



SHARED STORIES RIGHTS GUIDE

CHILDREN'S & YA

Autumn 2025

We are very pleased to present our Foreign Rights Catalogue for Frankfurt 2025. In this catalogue, you will find titles from the different Children's and YA publishing houses of VBK Uitgeversgroep, part of Simon & Schuster. Please take into account that many of these books are eligible for funding through the Dutch Foundation for Literature (www.letterenfonds.nl). We hope that you will be as enthusiastic about our titles as we are!

LUITINGH-SIJTHOFF

Senior publisher Thille Dop and Senior commissioning editor Hannerlie Modderman started Luitingh-Sijthoff's Children's & YA list in 2015. Since, they have built a tasteful list with well-established authors and illustrators, which have been awarded many literary and popular prizes. Their books are guaranteed to be loved by children and their (grand)parents because of their high quality. Their international list includes Benji Davies, Steve Small, Meg Rosoff, Ruta Sepetys, Katherine Rundell and Cassandra Clare, among others. Dutch authors such as Enne Koens, Nicole van Brummelen, Wilma Geldof, Marja Baseler, Annemarie van den Brink, Tjarko van der Pol and Lotte Stegeman are beloved by their foreign readers.

DE FONTEIN

De Fontein is one of the most prestigious publishing houses in the Netherlands, with a reputation for high quality. With an affinity for innovation and a touch of the rebellious, they publish books for young people, ranging from newborn to young adult. They excel at picture books, middle grade series and YA thrillers. Some of their translated authors are Roald Dahl, Quentin Blake, Jonny Duddle, Oliver Jeffers, Jeff Kinney and Rachel Renée Russell. Their popular Dutch authors include Mel Wallis de Vries, Jozua Douglas and Peter van Gestel.

KOKBOEKENCENTRUM

KokBoekencentrum is the largest player in the Dutch Christian book market. Although they focus on books that are suitable for Christian readers, their titles are also much more widely read. Their list of translated children's books includes Charlie Mackesy, Phil Earle, C.S. Lewis, Emma Carroll and Liz Kessler. Their greatest strength is historical children's fiction in the middle grade and YA segments, although they are now also starting to publish picture books.

KOSMOS

For 100 years, Kosmos has been creating the finest non-fiction lifestyle books. In the 70s and 80s, Kosmos was already publishing children's books, housing renowned authors such as Tony Ross, David McKee, Max Velthuis, Midas Dekkers and Thé Tjong-Khing. In 2019, they returned to children's fiction, this time focusing on bestselling commercial titles. Every one of their series is heavily illustrated and consists of titles that can be read as standalones or as parts of series. Written by Dutch authors, the books always stay on the best-seller list for weeks and have won several renowned Dutch awards.

HOUTEKIET

Houtekiet has published children's and YA books since 1986, focusing on quality entertainment. Houtekiet's selection includes work by prolific and bestselling Flemish author Marc de Bel, mystery novels by Jo Claes and literary titles such as those written by Twiggy Bossuyt.

BORGERHOFF & LAMBERIGTS

Borgerhoff & Lamberigts is a dynamic Belgian publishing house known for its sharp editorial instinct and market-driven concepts. Many of their titles are developed in close collaboration with authors, journalists, and creatives, resulting in high-concept and highly visual works.

For more information on the books in this guide, please visit our website: www.sharedstories.nl

RECENT INTERNATIONAL DEALS



NOTES TO PELLE

By Marlies Slegers

Rights sold: Animallibres (Catalan, via Asterisc Agents)



SIMON, WAIT!

By Nicole van Brummelen

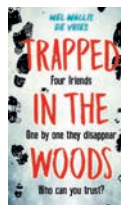
Rights sold: Thinkingdom (Simplified Chinese, via Jade Literary Agency), Tekir Kitap (Turkish, via Kalem Agency) and Aracari (German World Rights)



SIMON GOES RIGHT

By Nicole van Brummelen

Rights sold: Aracari (German World Rights)



TRAPPED IN THE WOODS

By Mel Wallis de Vries

Rights sold: Al Arabi (Arabic World Rights)



FAKE TRIP

By Margje Woodrow

Rights sold: Al Arabi (Arabic World Rights)



TO THE MOON

By Govert Schilling & Tjarko van der Pol

Rights sold: Shenzhen Publishing House (Simplified Chinese, via CA-Link)



THE LITTLE POO FACTORY

By Marja Baseler, Annemarie van den Brink & Tjarko van der Pol

Rights sold: Klett Kinderbuch (Germany)



SAMMY AND GRANDPA

By Enne Koens & Kees de Boer

Rights sold: Shanghai Yuanshi Culture (Simplified Chinese, via CA-Link)



ROBIN AND CAPTAIN CROSS BEARD AND THE HUNT FOR THE KRAKEN

By Kevin Hassing & Linde Faas

Rights sold: Polyandria (Russia)



SMARTER THAN YOU BELIEVE

By Lotte Stegeman & Mark Janssen

Rights sold: Posts & Telecom Press (Simplified Chinese, via China Copyright Service Ltd)



CELEBRATE 10 YEARS OF THE CHILDREN'S & YA DEPARTMENT OF LUITINGH-SIJTHOFF WITH OUR WONDERFUL DEAL!

€ 100 advance

10% royalties

10 year contract, with publication in 20 months

Offer available until 31 December 2025, only for the **first translated book** by a **new author at your publishing house** and for the books marked with the 10-year anniversary symbol in this guide.

Also pay attention to our Instagram, where we highlight some of our wonderful authors throughout the year!

Contact Amanda Castro Thijssen, amanda@sharedstories.nl, for more information.

Arwen Kleyngeld is a journalist and children's book author. Her books introduce children to important and current topics in a playful way. Arwen has previously worked, among others, for *Algemeen Dagblad* and *Kidsweek*.

Melanie Drent has worked on various projects since she graduated from HKU. Her hand-drawn illustrations (black ink on paper, powerful lines, sometimes with colour and lots of details) are surprising and invite you to look longer.

★ A guide for children to understand politics in a clear and playful way

★ Including recognizable themes and situations, such as negotiations about screen time or TikTok bans



8+

LUITINGH-SIJTHOFF 128 PAGES SEPTEMBER 2025

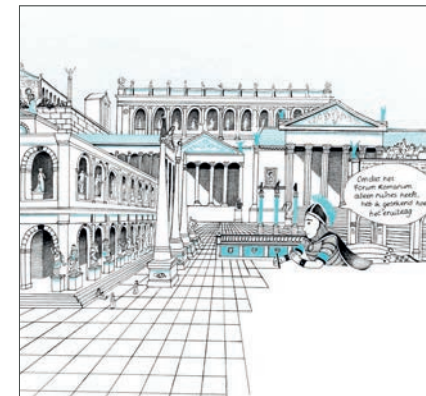
ENGLISH SAMPLE TRANSLATION

ARWEN KLEYNGELD AND MELANIE DRENT

WHO IS THE BOSS?

HOW POLITICS WORKS

School hours, fireworks, Taylor Swift and TikTok—you may not associate them with politics, but it has just about everything to do with it! In *Who is the Boss?*, Arwen Kleyngeld explains in an accessible and funny way what politics is and why it affects us all. After reading the true stories, recognizable examples and historical facts in this book, politics will become something you want to talk about as well. After all, who is really the boss?



Eveline Hensel followed the Master Environment & Resource Management. In the past, she worked as a sustainability consultant for multiple companies, developed the award-winning microbe museum Micropia and was the co-inventor and creator of the Groote Museum, both in Amsterdam. Eveline is now a primary school teacher.

Kristel Steenberg is a freelance illustrator and designer. She loves animals and graphic patterns, a combination you often find back in her work. Her illustrations can be found in magazines such as *Esquire*, *ELLE* and *National Geographic* and in newspapers like *de Volkskrant*.



EVELINE HENSEL AND KRISTEL STEENBERGEN

THIS BOOK IS ALL ABOUT YOU

DISCOVER YOUR CONNECTION TO SMART ANIMALS, THE BACTERIA UNDER YOUR ARMPITS, COW FARTS, RIVERS IN THE AIR AND MUCH MORE

Did you know that the water on planet earth is billions of years old? Big chance your tap water was once drunk and afterwards peed out by a dino! And do you know why you fear non-existent monsters under your bed? In this book, you'll discover what you have to do with everything and everyone around you: nature, technology, the past, the present and the future. This is all shown through appealing examples and stories in plain language, so you can easily discover how your story fits into the bigger picture!

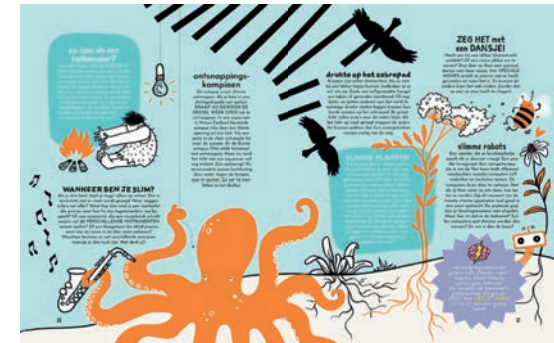
- ★ A lively non-fiction title about how everything is connected to everything else (including yourself!)
- ★ Including challenges and puzzles

‘A playful and inspiring book, packed with surprising facts.’ — Govert Schilling

8+

LUITINGH-SIJTHOFF 80 PAGES 2023

ENGLISH SAMPLE TRANSLATION



Annemarie van den Brink is a writer and creative writing teacher.

Marja Baseler is a writing coach and author of over 40 books.

Tjarko van der Pol is an artist and illustrator for various Dutch media.

★ *The Poo Factory Theme Park* has sold more than 300,000 copies worldwide!

★ The series has been translated into thirteen languages

★ Masterfully combines a fictional story with plenty of informative elements



‘A look at our insides, in a funny and accessible way.’ —AD

8+

LUITINGH-SIJTHOFF 48 PAGES 2016-2025

ENGLISH SAMPLE TRANSLATION

RIGHTS SOLD: KLETT KINDERBUCH (GERMANY), PUBLISHING HOUSE OF ELECTRONICS INDUSTRY (SIMPLIFIED CHINESE), SCOLAR KIADÓ (HUNGARY), TAOSHENG (TAIWAN), GILBUT (SOUTH KOREA), ALFABETA BOKFÖRLAG (SWEDEN), KAWADE SHOBO SHINSHA (JAPAN), HÉRCULES DE EDICIONES (SPANISH & GALICIAN), GRADA PUBLISHING (CZECH REPUBLIC), AZBOOKA-ATTICUS (RUSSIA), MONDADORI LIBRI (ITALY) AND TALANT (UKRAINE)

**ANNEMARIE VAN DEN BRINK,
MARJA BASELER
AND TJARKO VAN DER POL**

THE POO FACTORY THEME PARK SERIES

In *The Poo Factory Theme Park*, Pim and Pollie explore the factory where their father works as a professor. The factory is threatened with closure because everything keeps getting jammed. Fortunately, Pim and Pollie have a very good idea... Along with Pim and Pollie, you take a look inside your own stomach and intestines. Where does food go when you take a bite? What is poo? *The Little Poo Factory* is a sturdy cardboard edition, where toddlers can follow the journey of food from their mouth to their bottom. Because there's a clever poo factory in their little tummies, too!

Check in today at *The Brain Hotel* and discover the secrets of your brain. Your brain is a supermachine. It controls everything that happens in your body: your breath, heartbeat, and your ability to walk, talk, see and hear. But your brain controls much more! For example, do you have a talent for playing football or making music? Are you good at languages or at math? Discover everything about why you're supersmart!

Your heart beats day and night and is the engine of your body. But how does it work? How does your blood flow through your body? Best friends Mila and Amor explore all the rooms of *Hartenstein Castle* to discover the secrets of a healthy heart. Join these friends as they find out whether love comes from the head or the heart and what actually makes the heart beat faster.

Lotte Stegeman writes children's non-fiction about animals. Her previous books include *The Unicorn and Other Fantastic Animals That Used to Exist*, *Backyard Beasts* and *Green Feet*. Her work has been translated into many languages. For *Us Bears*, Lotte travelled through Alaska, among other places, where she camped with brown bears to study them from up close.

Marieke ten Berge is a freelance illustrator and designer. She is fascinated by nature in the Arctic and wrote *North* about it, which won the Silver Paintbrush Award and was nominated for the Jan Wolkers Award and the 2021 Most Beautiful Book Cover Award. Previously, she also illustrated *Polder*, a book full of birds and other animals.

★ The ultimate children's non-fiction book about bears

★ Author did extensive research observing bears in Alaska

★ Lotte Stegeman's previous books about animals have won awards both nationally and internationally



'You will be amazed by all the beautiful bear species and their crazy habits. The book holds up a mirror to us humans and is full of wonderful anecdotes and astonishing facts.' — *Het Parool*

8+

LUITINGH-SIJTHOFF 144 PAGES MAY 2025

ENGLISH SAMPLE TRANSLATION

LOTTE STEGEMAN AND MARIEKE TEN BERGE

US BEARS

FINALLY, OUR REAL STORY

Bears are one of the most famous animal species on planet Earth. You would think a book about them wouldn't be necessary anymore. But you might be wrong. There are a lot of prejudices and assumptions about bears flying around. In fact, the average bear is not a monster nor a cuddly animal, the panda is secretly very smart, the koala is not a bear at all and the average grizzly has better things to do than to constantly devour humans. In *Us Bears*, eight different bear species finally get to speak for themselves and tell their real story.

Including the Black Bear, Polar Bear, Grizzly Bear, Panda Bear, Sloth Bear, Sun Bear, Spectacled Bear and Asiatic Black Bear.



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Mark Janssen studied at the Maastricht Academy of Fine Arts. After graduating, he started working full-time as an illustrator. He has since illustrated hundreds of books, including his own picture books. In 2021, he created the official picture book for the Dutch Children's Book Week.

★ *Smarter Than You Believe* was awarded a Silver Slate Pencil in 2025 for its accessible yet informative writing

★ Including a personal foreword by Frans de Waal



'The jury believes that this book succeeds excellently in conveying important information with an approachable and lightly humorous tone.' – Silver Slate Pencil Jury on *Smarter Than You Believe*

8+

LUITINGH-SIJTHOFF 112 PAGES 2024

ENGLISH SAMPLE TRANSLATION

RIGHTS SOLD: FISCHER SAUERLÄNDER (GERMANY) AND POSTS & TELECOM PRESS (SIMPLIFIED CHINESE, VIA CHINA COPYRIGHT SERVICE)

LOTTE STEGEMAN AND MARK JANSSEN

SMARTER THAN YOU BELIEVE

Humans are intelligent beings. If we want to, we can accomplish just about anything. We often consider someone smart if they know a lot, get good grades and can think in advance of situations. We also project our ideas about intelligence on animals. But how weird is that? After all, a mantis, flatworm, bumblebee or octopus is a genius in its very own way. Stoats excel at dancing, leafcutter ants build fungus gardens and fireflies give beautiful light shows. This beautifully illustrated book makes you reflect on what (animal) intelligence actually means.



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★ *Jealous Apes, Frightened Dogs and Empathetic Rats* was established as the Junior Science Book of the Year 2025 in Austria

★ Including an extensive foreword by Jane Goodall



8+

LUITINGH-SIJTHOFF 112 PAGES 2022

ENGLISH SAMPLE TRANSLATION

RIGHTS SOLD: BEIJING GUANGCHEN CULTURE COMMUNICATION (CHINA, VIA PEONY LITERARY AGENCY), DASAN BOOKS (KOREA, VIA MOMO AGENCY), FISCHER SAUERLÄNDER (GERMANY) AND KURALDIŞI YAYINCILIK EĞİTİM DANIŞMANLIK LTD. ŞT (TURKEY, VIA KOVAN AGENCY)

LOTTE STEGEMAN AND MARK JANSSEN

JEALOUS APES, FRIGHTENED DOGS AND EMPATHETIC RATS

In this unique and fascinating book, Lotte Stegeman delves into the hidden emotional lives of animals. For a long time, humans believed that animals had no emotions. We now know better. But what exactly do they feel? At times, it can be difficult enough to understand other people, but fortunately we have words. But what if you are an elephant in mourning? A jealous monkey? Or a terrified dog? In a lively, infectious narrative style, Lotte Stegeman takes you on an amazing journey where you will discover that there is an awful lot going on in many animals' heads. Because sometimes animals are just like people...

‘This book is packed with wonderful stories about animals, which clearly show that they experience all kinds of feelings, just like us. (...) After reading the book, you will not only love animals but also understand them better.’ – Jane Goodall on *Jealous Apes, Frightened Dogs and Empathetic Rats*

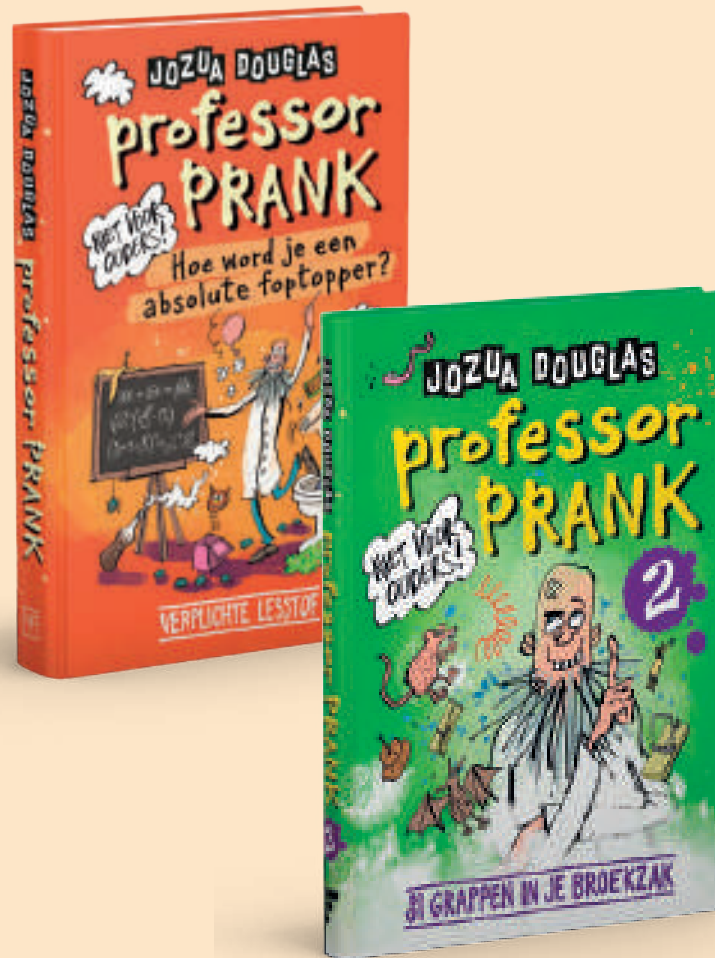
Professor Prank (a good friend of Josua Douglas) teaches at the University of Witty Science. He has a Master in the Higher Art of Pranks and recently won the Nobel Prize for his discoveries in Practical Jokeology.

Jozua Douglas started his career writing poetry and won several prizes for it. He has since been writing for children. Jozua received the Feather in the Cap from the Dutch Children's Jury for the first two books in his *Costa Banana* series. With *The Nasty Swim Coach*, Jozua won the Hotze de Roos prize. Jozua's books have been translated into eleven languages and the film rights for the *Costa Banana* series and *The Nasty Swim Coach* have been sold.

★ On how to become the best pranker in town

★ A must-have for pranksters, goofballs and fun-lovers (NOT FOR PARENTS!!!)

★ More than 150 children sent in their pranks and helped Professor Prank write his second book



8+

DE FONTEIN 96 PAGES 2024 & NOVEMBER 2025

ENGLISH SAMPLE TRANSLATION

JOZUA DOUGLAS AND GEERT GRATAMA

PROFESSOR PRANK SERIES

What are we eating today? That's a surprise. Because you have just changed the labels on the canned food tins. In the can where pea soup is supposed to be, there are now meatballs in tomato sauce. Your father is hoping for green beans, but alas... today you'll be eating asparagus.

Do you want to become the king of April Fools' Day? Then this is a book you cannot miss. Professor Prank is an expert on the matter. In fact, he teaches at the University of Witty Science, has a Master in the Higher Art of Pranks and recently won a Nobel Prize for his discoveries in practical Jokeology. In this book you will find all of his best ideas.

Following the success of Professor Prank, Jozua Douglas now also presents the long-awaited sequel. Take this little book with you wherever you go, as it fits perfectly in the back pocket of your funny pants. But be careful! Only take the book out when you're sure no one can see you. The contents of this funny little gem are strictly confidential.

'Hilarious!' – *de Volkskrant*
'Brilliant!' – Dr. Frankenstein
'Terrible!' – Mrs. Prank

Nicole van Brummelen works as a copywriter, but always wanted to be a children's book author and illustrator. She regularly gets lost in the streets of her city, Amsterdam. It was one of those adventures that inspired *Simon Goes Right*.

- ★ A character you'll 100% fall in love with
- ★ Did you know that 42% of the adults have trouble knowing where left and right is? Just like seagull Simon!
- ★ *Simon Goes Right* is an interactive and hilarious book that teaches you the difference between left and right
- ★ *Simon, Wait!* treats themes of time awareness and patience—time flies with this funny picture book!

★ *Simon Goes Right* sold to 8 territories in half a year



4+

LUITINGH-SIJTHOFF 32-36 PAGES 2024 & MAY 2025

FULL ENGLISH TRANSLATION

RIGHTS SOLD: TRAMUNTANA (SPANISH WORLD RIGHTS & CATALAN, VIA ASTERISC AGENTS), OWLKIDS (NORTH AMERICAN RIGHTS), THINKINGDOM (SIMPLIFIED CHINESE, VIA JADE LITERARY AGENCY), OPAL (SWEDEN), TEKIR KITAP (TURKEY, VIA KALEM AGENCY) AND ARACARI VERLAG (GERMAN WORLD RIGHTS)

NICOLE VAN BRUMMELEN

SIMON SERIES

SIMON GOES RIGHT

It's season of migration... but Simon has trouble with differentiating left and right and loses his companions. In his search for his friends, he comes across many animals that will help him find his way back in a peculiar manner: 'Turn two pages to the right and you'll find the whale, maybe he knows where your friends are'. Including a trip from Paris to Australia and many funny interactions, clumsy Simon learns what left and right is while staying completely true to himself.

SIMON, WAIT!

Simon and his friends go on an adventure. But Simon has no idea how time works, so he keeps asking his friends how long he has to wait. 'StiiiiiiIIII aaaa yeeaaaarrrrrr tooo goooo,' says the snail. A year? Simon thinks. That's four more seasons of doing other things! 'Another week,' says the turtle. Simon counts down the days. 'Tomorrow,' says the leopard. One more night of sleep, then. One hour. Just enough time to play hide-and-seek. One minute. He can still eat a few French fries. Ten seconds. He can... No, Simon, we're leaving... NOW!

Kirsten Westrik is a television presenter and producer. Before working in television, she was a police officer for 10 years. She now works for *112 Vandaag*, where a daily recap of the most important emergency calls is presented to the public.

- ★ In a large format for lots of viewing and searching fun
- ★ A clue can be found on each page
- ★ Written by a former police officer
- ★ Police officer is in the top 10 most popular professions among children
- ★ Illustrated by Michelle Leuvel



3+

DE FONTEIN 40 PAGES AUGUST 2025

ENGLISH SAMPLE TRANSLATION

KRISTEN WESTRIK

THE HUNT FOR THE THIEF

A PICTURE BOOK FULL OF FACTS ABOUT THE POLICE

It's a beautiful day and Julia and Dex are playing outside. But then they suddenly hear loud sobbing. It's Petra Popcorn from the candy store. 'All my candy has been stolen!' she cries. The children can't believe it. A thief in their village! Join Julia, Dex, and the police in their investigation and learn all about how the police works while solving the mystery of the stolen candy.



Miriam Bouwens is a children's book illustrator and author. She loves the city, but also enjoys being in nature, which is reflected in her dreamy and inclusive illustrations. She received the Sardes-Leespluim Award for her picture book *Olivia Dares*.



★ **Miriam Bouwens** is known for her dreamy, atmospheric and imaginative illustrations

★ *A Card for the Sweetest Person* includes the powerful themes of loving others—and yourself

★ *Olivia Dares* is a poetic book about the importance of choosing yourself and learning how to say 'no'

★ *Olivia Dares* received the Sardes-Leespluim Award in 2024



4+

LUITINGH-SIJTHOFF 32 PAGES 2024 & NOVEMBER 2025

FULL ENGLISH TRANSLATION

RIGHTS FOR *OLIVIA DARES* SOLD TO: MIM EDIZIONI (ITALY)

MIRIAM BOUWENS

A CARD FOR THE SWEETEST PERSON

The children in Ava's class are making cards. 'For someone you hold dear,' says the teacher. Who will Ava send her card to? Miss Bibi is kind. Maybe she'll send the card to her. Or to her mom. She's like a house with a cozy fireplace in it. Or is the card for her dad? He's the best bike repairman in town. Or for Grandma? Or neighbors Sam and Guus? Ava can't decide. Then, she suddenly knows who to send it to...

OLIVIA DARES

There is nothing that Olivia does not dare—until she starts swimming lessons and has to face the diving board. On the day of her swimming exam, it seems even higher than usual. Slowly, she climbs up the steps, her legs shaking. Then, she does something very brave... In dreamy sentences and enchanting illustrations, Miriam Bouwens tells the story of a girl who discovers that being brave sometimes means choosing your own path.



Liesbeth Goedbloed is a novelist, poet, columnist and songwriter. Her previous novels were praised for their poetic style.

Mariëtte Wilgehof is a graphic designer. She often works with publishing houses, but also creates logos, advertisements and posters for companies. Mariëtte is also the manager of a bookshop.

★ Winner of The Highest Word Award 2025

★ Includes themes of migration, homesickness and feeling welcome

★ With breathtaking and textured illustrations by Mariëtte Wilgehof



4+

KOKBOEKENCENTRUM 40 PAGES 2024

ENGLISH SAMPLE TRANSLATION

LIESBETH GOEDBLOED AND MARIËTTE WILGEHOF

A HOME FOR FOX

*He sat under a tree and stared ahead.
‘Where’s my home?’ he whispered.
Bird came and sat next to him,
putting a wing around him.
‘I might know a spot for you and me,’ he sang.
‘Are you coming?’*

Bear has chased all the animals out of the forest, so Fox has to find a new home. Bird accompanies him on his journey. Along the way, they ask many animals if they can join them, but they do not get a warm welcome anywhere. It becomes a long journey...

A Home for Fox is a picture book about loss and longing, about homesickness and coming home, about disappointment and feeling welcome. With magical illustrations by Mariëtte Wilgehof and poetic language by Liesbeth Goedbloed.



Giovanca Ostiana is a remedial educationalist, singer, presenter and makes programmes for Dutch broadcaster EO. But, above all, she is the mother of a seven-year-old daughter.

Anne Sara Schenk-Verloop is an illustrator and mother of two daughters. She previously illustrated *Daantje Dares*.

★ A cheerful, colourful story focusing on children's perceptions

★ Includes themes of identity and self-worth



4+

KOKBOEKENCENTRUM 40 PAGES 2024

FULL ENGLISH TRANSLATION

GIOVANCA OSTIANA AND ANNE SARA SCHENK-VERLOOP

I'D RATHER BE ME

1,2,3... I'd rather be me!

Amara is a girl with curly hair and a long wish list. Amara wishes she had freckles, straight hair and that she was a math prodigy. So she builds a machine with which you can transform into whoever you want to be for a short while. Eventually, Amara realises that she is wonderful just the way she is and that her worth does not depend on superficial factors.



Raf Walschaerts and **Katrien De Bruycker** love writing and love each other even more. Together, they come up with stories, plays, and books for people aged 2 and up.

Miep Embrechts is an illustrator, theatre designer, and visual arts teacher. After years of teaching and working as a designer for a children's theatre company, she is now returning to what she loved doing most as a child: drawing. A dreamy, nostalgic atmosphere is never far away in her work, which is mainly inspired by nature and her own children.

★ A book about patience and the best gifts in life



2+

BORGERHOFF & LAMBERIGTS 48 PAGES MAY 2025

ENGLISH SAMPLE TRANSLATION

**KATRIEN DE BRUYCKER,
RAF WALSCHAERTS AND
MIEP EMBRECHTS**

TOMORROW IS ONE SLEEP AWAY

Is it my birthday already?

Tomorrow.

Tomorrow? When is tomorrow?

Tomorrow is one sleep away.

About it not quite being your birthday yet... But almost!

About a present that can't be opened yet... But almost!



Marc de Bel published his first book in 1986. Since, he has been a full-time author, publishing over 200 titles and giving over 2000 lectures for all ages. Many of his books have been turned into films and comic books. He is regularly awarded prizes. Among others, he received the Children's and Youth Jury Awards, De Kleine Cervantes and several of his books were awarded the Inclusieve Griffel, for books including characters with disabilities.



'If there is a common thread running through Marc de Bel's books (...) it is that children should be able to tinker, craft, and engage their minds and hands.'

— *De Standaard*

MARC DE BEL

MARILOE AND COWBOY JOE

Tobias doesn't say much and doesn't like goofing around with his friends. He prefers to sit with his calf Mariloe under the old oak tree in the meadow. There, he dreams that he is Cowboy Joe, the best rider in the world. Unfortunately, he's been afraid of horses ever since a pony knocked him over and he hit his head on a large rock. So he can't take part in the Big Race that's held every year in the village. Or can he?

Mariloe and Cowboy Joe is a funny, exciting, and touching story about friendship and believing in yourself. Two things that, just like grandma's delicious pancakes, are much more important than winning.

★ A moving story about believing in yourself while being different from the rest

5+

HOUTEKIET 60 PAGES FEBRUARY 2025

ENGLISH SAMPLE TRANSLATION

Jeanine Cronie is a screenwriter and author for children's & YA. She has written several short films and series, including almost all episodes of *Saïd & Anna*, and is co-author of *Woezel & Pip*. With *Evi & Co*, Jeanine won the first prize for Best Live-Action TV at the Chicago International Children's Film Festival.

Iris Boter went to art school before becoming an illustrator and writer. She has since illustrated more than a hundred and sixty books and written over thirty of them as well.

★ Includes topical themes: sustainability, recycling and creativity

★ Based on the multi-awarded TV series, of which the rights have been sold to 8 countries

★ TV series was just announced as the 2025 winner of the Live-Action category at the Kidscreen Awards

★ Full-colour illustrations



5+

LUITINGH-SIJTHOF 64 PAGES 2024 & SEPTEMBER 2025

ENGLISH SAMPLE TRANSLATION & SUMMARY PER CHAPTER

JEANINE CRONIE AND IRIS BOTER

SAÏD & ANNA SERIES

EVERYTHING DESERVES A SECOND CHANCE

Saïd and Anna are best friends. Every day, they play in the repair shop of Saïd's parents. New stuff comes in daily. From a broken bear to a worn-out hamster wheel—everything is waiting to be repaired! Saïd and Anna decide to help in their own unique way...

Screenwriter Jeanine Cronie wrote the stories in this book, describing the happy adventures of two children who, with great imagination, fix all kinds of problems and bring old things back to life. Because everything deserves a second chance!

MAKING AMENDS

There is always something exciting happening in the repair shop. Saïd and Anna build a robot, try out a white cane and collect items for the flea market. When Anna accidentally breaks Saïd's ball, Saïd is angry. Anna wants to make it up to him by repairing the ball together, but Saïd wants nothing to do with it. So Anna sets to work herself...

'Jeanine Cronie has written beautiful stories that deal with sustainability as well as friendship and family relationships.' — Hebban



Geert Gratama studied at the Gerrit Rietveld Academy in Amsterdam. He is an illustrator and graphic designer for publishers, theatre companies, advertising agencies, governments and institutions. In recent years, he is experiencing a second youth as an illustrator of children's books.

★ Racing, sabotage, and the ultimate battle for the kart track

★ Bursting with drawings and comics in the colour red

7+



Peter van Dijk, alias Peter Duijk, is a writer, training actor, creative producer and former publisher. *The Genius Adventures of Tony Confetti* is inspired by the bedtime stories he used to tell his children before going to sleep. The character of Tony is based on his creative son Koen.

Marieke van Ditshuizen has illustrated dozens of books and is known for her colourful, fresh, and timeless style.

- ★ An ode to neurodivergence
- ★ A funny adventure with a character you'll hold in your heart forever



‘Tony Confetti fits into the tradition of children’s books that build on the work of Annie M.G. Schmidt (...) books about children who take matters into their own hands.’ – Rubén Rodriguez da Silva

7+

KOKBOEKENCENTRUM 128 PAGES JUNE 2025

ENGLISH SAMPLE TRANSLATION

PETER DUIJK

THE GENIUS ADVENTURES OF TONY CONFETTI

Tony comes up with a plan to help his father’s party shop get back on its feet: he wears a different costume from the shop every day. Free advertising! His teacher is enthusiastic, but the school principal thinks that all children should look the same and therefore wear uniforms. What now?

Readers aged 7 to 99 will enjoy the adventures of Tony Confetti, whose mind is always racing and who is so authentically himself that it’s contagious!



Manon Sikkel won the Dutch Children's Jury Award three times and is a two-time recipient of a Feather in the Cap from the Senate of the Dutch Children's Jury. From April 2019 to April 2022, she was the Netherlands' Children's Book Ambassador.

Katrien Holland has loved drawing since she was a child. After studying at the Academy of Visual Arts in Tilburg, she started working as a freelance illustrator of children's books.

★ Follow the hilarious adventures of Sara and her neighbours

★ *Sara Paletti* was nominated for the Book of the Year at the Tina Awards 2023

★ Including full-colour illustrations



7+

LUITINGH-SIJTHOFF 144-168 PAGES 2022-2025

ENGLISH SAMPLE TRANSLATION

MANON SIKKEL AND KATRIEN HOLLAND

SARA PALETTI SERIES

SARA PALETTI

Sara Paletti lives in a block of flats that will soon be demolished. Her father works in a cheese croquette factory and drives a car with a large croquette on the roof. Her mother is an inventor and doesn't have much time for anything else. Sara keeps coming up with plans to make life in the flat more fun, unfortunately not always successfully—until she meets Alfie, the boy in the dress.

HOME

Sara Paletti lives on the 13th floor of a block of flats. It just happens to be the best block of flats in the whole world! One day, she sees a call for participants for TV show *At My House*. To participate, Sara has to show what is so great about the building. She asks all the residents for help: concierge Mrs Bayrak, the students, the new neighbours, the old man with the cane, and Alfie. But then the annoying Mrs Donkey appears...

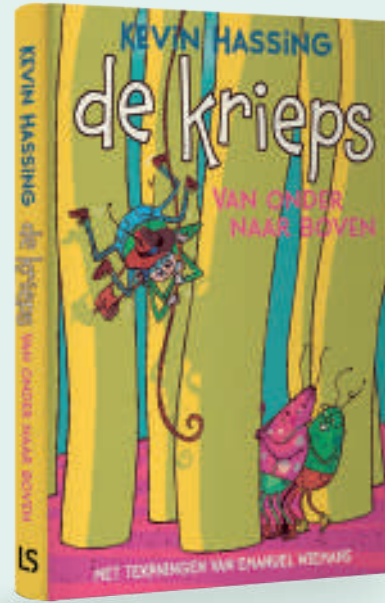
THE VILLA APARTMENT

Sara Paletti recently moved into a luxurious villa apartment. Their old, super cute apartment was demolished. At the villa apartment complex, there are fast elevators, a swimming pool, and even a penthouse! But Mrs Donkey does not want the old apartment residents to live in her new building and does everything she can to drive them away...

Kevin Hassing is an actor as well as an author. He has appeared in several Dutch drama series, audiobooks and cartoons, including as the voice of Dave in *ALVINNN!!! and the Chipmunks*. Recording audiobooks inspired Kevin to write his own children's books. With his much-beloved series *Robin and Captain Cross Beard*, Kevin has won the Children's Jury Award three times, showing he is a favourite amongst Dutch children. In 2025, he is the writer of the Children's Book Week Gift.

Emanuel Wiemans is an illustrator, animator and storyboard artist, graduated from HKU art school in Utrecht. He mostly illustrates digitally and his work can best be described as vintage yet contemporary.

★ A funny anatomical series through the human body



‘A highly imaginative yet recognisable story for the target audience. [...] funny and adventurous.’
– *Kinderboekenjournaal*

7+

LUITINGH-SIJTHOFF 128 PAGES 2023-2024
ENGLISH SAMPLE TRANSLATION

KEVIN HASSING AND EMANUEL WIEMANS

THE CREEPS SERIES

UPWARDS

My name is Pear and I'm a Creep. Right now I'm standing on her big toenail. But I really shouldn't be here. I belong on her head. I seem to have fallen. And that is very strange, because Creeps cannot fall...

Pear lives with his family in a cozy hair follicle on a girl's head. Just like all other Creeps, Pear is tiny and has four legs, two arms and two antennae. One day, Pear falls off the girl's head. But how is that even possible? And how can Pear ever return home? Fortunately, he gets help from his annoying little sister, Chick. On their way back, they meet many other creatures on the girl's body, like climbing cricket Tarrel, who has special instruments and magical spider rope. The three of them embark on the long and dangerous journey back up the girl's head...

FORWARDS

Dad has fallen off the girl's head and landed on cat Mango, so Pear and Chick try to rescue him along with climbing cricket Tarrel. During their search on Mango, they meet Flo. Flo is the only flea who is afraid to jump, and befriends insecure Pear. While they search for Dad (and in the meantime lose Chick and Tarrel), Pear inspires Flo to take the leap...

Thijs Noorlandt is a journalist and program maker at *Groot Nieuws Radio*. Through his books and school visits, he wants to encourage children to share their vision of how the world should be.

- ★ The start of the *Welcome to Avontura* series, where children always save the day
- ★ A cheerful, imaginative story full of action, friendship and technology



THIJS NOORLANDT

THE SECRET OF MONTE PESTO

Living in an amusement park—who doesn’t dream of that? For Matt, it’s perfectly normal. His parents work at Avontura, the best amusement park in the country, and after school, Matt has the wildest adventures there with his friends Saar and Joris. But the strict director threatens to ruin the mood, just as the Amusement Park of the Year competition is about to take place. When technician Aldo gives them a mysterious assignment, an exciting mission begins...

8+

KOKBOEKENCENTRUM 128 PAGES SEPTEMBER 2025

ENGLISH SAMPLE TRANSLATION

Floris Göbel is a nature and animal expert and has one mission: to share his knowledge of and passion for animals and nature with as many people as possible. He is the presenter of various (children's) programs and a welcome guest on talk shows.

Esther van de Bund is a comic artist and illustrator. Known for her sharp observations, humour, and refusal to be confined to one genre, Esther's work encompasses a wide range of themes and styles.



★ *The Hunt for the Animal Thieves* was nominated for the 2025 Children's Jury Award

★ 11.000 copies of the series sold in the Netherlands

★ Full of interesting facts about animals and nature



8+

KOSMOS 224 PAGES 2024 & SEPTEMBER 2025

ENGLISH SAMPLE TRANSLATION

FLORIS GÖBEL

FLORIS AND MISTER TORTELLINI SERIES

THE HUNT FOR THE ANIMAL THIEVES

Floris is a volunteer at the animal ambulance and has the most exciting adventures together with his snake Mister Tortellini. One day, they discover that an animal thief is operating in town. More and more animals start disappearing. Floris and Mister Tortellini go on the hunt and try to return all the animals safely to their homes. Will they succeed?

THE EGG OF THE ELEPHANT BIRD

Floris is given an important assignment: the egg of the extinct elephant bird is in danger of falling into the wrong hands. Together with his faithful companion, Mister Tortellini, Floris follows a treasure map to get ahead of the thieves. But time is running out. Will Floris and Mister Tortellini be the first to find the egg?

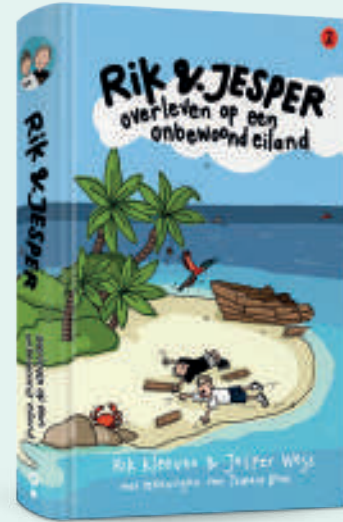


Rik and Jesper are neighbours and love to build things. They often construct large structures in Jesper's garden, such as a roller coaster, a water park or a giant bed.

Tamara Boon is an illustrator and designer. Her style is cheerful and inspired by kawaii culture. *Rik & Jesper* is the first graphic novel series she illustrates.



- ★ For fans of *Phineas and Ferb*
- ★ Over 120.000 copies of the series sold in the Netherlands
- ★ Full of humour, adventures and creative plans
- ★ The first two titles in the series have been nominated for the Children's Jury Award in 2024 & 2025



8+

KOSMOS 256-312 PAGES 2023-2025

ENGLISH SAMPLE TRANSLATION

RIK KLEEVEN AND JESPER WEIJS

RIK & JESPER SERIES

RIK & JESPER MAKE A MESS

Rik and Jesper live (almost) next to each other—there is only one house between them. That in itself is not so bad, but unfortunately that is where grumpy neighbour Arie Zemelaar lives, who hates both children and noise. Which is too bad, because Rik and Jesper are building almost every day! And that causes a lot of noise. And sometimes things go wrong... like on the day of The Disaster. It has to do with an underground corridor system, a big number of bizarre structures and a plague of unusual pets...

RIK & JESPER SURVIVING THE UNCHARTED ISLAND

Rik and Jesper take part in the famous velvet duck race. In the midst of it, they run into a hideous waterspout and end up on a deserted island. They decide to build a hut and survive by eating coconuts and mangoes. But... are they really the only ones on the island? Rik and Jesper start to hear strange noises and, on top of that, some of their things keep disappearing. Will Rik and Jesper ever get off the island? And who actually won the race?

RIK & JESPER TO THE MOON

Rik & Jesper are tasked with building a plastic bottle rocket. Of course, that's way too boring, so they build a real rocket. But they never intended to end up on the moon! When Jesper is taken away by aliens, it's up to Rik to rescue him. But the aliens don't want to lose their new cleaner and will do anything to keep Jesper. Will Rik and Jesper make it back home?

Roos Zwetsloot is a field hockey player and skater. For years, she combined both sports at a high level, eventually choosing skateboarding. She was fifth at the Tokyo Olympics and tenth at the 2024 Paris Games.

Sophie Plum is an illustrator based in the Netherlands. She has been working as an illustrator since 2015 and often designs book covers for children's and young adult books. She loves to create worlds that are eccentric, yet make you feel at home.

★ The ideal book for cool kids, full with illustrations

★An adventurous, exciting and funny story, written by a real Olympic skater



8+

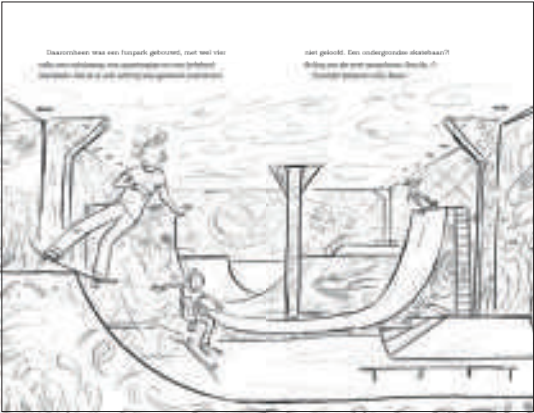
KOSMOS 176 PAGES APRIL 2025
ENGLISH SAMPLE TRANSLATION

ROOS ZWETSLOOT AND
SOPHIE PLUIM

THE SECRET SKATE SOCIETY

A MAGICAL ADVENTURE ABOUT SKATEBOARDING

Rose loves all kinds of sports, but her greatest passion is skateboarding. One day, Rose and her friends discover an abandoned skate park full of mysterious symbols deep in the woods. Suddenly, a boy who can skate exceptionally well appears out of nowhere. No one knows who he is. What is he hiding? And how or from whom did he learn those insane tricks, that even Rose has never seen before?

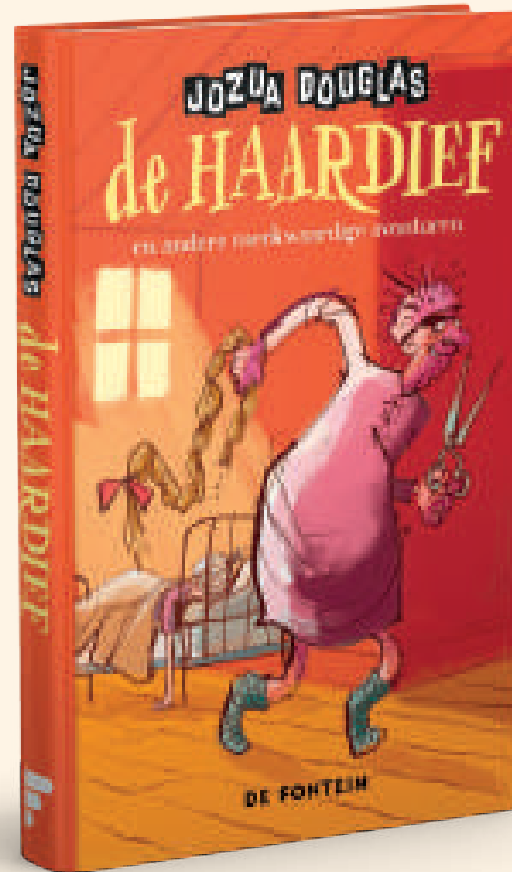


Jozua Douglas started his career writing poetry and won several prizes for it. He has since been writing for children. Jozua received the Feather in the Cap from the Dutch Children's Jury for the first two books in his *Costa Banana* series. With *The Nasty Swim Coach*, Jozua won the Hotze de Roos prize. Jozua's books have been translated into eleven languages and the film rights for the *Costa Banana* series and *The Nasty Swim Coach* have been sold.

Geert Gratama studied at the Gerrit Rietveld Academy in Amsterdam. He is an illustrator and graphic designer for publishers, theatre companies, advertising agencies, governments and institutions. In recent years, he is experiencing a second youth as an illustrator of children's books.

★ Jozua Douglas' stories guarantee humour, excitement, and adventure

★ A short story anthology by one of the most popular children's authors in the Netherlands



8+

DE FONTEIN 264 PAGES APRIL 2025

ENGLISH SAMPLE TRANSLATION

JOZUA DOUGLAS AND GEERT GRATAMA

THE HAIR THIEF AND OTHER REMARKABLE ADVENTURES

What are those crocodile eggs doing in Grandpa's bed? Why does Sven's father suddenly think he's a Viking? Who is the mysterious thief? And what is that fake chatbot up to? Fourteen crazy and hilarious adventures by Jozua Douglas, told with lots of imagination.

'The story *The Hair Thief* recounts with breathtaking precision what life was like in the age of wigs. Douglas, who himself has no hair, has clearly researched his favourite subject thoroughly.'

— *de Volkskrant*

Petra van Rijssen is a biologist and philosopher who gives workshops on nature and science at schools and nature education organizations. She lives with her family in the Cotswolds (UK), but can also regularly be found in the Netherlands.

★ An exciting adventure that challenges children to do the right thing, even when no one around them does so



PETRA VAN RIJSSEN

EXPEDITION POISON FISH

Amir doesn't feel at home at his new school, because three bullies are making his life miserable. Fortunately, his classmate Olivia helps him feel integrated. But then the bullies get into trouble: they have promised to poison otters for their cousin, an eel fisher, and force Amir and Olivia to join them. As the pressure mounts, Amir and Olivia secretly devise a plan to stop the scheme.

8+

KOKBOEKENCENTRUM 96 PAGES OCTOBER 2025

ENGLISH SAMPLE TRANSLATION

Kevin Hassing is an actor as well as an author. He has appeared in several Dutch drama series, audio-books and cartoons, including as the voice of Dave in *ALVINNN!!!* and *the Chipmunks*. Recording audiobooks inspired Kevin to write his own children's books. With his much-beloved series *Robin and Captain Cross Beard*, Kevin has won the Children's Jury Award three times, showing he is a favourite amongst Dutch children. In 2025, he is the writer of the Children's Book Week Gift Book.

Paco Vink is an illustrator and animator. He studied animation at the Willem de Kooning Academy in Rotterdam and made animated films and TV series for over a decade. Since 2020, he has been working as a freelance illustrator doing what he loved most as a child: drawing stories.



8+

LUITINGH-SIJTHOFF 128 PAGES NOVEMBER 2025

ENGLISH SAMPLE TRANSLATION

KEVIN HASSING

THE ADVENTURES OF KARELTJE

(WHEN HE WAS NOT YET CROOKED)

Crooked KarelTje, the beloved pirate from the *Robin & Captain Cross Beard* series, wasn't always crooked. As a child, he was just KarelTje and he stood as straight as a plank. Together with his parents, KarelTje lives in a caravan and travels around with a miscellaneous crew. KarelTje and his best friend Hinkelien are inseparable. It's a happy time. Until one day everything changes and KarelTje becomes crooked forever...

★ For old and new fans of the *Robin & Captain Cross Beard* series

★ Can be read as a stand-alone

★ Includes classic themes of bullying and empathy

★ With beautiful full-colour illustrations by Paco Vink

Enne Koens writes children's books, plays, songs, short stories, and novels for adults. Her books have achieved success in translation, with nominations for the renowned German Children's Literature Award and the Italian Strega and Cento Awards, among others.

Anne Roos Kleiss, also known as Roozeboos, is an illustrator who creates cheerful and energetic drawings. She studied illustration at the Willem de Kooning Academy and the Cambridge School of Art.

★ About growing up at your own pace and having unique talents

★ For all children who have trouble sitting still in class

★ Cheerful illustrations with yellow as the accent colour

★ Enne Koens has been translated into nine languages and her books have been adapted into film and theatre both nationally and internationally



8+

LUITINGH-SIJTHOFF 128 PAGES NOVEMBER 2025

ENGLISH SAMPLE TRANSLATION

ENNE KOENS

BOMMEL AND ME

My real name is Yuki, but in my mind I'm a dog. It all started with Sam. Pretending to be dogs was our game. We were called Bommel and Thief.

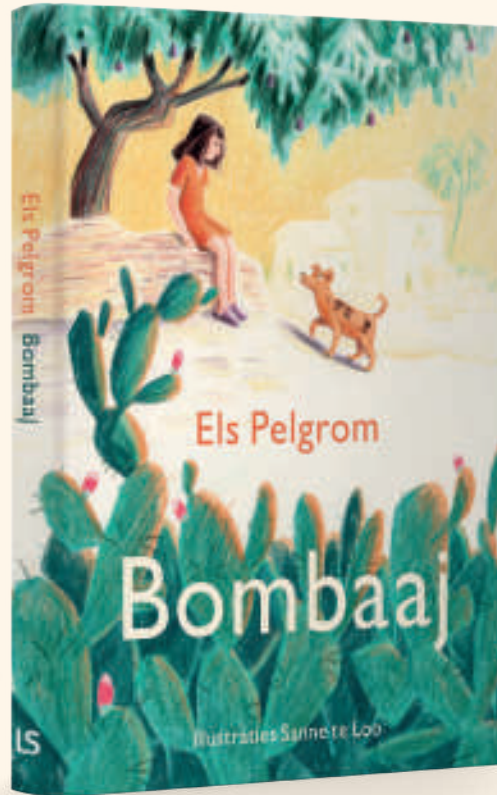
Yuki and Sam love pretending they are dogs. But in fourth grade, everything changes. They have to sit still in class all day, something Yuki finds difficult. One day, when the class gets too rowdy, Yuki turns into Bommel and things go wrong. The two friends get into a fight. Yuki then comes up with a plan to make things right. With help from an unexpected source and Bommel's detective skills, Yuki embarks on an exciting adventure...

Els Pelgrom has been publishing children's books since 1962. Her work has won prestigious prizes in the Netherlands and abroad. In addition to writing, she has worked as an editor, translated books, and adapted classic stories for children with reading difficulties.

Sanne te Loo studied at St. Joost School of Art and Design in Breda. For her picture book *This Is For You*, she received the Silver Paintbrush Award. She illustrated books by many renowned Dutch authors, such as Paul Biegel, Sjoerd Kuiper and Edward van de Vendel.

★ A story set in Spain, told from the perspective of family dog Bombaaj

★ Accompanied with full-colour illustrations by award-winning Sanne te Loo



'A beautiful Pelgrom title: creating poetry out of everyday things' — *Het Parool*

8+

LUITINGH-SIJTHOFF 128 PAGES 2024

ENGLISH SAMPLE TRANSLATION

RIGHTS SOLD: URACHHAUS (GERMANY)

ELS PELGROM AND SANNE TE LOO

BOMBAAJ

Bombaaj and its old owner Serafin live in a Spanish village. When ten-year-old Ana arrives to the village, Bombaaj's world takes a big turn. Ana has been sad since her father left the family, so Serafin decides to track him down. A long car journey to Madrid becomes a grand adventure, told from the philosophical perspective of Bombaaj.



Enne Koens writes children's books, plays, songs, short stories, and novels for adults. Her books have achieved success in translation, with nominations for the renowned German Children's Literature Award and the Italian Strega and Cento Awards, among others.

Annet Schaap is an illustrator and author. She has now illustrated over two hundred books. In 2017, she made her debut as an author with her children's novel *Lampie and the Children of the Sea*, which won all major awards, was adapted for TV and translated into many languages.

★ *Sammy and Grandpa* won the Flag & Pennant Award 2014

★ With illustrations by Golden Slate Pencil and Golden Paintbrush winner **Annet Schaap**



‘Enne Koens makes you both forget about the great writers who in the past created wonderful grandfathers (...) as much as reminding you of them. The grandpa you wish every child had.’
— From the jury report of the Flag & Pennant Award

8+

LUITINGH-SIJTHOFF 176 PAGES 2013 & 2024

ENGLISH SAMPLE TRANSLATION

RIGHTS SOLD: GERSTENBERG VERLAG (GERMANY) AND SHANGHAI YUANSI CULTURE (SIMPLIFIED CHINESE, VIA CA-LINK)

ENNE KOENS AND ANNET SCHAAP

SAMMY SERIES

SAMMY AND GRANDPA

Sammy is nine years old and lives with his grandpa four days a week. He has never met his father. Sammy loves being with his grandpa, who was a truck driver and sailor, and always tells great stories. When Sammy asks if everything his grandpa tells him really happened, Grandpa replies: ‘Distinguishing between fact and fiction is for boring people’. But Sammy wants to know the answer to some questions: What happens to you when you’re dead? How do we know what colour dinosaurs were? Where does the wind start? And will Grandpa get better when he ends up in the hospital? A touching story about what it’s like to lose your grandpa and best friend.

SAMMY AND MUM

Sammy’s grandfather was the best storyteller. But now he isn’t there anymore, and Sammy longs for the father he has never known more than ever. Together with his mother, Sammy goes to England in search of him. Secretly, his best friend Tessa travels after them. On the back of the motor-bike of his new grandparents, Sammy gets closer and closer to his father. It becomes a fantastic road trip, crazier than Grandpa could have imagined...

Bouwien Jansen worked as an editor at *Kidsweek* and *7Days* for many years. She is now a freelance journalist for various (children's) magazines, including *Rangers Report* (WWF). She previously wrote *Backyard Beasts* in collaboration with Lotte Stegeman.

★ For readers of *Lampie and the Children of the Sea*

★ About friendship, fantasy and family secrets

★ With cover and full-colour endpapers by Sanne te Loo



10+

LUITINGH-SIJTHOFF 144 PAGES SEPTEMBER 2025

ENGLISH SAMPLE TRANSLATION

BOUWIEN JANSEN

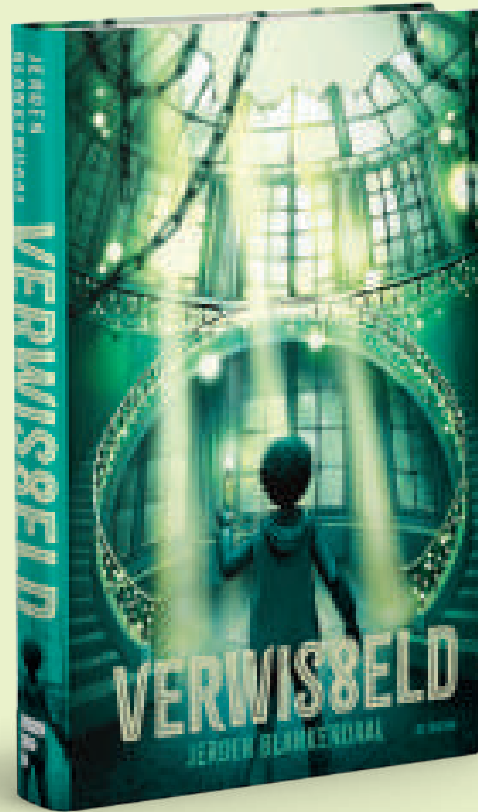
PEBBLE

Kat moves to her deceased uncle's house on the outskirts of town. His house is a magical place. Among the rattling armour, mysterious statues, and stuffed animals, Kat finds a pebble. It's gray and boring, but Kat slips it into her pocket and forgets about it. But suddenly, strange things start happening. In the tree in her garden, she finds an inventor; on her uncle's grave, she finds a man playing the guitar; and a girl with no legs shares her deepest secret. The pebble seems to do things that a regular, boring pebble could never do...



Jeroen Blankendaal is a children's book author and entrepreneur. His debut, *The Mystery of Haamstede*, was enthusiastically embraced by thousands of readers. Jeroen dreams of a world where all children enjoy reading. With his stories, he hopes to spark children's imagination and that they fall in love with books through the magic of exciting stories.

★ A fantastic adventure in a world where no one gets older than sixteen...



10+

DE FONTEIN 288 PAGES AUGUST 2025

ENGLISH SAMPLE TRANSLATION & SYNOPSIS

JEROEN BLANKENDAAL

SWAPPED

Trough a mysterious ring, Max ends up in another body and in an unknown world where no one grows up. Upon arrival, he discovers that the real owner of his new body has accepted a ridiculous task, which Max must now complete. Max wants nothing more than to return home, but that seems impossible. Especially when he discovers the real reason behind his transformation. And what does a fourteen-year-old know about saving the world?

Ronnie van Veen is a podcaster, writer, and father of three children. He has previously published books for young adults. Ronnie writes with remarkable candour and a healthy dose of humour.

★ An ode to the power of fantasy to escape the harsh reality

★ Mixing humour and imagination with realistic themes of bullying, poverty and family relationships

★ Cover and full-colour endpapers by Mark Janssen



‘My top three favorite books include two books by Roald Dahl and *William Sweetkind: King of Aloeka*.’
— Noud, 10 years old

10+

LUITINGH-SIJTHOFF 144 PAGES SEPTEMBER 2025

ENGLISH SAMPLE TRANSLATION & SYNOPSIS

RONNIE VAN VEEN

WILLIAM SWEETKIND: KING OF ALOEKA

William Sweetkind wants nothing more than to travel. But with an unemployed father, there is no money for holidays. Fortunately, William has Aloeka: an island with its own flag, anthem, and unique bird species. William travels there in the evenings by closing his eyes to have all kinds of adventures. One day, unwelcome guests arrive on its coast. They chase King William from his castle and turn the island upside down. Can William reconquer his island? And can he convince school bully Wesley of the existence of Aloeka?



Esther Wittenberg always dreamt of publishing her own children's book. Before that moment finally arrived, she studied history, travelled through Africa, taught history at a high school and was a journalist. Her dyslexic son inspired her to write this series.

★ An adventure trilogy about kings, knights, Elflings, magic and a brave anti-hero as main character

★ Nominated for the Max Junior Vleermuis 2024 and the Hotze de Roosprijs 2025

★ For fans of Tonke Dragt's *The Letter for the King*



‘A successful debut that leaves us eagerly awaiting the sequel.’ — *Friesch Dagblad* on *Mannus and the Invisible Force*

10+

LUITINGH-SIJTHOFF 232-272 PAGES 2024 & OCTOBER 2025

ENGLISH SAMPLE TRANSLATION & SYNOPSIS

ESTHER WITTENBERG

ELFLING SERIES

MANNUS AND THE INVISIBLE FORCE

Mannus is afraid he will never become a knight. His brothers have a talent for sword fighting and other cool things, but he really doesn't. His sister sends him to Elfling Ougus, a mysterious hermit living in the mountains. Thanks to Ougus, Mannus learns about an unexpected side of himself. Then disaster strikes: the land is attacked by a cruel king and Mannus' mother is captured. Mannus seems to be one of the few that can really help. But is he ready for it?

MANNUS' FLIGHT

Mannus has fled to the mountains and is hiding there. He accidentally discovered that he is the son of the army leader who invaded the country, and is therefore the boy from the vision, who must bring peace back. But Mannus is not a brave knight like his brothers and thinks that everyone is better off without him. Suddenly, his sister shows up, they're in acute danger and Mannus has no choice but to take action...

‘So well-written that you get a tickle in your stomach while reading.’ — Elyn, 10 years old

Petra van Rijssen is a biologist and philosopher who gives workshops on nature and science at schools and nature education organizations. She lives with her family in the Cotswolds (UK), but can also regularly be found in the Netherlands.

★ Makes children aware of major climate issues in a playful way

★ Both books can be read independently from each other



‘Ragingly clever writing. Rugged rocks, whales, sea eagles; it is as if you were there yourself! You can feel the wind in your hair.’ — Nienke Beintema, science journalist for, among others, *NRC*

10+

KOKBOEKENCENTRUM 192-224 PAGES
2024 & NOVEMBER 2025

FULL ENGLISH TRANSLATION

PETRA VAN RIJSSEN

SKY ISLAND SERIES

HARRY AND THE DINO MAFIA

Twelve-year-old Harry loves his island Sky, where he lives in a caravan on a rock above the sea, surrounded by big sharks and seabirds. But Harry is getting tired of eating the grubby haggis his grandma makes every day and he misses his mother, who has been in Italy for over two years for dinosaur fossil research. One night, Harry witnesses members of an Italian mafia stealing a unique fossil from the island. Thinking of everything he was taught by his mum, Harry springs into action. Together with adventurous Sunny, he sets out to stop the fossil thieves. Will they succeed in saving the fossil? And will Harry’s mother ever return?

SUMMER AND THE CHICKEN NUGGET GANG

Summer loves chicken nuggets—until an outbreak of the bird flu causes her to lose her part-time job at a free-range farm. With her favourite chicken safely locked in her room, Summer sets out to investigate with Harry. Strange waste in a river leads them to a mysterious old nuclear power station. Inside, they make a shocking discovery.

Arjan Dwarshuis is a bird expert. Next to guiding tours to spot birds, he makes documentaries and writes books about them as well. He also hosts *De Vogelspotcast*, a podcast about bird spotting, and he appears weekly on radio programme *Humberto*. In 2016, Arjan broke a world record by seeing 6.852 different bird species in one year.

Marieke ten Berge is a freelance illustrator and designer. She is fascinated by nature in the Arctic and wrote *North* about it, which won the Silver Paintbrush Award and was nominated for the Jan Wolkers Award and the 2021 Most Beautiful Book Cover Award. Previously, she also illustrated *Polder*, a book full of birds and other animals.

★ An exciting, humorous and gripping story you'll fly through

★ With topical themes such as migration and the environment in the background of the story

★ Including a checklist with the birds mentioned in the book



‘An ode to the bird world.’
— *Nederlands Dagblad*

10+

LUITINGH-SIJTHOFF 200 PAGES 2023 & NOVEMBER 2025

ENGLISH SAMPLE TRANSLATION

RIGHTS SOLD: CARPE DIEM (TURKEY, VIA KALEM AGENCY)

ARJAN DWARSHUIS AND MARIEKE TEN BERGE

BRADY THE BITTERN SERIES

BRADY THE BITTERN AND THE SECRET OF THE SWAMP

Suzie loves birds and often goes to the swamp near her house to watch them. One winter day, she is skating when she falls through the ice. To her surprise, she is rescued by Brady, a talking bittern. This makes her think of her demented grandmother's stories about the Mouthy Swamp. Suzie stumbles upon an ancient legend that seems to have something to do with Brady. Meanwhile, she tries to get the grumbling bittern a girlfriend and helps him to open his eyes to the world and birds around him.

BRADY THE BITTERN SPREADS HIS WINGS

Suzie has not seen her friend Brady for a while. Until he suddenly shows up during a warm summer night asking for help. Brady has fallen in love with bittern Elly, but she has suddenly disappeared. Fortunately, a bird researcher can help them: Elly has flown south for the annual bird migration. While Suzie travels to Portugal with her parents during the summer holidays, Brady secretly flies along. They hope to find Elly on the way. But it becomes a journey full of dangers, with hunters, forest fires and persistent drought. Will they succeed in finding the love of Brady's life again?

Twiggy Bossuyt studied Dramatic Arts at Studio Herman Teirlinck in Antwerp. She performed with various theatre companies in the Netherlands and Belgium. Twiggy's books have been translated into Danish and nominated for numerous awards. In 2022, she won the Bronze Griffel for her book *Goodbye*, a story about suicide.

★ An inspiring story about a difficult family situation, an unexpected friendship and believing in yourself.

★ Twiggy Bossuyt won the Bronze Slate Pencil in 2022 for her previous book *Goodbye*,



‘Twiggy Bossuyt dares to tackle difficult themes to then turn them into literary prose.’

— Jury of the Slate Pencil Award

10+

HOUTEKIET 128 PAGES 2023

ENGLISH SAMPLE TRANSLATION

TWIGGY BOSSUYT

NIKO & NICO

On a freezing cold night, Niko finds an injured hedgehog on the street and secretly takes the little animal home. Hedgehogs are good at keeping secrets. Such as that Mum and Dad often argue. That the fridge is sometimes empty. That Niko doesn't quite know how to look after her little brother. And that, quite possibly, she has found her first real friend...

Astrid Sy is a historian, presenter of history TV programme *Andere tijden* (*Different Times*) and writer. She was involved as a researcher in the development of the Dutch National Holocaust Museum.



★ A compelling adventure about time travel, history, art and identity

★ With *Name No Names*, Astrid Sy won the 2023 Young Beckman Prize for best historical novel



ASTRID SY

THE WINDOW CLEANER OF RIJKSMUSEUM

Since the death of his father, Freddie has been the Rijksmuseum's window cleaner. One night, he discovers thieves stealing paintings. But these are not normal paintings, as you can travel through time with them! Freddie sets out to investigate with the help of Isabella, the girl from his favourite painting, and together they stumble upon a crazy plot. As Freddie travels through Amsterdam during different time periods, he discovers not only his personal history but also that nothing is what it seems inside museums...

10+

LUITINGH-SIJTHOFF 208 PAGES 2024

ENGLISH SAMPLE TRANSLATION & SYNOPSIS

Enne Koens writes children's books, plays, songs, short stories, and novels for adults. Her books have achieved success in translation, with nominations for the renowned German Children's Literature Award and the Italian Strega and Cento Awards, among others.

Maartje Kuiper is an illustrator and designer. Her illustrations are characterised by their graphic, stylised design. In 2020, she received a Flag and Pennant (honourable mention) from the jury of the Golden Paintbrush Award.

★ **Best Children's Book of 2024**
according to *Het Parool*

★ **Nominated for the 2025**
Woutertje Pieterse Prize

★ **Enne Koens' books have been**
translated into nine languages and
have sold over 37.000 copies in the
Netherlands

★ **Author drew inspiration from the**
stories of child refugees



‘A much-needed book’ — *Het Parool*

‘A captivating adventure and an important exercise
in empathy’ — *Trouw*

10+

LUITINGH-SIJTHOFF 216 PAGES 2024

ENGLISH SAMPLE TRANSLATION

RIGHTS SOLD: GERSTENBERG VERLAG (GERMANY) AND CAMELOZAMPA (ITALY)

ENNE KOENS AND
MAARTJE KUIPER

WE'RE NOT GOING HOME TODAY

‘If you can flee once, you can do it again,’ says Dad.

‘Have we fled before?’

‘Yes, Mirza.’

One day, without warning, ten-year-old Mirza is taken back to his home country by his father. They move into the isolated house that belonged to his deceased grandparents. The house is extremely dilapidated, and Mirza is frequently woken in the night by screams from the mountains. At his new school, he does everything wrong, not knowing the rules or customs. Mirza longs for just one thing: to go home, back to his best friend. Then, he discovers what his father has been hiding from him this whole time, and he realises that there is no going back...

Enne Koens writes children's books, plays, songs, short stories, and novels for adults. Her books have achieved success in translation, with nominations for the renowned German Children's Literature Award and the Italian Strega and Cento Awards, among others.

Maartje Kuiper is an illustrator and designer. Her illustrations are characterised by their graphic, stylised design. In 2020, she received a Flag and Pennant (honourable mention) from the jury of the Golden Paintbrush Award.

★ Enne Koens' books have been translated into nine languages and have sold over 37.000 copies in the Netherlands

★ *I'm Vincent and I'm Not Scared* and *You Can See the Whole World From Here* are both being adapted into movies

★ *I'm Vincent and I'm Not Scared* has been adapted into theatre and opera by various national and international companies



10+

LUITINGH-SIJTHOFF 184 PAGES 2017

ENGLISH SAMPLE TRANSLATION

RIGHTS SOLD: GERSTENBERG VERLAG (GERMANY), CAMELOZAMPA (ITALY), MEANDER (THE CZECH REPUBLIC), BEIJING WHITE HORSE TIME CULTURE DEVELOPMENT (SIMPLIFIED CHINESE, VIA NEW RIVER LITERARY), KACHELLY PUBLISHING HOUSE (RUSSIA), HANSOL SOOBOOK PUBLISHING (KOREA, VIA MOMO AGENCY), WYDAWNICTWO UNIWERSYTETU WROCŁAWSKIEGO (POLAND) AND TIMAS (TURKEY, VIA KALEM AGENCY)

FILM RIGHTS SOLD TO FLARE FILM GMBH

ENNE KOENS AND MAARTJE KUIPER

I'M VINCENT AND I'M NOT SCARED

For Vincent, school is like survival camp: you never know exactly when the next disaster might strike, so you better be prepared. That's why Vincent knows the Survival Manual inside out and always carries a can of tools with him to get him through any unforeseen situation. But the worst is yet to come: school camp. Then, Jasmijn joins his class, and that changes everything...

I'm Vincent and I'm Not Scared is a book that talks about important issues in a hopeful way, with a main character you will want to keep in your heart forever.

'Koens' style is light-hearted and full of beautiful and original observations. With her stories, Koens places you directly in the events, while at the same time transporting you into the inner world of the characters.' — *Het Parool*

Enne Koens writes children's books, plays, songs, short stories, and novels for adults. Her books have achieved success in translation, with nominations for the renowned German Children's Literature Award and the Italian Strega and Cento Awards, among others.

Maartje Kuiper is an illustrator and designer. Her illustrations are characterised by their graphic, stylised design. In 2020, she received a Flag and Pennant (honourable mention) from the jury of the Golden Paintbrush Award.

★ *You Can See the Whole World From Here* was awarded a Bronze Slate Award in 2022 and is nominated for the Deutscher Jugendliteraturpreis 2025

★ *I'm Vincent and I'm Not Scared* and *You Can See the Whole World From Here* are both being adapted into movies



10+

LUITINGH-SIJTHOFF 168-184 PAGES 2019 & 2021

ENGLISH SAMPLE TRANSLATION

RIGHTS SOLD FOR *YOU CAN SEE THE WHOLE WORLD FROM HERE*: GERSTENBERG VERLAG (GERMANY), CAMELOZAMPA (ITALY), MEANDER (CZECH REPUBLIC) AND PAGONY (HUNGARY). FILM RIGHTS SOLD TO PHANTA BASTA
RIGHTS SOLD FOR *THAT SUMMER WITH JENTE*: GERSTENBERG VERLAG (GERMANY) AND CAMELOZAMPA (ITALY)

ENNE KOENS AND MAARTJE KUIPER

YOU CAN SEE THE WHOLE WORLD FROM HERE

One day, Dena finds a letter. It's from someone who misses someone else very much. Dena is determined to deliver the letter to the right person, but that turns out to be more difficult than she thought, so she asks her clever friend Vito and her neighbour Kevin for help. Without knowing so, she is actually searching for the missing link in her own life. Dena finds clues everywhere, but each answer also raises new questions. And in the end, it all leads to the mystery of her own family...

THAT SUMMER WITH JENTE

Against her will, Marie moves to a new neighbourhood. She leaves behind Zoë, her best friend and almost sister, but, luckily, she makes a new friend on her first day: Jente. During the summer, they go swimming, have sleepovers and spy on boys. With Jente, every day is an adventure, but sometimes she suddenly gets angry and is rude to Marie. As the summer progresses, Marie starts to feel like something is off. Can you always trust others, as was the case with Zoë, or is this friendship different? A story about the friendship between two girls in the process of discovering themselves and the world around them.

‘Enne Koens makes you forget about the great masters of literature.’
— *de Volkskrant*

Marlies Slegers grew up in Indonesia and moved to the Netherlands when she was eighteen to study and work. She now has more than thirty books to her name, including the acclaimed *Notes to Pelle* and *We Have Something to Tell You*, nominated for the White Ravens.

★ Marlies Slegers masters the art of writing about serious themes in a light-hearted tone

★ A touching story about a girl with an alcoholic mother

★ Author has been translated into German, Italian, Catalan and Russian

★ Marlies' previous book *We Have Something to Tell You* has been nominated for the White Ravens



‘How I love writers who surprise you.’
— *De Grote Vriendelijke Podcast*

10+

LUITINGH-SIJTHOFF 232 PAGES SEPTEMBER 2025

ENGLISH SAMPLE TRANSLATION & SYNOPSIS

MARLIES SLEGERS

TURTLE GIRL

Thirteen-year-old Elvis loves history, writing and collecting. She has a secret caravan in the woods, where she hides from her mother when she has had too much to drink. In the caravan, Elvis keeps old, discarded things she finds on the streets, including a turtle she discovers at a dumpster. Then she meets Sid, the eccentric boy next door, who is the opposite of Elvis in everything, and who for some reason is making a lot of efforts to become her friend. Slowly, Elvis crawls out of her shell, and when her mother is once again very drunk, Elvis makes a drastic decision.



Marlies Slegers grew up in Indonesia and moved to the Netherlands when she was eighteen to study and work. She now has more than thirty books to her name, including the acclaimed *Notes to Pelle* and *We Have Something to Tell You*, nominated for the White Ravens.

★ *Notes to Pelle* is being adapted into film

★ *We Have Something to Tell You* was nominated for the White Ravens 2024

★ Author has been translated into German, Italian, Catalan and Russian

★ Marlies Slegers masters the art of writing serious themes in a light-hearted tone



‘Marlies Slegers paints a touching and engaging portrait of a boy coping with and overcoming the loss of his deceased father.’ — *Trouw* on *Notes to Pelle*

10+

LUITINGH-SIJTHOFF 232 PAGES 2020 & 2023

ENGLISH SAMPLE TRANSLATION & SYNOPSIS

RIGHTS SOLD FOR *NOTES TO PELLE*: DRESSLER VERLAG (GERMANY), IL CASTORO (ITALY), FOLIANT BOOKS (KAZACHSTAN (RUSSIAN)) AND ANIMALLIBRES (CATALAN, VIA ASTERISC AGENTS). FILM RIGHTS FOR *NOTES TO PELLE* SOLD TO LET’S TALK VIDEO

MARLIES SLEGERS

NOTES TO PELLE

It’s been a year since twelve-year-old Pelle lost his father to cancer. The ‘house borer’ is what he calls the disease, because it’s like a beetle who creeps into your house and eats it up from the inside. Then, Pelle receives a shoe box full of notes and objects that belonged to his dad. The notes are a collection of strange assignments, and Pelle is determined to carry out each and every one of them. This gets him into all kinds of comical and awkward situations and also brings new people into his life, who help him and his mother to gently start embracing life again...

A heart-warming story about a highly intelligent boy who slowly learns to accept the death of his father in his own unique style.

WE HAVE SOMETHING TO TELL YOU

With these words, the parents of thirteen-year-old Hazel announce their divorce, shattering the family into pieces. Hazel is sent to stay with her grandmother, who lives on an island. Hazel is very unhappy about this, for how can she keep her parents together if she is not there?

While tidying the cluttered house of her dementia-stricken grandmother, she finds a box full of her father’s photos and belongings and a stack of letters her grandfather kept hidden. Hazel realises that her mission to keep her parents together is doomed to failure. Meanwhile, on the island, she meets Kean, the dreamy boy who quotes poetry, his extraordinary cousin Raven, and Grandma’s blind dog, Vincent. That summer, Hazel learns all about letting go and acceptance, in all of its forms...

‘An ode to love, in all of its forms.’

— *Wij met Taal* on *We Have Something to Tell You*

Kevin Hassing is an actor as well as an author. He has appeared in several Dutch drama series, audio-books and cartoons, including as the voice of Dave in *ALVINNN!!!* and *the Chipmunks*. Recording audiobooks inspired Kevin to write his own children's books. With his much-loved series *Robin and Captain Cross Beard*, Kevin has won the Children's Jury Award three times, showing he is a favourite amongst Dutch children. In 2025, he is the writer of the Children's Book Week Gift.

Linde Faas graduated with honours from the St. Joost School of Art and Design in Breda with her animated film *According to the Birds*, for which she won several international prizes. In addition to illustrating children's books, she works as a cartoon animator and as an artist of autonomous drawings.

- ★ Over 50.000 sold copies in the Netherlands
- ★ Book two, three and four in the series have won the Children's Jury Award between 2022-2024
- ★ Adapted for theatre in the Netherlands



10+

LUITINGH-SIJTHOFF 240-283 PAGES 2020-2024

ENGLISH SAMPLE TRANSLATION & SYNOPSIS
RIGHTS SOLD: POLYANDRIA (RUSSIA)

KEVIN HASSING AND LINDE FAAS

ROBIN AND CAPTAIN CROSS BEARD SERIES

A five-part series full of adventure, friendship, identity, (found) family and girl power. Each book can be read as a stand-alone or as part of the series.

Robin is an orphan and lives in Castleshire. One day, the town is attacked by a gang of pirates led by greedy Ramon, who used to be a member of The 5 Snakes. Only Robin manages to escape. With only a charm and the vague instructions from a wise woman, Robin sets off to look for Captain Cross Beard, an old pirate that might be the only one who can help them. But finding Cross Beard is one thing; convincing him to take on his old rival is another. Fortunately, Robin has an important ace up her sleeve... Along the way, Robin and Captain Cross Beard will make many friends, who will accompany them on countless adventures.

‘The reader is drawn into this suspenseful adventure story from the very first page (...) Author Kevin Hassing portrays the most wonderful, colourful characters in an equally special environment, packing it all in with a good dose of humour.’
— *Friesch Dagblad*

Lida Dijkstra studied art history and archaeology in Leiden. Her earlier works include *King Solomon's Ring* (nominated for the Woutertje Pieterse Prijs 2017), *The Beast with the Power of Ten Horses* and *Tut's Shadow* (winner of the Thea Beckman Prize 2023).

Djenné Fila is an illustrator. She graduated with honours from the St. Joost School of Art and Design. She uses different layers and techniques in her art, creating atmospheric images full of structure. She has received Paintbrush Awards in 2023 and 2025.

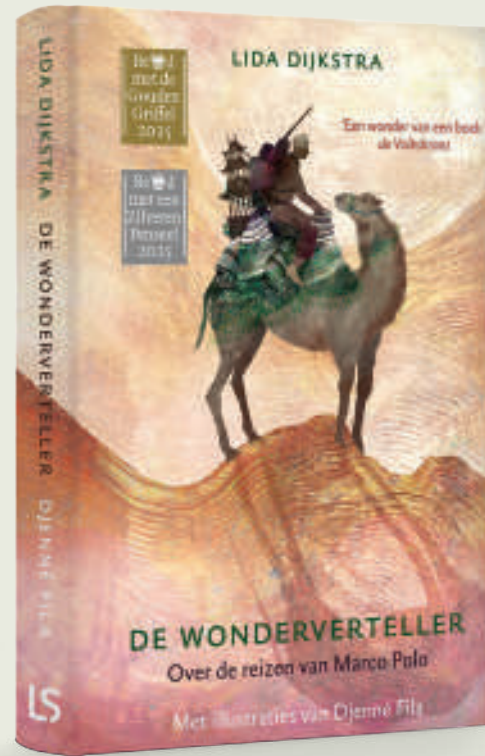
★ Tripple winner of the Golden Slate Pencil, the Silver Slate Pencil and the Thea Beckman Award 2025

★ Winner of the Silver Paintbrush Award 2025

★ Nominated for the IBBY Biennial of Illustrations in Bratislava

★ Both author and illustrator have done thorough research for this book

★ *Shadow of Tut*, their previous book, won the Thea Beckman Prize in 2023



‘The illustrations are so atmospheric that you can almost smell the scenes.’

— *Jury of the Silver Paintbrush Award*

12+

LUITINGH-SIJTHOFF 208 PAGES 2024

ENGLISH SAMPLE TRANSLATION & SYNOPSIS

LIDA DIJKSTRA AND DJENNÉ FILA

THE MIRACLE STORYTELLER

ON THE TRAVELS OF MARCO POLO

Genoa, 1298. Topina, a cleaner in prison, has never left her hometown. Prisoner Marco Polo, on the contrary, has travelled all over the world. People come to prison every day to hear his wonderful stories. But Marco has had enough of telling the same story over and over, so Topina secretly arranges for a fellow prisoner to write all the stories down.

Marco Polo's stories contain endless plains, mountains touching the sky and seas of pearls. But also fabulous animals, opulent palaces and the unpredictable prince Kubilai Chan. As Topina breathlessly listens to the stories, she learns about the grandeur of the world and doubts her own small existence for the first time.



‘In this cleverly constructed frame narrative, Dijkstra blends fact and fiction in such a way that the reader is inevitably drawn into the story.’

— *Jury of the Silver Slate Pencil Award*

80 YEARS AFTER THE LIBERATION OF THE NETHERLANDS, THESE STORIES REMAIN AS IMPORTANT AS EVER...



13+

THE GIRL WITH THE BRAIDS
by Wilma Geldof

Winner of the Gustav-Heinemann-Friedenspreis 2021



Nominated for the German
Deutscher Jugendliteraturpreis
and the White Ravens



Film rights sold to Pearl Pictures

'The Girl with the Braids (...) is a cinematic book based on true events. (...) I have never read such a raw account of the Dutch resistance in a YA novel.' — Bas Maliepaard, *Trouw*

LUITINGH-SIJTHOFF 336 PAGES 2018

RIGHTS SOLD: ITALY, GERMANY,
BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA, CZECH REPUBLIC,
SLOVENIA, SLOVAKIA, AZERBAIJAN & RUSSIA



13+

NAME NO NAMES
by Astrid Sy

Winner of De Kleine Cervantes
2023 and the Thea Beckman Prize
for the best historical novel 2023



Adapted to theatre and musical in
the Netherlands and Germany

'Astrid Sy wrote an impressive YA novel based on her interviews with three women who are now around ninety years old. The jury praises the way the author turned their poignant stories into this important book.' — Jury of the Thea Beckman Prize

LUITINGH-SIJTHOFF 512 PAGES 2021

RIGHTS SOLD: GERMANY



12+

WINTER ICE
by Peter van Gestel

Multiple award-winning
literary YA novel



Over 50.000 copies sold in
the Netherlands

'A beautiful story about friendship
and love.'
— *de Volkskrant*

DE FONTEIN 256 PAGES 2018

RIGHTS SOLD: GERMANY, FRANCE, ITALY,
UKRAINE, CHINA, SOUTH KOREA, RUSSIA &
LATIN AMERICA



10+

**THE WINTER WHEN TIME WAS
FROZEN**
by Els Pelgrom

The book for which Els Pelgrom
won her first Golden Slate Pencil
Award

'The language in this book is so rich
that Noortje's experiences during
World War II really come alive.'
— *JSW*

LUITINGH-SIJTHOFF 240 PAGES 2022



10+

13 MINUTES AND 1300 BOMBS
by Marte Jongbloed

A moving novel about a
thirteen-year-old boy during
the Rotterdam bombing

'The queen of historical children's
stories (...) In not too many pages,
Jongbloed knows how to draw
children (and adults) into her story.'
— *Langlevelezen.nl*

LUITINGH-SIJTHOFF 128 PAGES 2024

Wilma Geldof is a full-time writer and writing instructor. In 2014, she published the YA novel *Every Day, A Drop of Poison*, for which she received the Thea Beckman Prize for best historical YA novel. Her renowned book *The Girl With the Braids* was awarded the German Gustav-Heinemann-Friedenspreis and was nominated for the Deutscher Jugendliteraturpreis and the White Ravens.



★ It takes courage to face the past and strength to let it go again

★ A brilliant story about a mother-daughter relationship

★ Including essential themes of connection, identity and trust

★ Sheds light on the underexposed vulnerable position of women after WWII

★ *The Girl with the Braids* was translated into 8 languages



‘We know things are not black and white, but through these interesting life stories, Geldof emphasizes that message.’ — Jaap Friso

15+

LUITINGH-SIJTHOFF 336 PAGES MARCH 2025

ENGLISH SAMPLE TRANSLATION & SYNOPSIS

WILMA GELDOP

THE GIRL WHO WASN'T SUPPOSED TO BE

ARE YOU MORE THAN YOUR PARENTS' CHOICES?

1961. In the year of the Eichmann trial, sixteen-year-old Ditte gets a school assignment on World War II. She is paired with the new girl in the class, Rivka. But Ditte knows virtually nothing about the war past of her mother, Nora. She doesn't even know who her biological father is. Since her mother refuses to tell her anything, Ditte starts her own investigation. The truth is more disconcerting than she could have imagined. Are you more than your parents' choices? And can she remain friends with Rivka?

1943. Sixteen-year-old Nora yearns for life: love, dancing, being happy. But war brings her life to a stop. During a resistance job, she meets a boy with whom she does not want to fall in love with, but it is insurmountable. This love changes her life forever.

DISCOVER OUR SELECTION OF CHILLING THRILLERS...



★ Mel Wallis de Vries has sold more than a million copies worldwide

★ 17 of Mel's books have been translated abroad

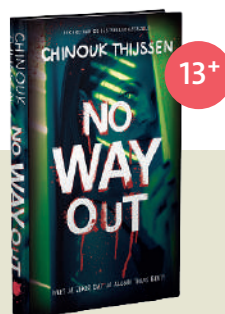
★ Author has received the Young Jury Award 7 times

OBSESSED

by Mel Wallis de Vries

Four friends are involved in a terrible car accident while driving home from a party. When they regain consciousness, one of them is no longer in the car. The police investigates every detail, but Emmy seems to have vanished into thin air. Until the three remaining friends start playing a mysterious game and fearing for their own lives. Some secrets must apparently remain buried forever...

DE FONTEIN 224 PAGES OCTOBER 2025



★ Chinouk has sold more than 65.000 books in the Netherlands

★ Author won the Young Jury Award in 2022 with *Hostage*

NO WAY OUT

by Chinouk Thijssen

For the last few months, Rotterdam has been plagued by a very aggressive gang of burglars. They have their sights set on expensive villas, but Aya still chooses to keep babysitting at her usual address in the villa district. One day, she starts receiving calls from an anonymous number. At first, she thinks it's a prank, but when she threatens to call the police, the unknown voice replies, 'That will be of no use. I'm already inside of the house.'

DE FONTEIN 224 PAGES JULY 2025



★ Cis Meijer has sold more than 100.000 copies in the Netherlands

★ Cis won the Young Jury Award in 2023 with *Game On*

★ Author is constantly in contact with the target audience by visiting schools multiple times a week

THE CHALLENGE

by Cis Meijer

Kate cannot wait to go on school camp. This year's trip is inspired by the Special Forces and includes extreme challenges. But then Kate's ex-boyfriend Dex is found dead on the street. What happened? And why did he write 'I'm sorry' on a note? Kate feels responsible and sets out to investigate. The camp turns out to be tough. Kate and her friend group are pushed to their limits. With exhaustion come irritations. And when Kate stumbles upon a secret, it becomes a life-and-death situation...

DE FONTEIN 192 PAGES SEPTEMBER 2025



★ Jennefer's thrillers are well-known for their stunning plot twists, surprising even experienced readers

THE DOG WALKING SERVICE

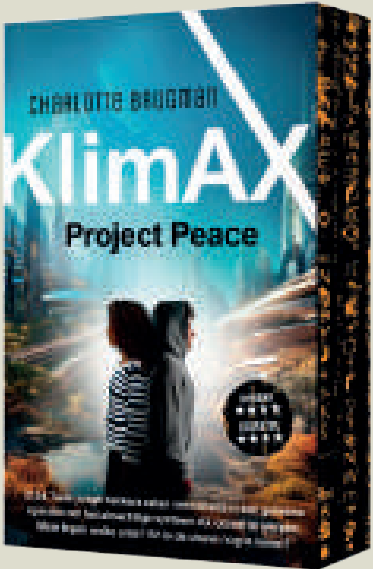
by Jennefer Mellink

Sixteen-year-old Skylar starts a dog walking service during the summer holidays. During her walks, she gets the feeling that she is being spied on and she even sees a mysterious person with a dog mask on. Together with her best friend Emma, she googles the dog owners. One of them lost his wife twenty years ago, who was murdered on the route where Skylar walks the dogs. A culprit was never found. Emma, a true daredevil, challenges Skylar to spend the night in the woods. But then Skylar disappears without a trace...

LUITINGH-SIJTHOFF 160 PAGES FEBRUARY 2025

Charlotte Brugman was a development worker and lived all over the world, including Congo, California and Tajikistan, before settling in Amsterdam. She currently writes scripts for TV and film, as well as Young Adult books.

- ★ For fans of *The Hunger Games*, *The Maze Runner* and *Black Mirror*
- ★ *KlimAX* was the Most Popular Storytel Original in the 2023 Dutch YA category
- ★ Nominated for the 2025 Best Book for Young Adults Award
- ★ A page-turner including current themes such as AI, the climate and totalitarianism
- ★ A search for hope in a hopeless and unfair world



‘The hot topics like climate change, computers taking over, the hyperloop and digital gadgets will get you thinking. — Storytel listener

13+

LUITINGH-SIJTHOFF 288-304 PAGES 2024 & NOVEMBER 2025

ENGLISH SAMPLE TRANSLATION & SYNOPSIS

CHARLOTTE BRUGMAN

KLIMAX SERIES

KLIMAX

It is 2123 and the world is kept in balance by a super-smart, self-learning system. By assigning behavioural points, the algorithm prevents humanity from destroying the planet once again. Finn and Dunya, two young hackers, compete against each other to become the best programmer of the year and so earn a large number of points. When they accidentally discover a fault in the system, they suddenly have to work together to fight for freedom. And not just their own...

PROJECT PEACE

2124. To combat climate change, AX rules the world. But Finn and Dunya have discovered that the system is corrupt. They become involved in Project Peace, a secret operation to eliminate the AX leader once and for all. While Finn works his way up within the resistance and falls under the spell of charismatic Zadie, Dunya follows the trail of her missing mother in no man’s land. Meanwhile, civil war breaks out. Can chaos be averted?

Monica Haak works in the mental health sector as a remedial educationalist for children and young adults. In her books, she combines her professional knowledge with her own experiences. Breaking taboos is her main mission.



MONICA HAAK

WHAT NO ONE KNOWS

FOOD ISN'T THE ONLY THING VAYA AND JESSE ARE FIGHTING AGAINST...

Vaya and Jesse both suffer from eating disorders, each in their own way. While outsider Jesse is struggling to come to terms with the loss of his brother, popular Vaya is doing everything she can to hold on to her status. When they find out they share the same therapy group, they are very unhappy. But it turns out they have more in common than they thought...

‘Recognising you have a problem is so important, and it doesn’t mean you’re weak or unable to do something by yourself anymore. But it does set something in motion that can lead to help, a solution or at least an improvement.’ — Monica Haak

★ On eating disorders, grief, popularity and secrets

★ Author works with teenagers on a daily basis

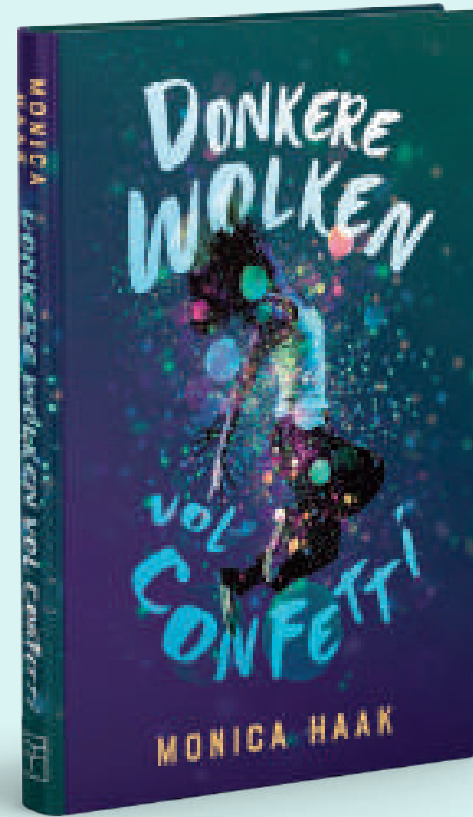
★ Dual narrative

15+

DE FONTEIN 208 PAGES JUNE 2025

ENGLISH SAMPLE TRANSLATION & SYNOPSIS

Monica Haak works in the mental health sector as a remedial educationalist for children and young adults. In her books, she combines her professional knowledge with her own experiences. Breaking taboos is her main mission.



MONICA HAAK

DARK CLOUDS OF CONFETTI

WHEN PRETENDING NO LONGER WORKS

Abby wants nothing more than to be happy. With strict parents and a twin sister who seems to have found her dream man, Abby really tries to keep her relationship with her boyfriend Milan perfect. But that's tough when you have to deal with manipulation, gaslighting and abuse.

Joan can't remember the last time she was carefree. Running a household as a high school student, having three side jobs, and a four-year-old brother and depressed mother to take care of, Joan can never rest. And then there's that cute girl at work... When she finds a secret that could drive the family apart forever, time starts ticking for Joan.

Dark Clouds of Confetti is a contemporary Young Adult that discusses difficult topics in a painfully recognisable, but also beautifully comforting way.

★ A YA novel covering themes of abuse, alcoholism and narcissism

★ Author works with teenagers on a daily basis

★ Dual narrative

15+

DE FONTEIN 232 PAGES 2024

ENGLISH SAMPLE TRANSLATION & SYNOPSIS

Stefan Raatgever is a pop journalist and interviewer. After working for *Algemeen Dagblad* for almost 15 years, he made the switch to *Het Parool*. As a music journalist, he has met Beyoncé, Paul McCartney, Adele, Amy Winehouse and many others. He makes regular appearances in the media as a Eurovision and general pop music expert.

★ *The Boy Who Jumped Off the Cliff and Landed Softly* was nominated for the Young Jury Debut Prize

★ Film rights sold to Willy Waltz International

★ For fans of *Call Me by Your Name* by André Aciman, *Dance On My Grave* by Aidan Chambers, and *Brokeback Mountain* by Annie Proulx



15+

LUITINGH-SIJTHOFF 272 & 224 PAGES 2022-2026

ENGLISH SAMPLE TRANSLATION
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STEFAN RAATGEVER

THE BOY WHO JUMPED OFF THE CLIFF AND LANDED SOFTLY

While nineteen-year-old Alec studies for his final exams after a difficult school career, his plodding existence is shaken by the arrival of a new class-mate. Non-conformist Björn triggers feelings in Alec that he has until now always managed to hide—even from himself. Unwittingly, he is drawn into a search for his true identity, and for the first time he has to face what he has never dared to acknowledge. But just as his coveted diploma is within his grasp, and with it, a ticket to the future, Björn suddenly disappears...

THE BOY WHO WANTED TO STOP TIME

Freshman Alec thinks he is entering a carefree life after his coming-out. He enjoys student life and goes on dates, parties often, and studies occasionally. But the struggle with his sexuality isn't over yet. Time and time again, the question 'why can't I just be normal?' comes back to his mind. Then he runs into Björn again. Their bond strengthens and Alec does everything he can to make their relationship work. But just when Alec decides he does not want to continue with Björn, Björn declares his love. Is Alec strong enough to say no to the boy who has opened up a new world for him?

NON-FICTION



Jelmer Jepsen, Alexander van Daele & Hanne Snel

The Super Sleep Machine

LUITINGH-SIJTHOFF

Age 6+, 48 pages, 2023

An adventure-packed journey of discovery through the world of sleep.



Govert Schilling & Tjarko van der Pol

Did the Ancient Greeks have Rockets?

LUITINGH-SIJTHOFF

Age 8+, 96 pages, 2020

Rights sold: Simplified Chinese

An exciting journey through the history of rockets and space travel, from the ancient Greeks to present day.



Govert Schilling & Tjarko van der Pol

To the Moon

LUITINGH-SIJTHOFF

Age 8+, 96 Pages, 2024

Rights sold: Simplified Chinese

A richly illustrated book full of information about everyone's favourite celestial body.



Pieter Feller & Louize Perdieu

The Book of Wolves

LUITINGH-SIJTHOFF

Age 8+, 128 Pages, 2021

A fascinating journey through the world of the wolf, a creature shrouded in myth.



Bouwien Jansen, Lotte Stegeman & Marieke Nelissen

Backyard Beasts

LUITINGH-SIJTHOFF

Age 8+, 96 Pages, 2019

Rights sold: German, Russian

Playful, interactive non-fiction about the wild mammals of Europe.



Lotte Stegeman & Marieke Nelissen

The Unicorn & Other Fantastic Animals That Used to Exist

LUITINGH-SIJTHOFF

Age 8+, 104 Pages, 2020

Rights sold: Simplified Chinese, Russian

A stunning natural history museum on paper, detailing animals that are extinct or endangered.



Sterrin Smalbrugge

Sterrins Reptile Journey

LUITINGH-SIJTHOFF

Age 8+, 144 Pages, 2021

Learn all about the reptiles of different continents and how the landscape, climate and humans affect them; newly discovered and almost extinct species; and much more!



Patsboem!

Natty for Nature

LUITINGH-SIJTHOFF

Age 8+, 224 Pages, 2022

Weekly questions and answers to make the earth a little bit greener. In collaboration with WWF.



Lotte Stegeman & Marieke ten Berge

Green Heroes of the Animal Kingdom

LUITINGH-SIJTHOFF

Age 8+, 96 Pages, 2022

Cheerful non-fiction about animals and the clever ways in which they help the climate.



Kim Verhaeghe

Giraffes Don't Sink

HOUTEKIET

Age 15+, 224 Pages, 2023

137 fantastic insights on science, for both teenagers and older readers. Full English translation available.



Wilma Geldof & Janneke Ipenburg

Bees Don't Baa, Dr Growlybear

LUITINGH-SIJTHOFF

Age 3+, 34 Pages, 2022

An original and interactive picture book about the sounds animals (should) make, including a twist in the end!



Tjibbe Veldkamp & Wouter Tulp

Handje?

DE FONTEIN

Age 3+, 32 Pages, 2017

Rights sold: Korean, Simplified and Complex Chinese, Italian

A colourful story about a smart girl that goes her own way to arrive to the zoo.



Jozua Douglas & Eefje Kuij
Monkey Mischief: Champion of Accidents

DE FONTEIN

Age 3+, 32 Pages, 2023

Follow the adventures of Monkey Mischief, who flounders around, but in the end turns out to be concealing a true inner hero.



Jozua Douglas & Loes Riphagen
Kiss-Kiss Crocodile

DE FONTEIN

Age 3+, 32 Pages, 2016

Rights sold: German, Simplified Chinese

The perfect bedtime story about Tim and the animals that help him go to sleep.



Jozua Douglas & Marieke Nelissen
The Monster Bouncing Booming Book

DE FONTEIN

Age 3+, 36 Pages, 2017

Rights sold: Simplified and Complex Chinese, Lithuanian

A beautiful story about a boy who accidentally turns his parents into monsters.



Tjarko van der Pol
I Want a Different Bed!

LUITINGH-SIJTHOFF

Age 3+, 32 Pages, 2021

Rights sold: Norwegian

The ultimate wordless picture book for young children at bedtime.



Ineke Upperman & Emanuel Wiemans
Off!

DE FONTEIN

Age 3+, 32 Pages, 2022

A fast-paced picture book about all the sights and sounds of Formula 1.



Marian De Smet & Marja Meijer
Do You Have a Little Time for Me?

LUITINGH-SIJTHOFF

Age 4+, 32 Pages, 2021

A contemporary picture book for all toddlers and their busy (grand) parents!

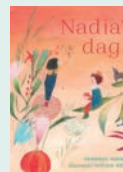


Pieter Feller & Marieke Nelissen
Scratch & Sneez series

LUITINGH-SIJTHOFF

Age 4+, 112 Pages, 2016-2018

An endearing series about two stray cats and their adventures in the neighbourhood.



Henrieke Herber & Miriam Bouwens
Nadia's Day & Nadia's Night

LUITINGH-SIJTHOFF

Age 5+, 96 Pages, 2022 & 2024

A dreamy series about a little girl and the magic she sees in the world around her.



CHAPTER BOOKS



Hanneke de Zoete & Iris Boter
Sweet Sisters series

KOSMOS

Age 7+, 96 Pages, 2020-2025

Follow the adventures of Saar and Janna: two sisters with a big imagination who are always having fun. More than a million copies sold in the Netherlands.



Rutger Vink & Thomas van Grinsven
Rutger, Thomas & Paco series

KOSMOS

Age 7+, 176 Pages, 2021-2022

A smoothly written story full of twists and turns revolving around Rutger, Thomas, their dog Paco and the evil Professor Whiskers.



Britt Dekker
Horse Talk series

KOSMOS

Age 7+, 96 Pages, 2023-2025

A series for all horse fanatics about Britt and her horse George.



Manon Sikkel & Katrien Holland
Secret Agent series

LUITINGH-SIJTHOFF

Age 7+, 128 Pages, 2016-2024

Max has two grandmas. One grandma loves crocheting and doing puzzles. The other grandma is a secret agent. More than 70.000 copies of the series sold in the Netherlands.



Marte Jongbloed & Iris Boter

Wies & Grandma Wisse series

LUITINGH-SIJTHOFF

Age 7+, 128 Pages, 2019-2023

A series full of the crazy adventures of Wies, her grandma Wisse and all of their (young and old) friends.



Marte Jongbloed & Iris Boter

Herre series

LUITINGH-SIJTHOFF

Age 8+, 288 Pages, 2016-2018

Imaginative and engaging stories about ordinary people in extraordinary situations.



Jozua Douglas & Elly Hees

The Nasty Swim Coach

DE FONTEIN

Age 7+, 208 Pages, 2021

Lev's father has one goal: Lev must become the best in his swimming team. But then Lev discovers a secret his coach is hiding...



Daan Verver & Paco Vink

Gym Teacher Daan series

LUITINGH-SIJTHOFF

Age 8+, 192 Pages, 2024-2025

Ritchy cannot sit still, but he can use all his energy in gym teacher Daan's classes. Discusses bullying and friendship and includes examples of sport and stretching exercises.



Lida Dijkstra & Martijn van der

Linden

King Solomon's Ring

LUITINGH-SIJTHOFF

Age 7+, 128 Pages, 2016

A lively and contemporary retelling of the story of King Solomon's ring.



Jozua Douglas & Elly Hees

Costa Banana series

DE FONTEIN

Age 8+, 176-256 Pages, 2015-

2020

Rights sold: World English Rights, Germany, Italy, Turkey

Film Rights Sold: Phanta Basta

In this funny series, you go on adventures with Rosa and Fico, the children of Pablo Fernando, the crazy president of Costa Banana. His laws lead the kids to hilarious adventures.



Jozua Douglas, Elly Hees & Geert

Gratama

The Terrible Twins series

DE FONTEIN

Age 8+, 192 Pages, 2014-2024

Max and Lottie aren't normal twins: their acting skills and jokes are as ingenious as they are harmless! Until, one day, something goes wrong...



Jozua Douglas & Geert Gratama

The D.E.T.E.C.T.I.V.E. Bureau series

DE FONTEIN

Age 8+, 208-283 Pages, 2021-2023

When Lev's father reads about a crime in the library, he thinks Lev should solve it. But then he himself accidentally becomes the police's main suspect...



Els Pelgrom & Thé Tjong-Khing

Little Sophie and Lanky Flop

LUITINGH-SIJTHOFF

Age 8+, 128 Pages, 2023

Rights sold: Danish, German, English, French, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Norwegian, Portuguese, Spanish, Swedish

A moving book about a sick girl and her imaginary adventures with her dolls.



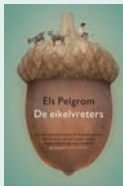
Els Pelgrom & Sylvia Weve

The Living Head

LUITINGH-SIJTHOFF

Age 8+, 272 Pages, 2022

A book with a philosophical undertone about two singular friends.



Els Pelgrom

The Acorn Eaters

LUITINGH-SIJTHOFF

Age 10+, 240 Pages, 2022

Rights sold: German, English, French, Japanese

Treating themes such as poverty, social inequality and resilience in the years after the Spanish Civil War.



Marte Jongbloed

My Father's War

LUITINGH-SIJTHOFF

Age 10+, 144 Pages, 2025

Against the backdrop of the Cold War, an autistic boy searches for his missing father. Full English text available.



Marc de Bel

Blinker series

HOUTEKIET

Age 10+, 160-208 Pages, 1989-2023

Rights sold: Danish, German, Italian

Blinker and his friends experience a series of exciting adventures in their village and beyond. Three books in the series have been adapted into film.



Will-Limba Moleka

Limbaverse

HOUTEKIET

Age 13+, 224 Pages, 2024

A series where different literary genres are explored book by book.



Marc de Bel

The Prickle Sisters series

HOUTEKIET

Age 12+, 280 Pages, 2024-2025

The Pickle sisters are unique. Fortunately. No other child leaves such a trail of destruction behind as Lien, Sien or Fien do. Turned into a movie and musical in Belgium. Full English translation available.



Lida Dijkstra & Djenné Fila

The Beast with the Power of Ten Horses

Horses

LUITINGH-SIJTHOFF

Age 12+, 168 Pages, 2019

A masterful retelling of the myth of Theseus and the Minotaur.



Lida Dijkstra & Djenné Fila

Tut's Shadow

LUITINGH-SIJTHOFF

Age 12+, 160 Pages, 2021

The beautiful story of Tutankhamun's sister Ankhe. Winner of the Thea Beckman Prize 2023 for best historical novel.



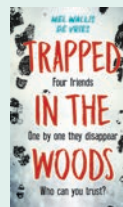
Aletta André

The Girl Who Cycled Across India

LUITINGH-SIJTHOFF

Age 13+, 192 Pages, 2021

A topical YA novel about courage and perseverance in challenging times, inspired by the true story of Jyoti Kumari.



Mel Wallis de Vries

Trapped in the Woods

DE FONTEIN

Age 13+, 288 Pages, 2023

Rights sold: Arabic World Rights, Germany, Hungary

Four friends spend the Christmas holidays in a cottage, where they get snowed in. One by one, they disappear. Who can you trust? Full English translation available.



Mel Wallis de Vries

Broken

DE FONTEIN

Age 13+, 128 Pages, 2024

Alice is invited to a New Year party with five other people from her same school. The group is very diverse and soon tensions begin to rise. Somewhere outside, there is a murderer...



Margie Woodrow

Fake Trip

DE FONTEIN

Age 13+, 288 Pages, 2023

Rights sold: Arabic World Rights, Germany

While everyone is hoping to relax on a school trip to Barcelona, a horrible accident happens in the Sagrada Familia. Gruesome details are spread via social media, but what is real? Full English translation available.



Margie Woodrow

Payback

DE FONTEIN

Age 13+, 232 Pages, 2024

TikToks revealing the secrets of both students and teachers are trending at Sunflower High School. Laurie finds herself in a sick game where she is forced to do eerie things. If she refuses, she and her friends will be in great danger...



Cis Meijer

Missing in Paris

DE FONTEIN

Age 13+, 240 Pages, 2023

Rights sold: Arabic World Rights, Germany

Lottie becomes suspicious when she unexpectedly receives a postcard from her sister Nina, who has gone to Paris to work as a fashion model. On the card, she discovers a secret cry for help. Full English translation available.



Cis Meijer

Game On

DE FONTEIN

Age 13+, 224 Pages, 2022

Five friends receive a mysterious invitation to take part in a macabre game. How far will you go for your friends?



Elvin Post

No Way Back

DE FONTEIN

Age 13+, 256 Pages, 2022

What would you do if you found a bag containing 80,000 Euros? And the bag turned out to belong to a group of dangerous criminals...



Elvin Post

Catch

DE FONTEIN

Age 13+, 256 Pages, 2023

When Rose gets to know Noah via Catch, a new app for young people, she is on cloud nine. Will their encounter become her biggest mistake ever?



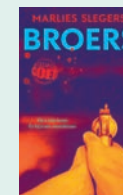
Martijn Simons

Verboden Terrein

DE FONTEIN

Age 13+, 224 Pages, 2025

Adam and three of his classmates write a paper about the school grounds. On the day of the presentation, one of them doesn't show up. Then, another student disappears a week later...



Marlies Slegers

Brothers

LUITINGH-SIJTHOFF

Age 13+, 112 Pages, 2023

Who was responsible for the attack that killed Raf's best friend? Does it have something to do with the estranged relationship Raf has with his brother Carlos?



Juultje Koffeman

Nomen Nescio

LUITINGH-SIJTHOFF

Age 13+, 96 Pages, 2023

A topical story on far-right extremism and refugees.



Floortje Zwigtmann

A Green Flower trilogy

LUITINGH-SIJTHOFF

Age 14+, 1616 Pages total, 2015

Rights sold: German, Danish

An unequalled magnum opus by a female Charles Dickens.

