

## A Crime-Poem

# No Man's Land Night

ANNEMARIE ESTOR

Annemarie Estor is known for the sensuousness and sensory intensity of her texts and her cross-genre poetics. Critics have described her poems as texts that 'should be gobbled up and revelled in'. They say she writes 'language from which there is no escape', and uses 'intoxicating metaphors, mesmerizing lyricism, and unique musicality'.

**Unsettling poetry that fascinates by its stupefying sensuous power**

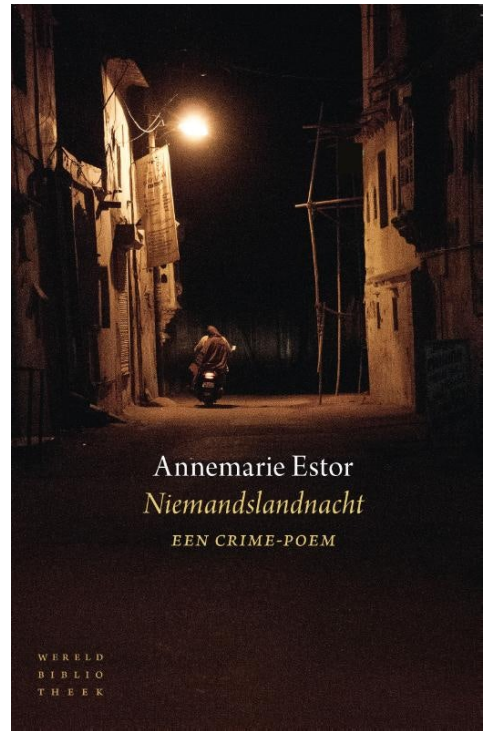
DE STANDAARD

'No Man's Land Night' is a narrative in poems, full of suspense, on the divided city Orb-e-Grout. Pili, the main character, crosses the border between Orb and Grout in the company of her teacher Valeria. Because of the divide between the two, crossing the border is considered a crime: Orb is a society in which technology and algorithms have taken over life, the surrounding slum called Grout contains that which is excluded. There, people live in primitive circumstances and poverty. Pili is described as someone feeling uncomfortable in Orb, but the plot really starts when Valeria tells Pili a shocking truth: she has a mother.

'No Man's Land Night' is not really a whodunnit, but the main character's quest for an answer to the question 'Where do I come from?' triggers an adventurous story full of surprises and inventive associations. Using a multi-faceted language and typography Annemarie Estor depicts and critiques a dystopian world that is magical and exotic, but at the same time terrifyingly recognizable.

**One reading does not finish this poem**

TROUW




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**AUTHOR**


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Annemarie Estor (1973) is the author of four books of poetry in Dutch and the recipient of several literary prizes, among which the Herman de Coninck Prize and the Jan Campert Prize. Annemarie Estor studied Liberal Arts and Sciences at Maastricht University, where she discovered 'Literature and Science' as her primary field of interest, an interest she continues to research in her poetry today. She was also a fellow at the International School for Theory in the Humanities in Santiago de Compostela and holds a PhD in English Literature from Leiden University.

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