

Johan Deseyn



CV

- ... born in Kortrijk (Belgium) on Oct 12th 1959.
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- ... e-mail : johan.deseyn@scarlet.be
- ... website : www.johandeseyn.be
- ... is married to Carine Devos (teacher) in 1982.
- ... one daughter : Barbara (teacher), born in 1987.
- ... hobby's : literature, music (by preference: Neo Progressive Rock), (lots of) movies.

I started to write stories when I was 14. I was 31 when my first story was published in a magazine in 1990. In 2010, being 50, my 10th novel is published. My work appeals to a lot of readers in the Low Lands (Netherlands and Belgium), and their purchases have made me the top-selling author of horror novels in the Dutch language. But then there is more than 'just' horror. The aspect of psyche is equal to the amount of horror in all the novels. My novels deal with real people, with authentic, recognisable characters. They come in an 'unusual' situation. That is the gruesome scene in which they move, but stay themselves.

What has been published yet?

... in 1990 three short stories were published in a magazine, *SF-Gids* by Eddy C. Bertin :

- **Route 67 en Stevie Nicks** (**January '90**) – (Route 67 and Stevie Nicks)
- **Er zijn deuren...** (**July '90**) – (There are doors...)
- **Ballade van Alice** (**October '90**) – (Ballad Of Alice)

... in 1991 an editor 'Horizon' (Johnny Haelterman from Liedekerke) published the short story ***In een dorp Heavens End genaamd*** (In a village, called Heaven's End). For that story, I received the Price of Incouragement (as a starting author) at a European SF Convention, **EUROCON 1991**, that took place in Krakau (Polen).

... afterwards Alfons Maes from Antwerp decided to publish some stories in his critical magazine *Cerberus* :

- **Frenchie's Wraak** (**Januari '92**) – (Frenchy's Revenge)
- **Churchyard Memories** (**Oktober '93**) – (Churchyard Memories)
- **De Biechtstoel** (**December '93**) – (The Confession Box)
- **Via de kinderen** (**Mei '95**) – (By Way Of The Children)
- **De Waterput** (**Januari '96**) – (The Well)

... Alfons Maes assisted me in publishing a collection of six stories in 1996 calling: ***Helleweefsel*** (Hellish Fabric).

... in May 1997 Cerberus published the story ***Lievelingswagen*** (Favorite Car)

... And finally publishing firm Kramat from Westerlo (Belgium) published in 1999 as official debut the novel named ***Erfenis*** (Inheritance). From that moment on, I stayed connected to that publisher.

1999 – Inheritance (Novel)

2000 – The Pact (Novel)

2001 – Doubt Zone (4 short stories)

2002 – Westhaven (Novel) – received the Trophy of Culture (community Deerlijk)
– was nominated for a literary price

2003 – Thanathor (Novel)

2004 – Eight years later (Short stories)

2005 – Otherworld (Novel) – selected for an huge literary action.
– was nominated for a literary price

... in 2006 Suspense Publishing (The Netherlands) published a new short story in an international collection of horrorstories named: *Horrorarium*.

2007 – Yellowmoon (Novel). – selected for an huge literary action.
– was nominated for a literary price

2008 – Chaos (Novel)

2009 – Cooperation with one short-story in collection of Dutch SF/Fantasy stories.

2010 – A short story 'Love Beyond' is digitally published worldwide by the American publisher 'Afterlife Digital' (Sept 20th)

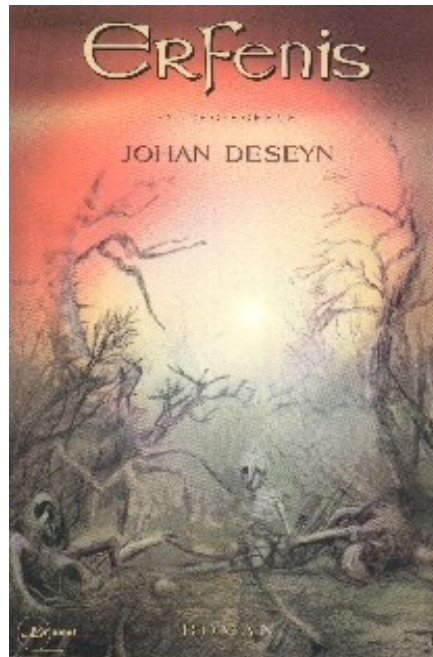
2010 – Daemonium (Novel) – (October 2010)

2012 – Labyrinth (Novel) – due for October 2012



Summary of published novels

Inheritance (1999) – Novel



When his father suddenly dies, Frank Rowland returns to Rowland Mansion, his parental home in Kentucky. The house, however, is inhabited by others as well, who use the dark attic as a gate to leave their own dimension and enter Frank's world and life. They are Lathorians and they are to leave Frank another inheritance. Their intentions are disastrous, dragging Frank and his family into a vortex of horror. Gruesome events escalate into a blood-curdling climax.

This original and claustrophobic horror novel with numerous hallucinating passages offers intense reading pleasure, right up until the last fascinating page. The sublime sketches of the at times bizarre characters sharply contrast with the development of the protagonist's humanity. He believes himself to be a misunderstood individual, helpless in the face of massive Evil that suddenly takes over the control of his life.

With this well thought-out and visual book Johan Deseyn presents an extremely thrilling and contemporary debut.

Pieter Aspe (author)

... a new and smooth talent in his genre...

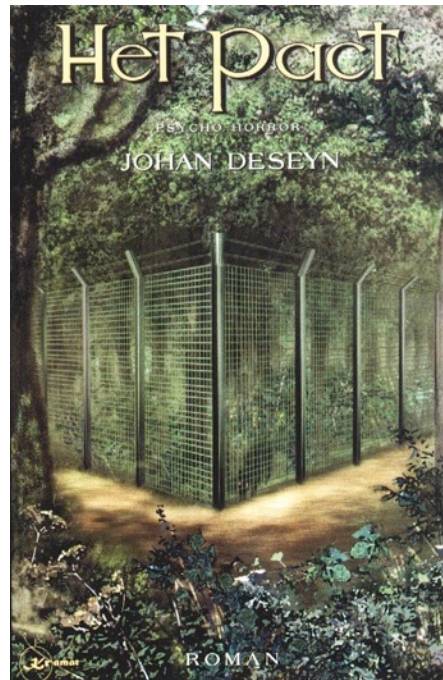
John Vermeulen (author)

... an undeniable talent...

Authoritative critical magazine [Leesidee](#)

... a promising debut... 'Inheritance' has a certain depth... the characters are sketched with subtlety and nuance...

The Pact (2000) – Novel



In Culverton, Oregon an underground compound is painstakingly shielded from the outside world. Since the fifties scientists have been engaged in a desperate - and futile - search for ways of reducing military loss in wars. At a complete loss, they ignorantly decide to make a pact with the greatest Evil the world has ever witnessed.

A terrifying horror novel developing a breathtaking apocalypse. Man's naivety and clumsy simplicity are at the root of what threatens to be a total catastrophe. By man's doing, Evil sees its chance to manifest itself in its most fearful aspects, preparing for an all-destroying cataclysm.

The authoritative critical magazine [Leesidee](#) wrote:

...a must for all horror fans... well written...

The magazine De [Tijdslijn](#) wrote

... the realistic characters are witnesses to great insight into the human nature...

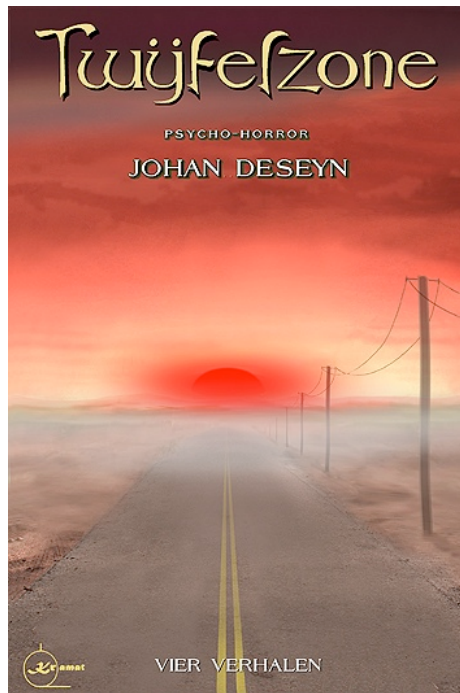
... no horror through psyche, but horror 'and' psyche...

The magazine [Cerberus](#) wrote

...the stories are page turners and the characters are well-founded

...strong influence of Stephen King and Clive Barker

Doubt Zone (2001) – collection of short stories



Doubt Zone

...In *Doubt Zone* people who arrive on the scene of 'the crime', have not any doubt about the truth at all. But Winnie Shankar is being put in confrontation with a total different facet of 'the truth'.

Nightrunner

... In *Nightrunner* Bill Corff meets a very unpleasant creature that accompanies him during his nightly passage through a dark forest....

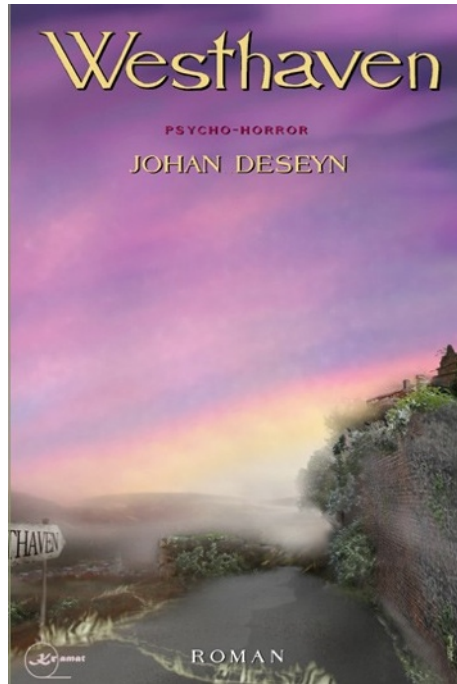
A Child's fantasy

... Being a teacher AnnaBelle Sloathe punishes a teaser-pupil. Without knowing she opens portals to other worlds where hopes and fantasies can be realised. There are rewards, but not for everyone.

Heaven's End

... *Heaven's End* is the name of an small village. In a distant past something has been promised to someone. Now that promise is being kept, with a terrible result for the inhabitants of Heaven's End.

Westhaven (2002) - Novel



As a newcomer in the little town of Westhaven (Kansas), Sela Wincer quickly steals the hearts of its inhabitants and manages to become a true resident. However, her arrival in town is accompanied by series of strange events. The longer Sela's presence continues, the more hallucinating and deadly these events become. Sela proves not to be the person that she claimed she was. She has something particular in mind and nothing or nobody will prevent her from getting there. Because of Sela, the unsuspecting townspeople have to face an unfathomable evil, spreading in surprising ways and threatening to develop into a full-fledged cataclysm. Everybody is reacting in his or her own way.

The authoritative critical magazine [Leesidee](#) wrote:

...Once again Deseyn shows that he is a horror-author here to stay, possibly the only one in the Flemish scene.

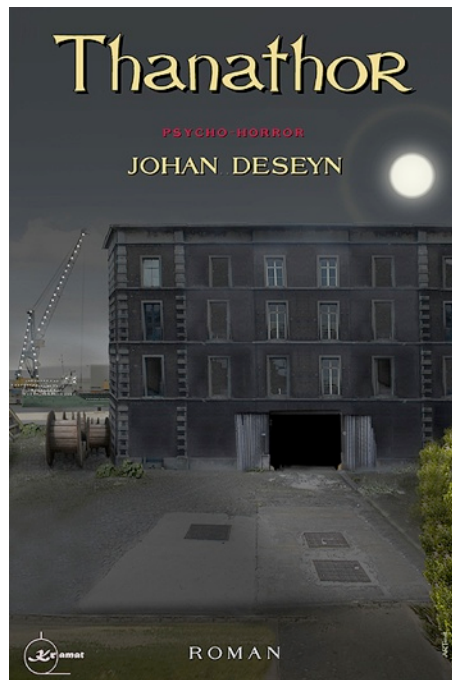
...Deseyn is getting even better in writing novels...

Peter Motte in [De Tijdlijn](#):

... It is remarkable how Deseyn manages to present so many characters, all with depth and background, without ever repeating himself...

...a shocking confrontation with the dark side of reality ...

Thanathor (2003) - Novel



For centuries two ancient races have been fighting out a fierce battle. This gruesome war is unknown to modern man, who since long has forgotten the existence of these races. Until two matter-of-fact Harronville policemen are inadvertently involved in the final battle. Their dedication will lead to a dramatic confrontation with what is beyond their understanding. Their approach is a simple and grim fight to stay alive...

Angelique Van den Neste in [Cerberus](#):

... I was surprised to find that Belgium had an author who without any doubt is a match for the great names of the horror genre...

The Magazine [Gonzo](#) wrote:

... Deseyn is THE writer of horrornovels of the Netherlands and Belgium, he probably is the only author worth being labeled with that name...

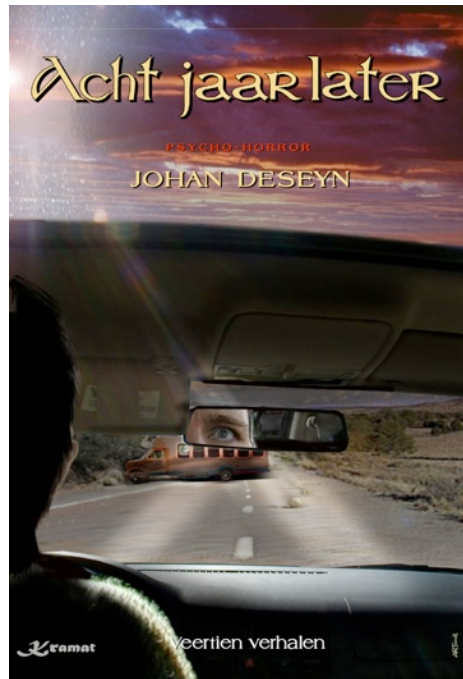
Paul van Leeuwenkamp in [SF-Holland](#) (NL):

...the ultimate expression of the sad condition of the human kind. The characters in Thanathor belong to people who's life has gone terrible wrong...

Gerrie van Kooij in [De Limburger](#) (Holland):

...The King of the Low lands. His newest book Thanathor confirms this comparison...

Eight Years Later (2004) – short stories



Churchyard Memories (Churchyard memories)

The Well (De waterput)

The Confessional Box (De biechtstoel)

Favourite Car (Lievelingswagen)

By Way Of The Children (Via de kinderen)

Ballad Of Alice (Ballade van Alice)

Frenchy's Revenge (Frenchie's wraak)

Eight Years Later (Acht jaar later)

On Authority And Monsters (Over gezag en monsters)

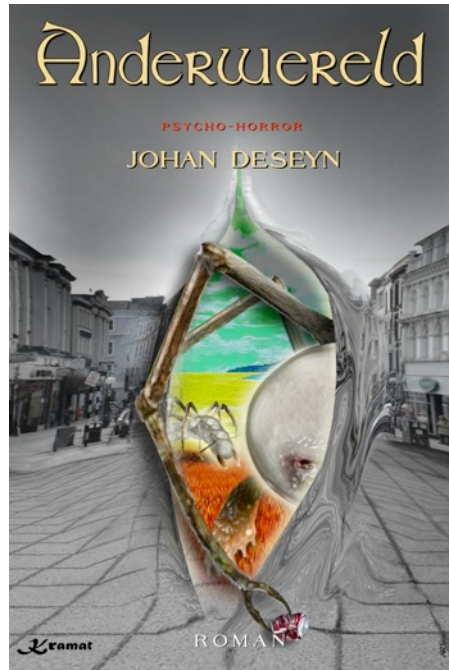
One Way Traffic (Eenrichtingsverkeer)

There Are Doors... (Er zijn deuren...)

Only The Dead (Alleen de doden)

Hellish Fabric (Helleweefsel)

Otherworld (2005) - Novel



Four people went through a terrifying experience when they were children. As adults they remain firmly in the grip of the horrible event's aftermath. But they are being contacted: the only way to get rid of their emotional load is to go back to the place where it all happened and relive their ordeal. But hopes and promises are broken - and the four of them are dragged into the uneven battle with the embodied demons of their own pasts and the horrific creatures of the unimaginable Otherworld they finally end up in.

Johan Deseyn presents this voluminous fifth novel. Extremely thrilling, ingeniously construed, deep.

Peter Motte in [De Tijdlijn](#):

... Unique in our region... a shocking confrontation with the darker side of reality...

Eddy Bertin in [Cerberus](#):

... Penetrating interior monologues about psychological problems... horror with realistic characters...

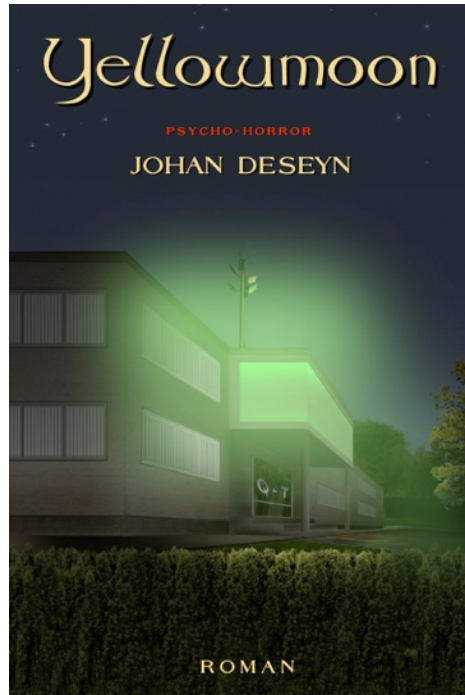
Paul van Leeuwenkamp in [SF-Holland](#):

... Deseyn has written a bulk of work by now that merits our attention...

The magazine [Gonzo](#) wrote:

... this novel deserves a lot of attention beyond the borders of the horror-genre...

Yellowmoon (2007) – Novel



It was a feeling of mere friendship that Lorne Dorganson convinced to tip his buddy Melchior Multcher, who still had nightmares about his youth. Some people had not been that nice to him in the past. They both live in Yellowmoon, a small town in southeastern part of Montana. But at the start, Lorne considered it as an innocent game. Soon his idea revealed a true hellish picture. The 'game' meant to raise a demon, called Dae Nhemm. Once this demon was summoned by an Indian tribe to cause a specific chainreaction with deadly results. Melchior is not able to contain the power of the demon. Follows a epidemic attack hardly restrictable, with catastrophic results for the inhabitants of Yellowmoon.

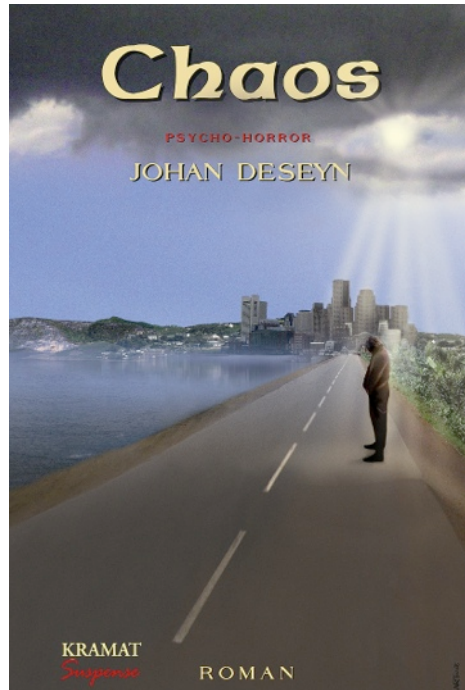
The international on-line recensiemagazine [Euro-Reviews](#) wrote

... With this book Johan Deseyn has confirmed what I was hoping for: that Belgium do have top writers available. Deseyn deserves to be mentioned in one breath with Stephen King and Dean Koontz. Johan Deseyn makes me realize how grateful I am that I can read! ...

The magazine [Cerberus](#) wrote

... Deseyn needs no recommendation anymore, this novel resolves all expectations. Old Indian legends are neatly fused with contemporary situations. Johan keeps the tension by constantly switching from character. With amazing resourcefulness every time new monstrosities emerge from his sleeve, horrors that would make a painter like Bosch blush. All those who have read Johan's previous work knows what to expect ...

Chaos (2008) – Novel



... What started as a simple task for an ignorant detective, becomes a police job because of the macabre enlargement. There is much more going on. Canthanuan flees from a domain known as The Darkness with the aim to spread a chaotic evil. Elleniël is sent by 'the other side' to eliminate him. The deadlock starts on the peninsula with the name New Cambridge. It is the scene of a titanic struggle between envoys of Good and Evil. People are deployed against their will. Tombaugh and Santangelo unwittingly get involved as adversaries in the battle. Their own life depends, like that of many others from it. Forced assistance is sought in the strangest place: The Darkness itself ...

The magazine [Cerberus](#) wrote

... Well-developed characters, a traditional but solid plot with lots of action and horror, Chaos is a more than meritorious modern epic horror novel ...

The internationale on-line recensiemagazine [Fantasy Realm](#) wrote

... The classic battle between good and evil was used as the basis ...

... The way everything was put in images, has really impressed me ...

... while reading, you learn to know the characters quite well, so that makes you really feel personally involved in their suffering ...

The internationale on-line recensiemagazine [EuroReviews](#) wrote

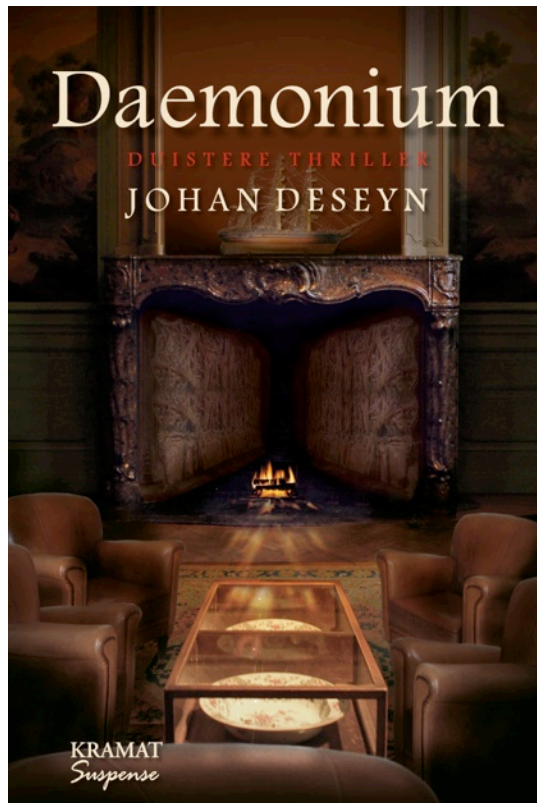
... you're glad that it ends up being a book and not the reality. Again an absolute must-read...

Love Beyond (2010) – Short Story



A short story, digitally published (ebooks - Amazon Books) worldwide by the American publishing company 'Afterlife Digital'

Daemonium (2010) - Novel



... The Kingdom of Demons, but also the name of a hidden society. It is a bizarre community of mediums that are able to summon and control demons. Their goals are far from fair. When a very evil demon is summoned, and later the frightening finding is reached that he can no longer be called back, they have to invoke someone that they have been trying to avoid for a long time. The leader of the Society had a very obscure reason that goes much further and deeper than previously suspected ...

The Dutch online-magazine www.bangersisters.nl wrote

... Deseyn has a distinctive style of writing. For this reason, he is an institute by himself. He also proves that the best authors of the horror-genre not only come from America and England, for Daemonium is a solid rock in that genre. His choice of words is matchless. Daemonium is his tenth novel and those who don't know him yet, should be ashamed...

The internationale online-recensiemagazine [Aeon](#) wrote

... Deseyn enriches the Flemish and Dutch book market with Daemonium, a delicious dark thriller that won't fail besides the books of Stephen King...

The Magazine [Gonzo](#) wrote

... In the horrorspectrum Deseyn is somewhere in between Stephen King, H.P.Lovecraft and Clive Barker...

... extremely solid, exciting story...