FICTION

The Ditch by Herman Koch
Recently sold to Belfond (France), Picador (UK) and Hogarth (US)
Previously sold to KiWi (Germany), Text (Australia), Siltala (Finland), Neri Pozza (Italy), Salamandra (Spain), Baltos Lankos (Lithuania), ArtPeople (Denmark)

Easy Living by Herman Koch
Recently sold to Neri Pozza Editore (Italy)

The Dinner by Herman Koch
Audio rights recently sold to Storytel (Finland)
Previously sold to Atlantic (UK), Hogarth (USA), Text (ANZ), Kiepenheuer & Witsch (Germany), Belfond (France), Neri Pozza (Italy), Salamandra (Spain/Castilian), Ara Llibres (Spain/Catalan), Editorial Galaxia (Spain/Galician), Intrinseca (Brazil), Colibri (Bulgaria), Shanghai 99 (China), Znanje (Croatia), Barrister & Principal (Czech Republic), Al Arabia Agency (Egypt), Pegasus (Estonia), Hohe Publisher (Etiopia), Siltala (Finland), Metaxmio (Greece), Europa (Hungary), Forlagid (Iceland), Keter (Israel), East Press (Japan), Eunhaeng Namu (Korea), Baltos lankos (Lithuania), Pax Forlag (Norway), Media Rodzina (Poland), Objetiva (Portugal), Polirom (Romania), Azbooka (Russia), Zavet (Serbia), Sanje (Slovenian), Protea (South Africa), Lind & Co (Sweden), Crown (Taiwan), Dogan (Turkey), Kniga (Macedonia), Palitra (Georgia), PT Bentang Pustaka (Indonesia), Albas (Albania), ArtPeople (Denmark)

Summer House with Swimming Pool by Herman Koch
Audio rights recently sold to Storytel (Finland)
Previously sold to Atlantic (UK), Hogarth (USA), Text (ANZ), Kiepenheuer & Witsch (Germany), Belfond (France), Neri Pozza (Italy), Salamandra (Spain/Castilian), Ara Llibres (Spain/Catalan), Siltala (Finland), Keter (Israel), Colibri (Bulgaria), Barrister & Principal (Czech Republic), Europa Könyvkáldó (Hungary), Azbooka-Atticus Publishing Group (Russia), Forlagid (Iceland), Pax (Norway), Shanghai 99 (China), Dogan (Turkey), Protea (South-Africa), Metaxmio (Greece), Eunhaeng Namu (Korea), Penguin Random House (Portugal), Znanje (Croatia), Al Arabia (Egypt), Intrinseca (Brazil), Media Rodzina (Poland), Crown (Taiwan), Baltos Lankos (Lithuania), ArtPeople (Denmark)

Dear Mr M by Herman Koch
Audio rights recently sold to Storytel (Finland)
Previously sold to Picador (UK), Hogarth (USA), Text (ANZ), Kiepenheuer & Witsch (Germany), Belfond (France), Neri Pozza (Italy), Salamandra (Spain/Castilian), Ara Llibres (Spain/Catalan), Siltala (Finland), Keter (Israel), Colibri (Bulgaria), Barrister & Principal (Czech Republic), Europa Könyvkáldó (Hungary), Azbooka-Atticus Publishing Group (Russia)

Shadowfall by Walter Lucius
Recently sold to Amber (Poland)
Previously sold to Suhrkamp (Germany), Penguin (UK), Lattes (France), People’s Press (Denmark), Vysehrad (Czech Republic)

Close to the Cradle by Esther Verhoef
Recently sold to Penguen Kitap Kaset Ltd. (Turkey)
Previously sold to btb (Germany), Turbine (Denmark), Bookplaza (South- Korea), Ab Ovo (Hungary), Crown Publishing Company (Taiwan)
New York – one year before the inauguration of Donald Trump. Four people in the city. Ambitious journalist Claire is a style icon, able to cause a national riot with a column. Marketing man Leonard is struggling with his identity and the dilemmas of a successful man in his thirties. Seventeen-year-old Julie wants to make it in Hollywood, but has problems with drugs, alcohol, and her parents. Self-made property millionaire Max lives a lonely life in a luxury hotel, and is slowly unravelling a family secret.

The intersection of these four hectic American lives irrevocably leads to a modern tragedy. Through the lives of these four New Yorkers, Seleky portrays the end of the Obama era, the personal dramas symbolising the identity crisis faced by the United States. In *New York Tragedy*, Seleky ruthlessly dissects the zeitgeist and the hustle and bustle of metropolitan life.

**PRAISE FOR NEW YORK TRAGEDY:**
‘Seleky’s style is as dynamic as the city of service: New York.’
— LUCAS HIRSCH, POET

‘In *New York Tragedy* Maurice Seleky feels the rotting tooth of time and wiggles it. This results in a modern, haunting tragedy about the lonely city dweller. His style is as unsettling as it is personal. This book serves as a warning for and reconciliation with the present day.’
— ELFIE TROMP, AUTHOR

**MAURICE SELEY**

*New York Tragedy*

Seleky swings!
The zeitgeist at the end of the Obama era, in four American lives

Maurice Seleky (born 1982) is a communications strategist, moderator and author. Although he trained to be a lawyer, he decided to pursue a career in the creative industry. In 2010, he made his debut with the novel *Ego Faber*, which was awarded the BoArte Prize for Culture. Seleky also set up the Foundation for New Literature, and is responsible for organising the annual Young Writers’ Evening in Amsterdam. With this mini-festival, he offered a platform to dozens of young writers from the Netherlands and Flanders.

For more information, please contact Christel Meijer: christel@sharedstories.nl
Easy Living

Written in Honour of the Dutch Book Week
A Total Print Run of 650,000 Copies

Tom Sanders is a celebrated writer of self-help books. His bestsellers “Crime Without Frontiers” and “Easy Living” have sold more than forty million copies worldwide. He leads an extremely comfortable life, is happily married to Julia, and has two grown-up sons, the youngest of whom, Stefan, is the apple of his eye. Suddenly, during a birthday party for Julia, their daughter-in-law Hanna – of whom Tom and Julia are not particularly fond – turns up at the door. Sobbing, she says that Stefan has beaten her – and that this is not the first time.

Should Tom tackle his favourite son about his behaviour? Or would it perhaps be better to put the advice from his self-help books into practice, such as his famous precept ‘Try not to solve problems by thinking about them; often they are sooner solved by not thinking about them’?

Easy Living shows brilliantly how a man who is so successful with his insights on life must suddenly pull out all the stops in order to face up to the problems in his own life. The book is only 90 pages, but in that short amount of space Koch succeeds in creating an image of a writer who understands how to deal with life. Or preferably, how not to deal with it: the art of waiting it out.

PRESS ON EASY LIVING:
‘From the second line, “You must have heard of me”, you wish him the worst. The reader soon starts to hope for the know-it-all’s downfall, but Koch takes his time to satisfy that desire.’ – DE VOLSKRANT

‘Should Tom Sanders disregard his own advice? Or should he tackle his son about his behaviour? That is the central dilemma in Easy Living, and Koch gets a devilish kick out of making Tom Sanders vacillate between these two options, and gets an even greater kick out of pushing him into a corner.’ – HET PAROOL

For more information, please contact Christel Meijer: christel@sharedstories.nl
When Robert Walter, popular mayor of Amsterdam, sees his wife toss her head back in laughter while chatting to one of his aldermen at a New Year’s reception, he immediately suspects the worst. Despite their long and happy marriage, Robert is convinced that Sylvia is cheating on him – and with the straitlaced alderman, no less, who is committed to the environment and wants to spoil the capital’s skyline with wind turbines.

Soon afterwards, a journalist produces a photograph of a police officer being beaten up by three protesters during a demonstration against the Vietnam war. She claims that the mayor is one of the protesters. Then, out of the blue, Robert’s 94-year old father turns up on the steps of the city hall, desperate to speak to him. He and his wife want to die together. They do not want to burden their son with their deteriorating health, so why not end their own lives when the time is right?

The Ditch shows a seemingly stable man quickly becoming increasingly entangled in his own fears and suspicions. Or is everything not what it seems, and is Robert Walter actually seeing things clearly the very first time?

**PRESS ON THE DITCH:**

‘Herman Koch shows brilliantly how you can see things that might not be there at all, how your imagination can run away with you. The Ditch is an ode to the imagination.’ – **** HET PAROOL

‘Herman Koch, the best selling postwar Dutch writer, shows yet again why he is the master of suspense and open endings.’ – **** HUMO

‘Koch has hardly skimped on reading pleasure and his style is unfussily precise as usual.’ – DE MORGEN

‘Koch has mastered his métier with effortless superiority. Inventive, deceptively clear and full of friction. A publisher’s promise has rarely been so fully delivered.’ – **** DE VOLSKRANT

**THE DINNER HAS SOLD OVER 2.5 MILLION COPIES WORLD-WIDE, HAS BEEN TRANSLATED INTO 42 LANGUAGES AND SPENT WEEKS ON THE NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER LIST**

**THE US MOVIE ADAPTATION OF THE DINNER PREMIERED IN 2017, STARRING RICHARD GERE AND LAURA LINNEY.**

**NEW WEBSITE LAUNCHED:** WWW.HERMANKOCH.COM

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**The unmistakable new Koch novel**

**HERMAN KOCH**

**The Ditch**

**HIGHLIGHTED BY THE DUTCH FOUNDATION FOR LITERATURE**

For more information, please contact Christel Meijer: christel@sharedstories.nl
Girls in Extra Time

A NOVEL IN STORIES, IN WHICH FOOTBALL IS NEVER FAR AWAY

Sharp, highly absurd and fascinating novel on Trujillo’s childhood in a refugee camp, her adulthood full of drugs and the only two constant factors in her life: football and her mother. She shares stories about her childhood in Uruguay and her life in a Dutch refugio with her mother and sister, where’s she’s trying to integrate but still feels like an outsider.

In passing, Trujillo explains why Suárez simply cannot help biting his opponent (answer: because of the gene pool) and she casts doubt on long-accepted myths, such as the belief that the Dutch are to down to earth, or that Cruyff contributed the expression ‘en un momento dado’ to the Spanish language. Meanwhile, she phones her mother back home, who gives her opinion on everything (from her daughters health to her latest written sentence). Girls in Extra Time is much more than a hard-hitting, humorous compilation: it is a novel in stories.

For Trujillo, football proves a grateful framework to write about messed-up family relations, the loss of your first love and growing up between two countries. In short: touching stories from a fierce girl.

PRESS ON GIRL IN EXTRA TIME:
‘Rock-solid prose full of intensity and talent.’ – HARD GRAS

‘Trujillo’s quirky logic is mind-boggling, her wonderful style makes you keep on reading. And the whole thing will make you addicted to her stories.’

***** – HET PAROOL

‘Trujillo gets under the skin of sadness, while also casually touching on the comic aspects of a story. And nowhere do you encounter empty phrases or padding.’ – TROUW

‘Wonderfully passionate stories: in her own way, Trujillo links the general to the personal by writing, for example, about the national character of Uruguay (where she was born) and the biting incidents involving football player Luis Suárez, and about Maradona and her own drug use.’ – NRC NEXT

‘The way in which Trujillo expresses her life story and her vision of the world moves the reader and is formulated in a funny and stylistically apt manner. Girls in Extra Time is not so much about football, but more about life. And no one ever goes through life unscathed.’ – LA CHISPA

Carolina Trujillo was born in Montevideo in 1970 and graduated from the Film Academy in Amsterdam. She made her debut in 2002 with the novel The Bastard of Mal Abrigo, which won the Marten Toonder/Geertjan Lubberhuizen Prize. Her acclaimed novel, The Return of Lupe García, was published in 2009. It was shortlisted for the AKO Literature Prize and won the BNG New Literature Prize. Her most recent novel, Free Radicals, was published in 2017.
A compelling novel about love, family and ambition set against the background of the 1980s and today’s international world of fashion

ESTHER VERHOEF

Indian Summer

THE #1 BESTSELLER

Fashion designer Vivian D is at the peak of her career. Her business is flourishing and she’s highly regarded in the fashion industry. However, just before she has to walk down the red carpet at a major event in Paris, she receives shocking news: her family business is being taken over by a property tycoon with big plans for her label. This forces her to think about the turbulent path her life has taken, and her choice to devote herself to her own talent, instead of looking after her young family.

In her characteristic, captivating style, Esther Verhoef describes how young Claudia grows up in a world where she doesn’t belong, and how she becomes the successful Vivian D. What sacrifices did Claudia make, and which choices does Vivian now face?

Verhoef takes us on a journey from a working-class neighbourhood in the 1980s via a studio on the river IJ in Amsterdam to the world of high fashion in Paris and New York.

PRESS ON INDIAN SUMMER:

‘A dazzling novel. Indian Summer provides an astonishing peek behind the scenes of high fashion.’ – ZIN

‘An authentic glimpse into the industry and the life of a fashion designer.’ – TEXTILIA

‘Indian Summer is an engaging novel about artistry and choices, ambition and offers, and the influence of the outside world.’ – AD MAGAZINE

‘This book is unputdownable and there’s no doubt it will be another hit. Verhoef again succeeds in bringing her characters to life.’ – NOORDHOLLANDS DAGBLAD

‘The writer evokes an image of the times (the eighties) that really hits the spot, with white sport socks, perms and Frankie Goes to Hollywood. Her convincing portrait of the ins and outs of the fashion world reveals a good dose of research.’ – HP DE TIJD

‘Verhoef’s portrayal of life in the working-class neighbourhoods of the south, and the character of the eighties is just right. Indian Summer is bound to be a bestseller this summer’ – SIR EDMUND ADDENDUM VOLSKRANT

Esther Verhoef is one of the Netherlands’ most successful and versatile authors. More than 2.3 million copies of her thrillers and novels have been sold. Verhoef’s work has been published in numerous countries and nominated for various awards, many of which it has won.
Healer begins in Zurich, in 1971. When eight-year old Himmel Grünewald blows up his family home with a chemical experiment, the family moves to a former hotel. There, father Karl opens a private clinic. Together with Himmel and other peculiar family members he cares for his patients with heart and soul. In the laboratory Karl and Himmel work on developing drugs to treat chronic diseases. They book remarkable results and for a long time everything goes smoothly. But then a tragic secret from the Second World War threatens to ruin the clinic and the family.

PRESS ON HEALER:
‘I read Healer in one go; with this book, Vaarmeijer brings a great masterpiece to the market, for a broad group of readers who enjoy the likes of Tim Parks and Hendrik Groen.’ – ATHENÆUM HAARLEM

‘The love jumps off the pages. A book that’s got it all; it’ll make you laugh and it’ll make you cry. With a light-footed writing style, Marcel Vaarmeijer takes the reader on a journey through an emotional history.’ – LARENSE BOEKHANDEL

Marcel Vaarmeijer is a writer and freelance journalist. He has worked as a telegraph operator in the Royal Navy and at Shell. He made his debut in the student magazine Propria Cures and since 1989 he has published poems, stories and novels. Both Wendy’s Mother (2012) and Su-Su-Superstar (2013) were selected as Core Titles by young readers. The Glory Days of Walter Gom was his first novel for adults and was very well received by book store owners and readers. Translation rights to his books have been sold to Germany and South-Korea.
How a fictional game of make-believe can lead towards a gruesome reality

FREDERIK BAAS
The Floating Diary

After several difficult years with her husband and a complicated divorce, life can begin again for Barbara. Together with Rens, her seven-year-old son, and her new boyfriend Robbert, she spends a week in the Belgian Ardennes during the summer holidays.

Robbert is a publisher and one of his authors, who has lived in the region for many years, is working on his second novel there. His first book was an overwhelming success, putting him under enormous pressure while he writes the second.

They visit him, and soon a friendship develops between Barbara and the author. Together, they devise a game to keep Rens busy. Years ago, a girl went missing in the area, and based on this fact they put together an exciting search. The search, however, soon turns out to lead towards reality...

PRESS ON THE FLOATING DIARY:
‘As with the boy in the book, an addictive game is played with the reader. A brilliant idea in a powerful thriller. Baas has mastered his trade!’
– PETER TERRIN, AUTHOR

‘A suspenseful and clever book, a truly literary thriller.’
– ARJEN LUBACH, COMEDIAN AND AUTHOR

‘Very effective prose, which hits particularly hard.’
– RENÉ APPEL, AUTHOR

‘Classic suspense.’ – AD

‘You are constantly put on the wrong track. I didn’t see it coming at all. With his first thriller he has passed with flying colours. I hereby award him five stars!’ – JEROEN VULLINGS, TROS NIEUWSSHOW

‘Excellent work, Baas! Four stars!’ – **** VRIJ NEDERLAND

‘This literary thriller is carefully literary in its construction.’
– LEEUWARDER COURANT

Frederik Baas is a pseudonym of Jan van Mersbergen. His work has won awards including the F. Bordewijk Prize 2014 for The Last Escape, a novel that was also longlisted for the AKO Literature Prize. To the Other Side of the Night was shortlisted for the Libris Literature Prize and won the BNG New Literature Prize. Jan van Mersbergen has also been nominated for the Debut Prize, Dif/BNG New Literature Prize, Magazijn La Vie en Rose Prize, Halewijn Prize and the European Book Prize. His work is published in Germany, France, United Kingdom, Turkey, Spain, Slovenia and Serbia.

For more information, please contact Christel Meijer: christel@sharedstories.nl

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Many years ago, Tyler testified against her husband and she now goes by a new name in Amsterdam, where she lives with her daughter Charlie. In accordance with the rules of the witness protection programme, no one knows about her past life, not even her daughter. When Charlie opens her mother’s safe, she discovers that her father is still alive and decides to try and find him. She makes an appointment with someone who has information for her, but when she arrives at the agreed location, she’s dragged into a minibus and kidnapped.

At the same time, a brutal attack takes place in Miami on an old marshal – the same man who helped Tyler escape into the witness program. As soon as Tyler hears about her daughter’s abduction and the attack on the one person she trusts, she tries to get in touch with her contact person from the witness protection programme. The response she receives raises even more questions for her: they are not aware of her case. Should she doubt that she was ever even in that programme? And where did they take her daughter?

**PRESS ON ENTER:**

‘Time and time again, Asman pulls unexpected plot twists out of his hat. Who can and can’t we trust?’ – *** NOORDHOLLANDS DAGBLAD

‘Asman uses a range of perspectives to create a great impression of what it means to take on a new identity and to start a new life in a foreign country, without any contact to your past. Enter is a thriller with international allure. We’re eagerly awaiting parts II and III!’ – *** VN DETECTIVE & THRILLER GUIDE 2017

‘Enter is extremely thoroughly plotted.’ – **** HEBBAN

Willem Asman (born 1959) studied law in Amsterdam. He’s previously published the thrillers The Cassandra Paradox, Britannica, Wonderman’s Endgame and Queen’s Day. Asman has been nominated for both the Diamanten Kogel (Diamond Bullet) and the Gouden Strop (Golden Noose) awards.
Ditte Stein was born on the day that the Netherlands capitulated. In 1943, the Stein family are informed that they have to report to Camp Vught. They decide to go into hiding – without Ditte, who is taken in by the housekeeper. Only a week and a half later, 3-year-old Ditte is picked up and put on transport to Auschwitz all on her own. Lotte, Ditte’s foster sister survives the war and, years later, returns to the village where she grew up. There she relives the painful past – her childhood, Ditte’s first years and the terrible times desperately trying to escape the Nazis.

PRESS ON THE GIRL WHO DISAPPEARED:
‘I declare the novel The girl who disappeared by Els Florijn the best novel of 2010.’ – ANDRIES KNEVEL, TV HOST

Els Florijn won the ND|BCB Public Choice Award 2011 for The Girl Who Disappeared. Her recent novel Red Poppy received high acclaim.
While visiting the Netherlands, wouldn’t you want to know and read more about the places you visit? What is left of the Dutch Golden Age in which its trade, science, military and art were among the most acclaimed in the world? What was everyday life like centuries ago? Tourists love to visit the canals of Amsterdam, the cheese markets, museums and the Dutch coast, polders and fields with tulips. These topics and sites are beautifully intertwined in page-turning trips to the past, written by acclaimed, bestselling and prizewinning authors.

**SUZANNE WOUDA**
Long Lost Sister

Amsterdam, 1679. At the age of ten, Flora and Mare meet in the orphanage. For years, the girls are inseparable, but when Flora marries a rich merchant, Mare finds work as a prostitute in the red district of Amsterdam. Ten years later, Mare receives a worrying letter from Flora’s death bed.

Ambo|Anthos, Historical Fiction, 320 pages, May 2016

*English synopsis*

**LYDIA ROOD**
The Mermaid’s Daughter

Scotland, 1402. After Muireall is seduced by a nobleman, her father tells her to leave forever. After a rough storm she washes up on the shore of Holland. The Water Woman becomes a curiosity and people travel to Haarlem to see her. Twenty years later, a young Scottish girl sails for Holland to find her mother.

Ambo|Anthos, Historical Fiction, 461 pages, March 2017

*English synopsis*

**BRENDA MEULEMAN**
Bold Ambition

Antwerp, 1620. After an invitation to become court painter in England, Anthony van Dyck leaves the safe haven of Rubens’s atelier. But five months later, he’s already back. What has happened to him in London? Why did he give up so soon? And how is the girl in the painting involved?

Ambo|Anthos, Historical Fiction, ca. 256 pages, October 2017

*Dutch pdf*
THE HISTORY OF THE LOW COUNTRIES

Compelling historical novel about tulip fever and the first famous female painter Judith Leyster

FEMKE ROOBOL
Tulip Love

Tulip Love is the plot of a strong, talented woman in Haarlem during the Golden Age. Like no other, Roobol brings the old city back to life and writes with great feeling about love, greed and desire.

Ambo|Anthos, Historical Fiction, 320 pages, July 2016

Rights sold: Ullstein (Germany)

Jane Austen: Face to Face

FOR FANS OF PRIDE AND PREJUDICE, DOWNTON ABBEY AND LONGBOURN

Jane Austen: Face to Face grants you a glimpse into the lives of Jane and Cassandra Austen. How they lived, their hopes and dreams, and how they filled their days. While the storylines are the product of the writer’s imagination, many elements are based on truth.

Ambo|Anthos, Historical Fiction, 350 pages, November 2016

A novel about family, love, masquerade balls and jealousy.

FEMKE ROOBOL
Mozart’s Muses

Austria, 1778. Constanze has married the love of her life, but her husband divides his attention between his wife and the many beautiful singers he is lyrical about. After he dies, he leaves Constanze with debts, two young children and piles of sheet music. It falls to her to rebuild her life, and take care of the musical legacy of the great composer.

Ambo|Anthos, Historical Fiction, 411 pages, July 2017

A roaring novel about a cinema tycoon and his forbidden love

TANYA COMMANDEUR
Mr. Tuschinski’s Mistress

In 1912, business man and film fanatic Abraham Tuschinski opens an exclusive theatre for film in Rotterdam. The sky seems to be the limit, until Abraham falls in love with Jet, the wife of his business partner. When they are discovered Abraham is forced to choose between his beloved cinemas, and the love of his life.

Ambo|Anthos, Historical Fiction, 285 pages, September 2017

ANKE WERKER
Tulip Love

FEMKE ROOBOL
Mozart’s Muses

For more information, please contact Christel Meijer: christel@sharedstories.nl

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