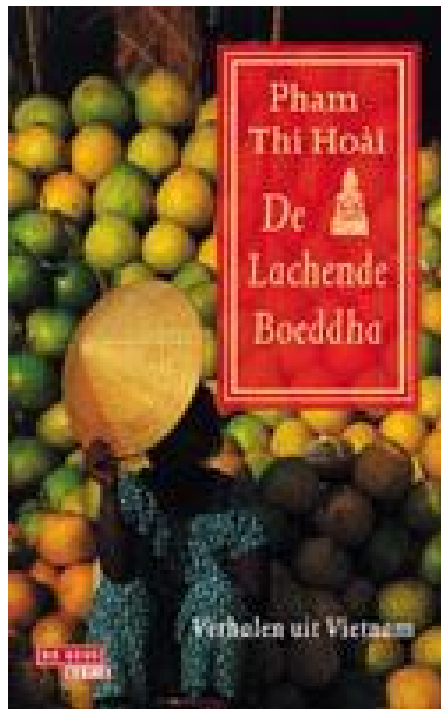




De lachende Boeddha : verhalen

Ph?m Th? Hoài , Pim Lukkenaer (translator)

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De Lachende Boeddha is een houten beeldje met de eerbiedwaardige leeftijd van 338 jaar. In zijn lange bestaan heeft de Lachende Boeddha door verschillende tijden en werelden gereisd. Hij begint zijn eeuwenlange tocht in een volle antiekwinkel waar hij gezelschap krijgt van de 'onvergelijkelijke vrouwe Wolkenfles'. Daarna kan de Lachende Boeddha het leven beschouwen bij een dief, een verzamelaar, in een stoffig museum, bij iemand die niets om antiek geeft, foute handelaren en een liefhebber die kunst gelukkig wél op waarde weet te schatten. Zijn avonturen eindigen in Europa. In een prachtig huis, met naast hem aan de muur een Christus aan het kruis en iets verderop een van Giacometti's 'magere mannen'.

De lachende Boeddha bevat elf verhalen - ironische, humoristische en erotische - uit het oeuvre van de Vietnamese schrijfster Pham Thi Hoài.

De lachende Boeddha : verhalen Details

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From Reader Review De lachende Boeddha : verhalen for online ebook

Andre says

Collections of short stories are often such a mixed bag. They can be funny, sad, confusing, boring and who knows what else. These stories fit several of those criteria.

At the end of this short story I wonder: Is the grandmother dead? You see, all that food is apparently standing around, she doesn't move and there are tons of flies apparently... The girl talks as if she is alive, but I am not sure.

In another tale of puppets, abortions and daughters kicked out to make room for daughter-in-laws, I was wondering whether the protagonist was male or female."

At about one third of the book the short story was just plain weird. I still don't know whether the mother is going from one guy to the next or whether she is a prostitute. Heck I don't even know what these three women at the end were supposed to be there for.

And a while later after all these stories with female protagonists, it was surprising to see the second story, right after the first one, that has a male protagonist (in the first I wondered whether it is a lesbian story).

Also, the next one had a young woman named Vi also and I wondered whether it's the same person."

However, at about half of the book and with the story about the "kid" (I guess) and the singer before, the problem started to appear that the stories start blurring together because they feel so much the same. Sure kind of gritty stories are fine, but this was one gritty short story after another and it started getting tiring.

Daniel says

"Vision Impaired" is one of the best short stories I have ever read. Is it a critic of pseudo-intellectualism, dogmatic tradition, gender exploitation or a tale of jealousy?

Dave says

Chanced upon this book at the library. Great short story collection by a Vietnamese author. Highly recommended.
