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FICTION

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Dimitri Verhulst has long hesitated to write the account of his years in a children’s home. When he saw a young woman, who grew up in government care, take her own life before his very eyes, and when two of his old companions from the children’s home appeared in the newspapers after killing their own children because they couldn’t cope with family life, he started writing.

*Kaddish for a C*nt* is the story of the young people in the Zonnekind Children’s Home, who are carelessly pushed like pawns across a chessboard by the Child Protection Services and will never bask in the warmth of a family. In rather uncomplimentary characterisations, Verhulst outlines the ordeals of Gianna, Stefaan and Sarah in government care. *Kaddish for a C*nt* is full of black humour, but also reflects the total hopelessness the author felt as a boy.

**PRESS ON KADDISH FOR A C*NT**

‘The author mercilessly exposes the hypocrisy of our society and writes from the depth of his soul ... this book gives you the shivers.’

– ****** HAARLEMS DAGBLAD

**PRESS ON PREVIOUS WORK**

‘He is one of the greatest, most ferocious talents of Flemish literature, who has what it takes to write a novel like a twenty-first-century Louis Paul Boon.’

– NRC HANDELSBLAD

‘Merciless and irrepressibly funny – in fact you can say that about everything Dimitri Verhulst writes.’ – WESTDEUTSCHE RUNDFUNK

‘Again and again, Dimitri Verhulst very precisely inserts touches of irony and sarcasm, giving this little novel an amazingly light weight.’

– WESTDEUTSCHE ALLGEMEINE ZEITUNG

*Dimitri Verhulst* (born 1972) is considered one of the best writers in the Dutch language. His breakthrough novel *The Misfortunates* (2006) won several awards including the Belgian Golden Book Owl and has sold more than 200,000 copies to date. The film adaptation screened in Europe in 2009/2010 and the English translation was named one of the best books of 2012 by *The Irish Times*. In 2009 his book *Goddamn Days on a Goddamn Globe* was awarded the Libris Literature Prize. His latest novel *The Latecomer* (2013), sold over 80,000 copies in the Netherlands and is being adapted for stage and screen. Dimitri Verhulst is the author of the Book Week Gift 2015. His work has been published in over 30 countries.
A bizarre mother, a yearning son and a power game to win a peaceful death

ADRIAAN VAN DIS

I’m Coming Back

After a long life of coldness, silence and rejection, a mother suddenly starts talking to her son. He, a novelist, is permitted to become her biographer, but on one condition: he must give her a peaceful death.

Will they stick to the rules? Can he be trusted? Can she? She taunts him with lies and half-truths, with dramatic stories about a childhood among the soldiers, thrilling adventures in the Dutch East Indies, and winding excursions into esoterism. But as she declines on the way to 100, he increasingly withdraws from her.

Who is this mother? As the daughter of a West Brabant gentleman farmer, she married an Indonesian officer in the colonial army to the dismay of her Protestant family, and followed him to the tropics, where life turned out not to be very romantic. After spending the war in a Japanese camp with her three daughters, she heard that her husband had been beheaded. Destitute, and pregnant with a son who was conceived adulterously with a new man, she returned to the Netherlands. There, she ran a household, placated her wealthy family, devoted herself to spiritual matters, struck cuttings of her geraniums at full moon, and looked after her husband in his growing madness.

The son asks questions, takes notes, argues, ridicules, despairs, and has memories of his own. *I’m Coming Back* is a tragicomedy about a bizarre mother, a yearning son, and the terrifying power play that develops between them.

PRESS ON PREVIOUS WORK

‘*Tikkop* is more vivid, more profound and more humorous than could ever be captured in a thousand-word review. Adriaan van Dis’s prose is scintillating. He is the Netherlands’ very own Graham Greene, a writer-traveller who used distant lands as a focal point for moral issues and in so doing got to the heart of the matter.’

– NRC HANDELSBLAD

‘*Tikkop* is hugely compelling thanks to the action-packed anecdotes, subtle symbolism, authentic characters and above all Van Dis’ stylistic prowess – the man can write.’

– VRIJ NEDERLAND

‘The skill of Adriaan van Dis in this book lies in the particular technique for which he is able to drag each reader – even those who haven’t visited or lived in the Third World – in the dark sides of the poorest ghettos of South Africa, making him touch a dirty painful reality that we often do not want to see.’

– L’INDICE

‘Van Dis offers a salutary and refreshing perspective.’

– THE SUNDAY INDEPENDENT

FORTHCOMING

Atlas Contact, novel, 256 pages, November 2014

* English sample translation available *

* Dutch pdf available *

Adriaan van Dis (born 1946), is interested in cultural clashes and this fascination permeates his entire oeuvre. His novel *Indische Duinen* (*My Father’s War*, 1994), won various prizes in the Netherlands and was shortlisted for the IMPAC Award. *Familieziek* (*Repatriated*, 2002) and *De wandelaar* (*The Walker*, 2007) have been published in numerous countries. *Tikkop* (*Betrayal*, 2013), his latest novel, has been sold to 6 territories to date. The English translation appeared at MacLehose Press in 2013.
**Ominous novel on the intersection of money and law**

**JANNETJE KŒLEWIJN**

Heilbron’s Hell

There’s no smoke without fire. Cor Heilbron, CEO of b4you, a large international food company, is suspected of insider trading. There’s no evidence, but one thing is certain: Heilbron must hang. The prosecutor handling the case has other things on his mind: he has met a new woman through a relationship counsellor. Meanwhile, a bold journalist is trying to uncover the truth. But she risks being dragged into a scandal with unimaginable implications.

*Heilbron’s Hell* is a novel about men with money and men who must enforce the law, and what happens when their paths cross.

**PRAISE FOR HEILBRON’S HELL**

‘A novel that never flags, with its finger on the pulse of the world of finance, journalism and the victims of often murderous current events. An irresistible pageturner.’ – HERMAN KOCH (*THE DINNER*)

‘A compelling novel about vain, greedy rulers and hasty journalism.’

– JEROEN SMIT (*THE PRAY*)

‘A very good book that affected me deeply.’ – A.L. SNIJDERS

**PRESS ON HEAVEN DOES NOT EXIST**

‘Koelewijn has done an excellent job chronicling her parents’ lives. The book is brisk, unsentimental, often funny and frequently poignant, but above all: very well written.’ – MAARTEN ‘T HART, NRC HANDELSBLAD

Jannetje Koelewijn (born 1959) spent years interviewing top entrepreneurs for *NRC Handelsblad*. *Heaven Does Not Exist*, about her parents’ marriage, was published in 2011. The book sold nearly 30,000 copies. *Heilbron’s Hell* is her debut novel.
When you’re aware of abuse in a monastery, but not prepared to put your job on the line, does that make you a complicit?

**JEROEN BROUWERS**

The Wood

A boys’ boarding school run by monks in the 1950s is rife with sexual abuse, sadism and humiliation. Brother Bonaventura witnesses this but, like everybody else, says nothing. Does this make him complicit?

*The Wood* gives a penetrating picture of the crimes and hypocrisy in the Roman Catholic Church, which still arouse outrage and frustration in the victims to this day. *The Wood* is the first Dutch novel about child abuse in the Catholic Church.

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**PRESS ON PREVIOUS WORK**

‘Everything Brouwers writes is automatically worth reading.’

— LEEUWARDER COURANT

‘Jeroen Brouwers is undeniably a writer who has only improved with age.’

— DE TIJD

‘Brouwers’ diligence is one of his great qualities. His novels, stories, essays and autobiographical works have kept on coming, and never dipped in quality. Stylistically pure, beautifully composed, poignant, full of sadness and regret.’ — ELSEVIER

‘Sure, the language is musical, however, the style asks for a more specific comparison: Brouwers’ novels are silent operas.’ — ***** DE STANDAARD

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Jeroen Brouwers (born 1940) has built up an impressive oeuvre of novels, stories, essays and polemics in his 50-year career. In 1995, *Sunken Red* was awarded the prestigious Prix Fémina Etranger in Paris. His novel *Secret Rooms* (2000) became a resounding success: it met with unanimous praise and won the Flemish Golden Owl Award, the AKO Literature Prize 2001 and the Multatuli Prize. His novels have been translated into multiple languages and received many awards. For his entire oeuvre Brouwers was awarded the Constantijn Huygens Prize.
Efter is set in a near future in which doctors and scientists consider love to be a mental illness. The health care industry eagerly jumps on this new diagnosis. Clinics are opened to treat love addiction. And pharmacist Fizzler wants to be the first to bring a cure for love on the market: Efter.

In Efter, we follow various characters involved in the introduction of the drug. The PR man who has to bring Efter to market. A teenage girl who falls in love for the first time. A journalist who senses danger. They all have their own agenda, they all struggle with their own problems and doubts, they all try to bring order into an increasingly chaotic reality. What they don’t know is that their individual choices and decisions set a fateful chain of events in motion.

Hanna Bervoets has written a multi-layered, poignant novel about the stories we tell to be able to live with ourselves and each other. In Efter, the oldest story of all – Love – is radically rewritten.

Hanna Bervoets (born 1984) writes novels, columns and scripts. Her columns for Volkskrant Magazine, collected in That’s Nice, Bye, are hugely popular in the Netherlands. Bervoets won the 2009 Debutant of the Year Award for her first novel Or, How, Why. Its follow-up, Dear Céline, was awarded the Opzij Literature Prize 2012 for best book by a female Dutch author. It has since been adapted for the big screen. After Dear Céline she made her definitive breakthrough as a novelist with the acclaimed bestseller Everything There Was.
Can a father make amends for his mistakes as a son?

P.F. THOMÉSE

The Underwater Swimmer

When crossing the river to liberated territory – in the last year of the War – fourteen-year-old boy Tin van Heel loses his father. He does not find him until thirty years later, somewhere in West Africa, by a very different river, where he is given the chance to make up for the loss with a single, violent blow.

The Underwater Swimmer is about loss and the guilt it brings, and the desire to erase that guilt and reverse the loss.

PRESS ON PREVIOUS WORK

‘He is master of his elegantly formulated explanations and is never short of a good story.’ – NRC NEXT

‘A magnificent demonstration of the proposition that good literature tells the truth through lies.’ – JURY BOB DEN UYL PRIZE 2012

‘Thomése writes magnificent, euphoria–inducing prose, witty, with tremendous pace to it. (…) At work here is a writer who has taken the form and content of his novel to their ultimate conclusions.’ – HET PAROOL

P.F. Thomése (born 1958) was awarded the AKO Literature Prize in 1991 for his debut Southland. Shadow Child (2003) spent several weeks in the top ten, was nominated for the NS Readers’ Book of the Year Award, and was longlisted for the Libris Literature Prize. The book was his international breakthrough and was published in 19 languages. Since then he has written novels, short stories, essays and novel-las to wide acclaim.
1984. When Minnie Panis enters the world nearly four months early, tiny and translucent, she is only just declared viable. Her mother anxiously keeps watch beside the incubator, fearing her child will slip away. The baby survives, but there is no guarantee she won’t be brain damaged.

In 2012, Minnie is an established name in the international art world, admired for conceptual work in which she fearlessly puts her own life under the microscope. She is on the threshold of an experiment that goes beyond anything she has done before, an experiment in which she seeks out the ultimate boundary between life and art, which could well become the high point of her work. But how far can you manipulate reality without losing yourself?

Press on the Consequences

How far can you manipulate reality without losing yourself?

Niña Weijers

The Consequences

Niña Weijers (born 1987) studied Literary Theory. In 2010 she won the writing contest Write Now!, and her short stories have appeared in publications including De Gids and Passionate Magazine. In 2013 Opzij named her one of its ‘35 writers under 35’. She has a regular column on the website of De Groene Amsterdammer.
The dramatic story of the Second World War and Cold War told through a German hunting ground

PAULINE DE BOK

The Huntress

More and more often, old German huntress Luise Zingg returns to her former hunting ground on the Iron Curtain. Sitting in a hut, she loses herself in memories of her childhood in the war, a double life as a spy, and her love for a Stasi officer.

Young Dutchwoman Merel Alvarez also finds herself in the marshland on the former border. She has come to the Wendland to escape life in the city after the death of her mother. For the first time, she breaks ground and enters into combat with nature. She becomes so captivated by the story of the old Luise that she learns to hunt and removes Luise's file. The ghosts of the Second World War and the Cold War loom large and the lives of the two women become more and more intertwined.

De Bok's previous book Blankow has sold more than 10,000 copies in Germany.

PRaise for blankow

'A book full of oral history, full of lives in disarray, a shining example of slow journalism.' – GEERT MAK

'This is an indispensable book for anyone who wants to understand the GDR and German history.' – CEES NOOTEBOOM

Writer and translator Pauline de Bok lives partly in the east of Germany. In 2006 she published Blankow, or the Longing for Heimat. The book was nominated for the M.J. Brusse Prize, was published in German translation, and was awarded the Annalise Wagner Prize. In November 2012 she obtained a German hunting diploma, acquired a hunting licence, and has since become a regular hunter.
Herman Koch

Dear Mr M.

The once celebrated writer M. had his greatest success with a novel about the notorious disappearance of Jan Landzaat. This history teacher disappeared after a brief affair with a stunning pupil, and was last seen at the holiday cottage where she was staying with her new boyfriend. The novel was a bestseller and marked M.’s international breakthrough, but now, at the end of his career, he is fading increasingly into obscurity. But not when it comes to his mysterious downstairs neighbour, who keeps a close eye on M. What does he have to do with the disappearance case?

From various perspectives, Herman Koch tells the intriguing story of a writer in decline, a teenage couple in love and a missing teacher. Thanks to the bestseller, their fate seems to be linked forever. Dear Mr M. is a magnificent novel about jealousy and envy, friendship and love. With his world-renowned sharp eye, Herman Koch once again spares nothing and no one.

Press on Dear Mr M.
‘Dear Mr M. comes very close to perfection.’ – ***** DE STANDAARD

‘The writing is crystal clear and unpretentious, typically Koch!’ – **** NRC HANDELSBLAD

‘It is not just a page-turner, there are also plenty of belly laughs to be had.’ – **** HET PAROOL

‘Dear Mr M. fulfils the promise of a long-awaited new Koch after only a few pages.’ – VRJ NEDERLAND

‘Koch demonstrates his great narrative talent.’ – DE TELEGRAAF

‘Koch has mastered all the tricks. He is the master of variety, balance and subtle cliff-hangers. […] Plot-driven is an understatement: Koch cracks the whip to the very end.’ – BOEK

‘Tense, ingeniously constructed novel by a chuckling writer.’ – ZIN

Herman Koch (born 1953) is a renowned television producer and an internationally bestselling author. The translation rights of The Dinner (2009) have been sold to 42 countries, unprecedented for a modern Dutch novel. The Dinner has been adapted into several international stage plays and into a Dutch movie. Australian Academy Award winner Cate Blanchett will make her directorial debut with the English-language movie. Summer House with Swimming Pool (2011) is another international bestseller. The English translation of the book was published this summer in the US (Hogarth), the UK (Atlantic), and Australia (Text Publishing).
An exciting, suspenseful novel about four women who want to leave their perfect lives behind

KARIN BELT

The Midlife Club

Femke's life has not turned out as she once dreamed. As a caring mother and practical wife, the days seem to fill themselves. Slowly but surely, she has become a shadow of her former self, happiest in jogging pants. What happened to the enterprising, attractive woman she once was? At what point in her life did she lose herself?

Then she meets three colourful women. Every year they go on holiday to France together to just do whatever they want. Femke joins them, hoping to find herself.

Gradually it turns out she has taken the place of girlfriend number four, who appears to have vanished without a trace. Who was this woman? Why does she feel such a connection with her? Femke gets closer and closer to the truth. However, not everyone seems to be happy about that…

‘Mein, it was my fault, wasn’t it?’
‘God. No, of course not.’
‘Yes, it was my fault.’ I looked at my sister. Her brown eyes looked back.
‘Don’t you think I’ve become a moaner?
Superficial? Insignificant? I was somebody before I met Rutger. I had a face, passions. But I threw it all out the window. I isolated myself. Yes, I did it myself.
Is that possible? You lock yourself up in the importance of family life and resolve to set yourself free when you have time again. After all those nappies and sleepless nights, after the chickenpox and the mountains of laundry. After the mornings of swimming lessons and petting rabbits at the children’s farm. After the bedwetting and the Wednesday mornings making music with toddlers.’
‘Well,’ said Mein.
‘Oh Mein. I think I’ve waited too long. I’ve simply disappeared…’
A teenager with a mission, a terminally ill banker, and a scientist looking for the key to eternal life

AUKE HULST

Sleep Tight, Johnny Idaho

Johnny Idaho is an American teenager who, according to the world’s databases, does not exist. He is alone in the world, a living ghost with only one goal: to reach the Archipelago, a heavily guarded island nation in the Pacific Ocean. Among those working there is Dutch CEO William Gerson, a fifty-something who is confronted with the limitations and possibilities of wealth. He secretly funds the research of Japanese biomedical scientist Hatsu Hamada, hoping for the ultimate drug: immortality. But who influences her thoughts, and to what end?

Three characters, each from a different corner of the globe come together in a new world. What motivates them? And in what way are they inextricably linked to one another?

Sleep Tight, Johnny Idaho is an ambitious novel that links contemporary themes, from economic apartheid and mind control, to human emotions such as love, revenge, fear of death and the longing for eternal life.

PRESS ON CHILDREN OF THE SAVAGE LAND
‘A fantastic, unstoppable, unusual novel. I read it with growing amazement and, admittedly, emotion, and at the end I sat for a while staring into space. This is a real book, I thought, and that is of course what literature should be: a real, great book.’ – DE GROENE AMSTERDAMMER

‘Seamlessly flowing from scene to scene through his childhood, in a clear, rhythmic style, each time he manages to lull the reader to sleep – “oh, it wasn’t that unusual” – only to punch him in the stomach once more. Splendid.’ – BOEK

‘Hulst implicitly asks many existential questions. For what misdeeds can you judge someone, and where do human shortcomings begin?’
– **** DAGBLAD VAN HET NOORDEN

‘A wonderful novel. Partly thanks to the language, this is a very compelling story about growing up in the shadow of absence.’ – JUDGES BNG LITERATURE PRIZE

‘A book that deserves to be read again and again. It grabs a hold of you from the first sentence, and stays with you after the final page has been read.’
– ***** CUTTINGEDGE.NL
Kicking the Bucket

OVER 25.000 COPIES SOLD IN TWO MONTHS IN THE NETHERLANDS AND BELGIUM

Ron Casper has left behind a trail of unhappy people in his life, and still enjoys a hedonistic lifestyle at the age of seventy-six. His three children from two marriages, who are now adults, still struggle every day with the consequences of their traumatic childhood. All three are incapable of building healthy relationships with each other, their partners, or the people around them. When Ron Casper then starts frittering away the family fortune in luxury brothels, his children can come to only one conclusion: it’s time Dad kicked the bucket.

With Kicking the Bucket, Marion Pauw has written yet another intense thriller with juicy ingredients such as jealousy, adultery and treachery. Each character (and each of them would fit right in a Woody Allen movie) has his own motives and his own history with Ron, which constantly wrong-foots the reader.

PRESS ON KICKING THE BUCKET

‘Marion Pauw has returned to the genre in which she made her name: the thriller. And how! Pauw uses humour, maintains the pace, and often leaves a lot to the reader’s imagination. Kicking the Bucket is a tense whodunit that surprises until the very last page. In short, this thriller should be praised to the heavens.’ – NRC HANDELSBLAD

‘With Kicking the Bucket, Marion Pauw has once again written a first-rate story.’ – *** AD WEEKEND

‘Pauw depicts each character convincingly and successfully maintains the tension.’ – OPZIJ

‘A great thriller that touches subtly upon themes such as jealousy, betrayal and promiscuity. Marion Pauw does this with an impressive amount of humour. And what could be better than to be wrong-footed in fits of laughter. A very enjoyable holiday read.’ – *** DAGBLAD DE LIMBURGER
Perhaps Not describes four days in the life of Mascha. She lives in Amsterdam, has a good job just like her boyfriend, and together they have two children. She leads a life that appears typical for our time, when social media and freedom of choice make life more fun, but also more complicated. We chat, WhatsApp, tweet, Facebook and find love online.

These four days in Mascha’s life paint a contemporary picture to which many will relate. She enjoys wild evenings with her friends, does her best to be a good mother, puts her relationship under the microscope, and has a secret Facebook affair. Every day she struggles with her responsibilities.

Perhaps Not is an exceptionally rich novel, which depicts not only the adventures of a young woman, but also tackles the important issues of our time – a time when it is becoming increasingly difficult to make choices.

**PRAISE FOR PERHAPS NOT**

‘Perhaps Not offers an intimate glimpse into the life of a modern woman in all her guises. Poignant, philosophical thoughts shine through the mundane. Excellent work!’ – Saskia De Coster

**PRESS ON PERHAPS NOT**

‘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

Jannah Loontjens (born 1974) is a philosopher and writer. In 2007 she debuted with the novel Good Luck. Her second, acclaimed novel What Time Really (2011) was nominated for the Halewijn Literature Prize. The essay collection My Life is Better than Literature was published in 2013. Loontjens teaches literary theory and literary writing at ArtEZ Institute of the Arts and the Gerrit Rietveld Academie.
Daniel is king of the barracas in Maputo, Mozambique. With an Amstel beer in his hand and his hair in dreadlocks, he parades from bar to bar, and from woman to woman. His type: white women with a heart for Africa. When he meets Portuguese Cristina, his future seems secured.

Cristina was raised with the watchword ‘help those less fortunate than you’ and works as a volunteer at a foundation for street children in Mozambique. At first they look like a couple that confirms all the clichés, but could Daniel and Cristina turn out to be an exception?

Light-heartedly, against a background of a changing world order, Femke van Zeijl successfully weaves themes like power, gender, cultural differences, poverty and wealth into a delightful story with intercultural relations at its core.

PRESS ON PREVIOUS WORK
‘Femke’s rich writing style evocatively portrays the townspeople. At appropriate moments, she includes hilarious situations, so that in places it resembles a brilliant travel book. Gin and Tonic & Cholera, a splendid, informative city safari through Africa.’ – **** NU.NL

‘Feels like you’ve popped over to Africa.’ – LIBELLE

Femke van Zeijl (born 1971) lives and works in Lagos, Nigeria. As a freelance correspondent she reports from Africa for newspapers, magazines, radio and TV. She has published two non-fiction books: A Night in a Mortar and Gin and Tonic & Cholera. King of the Barracas is her first novel.
Out of impotence grows revenge: a dark psychological thriller

LIENEKE DIJKZEUL

When Toads Scream

Naked and seriously injured after a fall, Charlotte van den Broecke lies on the cold floor of her bathroom. Terrifying days and nights follow, and she is convinced that she is going to die. Then she hears someone breaking into her house. Charlotte survives the accident, but after months of recuperation, she becomes obsessed with the idea that she must take revenge on her rescuers. She devises a simple but effective plan. At first, when the crime is reported to the police, Detective Inspector Vegter does not take the case very seriously.

With her distinctive, subtle style, in When Toads Scream Dijkzeul shows like no other how powerlessness can turn to revenge.

PRESS ON PREVIOUS WORK

‘In her attractive style, Dijkzeul describes how the lives of her main characters are sucked into a whirlpool of violence and despair.’
– **** ALGEMEEN DAGBLAD

‘Her use of language borders on the poetic.’ – DE TELEGRAAF

‘If thriller-writing is a craft, The Scent of Rain is a masterpiece.’
– NRC HANDELSBLAD

‘Dijkzeul employs a precise and sober style, with almost casually ominous overtones.’ – BN DE STEM

‘The Silent Sin is a model of intelligent craftsmanship.’ – HET PAROOL

‘Lieneke Dijkzeul is one of Holland’s best thriller writers. This is a gripping story but also a human drama which at times is very affecting.’ – LIBELLE

Lieneke Dijkzeul (born 1950) writes children’s books, thrillers and screenplays. The Silent Sin, the first book to feature the character of Detective Inspector Vegter, was nominated for the Diamond Bullet. The second, Cold Spring, was nominated in 2008 for the Golden Noose. This was followed by The Scent of Rain, nominated for both awards. The Lost Son (2011) and What Remains (2012) also received high acclaim. In Germany, the series featuring Detective Inspector Vegter is published by dtv.
The godfather of the Dutch psychological thriller at his best

RENÉ APPEL

The Shortest Night

Rob Koolwijk has a good life. He is happily married and has three healthy children. As manager of his father-in-law’s party venue, its declining revenues cause him concerns. When, after a forced meeting with childhood friend Edwin, Rob is saddled with a woman of Eastern European descent, his problems threaten to overwhelm him. His life changes thanks to Edwin’s meddling. After a past indiscretion, Rob cannot resist his manipulations. It then becomes clear that the police are watching everything, and a fatal outcome appears imminent.

With great empathy and in his famously powerful style, René Appel depicts a dark, criminal world.

PRESS ON PREVIOUS WORK

‘Along with Charles den Tex, René Appel is still by far the best thriller writer in the Netherlands.’ – **** NRC HANDELSBLAD

‘One of The Netherlands’ most important crime authors.’ – BOEK

‘The undisputed master of the psychological thriller.’
– ALGEMEEN DAGBLAD

‘René Appel has been writing thrillers for twenty-five years and shows no sign of stopping.’ – HET PAROOL

René Appel (born 1945) has been one of the top Dutch thriller writers for more than 25 years. His work has been nominated numerous times for The Golden Noose, a prize he has won twice, for The Third Person and Senseless Violence.
A suspenseful scouting thriller about the shadow of a haunting past

EDWARD HENDRIKS
Sworn Friends

1988. Four scouting friends swear loyalty to one another with a blood oath. If one of them gets into trouble, the others will be there for him. Then, during a summer camp, a horrific accident happens.

2013. Sander Thijssen has a good job as chief financial officer of a small bank due for a takeover. When he is about to make the most important business decision of his life, he receives a disturbing telephone call. He is forced to confront the past. Are his old friends still there for him? Was the accident 25 years ago really an accident? And how far will Sander go to save his career, his family and his own life?

Sworn Friends is a thriller set mostly in the Veluwe woods. Anyone who has ever been a scout and anyone who has enjoyed the TV series Tour of Duty will be able to relate to this book, if only for the unforgettable music of The Rolling Stones, The Birds and The Animals.

PRESS ON SWORN FRIENDS
‘Hendriks used his scouting past as material for the thriller Sworn Friends, in which Sander Thijssen, a banker in Arnhem, is confronted on the eve of a merger with a painful incident from the past. (...) In the whirlwind of events that follow, nothing is what it seems, and the reader is often put on the wrong track.’ – DE GELDERLANDER

‘The story has a fantastic plot and remains exciting until the end. It sometimes reads like an exciting boys’ book. Edward gives us an insight into being a scout in the eighties. Innocent... or not?’ – READER’S REVIEW CRIMEZONE.NL

Edward Hendriks was born in Velp in 1975 and still lives there with his wife and daughters. He spent years in the scouts and went to summer camp every year, fortunately without such dramatic consequences as in Sworn Friends. Edward is a freelance copywriter. Blood Money (2012) was his debut.
FICTION – ONES TO WATCH

JAN VANTOORTELBOOM
Master Mitraillette

25.000 COPIES SOLD
FILM RIGHTS SOLD TO ANTARES PRODUCTIONS (BE)

- English sample translation available - Dutch pdf available -

A book to be unashamedly excited about." **** – NRC HANDELSBLAD

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CHRISTINE OTTEN
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‘A beautiful and touching love story. Realistic and impossible at the same time: a Romeo and Juliet against the backdrop of the modern, indifferent, ever-expanding world. This story had to be told, and Christine Otten does it calmly and mercilessly. You clamber into the overcrowded boat full of refugees, you feel their pain and see their dreams. Winny and Nizar are now my heroes.’ – TOINE HEIJMANS

‘Raphael is an impressive portrait of how major world problems can affect individual lives and how human relationships are put under pressure when reality bites.’ – BOEK

‘Christine Otten compensates for the dark side of her story with her fast-paced narrative and elegant style, and by focusing on the courage and perseverance of her two main characters, their belief in the power of love, and their refusal to succumb to victimhood.’ – TROUW

JANNIE REGNERUS
The Lamb

SHORTLISTED FOR THE OPZIJ LITERATURE PRIZE 2014
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‘Crushing prose (…) Suffering is elevated to the level of art, the fear of death is made manageable. This extraordinarily beautiful book counts no more than one hundred and forty pages and yet manages to explore weighty questions. The Lamb shows a mum’s desperation and gives words to the naive world of a child. In essence: the crushing portrayal of human mourning, captured by the art of words’ – **** DE TELEGRAAF

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‘A wonderful novel. The Latecomer is one of those books you always hoped Verhulst would write: a perfect brew of social criticism with a strong anecdotal touch.’ **** – NRC HANDELSBLAD

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‘Close to the Cradle is a genuine pageturner with a masterful final plot twist.’

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‘Dark drama full of nail-biting suspense.’

– ***** ALGEMEEN DAGBLAD

‘Superlatively dark.’

– DAGBLAD DE LIMBURGER

‘Remarkably suspenseful.’

– BOEK

‘OMG, she is the maternity nurse from hell! The spine-chilling new Esther Verhoef.’

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MARIAN PAUW
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WINNER GOLDEN NOOSE 2009

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JOSHA ZWAAN
Parnassia

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– NORDWEST ZEITUNG

‘Zwaan writes with deep empathy about the suffering of people who are treated with contempt by society due to their origin, and at the same time about the power that recognising the truth can give to each stage of life.’

– SUDKURIER

‘Cleverly written and heartbreaking portrait.’

– ESTA

‘This disconcerting and intriguing novel goes beyond the theme of war. Praise for the debutant.’

– REFORMATORISCH DAGBLAD

‘Disconcerts and captivates until the end.’

– BOEKBLAD

‘What a wonderful novel.’

– MARGRIET

‘Parnassia is so poignant it hurts.’

– VIVA
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