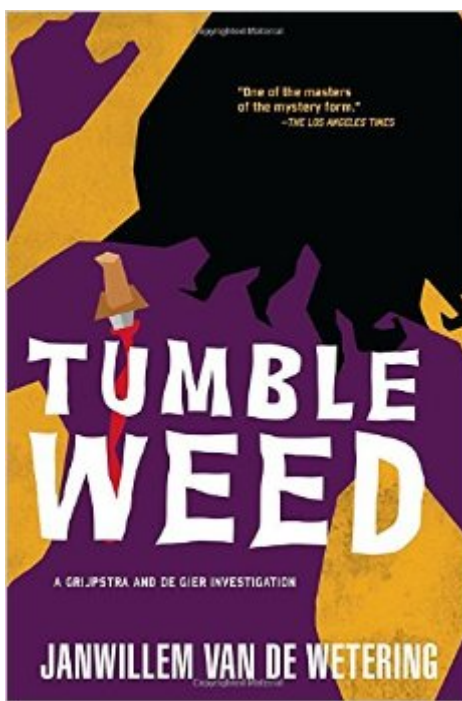


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Tumbleweed (Amsterdam Cops)



Synopsis

Maria van Buren, a beautiful, high-class prostitute, is found dead with a knife in her back in her houseboat on an Amsterdam canal. Grijpstra and de Gier must solve the murder. Her tony clients all have sound alibis. Before the murderer is caught, the detectives and their commissaris will investigate allegations of black magic, travel to Curaçao, and pursue the clues to a chilly island off the coast of Holland.

Book Information

Series: Amsterdam Cops (Book 2)

Paperback: 224 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars See all reviews (14 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

Janwillem van de Wetering was an unusual man and writer. Born in Holland was a young teen during the German occupation during WW2. Though he was a journeyman traveler (he spent a year in a zen monastery in Japan, South Africa, Peru) he finally settled in Maine where he did most of his writing. Unlike most authors, Wetering wrote his own English translations of his books that were all originally written in Dutch. People who have read his books in both languages say that he was able to adjust the stories so that they made sense for readers who didn't have his knowledge of the two different cultures. His most famous books are those in the "Grijpstra & de Gier" series much of whose background is based on his time as a "part-time policeman". In Holland (a least during Wetering's time) you could do your 'national service' in other ways as opposed to being in the military. Wetering chose to be in a type of 'police national guard' who served a number of days per year and could be called out in emergencies. He mostly served in Amsterdam. This book (second in

the series) takes place in the early 1970s when Holland was still a very provincial place outside its big cities. Though Amsterdam was 'awash' with drugs in the 60's and 70's, it had not yet infected Dutch society and was seen as an immigrant and 'hippie' problem. Murder was almost unheard of, and Wetering has his 'cops' complaining that there is not 'true' homicide bureau as part of the Amsterdam Police because there aren't enough murders to keep them busy year round. They talk about the number of murders in America as if it was the 'promised land' for homicide cops.

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