



Foreign Rights Publishing House De Geus 2010-2011





Quality is what unites us

In many respects 2010 is an important year for De Geus. It is the year in which thriller author Charles den Tex wrote the gift for June – Month of Crime Fiction. 865,000 copies of his novella *BEYOND CONTROL* were printed. It is an honour and a token of general appreciation for the author that the Dutch Organisation for the Promotion of the Dutch Book asked him to write this gift.

2010 is the year in which we sold the film rights to *THE POWER OF MR MILLER*, also by Charles den Tex. Ten other titles are currently under option with a number of film producers.

In 2010 it was announced that Kader Abdolah is to be the author of the Book Week Gift 2011. Being selected to write this gift is a tribute to the ever-increasing quality and importance of Kader Abdolah's work and to his growing (international) reputation. About one million copies of the novella will be printed. Kader Abdolah's major new novel, *THE KING*, will be published in March 2011.

2010 is also the year in which De Geus attracted more and more (celebrated) Dutch-language authors and journalists and published them successfully. Kristien Hemmerechts, Naema Tahir, Renate van der Zee ... all of them the mouthpiece of their age and all of them authors who fit in excellently at De Geus. Quality is what draws us to them and them to us. Quality unites us.

Sander van Vlerken
Publisher Dutch fiction and nonfiction / rights

Independent publishing house
established in 1983
by Eric Visser

specialized in international and
Dutch literature, crime and
quality nonfiction

ca. 100 new titles per year

voices from different cultures
and backgrounds

Rights List 2010-2011

Bestsellers

Kader Abdolah – THE KING (*De koning*)
Kader Abdolah – THE CROW (*De kraai*)
Marek van der Jagt (Arnon Grunberg)
Esther Gerritsen – SUPER DOVE (*Superduif*)
Kristien Hemmerechts – GITTE (*Gitte*)
Annelies Verbeke – SAVING FISH (*Vissen redden*)
Oscar van den Boogaard – MAJESTY (*Majesteit*)

Crime fiction

Charles den Tex – PASSWORD (*Wachtwoord*)
Charles den Tex – BEYOND CONTROL (*Onmacht*)
Mieke de Loof – CRUEL BEAUTY (*Wrede schoonheid*)

International

Gary Barker – LUISA'S LAST WORDS (*Luisa's laatste woorden*)
Vamba Sherif – BOUND TO SECRECY (*Zwijgplicht*)
Ahmed Al Malik – WITH SAFAA COMES THE RAIN (*Met Safaa komt de regen*)
Fouad Laroui – THE DAY MALIKA DIDN'T MARRY (*De dag dat Malika niet trouwde*)

Fiction

Martin Hendriksma – YEARNING (*Hunkering*)
Naema Tahir – BRIDE OF DEATH (*Bruid van de dood*)
Johanna Spaey – THE LONELINESS OF THE WEST (*De eenzaamheid van het westen*)
Annelies Beck – ACROSS THE CHANNEL (*Over het kanaal*)

Nonfiction

Renate van der Zee – A GIRL FOR DAY AND NIGHT (*Een meisje voor dag en nacht*)
Deedee Derksen – TEA WITH THE TALIBAN (*Thee met de taliban*)

Children

Jaap Robben & Benjamin Leroy – THE SOURBALLS (*De zuurtjes*)



KADER ABDOLAH

A phenomenon in Dutch literature

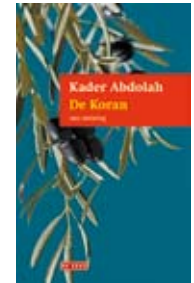
‘Abdolah’s is a powerful voice.’ - *The Times Saturday Review*
on THE HOUSE OF THE MOSQUE

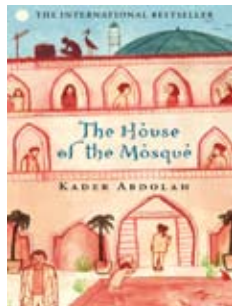
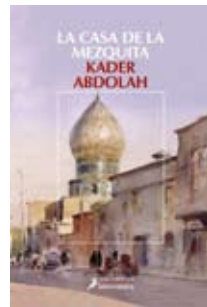
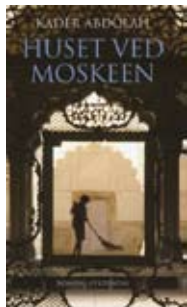
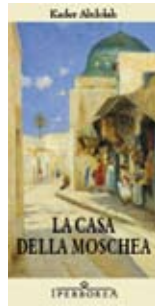
‘What grabs the reader is the incredible intimacy of the characters, the warmth of the relationships, the innate solidarity, the empathy of Iranians, who are no strangers to suffering. An ode to the purest of sentiments.’ - *Paris Match* on MY FATHER’S NOTEBOOK

Kader Abdolah’s (Iran, 1954) first collection of stories appeared in 1993 under the title THE EAGLES, and was followed in 1995 by THE GIRLS AND THE PARTISANS. His first novel, THE JOURNEY OF THE EMPTY BOTTLES, appeared in 1997, and was followed by MY FATHERS NOTEBOOK (2000), PORTRAITS AND AN OLD DREAM (2003) and THE HOUSE OF THE MOSQUE (2005). His dual publication THE MESSENGER and THE KORAN appeared in 2008 and was nominated for the NS Audience Prize.

Abdolah has also published four collections of his columns in *de Volkskrant*: MIRZA, A GARDEN IN THE SEA, CARAVAN and THIS BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY. Abdolah is chosen as **author of the 2011 Book Week Gift**, titled THE CROW, which will have a print run of approx. 1 million copies.

www.kaderabdolah.nl





fiction

ORIGINAL TITLE

De koning

ISBN

978 90 445 1542 8

EDITION

Hardcover, 416 p.

PUBLICATION

March 2011

SALES

Abdolah's work has been sold to over 25 countries such as UK (Canongate), Spain (Salamandra), France (Gallimard), Germany (Claassen), Italy (Iperborea), Sweden (Norstedts), Norway (Gyldendal), Denmark (Gyldendal), and many more.

KADER ABDOLAH

The King

Masterly novel by the international bestselling author

Grand historical novel on a Persian king in the nineteenth century

book

THE KING begins in 1848, when Nasser al-Din Shah ascended to the Persian throne, and runs until 1896 when he was murdered. Nasser al-Din Shah was a born diplomat. In the mid-19th century, it was he who opened up Persia to outside influences. During his reign he promoted technological and educational innovations, such as a postal system, banks, railways and newspapers. He admired the European arts and made it possible for many Persian students to study abroad. Nasser al-Din Shah not only opened Persia's doors to Europe, he was also the very first shah to travel through Europe. Through his story this novel brings to life the interaction between Europe and Persia over a century ago. There are also references to present-day relations.

fiction

ORIGINAL TITLE

De kraai

ISBN

978 90 5965 1234

EDITION

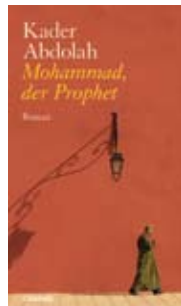
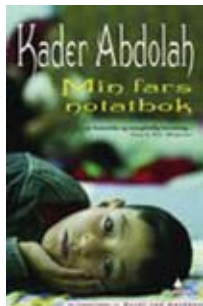
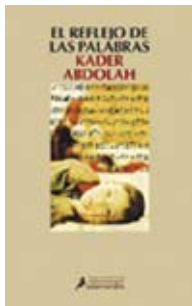
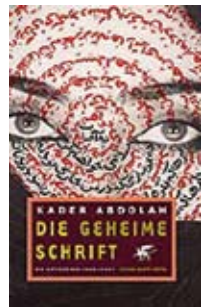
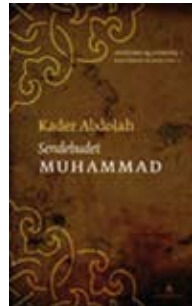
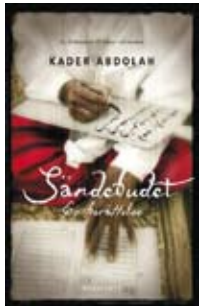
Hardcover, 96 p.

PUBLICATION

March 2011

SALES

Gift novella in commission by the CPNB, for the National Book Week.



KADER ABDOLAH

The Crow

Print run of approx. 1 million copies

The Dutch Organisation for the Promotion of the Dutch Book (CPNB) invited Kader Abdolah to write the Book Week Gift 2011. Under the motto CURRICULUM VITAE – Written portraits, Book Week 2011 will focus on the genre of life stories. Abdolah mastered the Dutch language at a mature age. His work is now counted among the best in Dutch literature.

book A coffee dealer, leading a business on the Lauriersgracht in Amsterdam, divides his time between his work and his passion: writing. During the day he either deals in coffee at fairs, or stands behind the counter of his little shop, above which he and his family live. After closing time he picks up his pen to write stories. Through episodes from his personal life, he recounts how he grew up as a boy in Persia. In the shop, the coffee dealer meets all sorts of people, both Dutch and immigrant. They not only visit for the coffee, but also for a few comforting words from the coffee dealer; words he often borrows from Dutch and Persian literature. By connecting past and present, reality and imagination, reading and writing, truth and untruth, Persia and the Netherlands, the writer creates a new reality.



MAREK VAN DER JAGT

Marek van der Jagt was proclaimed an extraordinary talent from the moment his debut was published by De Geus. In spite of the secrecy surrounding the fact that Marek van der Jagt was **a pseudonym for Arnon Grunberg**, the true identity of the author quickly became the subject of considerable speculation. In his short existence (starting out in 2000 and announcing his demise in an essay written for Philosophy Month in 2005), Marek van der Jagt has inspired more writing than his own pen has produced.



The Story of my Baldness

During a get-together with two young ladies from Luxembourg, a young man residing in Vienna comes to the conclusion that his penis is much smaller than those of other men. His discovery leads to a search for the essence of the amour fou.

Option filmrights sold to Filmhaus Wien, in cooperation with Mr Mud (John Malkovich)

'Wonderful. At times immensely sad, sometimes hilarious and rich.'
– *NRC Handelsblad*

Sold to Switzerland/German rights (Diogenes), Spain (Tusquets), Spain/Catalan rights (Ediciones Empuries), Italy (Instar Libri), Greece (Kastaniotis), Norway (Damm), US/English rights US territory (Other Press), Israel (Babel Publishers), Russia (Stolitsa), Romania (Humanitas)

Gstaad 95-98

François Lepeltier is a beloved sommelier at the Palace Hotel in Gstaad. Then he makes an unforgivable faux pas that will be talked about for a long time. In this novel, François relates in a lucid apology what it was that drove him through the years, how he came to be the way he is, and how he and his mother survived a bizarre ramble past guesthouses and hotels before finally ending up in the luxurious Swiss ski resort of Gstaad.

Nominated for the Libris Literature Prize 2002 and the AKO Literature Prize 2003

'A beautiful book. (...) One is left with no other conclusion than that Grunberg/Van der Jagt, as one of the few, has given the Netherlands a literary voice again.' – *HP/De Tijd*

Sold to Switzerland (Diogenes), Italy (Instar Libri), Spain (Tusquets)



Monogamous

In search of true love, the protagonist fantasizes and tries to fathom the motives of Don Juan; he meets women who always lack something indefinable; he reads Stendhal, Camus, Wedekind, Brink and Constant in an effort to measure their ideas on love against his own. Despite all his efforts, at the end of his quest only one truth remains: loneliness.

A titillating ode to mythical true love that reads like a novella

Sold to Switzerland/German rights (Diogenes), Spain (Tusquets)





fiction

ORIGINAL TITLE

Gitte

ISBN

978 90 445 1727 9

EDITION

Hardcover, 256 p.

PUBLICATION

January 2011

SALES

Previous work of Hemmerechts has been sold to Spain (Intempestivas), France (La Différence, Actes Sud), Germany (Diana, Ullstein), Czechia (Eroika) and more.

KRISTIEN HEMMERECHTS

Gitte

Twin Peaks in a Belgium village

Sensual novel about the myth of innocence

© Eveline Renaud



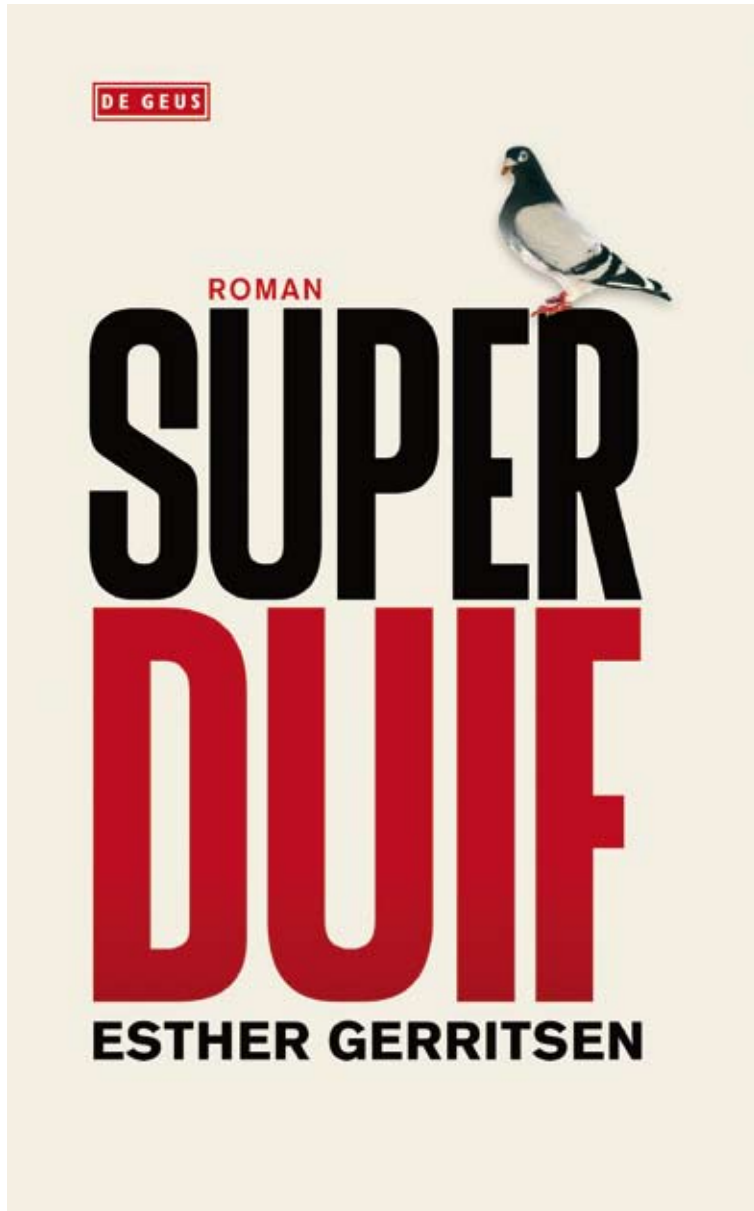
book

Gitte lives with her parents and brothers on a hill outside the village. Their garden borders on a forest, where her great-grandfather Lionel was murdered by poachers. Decades later, stories about the murder are still doing the rounds in the village. The family lives in blissful ignorance, however, until the eldest son Woud starts having delusions about the past. Gitte senses that something is being hushed up and tries to break away. But time and again she stumbles across clues to the hidden past that both entice and frighten her.

bio

Since her debut, *A PILLAR OF SALT*, in 1987, Kristien Hemmerechts (Belgium, 1955) published **more than twenty novels**, short story collections and essays. She won the first Frans Kellendonk Prize for her entire oeuvre. In 1998 she published *LANGUAGE WITHOUT ME*, an autobiographical essay in honour of her husband, the renowned Flemish poet Herman de Coninck, who died in 1997. After her change to publishing house De Geus, she published *DEATH PROPOSED TO ME*, which was very well reviewed and a commercial success.

www.kristienhemmerechts.nl



fiction

ORIGINAL TITLE

Superduif

ISBN

978 90 445 1643 2

EDITION

Hardcover, 192 p.

PUBLICATION

August 2010

ESTHER GERRITSEN

Super Dove

Poignant novel about the logic of madness



© Liesbeth Kuipers

'A writing style that grabs you by the short hairs: clear, rhythmical, brimming with humour and at times acutely insightful in its recounting of her characters' thoughts.' – *de Volkskrant* on SUPER DOVE

book At an early age, Bonnie already knows she is destined to soar above the crowd. When she is eleven, she jumps over a garden gate and finds herself floating for a few seconds. Shortly afterwards she sees her body transform into that of a huge and rather ugly dove. She realises that she now belongs to that select group of heroes who have the ability to avert catastrophe and rescue people from danger. After her feats of heroism Bonnie always changes back into the nondescript young girl she is. Those nearest and dearest to her worry about her growing madness ... all except for her friend Ine, who relies on their friendship.

bio Esther Gerritsen (1972) was already an established playwright when she made her prose debut in 2000 with the collection of short stories *PRIVILEGED CONSCIOUSNESS*. This new departure immediately gained her recognition as one of the great up-and-coming prose talents. With her two subsequent novels, *BETWEEN ONE PERSON* and *NORMAL DAYS*, she more than lived up to those high expectations. In 2003, De Geus also published *PLAYS*, a collection of plays. In 2008 her universally acclaimed third novel *THE SORRY LITTLE GOD* was published.

www.esthergerritsen.nl



fiction

ORIGINAL TITLE

Vissen redden

ISBN

978 90 445 1202 1

EDITION

Hardcover, 192 p.

PUBLICATION

October 2009

SALES

Sold to: Germany
(Mare Verlag),
Tsjechia (Kniha Zlin).

ANNELIES VERBEKE

Saving Fish

‘A love story of giddy proportions.’

– *NRC Handelsblad*

SLEEP! has been sold to more than
twenty countries

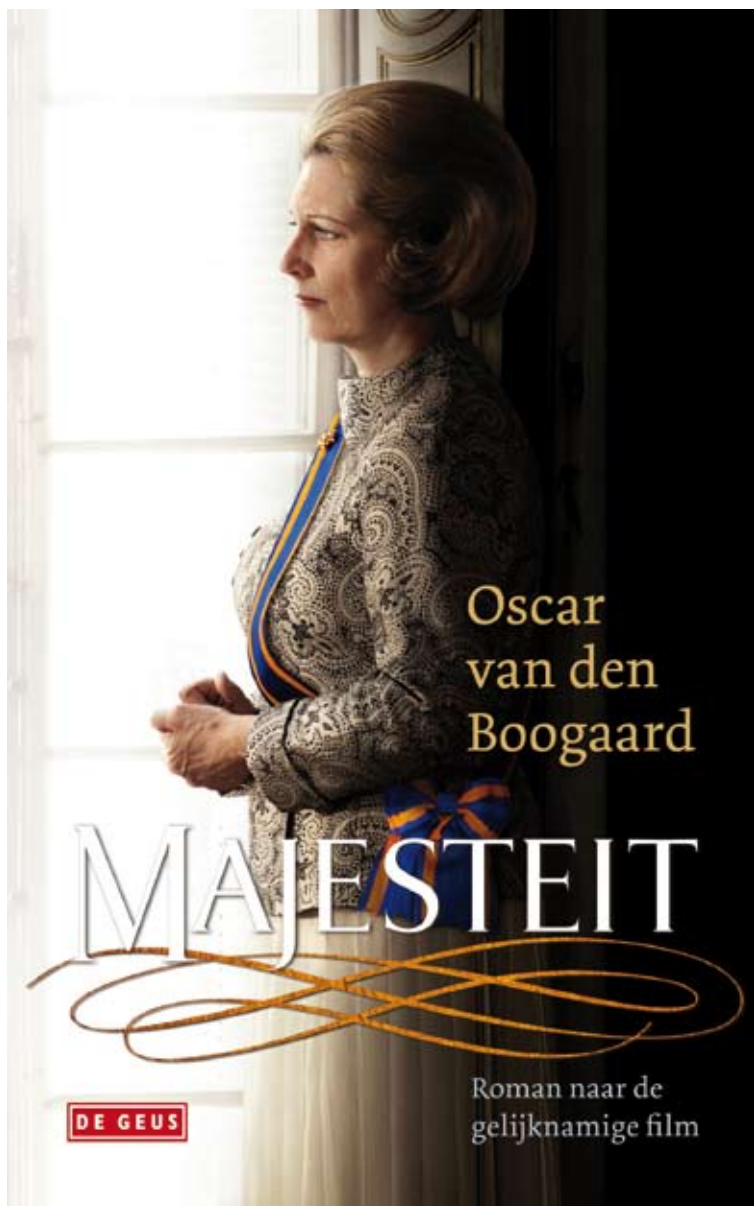
book Writer Monique Champagne has broken with literature. Since her sweetheart left her, she has thrown herself into the campaign against overfishing. Her impassioned newspaper article on the issue doesn't go unnoticed; it gets her invited to international fisheries congresses. Filled with zeal, Monique launches herself into the wonderful world of fisheries activists and maritime researchers. This noble cause justifies her flight from heartache. But can you save the world, if you can't save yourself?

bio Annelies Verbeke (Dendermonde, 1976) made her debut with SLEEP!, of which more than 75,000 copies have since been sold. SLEEP! has been published in translation in more than twenty countries. It was awarded the Woman and Culture Debut Prize, the Flemish Debut Prize and the Gouden Ezelsoor (Golden Dog-Ear) 2005. It was also nominated for the Libris Literature Prize and the AKO Literature Prize. In 2006 Verbeke's second novel GIANT was published, followed in 2007 by GREENER GRASS, a collection of short stories that made the Golden Owl Prize longlist. Besides novels and short stories, Verbeke also writes columns for the Dutch newspaper *NRC Handelsblad*, scripts and plays. SAVING FISH is her fourth book.

www.anneliesverbeke.nl & www.anneliesverbeke.com



© Liesbeth Kuipers



fiction

ORIGINAL TITLE

Majesteit

ISBN

978 90 445 1806 1

EDITION

Hardcover, 224 p.

PUBLICATION

October 2010

SALES

Previous work is sold to Germany (Fischer), UK (Farrar, Straus and Giroux), France (Sabine Wespieser), Spain (Andr s Bello).

OSCAR VAN DEN BOOGAARD

Majesty

Novel about the woman behind Queen Beatrix

MAJESTY gives us a speculative, behind-the-scenes glimpse of the Dutch royal family at a time when the House of Orange is having to show its human side

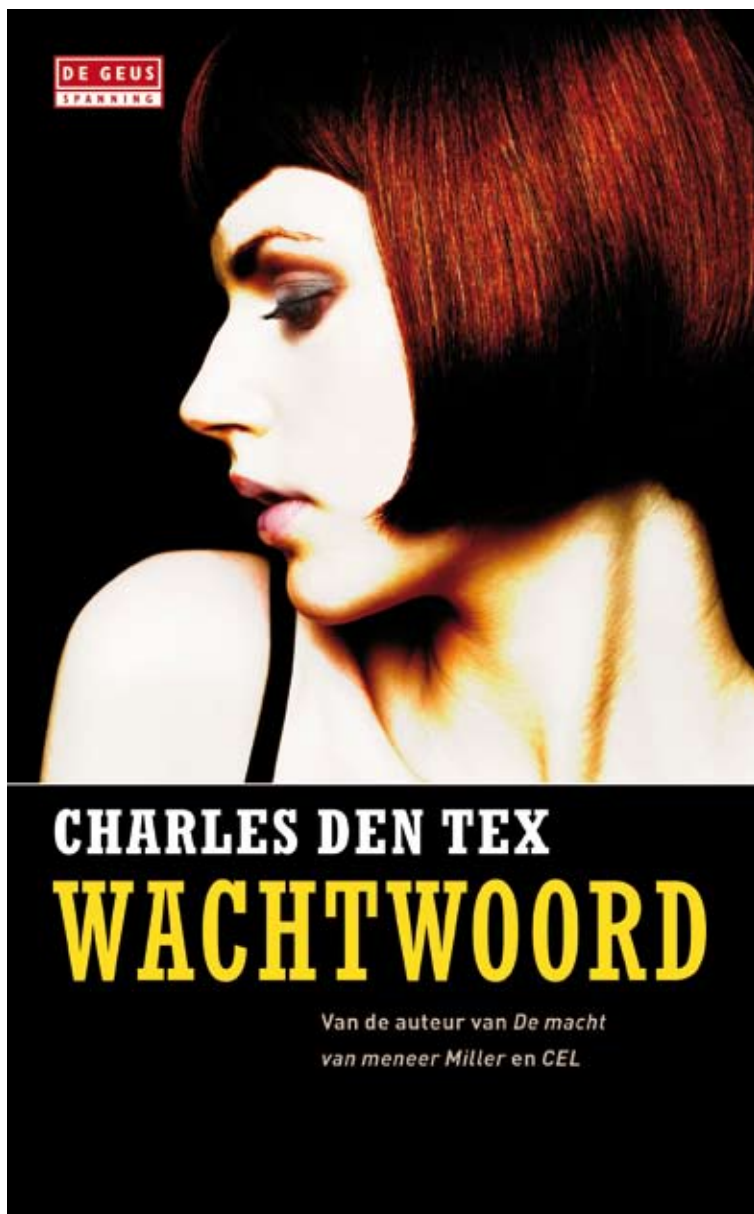
book Traditions, love, sorrow, doubt, intrigue and power. It is the day of the Queen's speech. A year after the death of her beloved Claus, Beatrix is doubting everything: the monarchy, the reliability of her sons, and even herself. Tensions run high when Prime Minister Balkenende wants to revise the Queen's speech at the last moment. Beatrix protests. She's had enough of dancing to the tune of others. The States-General hold their breath. Will Beatrix defend her kingdom? Will she act in its best interest? Tradition, love, sorrow, doubt, intrigue and power. At long last we get to meet the woman behind Queen Beatrix.

Based on Ger Beukenkamp's film scenario Majesty. The film of the same name – produced by Fu Works, IDTV and VARA – premieres on 27 September 2010 at the Utrecht Film Festival. It is directed by Peter de Baan.

bio Since his debut DENTZ (1990), Oscar van den Boogaard (1964) has written eight novels under his own name and two novels under the pseudonyms Emmanuel Lipp and Pearl Sweetlife (with Steven Van Watermeulen). His best known works are JULIA'S DELIGHT, A BED FULL OF FOAM and THE VERTICAL BEACH. In his work, Oscar van den Boogaard shows an extraordinary ability to empathise with women.

© Marleen Daniel





crime novel

ORIGINAL TITLE

Wachtwoord

ISBN

978 90 445 1430 8

EDITION

Hardcover, 352 p.

PUBLICATION

May 2010

SALES

Sold to Germany (Grafit Verlag). Previous titles have been sold to: Germany (Grafit Verlag), Italy (Iperbo-rea), France (Presses de la Cité), and Turkey (Okuyan Us).

CHARLES DEN TEX

Password

‘A book full of riddles [...] well written.’ –
Pieter Steinz in NRC Handelsblad

A four-part television series of *THE POWER OF MR MILLER* will be broadcasted in november 2010, and the film version of *CELL* is planned for 2011.

© Chris van Houts



book Michael Bellicher is confronted with one of the worst things that can happen to a person, the disappearance of a loved one. His girlfriend Guusje van Doonee appears to have vanished. Michael sets out on a search and finds himself so far beyond familiar territory that he's forced to rethink just about everything. The longer it takes, the more intense his search, further and further from home in a country where he doesn't speak the language and doesn't understand how people interact. It is a world in which men live according to hard and rigid rules, in which cruelty is a way of getting things done, nothing more.

Two of modern society's extremes are brought together in *PASSWORD*: the omnipresence of technology and the elusive criminal traffic in human beings.

bio Charles den Tex (Australia, 1952) studied photography and film in London and taught English in Paris. In 1980 he established himself in the Netherlands as a copywriter and later as a communications and management consultant. He has written over ten thrillers, almost all have been **nominated for the Golden Noose**, an award he has now won three times: in 2002 with *CHANCE IN HELL*, in 2006 with *THE POWER OF MR MILLER*, and again in 2008 with its successor *CELL* (also longlisted for the 2009 Libris Literature Prize). *PASSWORD* is the third thriller with protagonist Michael Bellicher.

www.charles-den-tex.nl



crime fiction

ORIGINAL TITLE

Onmacht

ISBN

978 90 445 1683 8

EDITION

Hardcover, 96 p.

PUBLICATION

June 2010



CHARLES DEN TEX **Beyond Control**

‘BEYOND CONTROL is as much a literary novel as it is an exciting gift book. Gabriel García Márquez meets René Appel.’

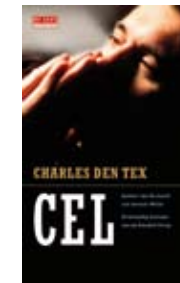
– *8Weekly.nl*

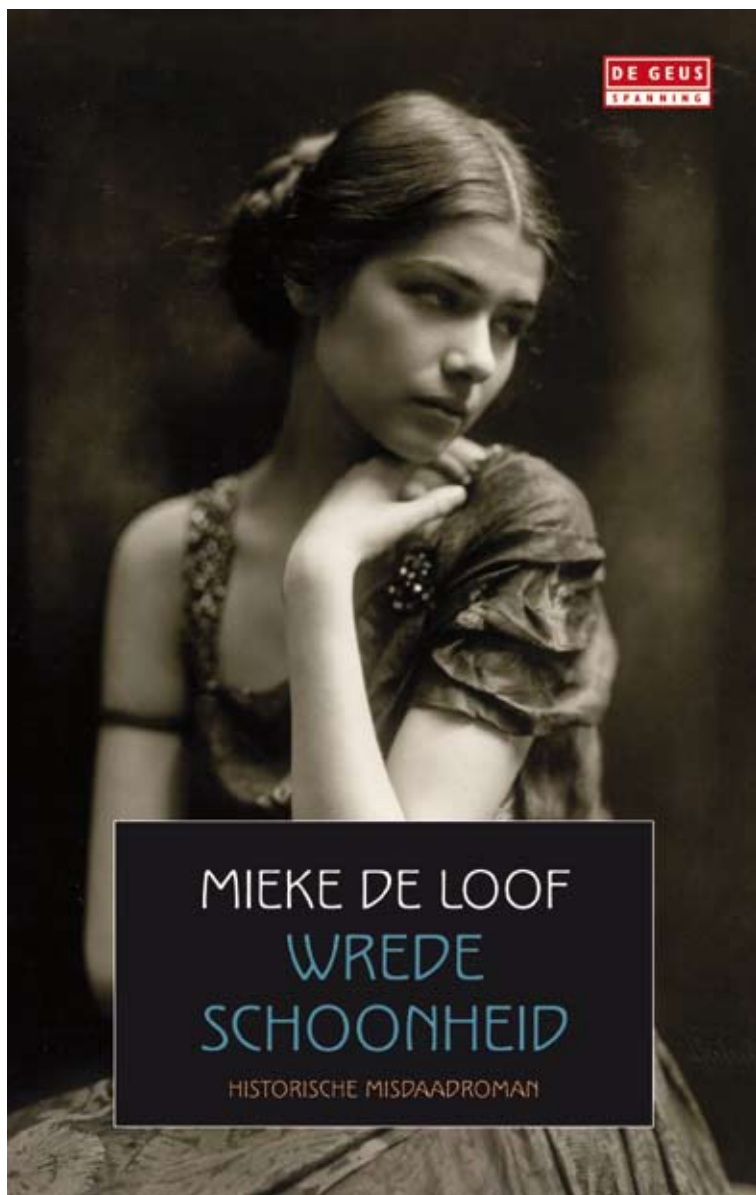
Gift crime novella for June – Month of Crime Fiction 2010

Print run 865.000 copies.

book

BEYOND CONTROL is a haunting story about human shortcomings. Ellen and Victor’s relationship has long since passed the stage of minor irritations. The one’s desire to please the other becomes a habit, the habit becomes a rut, the rut becomes helplessness. One of them tries to ignore the inevitable, hoping things will improve with time. The other has already taken steps to make the situation bearable. When the bomb finally goes off, a divorce seems just as inevitable as it is desirable. But then the story takes a surprisingly gruesome turn.





crime novel

ORIGINAL TITLE

Wrede schoonheid

ISBN

978 90 445 1558 9

EDITION

Hardcover, 224 p.

PUBLICATION

May 2010

MIEKE DE LOOF Cruel Beauty

‘By far the best contribution to this Summer of Crime Fiction. This is mainly thanks to the understated class of her style, atmosphere and characters.’
– *HUMO crime magazine*



© Liesbeth Kuipers

Nominated for the Hercule Poirot Prize 2010

- book Vienna, 1914. Ksaveri Ignatz – by all appearances a psychiatrist, but in reality a Jesuit and secret agent – bumps into Von Graff, his old professor, and accepts an invitation to join him for lunch. The next day the professor is found murdered. Shortly thereafter, Ignatz’ lady friend Elisabeth confides in him that a public prosecutor has approached her to help solve a series of horrific murders. The victims, all young girls, were found in positions that seemed to refer to the paintings of controversial Viennese artist Schiele, also the last person to have seen Von Graff alive. Ignatz and Elisabeth set out like a pair of bloodhounds in search of the artist-sex killer, only to find that they themselves are being hunted ...
- bio Sociologist and philosopher Mieke de Loof (Aalst, 1951) won the 2004 Hercule Poirot Prize – an annual prize for the best Flemish crime novel – with *SATANIC SACRIFICE*, which sold a little under 20,000 copies. Her second ‘Ignatz novel’, *LABYRINTH OF ILLUSION*, appeared in 2006 and was **nominated for the Hercule Poirot Prize** and tipped for the Diamond Bullet 2007. *CRUEL BEAUTY* is the third novel in the cycle and the first to be published by De Geus.



fiction

ORIGINAL TITLE

Luisa's Last Words

ISBN

978 90 445 1659 3

EDITION

Hardcover, 385 p.

PUBLICATION

November 2010

SALES

English manuscript available.
World rights with De Geus.

GARY BARKER

Luisa's Last Words

Heartbreaking novel of love and loss at Guatemala's tragic civil war

'Reading LUISA'S LAST WORDS I had the same feeling I had when reading Hosseini's THE KITE RUNNER, the same eager excitement. This book grabs you, it is beautifully written and it also appeals to a wide audience.' – *Judith Uyterlinde*



© Liesbeth Kuipers

- book Based on the author's personal experience of living and working in Latin America, LUISA'S LAST WORDS is one of the first works of serious literary fiction to shed light on the personal stories behind Guatemala's tragic civil war. Daniel and Luisa meet in the refugee camp La Esperanza, on the border between Honduras and El Salvador. She is a Colombian doctor, he is an American lawyer and UN diplomat. Their mutual passion soon becomes as fiercely intense as their ideals. When Daniel is participating in the Guatemalan peace negotiations, the indigenous guerrilla leader Hector suddenly disappears. While Daniel tries to retrace Hector's last movements, Luisa's last words before her death come back to trouble him.
- bio Gary Barker (1961) is a child psychologist, human rights activist and writer, who has spent his career working in Latin and Central America to prevent and overcome violence, for instance in the slums of Rio de Janeiro. He has published several works of nonfiction, including DYING TO BE MEN: YOUTH, MASCULINITY AND SOCIAL EXCLUSION (Routledge, 2005). LUISA'S LAST WORDS is his literary debut.



fiction

ORIGINAL TITLE

Al-Kharif ya'ti ma'a Safa

ISBN

978 90 445 1225 0

EDITION

Hardcover, 288 p.

PUBLICATION

November 2010

SALES

Published in France (Actes Sud). French manuscript available. World rights with De Geus.

AHMAD AL MALIK With Safaa Comes the Rain

'Al Malik is without doubt one of the most promising writers of his generation.' – *Fnac*

© Margot Rood



Incisive story, that paints a critical picture of the problems of life in Sudan

- book An old man turns up in a small village in northern Sudan. He is a former dictator, who once ruled this country for a number of decades. With the help of an old map, he searches for the house where he grew up. Unfortunately, it has been lost to the advancing desert. Trapped in the twists and turns of his mind and on the verge of amnesia, he wanders around, dejected and lonely, looking for traces of things he has long forgotten. He remembers the events that made him powerful. Along the way, he made many enemies. Finally Safaa, a young diplomat, seemed to be the only person he could trust. He appointed her Minister of Social Affairs and several times asked her to marry him. But then Safaa disappeared without a trace.
- bio Ahmad Al Malik (Sudan, 1967) studied in Khartoum, where he published articles and short stories in various newspapers. After graduating he worked as a teacher in his hometown in northern Sudan. Following the 1989 coup it became increasingly difficult for a critical writer to carry on working freely – Al Malik's first novella was **confiscated** because of its critical attitude towards the regime. He fled to the Netherlands at the end of the 1990s. Al Malik's novels have been published in Sudan, Egypt, Syria, Lebanon and France. He lives in Amsterdam.



fiction

ORIGINAL TITLE

Zwijgplicht

ISBN

978 90 445 0592 4

EDITION

Hardcover, 160 p.

PUBLICATION

January 2007

SALES

Sold to Germany (Peter Hammer Verlag), UK (Aflame Books), France (Éditions Métailié).

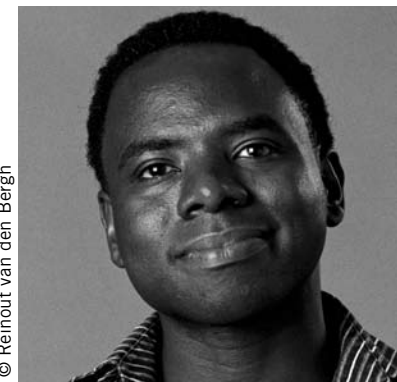
VAMBA SHERIF

Bound to Secrecy

‘A magical detective story, evocatively written, with much use of symbolic motifs and events.’

– *Dagblad van het Noorden*

© Reinout van den Bergh



book ‘An African version of HEART OF DARKNESS, the journey of a young and somehow naive man in the far off province, where people and even whole regiments disappear without a trace. As the infernal stay prolongs, more and more the boundaries between the world of spirits and the world of the living, between de ethical intentions of people and the hidden meanings of the evil which they stumble upon, fade away.’ – **Ilija Trojanow** for *Weltempfänger*

bio Vamba Sherif (Liberia, 1973) made his debut in 1999 with the novel THE LAND OF THE FATHERS. Sherif, who grew up in Africa, spent a large part of his youth in Kuwait, where his father taught at the university. After the Iraqi invasion, Sherif and his elder brother fled to the Netherlands. Sherif’s second novel, KINGDOM OF SEBAH, was published in 2003, followed by BOUND TO SECRECY in 2007. Sherif is currently working on a new novel, THE BLACK NAPOLEON.

fiction

ORIGINAL TITLE

*Le jour où Malika
ne s'est pas mariée*

ISBN

978 90 445 1703 3

EDITION

Hardcover, 244 p.

PUBLICATION

October 2010

SALES

French manuscript
available. World
rights with De Geus.



FOUAD LAROUÏ

The Day Malika Didn't Marry

'The Voltaire of the Netherlands.'

– BOEK

Shortlist Prix Goncourt de la nouvelle

© Liesbeth Kuipers



book

Sometimes moving, sometimes shocking or humorous, *THE DAY MALIKA DIDN'T MARRY* is a collection of eight tragicomic short stories about identity problems in a globalized world and the inner conflict tormenting Moroccan youth.

Some of the stories are told from the perspective of a group of unemployed youngsters who spend the whole afternoon over a single cup of coffee or glass of orange juice at a café in Casablanca.

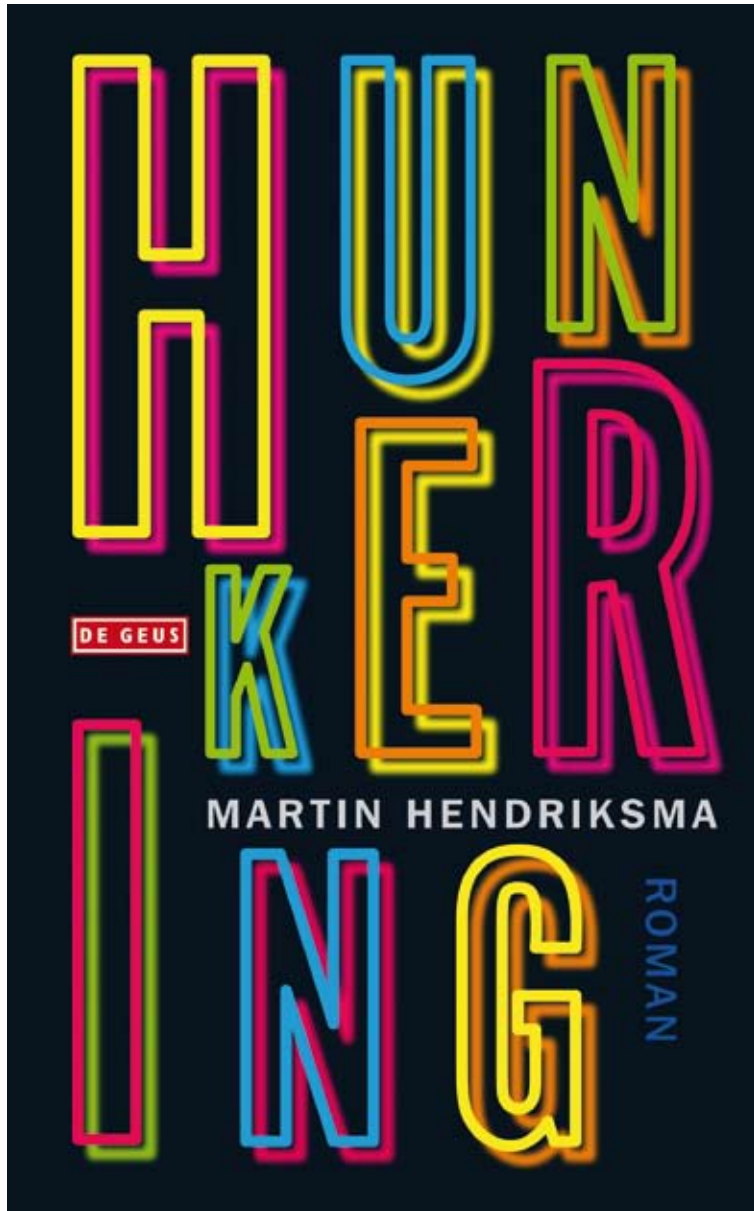
In his characteristically accessible and often ironic style, Laroui tells us how Moroccans experience the clash between tradition and modernity, between Western norms and Islamic traditions.

bio

Fouad Laroui (Morocco, 1958) studied mathematics, physics and architecture in Paris and later specialised in econometrics. In the 1990s, he settled in the Netherlands and adopted Dutch nationality. In 1999 he made his literary debut with the novel *WATCH OUT FOR PARACHUTISTS*, followed by *JUDITH AND JAMAL* (2001). In 2002 Laroui was awarded the **E. du Perron oeuvre prize**. He currently teaches French literature at the University of Amsterdam.

De Geus has published Laroui's nonfiction book *ON ISLAM* (2006), his short-story collection *REQUIEM FOR THE FIRST GENERATION* (compilation by the author) and his novel *THE RICHEST WOMAN IN YORKSHIRE*.

www.fouadlaroui.nl



fiction

ORIGINAL TITLE

Hunkering

ISBN

978 90 445 1371 4

EDITION

Hardcover, 385 p.

PUBLICATION

April 2010

MARTIN HENDRIKSMA

Yearning

A novel about intensifying friendship; about ideals in a world in which populism has acquired a political voice

© Liesbeth Kuipers



'YEARNING'S great strength lies in its outstandingly witty and incisive atmospheric descriptions.' – *Het Parool*

book Arend and Hugo: two eighteen-year-olds intent on conquering the world, one with his poetry, the other with his painting. Their shared muse is the devastatingly beautiful Dana. Fifteen years later – their friendship having long succumbed to the rivalry between them – Arend receives a phone call from a woman in France: Hugo is in a coma after having been involved in a serious car accident. Would Arend be willing to come to France and help take care of him? Arend sets off on an exciting journey of exploration in which past and present merge, and he discovers that Dana's role in the entire story is as mysterious as it is crucial.

bio Martin Hendriksma (Sneek, 1966) studied commercial economics at the NHL University of Applied Sciences and has worked as a reporter for a number of Dutch newspapers, including *de Volkskrant*, *NRC Handelsblad*, *De Groene Amsterdammer* and papers associated with the GPD. He made his debut in 2008 with the novel *THE WURST AFFAIR*, which was **longlisted for the Libris Prize for Literature** in 2009.

Martin Hendriksma lives in Haarlem with his wife and two children. He admires authors such as Vladimir Nabokov (for his precision) and Bruce Chatwin (for his ability to empathise with his characters).

www.martinhendriksma.nl



fiction

ORIGINAL TITLE

Bruid van de dood

ISBN

978 90 445 1550 3

EDITION

Hardcover, 256 p.

PUBLICATION

January 2011

NAEMA TAHIR

Bride of Death

How a girl growing up between two cultures chooses for a radical form of Islam

A fascinating novel about the psychology of modern martyrdom



© Liesbeth Kuipers

book

Sophia is born in Pakistan, but at the age of six her mother and she join her father in the Netherlands. Her parents cling to the Muslim traditions of their home country. After their daughters' high school graduation, they want to find her a suitable husband. A cousin living in London seems to be the ideal match.

Sophia, who has always managed to reconcile her life outside the parental home with the strict demands set by her parents, feels like Andersen's little mermaid. She longs for another world. A world that can only be attained if she makes a great sacrifice. The marriage her parents have arranged for her is the final straw. Sophia rebels and tries every trick in the book to prolong her engagement.

bio

Naema Tahir (1970) was born in Great Britain, but at the age of ten emigrated to the Netherlands with her Pakistani parents. She read law in Leiden and worked as a human rights lawyer for various Dutch ministries, the United Nations and the Council of Europe.

In 2005 she made her debut with the collection of essays *A MUSLIM GIRL UNVEILS*. She subsequently published *PRIZED POSSESSION*, a collection of startling, erotic stories. In 2008 she decided to turn to writing full-time, publishing the collection of 'fairy tales' *LITTLE GREEN RIDING HOOD* and *THE CONVERTED WOLF* and the novel *LONELINESSES*. 20,000 copies of *LONELINESSES* have been sold so far.



fiction

ORIGINAL TITLE

*De eenzaamheid
van het westen*

ISBN

978 90 445 1316 5

EDITION

Hardcover, 256 p.

PUBLICATION

November 2010

JOHANNA SPAEY The Loneliness of the West

‘Playing with contrast, the writer paints her story in the colours of a (grim) fairytale as she depicts two characters who really manage to move and affect the reader.’

– *Libelle* on FLIGHT

Dynamic characters and intriguing storylines, written down succinctly

book At the end of the 19th century, tens of thousands of people emigrated from Western Europe to Canada, by all appearances a country of unlimited opportunities. But life in the promised land is hard. Only the strongest will survive, as Cassandra’s parents find to their cost. Her father is seduced by the love of gold and heads for the frozen North to prospect for the precious metal. Her mother gets on the very first train that stops. Nova Scotia is its final destination, a fetid city where women are scarce. She earns her money laying out and embalming dead bodies. Cassandra shows artistic talent. A professional artist sees that she is gifted and starts to give her lessons. Later, her talent takes her to the ‘killing fields’ of the First World War, where she once again faces the existential dilemma of living ... and surviving.

bio Johanna Spaey (1966) studied Assyriology in Leuven and Leiden and worked as editor-in-chief of the Flemish edition of the magazine *Flair*. In 2005, she published her debut novel, *DEATH OF A SOLDIER*, which won her the Dutch **Golden Noose Award** and the **Belgian Hercule Poirot Prize**. Meanwhile, 50,000 copies of the novel have been sold. In 2006 she wrote the novel *FLIGHT* on two young women having fled the bloodshed in her warstruck Belgian hometown. In addition to novels and stories, Spaey writes TV screenplays and is currently active as a ghostwriter.



© Liesbeth Kuipers



fiction

ORIGINAL TITLE

Over het kanaal

ISBN

978 90 445 1728 6

EDITION

Hardcover, 320 p.

PUBLICATION

January 2011

ANNELIES BECK

Across the Channel

How an assertive girl can make all the difference

Based on an autobiographical family history



© Liesbeth Kuipers

- book It is the summer of 1914. Marie Claes thinks that she is travelling with her parents to Glasgow for a holiday. Not long afterwards, the First World War breaks out. Thousands of fugitive Belgian citizens arrive in Glasgow. At first, they receive a warm welcome but gradually they are met by a wall of incomprehension and impatience. Marie tries to carve out her own niche in a strange city. She loses her heart to a fugitive from Belgium and befriends a militant Scottish lady, who takes the lead in the fight against rental prices that are relentlessly driven up by war speculators. Also within the Belgian community people are prepared to exploit the misery of their compatriots for their own gain. As Marie tries to denounce the abuse, she threatens to fall victim to a power struggle at the highest level.
- bio Annelies Beck (Aalst, 1973) is a Belgian journalist who has presented various popular TV magazines for the Flemish national channel as well as programmes on the elections. She presently reports for the daily current affairs programme *TerZake* while working as an anchor for *Vandaag on Radio 1*. In addition she writes reviews for *De Standaard der Letteren*. Annelies Beck read history in Ghent and Brazilian Studies in London. She has directed a short documentary on her great-grandfather's stay in Glasgow during the Great War.



nonfiction

ORIGINAL TITLE

Een meisje voor dag en nacht

ISBN

978 90 445 1566 4

EDITION

Paperback, 224 p.

PUBLICATION

March 2010

RENATE VAN DER ZEE A Girl for Day and Night

True story of a Moroccan woman
coming to terms with her childhood

© Otto Snoek



‘A furious and probing account.’

– *Khadija Arib, member of Parliament*

A taboo-breaking story about the hidden problem of incest in immigrant families

book As a child, Ibtisam is sexually abused by her brother. She can do nothing about it, because in the traditional Moroccan family in which she is being raised, family honour is sacred and nothing shameful is ever revealed to the outside world. Ibtisam's brothers are treated like little princes. They are never called to account, no matter what they do. Sex is taboo, and sex outside of marriage is strictly forbidden. If it does happen, the woman is almost always to be blamed. For years Ibtisam is powerless. She has to hold her tongue and let her brother have his way with her. She puts up with this until she reaches the age at which she realises she might become pregnant.

bio Journalist Renate van der Zee writes for magazines and newspapers such as *Opzij*, *Libelle* and *NRC Handelsblad*. Her book *HONOUR KILLING IN THE NETHERLANDS* gained her recognition as a champion of female honour crime victims' rights. She is still actively involved in helping to solve the problems facing immigrant women in the Netherlands. In 2007 and 2008, for instance, she wrote several articles for *NRC Handelsblad* about the honour killing of Zeynep Boral, a girl of Turkish origin. In 2008 Renate van der Zee was nominated for the **European Journalism Award for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights** for her article about female genital mutilation in Somalia.

www.renatevanderzee.nl



Deedee Derksen
**THEE MET
DE TALIBAN**
Oorlogsverslaggeving voor beginners

DE GEUS

nonfiction
ORIGINAL TITLE
Thee met de Taliban
ISBN
978 90 445 1672 2
EDITION
Paperback, 224 p.
PUBLICATION
October 2010

DEEDEE DERKSEN
Tea with the Taliban

Oorlogsverslaggeving voor beginners

A different take on war reporting.
Open-minded, outspoken, and with
a healthy dose of self-irony

For readers of PEOPLE LIKE US by Joris Luyendijk

book Everyone has an opinion on the war in Afghanistan; from the prime minister to the lavatory attendant. The papers publish one important editorial after another. But who knows what is really going on? In search of answers and adventure, Deedee Derksen sets up shop in Kabul as the only Dutch journalist. She has a cup of tea with loose-tongued Taliban fighters, travels embedded with the US Special Forces, and ambles through the most dangerous valley in the world. However, to really get to the bottom of the war she needs to dig deeper. The question is: how far can you go as a western journalist in Afghanistan? Deedee Derksen reports – open-minded, outspoken, and with a healthy dose of self-irony.

bio The first time Deedee Derksen went to Afghanistan was in August 2006, at the beginning of the Dutch mission in Uruzgan. Straight away, she travelled the country on her own. At the start of 2008, she settled in Kabul, reporting for Dutch national newspaper *de Volkskrant* and current affairs programme *NOVA*. At the time she was the only Dutch permanent correspondent. Since 2009, she has been training local journalists in Afghanistan; she regularly travels back there from her current place of residence, Brussels.



© Liesbeth Kuipers



children's book
ORIGINAL TITLE
De zuurtjes
ISBN
 978 90 445 1671 5
EDITION
 Hardcover, 160 p.,
 220 x 180 mm,
 full color
PUBLICATION
 August 2010
USP
 Chosen by CPNB as a
 centre title for the
 Children's Book Week
 2010.

book

They live in a terraced house in an ordinary street, the two brothers Sourball. They never ever laugh, they complain all the time. About everything. Nobody wants to live next-door to them. Inside, it's spectacularly dreary. Even the flowers on the wallpaper hang their heads. The Sourballs want no truck with anybody, ever. No noisy or nosy neighbours, no chats on the pavement, no 'come in, do you fancy a cuppa?' They prefer it this way. Have the brothers always been this bitter? What has happened to turn them into surly, money-grubbing misers?

JAAP ROB BEN & BENJAMIN LEROY The Sourballs

'Writer Jaap Robben and illustrator Benjamin Leroy, two young colts that complete a flawless course, frolicsome and frisky but at the same time refreshingly mature.'

– *Jury report*, Golden Owl Children's Literature Prize 2009 for LET'S START

A FOREST

bio

Jaap Robben (1984) initially enrolled in Environmental Studies before moving on to the performing arts. He performs on a regular basis and in 2008, he was appointed poet laureate of the city of Nijmegen.

In 2007 his collection of poems and short prose pieces, *THE NIGHT CRICKETS*, designed by Suzanne Hertogs, was published. In 2008 it was followed by his critically acclaimed collection of children's verse, *LET'S START A FOREST*, with illustrations by Benjamin Leroy. This collection was **nominated for the Golden Owl Children's Literature Prize 2009**.

Benjamin Leroy (1980) graduated in 2003. Ever since, he has been active as an illustrator, publishing a series of books, magazines, posters, etc. Hallmarks of his work are emotion, humour, and an eye for the absurd.

www.dezuurtjes.nl



Trudy

From that day, they see a lot of Trudy. Sometimes she only cycles past with a brief wave of her hand because she is in a hurry. But more and more often, she rings the bell.

Suddenly she is at the door carrying a small pot of soup in a plastic bag. 'For your mum', she says. 'I've made too much. So I thought, I'll just take some along. It's enough for three small bowls.'



Trudy does not just bring things. She even comes into the house. At first, she tends to ask politely where the toilet is, and would the Sourballs happen to have a vase for the flowers? Then, slowly, she starts to find her way around the house. She opens the proper kitchen cabinet for the teacups. And sometimes she stirs a pan of soup on the stove, as though she is their mother.

Almost unnoticed, she brings in new objects every time she visits. One day she even presents them with a tree for the back garden. Harry and Herbert don't have a clue what to do with it. As soon as Trudy is gone, they saw off the roots and put the trunk between the paving stones in the garden. Just like that. The mood in Celery Road 33 is changing. As if the heating is gradually turned up, little by little.





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