

FICTION

An intense and melancholy story about who we are and what we do

Yucca

PETER TERRIN

Renée has survived a heart attack as a child. Years later her works of art change human lives, but her own life is lonely and under threat. In a recording she tells her story to her son, just as her grandfather once gave her an account of his involvement as a police inspector in a terrorist investigation.

Viktor has just served a sentence for the accidental manslaughter of his son. After his release he winds up in a dubious organisation. Pistols and mysterious packages suggest that the firm of Yucca that he works for is a cover for criminal activities.

Terrin's work reminds us of Haruki Murakami's

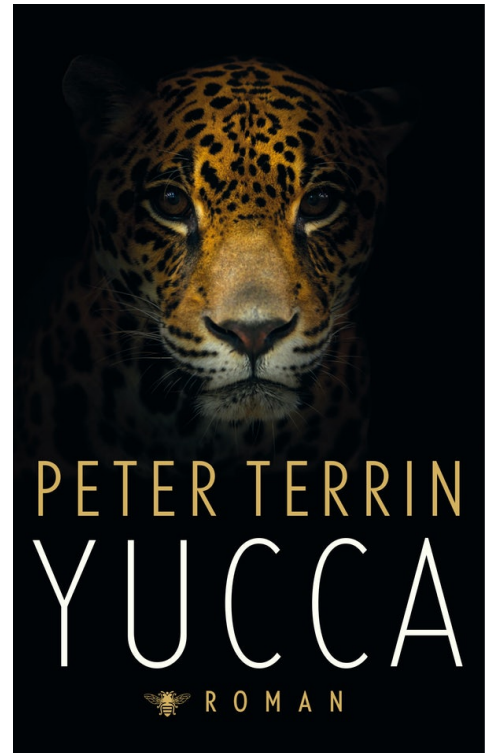
TROUW

Renée and Viktor are similar to each other: they carry a history of loss with them, but they manage to deal with those traumas in a non-cynical way. Terrin's narrative universe is bathed in mystery, the surprising atmosphere gets under one's skin and the suggestive style increases the sense of menace.

'Yucca' is not a classic thriller with a dénouement. The pieces of the puzzle never all fall in the right place, but seek an answer to the question how to deal with threatening violence and loss.

Brilliant. A moving tribute to the subconscious

VRIJ NEDERLAND



AUTHOR



Peter Terrin (b. 1968) writes novels and short stories. His breakthrough came in 2010, when he won the European Union Prize for Literature with 'The Guard', which was translated in more than 10 languages. It was followed by the bestselling 'Post Mortem', centred on the author's daughter who suffered a stroke, and 'Monte Carlo', a short novel about heroism and the desire to be recognized. 'Yucca' was published in 2016.

Photo © Marco Mertens

ORIGINAL TITLE Yucca (2016, De Bezige Bij, 392 pp.)

PRIZES shortlist ECI Literature Prize

TRANSLATION RIGHTS Uta Matten - u.matten@debezigebij.nl, Marijke Nagtegaal - m.nagtegaal@debezigebij.nl

TRANSLATION GRANTS Elise Vanoosthuysen - elise@flandersliterature.be, Marieke Roels - marieke@flandersliterature.be