

An ode to humanity and wonderment

It Sparkles

LARA TAVEIRNE & MARIEKE DE MARÉ

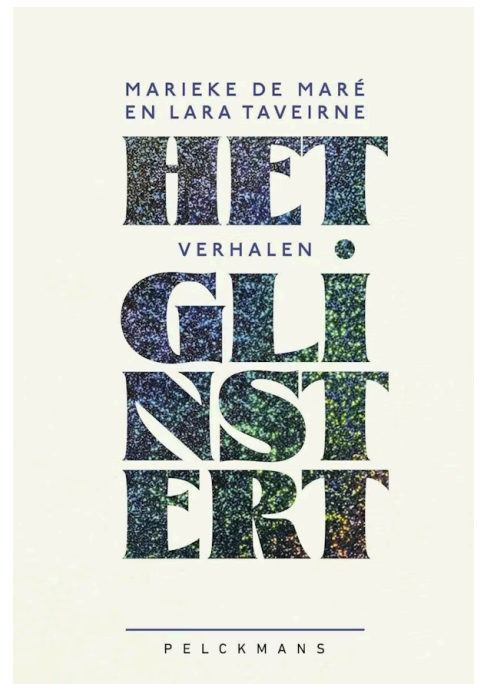
In 'It Sparkles', Lara Taveirne and Marieke De Maré have collected a series of poetic and moving short stories set in Bruges, the town about which they wrote together between 2023 and 2025. The stories, written alternately by each of them, arose from their meetings with various residents of Bruges.

Each story depicts a snapshot of human connection: a conversation on the beach about vulnerability; a doughnut seller who feels sorry for a boy without parents; a grandmother and grandson bound together by the extension cable between her house and his mobile home; a test of the friendship between two young girls in a used goods shop. The stories are small in scale but extensive in their emotional reach. They look at people searching for meaning, consolation, recognition and connection. The subtle humour is intended to prompt wonderment and a smile. The stories are empathetic and do not shy away from showing the vulnerable side of the characters.

Lara Taveirne – be sure to remember the name.

DE TELEGRAAF

Both authors write with a keen eye for detail and a big heart for people who generally tend to be invisible. Their writing is clear and vivid, with a deeply felt melancholy. The style is poetic, both sensual and restrained. This collection celebrates being seen, the sharing of stories, and the sparkle that arises when people truly meet.



AUTHORS



Lara Taveirne (1983) writes novels and is a teacher and theatre director. Her debut novel 'The Children of Calais', based on a true story about two children who jumped off a rock, won her the Debut Prize. Taveirne writes poetically and engagingly, with a keen ear for vernacular dialogue. In her work she investigates the consequences of love: the destructive power of desire, the unreliability of memories, broken hearts and motherhood. Photo © Carmen de Vos
Marieke De Maré (b. 1985) is a writer, performer, director and teacher. Her poetic prose is characterized by refined visual imagery and an ability to create atmosphere. She manages to incorporate contemporary and recognizable themes into her work, such as seeing beauty in the moments when a life is at its most vulnerable. © Paul Willaert

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