

Poetic miniatures

Sometimes I'm an Explorer

CHARLOTTE PEYS & TOON DELANOTE & RUTH MELLAERTS

'Sometimes I'm an Explorer' has no overarching story, no plot and no recurring characters. In unconnected short texts, new talent Ruth Mellaerts draws the reader into familiar situations, memories, thoughts and feelings. Using simple words, she paints clear and poetic pictures of someone recognising his dead father in the silhouette of a postal worker, of someone saying goodbye to her childhood home where the little holes left by pins evoke a museum of children's drawings, of ivy that once wrapped itself around a birch tree and now holds the stump of the felled tree in a final embrace.

Beautiful. For children of all ages

CULTURE CLUB

These fragile and subtle texts ought to be consumed a little bit at a time, and the atmospheric illustrations of Charlotte Peys and Toon Delanote are instrumental in this. With phenomenal precision, the duo strips the book of its momentum by providing drawings that are not obvious but enter into a genuine dialogue with the text. The interaction between words and illustrations lifts the book to a higher level and creates calm and beauty as well as words to ruminate on. 'Sometimes I'm an Explorer' is medicine for the soul, to be taken in carefully measured doses.

This book is like an exhibition, a small museum of the interior, a private museum for the home

ELVIS PEETERS



AUTHORS



Charlotte Peys (b. 1987) is an illustrator and a cultural scientist. Her illustrations are inspired by a weakness for text and a fascination with science. People are a constant in **Toon Delanote's** (b. 1987) illustrations. He creates small-scale, human stories, characterised by a pure, realistic and candid visual language. Ruth Mellaerts (b. 1986) is a theatre, film and television writer and director. In 'Sometimes I'm an Explorer' she uses restrained and poetic language to sketch everyday situations.

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TRANSLATION RIGHTS Gunther Spriet - gunther.spriet@lannoo.be, Liesbeth De Bruyne - liesbeth.debruyne@lannoo.be

TRANSLATION GRANTS Elise Vanoosthuysse - elise@flandersliterature.be