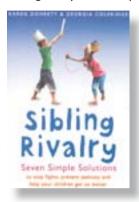
BOEKRESENSIES • UHLOLO LWENCWADI

ADULT NON-FICTION

Doherty, Karen and Coleridge, Georgia

Sibling rivalry: seven simple solutions.- Bantam, 2010.

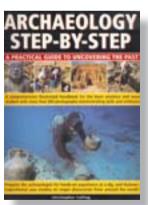


Sibling rivalry is the breakthrough guide that reminds us a lot about our own sibling relationships as well as those we see in everyone else's families. It opens a window of opportunity for readers to have a feel for the different parent types in order to identify and make a decision about the most suitable style of parenting. If a reader wants to approach parenting in a different way there are plenty of examples on how to go about it. It provides anecdotes, tips and strate-

gies in situations that typically come up on a daily basis. The book is practical, clear and offers concise sensible advice that makes for essential reading for parents everywhere. Building on the success of their bestselling guide, The seven secrets of successful parenting, this breakthrough guide reveals brand-new solutions to even the worst cases of jealousy and conflict.LNG

CATLING, Christopher

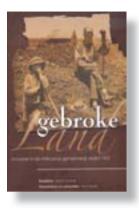
Archaeology step-by-step: a practical guide to uncovering the past.- Hermes House, 2009.



The author has been digging since he was 16 and is currently working on a Neolithic excavation near Cirencester. He has also written countless popular articles that have made an impact on British archaeology. In this well-illustrated and accessible guide the various techniques involved in an excavation are covered in a stepby-step manner.

Archaeology is an integrative subject that draws on many other disciplines, enlisting the assistance

of historians, linguists, soil scientists, geologists, botanists, anthropologists and others. In recent years great strides in archaeological knowledge have been achieved by using scientific and medical technologies such as carbon-14 dating, CAT-scanning and DNA analysis as tools for dating the past or even reviewing the genetic origins of people. Anyone can be an archaeologist, not only those with a university degree. It is a subject for those interested in human origins and development and is geared to inspire the amateur archaeologist to build a special interest in a discipline that can result in very rewarding and inspirational research. This is one of the most interesting and informative titles found on the subject, and those interested will not be disappointed.EB



Gebroke land: armoede in die Afrikaanse gemeenskap sedert 1902.- Kraal Uitg., 2009.

'Hierdie lywige koffietafelboek is 'n versamelstuk met foto's van die fotoioernalis Paul Alberts en vertel die eerste keer die volledige verhaal van wit armoede. Die boek lê klem op die veranderende denkraamwerk waardeur die nuwe Afrikaner-armoedevraagstuk nou deur Solidariteit Helpende Hand aangepak word. Dit verbreek die politiek nie-korrekte stilte rondom wit armoede in 1994 en daarná deur

statistieke bekend te stel. Die boek bestaan uit 20 uiteenlopende artikels deur vooraanstaande akademici. Die artikels word in drie afdelings ingedeel: die ekonomiese en maatskaplike herlewing ná die Anglo-Boereoorlog, die Carnegie-ondersoek en die invloed van die Eerste Ekonomiese Volkskongres van 1939, asook die nuwe Afrikanerarmoede van 1994 en daarna. Alberts het die waardevolle foto's van die Carnegiekommissie opgespoor wat die armblankevraagstuk van 1929 tot 1932 ondersoek het. Hierdie foto's, wat andersins verlore sou gegaan het, is gedokumenteer en in Gebroke land gepubliseer. Dit is meer as 'n geskiedenisboek; dit is 'n erfstuk.' (www.volksblad.com)

Goldberg, Denis

The mission: a life for freedom in South Africa.- STE. 2010.



'Nelson Mandela's comrade in the struggle, Denis Goldberg, spent 22 years in an apartheid South African political prison, from 1963 to 1985. In this memoir, Denis, the perennial optimist, writes about the human side of the often painful road to freedom; about the joy of love and death, human dignity, political passion, comradeship, conflict between comrades and a very long imprisonment. Born in Cape Town in 1933, the son of working class immigrants from Great Britain, Denis Goldberg was one of the white

activists against apartheid in South Africa. As a young civil engineer he campaigned with the ANC and in 1961 joined Umkhonto we Sizwe (MK), the armed wing of the liberation movement. He was arrested in 1963 and sentenced to life imprisonment in 1964, along with seven other comrades, including Nelson Mandela and Walter Sisulu.' This copy can be borrowed from SN. (www.book.co.za)

Hitzeroth, Volker en Kramer, Liezl Die einde van verslawing: ['n volledige Suid-Afrikaanse gids].- Human, 2010.

'Hierdie is 'n Suid-Afrikaanse gids oor dwelms en alkohol. "Enige soort verslawing, hetsy aan dwelms of drank, kan suksesvol behandel word, maar daar moet aan 'n bepaalde mediese en sielkundige herstelplan voldoen word." So sê Dr Volker Hitzeroth, 'n



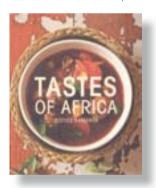


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psigiater, en Dr Liezl Kramer, 'n algemene praktisyn. Hulle is albei kenners in die behandeling van verslawing. Die doel van die boek is om aan die publiek en mediese praktisyns goeie, wetenskaplik bewese inligting in een gids te gee, veral omdat navorsing op die gebied so vinnig beweeg. Daar is volgens hulle 'n wanopvatting dat middelafhanklikheid nie suksesvol behandel kan word nie. Elke middel moet egter op sy eie manier behandel word, en dus is 'n assessering van 'n pasiënt, voordat daar met die onttrekkingsproses (en detoksifisering) begin word, baie belangrik. Sommige mense moet as 'n binnepasiënt deur hierdie fase bygestaan word en ander kan, mits hulle steun het, dit tuis doen. Die proses om van 'n middel te onttrek, verskil ook van middel tot middel en hoe verslaaf die persoon is. In sommige gevalle kan mense met medisyne gehelp word om die proses makliker te maak en in ander gevalle word die simptome van onttrekking behandel. Hierna word 'n rehabilitasieprogram saam met leefstylveranderings uitgewerk. Sielkundige behandeling, veral kognitiewe gedragsterapie, moet 'n groot rol speel. "Daar is geen vinnige oplossing nie en mense moet eienaarskap neem. As jy ses jaar lank verslaaf was, kan 'n probleem nie binne ses dae opgelos word nie," het Kramer gesê. Hulle meen die redes waarom mense nie suksesvol behandel word nie, is onwilligheid om verantwoordelikheid te aanvaar vir jou eie toestand; onvolledige evaluasie deur iemand wat onvoldoende as verskaffer van mediese dienste opgelei is; afwesigheid of nie-nakoming van 'n rehabilitasieplan; onvoldoende evaluering en behandeling van komorbiede toestande; en abnormale gesinsverhoudings.' (Die Burger, 9/07/10.)

Kamanga, Justice

Tastes of Africa.- Struik, 2010.



The author was born in Malawi and has worked as head chef for the US Embassy in Lilongwe and the Italian Embassy in South Africa, both in Pretoria and Cape Town. Since 1996 he has worked as a chef in private homes. He is currently based in Cape Town. In **Tastes of Africa** Justice Kamanga takes the reader on an African cuisine tour, discussing dishes that have been influenced or introduced by foreign settlers to the continent from Asia, Europe and the Middle East. He moves

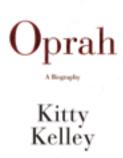
beyond the single-country approach to the whole African continent. He introduces the reader to the origins of many favourite dishes with honesty, illustrating ease of preparation. The ingredients are simple, easily accessible and the dishes are easy to prepare. Both traditional and fusion African cooking are as intriguing in the subtle blends of flavours, colours and tantalising aromas as the lands from which they come, where they have formed delicious and different staples for hundreds and - in some cases - thousands of years. In order for the home cook to organise his or her own African-themed lunch or dinner, the recipes in **Tastes of Africa** have been grouped, including starters, fish, meat, vegetarian, side dishes, desserts and breads, and are accompanied by full-colour photographs.LNG

Kelley, Kitty

Oprah: a biography.- Ball, 2010.

'The author is a well-known American biographer who has written several biographies. This is an unauthorised biography of a

well-known talk show host. Kitty Kelley couldn't find very many people who like Oprah. Astonishingly, almost everyone she interviewed seems to have a bone to pick with the talk-show host, even Oprah's cousin and father (who might not be her father, after all). Of course, many of those people haven't seen Oprah in a long time; take the insulted woman who threw her a good-bye party when she left her first television job: "That was the last I saw of Oprah ... she divorced herself from Nashville." Even when Oprah does something thoughtful, like return to Baltimore



to spend time with a dying former co-worker, she gets bashed for not attending the retirement party of another. As in her previous biographies, Kelley follows a predictable pattern. She gathers lots of information via published articles, on-the-record interviews (often with bit players), and anonymous quotes from those who may or may not be well-connected. (Moreover, even the identified quotes are difficult to track in the massive list of source material in each chapter.) She then writes, in rather clunky prose, about her subject, twisting the story to prove her theory in this case that, yes, Oprah is a spinmeister and a controlling one at that. Though Oprah's many achievements and her charitable work are lauded, there's usually a but following each positive statement, as Kelley attempts to show again and again that Winfrey's generosity is often self-serving. Typically, Kelley's biographies feature one juicy story that everyone seems to remember. Laura Bush sold dope in college. Nancy Reagan and Frank Sinatra had an affair. Unfortunately, Oprah seems sadly to lack that signature take-away anecdote. She had an affair with John Tesh? She once ate two pecan pies? No staying power there. Perhaps readers will have to be satisfied with the fact that Oprah's father called her best-friend Gayle King a dirt hog. And that's on the record.' (Books & Leisure 15/05/2010.)

'The tables are turned on Oprah Winfrey, as celebrity biographer Kelley digs deep to uncover the secrets of the talk show host and humanitarian. Kelley weaves her revelations from interviews with those who knew Oprah best; relatives, former lovers, and co-workers. Kelley's reading is inspired and professional, and her voice brims with remarkable self-assurance, making for a convincing presentation, despite the fact that this is an unauthorised biography. Although Kelly gets a bit breathy at times, she brings things back to the ground with a steady rhythm and energy. A compulsive (if slightly guilty) listen.' (Publisher's Weekly 31/05/2010.)

Kemp, Franz

Sestig dae in die Suid-Soedan.- Tafelberg, 2010.



'Franz Kemp is 'n bekende Suid-Afrikaanse joernalis wat vir baie jare Bureau Chief vir Huisgenoot/You/Drum in Johannesburg was. 'Hierdie is 'n reisverhaal in Kemp se korrelkopbitterbek, ongesensorde stem ... [Dit is 'n] lakoniese vertelling oor sy sestig dae in die Suid-Soedan. Om van verveling te ontsnap aanvaar hy 'n werksaanbod om 'n nuwe TV-stasie in Juba, die hoofstad van die Suid-Soedan, van die grond af te kry deur die

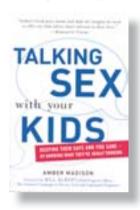


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daaglikse nuusbulletin op te stel. Die boek vertel die storie van die uitdagings wat Kemp inwag in 'n land met feitlik geen paaie; daaglikse kragonderbreking; die geesdrif, maar - ook die onbeholpenheid van die jong joernaliste wat hy oplei; drinkebroer-kollegas wat gereeld die nag deur jol in die oorverdowende disko langs die hotel; en versengende hitte en aaklige water; maar ook die lieflike Nyl en die heerlike kos.' (Die Burger (BY), 24/07/10.)

Madison, Amber

Talking sex with your kids: keeping them safe and you sane - by knowing what they're really thinking.- Adams Media, 2010.



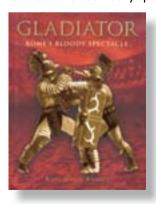
Talking sex with your kids encourages parents to talk freely with their children without giving too much information about sex. It also encourages them to teach children to be safe and smart when it comes to sex. It gives parents the tools to have a meaningful conversation with their teens about sex and the responsibility that accompanies the decisions they will be making. The information is presented in an informative and conversational manner that both teens and parents will find comfortable. Even for parents that are comfortable broaching the

topic of sex with their kids, there are great tips and reminders on the best approach so that children remain willing to talk to them: I.Talk your age 2. Use the media 3. Keep it general 4. Make it a conversation 5. Don't rush your answers 6. Know they're listening.

Sex is an issue every parent will have to address and this book makes it easier.

NOSSOV, Konstantin

Gladiator: Rome's bloody spectacle.- Osprey, 2009.



The author is an established expert/researcher on ancient arms and warfare, and has written various accounts on the subject in both books and various articles. In this title he brings the world of the Roman gladiator to life by using the latest research to revise our one-sided view of them.

Nossov reconstructs the history of these men (sometimes women too) who battled for the entertainment of the Roman masses, covering the evolution

of gladiatorial combat. He looks at the types of gladiator, their equipment, their way of life, and their social status. Although most seemed to be slaves, gladiators were able to elevate their status through victories in the arena to become as popular as today's superstar athletes. Gladiators came from almost every walk of Roman life, from slaves and prisoners forced to fight, to volunteers and even nobles who relished the opportunity to test their martial skills.

This detailed and very readable guide introduces the reader to every aspect of the gladiator phenomenon, offering a breathtaking tour of gladiator customs in a comprehensive and entertaining portrait that is a sure delight. This copy can be borrowed from SN......EB

POGSON, Katherine

Complete leatherwork: easy techniques and over 20 great projects.- Collins & Brown, 2009.

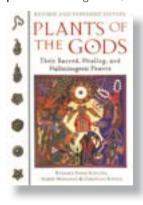


The author is a London-based designer of specialised leather treatments who runs designer courses on the craft. According to her, the most important part of leatherwork is the choice of a simple, yet unique design. Leather, like wood, is an organic material that continues to change with constant use, age and exposure to the elements. The author

has worked in this medium for over fourteen years and shares her expertise with readers in an accessible and step-by-step manner, covering all aspects of working with leather. She presents readers with an overview of basic tools and equipment, basic techniques, stitching by both hand and machine, how to apply metal fittings, decorative designs, and a section on advanced techniques for the more advanced leatherworker.

SCHULTES, Richard Evans, HOFMANN, Albert and RATSCH, Christian

Plants of the gods: their sacred, healing, and hallucinogenic powers. - Healing Arts P, 2001.



This is the revised edition of a title first published in 1979, considered a groundbreaking work in ethnobotany and ethnopharmacology. The author, Richard Evan Schultes, a swashbuckling scientist and influential Harvard University educator, who was widely considered the pre-eminent authority on hallucinogenic and medicinal plants, has since died (in 2008). Often called the father of ethnobotany, his work would serve as an inspiration to many young researchers in this field.

Schultes had an unquenchable curiosity that went beyond his specialty. He wrote about the use of hallucinogens in tribespeople's religious ceremonies. Shamans, medical men under the influence of hallucinogens, believed that they acquired supernatural powers that enabled them to cure illness, locate lost articles, affect fertility and control weather:

It would seem that the use of hallucinogenic or consciousnessexpanding plants has for many millennia been a part of human experience. These plants are complex chemical factories contain-



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ing chemical compounds capable of inducing altered perceptions. It is little wonder that they came to play an important role in the religious rites of early civilisations and are still held in veneration and awe as sacred elements by certain peoples who have continued to live in archaic cultures, bound to ancient traditions and ways of life (such as in South America where Schultes did most of his research).

This study documents about 97 such plants, featured here in unique colour and black and white illustrations. It is co-authored by Albert Hoffman, the Swiss biochemist who discovered LSD, and Christian Ratsch of the German Society for Ethnomedicine.

Readers looking for an authoritative study on the ritual uses of psychoactive plants will not be disappointed, as it is attractively presented and offers a wealth of interesting information rarely seen elsewhere.

VAN WYK, Chris

Eggs to lay, chickens to hatch: a memoir.- Picador Africa.



The book is a tribute to Agnes Msiza, who worked as their housekeeper when the author was in his early teens. Agnes had a lot of influence on him as a teenager. The title of the book stems from his conversations with her: when she wanted to go back to work she would say 'I have eggs to lay and chickens to hatch'. The author writes about what life was like when he grew up in the 1960s-1970s.

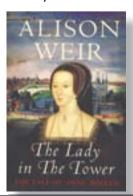
He would defend and cover up for her when she came to work with a babalaas on a Monday morning and

made a mess of the cleaning. In turn, Agnes never told on Chris when he played truant from school. As the years passed the two grew closer, exchanging stories about Coloureds and Zulus, life in Riverlea and Soweto, pass laws, politics and falling in love. She taught him to count in Zulu and he promised to teach her to read in English. As a teenager, Chris considered himself intelligent, but Agnes always said 'you know nothing'.

Eggs to lay, chickens to hatch is not a sequel to his previous book Shirley, goodness and mercy. The book is hilarious and brought a smile to my face whilst reading it. It also took me down memory lane, to the games we used to play and the words we used as children and what life was like then.

WEIR, Alison

The lady in the tower: the fall of Anne Boleyn.- J. Cape, 2009.



The author is an esteemed historian and novelist, and is regarded as an expert on Tudor history.

Although it is nearly five hundred years since the tragic death of Anne Boleyn, second wife of Henry VIII, there still remains an interest in this controversial and tragic character. The love affair between Henry and Anne Boleyn scandalised the then Christian world and would forever alter the religious landscape of England.

Anne is one of the most striking female presences in English history, but we can't even be sure of her date of birth, let alone her bedroom secrets. She was the daughter of SirThomas Boleyn, a courtier and diplomat, and had spent some time during her girlhood at the French court, bringing a new sophistication and fashion to the English court in 1521.

Although not an acknowledged beauty, Henry fell in love with her as he already wished to be free from his marriage to Catherine of Aragon whose childbearing years seemed to be over:

ADULT FICTIONVOLWASSE VERHALENDE LEKTUUR

Dido, EKM

Emma en Nella.- Umuzi, 2010.



'Emma Steenkamp vind 'n baba wat deur haar ma weggegooi is, neem die dogtertjie aan, al het sy fetale alkoholsindroom, en noem haar Nella. As dertienjarige begin Nella vreemd optree. Emma kom op die kind af waar sy haar arm onder die invloed van dwelms sny, en Emma vermoed Nella gebruik tik. Dan begin Emma se stryd om haar kind te help. Ontkenning en ontnugtering van die mense naaste aan die dwelmslaaf kom in die roman ter sprake.

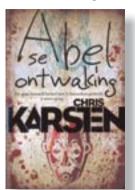
Die boek begin waar Emma 'n kombers in die bad trap. Huishoudelike take word in die boek 'n metafoor vir die manier waarop veral ma's 'n mate van beheer probeer behou wanneer hul kinders die dwelmnagmerrie in hul huis inbring. Soos in haar vorige romans span Dido hier ook spreektaal in, maar wissel dit in Emma en Nella af met 'n verskeidenheid vorme van Afrikaans in die mond van die verskillende karakters. Al lesend ontvou dan ook 'n palet van Afrikaans wat kleur aan die roman gee. En soos in haar ander boeke gebruik sy dikwels Xhosa-woorde tussenin. Dido laat Nella met 'n geloofwaardige jeugstem praat, maar dis byna jammer dat 'n mens nie meer van Nella self hoor nie. Die dwelmprobleem plaas druk op die verhouding met haar aanneemkind, maar Emma staan by haar. Die aard van familiebande word interessant in die roman aangebied ... Die liefdesverhaal van Gert en Emma is verweef met die storie van Nella se verslawing ... Clichés kom soms in die verhaalgegewe voor ... Maar die eintlike waarde van Dido se roman lê in die inhoud. Saam met die storie kry die leser inligting oor fetale alkoholsindroom, die gevaartekens van dwelmmisbruik, asook die gevare en die behandeling van dwelmver-slawing.' (Rapport boeke, 4/07/10.)



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Karsten, Chris

Abel se ontwaking.- Human, 2010.

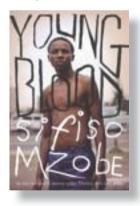


'Adjudant Ella Neser probeer 'n reeksmoordenaar vastrek: Abel Lotz, 'n maskerkundige wat 'n fiksasie het met nie slegs dierevelle nie, maar ook mense s'n ... [Hierdie roman] moenie as 'n tradisionele speurroman benader word nie ... Daar is, byvoorbeeld, nie oplaas 'n onthulling wat deur 'n paar leidrade voorafgegaan is nie. Dat die leser ook uit die staanspoor weet wie die skuldige is en heelparty gebeurtenisse vooraf gesien word, kon by 'n mindere skrywer 'n rampspoedige benadering gewees het. Die roman wil

'n sielkundige en prosedurele studie wees eerder as speurvermaak, want al die antwoorde wat Ella soek, het die leser reeds. Enersyds is daar dus min verrassings en spanning, andersyds is Abel Lotz 'n karakter wat jou daadwerklik aan die lees hou. Net soos Karsten se Ware misdaad-reeks, is hierdie roman 'n produk van deeglike navorsing ... Die taalgebruik is energiek, ernstig, en jy kry die indruk daar is oor elke woord herbesin ... [Dit is] die eerste in 'n beoogde trilogie.' (Die Burger, 12/07/10.)

Mzobe, Sifiso

Young blood.- Kwela, 2010.



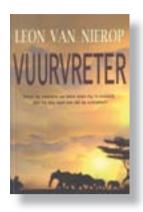
With its startling photo of a half-naked man and the tag "in the real world money talks. Money, cars and guns", the cover of this local debut novel is titillating to the point of glamorising crime. The question whether the novel upholds this kind of dubious frisson is likely to receive an equivocal answer. Sipho, the 17-year narrator gets drawn into Musa's world, successively hijacking cars and trading drugs. Musa returns from a stint in jail, dressed in Versace and driving a BMW 325is, a car adored in the township by medics and gangsters alike ... As much

energy is spent on the detailing of cars, their engines and dashboards, as on characterisation. The few erotic passages in the novel have to do with Sipho becoming besotted with the cars he's driving, especially if they are getaway cars after a killing. When Sipho refers to video games in which a vehicle goes into superdrive when injected with nitrous oxide, one has the uneasy feeling he believes this is what happens. Up to this point, Sipho is not fully engaged in crime. "Before stolen cars", he admits, "there was no substitute for soccer in my life." A phone call from an old friend marks the bridge from childhood. Bloodshed follows, and the novel grows darker, deeper and more reflective. He is arrested, though he bribes himself free. The last few pages deal with his regeneration. With everything neatly tied up here, it is to Mzobe's credit that he succeeds in avoiding the implausible.' (Sunday Independent, 12/09/2010.)

Van Nierop, Leon

Vuurvreter.- LAPA, 2010.

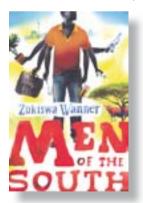
Die vermaaklikheidsbedryf bereik in 2009 'n laagtepunt. Baie produksiehuise speel bankrot en kameramanne sit sonder werk. Die pryswennende kameraman Henno Barnard bly op 'n rivierboot op die Chobe-rivier duskant Kasane in Botswana waar hy insetsels maak vir 'n Suid-Afrikaanse TV-program wat skielik eindig. Hy moet nou ander bronne van inkomste vind. Die bestuurder van 'n TV-produksiehuis, die beeldskone en gevaarlike Kim Naudé, reis na Botswana om hom as haar eksklusiewe kameraman op te lei. Selma, die medebestuurder van 'n lodge in



Kasane versoek hom ook om haar met 'n kortrolprent te help. Maar dan word verskeie moorde in die omgewing gepleeg en Henno besef dat almal nie is wie hulle voorgee om te wees nie. Boonop is iemand agter die stories aan wat hy nou vir televisie skiet en hulle sal nie huiwer om hom uit die weg te ruim om die beeldmateriaal te kry nie. En dan kry hy ook geheimsinnige besoeke van die magiese en skaars spookvoël.

Wanner, Zukiswa

Men of the South.- Kwela, 2010.



'A fascinating novel about three men from three worlds. Mfundo the musician and dad, Mzi - gay, but married, and Tinyae, a displaced Zimbabwean in South Africa. The beauty of Zukiswa Wanner's **Men of the South** is that she creates, in compelling prose, effective characters with whom I could easily identify. I recognised them and therefore responded to them as people I know and experience daily. In their interaction important social issues of our time emerge organically in an entertaining storyline and are narrated

in a voice that is both sensitive and witty." (www.kwela.com)



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JUVENILE NON-FICTION JEUGVAKLEKTUUR

Longman grondslagfasewoordeboek: Afrikaans/English.- Maskew Miller Longman, 2010.

Hierdie handige tweetalige woordeboek, geskryf deur Ronel Gouws, Liezl Potgieter en Susan Burgess, is geskik vir leerders in Graad I tot 4 en dek al die relevante assesseringstandaarde wat in die kurrikulum gespesifiseer word. Dit is geïllustreer in kleur en ook beskikbaar in isiXhosa as Longman isichazi-magama-siseko: isiXhosa/English. Leerders kan die woordeboek gebruik om met selfvertroue in Afrikaans-huistaal te lees en te skryf. Verder kan hulle stelselmatig met Engels vertroud raak



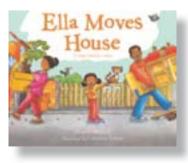
en Afrikaans as addisionele taal aanleer, verstaan en gebruik. Dit is gebruikersvriendelik en bestaan uit:

- 'n prentewoordeboek met temas, byvoorbeeld, alfabet, kleure en vorms, my liggaam, klere, ons huis;
- 'n alfabetiese woordeboek waarin meervoudsvorme aangedui word, met verduidelikende duimnael-grootte prentjies, asook 'n sin waarin die woord gebruik word sodat lesers daaruit kan aflei wat die woord se betekenis is. 'n Kort beskrywing van die woord se betekenis is ingesluit;

JUVENILE FICTION |EUGLEKTUUR

Hassall, Angela

Ella moves house.-Tamarind,2010.



Ella and her mum have a flat that suits them perfectly, but when her mum's boyfriend Joe moves in, their flat is not longer perfect. This is not good from Ella's point of view, and she shows her dislike of Joe in no uncertain terms. Joe tries very hard (perhaps too hard) to make friends with her by

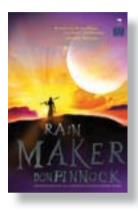
juggling doughnuts, playing games with her and even cooking, but to no avail. When mum announces they are to move to a house to give them more room, Ella is very angry and her stubbornness continues throughout the packing process. It is only at the new house, when Ella's beloved doll gets taken away by a large dog and Joe rescues it that Ella begins to accept Joe in her life. The message in this book is very realistic and one which many stepfamilies will

recognise. Caroline Ewen's illustrations are in a cartoon style with lots of humour and it will have a particular appeal to children in a stepfamily.LNG

PINNOCK, Don

Rainmaker.- Jacana, 2010.

Ky Rahl comes from a good home in Bonteheuwel but he got caught up with the Blood Brothers gang. In a revenge hit on a rival gang he shot the gang kingpin, Akker, who called him a Bushman. When he learned that he had only wounded Akker, he knew his life was in danger. He went to hide at a schoolfriend's house. That night he had a strange dream in which he gets bitten by a lion that also licks away his tears. He told the girl about it who then relayed it to her father. The father listened intently to the dream. He told Ky they can take



him to a place where he will be safe from Akker. They took him somewhere in the bush where he was introduced to Zimry who lived in a cave and hunted for food. Zimry told him that the dream was one of the 'Great Dreams' of his people and that those who have them are the chosen ones. Ky got enraged when Zimry also told him that he is a Bushman and that the ancestors have chosen him. Zimry taught him the ways of their people, to identify plants and to converse with his ancestors in the dream. Ky accepted his responsibility as a chosen one and became proud of his heritage. Where he was previously singled out, he was now with people that he could identify with.

Pinnock has put enormous research and effort into this book. The history and the ways and life of the San are described in detail. The book has a glossary that explains the San words. By reading this book you realise the loss of the expertise of the San when you consider the deterioration of our wildlife and environment. The San consider themselves as the keepers of the earth's balance. It is also a tale about a teenager who lost his way, because he could not identify with people around him. The book raises the issue of the identity crisis that the youth on the Cape Flats face and how some choose to deal with it.

Note: At the time of going to press some of these titles were still on order.

EB	Erich Buchhaus
SSJ	Stanley Jonck
LNG	Linda Ngaleka
TGS	Theresa Sass

