



Rights Guide Spring 2024
Marianne Schönbach Literary Agency

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★ = New title

LITERARY & UPMARKET COMMERCIAL FICTION

Raw, honest, and untamed; a new novel from one of the young stars of Dutch literature about motherhood, childbirth, and daring to let go. *Primordial Soup* is a lyrical exploration of self-loss and self-control and all that lies in-between

'Something twisted within me, the way you twist some pens to make the tip come out - and something other than myself came to the opening of my mouth and eyes, something horrible popped out. It was screaming.'

What if you almost accidentally reach through the membrane that envelopes your life like a protective layer, and there, you find a world that scares you, but that seems to suck you into itself?

Primordial Soup is a lyrical reading experience that at times feels more like a trip than a novel. Through childbirth pain, rugby, medieval mystics, and the inner life of a sprouting carrot, *Primordial Soup* explores the longing for self-loss in a disenchanted age.



Bregje Hofstede is a writer and activist. Her previous novel *Drift* was shortlisted for the Libris Literature Prize. She is a co-founder of the feminist platform De Bovengrondse and the National Witch Monument Foundation, and a member of Extinction Rebellion. She writes about new prophets for *De Correspondent*.

Primordial Soup

by Bregje Hofstede

- 50-70% translation subsidy available from Dutch Foundation for Literature
- 7,000 copies sold
- One of the best books of 2023 according to *HUMO*, *De Morgen*, *NRC Handelsblad*, *De Standaard*, and *De Tijd*
- Previous books sold in 6 languages, over 50,000 copies sold in Dutch
- Author is co-founder of feminist platform De Bovengrondse and the National Witch Foundation and a member of Extinction Rebellion.
- Nominations previous titles:
 - Shortlisted Libris Literatuurprijs 2019
 - Longlisted Libris Literatuurprijs 2015
 - Nominated Bronzen Uil 2015
 - Nominated Opzij Literatuurprijs 2015
 - Nominated Anton Wachterprijs
 - Nominated Gouden Boekenuil
- Author speaks English, German, and French fluently



October 2023
Das Mag
248 pp.
Dutch PDF, English sample available

"Primordial Soup is an unparalleled, physical and trippy story about the indescribable feeling that overcame the author during childbirth [...] Primordial Soup fulfills the great promise – here you read Bregje Hofstede in all her glory."

– *NRC Handelsblad* ★★★★★

"Furious, overwhelming, masterful. Reading this book is in itself a physical experience."

– Lize Spit

"A liberating book about femininity like no other author has ever written in Dutch." – *HUMO* ★★★★★ 1/2

"Hofstede opens Primordial Soup with the most physical scene you can imagine: childbirth. It's intense, it's evocative, it's honest [...] Hofstede writes about motherhood, physicality, sex, shame, friendship, love for people and for the universe, and about how they are all connected." – *De Standaard* ★★★★★

'The more I looked into her tragic life, the more angry I became.' - Kristien Dieltiens

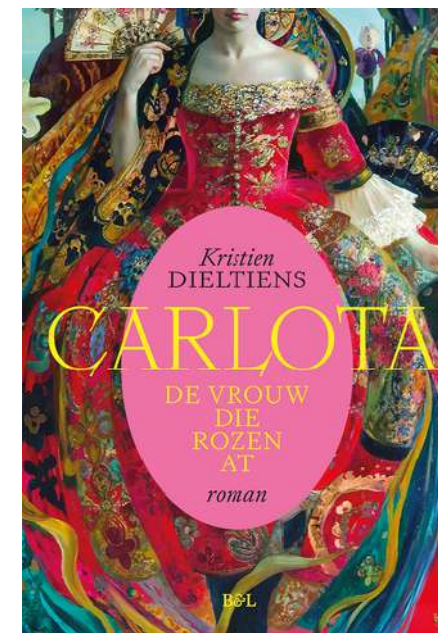
Charlotte of Belgium, daughter of King Leopold I, is ten years old when she loses her mother and is left with an emotionally unreachable father. She longs for love and thinks she has found it in Maximilian, archduke of Austria. She soon enters into a lonely existence in a loveless and childless marriage. Along with her husband, she travels to Mexico to serve her new country as Empress Carlota. But there a revolution is brewing, and the promised support of Napoleon III and the royal houses of Europe fails to materialize. Maximilian's overseas adventure ends in front of a firing squad. Carlota never recovers from that trauma. She is pursued by delusions, suffers from paranoia and constantly thinks someone intends to kill her. She ends up back in Belgium, 'imprisoned' in a castle, guarded by doctors. From her last place of residence she tells her life story in a long letter to B., her illegitimate son, in an attempt to disentangle the great mysteries of her life.

After years of research, Dieltiens manages with consummate skill to enter into the inner life of her character. In language rich in imagery, she shows us a fascinating woman, who flounders and, despite being driven to madness, obstinately tries to keep her head above water. *Carlota, The Woman Who Ate Roses* is an engrossing historical novel that opens up remarkable worlds: that of the royal house and the nobility, that of a powerfully evocative Mexico, and that of the human spirit, which after loneliness and longing flirts with madness.

Carlota

The Woman Who Ate Roses by Kristien Dieltiens

- Philippa Gregory meets Hilary Mantel
- The story about a Belgian princess who married Maximilian of Austria and became Archduchess of Austria and Empress of Mexico
- Translation grant available from Flanders Literature + an additional EUR 250 when translator's name is on the cover
- English sample available
- Dieltiens' children's books have been translated into French, German, Spanish, Portuguese, Slovenian, Turkish, and Danish
- Popular on BookTok and in book clubs



January 2023
 Borgerhoff & Lambrigts
 472 pp. ca. 112.000 words
 Dutch PDF and English sample available



Kristien Dieltiens (b. 1954) started writing and playing music at a young age. Since her debut in 1997, she has published over dozens of books (adult and children's) of which several have been translated. Dieltiens is at her best when writing historical stories. Her main characters are often outcasts who have to find a place for themselves. She writes evocatively, with humour and she loves a good intrigue.

'A nuanced portrait, based on extensive research and meticulously set down in writing.' - ★★★★★ *Het Nieuwsblad*

'Dieltiens' style excels in its wealth of words, its poetic language and its many metaphors.' - *Mappalibri*

'An exciting whodunnit and a wonderful piece of biofiction.' - *Tzum*

‘My life is for my country, my love is for you.’

As a young girl, Herien Wensink found a mysterious photo of an American soldier in the attic of her family home. Years later, she decides to find out who he was and why her mother kept the photo safe for so many years.

Steve Mullins had gifted his portrait to Anne, the love of his life, before he left to fight in Vietnam. He also gave Anne all his savings, and promised to start a life with her after the war. She never saw him again. In *The Soldier in the Attic*, Anne’s daughter Herien searches for traces of Steve in letters, archives and the mountains of West Virginia. The journey will take her from the sixties in the US and Vietnam, via the Netherlands in the late eighties to present-day America.



Herien Wensink (1977) is the head of the cultural section of de Volkskrant and was awarded the Loek Zonneveld Pen (2022) for excellent art criticism. Her debut novel *Clay Skin* (2018) was nominated for the Hebban Debut Prize, the Bronze Owl, the Anton Wachter Prize and the ANV Debut Prize. *The Soldier in the Attic* is her second book.

The Soldier in the Attic

by Herien Wensink

- ***Grease* meets *Apocalypse Now* in 1960s West Virginia**
- **A doomed love affair during the Vietnam War**
- **Previous novel *Clay Skin* was nominated for Hebban Debut Prize, the Bronze Owl, the Anton Wachter Prize, and the ANV Debut Prize**



May 2023

Arbeiderspers

352 pp.

Dutch PDF, English sample available

Rights represented by MSLA: English, German, Danish, Norwegian, Swedish, Icelandic, Estonian, Latvian, Czech, Slovakian, Hungarian, Romanian, Bulgarian

All other rights: Arbeiderspers

‘Wensink gives both the young soldiers and the hillbillies a powerful, endearing voice in a gripping and rich study.’ - *Het Parool*

‘She knows exactly what matters in literature: it is not the writer who should cry, but the reader.’ - *De Groene Amsterdammer*

‘Wensink does what only a great writer can do: defeating death for a moment.’ - *De Limburger* ★★★★★

‘Wensink writes smoothly and combines various (historical) sources with excerpts from song lyrics and conversations with those involved. She also vividly outlines how Steve and his childhood friend Ronnie must have fared. An enjoyable read.’ - *Hebban*

After a tragic event, Ylva did not see her son grow up. Now, she ventures into the Norwegian wilderness to find him

Ylva knows you can only run away if you have somewhere you belong. She is not a runaway, but a traveller. She is moving forward. She only knows what direction she is headed when she stumbles upon a farm after a long bus ride, where she can live in a cottage in the farm yard. Side by side with the farmer, she works the land and surrenders to the rhythms of nature. A place without questions, until the day an irrevocable event throws her back into her lonely existence.

For the next few years, her life plays out in the dark. At night she cleans trains, during the day she hides in her apartment. After seven years of hiding away, the truth catches up to her. She packs her things and sets sail across the mountains toward her past.

Everything Becomes Lighter is a story about getting up after plummeting down and about the healing effects of time and travel. With her characteristic style, Reitsma has once again composed an impressive work of literature.

Everything Becomes Lighter

by Janke Reitsma

- For readers of Marieke Lucas Rijneveld, Jaap Robben and Gerbrand Bakker



April 2024
Mozaïek
272 pp.
Dutch PDF available



Janke Reitsma (1988) is a Dutch author and behavioral scientist. She grew up in a small village in Friesland, The Netherlands. She studied social pedagogy and education sciences. She works in a care facility for mentally disabled people. *Nothing Escapes Us* is her debut novel. In April 2024, her second novel, *Everything is Lighter*, will be published.

A remarkable debut novel about a dysfunctional family and the power of unconditional love, set against the background of the beautiful yet harsh and unforgiving Wadden Sea

Fifteen-year-old Koen and his parents live a quiet and isolated life just outside a village on the Dutch Northern sea shore. Everything seems all right until Koen's mother unexpectedly falls pregnant again and stops taking her much-needed medication.

When Koen's baby sister is born with a serious chromosomal abnormality and a short life expectancy, his mother's mental state deteriorates rapidly. His father is not willing or able to cope with the situation, so Koen has no choice but to step in. He decides to take the baby to the place he considers paradise on earth, a place she should see at least once in her short life.

Nothing Escapes Us is both haunting and liberating. It's a beautifully written story about a dysfunctional but loving family, against the backdrop of the deceptively stunning Wadden Sea. A story that poses questions about life and death.

Nothing Escapes Us

by Janke Reitsma

- For readers of Marieke Lucas Rijneveld, Jaap Robben and Gerbrand Bakker



October 2021

Mozaïek

272 pp.

Dutch PDF, English sample, and English synopsis available



Janke Reitsma (1988) is a Dutch author and behavioral scientist. She grew up in a small village in Friesland, The Netherlands. She studied social pedagogy and education sciences. She works in a care facility for mentally disabled people. *Nothing Escapes Us* is her debut novel. In April 2024, her second novel, *Everything is Lighter*, will be published.

‘With her precise style, Janke Reitsma draws you into the story at full speed. A story about people who fall between the cracks, but are inescapably connected’ - Anne Büdgen, writer and poet

‘*Nothing Escapes Us* is a strong and compelling debut.’ - Barazow

‘A psychologically interesting work that is both tragic and poignant, but also enchanting and loving. We have found a great writing talent in Janke Reitsma.’ - Hebban

A riveting literary debut by the internationally acclaimed screenwriter of the film *Close*

For fans of Ocean Vuong, Douglas Stuart and Édouard Louis

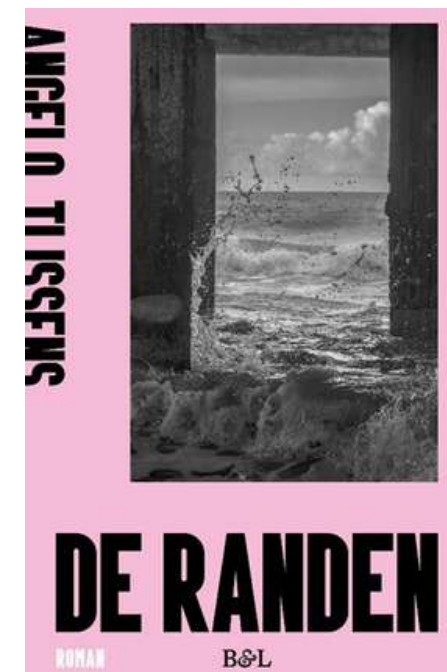
'That smell of wet chalk, which you can taste on the back of your tongue, will be with you for a long time. You will move at least nine more times. Everything you currently own, you will lose. Everything that seems valuable will disappear. Some things you will gradually lose sight of, some you will very deliberately sell off to buy food or cigarettes, some you will burn, give away, leave behind. You want to shout but you can't because there's a hand around your throat.'

In the course of only 24 hours, an unnamed protagonist returns to the bleak Flemish seaside village of his youth. He has come to collect the last possessions of his mother, who recently passed away. While in the village he has to face the memories of his abusive mother and the loss of his first love.

In cinematic scenes, Angelo Tijssens depicts the pain and longing of a life spent searching. Tijssens' language remains understated and direct. With his carefully chosen sensory descriptions, he enables us to imagine what's often left unsaid. *The Edges* is a semi-autobiographical and deeply human debut.

The Edges by Angelo Tijssens

- Awarded with Prix du Roman Gay - Special Jury Mention
- Shortlisted for The Bronze Owl
- Translation grant available from Flanders Literature + an additional EUR 250 when translator's name is on the cover
- Guest at Feria Internacional del Libro 2023, Guadalajara
- Guest at Leipziger Buchmesse 2024
- Rights sold: UK+C (Daunt Books), France (Julliard), Germany (Rowohlt), Spain (Dos Bigotes)



July 2022
 Borgerhoff & Lamberigts
 120 pp.
 Dutch PDF, English sample available
Theatre, film & tv rights: Curtis Brown
WEL rights: Lisa Baker at Aitken Alexander



Angelo Tijssens (1986) studied theatre at the Antwerp Conservatory. He wrote three short films. His first feature film *Girl* with director Lukas Dhont premiered at the 2018 Cannes Film Festival, where they won the Camera D'or, the Queer Palm and several other awards. *Girl* was also nominated for a Golden Globe and a César. In 2022, *Close* premiered in the Sélection Officiel at Cannes. The film received a 12-minute standing ovation and the Grand Prix of the Festival. *The Edges* is his debut novel.

'A powerful gem, written with great precision, lurching between love and violence.' - *De Standaard*

'A hit. I'm hugely impressed by this strong debut.' - *Het Nieuwsblad*

'Succinct and understated writing, deeply human and full of suppressed anguish.' - *Feeling*

COMMERCIAL FICTION

For fans of *I Am Pilgrim*, *The Bourne Identity* and *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo*

In a world in which fake news, big data and social media are ubiquitous, three people set out to find the truth. The answer to all questions is one mythical figure: the Man with a Thousand Faces.

Michelle is about to go on a vacation with her husband Daniel and their two children, when they learn that Daniel's twin brother has tragically died. Daniel has to return to his homeland of Kazichia – a fictional former Soviet state – to attend the funeral.

Once the family gets there, Michelle realizes that her husband is being pressured into staying. His late brother was the nation's president, and now Daniel is to be his successor. Michelle wants to return to Amsterdam as soon as possible, but that proves to be no easy task. A rebel leader is trying to unite the people in an uprising against the regime. No one knows who he is or how he gets his resources, but he has a growing rebel army behind him and is carrying out attacks. As Russian intelligence and the CIA meddle in the conflict, and Michelle does everything she can to get her family home safely, Daniel battles the elusive rebel known as the Man with a Thousand Faces.



Lex Noteboom (b. 1987) studied modern history at the University of Amsterdam. After his studies, he worked as a brand strategist for various advertising agencies while writing the science fiction thriller *The Deca Tapes*, which was released as an audio drama podcast. *The Deca Tapes* was nominated for a Webby Award and won the biggest award for digital creativity in Europe: a Lovie Award. Domestically, the podcast was nominated for BNR's Dutch Podcast Award. *The Man With a Thousand Faces* is his debut thriller.

The Man with a Thousand Faces

by Lex Noteboom

- WEL rights sold to Orion Books in six figure pre-empt
- US rights sold via Orion Books to Union Square
- Multi-disciplinary project with podcast (nominated for international podcast award)
- Nominated for Bronze Bat Award for best Dutch debut thriller 2023



May 2023
AW Bruna
448 pp.
Dutch PDF, English sample available
Rights sold: WEL (Orion Books)/US Union Square)

'Everything is right, fitting and interlocking in this book.' - *Algemeen Dagblad*

'A fantastic story in every sense of the word.' - *Vrij Nederland Detective en Thrillergids*

'An amazingly well-written story with a big, international plot, and a nice smaller story throughout.' - *NRC Handelsblad*

Stand-alone thrillers for women with a new title for each winter and summer holiday

Suzanne Vermeer's thrillers are the perfect holiday read for the summer holidays or the Christmas holidays, depending on the season of the thriller.

All books have a female lead character, who ends up on a less relaxing holiday than expected. Vermeer keeps the reader in suspense with surprising plots, attractive antagonists, and atmospheric locations. The excitement and holiday feeling radiate from every page – sometimes sunny, sometimes wintry. The thrill remains until the end: will the mystery be solved and can our heroine return home safely?

So far, locations have included France, Portugal, Spain, Italy, Turkey, Croatia, Greece, Monaco, the Caribbean, the Netherlands, Denmark, Norway, Austria, Canada, Switzerland, Germany and Iceland. Suzanne Vermeer is happy to include specific requests concerning locations, names or themes.

Suzanne Vermeer Bestselling High-Concept Thriller Series

- **No. 1 bestselling thriller author in the Netherlands**
- **Over 4.5 million copies sold in the Netherlands**
- **600 weeks on Dutch bestseller list in 15 years**
- **All thrillers appeared on Dutch bestseller list**
- **Over 40 stand-alone thrillers available**
- **2 Storytel Awards**
- **4 NS Publieksprijs nominations**
- **Multiple film options**
- **Winter and summer thrillers, set in holiday destinations**
- **Rights sold to Sweden (Lind & Co, two-book deal)**
- **For more information, see our separate catalog!**



For years now, Suzanne Vermeer has been the most popular Dutch thriller author. Her fans can count on at least one new stand-alone thriller per season, always set around a holiday destination.

Suzanne Vermeer used to be the pseudonym of Paul Goeken, who passed away in 2011. Following his family's wishes, new titles continued to be published under the name Suzanne Vermeer after his death. The success of Suzanne Vermeer has only grown since. All of Vermeer's titles have made it onto the Dutch bestseller lists and various were nominated for awards. More than three million of Vermeer's books have been sold to date and several of her titles are being adapted into film.

'Nicci French on the slopes.' – *Trouw* on *Après-ski*

'A roadtrip worthy of *Thelma and Louise*.' – *Flair* on *Route du Soleil*

'A pageturner with a vengeance.' – *Grazia* on *Black Run*

'The last few pages are filled with so much suspense, you almost forget to breathe.' – *Viva* on *The Flight*

A decrepit villa, a headstrong architect, and a lot of love and second chances

At bungalow park De Eyckenhof everything seems to be going downhill. After the death of the owner, his residence, a small castle near the park, has fallen into disrepair, and the income of managing couple Henk and Rosie van Marle is declining so much that they fear for their retirement. Their son Joost cannot find happiness in his relationship and work, and their grandson Aloys is silently struggling with his love life too. When the cosmopolitan and aloof architect Per Quinn Rosendahl hears of the castle's fate, everything begins to change.

Charlie Blum also ends up at The Eyckenhof when she inherits a summer cottage from her uncle, a renowned painter. She discovers that he led a secret double life there, with the great love that inspired his most famous work of art. That discovery also sheds a different light on Charlie's own relationship: is her boyfriend really her dream partner? If she wants to be truly happy, she will have to be honest with herself and with others.

Charlie, like Per, Joost and Aloys, finds something at De Eyckenhof that she didn't expect. A sense of belonging, of family and maybe even true love...

The Bungalow Park

by Jackie van Laren

- Over 400.000 copies of Jackie van Laren's books sold in the Netherlands
- A new stand-alone novel from the Dutch Queen of feelgood
- Perfect for readers of Jennifer Probst and Jojo Moyes
- Italian rights for previous title *Spring Greens* sold to Giunti



June 2023

Boekerij

552 pp.

Dutch PDF available



Jackie van Laren (1968) has two great passions in life: music and stories. She made her writing debut with the three-part *Q Series*. After that, she published the duology *Falling and Rising*, the *Island Love Series*, the *Under the Trees* series and stand-alone novels *The Girl's Magnet* and *Homecoming*. Italian translation rights to *Spring Greens*, book 1 in the *Under the Trees* Series, were sold to Giunti.

'Jackie delivers another fantastic novel with *The Bungalow Park*. The combo of a new story with characters from previous books is a fan's delight to read.' – *Hebbaan*

Praise for previous books by Jackie van Laren:

"Jackie van Laren is the Dutch queen of feelgood!" – *Vrouw Magazine*

'A rollercoaster of emotions, rush, attraction and experiences.'

– ★★★★★ *Chicklit.nl*

The ultimate cozy romance with a delightful British touch

When travel journalist Molly is fired from the magazine she works for, she is close to a mental breakdown. In sheer desperation, she accepts her aunt's offer to look after her cottage in Somerset for a few weeks. A temporary solution, Molly thinks. But then she meets the attractive Atlas, the type of tough guy she never thought would fall for her, and makes a unique and valuable find at a flea market that might just change her life. But even in Somerset, nothing is what it seems.

Dune Rose by Hilde Veeren is the first volume in the *Cottage by the Sea* series and a great feel-good story full of humor and likable characters, with a delightful British touch.

Dune Rose

by Hilde Veeren

- Dutch rights sold in 5-way auction
- First volume in *Cottage by the Sea* series
- For fans of Jenny Colgan



June 2023

Xander

320 pp.

Dutch PDF available



Hilde Veeren has years of experience in the magazine world, serving as editor-in-chief of *Elegance* and *Happy in Shape*. She loves dresses, England and books, and combines it all in her debut *Dune Rose*. Hilde lives with her husband and daughter in Amsterdam. *Mistletoe*, the second volume of the *Cottage by the Sea* series, was published in November 2023.

'Readers, keep an eye on Hilde Veeren: she is a new rising star in the feel-good firmament!' – Jackie van Laren

'A real page turner! I enjoyed all the fashion and book references and could totally relate to Molly. Also laughed out loud at times'

– ★★★★★ Bol.com

In *Mistletoe*, Molly's happy ending turns sour after a fight with her best friend and an impulsive purchase with far-reaching consequences

In *Mistletoe*, the second volume in Hilde Veeren's *Cottage by the Sea* series, Molly is extremely happy: her idyllic English cottage is the perfect place to write her book, her best friend Celine is about to get married, and in the meantime she can day-dream about her own country wedding. However, her sense of happiness proves short-lived: she gets into a scuffle with Celine, an enviably handsome colleague flirts with her boyfriend James, and Molly makes an impulsive purchase that turns out to have enormous consequences, even by her standards.

As Porlock Weir is transformed into a fairytale village with Christmas lights, winter-spiced scones and even an ice skating rink, Molly must pull herself together. Will she manage to win back her friend and convince her dream man that they truly belong together?

Mistletoe by Hilde Veeren

- Dutch rights sold in 5-way auction
- Second volume in *Cottage by the Sea* series
- For fans of Jenny Colgan



November 2023

Xander

320 pp.

Dutch PDF available



Hilde Veeren has years of experience in the magazine world, serving as editor-in-chief of *Elegance* and *Happy in Shape*. She loves dresses, England and books, and combines it all in her debut *Dune Rose*. Hilde lives with her husband and daughter in Amsterdam. *Mistletoe*, the second volume of the *Cottage by the Sea* series, was published in November 2023.

'A raving romcom!' – Marie Claire

'A must-read for anyone who loves antique, cups of English tea, scones, and a sprinkle of romance.' – Hebban.nl

Non-Fiction

From revolutions to modern genetics, beans are inextricably connected to our history

Beans have never been sexy. Throughout history, they've always been seen as a poor person's alternative to meat. And yet beans, apart from being incredibly nutritious and good for soil, have played a fundamental role in the human story.

Their domestication during the neolithic revolution was essential to our shift from hunter-gatherers to farmers. No surprise then that lentils feature prominently in the Old Testament. Fermented soy beans powered imperial China, just as fava beans enabled a population explosion in medieval Europe. Where Mendel's experiments with peas laid the foundation for modern genetics, coffee beans turbocharged the French Revolution.

They are also connected with oppression and popular struggle: the common bean – and its many varieties (kidney, borlotti, green, white, etc.) – first made its way around the world after Colombus' discovery of the Americas, and cacao beans were a major driver of the transatlantic slave trade.

In the United States, black-eyed peas emerged as a proud symbol of Black identity, while chickpeas remain a point of contention for identity politics in the Middle East. Above all, perhaps, bean are our future: in these times of climate crisis, legumes such as lupine beans hold the key to juicy meat-alternatives and sustainable food systems.

Culinary journalist Joël Broekaert brings us a playful world history, as told through twelve beans.

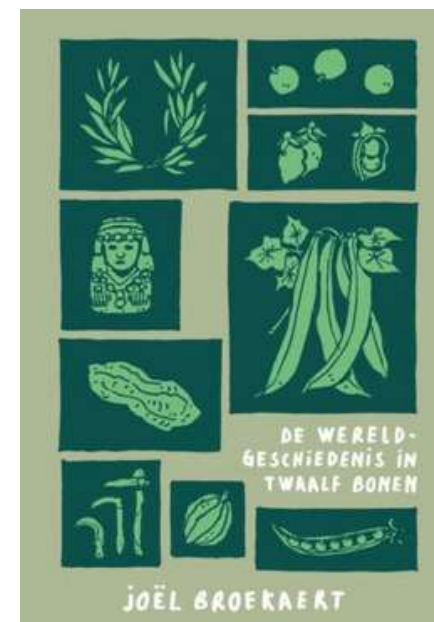


Joël Broekaert (1982) is a culinary journalist, writer, and reviewer for *NRC Handelsblad*. He also presents television programs such as *Joël Lokaal* and *De smaak van Joël*. He is a judge on the Dutch Celebrity *MasterChef* and performed in the theater with his interactive show *Tasting Lessons with Joël*. He previously published *The Omnivore, From Honeybee to Sprinkles*, and, together with internationally renowned Michelin chef Joris Bijdendijk, the bestselling cookbook *Bij Bijdendijk thuis*. His latest book, *A World History in 12 Beans*, was published in October 2023.

A History of the World in Twelve Beans

by Joël Broekaert

- For fans of Mark Kurlansky
- Translation grant of ca. 50%-70% available
- The great story of humanity, told through humble legumes
- Each continent (except Antartica) has its own history of humans and beans
- Highly relevant in times of climate change and discussions about food scarcity and vegetarianism
- Named one of the best pop science books of 2023
- In catalogue Dutch Spring Non-Fiction 2024, Dutch Foundation for Literature.



October 2023

Atlas Contact

144 pp.

Dutch PDF and English sample available

'The book reads like a novel, like a playful attempt to bring the bean closer to people and their plates. Required reading material for those in need of a little help during these dark months – because that's what all those beans dor.' – *Dagblad van het Noorden*

'(This book) is the ultimate ode to the bean and rightfully restores the honour of this ancient crop. Together, all stories form an entertaining and original world history. Through each bean, Broekaert tells a history of political world conflict, a cultural-historical time period or the global impact of an event. And he does this on a temporal scope that stretches from the neolithic period until the end of time. Magnificent!' – *Humanistisch Verbond*

'Broekaert's book is filled with interesting facts (...) each of the twelve chapters focuses on a different bean. Each chapter tells a fascinating piece of culinary history.' – Best Science Books of 2023, *EOS*

This accessible deep-dive into our sense of smell and taste teaches us how to turn our daily meals from a necessity into an experience.

Culinary critic Joël Broekaert dives into the science of taste. Armed with his pen and his fork, he travels the world as a culinary explorer, eating in remote areas and in renowned restaurants.

His secret ingredient for making every meal tastier is within everyone's reach: attention and knowledge about exactly what taste is and how it works. Broekaert explains the difference between flavors and aromas, how our senses work, and the chemistry of tasting. You'll discover why red wine can actually taste like a horse stable, how to eat tastier (and healthier) food with umami, and that the difference between cinnamon and cloves is impossible to taste if you can't smell.

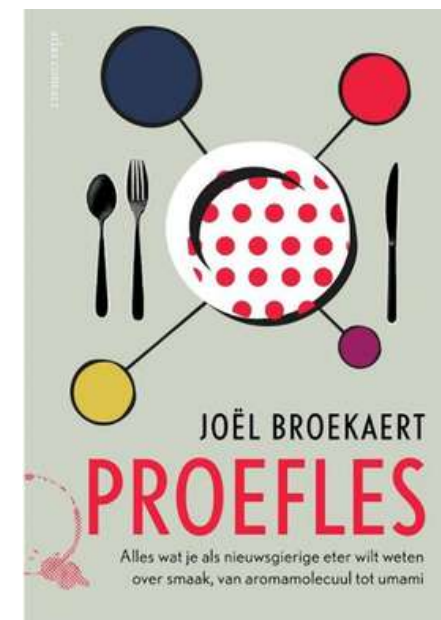
This dazzling combination of science, compelling stories, a dash of evolutionary biology, and a dash of history, will make your life tastier. Because we all have to eat, at least three times a day. Why not make the experience really fun? All you have to do is taste.



Joël Broekaert (1982) is a culinary journalist, writer, and reviewer for *NRC Handelsblad*. He also presents television programs such as *Joël Lokaal* and *De smaak van Joël*. He is a judge on the Dutch Celebrity *MasterChef* and performed in the theater with his interactive show *Tasting Lessons with Joël*. He previously published *The Omnivore, From Honeybee to Sprinkles*, and, together with internationally renowned Michelin chef Joris Bijdendijk, the bestselling cookbook *Bij Bijdendijk thuis*. His latest book, *A World History in 12 Beans*, was published in October 2023.

Tasting Lesson ***Everything the curious foodie wants to know about taste*** **by Joël Broekaert**

- Translation grant of ca. 50%-70% available
- For fans of Harold McGee
- Named one of the best popular-science books of 2022
- A life-changing read for every foody
- English sample available



November 2022
Atlas Contact
216 pp.
Dutch PDF and English sample available

'Broekaert's choice of words is entertaining and fun throughout the book. His enthusiasm for everything that is to do with tasting is infectious (...) this book is more than a lesson from a fervent food connoisseur.'
– *NRC Handelsblad* ★★★★★

'Broekaert is a gifted storyteller, overflowing with knowledge about food and drink, talking about barbecue as easily as about molecular cooking.' – *New Scientist*

'The ideal book for everyone with a sweet tooth. The book contains interesting insights for both the novice foodie and the chef, (...) What's more, Broekaert's descriptions of dishes, sweet fruits, and hot sauce will leave your mouth watering from time to time.' – *Best Science Books of 2022, EOS*

Those who want to understand the present as well as the future cannot avoid history

Europe has a long and turbulent history with its neighbors. Unlike geographical borders, state borders drawn by mankind have shifted almost continuously throughout history. Just look at Poland, the "land on wheels" that shifted back and forth and even disappeared from the map for a long time. Or to the colonial era, when Europeans called the shots in Africa, Asia and the Middle East and drew borders arbitrarily, leading to horrific wars.

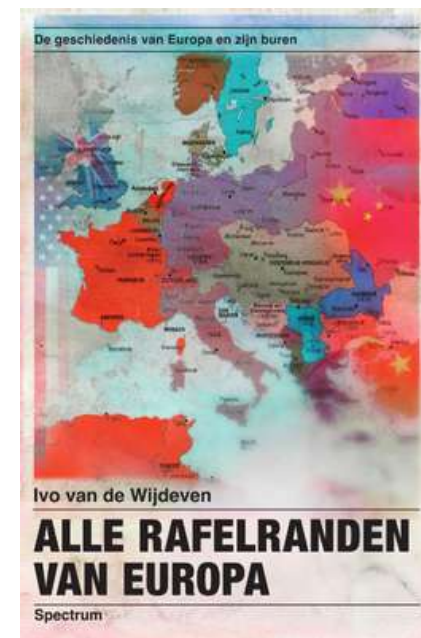
The edges of Europe have been frayed for a long time. Contemporary conflicts have roots in the past. Today's phenomena - such as Russian aggression, the rise of China and wars in the Middle East - are not isolated occurrences. The motivations of key figures on the world stage can be traced back for centuries. Putin and Xi are part of a longstanding tradition. And the complex history of the Middle East means that large groups of people in Europe identify with the warring parties in Israel as well as the occupied territories.

In *All the Frayed Edges of Europe*, Ivo van de Wijdeven convincingly demonstrates how historical developments influence the current era. The book is a completely revised and updated version of *The Frayed Edges of Europe* and *The New Frayed Edge of Europe*, supplemented by a new chapter on Europe's relationship with China and the rest of Asia. The changes at the frayed edges of Europe have been happening as long as we can remember, they will continue for a long time and will profoundly affect our future. It's time to learn more about the history of Europe and its neighbors.

All the Frayed Edges of Europe

by Ivo van de Wijdeven

- Author was previously nominated for the prestigious Libris History Prize
- Author was advisor to the Dutch prime minister
- Essential for those who want to understand the socio-political situation Europe finds itself in today.



January 2024

Unieboek | Het Spectrum

488 pp.

Dutch PDF available



Ivo van de Wijdeven is historian and analyst. For years, he was the advisor to the prime minister and he provides renowned media platforms like *NRC Handelsblad* and *VPRO* with clear background information. Previously he wrote *The Frayed Edges of Europe*, *The Ghosts of Visegrád*, *The New Frayed Edge of Europe*, and *The Power of the Past*, which was nominated for the Libris History Prize.

Press about Ivo van de Wijdeven's previous work:

'Van de Wijdeven's writing is fresh and incisive. He also indirectly points out the reader's own responsibility. If we give in to the lure of nationalists and populists, Europe will fall apart completely and the angels of death will spread their wings again.' – *De Morgen* on *The Frayed Edge of Europe*

'Van de Wijdeven - master of the subject matter - draws long, clear lines from history (down to antiquity, even to eight hundred thousand years before the beginning of the Christian era) through to the present.' *Trouw* about *The New Frayed Edge of Europe*

A fascinating insight into the life of one family that reflects the religious dilemma many encountered during and after WWII

"You can do with it what you want," Kees van Zweden says as he hands his diary to his daughter Corien on his deathbed. The diary entries are stored in 33 full binders, they count over three million words and span over 55 years.

As Corien begins to read, she sees once again how her father's life revolved around two major themes: God and the war. A decisive moment was the evening in 1943 when, as a fourteen-year-old, Kees had to watch his deeply religious father being arrested and deported because of his resistance activities. Long after this evening, it becomes clear that his wartime experiences brought Kees into profound conflict with the Reformed faith with which he was raised. His entire life he continued to struggle with it and to write about it.

Eighty years after that arrest, Corien traces this trail. Gradually she discovers how much she herself inherited the struggles of her father and grandfather. How do you leave the questions of your parents and their parents behind?

My Father's Faith ***God and War in Three Generations*** **by Corien van Zweden**

- **Author has been previously translated into English, Polish, and Finnish**
- **English sample translation available**



March 2024
De Bezige Bij
232 pp.
English sample available



Corien van Zweden (1962) studied Theology and has been working as a freelance journalist since 1994. She published various books, such as *Breasts* and *The Biography of the Womb*. Her work has been translated into English, Polish, and Finnish. In 2024, *My Father's Faith* will be published.

'With *My Father's Faith*, Corien van Zweden has written a touching, personal and simultaneously impressively layered chronicle about the intense experiences of the Second World War and how they resonate through the lives and worldviews of her grandfather, her father, and herself.' – Jacobine Geel, theologian, tv-presenter, and columnist

The curious history of the Dutch-speaking population of New York and New Jersey

In *The Tawl*, author and historian Philip Dröge delves into the curious history of the Dutch-speaking population of New York and New Jersey. Philip traverses those areas on the most Dutch means of transportation in the world: the bicycle. Along small trails, over high hills and on the banks of fast-flowing rivers, he finds remnants of the Dutch-speaking past even today.

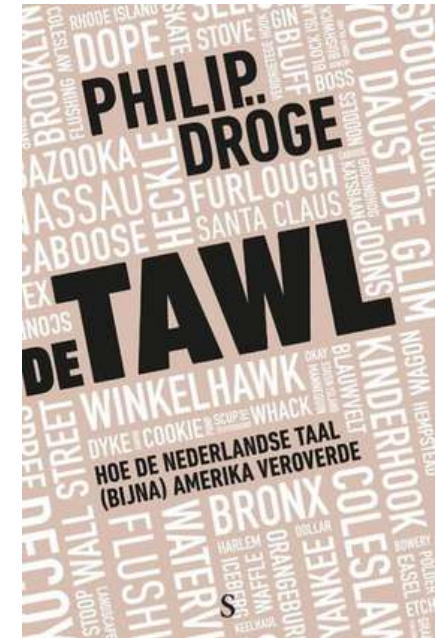
The Tawl is a history book, travel guide and road novel in one and also offers a view of modern America. A book full of humor, insight and surprising facts about an unknown part of American and Dutch culture.

The Tawl

How the Dutch Language (Almost) Conquered America

by Philip Dröge

- The perfect mix of history, etymology and a travelogue in modern-day America
- Reveals a part of American history that has long been forgotten
- Previous books published in German (Piper), Italian (Keller Editore), and Indonesian (PT Elex Media Komputindo)



September 2023
 Unieboek | Het Spectrum
 232 pp.
 Dutch PDF available
 Option publishers: Keller Editore



Philip Dröge is a journalist, columnist and commentator. He writes for various magazines and is a sought-after guest on talk shows. His earlier books were well-received in the Dutch press and have been translated into German, Italian, and Indonesian.

'Journalist and historian Philip Dröge sets out to find the remnants of the Tawl in the US. It becomes a fascinating, vibrantly described cycle tour' – *De Volkskrant*

'Philip Dröge dove in the Tawl, the American version of Dutch, and unearthed fascinating stories ... In *The Tawl* he tells stories about invisible mountain dwellers, loan words, swindlers and more.'

– *Het Parool*

Disabilities come in many different forms. The *Headlines* Series deals with various disorders from the DSM-5, the international psychiatrist's handbook for mental disorders. The books in this successful series are written by experience experts who share their insights. They give readers a glimpse into the life of someone with a disorder such as ADHD, Borderline, depression or autism. With the help of experts and scientists, they also explain the medical side of their diagnosis and the latest scientific finds on their disorders.

The series consists of seven books. The first and most successful volume, published in 2018, is *I am Autistic*, by Bianca Toeps. She writes about living with an autistic spectrum disorder. Then followed *Buzzing*, by Francien Regelink, about her troubled life with ADHD (2020), *A Screw Loose* by Iris ter Haar who copes with an anxiety disorder, and *A Case of Borderline*, by Kathelijn Hulshof, who writes about her borderline diagnosis (both 2021). In 2022, the series continued with *Just Go Do Something Fun* by Aafke Romeijn, about dealing with depression, and *Food Crazy*, by Charlotte Simons, about living with an eating disorder. The latest addition was released in February 2023: *Mirror Mirror on the Wall*, in which Maaïke Schmitz writes about her body dysmorphic disorder.

All the books in the *Headlines* Series are full of nuanced, accessible and empathetic stories that are a must-read for everyone that has to deal with neurodiversity: both the people diagnosed with the disorders and those around them.

Headline Series

- Acknowledges and celebrates neurodiversity
- Series sold over 70.000 copies
- 7 books available, one forthcoming in 2024
- Italian rights for *I am Autistic* sold to Erickson, Arabic rights sold to El Maraya. All other rights available.



Books in this series

- I Am Autistic*** – Bianca Toeps (on autism, 2019, 26.000 copies sold)
- Buzzing*** – Francien Regelink (on ADHD, 2020 20.000 copies sold)
- A Case of Borderline*** – Kathelijn Hulshof (on Borderline, 2021)
- A Screw Loose*** – Iris ter Haar (on anxiety disorder, 2021)
- Just Go Do Something Fun*** – Aafke Romeijn (on depression, 2022)
- Food Crazy*** – Charlotte Simons (on eating disorders, 2022)
- Mirror, Mirror on the Wall*** – Maaïke Schmitz (on BDD, 2023)



Cultural history at its best: a virtuose exploration of the relationship between German Romanticism and French Enlightenment set against the backdrop of European history

In the turbulent post-Brexit era with military agitation rising in Eastern Europe, all eyes are once more on the French-German axis. Can these countries give new direction to the future of the European continent? And will they finally manage to bridge the gulf they have inherited from their shared past? Four wars have left deep scars, and even if the Erbfeindschaft between the two countries has fully evaporated ever since the last world war, history shows that national prejudices and clichés tend to run deeper than we are inclined to believe and would hope for.

Embarking on a journey of music, visual arts, film, and literature, *Hunter in the Forest* guides the reader through a painful history of large-scale armed conflict. From the French-German War (1870-1871) and the proclamation of the German empire in Versailles, back to Napoleonic times and the German wars of liberation, and then from the trenches of La Grande Guerre to the total catastrophe of World War II, Maarten Doorman explores France's and Germany's position in the unpredictable future of Europe.

Hunter in the Forest France, Germany, Europe by Maarten Doorman

- Translation grant of ca. 50%-70% available
- One of the best books of 2023, according to NRC Handelsblad and Knack Focus
- Author speaks English, French, and German
- In catalogue Dutch Autumn Non-Fiction 2023, Dutch Foundation for Literature.
- English sample available



March 2023
Uitgeverij Prometheus
224 pp.
Dutch PDF and English sample available



Maarten Doorman teaches Philosophy of Culture at Maastricht University and is Endowed Professor of History of German Culture at Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam. His publications include the works *Philosophers of Today* (2000, 30,000 copies sold), *The Romantic Order* (2004, rights sold to Hungary (Typotex) and Czech Republic (Prostor)), *Rousseau and Me* (2012) and *The Navel of Daphne* (2016).

'An important book.' – Cees Noteboom

'After reading this book, you will have a better understanding of how hares run across the continent. Moreover, it hooks into larger debates on international governance and relations between countries on a global scale.' – NRC Handelsblad ★★★★★

'Hunter in the Forest is a fascinating examination of the prejudiced ways in which Germany and France have represented each other in art and literature over the past two centuries'
– Knack ★★★★★

'Maarten Doorman wrote an erudite book full of striking anecdotes about the relationship between French and Germans in terms of their arts.' – De Volkskrant ★★★★★

Stop saying "yes, but..." to life, and start saying "yes, and..."

Imagine this: you've got a great idea, and all you hear are the yes-buts. "Yes, but that's been tried before, and it didn't work." "Yes, but shouldn't we just let it sit for a while?" "Yes, but what if it doesn't work..."

This international bestseller introduces the power of flip-thinking to transform stuck-in-the-mud, pessimistic 'yes, but' thinking into an inventive, curious 'yes, and' mindset.

Berthold Gunster presents his fifteen flip-thinking strategies that will transform your thinking away from limitations and threats and toward possibilities and opportunities. From disrupting (turning all the rules upside down) to flaunting (playing up what you want to hide), and importing (getting the enemy on board) to amplifying (focusing on what works, and doing more of that) Gunster's strategies and stories will have you approaching even the most challenging problems, at work, home and at play, in a whole new way.

Berthold Gunster is the founder of the Omdenken, or Flip-Thinking, philosophy. After studying at the Theatre Academy in Utrecht he worked as a theatre director and writer for years. Since 2001 he and his team have been offering trainings, workshops, and shows about Omdenken to companies and individuals. Berthold has written thirteen bestsellers about the Omdenken theory.

Flip-Thinking

The life-changing art of turning problems into opportunities

by Berthold Gunster

- **Over 1 million copies sold in the Netherlands**
- **Longest-standing book ever on the Dutch bestseller lists**
- **The essential guide to positive thinking in difficult situations**
- **Rights sold in 20 territories: UK+C, US, Portuguese Brazil, Finnish, Romanian, Chinese, Croatian, Portuguese, Danish, Bulgarian, Polish, Serbian, Korean, Russian, Turkish, French, Slovak, Czech, Spanish, Hebrew**
- **Author has written 13 bestsellers about the Flip Thinking concept**



2008
Omdenken B.V.
316 pp.
Dutch PDF and English PDF available
English language rights represented by
Abby Koons and Jaidree Braddix, Park & Fine Agency

'Transformative... *Flip Thinking* beautifully illustrates how a person who can turn a negative into a positive can never be defeated.' –
Greg McKeown, podcaster and bestselling author of *Essentialism* and *Effortless*

The fascinating behind-the-scenes story of directeur sportifs in the cycling world

Many cycling coaches have grown to legendary characters in cycling. Still, the position has a somewhat mysterious status. For what exactly does a directeur sportif do and how much influence does he actually have on the course of a race? In this book the men and women who do everything they can to get their riders on the stage - in a sport in which much more can go wrong than right - play the leading role.

Lidewey van Noord tells of successful collaborations and grandiose failures, of meticulous course reconnaissance and nefarious scenarios, of tactical choices in the heat of battle, and of dealing with the vagaries of great champions. *Stories From the Team Car* puts the spotlight on the people who are always in the wings, offering a new perspective on cycling.

Stories From the Team Car The World According to the Cycling Coach

by Lidewey van Noord

- A unique perspective on professional race cycling at the highest level
- Written by award-winning sports writer
- One of the few female journalists reporting on the cycling world
- Author previously translated in German (Covadonga) and Czech (XYZ)



June 2023
Atlas Contact
224 pp.
Dutch PDF



Lidewey van Noord (1985) is the author of the critically acclaimed *Pellegrina* (Zinnen Roes Award 2016, shortlisted as Sports Book of the Year 2016) and books such as *Peter Sagan* and *Back to Nature*. She also writes for various newspapers and magazines. Her work has been translated into various languages. In 2022 she published her fiction debut, *The Spanish Rider*.

'A refreshing book about directeur sportifs. What is it exactly that they do?' – AD Magazine

'Interesting and in-depth presentation.' – Trouw

'Stories from the Team Car is filled with amazing and at times intense anecdotes from and about directeur sportifs' – Wim Daniels, Max Magazine

The legendary story of Max Verstappen: from youngest F1-driver to king of the track

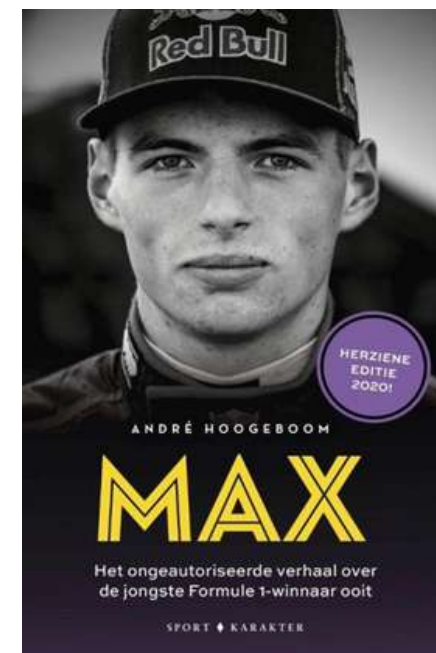
Max tells the story of the youngest-ever winner of the most expensive sport in the world: Formula 1. At the 2015 Australian Grand Prix, when he was only seventeen, he became the youngest driver to compete in Formula 1. On Sunday, May 15, 2016, Verstappen also wrote world history as the youngest-ever winner of the Grand Prix of Spain on the Circuit de Catalunya in Barcelona.

Max is the unauthorized story of Max Verstappen's path to the top of the international car racing sport. André Hoozeboom spoke at length with many people who have accompanied Verstappen on his journey to the heights of Formula 1. The book is being fully revised to include the races up till 2023 and reads as an exciting adventure story.

Max

The Dutch Master by André Hoozeboom

- The most successful biography about race legend and Formula 1 double world champion Max Verstappen
- 100.000+ copies sold in the Netherlands
- Updated edition published in Summer 2023
- Rights sold in 9 territories
- For fans of the Netflix hit show *Formula 1: Drive to Survive*



April 2020

Xander Publishers

320 pp.

Dutch and English PDFs available

Rights sold: France (Marabout); Italy (Piemme); Germany (Lübbe); Russia (Eksmo); WEL (Evro Press); Spain (Planeta); Poland (Znak); Slovakia and Czech Republic (Mamaš)



André Hoozeboom is a Dutch journalist and writer specializing in Formula 1. He currently runs a press and consultancy agency. This unauthorized biography was first published in The Netherlands in 2016 and has been expanded and updated since. Hoozeboom's other books about motorsport include a history of Zandvoort (his country's premier racetrack), a story about Dutch car manufacturer Spyker (including its short-lived F1 experience), and two novels, *Deadly Ambition* and *Sabotage*.

'This biography is well-researched and well-written. It's filled with interviews with people close to Max and his family. It makes an interesting telling of Max's story in the words of people who know him well. It's also nicely broken up with snapshots.' – *Auto Express*

'Hoozeboom excels when recapping the very early days for Verstappen, as Max crisscrossed Europe with his father Jos to dominate the karting scene.' – *Autosport Magazine*

'Well-written and superbly researched, and packed with quotes from the great and the good in the top tier of racing.' *Octane Magazine*

The gripping last testimonies of holocaust survivors

The best-known WW2 hiding story is that of Anne Frank. But there are many more similar stories that we have never heard, until now. What was it like to have gone into hiding during the war? And where could you go? What was it like not having the freedom to be who you are, to believe what you want, and to be able to say what you want? These stories are full of extreme emotions and experiences: fear, hate, love, betrayal, and selflessness.

After their highly successful book *Hidden Like Anne Frank*, Marcel Prins and Peter Henk Steenhuis collected new testimonies of people who had to go into hiding as children during World War II. Their stories provide a piercing picture of a period in which many thousands of children were separated from their parents, due to persecution and war violence, which, unfortunately, is still a daily reality for many.

Forget Your Name *Testimonies of Jewish Children in* *Hiding During WWII* by Henk Steenhuis & Marcel Prins

- Sequel to the international bestseller *Hidden Like Anne Frank*, which sold over 200.000 copies in 5 languages
- 14 never-before-told stories of children who survived the war by going into hiding



April 2023
Van Oorschot
276 pp.

Praise for *Hidden Like Anne Frank*:

'...these few voices stand out and speak for the millions whose stories remain untold.... These accessible stories, full of hard truths, are touching, thrilling, and agonizing by turns... worthy addition to the library of remembrance.' – *New York Times Book Review*

'Each memoir is poignant and heart-rending on its own, and the compilation gives the reader a stunning sense of the horror of the Holocaust. Terrifying, haunting, and powerful.' – *Kirkus* starred review

'These first-person stories of heroism and inhumanity explore the true scope of Holocaust atrocities, while also serving as a testament to resilience.' *Publishers Weekly* starred review



Marcel Prins was inspired by his mother to create this project. She went into hiding in 1942 to escape Nazi persecution. She was just six years old. Marcel Prins is an award-winning documentary filmmaker and cameraman. He lives in Utrecht, the Netherlands. Henk Steenhuis is a journalist and philosophy editor for *Trouw*.

Children's Books

'With this book we want children to understand that they can tell scary secrets to someone they trust, and that hiding them away is not a solution.'

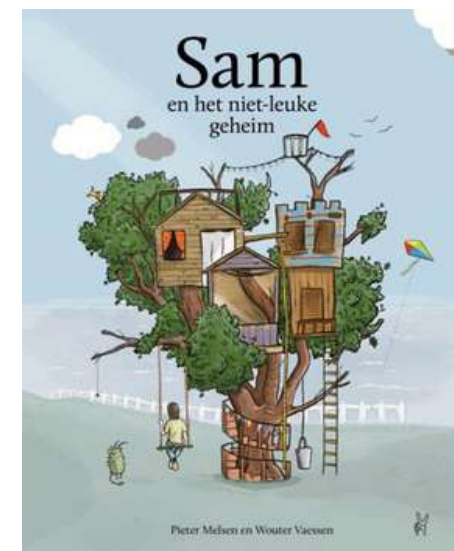
Sam smiles, but he is not happy. That's because he has a secret, a monstrous secret. No one knows he has it. He would like to tell someone, but he is too afraid to do so.

Sam tries to find ways to get rid of his secret, but nothing seems to help... Until he finds someone to share his secret with.

Sam and his Monstrous Secret

by Pieter Melsen & Wouter Vaessen

- **Eligible for translation subsidy by Dutch Foundation for Literature**
- **Applauded by psychologists and law enforcement**
- **One of the bestselling picture books of 2023 in the Netherlands**
- **Written by two special agents from the Dutch Sexual Assault and Child Abuse Squad**
- **A difficult but important topic made easily accessible**
- **Part of national campaigns against children's abuse**

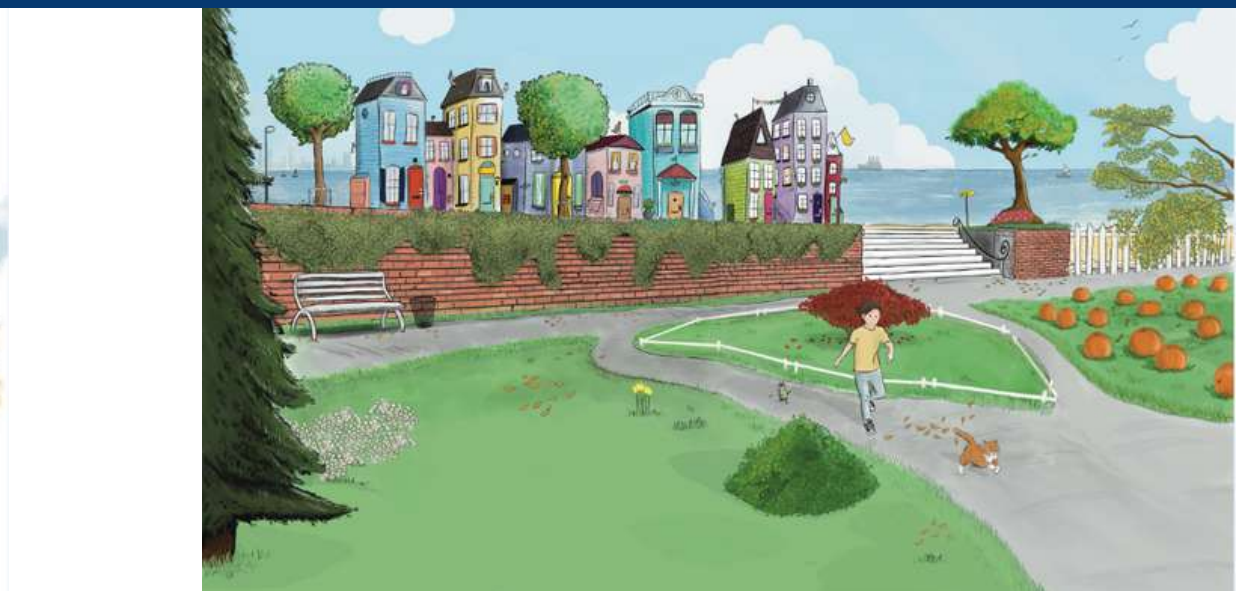


April 2023
Vesper Publishing
32 pp.
Dutch and English PDFs available
Age group: 5-10
7,000 copies sold



Pieter Melsen (1985) and Wouter Vaessen (1980) work as investigators for the Dutch police. They specialize in interrogating young children and people with intellectual or cognitive disabilities. Based on their experiences, they created this book, which does not focus on a specific unpleasant secret but is applicable to any child.

'All kids have a secret sometimes, but what if it makes you feel really bad? Sam shows what little kids can do with big secrets. Finally a children's book that shows you what to do!' – Dr. Iva Bicanic, clinical psychologist



A sailor full of stories, fantasy and tattoos. Who wouldn't want a father like that?

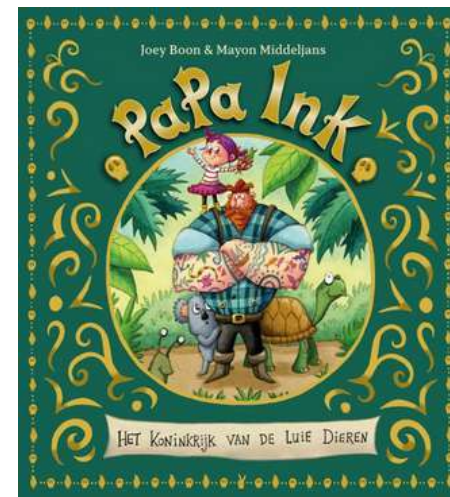
Papa Ink lives with his daughter Harley in a cluttered fisherman's house by the beach. It is littered with treasures he has collected during his many adventures at sea.

At bedtime, Papa Ink does not read to Harley from a book. Instead, he tells exciting stories about his tattoos. When Harley asks him what his tattoo of a dragon fruit means, he tells her the wonderful story of the Kingdom of Lazy Animals.

Papa Ink

Kingdom of the Lazy Animals
by Joey Boon & Mayon Middeljans

- **Eligible for translation subsidy by Dutch Foundation for Literature**
- **The perfect book for parents with tattoos**
- **Full-colour images throughout, available free of rights**

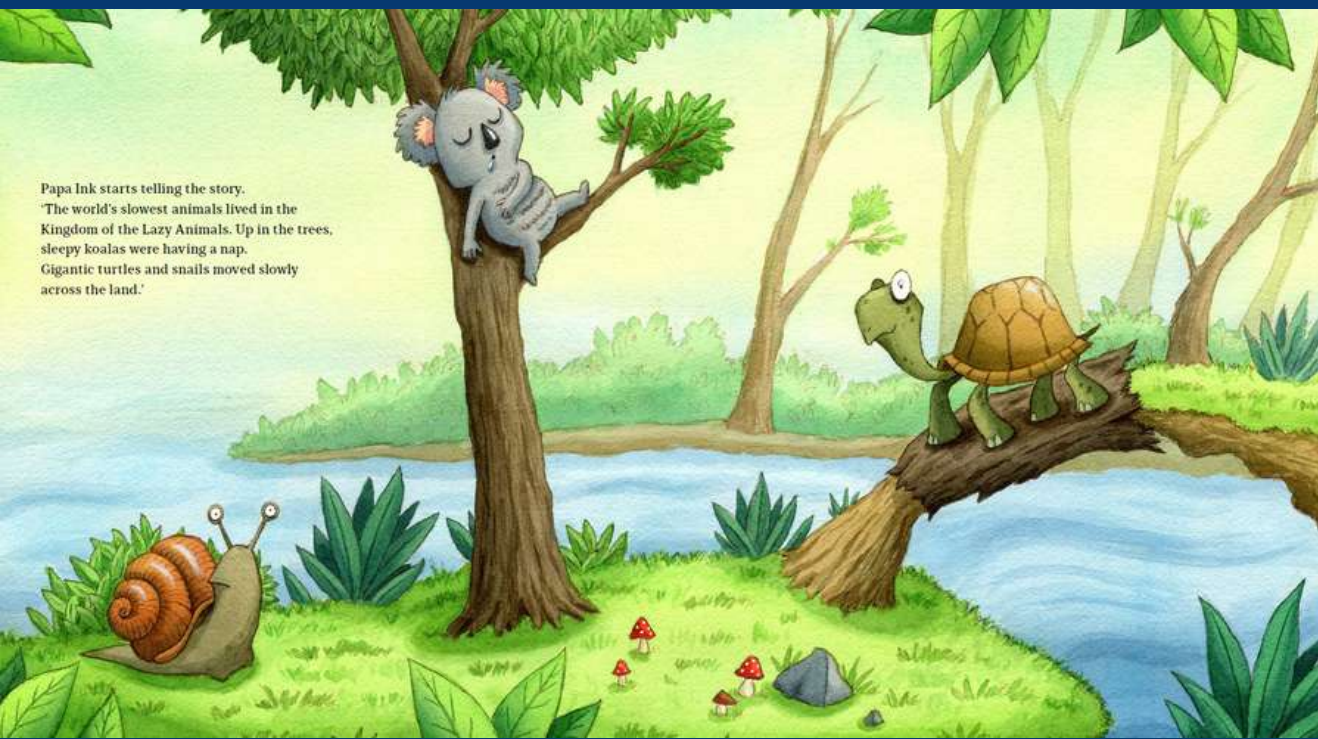


February 2023
Vesper Publishing
32 pp.
Dutch and English PDFs available
Age group: 3+



Joey Boon is a tattoo artist and owner of the largest tattoo shop in the Netherlands: Tattoo Joey. Besides making tattoos, he is also father of three kids, who make his life adventurous. Mayon Middeljans is a freelance illustrator under the name DaisyMayonaisy. She creates fine art prints with watercolors and pencil as well as illustrations for children's and picture books.

Papa Ink starts telling the story.
'The world's slowest animals lived in the Kingdom of the Lazy Animals. Up in the trees, sleepy koalas were having a nap. Gigantic turtles and snails moved slowly across the land.'



A golden anchor he discovered in an old shipwreck on the bottom of the sea, hangs on the wall. Papa Ink even has a shiny medal that he found during a journey through the burning desert.

These treasures are a daily reminder for him to never give up.

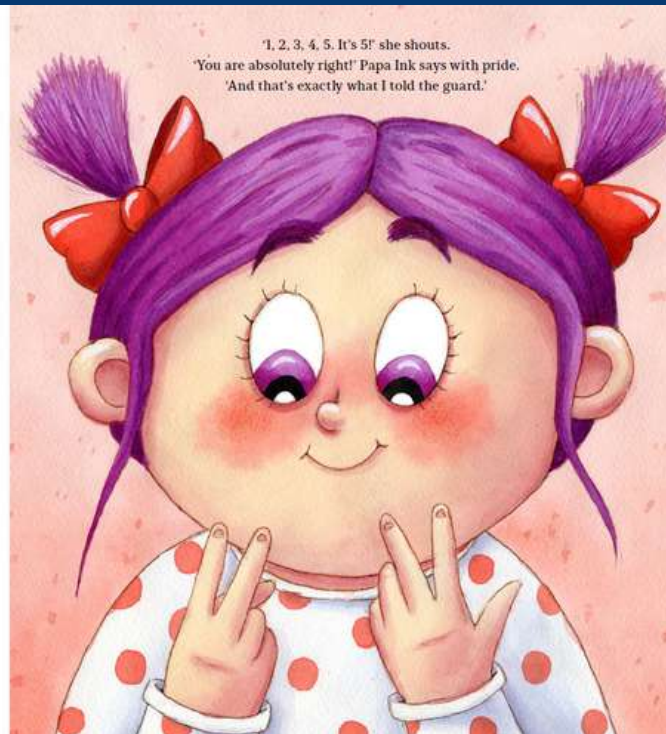


One night, Papa Ink and Harley are reading books together. Papa Ink is reading a book about the lost treasures of the sea, while Harley is browsing a children's book. 'Harley, it's time to go to bed' Papa Ink says, when he sees it's getting late.



'To be allowed to speak to king Chip, you must first solve a puzzle,' one of the lions told me. 'What equals 3 + 2?'

'Harley, can you help me solve this puzzle before I continue with the story?' Harley holds up two fingers on her right hand and three on her left. She then puts her hands together and starts to count.



'1, 2, 3, 4, 5. It's 5!' she shouts.
'You are absolutely right!' Papa Ink says with pride.
'And that's exactly what I told the guard.'

More Opportunities

Captivating literary debut about the weight of expectations, loneliness and companionship

On the day the Vuelta passes through the province of West-Brabant, a famous Spanish cyclist causes a crash for his biggest competitor, with serious consequences. Almost immediately afterward, the Spanish rider himself gets off track. Hours later, a farmer finds him injured and semi-conscious on the roadside. He takes the rider into his home. Temporarily, he thinks. But the cyclist, consumed by self-doubt and guilt, does not seem to want to leave the farm anytime soon.

With her meticulous, evocative style, Van Noord depicts two men in the Brabant countryside sheltering from the outside world, and from themselves. *The Spanish Rider* is an elegantly told, deeply human story about desire, loneliness and the question of how to relate to the expectations of others.

The Spanish Rider by Lidewey van Noord

- *Brokeback Mountain* meets the Vuelta in the Dutch countryside
- Van Noord's previous nonfiction work has been nominated for various prizes and was translated into multiple languages



July 2022

Volt

144 pp.

English sample available



Lidewey van Noord (1985) is the author of the critically acclaimed *Pellegrina* (Zinnen Roes Award 2016, shortlisted as Sports Book of the Year 2016) and books such as *Peter Sagan* and *Back to Nature*. She also writes for various newspapers and magazines. Her work has been translated into various languages. *The Spanish Rider* is her fiction debut, and it was released at the start of the Vuelta in the Netherlands in 2022.

'With imagination and empathy, Van Noord gives her fallen Spanish cycling hero the strength to crawl out of a very dark place. This novella makes you want more!' – Wilfried de Jong, author

'The novella is about much more than cycling: the race itself is merely packaging for major themes such as identity, guilt and love, which Lidewey portrays just as convincingly as the cycling itself.' – Pro-cycling

'Well-known sports book writer Lidewey van Noord has ventured into fiction for the first time in the run-up to the Vuelta. The result is very impressive.' – NPO Radio 1

'The melancholy of the Italian autumn is palpable in this book; that's what makes it so charming. Not everything appears in bright splendor; much is of a more brittle beauty.' – Süddeutsche Zeitung on *Pellegrina*

‘When you see a picture of a woman in a burka, you don't relate to her. You remain a spectator. But when you read a novel, you can identify with universal themes such as love, betrayal and compassion. While reading, you can feel what the characters feel. I believe literature keeps us human.’

Forugh Karimi, interview in *de Volkskrant*

Ramín Sam Manzel (34) is a radiologist. When he returns from his evening shift one day, he finds his wife Saráh in a pool of blood in their flat in Amsterdam. She has been stabbed and the suspect is on the run.

Ramín and his mother Lolo came to the Netherlands as a refugee when Ramín was three. Lolo has scrupulously kept his origins hidden from him her whole life. After her passing, Ramín gradually finds out who he is and where he comes from – but only when his great love Saráh translates Lolo's diaries for him does everything fall into place. Bit by bit it also becomes clear who the perpetrator of the attack on Saráh is, and then everything accelerates in a violent, but also moving way.

The Mothers of Mahipar **by Forugh Karimi**

- **Winner Hebban Debut Prize**
- **A powerful family saga, a story about family and friendship, war and resistance and the meaning of the word 'home'**
- **An ode to resilient women**



January 2022

Meridiaan

488 pp.

English sample available



Forugh Karimi (1971, Kabul) is an Afghan-Dutch writer. At the age of 25 she fled with her husband to the Netherlands. She studied medicine and works as a psychiatrist and psychotherapist. From an early age she loved writing and at nineteen she won a prize for one of her short stories. Karimi has written many articles and essays in both Farsi and Dutch. She also translated work by Joost Zwagerman and Martinus Nijhoff, among others. *The Mothers of Mahipar* is her debut novel.

'This smart, thoughtful book is clearly the work of an experienced writer.' – *de Volkskrant* ★★★★★

'Forugh Karimi masterfully hands her readers pieces of the puzzle, until everything falls into place. This is an addictive read, not only because the characters feel so real, but also because of Karimi's writing style. A powerful family story that captivates from the first page to the last.' – *De Boekenkrant*

An evolutionary and psychological perspective on the human love of soccer

Why do humans play soccer and what are the evolutionary roots of this beautiful game? What does science say about home-field advantage and the perfect penalty? What is the relationship between a skull and a soccer cup? Why does supporter violence seem to have increased after the COVID-19 pandemic? How do leaders use football as a propaganda tool and is it wise?

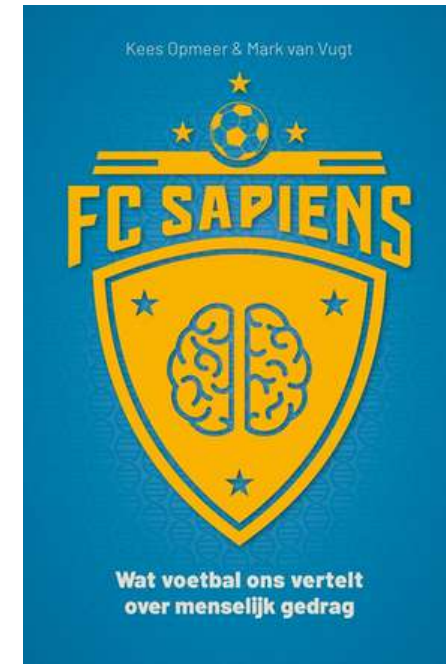
Why is it better to marry a Southampton FC supporter than a Manchester United fan? Why do the best teams consist of 4 violinists and 7 street sweepers? And is it true that if there were more football, there would be less war?

Professor of psychology Mark van Vugt and author Kees Opmeer answer these and many other questions. They take an evolutionary psychological look at all facets of the football game and take you on a journey through the world's greatest stadiums, the most remarkable matches, and the rich history of the world's most popular sport. After reading *FC Sapiens* you will never watch Match of the Day, visit any football match, or cheer on your child from the sidelines in quite the same way again.

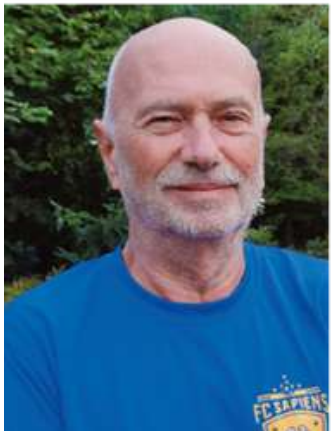
FC SAPIENS

What Football Tells Us About Human Behaviour by Kees Opmeer & Mark van Vugt

- **Written by one of the most influential psychologists worldwide, with many international publications to his name.**



October 2022
A.W. Bruna
224 pp.



Mark van Vugt is a professor of psychology at VU University and a research associate at the University of Oxford. He has more than 200 scientific publications to his name and is the author of various books, which have been translated into many languages, including English, Chinese, Korean, Japanese, and Portuguese. He is considered one of the most influential psychologists currently.

Kees Opmeer is a copywriter and author of more than fifty books. He has worked as a policy official for various governments and in 2011 he was named best writing civil servant in the Netherlands.

'FC Sapiens is a light-hearted mix of soccer stories and popular science.' – *New Scientist*

'Why does soccer attract so many people? And what does that say about us? The book FC Sapiens answers these questions from a striking angle: evolution.' – *Trouw*

A piercing novel based on the life of Silesian nazi Willi Kulla and his spoils of war

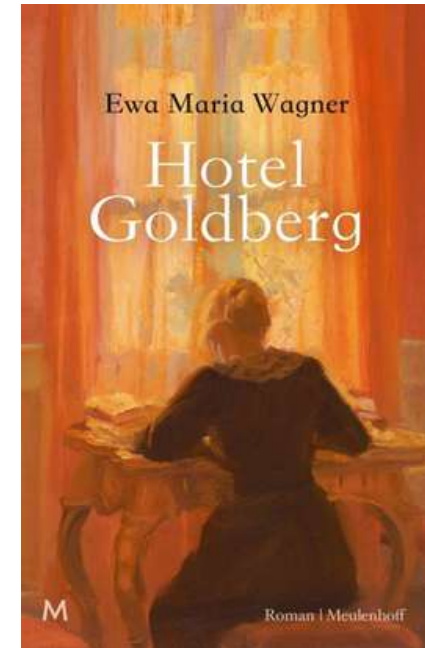
The life of Dutch pianist Marie is upended when she finds out she is the sole heiress of a distant aunt from abroad. She travels to Pless, her family's hometown in Silesia which she had only visited once, as a child.

During her stay in Pless, Marie discovers that she not only inherited a small fortune but also a hotel, which needs to be run. Gradually she discovers more about the dark side of her family history: her grandfather had joined the nazis during the war, which had far-reaching consequences. His actions reverberated all the way to the Netherlands, where his unit was stationed during the winter of 1944. And her grandfather's past is not the only secret that has remained hidden.

How should Marie relate to the past and the money that is suddenly hers? What if it is blood money? Who can she believe in her search for what happened during the war years? Confronting her own choice is the final chord of *Hotel Goldberg*.

Hotel Goldberg by Ewa Maria Wagner

- Well-researched and suspenseful historical fiction
- For readers of Arthur Japin and Tessa de Loo



January 2023
Meulenhoff
336 pp.



Ewa Maria Wagner was born in the Polish region of Silesia in 1964, as the daughter of parents of German descent. She ended up in the Netherlands in 1991, via Munich. She graduated at the conservatory of Katowice and she now works as a violinist at the prestigious Radio Philharmonic Orchestra in the Netherlands. In addition, she writes articles and interviews for *SOMTimes* and *Klassiek Magazine*, amongst others. Her debut *The Tristan Chord* was published in 2019 and has been translated into German (Urachhaus). Wagner regularly writes articles on classical music and has a widely read column in *NRC Handelsblad*.

Praise for *The Tristan Chord*:

'A musical manuscript that will continue singing in your head and heart, like a good concert.' – Christiaan Weijts (author)

'Moving and beautifully told story about Ewa's present and past. Music is the connecting force in her life, but the words make the story live.' – Aaltje van Zweden (author)

A compelling historical novel about a journalist who grows up in the 1850s in Wisconsin, where the times are changing rapidly and Abel must try to keep up

Winterswijk, 1847. Abel Sikkink is eight years old when his parents decide to emigrate to America. During their move, tragedy strikes the ship that is taking them to their final destination, and it perishes. Abel is the only member of his family to survive the disaster. He grows up in a small village in Wisconsin, until he spreads his wings and follows his friend Kalle, who's building a career in New York as a photographer. There, Abel enters a new world. Newspaper tycoon Gordon Bennett of The New York Herald, poet Walt Whitman, actress Ada Clare and the abolitionist John Brown cross his path, among others. It is the eve of the Civil War, and Abel prepares himself for a new role: to be a war correspondent. In the meantime, he relentlessly continues to search for those ultimately responsible for the loss of his family.

Phoenix

The Memoirs of Abel Sikkink

by Bert Wagendorp

- From the author of international bestsellers *Ventoux* and *Ferrara*
- *Ventoux* sold to: France (Galaade Éditions); UK (World Editions Ltd); Germany (btb Verlag); Denmark (Turbine); Norway (Kagge); Spain (Libros de Ruta); USA (World Editions)
- First volume of the Abel Sikkink trilogy



February 2022
Uitgeverij Pluim
400 pp.
English sample available



Bert Wagendorp (1956) is a writer and columnist for the Dutch national newspaper *de Volkskrant*. His bestselling novel *Ventoux* received unanimous rave reviews from the press, selling 100,000 copies within the first six months. Worldwide 200,000 copies were sold. *Ventoux* has been adapted into a Dutch-language film of the same title. In 2019 the sequel *Ferrara* was published, which also immediately entered the bestseller list

'A compelling historical novel. Phoenix is Wagendorp's most ambitious book so far, covering a great many years of history, which he describes with tangible enjoyment and expertise. And this is just the first part of the trilogy.' – *Trouw*

'A beautiful and moving first part of three. Bert Wagendorp proves to be a master storyteller.' – *Bazarow*

'A propulsive reading experience.' – *The New York Times* on *Ventoux*

'Wagendorp's book manages to be funny, shrewd and moving, with a complex structure that never feels cumbersome, and a finale so intense that you want to read it very slowly, almost one word at a time.' – *The Guardian* on *Ventoux*

A thrilling play between historical reality and fiction

It is September 1861 when Abel Sikkink and his best friend Kalle arrive in Cairo, Illinois. The Civil War has erupted. Abel is reporting for The New York Herald and Kalle, by now a celebrated photographer, is capturing the events with his camera. With their travelling photo studio, the two young men travel from battle to battle across America's West. Meanwhile, Abel continues to search for the truth behind the disaster of the lost ship the Phoenix, and the fate of his supposedly dead brother Antony becomes increasingly puzzling. In the second volume of *The Memoirs of Abel Sikkink*, love, death and drama alternate – but humor is never far away.

Against the backdrop of a torn America, Bert Wagendorp takes his readers to New York's theater scene of 1864, the hospital tents at the front and to the world of cynical newspaper tycoon James Gordon Bennett. In a thrilling play between historical reality and fiction, old acquaintances such as poet Walt Whitman return and the Battle of Gettysburg takes a heavy toll. Abel Sikkink's memoirs evoke a nineteenth-century world that is at times surprisingly similar to our own.

Kalle

The Memoirs of Abel Sikkink

by Bert Wagendorp

- From the author of international bestsellers *Ventoux* and *Ferrara*
- *Ventoux* sold to: France (Galaade Éditions); UK (World Editions Ltd); Germany (btb Verlag); Denmark (Turbine); Norway (Kagge); Spain (Libros de Ruta); USA (World Editions)
- The stunning second installment in the Abel Sikkink Series, follow-up to *Phoenix*



April 2023
Uitgeverij Pluim
400 pp.
English sample available



Bert Wagendorp (1956) is a writer and columnist for the Dutch national newspaper *de Volkskrant*. His bestselling novel *Ventoux* received unanimous rave reviews from the press, selling 100,000 copies within the first six months. Worldwide 200,000 copies were sold. *Ventoux* has been adapted into a Dutch-language film of the same title. In 2019 the sequel *Ferrara* was published, which also immediately entered the bestseller list

'The subject of *The Memoirs of Abel Sikkink* cannot exactly be called light. Yet with *Kalle*, part two in the series of four, writer and journalist Bert Wagendorp wanted to incorporate lightheartedness and humor. And he succeeded exceptionally well in doing so.' – *Trouw*

'A beautiful and moving first part of three. Bert Wagendorp proves to be a master storyteller.' – *Bazarow*

'A propulsive reading experience.' – *The New York Times* on *Ventoux*

'Wagendorp's book manages to be funny, shrewd and moving, with a complex structure that never feels cumbersome, and a finale so intense that you want to read it very slowly, almost one word at a time.' – *The Guardian* on *Ventoux*

Lighthearted and fun feelgood, full of twists and surprises

Ambitious Cultural Anthropology student Madelon travels to the city-state of Montferrat on the Mediterranean Sea, a well-known millionaire's playground. She expects nothing more from the trip than a sunny weekend away and some useful research material for her dissertation. Her well-connected uncle has arranged an interview with the extremely wealthy government figure Jack, who holds a high position in the Montferrat government. According to Madelon's information, Jack fits the profile of the stereotypical Mediterranean player, which happens to be the subject of her research.

However, though is almost painfully handsome, he is not at all the player Madelon expected him to be. On the contrary, he comes across as rather tight-lipped and reclusive, but he does agree to introduce her to Sheik Quasim, an acquaintance of his who seems to have invented the term 'player'. Before long, Madelon finds herself dining on Quasim's posh yacht, staying in Jack's private lighthouse, being driven around in an expensive car and being invited to the annual exclusive gala as a guest of honor – all in the name of science, of course.

Will she manage to resist the practiced charms of her two research subjects?

Two Princes by Jackie van Laren

- **Over 400.000 copies of Jackie van Laren's books sold in the Netherlands**
- **Tongue-in-cheek take on the prince trope by bestselling author**
- **First book in a brand-new trilogy, book #2 expected in Summer 2024**



June 2023

Boekerij

552 pp.

English sample available



Jackie van Laren (1968) has two great passions in life: music and stories. She made her writing debut with the three-part *Q Series*. After that, she published the duology *Falling and Rising*, the *Island Love Series*, the *Under the Trees* series and stand-alone novels *The Girl's Magnet* and *Homecoming*. Italian translation rights to Spring Greens, book 1 in the *Under the Trees* Series, were sold to Giunti.

'A fast-paced and delicious novel that you won't want to put down any time soon.' – *Hebban*

A lovely beach read!' – *De Telegraaf Vrouw*

An immense fortune. An impossible choice. Unconditional love. A young girl struggles with her employer's power over her life, even after his death.

Venice, 1978. Alba Amato is a young orphan who finds work as a waitress at Gli Scalini, an authentic coffee bar in the Castello district. At first, everything goes well, but gradually Alba's life is dominated by the introverted coffee roaster Roberto Raffa. Amidst the aromas of ground beans, a sinister power play takes place that only ends when Roberto passes away.

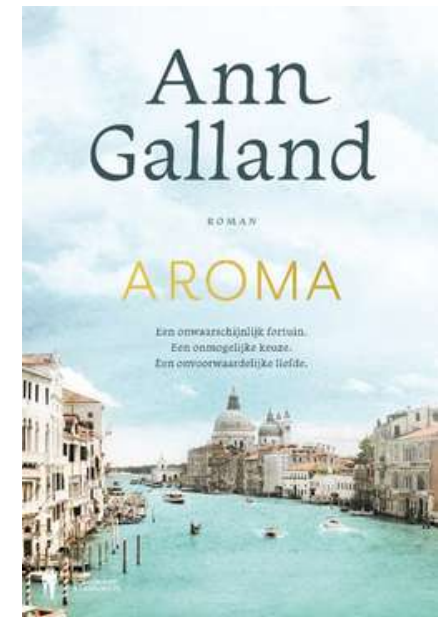
For Alba, Roberto's death means the end of two years of tyranny. Until she learns that she is the sole beneficiary of his will. Should she accept the fortune of the man who terrorized her, or stay true to herself? Her choice is the start of a story that spans more than half a century, a story that exposes a stream of family secrets and intrigue and makes us ponder: what if I had lived my life differently?



Ann Galland is a Belgian author, blogger, entrepreneur, and foodie. She runs a project management agency, which she runs from her home in alternately Rome and Ghent. She is fluent in Italian, English, and Dutch. *Aroma* is her debut novel.

Aroma by Ann Galland

- **For readers of Elena Ferrante and Santa Montefiore**
- **Book club favorite in Belgium, with a steady position on the Flemish bestseller list**
- **A moving story about the choices we make and the consequences we carry, set in 1970s Italy**
- **Author speaks Italian fluently**



May 2022

Borgerhoff & Lamberigts

400 pp.

English sample available

'A wonderful debut by Ann Galland. A novel that makes one dream of Italy.' – *Standaard Boekhandel*

'This debut novel by Galland is beautifully written. You imagine yourself in Italian cities and can smell the delicious coffee!' – *Libelle Leesclub*

'You're not autistic, okay? Absolutely bonkers, sure. But not autistic,'
Paul said.

'Then why am I so difficult? You have to admit that I was horrible
yesterday,' I replied.

'You just don't understand anyone anymore when it gets dark, is all.
Stop scrolling WebMD, and just get your ears cleaned.'

Manon is a slightly neurotic screenwriter. In recent years she has become hard of hearing without really noticing it. Social situations have become increasingly awkward and Manon has to apologize a lot for misunderstanding people. Her daughter Evi has gotten used to calling for her dad instead of her mom. Willem, the family's German shepherd, also adapts to the situation and tries to prevent Manon from making minor mistakes. She reads his body language and he reads hers. He alerts Manon when the bell rings, when her daughter cries and when the phone rings. He is a supernanny for Evi and saves her from oncoming cars, and even from drowning.

Manon attributes all this chaos to stress and other people's tendency to make a mess of everything. Until one day her husband remarks: 'You just don't understand anyone anymore when it gets dark.' Pieces of the puzzle begin to fall into place and Manon's journey begins. Toward solutions, healing, toward acceptance. It is the love for her daughter that finally convinces Manon to 'come out' as deaf.

Deaf! is a humorous account of a world that is built for the hearing, but in which noise canceling headphones are all over the place. It's about missing music, and about the beauty of silence.



Manon Spierenburg (1968) is a writer and screenwriter. After studying Dutch Language and Literature she started writing screenplays for successful Dutch soap operas and drama series such as *Goede Tijden, Slechte Tijden*, *Rozengeur & Wodka Lime*, and *Floor Faber*. She now has ten books to her name, including the children's series *De vier van Westwijk*. She is currently working on the film version of *Deaf!* which will be produced by MediaLane.

Deaf!

And Why it Took Me so Long to Notice

by Manon Spierenburg

- Film rights sold to MediaLane, a TV series in the making in collaboration with the author
- A simultaneously hilarious and painful memoir about hearing loss



October 2022
Uitgeverij Podium
240 pp.
English sample available

A poetic literary nonfiction debut about the desire to have children, being queer, and finding a home

Brecht De Backer is certain about one thing: she wants a child. Unfortunately, being both gay and single makes fulfilling that wish problematic. In this book, she describes her attempts to resolve the issue, from fostering and co-parenting to speed dating with other aspiring parents. And although her attempts proved unfruitful, something was always born: the idea of a child. Children who grew in Brecht's mind, in her heart, in her belly. What happens to the children with whom you imagined a future, but never had?

In an attempt to come to grips with the loss of the lives not lived, Brecht finds solace in Werner Heisenberg's quantum theory. The more you put a magnifying glass on reality, the clearer it becomes: the laws of nature take magical forms in which almost nothing is impossible, and in which everything that can happen, will happen. This is a sparkling, poetic and frank debut that explores longing for a home, the effects of a childhood of 'otherness', finding your place in the world, shaping your own definition of what is normal, and the existence of many realities alongside each other.

The Story of You and All the Children I Never Had by Brecht De Backer

- A fresh, unique, and feminist perspective on contemporary motherhood
- Translation Grant from Flanders Literature + an additional EUR 250 when translator's name is on the cover



September 2022

Atlas Contact

224 pp.

English sample available



Brecht de Backer (1987) obtained a bachelor's and master's degree in Dutch Language and Linguistics, and in Film, Theater, and Literature at the University of Antwerp. She also holds a master's degree in Literary Entrepreneurship from Radboud University Nijmegen. She works as editor-in-chief for Museumnacht, 8weekly, 3voor12, Vileine and Eye Film Museum, and freelances in PR, marketing, and communication for various cultural institutions and companies.

'This book is full of humor and amazing insights about what it means to be a yearning, emotional human being. Despite her pain, De Backer focuses on the magic of life: everything she loses lives on elsewhere in the universe. Her otherness becomes her strength, a real superpower.'
– *De Groene Amsterdammer Magazine*

'Brecht de Backer's search through loss and new life provides a helpful book for (queer) women considering single motherhood' – *Het Parool*

Anne Frank's diary was translated into 67 languages, selling more than 30 million copies

Without the intense effort of Otto Frank, Anne's father, who was the only member of the family to survive the war, this success would have been unthinkable. After the war, he dedicated his life to publishing his daughter's diary.

Journalist and film researcher Sandra van Beek has looked into this history in depth. She describes Otto Frank's work meticulously and tells the captivating story of the troubled history behind this iconic book. She focuses on The Netherlands, Germany, and the United States while proving that the history of the publication of *Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl* cannot be seen as separate from the development of Dutch society in the years after the war.

The History of a Diary ***Otto Frank and Anne Frank: the*** ***Diary of a Young Girl*** **by Sandra van Beek**

- **The unique history of one of the world's most famous books**
- **Translation grant available from the Dutch Foundation for Literature**



July 2022
Uitgeverij Pluim
150 pp.
English sample available



Sandra van Beek is a journalist, translator, and film researcher. She has made many documentaries with filmmaker Kees Hin and published several books. More information about Sandra on www.sandravanbeek.nl.

'The History of a Diary is a book for those who want to understand the iconic value of Anne Frank. (...) Van Beek also sketches a fine and balanced picture of Otto Frank.' – *NRC Handelsblad* ★★★★★

'The History of a Diary offers an interesting background of how this diary found its way into the world and became a source of inspiration for drama and film.' – *Bazarow*

Practical guides for students and study advisors

About *From Stress to Success*

Many students in higher education suffer from stress. But the good news is that stress is manageable, to a large extent. This book gives you hands-on advice on how to do so. It discusses the most common forms of stress for students: worrying, fear of failure, and perfectionism. It also takes a closer look at writing anxiety and public speaking anxiety. With the help of the exercises in this book, you will experience less stress, the stressful periods will pass more quickly, and you will recover faster from stressful events. This will not only boost your performance but also help you get more enjoyment from your studies.

About *Get Smarter*

Research shows that study success in higher education depends much more on behavior than on intelligence. The good news is you can learn to study efficiently and effectively! This practical book gives you all the tools you need to do so. Using this system will not only boost your performance but will also help you get more enjoyment from your studies. Throughout her career in the field of education, Mirjam Pol has supported countless students as their study advisor and study counselor. In this acclaimed book, she combines knowledge from psychology and cognitive science with traditional study skills.

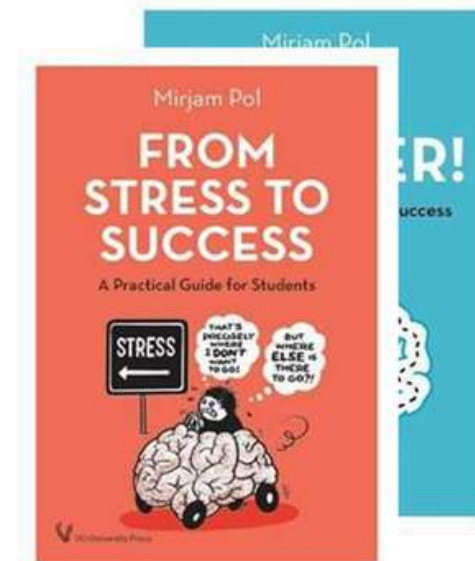


Mirjam Pol is a health scientist. After having worked as a study advisor at the Faculty of Medicine at Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam for many years, she currently works as a student counselor at the Royal Academy of Art in The Hague. She is passionate about working with students and has written several acclaimed books on successful studying.

From Stress to Success & Get Smarter

by Mirjam Pol

- Over 100.000 copies sold in the Netherlands
- The perfect mix of background information, theory, and exercises
- Full English translations available



VU University Press

126 pp.

Dutch and English pdfs available

All rights available

'A little book filled with doable exercises to study with less stress. It can also serve as a practical guide for study advisors in discussions with students.' – Mirjam Nederveen, Chair LVSA (Dutch Association of Student Counsellors)

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