

# Diogenes

Charles Lewinsky  
*His Son*

Published by Diogenes as *Sein Sohn*  
Original title: *Sein Sohn*



Charles  
Lewinsky  
*Sein Sohn*

Roman · Diogenes

Louis Chabos grew up in a children's home in Milan. After his battlefield experiences during Napoleon's Russian campaign, he wants only one thing: to settle down to a comfortable life at long last and build a family. In Grisons, in eastern Switzerland, he finds the small piece of happiness he has hoped for. But he squanders it when his desperate urge to track down his unknown father lures him to Paris, where he seeks his destiny amid the splendour and the misery.

## Book factsheet

Contemporary Literature  
368 pages  
11.6 × 18.4 × 2.4 cm  
September 2022

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**Rights currently sold:**  
Arabic (Al-Arabi)

**📈 Bestseller**

#1 Swiss Bestseller

**🏆 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

*His Son*

»Existential philosophy was never more entertaining or moving.« – Roman Bucheli / Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Zurich

»Throughout the novel, he makes us participate closely in the desperate fight for origins – right up to the end and even beyond it.« – Felix Mürger / SRF 2 Kultur, Zurich

»The novel expertly links historical events with the psychological dimension of the search for identity.« – Tagblatt der Stadt Zürich, Zurich

»In *His Son*, Lewinsky shows once again how adeptly he has mastered literature's original form.« – Felix Mürger / SRF 2 Kultur, Zurich

»The novel's breath-taking tension is also attributable to Lewinsky's powerful eloquence, which is rooted in minimalism.« – Christiane Oelrich / Freie Presse, Chemnitz



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)

»His Son by Charles Lewinsky is enjoyable entertainment from childhood to kingdom.« – Martin Oehlen / Frankfurter Rundschau, Frankfurt

»An anti-fairy tale, therefore; like so many fairy tales, it begins in a sinister way then finds a fairy tale ending – but is still far from over.« – Peter Zander / Berliner Morgenpost, Berlin

»He also shines a light into the very depth of people's souls and precisely depicts the dark depths and motivations he finds there.« – Clementine Skorpil / Die Presse Online, Vienna

»Poverty, war, disease and the French Revolution provide the soundtrack to which Lewinsky narrates Louis Chabos' incredibly moving fate.« – Heinz Storrer / Schweizer Familie, Zurich

»A highly gripping story, due in part to Lewinsky's narrative eloquence.« – Münchner Merkur, Munich

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

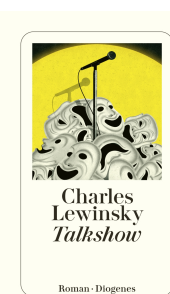
»The versatile star of contemporary Swiss literature.« – Hansruedi Kugler / Aargauer Zeitung, Aarau

»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

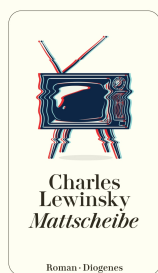
»Charles Lewinsky is the Swiss author with the broadest range when it comes to forms of expression.« – Felix Mürger / Radio SRF2 Kultur, Basel

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

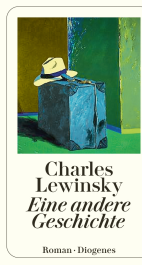
»Lewinsky is a gifted writer.« – Reza Rafi / Blick, Zurich



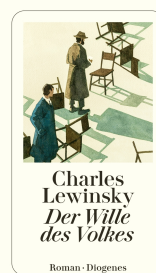
Talkshow  
240 pages  
2026



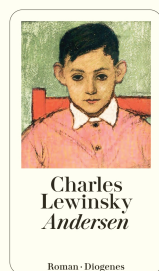
Telly  
240 pages  
2026



A Different Story  
416 pages  
2026



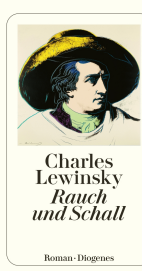
The People's Will  
416 pages  
2026



Andersen  
608 pages  
2026



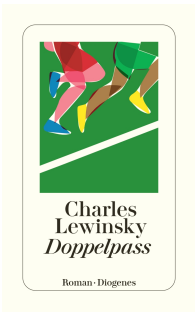
Deceptively Real  
352 pages  
2024  
**Bestseller**



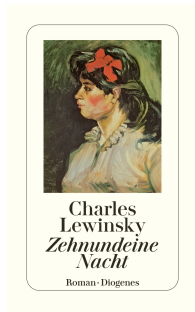
Smoke and Sound  
304 pages  
2023  
**Bestseller**



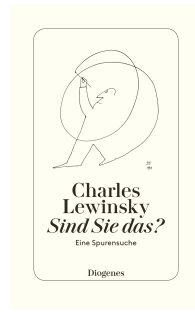
The Devil on Christmas Night / The Good Lord on Inspection Day  
88 pages  
2023



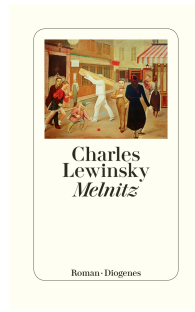
*Give-and-Go*  
384 pages  
2023



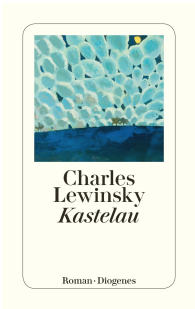
*Ten and One Nights*  
240 pages  
2023



*Is that You?*  
288 pages  
2021



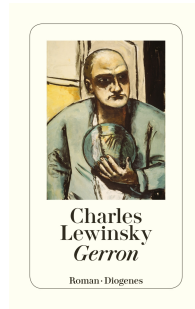
*Melnitz*  
944 pages  
2021



*Kastelau*  
416 pages  
2021



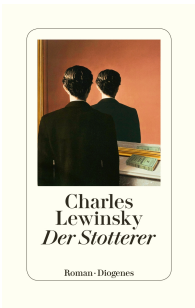
*Midsummer's Day*  
368 pages  
2021



*Gerron*  
704 pages  
2021



*Halfbeard*  
688 pages  
2020  
🏆 Award winner  
📈 Bestseller



*The Stutterer*  
416 pages  
2019  
📈 Bestseller