

A SELECTION OF BOOKS

FILM RIGHTS

SHOOT ~~THE~~ BOOK!

CANNES 2017

## SHOOT THE BOOK!

This event is a SCELf (Société Civile des Editeurs de Langue Française) and BIEF (Bureau International de l'Édition Française) initiative. It is organized by SCELf, the Ile de France Film Commission, the Institut Français, and supported by the Centre Français de la Copie and Sofia.

For the fourth time, it will assemble those in charge of film rights in French publishing houses in Cannes and in a collective context.

Shoot the Book! is an opportunity for publishers to present books with strong potential for film adaptation at the Cannes Festival. Out of 28 participants, 10 publishing houses have the pleasure of seeing their book selected by a jury of professionals working in the film industry. The competition will be moderated by Ido Abram, Deputy CEO of Eye Film Instituut (Netherlands). The pitch presentation session will be followed by a cocktail at 11.30 am.

## FIND THE BOOK!

Publishing is a rich source of subjects and stories just begging to be adapted for the screen. The books presented here were written by the finest connoisseurs of drama, suspense or romance – authors! Then selected by professionals who chose to invest in them – publishers! Finally, brought to life by a wide section of the public – readers and filmgoers. To highlight the interest these stories hold for professionals in the film industry, we prepared this catalogue of titles, selected by their publishers for their potential and availability, specifically for the Cannes Festival 2017.

Each book is presented in its main storylines, with a synthesis of key information and the person to contact if you would like to know more. Some of them (Pitched books) were chosen as having special interest by a jury of film industry professionals. You will also find them, with other titles, on the Internet site: [www.shoot-the-book.com](http://www.shoot-the-book.com).

This website is a bridge between the written word and the screen; a place where film and TV rights managers in French publishing houses can present books they believe to have a strong potential for screen adaptation. Thanks to a multi-criteria search engine, professionals visiting the site can select titles by category, by key words, characters, period, etc. depending on the project they have in mind. They can also leave a message to a group of publishers if they need more detailed information.

## PITCHED BOOKS

**33 DAYS / 33 JOURS**  
LÉON WERTH

**APOCALYPSE BABY / APOCALYPSE BÉBÉ**  
VIRGINIE DESPENTES

**CICI'S JOURNAL: THE ADVENTURES OF A WRITER-IN-TRAINING / LES CARNETS DE CERISE**  
JORIS CHAMBLAIN (WRITER) & AURÉLIE NEYRET (ARTIST)

**GEORGE'S WIFE (SHORT STORY), IN THE GARDENERS / LA FEMME DE GEORGES (NOUVELLE), DANS LES JARDINIERS**  
VÉRONIQUE BIZOT

**GUINEA PIGS / LES COBAYES**  
TONINO BENACQUISTA (WRITER) & NICOLAS BARRAL (ARTIST),

**MY FAMILY FOR THE WAR / LIVERPOOL STREET**  
ANNE C. VOORHOEVE

**STUPOR MUNDI / STUPOR MUNDI**  
NEJIB

**THE LORD OF THE BARNYARD: KILLING THE FATTED CALF AND ARMING THE AWARE IN THE CORNBELT / LE SEIGNEUR DES PORCHERIES, LE TEMPS VENU DE TUER LE VEAU GRAS ET D'ARMER LE JUSTE**  
TRISTAN EGOLF

**THE SUMMER OF THE FIREFLIES / L'ÉTÉ DES LUCIOLES**  
GILLES PARIS

**A WOMAN IN THE POLAR NIGHT / EINE FRAU ERLEBT DIE POLARNACHT**  
CHRISTIANE RITTER

## MORE BOOKS

**THE BACKWARD SUMMER / L'ÉTÉ CONTRAIRE**  
YVES BICHET

**BOB DYLAN: POET OF HIS OWN LIFE / BOB DYLAN – POÈTE DE SA VIE**  
JEAN-DOMINIQUE BRIERRE

**THE GREEN CITROËN 2CV / LA 2CV VERTE**  
MANU CAUSSE

**THE ICE COMPANY / LA COMPAGNIE DES GLACES**  
G.-J. ARNAUD

**KIM JONG-IL'S BIRTHDAY / L'ANNIVERSAIRE DE KIM JONG-IL**  
AURÉLIEN DUCOUDRAY (WRITER) & MÉLANIE ALLAG (ARTIST)

**THE MESSAGE / LE MESSAGE**  
ANDRÉ CHEDID

**MUCHACHO / MUCHACHO**  
EMMANUEL LEPAGE

**NEVER FORGET / N'OUBLIER JAMAIS**  
MICHEL BUSSI

**NEVER BE SAD AGAIN / ALORS VOUS NE SEREZ PLUS JAMAIS TRISTE**  
BAPTISTE BEAULIEU

**RETRIBUTION ROAD / TROIS MILLE CHEVAUX-VAPEUR**  
ANTONIN VARENNE

**SIXTEEN LOVE / JEU DÉCISIF**  
THÉO CALMEJANE

**THE SOBS OF THE VIOLIN / VIVRE EN CORPS**  
GENEVIÈVE TURLAIS

**THE TRICK / DER TRICK**  
EMANUEL BERGMANN

**TWELVE YEARS, SEVEN MONTHS AND ELEVEN DAYS**  
DOUZE ANS, SEPT MOIS ET ONZE JOURS  
LORRIS MURAIL

**UNDER MY NIQAB / SOUS MON NIQAB**  
ZEINA, WITH DJÉNANE KAREH TAGER

**URBAN / URBAN**  
LUC BRUNSCHWIG (WRITER) & ROBERTO RICCI (ARTIST)

**VINTAGE / VINTAGE**  
GRÉGOIRE HERVIER

**WE WILL NEVER BE HEROES / NOUS NE SERONS JAMAIS DES HÉROS**  
OLIVIER JOUVRAY (WRITER) & FRÉDÉRIK SALSEDO (ARTIST)

CONCEPTION GRAPHIQUE  
Line Célo

PRINTED IN FRANCE BY  
Créa&Fab

PUBLISHED BY  
Bureau international de l'édition française  
115, boulevard Saint-Germain  
75006, Paris - France  
T.+33 (0)1 44 41 13 13  
[www.bief.org](http://www.bief.org)  
[info@bief.org](mailto:info@bief.org)

THIS PUBLICATION IS SUPPORTED  
By the Centre national du livre

# PITCHED BOOKS

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◆  
A tense and emotional journey based on a true story: June 1940. German troops have just invaded Paris. Eight million people have fled. Among them is a couple about to learn a real lesson in humanity and freedom.

## 33 DAYS

33 JOURS

LÉON WERTH

DRAMA  
TESTIMONY

After a word of warning from a friend, Leon Werth and his wife leave Paris by car for their country home in the mountains. The trip, which usually takes just a few hours, ends up taking 33 days, during which they have no news from their teenage son who took a separate route. On the road: endless traffic jams of cars, bikes, and livestock. Everyone is pushing forward with the same goal in mind: crossing the Loire River into the unoccupied zone. Hour by hour, danger mounts and they see more and more German soldiers alongside the distressed French soldiers with a look of defeat in their eyes. The Werths' car breaks down and they are forced to stop. The first shells hammer down around them as German soldiers fire at the crowd of French troops mixed with civilians. Chaos reigns, both outside and in the minds of those faced with this unbelievable disaster. They decide to take back roads. Planning to cross the Loire by boat, they find refuge on a farm, but the owner seems to have a special appreciation for the German soldiers she houses. Hideaways like the Werths feel trapped. However, a situation that first seems utterly futile gives way to hope as they build relationships with strangers: a touching and sometimes humorous one with a farmer or the German corporal who takes a liking to Leon Werth. He ends up providing the Werths with the fuel they need to get to their country home where their son is waiting. This exceptional account almost never made it into the public eye. In the Fall of 1940, Leon Werth knew that as a Jew, he would never find a publisher in France. He entrusted his manuscript to his best friend, Antoine de Saint-Exupéry. The legendary author of *The Little Prince* tried in vain to find a publisher in the US, hoping to warn the American public about the situation in Europe in order to encourage US intervention. For reasons that remain unknown, the manuscript was never published.

◆  
**Action-packed due to the urgent nature of the circumstances; endearing characters with whom it is easy to identify; an objective look at an important moment in history; the story behind the story of the manuscript of 33 Days being saved by Leon Werth's friend Antoine de Saint-Exupéry.**

### SETTING

Country roads, a farm, a small town.

### MAIN CHARACTERS

Léon Werth, "The Committed Observer", Male, 60s  
Suzanne Werth, "A Resistant in the Making", Female, 50s  
Abel Delaveau, "The Resistant Farmer", Male, 60 years old

### RIGHTS GUIDE

Published in 5 languages: English (Melville House), German (S. Fischer Verlag, *33 Tage*), Italian (Bompiani, *33 giorni*), Dutch (De Geus, *Adieu Parijs*)

### PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL AVAILABLE

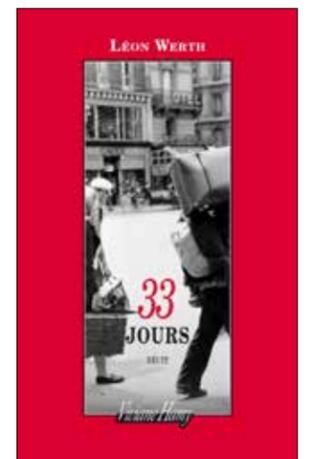
"One of the few eyewitness accounts of this largely overlooked moment in 20th century history." – *Publishers Weekly*  
"The great virtue of the book, besides its clean, concise style, is its honesty. Werth's refusal to write propaganda either for his country or himself." – *The Guardian*  
"Werth's devastating story captures the frustration and terror he experienced in the slow-moving caravans and the fearful uncertainty of not knowing whether his son was still alive. It is, in short, an indispensable chronicle of a major world-historical event." – *Flavorwire*  
Full English translation available.

### FILM & TV REFERENCES

The full-feature film adapted from Irène Némirosky's *Suite française* (Saul Dibb, 2014).  
TV series: *Un village français* (Frédéric Krivine, Philippe Triboit and Emmanuel Daucé, 2009).

### FIND OUT MORE

20,000 copies sold in France



Valentine has vanished. Two PIs with nothing in common travel from Paris to Barcelona to find her and ultimately discover a diabolical plan. A socially conscious and apocalyptic road movie.

## APOCALYPSE BABY

APOCALYPSE BÉBÉ  
VIRGINIE DESPENTES

DETECTIVE - THRILLER NOVEL

Valentine Galtan is always high, full of teen angst, and constantly running away. One day, she disappears, although Lucie, a single, 30+ anti-heroine who is also an incompetent and apathetic private investigator, had been hired by Valentine's grandmother to watch her every move. How will she find her? Has she gone to meet her mother in Barcelona whom she barely knows? For help, Lucie approaches La Hyène ("The Hyena"), a powerful and occasionally violent female private detective who won't hesitate to use force when necessary. Given the prospect of a little money and a new challenge, La Hyène accepts to partner up with her. This unlikely duo — one a raging lesbian and the other a low-frequency heterosexual — is hot on Valentine's heels, crisscrossing France and Spain until they reach Barcelona on the lookout for a rough and uncouth runaway from the Parisian bourgeoisie in full-on rebellion. Why was she so unhappy and what has she set out to find? Their investigation takes them from the cultured but fearful bourgeoisie of Valentine's father to the housing projects that her mother once called home, by way of militant factions and lesbian backrooms. All of these clues ultimately lead our two accomplices to Barcelona where, after interrogating their fair share of individuals, they find Valentine...

Written 5 years before the 2015/16 attacks, this novel mixes an investigation, led by an endearing and explosive duo, with a journey through contemporary society while exploring the radicalization of our youth. We rediscover Despentes' style, many of whose novels have been adapted for the big screen.



### SETTING

Paris and Barcelona in the 2000s.

### MAIN CHARACTERS

Valentine Galtan, Female, Teenager  
La Hyène, Female, 40s  
Lucie, Female, 30s

### RIGHTS GUIDE

Published in 14 languages: English (USA: Feminist Press; UK: Serpent's Tail), German (Berlin Verlag), Italian (Einaudi Editore), Swedish (Albert Bonniers Förlag), Dutch (De Geus Publishing), Finnish (Like), Romanian (Editura Trej), Danish (Tiderne Skifter), Bulgarian (Editions Colibri), Czech (Host), Portuguese (Porto Editora), Hungarian (Libri Publishing), and Latvian (Zvaigzne ABC)

### PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL AVAILABLE

French and foreign press reviews  
English version of the text  
Excerpts available at [https://serpentstail.com/\\_apocalypse-baby-ebook.html](https://serpentstail.com/_apocalypse-baby-ebook.html)

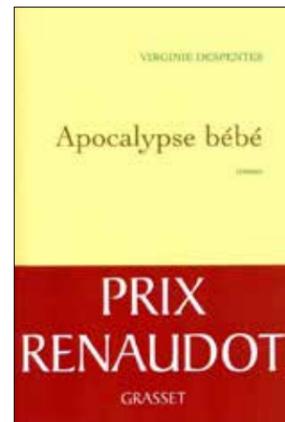
### FILM & TV REFERENCES

*Millenium* by Niels Arden Oplev (2009)  
Quentin Tarantino's films, and *Kill Bill* in particular (2003)  
Larry Clark's cinema, *Kids* (1995) and *The Smell of Us* (2015) in particular

### FIND OUT MORE

Past cinematic adaptations by the author, directed by Virginie Despentes: *Baise-Moi* (2000), *Bye bye blondie* (2011)  
Adaptations by other directors: *Les jolies choses* (2001, Gilles Paquet-Brenner), *Tel père telle fille* (2007, Olivier de Plas)  
Other adaptations: Paperback (Livre de Poche, 2012) and as an audiobook (Audiolib, 2010, read by Nadège Piton).  
Total large-format sales: 120,000 copies  
Paperback sales: 80,000 copies

Literary awards:  
Prix Renaudot (2010)  
Shortlist for Prix Goncourt (2010)  
Prix Virilo (2010)



Dive into Cici's rich and vibrant world! A curious and gutsy girl who aspires to be a writer and is never without her precious diary, our ad-lib detective sets out to solve life's mysteries.

## CICI'S JOURNAL: THE ADVENTURES OF A WRITER-IN-TRAINING

LES CARNETS DE CERISE

JORIS CHAMBLAIN (WRITER), AURÉLIE NEYRET (ARTIST)

CHILDREN'S, INVESTIGATION  
GRAPHIC NOVEL (4 VOLUMES, ONGOING SERIES OF 5 ALBUMS)

Cici is a cheerful, sweet and endearing girl who dreams of becoming a novelist. Her mother, who has raised her as a single parent since her father died, has just given her a precious gift: a journal in which she writes down everything. Cici writes down her thoughts, her feelings, and her observations, but above all, Cici loves to observe adults and figure out their secrets; an interest that turns her into a real detective in the making! With the help of her best friends, Line and Erica, and sometimes Annabelle Desjardins, her novelist neighbor for whom she has great admiration, Cici embarks on a series of investigations. This passion also helps her to forget the trauma that she experienced at the age of 4 when her father died. Throughout the series, Cici solves five mysteries, which, each in its own way, help her to grow and process her grief. The subject of her first case: the old man that walks through the forest with cans of paint and whom Cici and her friends observe from their secret fort. His name is Michel, the former painter in an abandoned zoo who breathes life into the park by painting the animals that used to live there. His attitude echoes the denial phase that Cici is also experiencing. The second mystery revolves around an old lady, Ms. Ronsin, who has borrowed the same book from the library for the last twenty years. Through several clues, Cici discovers that the book actually contains coded love messages for Ms. Ronsin! The third enigma involves Sandra, a bookbinder who, like Cici, experienced a childhood trauma and whose father left her clues leading to a precious book. The fourth investigation takes place in a haunted manor, in which Cici finds Annabelle Desjardins' true love. This mystery brings Cici and her mother closer together and for the first time, incites Cici to evoke her father.

More than a series of entertaining investigations, *Cici's Journal* is about mysteries that help our heroine to grow up and develop psychologically in subtle yet deep ways. Adults and children alike connect with this enthusiastic and joyful little redhead. The perfect mix for a family film.



### SETTING

A small city and the surrounding area, contemporary

### MAIN CHARACTERS

Cici, Female, Child  
Cici's mother, Female, 30s  
Annabelle Desjardins, Female, over 70s

### RIGHTS GUIDE

Published in 8 languages: English (First Second), German (Tokyopop), Spanish (Penguin Random House), Italian (Panini Comics), Chinese (Gingko Books)...

### PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL AVAILABLE

French, German, Italian press reviews

### FILM & TV REFERENCES

*Moonrise Kingdom* by Wes Anderson  
*Amélie* [original title: *Le Fabuleux Destin d'Amélie Poulain*] by Jean-Pierre Jeunet  
*My Life as a Zucchini* [original title: *Ma vie de courgette*] by Claude Barras

### FIND OUT MORE

The first volume sold more than 200,000 copies in France.  
2014 winner of the youth category award at the Festival International de la BD (International Comics Festival) in Angoulême.  
An exposition entitled "Once upon a time... Cici" was also created in Amiens.



A man who can no longer walk observes life, missing none of its little trials and tribulations or the major tragedies playing out around him. Is crime, like beauty, in the eye of the beholder?

## GEORGE'S WIFE (SHORT STORY), IN *THE GARDENERS*

**LA FEMME DE GEORGES (NOUVELLE), DANS *LES JARDINIERS* VÉRONIQUE BIZOT**

COMEDY - CRIME  
SHORT STORY

From his wheelchair, to which a commonplace but tragic car accident has confined him, the narrator observes Georges, his neighbor and former friend, who spends his time compulsively cleaning his luxury swimming pool. We learn in due course that the love of his life drowned in this same pool. Observing Georges in his garden has been the narrator's principal "activity" since becoming paralyzed. It turns out that Georges was the one who was driving when the accident happened. Does this explain the narrator's constant observations? This short story opens the day after a dinner party among neighbors at the Klausen's, a wealthy bourgeois couple who fancy themselves as art collectors and appear to rule the social roost on the hillside. The narrator had been dreading the invitation, but was unable to put it off any longer, unlike Georges, who is persona non grata at the Klausen's. This means that the narrator has had to endure the Klausen's champagne, the Klausen's conversation, and the meat from the local Champion supermarket whose virtues are extolled by the whole neighborhood. He especially dreads Susi Klausen and the malice beneath her loquacious displays of kindness, although he does concede that she was unstintingly supportive during his ordeal (she is a former nurse who married into money), having been constantly at his side during his time in the hospital. In the course of the dinner, the focus of the narrator's observations shifts and, affecting an absent-minded air, he trains a razor-sharp gaze on the hosts and their guests, the evening subtly turning into an opportunity to reconstruct the series of events that condemned him to life in a wheelchair. In the process, we also catch a glimpse of his own role – passive, silent, and yet chilling – in the tragic drowning of Georges' wife in their swimming pool.

In a décor that seems to take action, passivity turns out to be criminal. It is through training his gaze on others that this paralyzed man finds fulfillment and it is through his gaze that this story unfolds. At the dance of appearances, the game of seeing and being seen is a dangerous one.



### SETTING

A secure residential estate on a hillside overlooking the sea, on the edge of town

### MAIN CHARACTERS

The narrator, Male, early 40s  
Georges, Male, early 40s  
Susie Klausen, Female, late 40s

### RIGHTS GUIDE

Published in 2 countries:  
US (Lavender Ink/Dialogos,  
The Gardeners), Germany (Steidl,  
Die Heimsucher)

### PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL AVAILABLE

Bizot's first collection of short stories, *Les Sangliers* [The Wild Boar] (Stock, 2005) won the Renaissance short story prize in 2006. Her first novel, *Mon couronnement* [My Crowning Achievement] (Actes Sud, 2010), was awarded the Prix Lilas, the SGDL Grand Prix du Roman in 2010 and the Prix France-Québec Marie-Claire-Blais in 2012. In 2011, her second novel, *Un Avenir* [A Future], won the Prix du Style.

### FILM & TV REFERENCES

*Rear Window*, Hitchcock  
*The Swimmer*, Frank Perry

### FIND OUT MORE

A two-minute presentation by the filmmaker Patrice Leconte of Véronique Bizot's *Un avenir* and her style can be found here: <https://vimeo.com/40752595>.



Three individuals, who are down on life and short on cash, agree to test a laboratory's new drug. What if this pill could make you truly happy? What price would you be willing to pay?

## GUINEA PIGS

**LES COBAYES**

**NICOLAS BARRAL, TONINO BENACQUISTA**

PSYCHOLOGICAL DRAMA  
GRAPHIC NOVEL

Daniel, a chronic amnesiac, Moira, a failing artist, and Romain, a sexually frustrated young man, have nothing to lose and agree to test a new drug. Although the research protocol, led by Dr. Mirmont, is very strict and invasive, the promise of a juicy reward motivates them to hold on and complete the project. Confined to the facility for 21 days of observation, they become increasingly lucid and aware of their "mental blocks." At the end of this period, they have been psychologically tried to the extreme and are determined to fulfill their dreams. Six months later, Moira is a successful, world-renowned artist; the most influential women fight for the privilege to pay top dollar for Romain's luxury sexual services; and Daniel now enjoys perfect memory recall, which he uses to earn a living at gaming tables.

After discovering unexpected side effects, Dr. Mirmont tracks them down across the world and tries to make them see reason, but they are not ready to give up their new lives. That is until they are the targets of attempted homicide: a jealous husband wants to eliminate Romain; Moira's main collector knows that the value of her artwork will skyrocket at her death; and Daniel, who investigates the event behind his memory loss, finds himself face to face with his father's murderer.

Together, they decide to team up to exact their revenge. A high dose of the drug causes an irreversible change in behavior: all of the person's decisions will be motivated by altruism. By trapping their respective adversaries, they reverse the trend: the collector invests 95% of her assets in charity, Daniel's father's murderer runs to a police station to confess his crimes, and Romain's aggressor begins a group therapy on compulsive jealousy. Based on the fantastic results, the trio seizes the stock of pills and heads out to conquer the world in order to make it a better place.

A pharmaceutical crime thriller, a psychoanalytical novel, and a dark comedy based on our modern dependence on over-the-counter remedies, *Guinea Pigs* epitomizes Benacquista's raw talent and reveals the incredible destinies of three vibrant characters ... all with the help of one little pill.



### SETTING

A high-tech laboratory where the experiments take place, then moving the outside world

### MAIN CHARACTERS

Daniel Martinez, Male, 40s  
Romain Sanders, Male, 20s  
Moira Parchiby, Female, 20s

### RIGHTS GUIDE

Published in 3 languages: English (Europe Comics), Spanish (Ninth Comics), Italian (Editorial Aurea)

### PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL AVAILABLE

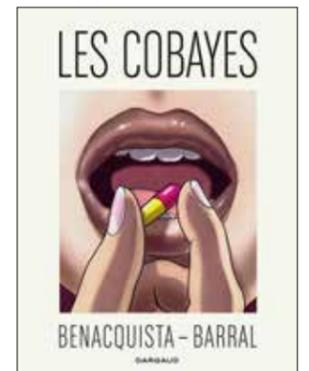
French Press Review  
English translation available -  
Contact us for more details

### FILM & TV REFERENCES

*Limitless* by Neil Burger,  
*The Firm* by Sydney Pollack

### FIND OUT MORE

Tonino Benacquista is one of the most celebrated French writers of his generation and his work has been adapted more than about ten times for the big screen by some of the industry's biggest names (Jacques Audiard, Luc Besson, Claude Berry). He is also the recipient of prestigious awards, including the César award for best screenplay for *Sur mes lèvres* (2001) and the César award for the best adaptation for *De battre mon cœur s'est arrêté* in 2006.



# MY FAMILY FOR THE WAR

## LIVERPOOL STREET

### ANNE C. VOORHOEVE

HISTORICAL - SAGA  
Y.A. NOVEL

Ziska is eleven years old when she arrives at the Liverpool Street train station in London, by herself. She is one of nearly 10,000 Jewish children fleeing the Nazis, without their parents, as part of an organized evacuation called the Kindertransport. Raised as a Protestant, Ziska is the child of an assimilated family. In London, she is placed with the Sheppards, an orthodox family and strangers to her with unknown ways and rituals. Early on, Ziska's daily life is consumed by her efforts to try to secure work and visas for her parents. However, World War II breaks out, ending any chance for Jews still in Germany to make it to safety in England. Just as Ziska, now called Frances, is adjusting, she is evacuated with hundreds of thousands of British children to the safer countryside. There, she stays with a new foster family who views her as a German enemy and treats her like a servant. When she returns to London, Frances and her foster mother run a small cinema while enduring bombings, blackouts, food shortages, and clothing rationing. They develop a warm relationship, each appreciating the other's spirit and resourcefulness. Only in 1944, after she has already been in London for many years, does Frances begin to learn details about the Holocaust from radio reports and through her friend Walter, whom she met on the Kindertransport and is now a soldier. Finally, at the end of the war, the Red Cross sends word that some of her family members have survived, including her mother who escaped to Holland. When they meet again after years of separation, they are strangers to each other. Franziska now feels at home with the Sheppards and her mother, once full of life, has become a suspicious and reproachful woman. Frances will stay in England and raise her own family, while keeping those she loves, but had to leave behind, forever in her memories.

**Liverpool Street is a powerful, moving story about the fate of child refugees. Although it is set in WW II, it offers insight into the heartbreaking current situation of tens of thousands of young refugees fleeing war and terror as well as their hopes, fears, challenges, and dreams.**



**SETTING.**  
Berlin, London, Holland

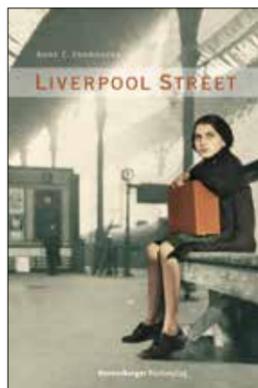
**MAIN CHARACTERS**  
Franziska Mangold, Female, child then young woman in her 20s  
Margot Sheppard, Female, 40s  
Walter Glücklich, Male, teen then young man

**RIGHTS GUIDE**  
Published in 7 languages: English (Dial books, *My Family for the War*), French (Bayard *Vis, et sois heureuse Ziska!*), Spanish (Paidós, *Liverpool Street*), Dutch (Callenbach, *Liverpool Street*), Danish (Turbine, *Liverpool Street*)

**PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL AVAILABLE**  
German, French, English press reviews available at: <https://cloud.ravensburger.ag/index.php/s/z681Mu7808uKUU0>  
Read the first chapter and an excerpt in English at: <https://cloud.ravensburger.ag/index.php/s/ZUHRz0rD6Gr8HMu>

**FILM & TV REFERENCES**  
*Au revoir les enfants* by Louis Malle  
*The Book Thief* by Brian Percival

**FIND OUT MORE**  
Winner of the Mildred L. Batchelder medal for Most Outstanding Children's Book in Translation (US)  
*Liverpool Street* was awarded the prestigious "Buxtehude Bulle" Award.



# STUPOR MUNDI

## STUPOR MUNDI

### NEJIB

ADVENTURE - THRILLER  
GRAPHIC NOVEL (ONE SHOT)

In a castle housing the most brilliant minds of Christendom, an Arab scientist takes refuge to complete an extraordinary invention. But will his peers accept the inconceivable?

Hannibal must flee Baghdad with his daughter Houde and their slave. His work on the camera oscura, photography's ancestor, attracted the ire of religious dignitaries that accused him of wanting to rival Allah. A fatwa was launched against him and his wife was murdered. They find refuge with Emperor Frederick II, called Stupor Mundi, who welcomes the greatest minds of the time to his castle in Apulia. Hannibal has come to complete his research. To do so, he relies on the precious aid of Houde, who has memorized the scientific texts that they could not bring along. On the other hand, she has forgotten the circumstances of her mother's death and has not been able to walk since that fateful day. At the castle, Hannibal's peers do not support him as he had hoped. Some of them are openly hostile to his research, which they deem diabolical, while others are more covertly opposed. Additionally, he is in a race against time: the emperor can be as generous as he can be cruel. His unpredictability is especially terrifying. Hannibal wins some time by presenting his work to the emperor, who sees it as a way to establish his authority if Hannibal successfully creates a Shroud of Turin that he will pretend to have brought back from a crusade. All of his rivals, including the pope, will acquiesce before this sign of divine approval. Except that the supposedly fixed image disappears. Hannibal must find the fixative formula that he lost while fleeing Baghdad. A chemistry treatise at the castle could help him, but his rivals, who are even more hostile toward his invention now that they know it could be used to fabricate the greatest lie of all time, steal it. The pope's invitation has been sent. Hannibal turns in circles. Houde, sensing that the key is locked in her memories, tries desperately to remember the circumstances surrounding her mother's death. Will they be ready in time?

**A scientific and religious thriller written in a streamlined caustic style, partially anchored in a historical reality. A breathless closed-off setting (huis clos) with numerous plot twists. Sub-plots ingeniously advance the plot. Complex and endearing characters.**



**SETTING**  
During the 13th century, in a castle in Apulia (Italy)

**MAIN CHARACTERS**  
Hannibal Qassim El Battouti, Male, 40s  
Houde, Female, child  
Emperor Frederick II, Male, 40s

**RIGHTS GUIDE**  
German translation in progress (Schreiber und Leser) to be published in Spring 2017.

**PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL AVAILABLE**  
A long-form summary in French and English languages  
A French language press review

**FILM & TV REFERENCES**  
*The Name of the Rose* by Jean-Jacques Annaud, adapted from Umberto Eco's novel, for the religious obscurantism, the closed-off setting, the plots, and the suspense.  
The HBO series *Games of Thrones* based on George R. R. Martin's saga, for the complex characters, the power games, and the ambiance.



# THE LORD OF THE BARNYARD, KILLING THE FATTED CALF AND ARMING THE AWARE IN THE CORNBELT

**LE SEIGNEUR DES PORCHERIES, LE TEMPS VENU  
DE TUER LE VEAU GRAS ET D'ARMER LE JUSTE**  
TRISTAN EGOLF

ACTION – DRAMA  
NOVEL

John Kaltenbrunner was the catalyst for the most dreadful crisis ever to hit the little city of Baker; a crisis that caused its very foundations to tremble. No one came out of it unscathed. Those who dwelt in the town, pious and proud to belong to an advanced civilization, committed acts of madness and violence that they would prefer to forget today. The authorities, incapable of coordinating their efforts to resolve the nexus of the problem, dealt at best with the emergencies and at worst, demonstrated disconcerting incompetence. The whole series of events began with the relatively modest demands of a handful of garbage collectors who went on strike when their requests were ignored. A decade later, the city of Baker is trying to rewrite the story and diminish its responsibility in the affair. The designated scapegoat is John Kaltenbrunner, now deceased, who worked on the road maintenance and sanitation crew and to whom his former colleagues remain profoundly grateful. The facts have been misrepresented in order to place the blame for the chaos that engulfed the little city for several weeks squarely on his shoulders and to deny that he was ever part of the community... lies that his former colleagues find intolerable. To reestablish the truth, they have decided to tell the story of John Kaltenbrunner's life, marked from early childhood by rotten luck and the refined violence of his community. They will also deal with the crisis itself, in all of its absurd excess. The result is the truly epic story of the most brilliant "hill scrub" the town of Baker has ever known.

The destiny of a man who finds a means of revenge against the community that has utterly neglected him takes on an almost mythical aspect, giving it a power that is nothing if not cinematographic.  
The narrative consists of a series of often comical scenes of real action.

**SETTING**  
In the 1990s (transposable) in Baker, a small city in the American Midwest

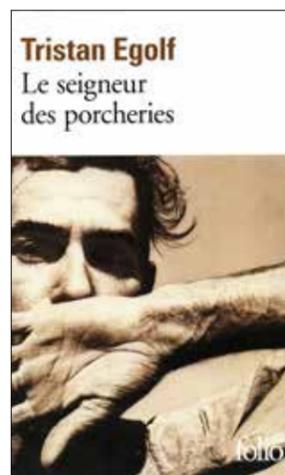
**MAIN CHARACTERS**  
John Kaltenbrunner, Male, 20s  
Hortense Allenbach, Female, 40s  
Jeffrey Kunstler, Male, 50s

**RIGHTS GUIDE**  
Published in 10 languages: English (Picador and Grove), German (Suhrkamp), Danish (Tiderne Skifter), Spanish (Mondadori Barcelona), Italian (Frassinelli)...

**PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL AVAILABLE**  
A long-form summary in English and French  
A French language press review

**FILM & TV REFERENCES**  
The cinema of Alejandro Inarritu for its haunting beauty, even in adversity and decline.

**FIND OUT MORE**  
To date, over 83,000 copies of the novel have been printed in France.



# THE SUMMER OF THE FIREFLIES

**L'ÉTÉ DES LUCIOLES**  
GILLES PARIS

LIFE STORY – ADVENTURE  
NOVEL

In the height of summer in sunny Cap-Martin, two boys explore the sumptuous villas of the area and experience an amazing and fantastic adventure.

At nine years of age, Victor is an extraordinary boy. With his poetic vision of the world, nothing escapes his observation; he scrutinizes the adult world and often discovers secrets they try to hide from him!  
He knows, for example, that if his 14-year-old sister, Alicia, is afraid of not meeting the right boy, it's because their father, François, has gone to live in Paris! And if his father left them with their mother, it's because he refuses to grow up and prefers to live a carefree life while the bills pile up. Victor's mother, Claire, can't bear her husband's behavior and she now lives with Pilar, an Argentinian woman who is also a painter... Although Victor likes his second mom a lot, he misses his dad and would love it if one day they could all go on vacation together to Cap-Martin in the south of France.  
That summer, he meets Tom and Nathan, a strange set of twins, who, although they are the same age as him, seem to have an extensive knowledge of the villas that dot the coastline. And strangely enough, they never seem to get a tan despite the blazing sun...  
Victor also meets other characters staying in the resort, such as the distinguished Baroness Hedwige, who has spent her holidays there for almost 30 years! Thanks to her, Victor finally understands why his father never wants to come to Cap-Martin: when he was very young, he used to go on vacation there with his sister, but one year, he saw a child drown. This tragic event haunts him and prevents him from growing up... This dramatic episode is confirmed by the twins... who even reveal to Victor that not one but two children drowned! They are sure of it because they are the dead boys! Tom and Nathan are actually ghosts who returned, just for one summer, to free Victor's father from his guilt.  
Finally, he has the opportunity to move on: after Alicia tells him about the ghost twins, he decides to come to Cap-Martin... just in time to save Victor from drowning!

A world full of tenderness and poetry, with a touch of supernatural...  
The second masterpiece by Gilles Paris, L'été des lucioles brings together the same elements that made the adaptation of My Life as a Courgette such a success.

**SETTING MAXIMUM 120 CHARACTERS, INCLUDING SPACES**  
Coming-of-age fiction  
Discovery of life, love and friendship  
Children's wisdom

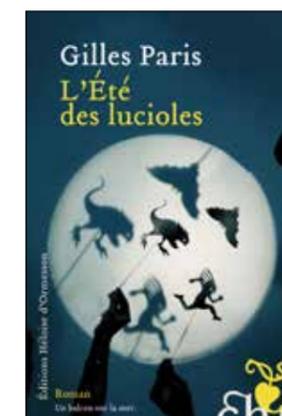
**MAIN CHARACTERS**  
Victor Beaugard, Male, Child  
Gaspard Clerget, Male, Child  
Alicia, Female, Child

**RIGHTS GUIDE**  
Translation in German: Berlin/Bloomsbury.

**FILM & TV REFERENCES**  
A novel by Gilles Paris has already been adapted into a full-length animation film: *Ma Vie de Courgette* (*My Life as a Courgette*), adapted from his book *Autobiographie d'une Courgette*, which won many awards.

**AWARDS AND NOMINATIONS:**  
In 2016, *My Life as a Courgette* received the Cristal award for Best Feature Film and the audience award at the International Animation Film Festival in Annecy.  
2016 French-Language Film Festival in Angoulême: Valois de diamant.  
2016 San Sebastian International Film Festival: Best European Film.  
2016 Namur International French-Language Film Festival: Bayard d'Or for the Best Photography for David Toutevoix.  
Official selection for the 2016 LUX prize awarded by the European Parliament.  
Nomination as a Swiss film at the 89th Academy Awards in the "Foreign Language Film" category

**FIND OUT MORE**  
Gilles Paris has received numerous awards:  
Cœur France award in 2012  
Roman de la ville d'Aumale award in 2012  
Goncourt Readers' award in 2012  
Folire award in 2012  
Plume d'Or award in 2013



◆ In 1934, lured by compelling stories of the Arctic, a woman joins her husband from Austria to the isolated area of Spitsbergen. Her memoir is the overwhelming testimony of the mysterious fascination of an unknown land.

## A WOMAN IN THE POLAR NIGHT

### EINE FRAU ERLEBT DIE POLARNACHT

CHRISTIANE RITTER

ADVENTURE – BIOPIIC  
TESTIMONY

In 1934, Christiane Ritter travelled from Austria to the Arctic to join her husband, an explorer and researcher. For Ritter, “the Arctic was just another word for freezing and forsaken solitude,” but she was lured by her husband’s compelling stories of “journeys over ice, the fascination of the wilderness, and [...] the illumination of one’s self in the remoteness of the polar night.” Spitsbergen was the largest wilderness area in Europe and a place where the human footprint is minimal. In this mesmerizing tale, more gripping than any adventure novel, the author describes her year in a bleak tarpaulin-covered hut, sixty miles from their nearest neighbor. She writes matter-of-factly about survival in frigid temperatures, overwhelming beauty, encounters with wildlife, treks over frozen fjords, and a new-found awareness of the sanctity of life.

◆ At a time when a woman’s place was at home, our protagonist leaves her comfortable surroundings to travel to the end of the earth. Christiane Ritter’s memoir is just as suitable for the screen as Karen Blixen’s, Gertrude Bell’s, or Dian Fossey’s extraordinary lives.

◆

#### SETTING

Austria  
Transfer from Hamburg, Germany to Ny-Ålesund, Norway  
Spitsbergen, situated more than 400 miles north of Norway

#### MAIN CHARACTERS

Christiane Ritter, Female, 36  
Hermann Ritter, Male, 40s  
Karl, Male, about 20s

#### RIGHTS GUIDE

Published in 5 languages: English (Greystone), German (PropyläenVerlag, *Eine Frau erlebt die Polarnacht*), Spanish (Ed. Herrero, *Una mujer en la noche polar*), French (Denoël, *Une femme dans la nuit polaire*)

#### PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL AVAILABLE

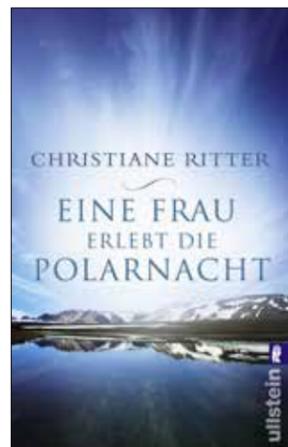
Full English translation  
Read an excerpt in English at [https://www.amazon.de/Woman-Polar-Night-Christiane-Ritter/dp/1602231001/ref=sr\\_1\\_2?ie=UTF8&qid=1480943943&sr=8-2&keywords=a+woman+in+the+polar+night](https://www.amazon.de/Woman-Polar-Night-Christiane-Ritter/dp/1602231001/ref=sr_1_2?ie=UTF8&qid=1480943943&sr=8-2&keywords=a+woman+in+the+polar+night)

#### FILM & TV REFERENCES

*Out Of Africa*  
*Gorillas In The Mist*  
*Queen Of The Desert*  
*Nobody Wants The Night*

#### FIND OUT MORE

A bestseller since 1937



## MORE BOOKS

◆

◆

# THE BACKWARD SUMMER

L'ÉTÉ CONTRAIRE

YVES BICHET

COMEDY  
DRAMA  
NOVEL

A retired and grumpy military man, a baron from provincial aristocracy, a former bank employee and deacon, and a joyful, loving girl nicknamed “the Podgy”: this quartet of friends, protected by Clemence, the sweet nurse, used to climb over the wall of their retirement home to go to the Vals-les-Bains casino. However, one day, the runaways are exposed and Clemence is dismissed. The three more robust friends join Clemence aboard the pickup of the residence’s young janitor, Douss Blida. Drunk on freedom and equipped with stolen food thanks to fake firearms, the runaways head to the North. Since it is summertime and the heat is scorching, they stock up on bottles of water and spray bottles that they freely distribute in all the retirement homes they find on their way. Whereas the media applaud them, the authorities struggle to find the proper official stance regarding these unusual outlaws. At the same time, the heat wave seems never-ending and food supplies are sorely lacking in the supermarkets. When young people in the suburbs discover that the shortage is being orchestrated by large retailers, they decide to plunder the stock and redistribute the goods. These “distributive hold-ups” quickly spread across the country. Our retired heroes become icons. The troop is completed by young people, non-conformists, or tourists that they meet on the road and forms a bohemian, heterogeneous, and joyful assembly that sets up camp in Saint-Juste’s natural caves. After the death of Vignaud in Gigi’s arms, the police end up finding them. However, in the euphoria of their budding love and their feelings of accomplishment, Clemence and Douss let themselves be arrested, under torrential rains that announce the end of this murderous heat wave.

This epic and burlesque tale keeps you on the edge of your seat with surprises around every corner. Yves Bichet invites us on a tender and intergenerational trip with zany and endearing characters.



## SETTING

The often unsuspected lucidity and humour of the seniors  
The huge potential of the solidarity between generations, which overstep social and cultural divides faced to social issues

The need of love and tenderness of everybody at any age.

## MAIN CHARACTERS

Jean-Denis de la Croix, Male, over 70s  
Clovis Barbanson, Male, over 70s  
Vignaud, Male, over 70s

## RIGHTS GUIDE

To be published in Italy (Bompiani) in September 2017.

## PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL AVAILABLE

French press reviews  
English synopsis  
English sample

## FILM & TV REFERENCES

*The Hundred-Year-Old Man Who Climbed Out the Window and Disappeared* (*Hundraåringen som klev ut genom fönstret och försvann*) by Felix Herngren  
*Adieu Berthe ou l'enterrement de mémé* by Denis Podalydès

## FIND OUT MORE

Yves Bichet has written several poetry collections and novels, including *La Part animale* (Nord-Isère Prize), *Resplandy* and *L'Homme qui marche* (shortlisted for Femina Prize 2014). *L'été contraire* (shortlisted for Renaudot Prize 2015) is his tenth novel.  
*La Part animale* was adapted to cinema in 2007 by Sébastien Jaudeau and was listed for Festival de Cannes 2007.



Having just received the Nobel Prize for Literature, Bob Dylan’s life is recounted through his songs and poems.

# BOB DYLAN: POET OF HIS OWN LIFE

BOB DYLAN – POÈTE DE SA VIE  
JEAN-DOMINIQUE BRIERRE

BIOPIC  
BIOGRAPHY

During his life, Bob Dylan has never stopped playing with genres: the spiritual son of Woody Guthrie, the committed folk singer, the dazzling rock star, the attentive father, the Jesus freak, or even the crooner, all without ever giving up his taste for freedom, his sense of humor, and his subversive spirit. All of these images have forged a legend, which he uses to keep people guessing. However, behind the myth hides one of the major artists of the last fifty years, the author of more than five hundred songs who has been perpetually touring the world for a quarter of a century.

Singer and musician, but also painter, filmmaker, and writer, Dylan is above all a poet. Based on his work and interviews given from 1962 to 2015, Jean-Dominique Briere dispels all the clichés surrounding this artist. Put in perspective and assembled like a film, songs, poems, and quotes give insight into Dylan’s world; a chronological and thematic journey that notably questions his relationship to women, cinema, religion, and the stage.



Since Bob Dylan received the Nobel Prize, the question has constantly been asked: why give the Nobel Prize in Literature to a singer? This book answers this question and shows that Bob Dylan is above all an exceptional poet with a multi-faceted life.



## SETTING

- The construction of an artistic sensibility  
- The man behind the myth  
- The artist’s relationship to fame

## MAIN CHARACTERS

Bob Dylan, Male, Child, Teenager, 20s, 30s, 40s, 50s, 60s, 70s, over 70s  
Woody Guthrie, Male, 20s, 30s, 40s, 50s, 60s

## RIGHTS GUIDE

Published in Chinese (China South Book, 2016)

## PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL AVAILABLE

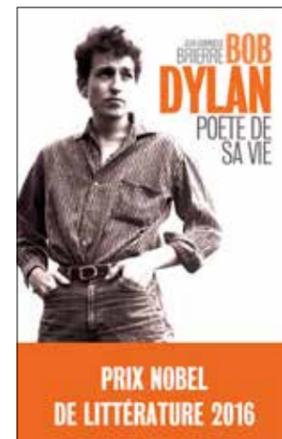
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GQP\\_JaUVjk8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GQP_JaUVjk8)

## FILM & TV REFERENCES

*I'm Not There* by Todd Haynes (2007)

## FIND OUT MORE

Jean-Dominique Briere began writing this book in 2015, after Dylan’s name was first mentioned for the Nobel Prize for Literature. Faced with the criticisms of a public that considered Dylan to be only a singer, he decided to write a book to illustrate how he is above all a poet, and a great poet at that. A year later, the Nobel Committee proved him right!



◆ A French-style road trip led by an endearing duo and a host of zany characters. The humanist, comical, and moving story of a father and his autistic son's fugue and their quest for happiness.

## THE GREEN CITROËN 2CV

LA 2CV VERTE  
MANU CAUSSE

DRAMEDY  
NOVEL

Isaac is a particular and vacant child who suffers from autism. Periodically, he comes to life and yells for no apparent reason. Since his birth, his parents have slowly destroyed one another with their bitterness and guilt. Their marriage did not survive. Isaac's father, Eric Dubon, an unemployed artist, is exhausted and lost. His son's state reminds him of his solitude and failures. Between his depressing visits to the institution and his domineering and vindictive ex-wife's threats, his life is a mess. Everything changes following his uncle's death when he inherits an old, green 2CV – the car he grew up in and in which his parents had their deadly accident. Isaac is immediately fascinated by this funny little car and light comes back into his eyes. Eric, who is afraid of losing his visitation rights, decides to kidnap Isaac from his institutional prison and at the same time, flee from his own ghosts. Together, they embark on a crazy escapade during which they meet characters as zany as they are endearing. Chased by a very clever policeman, who is also a mushroom enthusiast, the duo meets Paco and his father, big-hearted gypsies with strong personalities; a group of 2CV fans; and Marion, a lost teen working as a waitress in an inn who befriends our two outlaws. Little by little, the policeman uncovers the secrets in Eric's past and realizes that he may be dealing with a suicidal trip. Eric, who is haunted by his son's handicap and the death of his parents for which he feels responsible, harbors dark thoughts and often entertains the idea of a liberating death. When their travels bring them close to a mountain lake, Eric takes Isaac on a hike, set on a joint drowning. The policeman finds them at the last second and with Marion's help, prevents them from committing the irrevocable. Eric realizes his drastic mistake and the policeman gets the charges against him dropped.

◆ Still rare in cinema, the strong themes of autism and parent/handicapped-child relationships move and incite reflection. This French-style Rain Man offers an original angle that is funny, realistic, and loving as well as a humanist take on parents torn between guilt, despair, and love.

◆

### SETTING

Paris and the region around Carcassonne, including an inn in the mountains

### MAIN CHARACTERS

Eric Dubon, Male, 40s  
Isaac Dubon, Male, Child  
The policeman, Male, 50s

### RIGHTS GUIDE

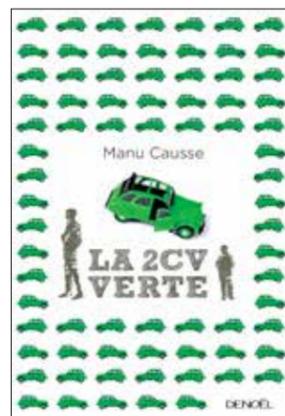
Germany (Droemer), Italy (Mauri Spagnol/Nord), Netherlands (Signatuur/AW Bruna), Greece (Utopia)

### PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL AVAILABLE

French press reviews

### FILM & TV REFERENCES

Rain Man by Barry Levinson  
I am Sam by Jessie Nelson



◆ In this masterpiece of popular fiction, monstrous trains, domed-cities, and rail dictatorships blend together to form the most amazing dogma: railway totalitarianism!

## THE ICE COMPANY

LA COMPAGNIE DES GLACES  
G.-J. ARNAUD

ADVENTURE - SCI-FI  
NOVEL

A new ice age has hit the earth and the entire planet is covered with a thick layer of ice. Fortunately, the Railway Company has developed an immense network around which is crowded what remains of a frozen... and submissive humanity. In order not to lose its power, the Rail Company forbids any progress that would allow mankind to live without the rail network and woe to those, like Lien Rag, who dare to defy their authority! Persecuted by the Railway Company and living in a hostile climate, Lien Rage is nevertheless determined to free humanity from this miserable existence...

◆ Released two years before *Snowpiercer*, *La Compagnie des Glaces* is a cult series of novels that has attracted more than 1.5 million readers since it was published.

◆

### SETTING

The struggle of one man against an authoritarian political power. The creative and baroque genius of humans bent on survival.

### MAIN CHARACTERS

Lien Rag, Male, 30s  
FloaSadon, Female, 20s  
Lieutenant then Colonel Skoll, Male, 30s

### RIGHTS GUIDE

English (Hollywood Comics)

### PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL AVAILABLE

Adapting *La Compagnie des Glaces* will guarantee reaching several generations: since the release of the first volume in 1982, this work, which has been constantly reprinted, has become cult and has sold more than 1.5 million copies. The outlandish world created by G.-J. Arnaud combines adventure, action, horror, and eroticism without ever losing the reader's attention, all the while describing in minute detail a fascinating dystopia.

### FILM & TV REFERENCES

*Snowpiercer* by Joon-ho Bong (2013)

### FIND OUT MORE

A television adaptation - today free of all forms of copyright (cinema, film, animation)  
Grand prix de la science-fiction française in 1982  
Apollo award in 1988  
George-Jean Arnaud has also received numerous literary awards for his other publications.



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◆ Jun Sang, a little boy in the communist “paradise” of North Korea, has no idea that anything is “off” and reveres Kim Jong-Il, but as he grows up, he will discover the other side of the coin.

## KIM JONG-IL'S BIRTHDAY

L'ANNIVERSAIRE DE KIM JONG-IL  
AURÉLIEN DUCOUDRAY (WRITER) & MÉLANIE ALLAG (ARTIST)

DRAMA - HISTORICAL  
GRAPHIC NOVEL (ONE SHOT)

Jun Sang, a little 8-year-old boy living in North Korea with his parents and his sister Kyung Soon, is proud of his country and would not want to live anywhere else in the world, especially not with those “puppets from the South” or those “American dogs” that his school books warn him about. The leader of a patriotic youth group, he loves to play revolutionary soldier with his best friends Kim Hong and Chol Su. The boys venerate their country's leader, Kim Jong-il, the only person in the country to celebrate his birthday. Almost. Jun Sang, who was born the same day, likes to think that once a year, the party is partially for him too. For Jun Sang, things could not be better, until the day when the image maintained by the regime's propaganda begins to fall apart. Why is this perfect regime unable to end the famine that has brought the country to its knees for the last several months? Desperate, Jun Sang's family has no choice but to flee for the South by way of China for a better future. Arrested at the border, they will pay dearly for their betrayal to the homeland and are sent to the Yodok prisoner camp where torture and executions become routine for Jun Sang. Little by little, the boy loses all remnants of his innocence and discovers the reality that the regime tries so hard to conceal.

Their liberation, which is accompanied by the news of the death of Jun Sang's father, is joyless. The family is still closely monitored and has no future in this country. Still determined despite everything, Jun Sang will successfully flee with his sister and thanks to a priest running an association of South Koreans operating illegally in China, will once again envision a future and discover his calling. At 16 years of age, Jun Sang decides that he will come to the aid of other refugees; a way of sorts for him to take his revenge.

◆ A personal and well-documented album on the last major dictatorship inspired by communism.

A deeply moving story told from the perspective of a child. Jun Sang's naïve view and youth help to avoid the pitfall of indicting the regime and help us to understand the population's daily life.

◆

### SETTING

North Korea, in the 90s.

### MAIN CHARACTERS

Jun Sang, Male, Child  
Chin Gyong, Female, Child  
Kyung Soon, Female, Teenager

### RIGHTS GUIDE

Published in Spanish (Astiberri)

### PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL AVAILABLE

French reviews

### FILM & TV REFERENCES

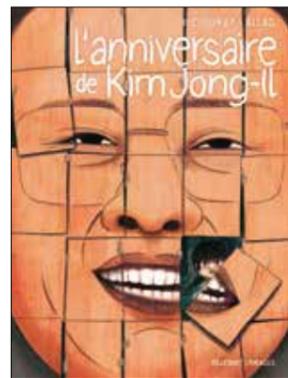
*The Way I Spent the End of the World* by Cătălin Mitulescu (2006).

*Life is Beautiful* by Roberto Benigni (1998)

### FIND OUT MORE

Recipient of the Nouvelle République award

Shortlisted for the Pépites de Montreuil 2016



◆ If you knew you had only moments to live, what would you say to the person you love most in this world? For Marie, the message is simple: “I love you. I was on my way.”

## THE MESSAGE

LE MESSAGE  
ANDRÉE CHEDID

DRAMA - PSYCHOLOGICAL SUSPENSE  
NOVEL

In a city ravaged by war, Marie walks toward the bridge where her lover, Steph, is waiting for her. The risks are high in this razed neighborhood of destroyed buildings. The sun beats down and time stands still. Twenty minutes away from the bridge, a bullet rips through the air and into her back. Despite the excruciating pain, she stubbornly urges her body forward, inch by inch, until she falls to the ground. “If you are not there after an hour of waiting, I'll know that it is really over,” Steph had written in his letter. She must get the message to Steph that she loves him and that she was on her way.

When an elderly couple, Anton and Anya, fleeing the city passes by, it takes all of Marie's strength to cry for help. After reading Steph's letter, they understand Marie's urgency. While Anton attempts to care for Marie, his wife, Anya, runs to the bridge as quickly as she can. Once at the bridge, however, all is chaos. Despite Anya's attempts to push her way through the crowd of panicked refugees and call out to Steph, he does not see or hear her and jumps aboard a departing bus. Meanwhile, Anton is confronted by another young man, Gorgio, whose weapon indicates that he is a sniper. When Gorgio sees Marie's pale face, his façade of bravado dissipates and he runs to look for help. While Anton and Anya keep the illusion alive for the young woman on the brink of death, Steph realizes that there may be a different reason explaining why Marie did not come to the bridge. Disregarding the passengers' cries and the bus driver's insults, he pushes his way to the front of the bus and jumps out the door. Once on the ground, he begins running toward Marie's neighborhood.

Will Steph reach Marie in time? And was Gorgio the author of this violent and senseless act? In this breathless race against the clock, the answers are not always what we want to hear.

◆ In addition to the story's streamlined simplicity allowing for rich exploration of the characters' psychology and human relationships during times of war, the fact that the story could take place anywhere opens up unlimited possibilities of adaptation.

◆

### SETTING

An unnamed, war-torn country on the Mediterranean during a few hours in a contemporary era

### MAIN CHARACTERS

Marie, Female, 30s  
Steph, Male, 30s

### RIGHTS GUIDE

*The Message* has been translated and published in Serbian by Narodna Kultura and in Chinese by the Taiwanese publisher Locus Publishing Company.

### PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL AVAILABLE

French press reviews available on request

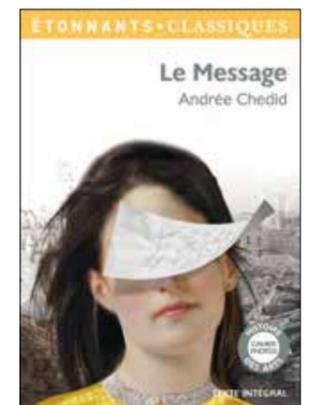
### FILM & TV REFERENCES

*A Very Long Engagement* (original title: *Un Long dimanche de fiançailles*), directed by Jean-Pierre Jeunet for its poetry, the context of war, and the driving force of passionate love.

### FIND OUT MORE

Two of Andrée Chédid's novels have been adapted for cinema: *Le Sixième Jour* [*The Sixth Day*] in 1986 by Youssef Chahine and *L'Autre* [*The Other*] in 1990 by Bernard Giraudeau.

In 2002, the Scène du Balcon company prepared a theatrical reading of *The Message* performed by Judith Magre in Deauville and in 2010, the Charles Dullin Théâtre Vivant company staged the text (staging by Claudie Bertin). Numerous companies regularly perform readings of excerpts.



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◆ Disability, accident, writing, tolerance, courage, haiku, softness, music, arts, first love, friendship

## THE SOBS OF THE VIOLIN

VIVRE EN CORPS  
GENEVÈVE TURLAIS

DRAMA - TESTIMONY  
YOUNG ADULT AND ADULT NOVEL

After an accident, Guillemette's life becomes completely different and she must give up many things, a prospect that is very difficult. First, she will feel anger, rebellion, and refusal. Then she will accept her handicap, accept the way others look at her, and finally accept to look at herself. Thanks to writing, she will finally find a new life among her fellow human beings.

◆

Because it speaks about a difficult subject: disability. Between laughs and tears, the reader discovers the importance of the small things in daily life. We learn about courage, tolerance, and hope.

◆

### SETTING

Nowadays, in a town, in a center for disabled people, in a family setting.

### MAIN CHARACTERS

Guillemette, Female, Teenager  
Guillaume, Male  
Guillemette's family: one sister, one brother, 40s  
The physiotherapist in the reeducation center, 30s

### RIGHTS GUIDE

Published in Korean by Hanulim Publishing Co

### FILM & TV REFERENCES

*De toutes nos forces* by Nils Tavernier for paralysis of children, the courage of a family  
*Million Dollar Baby* by Clint Eastwood for anger, revolt, and acceptance of a disability  
*Intouchables* by Eric Toledanoet Olivier Nakache for the importance of friendship and the way others look at disabled individuals  
*Finding Forrester* by Gus Van Sant for the importance of writing in healing

### FIND OUT MORE

Selected for the Handi price  
3 smiles in the National French Library magazine



◆ In a Nicaragua in the throes of revolution, a young seminarian must lead his rebellion and confront his own desires and humanity. Will he be able to bear the weight of his mistakes?

## MUCHACHO

MUCHACHO  
EMMANUEL LEPAGE

HISTORICAL - DRAMA  
GRAPHIC NOVEL

Gabriel, a young seminarian and talented painter, is sent to a pro-revolutionary village at the edge of the jungle to undertake a mural fresco. Faced with the villagers tormented by the military junta, he understands the privileges that he has enjoyed, protected by the Church and his father's connections. Rejected by the inhabitants due to his family name, Gabriel learns to draw them every evening from the church bell tower where he takes refuge: scenes of daily life and acts of revolution... nothing escapes him. His sketchbook pages also prominently feature sketches of Diego, whose beauty disturbs Gabriel. During a routine check, Gabriel is stopped by the junta and his sketchbook and drawings of Diego are discovered. The commander threatens to expose his secrets to his family and to the Church if he refuses to denounce the communists in the village. Terrorized, Gabriel complies, but immediately regrets his decision. Back in the village turned battlefield, Gabriel runs away from his father who has come to take him home and goes deep into the jungle. Lost and injured, he is miraculously found by a group of revolutionaries that he joins using a false identity. Hounded by the army sent by his father, the small troop begins a long trek through the jungle to reach a secure bastion. Sicknesses, injuries, internal tensions, and a hostile environment: they are spared nothing. Yet, in the midst of the danger, Gabriel finally finds himself. The observant adolescent becomes a man, a subject in his own right, and the master of his emotions. Ready to do anything for the cause, he will go so far as to trade his own freedom for that of a leader, incidentally also sacrificing a first budding romance. Only once the revolution begins will he be reunited with his companions in arms and also understand the burden of his sexuality which he will accept, just like his new life.

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An epic and sensual tale of initiation that touches upon a multitude of universal themes: love, politics, religion, courage, redemption... all by telling the thrilling story of a man's coming of age in the depths of the jungle and in the midst of guerilla warfare.

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### SETTING

Set in the turbulent and devastating period of the mid to late 1970s in Nicaragua

### MAIN CHARACTERS

Gabriel de Serna, Male, Teenager  
Father Ruben, Male, 50s  
Concepcion, Female, 30s

### RIGHTS GUIDE

Published in 9 languages: English (Europe Comics), Chinese (Beijing total Vision Culture), Italian (Alessandro SRL), Portuguese (Edicoes ASA II), German (Carlsen Verlag), Spanish (Glenat Ediciones/Anama Ediciones), Danish (Forlaget Cobolt), Croatian (Naklada Fibra), Japanese (Euromanga)

### PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL AVAILABLE

French press reviews  
English translation available;  
Contact us for more details  
Read the first page in English at <http://www.europecomics.com/album/muchacho-v1/>

### FILM & TV REFERENCES

No by Pablo Larrain; *Ché* by Steven Soderberg

### FIND OUT MORE

Originally a diptych, *Muchacho* has received some of the biggest international awards for comics: Cheverny Award for historical comics at the Rendez-vous de l'histoire in Blois 2004  
*The Eléphant d'Or* award for the best album at the Chambéry Festival 2004  
Award for the best album at the Solliès-Ville Festival 2004  
*The Saint Michel* award for best illustration in Belgium 2005  
Award for the comic the most adaptable to film at the Monaco Film Festival 2007  
Award for the best foreign album, Amadora Festival, Portugal, 2008  
Excellency Award at the Japan Media Arts in Tokyo 2013



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◆ In the space of a few minutes, the life of Jamal, a young disabled man, is nightmarishly turned upside down... Accused of a triple murder, he faces a long struggle to prove his innocence.

## NEVER FORGET

N'OUBLIER JAMAIS

MICHEL BUSSI

PSYCHOLOGICAL THRILLER  
NOVEL

The cliffs of Yport, Normandy. Very early one morning, Jamal, a young man who has a steel leg, is out training as he prepares to one day become the first one-legged man to cross the finishing line of the Ultra-Trail on Mont Blanc.

As he dreams of his future exploits, he comes across a beautiful Burberry red wool scarf on his route. Delighted with his find, he continues with his run, but a few yards further on, he spots a human figure on the edge of the cliff. He moves nearer and realizes that it is a very beautiful young woman, a woman whose feet are already hovering over the void - it looks like she is about to jump... Jamal's spontaneous reflex is to throw her the scarf which he has just picked up, hoping that she will grab onto it and that he can pull her back to safety. The stranger catches hold of it, appears to hesitate, and jumps.

Despite his disability, Jamal hurries down to the beach at the foot of the cliff. When he gets there, two other people are already standing by the body: Denise, an old lady who was out walking her dog, and Christian le Medef, a depressive loner out on his morning walk.

But something is very wrong: the dead woman lying on the pebbles has the red Burberry scarf wrapped around her neck, which is just not possible...

As Jamal is the only witness, he becomes the main suspect and is accused of having pushed her. So begins a prolonged descent into hell as the young man strives to prove his innocence.

◆ **Michel Bussi excels in the art of suspense and psychological manipulation. He keeps the reader on tenterhooks and keeps the surprises coming right up until the end with the help of an impressively complex plot. This is a goldmine of material for a film adaptation!**

◆

### SETTING

Nowadays, Yport (Normandy)

### MAIN CHARACTERS

Jamal Salaoui, Male, 30s  
Mona Salines, Female, 30s  
Inspector Piroz, Male, 60s

### RIGHTS GUIDE

Rights sold in 8 languages:  
Germany (Aufbau), UK (Weidenfeld & Nicolson), Spain (Penguin Random House), Italy (E/O Edizioni), Korea (Sweet Books)

### PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL AVAILABLE

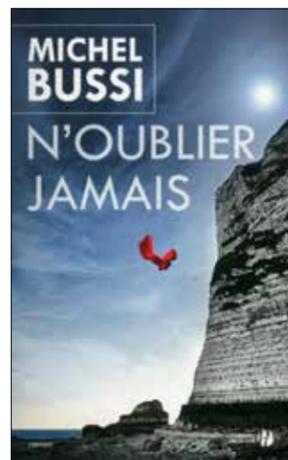
French and foreign press reviews available  
Full German and Spanish translations available

### FILM & TV REFERENCES

*North by Northwest* by Alfred Hitchcock  
*Murder on the Orient Express* by Sidney Lumet

### FIND OUT MORE

More than 400,000 copies sold  
Michel Bussi is France's #2 bestselling author of 2016



◆ Sarah, an eccentric lady, tries to convince a young doctor in despair not to give up on life. She has 7 days to do so. Let the final countdown begin.

## NEVER BE SAD AGAIN

ALORS VOUS NE SEREZ PLUS JAMAIS TRISTE

BAPTISTE BEAULIEU

COMEDY - DRAMEDY  
NOVEL

This is the story of an eccentric 65-year-old woman cabdriver named Sarah. She claims to possess a gift: when she looks into people's eyes, she can predict the exact moment of their death. Then, one day, when she picks up a 40-year-old man, she feels that he's going to die. Indeed, the man is a surgeon who has lost all interest in life since his wife's death.

Sarah offers him a deal: since he has nothing to lose, why not take 30 days to reconsider his decision? He finally agrees to grant her 7 days.

For one week, Sarah takes the man along everywhere she goes, helping him to rediscover all the beauty of life and of his trade. The man finds himself jogging in the snow in a cemetery, invited to a fancy restaurant where he isn't allowed to order a crumb of food, shooting at pumpkins... She tells him stories, she sings his favorite song, and she always seems to guess everything about him... The seven days come an end. By now Sarah and the man have created a very special and strong relationship.

However, the surgeon has not changed his mind. Just as he is about to cross the point of no return, the phone rings. He picks it up. A young woman informs him that Sarah is dead and that she left something for him. When he gets to her house, he recognizes all the people they met over the week who were actually members of her family. They give him a beautiful letter that she wrote for him describing how she met his wife at the hospital and how they became very close friends. They had promised each other that whoever would die first would take care of the other's family. The surgeon's wife had given Sarah all kinds of useful tips to convince her husband, who she knew would be desperate, to spend some time with her. With the letter, the man finds a passport and a new identity allowing him to reinvent himself, here or somewhere else.

◆ **This heart-wrenching modern fairy tale will make you cry your eyes out and laugh at the same time. It is a deeply moving and original story. It will be a perfect feel good movie with very charismatic characters.**

◆

### SETTING

France, in a big city. Could take place in any big city in the world.

### MAIN CHARACTERS

Lady Sarah Madeline Titiana Elizabeth van Kokelicöten (aka Sarah), Female, 60s  
The Doctor (nicknamed Mark or Teddy Bear by Sarah), Male, 40s

### RIGHTS GUIDE

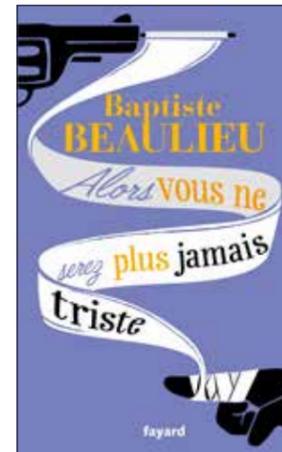
Published in 7 languages: English (Rajpal & Sons, India), German (Fischer Verlag), Spanish (Grijalbo), Polish (Amber), Korean (Book 21 Publishing), Hebrew (Sifriat Poalim), Hindi (Rajpal & Sons)  
Promotional material available  
French and foreign press reviews  
First few chapters in English

### FILM & TV REFERENCES

*The Game* directed by David Fincher  
*The Bucket List* by Rob Reiner

### FIND OUT MORE

Never Be Sad Again was awarded the 2016 Prix Méditerranéen des Lycéens. The pocket book edition was released in August 2016. 50,000 copies have been sold in France so far.



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◆ After experiencing the horrors of war in Burma, Bowman is accused of murder. He sets off to track down the killer, an investigation that leads him into the slums of London and the heart of America's West.

## RETRIBUTION ROAD

TROIS MILLE CHEVAUX-VAPEUR

ANTONIN VARENNE

CRIME - LIFE STORY  
NOVEL

Arthur Bowman, a young sergeant of about thirty, gets captured while on a secret English expedition in Burma. For a year, he and his ten men are held captive and tortured, then finally and miraculously get out alive. Back in London, Bowman becomes a policeman. For a little extra cash, he agrees to beat someone up... but the guy dies a few hours later. He finds himself accused of the crime and decides to carry out his own counter-investigation. He's convinced the killer is one of the men from his expedition. He finds their addresses and goes to see them, but they're all either dead or insane. All that is except Penders, who left the country for America, and Peevish, a pastor who convinces Bowman of his innocence. Bowman gives up and learns to enjoy life again (he takes up fishing), until he learns the pastor has immigrated to America. Bowman sets off for the New World on the trail of the murderer, although he still doesn't know who it is. Tormented by guilt and his psychological wounds from the war, he finally sees hope for redemption. He discovers the America of the pioneers, in full westward expansion. His investigation leads him into the hills of the Midwest where he meets Alexandra, a French woman and for the first time ever, he imagines sharing his life with someone. He tracks down Peevish and together they set out in search of Penders, the other suspect, only to find him on his death bed. Bowman reads his journals and realizes he can't be the murderer either. Bowman feels his investigation has hit a dead end and abandons it to start a family with Alexandra. Then one day, he sees a picture of an American politician, who turns out to be a man from his expedition who faked his death in England and has taken on a new identity. Bowman confronts him in a tense showdown and decides to let him live. As the Civil War rages, he returns home to look after his wife and daughter.

◆ **An epic and impressive story.**  
**The gradual metamorphosis of a cold and brutal ex-soldier into a human, sympathetic, upstanding man in search of a haven of peace.**  
**The lure of solitude and desire for truth, in reference to Henry David Thoreau's Walden.**

◆

### SETTING

Burma, England, America's Wild West

### MAIN CHARACTERS

Arthur Bowman, Male, 40s  
Peevish, the pastor, Male 40s  
Alexandra, Female, 30s

### RIGHTS GUIDE

Published in English (MacLehose Press), German (C. Bertelsmann), Italian (Einaudi) and Hebrew (Kinneret ZmoraDvir)

### PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL AVAILABLE

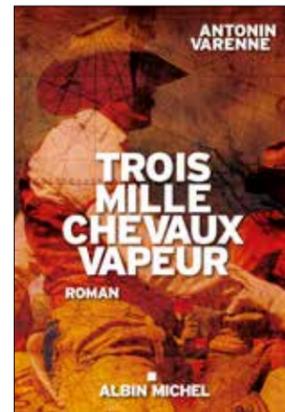
English translation

### FILM & TV REFERENCES

*True Grit* by the Coen Brothers (Western)  
*True Detective*, television series (older men returning to work)  
*The Deer Hunter* by M. Cimino (torture and scars)  
*There Will Be Blood* by P. T. Anderson (the battle for America's heart involving preachers, lawyers and businessmen)  
*No Country for Old Men*, by the Coen Brothers (manhunt in a neo-Western setting)  
Bowman: a role for Viggo Mortensen, Daniel Craig, or Sean Bean?

### FIND OUT MORE

Varenne's next novel, recently published in France, is a sequel entitled *Equator*.



◆ Clementine is 16. Up until now, her whole life has been about tennis. Is she doing it for herself or for her father? Meeting Remy puts everything into perspective.

## SIXTEEN LOVE

JEU DÉCISIF

THÉO CALMEJANE

DRAMA - ROMANCE  
GRAPHIC NOVEL (ONE SHOT)

Remy is a typical teenager. He spends his summer surfing and having fun with his friends Lucas and Noah. He meets Clementine and is charmed by this tennis hopeful. Remy quits surfing and takes up tennis. In his mission to find a way to spend as much time as possible with her, he strives to reach her level of play. Phillip, Clementine's widowed father, is raising her with one goal in mind: to create a champion, a promise he made to his wife, her mother, who was also a champion. Clementine's routine is demanding and rigorous and is the furthest thing from a regular teenager's care free existence. With Remy, she finds a bit of freedom. Seeing that she is getting distracted, Phillip intensifies her routine and eventually sends her as far away from Remy as he can to a strict tennis camp that is run with military discipline. Clementine starts to question what she is doing. What if there was more to life than tennis? Remy is really unhappy without Clementine. Lucas and Noah can't stand seeing him in such a state, so, in an attempt to bring them together again, they sign him up for a tournament in which they know Clementine is competing. Phillip fumes when he realizes that Remy is going to be at the tournament and when Clementine loses in the finals, he holds Remy responsible. To get revenge, he puts sleeping pills in his water bottle and Remy collapses on the court. When he wakes up, he is ready to do anything to get Clementine out of the training camp. Along with Lucas and Noah, they plan her escape. Betrayed by another student, Clementine is caught just as she reaches them and is taken back to the camp. The police discover that not only has Phillip drugged Remy, but Clementine's opponents as well. Clementine is expelled from the camp and is seriously questioning this way of life now more than ever. Is she really champion material? Unaware of all this, Remy is about to erase her number from his phone just as it rings. It's Clementine...

◆ **A story of coming of age and first love. This story touches on the principle issues that young adults face growing up: parental pressure, freewill, choices and their consequences, and, of course, friendship and love.**

◆

### SETTING

This contemporary story begins in summertime and lasts about a year. The location is undefined.

### MAIN CHARACTERS

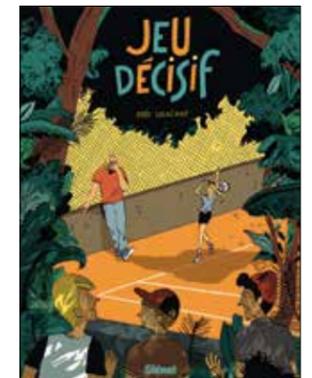
Rémy Calmejane, Male, Teenager  
Clémentine Beaumont, Female, Teenager  
Phillip Beaumont, Male, 40s

### RIGHTS GUIDE

Published in France in February 2017  
Full English translation available

### FILM & TV REFERENCES

*Wimbledon* (with Kirsten Dunst)  
*Moonrise Kingdom*  
*Garden State*  
*Camille Redouble*  
*La Boum*  
*Lol*



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25 years after the accident that left his father cranky and handicapped, Mick accompanies him on an extraordinary trip around the world during which they will finally get to know each other.

## WE WILL NEVER BE HEROES

NOUS NE SERONS JAMAIS DES HÉROS

FRÉDÉRIK SALSÉDO, OLIVIER JOUVRAY

Unemployed and without any real motivation, Mick loafs around on his couch waiting to know what to do with his life. At 32 years old, his professional experience is limited to a string of temporary jobs that only confirmed his lack of faith in humanity. However, being a misanthrope does not pay the bills that regularly threaten his peace of mind. His grandmother's death interrupts the monotony of his long days... For Mick and his hyperactive and workaholic sister, Christine, the funeral also means reconnecting with their father, whom they have constantly tried to avoid. Ever since the accident 25 years ago that left him cranky, handicapped, and a widower, Charles has only had words of contempt for his children whose life choices he does not understand.

Mick is understandably surprised when, shortly after the funeral, his father offers to pay him to go along on a trip around the world and to be his personal handyman! Despite his sister's bourgeois lack of understanding – she is especially concerned that the inheritance will go up in smoke – Mick reluctantly accepts to accompany Charles... for the money, which he desperately needs, but also to escape his monotonous life.

From Reunion Island to Finland and New York to Morocco, Mick's father takes him on an intense journey to the four corners of his memories. Between explosive fights, unusual confessions, and fundamental forgiveness, the two men will seek and find one another before saying goodbye one final time...



A bona fide tale of modern times, and one of the gems from Lombard's Signé collection, this poignant story moves us through its candor, charming dialogues, imperfect characters, a cleverly orchestrated rhythm, and a rare show of emotions.



### SETTING

With the story taking place on a trip around the world, there is no fixed setting.

### MAIN CHARACTERS

Charles Bansart, Male, 60s  
 Mick Bansart, Male, 30s  
 Christine Bansart, Female, 30s

### RIGHTS GUIDE

Published in 3 languages: English (Europe Comics), Spanish (Ninth Comics), Italian (Editorial Aurea)

### PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL AVAILABLE

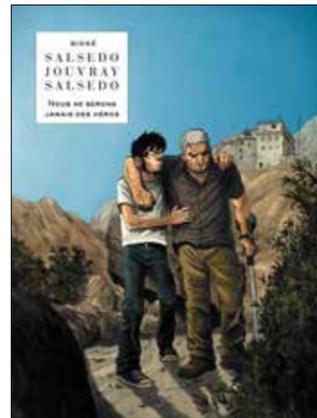
French Press Review  
 English translation available;  
 Contact us for more details

### FILM & TV REFERENCES

*Je règle mon pas sur le pas de mon père* by Rémy Waterhouse; *When Did You Last See Your Father?* By Arnand Tucker; *Beginners* by Mike Mills; *The Judge* by David Dobkin

### FIND OUT MORE

Literary Awards:  
 Recipient of the Chambery Comic Festival award and the Colomier comics award



Moshe as “The Great Zabbatini” used to be a great success in 1930s Berlin. Now he's an old man, living a lonely life in Los Angeles. He has lost all faith in the magic of life, until one day, a young boy seeks him out.

## THE TRICK

DER TRICK

EMANUEL BERGMANN

Prague, 1934: Moshe Goldenhirsch, 15 years old and the son of a rabbi, runs away from home and joins a circus. He becomes the apprentice to the circus director and magician “The Half-Moon Man” and he falls in love with his beautiful assistant (and lover) Julia. As the circus tours Nazi Germany, Moshe begins an affair with Julia. However, when the Half-Moon Man finds out, he and Moshe fight during a performance and the Half-Moon Man vanishes without a trace.

Julia and Moshe start a new life in Berlin. Moshe, who now calls himself “The Great Zabbatini,” finds fame and fortune as a magician. No one knows he's a Jew.

One day in 1944, the Half-Moon Man appears ... to take his revenge. Denounced to the Gestapo, Moshe is tortured and forced to betray Julia.

Moshe is sent to a concentration camp. On the train to Auschwitz, he meets a little girl whose parents beg him to hide her in his magician's case with its false bottom. On arrival, the case is taken away from him; Moshe has no idea what happens to the girl. Moshe survives and immigrates to America after the war where he has a successful career as a magician until with time, no one is interested in his tricks anymore.

Los Angeles, 2007: Max Cohn is 10 years old and the son of Jewish parents in the throes of a divorce. Max finds the Great Zabbatini in a retirement home, now 88, lonely, broke, and a drunk. The boy invites him to his birthday party; he wants Zabbatini to perform his “spell of eternal love,” hoping that it will bring his parents back together. At the show, Max's grandmother leaps to her feet – she was the little girl on the train to Auschwitz. She survived, thanks to Zabbatini. Overwhelmed, the old man has a heart attack.

When Zabbatini dies in the end, Max is very sad, but the old magician has opened his eyes to the miracles of life. And perhaps his parents really will get back together...



The Trick is a moving and surprisingly funny novel about the adventurous life of an old Jewish stage magician and Holocaust survivor and about his friendship with a young boy. It's a story that brings the tragedies of 20th-century history up close, going all the way to present day and providing delightful entertainment.



### SETTING

Two narrative strands set in two different eras (1930s-1940s, contemporary) and on two different continents (Europe, USA).

### MAIN CHARACTERS

Moshe Goldenhirsch, Male,  
 Teenager – over 70s  
 Max Cohn, Male, Child

### RIGHTS GUIDE

Published in 2016 in 2 languages:  
 Dutch (Prometheus/Bert Bakker, De Truc)  
 Slovak (Fortuna, Trik)  
 Translation Rights sold into 15 languages:  
 Bulgarian (Kibea), Catalan (La Campana), Czech (Fortuna), Dutch (Prometheus/Bert Bakker), English world (UK & USA) (Atria Books/Simon & Schuster), Finnish (Bazar), French (Belfond), Hebrew (YediothAhronoth), Hungarian (Európa), Italian (La nave di Teseo), Japanese (Shinchosha), Norwegian (Bazar), Serbian (Laguna), Slovak (Fortuna), Spanish (Anagrama)

### PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL AVAILABLE

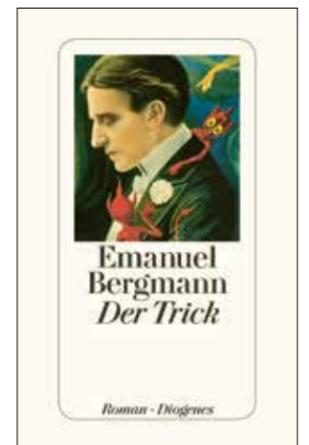
German press reviews available  
 Complete English translation available

### FILM & TV REFERENCES

*La vita è bella* by Roberto Benigni, for the unusual and humorous look at Europe's tragic history.  
 Woody Allen movies, for the humour, some of the characters and the dialogues.  
*Water for Elephants*, for the romantic circus setting.

### FIND OUT MORE

German publication date: February 2016  
 The complete English translation is available.  
 The title was placed on *Spiegel* Bestseller list.



◆  
12-year-old Walden is abandoned in a forest by his father in a bid to make a man out of him...

# TWELVE YEARS, SEVEN MONTHS, AND ELEVEN DAYS

## DOUZE ANS, SEPT MOIS ET ONZE JOURS

### LORRIS MURAIL

THRILLER - ADVENTURE NOVEL

When Jack Stephenson attends a baseball match in which his son Walden is playing, he seems exasperated by the boy's lack of interest in the game and inability to integrate into the team. In the apparent aim of furthering his mission to make a man out of him, Jack takes to the wheel of his beloved car and drives Walden to the forests of Maine where he abandons him to his fate, leaving him with a bare minimum of provisions. Once he gets over the shock, the boy has to survive by fighting the mosquitoes, finding water, fishing, and hunting. At the end of each day, Walden always writes down his exact age wherever he can, for the explanation of his father's behavior lies in that mysterious date pronounced just before they left each other: 12 years, 7 months, and 11 days... After six days left to his own devices, Walden saves the life of a woman who seems to know a lot about him and who tells him that his father is a murderer. We then follow Jack after he has abandoned his son as he thinks back to the life-changing period 5 years earlier when he was tried for the murder of Tim Crowder, almost 13. He was acquitted, but ever since then, he has been persistently harassed by the Crowders, father and son, who want to take revenge on Walden the day he is exactly as old as Tim was when he was killed. When he is 12 years, 7 months, and 11 days old, the Crowder/Stephenson confrontation results in victory for Walden who saves his father from this plot of revenge.

◆  
Carried on an incomprehensible and shocking journey along with this young boy, the audience will get caught up in the story before finding out what lies behind the plot in a masterful twist.  
More than a thriller or a survival film, the universal theme of love between a father and son and their radically different perspectives of a situation will create a surefire hit for general viewing.

◆

#### SETTING

The set will consist of open landscapes, which could be in the United States but does not have to be. (Canada might be an option for a possible coproduction).

#### MAIN CHARACTERS

Walden Stephenson, Male, 12 years old  
Jack Stephenson, Male, 40s  
Amy, Female, 50s

#### RIGHTS GUIDE

Published in Spanish (Planeta/Destino)

#### PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL AVAILABLE

Spanish translation

#### FILM & TV REFERENCES

*Into the Wild* for the geographical anchoring in wild nature with an added thriller aspect.

*Christine* directed by John Carpenter for the 1995 Impala SS Chevrolet and a memorable chase scene.

#### FIND OUT MORE

Over 15,000 copies sold in France. Constant sales and regular reprints since its publication in January 2015.



◆  
The exceptional testimony of a young French Muslim woman threatened because she chose to take off her face veil.

# UNDER MY NIQAB

## SOUS MON NIQAB

### ZEINA, WITH DJÉNANE KAREH TAGER

LIFE STORY - TESTIMONY NOVEL

Zeina was born on a French housing development.

She was raised in a traditional Muslim family.

She doesn't want to wear a veil.

Yet, she must hide her hair, her body, then her face, and even her eyes when she wears the hijab, the jilbab, and finally the niqab. Her husband makes her do so, first with his reproaches and criticisms, then by beating her. Her own family encourages her to comply: for everyone, she has become "the pride of Islam." But Zeina feels as though she is becoming a shadow, "a spectre": gradually, she loses any willpower, as well as her dignity and her identity.

For years, she accepts the situation. Under her niqab, she is afraid of rebelling. She is terrified by her husband's violence, and afraid of being dishonoured. What's more, she has been threatened with going to hell by the "sisters" of the mosque ever since she was a young child.

That is, until the day when, with the help of a neighbor, she finds the courage to flee. She then lives on the street, experiences extreme poverty, and is pitilessly tracked down by her family. All alone, she manages to escape the prison walls that had closed in around her. Today, Zeina has found a job, her freedom, and she is rebuilding her life.

Zeina's story takes place in 21<sup>st</sup>-century France, just a few hundred metres from where we live.

◆  
After the recent debates about the face veil, the niqab, and the burkini, this heartfelt testimony from a young Muslim woman demonstrates and denounces from the inside the extremism of those who use religion to enslave women. A burning but unavoidable issue.

◆

#### SETTING

The place of women in the Muslim religion  
Moral harassment and domestic violence  
The fight for emancipation and the struggle of a mother

#### MAIN CHARACTERS

Zeina, Female, Teenager, 20s  
Zeina's husband, Male, 20s  
Zeina's uncle, Male, 40s

#### RIGHTS GUIDE

Published in Italian by Edizioni Paginauno.

#### PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL AVAILABLE

"In the current context, this book helps to shed light on a difficult issue. Written in the first person, it is a heartfelt testimony for it describes a real descent into hell." *Le Monde*

#### FILM & TV REFERENCES

*The Source*, a Belgian, Italian, and French film shot in Morocco and directed by Radu Mihaileanu (2011). Selected for the 2011 Cannes Film Festival.



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# URBAN

## URBAN

LUC BRUNSCHWIG (WRITER) & ROBERTO RICCI (ARTIST)

ADVENTURE - SCI-FI  
GRAPHIC NOVEL (ONGOING SERIES OF 5 ALBUMS)

In Mypleasure, everything is a reason to play. When a killer strikes, Zachary Buzz, a young justice-hungry Interceptor, tries to stop him and unveils the gears running this artificial world.

Mypleasure is the biggest amusement park in the galaxy and the only place where an exploited humanity can enjoy various limitless pleasures. The city, run by the omnipresent Springy Fool, is tightly controlled: an artificial intelligence system named A.L.I.C.E., cleaner robots, surveillance cameras, giant screens... Add to the mix the Urban Interceptors, charged with fighting major criminals during televised manhunts that are broadcasted live and are subject to juicy bets. Zachary Buzz, motivated by his ideals of justice, leaves the farm where he was born to join this popular elite brigade. Despite his solitary nature and difficulty adapting to this new life, he develops a bond with Ishrat, a Mypleasure "slave" that serves the vacation goers. A few months after his arrival, the hit man Ebrahimi kills an investigator exploring a potential organ trafficking ring related to the deaths of several young women. The fight between Ebrahimi and an Urban Interceptor as well as the Interceptor's death are followed live by everyone. A young boy, Niels Colton, takes advantage of this duel to escape his nurse's watchful eye and explore the streets of Mypleasure. Mypleasure is in on high alert: Ebrahimi is going to strike again. Zachary, who was chosen to hunt him down, is about to cry victory when a stray bullet kills Niels. At the same time, an attack causes a gigantic power outage. Consumed by the child's death and increasingly disturbed by the cynicism and rules in Mypleasure, Zachary decides to shed light on this death, especially when he discovers that Niels was, in fact, the killer's target. Niels' mother pushes Zachary to undertake a secret investigation: from discovering Niels' paternity and Springy's paranoia that the child could claim his inheritance, to the role Niels' mother played in the attacks and A.L.I.C.E.'s involvement, the discoveries will be anything but expected.

- ◆ A decadent universe that resonates with the contemporary world and its problems and excesses.
- ◆ A thriller that unveils a large-scale conspiracy (the deaths of young girls and a boy whose paternity is a mystery).
- ◆ An investigation led by a just man caught between conflicting loyalties.



### SETTING

2059, in the imaginary city of Mypleasure on Earth

### MAIN CHARACTERS

Zachary Buzz, Male, 20s  
Springy Fool, Male, 40s  
A.L.I.C.E., Female, 20s

### RIGHTS GUIDE

Published in 3 languages: German (Splitter), Dutch (Dark Dragon), and Polish (Taurus).

### PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL AVAILABLE

A long-form summary in French and English languages  
A French language press review

### FILM & TV REFERENCES

*Blade Runner* by Ridley Scott  
*The Fifth Element* by Luc Besson  
*Metropolis* by Fritz Lang  
*Running Man* by Michael Glaser

### FIND OUT MORE

To date, 36,000 copies of the series have been printed in France.



# VINTAGE

## VINTAGE

GRÉGOIRE HERVIER

CRIME - DETECTIVE  
NOVEL

On his quest for a mythical guitar, the Gibson Moderne, a young journalist and guitar player is plunged into an investigation that will lead him to explore the history of a forgotten rock icon.

Thomas Dupré, who works in a vintage guitar shop, is charged with delivering a rare guitar to Scotland. Once there, Lord Winsley asks him to find the prototype of a mythical guitar: the Gibson Moderne. The Lord's objective is to prove the existence of the guitar so that his insurance company will reimburse him for the theft of a guitar he claims to have owned. Following a trip to Australia, Thomas goes to the United States where he encounters a number of people as he searches for clues that will prove the existence of the Moderne. His investigation leads him to an angry Elvis impersonator, Bruce, who turns out to only have a replica. However, when he goes to meet the guitar-maker who sold Bruce the guitar, he finds him dead. Suspecting Bruce, Thomas returns to his house and breaks in. Once inside, he prevents a murder and finds a clue that sends him to Oxford on the trail of Li Grand Zombi Robertson. There, he meets Lorraine and is introduced to her thesis supervisor, Vince. Thomas explains the real reason he has come to Oxford and Lorraine agrees to help him find a lost Robertson album cover by contacting people who used to work at Cleftone Records, the label of the mysterious musician. Thomas then travels to Clarksdale where he meets Willie Leroy, a former classmate of Robertson's, while Lorraine obtains the album cover from its producer's widow. Despite their efforts, it's not enough to prove the existence of the guitar. Retracing the life of the ghostly artist, Lorraine and Thomas come across Jungle Jack, a friend of Robertson's who confesses that the guitar was buried with the musician. Thomas goes to the cemetery where he finds Bruce exhuming the Moderne. It turns out that Lord Winsley is actually a con-man who wants to get his hands on Robertson's guitar and has Bruce working for him under threat. Finally, Thomas recovers the Moderne and returns with it to Paris where he becomes a shadow composer to the stars.

- ◆ From Pigalle to the shores of Loch Ness, Sydney, and the Blues Highway, Vintage is at both thrilling and humorous. A road-trip punctuated by murders and high-speed chases, it travels back along the cultural, artistic, and technical roots of rock n' roll.



### SETTING

France (Paris), Scotland (Inverness), Australia (Sydney) United States (Memphis, Nashville, Dickson, Mississippi, Oxford, Southaven, Corinth, Tupelo, Hattiesburg, Jackson, Greenville, Vicksburg, Clarksdale, Chicago, Louisiana)

### MAIN CHARACTERS

Thomas Dupré, Male, 25 years old  
Lorraine Williams, Female, 20s  
Lord Charles Winsley, Male, 70s

### PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL AVAILABLE

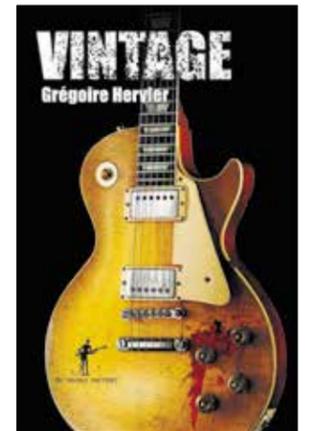
French press reviews

### FILM & TV REFERENCES

*The Maltese Falcon*, for the figure of the independent, determined detective who looks for an object which might not exist  
*High Fidelity*, for the rock and blues version of a musical ballad

### FIND OUT MORE

Published in Germany by Diogenes, to be released in Fall 2017.  
Selected in Prix des Lecteurs Quais du polar / 20 minutes



## ◆ 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.

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SCELF,

## ◆ 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.

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## ◆ ILE DE FRANCE FILM COMMISSION

The main duties of the Ile de France Film Commission are to facilitate filming in the region by offering French and foreign film crews the best possible work conditions and production framework, and to encourage French and foreign co-productions. Ile de France Film Commission offers a complete set of services to strengthen the appeal of the Ile de France region as a filming location especially adapted to cinema and audiovisual production. The Ile de France Film Commission also provides producers with the latest updates on policy, incentive packages and other financial opportunities for overseas productions, including the 20% refundable tax rebate (increased to 30% as of January 1, 2016) for foreign shoots and feature animated projects, and the Ile de France Film Fund of €14 million a year.

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## ◆ 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.

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### JIM STARK

PRODUCER, UNITED STATES

### GINO VENTRIGLIA

SCRIPTWRITER, ITALY

## ◆ SELECTED BOOKS

### 33 DAYS / 33 JOURS

LÉON WERTH

### APOCALYPSE BABY / APOCALYPSE BÉBÉ

VIRGINIE DESPENTES

### CICI'S JOURNAL: THE ADVENTURES OF A WRITER-IN-TRAINING / LES CARNETS DE CERISE

JORIS CHAMBLAIN (WRITER) & AURÉLIE NEYRET (ARTIST)

### GEORGE'S WIFE (SHORT STORY), IN THE GARDENERS / LA FEMME DE GEORGES

(NOUVELLE), DANS LES JARDINIERS

VÉRONIQUE BIZOT

### GUINEA PIGS / LES COBAYES

TONINO BENACQUISTA (WRITER) & NICOLAS BARRAL (ARTIST),

### MY FAMILY FOR THE WAR / LIVERPOOL STREET

ANNE C. VOORHOEVE

### STUPOR MUNDI / STUPOR MUNDI

NEJIB

### THE LORD OF THE BARNYARD: KILLING THE FATTED CALF AND ARMING THE AWARE IN THE CORNBELT /

LE SEIGNEUR DES PORCHERIES, LE TEMPS VENU

DE TUER LE VEAU GRAS ET D'ARMER LE JUSTE

TRISTAN EGOLF

### THE SUMMER OF THE FIREFLIES /

L'ÉTÉ DES LUCIOLES

GILLES PARIS

### A WOMAN IN THE POLAR NIGHT /

EINE FRAU ERLEBT DIE POLARNACHT

CHRISTIANE RITTER

