

# Diogenes

Charles Lewinsky  
*Kastelau*

Published by Diogenes as *Kastelau*  
Original title: *Kastelau*



Charles  
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*Kastelau*

Roman · Diogenes

A man stands on Hollywood's Walk of Fame and destroys a star with a pickaxe. Why did he do it? The affair leads back to the winter of 1944: under the pretext of shooting a propaganda film, a Berlin film team sets off into the Alps. But in the village of Kastelau, the filming of an invented story increasingly becomes the invented story of a filming.

## Book factsheet

Contemporary Literature  
416 pages  
11.3 x 18 x 2.2 cm  
April 2021

World rights are handled by Diogenes

Film rights are handled by Diogenes

**Rights currently sold:**  
Russian (Ivan Limbakh)

### Awards

- 2020 *Der Halbbart* auf der Shortlist des ›Schweizer Buchpreises‹
- 2020 *Der Halbbart* auf der Longlist des ›Deutschen Buchpreises‹
- 2020 ›Dreitannen-Literaturpreis‹ des Buchfestivals Olten
- 2016 *Andersen* auf der Shortlist des ›Schweizer Buchpreises‹
- 2014 *Kastelau* auf der Longlist des ›Deutschen Buchpreises‹
- 2011 *Gerron* für den ›Schweizer Buchpreis‹ nominiert
- 2009 ›Prix Lipp‹ für *Melnitz*, Genf
- 2008 ›Best Foreign Novel‹ für *Melnitz*, Foreign Literature Learned Society, Peking
- 2008 ›Prix du meilleur livre étranger‹ für *Melnitz*, Paris
- 2007 *Melnitz* wird als ›Bester deutscher Roman 2006‹ von der ›Jury für den besten fremdsprachigen Roman des Jahres im 21. Jahrhundert‹ in China ausgezeichnet.
- 2001 ›Preis der Schweizerischen Schillerstiftung‹ für *Johannistag*

### Praise

#### *Kastelau*

»A tragicomic story about love and betrayal, about ambition and cowardice.« – Manfred Papst / NZZ am Sonntag, Zurich

#### Charles Lewinsky

»Rare linguistic splendour and striking narrative virtuosity.« – Andreas Isenschmid / NZZ am Sonntag, Zurich

»Lewinsky has a deft feel for drama; you get the impression he has a field day setting the readers on one track and then drawing them onto another.« – Süddeutsche Zeitung, Munich

»Charles Lewinsky is a literary jack of all trades. Wilding a sharp pen and with a keen eye he moves between different genres in a virtuoso manner. He has dedicated his life to words and today is one of the most read Swiss authors.« – Kurt Aeschbacher / SRF 1, Zurich

»Charles Lewinsky is probably one of the hardest-working and undisputedly one of the most successful and versatile Swiss writers.« – Martin Ebel / Süddeutsche Zeitung, Munich



Charles Lewinsky, born in Zurich in 1946, has been a freelance writer since 1980. He won international renown with his novel *Melnitz*, which was awarded numerous prizes, including the French ›Prix du meilleur livre étranger‹. His novel *Halfbeard* was nominated for both the ›Swiss Book Prize‹ and the ›German Book Prize‹. His works have been published in 16 languages. Charles Lewinsky lives in Vereux (France) in summer, and in Zurich in winter.

### Praise (cont'd)

»Charles Lewinsky is a rascal in literature who masters all styles and eras.« – Rolf Fath / Badische Neueste Nachrichten, Karlsruhe

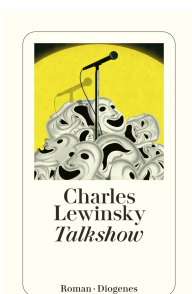
»The versatile star of contemporary Swiss literature.« – Hansruedi Kugler / Aargauer Zeitung, Aarau

»Above all, though, the tradition, the storytelling itself is always part of the narrative; this is the allure of the multi-layered works.« – Peter Zander / Berliner Morgenpost, Berlin

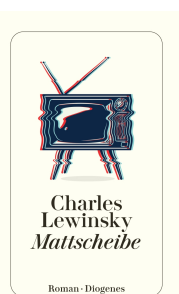
»Charles Lewinsky is the Swiss author with the broadest range when it comes to forms of expression.« – Felix Mürger / Radio SRF2 Kultur, Basel

»Charles Lewinsky has a sure instinct for dramaturgy. Immensely entertaining.« – Helmut Maurò / Süddeutsche Zeitung, Munich

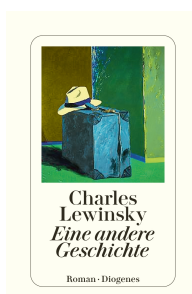
»Lewinsky is a gifted writer.« – Reza Rafi / Blick, Zurich



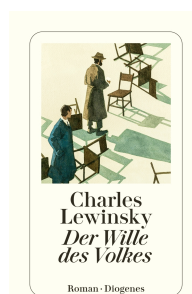
*Talkshow*  
240 pages  
2026



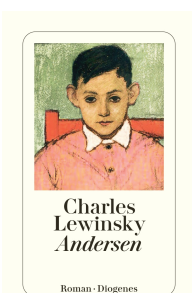
*Telly*  
240 pages  
2026



*A Different Story*  
416 pages  
2026



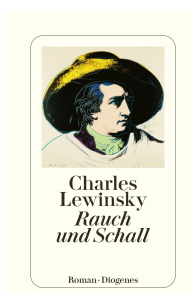
*The People's Will*  
416 pages  
2026



*Andersen*  
608 pages  
2026



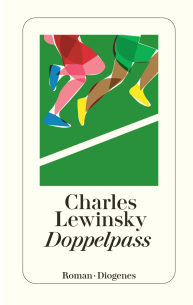
*Deceptively Real*  
352 pages  
2024  
**Bestseller**



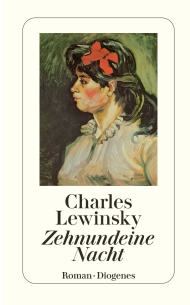
*Smoke and Sound*  
304 pages  
2023  
**Bestseller**



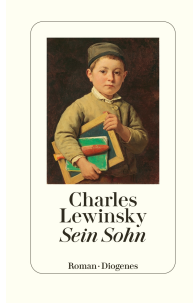
*The Devil on Christmas Night / The Good Lord on Inspection Day*  
88 pages  
2023



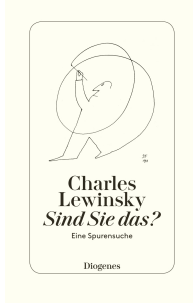
*Give-and-Go*  
384 pages  
2023



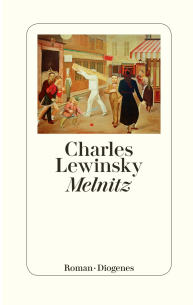
*Ten and One Nights*  
240 pages  
2023



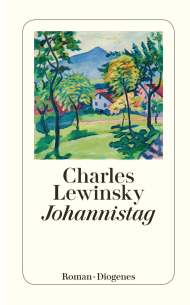
*His Son*  
368 pages  
2022  
**Bestseller**



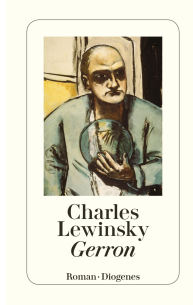
*Is that You?*  
288 pages  
2021



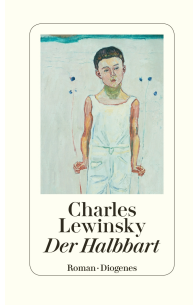
*Melnitz*  
944 pages  
2021



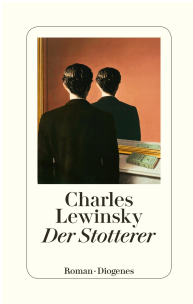
*Midsummer's Day*  
368 pages  
2021



*Gerron*  
704 pages  
2021



*Halfbeard*  
688 pages  
2020  
**Award winner**  
**Bestseller**



*The Stutterer*  
416 pages  
2019  
**Bestseller**