

FILM RIGHTS

SHOOT THE BOOK!

@ TORONTO 2016

THE ANNUAL RENDEZ-VOUS BETWEEN FRENCH PUBLISHERS
AND THE INTERNATIONAL FILM INDUSTRY

SHOOT THE BOOK!

Shoot the Book! Toronto is an event created for film industry professionals, producers, directors, and screenwriters in search of original content.

Launched in 2014 at the Cannes Film Festival, Shoot the Book! is a joint initiative of publishers united in the Société Civile des Editeurs de Langue Française (SC ELF) and the Bureau International de l'Édition Française (BIEF). Its internationalization is led by the Institut français, with the support of the French cultural network abroad. After the first and very successful edition of Shoot the Book! at TIFF in 2015, the Cultural Services of the Embassy of France in Canada and the Consulate General of France in Toronto is organizing its second edition, with the participation of Telefilm Canada at TIFF 2016.

The presentation will take place at TIFF Bell Lightbox on Monday, September 12th, 2016, at 10:00 AM in the Malaparte Room and will be followed by a cocktail and networking session.

Over the course of a pitching session, four French publishers will each present a book with great potential for film adaptation, and for which the film and TV rights are available. The presented titles have been handpicked by a jury from a total selection of twenty-seven works proposed by fifteen of the greatest French publishers.

After a short presentation of financing support possibilities in the field of film adaptation by a representative of Telefilm Canada, Isabelle Fauvel, expert in film adaptation and head of Initiative Film, will be introducing and moderating the event.

From the page to the screen, Shoot the Book! takes an original approach to the relationship between the two industries and is an exclusive opportunity for professionals to be the first to discover the texts that will become the films of tomorrow.

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Line Cielo

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Consulate General of France in Toronto
2 Bloor Street East suite 2200
Toronto ON M4W 1A8
+1 416 847 1910
www.francecanadaculture.org
culturel@consulfrance-toronto.org

WITH THE SUPPORT OF BIEF

Bureau International de l'Édition Française
115, boulevard Saint-Germain
75006 Paris - France
T. +33 (0)1 44 41 13 13
www.bief.org
info@bief.org

MEMBERS OF THE JURY

HAYET BENKARA,
Industry programmer (TIFF Studio)

TONY CIANCIOTTA,
Producer and distributor

JENNIFER JONAS,
Producer (New Reel Films)

MICHAEL MCGOWAN,
Filmmaker, screenwriter and producer

DANISH VAHIDY,
Head of marketing (Mongrel Media)

SELMA TOPRAK,
Cultural Attaché
(Consulate General of France in Toronto)

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“Karim Miské uses the thriller structure to portray brilliantly, in provocative prose and dialogue full of literary, musical and filmic references, a melting-pot society. He offers a vivid kaleidoscope of characters [...]. The mix is exciting, informative, stimulating and a little frightening”
The Times

ARAB JAZZ

ARAB JAZZ

KARIM MISKÉ

The 19th arrondissement in Paris is a cosmopolitan neighbourhood where Jews, Arabs, blacks and whites live together.

The body of a young woman is found hanging from a balcony. A bloody roast pork has been laid next to her body with its brutally mutilated sex. Rachel Kupferstein and Jean Hamelot, police officers, are leading the investigation. Together they hold all the cards to decode the signs of this mysterious crime. Ahmed Taroudant, the victim's neighbour, has the ideal suspect profile: a chronic depressive who is crazy about crime novels. Yet, Jean and Rachel cannot be convinced of his guilt. The victim is called Laura Vignola. She was an air stewardess and lived in the area surrounded by her best friends Rebecca, Bintou and Aïcha. Born in Niort into a family of Jehovah's Witnesses, Laura left her parents' home when she was eighteen years old.

By getting closer to Bintou and Aïcha, Rachel discovers that a few days before the murder, Rebecca left to go and live in New York and that Laura had travelled with her. Laura was killed, therefore, upon her return from New York.

Leaving Rachel and Jean to their investigation, the author takes us to Brooklyn a few months earlier. There we meet Susan Barnes, a young American woman and daughter of a great Jehovah's Witness. She befriends the great Rebbe from Brooklyn to set up an international drug trafficking network.

In France, she is in contact with corrupt police officers who are responsible for distributing the drugs. To take the drugs between the USA and France, Susan Barnes has used her connections with the Jehovah's Witnesses. On a trip to New York, she managed to meet Laura Vignola's father, Vincenzo Vignola, a hot shot among the Jehovah's Witnesses in France. As predicted, he fell madly in love with Susan and accepted to become her mule between New York and Paris. The trafficking has therefore run smoothly for several months.

When she went with her friend Rebecca to New York, Laura recognised her father by chance, in the arms of Susan Barnes. Laura was now a bothersome witness, and had to be got rid of.

Jean Hamelot and Rachel Kupferstein discover the truth thanks to Ahmed Taroudant who is making his own investigation in the area.

WHY THIS BOOK?

THIS SUSPENSE NOVEL, SET IN THE COLOURFUL 19TH DISTRICT OF PARIS, IS A SMART AND ENTERTAINING SOCIOLOGICAL INSIGHT IN THE MAKING OF INTOLERANCE AND TERRORISM, WRITTEN BEFORE THE ACTUAL PARIS EVENTS OF 2015.

SETTING

Paris, New York.

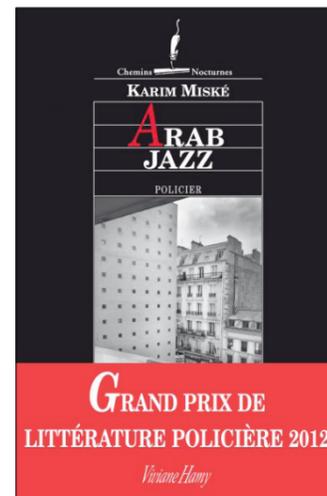
MAIN CHARACTERS

Rachel Kupferstein, Female, 40
Jean Hamelot, Male, 40
Ahmed Taroudant, Male, 35

RIGHTS GUIDE

Published in Germany (Lübbe),
Greece (Polis),
United Kingdom (MacLehose Press),
Italy (Fazi),
Argentina (Adriana Hidalgo).

Selected
book



VIVIANE HAMY
Maylis Vauterin
maylis.vauterin@viviane-hamy.fr
+33 (0)1 53 17 16 03

A successful writer's girlfriend and ex-wife are about to play a trick on him that he's going to remember his entire life!

EXQUISITE CORPSE

CADAVRE EXQUIS

PÉNÉLOPE BAGIEU

Twenty-two-year-old Zoe works as a hostess in boring exhibitions while her boyfriend smokes joints all day long. However, this ambitious young woman dreams of a different life. Enter Thomas Rocher, a famous and successful writer, whom she meets due to the greatest of coincidences. Zoe is not particularly passionate about literature and doesn't recognize him. This chance meeting revitalizes both of their lives and they very quickly fall head over heels for one another. After a brief period of euphoria, the charm wears off for Zoe and she begins to second-guess the relationship. After all, Thomas lives a reclusive life and never leaves his large apartment in Paris. Only Agathe, his beautiful and aloof editor, comes to see him. As it turns out, she also happens to be his ex-wife. One day, curiosity drives Zoe to go into a bookstore and flip through Thomas' works. She is dumbfounded to discover that Thomas Rocher died in 2008! In desperate need of answers, she goes to Agathe's house and the writer's ex-wife tells her everything. After experiencing a flash in the pan success, Thomas progressively fell out of the limelight and was eventually forgotten altogether. In order to restore the fame that was so dear to him, Agathe had a genius idea: make the general public believe that Thomas had suddenly died. The plan couldn't have been more successful and Thomas' novels once again became all the rage. Invigorated by his renewed celebrity, Thomas began writing again and became increasingly distant from Agathe. The couple eventually separated.

Zoe becomes attached to Agathe who also has experienced Thomas' egocentricity and disdain. Encouraged by their female solidarity, Agathe hatches a new Machiavellian plan: Thomas has just sent her his latest finished manuscript and she decides to pass Zoe off as the author of this latest novel to the general public. The book is a huge success and attracts a major readership.

Thomas, who is cloistered away in his apartment, will never be able to assess the extent of this disaster while Agathe and Zoe bask in their victory together on a paradisiac island.

WHY THIS BOOK?

WITH HUMOUR AND A REAL SENSE OF THE SITUATIONS AND CHARACTERS, THE AUTHOR HANDLES IRONY MASTERFULLY; WITH TENDERNESS AND INSIGHTFUL FRIVOLITY. THIS IS A ROMANTIC AND BUBBLY COMEDY ANCHORED IN ITS TIME.

SETTING

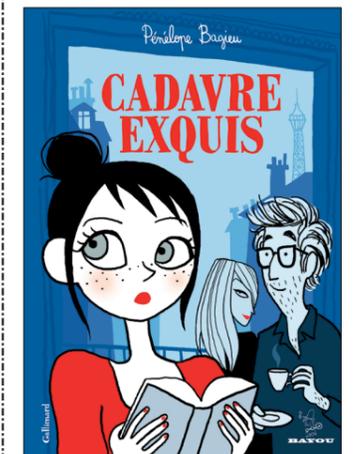
In Paris nowadays.
Could be transposed anywhere.

MAIN CHARACTERS

Zoé, Female, 20
Thomas Rocher, Male, 30-40
Agathe, Female, 30-40

RIGHTS GUIDE

Translated into German (Carlsen Verlag),
Italian (RCS-Lizard),
Spanish (Norma),
Portuguese (Autentica / Nemo),
English (First second press),
Gaelic (Darach O Scolai).



GALLIMARD JEUNESSE
Frédérique Massart
frederique.massart@gallimard.fr
+33 (0)1 49 54 42 98

After the great cataclysm, survivors are taken by the Draags (blue giants with red eyes) to their planet. There, time passes very slowly and the Oms are subjugated by their new masters. Little by little, led by a particularly intelligent young Om called Terr, the Oms find their love for freedom again.

FANTASTIC PLANET

OMS EN SÉRIE

STEFAN WUL

On the planet Ygam, the Draags keep the Oms as pets. These Oms are the distant descendants of people from the planet Earth, brought as captives to Ygam.

At his birth, the young Om Terr was adopted by a little girl named Draag Tiwa. He shares in all her activities. When the young Tiwa learns her lessons through her instruction headphones, the little Om - sleeping on her lap - also assimilates the knowledge given to the Draag child. The young Terr then escapes, steals the instruction headphones and arrives in a Draag park inhabited by bands of wild Oms who live there illegally and refuse servitude.

Helped by Brave, Vaillant and Charbon, Terr learns the harsh life of Oms in the wild, how they must hide and steal from Draags to survive.

After a few human years, the Oms have accumulated lots of stolen equipment, educated themselves in all domains thanks to the Draag children's educational headphones, and are now preparing their major project: to create a colony of free Oms on the wild old continent of the planet Ygam.

After a perilous journey, in which one of the three ships goes down, the Oms finally dock in one of the planet's two wild continents. Meanwhile, Mr. Sinh, a respected Draag naturalist, tries to alert the Draag authorities of the imminent and irreversible danger of the Oms who have reproduced exponentially and are threatening to revolt.

But Draag leaders are not convinced by the scientist's alarmist warnings. On the wild continent, the Oms slowly migrate to the highlands to establish their new city in protected caves.

When the Draags finally decide to declare war on them, the Oms courageously resist, using the electricity of their muscles! This heroic resistance allows Terr to call a big bluff during peace negotiations and sign an agreement with the Draags: The Oms and the Draags will be equal from now on.

WHY THIS BOOK?

MORE THAN A NOVEL, THIS IS A PHILOSOPHICAL FABLE DEPICTING MEN IN A WORLD BOTH BEAUTIFUL AND ABSURD. ALTHOUGH WELL LOOKED AFTER BY THE DRAAGS, THE OMS EVENTUALLY CHOOSE FREEDOM.

SETTING

A planet.

MAIN CHARACTERS

Terr, Male, 20
Tiwa, Female, 12
Master Sinh, Male, 50

RIGHTS GUIDE

Translated into English.
First adaptation in an animated film was made in 1973.

PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL AVAILABLE

Book in English. Pitch in English.
DVD of the animated film made by René Laloux with artwork by Roland Topor.

FIND OUT MORE

Considered to be a Sci-Fi masterpiece, OMS en série has been reprinted 14 times since the first edition in 1957. Adapted for graphic novel in 2012 by Ankama.
Adapted for screen by René Laloux in 1973: La Planète sauvage, special Jury Prize at Cannes Film Festival 1973.



FRENCH PULP

Nathalie Carpentier
carpentier@calfrance.fr
+ 33 (0)6 25 89 25 06

A middle-aged doctor receives a letter from a record company that should have arrived 33 years ago when he was part of an amateur rock band. Ecstatic with the belated news that the record company wanted to produce them, Alain embarks on a quest to find his old band buddies, for better or for worse...

FRENCH RHAPSODY

RHAPSODIE FRANÇAISE

ANTOINE LAURAIN

Alain, a doctor in his fifties, is leading a quiet life when he receives a letter... thirty-three years late. It dates back to when he played guitar in an amateur rock band, along with Bérengère, the singer with whom he was secretly in love; Stan, the perfectionist drummer; Vaugan, the brooding bass player; and Pierre, the quirky and vintage lyricist. At the time, Pierre's brother, JBM, had helped them fund a five track sampler. They had sent it to a record company, but never received a reply. Three decades later, Alain has finally received the record label's enthusiastic response.

Alain embarks on a quest to relocate his old friends and find the tape. Stan is now a successful contemporary artist; Vaugan has become a dangerous far right political leader; and JBM is now a brilliant businessman. Berengere seems to have mysteriously disappeared. Pierre, the lyricist who was passionate about literature, became an antiques dealer. However, after losing his wife, he drowned his pain in alcoholism committed suicide.

Alain tries to reconnect with the rest of his old buddies, but they all took different paths and some are weighed down by heavy secrets...

During his quest, Alain reflects on his life and the turn it took. What if he had become famous? All of these questions trigger a late midlife crisis during which he has sex with a former porn star, who also happens to be Stan's girlfriend. With her help, Alain is able to retrieve the tape. He can finally listen to the song again!

After contacting the current artistic director of the record company, Alain discovers that the letter was actually sent by mistake. It turns out that his band never did have a shot at stardom.

Alain is determined to fight his fate and decides to upload the track on the Internet. The song becomes an instantaneous worldwide hit. Alain is happy and reassured; he is still young and hip, after all!

WHY THIS BOOK?

THIS WELL-STRUCTURED DRAMEDY WEAVES TOGETHER THE DESTINIES OF A GROUP OF COLOURFUL CHARACTERS AND PAINTS A SURPRISING PICTURE OF THE EIGHTIES GENERATION, TOO COCKY TO REALIZE THAT THEY WERE BEING OUTFRAN BY MODERNITY.

SETTING

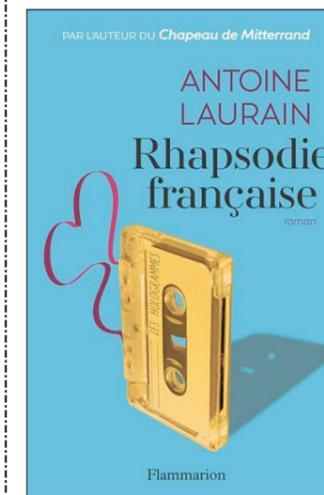
Contemporary Paris and France.
Could be transposed anywhere.

MAIN CHARACTERS

Alain, Male, 50
JBM, Male, 50
Aurore, Female, 20
Bérengère, Female, 50

RIGHTS GUIDE

Foreign rights sold in 3 countries so far:
Germany (Hoffmann & Campe),
UK (Gallic Books),
Italy (Einaudi Editore).



FLAMMARION

Laure Saget
lsaget@flammarion.fr
+33 (0)1 40 51 29 21

Thomas's life turns upside down when the pharmaceutical group he works for decodes his genome, making him the first privatized man. Thomas will discover the group's secret programme and the astonishing truth about himself.

GENETIKS

GENETIKS

RICHARD MARAZANO & JEAN-MICHEL PONZIO

Thomas Hale is a young engineer, a bit of a loner and very involved in the research laboratory, belonging to Genetiks pharmaceutical group, where he works. Victim of recurrent and increasingly terrifying visions, Thomas is even more dismayed when his employer reveals that the lab has fully decoded the human genome, using the stem cell that Thomas, like all other Genetiks employees, had symbolically donated when he began working there. Thus Thomas becomes company property and is torn between the desire to be a part of this ground-breaking scientific adventure and the fear of no longer being his own man. One evening at a party he meets Alice, a young painter who is fiercely opposed to Genetiks' activities. He finds the young woman very attractive, but her activism annoys him. Then Thomas realizes that Genetiks is having him tailed by hired heavies, to make sure he does not escape them. Outraged, Thomas switches sides and joins Alice in resisting. Genetiks wants to get its hands on both of them, at any cost. In the mad chase his existence has now become, Thomas is increasingly subject to visions and experiences events that seem chronologically jumbled, passing from the world of resistance to that of the headquarters of Genetiks without any apparent logical sequence. Underlying all this, however, is the veiled discovery of Genetiks' hidden programme, ANQA, whose purpose is to offer immortality to a privileged few. But further surprises lie in store for Thomas. Lab assistant or resistant, the Thomas he believed himself to be is only the dream of another Thomas who is very real, secretly "cultivated" by Genetiks with his fellow creatures – including Alice – for their organs, that are harvested and regenerated by the group in an unending cycle.

WHY THIS BOOK?

A BREATH-TAKING THRILLER; AN ORIGINAL CONSTRUCTION; AN AMAZING DÉNOUEMENT.

SETTING

The company headquarters of Genetiks and the various hideouts of the resistance network in the near future.

MAIN CHARACTERS

Thomas Hale, Male, 30
Alice, Female, 20-30
Anne, Female, 30

RIGHTS GUIDE

Translated into English (Archaia) and Dutch (Dedalus).



FUTUROPOLIS
Frédérique Massart
frederique.massart@gallimard.fr
+33 (0)1 49 54 42 98

Alone and on the run, Alex and Elisa have only a flash drive to defend themselves with, and to expose those responsible for an international network of organ trafficking. What they don't realize is that they're already a part of the system...

G.O.D.

DIEU

MARIE / KARL T.

Alex Ripern 17, lives with his mother Anne, a renowned surgeon. So far he has led a normal life, but his world is turned upside down when the bus he takes to school is blown up, and he barely escapes with his life. Shaken up but unharmed, Alex hides out with his girlfriend Elisa, and they're still recovering from the shock when his mother bursts in. Sure that Alex was the intended target, she hands them a flash drive and tells them to run.

So begins a game of cat and mouse with a team of mysterious agents who seem to be backed by the government. Even the officer in charge of the bus bombing is in on it, leaving Alex and Elisa no one to count on but themselves.

Alex's mother is also in danger. Soon after the bombing, the assailants kidnap her and stage her death. But Alex is sure she is still alive and will stop at nothing to find her.

What he soon discovers is a conspiracy even more explosive than he had imagined: a vast organ trafficking scheme code-named "GOD," orchestrated by a mysterious "benefactor" who matches patients with donors, dead or alive. And on the donor list is Elisa's brother. If they don't stop them quick, he'll be the organ thieves' next victim.

Hunted by the sons of "GOD," Alex and Elisa have nothing but the donor list to break open the scandal and bring the truth to light. But the closer Alex gets, the more he realizes his mother's true involvement with the organization. And it doesn't make things any easier when he learns it's all because of him, and an emergency transplant he had 13 years ago...

Finally, when Elisa is captured, Alex has no choice. He will have to confront GOD, and find out who he really is: a cop turned gang leader, who has been using his position to implement his dark designs.

Just when things look hopeless, GOD will be taken down by his own backers, saving Alex and Elisa at the last moment, and allowing them to shed light on the terrible truth of it all...

WHY THIS BOOK?

A THRILLER WITH SINUOUS TWISTS AND TURNS AND A BREATHLESS RHYTHM WHICH MIXES FAMILY SECRETS AND DRAMATIC SHOCKS, AND WHERE THE HERO DISCOVERS THAT HE HIMSELF HAS BENEFITED FROM THE ODIUS TRAFFIC HE IS ATTEMPTING TO EXPOSE.

SETTING

City, Urban.

MAIN CHARACTERS

Alex, Male, 17
Elisa, Female, 17
Anne, Female, 40

RIGHTS GUIDE

Translation available in Dutch.



DUPUIS
Laurent Duvault
laurent.duvault@mediatoon.com
+33 (0)1 53 26 11 43

Happiness is as simple as a pill! What if you were offered a simple pill that allowed you to go beyond your mental blocks and attain total happiness? And what would you do when the time came to give it all up, dooming you once more to suffer the dreariness of daily life?

GUINEA PIGS LES COBAYES

TONINO BENACQUISTA & NICOLAS BARRAL

Dr. Mirmont is seeking test subjects for a special new antidepressant. After a national search, three guinea pigs are selected: Moira, a star-crossed artist from India; Romain, victim of growing sexual frustrations; and Daniel, who can't hold down a job due to his chronic memory loss, following a car accident as a child. They are confined for 21 days of intensive treatment, and when they make it out, they have only one goal in mind: to become what they've always dreamed of.

Six months later, Moira has become a world-famous artist. Daniel now possesses a photographic memory, highly useful on the gaming tables. And Romain has turned into the object of desire of the most powerful and influential women. They have all they ever wanted, yet they soon become victims of their own success. Romain is stabbed by a jealous husband. Moira is shot by her biggest collector, in the hope of jacking up the price of the artist's works. And Daniel, realizing his "car accident" as a child was really a vendetta against his father, is pushed off the road by the same killer...

As the three recover, Dr. Mirmont tries to wean them off the drug. But the pull of the pill is too strong. Together, the three turn against him to secure access to the drug for the rest of their lives, discovering there's even more to the pill than meets the eye. In strong doses, the drug makes users more charitable, and they put it to work to turn the tables on their adversaries. So it is that the art collector devotes her fortune to philanthropy, Daniel's would-be assassin turns himself in to the police, and Romain's aggressor offers group therapy for compulsive jealousy. Pushed by their patients, the doctors in charge of the original clinical trial will even try the pill themselves, to move beyond their own mental blocks. With such promising results, the trio seizes the remaining stock of pills and sets off, determined to make the whole world a better place.

WHY THIS BOOK?

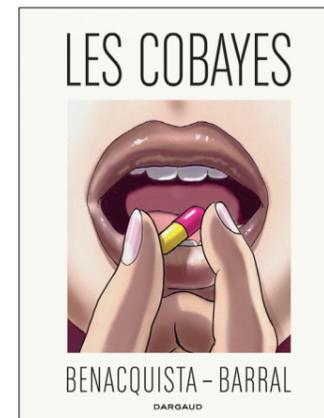
GUINEA PIGS SUCCEEDS AS A PHARMACEUTICAL THRILLER, PSYCHOANALYTICAL FABLE, AND DARK COMEDY WRAPPED UP INTO ONE. DELICATE AND UNIVERSAL THEMES ARE DEALT WITH HEAD-ON AND FREE FROM TABOOS, THROUGH APPEALING AND ENDEARING CHARACTERS, FAULTS AND ALL.

SETTING
City, Urban.

MAIN CHARACTERS
Moira, Female, 25
Romain, Male, 35
Daniel, Male, 40s
Doctor Mirmont, Male, 60

RIGHTS GUIDE
Published in English, Spanish, Italian.

FIND OUT MORE
Tonino Benacquista is a French author lauded by both critics and readers, who has seen many of his works grace the big screen. He has notably written for directors Jacques Audiard (Read My Lips, The Beat My Heart Skipped) and Luc Besson (The Family).



DARGAUD
Laurent Duvault
laurent.duvault@mediatoon.com
+33 (0)1 53 26 11 43

Fourteen-year-old Julien Parme is ready to be an independent adult, except that his controlling mother and jerk of a stepfather will not give him a break. One day, something truly incredible happens and Julien finally gets his chance...

JULIEN PARME JULIEN PARME FLORIAN ZELLER

Julien Parme is your average adolescent boy: obsessed with girls, sex, cigarettes, and his future as a famous writer. His main problem is that his mother and stepfather do not see eye to eye with him. He does not see the point in applying himself in school. It is also true that he generally acts like a brat at home, but that is his mother's fault for deciding to marry that boring jerk in the first place.

One night, Julien discovers that his mother and his stepfather plan to send him away. He decides to steal his stepfather's credit card and sneaks out of their Parisian apartment, never to return. In the following forty-eight hours, Julien spreads his wings as the adult he so desperately wants to be, starting with going to a party on the Champs-Élysées with the hopes of seeing the girl he loves, Mathilde. After a night of heavy partying, he awakens in a hotel and finds out that his mother is looking everywhere for him. Before skipping town, though, Julien has to see Mathilde one last time.

He plans to leave for Italy the next day and invites her to meet him again later that night. To Julien's great dismay, she never shows up. The next day, Julien buys a train ticket and prepares to board a train to Italy. However, as he waits in the train station, Julien begins to feel remorse for his actions. Although he would never admit it out loud, he has subconsciously realized that he is not quite as adult as he thought. In the end, he decides to return home and face the consequences of his actions.

In the magical background of the City of Lights, we follow Julien on his journey to adulthood and smile as we witness his struggle to assert himself as a grown-up. We vividly remember what it was like to be an adolescent: parental injustices, first sexual encounters, moments of bravery followed by doubt, and above all, the journey to finding oneself.

WHY THIS BOOK?

FLORIAN ZELLER INVITES US TO WALK IN HIS PROTAGONIST'S SHOES FOR ONE FORMATIVE WEEKEND. IN THE TRADITION OF J.D. SALINGER'S CATCHER IN THE RYE, JULIEN PARME IS A UNIVERSAL COMING-OF-AGE STORY THAT IS RELATABLE FOR ADULTS AND TEENAGERS ALIKE.

SETTING
Paris (could be transposed to any urban setting).

MAIN CHARACTERS
Julien, Male, 14
Mathilde, Female, 14
Julien's mother, Female, 40

RIGHTS GUIDE
Foreign rights sold in 4 countries so far: Netherlands (De Arbeiderspers), Brazil (Rocco), Great Britain (Pushkin Press), United States (The Other Press).

FIND OUT MORE
50,000 copies sold in France to date. Florian Zeller was awarded the Interallié Prize in 2004 for his novel The Fascination of Evil. In addition to his success on the literary scene, Zeller's plays also enjoy a major following. His latest play, "Behind the Scenes", is currently sold out in Paris and features the famous French actor Daniel Auteuil.



FLAMMARION / J'AI LU
Laure Saget
lsaget@flammarion.fr
+33 (0)1 40 51 29 21

The boxer, the card shark, and the assassin: three friends who have been lying to each other for years. Now, trapped in a web of lies and violence, the price for truth may be death... Unless their friendship can save them.

KEN GAMES

KEN GAMES

ROBLEDO / TOLEDANO

Three friends, three lives trapped in a web of lies: Ken Games is a masterful blend, part film noir, part love story, and part heist.

The time is now, in a sprawling city: Pierre is a brilliant math student, but since his father died, he's survived by boxing. And he's on the verge of going professional, able to reduce any opponent into an equation that can be solved with his fists. The problem is, after going undefeated, people have started to depend on him. Pierre has made it big, perhaps too big in the eyes of the bookies and local mafia...

T.J. is Pierre's best friend. He's the picture-perfect banker, with his smart suit, smart car, and sharp mind. But T.J. has his own secrets. He goes off to work every morning, only to sneak away to an underground casino. Applying his math talents just like Pierre, he's become a ruthless card shark, overwhelming his opponents. But his success has drawn the ire of a prominent local mobster.

Anne, T.J.'s new girlfriend, is a school teacher, with nice stories to tell about her pupils. Too bad they're only stories, as Pierre finds out when he catches her working at a shady bar.

But he doesn't know the half of it. At close, she goes to work for real, killing a couple of thugs in cold blood. As it happens, she's one of the best killers for hire in the business, and a hunted woman on top of that, on the run from her psychotic ex-boyfriend.

Anne's secret will finally be revealed, during a wedding proposal as romantic as it is deadly. She will then have to choose between a life of love, and the thrill of the hunt.

She finally decides her next contract will be her last. But there's a problem: the target is none other than Pierre, the up-and-coming boxer...

At the end, in and around the ring, all of their fates intertwine one last time. And they only have 12 rounds before the final curtain falls. Will they have what it takes to deliver the knockout punch?

WHY THIS BOOK?

ASSASSINATIONS, MOB WAR -- THE CREATORS OF KEN GAMES HAVE MIXED THESE CLASSIC ELEMENTS TO TWIST THEM AND CREATE A VIOLENT BUT MOVING STORY ABOUT FRIENDSHIP, LIES, AND COMMITMENT.

SETTING
City, Urban.

MAIN CHARACTERS
Pierre, Male, 30
T.J., Male, 30
Anne, Female, 30
Louvier, Male, 40

RIGHTS GUIDE
Translated into English, German, Spanish, Italian and Dutch.

PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL AVAILABLE
Material available in English

FIND OUT MORE
2009 Bookseller Award Nomination
2009 BDGest First Album Award
2009 Scenario.com's Screenwriter Award



DARGAUD
Laurent Duvault
laurent.duvault@mediatoon.com
+33 (0)1 53 26 11 43

It's a true story, that of a woman who cross-dressed as a war veteran in 1920s England. At the time, she made banner headlines, and then just disappeared. Yet hers is a captivating story.

LITTLE GREY LIES

SAVOIR-VIVRE

HÉDI KADDOUR

In London, French journalist Max Goffard runs into an old lover, American singer Lena Helström.

On one of their daily walks, Max and Lena come upon a parade of veterans led by a man whose compelling presence attracts the attention of all, Colonel Strether. Whispers ripple through the crowd: he is a hero of the battle of Mons, in 1914.

When Max and Lena discover that the colonel is also the maître d'hôtel at Regent's, where he conducts his duties with equal grace and authority, Max strikes up a conversation with him. Strether's ideas about chivalry, which he believes to be immortal and on the brink of resurgence, and his commitment to the British Fascist League, convince Max that the man is interesting enough to merit several articles. Night after night, the colonel tells them the story of his life, neglecting to mention a few of its less glorious episodes, such as his hasty departure from Birmingham in the wake of a bankruptcy for which he failed to appear in court, thus leaving himself still at risk of being arrested at any given moment.

Meanwhile, Sir Cox is investigating European fascist movements for the secret service. Craftily using "the Birmingham affair" to pry information about his movement out of Strether, he even coaxes the veteran officer to spy in Germany.

We are also following the difficult life of Gladys Walthers, a young woman who was a labourer during the war. Peacetime came and, like all women, she was obliged to make way for the men returning to the work force. But her meagre war widow's pension is not adequate to live on, so times are very hard.

Cox asks Strether to develop ties with a new political party. But Strether has misgivings about its leader and so he refuses, counting on his political connections to save him. Nonetheless, Cox has him arrested.

In prison, ordered to undress, Strether resists as long as possible, finally revealing his true identity, as Gladys Walthers.

WHY THIS BOOK?

A FASCINATING STORY OF HOW A WOMAN DISGUISED AS A MAN FOOLED HER ENTOURAGE FOR SO MANY YEARS, ULTIMATELY BECOMING THE HIGHLY RESPECTED HEAD OF THE SECURITY SERVICE OF A FASCIST PARTY THAT COUNTED VIRILITY AMONG ITS MOST VALUED VIRTUES.

SETTING
London in the 1920s.

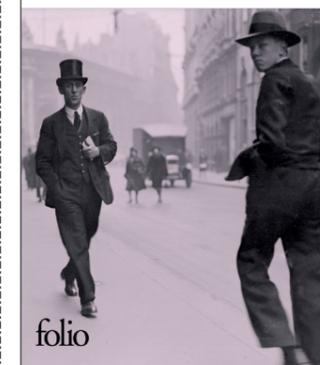
MAIN CHARACTERS
Colonel Strether, Male, 30
Gladys Walthers, Female, 30
Max Goffard, Male, 40

RIGHTS GUIDE
Translated into English (Seagull Books), German (Eichborn Verlag).

PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL AVAILABLE
English PDF of the novel available.



Hédi Kaddour
Savoir-vivre



GALLIMARD
Frédérique Massart
frederique.massart@gallimard.fr
+33 (0)1 49 54 42 98

A tattoo artist by trade, doubling as a clairvoyant sketch artist for the NYPD, Paul is above all a survivor of the Soviet gulags – thanks to his art. But when the tattoos of yesterday become the nightmares of today, the time has finally come for him to stamp out his oldest and darkest demons.

LITTLE TULIP

LITTLE TULIP

CHARYN / BOUCQ

New York, 1979. Paul, a taciturn forty-year-old, is a renowned tattoo artist and sketch artist for the NYPD. His incredible renderings never fail, until, that is, the emergence of “Bad Santa,” a mysterious serial killer. Putting not only his life in danger, but also those of his fiancée Yoko and her daughter Azami, the investigation forces Paul to revisit his past.

At the age of 7, he moved with his parents from the US to Moscow, and, thanks to their liberal ideals, it didn’t take long for them to be sent to the gulags. Separated from his parents, Paul has to quickly learn the rules of survival. It’s a daily struggle, but his break soon comes thanks to his artistic talents. With his incredible portraits and pastel colours, he transforms into “Little Tulip,” catching the attention of gang boss Kiril, The Whale.

Using his new connections, Paul finally discovers that his father has died, and his mother, though still alive, has been forced into prostitution by a rival boss. Paul risks his life to save her, but when he refuses to switch allegiance, his mother is killed right before his eyes.

What follows is a brutal and lasting gang war, with Little Tulip becoming a killing machine. But his passion for women will be his downfall, and he is finally banished from his clan, his tribal tattoos literally skinned away to nothing. Paul owes his salvation only to the death of Stalin and the end of the gulags.

Starting anew in America, Paul finds peace for a time. But 20 years later, the violent ghosts of his past catch up with him when Yoko falls under Bad Santa’s knife. But Paul finally has a lead, recognizing the tattoo of an old camp comrade during a showdown with the killer...

Left for dead, Paul charges Azami with delivering the final, fatal blow to this band of criminals that has been killing his loved ones one by one. Guided by the force of Paul’s tattoos, the girl will finally bow to violence, and bury the past once and for all.

WHY THIS BOOK?

DISCOVER A TALE THAT IS AS DARK AS IT IS VIOLENT, BETWEEN THE HORROR OF THE GULAGS AND THE RAGING GANG WARS IN 1970S NEW YORK: THE UNBELIEVABLE DESTINY OF AN ILL-FATED MAN WHO OWES HIS SURVIVAL TO HIS TALENTS AS AN ARTIST.

SETTING

New York 1979, 1950s gulag.

MAIN CHARACTERS

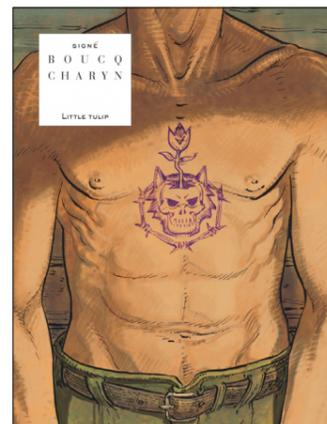
Pavel, Male, 40
Azami, Female, 15
Yoko, Female, 35

RIGHTS GUIDE

Translation available in English, German, Spanish, Italian.

FIND OUT MORE

“Jerome Charyn is one of the most important writers in American literature.” Michael Chabon
A novelist who is loved and praised around the world, every one of his all-too-rare graphic novels is an event – especially when matched with the sublime illustrations of artist François Boucq.



LE LOMBARD
Laurent Duvault
laurent.duvault@mediatoon.com
+33 (0)1 53 26 11 43

A young seminarian on the run in revolutionary Nicaragua, Gabriel de la Serna will be forced to come to terms with his rebellion, his desires, and his own humanity in order to become a man. But, deep in the heart of the jungle, will he be able to cope with the weight of his past mistakes?

MUCHACHO

MUCHACHO

LEPAGE

Nicaragua, 1976.

For the past 50 years, the population has suffered under a merciless dictatorship. Gabriel, a young seminarian and talented artist, is the son of a wealthy family, and unaware of the atrocities shaking the country. But his eyes are opened when he is sent to stay with Father Ruben, the priest of a small mountain village, who has an ambitious project for his church: a grand fresco of the Passion of Christ incorporating all the local villagers. Father Ruben exhorts his disciple to paint the parishioners as they are, so every night, Gabriel watches as the village comes to life. And he begins to spy on Diego – the partner of the untameable Concepción, and the object of his desires.

During the inauguration of the fresco, tragedy strikes when Gabriel’s scandalous sketches fall into the hands of the army. To save himself, he denounces the resistance fighters, and the village is reduced to ashes. Father Ruben is arrested, Concepción is killed.

Disgusted by his cowardice, Gabriel flees into the jungle. But he is gravely injured, and is close to death when he is miraculously saved by the guerrillas. They are on their way to rescue Father Ruben, and Gabriel decides to join the resistance. So begins a long journey across unforgiving lands, with the army getting ever closer...

Yet at the heart of this danger, Gabriel will finally become the master of his own destiny. Ready to kill for his companions, he will also discover love in the arms of Fausto, an English rebel. But when the group of rebels is caught by the junta’s military forces, the remaining guerrillas are forced to surrender. Gabriel will have to sacrifice everything – his ideals, and his new life – if he wants to save them...

It is three years later, during a moving epilogue, that Gabriel is finally able to reconnect with his companions – only to discover that one revolution isn’t enough to change the minds and prejudices of the people..

WHY THIS BOOK?

AN EPIC AND PASSIONATE COMING-OF-AGE STORY THAT EXALTS THE GRANDEST UNIVERSAL THEMES -- LOVE, COURAGE, REDEMPTION, RELIGION, AS WELL AS POLITICS – AS IT RECOUNTS ONE MAN’S REBIRTH AT THE HEART OF THE JUNGLE AND THE RESISTANCE.

SETTING

Jungle.

MAIN CHARACTERS

Gabriel, Male, 18
Ruben, Male, 55
Concepción, Female, 22

RIGHTS GUIDE

Translation available in English, Spanish, Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Dutch, Danish, Croatian.



DUPUIS
Laurent Duvault
laurent.duvault@mediatoon.com
+33 (0)1 53 26 11 43

Victor Legris is a bookseller who leads the investigation into a strange series of murders, as all of his friends and colleagues have at some point crossed paths with the victims.

MURDER ON THE EIFFEL TOWER

MYSTÈRE RUE DES SAINTS-PÈRES

CLAUDE IZNER

In June 1889, swarms of Parisians and visitors from all over the world visit the Universal Exhibition, which is crowned by the newly-erected Eiffel Tower. People make their way through the colourful crowd as well as they can. Among them, Victor Legris, a bookseller from the rue Saints-Pères, is hurrying to get the first floor of the Tower where he is meeting his Japanese business partner and adoptive father, Kenji Mori, and his friend Marius Bonnet, founder of a new newspaper, Passe-Partout (The Master Key). Marius Bonnet wants his friend Victor to be part of his new, almost complete team and introduces him to the members above all, Tasha Kherson, a charming illustrator.

A few moments later, a woman collapses in the crowd next to them. She seems to have been stung by a bee... Then more inexplicable murders take place. Despite himself, Victor Legris finds himself undertaking the investigation, because these illogical killings are all linked with his acquaintances, in particular Tasha.

The final scene takes place at the official opening of the Eiffel Tower, when its engineer will make a speech. Victor attends, as he knows the killer will be there. He locates the right person only when an attempt is made on his own life. Fortunately, Kenji Mori is also there, carrying out his own investigation, and saves his life at the last minute.

The killer is Marius Bonnet who wanted to boost the sales of his newspaper.

WHY THIS BOOK?

THE FAULTLESSLY ERUDITE AUTHOR EMBROIDERS HIS SUBJECT WITH A WEALTH OF DETAILS THAT BRING THE PERIOD TO LIFE. VICTOR'S INVESTIGATION TAKES US THROUGH MYTHICAL FIN-DE-SIÈCLE PARIS, ON THE CUSP OF A NEW ERA, WITH NEW ADVANCES IN TECHNOLOGY, SCIENCE AND ITS INVENTIONS, CREATIVITY AND ARTISTIC EFFERVESCENCE...

SETTING

Paris, 19th century.

MAIN CHARACTERS

Victor Legris, Male, 30
Tasha Kherson, Female, 30
Kenji Mori, Male, 60

RIGHTS GUIDE

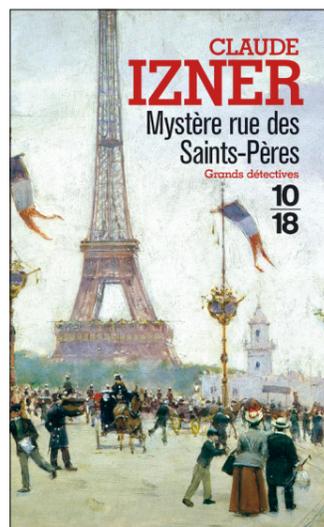
Published in USA (St Martin's Press),
UK (Gallic Books),
Italy (Nord/TEA),
Germany (Pendo),
Russia (AST/Astrel),
Sweden (Kabusa Böcker),
Brazil (Nemo).

PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL AVAILABLE

English translation available.

FIND OUT MORE

First title in a series of 12 that sold over 820.000 copies in France.



UNIVERS POCHE

Julie Buffaud
julie.buffaud@universpoches.com
+33 (0)1 44 16 08 29

DRAMA NOVEL

A priest takes in and protects young Jewish and Christian children, including the young Joseph. The spiritual awareness of a child, the wisdom of a man in the commotion and fury of war.

NOAH'S CHILD

L'ENFANT DE NOÉ

ERIC-EMMANUEL SCHMITT

1942: Joseph Bernstein, 7 years old, is the only child of a Jewish family threatened with internment. His mother, afraid that arrests will begin in her neighbourhood, takes him to the Countess of Sully before trying to warn her family.

For his protection, Joseph is left under the name of Joseph Bertin at the Villa Jaune, an orphanage run by Father Pons, a rural priest, a "righteous one", who, with the help of the villagers, saves Jewish children by concealing their identities, in complicity with Miss Marcelle, who delivers fake papers to the children. With him and young Rudy, a sturdy, clumsy boy (but cleverer than it seems), Joseph learns to keep his name, his history and his emotions secret; he experiences fear, enquiries and denunciations. He will learn about friendship but also discover Christianity and Judaism by reading sacred texts. Under his church, in the crypt, Father Pons has installed a secret synagogue. At night, he studies the Torah, the Cabbala and collects objects of worship...

He teaches them Hebrew, considering these Jewish children as the future witnesses of massacres, as being responsible for the perpetuation of the Jewish language and religion.

He says he is a "collector" and, just like Noah, wants to save human beings threatened by history's Flood.

Who will he become?

At the end of the War, Joseph is lucky enough to see his parents again, but the reunion isn't simple:

"One doesn't meet again by simply kissing each other. In three years, they had become strangers to me, probably because I had changed. They had left a child and found an adolescent."

Fifty years later, Joseph is in Israel. He shows us that history is a constant succession of new beginnings and encourages tolerance: "Being in favour of Israel does not mean approving all Israel's decisions. One must make peace with the Palestinians. It is their territory too. The very history of our persecution should lead us to deliver the words that we ourselves have been awaiting for centuries."

And Joseph himself starts a collection...

WHY THIS BOOK?

CHILDREN, HUMAN BEINGS IN A CONSTANT STATE OF FLUX, WONDERFULLY CAPTURED. HUMOUR, TENDERNESS, MIXED EMOTIONS

SETTING

Belgium, 1942-1945 (or another European country during WWII).

MAIN CHARACTERS

Father, Male, 40
Joseph, Male, 7

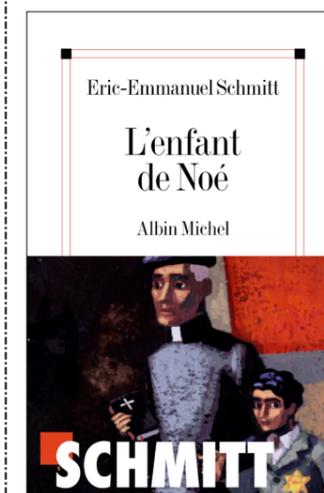
RIGHTS GUIDE

Published in English,
German, Bulgarian, Castilian,
Chinese, Corsican, Finnish,
Georgian, Greek, Hebrew,
Hungarian, Italian, Dutch,
Norwegian, Polish, Romanian,
Russian, Czech, Turkish,
Ukrainian.

FIND OUT MORE

More than 2 million copies sold.

Selected book



ALBIN MICHEL

Marie Dormann
marie.dormann@albin-michel.fr
+33 (0)1 42 79 10 29

Who remembers the incredible lives of the Fox sisters, two little girls in Puritan America who, one night in March 1848, invented spiritualism, just as they might have played hide and seek? A masterly evocation of half a century of America at its wildest, with liberalism in its birth throes and all kinds of sectarianisms and promised lands.

ROCHESTER KNOCKINGS

THÉORIE DE LA VILAINE
PETITE FILLE

HUBERT HADDAD

Pulling from a series of biographical fragments, *Naughty Little Girl Theory* retraces the destiny of the Fox Sisters — or, how two little girls, manipulated by their older sister, invented the Spiritualist Movement that wreaked havoc throughout America and the Western World.

In the middle of the 19th century, eleven-year-old Kate Fox and her older sister Margaret hear inexplicable noises coming from the walls and floors of their farmhouse. Kate quickly turns her fear into a game of hide and seek: if there's a spirit in the house who is trying to be heard, she reasons, then it's because he has something important to say. Using a system of knocks, Kate invents a spiritual telegraphy and begins to speak with the spirit. Soon the Fox sisters become the object of fascination, and are even accused of sorcery.

Their older sister Leah, who lives in nearby Rochester, quickly sees a way to profit from her sisters' game. Under her influence, the phenomenon grows to unforeseen proportions: the Fox sisters become the darlings of New York high society and ultimately enchant the entire country. Through the Fox sisters' journey, another story forms before our eyes: that of an America in construction, as the country passes from a rural and puritan world to the modern Capitalist era. During this turbulent half-century, Quakers, Mormons, anti-slavery organizations, and the movement for women's rights fought for their inclusion in democracy. Hubert Haddad accompanies these struggles, retracing the history of the emancipatory movements and mythic figures at the heart of the 19th century American Dream.

Also appearing in the novel are the array of intellectuals, scientists, politicians, humanists, militants for the rights of indigenous peoples, and artists who were fascinated by Fox sisters and the "Modern Spiritualism" that they founded.

Falling from grandeur and decadence, the Fox sisters die alone and impoverished in 1890. Their story, as it is told in *Naughty Little Girl Theory*, puts fifty years of American madness into perspective.

WHY THIS BOOK?

THE NOVEL IS AN EPIC OF 19TH CENTURY AMERICA, AN ADVENTURE NOVEL, AND A DOCUMENTARY TEXT THAT DRAWS ON THE HISTORICAL FOUNDATIONS OF SPIRITUALISM. THE SECONDARY CHARACTERS, FICTIONAL AND HISTORICAL, AS WELL AS THE DURATION OF THE NARRATION, ALLOW FOR NUMEROUS POSSIBILITIES OF ADAPTATION.

SETTING

USA: countryside, Rochester, New York.
UK: London.

MAIN CHARACTERS

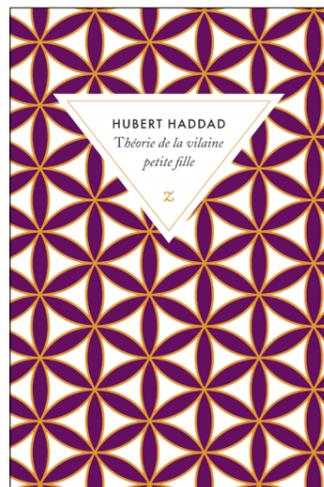
Kate Fox, Female, 11 -56
Margaret Fox, Female, 15-60
Leah Fox Underhill, Female, 28-73

RIGHTS GUIDE

Published in USA,
Spain,
Poland.

PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL AVAILABLE

English & Spanish & Polish texts available.



ZULMA

Amélie Louat
amelie.louat@zulma.fr
+33 (0)1 58 22 19 94

A Freemason homicide detective investigates murders committed throughout history by an occult Aryan brotherhood whose motivation appears rooted in Masonic archives.

SHADOW RITUAL

LE RITUEL DE L'OMBRE

ERIC GIACOMETTI & JACQUES RAVENNE

April 1945. The Third Reich is on the point of collapse. In a bombed-out Berlin, an SS officer is charged with evacuating cases with secret contents. At the same time, a "brother" is assassinated in Dachau in a reproduction of the ritual killing of Hiram, the legendary founder of Freemasonry, by blows with a stick to the shoulder, the neck and the face.

In modern-day Jerusalem, a researcher who is working on a mysterious engraved stone is killed in the same way. On that day, in Rome, a young archivist of the Grand Orient is assassinated following the same ritual during a party at the French embassy.

Antoine Marcas, a Freemason homicide detective, and Jade Zewinski, chief security officer of the embassy, lead the investigation into the murder. They soon uncover an occult Aryan association, the Thule Gesellschaft, historic enemy of Freemasonry.

The link between these similar executions is found to be the shadow ritual, a rite of initiation said to enable those who undergo it to understand the origins of life. However, its results depend on the person who performs it: pure hearts are liberated of their fears while others are condemned to insanity.

WHY THIS BOOK?

THE ACTION SCENES IN ITALY, FRANCE AND GERMANY, THE FASCINATING, UNEXPECTED HISTORICAL REFERENCES, POWERFUL DIALOGUE AND SECRETS HELD BY OCCULT GROUPS — ALL THE INGREDIENTS FOR A WEIGHTY INTERNATIONAL FEATURE FILM ARE PRESENT.

SETTING

Berlin, Rome, Paris, Lascaux caves.

MAIN CHARACTERS

Antoine Marcas, Male, 40
Jade Zewinski, Female, 30
Sol/François Le Guermant, Male, 80

RIGHTS GUIDE

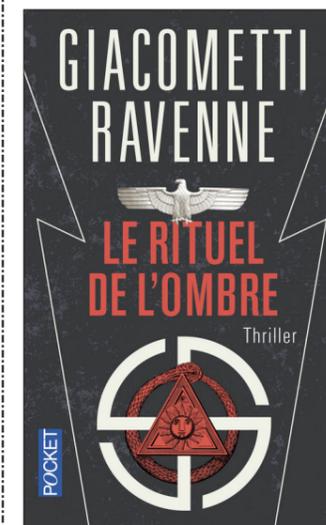
Rights have been sold in 16 countries.

PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL AVAILABLE

English text.

FIND OUT MORE

The character of Antoine Marcas has been taken up and embellished over 9 investigations with total sales of over 2 million copies in France.



UNIVERS POCHE /
FLEUVE ÉDITIONS
Julie Buffaud
julie.buffaud@universpoches.com
+33 (0)1 44 16 08 29

François Villon, the world's first poet of modernity, was born in Paris in 1431. He was arrested and condemned to death by hanging in 1462 and exonerated in 1463. Shortly after his release from prison, as far as history is concerned, he disappeared forever making him a good candidate for intrigue. A tale of the clandestine life with books bearing secrets and deployed as weapons against Rome by an invisible Jerusalem.

THE BROTHERHOOD OF BOOK HUNTERS

LA CONFRÉRIE DES CHASSEURS DE LIVRES

RAPHAËL JERUSALMY

It is 1462 and the poet François Villon sits in a filthy Parisian prison waiting to be executed, he has been condemned to death by Louis XI. Records show that his sentence was changed to banishment, and after 1463, he disappears from all records. To escape execution, Villon has accepted a shady deal offered by the Bishop of Paris. All Villon has to do to earn his freedom is to convince a printer and bookseller to move from Mayence to Paris, telling him that by doing so he'll be better able to circulate progressive ideas that aren't approved of in Rome. The deal is not as straightforward as it seems, however, and in order to complete his mission, he must travel to Jerusalem, "a city not so much built of stone and bricks as fashioned out of words and dreams." So begins his great voyage across the sea and into the Holy Land, where he and his traveling companion, Colin, are introduced to Christian monks, rabbis, and a mysterious group of rebels called the Brotherhood of Book Hunters. Not surprisingly, Villon's task becomes more complicated that it first seemed. With this riveting tale of plots and counterplots that takes place in Jerusalem, France, and Italy, Raphael Jerusalem leaves readers breathless, their heads spinning.

WHY THIS BOOK?

THE PRESENCE OF TWO ATTRACTIVE ELEMENTS: THE MAIN CHARACTER IS A FICTIONALIZED FRANÇOIS VILLON, THE FRENCH REBEL POET WHOSE LIFE HAS ALWAYS BEEN INTRIGUING; AND THE OTHER IS A SECRET SOCIETY OF WORLD-TRANSFORMERS. THIS IS A BEAUTIFULLY WRITTEN NOVEL AND A TRULY COMPELLING HISTORICAL FICTION WITH A GOOD QUEST (RELIGIOUS OR OTHERWISE) AND SOME POETRY THROWN IN FOR GOOD MEASURE.

SETTING

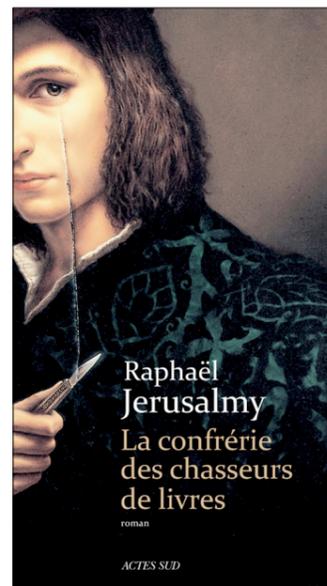
France, Italy (Rome), Jerusalem.

MAIN CHARACTERS

François Villon, Male, 31
Colin, Male, 30-35

RIGHTS GUIDE

Spain (Navona, 2014),
Italy (EO, 2014),
UK/USA (Europa, 2014).



ACTES SUD
Nathalie Alliel
nathalie.alliel@actes-sud.fr
+33 (0)4 90 49 33 75

Lislei and Kader might never have met. Fate conspired to send them to the far side of the world, to Australia. There, they join forces to survive before falling passionately in love, then find their lives shaken to the core by their encounter with Tridarir, an orphan boy and the last surviving Tasmanian Aborigine. A breath-taking, epic feat of storytelling.

THE CHILD OF AN ANCIENT PEOPLE

L'ENFANT DU PEUPLE ANCIEN

ANOUAR BENMALEK

It is 1875. Eleven-year-old Tridarir is the last surviving Tasmanian Aborigine. After his parents are murdered in front of his eyes, Tridarir is shipped to the Australian mainland to be sold.

On board the ship, Tridarir is discovered by two adults, Lislei – who was suspected of being a Communard – and Kader – an Algerian nationalist –, who have fled New Caledonia after having been deported there.

Kader and Lislei have arranged for a dangerous smuggler to take them across the sea to Australia, and find themselves at sea, determined to go their separate ways, when they come across Tridarir. By joining forces, they manage to rescue him from his tormentors and the three of them land in secret on the continent.

And so begins their journey across the Australian landmass. Kader and Lislei pretend to be a husband and wife from Hungary who have come in search of gold. They fall hopelessly in love with each other. They present Tridarir as their servant, but he is turned away wherever they go. Hunted, exiled, not even speaking the same language, the three companions decide to join a party of gold diggers. Soon, though, they arouse the suspicions and are saved at the last moment from smugglers by a group of Aborigines who are intrigued by how kindly these two whites treat the black child. Kader (now Henry) and Lislei (now Elizabeth) protect Tridarir and together they found a new family.

December 1918. In Queensland, north-eastern Australia, Elizabeth is on her deathbed. Henry holds her hand and thinks back the early days of their love and circumstances that nobody knows anything about. Tridarir is still with them and is now in his fifties. He is the last of his people and knows that he too is nearing the end of his journey. Then, only Henry will be left to remember him.

WHY THIS BOOK?

INTERTWINING THE DESTINIES OF THREE LATE 19TH CENTURY EXILES AND OUTLAWS, THIS IS AN UNFORGETTABLE NOVEL OF PASSION AND ADVENTURE SET AGAINST THE BACKDROP OF A HORRIFIC YET LITTLE-KNOWN EVENT – THE GENOCIDE OF THE ABORIGINAL PEOPLES OF TASMANIA.

SETTING

19th-20th centuries, Australia.

MAIN CHARACTERS

Lislei, Female, 30
Kader, Male, 30
Tridarir, Male, 10

RIGHTS GUIDE

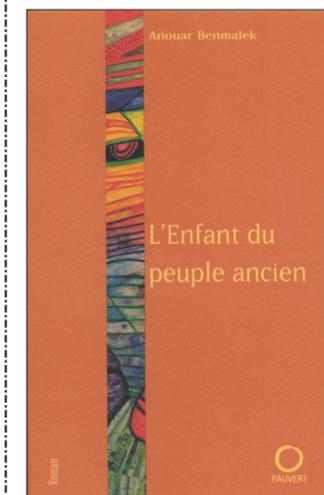
Published in English,
German,
Norwegian,
Arabic,
Greek,
Portuguese.

PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL AVAILABLE

Full text and press reviews available in the aforementioned languages.

FIND OUT MORE

Paperback edition published by Le Livre de Poche (LGF). This book won a number of prizes including the Prix RFO 2001 and the Prix RTBF 2001.



PAUVERT / FAYARD
Carole Saudejaud
csaudejaud@editions-fayard.fr
+33 (0)1 45 49 82 48

David is a dream hunter. Whenever he is commissioned to dive into the heart of slumber, he has to bring back strange objects of priceless value in a world gone numb and monitored. Yet David struggles to come back from these oneiric expeditions, far more exciting than his dull real life. At the peril of his life, he attempts to smuggle one last time into the dream free zone...

THE DEEP SEA DIVER'S SYNDROME

LE SYNDROME DU SCAPHANDRIER
SERGE BRUSSOLO

David is a dream hunter. For his clients, he dives into the heart of slumber, and brings back strange, ectoplasmic objects whose mysterious powers are highly sought after by avid private collectors and States alike. In a real world where the arts have vanished and oneiric ectoplasms have become the most accomplished art form, David is just a run-of-the-mill civil servant. Marianne, an unyielding psycho-nurse from the Ministry of Culture, closely monitors his diving. In dreams, with his two sidekicks, Nadia and Jorgo, he lives a far more exciting and dangerous life: that of a high-flying burglar and a heroic gang leader. With each dive, bringing back treasures becomes a little riskier, and nightmares can kick in anytime. Not to mention the Deep Sea Diver's syndrome, a vitrification of the brain caused by too much diving. Whenever he is back, in spite of the ensuing damage, David only aspires to break free from the suffocating real world. The line between dream and reality becomes increasingly blurry in his mind. The strange clairvoyant "gift" he inherited from his mother caused him to live a painful childhood, and often feels like a curse. Only Antonine, his sensual, ectoplasm-loving neighbour, gives him a measure of comfort. Simultaneously, David finds out the ever-popular ectoplasms are used as tranquilizers to forget about a dull and threatening world where everything is under surveillance. Furthermore, his obsession for dreaming spirals out of control, a fact that does not go unnoticed by the Ministry. After a disastrous dive, David is suspended, which causes him to tip over the edge, and to decide to embark for one last dive, a last chance to give his life a meaning. But the meanderings of the abyss are home to dangers as perilous as the ones in real life. David has no choice: to win the game, he needs to dive right into the very heart of the depths, where no dreamer ever dared to venture before, at the risk of never returning...

WHY THIS BOOK?

REMINISCENT OF INCEPTION MIXED WITH JACOB'S LADDER, THE DEEP SEA DIVER'S SYNDROME IS SIMPLY A MAJOR PIECE OF SCI-FI, HIGHLY ADDICTIVE, DEALING WITH TIMELESS AND FASCINATING TOPICS: THE TEMPTATION TO RUN AWAY FROM REALITY, THE POWER OF DREAMING AND FANTASIZING, WHICH CAN BE AS ADDICTIVE AS HARD DRUGS, HOW SOCIETY OPPRESSES INDIVIDUALS, AND THE YEARNING FOR ABSOLUTE FREEDOM...

SETTING

A big city in the near future.

MAIN CHARACTERS

David Sarella, Male, 40
Nadia, Female, 30
Jorgo, Male, 20

RIGHTS GUIDE

English (Melville House, published in the USA in January 2016).

PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL AVAILABLE

Full synopsis and characters description available in English.

FIND OUT MORE

Serge Brussolo is the author of nearly two hundred books in every possible genre - dark fantasy, horror, historical fiction, young adult fiction, thrillers, and literary fiction. His books are consistently bestsellers, have won every major French science-fiction prize, are considered modern classics, and have been made into films. "Brussolo is a singular and essential voice with a striking imagination, sense of strangeness, and masterful feel for the surreal. He plunges readers into the weird and macabre, leaving only a blazing vision lingering on their retina... a French J.G. Ballard, impeccably distilled stylized nightmares." *Le Monde*.



DENOËL

Judith Becqueriaux
judith.becqueriaux@denoel.fr
+33 (0)1 44 39 73 76

A young man regains consciousness in custody. What happened to him? Mireille, the love of his life, has left him abruptly; he had been drinking...What should he do to remember everything? Real questions, though, come from his foggy thoughts; the voices of his ancestors, like an inner chant from Africa that evokes in him values of sharing, honour, heritage and hope.

THE HEART OF THE LEOPARD CHILDREN

LE CŒUR DES ENFANTS LÉOPARDS
WILFRIED N'SONDÉ

A nameless young man lives in the housing projects outside of Paris. When he was a child, his parents moved with him from the Congo to France, hoping in vain to escape poverty and violence. His best friend, Drissa, is in a psychiatric hospital and now Mireille, his girlfriend, the woman with whom he has shared his childhood and hopes, has left him to reconnect with her Jewish roots in Israel. During a night out to drown the pain of his heartache, there is a fight with a policeman, the policeman dies, and the young man is arrested and taken to jail. Between police beatings and abrupt interrogations, his memory becomes his sole ally to escape from the exiguous space in which he is confined. Half-conscious and delirious, he reflects on his journey from the land of his ancestors to his life in the projects with Drissa and Mireille. In *The Heart of the Leopard Children*, N'Sondé explores the themes of love and pain, belonging and uprooting, desire and fear, all with an implacable and irresistible accuracy.

WHY THIS BOOK?

WILFRIED N'SONDÉ'S NOVEL AWAKENS THE READER WITH AN URBAN SYMPHONY OF DESIRE AND LOST LOVE, ATTUNE TO THE VIOLENCE THAT ACCOMPANIES THE STRUGGLE FOR SOCIAL ASCENSION AND A SENSE OF BELONGING, AND THE PARALYZING SENTIMENT OF BETRAYAL THAT INHABITS A YOUNG MAN CAUGHT BETWEEN TRADITIONS AND CULTURES. AWARDED THE PRIX DES CINQ CONTINENTS DE LA FRANCOPHONIE AND THE PRIX SENGHOR FOR THE ORIGINALITY OF HIS WORK, THE AUTHOR CAPTURES THE SOUNDS, RHYTHMS AND PLEAS OF A YOUNG MAN WHO SOUNDS THE ALARM FROM HIS PRISON CELL TO WARN AGAINST THE MULTIPLE BARRIERS OF CONFINEMENT THAT RISK THE FUTURE OF CERTAIN SECTORS OF FRENCH YOUTH TODAY.

SETTING

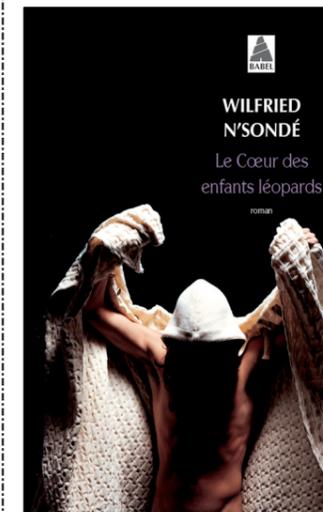
Congo, France (Paris).

MAIN CHARACTERS

A nameless young man, 20
Mireille, Female, 18-20

RIGHTS GUIDE

Germany (Antje Kunstmann, 2007),
Italy (Siscom, 2009),
Ivory Coast (Vallesse Editions, 2009),
Korea (Bookorea, 2013),
UK/USA (Indiana University Press, 2016).



ACTES SUD

Nathalie Alliel
nathalie.alliel@actes-sud.fr
+33 (0)4 90 49 33 75

A condemned cop killer's request for a final cigarette makes him a media hero. Meanwhile, a bureaucrat's secret cigarette in a bathroom leads to accusations of paedophilia after a little girl catches him blowing smoke out of a window with his pants down. This is the absurdist story of a criminal's rise to fame and an innocent's descent into hell.

THE LITTLE GIRL AND THE CIGARETTE

LA PETITE FILLE ET LA CIGARETTE

BENOÎT DUTEURTRE

Désiré Johnson, a young black man, has been sentenced to death for killing a cop, a crime he has always denied. His final wish before his execution is to smoke a cigarette. However, although this is allowed by law, prison rules do not permit smoking. The condemned man insists. He is assigned a public defender to represent him: young Maren Pataki, also nicknamed "Sudden Death".

Public opinion is divided. The prison's director postpones Johnson's execution for the time it takes to consult the Supreme Court, which eventually sides with the inmate.

The media are in attendance the day Désiré Johnson accomplishes his final wish in a field near the prison. They broadcast the event live, allowing people to watch Désiré picking daisies and arranging them to form the words "Life is beautiful" before smoking. Public pressure eventually forces the President to pardon Johnson.

Meanwhile, in a city far away, a man is following the twists and turns of the Johnson affair in the press. He is 45 years old. His world might soon be ours. The masters of the universe are children. The man is extremely wary of kids: he doesn't have any, doesn't want any and nor does his partner Latifa. He's forced to hide in the toilets at work to smoke. Unfortunately, he forgets to lock the door one day. A little girl catches him red-handed with his pants around his ankles and immediately accuses him of the most shocking indecency.

Caught in a downward spiral, he decides to hire the lawyer Maren Pataki. Yet Mister X finds out too late that Johnson owes his life purely to his own efforts and his amazing television performance.

His trial is a total travesty; the presiding judge is a little girl who still sucks her thumb, and the prosecutor is barely much older.

As the city showers honours on Désiré Johnson for having given up smoking, will Mister X be found guilty of a hideous crime he didn't commit?

WHY THIS BOOK?

THIS IRREVERENT BLACK COMEDY IS AN ACERBIC FABLE ABOUT MODERN TRENDS AND TYRANNY IN A SIMILAR VEIN TO BRAZIL AND THANK YOU FOR NOT SMOKING. THE WORLD IT DESCRIBES IS FAR TOO FAMILIAR NOT TO BE UNSETTLING!

SETTING

Near future. A large city in a large country.

MAIN CHARACTERS

Mister X, Male, 40
Désiré Johnson, Male, 40
Maren Pataki, Female, 40

RIGHTS GUIDE

Published in English,
Spanish,
Italian,
Korean,
Portuguese,
Romanian,
Chinese,
Japanese,
Greek,
Hungarian,
Russian,
Czech,
Finnish,
Lithuanian,
Icelandic,
Croatian,
Macedonian.

PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL AVAILABLE

Full text and press reviews available in the aforementioned languages.



FAYARD

Carole Saudejaud
csaudejaud@editions-fayard.fr
+33 (0)1 45 49 82 48

The day after Assumption Day (August 15th), a terrible crime is committed in the Notre-Dame Cathedral in Paris. A young woman in a revealing white dress has been murdered. This crime novel brings two worlds together: the mythical cathedral with its colourful cast of characters and dark hallways and the outside, day-to-day world with cops and courtroom officials

THE MADONNA OF NOTRE-DAME

LA MADONE DE NOTRE-DAME

ALEXIS RAGOUGNEAU

It is the day after 15 August in Notre-Dame cathedral in Paris. A beautiful young woman is kneeling in one of the side chapels. When an American tourist knocks against her, her body collapses: she has been murdered. Commanding officer Landart and lieutenant Gombrowicz, together with the sensitive acting prosecutor, Claire Kauffmann, are leading the inquiry.

Father Kern, substituting as he does every summer in the Parisian cathedral, is questioned from all sides: the police, and his superior, the bishop Monseigneur de Bracy, who is annoyed by the bad press surrounding the cathedral. He investigates on his side: a Polish bum who sleeps in the gardens next to the cathedral attempts to tell Father Kern that he saw the victim. The young woman came to back entrance and someone opened the door for her.

Father Kern rushes to the Montmartre cemetery where Luna's funeral is coming to a close. He follows her best friend Nadia back to the apartment she shared with Luna. He discovers that Luna occasionally worked as a prostitute to make ends meet as a student. Back at the Cathedral, he asks to watch the video of mass that day, which had been recorded for TV. He sees Luna at mass, moving towards one of the priests giving communion and exchanging a few words with him. He is now sure he knows who the murderer is.

Father Kern makes a call and sets up a meeting in the confessional with the culprit. Monsignor de Bracy appears. Father Kern decides to bluff and pretends Nadia told him the rector was one of Luna's clients. She discovered that he was a priest. She saw this as an opportunity to blackmail him, threatening to reveal their relationship in order to stop working as a prostitute.

Realizing he is trapped, de Bracy takes Father Kern hostage, forcing him to climb to the top of Notre-Dame. He is about to throw him over the edge when Lieutenant Gombrowicz comes to the rescue: de Bracy's body falls over the edge.

WHY THIS BOOK?

THE LEGENDS OF VICTOR HUGO'S NOVEL THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE-DAME REVISITED THROUGH A CONTEMPORARY CRIME STORY AND A SET OF UNFORGETTABLE CHARACTERS.

SETTING

Paris.

MAIN CHARACTERS

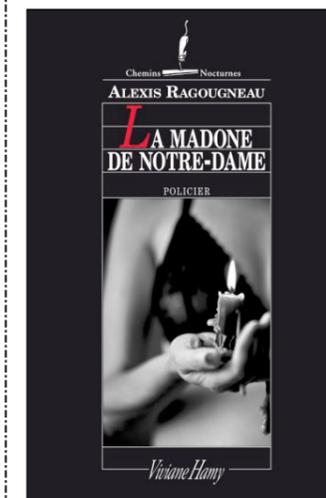
Father Kern, Male, 40
Claire Kauffmann, Female, 30
Gombrowicz, Male, 50

RIGHTS GUIDE

Published in USA (New Vessel Press),
Germany (Ullstein),
Italy (Guanda),
Spain (Siruela),
Sweden (Sekwa),
Greece (Stereoma),
Poland (Sonia Draga).

PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL AVAILABLE

French, English, Spanish, German,
Swedish and Greek translations
available.
Detailed synopsis available.



VIVIANE HAMY

Maylis Vauterin
maylis.vauterin@viviane-hamy.fr
+33 (0)1 53 17 16 03

Catherine, a young Parisian lawyer assigned to defend a woman accused of poisoning her husband, watches as an old unsolved case resurfaces: a crime involving her own mother.

THE PARIS LAWYER

LA RIGOLE DU DIABLE

SYLVIE GRANOTIER

Catherine, a young Parisian lawyer, has a murder case to defend. It's a big step in her budding career, overseen by her kind yet stern and intimidating boss, Maître Renaud. She heads to the scene of the crime in Creuse, where she spent her earliest years before her mother's murder, which obviously continues to haunt her.

Her father has never come to terms with his wife's death and never talks about it. When she was 16 and supposed to be celebrating her high school graduation, her dad brought up her mother's death. He said she could ask him anything she wanted but after that they would never discuss it again. It was then she realized she needed to go away to live her life.

She went to Paris to study law. Her client, Myriam, is an undocumented African immigrant accused of poisoning her husband, a farmer she married 6 years earlier. She inherited. The cousins, who'd counted on inheriting, remembered a jar of cyanide from an abandoned gold mine that had disappeared from Gaston's barn. They requested an autopsy and learned that Gaston had in fact been poisoned.

As Catherine builds her case, she discovers her lover Cedric was once her mother's lover. For a while, she suspects him of the crime. But Cedric actually knows who the killer is and lets her find out for herself. It is her own father, jealous and overprotective of the child he raised alone, careful to keep the painful past buried. Catherine helps solve both cases just a few hours apart. She gets Myriam acquitted... despite proof of the woman's guilt.

That night, out at Devil's Wash, her father and Cedric battle it out hand-to-hand. Cedric is in the hospital; Catherine's father is dead. Catherine and Cedric go their separate ways. She advises Myriam to come clean about her false identity. She meets a man in the train and asks him about the book he's reading.

A new story?

WHY THIS BOOK?

CATHERINE'S DYNAMIC, ENDEARING ENERGY FUELS THE INTERPLAY BETWEEN A GRIPPING FIRST CAREER MOVE AND COMING TO TERMS WITH HER OWN TERRIBLE AND MYSTERIOUS PAST. WHEN THE SUSPENSE IS OVER, CATHERINE HAS FINALLY COME INTO HER OWN.

SETTING

Paris, Creuse (French countryside).

MAIN CHARACTERS

Catherine, Female, 30
Claude, Catherine's Father, Male, 55
Cédric, Male, 45

RIGHTS GUIDE

Published in English (USA).

PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL AVAILABLE

English translation available (American edition).

FIND OUT MORE

The novel received the Prix du Polar Sang d'Encre 2011 awarded to a French-language detective novel.



ALBIN MICHEL
Marie Dormann
marie.dormann@albin-michel.fr
+33 (0)1 42 79 10 29

From the passion of their first encounter on the Massilia, en route to Argentina, to their divorce in America, shortly before the disappearance of the aviator and writer, the relationship between Antoine and Consuelo de Saint Exupéry was a succession of crises and reconciliations, until the Saint-Exupéry crashed his plane off the coast of Marseille.

THE TALE OF THE ROSE

MÉMOIRES DE LA ROSE

CONSUELO DE SAINT-EXUPÉRY
ALAIN VIRCONDELET

The turbulent story of this passionate couple began on a boat. Consuelo, a young, well-born widow, was a passenger on the Massilia, on route to Buenos Aires. During a party, she met a giant of a man, who immediately showed a keen interest in her: Antoine de Saint-Exupéry.

This charming but imperious man, a kind of magician, was like a storm wreaking havoc upon everything and everyone in his path. He made all sorts of promises to seduce Consuelo but for her this relationship was overshadowed by an unshakable fear: her lover had to undertake night flights and, as a pilot's wife, she waited for him, haunted by a terrifying anxiety.

After he lost his job, the scandalous couple left for Europe. They lived in Morocco for a while before the publication of Night Flight, which propelled Saint-Exupéry to stardom. Back in Paris, Tonio was caught between success and his lovers, while Consuelo's life, reduced to the role of a housewife, became a nightmare.

Then began a frantic round of reunions and separations: Consuelo fled, travelling through Europe, then South America, hoping each time that their love would return, as trouble-free and luminous as it was before... while Tonio, bored, decided to resume flying the Paris - Saigon route! She decided to look for a job and soon found employment on a Spanish radio station, for which she interviewed no one other than... Antoine de Saint-Exupéry, which led to a surreal interview

in which he revealed nothing of their history or their relationship. The chaos of the war, like a symbol, troubled their relationship even more. Between London and New York, the hapless couple finally decided to divorce... without ceasing to love each other. The disappearance at sea of Saint-Exupéry in July 1944 brought to an end one of the most passionate love affairs of the 20th century.

WHY THIS BOOK?

DISCOVER THE HIDDEN SIDE OF THE MAN WHO SAID THAT LOVE MEANS "LOOKING TOGETHER IN THE SAME DIRECTION." BUT AFTER FALLING IN LOVE, CONSUELO AND SAINT-EXUPÉRY NEVER STOPPED LOOKING IN THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION...

SETTING

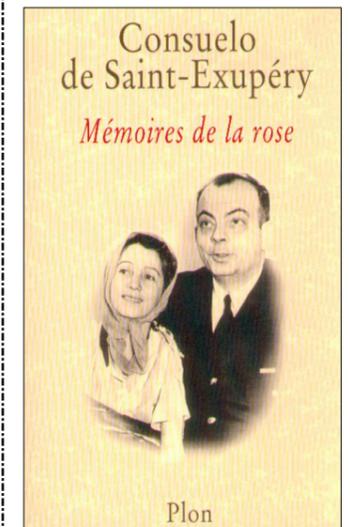
South America, France, England & USA.

MAIN CHARACTERS

Consuelo, Female, 30-40
Tonio (Saint-Exupéry), Male, 30-40

RIGHTS GUIDE

English translation available (Random House)



PLON
Nathalie Carpentier
carpentier@calfrance.fr
+33 (0)6 25 89 25 06

Hunted down by mysterious powers, Vango is fleeing from Sicily to Paris. He is also in pursuit of himself. Who is he? Who is plotting his death? In the interlocking pieces of the puzzle that compose this suspenseful novel, Vango will encounter love with the beautiful Ethel, with the growing menace of the guns of war resounding in the background.

VANGO

VANGO

TIMOTHÉE DE FOMBELLE

Paris, 1934. In the square in front of Notre Dame, on the day he was to have been ordained a priest, 19-year old Vango is caught in a wild chase with the police on his tail. Accused of a crime he did not commit, he manages to escape them.

Vango has led a life full of mystery. At the age of three, he was found with his nanny, Mademoiselle, on an island off the coast of Sicily. On this isolated island, far from everything, he grew up like a child in the wild, learning to scale the rock cliffs like an acrobat. At ten, he found a hidden and secret convent on a nearby island and decided to live there. At fifteen, he crossed the Atlantic on the Graf Zeppelin. There he met young Ethel, who had come from her castle in Scotland.

In his headlong flight, Vango encounters strong and unforgettable characters like Eckener, the commander of the Graf Zeppelin, who takes him back on the dirigible, but this time as a stowaway. And Police Captain Boulard, who tracks him all the way to the moors of Scotland, and Father Zefiro, this amazing monk who hunts down arms dealers. But Vango himself is hunted. Russian spies are on his heels. Why? Who is he? He knows nothing of his family, of his own origins. With the help of Mademoiselle and his friends, and the love of Ethel, Vango will discover his own history.

WHY THIS BOOK?

A SUSPENSE-FILLED NARRATIVE. A CHARISMATIC HERO. SEVERAL CAPTIVATING SECONDARY CHARACTERS.

SETTING

In the 1930's in Italy, France, USA, Russia and Scotland.

MAIN CHARACTERS

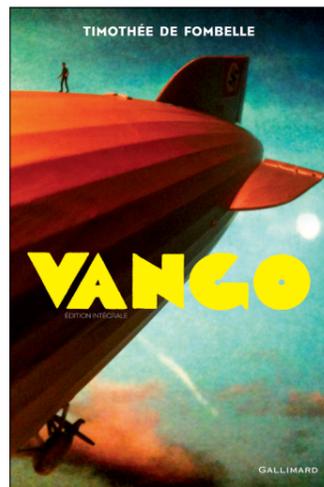
Vango, Male, teenager
Ethel, Female, teenager
Zefiro, Male, 50-60

RIGHTS GUIDE

Translated into Catalan (Grup 62), Castilian (Liebe de Marzo), Czech (Baobab), Dutch (Querido), English (Walker Books/Candlewick), German (Gerstenberg), Greek (Diamantis), Hebrew (Kinneret), Hungarian (Mora), Italian (San Paolo), Polish (Znak), Turkish (Yapi Kredi), Vietnamese (Nha Nam), Bulgarian (Emas), Portuguese (Melhoramentos, Brazil), Russian (Kompasguide/Samokat), Slovenian (Druzina), Chinese (Eastern Publishing, Taiwan).

FIND OUT MORE

Prix Livre entête-roman Ado 2011
Prix «Les mordus du polar» 2011
Prix jeunesse 2011 des libraires du Québec



GALLIMARD JEUNESSE

Frédérique Massart
frederique.massart@gallimard.fr
+33 (0)1 49 54 42 98

What if the destiny of the last magic people of England depended on one of the world's greatest hustlers, capable of getting you whatever you wished for? And would he be ready to give up his humanity and die to save a people he doesn't even believe in? A tough question for the last of the living genies...

WISHER

WISHER

LATOUR/DE VITA

Nigel is one of the best scam artists in London, known across the underworld for his impressive talent: whatever you desire, he can get it — for the right price. The odd thing is, he doesn't understand quite how he does it...

But when his friend and master-forger commits suicide on the London Underground, Nigel's eyes are opened, as he is drawn into a world he never knew existed.

Detective Jane Grey is investigating the supposed suicide, and when she comes across Nigel, she feels there's more to him than meets the eye. She begins to investigate him, too, just as Nigel discovers that his friend was in fact one of the last of an ancient race of dark elves... And he was murdered by an agent of MI-10, a secret organization of the British Crown created to hunt down and eliminate magical creatures. After many centuries, the agency seems close to victory. Headed by Sir George Cross, the legendary dragon slayer, and with the help of top agents like Jane Grey, the days of the fairies and their magical kin are numbered.

The last remaining fairies are in hiding with Merlin below the British Museum. Their only hope is to find a Wisher, and Merlin sends Eireann, a beautiful and lethal banshee, to track down and bring back Nigel, the last genie on Earth.

But Nigel has no idea about his real identity. Long ago he made a wish to be reborn as a human, and his memory was wiped clean. Now, hunted by MI-10, he'll have to discover who he is — and regain his powers — before it's too late.

As Nigel embarks on a series of otherworldly adventures, he gradually comes to terms with his destiny. And in the process, he may just find his one true love, who set him free centuries ago.

But the only way to end this terrible war is to die again. Will Nigel be ready to sacrifice himself to save Earth's last magical creatures? To find a way out, he'll need to use all of his skill in deceit and deception, and tap into an unsuspected well of courage.

WHY THIS BOOK?

URBAN FANTASY AT ITS BEST, WISHER IS A DYNAMIC CONCEPT THAT CAN SUMMON FAIRIES AND LEGENDS FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD, PROVIDING AN ENDLESS SOURCE OF SEQUELS FOR THIS MAGICAL FRANCHISE.

SETTING

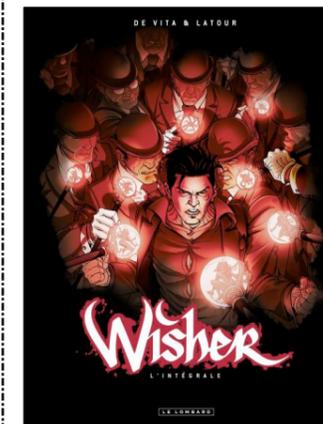
London.

MAIN CHARACTERS

Nige, Male, 25
Farah, Female, 25
Michael, Male, 35
Eireann, Female, 25
Merlin, Male, 11-50

RIGHTS GUIDE

American English, Italian, and Icelandic translation available.



LE LOMBARD

Laurent Duvault
laurent.duvault@mediatoon.com
+33 (0)1 53 26 11 43

SCELF

The Société Civile des Éditeurs de Langue Française (SCELF) is a collecting society created in 1960. It represents French book publishers and collects adaptation rights from other French collecting societies on behalf of its members. It also has a role of legal advisor to its members. For the past few years, SCELF has been organizing events and partnerships in order to promote film and TV adaptations and develop the publisher's role in the exploitation of authors' rights. Shoot the Book! is the first international event organized by SCELF.

WWW.SCELF.FR
15 RUE DE BUCI
75006 PARIS, FRANCE
+33 (0)1 53 34 97 10

NATHALIE PIASKOWSKI
N.PIASKOWSKI@SCELF.FR

SCELF,

EMBASSY OF FRANCE IN CANADA CONSULATE GENERAL OF FRANCE IN TORONTO

The Cultural Service of the Embassy of France in Canada works through its five consulates to implement a cultural policy that focuses on three main areas: inter-university cooperation, cultural cooperation, and French-language initiatives.

Audiovisual content, cinema, and new media are top priorities for the Cultural Services of the French Embassy, and Canada and France are strong partners within the film industry. The Toronto International Film Festival, one of the biggest film festivals in the world, welcomes each year the best of French cinema in Toronto and is a can't-miss event for French professionals. In 2016, the Consulate General of France in Toronto is organizing the second edition of Shoot the Book! at TIFF, the annual rendez-vous between French publishers and the international film industry that will provide an exclusive opportunity for film professionals to discover original content for adaptation among the best French contemporary titles with available film rights.

WWW.FRANCECANADACULTURE.ORG
2 BLOOR STREET EAST SUITE 2200
TORONTO, ON M4W 1A8 — CANADA
(+1) 416-847-1909

SELMA TOPRAK
SELMA.TOPRAK@DIPLOMATIE.GOUV.FR

LUCIE CARETTE
LUCIE.CARETTE@DIPLOMATIE.GOUV.FR



BIEF

Le Bureau international de l'édition française (BIEF) is a non-profit organization representing 270 publishers. BIEF ensures the collective presence of French publishers in many international book fairs, organizes professional seminars between French and foreign publishers and conducts marketing research in the publishing sector throughout the world. In cooperation with SCELF, BIEF develops its promotion of French books for film adaptations by proposing professional meetings between publishers and foreign producers, producing catalogues and creating and running an Internet site: shoot-the-book.com. BIEF's office in New-York, The French Publishers' Agency, presents French publishing to American publishers and producers.

WWW.BIEF.ORG
WWW.FRENCHPUBAGENCY.COM
115 BOULEVARD SAINT-GERMAIN
75006 PARIS, FRANCE
+33 (0)1 44 41 13 13

CHRISTINE KARAVIAS
C.KARAVIAS@BIEF.ORG



INSTITUT FRANÇAIS

L'Institut français, under the direction of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Development and the Ministry of Culture and Communication, organizes cultural actions outside France. An active player in cultural diplomacy, the Institut français represents France's image in a unique way, in France and throughout the world. It promotes authors, film-makers, architects, artists, ideas, creation and cultural industries that contribute to an innovative and dynamic image of French creativity. It also assists the dialogue between cultures and organizes events for professional communities in all its sectors, so developing the French cultural network abroad.

WWW.INSTITUTFRANCAIS.COM
8-14 RUE DU CAPITAINE SCOTT
75015 PARIS, FRANCE
+33 (0)1 53 69 83 00

DIDIER DUTOUR
DIDIER.DUTOUR@INSTITUTFRANCAIS.COM

INSTITUT
FRANÇAIS

NOTES

SHOOT THE BOOK!