Diogenes

Book factsheet

Lukas Hartmann
On Both Sides

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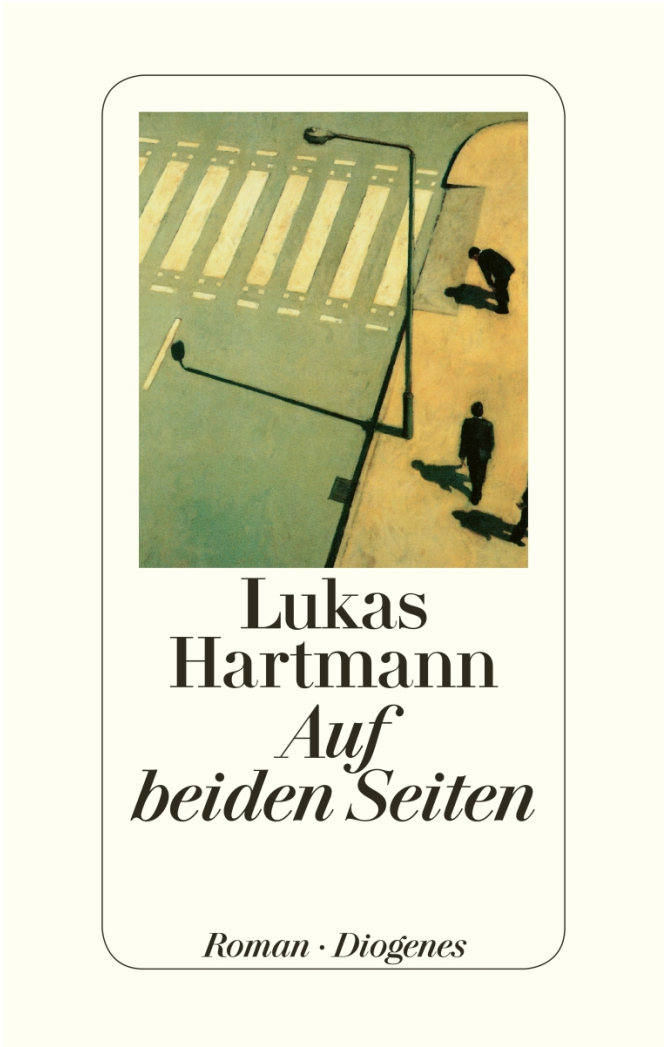


Dr. Armand Gruber always played an imposing role in Swiss journalist Mario's life. Gruber is a man of old school ways. A brilliant German teacher, Swiss Army captain, fervent anti-communist. And for decades, he had been leading a double life. No one suspected anything. Not his wife and not his daughter Bettina, who had rebelled against her father her entire life. Nor his former favourite student and son-in-law Mario, who had to break away from Gruber, in order to become a left-wing journalist. Nor Bettina's best friend Karina, who, as a daughter of a custodian working for the Swiss secret service, grew up in close proximity to Gruber's secret. For he was a member of the secret resistance organisation of the Swiss army, P-26. Now, two decades after the end of the Cold War, Gruber can finally break his silence.

Contemporary Literature
336 pages
11.6 × 18.4 cm
April 2015

World rights are handled by Diogenes

Bestseller

Swiss Bestseller

Movie adaptations

2007: Die Prinzessin von Sansibar
Director: Tina Diaz
Screenplay: Tina Diaz
Cast: Dokumtarfilm 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

On Both Sides

»Credible characters and skilled language.«
– Regula Tanner / Brigitte, Zurich

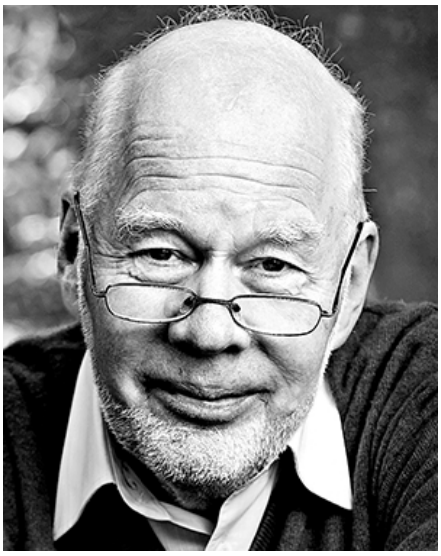
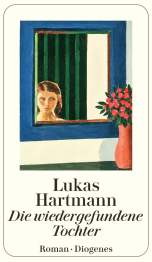


Photo: © Bernard van Dierendonck

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.

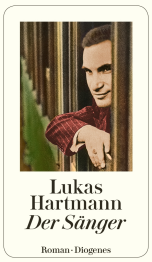


The Lost Daughter
256 pages
2027

Martha and Her Kin
304 pages
2024
Bestseller

Into the Unknown
288 pages
2022
Bestseller

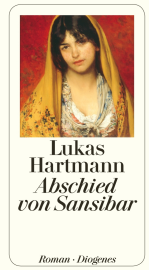
Shadow Dance
256 pages
2021
Bestseller



The Singer
288 pages
2019
Bestseller

A Picture of Lydia
368 pages
2018
Award winner
Bestseller

A Suitable Tenant
368 pages
2016
Bestseller



Goodbye to Zanzibar
336 pages
2013
Movie Adaptation
Bestseller

Praise (cont'd)

»Exciting and revealing reading.« – Stefan Rammer / Passauer Neue Presse

Lukas Hartmann

»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

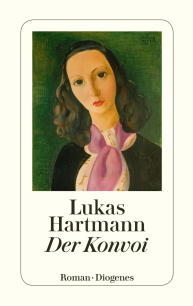
»Lukas Hartmann develops great poetic power, full of sensibility and eloquent silence.« – Neue Zürcher Zeitung

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

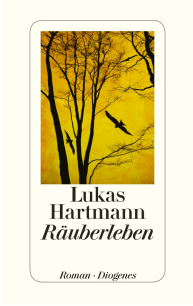
»Lukas Hartmann's ability to see the world through a child's eyes is outstanding.« – Hits for Kids, Gustavsburg

»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.« – Augsburger Allgemeine

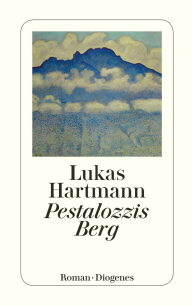


The Convoy
208 pages
2013

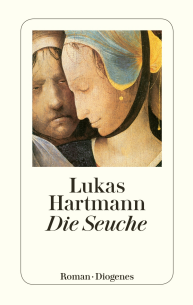


A Robber's Life
352 pages
2012
Bestseller

Dark Bliss
320 pages
2010
Bestseller



Pestalozzi's Mountain
208 pages
2009
Award winner
Movie Adaptation



The Plague
224 pages
2009
Award winner

To the End of the Sea
496 pages
2009
Award winner
Bestseller