

Overamstel Uitgevers



Foreign Rights Guide
Spring 2022

OVERAMSTEL

uitgevers

Overamstel Uitgevers has offices in Amsterdam and Antwerp. We house the imprints Carrera Culinaire, Hollands Diep, Horizon, Inside, Lebowsky 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 bookshelf. 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.



INSIDE

CARRERA
culinair



— HORIZON —

HOLLANDS *Diep*
uitgevers



LEBOWSKI
PUBLISHERS



moon

NEW



Fortune's Children



Original title Fortuna's kinderen

Pub. date September 2021

Pages 288

English translation available

Rights by 2 Seas Literary Agency

Marleen Seegers | marleen@2seasagency.com

100,000 copies sold

20 weeks in Dutch Bestseller 60

TV rights sold to US producer

Annejet van der Zijl is one of Dutch best-known and most widely read non-fiction writers. She made her debut in 1998 with *Jagtlust*, and wrote international bestsellers such as *The Boy Between the Worlds* and *An American Princess*. Van der Zijl was Book Week author in 2020 and wrote the successful Book Week gift *Leon & Juliette*.



© Anja van Wijgerden

In 1875, would anyone in San Francisco have realized that the genteel, wealthy Mrs. de Fremery was born a slave? And that as a child she had been smuggled to the Netherlands by her father because he was unsure of her life in her native America?

The latest 'big' book by Annejet van der Zijl is arguably her most ambitious ever. This true story begins with adventurer Leon Herckenrath, who lost his heart to the young enslaved girl Juliette in 1818, and follows their eldest daughter and her Dutch husband during their adventures in California during the Gold Rush. And what about their descendants, with their unusual legacy of enormous wealth and a mixed-race bloodline?

Fortune's Children is a two centuries old, surprisingly topical family saga about people who did not allow their lives to be limited by risks and their loves by skin color.

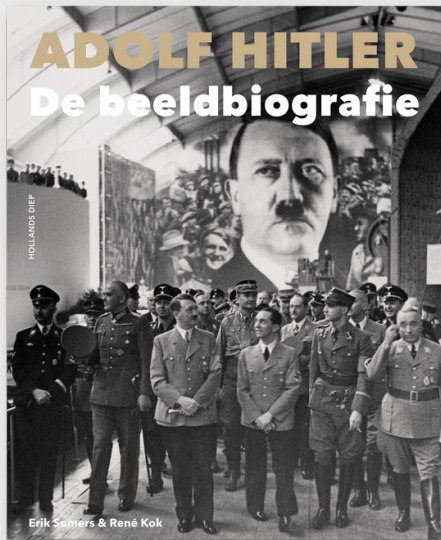
'Van der Zijl (...) understands like no other the art of making small things big. Fortune's Children is a family chronicle and a history of the United States all in one.' ***** *NRC Handelsblad*

'Fortune's Children is a loving story about human resilience without denying the cruelty of history. An ode to freedom.' **** *de Volkskrant*

Annejet van der Zijl has a pleasant, fluent way of telling her story, in which she skillfully zooms in on the key scenes that have determined the lives of her main characters.' *HP/De Tijd*

On previous work:

'Annejet van der Zijl is the uncrowned queen of literary non-fiction.' *NRC Handelsblad*



Original title Adolf Hitler. De beeldbiografie

Pub. date March 24, 2022

Pages 400

Words +/- 75.000

English sample translation available

English review available

Rights contact Daan van Straten

daan.vanstraten@overamstel.com

René Kok and **Erik Somers** are historians, authors of a large number of publications on the history of World War II and photo-historical publications. Both are affiliated with NIOD, Institute for War, Holocaust and Genocide Studies.



Adolf Hitler.

The Pictorial Biography

Adolf Hitler. The Pictorial Biography gives a fascinating and penetrating picture of the rise and fall of the dictator and the prominent role played by photography in creating the Führermyth. The Nazi regime made cunning use of visual material to increase Hitler's popularity. A flood of propaganda photos reinforced his carefully constructed image. Not only professional photographers set the tone, but also amateur photographers recorded the charismatic Führer.

The photographs in this book show how Hitler transformed from a clumsy but fanatical National Socialist into a ruthless and war-mongering autocrat and ultimately a jaded war leader at the end of the Second World War. In the end, nothing remained of the carefully created Führer image.

For *Adolf Hitler. The Pictorial Biography* historians Erik Somers and René Kok conducted extensive research into German and international photo archives and collections. Never before has such a comprehensive photo book about Hitler's life and work, based on in-depth photo-historical research, been published. Over 450 photos with extensive captions place the phenomenon of Hitler in a historical context. In every picture he is the central figure or there is a direct link to his person. Press photos and propaganda photos are interspersed with private and unpublished images that - whether intentionally or not - show the person behind the Führer.

'Up until the time the war devoured Adolf Hitler wholesale, he liked to mingle amongst his admirers, allowing him to be photographed up close. Using these photos, historians René Kok and Erik Somers have put together a 'pictorial biography' - and yes, it's something to look forward to.' *de Volkskrant*

Dark Patterns

The inside story 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 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.

'Who likes a corporate variation on Game of Thrones, spiced up with backroom politics and court cases: read 'Dark Patterns', in which the intense years shortly after the turn of the century are described in full colour.' *Het Laatste Nieuws*

'In this book, three NRC journalists write a history of Booking that is both mercilessly detailed and fair. The small-mindedness of the entrepreneur does not rub off on the authors.' *de Volkskrant*



Original title De Machine
Pub. date November 2021
Pages 400

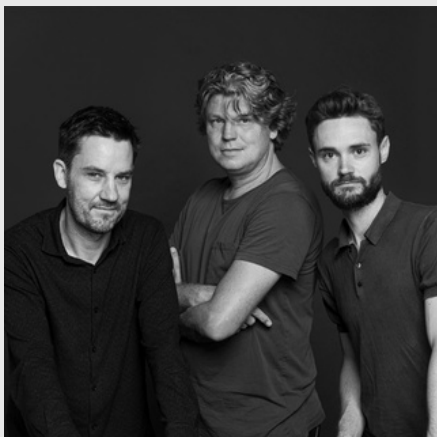
English translation available

Rights by Peters Fraser + Dunlop
Lisette Verhagen | lverhagen@pfd.co.uk

Rights sold
Ukraine (Vivat)

15,000 copies sold
TV rights sold (Warner Bros.)

Stijn Bronzwaer (tech journalist),
Joris Kooiman (financial journalist)
and **Merijn Rengers** (investigative
journalist) are all three editors at *NRC
Handelsblad*.



**Original title** Confrontaties**Pub. date** September 2020**Pages** 224**English translation** available**Rights by** Peters Fraser + Dunlop

Lisette Verhagen | lverhagen@pfd.co.uk

Rights soldUS (Bloomsbury), UK (Serpent's Tail),
Turkey (Fidan)

15,000 copies sold

TV rights sold (Warner Bros.)

Shortlisted for the Libris 2021

Simone Atangana Bekono 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).



Confrontations

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.

'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*

Atangana Bekono moves smoothly between registers. The dialogue is incisive and her timing and rhythm make the young characters ring true, even when using slang.' **** *de Volkskrant*



Original title De heks van Limbricht

Pub. date May 2021

Pages 256

English translation available

Rights by 2 Seas Literary Agency
marleen@2seasagency.com

Rights sold France (Leduc, at auction)

70,000 copies sold

20 weeks in Dutch Bestseller 60

TV rights sold

Susan Smit is a writer and columnist. She made her debut in 2001 with *Heks*. To date she has nineteen successful novels to her name, including the bestsellers *Vloed*, *Tropenbruid* and *Gisèle*. She spent some time studying the history of witchcraft, which Smit considers to be a spiritual practice and an ancient nature religion.



© Yvette Kulkens

The Last Witch Hunt

A tribute to an indomitable woman

Women who are unafraid to stand up for themselves and others often get the epithet 'witch' hurled at them. In online discourse, you see it all the time in reference to strong women like Nancy Pelosi and Kamala Harris. In her novel *The Last Witch Hunt*, based on historical research, Susan Smit shows how this kind of nasty talk can have serious consequences. In July 1674, soldiers raid the home of 74-year-old Entgen Luijten. She is taken to the castle in Limbricht, a town in the southernmost part of the Netherlands, and locked in a dungeon where she is told that, based on a number of incidents, she is being accused of witchcraft or black magic.

Smit portrays Entgen Luijten as an emblem of female indomitability. During the crossexaminations, Entgen doesn't mention the names of any other women, because she knows all too well what would happen to them. Despite being locked in a cold, dark prison cell and being starved and tortured, she doesn't yield. In a society where women are considered the 'weaker sex' by the church and the authorities, susceptible to Satan's temptations, Entgen stands out as wholly individual, a wise and autonomous human being.

'Smit's empathy is her great strength. She doesn't sugarcoat or romanticize; she sweeps the fairytale of the table.' *NRC Handelsblad*

'This novel gives important insight into how the judiciary, the church and the powers-that-be were able to silence outspoken women.' *ZIN*

'Smit has written down the gripping story as a thriller. A tribute to a indomitable woman.' *De Telegraaf*

Featured in **New Dutch Fiction** from the Foundation for Dutch Literature

Was

There is something in the center of his palate that doesn't belong there: a wisdom tooth that is older than himself

After a disturbing discovery, broken relationship and the death of his mother, Wyrđ decides to put everything behind him in hopes of learning more about his past. He goes in search of his father, whom he never knew. In De Boarn, a remote area in the countryside, Wyrđ meets an eccentric old man who tells him that this is where his father disappeared. Only the wax figures in the attic show traces of his presence. As the statues slowly melt away and Wyrđ tries to uncover the truth surrounding his father's disappearance, the mysterious landscape De Boarn reveals more and more secrets.

Was is a hallucinatory novel that shows how our consciousness, memory and behavior are manipulated over and over again. But what if you could manipulate your own reality? How far would you go? A haunting debut, with echoes of the work of the Brothers Grimm, David Lynch, and series like *Dark*, *Black Mirror*, and *Westworld*.



Original title Was
Pub. date May 2021
Pages 240

English sample translation available
English review available

Longlisted for the Libris 2022

Jilt Jorritsma is a historian, essayist and writer. In 2016 he won the Nexus Connect Essay Competition and in 2018 his essay *Onthoofd* won the prestigious Joost Zwagerman Essay Prize. His essays and short stories have appeared in *de Volkskrant*, *De Revisor*, the Dutch Book Guide and at Boom Philosophy, among others. He also does research on sinking cities at the Open University.



'Was is an audacious, sensual and philosophical novel with horror elements, in the guise of a realistic story. (...) The visual scenes are interspersed with essayistic passages about classical antiquity, Descartes and biblical and eastern views of man and nature.'

Het Parool

'It is extremely rare for a novel to both disgust, to the point of gagging, and enchant. Extraordinary book.'
NRC Handelsblad

'Jilt Jorritsma is the rising star of Dutch Literature.'
NRC Handelsblad



Original title Tanja Nijmeijer
van guerilla naar vredesproces
Pub. date November 2021
Pages 320

Bestseller in the Netherlands
Over 10,000 copies sold

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.

Tanja Nijmeijer

From Guerilla to Peace Process

“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.”

'The story of Nijmeijer, who became internationally known because her diaries were leaked and later because she joined the peace talks between FARC and the Colombian government, has often been written down by journalists, but never in such detail as in her autobiography.' *Het Parool*

'Tanja Nijmeijer is candid in looking back on her life with the FARC.' *Knack*



Original title Zie mij graag
Pub. date September 2021
Pages 304

English translation available

Rights by Cecile B. Literary agency
 cecile@cblagency.com

Previous work by this author was
 published in the US (Harper Collins)

Sarah Meuleman 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



Just Like Me

How far will you go to be seen?

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?

Just Like Me 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.

‘Just Like Me 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*

Book trailer available [here](#)



Original title Ons geld is stuk

Pub. date October 2021

Pages 304

English sample translation available

No. 1 Bestseller in the Netherlands
Over 20,000 copies sold

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



Our Money is Broken

And why Bitcoin is the Solution

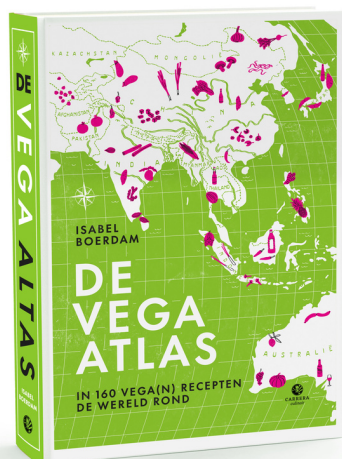
Our money is broken. For a growing group of people it is becoming increasingly difficult to build wealth. They start their careers with a hefty student debt. Houses have become unaffordable. There is no longer interest to be earned on savings.

Worldwide, billions of people live under financial censorship and have to contend with high inflation. Their bank accounts are closed because they stand up for minorities or support the opposition. Or they work overseas and have to pay outrageous fees to send their wages to their families back home. Bitcoin could be part of the solution. This radical new money system is ideally suited to a digital future. It is programmable money, an open protocol that anyone can build applications on.

The authors do not guarantee that bitcoin will be a success. In fact, they are clear about the many kinds of ways in which it can fail. But they also see the ways it can succeed and transform the world.

'The writing style is what makes Our Money Is Broken so accessible. [...] All the relevant aspects are handled: the current monetary system, the role of inflation, economic trends, the solutions cryptocurrency can offer and the possible role bitcoin can play in this.'

Het Financieele Dagblad



Author Isabel Boerdam

Pub. date March 2022

Pages 376

Full colour illustrations

The Vega Atlas

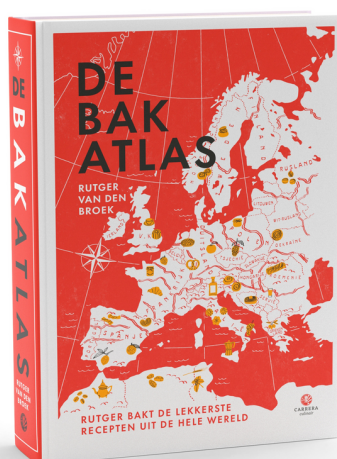


CARRERA
culinair

Isabel Boerdam shows you in more than 160 accessible recipes how diverse vega(n) cuisine is, anywhere in the world

This book also pays plenty of attention to the cuisines and dishes in which meat or fish seem to be indispensable. The author has put classics in a contemporary vegetarian format with a charming nod to the original dish. Think of dishes like jackfruit rendang, no-reindeer stew and Turkish pides with walnut mince. And how about Beet Wellington or a patty of stew mushroom? That's the beauty of veg cuisine: it's always possible.

More information on cookery titles available [here](#)



Author Rutger van den Broek

Pub. date October 2021

Pages 440

Full colour illustrations

The Baking Atlas



CARRERA
culinair

Dutch bake-off winner Rutger van den Broek is baking around the world in 150 recipes

People are baking all over the world. From Austrian apple strudel to Portuguese pastéis de nata and from Indonesian pandan cake to American devil's food cake. Or what do you think of biscuits from South Africa and Russian honey cake?

Author sold over **200,000 books** in the Netherlands

More information on cookery titles available [here](#)



Author Janneke Vreugdenhil

Pub. date October 2021

Pages 512

Full colour illustrations

The Low Carb Bible



CARRERA
culinair

The Low Carb Bible is the reference book for anyone who wants to eat less carbohydrates, but certainly does not want to enjoy themselves less

Using clear, step-by-step instructions, Janneke Vreugdenhil shows how to make dishes with few and slow carbs without compromising on taste. From grilled tuna with cucumber-avocado salad to turnip carbonara and steak béarnaise. And from mocha smoothies and protein bread to Thai beef salad and pumpkin lasagne.

More information on cookery titles available [here](#)



Author The Green Happiness

Pub. date November 2021

Pages 496

Full colour illustrations

The Vegan Bible



CARRERA
culinair

The Vegan Bible shows, with more than 150 dishes, the infinite possibilities of plant-based eating

Using instructions and step-by-step photography, you'll learn all about making the most delicious plant-based dishes. From beet burgers to chocolate mousse and from pumpkin lasagna to cinnamon rolls. The Vegan Bible is a surprising and informative reference book for both the beginner and the advanced cook.

More information on cookery titles available [here](#)

Miss Awful series

Over 100.000 copies of the Miss Awful-series sold in the Netherlands!



Author Carry Slee
Orig. title Juf Braaksel

English and Chinese sample available
English synopsis available

Winner of the Dutch Children's Jury Award
Book 5 planned for Autumn 2022
Film rights sold

Carry Slee published her first story in a kids magazine in 1988 and published her first book a year later. 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. She focusses on realistic children's books and has won a lot of awards. Seven of her books were turned into movies



Miss Awful and the Mastermind

Miss Awful has unjustly been elected as the sweetest teacher of the province, but the fourth grade is anything but happy about it! Lily and Tom are determined to compose a plan to drive Miss Awful away from the school. Unfortunately, it's not quite that simple. Their hope is revived when a new boy joins their class: Lucas is only 7 years old, but he is super smart. Maybe he can help them to create a new masterplan? But then they realise Miss Awful has different plans for Lucas, and they have to find a way to save him. Fingers crossed!

Miss Awful and the Mysterious Disappearance

After their summer break, Lily and Tom will go to the fifth grade. Unfortunately, the cunning Miss Awful is still the principal. They are very happy that Lucas is in their class again: he discovers that the inventor of the magical ring has invented another item that could make Miss Awful disappear forever. However, just before they are about to use the invention, it gets stolen... They almost give up, but then they find out that Milou, their new classmate, knows more about the theft. Is there still a chance to rid themselves of Miss Awful forever?

Miss Awful and the Magical Ring

Lily and Tom attend a great school and have a very friendly teacher, Miss Evi. But then the scary Miss Averill becomes the principal and everything changes: no birthday parties, no animals (not even on World Animal Day!) and no school trips. The class gives her a nickname: Miss Awful. They have to devise a plan to get rid of her! But that's not all: Lily also has a problem of her own that has to be solved. Maybe Miss Evi's magic ring can help with that?

Miss Awful and the Ingenious Escape

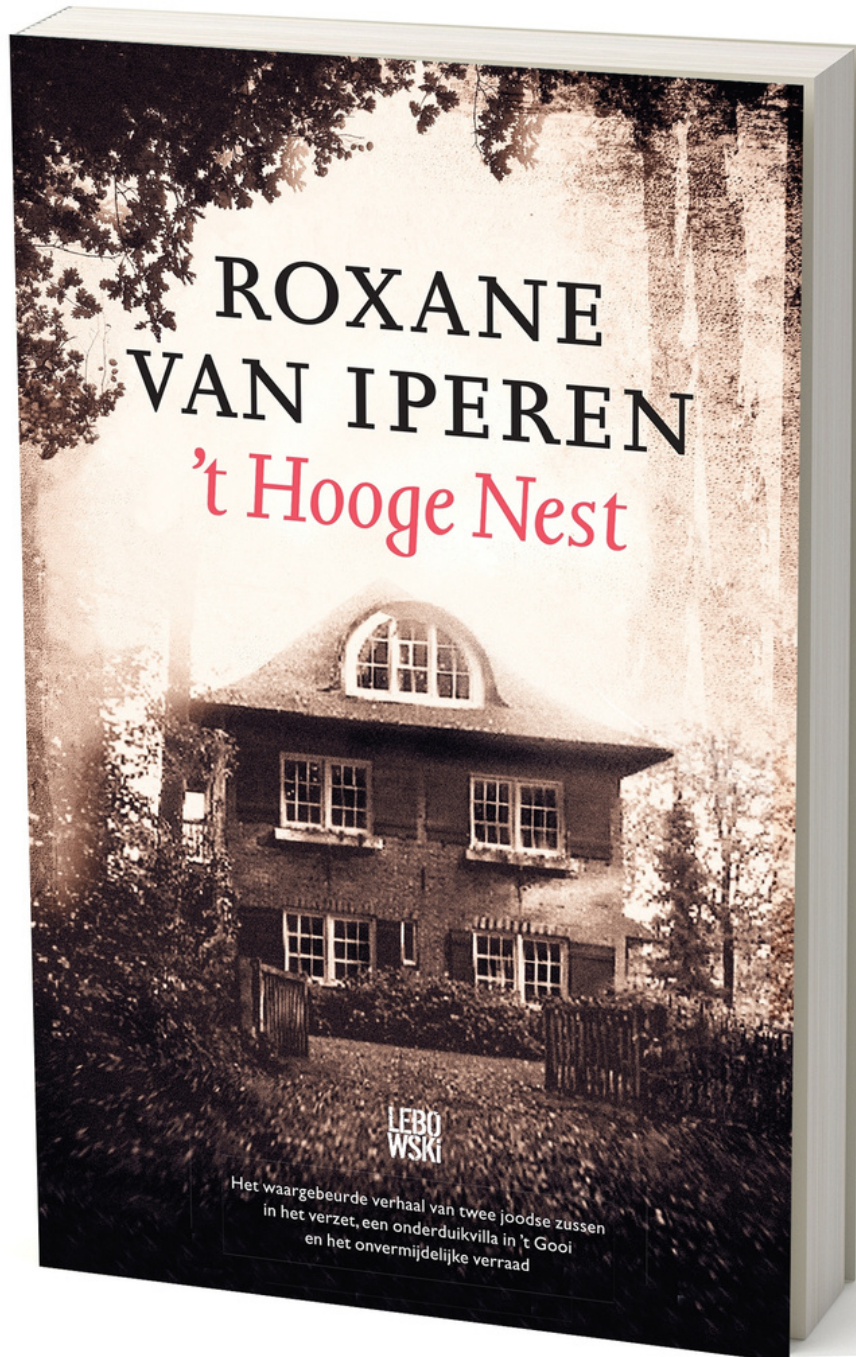
Lily and Tom still haven't succeeded in chasing away the sneaky Miss Awful, not even with the help of their genius friend Lucas. Miss Awful keeps coming up with nasty plans. For example, she has come up with a ridiculous new school uniform. And she wants to separate all the best friends and put them in different classes. They can't let that happen, right? Miss Awful's scary friends Greta Grenade and Clara Cyanide have been released from prison and have come up with their own evil plans in which Tom plays a big part... On top of that, Tom finds out his parents have been keeping a big secret from him. Can he find out what the secret is and keep himself from falling into the hands of Miss Awful and her friends?

Children's catalogue available [here](#)

SUCCESSFUL

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER

The High Nest



**The true story of two Jewish sisters in
the resistance, a hiding villa and the
inevitable betrayal**

**LEBO
WSKI**



Rights sold

US (HarperCollins), UK (Orion), Germany (HoCa), Italy (Bompiani), Czech Republic (Euromedia), Finland (Bazar Kustannus), France (Editions Leduc), Hungary (HVG), Poland (Marginesy), Portugal (Presenca), Slovakia (Motyl), Spain - world (Planeta), Sweden (Modernista), Albania (Dituria) and South Korea (Bookie)

Rights by

WME Entertainment

Tracy Fisher | tfisher@wmeagency.com

INTERNATIONAL BESTSELLER

The Jewish Nursery School



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





Rights sold

UK (Bookouture), France (City Editions), Portugal (Presenca), Italy (Ugo Guanda), Czech Republic (Omega), Romania (RAO), Portugal/Latin America (Melhoramentos)

Rights by

2 Seas Literary Agency

Marleen Seegers | marleen.seegers@2seasagency.com





Author Saskia Noort

Pub. date June 2020

Pages 272

English translation available

#copies sold 120,000+

Rights sold

Germany (Europa Verlag), Czech (Metafora)

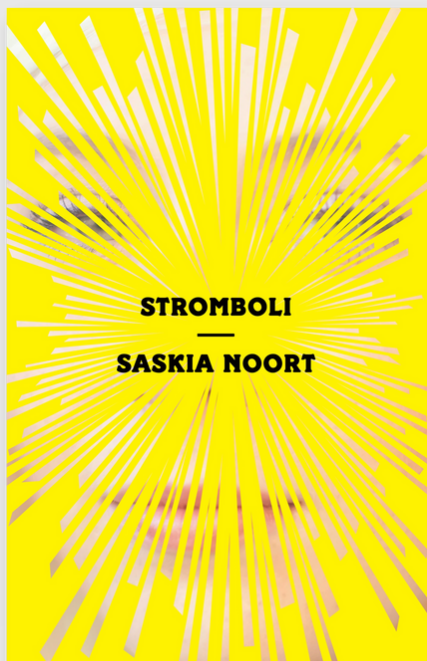
The Grown Up



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.

'Saskia Noort has outdone herself! Prepare for a sleepless night, because this story must be read in one sitting.' *Camilla Läckberg*

The best-selling thriller of 2020



Author Saskia Noort

Pub. date April 2018

Pages 256

English translation available

#copies sold 110,000+

Rights sold

France (Michel Lafon), Czech (Nakladatelství Práh)

Stromboli

LEBO
WSKI

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

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

Stromboli is being filmed by Levitate Film/Netflix with an international cast (Tim McInnerny, Anna Channelor and Christian Hillborg)



Author: Dido Michielsens

Pub. date: October 2020

Pages: 272

English sample translation available

#copies sold 85,000+

Rights by 2 Seas Literary Agency

Chrys Armefti | chrysothemis.armefti@2seasagency.com

Rights sold Italy (Nord), Indonesia (Marjin Kiri), Serbia (TBA)

Lighter Than I



A moving, historical novel about desire and identity in the Dutch East Indies of the late nineteenth century

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?

'Dido Michielsens, herself descended from a njai, has portrayed Isah as a credible victim of both colonial and native Javanese society. In this way, she deftly fills the empty space that njais have often left in the family tree of Indonesian families. An impressive and poignant novel.'

Literair Nederland

Biography



Author Sophie de Schaepdrijver

Pub. date October 2018

Pages 448

English translation available

#copies sold 10,000+

Territories sold

United Kingdom (Bloomsbury), Belgium/Holland (Horizon)

Gabrielle Petit



HORIZON

The Death and Life of a Female Spy in the First World War

In central Brussels stands a statue of a young woman. Built in 1923, it is the first monument to a working-class woman in European history. Her name was Gabrielle Petit. History has forgotten Petit, an ambitious and patriotic Belgian, executed by firing squad in 1916 for her role as an intelligence agent for the British Army. After the First World War she was celebrated as an example of stern endeavour, but a hundred years later her memory has faded.

In the first part of this historical biography Sophie De Schaepdrijver uses Petit's life to explore gender, class and heroism in the context of occupied Europe. Petit's experiences reveal the reality of civilian engagement under military occupation and the emergence of modern espionage. The second part of the book focuses on the legacy and cultural memory of Petit and the First World War. By analysing Petit's representation in ceremony, discourse and popular culture De Schaepdrijver expands our understanding of remembrance across the 20th century.

'With her broad outlook, her intelligent interpretations and her stylistic ability, Sophie de Schaepdrijver [Professor of History at Penn State University] reminds us that historiography can be a gurgling source of intellectual pleasure.' *Humo*

'Sophie De Schaepdrijver has written a magisterial biography that strips this exceptional woman of her unsubtle hero status, but at the same time shows her as an uncompromising woman who fought with every fibre of her being against the violent occupier.' *Het Nieuwsblad*

Fiction



Author Marion Pauw
Pub. date January 2019
Pages 256

English translation available
#copies sold 20,000+

Rights sold
Czech (Albatros)

LEBO
WSKI

The Experiments

Based on testimonies from a woman who survived the experiments in the notorious Block 10 at Auschwitz

They haven't seen each other or spoken for fifty years. But Alma has fallen ill and this weekend there's only her stepdaughter Charlie to look after her. As soon as she is back in her childhood home Charlie instantly realizes why she left it for good all those years ago. But then Alma starts telling her a story: about how many people fit in a coal carriage; eternal famine; about the experiments in Auschwitz' Block 10. Can a gruesome confession bridge the gap of a lifelong alienation?

'Very strong. Pauw switches smoothly between past and present. The contact between the two women and the harrowing events in Auschwitz are described with frankness and sometimes humor.' *Libelle*

Thriller



Author Marion Pauw
Pub. date May 2021
Pages 272

English sample translation available
#copies sold 20,000+



Bird Island

We love you. We miss you. Please come back.

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

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*



Author Johan Op de Beeck

Pub. date April 2022

Pages 736

#copies sold 20,000+

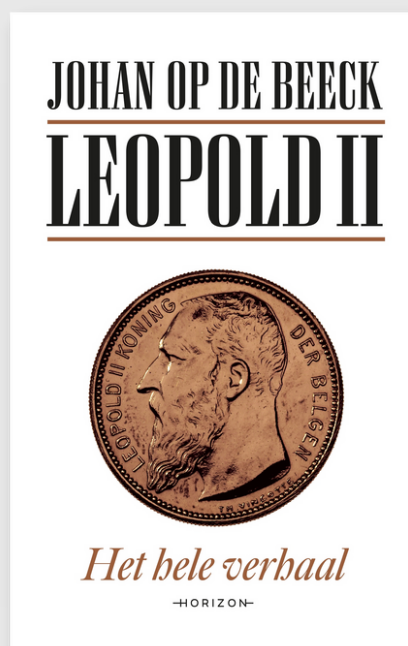
Number 1 on the Belgian bestseller list for weeks

The Sun King

Wonderful page-turner about the king of kings

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...

'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*



Author Johan Op de Beeck

Pub. date September 2020

Pages 816

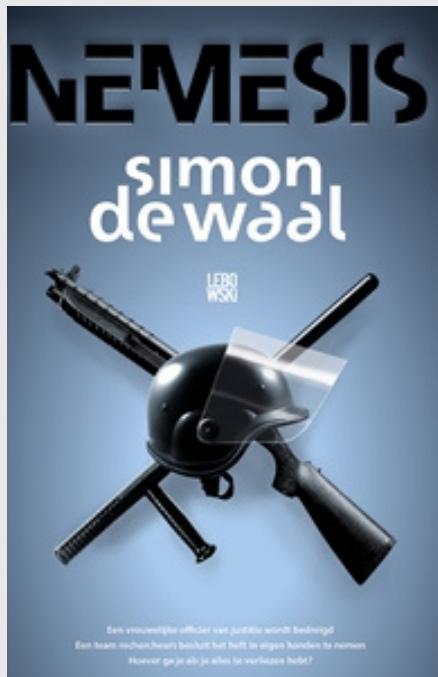
#copies sold 12,000+

Leopold II

A great king or a mass murderer?

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 figures in history. A compelling life story, more topical than ever.

'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*



Author Simon de Waal
Pub. date February 2019
Pages 268

A new thriller by Simon de Waal will be published by The House of Books early 2023

Nemesis



After a witness is horribly murdered in her home and her husband and children must be rushed to safety, the threat against District Attorney Sylvia van Maele and her family continues unabated. When, not long after, a detective is killed in an attack, the detective team decides to take the law into their own hands and fight the perpetrators beyond all rules and laws. When they slowly come to the realization that the team is operating illegally and on their own, they decide to confront it and there is no turning back. Has the team gone too far in their quest for justice and revenge?

Disney Plus based their first Dutch Scripted Original Drama on this novel



Author Femmetje de Wind
Pub. date October 2020
Pages 336

English sample translation available

Film rights sold

The Promised Life

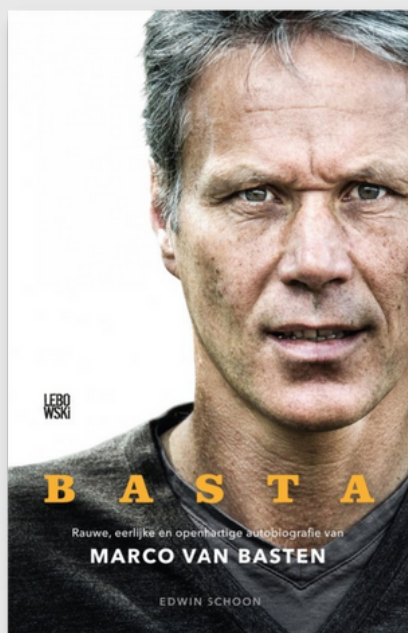


Semi-autobiographical; Femmetje also went to Israel to convert herself to Judaism

Cultural science student Sophie falls head over heels in love with art dealer Max, who is from an orthodox Jewish family. Max' 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?

'A captivating and smoothly written novel that invites the reader to a world that is reminiscent of the Netflix hit series Unorthodox.'

De Telegraaf



Author Edwin Schoon
Pub. date January 2019
Pages 256

English translation available
#copies sold 90,000+

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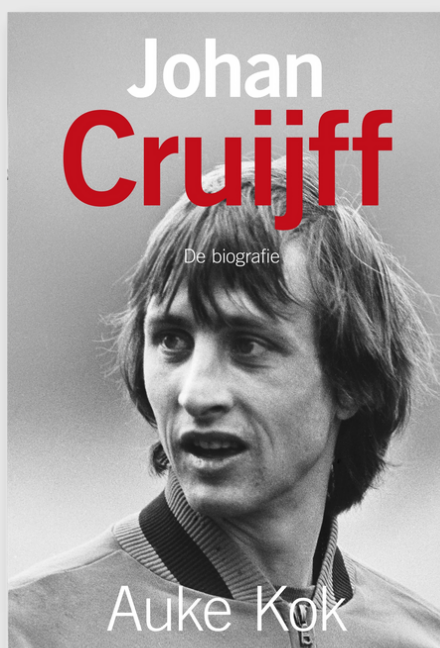
BASTA

LEBO
WSKI

**The raw, honest, but also very revealing biography
of Marco van Basten**

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.

No. 1 on the Dutch Bestseller 60



Author Auke Kok
Pub. date November 2019
Pages 640

English translation available
#copies sold 60,000+

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 Germany (Edel Books)

Johan Cruijff



**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

No. 1 on the Dutch Bestseller 60



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