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worthy of a Restoration dramatist'

Anna Pavord, *Daily Mail*

Seventeenth-century Amsterdam, a city in the grip of tulip mania and basking in the wealth it has generated. Cornelis, an ageing merchant, commissions a talented young painter to preserve his status and marriage on canvas. At the sittings, as a collector of beautiful things, Cornelis surrounds himself with symbols of his success, including his young wife, Sophia. But as the portrait grows, so does the passion between Sophia and the artist; and as ambitions, desires and dreams breed an intricate deception, their reckless gamble propels their lives towards a thrilling and tragic conclusion.

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Independent on Sunday



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