

ing his negatives). In 1917 Day withdrew from society and remained a bedridden recluse until his death in Norwood.

J. Crump, *F. Holland Day: Suffering the Ideal*, Santa Fe, 1995; M. Harker, *The Linked Ring: The Secession Movement in Photography in Britain, 1892–1910*, London, 1979; E. Jussim, *Slave to Beauty*, Boston, 1981.

David L. Phillips

De Haan, Jacob Israël (1881–1924), Dutch author. De Haan and his twin-sister, who later became famous as the novelist Carry van Bruggen, were born to a rabbi and his wife in Smilde in the northern part of The Netherlands. The family moved to Zaan-dam near Amsterdam and, later, Carry would write a poignant story of their childhood there in poverty. Jacob studied to become a teacher and continued his studies in law at the University of Amsterdam. He befriended the lecturer of criminal anthropology, Arnold ALETRINO, who helped him to come out as homosexual.

De Haan was a very intelligent but obstinate student who earned money by teaching and writing for the children's page of the socialist daily newspaper, *Het Volk*. In 1904, his first novel, *Pijpelijntjes*, was published. It contained a very realist description of the lives of two students in the new Amsterdam neighbourhood 'De Pijp' (whence the title; 'pijpen' also means 'to suck'). The students have a homosexual and quite sadistic relationship with each other, but find occasional lovers on the side in the streets of Amsterdam. There are rather explicit descriptions of sex with young men in their early teens. The names of the main characters are Joop and Sam (in fact the nicknames of De Haan and Aletrino) and the book was dedicated to 'dear Aletrino'. As Aletrino had always stated that doctors who wrote on homosexuality – like himself and HIRSCHFELD – were not necessarily subjectively involved, this novel endangered his reputation. Together with De Haan's betrothed – it was a time when gay men still

married – he bought all the books from the publisher and shops to save their reputation. But none the less a scandal started which affected De Haan the most, as he lost his place as a teacher and on the socialist daily. A more sexually explicit second edition was published soon after, without the dedication and with different names for the main characters. This book was the first full-blown homosexual novel in Dutch.

In 1908 De Haan published his second and last novel, *Pathologieën*, which deals with a gay sadomasochistic relationship. This novel, with a foreword by De Haan's friend the Belgian gay author Georges EEKHOUD, caused less commotion. He also wrote short stories, one on a Faustian theme including the anal rape of Jesus by the main character, who sold his soul to the devil. De Haan's most important *œuvre* now became poetry with both gay and Jewish content. He published *Libertijnsche liederen* (*Libertine Songs*, 1914), *Liederen* (1917) and *Kwatrijnen* (1924). Some poems evoke Oscar WILDE's imprisonment and Eekhoud's novels. De Haan also wrote essays, journalism and developed in his dissertation *Rechtskundige significa* (1916) a linguistic theory for legal work focusing on criminal responsibility. He visited Russia and its jails and was horrified by the prisoners' situation. He wrote an indictment against their condition, *In Russische gevangnissen* (1913).

De Haan became a Zionist and after World War I went to Jerusalem in Palestine, where he taught law and wrote articles for the British and Dutch press. In one of his poems, he asks himself if he visits the Wailing Wall for God or for the Arab boys. His involvement with both Arabs and orthodox Jews made him critical of Zionist positions. As he started to disparage Zionist claims in the British press, where until then only Zionist views were heard, radical Zionists threatened him with death. In a beautiful letter, De Haan describes how it felt to awaken the day after he should have been killed. But

assassinated he was, killed by Zionists. Isaac Ben Zvi, who later became president of Israel, was instrumental in De Haan's murder, although the actual murderer was never apprehended. Zionists spread the rumour that Arabs killed him because of his sexual relations with Arab boys. Until this day orthodox Jews honour De Haan's politics, but deny his homosexuality.

De Haan is nowadays considered one of the most accomplished Dutch poets. A line of his poetry, 'Such a boundless desire for friendship', decorates the Homomonument in Amsterdam. His collected poems were published in 1952, and many of his published and unpublished works were reissued in the 1980s. His life and work have been the subject of a play and an opera. No biography has yet been published that brings together the gay, Jewish, poetic, scholarly and political lines in De Haan's life.

J. Meijer, *De zoon van een gazzen*, Amsterdam, 1967.

Gert Hekma