

From policeman to murderer

# The Affable Murderer

BRAM DEHOUCK

In Ypres, the First World War is still commemorated every single day. This city, haunted by its past, is the setting for at least three murders within just a few days. The police are at a loss. The only one who knows the identity of the culprit is Detective Philip Rondelez: it is none other than himself. Ever since a traumatic event three years ago, Rondelez has been consumed by grief, anger, and vengeance. Now, he murders out of a deranged sense of justice. But danger is lurking around the corner for him too...

**Dehouck steps outside of the box and defies conventions.**

NRC HANDELSBLAD

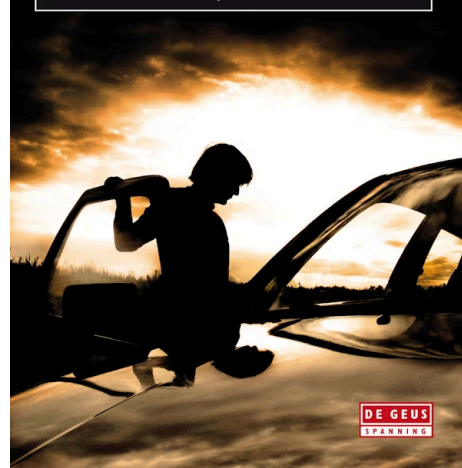
In this crime novel, author Bram Dehouck combines deadly seriousness with black humour to create a heart-wrenching story. He paints the lead character with such psychological depth that the reader will immediately feel sympathy for this tormented murderer. 'The Affable Murderer' is not a whodunit; we know who the culprit is just from reading the blurb. Rather, this book is a whydunit. In this exploration of a murderer's motives, the author manages to capture the audience's attention from beginning to end, culminating in a nail-biting, tragic finale that will resonate with the reader for a long time.

**A must for literary connoisseurs. A classic and original psychological thriller, complete with a shocking, surprising and fitting ending.**

JURY SCHADUW PRIZE

## BRAM DEHOUCK DE MINZAME MOORDENAAR

'Een must voor de fijnproevers, een klassieke en originele psychologische thriller, compleet met een schokkend, verrassend, passend einde.' – Marion Pauw



## AUTHOR



Bram Dehouck (b. 1978) is best known as a thriller writer. His debut did not go unnoticed: he won several major prizes, something no other crime fiction author had done before him. Dehouck is not afraid to step off the well-trodden paths of crime fiction in Dutch and has updated the genre with a dose of gallows humour. He often places his characters in everyday, unspectacular settings and doesn't need much to create haunting suspense. *Photo* © Liesbeth Kuipers

**ORIGINAL TITLE** De minzame moordenaar (2009, Van Halewyck, 152 pp. Republished by De Geus in 2012)

**PRIZES** Gouden Strop, Schaduw Prize

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