

Rhythm, repetition, sound and mystery

Running

GERDA DENDOOVEN & ELVIS PEETERS

The hare, the horse, the boar and the deer run as fast and as far as they can. Their shadows run with them. They run over the plain, through the sand, through the grass. They run past a hill. They rush, they dash, they race.

'Running' is all about sound, movement, speed. Words and pictures zoom across the pages. Readers are swept up by the dynamic of the running, and can feel their heartbeat pounding away, as they join in with the motion of these galloping animals.

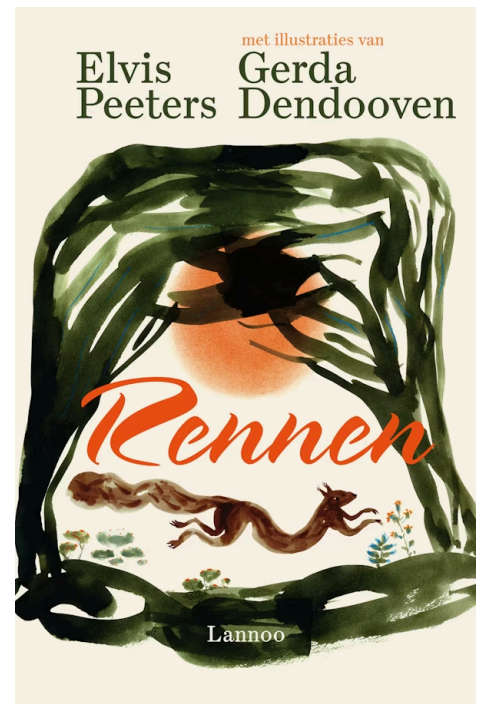
Rhythm and text propel you forward, leaving you breathless.

DE LEESWELP

'Running' is a book that races forward thanks to the accelerating rhythm and mysterious illustrations. Elvis Peeters' hurtling text begs to be read aloud and for the mesmerising cadence of running animals to be loudly audible. Gerda Dendooven's suggestive prints bring that momentum to life, adding both a supernatural atmosphere and playful details to the story. This picture book allows even the very young to come into contact with poetic language at a high level, without it becoming inaccessible. This is *real* children's literature.

One of the best read-aloud books, compelling on every level

WOUTERTJE PIETERSE PRIZE JURY



AUTHORS



Gerda Dendooven (b. 1962) is highly regarded both as an author and as an illustrator and is internationally renowned for her plays for young audiences. She often employs archetypes and absurd humour. Dendooven has gone on to win just about every major Flemish and Dutch award. *Photo © Rika Vanhove*

Elvis Peeters (b. 1957) writes fiction, poetry, scripts and children's books together with Nicole Van Bael and is also a musician and performer. *Photo © Stephan Vanfleteren*

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