

## FICTION

A small change with massive consequences

# A Sleepless Summer

BRAM DEHOUCK

With the arrival of a wind farm, a new wind literally begins to blow through the village of Blaashoek. The continuous humming keeps Herman Bracke, a butcher, awake for nights on end. Slowly, the sleep deprivation begins to take its toll. Herman is not alone – the wind turbines are a nuisance to other villagers too. Tensions grow, and what began as a little change snowballs into a tumult of highly-strung emotions, rancour, and even murder. Life in Blaashoek will never be the same.

**What an intense, intriguing drama!**

KNACK

In this minimalistic and unconventional crime novel, an apparently trivial event trips an unstoppable chain reaction that culminates in a furious apotheosis, leaving few characters unscathed. 'A Sleepless Summer' is a tragicomic thriller with a strong narrative and everyday, yet unforgettable, characters. In a deceptively simple style with witty imagery, Dehouck creates a melancholic and wistful atmosphere in a world dominated by dark egocentrism. Uncanny, original and haunting.

**Dehouck obviously loves the written word and manipulates it with impressive precision.**

HET PAROOL



## AUTHOR



**Bram Dehouck** (b. 1978) made his debut as a crime writer in 2009 with *The Affable Murderer* (*De minzame moordenaar*), which promptly won the prestigious Gouden Strop award. His book *Sleepless Summer* (*Een zomer zonder slaap*, 2011) also won that same prize and has been translated into German, French and English. It was followed by 'Psychopath' (*Hellekind*, 2012) and 'The White Raven' (*Witte Raaf*, 2016). *Photo* © *Liesbeth Kuipers*

**ORIGINAL TITLE** Een zomer zonder slaap (2011, De Geus, 190 pp.)

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