



FOREIGN RIGHTS GUIDE

LONDON 2025

ag ambo | anthos uitgevers



HERMAN KOCH

The Yard

Everybody has got a double agenda

After visiting a prison book club, Simon Hanson, a writer of international bestsellers, receives stories from hardened criminal Derek L. Hanson immediately recognises Derek's literary talent and sends the collection, *The Yard*, to a publisher. The writer has arranged for Derek L. to attend his own book presentation during his weekend leave – provided he stays at Hanson's home during this time. Simon's wife Hanna is a detective specialised in serious and organised crime; it couldn't be safer. At least, in theory.

Present and past are intertwined ingeniously in *The Yard*. Told from three perspectives – Derek L., Simon Hanson and his wife Hanna – multiple thrilling and sometimes even shocking storylines unfold about family, friendship, ambition, manipulation, revenge and betrayal.

This plot-driven novel brings the storylines together phenomenally and at full speed.

“His satire of a crime novel is playful, with bold descriptions and countless cheerful winks.” – *de Volkskrant*

“A successful blend of satire, self-deprecating humor, *mise en abyme* and thriller. ... With visible pleasure, he parodies a genre. To read *The Yard* is to be on a rollercoaster: swirling, merry-making and exciting all in one.” – *Telegraaf*

“An ingeniously crafted novel about friendship, betrayal and loyalty.” – *Het Parool*



304 pp – December 2024 – sample translation available

25,000 copies sold within 8 weeks

Herman Koch's novels have been translated into more than 40 languages. More than 5 million copies of his books were sold worldwide. Koch's most successful title *The Dinner* was adapted to film in 5 different countries.

HERMAN KOCH (b. 1953) has authored many successful novels, including *The Dinner*, *The Ditch*, *Finnish Days* and *A Film with Sophia*. His novel *The Royal Family* was highly acclaimed and nominated for the 2023 NS Public Award. Most recently, he published the autobiographical novel *Are You Going to Write About It?*



© PABLO KOCH

JUDITH FANTO

The Bystander

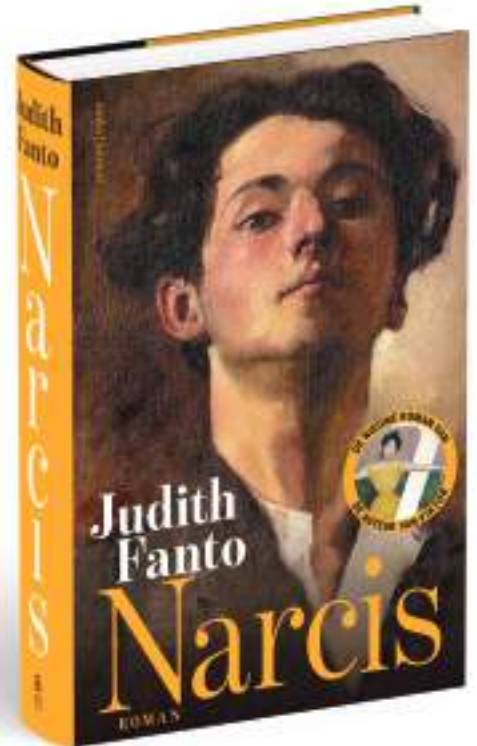
A deeply moving, unforgettable novel about friendship in times of war

Haarlem, 1916. After the death of his mother, ten-year-old Manno is forced to leave the neutral Netherlands to go and live with his father's family in the war-torn metropolis of Vienna. The demands imposed on him by his new life drive him to despair until, at a summer camp, he makes friends with five children his age. In the decades that follow, their close friendship survives all kinds of difficulties. But by the time Hitler invades Austria on the eve of the Second World War, societal issues have turned deeply personal, forcing each of the friends to take a stand.

In this magnificent, captivating novel about friendship, betrayal and retribution, Judith Fanto once again demonstrates stylistic verve and historical knowledge, along with a razor-sharp psychological insight. Is it ever possible to truly know someone? Does true friendship demand absolute openness? Or is respect for the other's secrets in fact the fundamental right of every friend?

"An impressive historical novel in which Fanto once again shows that she conducts very thorough research and writes beautiful sentences." – *Linda*

"Endowed with a keen sense for true characters and a style as graceful as Vienna itself, Fanto wrote *The Bystander*, a sensual, historical novel that raises fundamental questions about what happens when friendship and ideology collide." – *VPRO Gids*



320 pp – February 2025

Judith Fanto's debut novel *Viktor* sold 50,000 copies in the Netherlands

Sublime novel about friendship, betrayal and retribution

JUDITH FANTO is a lawyer, public speaker and writer. Her debut novel *Viktor*, in which she draws on the colourful past of her Viennese family, was published in 2020. *Viktor* became a bestseller and has been translated into German and Russian. *The Bystander* is Fanto's second novel.



© MARK UYL

SANNE VOGEL

Little Mister

The Tale of an Extraordinary Cat

Everybody loves Chef's cat Little Mister, who follows the scent of adventure on his explorations in his beloved neighbourhood and in doing so, meets a variety of locals that not only open their doors to him, but their hearts too. Little Mister shares his feline observations in a playful manner, while at the same time revealing the deeper meaning behind seemingly everyday encounters, such as with a former acrobat who now spends his days in a mobility scooter, and an eccentric old lady who sees her deceased pet in him. But Little Mister is also indispensable at home. When his housemates' child is stillborn, he witnesses how two people grieve in different ways. And Little Mister knows exactly what to do to ease their pain.

“Little Mister – an exceptional animal with a good sense of humour.” – *Fabulous Mama*

“A feline tale of humanity” – *Jan*

“Besides the endearing narrative voice of a cat, Little Mister is also a book about relationships, loss and about grieving a stillborn child. Little Mister's adventures on the streets and in different homes reveal the complexities of human emotions and the power of connection.” – *ELLE*



224 pp – November 2024 – complete English translation available

Rights sold: Atria (World English), Garzanti (Italy), PenguinRandomHouse (World Spanish and Catalan), Porto Editora (Portugal), Yuan-Liou Publishing Co (Taiwan)

An ode to friendship and adventure, to connection and compassion

SANNE VOGEL (b. 1984) is an actress, filmmaker, director and writer. She made several television series for VPRO's *Villa Achterwerk*. For the television film *Mama*, which she wrote and directed with filmmaker Beri Shalmashi, she was nominated for a Golden Calf award. Her film *Summer with Rana* aired at dozens of festivals worldwide. In 2021, she published the cookbook *De vier seizoenen van Vogel*.



© DIRK-JAN VAN DIJK

MARLIES SMEENGE

The Koi Carp in the Diorama

Hilarious account of a year at drama school

Loekie is starting out as a drama student at a prestigious Belgian theatre academy. Reeling from culture shock and mired in linguistic confusion, she sometimes wonders when the hidden cameras will appear and it will be revealed that the course of study isn't actually real.

She moves into a communal residence called *Kijkdoos* (Diorama), a sprawling building where she keeps discovering new corridors and doors. Her fellow residents are a colourful bunch who don't really know where they're going with their lives. For unclear reasons they dub her Loekie the Koi Carp. Without intending to, Loekie stirs things up through her Dutch directness, both at the academy and in her place of residence.

Kijkdoos is bursting at the seams, and if Loekie's to rein in the chaos and be admitted to the second year of her course, she's going to have to take things up a notch. She's forced to abandon her role as observer, forge unlikely friendships and truly jump in at the deep end.

"Brilliant. Delightfully original." – *de Volkskrant* on *The Butlers*



328 pp – March 2025

Funny and action-packed, full of zany associations and sharp observations

MARLIES SMEENGE (b. 1993) is a director and writer. She has made a number of documentaries, including *The Butlers* (VPRO), which won the prestigious Prix Europa award for best documentary series.



© DIRK-JAN VAN DIJK

FROUKE ARNS

*Vonkie***Who are you if the other no longer recognises you?**

Because of her red curls and fiery character, Fenna's father nicknames her "Vonkie". Long after she's grown up, she remains his Vonkie, until the day comes when dementia robs him of his ability to recognise her. Fenna impulsively decides to achieve their joint dream alone, and sets off for Scotland with a backpack full of camping gear, to walk the West Highland Way. The challenging 157-kilometre hike is exactly what she needs, as Vonkie's at a crossroad in her life.

Her marriage is over, her daughter independent, and Fenna feels unappreciated as an artist and gallery owner. Now her beloved father no longer recognises her, it's time to reflect. Crossing the rugged Scottish landscape and meeting other hikers, she finds herself making an inner journey, and with each stage of the hike she gains new insights and greater acceptance of her path in life.

Vonkie is an atmospheric and deeply human coming-to-terms-with-age story about self-discovery and the courage to start afresh, against the backdrop of one of the most impressive hiking trails in the world.

"Frouke Arns grips you." – *de Volkskrant* on *The Simultaneousness of Things*



288 pp – February 2025

FROUKE ARNS is a poet, writer and editor. Her acclaimed 2021 prose debut *De gelijktijdigheid der dingen* (The Simultaneousness of Things) was nominated for the Libris Literature Prize, the Hebban Debut Prize and awarded the Bronze Owl Readers' Prize. In 2015-2016 Arns was Nijmegen's poet laureate.



© DIRK-JAN VAN DIJK

BORIS O. DITTRICH

*Firelight***Fatal accident or murder?**

Walter Beekman has everything going for him. His successful career as a professor specialising in violence against women has made him a magnet for the media – and for women. An internationally renowned and beloved speaker, he enjoys a metropolitan lifestyle in New York.

But then he's unexpectedly confronted with his dark past. A Dutchwoman recognises him on the street. Not long afterwards, she dies after falling in front of an incoming subway train in Manhattan. Was it a fatal accident, as the police claim? Or murder?

Robin, the dead woman's daughter, travels from the Netherlands to New York in an attempt to find out what happened. She discovers that her mother knew Walter Beekman's big secret, and that there was more going on between the two of them than people knew.

Reviews of *Het laatste woord* (The Last Word):

★★★★ "A real page turner – the author keeps up the tension to the end. The description of Amsterdam during the coronavirus lockdown is also enjoyable. We've almost forgotten how heavenly the city was when it wasn't swamped by hordes of tourists. So besides being a literary thriller, it's also a nice memento of a remarkable period of time." – *Vrij Nederland*



352 pp – February 2025

BORIS O. DITTRICH (b. 1955) worked as a lawyer in Amsterdam and a judge in Alkmaar, and for many years was an MP and chairman of the political party D66. From 2007 to 2018 Dittrich was the Global Advocacy Director of the LGBT Rights programme of Human Rights Watch, an international NGO. In 2019 he became a member of the Senate of the States General. He published four acclaimed thrillers, including *W.O.L.F.*, which was nominated the best Dutch-language thriller of 2016 by VN Detective & Thrillergids.



© JITSKE SCHOLS



Please meet Loft

Loft Books is a young and fresh publisher of Dutch-language feel-good novels, thrillers and new adult fiction.

Loft Books started as an e-only publisher in autumn 2018 and began publishing print editions in 2024.

We now publish ca. 50 books every year, ranging from vibrant feel-good novels to blood-curdling mysteries and from historical fiction to spicy romances.

NOORTJE BRINK – 200,000 downloads

The Lockdown

Patricia feels like her life is at a standstill but is in love with her client Mark. When she discovers his secret she sees no way out but to flee. Then the French government institutes the corona lockdown and Patricia breathes a sigh of relief. But is she really safe?

Thriller – 33,000 words – May 2020



Hotel Havana

Pregnant Lotte and her husband Frank go on their honeymoon to Cuba. During the flight, Frank responds evasively to her questions and after arriving, he seems to prefer being with their travelling companions Bianca and Gert-Jan to being with her. Frank seems to be drifting further and further away from Lotte. Has she been wrong about him, or is something else at play?

Thriller – 42,000 words – October 2021



Die Cold

When Milous' girlfriend starts talking about getting married, she just wants to get out. She flees to the northernmost tip of Norway to work in a hotel. But when a murder is committed there, everyone is suspicious and no one is safe. Will the killer find her, or will the freezing cold beat him to it?

Thriller – 52,000 words – February 2024



NOORTJE BRINK (b. 1978) is the pseudonym of a Dutch thriller author. She was born in Nijmegen, where she still lives with her husband and two children. Since 2019, she has written 20 thrillers for the digital reading market, finding huge and unprecedented success in the Dutch-speaking world.

REGINE DUGARDYN

My Scared Self

Thinking Aloud About Anxiety and Other Forms of Mental Unease

Sooner or later, almost 30% of the population will suffer from severe anxiety, according to the Trimbos Institute for Mental Health. Regine Dugardyn is one such person. Since her youth, she's experienced periods of severe anxiety. Dugardyn belongs to the group that regularly goes under, but that also bobs up again. In recent decades, she's felt that she and her fellow sufferers are often pilloried in the public debate.

Over the last two decades, psychiatrists, psychotherapists and philosophers have been making brash claims about mental disorders. According to psychiatrist Damiaan Denys, people can no longer distinguish between 'normal' fear and pathological anxiety disorders. And in her bestselling book *De depressie-epidemie* (The Depression Epidemic), philosopher Trudy Dehue refers to antidepressants as "performance pills", as if those who take them are guilty of doping.

In *My Scared Self*, Dugardyn observes how such criticism affects her as a patient and philosopher. She ponders the extent to which human suffering should be considered a natural part of life. Is a diagnosis from the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM) as ridiculous as certain critics claim? Are we collectively popping antidepressants because we're snowflakes who can't cope with the slightest upset? And are we undergoing therapy in the belief that life can be engineered?



216 pp – March 2025

Openhearted book about living with anxiety, combined with a trenchant analysis of the current debate on mental disorders

REGINE DUGARDYN (b. 1960) studied philosophy at Utrecht University, subsequently working as a journalist, editor and publisher. In 2016 she set up her own business, Socrates & co, an agency for philosophy and ideas. In 2020 she published the book *Waarom ik van Simone de Beauvoir houd* (Why I Love Simone De Beauvoir).



© DIRK-JAN VAN DIJK

JASPER RIJPMMA

What I Still Want to Tell You

Life Lessons For My Child

When Jasper Rijpma was diagnosed with metastatic melanoma in 2020, he was sure of one thing: he wanted to leave something behind for his four-year-old daughter.

In sixteen letters Rijpma intertwines his eventful personal history with the lessons of thinkers and poets like Rumi, Aristotele, Martha Nussbaum, André Hazes and Annie M.G. Schmidt. He reflects on universal themes such as friendship, freedom and love but also addresses social issues like housing and parenting – repeatedly emphasising the importance of good education for every child as the cornerstone of a healthy society.

Rijpma takes the reader from classical Greece in 300 BC, through the wanderings of Giuseppe Garibaldi and the Andalusia of his youth, to the most recent election results and far beyond – to his notion of the divine.

“What I still want to tell you is not about death, the fear of it or the injustice of it, but about what Rijpma wishes for his daughter, everything that makes life worth living. Such as: dream big, live in the now, work towards a better future.”
– *de Volkskrant*



248 pp – August 2024

What I Still Want to Tell You is meant as a lifeline, not only for his daughter but for all people.

JASPER RIJPMMA, born in 1984, is an avid surfer and teaches history and philosophy at a secondary school in Amsterdam. He was voted Dutch Teacher of the Year and nominated for the prestigious Global Teacher Prize.



© DIRK-JAN VAN DIJK

ANNE-GINE GOEMANS

Mr. G. Refuses Care

Loving and heartbreaking account of a demented father in a nursing home

Four years ago, Anne-Gine Goemans' father was admitted to the closed ward of a nursing home. His dementia made it impossible for him to continue living at home. In the nursing home, however, the quality of his life was not what it used to be. In *Mr. G. Refuses Care*, Anne-Gine Goemans shows the raw reality of her demented father. She made a selection from the care home's daily reports: We read about his carers, who struggle with the increasing aggression and uninhibitedness of their patient, who in turn struggles with his final phase of life. The reports are interspersed with Goemans' own memories of her father, who died in 2024 at 83 years old.

"In *Mr. G. Refuses Care*, Goemans closely follows the course of events in the nursing home, while also reporting with both affection and rawness on the disheartening process of Alzheimer's and how the nursing home staff handles it."

– Margriet



168 pp – January 2025

Mr. G. Refuses Care is disconcerting, painful, loving and relatable.

ANNE-GINE GOEMANS (b. 1971) works as a writer, journalist and screenwriter. She made her debut with the highly praised novel *Ziekzoekers* and won the Anton Wachter Prize in 2008. With *Gliding Flight*, she won the Dioraphte Youth Literature Prize in 2012 and the German M-Pionier Prize for best literary newcomer. *Honolulu King* (2015), which sold more than 60,000 copies, is being adapted to film. Goemans' most recent novel, *Wondermond*, was published 2024. Her previous books were translated into English, German, Icelandic, Danish and Italian.



© MARC BRESTER

RODERICK NIEUWENHUIS

Slave to the Machine

Why We Should Keep Technology in Check

Frustrated by the seemingly unquenchable modern day thirst for the virtual world, Roderick Nieuwenhuis decides to prove the worth of the physical. He drives to a nearby store to buy all the things he needs to build a wooden chair that was once designed by Gerrit Rietveld, an internationally renowned Dutch architect and designer from the 20th century. Nieuwenhuis hopes to prove to his Gen-Z children that building a complex chair is worthwhile and delightfully “friction full”. Once started he begins to appreciate the clean lines of Rietveld’s design, a chair that came out of an era in which the machine was both appreciated and embraced.

Via Rietveld’s “Steltman” Nieuwenhuis starts to learn more about the complex history of man’s relationship with technology and ends up with many questions: Why did machines ever come into our lives? What promises did they hold, and have they lived up to our expectations? *Slave to the Machine* is a philosophical and historical book about the complex and oftentimes paradoxical relationship between humans and the machines that nowadays not only seem to alleviate our lives but also dominate them. And he tries to answer the biggest question regarding the machine: Are they here to help us or replace us?

Reviews of *Een simpel leven* (A Simple Life):

“Insightful and immensely readable.” – *NRC*

“An erudite exploration of our longing for simplicity.”
– *VPRO Gids*



272 pp – March 2025



RODERICK NIEUWENHUIS (b. 1982) studied history at Amsterdam University and worked as a journalist for *NRC*, *De Groene Amsterdammer* and *The Times Literary Supplement*. In 2022 he published *A Simple Life: Why Our Longing For Simplicity Is More Complex Than We Think*.

© RUUD POS

MARIAN RIJK

The Long Journey to London

The Story Of Wartime Hero Charles Pahud De Mortanges

Charles Ferdinand Pahud de Mortanges (1896 – 1971) was an army officer and a famous figure in pre-war Netherlands, known as a five-time Olympic medalist in eventing (4 x Gold, 1 x Silver).

When the Nazis occupy the country, Pahud is taken prisoner, but in 1943, he manages a spectacular escape from a moving train. He flees through Belgium, France, Spain and Portugal finally reaching England via Gibraltar. Promoted to Major, he participates in the invasion of Normandy.

His discipline and athleticism, along with his military experience, help Pahud during his escape across Europe. At the same time, he is also a father in deep mourning. His son, Buuk, attempted to get to England earlier but was captured by the Nazis and executed.

In Pahud's story, Marian Rijk tells a particularly thrilling piece of history, featuring a great hero, countless hardships, and a touching fate. This is a riveting tale of wartime resistance, told through one thrilling journey, in which each leg of the route might prove to be fatal.

Reviews of *Polder Pioneers*

“Captivating story of rural life” – *Trouw*

“In addition to a family chronicle, Marian Rijk has penned the history of two centuries of rural life in Zeeland.” – *NRC*



248 pp – March 2025

MARIAN RIJK is a journalist, writer and editor. Her books include the acclaimed *Polderpioniers* (Polder Pioneers) and *Eeuw in versnelling* (An Accelerating Century), as well as *Vergeten goud* (Forgotten Gold), which was nominated for the Nico Scheepmaker Beker, an award for the best sports book of the year. She excels in weaving personal histories and world history together in a gripping way.



© RUUD POS

BRAM DE GRAAF

Eyewitnesses of the Liberation

September 1944-May 1945

It is September 1944 and the Netherlands awaits liberation: the Allies are coming and the German army seems to have fallen apart. Over 100,000 Dutch Jews have been deported. Hundreds of civilians have been killed in bombings and thousands of members of the Resistance have been arrested or murdered. But the terror has not yet ended. The Netherlands will face fighting, starvation and misery for many months to come.

A secret agent being held in Kamp Vught (a German concentration camp in the Netherlands) is put on a train to a concentration camp in Germany; a teenager from the little town of Oosterbeek witnesses the bloody Battle of Arnhem; a boy from Westkapelle survives three bombings by the skin of his teeth; a man from Bergen op Zoom who's been living in hiding joins a volunteer band of Dutch troops; and a girl from Texel sees her island turned into a battlefield.



248 pp – March 2025

An account of the last year of the Second World War, seen through the eyes of ten Dutch people

BRAM DE GRAAF (b. 1966) is a historian and journalist. His previous books include *The Betrayal of Benschop* and *Spy of Orange*. He works as a researcher for Dutch television documentary series.



© GERARD WESSEL

TOM MIDDENDORP

The Peace Paradox

Preparing For War To Maintain Peace

How can we better protect ourselves and our community? Concrete steps towards resilience for both individuals and policymakers

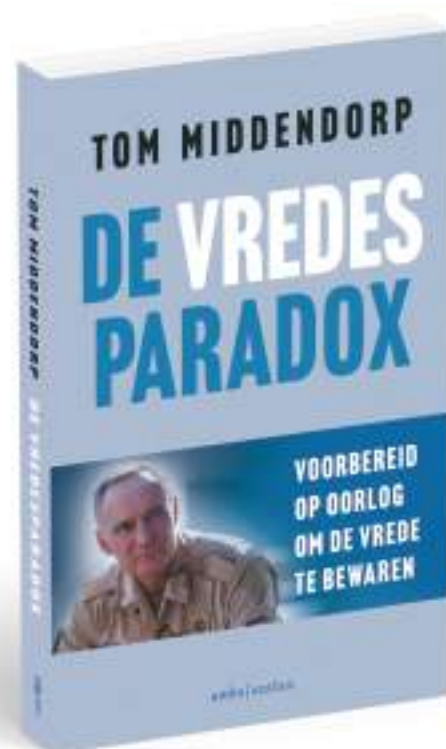
In an era in which our society is increasingly affected by geopolitical tensions, cyber threats and the impacts of climate change, it is essential to be prepared for the challenges of tomorrow. In this book, Tom Middendorp, drawing on his extensive experience as former Chief of Defence of the Armed Forces of the Netherlands and current Chair of the International Military Council on Climate and Security, shares his insights on how a country and its inhabitants can enhance their resilience to be prepared for unforeseen crises.

Given recent events in Europe, such as the war in Ukraine and rising geopolitical tensions, this book is more relevant than ever. It provides a clear and accessible guide on how, as a society, we can anticipate future risks and protect ourselves and our communities. Middendorp not only shares personal experiences from his military career but also gives practical tips and advice that can be applied straight away. He shows how threats like cyberattacks and the effects of climate change are increasingly impacting our security, and why we cannot afford to be passive. For Middendorp, resilience is not merely an option – it is an absolute necessity if we wish to protect ourselves and our society.

“A book about the importance of resilience in times of geopolitical tensions, cyber threats and the consequences of climate change. A retired General, but still on a mission.”

– *Trouw*

General **TOM MIDDENDORP**, former Chief of Defence of the Armed Forces of the Netherlands, has an unparalleled understanding of the critical need to be prepared and resilient. Throughout his long military career, he has seen firsthand how crises can disrupt lives – whether in distant conflict zones or through decisions made in The Hague. As Chair of the International Military Council on Climate and Security, he now focuses on the major challenges of our time, such as geopolitical tensions, climate change and the imperative for a strong society.

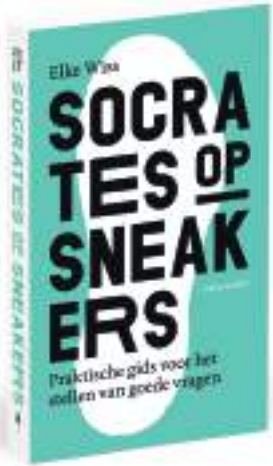


128 pp – November 2024

Practical tools and advice, combined with comprehensible analyses of threats such as cyber attacks, climate change and geopolitical instability



© MINISTERIE VAN DEFENSIE



217,000 copies sold

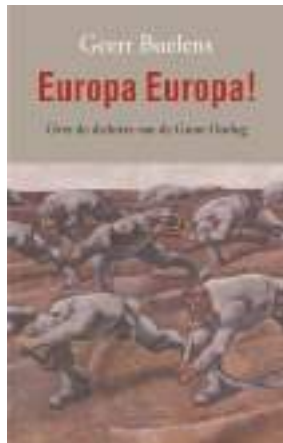
ELKE WISS

Socrates in Sneakers – The bestselling philosophical guide to asking the right questions

Rights sold: World English, Brazil, Czechia, China, Croatia, Egypt, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Korea, Italy, Japan, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Slovakia, Serbia, Spain, Taiwan, Vietnam

256 pp – March 2020 – Translation grant available

Wouldn't it be great to know, at any moment and in any given situation, how to pose that one good question that turns a debate into a constructive conversation? Elke Wiss teaches you how. Inspired by Socrates and other philosophers, she illustrates how bad we are at asking good questions, and explains how we can become better at it.



GEERT BUELENS

Everything to Nothing: The Poetry of the Great War, Revolution and the Transformation of Europe

Rights sold: Verso (UK), Suhrkamp (Germany), Guangxi Normal University Press (simplified Chinese), Karpos (Serbia)

375 pp – 2008 – Complete English translation available – Translation grant available

In this cultural history of the First World War, the conflict is seen from the point of view of poets and writers from all over Europe. The award-winning panoramic history of how nationalism and internationalism defined both the war itself and its aftermath-revolutionary movements, wars for independence, civil wars, the treaty of Versailles. It reveals how poets played a vital role in defining the stakes, ambitions and disappointments of postwar Europe.



LOES HEGGER

As Sisters Are – The Imperfect Lives of Five Women in the 20th Century

272 pp – September 2024

With a sensitive pen, Loes Hegger describes the course of her mother's and aunts' lives. They were neither heroes nor pioneers but ordinary women in a time of limited freedom. The history of the five sisters makes you see womanhood today in a new light.

“This book is a monument to the forgotten generation of women who had to find their way in silence.” – *Zin Magazine*



12,000 copies sold

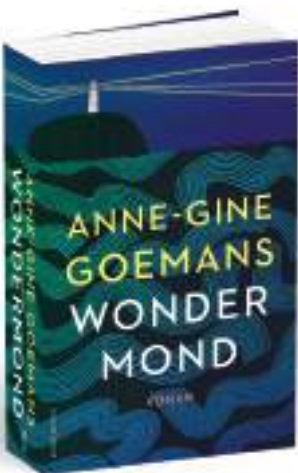
SHOLEH REZAZADEH
The Mountain I Know

Rights sold: Dar Al Rewaq (World Arabic), Izida (Bulgaria), Magvetö Könyvkiadó (Hungary), Antolog (Macedonia), Liber Plus (Turkey)

Novel – 192 pp – September 2023 – complete English translation available – translation grant available – Shortlisted for the European Union Prize for Literature 2024, the Amarte Literature Prize 2024 and the Nature Book Prize 2024

This is the story of the Aras River in Iran and the nomadic people that camp on its banks. Lovingly, but also with a hint of jealousy, the river observes how Saray becomes a young woman and how a childhood love turns into an adult relationship with Aydin.

“We were blown away by the originality of this novel.” – Jury of the EUPL 2024



15,000 copies sold

ANNE-GINE GOEMANS
Wondermond

Novel – 416 pp – August 2024 – translation grant available

Boye de Koning seems assured of a golden future until his father is arrested for large-scale investment fraud. Together with his mother, Boye flees from well-heeled Bloemendaal to his grandmother in the fishing village Wondermond in Friesland, in the northern Netherlands.

“Goemans portrays the strong, self-reliant women of his family, spanning four generations, through her contemporary, male, spoiled protagonist Boye.” – *NRC*

“Goemans cleverly mixes past and present. It’s also beautiful how incredibly Dutch this story is.” – *MEZZA*

“Witty and moving.” – *Libelle*



50,000 copies sold

AUKE HULST

Children of the Savage Land

Rights sold: Carbonio (Italy), Alef (Turkey)

Novel – 384 pp – November 2014 – translation grant available

In this alternately poignant, perplexing and humorous autobiographical novel, Dutch writer Auke Hulst depicts the decline of a family that is out of touch with reality – for better and for worse.

“A fantastic, unstoppable, unusual novel.” – *De Groene Amsterdammer*



12,000 copies sold

LEX PALEAUX

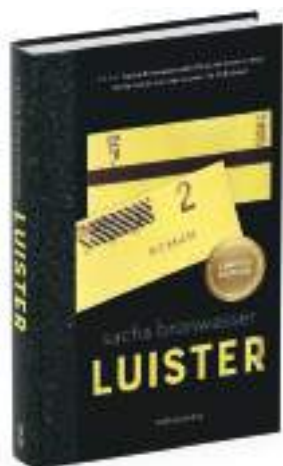
Hitchhiking to Heaven

Novel – 312 pp – September 2024

Winner of the 2025 Booksellers' Award

Sixteen-year-old Quintin has just been released from a juvenile detention centre when he once again gets himself into trouble. His desperate parents send him to a remote part of Canada, where he must hold his own in a strict religious community. Time seems to have stood still here for several decades, and the affection and guidance that Quintin craves are hard to come by. His loveless host family mainly sees him as free domestic labour, and the farmer he is assigned to help sees it as his duty to get Quintin back on the right track with a firm hand.

“This touched my soul.” – *MEZZA AD*



117,000 copies sold

SACHA BRONWASSER

Listen

Rights sold: PRH USA (World English), ICU (Bulgaria), V.B.Z. (Croatia), NLN (Czechia), Arche (Germany), Antolog (Macedonia), Solum Bokvennen (Norway), Otwarte (Poland)

Novel – 256 pp – February 2023 – complete English translation available – translation grant available – Shortlisted for LIBRIS Literature Prize 2024 – Shortlisted for NS Public Prize 2024 – Shortlisted for Hans Vervoort Prize 2024 – Nominated for Inktaap 2025

In 1989 twenty-one-year-old Marie leaves the Netherlands in a great rush. In Paris she starts work as an au pair for a bourgeois family and tries to build a new life for herself. The new language, the thankless work in a complicated family and the impressive but pitiless city offer her the anonymity she longs for.

Best novel of 2023 – *Het Parool*

Best novel by a Dutch author in 2023 – *De Volkskrant*

Top 10 of best books published in 2023 – *NRC*

“Ingenious new novel ... Masterfully constructed. ... A novel that you can only admire.” – *Trouw*

★★★★★ “Sacha Bronwasser describes Parisian life irresistibly, in a thought-provoking novel. ... She makes writing look easy, as if her story could logically be told in only one way, exactly the way she tells it. ... It’s a rare thing, a book that can be read as simply a ‘good read’ but with enough in it to make you think.” – *De Volkskrant*

★★★★★ “A highly ingenious novel that is also moving. ... Her inventive second novel tests your patience, but fulfils its spirited promise. ... *Listen* is somewhat reminiscent of W.F. Hermans and Peter Terrin, with its sense of a stalkerish, indefinable foreboding, while the story is nevertheless resolute and evocative, and told in a way that definitely rewards the reader.” – *NRC*

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