



ECFA Documentary Award 2024
ZO DOOD ALS EEN PIER
von SARA KOLSTER

There are certain issues that adults find particularly difficult to talk about, especially to children. This is why we are awarding the director of this film for the brave choice to deal with such a sensitive topic. We especially appreciate its lighthearted yet thoughtful approach, avoiding melodrama. A school garden becomes a metaphor for the circle of life: Growing, blooming, withering. In this way, it reminds us that death is a part of life.

The film succeeds in touching on the process of grieving with naturalness and honesty. Through its organic and playful use of animation, it expresses what words often struggle to convey, allowing young viewers to approach the subject without feeling burdened or afraid. We appreciate the effortless way in which the director engages with the children, which allows them to express themselves freely and authentically.

For all these reasons, “Zo dood als een Pier” by Sara Kolster deserves our recognition and this award.