

Enthralling, dark, very successful debut novel

The Melting

LIZE SPIT

Eva, in her late twenties, travels back to her native village with a big block of ice in her car. She has been invited to a viewing of a new milking parlour at a dairy farm where her childhood friend Pim still lives, an occasion that will also serve to commemorate the death of his older brother, who drowned as a young man.

A debut that you wish every writer would write: surprising, imaginative and merciless

DE STANDAARD

The narrative switches between present and past and it slowly becomes clear Eva returned to her village to take revenge for what happened to her as a child. Spit describes with great acuity and affection Eva's unhappy childhood with a neurotic sister, a dominant father and a weak-willed mother. This domestic wasteland creates a tight bond with Laurens and Pim, who were the only other children of her age in the village.

When the three of them reach puberty, teenage hormones create a rift between them. They invent a cruel game. Every day they give a girl the same riddle and for each wrong guess she has to take off a piece of clothing. In an effort to make friends with Elisa, a haughty girl from town who spends her holidays in the village, Eva gives away the solution to the riddle. Elisa makes use of this foreknowledge to play a trick on all three.

Thirteen years later it is Eva who has a plan.

Spit has made a grand entrance at the start of her writing career

TROUW



AUTHOR



Lize Spit (b. 1988)

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