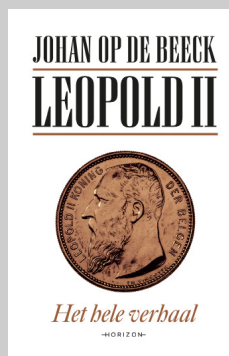


# FOREIGN RIGHTS GUIDE

Autumn 2021

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OVERAMSTEL  
uitgevers

Overamstel Uitgevers has offices in Amsterdam and Antwerp. We house the imprints Carrera Culinair, Hollands Diep, Horizon, Inside, Lebowski Publishers, Moon and The House of Books. Overamstel is the place for fiction, non-fiction, cookery books, sport biographies, history, children's books and YA.

First impressions on walking through the doors are our high palm trees gently swaying in the air-conditioning's draft. This is followed by the hard to ignore multi-storey bookchest. Instantly clear is the open, spacious, character of the building. Sales, marketing and PR dominating the middle ground, flanked by the imprints on all sides. We have an open-door policy in an office – fittingly - without doors.

In spite of working from a distance during COVID, this has symbolically remained our set up: a strong central organization serving the finer, specialist imprints. Every book is made by editing teams each with its own specialisation. This is how the imprints can properly embrace their authors, giving their books all the attention they deserve. Meanwhile, these imprints don't need to operate as independent islands.

What else do we stand for at Overamstel? We like to innovate. eBooks and audiobooks have become commonplace; we were the early adopters of these new publishing practices. In the field of pr, sales, marketing and rights we deliver tailor made creative solutions.

Our editors look after authors across the whole spectrum, from debutants to household names! We're constantly on the lookout for new voices, investing time and resources in fresh talent.

With major clout and an eye for detail, that's how we get to work.

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**CARRERA**  
*culinair*



**HORIZON**

**INSIDE**



**HOLLANDS** *Diep*  
*uitgevers*



**LEBOWSKI**  
**PUBLISHERS**



**moon**

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### BASTA

Edwin Schoon

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Auke Kok

### THOMAS DEKKER: MY FIGHT

Thijs Zonneveld

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Leon Verdonschot

**FICTION**

# THE WITCH OF LIMBRICHT

LEBO  
WSKI

Susan Smit

**Based on the breathtaking, true story of a woman who defies  
the powers that want to break her**



Limbricht, near Sittard, late seventeenth century. Throughout her life Entgen Luijten is used to going her own way, in family matters, in business and in love. She is supported in this by a great knowledge of nature, which she also regularly uses to help her fellow villagers. But then she is accused of witchcraft because of some unfortunate incidents. The lord of the castle is eager for a confession, for which he uses all the means available to him by the Inquisition. But what if Entgen holds out against all odds?

*The Witch of Limbricht* is a fact-based historical novel about the courage, wilfulness and political consciousness of an untamed woman. Her trial in 1674, of which all the documents have been preserved, goes differently than anyone could have predicted.

May 2021  
256 pages

**‘Smits empathy is her great strength. She doesn’t sugar-coat or romanticise; she sweeps the fairytale off the table.’**  
- NRC

## GOOD TO KNOW

- Over 50,000 copies sold
- Film rights sold to Pupkin
- Full English translation available
- Translations will be subsidized by  
Nederlands Letterenfonds



© Yvette Kulkens

**Susan Smit** (1974) is a writer and columnist. She now has eighteen successful books to her name, including the bestsellers *Vloed*, *Gisèle* and *Tropenbruid*.

# CONFRONTATIONS

Simone Atangana Bekono

**Gripping debut novel about a girl who battles with the world and with herself**



Salomé Atabong, daughter of a Cameroonian father and a Dutch mother, arrives at a juvenile detention centre to start a six-month sentence for an as-yet-unspecified violent crime. Her thoughts, memories, interactions with fellow detainees and reluctant therapy sessions gradually reveal the confusion, anger and sorrow that swirl within her, fed not just by the casual and sometimes aggressive racism of her provincial hometown, but also by the tug of contending family influences.

September 2021  
224 pages

**'Simone Atangana Bekono lives up to high expectations with her exceptional debut novel *Confrontations*. (...) Racism is unequivocally bound up with identity and Atangana Bekono has impressively integrated this entanglement in her novel. \*\*\*\***

– de Volkskrant

**'Her experience as a poet shows in her highly precise use of language (...) When Salomé describes the circumstances of her detention, the sentences hum within the intoxication of violence.'** – NRC Handelsblad

## GOOD TO KNOW

- **Shortlisted for the Libris Literatuurprijs 2021**
- **Winner Hebban Debut Award 2021**
- **Winner Best Book for Young Readers Award**
- **Full English translation available**
- **Film rights sold**
- **Translations will be subsidized by Nederlands Letterenfonds**



© Bianca Sistermans

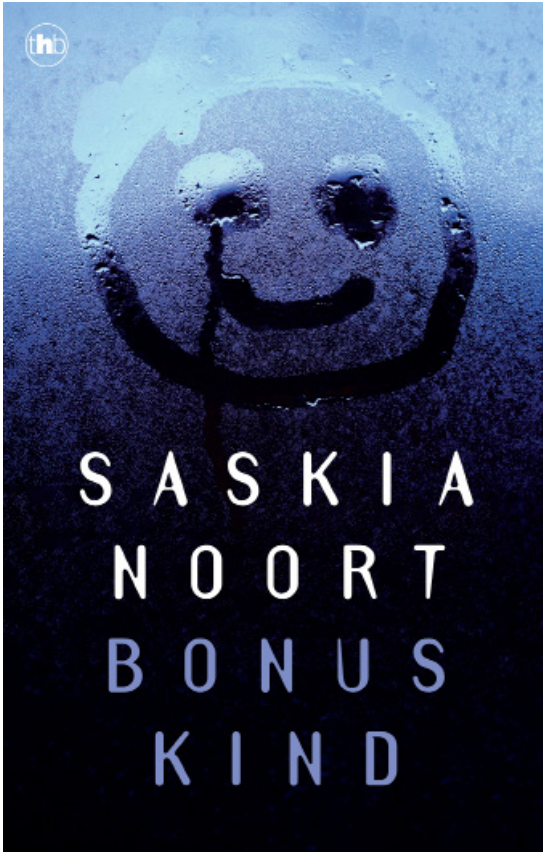
**Simone Atangana Bekono** (1991) first came to prominence as a poet. Her 2017 collection *How the First Sparks Became Visible* was widely acclaimed and won the Poetry Debut Prize Aan Zee. Atangana Bekono was named by *de Volkskrant* as one of the three literary talents of the year twice (2020 and 2021).

# THE GROWN-UP

Saskia Noort



**A new thriller by Saskia Noort, the queen of suspense**



Fifteen-year-old Lies wakes up one morning with the feeling that something has happened to her mother Jet. Her bed has not been slept in and she has left her cell phone at home.

In the following twenty-four hours, Lies receives no sign of life. Her father and his new friend Laura call in the police, they believe it has to do with her mental state: she would never have overcome the divorce and has therefore decided to disappear. Or worse. Lies, however, is sure she would never do that and goes to investigate on her own. With all the consequences this entails.

June 2020  
272 pages

**‘Saskia Noort has outdone herself! Prepare for a sleepless night, because this story must be read in one sitting.’ –**

*Camilla Läckberg*

## GOOD TO KNOW

- **Over 100,000 copies sold, best-selling suspense book of 2020**
- **Number 1 in the Dutch bestseller chart for weeks**
- **Rights sold to Germany (Europa Verlag) and Czech (Metafora/Grada)**
- **Film rights sold**
- **Full English translation available**



© Carli Hermes

**Saskia Noort** (1967) is the queen of suspense. Over 3 million copies of her books have been sold throughout the years. Her work has been translated into fifteen languages and adapted for tv, film and theater. Her eighth thriller *The Grown-Up* was the best-selling suspense book of 2020.

# BIRD ISLAND

Marion Pauw



A new thriller by Marion Pauw



What happened to Marianne? At fifteen, she ran away from home, never to be heard from again. Years later, her sister Nicole is still struggling with the trauma of her disappearance. She decides to leave everything behind and move to Spain. But even there she cannot escape the past. A special apparition rekindles hope that her sister is still alive and leads her to the uninhabited Bird Island.

Told from different perspectives, as a reader you get to know Marianne's story. You are tossed back and forth between hope and fear, love and cruelty, sympathy and antipathy. All you want is the truth to come out.

May 2021  
272 pages

**'Bird Island is compelling, dark, threatening, at times sunny, but ultimately heartbreaking and oppressive.'** \*\*\*\* –

De Telegraaf

**'Suspenseful book about puzzling missing persons. Pauw delivers a feat.'** – Trouw

## GOOD TO KNOW

- Bird Island really exists as a location
- In the Dutch bestseller chart for weeks
- Film rights sold
- English sample translation available



© Yvette Kulkens

**Marion Pauw** (1973) is a writer and screenwriter. She wrote the bestseller *Daglicht*, which sold more than 250,000 copies and will be filmed by Fox Entertainment. At Lebowsky Publishers she published *The Experiments* and *Hotel Hartzeer* with Susan Smit.

# THE MINISTER

Hans Faber

**Very strong second part in the Van Zandt series**



The young politician Jan de Reuver is not afraid of the devil. When a colleague asks him to mediate in the occupation of a pigsty in Markelose Broek, he does not hesitate for a moment and enters into discussion with a delegation of *Meat is Murder*. After his decisive action, the shed is cleared and the activists arrested. The media are lyrical about his performance and his career continues to rise.

Vince van Zandt has nothing to do with activists, but becomes interested when the body of a young activist is found. Especially when she seems to have been killed by violence.

June 2021  
384 pages

**'A remarkably well-written book.'** – NRC Handelsblad

**'Not inferior to the better Scandinavian thrillers'** –  
Thrillzone (Thriller web blog)

## GOOD TO KNOW

- **The Minister is part 2 in the Van Zandt-thriller series. The Russian was published in 2020, The Journalist will be published next year**
- **English sample translation available**



© Yvette Kulkens

**Hans Faber** (1968) was a journalist for *de Volkskrant* and *Het Financieele Dagblad*. For *de Volkskrant* he often wrote about the twilight zone between the underworld and the upper world and was nominated twice for the Gouden Penntje, a prize for talented journalists. He is inspired by Stieg Larsson and Tom Wolfe

# THE PROMISED LIFE

Femmetje de Wind



**Semi-autobiographical; Femmetje also went to Israel to convert herself to Judaism**



Cultural science student Sophie falls head over heels in love with art dealer Max, who is from an orthodox Jewish family. Max's background and her love for him spark Sophie's interest in her own Jewish roots. She doesn't remember much about her Jewish father – who was a Second World War orphan – except for the fact that he abandoned her and her non-Jewish mother when she was only a little girl. The past also seems to haunt Max's life, but in quite a different way: his family traditions force him to marry a “real” Jewish girl. The couple ultimately decides that Sophie has to go to Israel and follow a Jewish conversion program at a religious academy for girls. Sophie's mother worries as her daughter leaves her home country: is Sophie going to become the woman everyone is hoping for?

October 2020  
336 pages

**‘This book reads like a movie script.’ - NRC Handelsblad**

**‘A captivating and smoothly written novel that invites the reader to a world that is reminiscent of the Netflix hit series *Unorthodox*.’ - De Telegraaf**

## GOOD TO KNOW

- **Film rights sold**
- **De Wind's debut novel *Rivka* (2015) received much praise**
- **English sample translation available**



© Yvette Kulkens

**Femmetje de Wind** (1973) studied Law and Comparative Art History. She is an author, publisher and journalist. She founded *Jackie* magazine, which she edited for six years. Her debut novel *Rivka* (2015) was partially based on her father's experiences during the Second World War.

### Stijn van Diepen is back: 55 years old, but not much wiser



Eighteen years after his wife Carmen died and seven years after his marriage to Roos broke down, Stijn van Diepen's umpteenth new love turns out not to be the one. While he is still stumbling from party to party, his mother is taken into a nursing home with Alzheimer's, his best friend Frenk threatens to drop him and he has to organise his daughter Luna's twenty-first birthday. A crisis seems inevitable. Why is his (love) life such a mess? It is time to take a good look in the mirror.

In a hilarious and moving quest for himself, Stijn returns to his childhood in North Brabant, stumbles upon a gripping family history and eventually ends up in the Irish countryside in an ultimate attempt to find answers to his questions. Will he, at fifty-five, find himself? And more importantly: love?

August 2021  
352 pages

**'Kluun deals with a theme that will be recognisable to many readers. He does it honestly, it seems, and with humour, so it never becomes heavy.'** - NRC Handelsblad

#### GOOD TO KNOW

- **Sequels from Love Life (*Komt een Vrouw bij de Dokter*), which sold more than one million copies in 27 countries**
- **50,000 copies sold**
- **Film rights sold**
- **English sample translation available**



**Raymond van de Klundert** (1964) is the author bestsellers such as *Komt een vrouw bij de dokter*, *De Weduwnaar*, *Haantjes* and *DJ*. He has sold more than two and a half million books in the Netherlands and his work is published in 27 languages.

# THE EIGHTH DAY

Annemarie Haverkamp

LEBOWSKI

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**Superb novel about the love of a woman and a child, and about the question of what we leave behind when we die**

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Carpenter Egbert lives by a river in a desolate border landscape, together with his disabled son Adam, whom he looks after by himself after his wife Emma passed away. When Egbert finds out he is dying he is forced to think about the future of his son. Adam is totally dependent on him and Egbert has promised his wife he will never leave him alone. When he decides to accept a job to make a wooden staircase, he allows himself seven days to make a decision about their fate.

March 2019  
160 pages

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**‘The jury was impressed by the thoroughgoing professionalism with which Annemarie Haverkamp succeeds in making what is inevitable human, step by step, day by day. This book bears witness to extraordinary craftsmanship. It is a beautiful ode to love.’ - Juryrapport Bronzen Uil**

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## GOOD TO KNOW

- **The Eighth Day won both The Bronze Owl 2019 and the Anton Wachter Prize 2020 (two important awards for Dutch literature)**
- **English chapbook available**



© Jan Willem Kaldenbach

**Annemarie Haverkamp** (1975) is editor-in-chief of university magazine Vox, columnist of *De Gelderlander* and freelance journalist for various newspapers and magazines. For the *Algemeen Dagblad* between 2018 and 2020 she made the interview series *I have lived*, which is now published in a bundled form by Lebowski Publishers.

# SEE ME THROUGH

Sarah Meuleman

LEBOWSKI

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**How far will you go to be seen?**

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Flemish sisters Lieve and Margot are driving back home with their father, bestselling author Saul Mertens, after a festive evening when the car goes off the road and crashes. No one understands how the accident could have happened on such a quiet country road. Fifteen years later, both sisters are still struggling with the consequences. When Saul becomes involved in the notorious disappearance case of a young girl, it has far-reaching consequences for his daughters. Lieve returns to the place where she grew up to find out what happened. How strong are family ties? And how much can you forgive?

*See Me Through* is a sizzling Flemish-Dutch novel full of tenderness and suspense, about family, desires and phantoms. About running away from the past and yet looking back. About being afraid to hurt and yet hurting again. About how far we will go to be seen. As who we are. Or who we would rather have been.

September 2021  
336 pages

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*'See Me Through has a driving plot. But it is too easy to put [Meuleman] away on the shelf of the literary thriller. Her novels are too layered for that and her play with language is too sophisticated.'* – Het Parool

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## GOOD TO KNOW

- **Previous work from Sarah Meuleman was published by Harper Collins in the US**
- **Booktrailer available via [this link](#)**



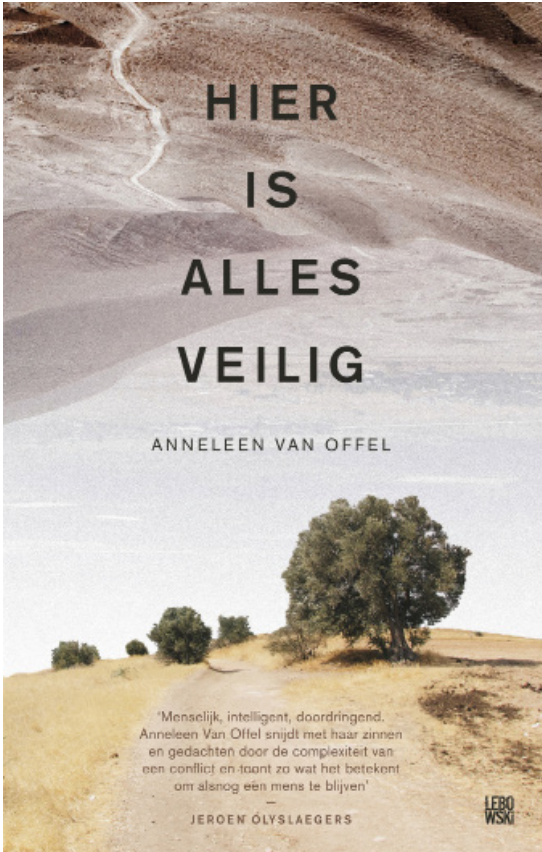
**Sarah Meuleman** (1977) is an author and journalist. She writes for various magazines from *Vrij Nederland* to *Vogue*. Her debut novel was nominated for the Bronze Owl and published in the US, where it received rave reviews. In addition to writing, Meuleman is involved in creating concepts for international series.

# ALL IS SAFE HERE

Anneleen Van Offel

LEBO  
WSKI

## Kaddish for a dead stepson



Lydia, a Belgian doctor, hurries over to Israel after receiving an alarming email from her stepson Immanuel. Her ex-husband took him to the Promised Land ten years ago, in the hope of finding a home there. Since then, Lydia has neither seen nor spoken to the boy.

When she arrives in Israel it's too late: Immanuel has passed away. Confronted with the loss, Lydia tries to piece together the life of her stepson, now a grown man. Through conversations with his girlfriend, his father and random passers-by she reconstructs the life of a young man in the army, who got caught up in a reality that was greater than himself.

February 2020  
240 pages

**'This thoughtful debut betrays an unmistakable compositional talent.'** – *De Morgen*

**'A raw, physical account of grief and goodbyes.'** \*\*\*\* – *HUMO*

## GOOD TO KNOW

- The author visited Israël repeatedly for her book and spoke to dozens of Palestinians and Israelis, including (former) soldiers and their families
- About family ties, loss and mourning
- English, German and Hungarian samples available
- Rights sold to Germany (Oktaven)
- Translations will be subsidized by [Flanders Literature](#)



**Anneleen Van Offel** (1991) studied vocal arts at the Antwerp Royal Conservatory. She has written columns for Flemish newspaper *De Standaard* and short stories and poetry for several literary journals. Anneleen is the programmer for various literary events. Her debut *All Is Safe Here* was hailed by the press and praised for its empathetic style.

**CHILDREN AND YA**

# ZIZA DOESN'T WANT TO BE A NINJA

Marjet Huiberts



A picture book about ninjas, being different and discovering your own talent



Everyone in Ziza's family is a ninja. Mom and dad are ninjas. Xa, his big sister, is already a ninja. The twins, Yin and Yan, are almost ninja. And Ziza will also become a Ninja. But is that what he wants? He is more into movement and music than the real fighting. But what if there is a three-headed monster lurking about? Can he still follow his passions or does the world need him to become a ninja?

**Hardcover**  
**32 pages**



## GOOD TO KNOW

- An encouraging story about discovering and following your own talents
- Ninjas are very popular
- Beautifully illustrated by Coen Hamelink



© Jan Willem Kaldenbach

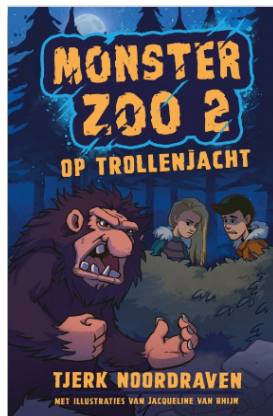
**Marjet Huiberts** (1960) studied Theatre and worked as a dance teacher in primary school. After that she started writing songs and stories for *Sesame Street*. Now she writes children's books like *Aadje Piraatje* and *Ridder Florian*.

# MONSTER ZOO

Tjerk Noordraven



**An adventurous three part series. Monsters, trolls and dragons:  
are you ready to enter the Monster Zoo?**



## Feeding-Time

Book one in an amazingly funny series filled with excitement, action and A LOT of monsters! Jindra is just an ordinary freshman in high school... until one day he is named Keeper of the Monster Zoo: an enormous underground complex filled with dragons and monsters. And these dangerous creatures are very hungry...

## On the Hunt for Trolls

In the second book of the Monster Zoo -sSeries, Jindra goes monsterhunting for the first time. Together with Siggy, who has a lot of experience already, he has to catch a large group of trolls somewhere in Norway. But soon, everything starts falling apart...

## The Lava Zoo

On vacation in Mexico, Jindra receives an SOS-call from the Order of the Monsterkeepers. They can't get in touch with the Monster Zoo on a Vulcano island. Jindra has to go there and investigate what is going on.

**Hardcover  
208 pages**

## GOOD TO KNOW

- **Adventure series full of humor and monsters for young readers**
- **Written by a young, talented author**
- **Also available by this author:**  
*The Scariest Series Ever*
- **An easy read for struggling readers**
- **Includes black and white illustrations and colourful illustrated endpapers by Jacqueline van Rhijn**



© Vincent Kos

**Tjerk Noordraven** (1987) once saw a ghost on a cemetery in France. Ever since he likes to surround himself with tombstones. His house is full of bats in formaldehyde. He is known for *De engste serie ooit* (The scariest series ever) and his new series *Monster Zoo*.

# THE SCENT OF GREEN

Pamela Sharon



**Is there still colour in the world, if you can't see it?**



Raven is a very ordinary sixteen-year-old girl. She loves stories and adores her best friend May-Lin. The only thing that makes her different from other teens, is that she's blind.

Luckily, May-Lin tells her all about how colours smell and feel and together they create their own world. Then one day something happens that turns Raven's world upside down and makes all the colours disappear. In a world which has lost its colours and its shine, Raven has to find her own way again.

**Paperback  
208 pages**

## GOOD TO KNOW

- Contemporary Young Adult's book
- On the shortlist for multiple Dutch YA-awards
- Diverse story from a unique perspective: a blind girl
- An original, beautifully written and poignant story written by debut author Pamela Sharon



**Pamela Sharon** loves writing, dresses and chai lattes. She teaches in primary education. She has won several prizes in writing contests. She now debuts with the intriguing and surprising *The scent of green*, with which she also won second price in the Moon YA Contest.



# FAKE!

Carry Slee

**A thrilling story about the dangers of fake news**



Levi sees Emiel, the new boy at school, during an intimate conversation with Mila, Levi's girlfriend. Levi won't put up with it and approaches Emiel. He kicks him and chases after him. Later that day Levi finds out that Emiel ended up in the hospital: he is in a coma. Immediately afterwards a video is uploaded to YouTube in which it looks like Levi kicked Emiel so hard that he fell from the fortress near the park. Levi claims he is innocent and that the video is fake, but nobody believes him. Even Mila doesn't believe him and she breaks up with him. Levi is suspended from school. When the video goes viral and the raging reactions start coming in online, Levi's own life is threatened

**Hardcover**  
**272 pages**

## GOOD TO KNOW

- Discusses a current theme, fake news, in a very accessible way for readers twelve years and older
- Multiple books of the author have been published internationally
- Carry Slee is one of the most well-known Dutch children's book authors



© Jan Willem Kaldenbach

**Carry Slee** (1949) published her first book in 1989. Since then Carry Slee has become the most successful children's book author in the Netherlands. She has published over a hundred books of which more than 5 million copies were sold.

# **COOKBOOKS**



# COOKING BIBLES

Various authors

The Cooking Bibles have become a household name in recent years. Because of the strong content, the clear concept, the authors – each with their own specialty – and the beautiful design, they are well-received by the press and consumers.



## GOOD TO KNOW

- Up to 500,000 copies sold
- Available titles: *Oven Bible*, *Stew Bible*, *Pie Bible*, *Vegetarian Bible*, *Chocolate Bible*, *Stamppot Bible*, *Game Bible*, *Biscuit Bible*, *Salad Bible*, *Bread Bible*, *Sausage Bible*, *Soup Bible*, *Pasta Bible*, *Pizza Bible*, *Meat Bible*, *BBQ Bible*, *Baking Bible*, *Fish Bible* and *Vegetable Bible*
- Upcoming titles: *Sauce Bible*, *Low-carb Bible* and *Vegan Bible*



# COUNTRY BIBLES

Various authors



The Country Bibles have become kitchen essentials for culinary enthusiasts. They provide insight into different cuisines, culinary cultures and tastes. The various authors are authorities on their subject and have all passionately compiled a book about the country they love so dearly.

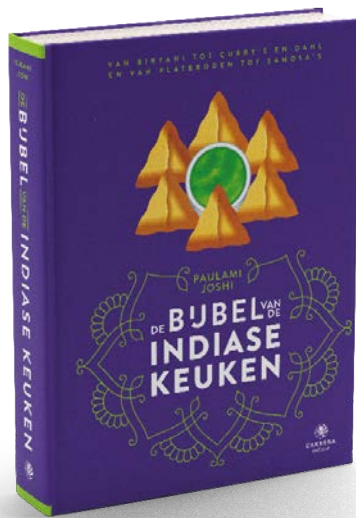


## GOOD TO KNOW

- **Available titles:** *The Bible of Indian Cooking, The Bible of Dutch Cooking, The Bible of Thai Cooking, The Bible of Indonesian Cooking, The Bible of Japanese Cooking, The Bible of Italian Cooking and The Bible of France Cooking*
- **Upcoming titles:** *The Bible of Lebanese Cooking, The Bible of Turkish Cooking and The Bible of Chinese Cooking*
- **More than 50,000 copies sold**
- **On the next page an impression of two Country Bibles: *The Bible of Indian Cooking* and *The Bible of Indonesian Cooking***



# INDIA



From biryani to curries and dahl, and from naan to samosas: in *The Bible of Indian Cooking*, Paulami Joshi takes you on a journey through immense India: a country so large and rich in different languages and cultures that you can hardly speak of a country. Indian food culture has been in constant flux for the past five thousand years - and it still is today.



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 inhoud van 15 tot 200 woorden per pagina.

# INDONESIA



From saté kambing to gado gado and from soto ayam to rendang: in *The Bible of Indonesian Cooking* Maureen Tan takes you to all corners of the Indonesian archipelago. A tasty journey along the special and surprising island kitchens of Sumatra, Kalimantan, West Java, Central Java, East Java, Bali, the Lesser Sunda Islands, Sulawesi and Papua.





Karolien Olaerts

**Finally, the long-awaited cookbook from Karola's Kitchen**



A balanced and varied meal that is easy to prepare and delicious too? Karolien Olaerts proves that it can be done. Fresh, nutritious and plant-based ingredients form the basis of all her dishes, without compromising on taste and satisfaction. From spicy apple pancakes to roasted pumpkin with feta. From an eggplant stew with orzo to banana soufflé. She also gives tips on how to waste as little food as possible and tells how to substitute seasonal produce or make a vegan version. Welcome to Karoliens honest and delicious kitchen: Karola's Kitchen.

**September 2021**  
**224 pages**

#### GOOD TO KNOW

- **All vegetarian recipes**
- **The author is a food scientist herself**
- **Bestseller in Belgium**



**Karolien Olaerts** (1984) is a nutrition expert passionately pleading for healthy, ecofriendly eating habits. She wrote two very successful cookbooks, *Gevoon Gezond* (2017) and *Karola's Kitchen* (2019) and runs a popular blog, *Karola's Kitchen*.



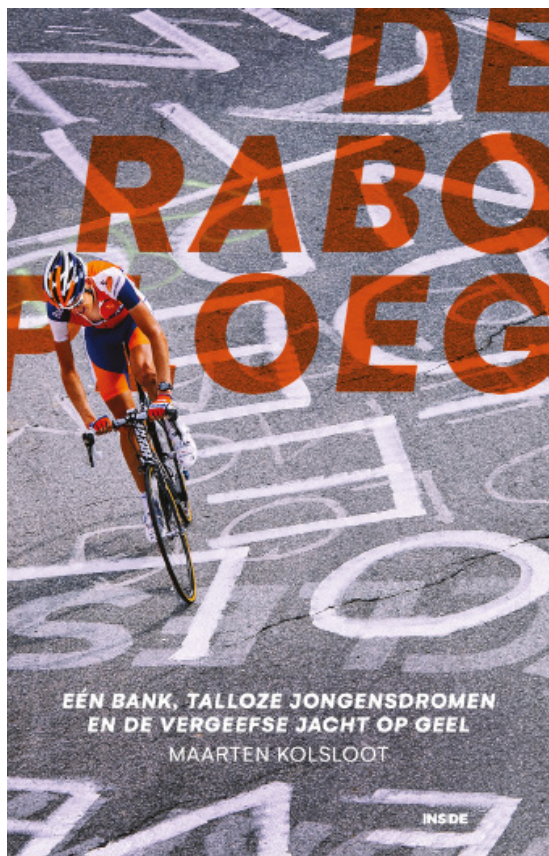
**NON-FICTION**

# THE RABOTEAM

INSIDE

Maarten Kolsloot

**We read about forgotten cyclists, broken dreams, but also about famous riders like Boogerd and Rasmussen**



The Rabobank cycling team is one of the most successful teams in Dutch sports history. 'Rabo' won major tours such as the Giro D'Italia, the Vuelta and almost the Tour de France. In the revealing and in-depth biography *De Raboploeg* Maarten Kolsloot dives into the history of the much-discussed team. On the basis of interviews with 200 people involved and thousands of new documents, a comprehensive and in various respects new picture is sketched of the team that achieved successes between 1996 and 2012.

June 2021  
368 pages

**'The author is above all a diligent interviewer - he conducted some 270 interviews with almost all the insiders of the past.'** \*\*\*\* - NRC

**'The Raboteam is an impressive factsheet, not a succession of lyrical race reports full of hyperbolic metaphors. Kolsloot sets everything in a dry row and makes it convincingly clear why the Raboteam, despite its many successes, mainly has negative associations. After all: doping.'**  
- de Volkskrant

## GOOD TO KNOW

- In the top 10 of the Bestseller Chart for weeks
- This book reveals the eating disorders at the Rabobank cycling team and provides a new perspective on doping
- Look behind the scenes at various (failed) transfers, like Lance Armstrong
- English sample translation available



**Maarten Kolsloot** (1982) is a (sports) journalist, speaker and America expert. He works a.o. for Dutch newspapers *Het Parool* and *NRC Handelsblad* and he is a regular guest at Radio 1. Kolsloot previously published books about his great loves: baseball and the American elections, but also about provincial football club FC Emmen.

## A great king or a mass murderer?

### JOHAN OP DE BEECK LEOPOLD II



*Het hele verhaal*

—HORIZON—

Was Leopold II (1835 - 1909) a great king or a mass murderer? The sovereign ruled Belgium from 1865 until his death in 1909 and was the sovereign of Congo Free State for 23 years. Johan Op de Beeck examines his real responsibility there.

However, Leopold's life encompassed much more than Belgium's colonial past. The king fought for the defence and economic independence of his fledgling nation. In his dealings with heads of state and the media, he displayed strong statesmanship, if not cunning. He ruled Belgium in one of its most turbulent periods. His private life was also controversial, full of stubbornness, adventure, bizarre behaviour and adultery.

After Napoleon and The Sun King, master storyteller Johan Op de Beeck has written another page-turner about one of the most important and colourful historical figures in history. A compelling life story, more topical than ever.

September 2020  
816 pages

#### GOOD TO KNOW

- Bestseller in Belgium

'A smoothly written, empathetic and intriguing biography of the most talked about Belgian monarch. His most recent biographer indeed brings us the "whole story" – Art Magazine Flanders

'Op de Beeck brings crucial but almost for-gotten episodes from our history out from under the dust' - Trends



**Johan Op de Beeck** is a historian and former journalist and editor-in-chief of various media. He wrote five acclaimed bestsellers about the Napoleonic era: *Napoleon's Nightmare* (2012), *Waterloo* (2013), a two-volume biography of Napoleon (2014) and *The Heart of Napoleon* (2016). On the origins of Belgium, he published *The Loss of Belgium* (2015). He is one of the most important non-fiction authors in Belgium and broke through as a novelist with his literary debut *Het complot van Laken* (2019). The sequel *De Staatsvijand* was published in 2021.

# THE SUN KING

Johan Op de Beeck



Wonderful page-turner about the king of kings

JOHAN OP DE BEECK

*Glorie & schaduw van*  
LODEWIJK XIV



DE ZONNE  
KONING

HORIZON

Louis XIV (1638 - 1715) was the king of kings. As an absolute monarch, he transformed underdeveloped and feudal France into a centralised state that would become the most powerful nation in Europe. Louis XIV achieved eternal fame thanks to Versailles, which he transformed from a hunting lodge into one of the largest and most beautiful castles in the world. His fascinating life story offers a whirlwind of battles, intrigues, mistresses, art, mysteries...

May 2018  
640 pages

## GOOD TO KNOW

- Number 1 on the Belgian bestseller list for weeks
- Up to 20,000 copies sold

**‘That France is still a cultural and political world power is largely due to its Sun King. Johan Op de Beeck shows this in a clever biography’** – *De Morgen*

**‘No story about Louis XIV is left untold, no detail left unsaid’** – *Historisch Nieuwsblad*



**Johan Op de Beeck** is a historian and former journalist and editor-in-chief of various media. He wrote five acclaimed bestsellers about the Napoleonic era: *Napoleon's Nightmare* (2012), *Waterloo* (2013), a two-volume biography of Napoleon (2014) and *The Heart of Napoleon* (2016). On the origins of Belgium, he published *The Loss of Belgium* (2015). He is one of the most important non-fiction authors in Belgium and broke through as a novelist with his literary debut *Het complot van Laken* (2019). The sequel *De Staatsvijand* was published in 2021.

# OUR MONEY IS BROKEN

Bert Slagter & Peter Slagter

Accessible and readable book on bitcoin by authorities Bert and Peter Slagter

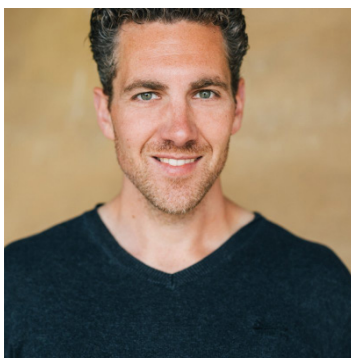


Our money is broken. For a growing group of people, it is becoming increasingly difficult to build up wealth. They start their careers with a hefty student debt. Houses are unaffordable. There is no longer any interest on savings. They become 'sleeping poor'. Worldwide, billions of people live under financial censorship and surveillance or high inflation. Their bank accounts are closed because they stand up for minorities or support the opposition. Or they work abroad and pay outrageous fees to send their wages to their families back home. Bitcoin could be part of the solution. Bitcoin is a radical new money system that is ideally suited for a future where we do more and more digitally. It is programmable money, an open protocol that anyone can build applications on, similar to the internet protocols we use every day.

We do not guarantee that bitcoin will be a success. In fact, we see all kinds of ways in which it can fail. But we also see ways it can succeed and change the world dramatically. How? That you will read in this book. A solid introduction to bitcoin without turning it into a whole study.

October 2021  
240 pages

*No. 1 Bestseller the first week after publication*



Brothers **Bert** (1982) and **Peter** (1986) **Slagter** are well known in the bitcoin world. Their ability to explain complex issues in an understandable way has made them popular with readers, listeners and viewers.



**UPCOMING**

Stijn Bronzwaer, Joris Kooiman, Merijn Rengers

## Three NRC journalists get to the bottom of Booking.com



Booking.com, one of the richest and most successful internet companies in Europe, has been a mystery for twenty-five years. Everyone knows the website, but no one knows the people and the stories behind this deeply Dutch company in U.S. hands. Until now. Three journalists from the major Dutch *NRC* newspaper present a detailed reconstruction of the dark internet fairy tale of Booking.com, from an idea built by a group of engineering students in Twente in the late 1990s to its development into the largest and most powerful hotel booking platform in the world.

This is the never-before told story of Booking's rise, zenith and moral decay; of extravagant parties, runaway internet experiments, duped shareholders, manhandling managers and boardroom squabbles. Above all, it is the story of a company that built the supreme online money-making machine, but in the eternal quest for more, forgot the human beings behind it.

November 2021  
384 pages

### GOOD TO KNOW

- The originally Dutch Booking started in an attic room and grew into the largest, but also most controversial booking website in the world
- The authors have previously written much-discussed articles about Booking in *NRC*, which have led to public outrage internationally
- English sample available



**Stijn Bronzwaer** (tech journalist, 1981), **Merijn Rengers** (investigative journalist, 1973) and **Joris Kooiman** (financial journalist, 1973) work as editors at *NRC*.

# TANJA NIJMEIJER: FROM GUERRILLA TO PEACE PROCESS

Tanja Nijmeijer

## Tanja Nijmeijer in her own words



"I joined the guerrilla in the firm belief that I would never get out of the jungle. That I would dedicate and give my life to a revolutionary ideal.

In 2012, that guerrilla decided that there had to be a peace process that, unlike previous attempts, also led to a disarmament process. My life in the jungle was suddenly interrupted and I began my reintegration process into Colombian society. Bad luck? Luck? A stroke of luck?

This book is an account of what I saw and experienced. This does not necessarily fit into the frame of reference that most Europeans have of the FARC, or of Colombia.

There are testimonies available from victims of kidnapping, from soldiers, from politicians, but this is my story, the testimony of someone who is still convinced that another world is possible."

November 2021  
320 pages

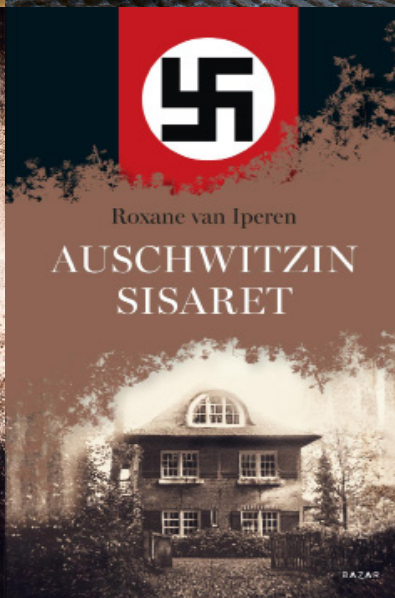
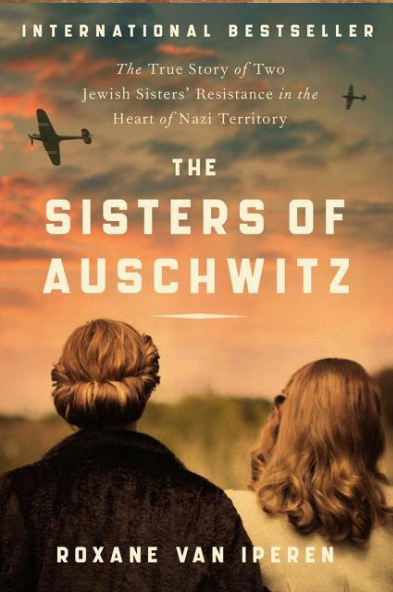
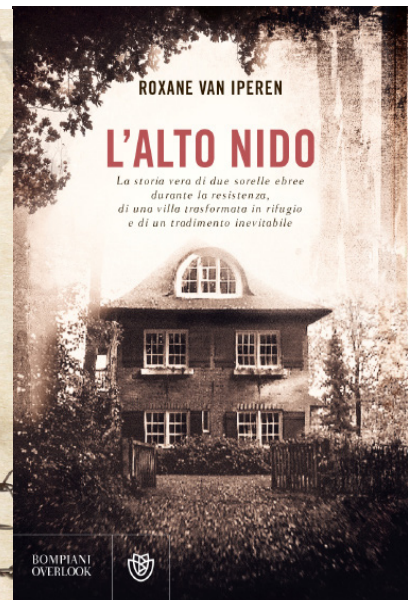
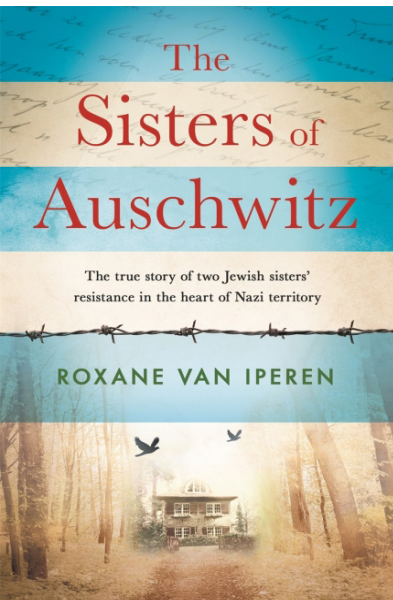
**Tanja Nijmeijer** (1978) was born in Denekamp and joined the FARC in 2002 after her studies. In 2007 she made the news for the first time after she lost her diary following an attack by the Colombian army in the jungle. In 2012 she took part in the peace negotiations between the FARC and the Colombian government.

**SUCCESSFUL**

# THE HIGH NEST

Roxane van Iperen

## WORLDWIDE BESTSELLER





## GOOD TO KNOW

- **International Bestseller (no. 2 New York Times)**
- **Rights sold to 12 countries**
- **Up to 250,000 copies sold in the Netherlands**
- **Major film deal has been made (Man Up)**
- **An extensive [interview](#) with Roxane was published in the New York Times**

November 2018  
384 pages

# SCUM OF THE EARTH

Roxane van Iperen

LEBO  
WSKI

**A dazzling novel about loss, fighting for your existence, love and loss**



Anjo grows up in an old barn, somewhere on the endless sand plains of Brazil. Every day is like an ordeal to him and the other five orphaned children – there is hardly any food and they are constantly subjected to the cruel ways of their ‘guardians’ and their guests.

Light years away there is a metropole, with its slums. Two young prostitutes there try to make the best of their lives, whilst dreaming of a better future. Everything changes when one of them gets pregnant. In the city itself lives Elizabet, married to the police chief who is fighting corruption in his force. They have a good marriage, a beautiful house and a housekeeper she loves, but one thing is missing.

In *Scum of the Earth*, echoing memories of films like *Cidade de Deus* and *Tropa de Elite*, Roxane van Iperen weaves these lives into one swirling story about pain, loss and pining for things that never were. She takes the reader to a world where morality and malleability are hollow notions. There is but one goal: survival.

July 2016  
368 pages

**‘A well-composed and deeply committed story. Sinister and terrifying and composed in the blackest black. Not necessarily something that makes you happy, but it does make you poignantly wiser.’ - de Volkskrant**

## GOOD TO KNOW

- **Debut novel by Roxane van Iperen**
- **Winner Hebban Debut Award 2017**
- **English chapbook available**



**Roxane van Iperen** (1976) is a lawyer and publicist. She writes for *FD*, *NRC Handelsblad*, *Het Parool*, *Vrij Nederland*, *De Morgen* and *Follow the Money* and she is a guest-correspondent for *De Correspondent*. *Scum of the Earth* is her first novel, *The High Nest* her second.

# THE JEWISH NURSERY SCHOOL

Elle van Rijn

**Based on the story of Betty Oudkerk who, with other caretakers of the Jewish Nursery School, saved about six hundred children**



Amsterdam, 1942-1943. Opposite the Hollandsche Schouwburg the Jewish Nursery School is located, which has been transformed by the Germans into an assembly point for Jewish children awaiting transportation. Seventeen-year-old Betty Oudkerk and other caretakers of the nursery refuse to accept the children's horrible fate, while outside the nursery life for Jews becomes more frightening with every passing day. In utmost secrecy, and under the direction of Henriëtte Pimentel, head of the nursery, they manage to prevent the deportation of over 600 children, despite the risks for all involved.

*The Jewish Nursery School* is a story of resistance by young women who, under dire circumstances, must make life-and-death decisions. Courageous women with a profound belief in a better future – because saving a child means saving the world.

**November 2020**  
**336 pages**

**'Elle van Rijn has succeeded in portraying Betty as she was: a humorous, sassy, but also warm woman who was not afraid of anything. A wonderful tribute to a heroic woman!' – David Goudsmit, son of Betty**

## GOOD TO KNOW

- **Impressive novel about the underexposed role of women in the resistance**
- **In the period of 1942-1943, some six hundred children were smuggled to hiding addresses by the child caretakers of the Jewish Crèche**
- **Translation rights sold to France (City Editions), Portugal (Presenca), Italy (Ugo Guanda), UK (Bookouture), Czech Republic (Omega), Romania (RAO) and Brazil (Melhoramentos)**
- **Film rights for a four-part drama series sold**



© Jan Reinier van der Vliet

**Elle van Rijn** (1967) has written successful books, including the historical novel *Mijn naam is Nadra* and *Mijn ontvoering* (My Abduction), the story of the abduction of Toos van der Valk. For *The Jewish Nursery School* Elle van Rijn was inspired by the life of Betty Goudsmit-Oudkerk, with whom she spoke shortly before Betty's death about her work as a child carer in the Jewish Crèche.

# LIGHTER THAN I

Dido Michielsen

**The gripping life story of a Javanese woman who tries to shape her life in the rapidly changing colony of the Dutch East Indies**



Yokya, Java, 1850. Isah is the daughter of the sultan's tailor. Her life and position in the strongly hierarchical culture of colonial Java seem to be predetermined. However, Isah possesses an extraordinary determination and a willful character. She takes control of her destiny and escapes her arranged marriage by starting an affair with a 'Belanda', a Dutchman stationed on Java. But what does she have to sacrifice to provide her two daughters of mixed blood with a life better than her own?

**September 2019**  
**272 pages**

**'Michielsen wrote a loving, sober and visual story about the life of a Javanese woman in the Dutch East Indies.'** — NRC

**'This novel not only describes the underexposed history of Dutch interaction with native women, but also the consequences of a patriarchy in general.'** — *de Volkskrant*

## GOOD TO KNOW

- **Winner Dutch Bookseller Prize, shortlisted for the Libris Literature and Hebban Debut Prize**
- **More than 80.000 copies sold**
- **Theatrical rights sold**
- **Translation rights sold to Indonesia (Marjin Kiri) and Italy (Nord)**
- **English translation available**



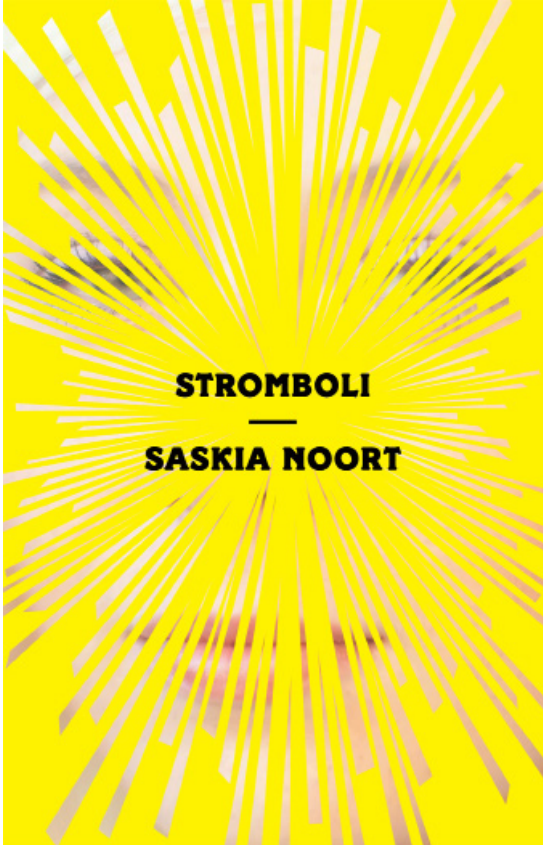
© Harold Pereira

For her debut novel *Lighter than I*, **Dido Michielsen** (1957) was inspired by the life of her great-great-grandmother. Previously she wrote *Dochters van ver*, *Lisa & Lin: Five Weeks Back in China* and *The Rescue of the Van Cleeff Family*.

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**After her collapsed marriage a successful writer decides to go on retreat with a guru, but there too the past catches up with her**

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Hundreds of thousands of readers enjoy the joined column by writers' couple Sara and Carl (Karel) on a daily basis, where they report openly about their family life. But behind this facade of their bohemian lifestyle lies a truth filled with envy, resentment and even violence is festering. After another nocturnal escalation it's game over: Sara decides to leave Carl.

Soon after Sara becomes isolated – nobody wants anything to do with her any longer. In order to get her life back on track she checks into a retreat on the idyllic volcanic island of Stromboli. Led by a world-famous guru she –along with a motley crew of allies - indulges in role-play and exercises that keep pushing the envelope. What should have become a fresh start results in a descent into parts of the past she'd rather have kept hidden.

April 2018  
256 pages

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**'Noort proves with her first real novel that suspense is also possible without a thriller element.'** – Zin Magazine

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## GOOD TO KNOW

- **3,000,000 copies of Saskia Noort's books sold in the Netherlands**
- **Rights sold to France (Michel Lafon) and Czech Republic (Nakladatelství Práh)**
- **English translation available**
- **Film adaption in the making (Levitate Film)**



© Carli Hermes

**Saskia Noort** (1967) is the queen of suspense. Over 3 million copies of her books have been sold throughout the years. Her work has been translated into fifteen languages and adapted for tv, film and theater. Her eighth thriller *The Grown-Up* was the best-selling suspense book of 2020.

**BASTA**

Edwin Schoon

**Marco van Basten: a biography**

BASTA is the raw, honest, but also very revealing biography of Marco van Basten. The complete story about his youth, the complicated relationship with his parents, his career - the madness in Italy, the European Championships '88, the failed World Cup '90 - his relationship with Johan Cruijff, the painful story of the ankle, financial setbacks, countless successes and just as many low points.

December 2019  
352 pages

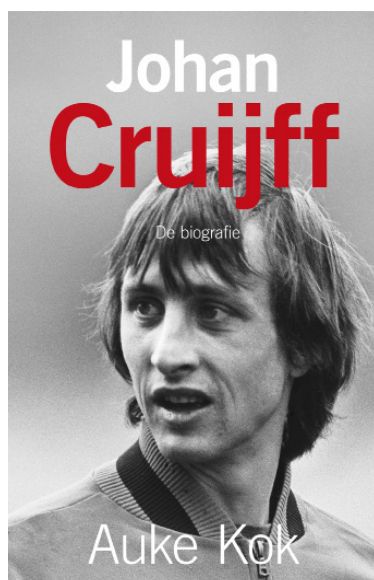
**GOOD TO KNOW**

- Up to 100,000 copies sold in the Netherlands
- Rights sold to the UK, Italy, Spain, Catalonia, Bulgaria and Poland

**JOHAN CRUIJFF**

Auke Kok

HOLLANDS *Diep*  
uitgevers

**The story behind the myth, partly created by Cruijff himself**

Who was Johan Cruijff really? Despite his illustrious career in the spotlight, in many ways he remained a mystery as a person and as a sportsman, even after his death. To find an honest answer to this question, writer and journalist Auke Kok delved into the fascinating history of 'number 14': he examined unique documents and talked to classmates, childhood friends, fellow players, business partners and family members.

November 2019  
640 pages

**GOOD TO KNOW**

- More than 50,000 copies sold
- Rights sold to Spain, UK and Germany

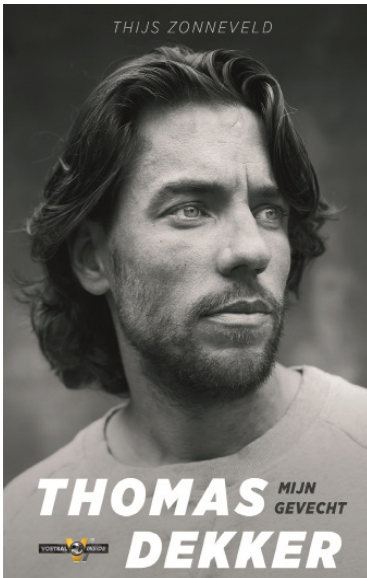


# THOMAS DEKKER: MY FIGHT

INSIDE

Thijs Zonneveld

**International bestseller about the life of former cycling pro Thomas Dekker**



Thomas Dekker (1984) has had enough of all the lies. His real story has never been told. The truth, with all its ugly sides, has to come out. Shame has always triumphed over the burden carried by the crown prince of Dutch cycling. But now there is nothing more to lose.

December 2016  
224 page

## GOOD TO KNOW

- 200,000 copies sold
- Rights sold to the US, the UK, Germany, Spain and Denmark



# RICO

INSIDE

Leon Verdonshot

**RICO is not only a story about athletic willpower and discipline, but also a moving story of another struggle: breaking free from your past**



December 2017  
256 page

Writer Leon Verdonshot followed the world champion kickboxer intensively for a year. During training sessions, preparations for matches, during presentations and workshops, at home and in his spare time. He talked to many (childhood) friends, family members, trainers and fellow athletes. The result is RICO: not only a compelling and cinematically written story about the best kickboxer in the world, but also a revealing insight into Verhoeven's personal life.

## GOOD TO KNOW

- Number 1 bestseller in the Dutch Bestseller 60
- More than 60,000 copies sold
- English sample translation available

