

Maarten Boers Literary Agency

Rights Guide
Maarten Boers Literary Agency
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Michiel Panhuysen

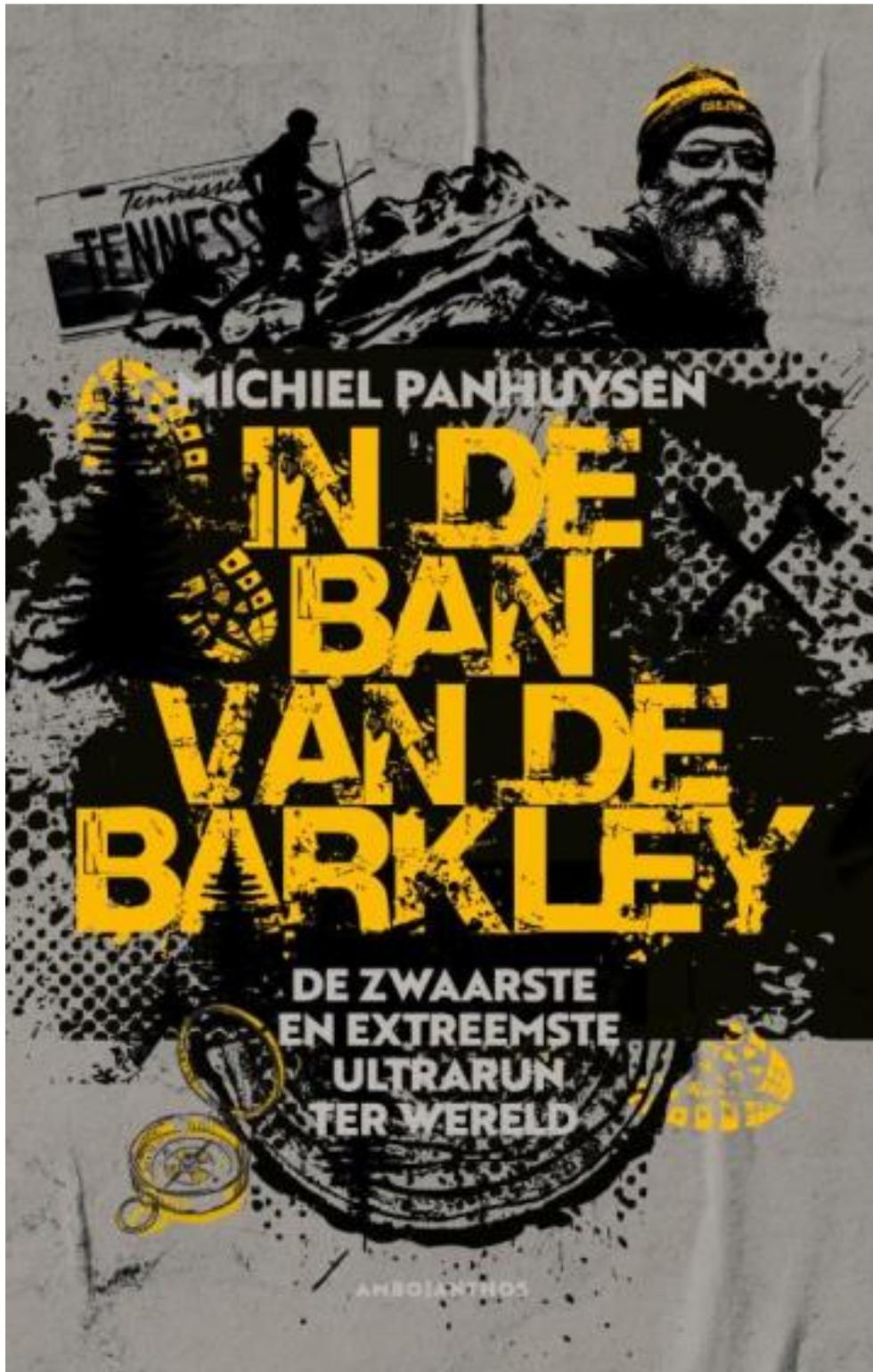
The Barkley

The ultimate ultra-marathon

A bizarre running competition takes place every year in Frozen Head State Park, a vast forest in eastern Tennessee. For years it has been considered the most extreme 100 mile running race in the world. There is no website, the registration procedure is secret and only one person, the race director Lazarus Lake (Gary Cantrell), knows exactly when the race will start. In the 35-year history, only 15 runners have managed to reach the finish. The Barkley Marathon is inspired by James Earl Ray's escape attempt from the nearby prison. The murderer of Martin Luther King lasted more than fifty hours in the wilderness of Frozen Head before he was found. Most participants of the Barkley give up on the road after getting lost in the thick fog, or because of exhaustion, hypothermia and heavy hallucinations during the sixty hours they are on the road, or simply because they no longer see fit.

In 2012 Michiel Panhuysen was the first and so far the only Dutchman at the start of the Barkley. And despite being a trained ultra-runner, he has so far only managed to complete two of the five rounds of the Barkley in a total of five attempts. He will return in 2022 to talk to the organizers and participants about the legendary ultra, which is the ultimate challenge for most runners.

Michiel Panhuysen is a journalist, writer and ultra-runner. The Barkley will be his first book about ultras. It fits in with an increasingly popular and extreme form of running that is about to take on an increasingly commercial form.



English samples available

Rights Sold

Ambo Anthos – Dutch (published in 2021)

Bloomsbury – World English (expected in 2023)

Word count 55.000

Erik Brouwer

The Champion of Auschwitz

Leen Sanders and survival of the death camps

Leendert 'Leen' Josua Sanders is one of the best Dutch boxers of all time. He grew up in one of the poorest neighborhoods of Rotterdam in an Orthodox Jewish family and struggled out of poverty in the classical way through his sport. He became Dutch champion several times and fought three legendary matches against Olympic Champion (1928) Bep van Klaveren. He won the European title and also made a name for himself as a professional boxer in the United Kingdom and Nazi Germany, where he fought with a Jewish Star of David on his shorts.

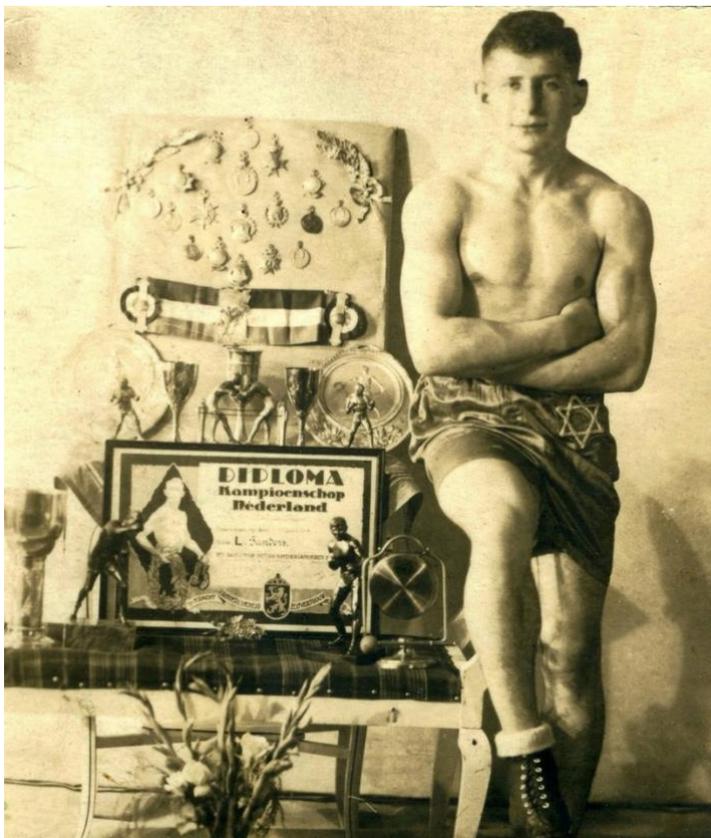
But the Nazis deported him to Auschwitz in 1942. His wife and children had to turn left before his eyes, in the direction of the gas chambers. He himself was approached during the selection by an SS officer who looked at his cauliflower ears and asked: 'Boxer?' Leen replied in the affirmative.

During his imprisonment he fought box matches in order to survive and stay out of trouble. These matches were common entertainment for SS officers in the camps. He got a relatively good job and saved many lives by stealing the food and secretly sharing it. After the liberation, ex-campmates from home and abroad called him 'The Angel of Auschwitz' and 'The God of Auschwitz'.

Boxing was widely practiced in the Netherlands by Jews to defend themselves against anti-Semites. In Germany it was Hitler's favorite sport and it was embraced by Goebbels and the Reichssportführer as a 'reiner Kampfsport' that fit perfectly into their ideology. Boxing was purely German according to the Nazis and the Völkische Beobachter wrote on March 4, 1933: 'There is no sport that promotes the German attacking spirit like boxing and there is nothing more beautiful than two young people fighting a disagreement. with the fists. It is also much more noble for a victim

of violence to stop his attacker with his fists than for him to click with a police officer.”

Most matches took place on Sundays. Then a ring was placed on the roll call area. When it rained or froze, the Nazis moved the ring to a warehouse or canteen. The main prize was good food. Fighting was done with bare hands or with the gloves of SS men. Weight classes did not exist, a lightweight regularly had to compete against a middle or heavyweight. Kapos fought against prisoners, SS men against prisoners. The Nazis most enjoyed matches between two Jews. The more blood that flowed, the better it was. Sanders and the other boxers knew that losing could kill.



Sample translation available/ English proposal available

Rights sold

Thomas Rap – Dutch (expected in 2023)

World English – under submission

App word count 80.000

Nando Boers

Inside Jumbo Visma

How the Tour is won

Voted three time best pro tour cycling team in the world, Jumbo Visma has proven itself in its ten year existence as the team to beat. However, the biggest goal in modern cycling has never been reached: Winning the Tour de France.

Dutch sports writer Nando Boers has been given access all areas to follow riders and staff of Jumbo Visma in their pursuit. His goals is to describe what a pro cycling team does and how it's run to pursue their ultimate goal.

He speaks with all riders (amongst others Primoz Roglic, Wout van Aert, Tom Dumoulin, Steven Kruijswijk, Jonas Vingegaard, Sepp Kuss, Robert Gesink) and attends all team and staff meetings, training camps and key races. This is the first time a journalist can operate within the capillaries of the cycling sport.

Nando Boers is sportswriter and a novelist. He has written several books on soccer, cycling, speedskating an Formula 1

Rights sold

Ambo Anthos – Dutch (expected spring 2023)

App word count 80.000



Nando Boers

‘We didn’t know what the hell we were doing’

F1 and Spyker

It was the dark ages. The Dutch didn't count in Formula 1. When Jos Verstappen last started in 2003, his son Max was only six years old and it would be another thirteen years before Max made his debut in Formula 1 as the youngest driver ever, without a driver's license. Grand Prix of Zandvoort did not return to the calendar until much later.

In those lean years between Jos and Max, three Dutchmen managed to get a seat behind the wheel of an F1 car and logically the rest of the world was not really interested in the Dutch contribution to Formula 1. But that changed for a moment when one evening in 2006 a couple of Dutch businessmen bought a Formula 1 team from a Russian-Canadian steel industrialist. They called their team SpykerF1. The were Dutch drivers (Christijan Albert, Robert Doornbos), Dutch investments and Dutch hubris.

This could mean something, was the general idea. Dutch commercial spirit, petrodollars from Abu Dhabi and engines from Ferrari. Who could stop them? The way up was set. And Spyker in Formula 1 did indeed sound like a great story, only things turned out somewhat different than the team had hoped.

Nando Boers is a writer/journalist and has mainly worked for Dutch television in recent years. Between 2000 and 2010 he was a reporter in Formula 1 and wrote for Formula 1 magazine and Sportweek/NUsport. He followed the rise and fall of SpykerF1 very closely and spoke weekly with all the main players during that time, including Jos and Max Verstappen.

This book about Spyker F1 is his eleventh title, and his third about Formula 1.



Christijan Albers leaving the pitlane, before detachment of the fuel hose, during the Mangy Cours Grand Prix in 2007



Sample translation available

Rights sold

Dutch rights – Thomas Rap

App word count 60.000 words

Menno Haanstra

Fabio & Julius

Becoming cyclists

Fabio Jakobsen and Julius van den Berg both had a dream to become pro cyclist. The rouleur and sprinter gave it their everything to make it to the top. 2018 is for both cyclist a breakthrough year. Julius signing for Team EF education and Fabio for Quick Step. Where Fabio raced through the ranks, Julius was more a slow starter. Fabio was in the spotlights with his numerous stage victories, with semi classic Scheldeprijs in 2018 and 2019 as his biggest ones.

But the Tour of Poland in 2020 changed everything. Fabio crashed out of the race, seconds before the mass sprint finish in Katowice. Julius was in the peloton and knew immediately that this was a very bad crash. Fabio was in a coma for days, and everybody around him feared for his life. Fabio broke almost all bones in his body and had to recover from the race incident, after several facial reconstructional operations for months. This medical rehabilitation made Fabio and Julius grew even closer together.

The next year Julius won a stage in Tour of Poland and dedicated the victory to Fabio. Meanwhile Fabio made his way back to the peloton and was fully recovered and even winning the point jersey in the Vuelta a Espagna in 2021. The comeback was completed. Team mate Mark Cavendish stated that his is proud to be part of his team saying 'he's an inspiration for me.'

Becoming cyclist is an authorized book about friendship, through thick and thin.

Menno Haanstra is sports writer who wrote books on speed skating and football before he started following Fabio and Julius for a series of stories published in cycling magazine *De Muur*. It was the base for this intimate and true book on friendship and sportsmanship.



Sample translation available

Rights sold

De Muur – Dutch (publication fall 2022)

App word count 50.000 words

Thomas Dekker

Heading for happiness

Life after cycling

Thomas Dekker retired from cycling in 2015, after a failed attempt for the Hour Record in Mexico in February. Would he have succeeded he might have earned himself a new contract, but his flame was exhausted. Several years of not even touching his bike followed. He moved from The Netherlands to California, to a world of the rich and famous, and lived together with film producer and art dealer Nathalie Marciano.

Through her and her family he got in touch with the psychological and therapeutic world which gave him insights about his live and his career like never before. Their relation stranded and Dekker left this 'toxic world' of make believe behind him, moving back in Amsterdam. A detoxing stay on the island of Bali, ayahuasca therapy and several psychological sessions made him a richer and more experienced person.

He started racing with his long-time friend and ex pro cyclist Laurens ten Dam and found the true meaning of life. Together with the people around him who have true meaning he speaks frank and honest about his life and his love for the world and the people in his life. Reflecting on his years that have passed and looking to a brighter future.

Thomas Dekker is a former pro cyclist. His tell all memoir *Descent* (Ebury) about his career and his bad choices sold over 200.000 copies in The Netherlands alone and was translated into seven different languages.



Sample translation available

Rights sold

Meulenhoff Boekerij – Dutch (pub. Summer 2022)

App word count 75.000 words

Mark de Bruijn

Mathieu van der Poel

The phenomenon explained

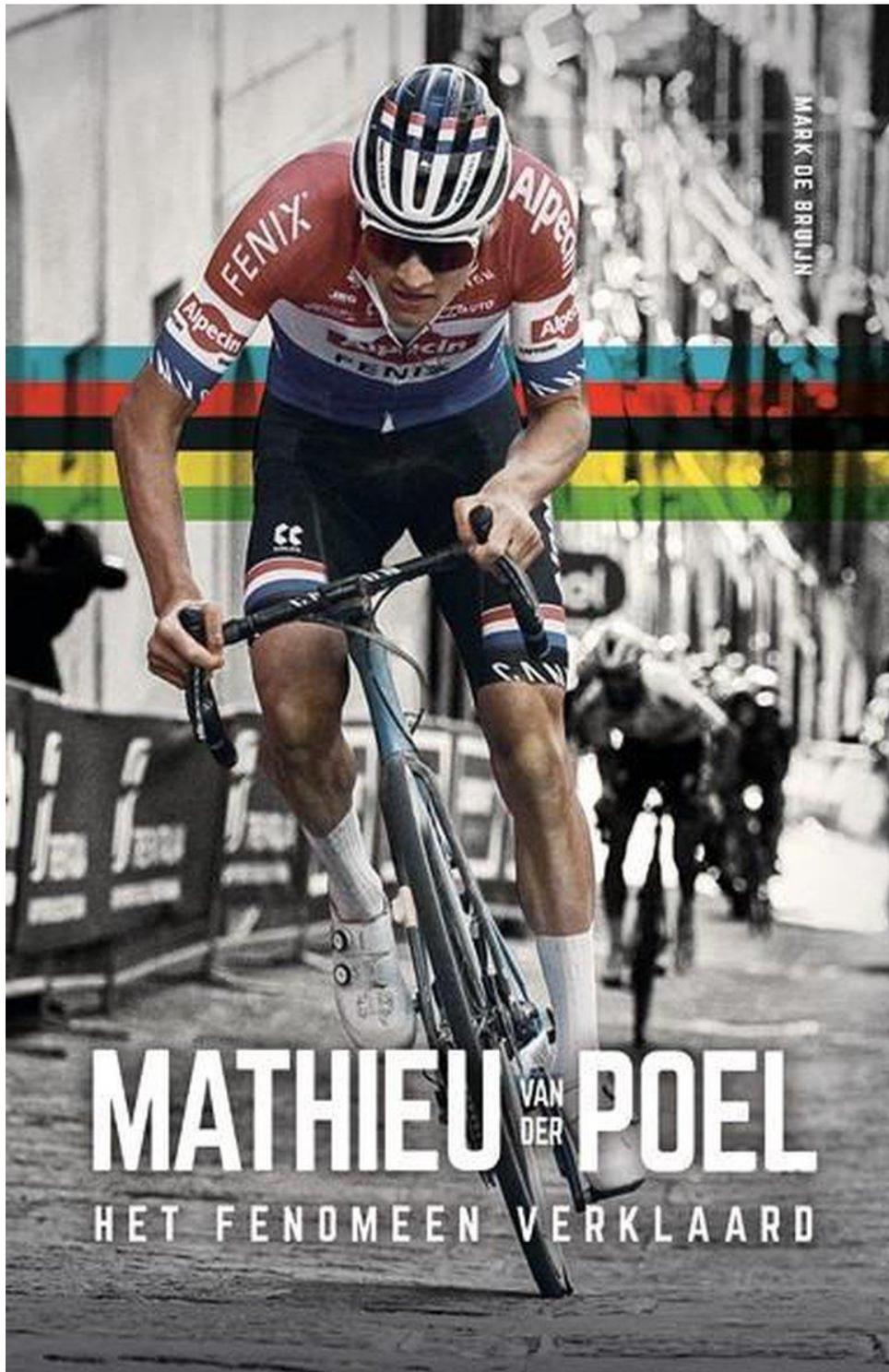
This is the very first book about cyclist Mathieu van der Poel, by writer Mark de Bruijn about how 'MvdP' became a cycling phenomenon.

Put Mathieu van der Poel (1995) on a bicycle and he wins, with an exclamation mark. At a young age he won the Amstel Gold Race, the Ronde van Vlaanderen and the Strade Bianche, he also became world champion in cyclo-cross four times, and wore cyclings holy grail The Yellow Jersey six consecutive days in the summer of 2021. Unparalleled in its talent, with the incomparable cycling genes of father Adrie and grandfather Raymond Poulidor. Mathieu flies, flees and amazes. And mostly does its own thing. He puts first what was often missing in cycling: fun. What makes him the cyclist he has become?

In this book, journalist Mark de Bruijn explains the phenomenon of MvdP. How do you turn acclaimed talent into a great champion? Why does he succeed in making it to the top and others fail? What else does he do? And who is hiding behind the cheerful, nonchalant ideal son-in-law who always seems to have a tailwind?

Phenomenon Mathieu van der Poel is capable of the unimaginable. – Bert Wagendorp, *de Volkskrant*

More than 20.000 copies sold



Rights sold

Kosmos Uitgevers – Dutch (update edition published march 2022)

Word count 45.000

Thomas Sijtsma

Lost Boy

The true story about a Jewish boy, the betrayal and the inevitable loss.

'Someone is missing.' These are three words that fall on every birthday of Thomas Sijtsma's great-grandmother. Everyone knows who is not there, but no one knows exactly where he is. It's Harry Davids. A Jewish boy who was born in Amsterdam during the war years. He ends up with Berend and Jeltje Bakker, Sijtsma's great-grandparents, hidden away, far from the Nazi's on a farm. They hide him, raise him and protect him from the German occupier.

After the war, little was said in the family about the person in hiding and the many other acts of resistance. That would be too painful and unnecessarily open wounds. Life goes on. No need for looking back.

When his grandmother dies in 2018, Sijtsma starts the search for history together with his uncle Harry – named after the person in hiding. The goal: Harry has to meet Harry, and vice versa.

The outcome is more comprehensive than expected. This book is about two pairs of parents who lost the same son, about people who dare to be brave, about unconditional love and about a lifelong prison of loss and grief.

Thomas Sijtsma (1985) became a journalist after his History major. Since then, he has written for the resistance newspapers *Trouw* and *Het Parool*. *The Lost Boy* is his third book.



Read the English article about this book here:

<https://www.parool.nl/nieuws/75-years-after-the-war-ended-i-tracked-down-the-jewish-boy-my-great-grandparents-had-hidden-from-the-nazis~bc477cca/>

Rights sold

Prometheus – Dutch (April 2022)

Word count 75.000

Rosanne Kropman

Sobibor

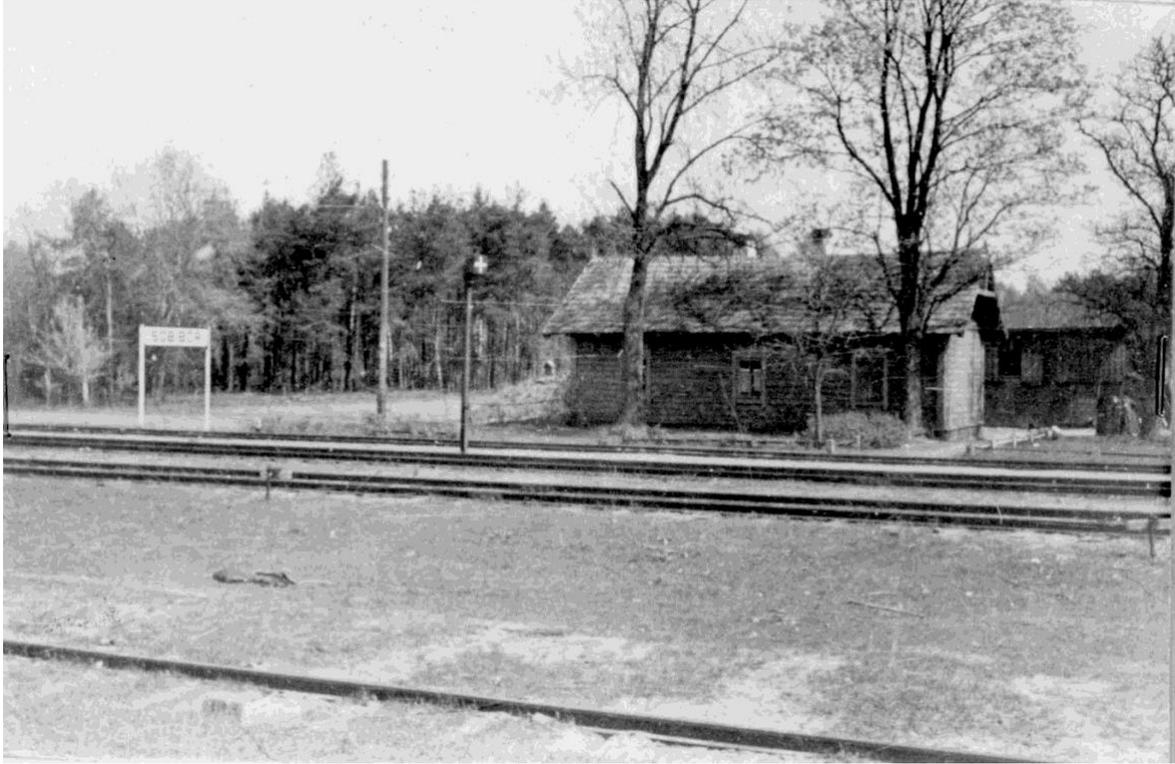
Witnesses in the soil

With the passing of the last survivors of the Sobibor death camp and the coming memorial date of 2023, the story of the horrors of the persecutions of the Jews in the second World War needs to be retold.

The foundations of the gas chambers have been freed from the guilty soil in which thousands of remains can be found until this day.

In the year 2020 a new memorial museum opened on location of the former death camp in Poland.

Journalist Rosanne Kropman came to the site to speak with the archaeological team, travelled to New York to speak with the last Dutch survival, escapee during the great Escape from Sobibor



English samples available

Rights sold

Nieuw Amsterdam – Dutch (pub fall 2022)

Word count app. 60. 000

Philippus Zandstra/ Wietse Pottjewijd

XTC

A Biography

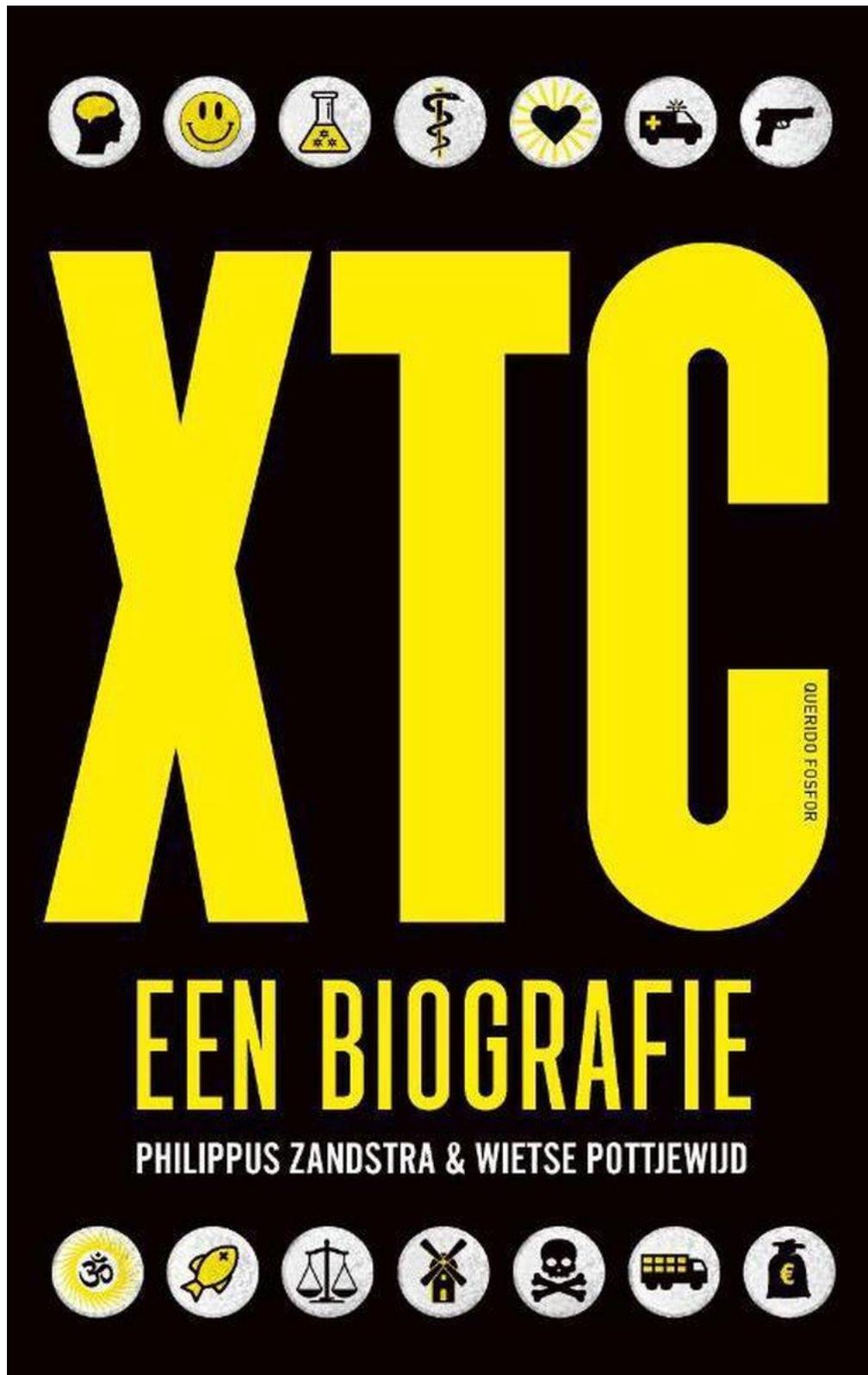
Aspirin for the eighties, vitamin for the nineties. Since XTC was introduced into the house scene, the love drug has become a fixture in the Dutch night life. About 1 million Dutch people have taken XTC and the underground pill industry is the largest in the world.

In XTC a Biography authors Zandstra and Pottjewijd describe its turbulent life up to now. From the Bhagwan commune, via underground therapists, the RoXY club in Amsterdam, hobby chemists and the sheds on remote industrial estates in Brabant, to illegal raves, which despite the corona pandemic are still popping up.

It is not only the story of a forbidden pill, but also a history of tolerance, prohibition, testing and partying of The Netherlands.

***** Good Reads

‘A great hit if you want to know everything there is to know about MDMA and XTC.’ This is Our House



English samples available

Rights sold

Querido – Dutch (publ. in 2021)

Submarine Films – Film rights

Anne Verhagen

How was your day?

Journal for a more conscious life

During or after a long, busy day, do you ever consciously take time for yourself? Do you really take a break, a moment to stand still? Reflect on the day, think about yourself and maybe even about life?

This journal will help you to do just that, without complicated assignments. You will learn the benefits of writing and reflecting. You think about your day, write down what bothers you, and record positive moments. Because writing means getting a grip on your days and peace in your head.

Anne Verhagen is physio therapist who guides and motivates others every day. To be able to take care others she also takes good care of herself. Reflecting on and dwelling on the day through writing helps her do that. From a young age she has been writing down feelings and events. She wants to share her positive experiences of writing with others and that is how the idea of this book arose.



Plates available

Rights sold

Paper Life/Unieboek Spectrum – Dutch (publ in 2021)

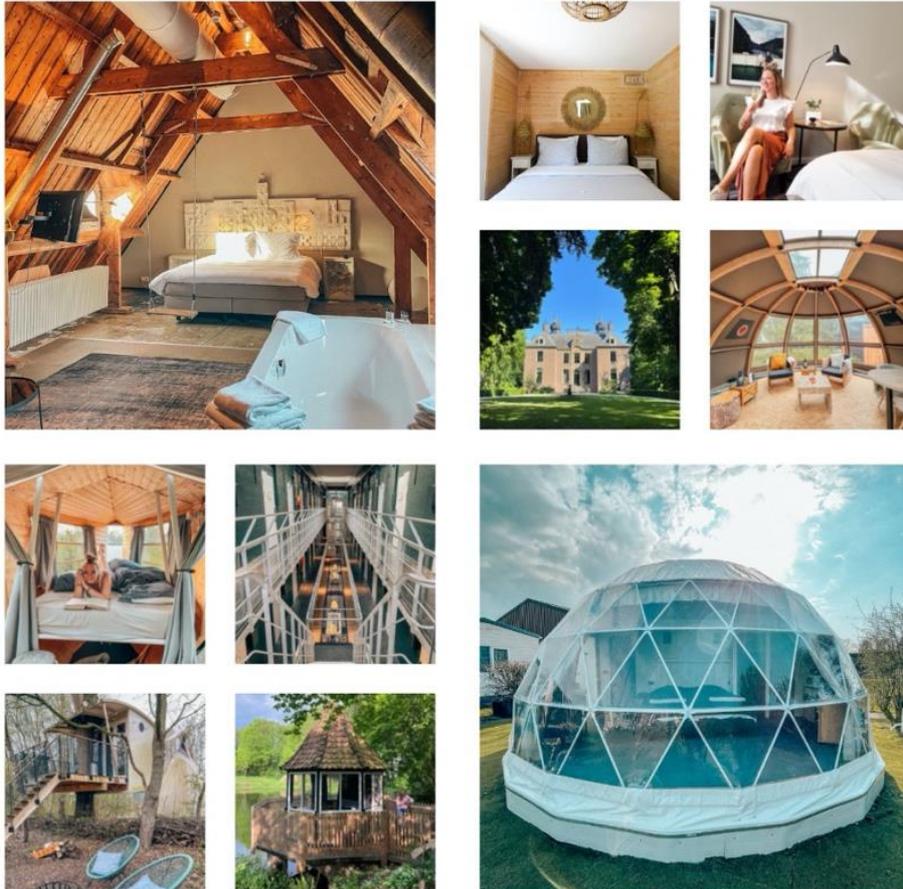
176 pages

Chantal Roskam, Lizzie Lommerse and Amanda Romijn One Night Stays The 75 best overnight stays in The Netherlands (and Flanders)

Be inspired by Amanda, Liz and Chantal who have travelled across the country looking for special, unusual and striking places to stay. The Netherlands is incredibly rich in surprising places where a hotels or a b&b's are located. Amanda, Liz and Chantal wanted to collect as many as possible in their book and present their 75 favourites.

All accommodations in the book they have actually visited. They now share their experiences with the reader: from yurt to bridge keeper's house and former prison building to campingsites on rafts. They have travelled throughout the Netherlands (and Flanders) in search of unusual accommodations.

75 x bijzonder overnachten in Nederland



**Amanda Romijn
Chantal Roskam
Lizzie Lommerse**

English samples available

Rights sold

Kosmos uitgevers – Dutch (pub date June 2022)

Word count 35.000

Plates available

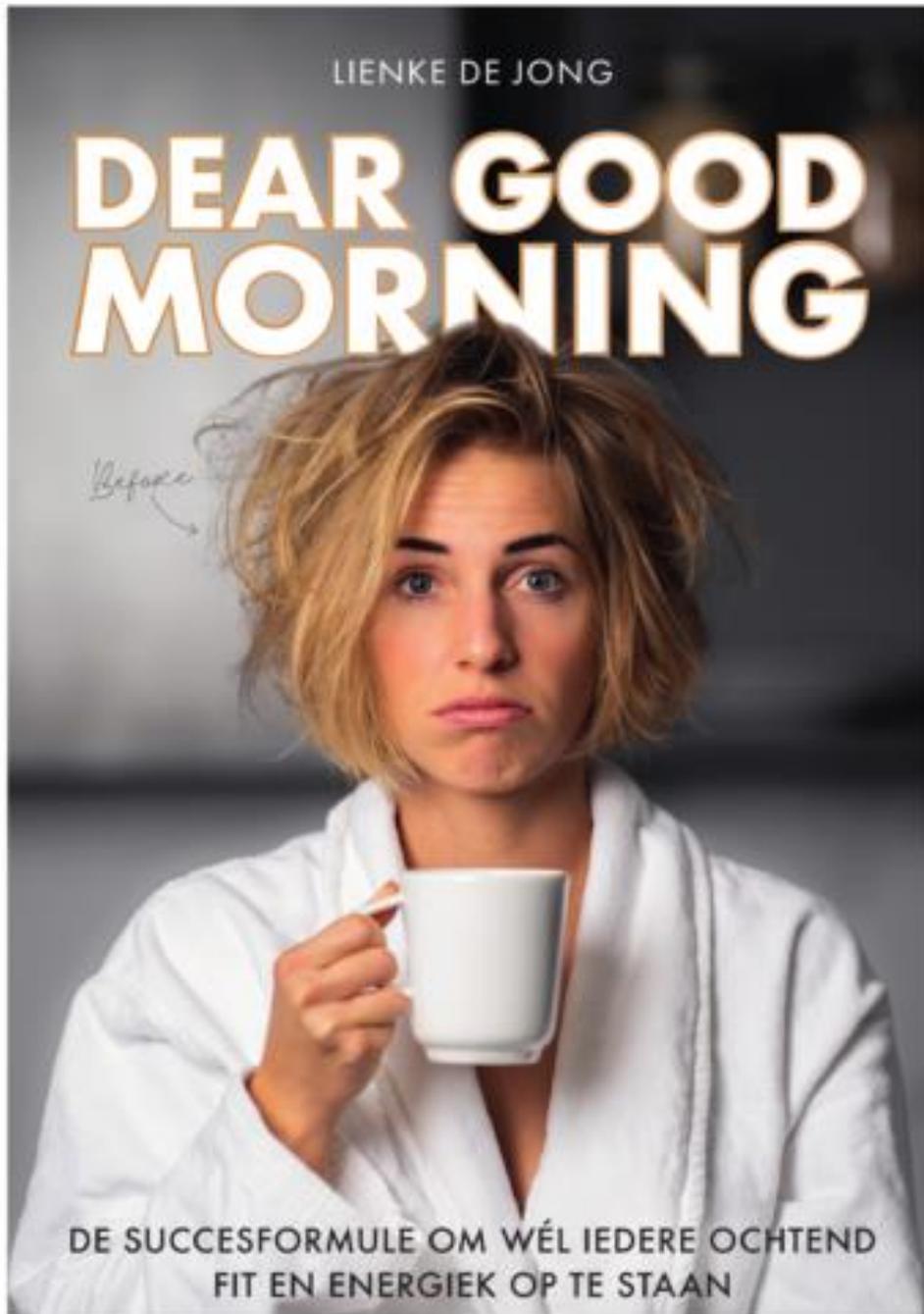
Lienke de Jong
Dear Good Morning
More success in four easy steps

In *Dear Good Morning*, Lienke de Jong helps you establish a morning routine that will make you fitter, happier and more successful.

In recent years Lienke has guided thousands of Dutch people to apply her success formula and to positively change their morning routine. Now she shares her secrets with you, so you too can start every day feeling fit and energetic. Good news: you don't have to get up at 5:00 in the morning if you don't want to, you can make great strides with just one extra minute of time. In fact, fifteen seconds can make all the difference.

Be inspired by Lienke's success story, the insights of experts and the successes of her Dear Good Morning community. Goodbye snoozing and rushing out the door, hello buckets of energy.

More than 15,000 copies sold



Sample translation available

Rights sold

A.W. Bruna – world

I'm a Foodie presents:

Eat like an Expert

An evidence based book on the how, the what and the why of healthy food

I'm a Foodie is the online platform of a team of dietitians, nutrition and health scientists who critically analyze all trends and hypes and translate the latest food knowledge into viable advice and recipes. In this book, these experts separate sense from nonsense, show how to make food and drinks work for your health, and explain in an accessible way how nutrition science works (and when it doesn't). This book comes with delicious ideas for breakfast, lunch and dinner and has handy weekly schedules

I'm a Foodie makes science edible. Eat like an expert form now on!

This ever seller sold over 65,000 copies in The Netherlands alone!

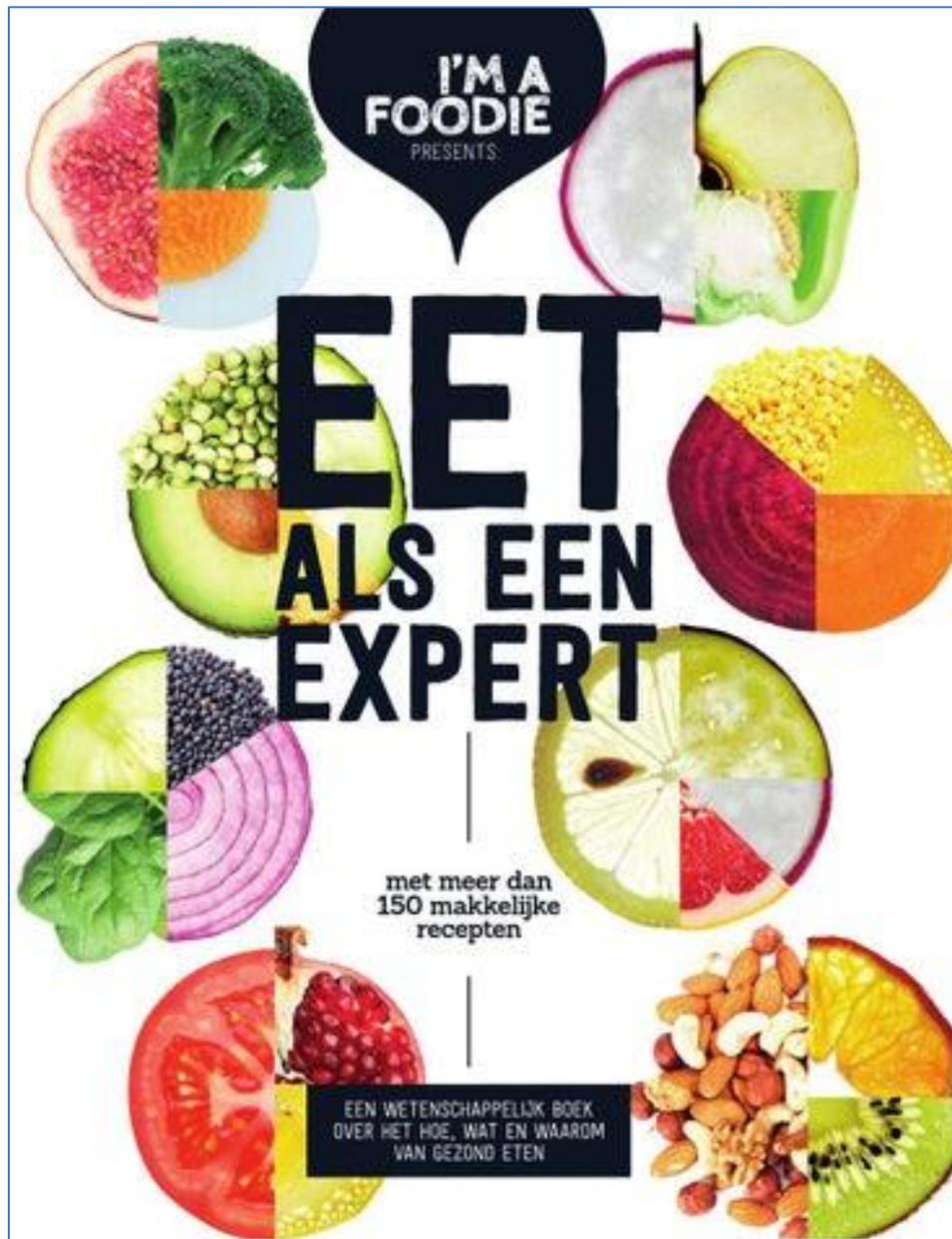
Available other titles in this series:

Eat like an Athlete

Eat like a runner

Party Time

What to eat when you're pregnant



English samples available

Rights sold

I'm a Foodie – Dutch

Meyer & Meyer Sportverlag - German