

Diogenes

Hartmut Lange
A Different Kind of Happiness

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Hartmut
Lange
*Eine andere
Form
des Glücks*

Novelle · Diogenes

»Truth lies in disappearance«, a puzzling sentence which runs through the book like a leitmotif and poses many questions. Corinna Mühlbauer, the reticent girlfriend of the renowned Berlin structural engineer Kippenberger, throws doubt not only on her relationship with Kippenberger but also on the marriage of their friends, a dentist couple called Dahlhaus. How does she do it? How does she, who is so often silent and apparently uninvolved, manage to irritate the people around her and plunge them into despair? She is there one minute and gone the next, vanished as if into thin air. The truth lies in disappearance...

It is not clear why Corinna suddenly refuses to marry Kippenberger, why she always takes the same route to the Grunewald lake, and why the moon over the lake is visible in the south-east at first, and then in the north-west.

The perspectives are confused, nothing is in its right place. The marriage carousel starts slowly to revolve, until Corinna finds the man who she believes understands her »different kind of happiness«. In this mysterious subtle book, Hartmut Lange penetrates spaces far beyond the hectic life of the Berlin metropolis. In brilliantly dense and laconic language, he describes people willing to embark on tortuous paths in their search for happiness.

Book factsheet

Contemporary Literature
144 pages
11.6 x 18.4 cm
September 1999

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Translation rights currently sold:
Catalan (Quaderns)
Spanish/world (Quaderns)

Awards

- 2016 2016/2017 mit dem »Rom-Preis«
verbundenes Stipendiat in der
Deutschen Akademie Rom Villa
Massimo
- 2005 Drei Monate lang Stipendiat der
Hermann-Hesse-Stiftung in Calw
- 2004 »Literatur-Nord-Preis« für *Leptis Magna*
- 2003 »Italo-Svevo-Preis«
- 2000 »Kester-Häusler-Ehregabe« der
Deutschen Schillerstiftung von 1859 für
das Lebenswerk
- 1998 »Literaturpreis« der Konrad-Adenauer-
Stiftung
- 1995 *Schnitzlers Würgeengel* »Buch des
Monats« Mai der Darmstädter Jury
- 1989 »Prix de la littérature traduite« für *Die
Waldsteinsonate*
- 1968 »Gerhart-Hauptmann-Preis«
- 1966 »Förderpreis« der Niedersächsischen
Landesregierung

Praise

A Different Kind of Happiness

»Hartmut Lange is a master of story-telling.« –
Deutsche Welle, Cologne

Hartmut Lange

»His novellas are master narratives about the
magical force of shadows creeping up
unnoticed.« – Hans-Dieter Schütt / (German
journalist)

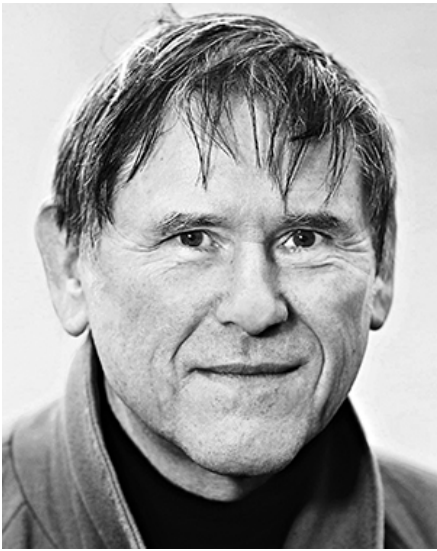
»The master of linguistic stringency.« –
Kristina Maidt-Zinke / Süddeutsche Zeitung,
Munich

»A minimalist with far-reaching effect.« –
Hans-Christian Kosler / Neue Zürcher Zeitung

»Hartmut Lange deserves being read with
particular attention because he clearly differs
from loud drummers, such as Grass or Boll, on
the other side of the Rhine. One feels reminded
of the plays by Maeterlinck and Wedekind.« –
Alain Bosquet / Le Figaro, Paris

»The fragile elegance of his style is unmatched
in contemporary literature.« – Werner Fuld /
Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

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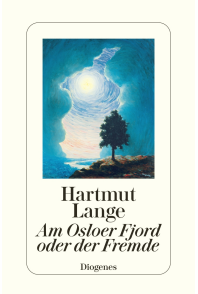
Praise (cont'd)

»The master among the fantastical rationalists.« – Edelgard Abenstein / Deutschlandradio Kultur, Berlin

Hartmut Lange, born in Berlin in 1937, studied theatrical production. He has been honoured with several awards for his plays, essays and prose. His most recent publication is the volume of novellas *At the Oslo Fjord or The Stranger*. He is now a freelance writer and lives in Berlin.



The Roughly Forty-Year-Old Man
128 pages
2025



At the Oslo Fjord or The Stranger
112 pages
2022



The Courtyard
96 pages
2020



On the Prorer Wiek and Elsewhere
128 pages
2018



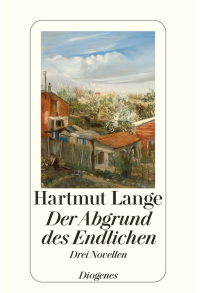
The View from the Window
112 pages
2015



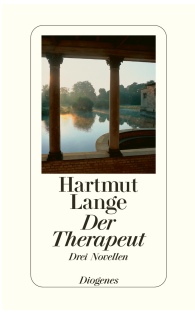
The House on Dorothea Street
128 pages
2013



In the Museum
128 pages
2011



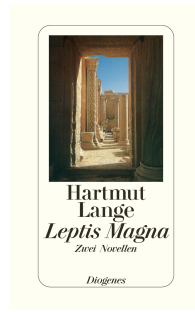
The Abyss of the Finite
144 pages
2009



The Therapist
160 pages
2007



The Wanderer
128 pages
2005



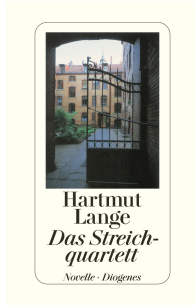
Leptis Magna
176 pages
2003
🏆 **Award winner**



Collected Novellas
1152 pages
2002



Knowledge from Error
208 pages
2002



The String Quartet
144 pages
2001



The Educational Trip
128 pages
2000



The ›Waldstein‹ Sonata
112 pages
1984
🏆 **Award winner**