

Diogenes

Benedict Wells *Beck's Last Summer*

Published by Diogenes as *Becks letzter Sommer*
Original title: *Becks letzter Sommer*



Benedict Wells *Becks letzter Sommer*

Roman · Diogenes

Beck is not a man to be envied. His music career came to nothing, his safe job as a teacher bores him to tears, and his love life is a disaster. And then he discovers an incredible musical talent: his student Rauli Kantas from Lithuania. Now the mysterious boy's manager, he sees a second chance – but he has no idea what he's letting himself in for... A tragicomic novel about missed opportunities and dreams grown old, about love, Bob Dylan and a road trip to Istanbul. A magical summer where everything appears possible again.

Book factsheet

Contemporary Literature
464 pages
11.6 x 18.4 cm
September 2008

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Translation rights currently sold:

Dutch (Meulenhoff)
French (Slatkine)
Italian (Salani)
Norwegian (Press)
Polish (Muza)

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 Benedict Wells wurde neu in das PEN-Zentrum Deutschland aufgenommen
- 2022 Platz 3 für *Hard Land* beim ›LovelyBooks-Leserpreis‹ in der Kategorie *Literatur*
- 2021 *Hard Land* für ›Lieblingsbuch der Unabhängigen‹ nominiert
- 2021 *Hard Land* ist ›Das Lieblingsbuch‹ des Deutschschweizer Buchhandels
- 2020 *Die Wahrheit über das Lügen* auf der Shortlist für den Literaturpreis ›Text & Sprache‹ des Kulturkreises deutsche Wirtschaft
- 2018 ›Euregio-Schüler-Literaturpreis‹ für *Vom Ende der Einsamkeit*
- 2016 ›DER LESEPREIS‹ 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*
- 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*
- 2009 ›Bayerischer Kunstförderpreis‹ in der Sparte *Literatur* u. a. an Benedict Wells für seinen Debütroman *Becks letzter Sommer*

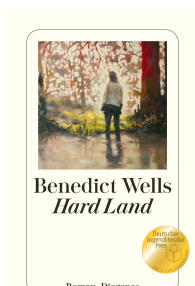


Benedict Wells, born in Munich in 1984, moved to Berlin after completing school and focused on his writing, earning a living with various jobs. His fourth novel, *The End of Loneliness*, spent more than a year and a half on the *Spiegel* Bestseller list, was awarded the 2016 ›European Union Prize for Literature‹, among other awards, and has been published in 39 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.



The Stories Inside Us
400 pages
2024

🏆 **Bestseller**



Hard Land
352 pages
2021

🏆 **Award winner**
🏆 **Bestseller**



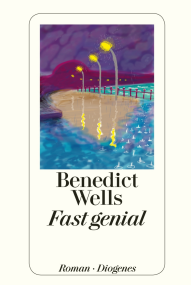
The Truth About Lying
256 pages
2018

🏆 **Award winner**
🏆 **Bestseller**



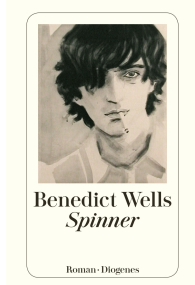
The End of Loneliness
368 pages
2016

🏆 **Award winner**
🏆 **Bestseller**



Almost Ingenious
336 pages
2011

🏆 **Bestseller**



Crank
320 pages
2009

Praise

Beck's Last Summer

»The wonderful lightness of the story and the wit as well as the sad humour of the situations are touching.« – Igor Eberhard / Slam, Vienna

»An astounding debut. Wells tries a lot in his first book and the reader follows him with pleasure.« – Regula Freuler / Neue Zürcher Zeitung

»The most interesting debut of the year.« – Florian Illies / Die Zeit, Hamburg

»This is an author who really understands his trade. Benedict Wells adopts a new, effortless tone in his debut.« – Florian Illies / Die Zeit, Hamburg

»Benedict Wells wrote a highly entertaining piece of literature that reads like a mixture between Sven Regener and Leon de Winter.« – Peter Henning / Spiegel Online, Hamburg

»Amazing how Benedict Wells twists suspense and surprises into his story.« – Volker Hage / Der Spiegel, Hamburg

»This one's telling with heart and passion. His name is worth remembering.« – Thomas Schmitz-Albohn / Gießener Anzeiger

»An amazing story about the appetite of failing and the burden of brilliancy, about overwhelming feelings and fussy everyday-problems. Funny and surprisingly wise.« – Lilo Solcher / Augsburgener Allgemeine

»Unbelievable how such a young author understands to fill his words with wisdom.« – Stefan Rammer / Passauer Neue Presse

»One of the best novels this fall.« – Carsten Schrader / U_mag, Hamburg

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

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

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

»If you want to convince a young person that reading is fun, you'd best offer him a book by Benedict Wells.« – NRC Handelsblad, Amsterdam