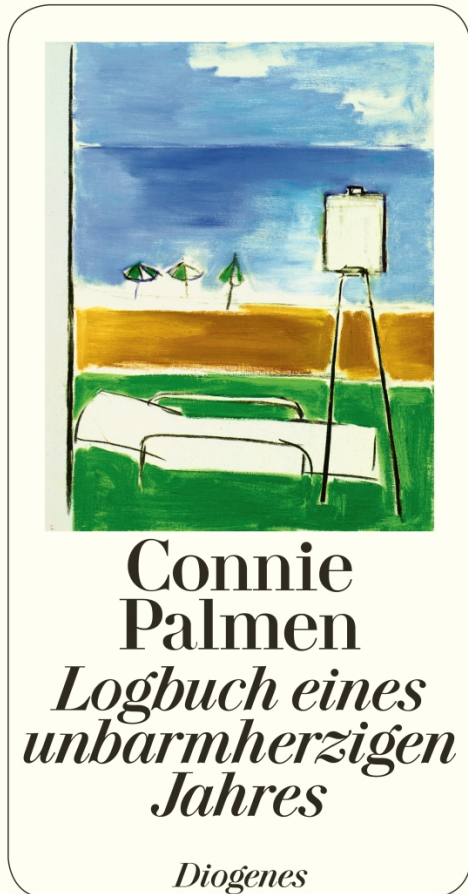


**Connie Palmen**  
***Logbook of a Merciless Year***

Published by Diogenes as *Logbuch eines unbarmherzigen Jahres*  
Original title: *Logboek van een onbarmhartig jaar*



Contemporary Literature  
272 pages  
11.6 x 18.4 cm  
March 2013

World rights are handled by Diogenes  
(except Dutch)

**Awards**

- 2016 ›Libris Literaturpreis‹ (Niederlande) für *Du sagst es*
- 1996 *Die Gesetze* wird in englischer Übersetzung für den ›International IMPAC Dublin Literary Award‹ nominiert
- 1996 ›Trouw Publieksprijs, Boek van het Jaar 1996‹ (Preis des holländischen Publikums) für *Die Freundschaft*
- 1996 Preis des belgischen Publikums für *Die Freundschaft*.
- 1995 ›AKO-Literaturpreis‹ für *Die Freundschaft*
- 1992 *Die Gesetze* ist ›European Novel of the Year‹
- 1991 ›Het Gouden Ezelsoor‹ für den meistverkauften Erstling (*Die Gesetze*)

**Praise**

*Logbook of a Merciless Year*

»Logbook of a Merciless Year‹ is a poignant account, an intelligent essay – and one that dives into the depths of the soul.« – Rheinische Post, Düsseldorf

»It is rare to find someone who knows how to tell a story with so much seriousness and wit, frankness and intimacy, simplicity and intelligence.« – Der Standard, Vienna

On the eleventh of November 2009, after eleven years and eleven days together, writer Connie Palmen married Hans van Mierlo, one of the Netherlands' most prominent and wellliked politicians, a man more than twenty years her senior. On the eleventh of March 2010, van Mierlo died in an Amsterdam hospital. With this, the two soul mates are torn apart forever. Six weeks after her husband's death, and driven by her fear of a second death – that of forgetting – Connie Palmen begins to record her pain, grief and despair, trying to find her footing with the help of a journal. The result is a moving account of longing for a body that is no longer present, of losing and finding oneself again, and of her loving memories of a wonderful man. »He is the only one who could soothe my body, and now he is gone. Grief is being in love without release. I am panic-stricken without him.«



Photo: © Annalen Lauwers

Connie Palmen was born in 1955, grew up in the south of Holland and moved to Amsterdam in 1978, where she studied philosophy and Dutch literature. Her first novel ›The Laws‹, was published in 1991 and promptly became an international bestseller. She has received numerous awards for her work, including the renowned ›AKO Literature Prize‹ in 1995 for the novel ›The Friendship‹. Connie Palmen lives in Amsterdam.