



THREE MEMORABLE YEARS



Ozline

THREE MEMORABLE YEARS

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# THREE MEMORABLE YEARS





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OZLINE





# CONTENTS

<b>ALICE DAVIDSON</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>COEN TORGEN</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>DAVENDER PATEL</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>EMILY MCPEARSON</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>HEATHER HUNT</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>LAURA DAVID</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>LOUISE AUTUMN</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>MYLÈNE BOSCHER</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>ROSANNE VAN DER BILT</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>RUTGER BRUINERS</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>ROB SMITH</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>THEODORE BRENDAN</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>ZEYNEP TOKMAZ</b>	<b>34</b>



## THREE MEMORABLE YEARS

# ALICE DAVIDSON

OZ! I am going to miss you! Thank you for always being so easy to talk to and to gossip with. Many happy memories including my first introduction to bitterballen (gamechanger), thanks for introducing them into my life. Notably epic karaoke session in Amsterdam, I think Rutger and I scarred you for life with our rendition of Earth Song. I will miss our deep and meaningful after-dinner rants. I always felt that you were a kindred spirit and you have always made me feel super welcome. Good luck with whatever you do next, you'll smash it, I am sure xx

# COEN TORGEN

When you received this book, we were at the same spot as where we actually met last March (De Ysbreker). Well, 'nomen est omen' since that time the ice was immediately broken (haha, I don't think this is an English saying, but you know what I mean). We had an interview that took us three hours (!). At that moment I had the idea that someone who is working for Story Terrace has lots of time. Especially when it also turned out that you were on holidays in my first week when I

## O Z L I N E

arrived . But.. Later on you proved me wrong! ;-)

Your great energy, dedication and will to help me out, made that I felt really comfortable in the first weeks of my new working life, although I told you that I literally woke up these days with names of customers and writers tumbling in my head. You did a great job of comforting me, supporting me and showing me the way. The personal click that we found in our first meeting never went away, and became even stronger during our brainstorm, after work drinks and trip to London. I consider myself very lucky that we could form a team together!

A team that we expanded with Mylene for the last three months. You are always teasing me with the fact that the week that I was on holiday was your most fun week. Well, to be honest, I have never been surprised: I still don't know what you did that week, but when I got back from my holidays, every single day strange men came knocking at our door to ask for you both!

Oz, I will never forget your competitive character, that resulted in our sandwich challenge or the list on the wall that says 'Wie heeft er gelijk?' ('Who is right?'). Also I will not forget you complaining about the traffic jams on the way to Purmerend to Duivendrecht (our the other way around) and I will never forget you chatting about ALL kind of things ALL day long haha (gossiping, philosophizing, telling anecdotes - yes AND making awesome sales)! I even had to sing sometimes to not hear it all day and not go mental ;). Sorry that it was of

### THREE MEMORABLE YEARS

the beat.

I wish you all the best in your future life, but I am sure that we will meet again for coffee, drinks or some sandwich (I will pick up some ideas in London). Take care and make your dreams come true!

Best regards,

Coen



*SuperOz - Another day at the office (Our office)*

## DAVENDER PATEL

I first met Oz in our monthly KPI call. Back then, the UK team was based in Launch 22 (and our KPI meetings were separated from the rest of the office with a curtain) & the NL team was based right by the Amstel.

We went to a startup Amsterdam event just a couple of months later, it was the first time for me (and Kuba; he joined Basia and Robert on a ST trip too!) to see the office at Amsteldijk and meet Oz in person. We met at Cafe Vrijtag for lunch and that was the first of many Dutch lunches (Oz and Rutger suggested the Dutch pancakes, and it was the right choice)!

We worked together a lot over the past 1.5 years and among others, have plenty of Hangouts memories, in particular discussing the sales sheet and Xero in great detail as well as me trying to pronounce Dutch names :)

Although I've only visited the office in Amsteldijk a couple of times, Entrada in Duivendrecht was the one that I spent most of the time with Oz. Witnessing the sandwich challenges of Oz and Coen, going for an Indian in a fairly hidden away

### THREE MEMORABLE YEARS

location and eating a LOT of Bitterballen are just a few of many memories that I have (next to Karaoke, Ziplining, 3 off sites and much more), and I will miss my visits to see Oz & Coen.

Oz, it was an absolute pleasure working with you! You are a great sales manager, hard working, open and honest and I will miss you being part of our team. It's a shame you won't be joining us here in London, and the new person will have some big shoes to fill. I wish you all the best and stay in touch!



*Off Site in Amsterdam, watching a motivational speech of Mel Gibson (Amsterdam - Spryng office)*

## OZLINE

# EMILY MCPEARSON

Oz! It was lovely to host you, Rosanne, and Anne for the UK launch party at Ye Olde Cheshire Cheese. My first impression of you three Dutchies was that you were a tall people as well as easy to get along with and up for a bit of fun at the pub :) I apologize for taking you on the long march through South London but you repaid me in Amsterdam when we had to squish into your Story Terrace-mobile car at the Amsteldijk office and meet Rutger for coffee somewhere closer into the city (not sure if I'm remembering that right!) Thank you for being a lovely person to work with, even from afar, and I hope that our paths cross again soon in LA or NL. Best of luck with your next adventure and take care xxxxx

# HEATHER HUNT

It's a funny thing when you've only met a person once, yet still feel that you know them quite well. My impressions of you were instant and strong, and hearing and reading the other stories about you, I can see that I was right. You have a special way that makes you instantly memorable, charismatic for sure but yet make people feel at ease. Clearly you are talented at

## THREE MEMORABLE YEARS

what you do, but it's obvious to me it's your passion for Story Terrace that has set you apart. Your experience and presence will be missed, and I can honestly say that it's shame I didn't get to know you better!

You don't need luck, you'll make your own opportunities in life. So all the best and warmest thoughts for your future endeavors. And next time you are in London, I'm sure you already know where your first stop better be!

## LAURA DAVID

Oz! We only had a few months working together, but you were always a wonderful face to see on video chat and we'll miss you! (I'm a little sorry I left London too early and we didn't get to zipline together, but I'm also scared of zipling so I'm not TOO sorry...) Good luck with everything in the future, looking forward to seeing all the amazing things you do.

## LOUISE AUTUMN

I think we've spent a grand total of 2.5 days together, Oz, but it feels like an awful lot longer - probably because of all the deep and meaningful chats we've had while standing outside various London pubs. You visited us during my first week at Story Terrace, when I was still a rabbit caught in headlights, and your openness and friendliness meant that we clicked straight away despite my nerves.

I'm really sad that you won't be joining us in the UK, but I know it's the right decision for you and I can't wait to see what you do next. And I promise to eventually make it to your not-quite-in-Amsterdam house.

Stay in touch!!

THREE MEMORABLE YEARS

# MYLÈNE BOSCHER



*Fully loaded car (Oz' Beetle)*

## O Z L I N E

Oz,

In the second week of my internship at Story Terrace it was 'Girls Week' at the office, because Coen was on holidays and we were there with the two of us. We got to know each other much better that week, which was very nice. It was in that week that I witnessed your 'Super Oz' powers for the first time. You had build and decorated a bookcase for our Dutch office in the blink of an eye. And, also worth mentioning: on heels. Even during our lunchbreak expeditions in the wilderness of Duivendrecht you wore them.

You're always full of ideas, plans and goals. Whether it was improving the office interior or doing sales: it was inspiring seeing you do that. It was a delight to see and hear you working fully focussed. When you said 'alrightttt' more than 5 times within a few minutes, I knew that you were in a good flow!

Oz, I wish you all the best for the future... For now: take some time to read new books and drink a lot of Prosecco :)

Mylène

## ROSANNE VAN DER BILT

Lieve Oz,

De start van onze vriendschap in december 2014 was memorabel: onze opdracht was om als kersverse nieuwe

### THREE MEMORABLE YEARS

collega's een in werkelijkheid zeer amateuristische maar ogenschijnlijk zeer professionele stand op de LXRY fair op te tuigen, met de inmiddels fameuze typemachines en boekenbehang, gecombineerd met de complete inboedel van jouw appartementje dat we eigenhandig van 3-hoog aan de Stadhouderskade in - wederom jouw - veel te kleine auto'tje moesten zien te stouwen, om vervolgens middenin de spits naar naar de RAI te racen en de hele mikmak aan de andere kant van het enorme terrein in het juiste vakje te krijgen. Toen werd mij direct duidelijk dat je een enorme doorzetter bent die niet voor een kleintje vervaard is. Wij zouden dit varkentje wel even wassen. En zo geschiedde.

Ondanks de nodige irritaties over het ranzige pand en de iets te studentikoze StartHubbers koester ik warme herinneringen aan onze tijd aan de Overtoom met Anne, Vincent en Rut, toen Story Terrace nog in de kinderschoenen stond, en we het wiel steeds opnieuw moesten uitvinden. Story Terrace kreeg een groeispuurt en we verkasten naar de Amsteldijk, waar we met Ivan en Nick wederom een hele leuke - en leerzame - tijd hadden. Jij als zeer overtuigende salestante, ik als meer inhoudelijk redacteur met gebrekkig commercieel talent, jij met gevoel voor drama voor de 'gedoetjes' die jou geregeld het leven bemoeilijken (misschien zoek je ze ook weleens op... ;), ik als enigszins dwangmatig ordenende moeke: we zijn zo verschillend, en toch kunnen we het zo goed vinden met elkaar. Filosoferend over werk, liefde en wat al niet meer, heb ik heel veel lol met je gehad en heel veel aan onze

## O Z L I N E

vriendschap ontleend. Nu onze professionele wegen gescheiden zijn moeten we het dagelijks contact ontberen, maar tot nu toe is het toch gelukt zo nu en dan samen een borrel te drinken, en ik stel voor dat we dat vooral blijven doen in de toekomst! Ik wens je heel veel succes en plezier met al je spannende nieuwe plannen!

Liefs xRosanne

## RUTGER BRUINERS

Reminiscing at the leaving dinner, Ysbreker, 27/9/2017





## THREE MEMORABLE YEARS

Offsite summer 2016, London



## OZLINE

Offsite August 2017







*LXRY December 2015, with Ellen and Anne*



*London visit for offsite*

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LXRY fair, December 2014



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*Ozline's sitting room..*

## OZLINE

Christmas lunch 2014



## THREE MEMORABLE YEARS



*Second Home beurs 2015 (Utrecht)*

## OZLINE

DECEMBER 2014

I thought I'd start with a bit of history, for everyone else reading this:

I got to know Oz early December 2014, just after the NL launch. The launch had generated some PR and that attracted amongst others The LXRY Fair (aka the millionaires fair) to contact me for a booth at their upcoming fair two weeks later. I liked the idea of trying it out but not the price and complained about not having a sales person and no time to arrange a swanky booth. The persistent, smart salesperson Ellen didn't focus on giving me a big discount but on solving my issue.. So she introduced me to her former colleague and friend Ozline. We met twice in a week (despite sending Oz to the wrong coffeeshop in the same street initially) and Oz decided to join Rosanne, intern Vincent and I at Story Terrace.

We quickly decided Story Terrace needed a homey, fireside look and feel, to stand out surrounded by professionally designed booths from flashy fashion and watch brands. We found library style wallpaper and Oz offered her car (I forgot what brand but picture the smallest French car you can imagine), which we gladly accepted. A few days later, Oz's lounge chair, carpet, wine rack, and most other items moved to conference centre the Rai. A big hit it was. Gallons of red wine were served and stories about plane crashes, migration, going in hiding, drug addiction, growing peppers in greenhouses, adoption, and many others were shared. The only thing we

## THREE MEMORABLE YEARS

forgot, was to sell books.

Oz,

In the years that followed you've been a much loved part of the team, bringing those sales in just when things seemed to be going in the wrong direction and continuously adapting to new managing editors, systems and processes. You've also managed to work in all three of our Dutch offices working especially closely with Rosanne, Anne, Ivan, Coen and of course your sister Sebnem! The offices were all quite different. From the biggest student flat (Cigarettes after 8pm? Barbecue on the roof? Yes and Yes!) to the 'anti-kraak' office at that beautiful location overlooking the Amstel to the Estrada which for some reason didn't seem to attract to many new tenants..

Unfortunately you won't make it to the fourth Dutch office, which will cohabit in London with the UK team. I'm sure it would have been great fun to have you here. I remember how excited you, Rosanne, Anne and Emily were to meet each other for the first time at UK launch at the old pub. Personally, I'll miss your passion for sales, our books and Story Terrace as a company, which you so clearly displayed when you presented sales at our offsite or even "the sale of the week" on the Tuesday calls.

For now, I wish you lots of joy and professional fulfilment.

Rutger

OZLINE

## ROB SMITH

Dear Ozline! It's been amazing to go on this journey with you at Story Terrace! You've sold many books and helped create many beautiful stories!

We've had adventures in London, in Amsterdam and in a few karaoke bars!

I wish you the best of luck in the future and no doubt we will see each other again soon!

Much love

Robert x

THREE MEMORABLE YEARS

# THEODORE BRENDAN



*#EURO-OFFSITE2016 (Barbican)*

## OZLINE

I first met Oz through one of Story Terrace's famous Google hangouts video calls! (Miraculously I do not recall any connectivity issues.)

I had just started working with Story Terrace on redesigning the website, and this weekly call was my introduction to the NL team. On screen came three statuesque Dutch women - I was immediately intimidated!

Luckily, it turns out my first impressions were wrong and they were all very down to earth and friendly people. This is especially true of Oz. I suppose in reality I have spent less than a week with Oz in person, but it always feels like she has been just as much a part of the team as everyone else. On our off-site meet ups it was as though we had all been working in the same place all along!

A special mention goes to Oz's commitment to karaoke videography, which I dearly hope she never chooses to share with the world for my sake.

Oz - you will be missed, but we are all excited to see what you do next and wish you the very best.

THREE MEMORABLE YEARS

# ZEYNEP TOKMAZ



*ST Offsite, August 2017 (London, UK)*

## OZLINE

Cig Kofte: one and only Turkish raw meat delicacy (ie, spicy beef tartare a la turca:) we didn't get to try it in Tas, but something to look up during your next Turkey visit!



### THREE MEMORABLE YEARS

While its been a very short amount of time since I met Oz (with only one in person encounter at the offsite), her warm, genuine welcome to the Story Terrace team immediately came through from the first moment we met. I can totally see how she must have been a great salesperson -- she not only has a sincere interest in getting to know and connecting with those around her, but a real drive to keep pushing the business forward at all times (thanks for all the StoryStarter feedback too!)

It was such a lovely treat to sit next to the Dutch duo during our offsite dinner, and get to know Oz even more in person and their great office dynamics. A part of me will now always picture her and Coen sitting across from each other rocking out to music every time I look at Coen when he comes over to London, and wonder if he's missing his Dutch partner in crime...

Oz, I wish you the best of luck in all your future endeavours. Please do look us up if you ever visit London again!

Zeynep

## NOTES





