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FICTION

### **Guus Bauer**

# **Bird Boy**

#### **ABOUT THE BOOK**

In the hospital, a successful business man regains consciousness. He cannot move or talk, but his brain is firing on all cylinders: he still registers everything that happens around him. Even his senses seem to have heightened. However, he cannot act, cannot intervene. His body has become his prison and the rest of the world considers him comatose.

How did he end up like this? Perhaps it has something to do with the discovery of 'his new identity'. Fortunately, his mind has not been affected and he can sift through his memories, looking for clues and missed signals. He projects these memories onto the ceiling, the one constant in his life. Gradually, he is able to fill in the blanks about what caused his affliction and he starts to realize the impact of what has been hidden to him. At the same time, he begins to wonder if he is not guilty as well: guilty of denial, guilty of what really happened to one of his childhood friends. Piece by piece, the business man uncovers the truth, but will he have the chance to share his revelations with the world?

#### PRAISE

'An extraordinary, well-wrought and impressive story. This novel deserves awards!' – *Man of Books*, Max TV

*'Bird Boy* is a unique novel about an oppressive childhood and the tale of a bed-ridden patient suffering from locked-in syndrome. It will will haunt you for days after finishing the novel.' – Literatuurplein

'This is one of the best things that I have come across in the past few weeks – no, past few *months*. I love this bird boy.' – VRT Belgium



- Published by Marmer Uitgevers in 2016
- 173 pages
- World Rights available
- English and German samples available

'Guus Bauer masterfully shows the struggle and the frustration of a patient in a pseudo-coma, desperately looking for a way out of his imprisonment through sounds, smells and feelings. With unparalleled precision, Bauer spins a beautiful tale that will leave you speechless.' – *lezerstippenlezers.be* 



#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

**Guus Bauer** (1959) began to write literature when he was 19 and started his own publishing house at the same time. As a literary journalist, he has interviewed hundreds of actors, directors, artists and authors, both domestic and international. *Bird Boy* is his ninth novel and his most personal book.

For more information, please contact Marianne Schönbach: m.schonbach@schonbach.nl

#### THRILLER

### **Patrick Conrad**

# Moço

### Winner of the Hercule Poirot Prize

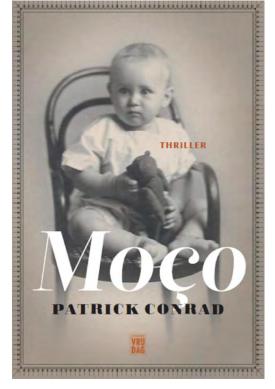
#### ABOUT THE BOOK

A few hours before the turn of the century, photographer Harry Kramer is called upon to take a picture of a fatal accident. The victim turns out to be his mother: she lies dead on the pavement, right under the open window of her apartment. It cannot have been suicide. But why would anyone have thrown a defenseless and crippled old lady through the window?

Running away from his grief, Harry throws himself into his mother's enigmatic past and into his work as a photographer for Shock, where they pay him handsomely for his spectacular and morbid pictures. He finds comfort in the arms of Adiouma, a stripper in Club Malibu. When the club burns down, he takes her in. Meanwhile Moço, the mysterious homeless man he met in the park near his mother's home, has also disappeared without a trace. The more Harry follows in his mother's footsteps, the more clues he finds about a dark, bewildering truth and his own past...

#### PRAISE

'Conrad is an excellent writer who combines melancholy and humor in a provocative, refreshing way. Once again, he proves that he can put a fresh spin on the clichés of the classic crime story.' — **De Standaard** 



- Published by Uitgeverij Vrijdag in 2015
- 303 pages
- World Rights available

'Cinematographic and filled with symbolism. Conrad is a true herald of the night.' - Knack

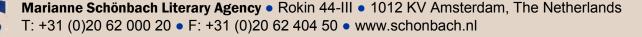
'One of the best modern Flemish thrillers.' - Cobra.be



#### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Patrick Conrad** (Wilrijk, 1945) is a writer, poet, artist and maker of films. *Moço* is his fourteenth novel. *Walker* (2014) was nominated for the Hercule Poirot Prize and the Golden Noose Award. He has won the Diamond Bullet Award for an earlier novel. His work has been translated into German and English and his novel *Limousine* is being made into a movie in the USA.

For more information, please contact Neeltje Smitskamp: n.smitskamp@schonbach.nl



### **Miriam Guensberg**

# Someday

### Revealing, overwhelming, heartrending: an untraditional World War 2 novel

#### **ABOUT THE BOOK**

After the death of his grandmother, Ben Salomon finds an envelope containing the dramatic life story of Ewa Kosinsky, a virtual stranger. In 1944, She was a prisoner in the women's prison camp in Oberlangen. Despite the painful hardships this young Polish woman faced every day, she continued to hope for a better world.

Struck by the stark contrast between Ewa's plight and his own charmed life as a modern western reporter, Ben is deeply touched by her revelations. Soon, he decides on a far-reaching change of course...

*Someday* is a book on the power of memories that will leave every reader deeply moved.

#### PRAISE

'An impressive novel that says so much with just so few words. Four stars.' — Limburgs Dagblad

'Written in beautiful, flowing language, Guensberg spins a soulful story for us. This novel is guaranteed to leave every single reader deeply moved. A striking, gripping book.' – **Hebban** 

in 2015 190 pages
World Rights available

Published by Uitgeverij De Kring

'An extraordinary novel that's not your traditional World War II-novel. An unforgettable book about memories that will stay with you long after you've put it down.' – **New Word Order** 



#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

**Miriam Guensberg** (1950) is a philosopher and an author whose novels have always been acclaimed by the press. She has often been on the long- and short-list of the prestigious Libris Prize for Literature.

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For more information, please contact Marianne Schönbach: m.schonbach@schonbach.nl



### Carla de Jong

# **The Johansons**

# The latest novel of bestselling Dutch author Carla de Jong

#### **ABOUT THE BOOK**

Anne, a highly intelligent girl, is the odd one out in her simple but loving working class family. When she meets the Johansons, she quickly realizes that she wants to be a part of their family. She strikes up a close friendship with the daughter and the two sons of the Johansons. This friendship blossoms as they grow into adulthood, but it falters due to a series of tragic events. Thirty years later, the paths of the Johansons and Anne cross once again. Will they be able to forgive each other?

*The Johansons* is a novel about family, but also about growing up, about family ties, displacement, the dreams of youth and the disillusions of adulthood. A tale about friendship, love, passion, betrayal, loss and reconciliation. Gripping, stirring and riveting, with comic interludes that make the heavier themes seem a bit less grave. Elegantly structured, with chapters that are set in the rural Netherlands of the eighties and the vibrant Amsterdam of 2015. A story that the reader will finish with a heavy heart because the characters have enchanted them.



 Publication by De Boekerij in June 2016

World Rights available

#### PRAISE FOR CARLA DE JONG AND HER PREVIOUS WORK 'Always highly enjoyable.' – NRC

'Faultlessly, De Jong lays bare the psyches of her characters, pulling you in.' – **De Telegraaf** 

'Skilfully, De Jong avoids all clichés and establishes such lifelike characters that her stories will keep you entranced to the end.' – **VPRO** 

'De Jong is a great talent.' — Noordhollands Dagblad

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

**Carla de Jong** studied Dutch, nursing and social sciences. She is the author of five books, of which one, the thriller *Serpent*, was nominated for the Golden Noose award for best Dutch thriller. Carla de Jong also works at the Dutch writers' academy, where she teaches both starter courses and advanced classes in writing novels and thrillers. Carla lives in Amsterdam with her husband and their two children.

For more information, please contact Marianne Schönbach: m.schonbach@schonbach.nl

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### Carla de Jong

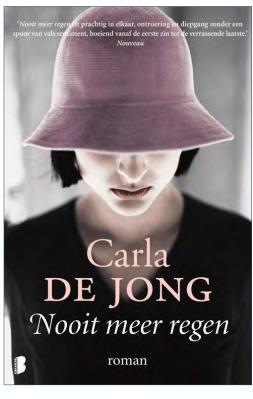
# **No More Rain**

# A compelling family saga and a tragic love story, for readers of Jojo Moyes

#### **ABOUT THE BOOK**

Six months after the death of Jeanne Dufour, her husband, her son and her ex are still struggling to come to terms their loss and with the secrets from Jeanne's past.

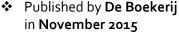
When her notary announces that Jeanne's will is to be read, the fraught history that tangles these men together is bound to be revealed. When the truth comes out, it paints a loving but mercilessly honest picture of the late Jeanne Dufour's chequered life. Can the three men face this new reality?



#### PRAISE

'A well-crafted novel, filled with emotion and depth, never ringing false. Gripping from its first sentence until the surprising last one.' **– Nouveau** 

'This novel proves that Carla de Jong is right at home in the literary world. A terrific page-turner.' – **De Telegraaf** 



- 304 pages
- World Rights available
- English sample available

'Strong, highly believable characters, bound together by a beautiful, moving story that keeps the reader enthralled to the very last page. A powerful novel by an excellent writer.' – **Zin** 



#### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Carla de Jong** studied Dutch, nursing and social sciences. She is the author of five books, of which one, the thriller *Serpent*, was nominated for the Golden Noose award for best Dutch thriller. Carla de Jong also works at the Dutch writers' academy, where she teaches both starter courses and advanced classes in writing novels and thrillers. Carla lives in Amsterdam with her husband and their two children.

For more information, please contact Marianne Schönbach: m.schonbach@schonbach.nl



### Jackie van Laren

# Falling

# Her previous series sold over 10.000 copies. Fall in love with her new novel...

#### ABOUT THE BOOK

Young journalist Anna Miller work for a magazine that is just on the right side of trashy and is engaged to the decent, fastidious lan. It's during an interview with Rory Maquary, who's the lead singer of a world famous rock band, an acclaimed actor and a notorious Hollywood bad boy, that Anne forms an unexpected connection to his three year old son.

Ever since his mother left his father, the boy has been difficult. He could use some extra attention. Rory does Anne a spontaneous offer she cannot refuse: if she joins him on their three-week tour through the US and looks after his kid, she can write an exclusive, in-depth item about the band. Without hesitating, Anne packs hers bags, telling herself she is only in it for the child and for her career. But, against all common sense, Anne and Rory begin to fall for one another...

*Falling* is a novel about how surprising true love can be, and how it can work out so differently than you had planned.

#### PRAISE FOR JACKIE'S PREVIOUS WORK

'Zin is a fast-paced and delightful novel which you won't want to put down.' – **hebban.nl** 

'An exciting three-part series. Perfect for the beach!' – VROUW, De Telegraaf

'A page-turner in the truest sense of the word: because of the breezy writing and the fast-paced plot, you won't be able to help yourself: you'll fly through the pages.' – **christinabrouwers.nl** 



#### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Jackie van Laren** (Amsterdam, 1968) has two big passions in life: music and stories. At a young age, she started writing both fiction and music. Degrees in Dutch and English, a nocturnal life in music venues across the Netherlands and a career in publishing followed. The *Q series* marks her debut as a novelist.





- Publication by De Boekerij in June 2016
- 352 pages
- World Rights available

### Max van Olden

# **My Darling Your Honor**

# A young lawyer, an affair and a double homicide

#### **ABOUT THE BOOK**

Luna has just started as a defense attorney at the renowned law firm Kratz & Kratz. Her days are filled with handling files and preparing pleas. While Luna is working hard at her career, her unemployed boyfriend is sitting at home. Tensions between them rise. One night, after a huge fight, Luna strikes up an affair with an older attractive man who fails to mention he is also employed at the court house. She has no idea she is not only risking her relationship, but that this affair will affect her career and her entire life...

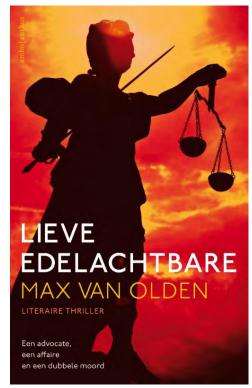
*My Darling Your Honor* shows what it means when a woman takes the law in her own hands.

#### PRAISE

'A rousing depiction of the social reality for women in the legal world. In this thriller, Luna puts everything at risk.' – **Bookstore Bruna** 

'A page turner: *My Darling Your Honor* shows where blind ambition and the willingness to go to extremes may lead.' – **Wim Krings**, **Bookstore Krings** 

'A fascinating insight into the world of defense attorneys. An amazing, well-crafted debut.' – **Bookstore Rebers** 



- Published by Ambo | Anthos in 2015
- 320 pages
- World Rights available

'A juicy debut that leaves you hungry for more. A thriller that deserves a big audience!' - Thrillerreaders.nl

'I can't wait for the next one!' - De Thriller



#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

**Max van Olden** (Zevenaar, 1973) is a lawyer specializing in copyright law. His law degree, his professional experience and his many friends in the field of criminal justice have given him great insight into the world of defense attorneys. This is his first novel. His second novel, *Master Jacuzzi*, will be published In the spring of 2017.

For more information, please contact Marianne Schönbach: m.schonbach@schonbach.nl

### **Stefan Popa**



### Three people. Three lives. One traffic jam.

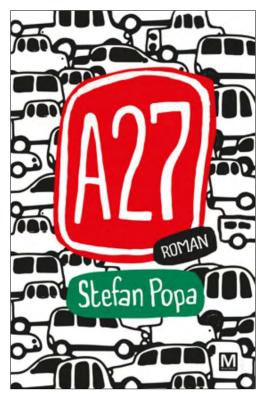
#### ABOUT THE BOOK

Henri is busy. Busy reading some files, busy replying to messages and busy flirting. He ignores the calls of his ex, who will want to tell him that there's something wrong with those kids of his – okay, he got his daughter addicted to smoking and his son acts like a psychopath, but how is that his fault? He's just too busy dealing with everything.

Sjors – 'but you pronounce it George!' – has to drive one and a half hour to get to work every day, but he refuses to move. His town is his everything – there, he has his sweet wife and their four little angels – and he loves the alone time he gets in his car. But there's 'something wrong' with him, according to the minister, something that has cost him his relationship with his cousin. How long will Sjors keep living a lie?

Malines is driving towards her panicking twin sister Mechel, whose car trouble has left her in the emergency lane. Her panic is justified: Mechel's license has been revoked – she borrows her sister's sometimes – and the car belongs to their dad. As always, Malines has to rescue her sister, while she is really the one who needs to be rescued. Not that anyone ever thinks of her.

They all have one thing in common: they are all stuck in the same traffic jam. With this modern roadnovel, Stefan Popa showcases the selfishness, the debauchery and social vacuity of our time.



- Published by Marmer Uitgevers in November 2015
- 288 pages
- World Rights available

#### PRAISE

'A young storyteller who writes almost deceptively easy, avoiding clichés and crafting strong poetic imagery. Popa might just be the perfect person to capture our hedonistic zeitgeist in a book.' – **Tzum** 



'Stefan Popa is extraordinarily good.' - De Wereld Draait Door

#### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Stefan Popa** (1989) is a Dutch-Romanian author and journalist. He has written many short stories, before committing to novels. Not yet thirty, he writes with an experience that surpasses his years. His first novel was critically acclaimed, this is his second novel.

For more information, please contact Marianne Schönbach: m.schonbach@schonbach.nl

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### **Stefan Popa**

# The Gadjo and the Gipsy

# Book of the Month at highly popular daily tv-show De Wereld Draait Door

#### **ABOUT THE BOOK**

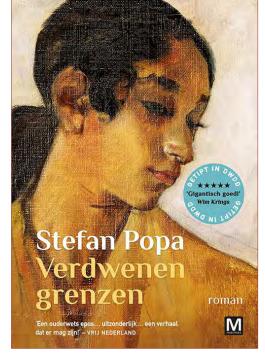
Remus is a young, intelligent Romanian living under Ceauşescu's communist regime. Together with his best friend, the idealistic music student Emil, he yearns for freedom from the surrealistic dictatorship they live under.

It seems fated when he falls in love with Florica, a Roma girl, but her family's traditions will not allow them to accept a gadjo – non-Roma – as her partner. They make a terrifying and thrilling escape, but once in Italy, life as a refugee turns out to be much harder than expected. Their happiness comes to an end when they are confronted with prejudice and radicalism. Their journey has not yet come to an end...

The love story of Remus and Florica reflects the strange ways Romanian refugees found – and lost – their freedom in Europe. Popa uses his dazzling style to bring a gypsy girl's thirty years of wandering through Europe to a poignant end.

#### PRAISE

'It is extraordinary how a debutant novelist dares tell a story as unconventional, dark and big as this. Above all, Popa is a lively storyteller who writes with an all-compassing urge to tell his tale. Not yet thirty, he writes with an experience that surpasses his years.' - Vrij Nederland



- Published by Marmer Uitgevers in 2015
- 384 pages
- World Rights available

#### 'He is extraordinarily good.' - De Wereld Draait Door



#### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Stefan Popa** (1989) is a Dutch-Romanian author and journalist. He has written many short stories, before committing to novels. This is his first novel.

For more information, please contact Marianne Schönbach: m.schonbach@schonbach.nl

### Jürgen Snoeren

# The Demon of Felswyck

**Part I: Invocation** 

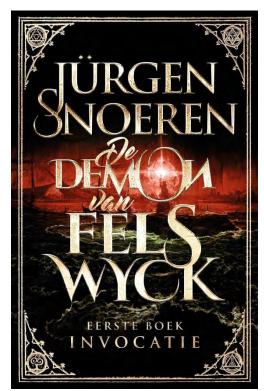
# Plunge yourself into the epic world of Jürgen Snoeren, a brand new fantasy talent

#### ABOUT THE BOOK

In *Invocation*, Jürgen Snoeren introduces us to the epic world of petty thief Feri, who can scale walls like a spider and who can let locks melt away under her hears. She inhabits a complex world, created with painstaking attention to details, reminiscent of the great fantasy authors of our time. Political intrigue, supernatural foes and many fascinating characters keep the reader glued to the page.

On Felswyck, we follow the main character Feri during one of her raids through the city, until she unwittingly unleashes a demon on her world. A civil war has just broken out, leaving it to Feri to take out the demon. But that is easier said than done, especially when the demon takes an interest in the local political game and begins pitting the leaders of the country against one another...

# For readers of George R. R. Martin and Brandon Sanderson



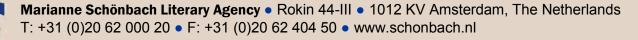
- Publication by Luitingh Sijthoff in August 2016
- 420 pages
- World Rights available



#### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Jurgen Snoeren (1972) studied Literature at the University of Tilburg. He started as editor at J.M. Meulenhoff in 1988 before becoming publisher of Meulenhoff-M., Mynx and, finally, the non-fiction list of Meulenhoff Boekerij. He has worked together with some of the greatest (fantasy) authors of the world.

For more information, please contact Marianne Schönbach: m.schonbach@schonbach.nl



### **Kris Van Steenberge**

# Blind

# Coming this fall: the second novel of an acclaimed debutant

#### **ABOUT THE BOOK**

Jonathan van Immerseel is a lonely young man. He grew up without a father and after he was struck blind by a car accident, his dominant mother, the owner of a fashion label, all but abandoned him. Her dream of watching her son walk down the catwalk in the clothing she designed went up in smoke.

And then, Jonathan meets Lizzy, the trainer of his seeing eye dog. For the very first time, he feels attracted to someone. He decides to take fate into his own hands and follow his own path...

#### PRAISE FOR WOESTEN

'A powerful debut.' - De Standaard

'Van Steenberge simply blows you away. He doesn't write with ink, he writes with gun powder.' – **De Wereld Draait Door** 

'With this impressive debut, Kris van Steenberge has written a timeless tragedy.' – **8Weekly** 

'Van Steenberge knows how to enthrall his readers, making them spellbound by his book.' – Literair Nederland

'A literary debut that shakes you to the core.' - De Morgen



- Publication by Uitgeverij Vrijdag in fall 2016
- ✤ 284 pages
- World Rights available
- Option publishers: Klett-Cotta / GERMANY Acantilado / SPAIN Protea Boekhuis / SOUTH-AFRICA



#### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Kris van Steenberge** (1963) is a writer, director and teacher who lives in Lier. His debut, *Woesten*, a novel set during World War I, has been a critically acclaimed bestseller in the Netherlands, Belgium and beyond: rights were sold to Spain, Germany and South Africa. It won many awards, including the prestigious Bronzed Owl for Best Literary Debut. His second novel will appear in the fall of 2016.

For more information, please contact Neeltje Smitskamp: n.smitskamp@schonbach.nl

### **Erik Vlaminck**

# **The Black Bridge**

# A great Flemish novel, chosen as Book of the Month in De Wereld Draait Door

#### **ABOUT THE BOOK**

A man cannot adapt to an ever-changing world, yearning for the sheltered existence of his youth. Until, one day, he cannot take it anymore.

Leo Lenaerts dies in the summer of 2015, a mere two hundred yards from where the house of his parents once stood. He grew up in the peaceful village Lillo, which was literally swept off the map, swallowed whole by the big city. Forced to live in urban anonymity, Leo is uprooted, distressed. His voice is not heard, his protests are fruitless. His frustrations turn into rancor and, finally, into senseless rage. Something has to give...

In *The Black Bridge*, despair, a rough friendship, sarcastic humor and repressed melancholy paint the portrait of an unremarkable but potentially dangerous man.

#### PRAISE

'Vlaminck paints a careful portrait of a man who is brought down by circumstances and his own character. His story is both tragic and funny, brought to life by colorful and cinematographic descriptions.' – HDC Media

'Erik Vlamink gives us a vivid, funny and sweeping portrait of a small, dangerous man.' – **Feeling** 



- Published by Uitgeverij Vrijdag in 2016
- 280 pages
- World Rights available
- English sample available

'His books are filled to the brim with the unadorned language of everyday life. His wry, laconic sense of humor and the smooth dialogues save his books from becoming too miserable.' – **De Morgen** 

'The characters stayed with me for days. I kept being fascinated by their motivations and their voices. It's amazing how Vlaminck has distilled such raw tragedy from such common lives.' – **Standaard der Letteren** 



#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

**Erik Vlaminck** (Kapellen, 1954) writes novels and plays. He established his name with *Writing in schisms*, a literary endeavor of six parts, relating the extraordinary lives of ordinary people in 20<sup>th</sup> century Flanders, and gained wide popularity thanks to the novels *Cotton Candy* and *Fire & Air*. He leads the Writer Academy of Antwerp and the Flemish Author Association, and he is the president of the Royal Dutch Academy of Language and Literature. Foreign rights to his last novel, *Fire & Air (Brandlucht)*, were sold to Canada, Anansi Press.

For more information, please contact Neeltje Smitskamp: n.smitskamp@schonbach.nl

# **NON-FICTION**

### INSPIRATION

### Sietse Bakker

# **The Sparkle**

Discover the details that make the difference and become the best version of yourself

# For readers of *The Power of Heart* and *The Secret*

#### **ABOUT THE BOOK**

All big things start small. That's what The Sparkle is all about.

We all have dreams, ambitions and good intentions. And yet, we often do not get around to doing anything with them. In a world with more and more obligations and seemingly less and less time, Sietse Bakker poses the question: what are the small things that makes the difference in life?

Inspired by the butterfly effect – the idea that a tiny change can have major consequences – *De Sparkle* takes you on a quest for the details that can make a difference in your life, your surroundings and the world at large.

The Sparkle:

- teaches you how to become the best version of yourself by making small changes.
- helps you to discover which details make the difference in the areas of health, happiness, relationships and success.
- may well be the start of something big for you.



- Published by A.W. Bruna in 2015
- 256 pages
- World Rights available

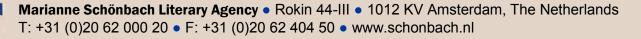


#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

**Sietse Bakker** (Amsterdam, 1984) started out in business at a young age, becoming Event Supervisor of the Eurovision Song Contest at 27. He now runs three companies, including Wow!works, which helps people become the best version of themselves through life coaching. Sietse writes for the *Huffington Post* and provides lectures and workshops on personal development and entrepreneurship both at home and abroad. *The Sparkle* is his second book. You can read more about him

here: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sietse Bakker

For more information, please contact Marianne Schönbach: m.schonbach@schonbach.nl



#### **MEMOIR**

### **Ingeborg van Beek**

### A Rushed Life Living with a brain tumor

#### ABOUT THE BOOK

'My name is Ingeborg. I am thirty-nine years old and live life to the fullest. I have a four year old son, a two year old daughter, my own company and a lot of fun. And I have a brain tumor.'

Two years ago, Ingeborg van Beek got the devastating diagnosis: she had an inoperable brain tumor. During the following tests and the life-threatening procedures, she was besides herself, torn between sorrow, uncertainty and fear, but within her, a fire started burning more fiercely.

Candidly and with a refreshing dash of humor, Ingeborg tells about living with a ticking bomb inside her head. Suddenly, everything in her life needs to be weighed. Do I have any regrets? Any unfulfilled desires? Is my relationship still fulfilling enough? When a doctor tells you to take it slow, how do you follow his advice when you are in a rush to do everything and to do it all right now?

#### PRESS

Following interviews in daily national newspapers such as *Het Parool* en *Het Algemeen Dagblad* and <u>an appearance on *RTL Late Night*</u>, a popular talk show, *A Rushed Life* hit the Dutch bestseller list in its first week of publication.

### Bestseller



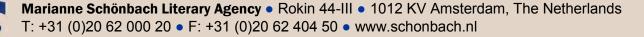
- Published by Xander in 2016
- 254 pages
- World Rights available



#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

**Ingeborg van Beek** (1976) lived and worked in Paris, Brussels and Kuwait before kicking off a career in marketing, communication and PR. In 2007, she started Shake The Tree, her own advertising agency. She is also the ambassador for the Stop Brain Tumors Foundation and writes about her disease in the national newspaper *De Telegraaf*.

For more information, please contact Neeltje Smitskamp: n.smitskamp@schonbach.nl



#### HEALTH

### William Cortvriendt

### **Dead Weight**

About absurd diets and unhealthy advice About how to stay healthy and thin

### Bestselling author dispenses with the myths of diet fads and provides a healthy alternative

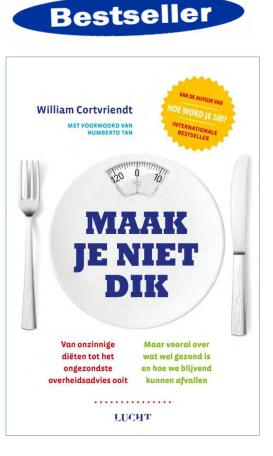
#### **ABOUT THE BOOK**

Every year, six to thirteen thousand people die in the Netherlands alone because of the scientifically outdated suggestion to count calories and to consume more carbs and less fat. The results are shocking: every year, ten to twenty times more people die due to this wrong advice than to traffic accidents.

In *Dead Weight*, William Cortvriendt dispenses with absurd and usually unhealthy dietary fads and popular methods to lose weight. Instead, he gives clear advice, based on scientific research, on how to lose weight permanently and to lead longer, healthier and more pleasant lives by adapting small things in our everyday life.

#### PRESS

A hit with many Dutch food and/or health blogs, from <u>eethetbeter.nl</u> to <u>allesovervoeding.nl</u>, from <u>boostyourhealth.nl</u> to <u>toekomt.nl</u>, and many, many more!



- Published by Uitgeverij Lucht in 2015
- 240 pages
- World Rights available



#### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**William Cortvriendt** (1956) is a doctor, specialized in medical research. He has been the director and CEO of three medical clinics and worked as an advisor for McKinsey & Co. He wrote the recent bestseller *How do you grow a hundred years old*?

For more information, please contact Marianne Schönbach: m.schonbach@schonbach.nl

#### **INSPIRATION**

Bestseller

### **Patrick van Hees**

# **Grandmother's Secrets to Happiness**

### A Dutch feel-good bestseller: 15.000 copies sold

#### **ABOUT THE BOOK**

For generations we have been looking for the secret for a long and happy life. Patrick van Hees, author of *The Happiness Professor*, shows us that the answer is within reach. He combines insights from studies into the nature of happiness with observations by his own Grandmother Eefje, as a living example of charmingly down-to-earth happiness. She is almost one hundred years old and has known many difficulties in her life, but is often heard to say: 'I'm not some fragile little doll, I'll live.' What is her secret? And what can we learn from her?

Her story will immerse the reader in a hundred years of Dutch history. While reading, you will discover the seven secrets of happiness that can inspire you to lead a long and happy life. *Grandmother's Secrets to Happiness* is both a moving memoir and a practical guide to living.

#### PRAISE

'Eefje's recognizable life gives you a hundred years of Dutch history and seven steps towards happiness, inspiring you to happily grow old as well.' – **Avrobode** 

'An uplifting book.' - Leidsch Dagblad

'Grandmother's Secrets to Happiness is a pure delight!' – boekenbeschrijfster.nl



#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

**Patrick van Hees** (Zaandam, 1968) debuted with the bestselling inspirational novel *The Happiness Professor*. After leading the high life in marketing, Van Hees decided to stop chasing money and to start a quest for happiness. He has done extensive scientific research on the topic and is currently one of the main public speakers on happiness. 'The Happiness Professor', as has become his nickname in the media, also hosts an exclusive masterclass on happiness in Cambridge, and gives lectures and workshops at top financial organizations. Leading newspaper *De Telegraaf* called him 'the Dutch Paulo Coelho'.





- Published by De Boekerij in 2015
- 256 pages
- World Rights available

MEMOIR

Bestseller

### **Francien Regelink**

# C'mon, Show Us Your Tits Again

How sexting can break you – or make you

#### **ABOUT THE BOOK**

I freeze. I must have heard it wrong. I'm looking for the source of that voice and refuse to believe that it's true. Several boys, pointing at me. Laughing. I feel betrayed and my head blacks out. As quickly as possible, I flee.

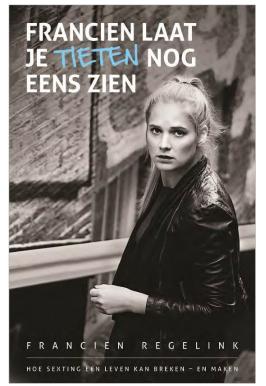
When Francien Regelink was fifteen years old, she made a picture of her breasts and sent it to the most popular guy in school. She thought it was for his eyes only. He didn't agree. Soon, her picture was found all over the school.

Almost daily, the news reports about 'sexting'. Thanks to texting and social media like Instagram and Snapchat it has become so easy to send a picture like that to someone who doesn't treat it properly – and the consequences are far graver.

With *C'mon, Show Us Your Tits Again*, Francien tells us her powerful story, wanting to make young people aware of the consequences. How, by trial and error, she managed to turn this negative experience into a positive one, is both gripping and impressive.

#### PRESS

- Featured on Nieuwsuur, a prominent news show and <u>Jinek</u>, a popular Dutch talkshow.
- Several big interviews in prominent dailies, like **De Volkskrant**, **Trouw**, **De Telegraaf** en **Het Parool**.



- Published by Kosmos in 2016
- 192 pages
- World Rights available

#### PRAISE

'A powerful story, delivered with wit and humor.' - Viva



#### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Francien Regelink** (1986) is a successful young business woman who runs her own company. She writes for a very popular running blog, <u>www.girlslove2run.com</u>, and she is a well-known influencer for several big sports brands. In addition, she is a popular guest at high schools and for the tv, the radio and the newspapers.

For more information, please contact Marianne Schönbach: m.schonbach@schonbach.nl

### **Christian Weij**

## Rotten

Fermenting your own food: tasty, healthy & simple

### 20.000 copies sold

#### ABOUT THE BOOK

When you ferment something, you use the rotting process to enhance your food. It is an old technique used to preserve food and it is making a come-back: it fits perfectly in the current trends of healthy and sustainable food. Most things we like are fermented: vanilla, coffee, wine, beer, cheese, bread, pepper... All you need is salt, water, vegetables (or fruit), sterilized jars and time.

*Rotten* is a practical DIY cookbook that contains many recipes, utilizing not only vegetables and fruit, but also dairy, meat, fish, nuts, seeds and wheat. Christian Weij teaches you the basics and introduces you to the fascinating world of fermenting.

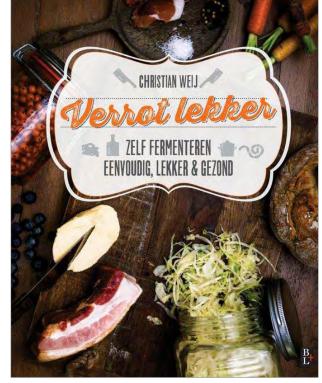
#### PRAISE

*'Rotten* might be the best book for boys I've read in years.' – **De Telegraaf** 

'Four stars.' – Het Parool

*'Rotten* gets you itching to go and try fermenting yourself.' – **Elsevier** 





- Published by Bertram +
   De Leeuw in 2015
- 288 pages
- World Rights available



#### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Christian Weij** is a specialist on fermentation, a food designer, a professional cook and a chef of a pop-up restaurant. He gives workshops on fermentation to groups and individuals, among them chefs or renowned restaurants. *Rotten* is his first book.

For more information, please contact Marianne Schönbach: m.schonbach@schonbach.nl



### MEMOIR

### Zoni Weisz

### Zoni **The Forgotten Holocaust**

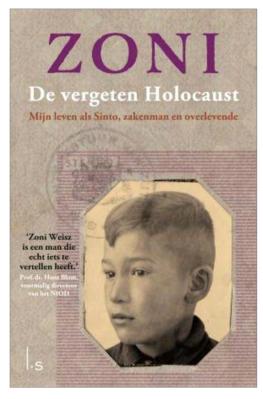
### The gripping autobiography of an extraordinary Holocaust survivor

#### **ABOUT THE BOOK**

About half a million gypsies were killed by the Nazis in the Second World War. Zoni Weisz survived. In this book, he tells about his youth as a Sinto, about the loss of his parents, his sisters and his little brother. He also tells about his incredible career as world renowned florist, as designer and as an international promoter for the Dutch floral industry. Nowadays, he is committed to the cause of the Sinti and the Roma.

'I have lived an exceptional life, with a bizarre and tragic beginning, and I look back on it with satisfaction. If I had to do it all over again, I would do it exactly the same. My story, my people. That is what matters to me. This book is about all the things I am or have been in my life: a husband, father, grandfather, florist, designer, a Sinto and a survivor of the Holocaust. I hope that my story gives strength to everyone who has had a difficult start in life. You can overcome much if you want to and if you surround yourself with the right people to help you.'

### Bestseller



- Published by Luitingh-Sijthoff in 2016
- 288 pages
- World Rights available

#### PRAISE

'An impressive autobiography with an important message.' - NPO Radio 1

'This life story is not just a moving tribute to the loved ones who have been killed by the Nazis, but more than anything this is a lesson, teaching us how to be human.'

#### - Ronald Leopold, director of the Anne Frank Foundation

'Despite all the horror that has befallen him, Zoni has not lost his faith in humanity.' - Gerdi Verbeet, president of the National May 4th & 5th Committee (Remembrance Day & Liberation Day)

'With growing admiration, I have gotten to know Zoni Weisz as a man who developed unique qualities during an unique life.' - Prof. Hans Blom, former director of The Dutch Institute for War and Holocaust Studies



#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Zoni Weisz (March 4th, 1937) studied both art history and landscape architecture and grew up to be a renowned florist. He used to work as a representative of the Dutch floral industry. Currently, he is the spokesperson for the international Sinti and Roma communities. He was the first Roma or Sinti to address the Bundestag at the Holocaust Remembrance Day and, quite recently, he was a keynote speaker during the Holocaust Memorial Ceremony of the United Nations.

For more information, please contact Marianne Schönbach: m.schonbach@schonbach.nl

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# SELECTED BACKLIST

#### LITERARY FICTION

### **Diane Broeckhoven**

# **The Doll Doctor**

# The latest novel of an international bestselling author

#### **ABOUT THE BOOK**

As a little boy from Amsterdam, Hendrik Roest used to play house with Esther Levine, the Jewish girl living upstairs. She disappears on a dark day in 1942. Hendrik decided to take care of Trui, her doll, their baby.

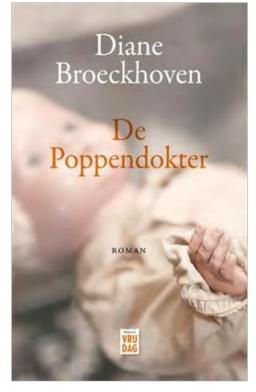
Twenty years later, they meet again. The burgeoning attraction of their younger years explodes. But, despite Esther's burning desire and Hendrik's ardent letters, their love does not stand a chance.

Because of Trui, Hendrik gives up his profession as a goldsmith and becomes a doll doctor. He grows old, his lost love haunting him. On the day he closes his business down for good, an old lady walks into his shop...

#### PRAISE FOR A DAY WITH MR. JULES

'A beautiful, pure book about growing old, death, grief and hope.' — **Die Welt** 

'Death is sweet in this book imbued with modesty, love and simplicity.' **– L'Indépendent** 



- Published by Uitgeverij Vrijdag in 2014
- 128 pages
- World Rights available
- English sample available



#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

**Diane Broeckhoven** (1946) is a prize-winning author whose bestselling title, *A Day with Mr. Jules*, sold to over 18 countries. The German edition sold over **180,000 copies**. The novel has been adapted to stage several times, while film rights have been optioned as well. Her last novel is *What I Still Know* (2013), telling the story of a mother who struggles with dementia and who has a strained relationship with her son. The rights to it have recently been sold to the German publishing house **C.H. Beck**.

Diane Broeckhoven will be a guest at the Frankfurt Book Fair in 2016.

For more information, please contact Neeltje Smitskamp: n.smitskamp@schonbach.nl

### **Guido Eekhaut**

# Q

### 'The king of the unconventional plot.' — Het Nieuwsblad

#### ABOUT THE BOOK

After finishing his last job, Lens Hoffmann runs into Alexandra in the south of Denmark. He, sixty years old, wants to quit the organization that pays him well to dispose of influential people; she, thirty-five, stole an important manuscript while studying Early Christian cultures. He decides to give her a ride. Soon, they realize both of them are being chased: she by a shady, relentless group of people, he by his former employer. When two armed men in a BMW fire at them on the highway, they go on the run together, cutting all ties with friends, family and society. It's their only option.

During their escapades, Hoffmann starts doubting Alex and her strange theories on gnostic conspiracies. Is she really who she claims to be? Why is she so obsessed with the nature of evil? Hoffmann, meanwhile, is also haunted by his dark past...

#### PRAISE FOR GUIDO EEKHAUT

'When it comes to Flemish authors, he's the cream of the crop.' — **Bruna Bookstores** 

'His thrillers are ambitious and smoothly written, his plots wellcrafted and unique.' – Het Nieuwsblad

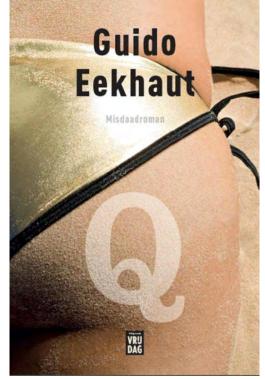
'A gifted writer and a tremendous storyteller, equal to the greats.' - Crimezone



#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Guido Eekhaut (pseudonym of Nellie Mandel, 1954) is a prize-winning author of crime fiction, boasting two prestigious Hercule Poirot prizes and one Diamond Bullet. He has also been shortlisted for the Gouden Strop twice. His crime novels are national bestsellers and his debut, *Absinth*, was translated into German. Eekhaut has also won several prizes for his short stories.

For more information, please contact Neeltje Smitskamp: n.smitskamp@schonbach.nl



- Published by Uitgeverij Vrijdag in 2015
- 288 pages
- World Rights available
- English sample available

### **INSPIRATIONAL FICTION**

### **Patrick van Hees**



# **The Happiness Professor**

# The expert on happiness' first bestseller: 30.000 copies sold

#### **ABOUT THE BOOK**

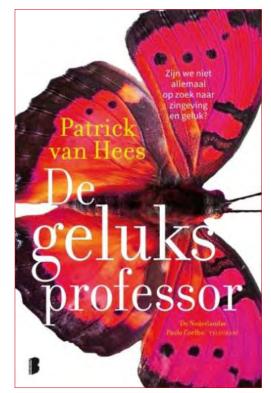
Cuno Groen, professor at Nyenrode Business School, has it made. Or so he thought. When he does not get the promotion he had been vying for, when his girlfriend leaves him for another man and his successful career as a marketing expert goes into decline, his world collapses. Cuno flees to Cambridge. In this ancient university town, which has produced so many brilliant minds, he attempts to find the big secret to a leading happy life. But to do so he has to explore the deepest recesses of his own soul.

*The Happiness Professor* is a compelling, poignant and above all inspiring novel that lays bare the spirit of our age. How far can you go in your quest for happiness?

PRAISE

'The Dutch Paulo Coelho.' - De Telegraaf

'A sure-fire bestseller.' - Noordhollands Dagblad



- Published by De Boekerij in 2014
- 254 pages
- World Rights available
- English sample available



#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

**Patrick van Hees** (Zaandam, 1968) debuted with the bestselling inspirational novel *The Happiness Professor*. After leading the high life in marketing, Van Hees decided to stop chasing money and to look for happiness. He has done extensive scientific research on the topic and is currently one of the main public speakers on happiness. 'The Happiness Professor', as has become his nickname in the media, also hosts an exclusive masterclass on happiness in Cambridge, and gives lectures and workshops at top financial conventions.

For more information, please contact Neeltje Smitskamp: n.smitskamp@schonbach.nl

### **FICTION**

### Jackie van Laren

# The Q-Trilogy: Sense, Love, Soul

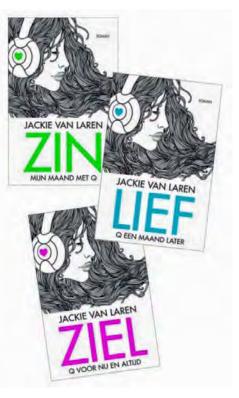
#### More than 10.000 copies sold

#### SENSE

The filthy rich and world-famous trance DJ and producer Wessel Quist – nicknamed Q – is an insanely attractive womanizer with an absurdly busy schedule: he is in desperate need of a personal assistant. He agrees to hire Nina de Wit provisionally: she has one month to prove herself. Nina, raised by liberal and artistic hippy parents, dreams of simple things: a steady job, a house and a husband. Q, difficult, elusive and driven by a secret from the past, is exactly the sort of man she isn't after. But that will not stop Q...

#### LOVE

Nina is heart-broken. After one passionate month together, Q sent her packing without any real explanation and found himself a new girlfriend, a model. But when Nina's former colleague Leo invites Nina to attend the ceremony of a prestigious dance award – one for which Q has been nominated – Nina travels to Ibiza. There, she realizes that the chemistry between her and Q is still there and, what's worse, so does Q...



- Published by De Boekerij in 2015
- World Rights available
- English sample available for Sense

#### SOUL

A year has passed since things came to an end between Nina and Q

for the second time. She is through with him: he is too volatile and too closed off. But she can't seem to put him out of her mind, and when her work forces them to cross paths again, it becomes apparent that he hasn't forgotten her either. But can they overcome their differences?

#### PRAISE

'Zin is a fast-paced and delightful novel which you won't want to put down.' - hebban.nl

'An exciting three-part series. Perfect for the beach!' - VROUW, De Telegraaf

'A page-turner in the truest sense of the word: because of the breezy writing and the fast-paced plot, you won't be able to help yourself: you'll fly through the pages.' – **christinabrouwers.nl** 



#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Jackie van Laren (Amsterdam, 1968) has two big passions in life: music and stories. At a young age, she started writing both fiction and music. Degrees in Dutch and English Literature, a nocturnal life in music venues across the Netherlands and a career in publishing followed. The *Q series* marks her debut as a novelist. *Fallen*, her next novel, will be published in the summer of 2016.

For more information, please contact Marianne Schönbach: m.schonbach@schonbach.nl

### **Kim Moelands**

# The Woman in the Mirror

- Won the Hebban Award for 'Best Crime Fiction'
- Shortlisted for the Diamond Bullet, the most important Flemish thriller award

#### ABOUT THE BOOK

Two weeks after dairy giant Latté received a threatening letter extorting them for 200.000 Euro, their first customer dies. There were nails in her yogurt.

Inspector Tess Westerhout takes on the case and tracks down Charlie Zwols, aka 'The Rat', who is serving time on a charge of blackmail. Charlie can help Tess and her partner Vincent, but in returns, Tess has to do him a favor. To get the answers she needs, she will have to play along in his deadly game. Meanwhile, the killer and extortionist is preparing to make new victims...

#### PRAISE

'A spectacular thriller from beginning to end. It gave me goosebumps and sent shivers down my spine.' – Jaap Jongbloed, tv-host for AvroTros

'Well written, meticulously structured and – trivial little detail – the way Tess keeps chewing and chewing really makes one crave a piece of gum.' – **VN Thrillergids** 

'Kim Moelands has pulled out all the stops. The result is an impressive page-turner.' – **hebban.nl** 



- Published by A.W. Bruna in 2015
- 304 pages
- World Rights available

'Featuring a psychopath, a poisoner, a rocky marriage and a police woman with limitless ambition, Kim Moelands has composed a rich and exciting thriller, confirming her talent once and for all.' – **De Telegraaf** 

'Kim Moelands is the Karin Slaughter of the Low Countries.' - Bookstore Bruna

'Already the best thriller of 2015. This book makes Kim Moelands one of the best Dutch thriller writers.' – Thrillerlezers.nl



#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

**Kim Moelands** (Goirle, 1975) is a reporter, a former reviewer and an author. She has written two biographical novels, *Breathless* and *Boundless*, and was a jury member for the Dutch thriller price De Gouden Strop twice. *Defenseless*, her first thriller, was published in 2010, which was followed in 2012 by *Floor X*. *The Woman in the Mirror* is her third thriller.

For more information, please contact Marianne Schönbach: m.schonbach@schonbach.nl

### Hans Münstermann

# Mischa

#### ABOUT THE BOOK

Rosa, a widow of 65 years old, finds the police at her door. Her eldest son has been detained for the disappearance of 10-year-old Mischa, an unsolved kidnapping and murder case that has occupied the country for months.

Thus begins an emotional rollercoaster for Rosa. Together with friends and family, she takes a stand against those who suspect her son, utterly convinced of his innocence. But how well does she really know her own flesh and blood? And can her motherly love withstand the cruel truth?

#### PRAISE

'With extensive knowledge of recent criminal cases, insight into family dynamics and a vibrant tone, Münstermann has written *Mischa*, a psychological novel that is gripping from start to finish.' – **NRC Handelsblad** 

*'Mischa* is essentially a novel about family and the way people interact within the confines of that loving yet stifling construct. In particular, it is a wonderful portrait of Rose, the mother. Münstermann has once again succeeded in writing a powerful novel about a woman who dares to doubt.' – **Het Parool** 

'A shocking story, told without pulling any punches.' – **De Volkskrant** 

'A novel, mastering both empathy and imagination' - Peter Buwalda

'A journey through the night, touching on all those nagging little doubts all parents have. Münstermann draws a beautifully poignant sketch of desperation.' – **Trouw** 

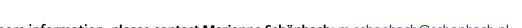
'A novel that burns with contemporary relevance. A true page turner.' - Vrij Nederland

'In *Mischa*, Münstermann gauges the tragedy of a life completely torn apart. An inexplicable crime reveals the fragility of our existence and the uncertainty of our civilisation. Raw and emotional.' – *cobra.be* 



#### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Hans Münstermann** (Arnhem, 1947) wrote a highly praised series of novels starring his alter ego, Andreas Klein. He received multiple prizes for them, and even more nominations.







- Published by De Kring in 2015
- 240 pages
- World Rights available

### **Caroline Perrée**

# How to be a Better Follower

Increase the impact of your leadership

### 'If you only read one book about effective management this year, make it this one.' – ManagementBoek

#### ABOUT THE BOOK

There are two sides to leadership. Where there are leaders, there are followers. This book approaches the subject of 'following' from a range of different angles, giving useful and practical insights to those at the receiving end of guidance, as well as those providing the guidance.

Strong followers are followers who lead: they do not follow slavishly or passively. They deliberately choose their position while providing challenges prompted by a well-functioning inner compass. Powerful leaders give followers the space to occupy their position. By focusing on their shared objective. By asking for feedback. By listening and being responsive. All of which goes to show that good leaders are leaders who follow.

*How to be a Better Follower* shows that following is at least as important as leading. This book is surprising, provocative, humorous, profound and filled with anecdotes and examples.

#### PRAISE

'Immensely valuable, challenges you to think!' - hebban



- Published by A.W. Bruna in 2015
- 256 pages
- World Rights available



#### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Caroline Perrée** is a freelance communication trainer and coach. Through her company CARPER, she provides support to private and corporate clients from a range of different branches and sectors. Her focus is on (personal) leadership, communication and cooperation.

For more information, please contact Marianne Schönbach: m.schonbach@schonbach.nl

### **Tijn Touber**

# Longing for Paradise

Know your past, create your future

# A compelling mix of spirituality, philosophy and religion

#### **ABOUT THE BOOK**

After exploring Eastern spirituality in his bestseller *A Crash Course in Enlightenment*, Tijn Touber now focuses on Egyptian and European spirituality. Who are we and where do we come from?

Tijn Touber is known for his ability to translate ancient wisdom into practical enlightenment. During a search for the origins of life, Tijn accidentally came across a lost super civilisation that left clues about our history, our present time and our future. Fascinated by myths and ancient writings, Tijn set off on a journey, visiting cities like London, New York and Cairo, in search of answers to the questions 'who are we, where do we come from, where are we going and how will we get there'. The result is *Longing for Paradise*, an exciting voyage that uncovers the origins of life and is filled with stories of and encounters with inspired people.



- Published by A.W. Bruna in 2015
- \* **256** pages
- World Rights available



#### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Tijn Touber** is a musician, writer, mentor and meditation teacher. He is the founder of pop band Lois Lane, whose debut album topped the Dutch charts and sold more than 100,000 copies. Following this musical adventure, Tijn pursued enlightenment and lived as a yogi in Amsterdam for fourteen years. He created the successful concept of *Urban Enlightenment*, which aims at opening up living rooms for daily meditation. Thus far, nearly 850 families, both domestic and abroad, have currently signed up for this initiative.

He writes for magazines including *Happinez* and *Management Team*, and has published several books. His books have sold more than 55.000 copies to date.

For more information, please contact Marianne Schönbach: m.schonbach@schonbach.nl

#### THRILLER

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### **Suzanne Vermeer**

# **Snow Angels**

### 1.6 million copies sold of Suzanne Vermeer's books

#### **ABOUT THE BOOK**

The six of them had met as students, a close-knit group of girls who share everything together and go on a ski-trip once a year. They call themselves 'the snow angels'. Their careers are taking off, their love lives are torrid: the world is at their feet. But then one of them dies...

Daphne's death is a real blow to the group, but at the same time it strengthens the bond between the women. They enter into a pact, promising to always take care of one another, just like how they took care of their friend when she fell ill. But then disaster strikes again. It seems like an accident, but nobody knows exactly what happened. Some things don't add up. Was it foul play? But why? And who would have it? Slowly but surely, this seemingly perfect group of friends begins to unravel.

#### PRAISE

'Suzanne Vermeer never fails to send shivers down your spine. The last few pages are so tense, you almost forget to breathe!' – **Viva** 

'A great book. You simply cannot put it down!' - chicklit.nl

'A story that keeps you hooked with all of its twists and turns, right until the end, when all secrets are revealed...' – A Passion For Books



- Published by A.W. Bruna in 2015
- 320 pages
- World Rights available

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

**Suzanne Vermeer** is the pseudonym of author Paul Goeken who died in June 2011. Following his family's wishes, it was decided to continue publishing books by Suzanne Vermeer. All of Vermeer's titles have made it onto the Dutch bestseller list and two of them were nominated for the NS Public's Choice Award.

For more information, please contact Marianne Schönbach: m.schonbach@schonbach.nl

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Bestseller

### Femmetje de Wind

# Rivka

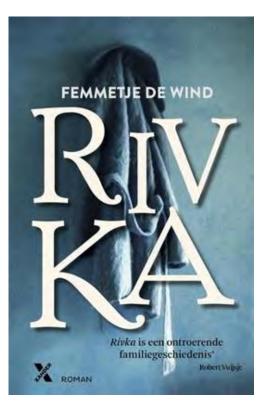
# Inspired by the life of the author's father, a survivor of the Holocaust

#### **ABOUT THE BOOK**

Rivka is a successful editor of a women's magazine and leads a happy and harmonious life. At least, on the surface... An unexpected encounter with her ex-lover, the much older and handsome Daniel Rubinstein, threatens the stability of her carefully constructed world.

She learns that Daniel is working on unveiling a secret about her own father, a man who was deeply damaged by the loss of his family during the Holocaust. The consequences of his trauma come to light in a painful way during Rivka's intense research of their common secret.

Rivka begins to understand that she must face the painful questions about her identity and about her father's past. She travels to Israel to find her roots. But the more she uncovers the truth, the more the ground beneath her feet starts to cave in... How far will Rivka go in her attempt, to decipher the secrets of her own past, that of her father and that of her lost family?



- Published by Xander Uitgevers in 2015
- 352 pages
- World Rights available
- **Constant Service English sample** available

#### PRAISE

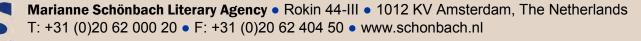
'A striking novel about the human condition, never mitigating the harsh truths of reality.' - Trouw



#### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Femmetje de Wind** (1973) studied comparative literature and rights. She worked as editor in chief of a women's magazine for many years. Today she owns a publishing company for women's magazines, Wind Publishing. *Rivka* is her first novel.

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### **Corien van Zweden**

# Take a Bite out of the Sun

Personal stories about dealing with cancer

### Five teenagers, five parents, one disease

#### ABOUT THE BOOK

'I was quite fond of this body. It was mine, and I lived my life on the unspoken agreement that we would grow old together.'

When reporter and writer Corien van Zweden is diagnosed with breast cancer, her eldest daughter has just started high school. Soon, it turns out that her new class is a 'cancerclass': five of the twenty-five students have a parent who's struggling with cancer. A bizarre situation that ties the afflicted parents and their children together, but also invites involuntary comparisons. How does cancer affect these families? How do the other parents deal with their illness? How does their life change? And what do these children – all five of them teenagers – think?

About farewells and new beginnings, about fighting or running away, bucket lists and teenage outbursts. *Take a Bite out of the Sun* gives personal, recognizable accounts and combines them with professional opinions, providing a layered, familiar and poignant report about the impact of this disease.

#### PRAISE

'Van Zweden has written a multifaceted and realistic book about cancer.' –  $\ensuremath{\text{Trouw}}$ 

'A scenario that you wouldn't dare use for a novel or movie, because it would be too cruel, too unbelievable. And yet, it happened, on a school in Amsterdam.' – **Het Parool** 

'While writing this book, Corien van Zweden often thought: I quit. Because how much sickness, death and statistical improbability can one person take?' – **De Volkskrant** 



#### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Corien van Zweden** (1962) studied theology and has been active as an independent reporter since 1994. She writes about health, psychology, education and foreign aid. In 2008, her first book was published: the literary non-fiction book *The Art of Mourning*. *Take a Bite out of the Sun* appeared in 2015.

For more information, please contact Marianne Schönbach: m.schonbach@schonbach.nl



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