



SECRETS *of* WAR

Some secrets forge a strong bond. Some secrets drive you apart.
But in wartime, secrets can threaten your life...

From the award-winning team behind COOL KIDS DON'T CRY



A gripping story of how war can separate friends and challenge humanity,
told through the eyes of 12-year old best friends who find themselves
between the lines in Nazi-occupied Netherlands

IMPORTANT FACTS

Title:	SECRETS OF WAR (aka OORLOGSGEHEIMEN)
Genre:	Family Drama/Adventure
Original Language:	Dutch (with English subtitles)
Director:	Dennis Bots
Producer:	Reinier Selen and Harro van Staverden
Composer:	André Dziezuk (complete buy-out)
Writer:	Karen van Holst Pellekaan (based on a novel by Jacques Vriens)
Delivery Date:	June 2014
Theatrical Release Benelux:	July 3 rd 2014 by Dutch FilmWorks/ Jekino (min 100 Screens)
Budget:	ca. € 3 million
Length:	94 minutes
Production Company:	Bijker Film & TV/ Rinkel Film B.V., Amsterdam
Co-Production:	Tarantula, Luxemburg Living Stone, Belgium
Format:	1:2,35
Sound:	5.1, 2.0
International distribution:	Sola Media GmbH, Stuttgart
Pictures for download:	www.sola-media.com



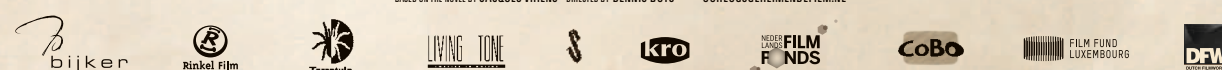
THE AWARD-WINNING TEAM

Never change a winning team: SECRETS OF WAR is the second film made by the successful team (director, producers and scriptwriter) behind the family feature COOL KIDS DON'T CRY. Both films are adaptations of best-selling books by the author Jacques Vriens who is known for his unique, empathetic way of introducing his young readers to serious subjects. COOL KIDS DON'T CRY has touched the hearts of children all over the world. Besides countless Dutch awards and nominations, it won the:

- Audience Choice Award, TIFF Kids (Canada)
- Child's Jury Choice, Children's India International Children's Film Festival, Bengaluru (India)
- Jury Award, Vienna International Children's Film Festival (Austria)
- Gryphon Award "Best Film" in the 13+ category, Giffoni Sao Paulo Film Festival (Brazil)
- Best Live Action Feature Film, Nueva Mirada International Film Festival for Children and Youth, Buenos Aires (Argentina)
- At the China International Children's Film Festival 2013, COOL KIDS DON'T CRY scored twice: Not only did it win the "Award for Best Children's Feature", but it was also crowned the "Best film" of the whole festival.

In the Netherlands, with more than 300,000 cinema admissions, COOL KIDS DON'T CRY won the "Golden Film" award, and was the most successful Dutch feature film of 2012.

SCREENPLAY BY KAREN VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN
BIJKER AND RINKEL FILM PRESENT A DFW RELEASE MAAS BROEKHUYZEN PIPPA ALLEN JOES BRAUVERS "OORLOGSGEHEIMEN" LOEK PETERS EVA DULJESTEIN STEFAN DE WALLE NILS VERKOOIJEN RENÉ VAN 'T HOF LUC FEIT ANNEMARIE PRINS
CASTING JANUSZ GOSCHALK LEONIE LUTIK ELSE FALKENA SOUND BAS LOKMAN COSTUME DESIGN ULI SIMON MAKE UP & HAIR KATJA REINERT COMPOSER ANDRÉ DZIEZUK SOUND DESIGN HERMAN PIETÉ CAS EDITOR PETER ALDERLESTEN NCE
PRODUCTION DESIGN KURT LOYENS DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY ROLF DEKENS NSC LINE PRODUCER MICHEL BARTELS CO-PRODUCERS DONATO ROTUNDO BRIGITTE BAARKE MARTIN DEWITTE PRODUCERS HARRO VAN STAVERDEN REINIER SELEN DAVID-JAN BIJKER
BASED ON THE NOVEL BY JACQUES VRIENS DIRECTED BY DENNIS BOTS OORLOGSGEHEIMENDEFILM.NL



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From the award-winning team behind
COOL KIDS DON'T CRY



SECRETS *of* WAR



Who can you trust when your world is upside down?



The friendship between Tuur and Lambert is challenged when Maartje, a Jewish girl in hiding, joins their class and only confides in Tuur, who has just found out his father is a member of the resistance, while Lambert's father is a Nazi collaborator. Feeling excluded, Lambert tells a seemingly harmless secret...

SHORT SYNOPSIS

It's 1943 in the occupied Netherlands, but for best friends Tuur and Lambert (12) the war is merely an exciting inspiration for their war games in the woods and mysterious caves. Lambert starts feeling excluded when Maartje, a fun, fearless girl, moves to a local farm and strikes up a close friendship with Tuur. Torn with jealousy, he tells his father, the Nazi-friendly mayor, about the piglet hidden at Maartje's farm, not knowing that this reveals a much more dangerous secret: she's a Jew in hiding and gets deported immediately. Lambert is determined to make up for his betrayal by helping Tuur and his family, who are uncovered as members of the resistance, escape to Belgium through the caves. But can Tuur still trust his old friend?



LONG SYNOPSIS

Tuur (12) and Lambert (12) are two inseparable friends from a Dutch village. Their country is occupied by Nazi-Germany, but besides the air raid alarms calling them into the bomb shelter every now and then, war to them means just playing soldiers with wooden guns in the labyrinth of underground caves in the nearby wood. They just wish their parents wouldn't hide so many secrets from them and always keep them away from the action! Is the rumour going around that a resistance group is operating in the village true? Could the stuff they found in one of the caves be a hideout for refugees?

Then Maartje (13) a daring, athletic girl who stands out from the crowd, moves to a local farm and joins their class. Lambert is immediately intrigued by her and so too, secretly, is Tuur, but he tests her first by scaring her in the dark caves. When she passes this 'test' with flying colours, Tuur accepts her and the three of them become close friends. When Lambert's father, a Nazi collaborator, is appointed mayor by the Germans, Tuur's parents become critical of their friendship. This upsets Tuur at first, but then he picks up hints that his father and his older brother are members of the resistance.

Maartje and Tuur slowly grow closer and Lambert starts feeling excluded. Maartje takes Tuur to her farm to show him a secret: piglet Bella, hidden away because all pigs are supposed to be handed over to the Germans. Yet Maartje is hiding a much bigger secret, and when the two become especially close, Maartje shows Tuur a treasure box with a Star of David. Her name isn't Maartje, but Tamar. She says he can't tell anyone, not even Lambert. Tuur is taken aback.

Maartje's revelation drives Tuur and Lambert even further apart, because now that Lambert's father is the Nazi-friendly mayor, he poses a huge threat to Maartje. Deeply hurt because Tuur sends him away with a lame excuse to be alone with Maartje, Lambert spies on them

and sees them playing with the piglet. Out of jealousy, Lambert tells his father about the hidden pig and in doing so unintentionally starts a chain of terrible events: it's only a matter of time until Maartje's true identity is discovered.

Tuur tries to hide her in the caves, but gets there too late, and Maartje and the farmer's family are arrested. Tuur goes into a blind rage and attacks Lambert furiously for betraying their friendship. In despair, Tuur jumps onto his bike and rushes towards the prison to give Maartje a token of his friendship, an Olympic medal he has carved for her. He arrives just in time to see Maartje being loaded onto a truck, throws the medal to her and is then escorted to jail.

Lambert realises things could go really wrong for Tuur, so he turns to his father for help, in exchange for doing what his father always wanted: joining the Nazi youth organization. Lambert's father pulls some strings and Tuur returns home. But in the meantime, Tuur's father and brother have been uncovered as members of the local resistance and the family has to flee! Lambert knows there is only one safe escape to Belgium: the caves. He arrives to warn Tuur, but Tuur no longer trusts him. Lambert swears that he will bring them food, so they can survive the journey to Belgium. Tuur is confronted with a terrible dilemma: Is he leading his family to safety or into a deadly trap? He decides to trust his old friend. The family hides in the marl caves and Lambert keeps his promise. The boys say goodbye and embrace. Their friendship has proven stronger than anything that the war has imposed on them. Guided by Tuur, the family travels through the caves to safety.

