

*‘The world behind dark, illegal dating websites’*

## Carel Donck

### *Melanie*

In the foreground, to the left of a clump of trees, just a few meters in the distance, is a shapeless stain. Just like a carelessly discarded garment, something that clearly did not belong there. What was she wearing that day? This could not to be seen from afar. With each subsequent picture, Saskia came closer to her dead sister, approaching cautiously, with outflanking movements.

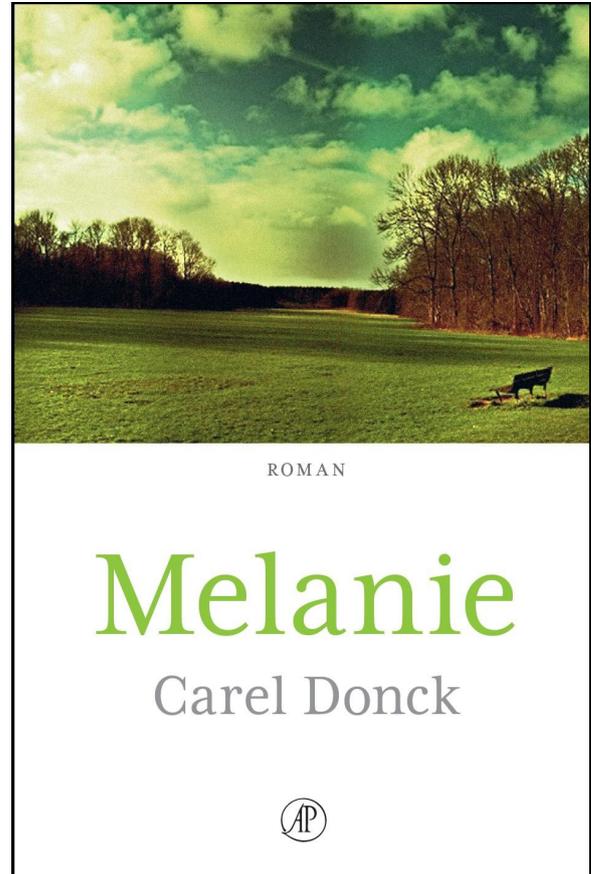
She recognized the light blue summer dress that she had wanted to see her wear. Now that dress was torn up, pushed up over her bare waist. She was lying on her left side with knees drawn up into a fetal position. Blood between her legs, barefoot, a shoe next to her body, which seemed so carelessly thrown. Her head back, blood around the severed neck, her mouth half open. Hands folded across her chest, as if in prayer.

When Melanie has been gruesomely murdered, Saskia finds out that her sister was leading a double life. To find the killer, Saskia takes on her sister’s identity.

**Carel Donck** is the author of many awarded tv-series, such as *De zomer van '45* (The summer of '45), *Zwarte sneeuw* (Black snow) and *De 9 dagen van de gier* (The vulture’s 9 days). In addition, he writes successful film scenarios, radio plays and numerous other TV productions and series. Prior to *Melanie*, he has also published two other novels with De Arbeiderspers: *The Night Mother* (*De Nachtmoe*) and *Winter Love* (*De Winterliefde*).



© Anouk Schneider



#### About Donck’s previous novels...

- ◆ *The Night Mother*, tells the story of a young woman who goes into another dimension after her death; a strange world in which she sees what is happening in the world of the living.
- ◆ *Winter Love* is the story of a first love, but is also about ageing and the impossibility to retrieve the past, a wonderful love story.

**Literature:** 256 pages

**Publisher:** De Arbeiderspers

**Foreign rights:** laetitia.powell@apawb.nl

**Film rights under negotiation**

**Publication date:** January 2014