

A moving and inspirational book for anyone who has ever had to deal with loss

SAMIRA DAINAN
Forty Days
My Search for Solace

FOR READERS OF MITCH ALBOM

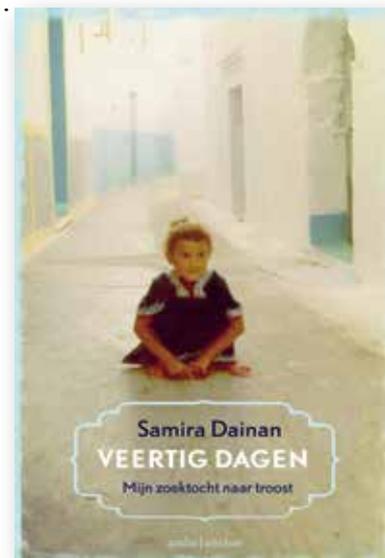
Shortly after the death of her father, Samira Dainan travels to Jerusalem. In a city that is sacred to three major world religions, she seeks comfort for her immense grief. All religions have rituals that are intended to make death bearable: Berbers and Arabs mourn their dead for forty days, Sephardic Jews for thirty. But do such customs offer genuine relief?

With her notebook in hand, Samira walks past the churches, mosques and synagogues of Jerusalem in search of comfort. In an exceptionally clear style she gives an account of her grieving process. At the same time her book is a beautiful tribute to a headstrong father, an artist who left Morocco in search of greater freedom.

PRESS ON FORTY DAYS:

‘Samira writes in crystal-clear prose about how she deals with the death of her extraordinary father. It is never sentimental, and as a result it really hits home. Moving, vulnerable and intense!’ – ABDELKADER BENALI

‘[...] beautifully constructed and extremely well documented.’
– NRC HANDELSBLAD



NEW
Ambo|Anthos, Non-Fiction,
196 pages, February 2016

* Dutch pdf *



Samira Dainan is a writer and singer. She has worked with groups such as the Amsterdam Klezmer Band and appeared at festivals including Lowlands and Read My World. *Forty Days* is her debut.

A clear and accessible introduction to the work of the Netherlands' most famous philosopher

MAARTEN VAN BUUREN Spinoza, Philosopher of Freedom

An Introduction to His Work

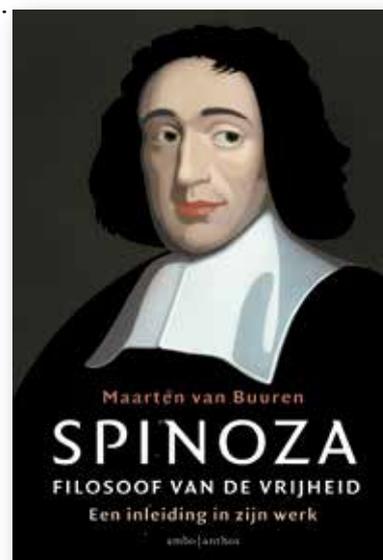
Baruch Spinoza (1632-1677) is widely regarded as the most renowned and influential philosopher the Netherlands has ever known. In his most famous work, the *Ethics*, Spinoza examines how man can achieve freedom, a revolutionary message for that time.

Spinoza is as complicated as he is famous. His *Ethics* is considered unreadable. In *Spinoza, Philosopher of Freedom*, Maarten van Buuren sheds an explanatory light on Spinoza's complex philosophy. He shows the five pillars on which Spinoza's thought is based: the pursuit of self-determination, the development of power, following intuition, collaboration with others, and above all the pursuit of freedom. In this appeal lies his enduring topicality. In an accessible manner, Van Buuren places Spinoza among philosophers who had great influence on his thinking, such as Descartes, Hobbes and Hugo Grotius. He demonstrates the core of Spinoza's ethics: liberation from paternalism and the quest to live in harmony with the world and with oneself. Only then can man be happy.

PRESS ON PREVIOUS WORK:

'An inspiring and rich overview of very diverse and often conflicting virtues.' – DE MORGEN

'Maarten van Buuren is endowed with a robust, supple and almost sexy style of writing.' – JOOST ZWAGERMAN IN NRC HANDELSBLAD



NEW

Ambo|Anthos, Philosophy,
256 pages, March 2016

* Dutch pdf *



Maarten van Buuren is emeritus professor of French literature at the University of Utrecht. His bestseller *Frog Goes Cycling!*, an account of his struggle with depression, was published in 2008. Together with Joep Dohmen he wrote *The Price of Freedom* and *Of Old and New Virtues*.

What great philosophers have written about food and why it is still relevant today

RIK PETERS Food for Thought

Yesterday's Philosophers on Today's Food

Philosophers have an aversion to food. After all, no other topic has been paid so little attention to as eating. Ever since philosophers invented the concept of body and mind, reflecting upon chewing and swallowing, digesting and crapping has been considered just a little less noble than pondering on free will or demonstrating the categorical imperative.

And we suffer for it today. Large numbers of people are trying to feel their way through the food landscape, but without a philosophical map we must all find our own route... and we are pretty lost. How else do you explain the increasing number of both vegetarians *and* broiler chickens, the fact that hipsters drool over divine goji berries while hippies fight for crooked cucumbers, and that bestseller lists are full of hearty cookbooks alongside austere diet plans?

But there is hope. It so happens that many scholars *did* write something about food: often just a subordinate clause or a footnote, but better than nothing. *Food for Thought* examines what great thinkers thought about food *and* what their ideas mean to us. Did you know that Thomas More invented factory farming? That Socrates had a clever plan to tackle the obesity epidemic? Or that John Locke devised Monsanto's policy? *Food for Thought* is the tasty first step towards a real food philosophy.

PRESS ON FOOD FOR THOUGHT:

'In the hands of journalist Rik Peters, great philosophers of the past tumble cheerfully over one another and shed light on topical issues concerning our food. Peters lends a helping hand by making surprising connections.' – LEKKER VEGETARISCH

'The wide variety of culinary subjects and the equally wide variety of philosophical perspectives, as well as the smooth and youthful style of writing, make this book an enjoyable prosaic gem.' – HVV

'Compulsory reading for owners of cookery shops and schools. A well-documented and pleasantly written little book, full of funny quotes and successful puns.' – TREND



NEW

Houtekiet, Philosophy, 143 pages,
October 2015

*** Dutch pdf ***



Rik Peters (1987) is a journalist and editor. He writes about science and philosophy, and his work has appeared in publications such as *NRC Handelsblad*, *KIJK* and *Nieuwe Revu*. He has also eaten on average three meals a day for the past 28 years. With a relaxed tone, a healthy dollop of humour, and a keen eye for unexpected connections, he guides his readers not only through more than two thousand years of philosophy but also through the menu.

‘Loontjens has lived through all the caricatures of the seventies, eighties and nineties, yet nothing is what it seems in this philosophical coming of age.’ – Coen Simon

JANNAH LOONTJENS

Roaring Nineties

Or How Philosophy Changed My Life

Roaring Nineties describes our most recent fin de siècle and compares it with the present day. It was a time when it was believed the great wars were over. It was before 9/11, before the advent of mobile telephony and the Internet, a time of multicultural ideals, prosperity and optimism.

In the *Roaring Nineties*, Jannah Loontjens examines the image we have of that decade and the years leading up to it. She describes her experiences in the squat in The Hague where she lived with her mother. She talks about her philosophy studies in New York, where she was taught by the philosopher Derrida, about her job as a gogo dancer in nightclubs, and the post-structuralist thought that was fashionable at the time. She also looks back on her childhood in Sweden where, under a starry sky in a dark forest, the first big metaphysical questions crossed her mind. With reference to the work of Derrida, Baudrillard, Butler and Heidegger, Loontjens shows how her own life is connected with philosophy, and how major philosophical questions can go hand in hand with practical matters.

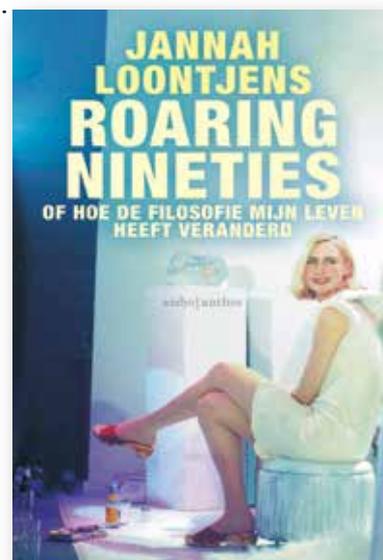
PRESS ON PREVIOUS WORK:

‘What makes this novel so new, exciting and rich is the sophisticated way in which she inserts psychological, philosophical and social layers throughout the story.’ – TROUW

‘Vivacious and modern.’ – JAN MAGAZINE

‘Painfully recognizable.’ – VERONICA MAGAZINE

‘With this thought-provoking novel, Loontjens demonstrates the power of literature.’ – HP DE TIJD



NEW

Ambo|Anthos, Philosophy,
192 pages, March 2016

*** Dutch pdf ***



Jannah Loontjens (1974) is a philosopher and writer. In 2007 she debuted with the novel *Good Luck*. Her second novel, *What Time Really* (2011), and the essay collection *My Life is Better than Literature* (2013) were received with critical acclaim. Her last novel, *But Then Again* (2014), will be published in Denmark and Hungary. Loontjens teaches literary theory and literary writing at ArtEZ Institute of the Arts and the Gerrit Rietveld Academie.