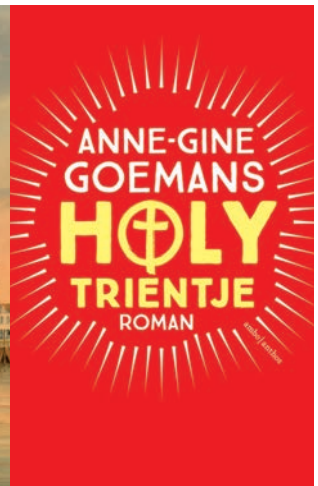


# FOREIGN RIGHTS GUIDE

LONDON BOOK FAIR 2019



ambo|anthos uitgevers

NON-  
FICTION  
288 pages  
April 2019

# MARIETTE BOON & LIESBETH VAN ROSSUM

## ESSENTIAL FAT

*Facts and fiction behind nutrition, fat burning and fat triggers.  
For fans of Giulia Enders and Yael Adler*



Everywhere you look, whether it be on TV or in the magazines, you're confronted with the same message. You need to be thinner, you need to be on a diet, you need to take so-called 'fat burning' supplements. What do we know about the fat that we would like to lose rather than embrace? No other organ – yes, fat is an organ – has so many prejudicial attitudes towards it. And that is completely unjustified, as medical doctors and fat researchers Mariëtte Boon and Liesbeth van Rossum show in *Essential Fat*. In their thorough and accessible book, these two scientists will talk about the latest research in this field of study.

**Sold to Quercus (World English), Heyne Verlag (German), Actes Sud (France), Plataforma (Spain), Zhejiang Science and Technology Publishing House (China) \* English proposal & sample available**



**MARIËTTE BOON**, MD (cum laude), PhD (cum laude) is internal medicine specialist in training. She has been awarded numerous prestigious national and international prizes for her research.

**PROFESSOR DR LIESBETH VAN ROSSUM**, MD (cum laude), PhD (cum laude) is internist-endocrinologist at the Erasmus University Medical Center, Rotterdam. She is co-founder of Obesity Center CCG, and has an internationally leading position in the field of obesity and biological stress research.

### DID YOU KNOW THAT:

- ... fat generates important hormones?
- ... fat can communicate with your brain?
- ... fat is essential to staying alive?
- ... the cause of excess fat often has nothing to do with too much food or too little exercise?
- ... stress, genetic predisposition and hormonal disorders effect the fat in your body?
- ... a crash diet does not benefit you...
- ... and it is perfectly fine to treat yourself occasionally to a slice of cake?

NON-  
FICTION  
160 pages  
June 2019

# BARUCH KOJOCARU

## THE WAR INSIDE ME

HIS LIFE STORY WRITTEN BY BARBARA BULTEN



Baruch Kojocaru, a Jewish boy, is growing up in Botoșani, Romania. When the Germans invade, eight-year-old Baruch is sent to the Transnistria labour camp, but he is rescued on the way and goes into hiding. After being betrayed, he ends up being transported to a camp anyway. As part of a deal, Baruch and a group of other children are allowed to leave the camp in 1944, and they wander around Central Europe for almost two years. At the end of 1946, he sets off with thousands of other refugees on a boat to Palestine. Upon arrival, the ship is shot at and sent to Cyprus. After months in a transit camp, Baruch is finally allowed into the Promised Land. But life in the free country of Israel, and later in Amsterdam, is not always as wonderful as he had hoped. He embarks upon a search for his family, for the people who rescued him and, above all, for himself. *The War Inside Me* is a touching portrait of an exceptional man who, in spite of the traumas of the Second World War, always continued to believe in love and in life.



**BARUCH KOJOCARU** is born in Romania in 1932, the war starts in 1939. *The war inside me* is his life story. He now resides in Amsterdam.



**BARBARA BULTEN** is from a Jewish family of writers. Her previous publications include the non-fiction titles *Het Mysterie Overhoeks* (*The Overhoeks Mystery*) and *IJstijd* (*Ice Age*). *The War Inside Me* is her first literary work.

'I discovered the story of Baruch and had no choice but to open it to the public. His story had to be told.' – Barbara Bulten



# KARWAN FATAH-BLACK PATHS THROUGH SLAVERY

## THE HISTORY OF SLAVERY AND EMANCIPATION IN SURINAME



The familiar story of slavery in Suriname takes place in the plantations, where the slave-owner determined what slaves did, where they did it, when and certainly with whom. In the streets, houses and yards of Paramaribo, however, this control was hard to maintain. This was where a free group began to lay the foundations of their own community. While the slave-owners struggled to keep control of their property, the slaves sought their way to freedom in the city and on the waterfront. Basing his work on the lives of these founding figures, Karwan Fatah-Black describes the period that preceded the final abolition of slavery, in 1863. The result is a magnificent book that casts a new light on the debate about the history of slavery and its legacy.

### Highlighted by the Dutch Foundation for Literature



**KARWAN FATAH-BLACK** studied history at the University of Amsterdam, gaining his doctorate in 2013 from the University of Leiden. In 2016, he received the KNAW's prestigious Heineken Young Scientists Award for his research into Dutch transatlantic trade, particularly the slave trade.

.....  
'A major contribution to the debate about slavery.'

– *Nederlands Dagblad*

'*Paths through slavery* is a fine addition to writing about the history of slavery. It is also commendable that Fatah-Black generally allows the facts to speak for themselves – they are, after all, gruesome enough.'

– *de Volkskrant*

'In this book, Fatah-Black shows that there is more than just the story of the hopeless lives of the plantation slaves.'

– *Reformatorisch Dagblad*

NON-  
FICTION  
240 pages.  
English sample  
available

# ANNEMIEK LECLAIRE

## DO LESS, LIVE MORE

DESTRESSING IN THE BURN-OUT SOCIETY



One morning, journalist Annemiek Leclaire realizes that she has had enough of all the hassle and the hurry in her life. When she wakes up, she no longer looks forward to the day, but just sees an endless list of Things To Do. She notices the same struggle all around her too. Stress, tension and burnouts are the ailments of our time. Affluent, people are becoming overwhelmed by self-imposed obligations, young people are unable to cope with the number of options and distractions. Do we really want to live our lives this way? Leclaire decides to make her life all about destressing. Doing less and living more – how exactly do you do that? This is the start of an extensive search, during the course of which she talks to academics and writers about bringing more calm, fun and meaning into your life. What matters, she realizes, is how you deal with your own freedom. When her partner suddenly dies, the life choices she made even help her through the grieving process. Daring to choose what your heart wants offers you protection.



ANNEMIEK LECLAIRE works as a journalist for *NRC Handelsblad*, *Vrij Nederland* and *Flow*. She wrote the series *Do Less, Live More*, which this book is based on, for *Vrij Nederland*. She lives in Amsterdam with her two children.

From *Do Less, Live More*:

‘We are human beings; we cannot be optimized.’

‘We experience a continual sense of lack. And that makes for a very restless life.’

‘If you’re so busy that you put off something that’s important to you often enough, this creates a feeling of emptiness that is filled with yet more meaningless activity.’

‘Our imperfections can help us learn how to focus, so that we don’t drown in all the possibilities.’

NON-  
FICTION  
368 pages  
Juni 2019

# JACQUES MEERMAN MEDITERRANEO

A CULINARY TRAVEL GUIDE TO THE MIDDLE AGES



This book offers a unique view of the origins of modern cuisine. Following in the footsteps of four twelfth-century travellers – a French monk, a Jewish rabbi, an Islamic secretary from Granada, and a Moroccan geographer – the author shows how different cultures have influenced one another’s culinary traditions and how they fit within the political, social and religious structures of that time. The result is a family portrait of cuisines that differ greatly from one another and yet are inextricably linked.

*Mediterraneo* is the first book that has ventured to join the dots between the European, Byzantine, Middle Eastern and North African culinary cultures, offering a broad historical view of world cuisine. The book features dozens of authentic recipes.

English proposal & sample available



JACQUES MEERMAN has translated many books about gastronomy from various languages, including titles by Claudia Roden and Harold McGee as well as the *Larousse gastronomique* and Italian Slow Food books. He has also written a large number of articles about traditional Spanish cuisine and a book about the influence of Islamic cooking in Europe. Recent titles by Meerman published by Ambo|Anthos: *A Little History of Dutch Cuisine* and *A Little History of Hutspot*.

*On Mediterraneo:*

**Claudia Roden: ‘A thrilling and romantic odyssey, and amazing story that reveals how what we have on our table today came to be.’**

*On a Brief History of Dutch Cuisine:*

**‘For now it is the bible, the definitive work that all culinary enthusiasts should have in their cupboard.’ – *de Volkskrant***

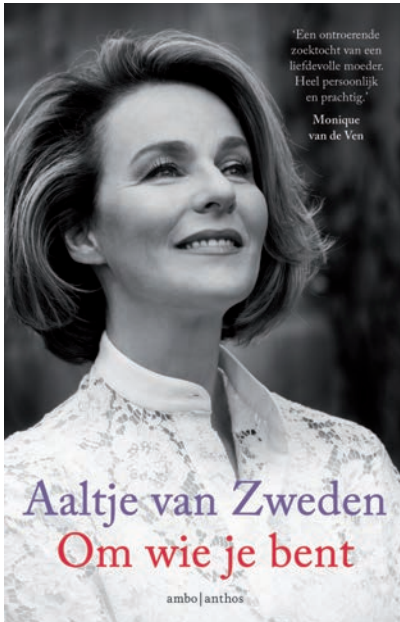
**‘Meerman’s beautifully illustrated book also offers more than one hundred historical recipes for those who want to get cooking themselves. A must for anyone who loves history as well as food and cooking!’ – *Friesch Dagblad***

**NARRATIVE  
NON-FICTION**  
256 pages  
English sample  
available

# AALTJE VAN ZWEDEN

## A BLESSING IN DISGUISE

*A moving story about a mother who processes her own childhood experiences through her struggle for her son's happiness*



As an eighteen-year-old student, Aaltje meets a boy on a night out in Amsterdam. He asks her and her friend out for an evening to go and hear the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra perform. To her surprise, he turns out to be Jaap van Zweden, the orchestra's youngest concertmaster ever. There is a spark between them, and they get married less than a year later. Her husband's career skyrockets and, together with their two young children, they enjoy a rich and varied life. During her third pregnancy, Aaltje suspects that something is wrong, but it is not until years after Benjamin's birth that he is diagnosed with autism. Memories of her insecure childhood with an alcoholic father surface. This confrontation with the past gives her the strength to face her son's problems. And it is Benjamin who teaches her to accept life as it is.

**15.000 copies sold**



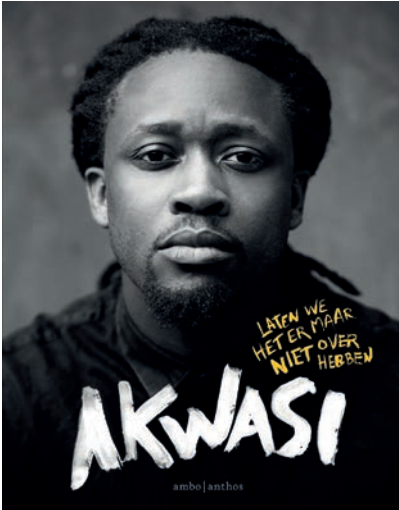
In her book, Aaltje van Zweden explains in a way that is both touching and inspiring how she manages to combine the different worlds in which she lives, as the wife of Jaap van Zweden, one of the world's most famous conductors (since September 2018 the Music Director of the New York Philharmonic), and as the mother of four children and a champion for the cause of autism.

**AALTJE VAN ZWEDEN** is married to Jaap van Zweden, the Music Director of the New York Philharmonic. They have four children. Their son Benjamin's diagnosis of autism led, in 1996, to the establishment of the Papageno Foundation, which offers support to the families of children with autism. In 2015, Aaltje van Zweden opened the Papageno House, a home for assisted living and working for young adults with autism. In November 2016, she received the prestigious Hélène de Montigny Prize for her outstanding work for people with autism.



# AKWASI

## LET'S JUST CHANGE THE SUBJECT



‘We hardly ever say what we’re really thinking. We keep our thoughts to ourselves or give a safe answer, avoiding the problem. Let’s just change the subject. Why do we do that? What are the consequences of leaving things unsaid, of not communicating about what we’re really thinking? And what if we actually spoke our truth for once? In this collection, I deal with that avoidance. Whether it’s about your hair, your headgear or your use of language, your breath or your teeth, your colour, your attitude, your cooking skills, your family, your secret past, your heart palpitations, your style, your beliefs, your sexual orientation, your phobias or your background. Let’s just change the subject? I’m going to talk about it anyway.’ – Akwasi

Dutch bestseller list \* Wonderful press reviews



AKWASI is a Dutch rapper, actor and writer. He is a master storyteller. Whether he does this in a rap, a poem or a TV programme, he wants to inspire people, to fascinate and stimulate them. With words. Akwasi is truly a multitalented artist.

‘Akwasi does talk about all those things, and it hits home, word for word, sentence for sentence.’ – *Marie-Claire*

‘What he writes is easy to follow, very suitable for readers who are willing to think beyond literal meanings, but who don’t feel like embarking upon searches of bottomless pits. The themes he discusses refer to current issues, skin colour, being different, and inclusivity. This alone makes Akwasi a welcome addition to the literary landscape.’

– *Dagblad van het Noorden*



FICTION  
320 pages  
April 2019  
English sample  
available

# WILLEMIJN VAN DIJK

## THE WHITE AND THE PURPLE



*The White and the Purple* brings Rome to life as never before: a world full of intrigue, murder and manslaughter, of powerful emperors and wily senators. Willemijn van Dijk tells the story of Pallas, one of the city's leading freedmen, who finds himself present at the dawn of Emperor Nero's notorious regime – and at the downfall of his dynasty.

Pallas is sold as a slave in Greece at a young age. He ends up in Rome and, after years of service for a wealthy widow, he is granted his freedom. As a freedman, Pallas defies the common prejudices about ex-slaves in Rome and violates the rigid rules of Roman society. His star rises to unprecedented heights and eventually he finds his way to the court of the reigning emperor, Claudius. With the gruesome murder of Emperor Gaius still fresh in his mind, the old Claudius fears that chaos will break out in Rome when he dies, as his oldest male heir is still too young to succeed him. The ingenious Pallas sees an opportunity to penetrate into Claudius's small circle of advisors. His decision to play the dangerous game of politics at the Julian-Claudian court clears the way to the heights of power, but at what price?



WILLEMIJN VAN DIJK is an ancient historian and writer. Her previous publications include *Via Roma. De geschiedenis van Rome in 50 straten* (*Via Roma. The History of Rome in 50 Streets*) and *De opvolger* (*The Successor*), a literary biography of Emperor Tiberius.

### About *Via Roma*:

'Smoothly, pointedly, and competently written. Even those who know a lot about the city and have been to Rome many times will find great pleasure in this book' – *Frankfurter Allgemeine Sonntagszeitung*

### About *De opvolger* (*The Successor*):

'This beautifully written and well-documented book is both novel and non-fiction. Because her descriptions of life in Rome around the beginning of our era and her depiction of the frequently complex family ties in the Roman upper classes read like a novel. She presents historical events as if she had witnessed them herself.'

– *NRC Handelsblad*

Previous work sold to US (Baylor University Press), Germany (DVA) and Korea (Mindcube).



# ANNE-GINE GOEMANS

## HOLY TRIENTJE



What inspires five people to devise a plan to occupy a nuclear weapons depot? A clear vision about the end of the world makes Trientje, a nun, see that nuclear weapons are evil. So she sends her niece Regina to the United States to study with an American nun who broke into the nation's biggest atomic complex. Armed with this knowledge, they form a small international group of idealists whose aim is to let the world know about the dangers of nuclear energy and nuclear weapons.

*Holy Trientje* is a great, expansive novel, taking us from Haarlem to America, the Marshall Islands and Japan. In her sophisticated and captivating style and her compelling narrative voice, Goemans shows us what can happen when blind idealistic ambition goes hand in hand with irreparable traumatic suffering.

**Previous work sold to Germany (Suhrkamp/Insel)**



ANNE-GINE GOEMANS is a writer and journalist. Goemans made her debut with the critically acclaimed *Ziekzoekers* (*Sick Seekers*), for which she won the Anton Wachter Prize in 2008. *Glijvlucht* (published in English as *Gliding Flight*), her second, highly praised novel, won Goemans the Dioraphte Youth Literature Prize in 2012 and the German M-Pionier Prize for literary newcomers. In 2015, her major literary breakthrough, *Honolulu King*, was published, with more than 50,000 copies sold. Movie rights have been sold.

**About *Gliding Flight*:**

**'A sweet, sympathetic novel with a sense of humor.' – *Kirkus reviews***

**About *Honolulu King*:**

**'A strong and gripping story, with a plot set in the here and now. A story about guilt and atonement and revenge. Essential reading.'**  
– *Opzij*

**'True story, mesmerisingly told' – *LINDA***

FICTION  
192 pages  
Full English  
translation  
available

# AUKE HULST

## SEARCHLIGHT ON THE LAWN



8 November 1960, South California. Vice President Richard Nixon has just voted in the presidential elections, in which he is standing against the talented senator John F. Kennedy. This promises to be the most exciting election ever, a clash of characters and styles: the resolute Quaker versus the slick rich kid. Then Nixon suddenly vanishes, off on a road trip that will take him and three of his loyal supporters to Tijuana, Mexico. For Nixon, this is a trip down memory lane, to places from his youth, which also foreshadow a dark future. Why this impulsive desire to escape? And what damage, sustained during a life that began in hardship, in a family where death was a frequent visitor, will determine the self-destruction of this naturally talented politician?

In *Zoeklicht op het gazon* (*Searchlight on the Lawn*), Auke Hulst examines the influences of characters on the course of history. The result is a historical novel that is extremely relevant today.

### Highlighted by the Dutch Foundation for Literature



Author and musician **AUKE HULST** made his literary breakthrough in 2012 with his third, strongly autobiographical novel, *Kinderen van het Ruige Land* (*Children of the Savage Land*). He won the Harland Award two years in a row, for *Slaap zacht, Johnny Idaho* (*Sleep Tight, Johnny Idaho*, 2015) and *En ik herinner me Titus Broederland* (*Brotherland*, 2016), which was also on the longlist for the ECI Literature Prize and the Libris Literature Prize. *Motel Songs* (2017) was favourably received, winning the Bob den Uyl Prize.

‘Hulst has turned Nixon into a real human being, and his life story into a concise novel, a feat that’s even more impressive when you consider that his main character is one of the major and most reviled icons of the 20th century. *Searchlight on the Lawn* is a book filled with pointed sentences, a book that’s both all-encompassing and pithy.’ – *Het Parool*

‘Hulst’s empathy is matched by his stylistic brilliance. You can feel and smell Nixon’s world as he stumbles towards his political downfall.’ – *NRC Handelsblad*

Auke Hulst has developed into an accomplished literary portrait painter. This novel fascinates due to the dark, Dostoevskyan aspects of Nixon’s personality, which are expertly depicted. The beauty of *Searchlight on the Lawn* is that, despite the unappealing, gloomy sides of the man, one still feels compassion, as if Nixon is the embodiment of the human condition.’ – *Trouw*

FICTION  
96 pages

# HERMAN KOCH

## EASY LIVING

Written in honour of the Dutch Bookweek in a total print run of 650.000 copies.

**Rights sold to Neri Pozza (Italy), Kiepenheuer & Witsch (Germany).**



Tom Sanders is a celebrated writer of self-help books. His bestsellers, *Crime Without Frontiers* and *Easy Living*, have sold more than forty million copies worldwide. He leads an extremely comfortable life, is happily married to Julia, and has two grown-up sons, the youngest of whom, Stefan, is the apple of his eye. Suddenly, during a birthday party for Julia, their daughter-in-law Hanna – of whom Tom and Julia are not particularly fond – turns up at the door. Sobbing, she says that Stefan has beaten her – and that this is not the first time. Should Tom tackle his favourite son about his behaviour? Or would it perhaps be better to put the advice from his self-help books into practice, such as his famous precept ‘Try not to solve problems by thinking about them; often they are sooner solved by not thinking about them’? *Easy Living* brilliantly shows how a man who is so successful with his insights on life must suddenly pull out all the stops in order to face up to the problems in his own life. The book is only 90 pages, but in that short amount of space Koch succeeds in creating an image of a writer who understands how to deal with life. Or preferably, how not to deal with it: the art of waiting it out.



HERMAN KOCH is an internationally bestselling author. The translation rights for *The Dinner* (2009) have been sold to over 55 countries, which is unprecedented for a modern Dutch novel. *Summer House with Swimming Pool* (2011), *Dear Mr M.* (2014) and *The Ditch* (2016) are international bestsellers as well.

‘From the second line, “You must have heard of me”, you wish him the worst. The reader soon starts to hope for the know-it-all’s downfall, but Koch takes his time to satisfy that desire.’ – *de Volkskrant*

‘Should Tom Sanders disregard his own advice? Or should he tackle his son about his behaviour? That is the central dilemma in *Easy Living*, and Koch gets a devilish kick out of making Tom Sanders vacillate between these two options, and gets an even greater kick out of pushing him into a corner.’ – *Het Parool*

THRILLER  
256 pages  
April 2019

# PATRICIA SNEL

## PERFECT MATCH



Isa, thirty-nine years old, has everything she wants. A great flat in the centre of Amsterdam, her own yoga school and no shortage of male attention. Even so, it would be nice if she could meet a man who's really worth the effort. And just maybe, one day... a baby? Her friend Susan recommends a new dating site, Perfect Match. She meets Nils, a charming Swedish surgeon. Could he be her perfect match? For a while it seems he is, until unexpected dramatic events start to unfold, with devastating consequences. Isa has one thing on her mind: revenge.



**PATRICIA SNEL** studied Italian language & literature and art history. She made her literary breakthrough with *De expat*, one of the best-selling thrillers of 2013. After living for years in Singapore and the Cayman Islands, she returned to Amsterdam in 2016. Patricia wrote six bestsellers, including her most recent thriller, *Expat Exit*.

### About *Expat Exit*:

'By writing *Expat Exit* from the changing perspectives of Elisa, her son, and the other child's father, Snel succeeds in keeping up a great pace in her story.' – *Vrij Nederland*

'With a good mix of surprising twists, engaging characters and complex relationships, in *The Expat*, Patricia Snel writes an exciting and compelling thriller, which at the same time, denounces a significant social problem.' – *De Twentse Courant Tubantia*

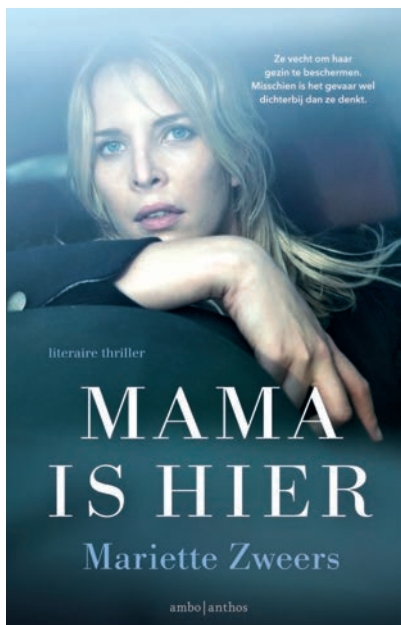
'You'll read this steamy new thriller in one go.' – *De Telegraaf*

THRILLER  
320 pages  
April 2019

# MARIETTE ZWEERS

## MUMMY'S HERE

*For readers who love thrillers by Saskia Noort, Esther Verhoef and Simone van der Vlugt*



To the outside world, they are a couple who have it all figured out: Matthijs is the breadwinner, while Olga looks after the home and their daughter, Juliette, who is 'her project'. When Matthijs is blackmailed and Juliette has an accident in unexplained circumstances, Olga thinks she knows who is threatening her family. She's determined not to lose everything, and so takes matters into her own hands. Survival instincts from a distant past rise to the surface... *Mummy's Here* is a haunting psychological page-turner about love and calculation, and about how far you're prepared to go when your safe world is threatened.



**MARIETTE ZWEERS** was nominated for the Schaduwprijs 2017 for her debut, *Maakbaar*. She is a business administrator in Groningen.

### *About Maakbaar:*

'A gripping page-turner, in which an ordinary woman gradually loses control over her life. A strong debut in the style of Saskia Noort and Simone van der Vlugt.' – *De Telegraaf*

'Compelling literary debut.' – *Hebban.nl*

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# THE DINNER HERMAN KOCH

## WORLDWIDE BESTSELLER

