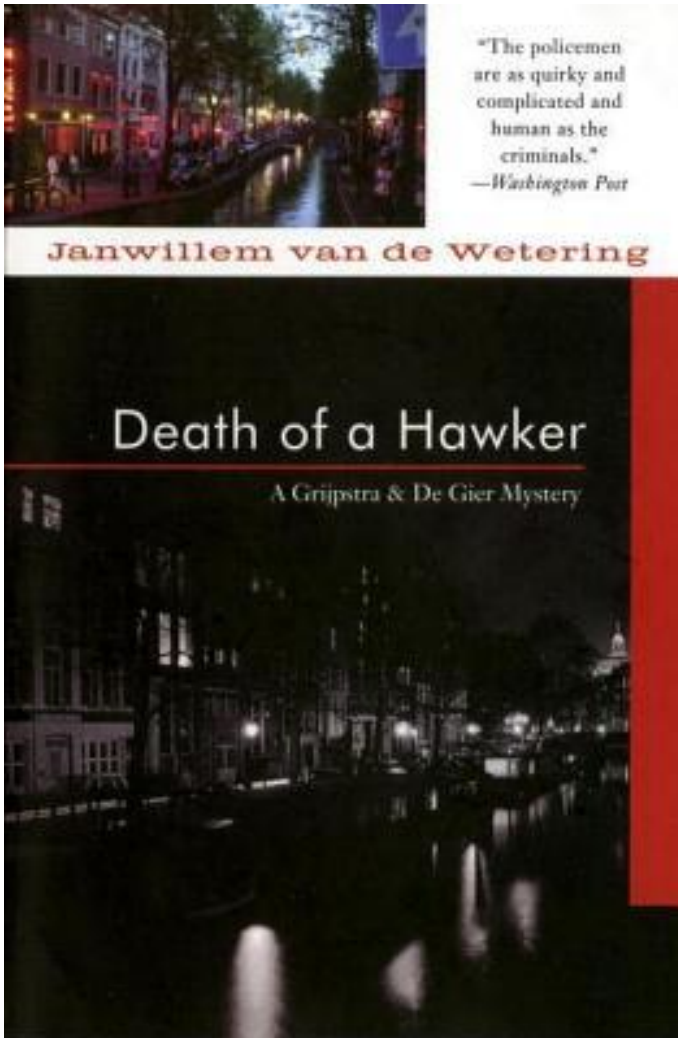

Janwillem van de Wetering

Death of a Hawker (Grijpstra & de Gier Mystery #4)



Title: Death of a Hawker (Grijpstra & de Gier Mystery #4)

Author: Janwillem van de Wetering

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Description

A riot has erupted in New Market Square, transforming the normally sedate streets of Amsterdam into a mass of angry protesters. So when the body of the “King” of the local street market is found in his house with his head bashed in, the police are puzzled. The adjoining street has been closed off all day, and the constables stationed outside the scene of the crime didn’t detect any unusual activity. There are only two people who could have reasonably committed the violent act: the victim’s roommate upstairs and his beautiful sister downstairs. Both claim to have seen or heard nothing suspicious when the crime took place. But something isn’t adding up. Is one of them the killer?

From the Trade Paperback edition.

Insightful reviews

Jodyg218: It was a good break from more serious reading.

Kay: Having read "the empty mirror", I can see how the time spent in a Zen monastery has influenced his Grijpstra and De Gier books.

David: Charismatic alpha male Abe Rogge is found dead in his room, every bone in his face broken. His sister is in the room below, and an admiring roomer above, while police stand outside as riots scrimmage around the Summer streets. He appears to have been killed by a spiked ball, but nobody saw a thing. The fourth entry in van de Wetering’s Amsterdam Cops series opens like a classic locked room mystery, but these mysteries are anything but traditional. I’ve always enjoyed crime novels that aren’t really about the solution to the crime – James Sallis’ Lew Griffin books, for instance – and though it is interesting to find out how the victim died, the real attraction of these books is just spending time with detectives Grijpstra and de Gier, and their aging commissaris boss and philosophical sensei. Van de Wetering, who died recently, is more like Simenon than McBain, but brings his own whimsical, large hearted version of that hardboiled weltschmerz. There is a laid-back, offbeat humor here that just makes me smile, deeply, although it is rather hard to capture here. I re-read this one recently while sailing up Alaska’s inside passage, and that was pretty much heaven. Newcomers should start with Outsider in Amsterdam.

Mikee: candy and endearing, like every van der Wetering's books.

David: Charismatic alpha male Abe Rogge is located useless in his room, each bone in his face broken. His sister is within the room below, and an admiring roomer above, whereas police stand outdoors as riots scrimmage round the summer time streets. He looks to were killed by means of a spiked ball, yet not anyone observed a thing. The fourth access in van de Wetering’s Amsterdam law enforcement officials sequence opens like a vintage locked room mystery, yet those mysteries are whatever yet traditional. I’ve constantly loved crime novels that aren’t particularly in regards to the option to the crime – James Sallis’ Lew Griffin books,

for example – and although it's attention-grabbing to determine how the sufferer died, the true charm of those books is simply spending time with detectives Grijpstra and de Gier, and their getting older commisarist boss and philosophical sensei. Van de Wetering, who died recently, is extra like Simenon than McBain, yet brings his personal whimsical, huge hearted model of that hardboiled weltanschauung. there's a laid-back, offbeat humor the following that simply makes me smile, deeply, even though it is quite challenging to catch here. I re-read this one lately whereas cruising up Alaska's within passage, and that used to be pretty well heaven. beginners may still begin with Outsider in Amsterdam. i am additionally keen on this author's trilogy of Zen memoirs, for a lot an analogous cause - his low key down-to-earth shruggly humorous sensibilities.

Monica: this isn't the simplest within the series, for me the least cherished so far. The plot used to be weak, the supplementary characters no longer very likable and never strongly outlined. i believe i additionally took nice offense to at least one of the most characters conversing so degradingly approximately his spouse after which looking for the corporate of a "lady of the night". It used to be effortless to wager who was once at the back of the murder, and why. i feel that one of many titanic proceedings i've got approximately this publication is that either of the most characters, Grijpstra and de Gier, have taken large turns of their characterization that i am now not that happy about. i'm going to test the following within the sequence to determine if it resumes the humour and leisure that the former books had.

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