

Autumn

2024

FOREIGN
RIGHTS GUIDE

Fiction



Non-Fiction



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DE FONTEIN

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Authors – Michael J. Sandel, Michael Puett, Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi, Thich Nhat Hanh, Pema Chödrön, Eline Snel

TABLE OF CONTENTS

FICTION

Dimitri Verhulst <i>Bechamel Mucho</i>	1	Thomas Swierts & Eline van Bloois <i>The Most Powerful Life on Earth</i>	12
Mariken Heitman <i>The Ant Caravan</i>	2	Eduard Cousin <i>Alexandria</i>	13
Anya Niewierra <i>The Nomad</i>	3	Caroline Verhage, Jobst Winter & Petra van der Kwartel <i>Even Women Get a Heart Attack</i>	14
Gerwin van der Werf <i>Willow Island</i>	4	Patrick van Veen <i>Help, It's a Zoo in Here!</i>	15
Rinske Bouwman <i>Hard Skin</i>	5	Job van Ballegoijen de Jong <i>Tomorrow I Will Tell Everything</i>	16
Ilse Josepha Lazaroms <i>Elsewhere</i>	6	Finn Berk & Jeroen Kleijne <i>Football Dream</i>	17
Vincent Kortmann <i>Flesh and Blood</i>	7	Natascha van Weezel <i>How to Keep Your Heart Tender</i>	18
Brenda Meuleman <i>On The Other Side of the Bridge</i>		Arie Kok <i>Biography of the North Sea</i>	19
Marjon Weerink <i>The Music Factory</i>	9	Frits de Lange <i>To the Extreme in Everything</i>	20

NON-FICTION

Tim Fransen <i>In Our Time</i>	10	Ambo Anthos <i>Non-fiction bestsellers</i>	21
Jur Deitmers <i>The Boy Without Yesterday</i>	11	Ambo Anthos <i>Fiction bestsellers</i>	22

DIMITRI VERHULST

Bechamel Mucho

New novel by international acclaimed author

As a twenty-something-year-old, Dimitri Verhulst worked as an entertainer at a club hotel in Mallorca for a summer. His only job was to provide entertainment for vacationers. What he observed there left a deep impression on him, so much so that now, a quarter of a century later, he draws on it for his new novel *Bechamel Mucho*. The story begins as a sunny slideshow of a carefree summer. But appearances can be deceptive, as a sharp and compelling sketch of consumer society soon unfolds. As witty as he is moving, Verhulst shows us everyone's inability to connect.

The newly widowed, the single mother with her child, the female half of a jaded couple, the young flight attendant looking for relaxation, the fit cyclist, each guest has their own story. And all of them, whether for one night or not, want Alex. And it is Alex who has to decide what to do at the end of the season. Or rather, who he wants to be.

Quotes on *Bechamel Mucho*:

'Bechamel Mucho, a mockery of vulgar bourgeoisness in a vacation resort, makes a fresh, driven impression. Also because Verhulst plays with his own tendency toward exaggeration and bombast. (...) Vicious and witty (...) a battering ram of a novel.' – NRC Handelsblad

'Verhulst is not only stylistically but also psychologically in top shape. [...] Moreover, Verhulst's mockery of phenomena on modern Western life is as strong as his irony.' – De Volkskrant

DIMITRI VERHULST wrote novels, stories, poems, essays, plays, song texts, operas, scenarios; he hosted television shows and directed movies. His books have been published in over 30 languages and have been awarded with national and international awards, such as the Libris Literature Prize, The Golden Owl Reader's Award and the Tzum Prize for the most beautiful sentence of 2014. Multiple of his novels have been taken to the big screen in international productions.



27,000 COPIES SOLD

ATLAS CONTACT, 176 PAGES

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'Oh, those terrible, hopeless lives Dimitri Verhulst outlines in his new novel *Bechamel Mucho*. You laugh because it won't happen to you. (...) It is clever that Dimitri Verhulst, with his foul language, wildly and unsubtly beating about the bush, still manages to move you in the end.' – Het Parool



© MICHEL HENDRYCKX



ENGLISH SAMPLE TRANSLATION

ATLAS CONTACT, 176 PAGES, 10,000 COPIES IN PRINT

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MARIKEN HEITMAN

The Ant Caravan

New book by the Libris Award 2022 winner

One day, gardener Kiek discovers a rabbit. Even though every living creature has its role – from the vegetables to the critters in the compost, from volunteers to the earth itself – the rabbit threatens the ecological balance of the garden. At the same time, fate announces itself in the form of a progressive disease that will irrevocably change Kiek's life. Over four seasons, the garden undergoes various metamorphoses, and in fact so does Kiek herself.

The Ant Caravan is an enchanting story, written with the smooth pen of a Libris Prize winner, about how everything that lives is connected to each other – and so are we.

‘This story is as original as her previous books, but a bit lighter in tone. *The Ant Caravan* is prose to keep grazing in.’ – *De Volkskrant*

‘Mariken Heitman writes enthusiastically about the life of an ailing gardener in and with a garden. (...) With delicate and also critical observations, Heitman makes it palpable how lonely it can be to have a chronic illness.’ – *Trouw*

‘In language that can match the opulence of nature, Mariken Heitman tells the story of something bigger than humans.’ – *NRC*

‘The Ant Caravan is a story about affecting and wanting to hold on to identity, the complexity of life. About, ultimately, letting go and whether you can reconcile with that. Mariken Heitman has described this wonderfully.’ – *Het Parool*

MARIKEN HEITMAN studied biology and worked as a greenskeeper for several years in organic vegetable farming. In 2019, she published her widely acclaimed *The Aquatic Ape*, which was nominated for the Jan Wolkers Prize and the Bronze Owl and shortlisted for the Anton Wachter Prize. Her novel *Worm Moon* (2021) was awarded the Libris Literature Prize, was sold to Klett-Cotta in Germany and Actes Sud in France and sold 46,000 copies.



© MELANIE MARSMAN

ANYA NIEWIERRA

The Nomad

A blistering thriller about fatherly love and a hidden past

39-year-old travel journalist Olga Liebke lives with her eccentric father in the Harz Mountains. Olga has a close relationship with her now demented dad. Her mother died in childbirth and she has no other family. At least, so the story goes.

But then her father recounts memories that do not square with history as she knows it. She starts to doubt her background and discovers documents from the former Soviet Union. Olga travels to the triangle of Poland, Lithuania and Belarus and stumbles upon a chilling secret.

On The Nomad:

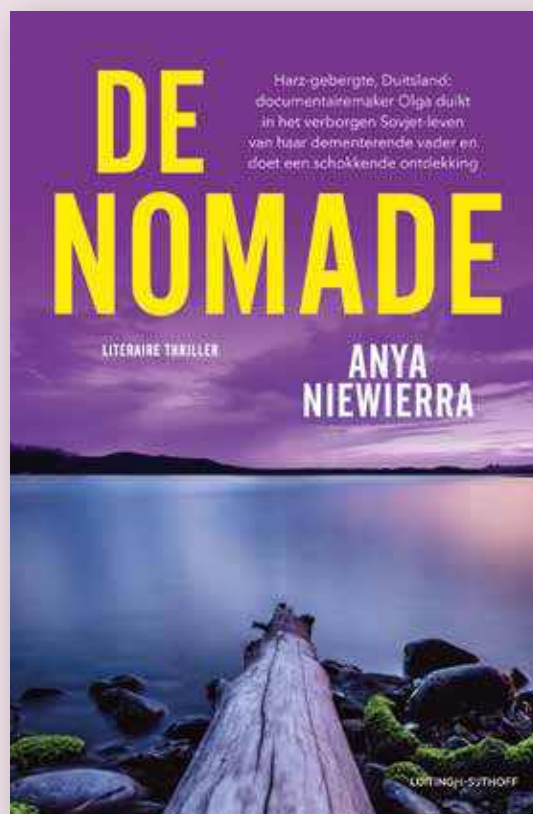
‘Anya Niewierrra has delivered another magnificent book with *The Nomad*, possibly even more impressive than *The Camino*’ – *Margriet Magazine*

‘Surprising, compelling and bloodcurdling. *The Nomad* is a worthy successor to *The Camino*.’ – *Dagblad De Limburger*

On The Camino:

‘Again the author delivers a novel with nearly every ingredient for the perfect thriller: rock solid plot, well thought out characters, a fascinating backstory, a tension that gets under your skin, and intertwined with humor.’ – *Hebban Award 2022*

‘Best book of the summer. An insanely good thriller.’ – *Mezza AD*



ENGLISH SAMPLE TRANSLATION AVAILABLE

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LUITINGH SIJTHOFF, LITERARY THRILLER, 416 PAGES

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‘Anya Niewierrra is an outstanding storyteller.’ – *Nederlands Dagblad*

‘Anya Niewierrra weaves this history into an exciting thriller.’ – *de Volkskrant*

ANYA NIEWIERRA is the author of *Clear View* and *The Dossier*. Her childhood years within the serene abbey walls of Rolduc, as well as her life in Northern Catalonia, inspired Niewierrra to write *The Flower Girl*, for which she won the first Hebban Crime Award. With follow up *The Camino* she won the prize a second time in a row, as well as the NS Reader’s Award. The book sold 400,000 copies. Italian translation rights have been sold to Neri Pozza, Catalan to Columna, Spanish to RBA, World English to Simon & Schuster and Polish to Otwarte. Film rights have been sold to NL Film. *The Nomad* is her latest thriller. Niewierrra speaks Dutch, English, German and French.



© ANNEMIEK MOMMERS



ATLAS CONTACT, 256 PAGES

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GERWIN VAN DER WERF *Willow Island*

A moving and exciting novel from a proven master storyteller.

A boy who just moved wants to become the best poet in the country.

A canoer who plays Jezus falls in love with his neighbour.

A strange carpenter is making more and more grim paintings.

An adopted girl who wants to know who her father is.

Thirteen-year-old Natan wants to unravel the mystery surrounding the death of a hermit who lived on a houseboat in the Dutch peat lakes. The villagers are not at all keen on this, Old Zweiland keeps its ranks closed and the tower clock stubbornly indicates a quarter to five.

Willow Island is an exciting whodunwhat, a novel about four uprooted people trying to get a grip on themselves and the world through their artistry.

On The Hitchhiker:

‘A memorable and disturbing psychological thriller, set against the backdrop of the unique and often dangerous landscape of Iceland... A remarkable achievement.’ – *Canberra Times*

‘A father on the edge...Flashes of *Breaking Bad*.’ – *Het Parool*

On The Dream Factory:

‘An equally touching as painful novel’ – *Nederlands Dagblad*

GERWIN VAN DER WERF is a columnist, a reviewer for daily newspaper *Trouw*, and he teaches music at a secondary school. In 2010 he won the National Poetry Contest. Of his novels, *Wild* (2011) and *The Hitchhiker* (2018) made the longlist of the Libris Literature Prize. *The Hitchhiker* has been published in multiple languages. His novel *Nine Days' Wonder* was published in 2019 and was shortlisted for Best Book for Young Adults.



© FIODOR BUIS

RINSKE BOUWMAN

Hard Skin

Shortlisted for the Anton Wachter Debut Prize 2024 for best debut in the past two years

Dutch Sarlag grew up in Mongolia and returns to Utrecht as a student. Looking for a part-time job, she applies at a large supermarket. There, she is told she can work in the refrigerated freezer department: she is used to the cold anyway. During the long days at work, she models half-melted frozen foods into meat figurines and keeps herself calm by listing her favourite facts. It is clear that Sarlag carries a great sadness with her but she is especially talented at getting it out of the way.

Hard Skin is Rinske Bouwman's tragicomic debut novel about how grief can nestle irreversibly in your body.

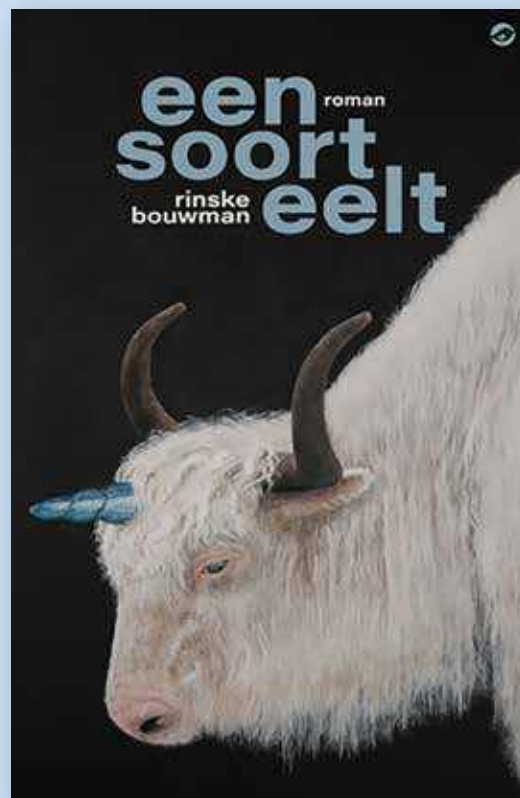
'Bouwman has skillfully constructed her original narrative. [...] As the novel is written in the first-person, you slip smoothly into Sarlag's fantasies.' – NRC Handelsblad

'A bold, inventive novel, though the writer's restraint almost obfuscates just how daring it is.'
– *de Volkskrant*

'It's impressive how Bouwman builds the kind of suspense that makes you want to keep reading, both through the way she breadcrumbs information and through her vivid, visceral prose.' – *Trouw*

'A wildly original debut.' – *VPRO Gids*

RINSKE BOUWMAN is a writer and theatre-maker from Utrecht. Her plays have been performed at numerous festivals and theatres throughout the Netherlands. Her writing is witty and macabre. Grief is a recurring topic in her work - with a light-footed touch and a keen eye for the absurd, she brings a sense of hope to this difficult human experience. *Hard Skin* is her debut. It has been nominated for the Anton Wachter Prize for the best debut in the past two years.

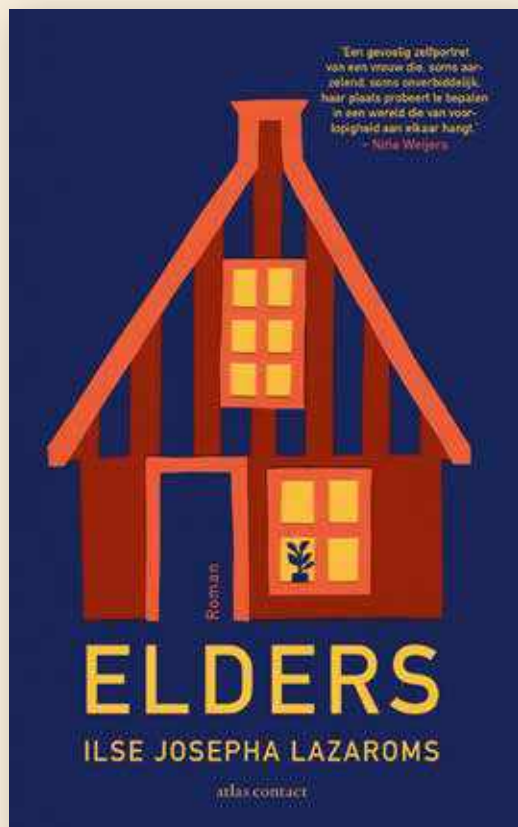


STAGED AT CROSSING BORDER AND LOWLANDS
FESTIVALS, SAMPLE TRANSLATION, SUPPORTED
BY THE DUTCH FOUNDATION FOR LITERATURE
PUBLISHING HOUSE ORLANDO, 192 PAGES

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ATLAS CONTACT, 136 PAGES

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'Elsewhere is a delicate novella about feeling at home somewhere, about intense loneliness, single motherhood, womanhood and writing. An engagingly understated story that will touch many readers' hearts.' – *Boekenkrant*

ILSE JOSEPHA LAZAROMS

Elsewhere

It's night. While her daughter is sleeping upstairs, a lady sits in her new house surrounded by thirteen boxes and two small leather suitcases that carry the 'archive' of her life. During twenty years she has lived in eight different countries and nine cities. In the night ahead she comes to terms with her destiny: to settle somewhere for good. In the time she spends sitting there, the boxes stare at her. She only opens a couple. She pulls out a Norwegian jumper belonging to an old lover that sparks a flood of memories and confronts her with the choices she made in her life and everything she left behind at the time.

Elsewhere is a novel about being a single mother, being a woman and really feeling at home somewhere.

'Lazaroms writes about feeling at home and uprooted in [a] surprisingly rich and layered novel.' – *Trouw*

'Powerful and subtle novel. [...] Here and there a wonderful blending of memory and reality. [...] Lazaroms ingeniously plays with the creation of the novel. [...] The novel reads particularly smoothly, which shows hard work. Every sentence is loaded, every word considered. The result is a tender narrative in which everything falls into place. ●●●●' – *NRC Handelsblad*

'With *Elsewhere*, Lazaroms has written an understated but deeply felt memoir.' – *Het Parool*

ILSE JOSEPHA LAZAROMS is a writer and scientist. She majored in Gender Studies and got her PHD in Jewish Studies. She lived in the United States for a while, where she did research Hungarian-Jewish stories. Her nomad-like lifestyle brought her to Budapest, Jeruzalem, London, Oslo, Florence and Jena. She now lives in Amsterdam with her daughter. She publishes *De Groene Amsterdammer*, *de Nederlandse Boekengids* and *De Correspondent*. Her debut novel was released in 2021.



© WOUTER LE DUC

VINCENT KORTMANN

Flesh and Blood

When Viktor Nordmann's mother dies, his father Leo does two things: he starts making sausages and he arranges a Girlfriend Experience. Viktor, on the other hand, seems to lose everything: first his girlfriend Mischa, (his hopes for) a child and eventually his home. With no other choice, he moves in with his father. As Viktor tries to reorganise his life, he gets hopelessly lost in a series of unfortunate decisions. Then Leo suffers a stroke. Who is really the father here, and who the son? What makes a good man – and how do you become one?

In a novel that deals with the major themes of our time – work and housing shortage, care for the elderly, subsistence and grief – as light-heartedly as it is accurate, Vincent Kortmann manages not only to surprise, but above all to move deeply.

On The In-Between Sister:

‘In this sympathetic debut, Vincent Kortmann shows that he writes entertaining, meticulous paragraphs.’ – *Het Parool*

‘A coming-of-age novel as a coming-of-age novel should be: quick, funny, touching, and with scenes and characters that stay with you’
– *Rob van Essen, author*



ATLAS CONTACT, 256 PAGES

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VINCENT KORTMANN studied at the *Schrijvers vakschool* (Writers' Profession College) in Groningen and is now a coordinator there. He made his debut in 2020 with *The In-Between Sister*, which landed him on the shortlist of the Hebban Debut Prize and won the Best Groningen Book 2021 award.



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LUITINGH-SIJTHOFF, 288 PAGES

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BRENDA MEULEMAN

On The Other Side of the Bridge

Inspired by the incredible true events of Operation Market Garden, *On the Other Side of the Bridge* is a powerful and unforgettable World War Two novel of women's courage in some of the darkest times in Dutch history.

Nazi-occupied Nijmegen, September 1944. As the city anxiously awaits the arrival of the Allies, Antonia and her two daughters, Claar and Hanna, are trying everything in their power to fight the German occupants. While fiery Claar is working as part of the resistance, gentle Hanna is a nurse in the city hospital. As her own act of resistance, Antonia secretly takes in a Jewish boy. But when she tells her daughters, their seemingly unbreakable bond is put to the test...

As the tension rises between the women, Operation Market Garden brings chaos to Nijmegen. American paratrooper Walter finds himself amidst the fighting and is captured by the ruthless SS after a shootout in the heart of Nijmegen. His capture sets in motion a series of events that bring the lives of these characters to a crucial crossroad. Will the women find their way back to each other? Or will the war tear their precious family apart?

An emotional and gripping story of hope and bravery during the Second World War.

On The Angel of Mesopotamia:

'A beautiful, highly engaging historical novel.'
– *Nederlands Dagblad*

BRENDA MEULEMAN studied business communication and art history where she focused on classical antiquity. She divides her time between writing and her work in the art and antiques trade. Previously published were *The Angel of Mesopotamia*, *The Betrayal of Julia* and *Fierce Pranks*. *On The Other Side of the Bridge* is her latest historical novel.



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MARJON WEERINK

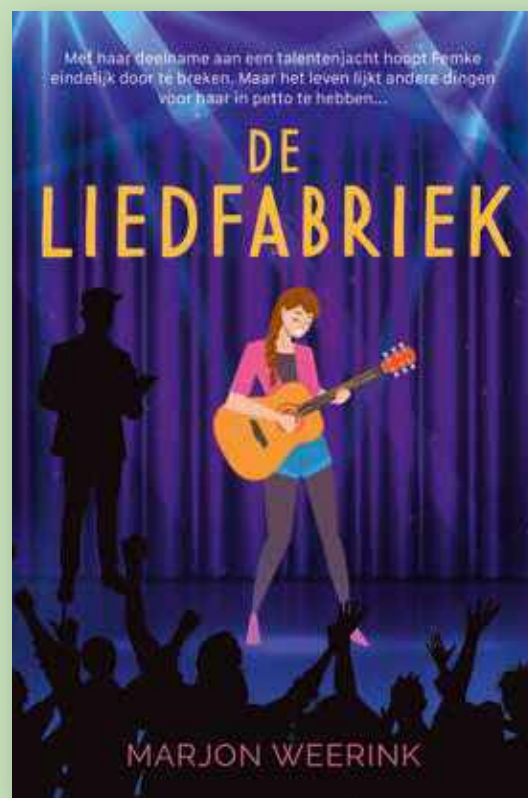
The Music Factory

Singer-songwriter Femke is all done with her leaky flat, empty schedule and giving music lessons to uninterested children. She didn't study at the conservatory for this... It's time for a new step, time for her breakthrough! She signs up for talent show The Music Factory and, for a while, everything finally seems to be going the way she had always imagined. However, what she did not count on: nasty competitive colleagues, an irresistibly attractive jury member and... her mother's metastatic cancer. For Femke, a balancing act begins between her participation in the programme, her love life and ticking off her mother's bucket list. How long can this go well?

'Enjoy this musical journey! *The Music Factory* is a funny, heartwarming feelgood with a wonderful message: it is always worth pursuing your dreams.' – *Vanessa Thuyns, author*

On Stage Animal:

'A highly entertaining book, which also goes into depth. Strongly recommended!' – *Chicklit.nl*



ZOMER & KEUNING, 416 PAGES

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MARJON WEERINK knows the music business from the inside: she is a singer, songwriter and choral conductor. This allows her to write real-life novels about the world behind the scenes of show business, a world that remains closed to most other people. The combination of writing talent and musical talent is what makes her unique. She wrote several songs especially for *The Music Factory*, which can be listened to on Spotify under *De liedfabriek*. Earlier, Marjon wrote the novels *Stage Animal* and *Wrong Track*.



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15,000 COPIES SOLD, ALFABET, 368 PAGES

SAMPLE TRANSLATION AND INTERVIEW

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TIM FRANSEN

In Our Time

Life in the Calamity Realm

Our world has become shaky. We live in a time of crises and calamities: the Calamity Era. In this book, philosopher and comedian Tim Fransen examines our current era. He shows how progress thinking has misled us and asks: how do we restore the social foundations that have been damaged as a result? What commitment is needed from us citizens to create a sustainable society and become a decisive democracy again? And what role do morality and justice play in this? Fransen takes the reader in tow past great philosophers and surprising thinkers and comes up with concrete ideas to turn the tide. With *In Our Time* he offers tools for a resilient society in which there is once again plenty of hope.

For the readers of Rutger Bregman

‘Crystal-clear, witty and very astute. Tim Fransen has written an inspired and important book.’ – David Van Reybrouck, author of *Congo* and *Revolusi*

‘Light-footed and thought-provoking at the same time. Tim Fransen makes a relentless appeal to our better selves. And he is right too.’ – Sheila Sitalsing, journalist and author

‘An inspired, impressively researched and, above all, hopeful book. Treat yourself to it. ★★★★★’ – De Standaard

TIM FRANSEN is a comedian, writer and philosopher. He received several awards for his cabaret programmes. His debut show was awarded the cabaret prize Neerlands Hoop and his second show won the Poelifinario. He previously published *Letters to Koos* (2018) and *Life as Tragicomedy* (2019), the essay for the Month of Philosophy, which sold 40,000 copies.



KEKE KEUKELAAR

JUR DEITMERS

*The Boy Without Yesterday**What does life look like with an open mind?***100% memory loss after encephalitis. Who are you when you don't remember who you were?**

This is the true story of Jur Deitmers, a then 21-year-old Harvard student, who completely lost his memory after a brain infection. After waking up from a coma, for instance, he does not remember who his parents are. His hard drive has been erased. He has since obtained a university degree, but his memory only goes back six years. How does he look at the world, at us? With our learned habits and beliefs, what can we learn from his open-minded mind?

‘A dazzling true story that makes you realize that we are more than our memories.’

– Mo Gawdat & Sonja Dippel, *OneBillionHappy*



KOSMOS, MEMOIR, 168 PAGES,
SAMPLE TRANSLATION

CONTACT: HAYO DEINUM,
HAYO@SHAREDSTORIES.NL

JUR DEITMERS (Haarlem) is 27 years old. In 2021, he graduated with the thesis ‘Beyond Memory’, which focuses on the question: Who are you when you no longer remember who you were? In February 2023, he held a TEDx Talk in Haarlem.



@MARJORYHARINGA



ALFABET, 256 PAGES

CONTACT: HAYO DEINUM,
HAYO@SHAREDSTORIES.NL

THOMAS SWIERTS & ELINE VAN BLOOIS

The Most Powerful Life on Earth

The fascinating story of microbes

How does a camel find water in the desert? Why are corals coloured? How does our bodies digest food? The answer lies in the smallest life on earth: microbes. Without microbes like fungi, yeasts, algae and bacteria, life on earth would not be possible. They are essential on earth and in our bodies. We can breathe oxygen thanks to microbes in the ocean. Microbes live in the clouds and snow and influence our ecosystems.

Humans are made up of as many microbes as body cells. Microbes are too small to see with the naked eye and yet the role they play cannot be underestimated. *The Most Powerful Life on Earth* provides a fascinating glimpse into the hidden world of microbes. Tales of the invisible, enigmatic and indispensable microworld.

For the readers of Merlin Sheldrake

ELINE VAN BLOOIS is a microbiologist and writer. She obtained an MSc. in Biomedical Sciences from VU University Amsterdam, where she specialised in the interactions between microbes and humans. Today, she works at ARTIS-Micropia where she focuses on the care of microbes, as well as educating visitors about the wonderful world of microbes.

THOMAS SWIERTS (1989) is a marine biologist and writer. He received his PhD from Leiden University with research on the interaction between sponges and micro-organisms. Currently, he is the head of the museum ARTIS- Micropia, the world's only microbe museum. He is also the creator of the puzzle book series *QuizPuzzles*.



© KEKE KEUKELAAR

EDUARD COUSIN

*Alexandria**The story of a city living in the past*

Few cities capture the imagination as much as Alexandria, the mythical city of Alexander the Great and Cleopatra. At the beginning of the 20th century, the city experienced a new heyday and was known as the 'Pearl of the Mediterranean'. In this book, Cousin shows how that mythical image continues to this day and how everyone continues to project their story onto the city. He does not shy away from being critical of the usually (neo)colonial and Western perspective on the city. Cousin takes you on a journey through the modern history from World War II to the present of this city, exploring the shadow and the grandiose past. The city still feels grand and special, but the problems of modern times – migration, climate change, global inequality – intrude.

Ask a native of Alexandria about the beauty of his city, and he starts talking about the past. From Alexander the Great and the mythical library to the heyday at the beginning of the 20th century when the Egyptian city had the grandeur of a European capital. Today, however, little remains of that heroic past: the city is in serious decline, drenched in nostalgia and many Alexandrians want to leave.

Eduard Cousin takes the reader on a journalistic journey through Alexandria's modern history. The city freed itself from the colonial yoke, but faced new problems in return. The Mediterranean, once the connecting line to the world, became a harsh European border. Skillfully, Cousin examines how history carries through into the present and how everyone continues to project their own story onto the city. *Alexandria* is a book that makes you think about cultural borders, identity and nostalgia. But above all, it tells of a grandiose city in the shadow of an even more grandiose history.

EDUARD COUSIN lived in Egypt for more than a decade, reporting as a correspondent for Elseviers Weekblad, NRC Handelsblad and France24, among others. In 2021, his book on Egypt after the Arab Spring, *Now That the World Is no Longer Watching*, was published.



ATLAS CONTACT, 240 PAGES

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KOSMOS, 192 PAGES

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CAROLINE VERHAGE, JOBST WINTER
& PETRA VAN DER KWARTEL

Even Women Get a Heart Attack

Women on how their hearts get sick differently, explained by a cardiologist

Essential for heart patients and healthcare professionals

Cardiovascular disease is the number one cause of death amongst women. About 54 women a day die of cardiovascular disease, compared to 52 men. Even without a fatality, heart disease in women often goes undiagnosed: the symptoms are different from those of men. Doctors often think of menopause symptoms, burnout or stomach problems. This book shares the experiences of women whose hearts became unwell, explained by cardiologist Jobst Winter. These women spent years with misunderstood symptoms, were turned away by doctors or had painful and unnecessary examinations – all the while their hearts were suffering.

STICHTING VROUWENHART (Female Heart Foundation) is a platform of experts by experience and aims to generate more attention to male-female differences in heart disease. Caroline Verhage is founder and chairwoman. Jobst Winter is a cardiologist specialising in the female heart. Petra van der Kwartel is writer and owner of UNIT 070 communications.

PATRICK VAN VEEN

Help, It's a Zoo in Here!

A biologist's perspective on workplace misconduct and how to prevent it

Safe working environment, behavioral biology, organisations

Transgressive and disruptive behavior in the workplace is a hot topic. Awareness that such behavior can be very harmful and creates an unsafe work culture has grown significantly in recent times. The focus is now mainly on the question of blame; how do we take care of the victims and how do we punish the perpetrators? Important issues, but according to behavioral biologist Patrick van Veen, crucial questions are missing from our debate. How do we prevent disruptive and transgressive behavior? How do we correct it when we still encounter it in relatively innocent form? And how do we ensure lasting change for the better?

To explore this, Van Veen looks at behavior in the animal kingdom, particularly in great apes. Using rich, vivid examples from both the human and ape kingdoms, *Help, It's a Zoo in Here* offers insights into our social structures, interactions and behavioral codes. As often happens, apes hold up a mirror to us – helping us to take the necessary steps towards a safe working environment.



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PATRICK VAN VEEN studied biology at Utrecht University. After his studies, he was a consultant and project manager in the insurance industry. Since 2002, he has worked as an independent biologist. He researches human and monkey behaviour and gives training and lectures on the subject. He also regularly contributes to television programmes. Van Veen wrote several books, including the bestseller *Help, My Boss Is an Ape!* (over 25,000 copies) and *In Love with your Costumer*. He is founder of Apemanagement and chairman of the Jane Goodall Institute Global.



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JOB VAN BALLEGOIJEN DE JONG *Tomorrow I Will Tell Everything*

How I lied my way through university

On performance pressure among students

'How is university going?'

'Oh it's going great, I just have one more exam.'

It started as a small lie, and turned out to be the start of a big suffocating web of deceit. Out of fear of disappointing the people around him, Job van Ballegoijen de Jong lied for seven years about every passed test and exam. When everyone thought he was almost graduating, he barely had a credit to his name.

In this book he writes openheartedly about his life as a 'pretend-student'. He tells about his fear of failure, how he promised himself every day to do things differently and the all-consuming shame. He addresses an ever growing problem in our performance society. Why do we feel so much pressure? *Tomorrow I Will Tell Everything* is an honest book about the sense and nonsense of lying, about trial and error, and about how everyone deserves a second (or third) chance.

JOB VAN BALLEGOIJEN DE JONG works at a law firm. After years of lying about his college education, he got a degree in International Criminal Law from Columbia University.



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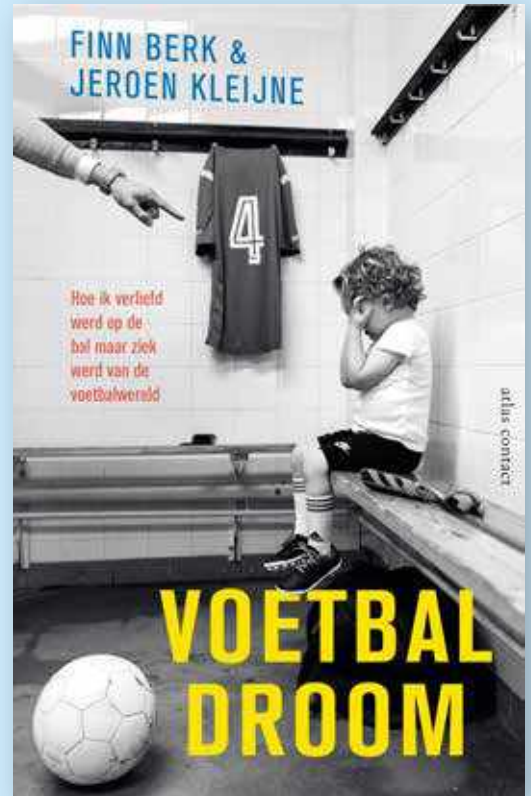
FINN BERK & JEROEN KLEIJNE

*Football Dream**How I fell in love with the ball but got sick of the football world*

It's the ultimate little boy's dream: becoming a pro football player. Finn Berk stands out at an early age because of his enormous talent and insight in the game. Soon he trades his regular football club in Haarlem for the youth academy at AZ. From then on, it is every man for himself. The only thing that counts for the coach is winning and the only thing that counts for every player is not being sent away.

Where a team sport should be about team spirit, you don't know who you can trust or not in practise. Performance pressure from above leads to compulsion, a culture of fear and the disappearance of enjoyment of the game. Finn notices that his personality changes because of the harsh environment and he does things that scare him afterwards.

Football Dream is a personal and touching story of growing up, winners mentality and daring to chose yourself.



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'Always go on, push through it all, never talk and certainly never cry. That's how it is in youth.

Finn's story is our story.' – *Gianni Zuiverloon, former footballer with Feyenoord, West Bromwich Albion and RCD Mallorca and founder of the Play Mental organization.*

FINN BERK quit football in the summer of 2022. He spent his training years at AZ and played for Cambuur Leeuwarden and various German teams, Fsv Union Fürstenwalde amongst others.

JEROEN KLEIJNE is a journalist. He wrote *Smeekens* with ice speed-skater Jan Smeekens and *Brain Suspension* in collaboration with Margôt Ros.



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NATASCHA VAN WEEZEL

How to keep your heart tender

A call for the radical middle in times of war

October 7, 2023, was the day the world changed for many people, including Natascha van Weezel. In her family, scarred by the Holocaust, Israel was always seen as a safe haven, a refuge in case things went wrong again in Europe. Now, she questions her love for the country under Netanyahu's rule, and her heart bleeds for the many deaths in Gaza. In today's polarized reality, you are almost forced to believe that those two things can't go together, that you must choose either Israel or Palestine. Yet Natascha continues to seek a connecting position in the middle. That position between two fires comes at a cost: she encountered fierce anti-Semitism, received threats and lost friends. In *How to Keep Your Heart Tender* she asks: Can choosing a middle position also be radical, a constructive force that contributes to improvement? For Natascha there is no other way: she remains hopeful and determined in her pursuit of mutual understanding, of the recognition of each other's humanity, and she emphasizes the importance of tender forces in a harsh war.

'In this overwhelmingly honest essay, the reader sees and experiences the Israel-Gaza conflict through the eyes of a brave, critical and sensitive young Jewish woman, who faces the complex issues with an open mind. After reading the courageous *How to Keep Your Heart Tender*, I would like to say to her: Please keep going, Natascha, continue your fight against ignorance, thoughtlessness, and polarization. You fight for the only hopeful thing we have left: the dialogue.'

– Chaja Polak, author of Letter in the Night

NATASCHA VAN WEEZEL (b. 1986) is an author and documentary maker. Her books include *The Third Generation* and *At Home with the Enemy. Muslims and Jews in the Netherlands*. She also made the documentaries *Every Day Liberation Day*, *Natascha's Promised land*, *Little Brother* and *Bridge over the Fault Line*. She has a widely read column in daily newspaper *Het Parool*.



© CEES RUTTEN

ARIE KOK

*Biography of the North Sea**Tales of living with the water*

Biography of the North Sea is about the water, but more so about how people live with that water. In twenty stories, Arie Kok tells about Doggerland, about Willibrord who came over the North Sea to the Netherlands, about Viking Knut who became king of England, about fishermen and boatmen, the privateers of Dunkirk, the merchants of The Hanseatic League and rescuers at sea. About Dorestad and the golden age of the Frisians, sea battles, Dutch-English naval wars and floods. Together all these stories tell a larger story of how the North Sea shaped the bordering countries and their inhabitants.



OMNIBOEK, 320 PAGES, FULL-COLOUR

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ARIE KOK is a journalist and writer. In 2021, he published *Biography of the South Sea*, of which more than 7,000 copies have been sold. He writes reviews on literature and history in Friesch Dagblad, Nederlands Dagblad and OnderWeg.



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TEN HAVE, 192 PAGES

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FRITS DE LANGE

To the Extreme in Everything

Life and thoughts of Simone Weil

Frits de Lange has been an authority on Simone Weil for thirty years and has written several books on her

Weil is increasingly seen as one of the most important thinkers of the 20th century

The inimitable life of Simone Weil

New light on an important thinker

Simone Weil (1909-1943) was one of the most important philosophers of the 20th century, a religious mystic and a political activist rolled into one. In this book, Frits de Lange portrays a radical woman who lived several lives at once in just 34 years.

A highly gifted intellectual who, out of solidarity, did leaden work in a factory for a year. A pacifist who came to the armed aid of her Spanish kindred spirits when civil war broke out. A Jewish refugee who joins the French resistance in London. In this tour de force, De Lange brings together all these identities and Weil's thinking into an accessible whole.

FRITS DE LANGE is a researcher, writer and speaker. He has previously published *Holy Turmoil*, *Finally Grown Up* and *Overwhelming* and is emeritus professor of Ethics.



ELKE WISS

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

‘Practical philosopher Elke Wiss tells us what we can learn from Socrates about the art of a beautiful exchange of words.’ – *de Volkskrant*

KEMAL RIJKEN

*Monarchy**Royal houses in Europe from 1940 onwards – history, challenges and survival*

Rijken describes the lives and work of Europe’s most important monarchs from a historical tipping point: the Second World War. He shows us how much impact the actions of Europe’s monarchs had on the course of events in England, Spain, Scandinavia, the Netherlands, and other countries. Rijken paints a vivid picture of Europe’s monarchs and their families. He also poses an intriguing question: Will we still have royal houses in Europe at the end of the century?

MARIËTTE BOON & LIESBETH VAN ROSSUM

*Essential Fat**Facts and Fiction behind Nutrition, Fat Burning and Fat Triggers*

No other organ – yes, fat is an organ – suffers from so many prejudicial attitudes. And that is completely unjustified, as medical doctors and fat researchers Boon and van Rossum show in *Essential Fat*.

‘Boon and Van Rossum describe in crystal-clear language how fat metabolism really works ... Very clever how these experts have managed to forge the (sometimes complex) scientific material into an informative and easy-to-read book.’ – *Women’s Health*



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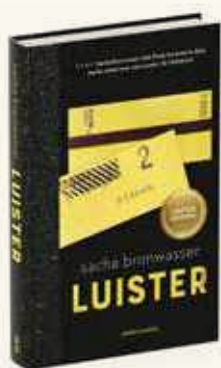
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SACHA BRONWASSER

Listen

SHORTLISTED FOR LIBRIS 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.

‘A highly ingenious novel.’ ★★★★★ – NRC

AUKE HULST

Children of the Savage Land

WINNER OF THE CUTTING EDGE AWARD 2013, WINNER OF THE LANGS DE
LEEUEW LITERATURE PRIZE 2013, NOMINATED FOR THE BNG LITERATURE
PRIZE 2012

Somewhere up north, in an area that's referred to as the Savage Land, stands a dilapidated house in a forest. Here four children grow up, estranged from family and the nearby village. Their father has died young, their mother is a high-spirited yet deceitful woman who is haunted by creditors. Can the children escape the ever mounting problems, or has their fate already been decided?

‘A fantastic, unstoppable, unusual novel.’
– *De Groene Amsterdammer*

SHOLEH REZAADEH

The Mountain I Know

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.’
– *special mention by the jury of the European Union Prize for Literature 2024*

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