



Maike Meijer *Get Used to It*

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In her revealing diary, an unemployed actress named M. registers her life's unravelling in big and small ways. Her teenage

son Ole is threatening to leave the nest, and sex with her husband Koos started to feel like something that has to happen every now and again: 'It's just like a half-yearly check-up at the dentist, only less often.' Meanwhile, she desperately longs for a lead role. M. wants to prove to herself - and above all to her son - that she still has a future.

MAIKE MEIJER (b. 1967) is an actress and screenwriter. Together with Margôt Ros, she wrote and acted in the comedy series *Toren C*. The series won multiple awards and was an international success. *You Better Get Used to It* is her debut as an author and illustrator.



Excerpt:

Saturday

Had a shower thought today. When it comes to menopause, it's like this: there's really no pause at all. Suddenly the changes are there and from then on you've just got to make do with your new self. It's like you once bought yourself in a shop and were really satisfied with yourself for years. But then all of a sudden things start to break, so you take it back and you ask: 'Can I exchange this?' The salesperson says: 'Sorry, we no longer carry that product.' 'Could you please just have a look in the stockroom anyway?' you try. The salesperson does. After a little while he comes back. 'Sorry. We've dropped that product from our range and no longer have any replacement parts.' 'Why not?' you want to know. 'There was no demand for it anymore,' says the salesperson. At home, you look in the mirror and almost jump out of your skin because you don't recognise anything. Who is that woman? All of it's still there, in the right places, but it looks like a knockoff. You've become an Ali Express version of yourself.

Sample illustrations:

