

A picaresque tale set in the heart of darkness

Bakamé's Revenge

JEROEN JANSSEN & PIETER VAN OUDHEUSDEN

An aeroplane carrying the national football team crashes shortly after take-off. Sabotage or negligence? The trail leads to the home of the unsuspecting hyena Mpyisi, and his wife Fleurette receives an unwanted visit. Mpyisi, though, is only too well aware of who the real culprit is: Bakamé the hare, who knows how to use other people's weaknesses for his own personal gain. Gritting his teeth, he decides to put a stop to his archenemy's wrongdoing once and for all, and he sets off on a long journey to see the great magician Bwana Kero.

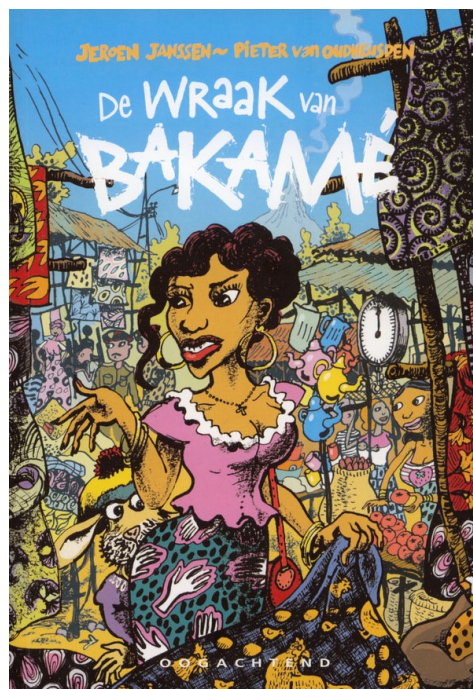
In Janssen's extravagant visual idiom, Africa is an intoxicating place.

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This picaresque story about Bakamé and Mpyisi, which contains plenty of sex and black humour, is a perfect illustration of what drives people and can make them so unappealing. That famous African darkness, the dangers of the continent, the open eroticism and the eerie atmosphere of the jungle take shape in a baroque way in both words and pictures. The hare's cunning, lust and egocentrism are at the centre of this story, but other characters' traits are also explored in depth. A satirical look at a world in which desire, violence and magic are inextricably entwined.

A funny and entertaining satire

DE STANDAARD



AUTHORS



Jeroen Janssen (b. 1963) has been a postman, teacher, driver, gardener, library assistant and has worked with psychiatric patients. He has always had a great passion for drawing, but did not start making comics until the 1990s. When he was working at an art school in Rwanda, he started turning true stories into comic strips. This approach has become his trademark and he does not shy away from difficult topics. *Photo © Jeroen Janssen* **Pieter van Oudheusden** (1957-2013) spent much of his career writing texts for picture books and comics. This Dutch literary jack-of-all-trades also translated hundreds of comics into Dutch, and was the editor of several comic strip collections.

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