

WILLEM FREDERIK HERMANS

THE DARKROOM  
OF DAMOCLES



# The Darkroom Of Damocles A Novel

**Willem Frederik Hermans**

A decorative red circular graphic element, resembling a stylized sun or a lens flare, is positioned to the right of the author's name. It has a soft, glowing red center that fades into a lighter red and then into the white background of the slide.

## **The Darkroom Of Damocles A Novel:**

The Darkroom of Damocles Willem Frederik Hermans, 2009-10-27 By the acclaimed Dutch author of *Beyond Sleep* a thriller set in Nazi occupied Holland fast moving frighteningly real yet verging on the incredible Milan Kundera author of *The Unbearable Lightness of Being* During the German occupation of Holland tobacconist Henri Osewoudt is visited by a mysterious man named Dorbeck a man who bears a strangely striking resemblance to Osewoudt himself Dorbeck recruits him to perform simple but top secret missions on orders from London But as the assignments keep coming they get increasingly dangerous Soon Osewoudt is being asked to commit murder in the name of Gestapo resistance After the war Osewoudt is taken for a traitor and captured To prove his sacrifices for the Resistance he must find the untraceable doppelgänger in an existential thriller crackling with tension bringing to mind Camus and the Sartre of *Les Chemins de la Liberté* The Telegraph Striking suspenseful Brilliant The Observer

The Darkroom of Damocles Willem Frederik Hermans, 2020-09 A classic pitch black wartime thriller from the author of *An Untouched House* **The Penguin Book of Dutch Short Stories**

Joost Zwagerman, 2016-09-29 The stories here will provoke delight and impress Joost Zwagerman's selection forms a fascinating guidebook to a landscape you'll surely want to wander in again Clare Lowden TLS There is a lot of northern European melancholy in the collection though often tinged with wry humour an excellent book Jonathan Gibbs *Minor Literatures* We were kids but good kids If I may say so myself We're much smarter now so smart it's pathetic Except for Bavink who went crazy A husband forms gruesome plans for his new fridge a government employee has a haunting experience on his commute home prisoners serve as entertainment for wealthy party guests an army officer suffers a monstrous tropical illness These short stories contain some of the most groundbreaking and innovative writing in Dutch literature from 1915 to the present day with most pieces appearing here in English for the first time Blending unforgettable snapshots of the realities of everyday life with surrealism fantasy and subversion this collection shows Dutch writing to be an integral part of world literary history Joost Zwagerman 1963-2015 was a novelist poet essayist and editor of several anthologies He started his career as a writer with bestselling novels describing the atmosphere of the 1980s and 1990s such as *Gimmick* 1988 and *False Light* 1991 In later years he concentrated on writing essays notably on pop culture and visual arts and poetry Suicide was the theme of the novel *Six Stars* 2002 He took his own life just after having published a new collection of essays on art *The Museum of Light*

*The Complete Review Guide to Contemporary World Fiction* M.A. Orthofer, 2016-04-19 A user friendly reference for English language readers who are eager to explore contemporary fiction from around the world Profiling hundreds of titles and authors from 1945 to today with an emphasis on fiction published in the past two decades this guide introduces the styles trends and genres of the world's literatures from Scandinavian crime thrillers and cutting edge Chinese works to Latin American narco fiction and award winning French novels The book's critical selection of titles defines the arc of a country's literary development Entries illuminate the fiction of individual

nations cultures and peoples while concise biographies sketch the careers of noteworthy authors Compiled by M A Orthofer an avid book reviewer and the founder of the literary review site the Complete Review this reference is perfect for readers who wish to expand their reading choices and knowledge of contemporary world fiction A bird s eye view of titles and authors from everywhere a book overfull with reminders of why we love to read international fiction Keep it close by Robert Con Davis Udiano executive director World Literature Today M A Orthofer has done more to bring literature in translation to America than perhaps any other individual This book will introduce more new worlds to you than any other book on the market Tyler Cowen George Mason University A relaxed riverine guide through the main currents of international writing with sections for more than a hundred countries on six continents Karan Mahajan Page Turner blog The New Yorker

*Spirit of Resistance* Jeroen Dewulf,2010 The first book to offer a complete story of the extraordinary proliferation of Dutch clandestine literature under the Nazi occupation Clandestine literature was published in all countries under Nazi occupation but nowhere else did it flourish as it did in the Netherlands This raises important questions What was the content of this literature What were the risks of writing printing selling and buying it And why the Netherlands Traditionally the combative Dutch spirit of resistance has been cited a reaction not only to German oppression but to German propaganda while the Germans hoped to build bonds with their Germanic Dutch brothers clandestine literature insisted on their incompatibility However when reading clandestine literature one should not forget that this spirit of resistance came rather late and did not prevent the transportation of seventy three percent of the Netherlands Jewish population to Nazi death camps the largest percentage in Western Europe The Dutch case is complex while the country proved to be remarkably resistant to Nazi propaganda little was done to prevent the actual execution of Nazi policies The complete story of Dutch clandestine literature therefore combines resistance and complicity victory and defeat pride and shame Jeroen Dewulf is Queen Beatrix Professor of Dutch Studies in the Department of German at the University of California Berkeley A

*Literary History of the Low Countries* Theo Hermans,2009 What was the written culture behind visual artists like Vermeer Rembrandt and Rubens What made the historical novel in nineteenth century Flanders so different from its counterpart in Holland What was the literary impact of the huge colonial empires run by the Netherlands and Belgium What role did Latin French and Frisian play in the literary culture of the Low Countries through the ages Why is experimental writing so prevalent in modern Dutch literature What has made Cees Nooteboom an internationally acclaimed author And how does Flemish relate to Dutch anyway This first literary history of the Netherlands and Flanders in English since the 1970s answers these and many other questions Written by a team of Dutch and Flemish subject specialists it offers a comprehensive and authoritative account of the literature of the Dutch speaking area from the medieval period up to the present day While it focuses on literature written in Dutch it also assesses the significance of writings in French Latin and Frisian

**Contemporary Fiction of the Low Countries** Jaap Goedegebuure,Anne Marie Musschoot,1991 **Images of**

**Occupation in Dutch Film** Wendy Burke, 2025-10-01 The German occupation of the Netherlands during World War II left a lasting mark on Dutch memory and culture This book is the first to explore depictions of that period in films made a generation later between 1962 and 1986 As Dutch public opinion towards the war altered over the postwar decades the historical trajectory of Dutch recovery and reconstruction political economic and most complicated of all psychological came to be revealed often unconsciously in the films of the period *Dutch and Flemish Literature as World Literature* Theo D'haen, 2019-07-25 The recent return of world literature to the centre of literary studies has entailed an increased attention to non European literatures but in turn has also further marginalized Europe's smaller literatures Dutch and Flemish Literature as World Literature shows how Dutch language literature from its very beginnings in the Middle Ages to the present has not only always taken its cue from the major literary traditions of Europe and beyond but has also actively contributed to and influenced these traditions The contributors to this book focus on key works and authors providing a concise yet highly readable history of Dutch language literature and demonstrating how this literature is anchored in world literature *London Magazine* John Lehmann, Alan Ross, 1961 *Provo* Richard Kempton, 2007 This is the first book length English language study of Holland's legendary insurrectional movement In an introduction and eight chapters Richard Kempton narrates the rise and fall of Provo from early Dutch Happenings staged in 1962 through to the so called Death of Provo in 1967 including Robert Jasper Grootveld's anarchist anti cancer campaigns the riots against Princess Beatrix's marriage to an ex Nazi and the famous White Bicycle program Then in seven appendices he comments on parallel contemporary and near contemporary movements including Dada and Situationism studies Amsterdam's previous anarchist traditions chronicles the spread of Provo through the Netherlands and the development of the Kabouter Gnome party and offers an existentialist critique of Provo and other anarchist movements of the 60s This unique book is based on extensive primary research and includes a selective bibliography of the Dutch language sources *Beyond Sleep* Willem Frederik Hermans, 2020-11-26 A blackly comic classic from the author of *An Untouched House* A young geologist hungry for fame journeys to the mountains of Norway's Arctic north on a research expedition but soon realizes he's more likely be eaten alive by mosquitoes than win glory Freezing wet and plagued by insomnia Alfred becomes increasingly desperate and paranoid under the midnight sun until he takes a catastrophic decision This dazzlingly dark classic is at once a gripping survival story a mordant farce and a peerless evocation of mental disintegration *The Book Review Digest*, 2007 *Books and Bookmen*, 1960 **Delta**, 1959 **Fiction in Several Languages** Henri Peyre, 1968 **Sisyphus and Eldorado** Timothy J. Reiss, 2002 This collection of writings on Caribbean literature takes as its theme the possibility of differentiating mainly English language material metaphysical literature Sisyphus from mainly French Spanish magic realism Eldorado It is a refreshing perspective on a richly complicated literary culture *New Statesman*, 1962 **A Guardian Angel Recalls** Willem Frederik Hermans, 2021-11-16 Willem Frederik Hermans's lucid and exhilarating WWII masterpiece in a razor sharp

translation by David Colmer A Guardian Angel Recalls is a gripping and diabolical wartime novel by one of the most provocative Dutch writers of the twentieth century Alberecht a frenzied and lovelorn public prosecutor speeds through Hook of Holland in his black Renault on May 9 1940 the eve of the German invasion of the Netherlands Guiding his every move is a guardian angel With unflappable patience the angel flits from the hood of the Renault to the rim of his windswept hat determined to quell his every anxiety and doubt The angel s momentary distraction however sets off a chain of events that spins a nightmarish web Alberecht s elusive companion serves both as narrator and meddlesome driver of the plot though not without the interventions of a rotating cast of devils      *The Dark Room of Damocles* Willem Frederik Hermans, 1958

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