

In *A small guide on how to treat your lifetime companion*, Jan Martens and Steefka Zijlstra present a stimulating dance in which the various aspects of conjugal love are examined from different angles. A newlywed couple, still clad in their wedding finery, gradually and voluptuously uncover one another. This is followed by an interplay of the horny and the tender; the violent and the loving; intense sex and romance. However sensual and erotic the choreography may be, it is not voyeuristic. This is thanks to the slow tempo of the dance and the subtle lighting: the lovers are consistently lit from all sides, at times in interchangeable positions, vaguely creating an impression that we are witness to a kind of scientific experiment. This intimacy moves without being intrusive, the play of light creates a distance that spares our blushes.