Roman · Diogenes
Martha and Her Kin 304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



Lukas  
Hartmann  
*Der Konvoi*

Roman · Diogenes

The Convoy  
208 pages  
2013



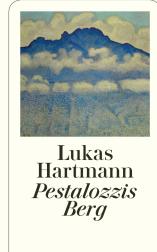
Lukas  
Hartmann  
*Räuberleben*

Roman · Diogenes

A Robber's Life  
352 pages  
2012



Bestseller



Lukas  
Hartmann  
*Pestalozzi's Berg*

Roman · Diogenes

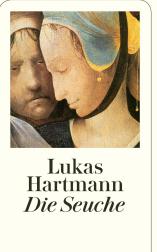
Pestalozzi's Mountain  
208 pages  
2009



Award winner



Movie Adaptation



Lukas  
Hartmann  
*Die Seuche*

Roman · Diogenes

The Plague  
224 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