

Glitter, glamour and above all lots of pink

Soap 1

MAARTEN VANDE WIELE

It is 1986 and in New York City the pursuit of money, success and happiness is in full swing. But young secretary Barbra Roberts couldn't care less. Barbra is dreaming of a prince, like those in her beloved soap operas. She falls head over heels for wealthy Kenneth Castelson, a manufacturer of... soap. When Kenneth proposes to her, all her dreams are about to come true. Or so it seems.

But what happened to Kenneth's ex? The ravishing Rachella Kabuki disappeared ten years ago and her body was never found. Did Kenneth ever get over Rachella? Why does he never mention her? Was Rachella perhaps murdered?

Barbie meets the Dynasty-vixens.

DE MORGEN

Glitter, glamour, love, jealousy, intrigue, tears and above all lots of pink: this is Maarten Vande Wiele at his best. His elegant, black brush strokes give playful expression to a world he clearly adores: that of *Dynasty* and other vintage soap series. With lots of humour, wordplay and plenty of absurd situations, Vande Wiele depicts a series of deliciously superficial characters, the kind you only find in soaps. We're already looking forward to the denouement in the second part of the series.

Vande Wiele brings total dedication and control to his distinctive drawings.

CUTTING EDGE

No other comic book author is more at home in the soap genre.

NRC HANDELSBLAD



AUTHOR



Maarten Vande Wiele (b. 1977) works as an illustrator, but his true passion is comic art. His international career really took off with his book *Paris*, which was translated into English, French and German. Vande Wiele enthusiastically incorporates his passion for fashion, soap operas and the 1980s into his graphic novels. The combination of strikingly stylised drawings with a strong sense of humour characterises his work. *Photo © Maarten Vande Wiele*

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