

A human life has no price. An assassination does.

Scorpio

HILDE VANDERMEEREN

After a weekend away with the family, 36 year old Gaelle wakes up in the secure wing of a psychiatric hospital in Berlin, Germany. She is wounded, but does not remember what happened. Her son Lukas is in a coma in another hospital. The police suspect her of attempting to murder her son. She manages to escape and is determined to uncover the truth.

One of our greatest talents in the genre

DE STANDAARD

Michael is a contract killer who works for Scorpio, an organization run by the ruthless Dolores Bartosz who trades in murder on demand. Scorpio spares no one; those who disobey the rules sign their own death warrant. When Michael reneges on his job to kill Gaelle and Lukas and sabotages its completion by a second hired killer, he himself becomes a target. His mission is to keep Gaelle and Lukas out of the claws of Scorpio and bring down the organisation – while Scorpio seeks its own revenge.

His journey takes him across Europe, to the catacombs in Paris and back to Germany. In the meantime, Gaelle has set up her own investigation to find the person who commissioned the double killing. Can they escape from the imminent danger and eradicate this ruthless organisation?

Once again, a fantastic thriller that you want to read in one sitting.

HET NIEUWSBLAD



AUTHOR



Hilde Vandermeeren (b. 1970) has written over forty books for children and young adults before becoming a thriller writer. Her psychological novel 'When Everything Becomes Dark' (Als alles duister wordt, 2013) won her the Hercule Poirot Readers' Prize. Silent Ground (Stille grond), her third thriller, was shortlisted for the Gouden Strop and film rights are sold. Two of her short stories were published in Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine. One of them, 'The Lighthouse', is shortlisted for the Derringer Award 2017 (category Best Short Story).

Photo © Lona Aalders

ORIGINAL TITLE Scorpio (2016, Uitgeverij Q, 318 pp.)

TRANSLATION RIGHTS Jolijn Spooren - j.spooren@singeluitgeverijen.nl

TRANSLATION GRANTS Marieke Roels - marieke@flandersliterature.be, Elise Vanoosthuyse - elise@flandersliterature.be