

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.

**The blackest version of Midsomer Murders, infused with the dark, psychological tinge of the finest Scandinavian crime fiction**

RAVEN CRIME READS



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

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