It's all about love

Poems for Happy People

BART MOEYAERT

The poetry collection 'Poems for Happy People' is not intended solely for happy people. Rather, the poems invite the reader to recognise happiness, aiming to prove that it is found in the little things.

In 'Poems for Happy People', happiness and love are inseparably linked. Love (in all its forms) emanates from every page. Young readers discover a love of reading for the first time, the lighthouse loves seeing people around its town, and the sea loves washing ashore (because, after every low tide, it always changes its mind and returns). As always, it all revolves around love: 'After all, everyone knows that everything – everything – is about love'.

Moeyaert is at his most interesting when he allows himself to be driven by subject matter. It is then that he knows best how to disarm and move his readers in a fresh and elegant way

CUTTING EDGE

This poetry collection contains, among others, all poems composed by Bart Moeyaert from 26 January 2006 to 31 January 2008 when he was Antwerp's poet laureate. During this time, poems of his regularly appeared in the streetscapes of Antwerp. His work can still be admired at the Flemish Opera and the Permeke library.



AUTHOR



Bart Moeyaert (b. 1964) was barely nineteen when he made his debut in 1983. A master of the unsaid, his books are always received with great acclaim, and have been described by critics as poetic, cinematic and appealing to the senses. Moeyaert often deals with complex existential subjects, in an insightful and accessible way. His books have won many awards at home and abroad, and have been translated into more than twenty languages. In 2019 he won the Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award, the world's most prestigious award for children's literature. Photo © Diego Franssens

ORIGINAL TITLE Gedichten voor gelukkige mensen (2008, Querido, 51 pp.)

TRANSLATION RIGHTS Luciënne van der Leije - l.van.der.leije@singeluitgeverijen.nl

TRANSLATION GRANTS Patrick Peeters - patrick@flandersliterature.be

