

Colonization through the eyes of a child

Kimia

SANDRINE EFOKO & BENJAMIN GOYVAERTS & SHAMISA DEBROEY & PAUL DE MOOR

Kimia is a brave and self-assured girl, growing up in the heart of Africa. She's deeply fond of Samba, the village's artist, who can create the most beautiful pictures. In Europe, meanwhile, the continent of Africa, with its immeasurable wealth, is being divided up as if it's a no man's land. King Leopold II of Belgium is given Congo as his personal property, and suddenly white soldiers invade Kimia's village. Her life will never be the same again.

The story of Kimia, which we follow throughout her life, is interspersed with spreads about the historical context, from before 1884 to the independence of Congo in 1960 and beyond. Shamisa Debroey provides Kimia's story with full-page illustrations in earthy colours and historical explanations with finer line drawings. This sorely needed book shows at a child's level how terrible colonization was and the impact it had, and is still having, on the people of Congo.

A book that touches you and stays with you

IN DE BOEKENKAST

Interspersed with historical facts and richly illustrated with impressive pictures

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AUTHORS



Sandrine Efoke (b. 1989) is a lawyer and policy adviser at an NGO that fights poverty and inequality in countries including the Democratic Republic of Congo. She is committed to young people with a background in migration and to the decolonization of public space, and is often called upon as an expert on Congo. **Benjamin Goyvaerts** (b. 1990) is a history teacher and the author of several children's books about history. He is one of the people behind the popular podcast 'History for Re-beginners'.

Shamisa Debroey (b. 1989) graduated with a degree in comics at Sint Lukas Brussels in 2011, under the supervision of Johan Stuyck, Oogachtend's publisher. Debroey finished top of her class. Her first graphic novel *Adrift* came out in 2013, merging the autobiographical with her lively imagination. She works as an illustrator and comic artist for newspapers and television shows, and for clients such as Apple and Samsung. Photo © Shamisa Debroey **Paul de Moor** (b. 1957) covers a wide spectrum: he writes both fiction and nonfiction for children, young adults and adults, and he also works as a freelance reporter. Art and science are recurring themes in De Moor's oeuvre.

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TRANSLATION RIGHTS Gunther Spriet -
gunther.spriet@lannoo.be, Liesbeth De Bruyne -
liesbeth.debruyne@lannoo.be

TRANSLATION GRANTS Elise Vanoosthuysen -
elise@flandersliterature.be