

A surprising homage to René Magritte in vibrant colours

The Magical Life of Mr. Renny

LEO TIMMERS

Mr. Renny is a very good artist, but no one wants to buy his paintings. He has no money, and he's hungry. One day a stranger (strongly reminiscent of René Magritte) offers to make Mr. Renny's dreams come true: everything he paints will come to life. An apple, a car, a cruise ship, an airplane... There's so much he'd like to have that Mr. Renny paints himself a life of luxury. Then his friend Rose asks if she can buy one of his paintings. The spell has to be broken – and soon! He makes his most beautiful painting ever, and with it gets what his heart longs for most. But he's also struck by the realisation that having a lot of things doesn't bring happiness.

Vibrant and highly entertaining

PUBLISHERS WEEKLY

Leo Timmers' drawings are extraordinarily inventive. He manages to summon up an entire world with just a few words. In this story, with a big nod to Belgian surrealist painter René Magritte, he combines a rich imagination with a clear, purified visual language. The result is astonishing, and full of clever and amusing details.

Timmers' illustrations reveal his feeling for fine detail and a very subtle sense of humour

KNACK



AUTHOR



Leo Timmers's (b. 1970) cartoonish style is characterized by humour, form and colour, which make his illustrations leap off the page. His bright pictures and sharply outlined figures are a perfect match for the humorous undertone of his stories, which are full of animals and modes of transportation. Timmers likes to tell stories visually with a minimum of words. He was the first Flemish illustrator to have a book included in The New York Times' ten best books of the year. Photo © Jildiz Kaptein

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