

THE SHALLOW MAN GUIDE TO DATING THE DUTCH

Simon Woolcot

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## FOREWARD

Almost ten years ago I moved to the Netherlands and settled in Amsterdam. Unlike the ill-informed ranting's of various far right wing politicians at the time, I didn't move to the Netherlands because I wanted to be Dutch, nor was I looking to get something from the Dutch social security system. Like many an expat before me I moved here to work on a six-month project. This was extended and then I was offered a permanent position, which I accepted, and nearly ten years later, here I am, an older, wiser, and even more elegant Shallow Man.

Having lived in the Netherlands for so long, when new expats started working in the Amsterdam office of my former employer, they would often come to me for advice, mainly in affairs of the heart. Many an expat has crashed and burned when trying to date Dutch men or women. Due to my reputation within certain circles as someone that had some success in this area, I found myself handing out much needed and appreciated dating advice.

Last summer (August 2013 to be precise) I decided to launch a blog, the Amsterdam Confessions of a Shallow Man (<http://amsterdamshallowman.com>) that takes a humorous look at life in the Netherlands through the eyes of a shallow expat. I started this initially as a hobby and much to my surprise within only six weeks it had been viewed over 30,000 times. What helped the blog go viral were two posts in particular, "Essential tips on how to date Dutch men", and "How to date Dutch women". Both of these were widely shared via social media and are still being viewed months after their initial publication. The blog has now grown to over 40,000 unique users a month, and in November I released my first book, the Amsterdam confessions of a Shallow Man.

Due to the continuing popularity of my posts about the Dutch dating scene, I've decided to collect all of my dating the Dutch posts together in this book, along with some exclusive never seen before material with advice, based on my own personal experiences and those of friends and readers on how to date the Dutch.

Enjoy!

December 30<sup>th</sup> 2013 Simon Woolcot

<http://amsterdamshallowman.com>

<https://www.facebook.com/expatshallowman>

<https://twitter.com/Expatshallowman>



## A BOOK ON DATING THE DUTCH? WHY?

Firstly let's talk about the Dutch; by and large they are aesthetically pleasing to the eye. The men tall and generally in good shape, and the women are hotter than the Sahara desert at midday with great bodies and are outright beautiful, so you'd think that there would be no problem dating the Dutch and that you should just let nature take its course right? Wrong.

Dutch culture takes quite some time for us outsiders to grasp and dating the Dutch makes quantum physics look simple. Every time I've written a post about dating the Dutch on my blog, the response has been incredible. The Shallow Man regularly receives requests from expats for advice on how to achieve what sometimes appears to be the impossible, bagging a Dutch partner.

After almost ten years in the Netherlands, the Shallow Man has learned the hoops that one needs to jump through to date the Dutch. Yes, of course, throughout this book I will be generalizing, however in my defense, I will say that the dating advice provided is based on my own experiences on the safari that is the Dutch dating scene.

The advice provided for dating Dutch men, is based on feedback I've received from friends, and interviews I've conducted with some readers of my blog.

<http://amsterdamshallowman.com>

For the tips on Dutch men I've conducted interviews or have received messages from women from a number of nationalities including Italian, British, Brazilian, American and Dutch.

This book is neither a scientific, nor an anthropological research paper. Often, when I write dating articles on my blog, a tiny minority of offended Dutch people (or expats who happen to be in relationships with them) send me angry messages. If you have a limited sense of humor and take everything incredibly seriously, this book will probably not make you happy. If for some reason you are annoyed by it, please tell as many people as you possibly can, as there's no such thing as bad publicity.

## CONTRIBUTORS

I'd like to thank for the following people for their contributions to this book. In no particular order, Alice, Mitzy Maino, Vittoria Azzarello, Anneke, Katie, Florence Gielen, Sian Reardon and Jessica Deen.

A special Shallow Man thanks to the following blogger who provided me the inside track on Tinder dating from the perspective of a young blogging Dutch Antelope.

Roxy Scheepbouwer from Roxy's Amsterdamse Avonturen

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Roxys-Amsterdamse-Avonturen/128962230606574>

Big thanks to Dorit Roest from Dolly's dish, who provided the cooking recipe that's used in this book.

<http://dollysdish.nl/>

## LIONS AND ANTELOPE

Throughout this book, you'll see me referring to Dutch men as Lions and Dutch women as Antelope; to stand any chance in the Dutch dating scene, you must understand the roles played by the Lions and Antelope on the safari that is the Dutch dating scene.

### The Dutch Lion

The Dutch male is a Lion for a number of reasons. Like the Lion, he's a proud and bold animal, but also like the animal in question is prone to bouts of laziness, especially when it comes to chasing their prey. The Dutch male often sports a hairstyle that reminds me of the adult Simba in the Lion King movie. You know the one, combed back into a proud mane.

The Dutch Lion can be spotted by his standard uniform of jeans, (sometimes red or orange) brown shoes, and smart shirt. This is the de facto uniform of Dutch male urbanites. The Dutch Lion is careful with his money. In winter they like nothing more than to sit in a freezing cold apartment while wearing thick jumpers and being wrapped in a Duvet. This is preferable to the easier option of increasing the heating above eighteen degrees, which would cost them money.

The Dutch lion drinks small glasses of beer known in Dutch as Biertjes and often waits for the lady to make the first move, the reasons for this I'll explain in this book.

Advice on how to attract and date the Dutch male will be provided in this book, based on the personal experiences of both Dutch and expat Antelope.

### The Dutch Antelope

Is there anything hotter or louder than a Dutch Antelope? The Dutch female unlike most species of Antelope are unique in the sense that they are the ones that do the hunting. The Lions simply lay back and think of Holland while being ravaged by the aggressive, determined and relentless Dutch female.