

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

DeKok and the Somber Nude

By Baantjer



Inspector DeKok takes on the gruesome murder of a beautiful young woman

The next installment in the popular Inspector DeKok Investigates series

Denver, CO (1/1/2008)—Speck Press is releasing yet another thrilling translation of popular Dutch mystery author Baantjer. In *DeKok and the Somber Nude*, Inspector DeKok must confront a case of brutal murder.

Nanette Bogaard, a beautiful, free-spirited young woman, is missing and feared to be dead. As DeKok begins to look into the case, a dark side of Bogaard is revealed. Details about blackmail, cruelty, and an intense selfishness help Inspector DeKok identify possible suspects in her disappearance.

When a phone call confirms the discovery of the woman's dismembered body, DeKok finds himself in search of a murderer.

PRESS CONTACT:

Erin Palmiter
Marketing Manager
800-992-2908, ext. 223
erinp@fulcrumbooks.com

DeKok and the Somber Nude

Baantjer

January 2008

Trade Paperback Original • \$14.00

ISBN-13: 978-1-933108-16-2

232 pages

Crime Fiction

speck press

an imprint of

FULCRUM PUBLISHING,

explores cultures and subcultures
through nonfiction and crime fiction

books—revealing scenes that are
typically invisible to the casual observer.



Baantjer is the most widely read author in the Netherlands. A former detective inspector of the Amsterdam police, his fictional characters reflect the depth and personality of individuals encountered during his 38 year career in law enforcement. He was recently knighted by the Dutch monarchy and was honored with the first-ever Master Prize of the Society of Dutch-language Crime Writers.

“Baantjer’s laconic, rapid-fire storytelling has spun out a surprisingly complex web of mysteries.”

—Kirkus Review

For more information on *DeKok and the Somber Nude* and the rest of the DeKok series, please visit www.speckpress.com.

speck press

Comments from Derek Lawrence, founder of Speck Press

“Speck Press will continue to publish two new, previously untranslated Baantjer titles a year, as well as issue new editions of out-of-print titles from the series. We believe that the Inspector DeKok Investigates series is the most important European police procedural series since Simenon’s Maigret. With easy comparisons to Colin Dexter’s Inspector Morse series, Baantjer has crafted a long-standing, consistent, and engaging relationship with one city and one police division. Along with his partner, Vledder, Inspector DeKok deserves to find wide readership in North America and with English-language readers throughout the world.”

“Baantjer seduces mystery lovers. Inspector DeKok is part Columbo, part Clouseau, part genius, and part imp.”

—West Coast Review of Books

Facts about Inspector DeKok Investigates

The crime novels featuring Inspector DeKok, written by Baantjer, have achieved a large following among readers in Europe. A television series based on these novels reaches an even wider audience. In large part due to the popularity of the televised *Baantjer* series, sales of Baantjer’s novels have increased significantly over the past several years.

Known as the Dutch Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, Baantjer’s following continues to grow and conquer new territory.

- There are 60 titles in the DeKok mystery series. Speck will release a few titles each year until all 60 have been translated or reprinted.
- Launched nearly a decade ago, the 100th episode of the *Baantjer* series recently aired on Dutch channel RTL4.
- In 2001, the 5-millionth copy of a Baantjer book was sold—a number never before reached by a Dutch author.
- The DeKok series has been published in China, Russia, Korea, and throughout Europe.
- Speck Press has put an emphasis on the best possible translation, editorial consistency, and attractive cover art with each book.
- The police department in Amsterdam where Baantjer worked was located in the center of one of the city’s busiest entertainment districts and the red-light district. It was here that Baantjer got much of his material for the series.
- The first book in the series was published in 1965, while the 60th was published in Europe in 2003.

COMING IN 2008

"This series is the answer to an insomniac's worst fears."

—West Coast Review of Books



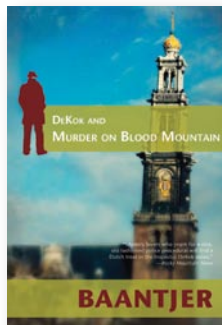
July 2008

DeKok and the Dead Lovers

ISBN-13: 978-1-933108-22-3

Inspector DeKok and his partner are ordered to protect a millionaire's art treasures. Then the two detectives are called away to a nearby building to help prevent the execution of a young man chained to the pipes of the central heating system. That same night, a priceless silver jug is stolen from the exhibition.

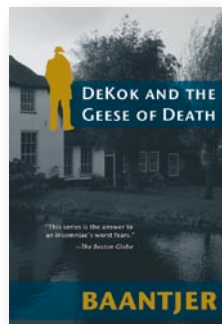
PREVIOUSLY RELEASED



DeKok and Murder on Blood Mountain

ISBN-13: 978-0-972577-13-1

From an investigation in Bloedberg, Belgium, to a funeral in Amsterdam where he discovers a man among the mourners who has been officially dead for two years, Inspector DeKok finds himself amidst one of the most bizarre and cunning crimes yet.



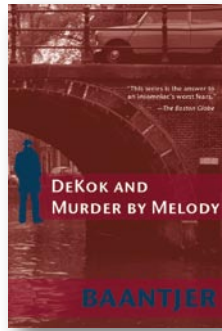
DeKok and the Geese of Death

ISBN-13: 978-0-972577-66-3

Inspector DeKok takes on a man accused of bludgeoning a wealthy old couple. The killing urge is visibly present in the suspect during questioning, but did he commit this particular crime? The answer lies within a strange family, deadly geese, and a horrifying mansion.

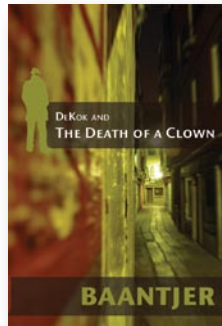
continued...

PREVIOUSLY RELEASED

*DeKok and Murder by Melody*

ISBN-13: 978-0-972577-69-4

Inspector DeKok finds himself once again amidst dark dealings. A triple murder in the Amsterdam Concert Gebouw has him unveiling the truth behind two dead ex-junkies and their housekeeper.

*DeKok and the Death of a Clown*

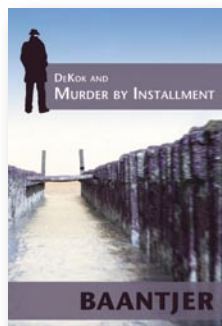
ISBN-13: 978-1-933108-03-2

While investigating a jewel theft, DeKok is called to check out the death of a clown found floating in a raft down the canal, an enormous knife protruding from its back. The connection of the crimes at first eludes him.

*DeKok and Variations on Murder*

ISBN-13: 978-1-933108-04-9

After she finds the president of the Dredging Company dead in his boardroom and unsuccessfully phones for help, the superintendent's wife turns to Inspector DeKok when she returns to the same boardroom to find that the dead man has mysteriously vanished.

*DeKok and Murder by Installment*

ISBN-13: 978-1-933108-07-0

Although at first it seemed to be a case for the narcotics division, this latest crime soon evolves into a series of sinister and almost impossible murders. The combination of murder, drug smuggling, and child prostitution aren't usually daily occurrences in Inspector DeKok's cases.