Tick-host-pathogen interactions in Lyme borreliosis
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Colofon

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Cover picture: The character on the cover of this thesis is the fictional character ’The Tick’. ’The Tick’ is a surreal parody of superheroes and the protagonist of the homonymous cartoon. The Tick is TM & © 2009 Benjamin Edlund and is used with permission.

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The cover of this thesis has been designed in its current form because of several reasons. Firstly, ticks can be a nuisance to mankind and can transmit a variety of pathogens to humans, including Borrelia burgdorferi, the causative agent of Lyme borreliosis. The clouds underscore this ever emerging danger. On the other hand tick saliva contains many physiologically active molecules that could serve as a template for the development of therapeutical agents to be used in daily clinical practice, making them, like ’The Tick’, little superheroes. The sun is to underscore this side of the tick. Furthermore, the author of this thesis spent some time at Yale University (New Haven, United States of America) and at the Academic Medical Center (AMC) (Amsterdam, The Netherlands). This is represented by the red building in the back, a distorted animation of the AMC, and the colors used in the picture, red, white and blue; colors used in both the Stars & Stripes and the Dutch national flag. Finally, it is not a coincidence that the thesis describes the presence and function of a specific tick protein present in both American and European ticks.

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