

Leon de Winter
City of Dogs

Published by Diogenes as *Stadt der Hunde*
Original title: *Stad van de honden*



The renowned Dutch brain surgeon Jaap Hollander has retired, but still can't find peace. Ever since his daughter disappeared in Israel ten years ago, he has returned each year to where it happened. This time, he is unexpectedly asked during the trip to carry out an incredibly risky brain operation. He agrees, even though the chances of success are minimal, because not only the life of his powerful patient depends on it, but perhaps also a new clue leading to his daughter's whereabouts.

Book factsheet

General Fiction
272 pages
11.6 x 18.4 x 2 cm
February 2025

World rights are handled by Diogenes
(except Dutch rights)

Movie adaptations

2003: SuperTex

Director: Jan Schütt
Cast: Stephen Mangan, Jan Declair

2001: The Hollywood Sign

Director: Sönke Wortmann
Cast: Burt Reynolds, Rod Steiger, Tom Berenger

1993: Hoffman's hunger

Director: Leon de Winter
Cast: Jacqueline Bisset, Elliot Gould, Thom Hoffman, Huub Stapel

Awards

- 2009 Literaturpreis der Provinz Brabant (›Schrijversprijs der Brabantse Letteren‹) für *Das Recht auf Rückkehr*
- 2006 Buber-Rosenzweig-Medaille
- 2002 WELT-Literaturpreis für sein Gesamtwerk
- 2002 ›Welt-Literaturpreis‹ für Leon de Winter: »Die Jury ehrt Leon de Winter für seine so komplex wie spannend angelegten Romane, die am Beispiel meist jüdischer Protagonisten hochkomisch und psychologisch einfühlsam vom Getriebensein des modernen Menschen erzählen. Sein Schreiben zeichnet sich durch einen souveränen Wechsel von Nähe und Distanz im Hinblick auf seine Figuren aus, durch ein meisterliches Gespür für pointierte Dialoge, durch die gekonnte Verknüpfung verschiedener Haupt- und Nebenhandlungen, die seine Bücher so komplex wie spannend machen. Er wird für sein Gesamtwerk geehrt.«
- 1978 ›Reina Prinsen Geerlings-Preis‹ für *De (ver)wording van de jongere Dürer*

Praise

City of Dogs

»The way in which de Winter develops this political thriller is fiercely dynamic.« – Jürgen Kanold / Südwestpresse, Ulm

»This novel is about everything that defines human existence, everything that touches our lives, and makes them fragile.« – Rüdiger Dittrich / Gießener Zeitung, Gießen



Leon de Winter was born in 's-Hertogenbosch in 1954, the son of Dutch Jews. He has as worked as a freelance writer and filmmaker since 1976, and lives in the Netherlands. In 2002, he was awarded the ›Welt Literature Prize‹; in 2006, the ›Buber-Rosenzweig Medal‹ for his fight against Antisemitism; and in 2009, the ›Brabant Literature Prize‹ for *The Right of Return*.

Praise (cont'd)

»This beguilingly intricate and disturbingly unique novel builds towards a date that has been seared into our memories: 7 October 2023.« – Frank Dietschreit / Rheinische Post, Düsseldorf

»He [Leon de Winter] takes us seriously as partners, reflecting with him on the peculiarities of life.« – Annemarie Stoltenberg / NDR Kultur, Hamburg

»An amusing book, a wacky fairytale with unpredictable plot twists that you take in without having to find them realistic or believable. You read on: that is the quality of *City of Dogs*.« – Thomas de Veen / NRC Handelsblad, Amsterdam

»*City of Dogs* is an unputdownable novel with many subplots.« – Allegra Mercedes Pirker / ORF1, Vienna

»In almost five decades of successful work, the author and filmmaker stays true to his storytelling, and yet surprises us time and again.« – Uwe Sauerwein / Berliner Morgenpost, Berlin

»A novel about reality and fantasy, about life and death, war and peace, and about love. Disconcerting, suspenseful and full of hidden messages.« – Elke Heidenreich / Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, Cologne

Leon de Winter

»Leon de Winter stokes the fires of the imagination until the pages are ablaze. It's an approach that makes him unique.« – De Volkskrant, Amsterdam

»Ingenious, entertaining, funny – always to the surprise and delight of the reader.« – Volker Hage / Der Spiegel, Hamburg



Geronimo
448 pages
2016

Bestseller



VSV
512 pages
2013

Bestseller

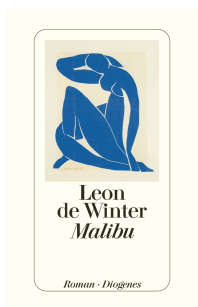


The Right to Return
560 pages
2009

Bestseller

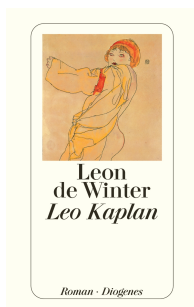


Place de la Bastille
160 pages
2005

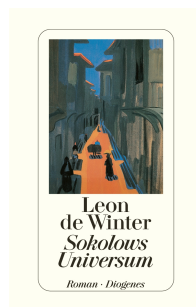


God's Gym
432 pages
2003

Bestseller



Kaplan
544 pages
2001

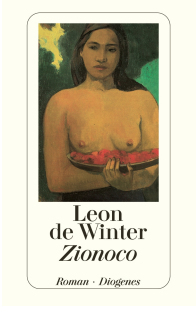


Sokolov's Universe
448 pages
1999



The Sky of Hollywood
368 pages
1998

Movie Adaptation



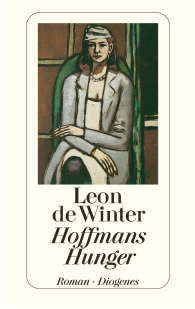
Zionoco
416 pages
1997



Serenade
176 pages
1996



SuperTex
272 pages
1994
 **Movie Adaptation**



Hoffman's Hunger
416 pages
1994
 **Movie Adaptation**