



*M.E.O.*

**Choice  
of publications  
2026**

Éditions M.E.O.  
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Tél-fax : 32 2 648 04 10  
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*The Department “Wallonie-Bruxelles International” of the Wallonia-Brussels Federation Ministry (French speaking Belgium) grants aid to foreign publishing houses for the translation of French-speaking Belgian authors.*

*These subsidies are currently being reassessed, and a new procedure will be put in place very soon.*

The origin of M.E.O. is a Belgian non-governmental organization which helped war refugees from the former Yugoslavia. After the war, the organization became a cultural association and, in 1998, a publishing house.

First, we published in Sarajevo translations into “Serbo-Croatian” of well known Belgian writers such as Pierre Mertens, Jean-Philippe Toussaint, Amélie Nothomb... At the same time, we translated authors from Bosnia and Croatia into French and, in 2007, we decided to publish them in Brussels, expanding our activities by publishing original works by French-speaking authors.

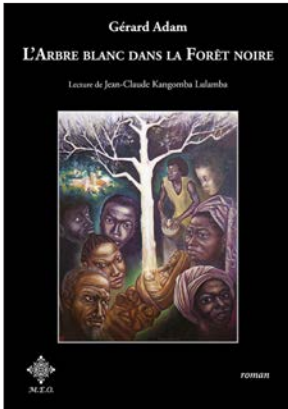
M.E.O. is dedicated to general literature. We are today one of the main Belgian literary publishers. We publish 20 titles each year. Our catalog includes about 250 titles and we won 15 literary prizes, including the *Prize of Parliament* and, in Paris, the *La Renaissance française Award*. This without counting the prizes obtained by the translated works in their country or elsewhere in the world. Some of our books have been translated or are in the process of being translated into American, English, Bengali, Bulgarian, Chinese, Croatian, German, Dutch, Hindi, Turkish and Italian. All the works are released simultaneously in printed books and homothetic digital books.

Our catalog is divided into 4 collections.

- Translations (Balkan, American, Chinese, Palestinian, Flemish... writers).
- Novels, short stories, life stories by French-speaking authors. (A poetry collection —written in French ou translated— stopped in 2017.)
- A collection in partnership with the Museum of Medicine of the University of Brussels publishing illustrated books related to the exhibitions organized by the museum.
- A collection in partnership with the Museum of Literature publishing heritage writers from Central Africa (Congo, Rwanda and Burundi).

Our editorial line combines the interest of the story, a humanist sensitivity depth, readability and high standards of writing. We seek to avoid the “navel-gazing” so dear to Paris’ literature. We make it a point of honor to discover new talents, but we also want to retain our authors; which is a challenge, because we are more and more often solicited by well-known writers.

We have chosen to present several significant works from our catalogue that we consider to be of particular interest for international literature. Of course, the others publications are of equal quality. We suggest you to consult our website and, if other books awake your interest, don’t hesitate to ask us for the argument.



**A WHITE TREE IN THE DARK FOREST**  
*A novel by Gérard Adam — 3<sup>d</sup> edition*  
Afterword by Jean-Claude Kangomba

A young Belgian doctor, Ghislain Desaiwe, arrives in Vonzo, a small town in Kalibia (Central Africa), to become director of a hospital as part of the Belgian-Kalibian cooperation. He will discover Africa and its spells through fascinating characters, Dyana, the young black nun, Malu he will make his companion, Gakuba, the politician in disgrace, Binda Pasi, the sculptor, Lemmie and Sebas, the wandering musicians... Novel of awareness and discovery of the other. Adventure novel too, with the revolt of the Lower River against a dictatorial power based on institutional corruption and the plunder of national wealth. A revolt that ends an intervention by French and Belgian paratroopers under humanitarian pretexts, in fact to keep the regime in place. Vast fresco with multiple resonances, this novel of almost 500 pages is a meditation on a continent overwhelmed by all the evils but immensely rich in future, at the same time as a plea for the enrichment by the discovery and the acceptance of the other.

*What convinced us was the combination of the absolute sincerity of the subject, the charge of humanity, and an extraordinary work on the writing. (Pierre Mertens, jury president, Belgian radio-television)*

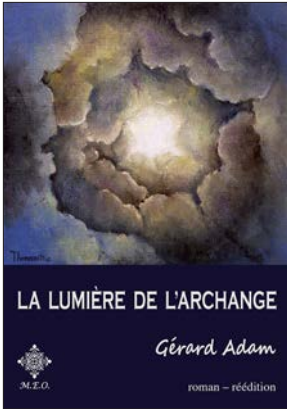
*An exceptional first novel. (Henry Lagneaux, Indications).*

*One of the most important books of recent times (Jean-Pol Hecq, RTBF).*

**The author.** A Belgian writer and former military doctor involved in humanitarian operations in Africa and in Bosnia, Gérard Adam has published twenty novels and collections of short stories. He got the NCR-AT&T award and the Emma Martin prize, and was shortlisted for several other important Belgian and French awards (Rossel prize, Prize of Parliament, RFI International prize for short stories...) He is the recipient of the International *Naji Naaman Prize* for his entire work.

**NCR-AT&T PRIZE**  
**TRANSLATED INTO DUTCH**  
**RIGHT SOLD FOR CHINESE**

Price : 28,00 €  
ISBN : 9782807004153  
Third edition 1988, 2004 & 2023  
504 pages — 1140,000 char



## THE LIGHT OF THE ARCHANGEL

A novel by Gérard Adam — 2<sup>d</sup> edition

A French specialist in viral diseases, Nobel Prize and founder of a brotherhood of scientists, is the victim of the virus he is studying, a mutant that has arisen in the Central African forests. Held in quarantine in his own department, supported by his friends around the world, he participates in the speed race between the epidemic and research, while becoming aware of a contemporary world from which he had abstracted himself and that is shaken by deep social or geopolitical upheavals, as well as

the explosion of violent fanaticisms and the advent of millenarian movements. But strange psychic changes appear in the survivors. Is the evolution of life at a crossroads? Sent to Africa to coordinate the fight against the epidemic, the professor will be involved in an exceptional adventure and in an inner, psychological, metaphysical and spiritual quest.

*A visionary novel, whose only flaw is that it was published too early. Now that the epidemics of mutant viruses are succeeding, it is extremely topical, and warns us of the dangers that the contemporary world poses to the humanity.*

*“A completely astonishing novel, which is unlike anything else known, which invents a new genre, halfway between science fiction and fantasy novel, something like medicine-fiction, even philosophy-fiction.” (Jean-Pol Hecq, Belgian Radio-Television)*

*“Gérard Adam succeeded there in the most difficult of cocktails: to combine pleasure and reflection about the meaning of life.” H-C Dahlem, Cooperation, Lausanne.*

**The author.** Belgian writer and former military doctor involved in humanitarian operations in Africa and in Bosnia, Gérard Adam has published twenty novels and collections of short stories. He got the NCR-AT&T award and the Emma Martin prize, and was shortlisted for several other important Belgian awards (Rosel prize, Prize of Parliament, RFI International prize for short stories...)

Has been shortlisted for the  
ROSSEL PRIZE

Price : 24,00 €  
ISBN : 9782807002579  
1992 & 2020 — 396 pages.  
680,000 char – 148 x 210 mm



## THE MASTER OF MOUNT XÎN

A novel by Gérard Adam

Two women climb the slopes of Mount Xîn, where, in the 12th century, a couple of philosophical lovers instituted a rite making eroticism a spiritual path. One is a novice in a monastery which perpetuates it under the guidance of a Master living alone in his hermitage. The other, Soyindâ, is assailed by memories at every step. A “natural” child, poor, lonely, ostracized, she discovered the dance forbidden to women by imitating animals, the wind in the branches, the eddies of the

lake... She ran away, became a dancer in a fake temple dedicated to the pleasures of wealthy debauchers, became a nun to follow her childhood friend, then, defrocked, embarked on a brilliant career as a dancer throughout the world. Before retiring in anonymity, she comes to greet for the last time the old Master who will soon die. Novel of adventure, inner quest and reflection. On art, authenticity and its deviations, human sexuality, spirituality, the deleterious influence of religions and systems of thought, the inevitable sclerosis of all institutions, the relativity of all morality...

In a totally reinvented History, geography, mixing of cultures, the author wrote a novel of adventure and inner exploration. He revisits the second half of the twentieth century and the beginning of the twenty-first in an exciting and polyphonic shortcut, while offering a rich but uncompromising look at the human species and the world it has forged.

*An extraordinary novel [...] The author makes sure, in his romantic voluptuousness, that the world takes place in this story with multiple bifurcations. As much an adventure novel as a spiritual quest, the author instills a patient indictment against religious hysteria and above all develops a remarkable reflection on the links that tie cultures, civilizations that oppose each other, then connect, before transforming ... (Daniel Simon).*

**The author.** A Belgian writer and former military doctor involved in humanitarian operations in Africa and in Bosnia, Gérard Adam has published twenty novels and collections of short stories. He got the NCR-AT&T award and the Emma Martin prize, and was shortlisted for several other important Belgian and French awards (Rossel prize, Prize of Parliament, RFI International prize for short stories...) He is the recipient of the International *Naji Naaman Prize* for his entire work.

Price : 29,00 €  
ISBN : 9782807003507  
2022 — 624 pages.  
1500,000 char

## MARCO AND NGALULA

*A novel by Gérard Adam*

Publié en 1996 aux éditions Luce Wilquin, Marco et Ngalula a connu le succès grâce à sa réédition en poche (1999 puis 2001) chez Labor – Zone J (best-seller de la collection). Il n'était plus disponible après la disparition des deux éditeurs. M.E.O. a racheté le stock et le rééditera lorsqu'il sera épuisé.

Deux enfants de dix et douze ans. Marginaux, chacun à leur manière. Marco, parce qu'il déteste le foot. Et à cause de ses cours de flûte, il n'a pas le droit de regarder des séries « abrutissantes » ni de « faire des crises d'épilepsie avec une console Sega », car à la maison, on écoute Mozart plutôt que des chansons à la mode... Pendant que ses parents sont en voyage, Marco va passer le mois d'août à la campagne chez ses grands-parents. Il n'y a pas d'amis là-bas et leur vieux chien vient de mourir. Marco se sent très seul. Au cours d'une promenade, il rencontre Ngalula, une petite Cendrillon noire, mais aussi une « fée entourée d'un vol de papillons », ces petits bouts de ruban jaune qui brillent dans ses éternelles couettes. Ngalula, l'orpheline, est parquée avec sa famille adoptive au « Château », un centre pour demandeurs d'asile qui divise les habitants du village. Entre eux, la différence nourrira une amitié, aussi brève qu'intense, absolue comme l'amour.

– *Gérard Adam evokes deep feelings, dramatic situations, in a style that its simplicity makes all the more evocative. (Colette Braeckman, Le Soir)*

– *No “shock”, no dramatization. On the contrary, a progressive and “natural” symbiosis which, with small touches, composes the framework of a story without didacticism, but strong in its credibility. (...) This finely written novel enchants us. (Roger Cantraine, Le Peuple)*

– *An exceptional book, the “Little Prince” of this troubled end of the 20th century. (Gaël)*

– *A beautiful novel, gentle and terrible at the same time, a generous story... (Frank Andriat, Réflexions)*

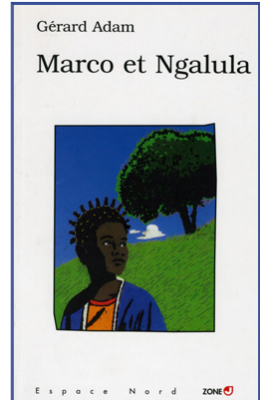
**The author :** see other books of the same author.

Price : 17,00 €

ISBN : 9782804015848

1996, 1999 and 2001

154 pages – 142,000 char



**TRANSLATED INTO CROATIAN**  
**CAN BE READ FROM 13 YEARS OLD**

## NOT MADE FOR

*A novel by Véronique Adam*

Cécile, an obscure violin teacher, tackled by a companion who is more successful than her in music, is a frustrated, bitter young woman lacking in self-confidence. Her friends offer her a subscription to a fitness club for her thirty-fifth birthday, which would give her life an unexpected turn. The friendship of an instructor will lead her to put her prejudices aside and introduce her to a universe she never imagined she was made for.

Meeting a man who regularly comes to train at the gym will shake up her self-image and drop her – maybe – at the dawn of another existence.

This first novel, although pure fiction, explores the author's two familiar worlds – music and fitness – while bearing witness, not without humor and self-mockery, to the contradictions of a contemporary young woman.

*“Not Made For» is one of those novels that you can't let go until you finish it. This is undoubtedly due to the fact that Cécile is a very endearing character in which one can easily find oneself. Like her, we've all been through rough times, and many of us have undervalued ourselves at least at one point in our lives. But the story of this young 30-something reminds us that anything is possible and that sometimes all you need to do is step out of your comfort zone and open up to others. Everything is told with a lot of humor, which makes it a rather “light” book, perfect when you want to get away from your daily life for a few pages. One thing is sure, by the end of this reading, you will feel energized, ready to take on new challenges.”*

*Julie Jandrain, Mode in Belgium.*

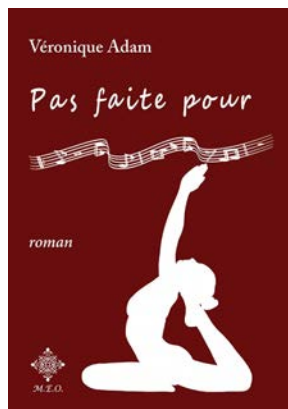
**The author :** After studying violin at the Brussels Conservatory, a few international tours with the orchestra of Helmut Lotti, several televised events where she accompanied singers such as Natasha St-Pier or Sarah Connor, Véronique Adam is passionate about fitness. She has been *Miss Fitness Belgium*, bronze medalist at the European and World Championships. She is now a sports coach, founder and manager of the Play2Move gym concept, while playing the violin in a rap group and a group of French songs and a trio of ladies for jazz standards.

**Price : 18,00 €**

**ISBN : 9782807002487**

**2020 — 220 pages**

**350,000 char.**



**TRANSLATED INTO BULGARIAN**

## SKY WITH BLACK HOLE

*A novel by VCaroline Alexander*

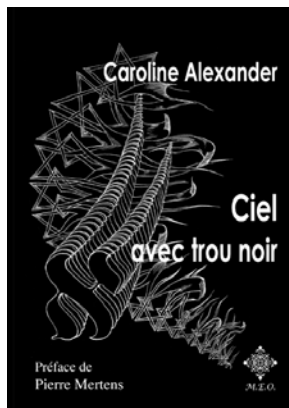
June 1964. In a Parisian bookstore, a strange anti-semitic bookseller establishes to the author, who entered there to buy a postcard, a horoscope whose «chart is pierced by a black hole». – August 1967. The town of Mönchengladbach (Germany) invites to a commemoration of the Holocaust the Jewish survivors of the town. In 2007, the same people or their descendants are invited to inaugurate some «Stolpersteine» (cobblestones of memory embedded in the sidewalk in front of the home of every Jew murdered by Nazis). – From Brussels to Paris via Ostend or Leicester, fragment by fragment, we follow the life of a Jewish girl escaped from Germany just before the horror, in search of the memory of her mother and older brother disappeared in the Holocaust. The search ends at Auschwitz where, during an impromptu trip, the author discovers the grim truth.

*I have often thought that if the Nazis could read books of this kind today, they would measure the importance of their real defeat: because they didn't succeed in killing in some persons the invincible taste of happiness.*

*(Pierre Mertens, (Medicis Prize, Price of French Academy, extract of the foreword.)*

*A book about the Holocaust and the trauma of a child torn from his family, of course, but also and above all a book on freedom, the will to live and be happy. [...] Your writing is clear and sharp. It is the water of a torrent. Your writing is fine and sensitive. It is crystal. [...] Starting from a wound without possible name, you create and you're diffusing a light. [...] In the heart of that black hole, the light shines. (Benoît Coppée, president of Emma Martin Prize)*

**The author:** Born in Germany, Caroline Alexander (1936-2021), led secretly in Belgium in 1939, was hidden child during the war. After studying law at the University of Brussels, she moved to Paris, where she held various activities in the world of cinema, theater and in journalism since 1965. She became head of theatrical chronic and / or music at *L'Express*, *Les Echos*, *La Tribune*, *Le Matin*, while collaborating with other important parisian media.

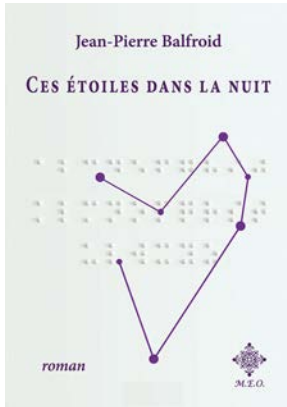


Price : 20,00 €

ISBN : 9782930702872

2014 — 240 pages — 349,000 char

EMMA MARTIN PRIZE



## THOSE STARS IN THE NIGHT

*A novel by Jean-Pierre Balfroid*

The French Ardennes of the 1950s sees an influx of tourists from Brussels and Flanders, while the mentalities of its inhabitants evolves. Ruffin, a lumberjack, has a brief sexual adventure with Shirley, a married Brussels woman with two young children. She gives birth to a child a daughter, Adeline, who will be suffering from a rare progressive disease affecting the eyes in particular. Ruffin, victim of a forest fire, becomes closer to his wife, with whom he had no children. But she dies in an accident.

Feeling useless, Ruffin employs his remaining strength in service to the villagers. So, he befriends Adeline. He teaches her to recognize trees by touch, birds by their songs, he makes her ride Belle, her old draft horse, and offers her an assistance dog. He does not know if he is the biological father of the little girl, but who cares, he sees in her, the visually impaired, a renewed sun...

Inspired by a real story, this novel offers a poignant testimony to intergenerational friendship, benevolence and self-transcendence, without hiding the gray areas of the human soul. A reading of this book was made by the Braille league.

*“I really liked this story which tells us about the passage of time, the strength of friendship and love. Jean-Pierre Balfroid describes a rural world in full evolution, he presents us men and women capable of wickedness and baseness as well as benevolence and rare surpassing. I read a well-written novel, which portrays accurately, without melodrama, the distress of certain childless couples and the suffering of other couples, helpless in the face of the terrible illness that strikes their child”.*

*“A bright, raw and sweet novel, which filled me with emotions. I read it in one sitting, the pen of the author being captivating. A nugget of gold!”*

*A very touching story, very well written, on the difference and the view of the society on the «disabled», their daily life. (Babelio)*

**The Author:** Jean-Pierre Balfroid was a lawyer and contributor to legal journals. After «The choice of Mia», a tragicomic novel, this second novel, very moving, offers us another register of his talent.

Price : 18,00 €

ISBN : 9782807003170

2022 — 200 pages — 242,000 char

## MELUSINE

*A novel by Jean-Pierre Balfroid*



Laurent and Lison, employees in a towering skyscraper, are fired at the same time. They bump into each other just as they're being ejected into the street by the skyscraper's turnstile. They're nothing more, reduced to mere shells. Which they use with devastating irony, improvising a a torrid erotic scene watched by passersby and immediately shared on social media, which brings them a form of celebrity that they monetize, while embarking on an equally torrid love affair. Their love gives birth to twin girls. But one of them, Mélusine, turns out to have autism spectrum disorder, putting her parents through the wringer. The narrative shifts then from romantic and sometimes burlesque prose to a more jarring tone, marked by anxieties, constant adjustments, and intimate self-questioning. Through this approach, the author addresses autism without pathos or sentimentality, focusing instead on concrete realities such as parental exhaustion, the difficulty of understanding, and the isolation experienced in the face of both institutions and social norms. It also deals with the struggle for the right of disabled people to a fulfilling sexuality.

*A novel brimming with love, humor, and hope, Mélusine never ignores the harshness of reality, while refusing to see it as inevitable. Jean-Pierre Balfroid's writing, both direct and sensitive, is tinged at times with a gentle irony that prevents the narrative from descending into tragedy. The characters exist through their contradictions, their awkwardness, and their obstinacy. With this story, the author continues a discreet yet deeply embodied body of work, attentive to the intimate upheavals caused by social violence and the human vulnerabilities it reveals. Mélusine questions our collective capacity to fully recognize the humanity of those who do not fit into established norms, highlighting along the way the legitimate impulses, the fears of those around them, and the legal or moral dead ends to which society often responds with silence. (Sam Mas, Bruxelles Culture).*

**The author :** A retired lawyer and registrar of mortgages, Jean-Pierre Balfroid divides his time between his family, walking in the forest or by the sea, and writing.

*Mélusine* is his third novel.

Price : 23,00 €

ISBN : 9782807005617

2026 — 280 pages — 393,000 char

## SOME SHADOWS DREAM

*A novel by Véronique Biefnot*

In a terrible allegory of our world, a woman artist and the various animal metamorphoses of a man get lost, seek each other, find each other, get lost again, and trace for us through their wanderings a path of redemption.

A novel that is at the same time a tale and an allegory.

This inner journey is a marvel, by its words, its silences, its mystery.

*We can only fall under the spell of this dreamlike dive into the spirit of the different animals embodied by the protagonist.* (Carl Norac, famous Belgian poet)

*Very quickly, the magic happens! It's superb and exciting [...]* (Marc Wilmet, from Belgian Literature Academy).

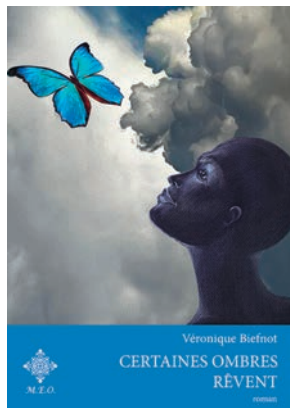
*Through a swaying dialogue, Biefnot evokes an absolute love, that of two separated souls. The thoughts of Elie and Joely alternate and shape their story(s). With a clear style, short paragraphs, brief chapters, Biefnot fits in its own way into the tradition of storytelling, this space where illusion intertwines with reality, the levels of reading multiply, time is suspended, "Good and evil are like day and night, equally necessary", and fate always has the last word...*

*Samia Hammami, Le Carnet et les Instants.*

**The author :** Véronique Biefnot is an actress, novelist and painter.

She has presented various television programs at RTBF; interpreted around forty leading roles on the stages of Belgian and French theatres, produced theatrical adaptations and stage productions, made a few appearances in the cinema and worked regularly for dubbing studios as an actress or artistic director.

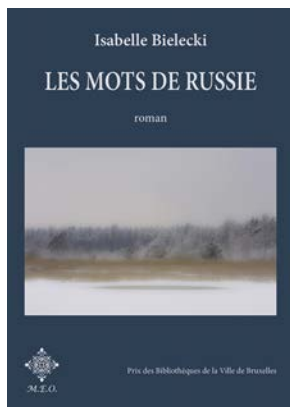
Her first novels, published by Héloïse d'Ormesson have been very successful, especially in paperback (Livre de poche). She also co-wrote six novels with Francis Dannemark under the author name of Biefnot-Dannemark. In *Some shadows dream*, she completely changes her literary genre.



Price : 17,00 €

ISBN : 9782807003774

2023 — 164 pages – 145,000 char



## WORDS FROM RUSSIA

*An autofictional novel by Isabelle Bielecki*

Published for the first time in 2006, prize of the Libraries of the City of Brussels, *Words from Russia* was the first part of a triptych of which the other two, *Japanese tulips* and *The Belgian's house*, were published by M.E.O.

Although each of these works can be read independently of the others, it was important to republish this essential light on the life of Elisabeth, a mistreated child caught between the demands of a Russian father – who wanted

her to write his life – and the rejection of a Polish mother, both survivors of the Nazi camps and deeply disturbed. After the suicide of her parents a few months apart, she managed to rebuild herself through writing.

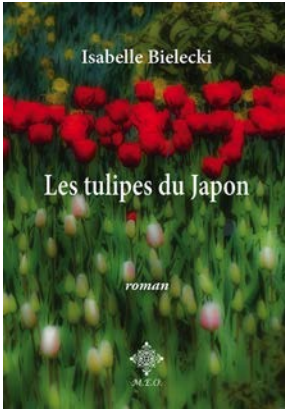
*“A beautiful book. While we have the testimony of several survivors of the camps, it is rarer to read about the devastation of this nightmare on their direct descendants. The accuracy of the tone seizes from the first sentences. The agreement between the style and the subject immediately gives the measure of the sincerity of the author and the journey that she invites us to relive with her. The book goes far beyond testimony. It is in fact a true autofiction extremely well constructed and which intertwines all the dimensions of temporality. Transcending a personal experience, Isabelle Bielecki writes a work of great intensity, with a universal dimension in which, passing alternately from the role of victim to that of spectator then narrator, she questions two broken destinies that have crossed the fury of the century..”*

*Jean-Pierre Legrand, Au fil des pages..*

The Author: Born in 1947 in Passau from a Russian father and a Polish mother, both survivors of the camps, Isabelle Bielecki received Belgian nationality in 1963, obtained a degree in translation then an insurance broker's diploma, and devoted her career to Japanese insurance companies in Europe while pursuing his passion for writing. In addition to these three novels, she has published theater, short stories and poetry.

BRUSSELS LIBRARIES PRIZE

Price : 18,00 €  
ISBN : 9782807003262  
2006 & 2022 – 204 pages – 308,000 char



## THE TULIPS FROM JAPAN

*An autofictional novel by Isabelle Bielecki*

A love story with her Japanese director (which ends badly, but...)

A story of war of nerves in a Japanese company (which ends well, but ...)

And memories that mark six days of a life of struggle.

Because nothing is given to a young immigrant, even when she is determined to fully integrate. We have to fight to find a form of happiness, to struggle to keep one's place in the professional world, especially if it is

transplanted from another culture and does not graft easily.

*Tulips from Japan*, second part of a triptych, but which can be read independently, projects us into the life of a woman, a native Russian-Polish, who carries on her shoulders the dramatic experience of her parents, both survivors of the camps. Yet our heroine struggles against obstacles with talent and courage, digging an original furrow with her work in a Japanese company. She has the great merit of reacting to a faded private life, daring to prefer adventure to comfort. Often complexed, but never giving up.

*"This second novel by Isabelle Bielecki is a total success, form and content."*

*Claude Donnay, in : Bleu d'Encre.*

*"This novel is a gift, a happiness for its readers."*

*Pratellum, Babelio.*

*"No doubt ! The book we were waiting for."*

*Michel Joiret, Le Non-Dit.*

**The author** : Born in 1947 in Passau of a Russian father and a Polish mother, both survivors of the camps, Isabelle Bielecki received Belgian nationality in 1963, obtained a degree in translation and then an insurance broker's diploma, and devoted her career to Japanese business world while indulging in his passion for writing. After *The words of Russia* (prize of the Libraries of Brussels), several plays, news, seven collections of poetry, *The Tulips of Japan* is her second novel. A third followed in 2020: *The House of the Belgian*.

Price : 18,00 €

ISBN : 9782807001435

2018 — 240 pages — 390,000 char

## ABOUT PRE

*A novel by Daniel Charneux*

Pete Miller, an aging jogger, was a friend of Steve Prefontaine, an American middle distance legend. Against the backdrop of the involvement of the *Nifty Tortoises*, his team of veterans, in the famous *Hood to Coast Relay* and the history of the United States from the 1950s to the present day, he decides to tell the sporting epic of the one his supporters nicknamed “Pre”, an athlete who professed a high opinion of his sport: “According to Steve, the important thing was not the victory, but the manner.

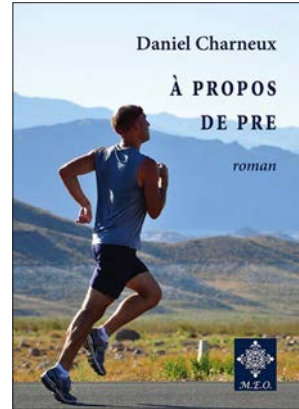
Winning a race managing it, staying carefully behind so as to kick off on the last lap, was good for the sissies, for the accountants. That was not how he, Steve Prefontaine, saw the race. – And how do you see the race, you Redneck? Bowerman had asked. – Like a work of art, coach! A work of art.”

*A very well organized, very stylish story, which introduces a world unknown to non-athletes. These lunatics who run such long distances aren't as crazy as you might think: they get accomplished by running. And as Pre said, and it's true: "Running is a work of art." (Jean-Claude Vantroyen, Le Soir)*

*It is the breath that runs through this book and brings it to life. [...] A love book, an ode to the beauty of being. (Françoise Houdart, writer and critic.)*

*Daniel Charneux signs here one of his best novels. (Joseph Bodson, Reflets Wallonie-Bruxelles.)*

**The author:** Daniel Charneux is one of the prominent writers of French-speaking Belgium. Holder of several literary prizes, he has built a romantic universe which regularly leads him to explore real destinies. Thus Marilyn Monroe in *Norma*, novel (Charles Plisnier prize), Lady Jane Gray in *Si près de l'aurore* (Alex Pasquier prize) or the Japanese monk Ryōkan in *Nuage et eau* (nominated for the Rossel prize). A skilled jogger and former marathoner himself, Daniel Charneux talks hereabout a world he knows well.



Price : 15,00 €

ISBN : 9782807002487

2020 — 152pages — 247,000 char

## A WEEK OF VACATION

*A novel by Daniel Charneux*

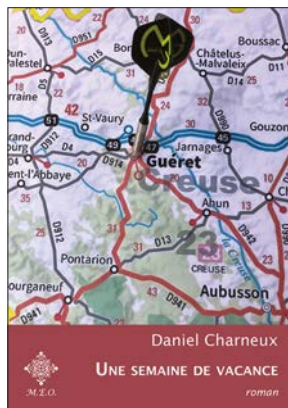
New edition, revised by the author, of Daniel Charneux's unclassifiable first novel, that was a big success at the time of its publication in 2001.

As the year 2000 and his forties approach, Jean-Pierre Jouve, sets off backpacking for “a week of vacation” on the roads of the Creuse (France), where there is nothing to see, to visit or to do. Unlike those who fill their holidays with numerous distracting activities, he will be looking for emptiness, in other words, the opportunity to take stock of his life: why did Odile leave him? What could he do to win her back?

From solitary walks to encounters, from contemplations of the countryside to offbeat meditations on the human condition and its oddities, we believe we are following in the footsteps of a disillusioned philosopher and discovering with him a non-touristic region right up to the final plot twist, which transforms the novel into an unexpected thriller a posteriori.

*The last page closed, the book pursues you. We still savor, in reflexive bursts, its language, both simple and sophisticated, which speaks to you directly, its impeccable construction, and its appalling logic right down to the surprising punch line, but ultimately not so much! Because this noir novel reaches the universal: it leads us to see, through this fictional and yet psychologically credible, well-defined character, even if he suspects himself of being a «series of masks», the symbol of our current human condition. (Critiqueslibres)*

**The author :** *For more than twenty years, Daniel Charneux has been building a novelistic universe that alternates between pure fiction and the exploration of real-life destinies (Marilyn Monroe, Lady Jane Grey, the Japanese monk Ryōkan, and the American middle distance runner Steve Prefontaine). He has won numerous literary awards, was shortlisted for the Rossel Prize (the most important literary prize in Belgium), and is included in the Espace-Nord Belgian heritage collection.*



Price : 16,00 €

ISBN : 9782930704498

2024 — 124 pages – 188,000 char

## THE MAN OF MY HILL

A novel by Joseph Cimpaye

*The man of my hill* is the first Burundian novel written in French. Its author wrote it in prison around 1970 and he sent the manuscript secretly to his family, who kept it carefully after he was murdered, until this publication in 2013. It immerses its reader in the colonial “Ruanda-Urundi” of the years 30s and 40s. We discover a rural civilization and a changing colonial society, whose contradictions are part of the tragic destiny of the hero, the young Benedikto. Subjected to the annoyances of a corrupt and tyrannical local hierarchy, which is subservient to the colonizer, Benedikto, with the help of his family, manages as best he can before being forced to flee to Uganda where a tragic fate awaits him. A singular light of humanism transcending hate, lucre and pretension animates these pages from which emerge some moving characters, in a simple but just language.

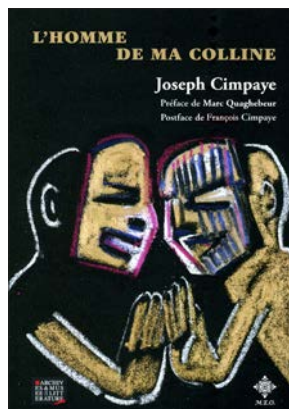
*The story told by Joseph Cimpaye, one of Burundi's first intellectuals and Prime Minister in 1961, is at once simple, engaging, and revealing. In perfectly crafted language (the finesse of which the metropolis has long since lost), the author recounts the tragic fate of young Benedikto, a «taxpayer» from a modest family, or rather, a «forced laborer» at the mercy of the authorities. [...] The narrative is as simple as a blueprint, yet it is read with emotion, compassion, and also remorse, for it describes a colonial society in flux, where arbitrariness and favoritism reign, and where ancient customs struggle to withstand the new regulations imposed by the whites and their administration. (Colette Braeckman, Le Soir)*

**The author :** Joseph Cimpaye was born in Mugeru, province of Gitega, Burundi (then Ruanda-Urundi). Leaving the Astrida School Group as a veterinary technician in 1951, he entered politics. He was prime minister of the caretaker government in 1961. Defeated in the elections after Independence, he left politics to become in charge of Public Relations at the Belgian aviation company SABENA. Accused of undermining state security by the dictator Micombero, he was imprisoned in 1969. He was killed in 1972 during the bloody events that then shook Burundi.

Price : 18,00 €

ISBN : 9782871680680

2013 — 154 pages – 305,000 char





## CRY, YOU WILL PISS LESS

*An autofictional novel by Dawa Ma*

Confined by the coronavirus pandemic in her London home, the narrator, an international model, rereads her diary started in 2013, where she recounts in a rough way an abysmal existential depression. Suffering, heartbreaks, revolts, analyzes, imprecations, philosophical and sociological quests, addiction, self-mutilation and self-challenges punctuate a psychic tornado.

Now that she is out of all this, forced inactivity allows her to reflect on a martyred childhood – suicide of her father when she was not five years old, serious maternal abuse, repeated rapes by two stepfathers, predelinquency, homeless period – which she succeeded in overwhelming thanks to social success. No wonder that its eruption was all the more terrible as it was compressed. A first autobiographical novel and a moving testimony of courage and authenticity, constantly oscillating between denunciation, the need for justice and the desire for resilience. – A burst of writing.

*“While reading this book, I took a big slap in the face, and before I wrote a single line after reading it, it took me a long time to come to my senses, to digest all the anger I had accumulated, dominate all the murder cravings that had stuck in my head, try to understand how a child who had become an adult at five, beaten, humiliated, raped, exploited in a thousand ways, could grow into an international model [...] to win her Dantean fight against the forces of evil embodied by those who are closest to her, by those who should be there to love her, pamper her and defend her against evil.” (Babelio).*

**The author** : French international model, well known in Asia, in Paris and in London where she now lives and works, Dawa Ma has really been the martyred child described in her book. A permanent work of resilience allowed her to represent major haute couture and cosmetics houses around the world, particularly in Asia. She posed for important magazines (*Elle*, *Marie-Claire*, *Harper's Bazaar*...) of which she made several covers. She has appeared in a few arthouse films and prepares the release of her first record.

<https://www.dawa-ma.com>

Price : 21,00 €  
ISBN : 9782807002456  
2020 — 316 pages — 529,000 char

## THE SHADOW OF A ROOT

*A novel by François Degrande*



Santos is a professor of classical literature at the University of Santiago de Compostela. He lives on the coast of Galicia with his wife Lucía, a child therapist. Children of whom their couple is deprived. A pessimistic anarchist, a tad alcoholic and fighting against the survivals of Francoism, he is often the target of harassment from the Guardia Civil.

But the Prestige sinks offshore and, with a cohort of volunteers, Santos fights against the oil slick that is sweeping over its beloved beaches.

At dawn, on the rocks of Cabo Fisterra, he discovers an infant abandoned in a basket. He takes the child away with the intention of handing him over to the authorities, but returns home first. And the infernal machine engages. Lucía has disappeared, leaving a goodbye note, and Santos procrastinates in a dream of fatherhood. A dream that will turn into a nightmare.

Imprisoned, accused of having kidnapped the child and murdered his wife, Santos, tells his lawyer the adventures of this terrible day and the events of his difficult life. But when you live in symbiosis with La Mancha and its legends, you are not fascinated with impunity by a certain Hidalgo with the Sad Face, which brings us to an unexpected ending.

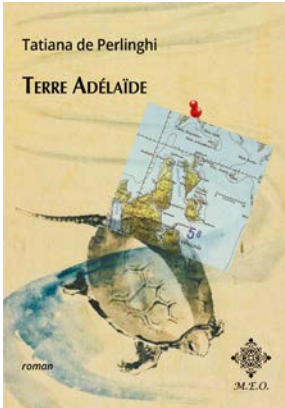
*There is no naivety in this work, but a strong conscience, transported by a powerful poetic language. [...] François Degrande has just given us a sovereign first novel stretched like a bow of beauty.* (Daniel Simon)

**The author** : Poet, musician, singer-songwriter and teacher, François Degrande is a lover of Spain.

*The Shadow of a Root* is his first novel.

Price : 21,00 €  
ISBN : 9782807004085  
2023 – 236 pages – 335,000 characters

Has been shortlisted for the  
FIRST NOVEL PRIZE  
OF VILLERS-LA-VILLE



## TERRE ADÉLAÏDE

A novel by Tatiana de Perlinghi

Adélaïde-Adèle-Ada, an unsettled thirty-something, is reviewing her life and struggles to find any meaning in it: her family roots are as obscure as they are intertwined, her political commitments are muddled, her profession as a photojournalist is unrewarding, and her love affairs are of dubious sincerity.

When, in quick succession, her father dies, her best friend becomes a mother, and her illegal immigrated lover disappears, she sinks into depression before abandoning everything for the fantasy of a Greek island from where a branch of her family and the ghost of a wonderful old uncle originated.

*Tatiana de Perlinghi kneads the model, she constructs, accepts the accidents that become new openings, and her novel, which seemed like Adele's maze, becomes the trail of a generation that chooses soles of wind rather than renunciation. The author deepens the novelistic texture with each episode and accompanies the reader into zones of pleasure that are often the most dangerous. It is also the novel of a certain European youth who chooses their path rather than their future pension... [...] This novel is a wonderful discovery to pierce the somewhat dark clouds of our time.*

*(Daniel Simon, writer and critic)*

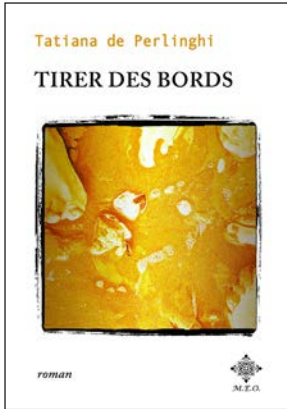
### The Author

Tatiana de Perlinghi, from Brussels, has not finished exploring the twists and turns of her origins, which include China, Greece, and Russia. She appears in Chinese writer Xu Feng's *Oubliez-moi* (a life story about her grandmother Qian Xiuling, a Belgian scientist of Chinese origin who saved hostages from the Nazis). She directs documentaries (including *Ma grand-mère, une héroïne?*, also about Qian Xiuling), and runs writing workshops. *Terre Adélaïde* is her first novel.

Price : 20,00 €

ISBN : 9782807004610

2024 – 216 pages – 357,000 char



## TACKING BACK

*A novel by Tatiana de Perlinghi*

Romain, who has become a famous photographer by chance and is invited to the Venice Biennale, cultivates a detached pessimism. Zoé, who lurches from romantic failure to professional incompetence while raising alone her teenage daughter Nina in a self-imposed marginality, tries desperately to be optimistic. Coralie, Zoé's only friend and Nina's godmother, works for Doctors Without Borders; she is a biologist and handles vaccinations in developing countries. But Romain no longer sees any meaning in what he's

doing and becomes homeless with a dog as his only friend. He ends up in prison. That's where Zoé, who had become a prison visitor in the meantime, meets him. When he is released, they travel together to the seaside village where Romain was born, which is also Coralie's birthplace. After a brief romantic encounter, Romain disappears, while Coralie, stricken with a brain tumor, is to be buried in her birthplace...

A novel that questions—with a pervasive humor, even at the heart of tragedy—the current world and the rejection it engenders.

*Tatiana de Perlinghi excels at capturing this paradoxical pugnacity, tinged with profound weariness and the desire to remain alive, attentive, and open. Through wanderings, detours, and hiccups, the novel never seeks to impose a definitive meaning and prefers to multiply questions that interrogate the meaning of a successful life, how to harden oneself, and at what point bravado becomes moral capitulation. «Tirer des bords» (Climbing the Edges) confronts the insolent shamelessness of a decaying future with a form of ethical vagrancy, reminding us that, sometimes, wandering is better than giving in! (Sam Mas, Bruxelles Culture)*

**The Author.** Tatiana de Perlinghi has not finished exploring the twists and turns of her origins, which include China, Greece, and Russia. She appears in Chinese writer Xu Feng's *Oubliez-moi* (a life story about her grandmother Qian Xiuling, a Belgian scientist of Chinese origin who saved hostages from the Nazis). She directs documentaries (including *Ma grand-mère, une héroïne?*, also about Qian Xiuling), and runs writing workshops.

Price : 18,00 €

ISBN : 9782807005587

2026 – 168 pages – 206,000 char



# OZANE

A novel by Claude Donnay

In the taiga, Ozane Sorokin comes face to face with a bear. Her fear renders her unconscious. When she regains consciousness, it is as a stranger that she gradually emerges, a young Belgian woman of twenty, Blanche, a member of the Resistance who was arrested by the Nazi occupiers. Will Ozane be able to reconcile the woman she imagines she is with the ghosts that have haunted her amnesia for so long?

Between the Mosan Valley, the shores of Lake Baikal, and the death camps, Ozane-Blanche raises the question of identity when fate has turned the cards upside down.

*We are not in the personal adventure [...], but in the movement towards other existences between which it is necessary to rediscover the links which united them. The novelist leads us astray between identities. The ground seems to sway in a book which nevertheless, with a very sure step although it seems to stagger, advances towards the truth. (LE SOIR, Brussels.)*

*As in his previous novels, the author plays with the reader's attention by sprinkling the apparent simplicity of the stories with more complex elements. When did Blanche become Ozane, her Jewish friend from times of darkness? What can we look for in the depths of the wildest nature? Is there an "eternal return"? Towards what reversal of perspective does the 2015 framework story, written by a son based on a mother's notes, lead us?*

*Claude Donnay, with Ozane, shakes up the reader by radicalizing an impulse. Doesn't living, truly living, that is to say with oneself and with others, imply the necessary empathetic confrontation with otherness?*

*(Philippe Remy-Wilkin, Le Carnet et les Instants)*

The author : Poet, novelist, short story writer, Claude Donnay founded the periodical and publishing house *Bleu d'Encre*, dedicated to poetry. Ozane is his fifth novel, all of which were published at M.E.O. *Un été immobile* won the Mon's Livre Award and *La route des cendres* was shortlisted for the Saga Café award.

Price : 22,00 €  
ISBN : 9782807004252  
2024 – 256 pages – 377,000 char

## SEUL & SEULE

*A novel by Michel Ducobu*

They have their whole lives behind them, or so they think. Both have chosen solitude as their viaticum for the short road left ahead. By convenience for him, by default - or by mistrust? - for her.

Chance or fate, although the two loners don't trust these geniuses of the unknown, will nevertheless take an interest in them. A self-imposed challenge brings them face to face, and at times almost together. Can the misanthropy of the disenchanted man and the misandry of the wounded woman be dissolved in a surge of emotion, if not in love? With a little compassion, a dash of humour and a healthy dose of cruelty, who knows...

A second challenge, an ultimate experience, will help them overcome their resistance. By the quiet force of human things, SEUL and SEULE will become the humble heroes of a story that is both banal and disconcerting.

Will the life in front of them be stronger than their desire to live or the pain of living? A third challenge will decide.

*This novel is a little treasure, challenging, moving, disturbing... (Babelio). Michel Ducobu delivers with a refined and fluid style a tender story where the spontaneous dialogues reveal a sweet complicity between two beings who are hungry for life and madness, determined to take advantage of the present moment because time is now running out. A delicate story that invites us to remember how precious the meeting between two intimate worlds is, in what is both strong and fragile. (Séverine Radoux).*

**The author:** Author of about thirty books (poetry, theatre, short stories), several of which won awards, Michel Ducobu, in this first novel, constantly oscillating from irony to poignant self-derision, leads us, like the Russian masters of the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, towards a pathetic and consoling outcome.



Price : 17,00 €  
ISBN : 9782807004191  
2024 – 144 pages – 201,000 char



## THE WORD PASSERS

*A novel by Chloé Dusigne*

In his Parisian bookstore *Les Lettres Persanes* specialized in the Middle and Far East, Maurice lives among his books and his memories. But one day, he receives mysterious notebooks in which are transcribed poetic stories from all continents. Touched by their beauty, Maurice decides to offer them to the world through a theatrical reading.

To this end, he must convince Thomas, former actor of the famous *Théâtre Monstre*, to go back on stage. But Thomas refuses. As a matter of fact, he has given up acting on

the stage since the death of his friend François, a passionate and charismatic translator from Afghan, killed by a bomb in Afghanistan where he worked for the French troops. Recycled in the frenetic world of business, on the verge of burnout, Thomas ends up finding the words to tell Maurice about this extraordinary but also dramatical friendship and he recognizes that acting on stage is his vocation. Maurice, for his part, finds a new meaning in his life with this role of guardian of the stories entrusted to him.

*A strong and original argument. [...] An] elliptical text [...] A real exercise in literary style which evokes [...] the staging of beautiful texts, the most significant events of our time and the great weakness of a humanity incapable of managing itself other than by force and violence. (D. Billamboz, Les Belles Phrases)*

*An intriguing and gripping first novel (MP, L'Avenir.)*

### The author

Holder of a bachelor's degree in modern literature as well as a master's degree in information and document management, Chloé Dusigne is head of Documentary Coordination and Digital Spaces in a public transport company.

Although having chosen another path, she has been immersed in the theater since her birth, which explains the accuracy of the chapters concerning this art. She is indeed the daughter of a well-known theater man and pedagogue in France.

In 2007, she won the young short story prize for *Ronde de vie* (unpublished)

*The Word transmitters* is her first published novel.

Price : 18,00 €

ISBN : 9782807003170

2022 — 200 pages — 287,000 char



## EDEN BEACH 1970

A novel by Anne Duvivier

Charlotte, a young Belgian woman «from a good family», has gone to live in Chicago, where her husband, promised a bright future, has obtained a job in finance. When she learns that he is cheating on her, her world collapses. She runs away with the hope of making him realize that she is her only love, and ends up in Eden Beach, a seaside resort on the East Coast, where she has never been.

The shock is terrible. We are in the States, and in 1970! The war in Vietnam is raging, young people free themselves from the shackles and advocate free love, girls take the pill... She who never worked or even imagined having to become a waitress in a fringe restaurant, in contact with a new friend she discovers young people refractory to war, a black cook on the run, a sect with mystical pretensions, a universe a hundred thousand miles from what she knew in Brussels in her right-thinking milieu.

An unexpected event will launch her into a new life.

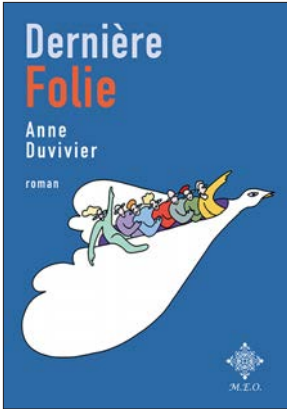
*“With a keen sense of rebound, Anne Duvivier disorients the reader with an end that, perhaps, he did not expect. Or not like that. She surfs with conviction on the shock of mentalities and on a feminism from which she excludes the provocative excesses. From Brussels to Chicago or Eden Beach, she probes the cultural differences and the links that are created there. Carried away by a fluid and clear writing where a cat is called a cat, his book questions with simplicity a certain number of certainties and is read in one go, with pleasure. (Monique Verdussen, La Libre Belgique)*

**The author** : Anne Duvivier is a psychotherapist. In this fifth novel – the third published by M.E.O. – she enchants us again with her way of saying serious things with lightness, her mixture of humor and socio-psychological observation. In our period of neo-feminism often ignorant of its roots, she reminds us of the first steps in the women’s liberation.

Price : 18,00 €

ISBN : 97828070003682

2023 — 196 pages — 267,000 char



## LATEST MADNESS A novel by Anne Duvivier

A community home with old friends?

Maureen responded immediately yes to Hervé's suggestion. Getting together with Ludivine, Claire, Philippe, Odette, and the whole gang! Putting the world to rights, cooking, laughing, fooling around, even sleeping with one or the other, possibly preparing to die because we all have to, but not right away, wow! Maybe she wouldn't die alone and

abandoned by everyone...

She threw her arms around his neck, before changing her mind: We should first do a test, start with a week together.

They're not twenty anymore, but well into their sixties. Life has tossed them in different directions. Will they be able to recreate the bond that bound them in the days of Swamiji, the whimsical guru of their youth? Especially when hidden resentments and suffering explode in their faces?

*In this Last Madness, nothing goes as planned. The author offers us a funny story in a direct and familiar style without embellishments. Under this light appearance, however, we are led to wonder about a deeper question: when we reach the age of taking stock of our lives, when our loved ones leave one after the other, how much longer do we have to live? What is there left to hope for? The vice of the fear of dying alone or dying at all tightens its grip and each of the characters in the story will show us what kind of score they want to play for their last dance. [Séverine Radou]*

**The author** : Anne Duvivier is a psychotherapist. In this sixth novel – the third published by M.E.O. – she enchants us again with her way of saying serious things with lightness, her mixture of humor and socio-psychological observation.

Price : 20,00 €

ISBN : 97828070004924

2025 — 192 pages — 265,000 char



## A COLUMN FOR HEAVEN

*A novel by Philippe Fiévet*

Byzantine Syria, 5th century AD. As Rome continues to fall into chaos, the axis of the world has swung towards the Levant. Christians are now the majority there and are working to stifle the last pockets of paganism.

Two men, a monk and a rich Roman refugee, follow each their own destiny. In the festive city of Antioch whose brilliance earned it the nickname “*Pearl of the Orient*”, Rufin remains faithful to ancient beliefs and enjoys to the full the pleasures of life. On the contrary,

Paphnutius turned away from all this in favor of a pious existence behind the walls of a monastery, before taking the radical decision to live alone at the top of a column, not far from the desert. But times are uncertain, even for a stylite, and never has doomsday seemed so close...

*A Column for Paradise looks back on this 5th century plagued by the disorders of nature and human passions, oscillating between fervor and cruelty, pleasures and mortifications, transcendence and religious fanaticism, but which sometimes finds a temporary salvation in love. Doesn't death always have the last word, as illustrated by this widespread epitaph on graves, both Christian and pagan?*

*You run ? - I run.*

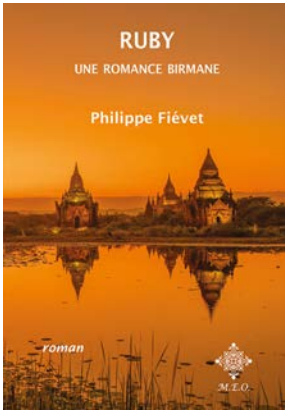
*How far ? - So far!*

**The author:** Philippe Fiévet was born in Charleroi, Belgium. He lives in Braives, between Liège and Namur. He taught history and travelled through Greece, Syria and Egypt, fascinated by late and proto-Byzantine antiquity, before branching off into a career as a journalist and editorial writer for the Belgian editorial staff of *Paris Match*.

It was after a prolonged stay on *Mount Athos* that he became closely interested in hermit life, the aspirations and hardships of which haunt this novel rich in adventures.

**Has been shortlisted for the  
SAGA CAFÉ PRIZE**

Price : 19,00 €  
ISBN : 9782807003415  
2022 — 240 pages - 375,000 char



## RUBY, A BURMESE ROMANCE

*A novel by Philippe Fiévet*

Ruby, a young lesbian photographer, whimsical, freedom-loving, eager for escape and new experiences, befriends a journalist thirty years her senior. While a jubilant relationship is woven between them, all in humor and complicity, they develop the project of going to Burma, which they both know, to make a documentary on the rubies of Mogok. They convince a famous jeweler to join their adventure.

But before finding the land of a thousand pagodas, which whispers to the spirits, makes a pact with ghosts and conceals the most incandescent precious stones on the planet, they will have to face unforeseen events that thwart the preparation of this trip in which they hope to ward off their respective pasts.

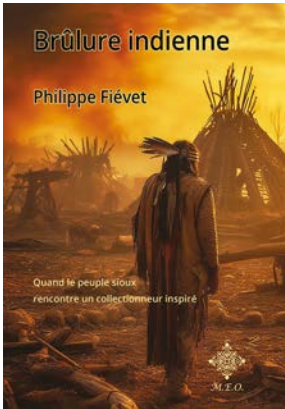
In this second novel, the author approaches Burmese culture today under the thumb of a bloodthirsty junta, but also the vertigo of the journey, the one made in the past and which remains anchored in us, the one we are delighted to undertake. and the one that we know it will never happen, a metaphor for life.

*In addition to offering us a beautiful journey to the land of a thousand pagodas, Philippe Fiévet speaks to us of introspection and reminds us of the political power established there, a bloodthirsty junta that represses anyone who tries to break ranks or rebel. But beyond these aspects, he has an unbounded love for unparalleled landscapes, splendid nature, and a millennia-old culture, which he describes with passion. An editorialist and columnist for Paris-Match, the author knows Southeast Asia well, having traveled extensively throughout the country, and loves to use his knowledge to research his books. Ruby, a Burmese Romance is a captivating read, giving the impression of strolling without leaving home. (André Metzinger, Bruxelles-Culture)*

**The author:** Journalist at Paris Match Belgium, author of three other books, Philippe Fiévet has traveled through Southeast Asia, in particular Myanmar (ex-Burma). His interest in magical thinking and traditional cultures fuels a romantic vein where derision rubs shoulders with a poetic and baroque universe.

Has been shortlisted for the  
**HORIZON PRIZE**

Price : 19,00 €  
ISBN : 9782807004023  
2023 — 212 pages — 372,000 char



## INDIAN BURNS

*A life story by Philippe Fiévet*

*Indian Burn* tells the life of François (Franck) Chladiuk, nicknamed *Lone Wolf*, who assembled an extraordinary collection of authentic pieces left by the Lakota Sioux after the 1935 Brussels International Exposition. This collection has been exhibited, among others, at the *Musée des Confluences* in Lyon, at the *Royal Museums of Art and History* in Brussels, and at the *Buffalo Bill Museum & Grave* in Golden (USA). It will be exhibited

in 2025 during 8 months at the famous *Musée des Sciences naturelles* in Paris.

On the Pine Ridge Reservation (South Dakota), Frank met and befriended one of their descendants, Walter Littlemoon who was later invited to give a speech in the Lakota language, in front of many prestigious guests, at the opening of the exhibition in Lyon.

This story also addresses the world of collectors, the birth of a passion, the intervention of chance, the desire to follow the journey of objects, and the search for the people they hide. Therefore, such a collection becomes a bridge between human beings, here a Brussels resident passionate about America and the Sioux people whose culture was almost destroyed by the “white man”.

Numerous articles have been devoted to François Chladiuk in the Belgian and French press (easily found on the web). His meeting with Walter Littlemoon was the subject of a documentary film produced by Belgian television. He is co-author of the book *Lakota Performers in Europe* (University of Oklahoma Press).

On the other hand, Walter Littlemoon also wrote his life story, *They Called Me Uncivilized*, which will be published in French translation by M.E.O. in December 2024.

**The author :** *Philippe Fiévet is a journalist for the Belgian editorial staff of Paris Match. During his interviews, he met some colorful characters. Among them, is François Chladiuk, who is presented to us in this fifth work by the author. His first novel, A Column for Paradise, was a shortlisted for the Saga Café Prize. His second novel, Ruby, a Burmese Romance, is now shortlisted for the Horizon Prize. He also wrote books about trees and gastronomy.*

Price : 23,00 €

ISBN : 9782807004375

2024 – 232 p – 421,000 char

6 pages with coloured illustrations

## THE FIREFLY GARDEN

*A novel by Philippe Fiévet*



The owner of one of the most beautiful gardens in his region dies in the way – or almost – he always wanted: accidentally, amidst his cherished plantings. But what will become of his precious trees, to which he has given so much? How will his dream garden evolve? Is it doomed to die with its gardener, or will a successor take over? As for the three children whose childhoods were marked by this garden, what will become of them? How will they cope with the loss of their father, of this house haunted by memories of travels, shadows, and lights?

There comes an inevitable moment when we reach the end of the road; but if trees are with us, if they have imbued our lives with their wisdom, do they not give us the answers we have always wondered about? Those who are sensitive to the magic of gardens will understand this beautiful adventure that the author shares in this novel «from beyond the humus», far beyond a short human life.

*A continuation of *The Time of Trees* (Rouergue, 2019), *The Garden of Fireflies* (published by M.E.O.) is a long, sensitive, and lucid journey, through shadow and light, along the furrows of a man's existence. Evocations (of the past, present, and future), reflections (concrete or philosophical), and anecdotes (humorous or more serious) mark the path of the narrative, which takes shape in language that is both simple and precise. Philippe Fiévet offers a personal account that illustrates, with originality, a universal Lavoisian truth: "Nothing is lost, nothing is created, everything is transformed." (Samia Hammami, *Le Carnet et les Instants*)*

**The author :** The Belgian writer Philippe Fiévet, a former teacher and globetrotter turned journalist at *Paris Match Belgium*, lives in a village in the Belgian country. He patiently landscaped a plot of land there, seeding it with the most beautiful species of the plant kingdom, with radiant trees in autumn as a focal point.

Price : 20,00 €  
ISBN : 9782807005167  
2025 – 204 pages– 331,000 char

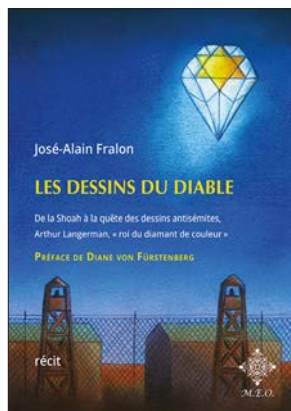
**DEVIL'S DRAWINGS**  
**A life story by José-Alain Fralon**  
**FOREWORD BY DIANE VON FÜRSTENBERG**

Born in 1942 in Antwerp, ARTHUR LANGERMAN miraculously escaped the Shoah which decimated all his family except for his mother. He is very poor and shas to leave school to work for a diamond merchant. The latter exploits him until the day Arthur understands that colored diamonds, then despised, will increase in value. Nicknamed “the king of colored diamonds”, he will sell his precious stones all over the world, not without incredible adventures. But he will never forget the murder of his family by the Nazis. Why this deep hatred of the Jews which led to the Shoah? He discovers a horrible postcard on the Old Market in Brussels showing a caricatured “disgusting old ‘Jew’” sodomizing a little girl. In a flash, he understands that the trivialization of contempt and hatred of the Jews under the cover of so-called humor conditioned minds and opened the way to Hitler. From then on, he begins to collect anti-Semitic posters, drawings, and paintings. Caricatures? No, the degradation of millions of human beings into vermin! His collection has been exhibited in numerous museums, notably at the Kazerne Dossin in Mechelen and at the Caen Memorial. Its ten thousand pieces are today brought together in a foundation in Berlin, under the aegis of the university and the city, ensuring worldwide visibility. Several publications, as well as television reports and numerous press articles, have been devoted to the collection and to Arthur Langerman himself.

DIANE VON FÜRSTENBERG, whose mother and that of Arthur Langerman knew each other in the death camps, wrote a foreword.

**The author :** *The French journalist and writer José-Alain Fralon was an international reporter, correspondent for Le Monde in Brussels, and then deputy editor-in-chief of the newspaper. He has published works of journalistic inspiration in publishing houses such as Fayard, Gallimard, and Calmann-Lévy. More than 30,000 copies of Baudouin, The Man Who Would Not Be King (Fayard) have been sold. At a time when anti-Semitism is experiencing a dramatic resurgence, he offers us the fascinating and humorous biography of an extraordinary man.*

Price : 23,00 €  
ISBN : 9782807004405  
2024 – 240p – 308,000 char  
16 pages with coloured illustrations



*TRANSLATED INTO GERMAN*

## THE CURSE OF THE WORDS

A novel by Évelyne Guzy

What if silence turns out to be a gift? This is the question Eva asks herself as she begins to investigate the lives of those who are no longer here to speak.

Icek, the survivor. Dull and ugly, Eva's paternal grandfather seemed uneventful. A Jewish immigrant from Poland in the 1930s, like many others. Until one day Eva thinks of discovering her communist past. Who was Icek really?

Groïnim, Icek's child, Eva's father. Shortly before his death, he bequeathed her a video that testifies to his war past. But, on analysis, everything does not add up ... Where is the truth located when Groïnim's hidden childhood taught him to conceal himself?

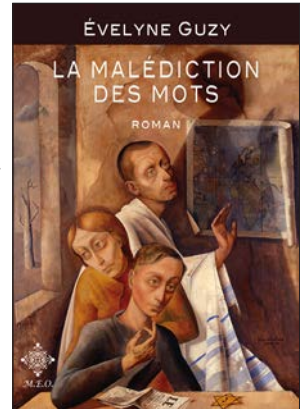
Doniek, the resistant, maternal grandfather of Eva. An important figure in the Belgian armed struggle, a respected Zionist leader and a fervent anti-Communist, Doniek experienced a descent into hell when a historian questioned his action. Who's wrong, who's right ?

At the crossroads of the lives of the Survivor, the Child and the Resistant, Eva takes hold of her own existence and forges a chosen destiny for herself, in love with the silences of the past.

*For the sake of honesty and transparency for the reader, Évelyne Guzy uses the springs of the novel to fill in the blanks left by history. She unfolds her investigation, which from one end of the story to the other does not fail to be tender or disturbing, but always fascinating (La Centrale).*

• An in-depth study written by André Bénit has been published on the website of the European Association for Francophone Studies.

**The author.** After studying journalism and an aggregation – later supplemented by training in research –, Évelyne Guzy devotes most of her career to writing and communication: author of information brochures on topics of citizen interest, editor, occasional ghost writer, writing and communication coach. She has provided a literary program devoted to Belgian writers on a Brussels radio and contributes to the literary review *Marginales*. *The Curse of Words* is her fifth book.



Price : 20,00 €  
ISBN : 9782807005341  
2025 – 232 p – 303,000 char

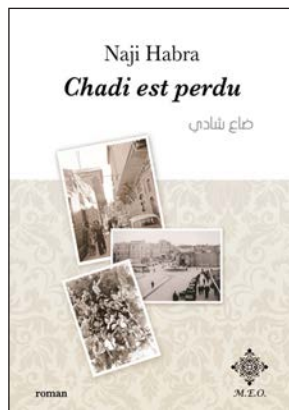
## CHADI IS LOST

*A novel by Naji Habra*

Seven scouts who left their native Damascus for different countries (Belgian, France, Germany, Italy, United States and Emirates) meet again forty years later for a few days of sightseeing in the Bay of Naples. There, they reminisce about shared memories of a country that no longer exists. Gradually, the schoolboy moments allow more intimate questions to emerge: the meaning of success, the price of integration, identity, commitment, cowardice, transmission... Its title refers both to a famous song by Feyrouz and to an eighth scout who refused to compromise with the Assad regime and whose whereabouts have been lost in the group. Oscillating between lightness and gravity, *Chadi is Lost* approaches exile from the unusual angle of integration at different stages of life. But perhaps the seven intertwined narratives are merely variations of a single story: the impossible quest for lost innocence?

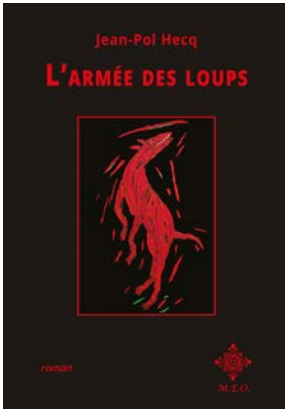
*A very interesting first novel by a man whose remarkable career has been the subject of numerous press articles and interviews. He is also known for his high-level scientific work and his involvement in inter-university programs.*

**The author :** Naji Habra has had an exceptional career. He left Syria in 1980, a country that was falling under the yoke of one of the most tyrannical regimes in the world, to build a new life in Belgium. A civil engineer graduated from the University of Damascus, he earned a doctorate in computer science from the University of Louvain before beginning an academic career at the University of Namur: full professor, president of a multi-faculty research center, dean of the Faculty of Computer Science, vice-rector, and finally the first rector elected by universal suffrage. Also an environmental activist, driven by issues of diversity, interculturality, and migration, he embarks on a new adventure with this first novel.



Price : 20,00 €  
ISBN : 9782807005341  
2025 – 232 p – 303,000 char

*RIGHTS SOLD FOR ARABIC (EGYPT)*



## THE ARMY OF WOLVES

*A novel by Jean-Pol Hecq*

One spring night in 2035, in a forest village, a marginal hunter comes face to face with a wolf. This news triggers an avalanche of questions. Has the wolf returned to this remote region? Is a pack establishing itself there? And if so, what should be done with it? Should the canton, as the biggest landowner wishes, create an ambitious animal theme park likely to boost the local economy? Or, as Professor Michalat, a somewhat pedantic scholar and mayoral candidate, maintains, should they destroy this devilish creature immediately? None of this would matter much if a mysterious military testing center weren't located a few kilometers away and if the European Confederation weren't on the brink of war...

But who is this charming Elvira who bursts into the village without warning? *With The Army of Wolves, Jean-Pol Hecq, a journalist with a passion for history and a keen observer of world developments, delivers a gripping futuristic novel that immerses us in the challenging uncertainties surrounding the use of artificial intelligence as a weapon of war in the actual context of a rapidly unraveling geopolitical balance. The text reviewed by specialists in the field.*

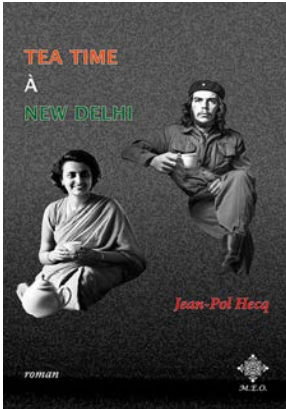
**The author:** Jean-Pol Hecq was a journalist and radio producer at Belgian Radio and Television for forty years. After hosting programs such as *Rencontre*, *L'Autre Parallèle*, and *Mythographies*, and then heading the international radio department at RTBF, he created the famous magazine *Et dieu dans tout ça?* (What about God in All That?), devoted to philosophies and spiritualities, which he presented for a dozen years. He then headed communications at the Centre d'Action Laïque in Brussels.

He has already published two novels and a collection short stories. His first novel, *Georges and the Dragons*, won the Mons' Livre Prize.

Price : 20,00 €

ISBN : 9782807005259

2025 – 196 pages – 317,000 char



## TEA TIME IN NEW DELHI *A novel by Jean-Pol Hecq (3rd edition)*

During the summer of 1959, Ernesto “Che” Guevara paid an official visit to New Delhi to establish diplomatic relations between Cuba and the non-aligned countries that Nehru was trying to unite. He wanted to sell them sugar, and to buy weapons to defend themselves against the American threat.

At this time of heightened international tensions—Tibet in rebellion against Chinese occupation, Vietnam on the brink of war, India threatened by Pakistan and

China—, the United States and the USSR were silently clashing through their intelligence services. Che Guevara was an admirer of Mahatma Gandhi—his childhood idol—and of Nehru. But the meeting with the latter was disappointing. Indira, Nehru’s daughter, a beautiful, intelligent, educated, and French-speaking 41-year-old, and Ernesto, 31, also educated and fluent in French, felt a mutual fascination, to the point that the future leader of India encouraged the guerrilla fighter to meet the philosopher Krishnamurti.

We know that Indira and Che met during this visit. But what could they have said to each other? A mystery! A mystery that leaves the field wide open for a fictional tale steeped in history and adventure, with American agents setting trap after trap for the Cubans while their Russian and Indian counterparts strive to protect them.

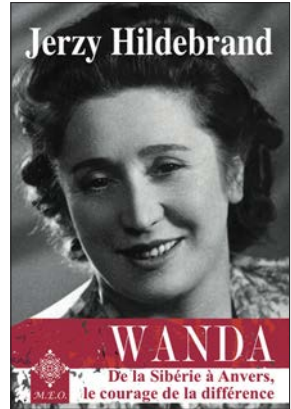
*India, perhaps, is the main character in this novel, which is a real page-turner. [...] the author takes the reader through city streets, pushes open doors, meets people, and expresses the soul of a nation, its dreams and its limitations, placing his heroes within this vibrant setting. Thanks to meticulous research, Jean-Pol Hecq breaks through the veneer of icons, allowing them to meet in a profound exchange. (Marcel Leroy)*

**The author:** Jean-Pol Hecq was a journalist and radio producer at Belgian Radio and Television for forty years. After hosting programs such as *Rencontre*, *L’Autre Parallèle*, and *Mythographies*, and then heading the international radio department at RTBF, he created the famous magazine *Et dieu dans tout ça?* (What about God in All That?), devoted to philosophies and spiritualities. His first novel, *Georges and the Dragons*, won the Mons’ Livre Prize.

*RIGHTS SOLD FOR BENGALI  
IN DISCUSSION FOR HINDI*

Price : 20,00 €  
ISBN : 9782807005259  
2025 – 196 pages – 317,000 char

**WANDA, FROM SIBERIA TO ANTWERP,  
THE COURAGE OF DIFFERENCE**  
*A life story by Jerzy Hildebrand*



Born in a rich Polish Jewish family, Wanda, the author's mother, becomes a widow without knowing it. Her husband was executed by the Soviets during the Katyn massacre. She is deported to Siberia with her four-year-old son. A deportation that will save their lives. In this open-air prison, she will have to forget that she was a frivolous young woman. Though sinking into near-poverty, she remains animated by the fierce will to survive and to allow her child to live. On their return to Poland after the war, they are confronted with anti-Semitism and know the fate of so many secular Jews shipped from one country to another. They end their wanderings in Belgium. First considered as inept at studying so much disturbed he is, her child becomes a medical doctor, a neurologist, then a professor at the Brussels université head of the neurology department at Erasmus hospital, specialist in neurological complications of cancer of which he was a pioneer and in the treatment of which he acquired an international reputation.

*A moving text, with enough humour to allow to keep at a distance what the narrative may contain as being too hard. One of the most beautiful homages which a son ever rendered to his mother, without attempting to make her a saint, but painting a courageous, pragmatic, free woman, full of gaiety and humor; a woman who has managed to remain herself through the convulsions of the twentieth century, even though her qualities were sometimes counterbalanced by defaults and prejudices of another time.*

**The author :** After his retirement, professor Hildebrand remained a volunteer consultant at the Institut Bordet and at the Mazarin service of the Parisian hospital of Pitié-Salpêtrière (which earned him the Legion of Honor). He himself died of the disease he fought all his life and was cremated the day of the publication of this book.

**Price : 16,00 €**  
**ISBN : 9782930702377**  
**2013 — 152 pages — 226,000 char**

## GOOD BYE LIZA

*A novel by Françoise Houdart*



Lightning strikes the centuries-old lime-tree in front of Eugenie's house, knocking the old lady to her kitchen floor. Her daughter Lisa goes to see her at the hospital. This is how Lisa begins to become aware of all the mysteries that have marked her life, from the *Mona Lisa pension*, near Santa Maria Novella station at Firenze, where her parents spent their honeymoon and where she was – presumably – conceived. Despite a relative status quo, family life was suddenly shaken by the forced escape of her father Auguste, unable to assume a serious accusation, and of whom she no longer knew anything but postcards sent from the four corners of France and Italy. From unsaid to unsaid, a wall has been erected, which she must now deconstruct stone by stone.

*There is a lot of distress and bewilderment in this novel which speaks very well of the irresponsible things left unsaid, the heartbreaking rumors and the wounds inflicted by inconsequential parents. Translator and teacher, Françoise Houdart is an experienced storyteller who, since the 1980s, has pursued a remarkable career as a poet and novelist. She has a keen sense of intrigue, leading it to its ultimate end with as much sensitivity to the turmoil of the human heart as she has a talent for driving suspense. (Monique Verdussen, La Libre Belgique).*

*A book as I like them, where poetic writing, romantic history, real life and secrets mingle. A novel about the lies and things left unsaid that tear families apart and erect invisible walls between their members. A book also on the weaknesses of each other, on forgiveness, on our destinies. Martine Rouhart, AREAW)*

**The author** : Translator, teacher (german language), poet, short story writer and novelist, Françoise Houdart continues, with this twenty-first novel, her exploration of a writing that submits lived experience to the challenges of the imagination. Winner of numerous literary prizes (including the Baron de Thysebaert prize and the Charles Plisnier prize), she also carries out many activities in libraries and schools.

Price : 15,00 €

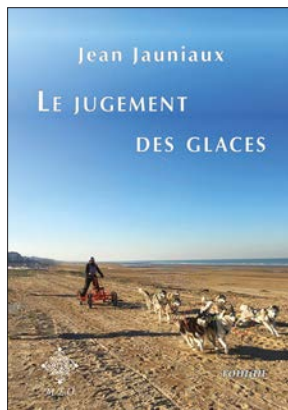
ISBN : 9782807002708

2021 — 138 pages — 155,000 char

*TRANSLATED INTO BULGARIAN*

## THE ICE JUDGEMENT

*A novel by Jean Jauniaux*



A teacher harassed by his pupils, Barthélémy sinks into an insomniac depression inspiring him to write a book about his nocturnal wanderings through a marginal Brussels. The dazzling success of the book and its adaptation as a reality TV show enable Barthélémy to retire and take refuge in Saint-Idesbald, on the Belgian coast, a stone's throw from the French border.

While out walking, he comes across a group of refugees fleeing the Calais Jungle. Led by Aslan who was a teacher in his destroyed village, a woman, two twin boys and a Russian deserter, who had fled the first Chechen war, the group was hoping, like so many others, to cross the Channel. For Barthélémy, this meeting is a redemption. He is going to help them and rediscover his vocation as a teacher. With his friends Van Drogenbos, an uncompromising town-planning official, Charon, an ex-fisherman and customs officer, and Zanzibar, who is restoring an old Grandbanks, he will organize the crossing of the group to Scotland.

In this novel of redemption and adventure, we rediscover Jean Jauniaux's world of fiction and the highly visual style that led to the film adaptation of one of his short stories.

*"I liked the mix of the personal and the imaginary, the multiplicity of languages, the humor, the sarcasm, the tenderness. All of this is deep, sincere and beautifully done. »*  
(J.-M. G. Le Clézio)

**The author:** *Jean Jauniaux is a novelist, short story writer and poet. His books have been translated into several languages. He writes literary columns for Le Monde, Ullenspiegel, and La Revue générale, and conducts interviews with writers that are broadcast online on various web radio stations. For many years he was editor-in-chief of the literary magazine Marginales. Committed to the defense of freedom of expression and the preservation of literary heritage, he is President of the Maurice Carême Foundation, Honorary President of the Belgian PEN Club, and an honorary graduate of the Academy of Ukrainian Writers.*

Price : 19,00 €

ISBN : 9782930704559

2024 — 176 pages – 235,00 char

HAS BEEN SHORTLISTED FOR

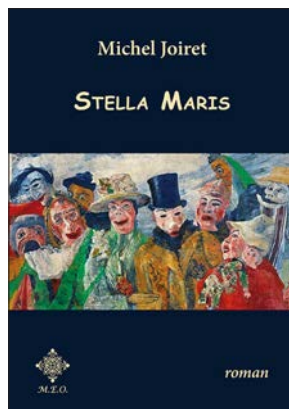
MONS' LIVRE PRIZE

Translated into Albanian

Right sold for Bengali and Turkish

**STELLA MARIS**  
*A novel by Michel Joiret*

Adèle «the swallow» dies during the pandemic and Damien, her husband, is devastated. His world is collapsing, his job as a journalist, his friends... Even happy memories suffer from a loss of meaning. Damien then decides to break with this deleterious environment and takes the train to Ostend, where he rents Stella Maris, an old-fashioned house where his father used to go on vacation after his mother left them. He reconnects with Brother Marc, his former teacher at Jean-Baptiste de la Salle College, but also the benevolent confessor of yesteryear; he tries to discover if his father, close to Marc, who disappeared after being accused of having killed Lucie, his last love, is still on the run or is dead. But the mystery remains opaque and the journalist, in Ostend ravaged by the virus, seeks to discover a new life, entangled in an obscure affair of a secular curse, mocked by a procession of carnival masks, jostled by the puffiness of James Ensor and the rigors marines. marine rigors. Between rain and wind, unreadable sand writing on the windows and history of the town, Damien discovers a mythical Flanders where present and past, real and imaginary merge. And the meeting of a tourist guide leads him to the edge of a new and providential identity.



*In close companionship with life and death, Damien goes through Ostend as in a trance. Life is the time before, when Adèle had not been affected by the epidemic, it is perhaps also the time after, thanks to a luminous encounter under a sky that abandons sometimes its autumn tints to give a false air of spring. [∞]Steeped in contradictions, Stella Maris is a novel that does not claim to resolve them all, but leaves ghosts their rightful place, sometimes appearing in reality.*  
(Pierre Maury, LE SOIR.)

**The author:** Novelist, poet, essayist, reviewer and once a teacher, Michel Joiret is the author of some forty books, several of which have won awards, including *Madame Cléo* (M.E.O.), Prize of the Parliament.

Price : 18,00 €  
ISBN : 9782807003385  
2022 — 180 pages — 218,000 char

**MONS'LVRE PRIZE**  
**TRANSLATED INTO BULGARIAN**



## THE AMAZON OF THE CIRIO

*A novel by Jacques Lefèbvre*

The narrator, formerly a French teacher and amateur novelist, has invited a colleague from Poland to Cirio, a Brussels brasserie. They glimpse a female figure there and challenge themselves to make her the heroine of a novel. Thus, between connivance, banter and mockery, Elzbieta is born under their pen, a Polish Jewish child who escaped the extermination camps that swallowed up her parents. She and Bogena, a surrogate mother, perhaps a Cossack and perhaps a gypsy, flee the Soviet troops through Poland and Czechoslovakia, to Vienna, a springboard to Brussels, offering us a panorama of the convulsed central Europe of the post-war period. A nested novel, which is constructed under the reader's gaze in the incessant criticism and repentance, where the relationships between the two co-authors are modeled on the fictional adventures of their characters. A visionary novel, whose only flaw is that it was published too early. Now that the epidemics of mutant viruses are succeeding, it is extremely topical, and warns us of the dangers that the contemporary world poses to the humanity.

*Jacques Lefèbvre knows his subject well. He knows the deleterious game of double talk, masks and doctored images. He also knows that a novel lets itself be written but that readers often accompany these fictions like another form of History, that of missed appointments or new Quixotes... The author's writing scrutinizes these adventures with a scrupulous lens and the two characters in the novel share, with the voluptuousness of passionate amateurs, moments where the reader is taken to task: witness, accomplice, actor, creator. This fourth novel by Jacques Lefèbvre confirms the author's talent in this subtle handling of historical facts, interpretative drifts and the aftereffects of one time on another. (Daniel Simon)*

**The author.** Jacques Lefèbvre chaired the Belgian Association of French Teachers. Eight years during which he gave training courses in Poland, Slovakia and the Czech Republic. Before «L'amazone du Cirio», he had published four novels and a literary essay.

Price : 21,00 €  
ISBN : 9782807004313  
2024 — 228 pages.  
344,000 char

**THOMAS J. WILLSON, HIS DAUGHTERS,  
HIS SON AND THE END OF TIME**  
*A novel by Julien Léonard*

Thomas J. Willson, a somewhat moody widower and author of children's novels, is doing his best to raise his two daughters and son alone. Until the day a Choco Pops shortage hits the local supermarket and his gifted youngest daughter, Aude, announces the end of time.

From then on, everything goes haywire. Driven by murderous rage, humans tear each other apart and are attacked by mad animals, strange characters spread threatening prophecies... Led by Aude, the family is tossed around in a road movie under a tornado-like sky invaded by red fireflies, hoping to find the horse breeder – could it be God? – who alone can put an end to this Apocalypse... until the final twist.

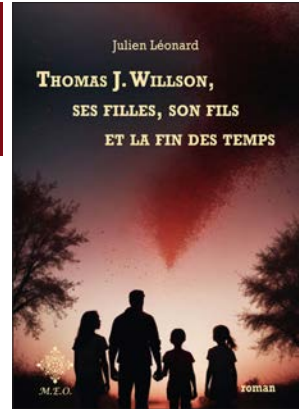
*One might imagine that the story \*Thomas J. Willson, His Daughters, His Son, and the End of Time\* is a serious and somber dystopia, but that's not the case at all. Julien Léonard's narrative is more of a humorous tale about the end of times, even if that seems hard to believe at first. We see a family going about their daily lives as they try not to lose their grip on reality in the face of a serious event looming on the horizon. And since the protagonist doesn't take himself too seriously and is driven by a cautious pragmatism in the face of all this absurdity, we get to read some rather delightfully comical scenes. But don't be fooled; behind this gentle madness lies a real depth, with existential questions about the meaning of life and general truths that are sometimes harsh and just.*

*(Séverine Radoux, Le Carnet et les Instants)*

**The author:** A horror film enthusiast and fan of Stephen King, Julien Piron has published thrillers, post-apocalyptic novels, and dark fantasy, first under his real name, then under the pseudonym “Julien Léonard”, where a generous dose of humor spices up dark and offbeat worlds.

With *Thomas J. Willson*, a work oscillating between fantasy and fantastical realism, he changes genres. But you can't change your ways, and his old loves animate this new novel, certainly of higher literary standards and more sustained writing, but driven by a frenetic pace and situations as distressing as they are fantastical.

Right up to the final twist...



Price : 22,00 €

ISBN : 9782807005310

2025 – 228 pages – 313,000 char



## TO LEAVE

*A novel by Marie Dô*

Yzant, a widower and former sea rescuer, has been trying to survive since a tragedy for which he bears the guilt. Renovating a campsite and a simple, peaceful life surrounded by nature are his substitutes for happiness. The appearance of Amaïkha, a mysterious woman who walks the beach dressed in bright red at the same time as him, and the unexpected return of Teho, his nephew and near-adopted son with whom Yzant has fallen out,

will undermine this precarious balance. The young man is accompanied by his friend Romain, an idealistic, quick-witted urbanite who compulsively searches for love on dating websites. Teho drowns a simmering anger against his uncle in the frenetic practice of surfing, and Romain tries in his own way to help them latch onto the boil. Between them lies Amaïkha, a revealing mirror and an incentive for rebirth, a secretive woman with many faces, who fascinates all three. In *Partir*, Marie Dô unravels with poetry, humor, and tact the tangle of our fragile existences in the face of the power of the elements. Through the ebb and flow of our paradoxes and cracks – like an ocean that must be let go and then returned without ever resisting it – a quest for humanity, its mystery, its beauty, in the heart of nature.

*A simple, but profound novel, accessible to the general public despite a high level of writing.*

*To leave is a touching, poetic novel. A story of resilience, featuring three fragile characters who each try, in their own way, to move forward, to forgive, to listen, to flee, to understand...*

**The Author.** *Born in Paris, Marie Dô, a professional dancer, joined the prestigious Alvin Ailey Dance Theater in New York at 19 before working with the Ballets Jazz de Montréal, Joseph Russillo, and Maguy Marin in Paris. She also appears in film (with Jacques Demy), television (with Jean-Pierre Cassel), and theater. Her first novel, Fais danser la poussière (Plon), largely autobiographical, was adapted into a television film on France 2 and RTBF with enormous success. This was followed by three other novels (Plon and Anne Carrière publishers) and a short story in a collective collection.*

Price : 17,00 €

ISBN : 9782807004894

2025 – 152 pages – 194,000 char



## VOULEZ-VOUS

A novel by Lorenzo Morello

Laurent decides to sell his shares in the company he founded with his old friend Léopold. His stated motive: the reunion of ABBA for a new recording «going limp» and a hologram concert. Better still, he'll sell them to anyone who can arrange a meeting with Benny Anderson, the band's bearded frontman.

We follow Laurent day by day, in his relationships with his ex-business partner, a lifelong girl friend who manages to put up with him, a luxury prostitute, his cat Marcel, and above all the memory of his younger sister, an ABBA fan who was killed by a hit-and-run driver the day after the Swedish band came to Brussels. With a disenchanted lucidity, the young retired man, while waiting for his unlikely appointment, observes himself bitterly in the midst of our world that is spinning out of control in the aberrations of a technology put at the service of mediocrity.

*With this text, Lorenzo Morello casts a worried eye on our world which is not doing very well, he takes us into all the areas which worry the populations: wars, uncontrolled migrations, climate change, malfeasance of all kinds... But he opens a small door which shows that, despite its excesses, our world still has some possibilities for those who know how to take their life by the right end. (Denis Billamboz, Les Belles Phrases)*

*This novel deeply moved me. The plot is skillfully crafted, with vivid, subtle touches. It seems far-fetched at first, but then, suddenly, the dramatic twist at the very end explains everything, evoking intense emotion. It's a beautiful story that casts a hazy gaze on what is no more, and on what remains with a disillusioned expression. – A profound novel, at times tender, at times incisive, never without humor, that illuminates and questions our life choices. – We become engrossed in this quest, we laugh, we suffer, we feel deeply. A beautiful novel! (Babelio)*

### The author

Lorenzo Morello was born in Brussels in 1971. He has already published three novels, including, at the Editions M.E.O., Pierre, papier, ciseaux, in which he was already stripping the aberrations of our world with vitriol.

Price : 18,00 €

ISBN : 97828070004467

2024 – 164 pages – 236,000 char



## I HOPE YOU'RE DOING WELL

A novel by Lorenzo Morello

The narrator, a struggling writer who inherited a fortune, is lonely and disillusioned. He lives on the ground floor of an old, expensively renovated house, which he owns. He now only has sporadic sexual encounters with Martine, his father's former mistress, who can thus continue to live in the family villa rent-free.

A young, successful influencer, moves into the first floor. Two worlds that are diametrically opposed. Unless...

The narrator quickly realizes that behind the girl's bling-bling lies a drama, and that the «protector» who regularly comes to see her for “activities” that are hardly ambiguous because they are recognizable by their noise is actually her father.

And when Martine, who managed to extract funding from him for the pastry shop she wants to open, disappears before the opening, everything spirals out of control and sets the stage for the final catastrophe

In this fifth novel, Lorenzo Morello dissects our era while exploring our desires, our flaws, our illusions, our petty cowardice, and the tension between the need to exist in the eyes of others and the thirst for authenticity.

*Lorenzo Morello attempts a parody of a world where money can't buy happiness. He also deciphers the construction of a text, the workings of publishing, and the inherent difficulties of literary creation and publication, especially in Belgium. Addressing the contemporary phenomenon of influencers, he questions the limits of the system. You will undoubtedly be moved, despite the violence of some scenes (Angélique Tasiaux, Le Carnet et les Instants*

*«I hope you are well,» this banal, almost automatic phrase, which one slips into a message or an email, becomes in this novel revealing of a century where relationships are generally reduced to hackneyed formulas, without ever leading to serious relationships...*

### The author

*Lorenzo Morello was born in Brussels in 1971. He has already published four novels, including, at the Editions M.E.O., Pierre, papier, ciseaux and Voulez-vous, in which he was already stripping the aberrations of our world with vitriol.*

Price : 19,00 €

ISBN : 97828070005679

2026– 180 pages – 280,000 char

## THE TORMENTS OF A KING

*A novel by Anselme Nindorera*

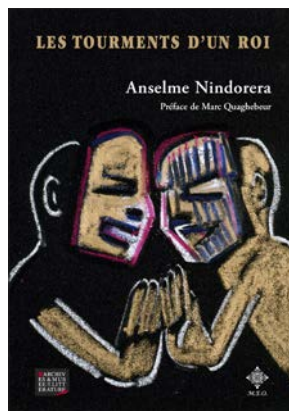
Self-published in Bujumbura in 1993 shortly before the writer's death, the historical novel *Les Tourments d'un roi* focuses on the figure of the last Mwami of Burundi who reigned before German colonization. The sovereign, who had successfully repelled the Arab attempts at conquest, had to yield to the powerful armament of the Second Reich. In addition, he was trapped by the betrayal of two felon princes, Maconco and Kirima.

Despite the destabilization of national unity and the disproportion of forces, Mwezi Gisabo opposed to the future colonizer such resistance that it aroused the respect of the invader. The Germans left the defeated monarch a few margins, including the choice, via the White Fathers of Africa, of French as the language of instruction in the new culture. Precise, rhythmic, often colorful, the story of Nindorera exposes the many difficulties of the reign of this valiant one-eyed king who could not find, in the major ingredients of his culture, the means to oppose the triumph of technique.

*A historical novel, which succeeds in giving the reader an idea of the dimensions of the upheavals that occurred in this part of Africa at the time of the partition and colonization of the continent.*

*[Peter Klaus, agorafrancophone]*

**The author:** *Born in Mbuye, Burundi, Anselme Nindorera completed his secondary studies at the Minor Seminary of Kanyosha (Bujumbura) from 1965. After obtaining a degree in Roman Philology at the Free University of Brussels, he made a career at the Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture. He died in 1993, shortly after having his first novel « The Torments of a King » printed, and when he had just completed this one, « The worm is in the fruit », also published twenty-five years later by M.E.O.-AML.*



Price : 18,00 €  
ISBN : 9782871680880  
2018 – 260 pages – 432,000 char

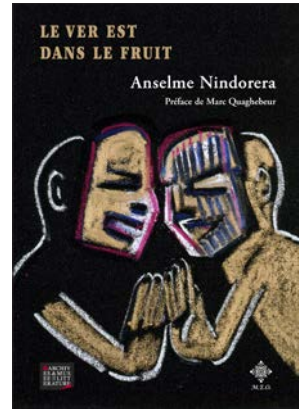
TRANSLATED INTO GERMAN

## THE WORM IS IN THE FRUIT

*A novel by Anselme Nindorera*

This “crime” novel without any detective takes place before and during the Second World War. Burundi is subject to the requisitions of cattle operated by order of the Belgians, which revives previous fractures within the community. The story depicts the daily life of ordinary people in the pastoral hills, away from the urban centers resulting from colonization. These, present but located at a distance from the heart of the action, are the major places of Christianity, this important effect of the defeat of Mwami Mwezi Gisabo and the supposed silence of the traditional god Imana. The tension between tradition and the Christian morality which seeks to impose itself is made palpable through the confrontations and the behavior of the characters. The precept of love of one’s neighbor clashes with ancestral and atavistic reflexes, leading for example to problems of conscience faced with the necessities of traditional revenge including poisoning, murder and adultery. Two protagonists, two ideologies, two beliefs clash: Mpongera, a Christian, and Singenda, a pagan. When Singenda and Leonira, Mpongera’s wife, commit adultery, unforgivable according to ancestral beliefs and customs, there is no reconciliation, no forgiveness possible. Death must be their punishment. After that crime, an old mountain witch, with terrifying appearance and a gravedigger’s laugh, will provide Barukwege, Singenda’s widow, with poison and the means to take revenge. But a *Romeo and Juliet* love affair unfolds in the land of hills, leading to various dramatic twists and turns.

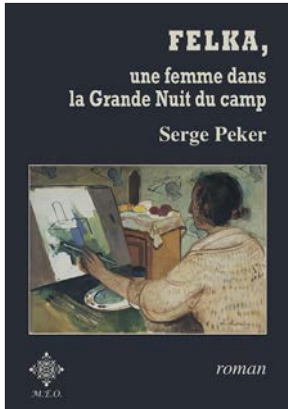
**The author:** *Born in Mbuye, Burundi, Anselme Nindorera completed his secondary studies at the Minor Seminary of Kanyosha (Bujumbura) from 1965. After obtaining a degree in Roman Philology at the Free University of Brussels, he made a career at the Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture. He died in 1993, shortly after having his first novel The Torments of a King printed, and when he had just completed this one, The worm is in the fruit, also published twenty-five years later by M.E.O.-AML.*



Price : 18,00 €

ISBN : 9782871680833

2018 – 244pages – 382,000 char



## FELKA, A WOMAN IN THE GREAT NIGHT OF AUSCHWITZ *A novel by Serge Pekar*

A couple, Félix and Felka. Both painters. Felka, before dying in the Great Night of the camp, relives the main moments of her life as a couple until her deportation with her husband in July 1944. Félix’s paintings animate Felka’s memories and allow her to transform her final moments in a real breath of life and freedom. “If the Nazis dared to look up at us, they would see us hugging each other in bed in our indifference to their dark uniforms. But they will never dare because that would be to admit

that we are the victors and that they are the vanquished.”

This couple could be that of Felka Platek, a Jewish painter of Polish origin and Félix Nussbaum, a German Jewish painter, both arrested in Brussels on June 20, 1944 and deported to Auschwitz on July 31.

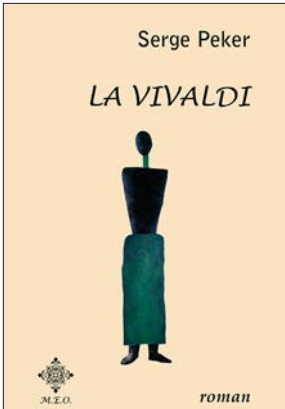
The story is built from and feeds on the paintings painted by Félix Nussbaum, now kept in the museum erected in his honor in his hometown of Osnabrück. Of Felka Platek, only one oil and a few gouaches remain, the rest of the work having been destroyed by the Nazis (along with half of Felix Nussbaum’s work).

- *This poetized “true novel” offers a synthesis of what were the exilic paths of the Jews persecuted by the Night and the Fog of Nazism. (Claire Bondy, sefarad.org).*
- *Serge Pekar’s writing, poetic and intense, recreates this fight of art, life and love (all of which is one here) against death, against barbarism. (H.R., Regards.)*

### **The author.**

*Serge Pekar practiced medicine in Paris for a long time while contributing to a film review. He discovered the work of Félix Nussbaum during an exhibition devoted to him in 2010-2011 by the Museum of Art and History of Judaism. He then felt the desire to cross this painting by transfiguring it through writing.*

Price : 14,00 €  
 ISBN : 9782930333595  
 2012 – 120 pages – 138,000 char



## THE VIVALDI

*A novel by Serge Pekar*

Placed at the *Arpèges* retirement home, an old lady experiences tiny events, funny or pathetic, but all just as intense. She left her name at the door of this establishment and took that of the room she occupies, thus becoming for all and for herself *The Vivaldi*. Through multiple sensations or incongruous situations, she calls out the “you” of her youth revisited in fragments. From the “I” of her experience at the *Arpèges* to the “you” of her childhood in

the Belleville district and of the young Jewish girl who took refuge in the free zone, *The Vivaldi* crosses a space-time created by the sole path of her interior monologue.

- *This second novel by Serge Pekar dazzles with its simplicity and its fluid, easy-to-speak-mastered writing. [...] Nothing wrong or cheated in this recollection of fragile and delicate moments. Nothing solemn either, as the liveliness of the old lady restores the authenticity of her past and present life. The sobriety of a fast and precise writing, the slight melancholy which bathes the intrigue, the narrative construction which alternates the episodes: so many assets for a brilliant and human novel. (Ph. Leuckx, Les Belles Phrases.)*
- *If I had to find a qualifier for the author’s pen, as well as for this book, that word would be “authentic”. A simple and fluid writing that we read as we taste a treat that we love, a delicacy that we simply savor. (Alouqua, The enchanted world of readings)*
- *The writing is intimate and flows constantly in the interior monologue of the old lady. The two “worlds” are perfectly reconstituted, that of the Shoah period as well as that of retirement homes. (D.F., Cahiers Bernard Lazare)*

### The author.

A Parisian medical doctor, Serge Pekar knows the world of retirement homes well.

Price : 15,00 €  
 ISBN : 9782807001114  
 2017 – 140 pages – 194,000 char



## RANIA, THE CRY OF A DISPOSSESSED PEOPLE *A novel by Serge Peker*

*Rania, the cry of a dispossessed people*, finds its way into the history of a country eroded by a neighboring colonizing power and consumed by internal corruption. The daughter of a shepherd pushed ever further into the desert, Rania, a poet and future physicist, imprisoned for participating in a student demonstration, addresses her lover, a banished musician, in a single cry. The country in question is not

named, but it is easy to recognize Palestine, colonized by Israel, plagued by institutional corruption and internal repression. Nevertheless, this country could be any colonized country.

*To tell my life in a cry. To tell it to address it to the one who awaits me on the other side of the world and the vast ocean. But how can I tell my life with the speed of a cry? How can I tell it without betraying it, without abandoning it through my words [...] To say that I grew up on a land caught between an immense desert and the invasions of a powerful neighbor. This land is the land of shepherds, and this desert, with its tentacles, fractures it in many places. On a map, this land of shepherds looks like a sharp, disjointed human silhouette...*

In an illuminating afterword, the philosopher and literary critic Judith Balso-Badiou inserts this new opus into the author's oeuvre, which she analyzes with finesse.

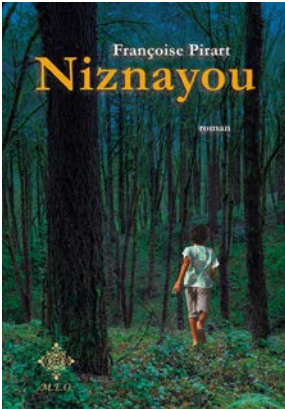
### The author.

Serge Peker practiced medicine in Paris for a long time while contributing to a film review. He has already published three novels with M.E.O. Although he adheres to a Jewish identity that is at odds with Judaism, the author focuses on the Palestinian population, and more specifically on the Bedouin shepherds. With deep humanism, he portrays very endearing characters.

Price : 18,00 €

ISBN : 9782807005044

2025 – 160 pages – 214,000 char



## NIZNAYOU

*An novel by Françoise Pirart*

A provincial town in the Ardennes (Belgium). In the refugee center where she works as social assistant, Lena meets a boy, a little wild, who claims to be called “Niznayou”. Intrigued by his mysterious attitude, the young woman gradually discovers his past when he still lived with his mother in Grozny, under the Russian bombs. A feeling of empathy and tenderness develops between Lena and her protégé. Confronted with violence – she in her couple, he in the war – both feel a powerful need to be loved.

Around this encounter are a few thrill-seeking hunters (among whom is Lena’s husband) who think they’re vigilantes, a kind-hearted adventurer strange enough to start a rumor, two solitary old men, a forest where one can get lost... All ordinary people, but some of them will breathe new life into Niznayou, while others will get carried away by their own little delusions. And at the center of it all, the child. But what do they really know about him?

*In Niznayou, Françoise Pirart offers us a fluid narrative in which the protagonists’ voices are well-defined and each haunted by the past, be it war trauma or some other tragedy. With great sensitivity and restraint, she shows us human beings making their way, step by step, to free themselves from the weight of the past. They agree to disrupt their daily lives to welcome a wounded orphan into their small world, opening up an unknown horizon for them. In this novel, the heroes are not grandiose; they are imperfect and profoundly human, and their heroism stems from their natural desire to do good for those around them, without seeking recognition, because it’s simply about helping someone in need. A must-read for anyone who dares to be, or continues to be, an ordinary hero (Séverine Radoux, Le Carnet et les Instants).*

**The author:** Françoise Pirart has published a lot of novels, as well as collections of short stories. She has won several literary awards, among others the Gauchez-Philippot Prize for La Grinche (M.E.O.) and the Grand Prix bisannuel of the Belgians’ Writers Association for her complete work.

RIGHT SOLD FOR TURKISH

Price : 20,00 €  
ISBN : 9782807004580  
2024 – 216 pages – 350,000 char

**DISAPPEARED WITH A STROKE OF INK**  
*A novel by Annie Préaux*

*“When I met this man, I was thinking of a new novel [...] It had to be a story between a son and his father. A father who died suddenly. A father with whom it would have been difficult to exist. A mourning to be done...”*

The writer Aline Esse is questioned by a police inspector following the worrying disappearance of the man to whom she had rented the house of her deceased parents. Trying to understand, the writer, in the light of her unfinished novel, revisits the particular relationship that she established with this tenant in whom she recognized her new character and who recognized himself in him: a teacher who feels bad in his life, but who madly admires his artist father who died too soon.

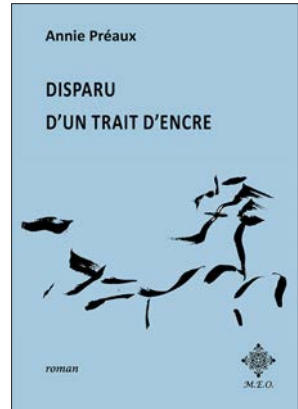
A story within the story, weaving between reality and fiction, nourished by the mutual fascination between the arts of the West and the East (Korean in particular).

*A beautiful novel, which embraces the philosophy of the kakemono, leaving many things unsaid, uncut but delivering enough clues, signs, correspondences to the reader who can, therefore, make them resonate with his own experience to unravel knots, breathe better, open his horizon, travel from one continent to another of his inner geography.*

*(Éric Allard, lesbellesphrases)*

*A beautiful novel, which espouses the philosophy of the kakemono, leaving many things unsaid, uncut but delivering enough clues, signs, correspondences to the reader who can, therefore, make them resonate with his own experience to untie inner ties, breathe better, open his horizon, travel from one continent to another of his inner geography. (Kinbote, critiqueslibres.com)*

**The author :** RTL-TVI Prize for her first novel – “Korean” –, Annie Préaux, novelist and poet, was a passionate teacher of humanist pedagogy. The visual arts, philosophy and theater-action also hold a large place in her life. She offers and leads writing workshops open to all. “*Disappeared with a stroke of ink*” is her eighth novel.



Price : 17,00 €

ISBN : 9782930703149

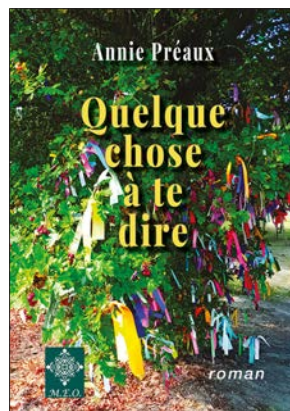
2022 — 188 pages — 210,000 char

**CHARLES PLISNIER PRIZE**

## SOMETHING TO TELL YOU

*A novel by Annie Préaux*

Agathe Verneuil, born in the Borinage (a mining region of Belgium), never knew her father, who was killed by a gunshot in 1944, a few months before her birth. Her mother then entrusted her to her sister, who raised her in Mons, the regional capital. After a great heartbreak, Agathe married a farmer, the brother of her best friend, and became a farmer herself, giving up teaching French. In 2022, having left her husband several years earlier to live with a new partner in another part of Belgium and resume her teaching career, the woman she was never able to call “Mom” died at almost 100 years old. She felt no grief. At the funeral, a distant cousin on her father’s side appeared. Will Agathe finally learn the truth about the death of her father, Armand Verneuil, whom some say was executed by the Nazis, others killed by the Resistance for collaboration? Will she be able to reconcile with her own daughter, Julie, who took over her father’s farm after her parents’ separation and his death? She hopes, at the very least, that the story she is writing—this novel—will take some steps in that direction.



*Annie Préaux delicately explores family memory and unspoken silences. [...] The narrative avoids the trap of self-pity or facile nostalgia. Instead, it favors a meticulous observation of gestures, habits, and silences. The writing becomes a personal investigation. A book that will allow some readers to identify with it! (Michel Weyo, Bruxelles Culture)* *Something to tell you is a story that gives pride of place to the heroine’s memories with great attention to detail, with the streets of Liège and Mons as well as Belgian current events in the background. (Séveribe Radoux, Le Carnet et les Instants)*

**The author** : RTL-TVI Prize for her first novel – “*Korean*” –, Annie Préaux, novelist and poet, was a passionate teacher of humanist pedagogy. The visual arts, philosophy and theater-action also hold a large place in her life. She offers and leads writing workshops open to all. “*Disappeared with a stroke of ink*” is her eighth novel.

Price : 20,00 €

ISBN : 9782930705709

2026 — 204 pages — 302,000 char

RIGHTS SOLD FOR BULGARIAN

## SAÛL BIRNBAUM'S CINEMA

*A novel by Henri Roanne-Rosenblatt*

Survivor of a family of Jewish-Polish restaurateurs, Saul Birnbaum, fled Austria at the age of 6, after the *Kristallnacht*, by a *Kindertransport* of the Red Cross, and found refuge in Brussels where he was hidden from 1942 to 1944. As a young adult, fascinated by the Hollywood cinema that he discovered at the Liberation, he fulfilled his American dream by opening a *delicatessen* in New York. A draft script left as a pledge by an impecunious client allows him to become a film producer. He manages, by unorthodox methods of financing, to mount the production of a film and convince a star to play in it. However, Saul remains haunted by his dramatic youth and by nostalgia for his childhood sweetheart, Hilde, Hitler's niece...



This novel inserts real elements of the author's life into a fictional narrative. First published in 2013, it was reissued this summer on the occasion of the release of the film it inspired, and whose author is co-screenwriter, *The Way to Happiness*. (Best foreign film award at the Sacramento Filmfestival).

*Coup de coeur! A novel [...] which mixes reality and fiction in a perfect way [...] A] book full of love and fury (L'Observateur)*

*Henri Roanne-Rosenblatt offers us a story of resurrection, spiced with bitter humor, historically very documented, that of the dream of a hidden child. (La Libre Belgique)*

*As if to distance himself from the tragic events, Henri Roanne-Rosenblatt adopts a light, ironic, sometimes even cheerful tone to tell us a story of exile, full of romantic variations and unexpected twists, where irony is never far away, and at the very end, a revenge. A fantasy? A defiant gesture against history? Or simply a happy ending, like in the movies? In any case, it's a pleasure to wander with the author, from one continent to another, guided by encounters, from reality to imagination, with the entirety of cinema as a counterpoint. (Tessa Parzenczewski, Point Critique).*

**The author :** Born in Vienna in 1932, a refugee in Belgium after the *Anschluss*, Henri Roanne-Rosenblatt was a film critic at the Belgian Radio-Television. He is the director – with Gérard Valet – of two feature documentaries, *Chine* (Documentary Prize, Viennale 1972) and *Moi, Tintin* (Cannes Official Selection 1977).

Price : 18,00 €

ISBN : 9782930703354

2013 & 2022 — 172 pages — 248,000 char

A NOVEL AND A FILM

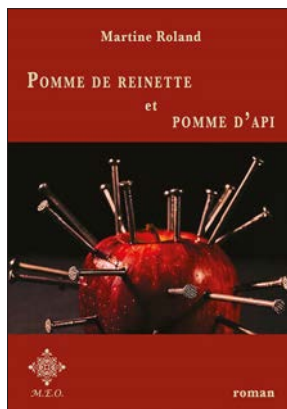
## APPLE RED AND APPLE SWEET *A novel by Martine Roland*

When Brady Nosenko arrives in Camille's class, the tall, abrupt, and solitary redhead fascinates the well-behaved student. Brady lives in a trailer on a vacant lot with his older brother, Oscar, who has a mental disability and who disrupts the lives of everyone around him. Despite the jung man's criminal past, his disturbing relationships with Jim the taxidermist and Marita the prostitute, his mother being committed to a psychiatric institution, his desire to go and defend Ukraine (his father's native land), and a hypothetical affair between him and Hortense, Camille's only friend, Brady is the man of her life. And the young girl transfers her love, her doubts, her concerns into the novel she's currently writing...

Are there deaths that bring relief and words that set free?

- *Although sometimes harsh, the novel is easy to read, the style accessible to all, content and form combined skillfully and brilliantly, making this story a lovely success to discover. (Thierry-Marie Delaunois, blog).*
- *This novel, centered on themes of marginality and romantic difficulties, features complex characters and a dramatic, albeit open, ending. A must-read. (L'Appel)*
- *A novel I read with increasing enthusiasm. A delightful surprise and a discovery. (Philippe Dester, blog).*
- *A novel akin to a thriller with psychological passages, where we witness the merciless blade of social determinism at work. The characters are portrayed with a compelling complexity, allowing us to grasp the ambivalence of each one. (Sylvie Radoux, Le carnet et les instants)*

**The author :** A classical philologist, retired from teaching and active in the field of autism, Martine Roland has published five dark thrillers with a strong psychological component. *Novaya Era ou la femme qui perdit deux fois la tête* (Academia Editions) won the Critics' First Prize at the Salon International de Mazamet.



Price : 20,00 €

ISBN : 9782930705464

2025 — 216 pages — 343,000 char.

Format : 148 x 210 mm

## PORTRAIT OF BALTHAZAR

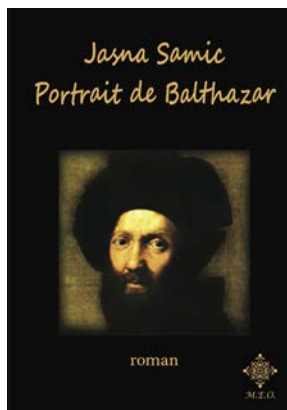
*A novel by Jasna Samic*

In Sarajevo disoriented after the siege, a lawyer defends the cause of a woman, painter, who was expatriated in Paris during the war in Bosnia. She would both retrieve her apartment and publish memories that unquenchable thirst for freedom has made sulphurous. Back in her hometown, she falls madly in love with a “young man” who reminds her of the “Portrait of Baldassare Castiglione” by Raphael, a painting that fascinated her all her life. In her hometown she no longer recognizes, where the inhabitants “only differentiate between mafia and not mafia”, she discovers through this tormented love the rise of violent religious fundamentalism. At the same time, she realizes the idle life of a certain mundain class in Paris, her adopted city.

A double exile novel where passion allows us to perceive the quartering of our time between two incompatible worldviews, the one lax and the other ultra-rigid, forced to live side by side in hating and fighting. A novel that warns the rise, in the Bosnian Islam traditionally opened, of a violent Islamist fundamentalism guided from abroad.

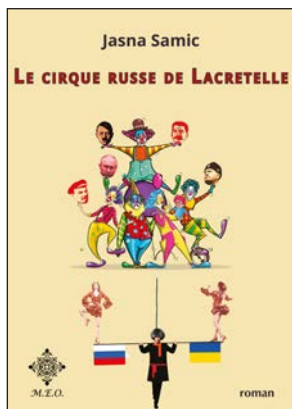
*“What a beautiful, what a terrible novel! Through the daily life of two characters, the author revives the whole life of a city, Sarajevo after the war, where nothing makes sense. Lucid and honest people, as the two heroes, those passionate about art and eager for true freedom, such as the heroin, have no future. Their projects aborte, and they end up tragically. [...] A great reading pleasure, a book that you remember after the end point, and that makes you think. (Paul Garde, one of the most famous specialists of Balkans)*

**The author :** Born in Sarajevo, Jasna Samic lives in Paris. Specialist of Eastern Languages, Literatures and Civilizations, she taught at the Universities of Sarajevo and Strasbourg, was associate research director at CNRS, collaborated on France Culture and Radio France International. She writes in French and Bosnian. Her work includes essays, novels, short stories, poetry and theater. Following the publication of her novel and her stance against the rise of Wahhabi in BiH, Jasna Samic was violently attacked by the Bosnian fundamentalists.



Price : 18,00 €  
ISBN : 9782930333489  
2012 — 208 pages \_  
297,000 char

GAUCHEZ-PHILIPPOT PRIZE  
Translated into Bosnian-Croatian-Serbian



## THE RUSSIAN CIRCUS OF LACRETELLE

*A novel by Jasna Samic*

Kate, an English journalist, meets Michel in Dieppe, who tells her about the extravagant life of her ancestors, White Russians living on *Rue Lacretelle* in the 15th arrondissement of Paris. Among them, a doctor to the imperial family, a lawyer, and an admiral driven to despair by exile; a woman who adores Mussolini and later murders her Jewish lover; another woman in love with the handsome Nazi officers who are supposed to rid Russia of the “red monsters”, a few taxi drivers, princesses, and countesses. To forget the October Revolution and the nostalgia for their beloved homeland, these uprooted people meet every Saturday for a costumed circus where they sing, dance, drink, and, sometimes, commit suicide.

Michel and Kate often visit Aram, a painter who was allowed to leave the USSR because he is Jewish. There they mingle with other Russians who have recently settled in the region, passing oligarchs, a former KGB official, an unemployed opera singer, and some Parisian snob women. They all chatter about Putin, Ukraine, the French people, not to mention MeToo.

As always, Jasna Samic cheerfully mixes purely fictional characters with entirely real ones (one can still find press articles on the web about this assassination committed by a Russian princess, which made headlines in Paris, and who was actually the narrator’s mother).

**The author :** Born in Sarajevo, Jasna Samic divides her time between Paris and her hometown. A specialist in Eastern languages, literature, and civilizations, she writes in French and Bosnian. Her works have received several international awards, including the *Gauche-Philippot Prize* in Belgium for her novel *Portrait of Balthazar* (M.E.O.), the Audience Award at the Balkan Book Fair, the Chinese *Zheng Nian Cup Prize*... She is the recipient of the *Naji Naaman Prize* for her entire work. Her fight for secularism in her native country has led to her receiving regular death threats from Salafist fundamentalists.

**GAY NOVEL PRIZE**  
Translated into Bosnian-Croatian-Serbian

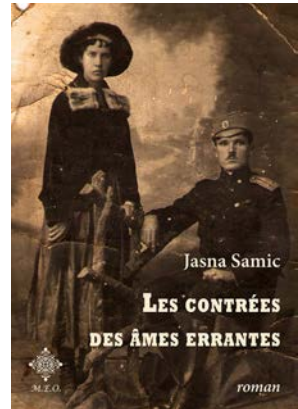
Price : 22,00 €  
ISBN : 9782807004733  
2025 – 244 p – 358,000 char

## THE LANDS OF THE WANDERING SOULS

*A novel by Jasna Samic*

In their modest Paris apartment, Lena witnesses Alyosha getting drunk every night and obsessively look at his family documents. This once brilliant computer scientist, one of the most elegant men in Sarajevo, is undermined by his eternal interrogation: did his father, whom he never knew, roll convoys of death before disappearing in 1945?

Through three – authentic – diaries of Alyosha's ascendants, that of his Babushka Liza – a Russian who knew Tolstoy and escaped Bolshevism to Bosnia –, that of his mother Irina and that of his Omama Grete – emigrated from Vienna to Sarajevo –, Lena tells the family saga of her first ex-husband who remained her lover and whom she then re-married to make him escape the war... Crossing wanderings mingled with her own ones – Sarajevo, Istanbul, London, New York and especially Paris –, driven by her love for art and a fierce thirst for independence, in constant quest for authenticity, confronting against winds and tides the ubiquitous apparatchiks, the devious males, the literary impostors, the Parisian snobs, the Islamist fundamentalists at last...



*Jasna Samic's latest novel is such a fascinating piece that it keeps us in suspense from beginning to end. [...] The enigma is still present, and particularly concerns Alyosha, one of the main heroes of the book, around whom everything takes place. [Sadizda, Decitre]*

**The author:** Born in Sarajevo, Jasna Samic lives in Paris. Specialist of Eastern Languages, Literatures and Civilizations, she taught at the Universities of Sarajevo and Strasbourg, was associate research director at CNRS, collaborated on France Culture and Radio France International. She writes in French and Bosnian (Serbo-Croatian). Her work includes texts (including scientists) on Sufism and history of the Balkans, essays, novels, short stories, poetry and theater (she staged in Paris and Sarajevo). Following the publication of her novel Portrait of Balthazar (Gauchez-Philippot Prize) and her stance against the rise of Wahhabi in BiH, Jasna Samic was violently attacked by the Bosnian fundamentalists.

Price : 25,00 €  
ISBN : 9782807001947  
2019 — 436 pages  
832,000 char

Translated into Bosnian-Croatian-Serbian

**THE WINDOW**  
*A novel by Liliane Schraûwen*  
Third edition

A woman sits in front of a white wall. She is silent, she waits. For time to pass, for death to come, for the cold to set in. Yet inside her, things from the past are teeming, alive, warm, sometimes terrible. This is life, this life she no longer wants and that she wanted to flee once and for all.

But where is this happening? What is this universe where nothing moves except memory, sometimes, and dreams? What is she doing there, this nameless woman, in front of the gray rectangle of an empty window?

Yet outside, there is the sun, the light wind, and the cries of children. Perhaps all we need to do is open the window...



• *I had loved La Fenêtre when it was first published, despite its darkness and despair. The book reported, and with such panache! the great and small miseries of the human condition, I entered the intimacy of a woman and it broadened my horizons. Who is she and what has she suffered, lost? I would read the author a lot in the years that followed; extraordinary qualities (fluid and beautiful writing, an ability to narrate in a lively and witty manner, a vast culture and remarkable intelligence, a touch of humor and an admirable work ethic) La Fenêtre is a classic of our Letters. A cry lacerating absence and silence. Moreover, the epigraph: "To the void, to absence." has the appearance of a mise en abyme. Of the novel and and of an entire work. (Philippe Remy-Wilkin)*

*Behind a window, locked up who knows where, a nameless woman thinks about the years that pass by and shakes the specter of memories, making a thousand painful details swarm that she has trouble containing. Walled up in hermetic ideas, she could free herself by opening the window of her existence and finally live in the present, enjoy the sun, the contagious happiness of children playing and laughing. A parable dealing with solitude. (Daniel Bastié)*

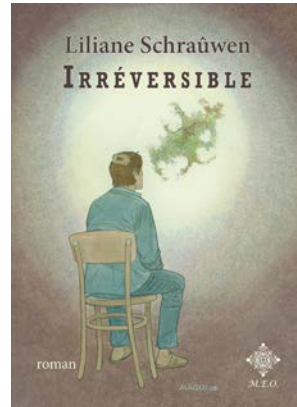
**The author:** After a childhood in Africa, Liliane Schraûwen studied literature which led her to teaching and, above all, to writing. She has published around fifteen novels and collections of short stories, as well as historical works and poetry. She received several literary prizes. She collaborates with various magazines.

Price : 14,00 €  
ISBN : 9782807001220  
2017 — 112 pages  
161,000 char

Literary Prize of the Parliament

## IRREVERSIBLE

A novel by Liliane Schraûwen



Who is this man, André, locked in an unknown room? Why is he there, and since when? What will happen to him? What is this strange fascination he feels when faced with a small stain on the wall?

Little by little, elements of his past life come back to him, the sensation of having been both himself and someone else, or even something, a plant, an object... Of having been at the times, or alternatively, somewhere and in other universes.

Words come back to him, the deep meaning of which he seeks to penetrate. And terrible, bloody images...

People outside the room observe him and take note. They seek to understand this man, who allegedly murdered his partner. But why? Is he crazy? And what kind of madness? Or a manipulator?

The reader asks these questions with them, until the final twist, which pushes him into fantasy.

*With a sophisticated style in which she skillfully disrupts the usual narratological codes, Liliane Schraûwen makes her reader experience a feeling of strangeness similar to that of André through a narrator who expresses himself sometimes in the first person, sometimes in the third, often representing André, sometimes his victim. An interesting literary work whose ending opens up to several possible interpretations.. (S  verine Radoux, Le Carnet et les Instants)*

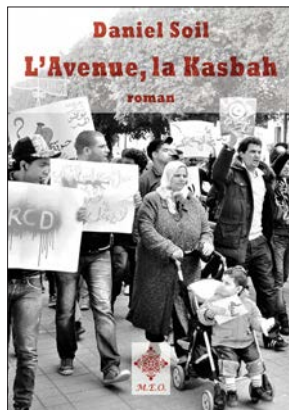
*We enter a fog of rare density and, above all, we accompany the character's incessant questioning. P.My (Pierre Maury, Le Soir)*

**The author:** After a childhood in Africa, Liliane Schraûwen studied literature which led her to teaching and, above all, to writing. She has published around fifteen novels and collections of short stories (including *The Exploded Sea*, shortlisted for the Rossel Prize, *La Fen  tre*, Prize of the Parliament, *Instants de Femmes*, Emma Martin Prize), as well as historical works and poetry. She collaborates with various magazines.

Price : 15,00 €  
ISBN : 9782807001220  
2023 — 136 pages  
185,000 char

## THE AVENUE, THE KASBAH

*A novel by Daniel Soil*



Elie, a young Belgian filmmaker who came to Tunisia, meets Alyssa, a teacher. The cultural barriers that constrain their nascent love – which began and grew on Facebook – are shattered by the 2011 Revolution, in which they both engage. Accompanied by the background of the opera “Dido and Aeneas”, we follow in parallel the evolution of their love and that of the political situation: demonstrations, mobilization of young and old, free speech, until the fall of the dictator and the advent of a hope for democracy that sign the end of the one and the other.

*The Avenue* is the main street that crosses Tunis, from the sea to the medina. This is where, from time immemorial, people got angry. *The Kasbah* is the large esplanade in the center of the Ministries, which has replaced a popular district considered too old by the authorities: it did not give a quite rewarding image of a country which is so new and proud of its independence. It is between these two emblematic places that the upheaval of January 2011 took place, of which Daniel Soil was the witness. He was, before, during and after, amazed by the audacity of the rebels of this first “Arab Spring”, mad with sympathy for these Tunisians mixed, young and old, urban and country. The novelist had no difficulty in depicting a love in these circumstances, revolutionary too because it is fed by the social movement, its beauty, its inventiveness.

*First novel about the Tunisian Revolution of 2011, starting point of the “Arab Spring”, written by a foreigner who was the privileged witness of it*

**The author :** Daniel Soil was a Belgian diplomat in Maghreb from 2004 to 2015. He works today as a volunteer public writer, and as a moderator of a table conversation for migrants wishing to appropriate the languages of Belgium as quickly as possible.

He has already published six novels, the first of which, *Vent forte*, was crowned by the Jean Muno Prize. A new novel (Agdez, last page) which takes place in Morocco, has been published in 2022 and translated into Arabic.

Price : 15,00 €

ISBN : 9782930702074

2019 — 160 pages — 224,000 char

Translated into Bengali



**UNDER THE CURTAIN,  
A LITTLE BROWN SUITCASE**  
*An autofiction by Françoise Thiry*

During the winter of 1966, a Boeing of Sabena arriving from Bujumbura landed on Belgian soil. A half-asleep girl, holding a small brown suitcase in her hand, trotted behind a flight attendant, who handed her over to a man wearing a white shirt with a funny white collar, a black suit, and a small golden cross. The hostess greeted “Monseigneur” before splitting the crowd and disappearing.

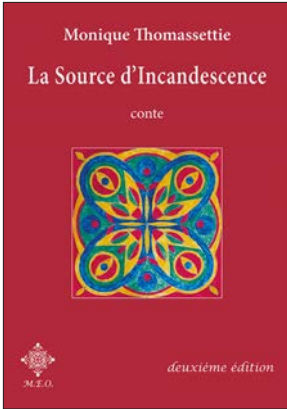
This little girl, a Metis child of a Burundian mother and an unknown Belgian father, has been taken away from her maternal family to be, like many others, given in adoption to a “good Catholic family” in Belgium. Throughout the narration, the hidden part of the narrator questions her “licit” part in the hope that one day both will join. The reader follows the slow metamorphosis of the child and the deliberate amputation of her memory until her fierce struggle against oblivion. Her efforts to “reattach” her broken halves lead to the discovery of her astonishing identity. This book is a singular journey imbricated in a collective history that has long been hidden in the drawers and is now recognized as a secret of Church: the forced abduction of the half-breeds, “*the children of shame*” born under Belgian (but not only Belgian) colonization before the Independences. The story is infiltrated with passages of deep poetry when the author imagines her parents’ first meeting, or when the natural environment of the Ardennes induces reminiscences of a repressed life. A moving and lucid autofiction, which shows to what extent a religious institution can place itself above the laws and cause pain in the name of a distorted pseudo-ethics.

*“A beautiful book on the search for identity, and on the struggle against oblivion.” (Martine Rouhart, writer and critic)*

*The author:* Born in Burundi at the approach of Independence, from a Burundian mother and an “anonymous” Belgian father, Françoise Thiry, at the age of 6, was ripped from her maternal family by the Catholic Church to be taken to Belgium and given for adoption. She is a graduate in Practice and Training Policy and in Education, and has been active in intercultural action. She is now the coordinator of a Centre for French learning for refugees.

**Translated into Bengali**

**Price : 17,00 €**  
**ISBN : 9782807001312**  
**2017 — 204 pages — 235,000 char**



## THE SOURCE OF INCANDESCENCE

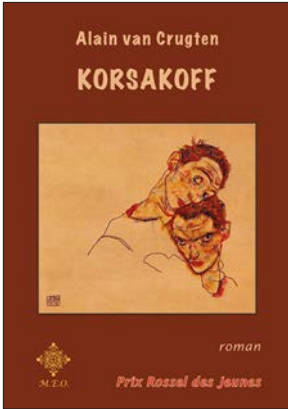
*A tale by Monique Thomassetie — 2<sup>d</sup> edition*

In an anxious and visionary artist, a tree illuminated by the setting sun induces the image of an incandescent Source, in search of which she sets off towards the East for a journey that is at once real, dreamlike, mystical, initiatory. She meets a monk who could be Rimbaud reincarnated, a rebellious orator, an old ascetic, a child born from the waters, a strange statue, dancers, slightly naughty gods, wandering and timeless crowds, messenger birds... Real autobiographical and fiction mingle or merge. A dreamlike road movie.

*“Monique Thomassetie is in pursuit of what makes our universe, our destiny in their impregnable reach. She has a protean vision of our most hidden human and cosmic adventure. The one that surfaces in legends, memories of the world. Which is also questioned in philosophies.” (Luc Norin, La Libre Belgique.)*

**The author:** Painter and writer, author of more than 80 books and a thousand plastic works, Monique Thomassetie “is developing one of the most unique works of our time, at the confluence of poetry, storytelling, inner storytelling and theater, marked by a spirituality close to of the mystical, independent of dogma, confronting with religious sources a deeply lived personal symbolism”. (Gilpro)  
Her work “traces multiple, strange, wandering paths. It constantly takes us where we hardly used to go. [...] It takes us from the imaginary to the symbolic.” (Jean-Luc Dubart).

Price : 14,00 €  
ISBN : 9782807003569  
2004 & 2022 — 96 pages — 133,000 char



## KORSAKOFF

*A novel by Alain van Crugten — 2<sup>d</sup> edition*

Alain van Cureghem – Polish Jewish mother of the Marolles, Dutch grandfather, Corsican grandmother – recounts his eventful life. But flaws, inconsistencies, implausibilities appear in the story. True, deflowering at thirteen on a bed of roses? Real, this Ilse, natural daughter of the father's collaborator? Real, his recruitment as a Soviet superspy, his participation in the assassination of John Kennedy and Lee Oswald? With its avalanches of incredible scenes, its true anthology pieces, this autobiography of the Other constantly maintains an ironic distance with regard to the world and its narrator.

A cheeky story with devastating humor.

*This book is a crazy train. You never know where he's going to go. It's spicy and captivating! [...] An astonishing novel, which begins as a chronicle of Brussels in the post-war years, continues into a hilarious account of the sexual beginnings of its hero, between a florist who knows how to do it and a cousin who is no less sassy, but much smarter, and ends in a historical-schizophrenic epic which provides the key to everything else, while opening up perspectives as far as the eye can see. [...] This devilishly well-executed story keeps you in suspense until the end and has a terminal "bonus" in the form of a final bouquet.*  
(Le Soir)

**The author.** Alain van Crugten writes novels, short stories and theater. His novel Korsakoff won the Rossel Prize of the Young People, and in 2004 he received a prize from the Royal Academy of Belgium for all his work. Also a translator of six languages, he has translated more than eighty works, including Flemish writers Hugo Claus (*Le Chagrin des Belges*) and Tom Lanoye (*La Langue de ma mère*), Polish writers, including S.I. Witkiewicz, Marian Pankowski, Bruno Schulz, Sławomir Mrożek, or the great Czech author Karel Capek.

ROSSEL PRIZE  
OF THE YOUNG PEOPLE

Price : 21,00 €  
ISBN : 9782807004702  
2004 & 2024 – 228 pages – 395,000 char



## THE DICTATORSHIP OF THE IGNORANTS

*A novel by Alain Van Crugten*

March 1968. Jean Artigues, a young French university researcher in Warsaw, has woven a friendly and professional network there. Not only is he an interested, and often astonished, witness to daily life in an «Eastern Bloc» society, but he is involved in spite of himself in incidents almost inconceivable under a communist regime, which will shake the country and give the pretext of the last «official» anti-Semitic campaign, provoking the emigration of three quarters of the Jews of Poland.

Artigues is the privileged spectator of events that have marked the contemporary history of Poland and whose effects are still felt today. However, *The dictatorship of the Ignorants* is not only a historical and political story; it is also the novel of a love that persists in overcoming obstacles in a complex and dangerous situation..

*“Between fine political analysis and upset romance, a nice balance is maintained.”*  
(Pierre Maury, *LE SOIR*)

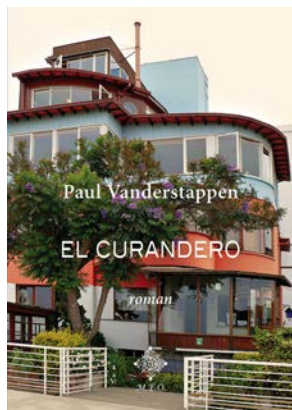
*Al historical, political and romantic book. [...] We meet endearing characters over the pages of a text that is both instructive and captivating. [...] We become immersed in the Polish tradition of a rebellious spirit, of great freedom of speech, rare in the countries of the «Eastern Bloc», which bursts into political jokes. [...] In the footsteps of Jean, we discover a city of Warsaw in turmoil, university students, on strike, deploying demonstrations and banners. [...] We embrace his eventful journey which turns into adventure, crosses sometimes agonizing gray areas. [...] These crossroads in Warsaw are surrounded by fearsome thornbushes, which will be etched in our memory. (Francine Gijssen, *LE CARNET ET LES INSTANTS*).*

**The author :** Alain van Crugten writes novels, short stories and plays. His novel *Korsakoff* won the Rossel Prize of the Young People, and in 2004 he received a prize from the Royal Academy of Belgium for all his work. Also a translator of six languages, he has translated more than eighty works, including Flemish writers Hugo Claus (*Le Chagrin des Belges*) and Tom Lanoye (*La Langue de ma mère*), Polish writers, including S.I. Witkiewicz, Marian Pankowski , Bruno Schulz, Sławomir Mrożek, or the great Czech author Karel Capek.

Price : 21,00 €

ISBN : 9782807003712

2023 — 272 pages 415,000 char



## EL CURANDERO

*A novel by Paul Vanderstappen*

“It is not the first time that I am not able to write this story, yet it touches me particularly. I don’t know what’s going on. That’s why I’m here. I would like to understand.”

El Curandero develops on the borders of dream and reality, between two countries, Belgium and Chile. The character participates in a mourning that will resonate with his own silence and awaken his inner ghosts. With the help of evanescent allies, of whom we do not know if they are real or imaginary, he will try to reconcile with himself and give meaning to his life. Will La Sebastiana, Pablo Neruda’s house in Valparaiso, be the place that will allow him to understand and understand himself?

Often, we seek elsewhere what is buried deep within ourselves, we try to give ourselves a rational explanation of what disturbs us. We carry out all kinds of investigations that take time and money, but which are not always successful. We look for models, which most of the time disturb us because they do not correspond to who we are.

El Curandero, the one who heals. An introspective, mysterious and poetic novel.

*Paul Vanderstappen reveals the path of a man in search of answers. The border between reality, memories and fantasies is sometimes blurred and reflects quite well the subjective part of which everyone appropriates their past and the representations of their loved ones to make them acceptable. Pablo’s quest for truth will take him where he did not expect it and it is all the more just.*

*A novel of self-initiation, imbued with exoticism and travel. The psychological analysis, the reasons for meeting and friendship give this fiction its weight of emotion.*

*(Philippe Leuckx, Les Belles Phrases.*

### **The author**

Born in Belgium, currently living there after having spent some time in Chile, Paul Vanderstappen has for more than thirty years participated in the practical training of future educators and speech therapists. He has published several collections of poems. *El Curandero* is her first published novel.

Price : 16,00 €

ISBN : 9782807002647

2020 — 156 pages — 176,000 char

# INSIDE ELTON MUNK'S MIND

*A novel by Ralph Vendôme*



Elton Munk, one of the most powerful men in the world, master of new technologies and the conquest of space, discovers that he is not entirely insensitive to the trivialities that preoccupy his contemporaries. The phobia of «becoming stupid» takes hold of him. So, he decides to have his intelligence insured. That leads him, with the help of a psychiatrist, on a disturbing inner trip to try to understand how the little Monkey became the man he is today, but who fears losing his brilliant intelligence. At the end of this long journey, in a motel lost in the middle of the desert, the revelation will be made. And since Elton Munk is an exceptional character, the outcome of this story could only be extraordinary, in orbit around the Earth, under the astonished, admiring, or mocking gaze of the entire world.

Written between February and September 2023, before “Elton Munk” (whom everyone can recognize) became a megalomaniac and began to truly frighten most of the real world, *Inside Elton Munk's Mind*, a mixture of humor and clairvoyance, anticipates the profound rupture in our civilization taking place before our helpless eyes.

*This novel, written before Elton Munk's recent political shifts, almost seems prophetic. The author was right: the most powerful man in the world may be less a genius than a symptom. [...] Inside Elton Munk's Head is a funny, corrosive, clever novel. A small literary bombshell that you reads quickly but that leaves its mark: a blend of biting satire and barroom philosophy fueled by interstellar rockets. (Le Belge qui lit)*

**The author:** Ralph Vendôme (a pseudonym) was born in Beirut and has lived in Brussels since his teenage years. He has previously published two collections of short stories and a few in magazines and booklegs. *The Umbrella Theory* explores the similarities between childhood and old age, and *In What World Do We Live* (Marguerite de Navarre Prize of the best short novel) directs the spotlight to cast immense shadows on the landscape of contemporary society. *Inside Elton Munk's mind* is his first novel.

Price : 20,00 €

ISBN : 9782807005198

2025 — 196 pages – 251,000 char



## SMILES OF A HIDDEN CHILD

*A novel (autofiction) by Jean Yvane*

*A child separated from his parents, is it so difficult to imagine? I only have to remember *The Kid and The Tramp*. The calls, the gestures, the vows. What could be more universal? And yet, despite the pain and the anger, despite the moans and the tender words, despite the tears, nothing, nothing remains of that separation, of that moment when a hand, my mother's, my father's, the hand of complete trust and love, released me. Why this silence within me and this blindness, so long afterward? The black hole before black holes, into which everything I've experienced has been thrown, swallowed up, as if thrown out the window. Not an image, not a sound, nor anything of the familiar setting or of my presence in the world to which I believed I belonged. Absolutely nothing. The complete dark.*

Having reached an advanced age, a writer confined by the pandemic is prompted to apply for the compensation pension he is entitled to for having been hidden as a Jewish child during the Second World War. But he wonders: is he really suffering from after-effects? He has the impression that he is not. And yet! Hasn't his entire work, unwittingly, been marked by the seal of confinement?

*Jean Yvane explores the enduring power of invisible wounds, the difficulty of inhabiting a life begun under a veil of silence. [...] This novel is not merely a historical memoir; it is a silent meditation on psychological survival, on those smiles that speak not of joy, but of a scar polished by time. A discreet, essential work that resonates with the most fragile, the most human aspect of our history. (Contrehasard)*

**The author.** A French author, Jean Yvane has published a dozen novels with major Parisian publishers. His first novel, *Un cowboy en exil*, won the Prix Del Duca. His fourth, *L'arme au bleu*, was shortlisted for the prestigious *Prix Renaudot*. Also a theater writer, he has held various positions in television and at the European Commission, and has been a university lecturer. Several of his novels have inspired television films. At nearly 90 years old, he had never written (and even spoken) about his past as a Jewish child hidden during the Second World War.

Price : 15,00 €  
ISBN : 9782807004955  
20025 – 116 pages – 180,000 char

## ZAM

### *A life story by Zam “Martino” Ebale*

The subtitle is essential: *born in the wrong place? at the wrong time? in the wrong body?*

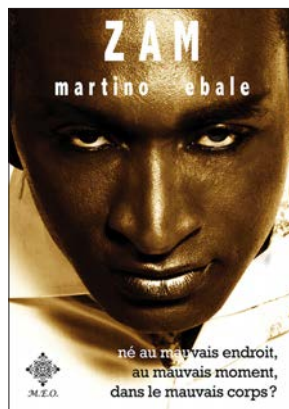
Grandson of a leper, Zam Ebale Martino was born in Cameroon. His grand-mother and his mother were traditional dancers, and his mother led a choir at the protestant church. Very early, Zam felt that he was “a woman in a man’s body”, what Cameroonian tradition calls *fame-minja* or *atcheng*. These men are authorized to perform the traditional dances reserved for women. After his father’s mysterious death, he

stopped his studies to become a singer and a dancer. Without any teacher, he created his own style, mixing traditional dances and contemporary dance. He founded his company with poor and even street children, to whom he taught everything he had discovered by himself. Some of his choreographies received international awards, and he became director of the National Ballet.

But in Cameroon, homosexuality is a crime punishable by prison and Zam was forced to exile before being arrested “to set an example”. Before that, he had converted to Buddhism, which preaches the respect and dignity of every human life, the means to transcend suffering, to *“turn the poison into an elixir”*. He spent seven years illegally in Belgium, in very special conditions: holder of an unenforceable order to leave the territory, nevertheless recognized and subsidized by the Ministry of Culture and representing Belgium at dance festivals abroad.

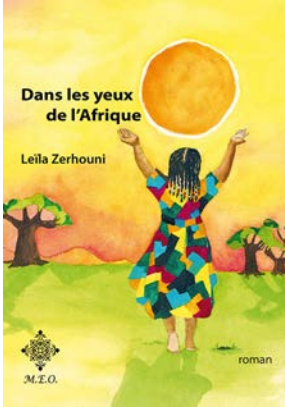
Finally, he was granted the Belgian citizenship, founded a dance school, produced choreographies, created an International Dance festival in Brussels. He also performs regularly as a singer. He carries out official missions for his host country in international projects of artistic collaboration, and is a reference person for the Parliament of the European Union with regard to LGBTI persons. He also plays a role in secular Buddhism in Belgium.

*A fascinating life story and a vibrant plead for the acceptance of all differences which denounces the prejudices of all kinds caused by rejection, whether the victims are homosexuals, lepers, ethnic or social groups, followers of a religion or philosophy, or simply... women. It offers a philosophical conception of human life, a reflection on art and its teaching, a call to accept differences.*



Price : 18,00 €  
ISBN : 9782807001749  
2019 — 232 pages  
365,000 char

GAY NOVEL PRIZE  
Translated into Italian  
Right sold for English (US + UK)



## THROUGH THE EYES OF AFRICA A novel by Leïla Zerhouni

Hired to translate instruction manuals for washing machines while she dreams of being a translator of beautiful texts, Luce befriends Qina, a Zimbabwean migrant. A talented sculptor, he makes her a mysterious statuette before disappearing. Distraught, Luce, sets out as a volunteer to follow in her friend's footsteps. Why does his mother react so violently when she sees the statuette? Why does she refuse to hear about her son? By discovering the sometimes

dark meanders of the human soul, Luce falls in love with a continent with a thousand and one facets, a thousand and one sorrows, a thousand and one riches, and a thousand and one hopes.

*I am once again under the spell of Leïla Zerhouni's pen and the story she tells us in this short 134-page novel. I walked a part of the way alongside Luce, Qina, Lindiwe, Monsieur Marcel, Mister Tshuma, Sakhile, Stella, under the low, gray sky of Brussels then under the sun, yellow, orange, red or... dark, of Tsholotscho in Zimbabwe. (Babelio)*

*Leïla Zerhouni evokes a journey with overtones of an initiation rite for the heroine. Weaving between the barbaric cruelty of men and their deep humanity, she will let herself be won over naturally by the African soul and will never return from her journey quite the same. A solar story dotted with melancholy which invites us to consider the weaknesses of the human race with kindness. (Séverine Radoux, Le Carnet et les Instants)*

### THE AUTHOR

Leïla Zerhouni lives in Brussels, where she teaches English and German.

She published several short stories, including *Le luthier de Bagdad*.

Her first novel, *Femmes Empêchées* (M.E.O.), was one of the three finalists of the award *Soleil noir jaune rouge* of the Brussels libraries.

Translated into Bengali

Price : 17,00 €

ISBN : 9782807002647

2024 – 140 pages – 170,000 char