

The topic of my thesis is the book *De Taal Der Liefde* by Gerard Kornelis van het Reve. I worked with the version, in which there is the chapter *De Brieven Aan Een Kunstbroeder*. That means that I used the edition of *De Taal Der Liefde*, Athenaeum – Polak & Van Gennep, Amsterdam 1972, 1st edition published in February 1972. My original plan was to write about *The Love Trilogy*, that means *De Taal Der Liefde* (1972), *Lieve jongens* (1973) and *Het Lieve Leven* (1974), but as I worked on, I realized that that topic is too wide and that this thesis does not allow me to write as extensively as I would have liked to, so I ended up analyzing just the one book.

The reason why I chose this very book is the period in which it was written. The book can be placed into the fourth period of the writer's work, to the '70s, when he started writing in form of letters. This period is usually called the disharmonic romantic period. His language gets ceremonial and the form gets more attention. The form is one of the many reasons why this book is so interesting.

As far as methodology of my work is concerned, I used the books by Erica van Boven and Gillis Dorleijn, *Literair mechaniek. Inleiding tot de analyse van verhalen en gedichten*, and the book by J. van Luxemburg, M. Bal en W. Weststeijn, *Over literatuur*. This analysis is an ergo-analysis and is based entirely on my views of the book. Although I have studied all secondary literature I could get hold of, I have not made any use of it in the course of my work and if I did, it was totally and utterly by accident and it was not my intention.

The thesis is composed of two parts: the first one is a thorough analysis of the chapters *Gezond Leven*, *De Taal Der Liefde*, *Liefde Zonder Naam*, *Wie Zijn Vriend Liefheeft...* and *Spaart De Roede Niet*. The analysis begins with chapter 2, a summary of the plot, but because of its thoroughness it is placed at the end of the thesis as an attachment.