

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
11.3 x 18 cm
May 2026

Contact:

Susanne Bauknecht, Rights Director,
susanne.bauknecht@diogenes.ch and Suzanne
Hégelé, Film Rights Manager,
suzanne.hegele@diogenes.ch

🎬 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*

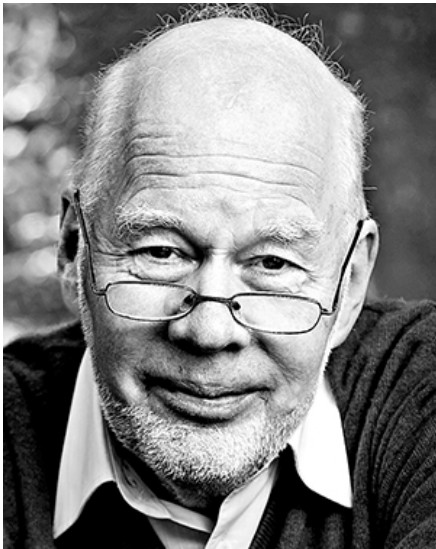
Director: Peter von Gunten
Cast: Gian Maria Volonté, Rolf Hoppe, Mathias
Gnädinger, Corinna Harfouch

🏆 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

Lukas Hartmann



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 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

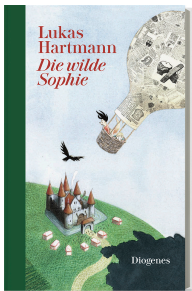
»Lukas Hartmann develops great poetic power, full of sensibility and eloquent silence.« – Neue Zürcher Zeitung

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

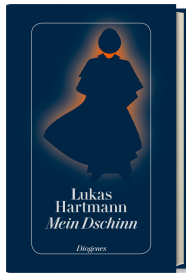
»Lukas Hartmann's ability to see the world through a child's eyes is outstanding.« – Hits for Kids, Gustavsburg

»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



Wild Sophie
256 pages
2017



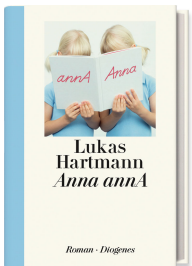
My Djinn
208 pages
2014
🏆 Award winner
📈 Bestseller



All the Missing Things
96 pages
2011



Such a Long Nose
208 pages
2010
🏆 Award winner



Anna annA
288 pages
2009
🎬 Movie Adaptation