

RIGHTS LIST SPRING 2025



FOREIGN RIGHTS
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OVERVIEW

A UNIQUE PUBLISHING MODEL

Reading makes you happy! A simple idea & XO Editions' guiding principle! Our ambition is to share this happiness with as many people as possible.

Hence the company's motto – **XO READING FOR PLEASURE** – and the choice to publish **quality works geared toward a mass-market audience.**

The notion of pleasure is essential. One of the major challenges ahead will be to get the young generation, so hooked on screens and social media, to discover the pleasure of reading books.

PUBLISHING STRATEGY

An intentionally small number of titles (25 titles per year) so as to give a maximum of attention and resources to each title and thus optimize their sales potential, both in France and abroad.

An ambitious strategy aimed at discovering new talent and propelling our authors to the top of bestseller lists in France and around the world.

ACHIEVEMENTS IN 24 YEARS

547 titles published (an average of 23 titles per year)

364 titles hit bestseller lists (nearly 70% of our production)

241 titles have been widely licensed internationally (52% of our production, with the exception of the 59 titles we acquired abroad)

Average sales of 48,000 copies per title, which is 10 times above average for the trade market in France

PUBLISHING POLICY

XO NOVELS

CONTEMPORARY & HISTORICAL NOVELS

After the publication of two major authors of historical novels, **Christian Jacq** & **Max Gallo**, XO Editions has welcomed new authors whose debut novels became best-sellers. For example **Guillaume Musso** (14 titles published by XO, **#1 bestselling author since 2011**, with **26 million copies sold** in France, **translated into 41 languages**, a unique and remarkable achievement in publishing), but also Romain Sardou, Mireille Calmel, Nicolas Vanier, Mark Miller, etc.

CRIME & THRILLER NOVELS

XO'S TRADEMARK : MAJOR THRILLER AUTHORS

With more than **6,5 million copies sold** in France out of his 11 novels, **Bernard Minier** is one of the most widely read French authors, and his talent is internationally renowned (**translated into 27 languages**). **Nicolas Beuglet** (**over 2,3 million copies sold**), Henri Loevenbruck, Olivier Bal, Olivier Descosse, Olivier Merle and, at the crossroads between thrillers and spy novels, Cédric Bannel, also stand out for their talent and success on the XO Editions list.

XO BLOCKBUSTER MEMOIRS

Next to fiction, XO stands out as a publisher of blockbuster memoirs, including those of Ingrid Betancourt, Farah Pahlavi, Mireille Darc, Sylvie Vartan, Michel Sardou, Gérard Depardieu, Renaud Séchan, Patrick Sébastien, and Vincent Lagaf.



READING FOR PLEASURE

XO FRENCH & WORLD HISTORY

XO Editions excels in publishing books on the history of France, Europe and the world.

XO is the publisher of numerous works by the academician **Max Gallo** (from *Louis XIV* to *A History of World War II*), all widely acclaimed by the readers. We are also the publisher of the gripping historical narratives of **François-Guillaume Lorrain** (*Louis XIV: A King's Childhood* and *The Age of Treason*) as well as of **Frédéric Mitterrand**, with *The Duel*, *Napoleon III & Victor Hugo*, and *1938: The Eye of the Hurricane*.

XO GENERAL NON-FICTION

A **committed publisher**, XO is dedicated to publishing titles that are thought-provoking and that sensitize the general public to the big questions facing our society. Among them are publications shedding light on violence against women (***Burned Alive*, 700,000 copies sold** in France; **translated into 36 languages**), bullying, harassment, end of life, the plight of refugees.

XO is equally committed to **educating our youth** and has published works of reference aimed at parents in preschool and elementary education.

XO ESSAYS

The catalog includes works by major celebrities, including **French President Emmanuel Macron** (his book *Revolution* has been **translated into 22 languages** worldwide), Luc Ferry, Jacques Attali, and Nicolas Bouzou, as well as anthologies such as *The Black Book on the Condition of Women* edited by Christine Ockrent, or *The Black Book on the Condition of Christians in the World*, edited by Monseigneur di Falco.

XO ADVENTURE NARRATIVES

Our list of publications also include narratives from adventurers such as **Mike Horn** (**over 6 million copies sold in France**) or **Nicolas Vanier** whose dreams and achievements inspire us all.



PUBLISHED
MARCH, 2025
P. 544

**A NEW
SERVAZ
INVESTIGATION**

**INITIAL
PRINT RUN
160,000
COPIES**

**BERNARD MINIER'S NOVELS
TRANSLATED INTO
28 LANGUAGES**

**SOLD OVER
8 MILLION COPIES WORLDWIDE**

H...

"H" AS IN HAUNTED

"H" AS IN HECATOMB

"H" AS IN . . .

EVIL IS A LEGACY

Since Julian Hirtmann, the notorious and methodical serial killer, has recently escaped from the Austrian Leoben prison, Martin Servaz isn't the only one investigating. Everyone has joined the hunt, from amateur web sleuths and true crime enthusiasts to a bestselling author and Damien Dax, the host of one of the most-watched French television shows.

When journalist Charles Fayolle is found dead at his home, what appears to be a suicide reveals itself as murder. The discovery of a macabre dollhouse at the crime scene - meticulously crafted to depict a gruesome crime scene - plunges Servaz into the darkest corners of human nature.

Meanwhile, Damien Dix issues a public challenge to Julian Hirtmann : a private meeting that will turn into a dangerous cat and mouse race.

With the help of his partner, Captain Samira Cheung, Servaz uncovers a strange connection between the assassination of Charles Fayolle and Emmanuel Sachs, a writer who claims to have information about Hirtmann.

As the threat tightens around those he loves, Martin Servaz discovers an even more terrible truth: what if Julian Hirtmann were part of a greater, older, more deeply rooted evil than he had ever imagined.

A dizzying investigation where yesterday's secrets intertwine with today's lies.

THREE LITTLE "H"

THAT WILL MAKE YOU SHIVER WITH DREAD

•

THE NATURE OF EVIL IN OUR SOCIETIES

•

**A LABYRINTHINE PLOT PREMISED ON
THE TRAUMAS THAT SHAPE LIVES
AND CREATE MONSTERS**



© Emanuele Scorcetti

BERNARD MINIER

BERNARD MINIER was born in Béziers in 1960 and grew up in the Southwestern France. He now lives near Paris and writes full-time. Published in 2011, his first novel, *ICED (Glacé)*, marks the beginning of the investigations of Martin Servaz and was adapted in TV series currently available worldwide on **NETFLIX**.

The success of his ensuing 12 novels have made him an essential French and European thriller author.

BERNARD MINIER ABOUT *H*

"H as in Hirtmann," announces the return of Martin Servaz's "best enemy"? A summons for a grand finale?

Let's call it a reunion... I didn't orchestrate Julian Hirtmann's escape in the previous volume without good reason. That said, H is far from being the only important character in this book, or even the most important one, and there's much happening beyond his pursuit.

In this thriller, you address the public fascination with true crime – documentaries, books, podcasts about real crimes, often horrific ones, and criminals who truly existed or still exist.

Yes, it's quite fascinating how people have become obsessed with true crime nowadays. You find it everywhere: on streaming platforms, in podcasts, on YouTube, in magazines... Did you know that 75% of true crime podcast listeners are women? I wondered what this fascination with real crimes says about us – a fascination that transcends both generations and social classes.

And in your new novel, both true crime enthusiasts and the police are pursuing Hirtmann. They establish communities of amateur detectives who exchange information on forums, collaborating to solve cold cases, murders, and disappearances by diving into the depths of the Web.

Yes, it's called web sleuthing, from "sleuth," meaning "detective" in English. The first times I discovered these communities was in a Netflix documentary, "Don't F**k With Cats," which showed how, starting from online videos, internet detectives identified and located Luka Rocco Magnotta, "the Montreal Butcher." Imagine hundreds of people collaborating to find the perpetrator of a crime while they have access to the most gigantic repository of information in human history, a mine of intelligence about everything and everyone: the Web...

There is another striking character in your novel, Damien Dix, a TV talk show host with an impressive ego...

The idea came to me while reading a landmark essay by the American sociologist Neil Postman, *Amusing Ourselves to Death*. Postman analyzes television's effects on our understanding of the world. Damien Dix, my character, has set his mind on interviewing Julian Hirtmann. And Servaz must deal with all these people and the madness gripping the country.

Deep down, the real main subject you address in « H » seems to be the growing struggle to distinguish truth from falsehood?

Absolutely! Michel Serres already observed that truth and falsehood overlap. How can we find our way through the fake news, rumors, paranoid theories, lies, and manipulations? Even AI now cheats and lies.

Your international career is steadily expanding. How do you experience this recognition?

With happiness and disbelief. I'm always surprised by the enthusiasm of foreign journalists and readers for stories with such a limited geographical setting: the Southwest of France, the snow-covered Pyrenees... I feel the same joy when I visit a village in Northern Aragon in Spain and meet the 150 people in the audience, or when I'm in Poznan and Wroclaw in Poland, in Prague, Frankfurt, Athens, Bucharest, Bratislava, Barcelona, Valencia, Como, Oslo, Sofia or Harrogate.



PUBLISHED
APRIL, 2024
P. 416

**A LUCIA
GUERRERO
INVESTIGATION**

**185,000
COPIES SOLD**

**PAPERBACK
INITIAL
PRINT RUN
210,000
COPIES**

**ENGLISH SAMPLE
AVAILABLE**

THE ERASED (LES EFFACÉES)

**TWO KILLERS
TWO OPPOSITE WORLDS
TWO DILEMMAS**

In the northern Spanish region of Galicia, a killer kidnaps women early in the morning on their way to work. Invisible women. Erased women.

In Madrid, another killer targets billionaires, leaving on the walls of their homes the same message: KILL THE RICH.

Two killers. Two opposite worlds. And in the light of a general frenzy, a confrontation between social classes like never before. Explosive.

What's at stake becomes gradually clearer for Lucia Guerrero, the investigator with the Guardia Civil, and what she sees is dizzying. Lucia receives messages from an unknown sender, and the question that begs an answer is: has she become a mere plaything in the hands of two killers?

A RAZOR-SHARP THRILLER & AN AUDACIOUS CLIMAX

•
**A WEB OF MYSTERIES &
INCANDESCENT SOCIAL RAGE**

•
**BERNARD MINIER MASTERFULLY MANIPULATES
HIS READERS' EXPECTATIONS
RIGHT UP TO THE LAST PAGE**



© Emanuele Scorselletti

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The success of his ensuing 12 novels have made him an essential French and European thriller author.

BERNARD MINIER ABOUT *THE ERASED*

With *Lucia*, your new thriller, you cross the Pyrenees to take us to Spain. You say this choice echoes your own trajectory...

My mother was born in Northern Spain, in the highlands of Aragon—where part of the novel is set. She arrived in France at the age of eight. I myself discovered my mother's birthplace when I was a teenager, and then in my twenties, the rest of Spain. That was at the time of La Movida, the great cultural and political counterculture movement that originated in Madrid and shook all of Spain at the beginning of the 1980s. It was electrifying, exciting, crazy. To be young and live through it was a privilege, a stroke of luck. Spain became home to the avant-garde of many movements (for example, the one to combat violence against women). You can feel it in Spanish literature, film and TV series.

Why did you choose a female character, going as far as naming the book after her?

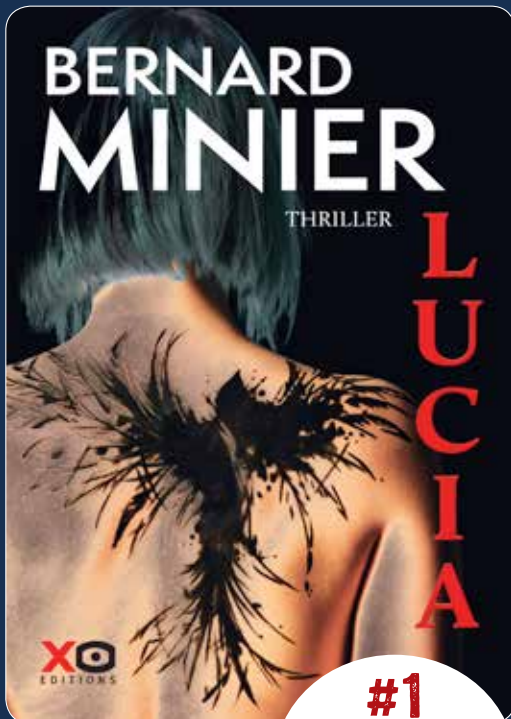
A beautiful name and a beautiful title. I don't know how you could better bring this new story to life than by giving it the name of its heroine. And what a heroine she is: rebellious, tough, insolent. I'm sure that readers will become as attached to Lucia as they were to Servaz. That said, female characters have always played a big part in my novels, ever since *Iced*, in which Irène Ziegler and Diane Berg took up almost as much space as Servaz. The main character in *M*, *The Edge of the Abyss*, was Moira, an expert in artificial intelligence. My core readership is made up of women, as insolent as Lucia herself. They don't let me get away with anything. Besides, Lucia didn't appear out of thin air: she takes after some admirable women living among us. It gave me the greatest pleasure to bring her to life. Lucia Guerrero, la Guerrera: the Warrior. She has to fight for her place in a world that remains a world of men, even if less and less so, that of the Spanish police, the Guardia Civil.

Without giving away the plot, what is the gruesome reality this Guardia Civil detective will have to face?

A killer who gets his inspiration from Renaissance paintings, to be more precise, paintings that were themselves inspired by Ovid's *Metamorphoses*. As we know, the Greek and Roman Gods were as violent, jealous, perverted, dishonest and manipulative as mere mortals. It follows that the *Metamorphoses* are filled with murders, punishments and abominable acts. Lucia will also work with a group of criminology students and their professor from the University of Salamanca (this group actually exists, I met them...but naturally I embellished a bit).

And as usual, you spent time on location. You delved deep into the extraordinary city that is Salamanca, and met some of the university faculty, members of the Civil Guard, experts.

I agree 100% with Michael Connelly when he said "I want not only the streets, the restaurants and the bars to be real, but also the bureaucracy and the political system - everything that makes up our day-to-day. If the novel's universe is realistic, my characters take on a realistic shape." And Salamanca itself is like a movie set. It's a vehicle for time-travel. My writing is quite visual, and Salamanca had all I needed: a plethora of old stone; narrow streets lit by lanterns; monuments imbued with history. Take the Plaza Mayor, by far one of the most beautiful squares in Spain. You can find medallions of the busts of Rodrigo Diaz de Vivar, better known as El Cid, of the Catholic monarchs Isabelle and Ferdinand, of Christopher Columbus, of Hernan Cortès, and of Francisco Pizarro.



PUBLISHED
MARCH, 2022
P. 480

#1
ON FRENCH
BESTSELLER
LIST

FILM RIGHTS
SOLD TO NOSTROMOS
PICTURES

422,000
COPIES SOLD

ENGLISH SAMPLE
AVAILABLE

LUCIA

A group of criminology students at Salamanca university discover the existence of a serial killer who has gone undetected for several decades and who stages his crime scenes to resemble Renaissance paintings.

In Madrid, Detective Lucia Guerrero finds her colleague crucified on a calvary and sets out to follow the trail that leads to the man they nicknamed "The Glue Killer".

They are all confronted with their own past, their worst fears, and a truth more terrifying than any legend or myth.

A NEW & ENDEARING HEROINE
WHO FOLLOWS A TRAIL OF
UNSPEAKABLE CRIMES



FEAR, MYSTERY, SURPRISES, TERROR & ANGUISH
ARE ALL ON THE MENU

•
BAROQUE PAINTING IS THE APPETIZER &
MYTHOLOGY THE DESSERT

•
CONTEMPORARY SPAIN IS THE BACKDROP



© Emanuele Scorpelletti

BERNARD MINIER

TRANSLATED INTO 28 LANGUAGES
8 MILLION COPIES SOLD
WORLDWIDE

BERNARD MINIER ABOUT *LUCIA*

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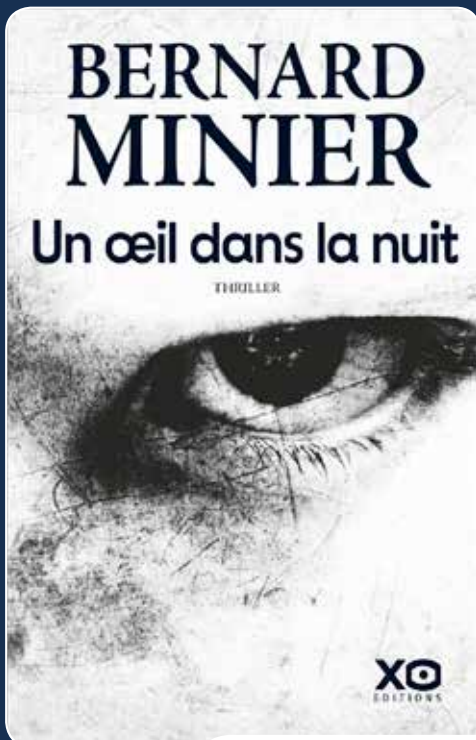
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P. 512

ENGLISH SAMPLE
AVAILABLE

367,000
COPIES SOLD

#1
3 WEEKS
IN A ROW

"A diabolical talent.
You won't be able to get a wink of sleep."
RTL, BERNARD LEHUT

"A thriller that flies high.
Soars. Simply great art, truly great."
LE PARISIEN, OLIVIER BUREAU

"Welcome to the brilliant but disturbing
universe of Bernard Minier."
EUROPE 1, NICOLAS CARREAU

PRAISES

AN EYE IN THE NIGHT (UN OEIL DANS LA NUIT)

With five movies under his belt, that were considered scandalous at the time of their release, the horror movie director, Morbus Delacroix, has become a cult favorite with the younger generations. Then, from one day to the next, Morbus stopped making films, and went into seclusion together with his wife up in the mountains, refusing all interviews, and any visitors. Except for one: Judith Tallandier, a young film student.

To Judith's great surprise, after an email exchange, Morbus agreed to receive her in his lair hidden from the world. He is provocative, misanthropic, excessive, brilliant, and mad. Movies are his life. He's a cross between Tarantino and Kubrick.

While Judith is driving toward the mountains to meet the legendary horror movie director, a patient is discovered dead, killed under brutal circumstances in a psychiatric ward in Toulouse. Other equally dramatic events ensue that all seem to be related to a cursed movie that never came out on the big screen: Orpheus or the Spiral of Evil, the latest movie made by Delacroix.

GRUESOME MURDERS,
A RECLUSIVE HORROR FILM DIRECTOR,
A COLLEGE GIRL FASCINATED BY THIS EYE
IN THE NIGHT...

WHAT IF THE UNSPEAKABLE IS RELATED TO
A CURSED FILM?

MARTIN SERVAZ FACES ONE OF
THE MOST COMPLEX CASES OF HIS CAREER



© Emanuele Scornelletti

BERNARD MINIER

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BERNARD MINIER ABOUT *AN EYE IN THE NIGHT*

With *An Eye in the Night*, readers rediscover Martin Servaz in a surprising setting: the world of horror films. Are you a fan of the genre?

I was just a bit of one before I started writing *An Eye in the Night*. Like others of my generation, I saw *The Exorcist*, *Psycho*, *Rosemary's Baby*, and a few others, but that was it. As always with work, I immerse myself 200% in the universe I want to depict, meaning that for months, I not only read books on the subject - testimonies and directors' memoirs - but more importantly, I watched two hundred horror films, usually between the hours of 9 pm and 1 am. I managed to dig up 150 films worth the detour from 1920 to today. The list is at the end of the book. There are some stunning successes in the genre, and new American, Korean, French, Spanish directors and others are emerging around the world.

Morbus Delacroix, the main character in your book, is a horror film director who seems to elicit fascination. Who is he really?

I had much fun creating this character, as well as that of the former producer Kenneth Zorn or the YouTuber Max Renn. These characters are a boon for an author as they offer many possibilities. Morbus Delacroix has become a cult favorite with the younger generations, with five horror movies under his belt that were considered scandalous at the time of their release but are revered by fans. Then from one day to the next, Morbus stopped making movies, and went into seclusion together with his wife up in the mountains, refusing all interviews, and any visitors. Of course, he also has a dark worrisome side to him. He strings a narrative that I hope is fascinating but also unique on the art of movie-making. He's a cross between Tarantino and Kubrick.

Is this also the occasion for you to evoke the literature of the genre, the thriller in particular, and its relationship to the press?

Precisely. When Morbus Delacroix talks about the horror genre in film and its relationship to the critics and to movies in general, it's a mirror I hold up to the thriller genre in literature, which I thrive on. At one point, Morbus says something like: "In the end, I came to understand that it is popular culture, not the realm of the intellectual or the bourgeoisie - where transgression is expected, codified, instantly recognizable and hence devoid of subversive potential. Popular culture stirs things up, is visceral, uncomfortable." It's somewhat provocative, a little excessive, I'll admit, but in the book it's pure Morbus Delacroix. The thriller, like the horror movie, appeals to the emotions of the reader or viewer, at the same time introducing a certain view of the world: a dark, anxiety-provoking, corrupt and dangerous place. Both tell us that, no, the world is not innocent, it has teeth, and it bites.

Today, particularly among young people, we are witnessing a renewed interest in horror films. Did you anticipate this, and how do you explain it?

It's not just the young people. In 2022 movies like *Smile*, *X* were favorably reviewed and they sold over a million tickets at the box office. Take the British astrophysicist Rosemary Coogan, who was chosen to go into outer space that year: She confessed to spending many evenings watching horror films with her friends. I'll admit that when the idea came to me in 2021 to write this story, I didn't expect this renewal of interest in the horror film genre. I think what people appreciate about them is their all-out nature, that what you see in them you won't see anywhere else, their anything-goes aspect. There is no self-censoring, no politically correct, they just go for it. It's a transgressive genre, instinctual, visceral, and above all, it does not preach. But the horror film is only one of the themes I explore in *An Eye in the Night*. There's also friendship, kinship, and a certain form of conspiracy.



PUBLISHED
APRIL, 2021
P. 480

#1
**ON FRENCH
FICTION LIST**

**#3 MOST
SOLD THRILLER
IN FRANCE
IN 2021**

**451,000
COPIES SOLD**

PRAISES

THE HUNT (LA CHASSE)

**"THERE IS A DARK PLACE
THAT NO SUNLIGHT CAN BRIGHTEN..."**

Full moon.

A deer leaps out of the forest. His eyes are those of a... man.
Chased! Hunted!

It is not an ordinary wild beast hunted in the Ariège forests...

Secret society, gangland killings & inflaming tensions in the suburbs.

On the paths of fear, Servaz's life and honour are in jeopardy.

**A SEARINGLY TOPICAL NOVEL
SET ON THE PATHS OF FEAR**

•
**THE EXCESSES OF OUR TIME :
MANIPULATION, VIOLENCE & REVENGE**

"Sharp as ever, Bernard Minier depicts a country on the verge of implosion, territories no longer controlled by the forces of law, and extremists who try to take advantage of this situation. This thriller, like the previous one, will definitely inspire scriptwriters!"
LE FIGARO LITTÉRAIRE

"An investigation with multiple twists that focuses on a few days, a simple and rhythmic writing, multiple cultural references and complex characters, full of doubts and flaws. (...) *The Hunt* is more political than Minier's previous novels. It is also the most accomplished one."

LE MONDE DES LIVRES

«A hallucinating prologue (...), an investigators team behind its hero, Martin Servaz, plunged once again into a tortuous affair mixing petty criminals, ex-military and dirty cops, during a manhunt where masked killers and gamekeepers enjoy blurring the tracks of a deadly game. The backdrop is the oppressive landscapes, the heavy and confined atmospheres that Bernard Minier loves.»

LIBÉRATION



© Emanuele Scarcelletti

BERNARD MINIER

TRANSLATED INTO 28 LANGUAGES
8 MILLION COPIES SOLD
WORLDWIDE

BERNARD MINIER ABOUT *THE HUNT*

Your new thriller begins with a staggering scene: a being emerging from the forest that looks like a deer but has the eyes of a human... Is this a way of setting the scene for the presence of mystery?

To be honest, this prologue is typical of what I like to do in beginning a story. It's a sort of ritual or liturgy: a scene that immediately grabs the reader by the throat, plunging him or her headfirst into something that is both very anxiety-making and very mysterious. It's a way of making the reader understand that this is going to be a bumpy ride, that I'm not going to give people time to get their breath – it's a way of saying "Strap yourselves in for the emotional rollercoaster that's just starting."

You have doubtless never gone so far in depicting contemporary social ills, for example the discrediting of authority – particularly the police – the retreat into nationalistic ideas, conspiracism and ordinary racism. Does our society worry you to that point?

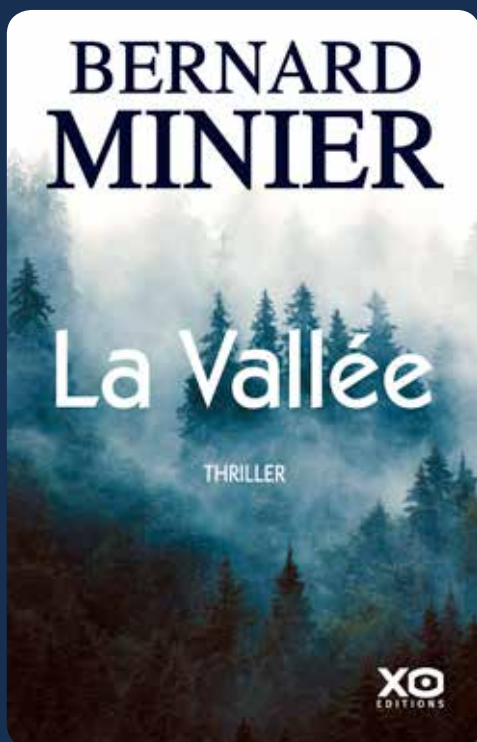
That trend was already started in *M, le bord de l'abîme* [M, the Edge of the Abyss] and *La Vallée* [The Valley]: I increasingly want to talk about the times, the society in which we live and above all its ills, the great dangers that threaten it – but in as exciting and captivating a way as possible. What worries me is that society has never been as divided, torn apart and violent...

We now have a culture of systemic confrontation. Increasingly large sections of the population no longer believe in anything or have any values to live by. They are drowning in conspiracism, hatred of others, a "kick 'em out" mentality... There is also the question of the relation between the police and the judicial system and even that of the relation between democracy and the judicial system. Criminal groups are trying to make this country into a narco-state – with all the violence and corruption that goes along with that. In Toulouse alone there have been 32 fatal score settlings in two years. Then there is the question of racism. Can we say, yes or no, that French police and society are racist?

I don't have a definitive answer to offer to all these questions but I bring concrete facts that enable an analysis : sometimes astounding realities and real data, as well as testimonies that are just as grounded in fact. Recently, every time I turn the TV on, I come across news that reflects what is happening in the novel – it's incredible! Of course I intertwine all that with a story that I hope is captivating although I'm not too worried about that angle: I don't think readers will get bored reading *The Hunt*.

Without revealing too much of the plot, the theme of the righter of wrongs runs all through your novel. Is that a reflection of what you observe in real life?

It is clear that the justice system itself is powerless in the face of certain issues: juvenile delinquency (which is an important theme in the book), for example, the stranglehold that drug dealers have in certain areas, corruption, etc. In these conditions, there will be a powerful temptation for some people to exert justice themselves or to overturn governments that have been democratically elected. Whether it be people in the general public, the police, the judiciary or even the army. Another theme of the book is that of certain operations carried out by the French army in Africa. It's almost inevitable that secret, clandestine groups will eventually form to make up for the weakness of the establishment in dealing with security and justice. When I went to research this, I discovered to my amazement that some people are already preparing for the day things will explode by gathering together and arming themselves. And I'm not just talking about a few crazed survivalists...



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APRIL, 2021
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#1
ON FRENCH
FICTION LIST

634,000
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An abbey filled with secrets.
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LE FIGARO MAGAZINE



PUBLISHED
OCTOBER, 2024
P. 336

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Two young couples addicted to macabre tourism, children confronted with the cruelty of their foster family, a TV presenter ready to do anything to boost ratings, animals suddenly delivered from men, a priest too good to be true, cats with strange intentions, a World War I aviator confronted with a primitive and perverse entity...

Fifteen unforgettable short stories, as chilling as they are spellbinding, about love and madness, death and revenge, greed and jealousy, lies and darkness.

The master of the French thriller unfolds in this collection of short stories all the facets of his talent between thriller, historical narrative, anticipation and fantasy.

**A MIX OF INTIMATE & THRILLING,
OF BIZARRE & MONSTROUS**

•

15 SPINE-CHILLING JOURNEYS

•

**FASTEN YOUR SEAT BELT AND
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BERNARD MINIER

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PREPARE FOR THE WORST

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DANGER IS NOT WHERE YOU THINK

Temporarily abandoning the commander Martin Servaz, Bernard Minier delves into a universe where danger is not where we think and intimacy is an illusion... he brilliantly tells us a dark and tension filled story... A hell of a story.



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A stormy night on the North Sea. Kirsten Nigaard, the Norwegian inspector, is investigating on a murder on the off-shore platform. A few days later she finds herself in the office of Martin Servaz: the missing man is Julian Hirtmann, the illusive killer that the police have been pursuing for years.

FULL ENGLISH TRANSLATION
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SISTERS / 2018

A NIGHTMARE WRITTEN IN BLACK INK

A spouse, two sisters, three communicants... and what if the investigation from 20 years ago indicated the wrong man? For Servaz, the past, resurfacing, will turn into a nightmare.

«Immense, enormous, the forest stretched out before them. Poor, fallen souls, I had to kill you...»



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M, THE EDGE OF
THE ABYSS /
2019

WELCOME TO THE DARKEST SCENARIO

While Moira is just starting her mission at Ming, the Chinese digital giant company, she is convinced that the truth that awaits her at the end of the night will be more frightening than the most terrifying nightmares.

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CO-EDITION WITH



PUBLISHED
OCTOBER, 2023
P. 176

LANDS OF MYSTERY

(TERRITOIRES DU MYSTÈRE)

An extraordinary writing secrets manual, which is both an essay on literary creation and an intimate account of the author's journey, from the birth of writing to success. Bernard Minier conveys his passion for literature in a tour de force as dizzying as it is virtuosic.

JEAN RENO

NOVEL
ADVENTURE
PASSION
ESPIONAGE



PUBLISHED
MAY, 2024
P. 320

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EMMA

(EMMA)

**ADVENTURE & PASSION
AGAINST A BACKDROP OF ESPIONAGE**

Emma, a masseuse at a world-renowned hydrotherapy spa in Brittany, has everything she could dream of: a spoiled cat, a few but trusted friends, and an uninterrupted view to the Atlantic Ocean's horizon. Not to mention her spectacular beauty and the energy in her hands that works magic on her patients.

When her massage talent is discovered by Tariq Khan, one of the most important leaders in Oman, the young woman agrees to leave for Muscat, the capital of the Sultanate. As Tariq is about to open a luxury retreat, her mission there is to train the masseurs staff.

What Emma ignores is that by accepting this position, she has just embarked on a dangerous spiral...

JEAN RENO'S FIRST NOVEL

A BRILLIANT MIX OF GENRES:
ADVENTURE & SPY & THRILLER & ROMANCE

•
A NOVEL FRESH IN APPROACH TO THE SPY GENRE

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A HIGHLY RELATABLE & ATTRACTIVE HEROINE
BOTH STRONG AND FRAGILE

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1ST VOLUME IN A SERIES



© Eric Guillemin

JEAN RENO

An icon of French and international cinema, **JEAN RENO** has always wanted to write a novel about a woman both strong and fragile who unwittingly turns into one of France's greatest detectives. Between suspense, love, and ambush, a winning combination!

EMMA BY JEAN RENO / EXTRACTS

“ As the cars entered the vast courtyard, Emma pulled herself together and thought back to the file Lemonier had given her. No mistakes allowed. The sultanate of Oman, whose economy depended on oil revenue, had launched an effort to diversify the economy by investing in high-end tourism, culture, and national heritage. Among other large projects, an aquatherapy center was being built onto a palace in the vicinity of Muscat, the capital. The executives in charge of the future resort aimed to offer the very best care available. And thanks to Dr. Mittois' treatments, the Portivy center had only one competitor at this stage, a renowned Thai establishment. According to Lemonier, this visit would be critical for them to rise above the competition. If it worked, it would also secure their international reputation.

The guests emerged from the vehicles in a perfectly choreographed manner. Of course Emma noticed the bodyguards, whose muscles were bursting their suits at the seams. The rest of the men wore the Sultanate's traditional garb. The youngest walked like a feline, and his magnetism made her feel a distracting tug. Lemonier rushed to greet him, and at that moment she realized that he was His Excellency, in other words, Tariq Khan, age thirty, eldest son of the Omani Vice-Prime Minister. He'd graduated from Oxford and was expected to rise to the upper echelons of the government. The man had charisma; she could feel it from there. She observed him discreetly as he spoke with Mittois, noticing the offensive way he bent down to address the person speaking to him. ”

[...]

Tariq Khan arrived at 6:40 pm, following a depleted and visibly stressed Lemonier. Emma would almost have pitied her boss, but thought better of it as soon as he launched into the demeaning one-way introductions, as if she were nothing but a tool at the service of his eminence.

“May I introduce you to Emma your Excellency, our best masseuse. And with that I'll leave you in her expert care. You'll see why she has such a stellar reputation. Afterward, I'll meet you in the pink lounge and we can proceed at your convenience.”

Emma wasn't listening anymore. The client gave her a half smile, as if he could sense her reluctance. She held her gaze steady and opted for indifference.

“Mr. Khan.”

The director almost gagged, and his face turned purple. Before he could say anything, the man intervened curtly:

“I prefer that to “Your Excellency,” Mr. Lemonier. Outside of the sultanate, the title isn't necessary. “Sir” or “Mr.” is more appropriate.

Tariq's French was stiff and his tone turned icy. Lemonier retreated trying not to turn his back to them. At that moment, Emma understood the way this man was used to being obeyed. Never before, even with industry leaders, had she encountered anyone with much sense of authority. Pretending not to have noticed, she pointed to the door of the changing room.

“You can undress in there. You'll find some linens and slippers.”



PUBLISHED
SEPTEMBER 2024
P. 304

**TOP 10
BESTSELLER**

**INITIAL
PRINT RUN
80,000
COPIES**

THE FINAL WARNING

(L'ULTIME AVERTISSEMENT)

**A BEWILDERING DIVE INTO THE
MEMORY OF MANKIND**

Driving through the Appalachian Mountains, Felicia smiled at the sight of their snowy peaks. The young art expert had been asked to examine three pieces in the celebrated Castelmores collection.

But when she reached the famous family's mansion, her blood froze on learning that she would instead be investigating some unexplained human disappearances.

Supported by a former cop turned priest named Armand, Felicia will embark in a feverish pursuit, on the trail of a mysterious group that calls itself The Sentinels. Tracked by deadly enemies as intelligent as they are powerful, the pair has no choice.

To escape the worst, Felicia and Armand will have to heed the final warning sent by those who have witnessed the unthinkable.

**TIME CAPSULES & THE TRANSMISSION OF
KNOWLEDGE TO FUTURE GENERATIONS**

**WHAT WILL EARTH AND HUMANITY
LOOK LIKE IN 6,000 YEARS ?**

PRAISES

"You'll be swept up in an addictive thriller, traveling through hellish lands and experiencing an almost cinematic adventure worthy of a James Bond movie...."

BERNARD BABKINE, MADAME FIGARO

"The hunt for an Elon Musk copycat spares neither suspense nor mystery. Gripping!"
JADE OLIVIER, VERSION FEMINA



NICOLAS BEUGLET

NICOLAS BEUGLET is 48 years old.

A former TV screenplay writer, he has chosen to devote himself to writing.

He published at XO Editions: *The Scream*, *The Alliance*, *Devil's Island*,

The Last Message, *The Passenger with No Face*.

The Archipelago of the forgotten is his 7th novel.

2,4 MILLION COPIES SOLD
OUT OF HIS 7 NOVELS

NICOLAS BEUGLET ABOUT *THE FINAL WARNING*

The plot of your new thriller pushes again beyond the limits of the imagination to question the great mysteries of humanity. What vertiginous abyss are you going to send your readers into this time?

Two profound themes animate this new story. The first one is the question of the transmission of knowledge to generations that will walk the Earth hundreds or thousands of years from now. I approached this dizzying question through the phenomena of time capsules. There are officially 1,485 of them hidden on Earth. They are buried with the clearly posted notice that they should not be opened for ten, fifty, or a hundred years from now - and sometimes even more.

The other theme that runs through your story is just as mind-blowing: the search for an intelligent extraterrestrial civilization.

For many astrophysicists, the question is no longer whether we will someday discover intelligent life in the universe, but when. The number of potentially habitable planets is constantly growing as new technological tools are perfected. To scientists, the idea that we are alone in the universe is a statistical absurdity. To me, this notion opens dizzying narrative paths that I explore in the novel.

Neither of the two heroes of your novel is a professional investigator. One is an art expert and the other is a priest. How this surprising duo came together.

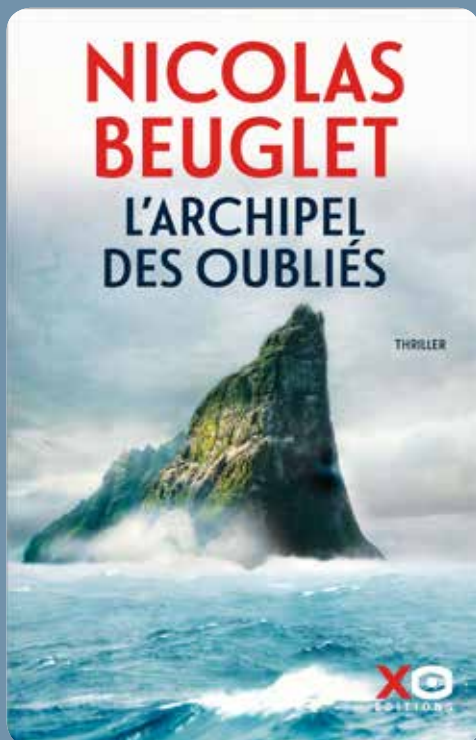
Felicia Duplessis is a young art expert whose passion is studying the history of objects and works of art. She even had part of the Sistine Chapel fresco painted on her living room ceiling. She's a lively, curious woman with a passionate commitment to her work. Partly as a result, she hasn't yet found a partner to share her great knowledge with, much as she might want one. This is the context in which she teams up with Armand Borderive. He is older than Felicia, more settled and less talkative. In the beginning, he treats his partner in a somewhat macho way, but she doesn't stand for it. And Armand realizes that the young woman has a gift for observation that will be very useful in their investigation. What will the relationship between Felicia and Armand become? A love affair that would challenge his vows as a priest, or a connection of some other kind? When I started the book, I didn't know exactly how that pairing would evolve, to be honest. The characters took charge of their own destiny.

Yesterday, Grace Campbell and Sarah Geringën, today Felicia Duplessis. Female characters are very important in your writings. Why do they occupy such a special place?

I don't like creating main characters who are male. I always feel they're too much like me. I find it hard to get enough distance to give them a uniqueness that isn't a copy of myself. By contrast, I find it much easier to create female characters. With them, I feel much freer creatively. Some people write in order to find themselves, and wind up putting a lot of themselves into their characters. I write to escape myself, so I try to engage with personalities that are totally different from mine.

Research and an understanding of complex phenomena like genetics or astrophysics seem to be starting points when you write your stories.

It's true that I'm drawn to big questions that haven't yet been answered, whether in history or science. The whole point of being a writer is to see what kind of answers I can suggest, given all the freedom of imagination that the novel allows. So I'm constantly in search of misunderstood experiments, bold theories, and truly unexplained phenomena. I then see if I have something to say on the subject. Something that hasn't already been said, something that causes the reader to be surprised, challenged, and encouraged to think.



PUBLISHED
SEPTEMBER 2022
P. 395

**#1
ON FRENCH
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LIST**

**230,000
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THE ARCHIPELAGO OF THE FORGOTTEN

(L'ARCHIPEL DES OUBLIÉS)

**THIS STORY WILL MAKE YOU DOUBT
EVERYTHING... EVEN YOURSELF !**

Detectives Grace Campbell and Sarah Geringen know this much: even though they have diametrically opposite personalities, they must work together to catch “the faceless man” — the architect of a diabolical plan to destroy humanity. And they have only one lead: a manor house lost in the Scottish mists.

Behind the closed shutters of the residence, a dour young widow moves about in the shadows. But is this woman really who she pretends to be? What the two detectives uncover is beyond their worst assumptions!

In a race against time, Grace and Sarah travel from Loch Ness to Norway, pushing back the boundaries of fear to reach the mysterious Archipelago of the Forgotten - the last stronghold against the reigning chaos of the world.

AN ENTIRELY ADDICTIVE THRILLER

AN ODE TO THE POWER OF IMAGINATION

PRAISES

“In 6 years and as many novels, Nicolas Beuglet has become one of the giants of the French thriller genre. (...) A thrilling read.”

BERNARD LEHUT, RTL

“Beuglet’s novels are a real shock ... The present has never been so worrisome.”

LE POINT



NICOLAS BEUGLET

NICOLAS BEUGLET is 48 years old.

A former TV screenplay writer, he has chosen to devote himself to writing.

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The Last Message, *The Passenger with No Face*.

The Archipelago of the forgotten is his 7th novel.

2,4 MILLION COPIES SOLD
OUT OF HIS 7 NOVELS

NICOLAS BEUGLET ABOUT *THE ARCHIPELAGO OF THE FORGOTTEN*

In *The Archipelago of the Forgotten*, you bring back your two heroines, the Norwegian Sarah Gerigën, and the Scottish Grace Campbell.

This was already the plan when I was writing *The Last Message*, the first volume in the Grace Campbell trilogy. And at the end of *Devil's Island*, last volume of this trilogy, Sarah is left with a terrible dilemma. However, I discovered that she was capable of figuring out the problem on her own, without my guidance. So I left her alone for a while and began working on a new investigator, Grace Campbell. Three years later, I knew that Sarah was ready to tell us who she had become. I also knew that she would need help to wrap up the investigation she had begun in my "absence".

Grace and Sarah seek to understand the true intentions of the Olympus corporation...

Indeed, Grace and Sarah discover that they have both been trying to defeat Olympus, the malevolent organization, and have both found evidence that seems to prove that the multinational organization is about to launch its third and final plan to take over our civilization, and it's doubtful that this plan will contribute to the well-being of humankind.

In your novel you bring to light what Thomas Edison was working on during the last six years of his life, namely, perfecting a "necrophone" capable of capturing the aura of the dead. Isn't this unexpected?

Intellectually, I'm interested in that which seeks to go beyond what we understand and can observe in the present. Anything that asks the question "what makes us who we are" as a species and as an individual. I have followed the research done in this field, especially scientific research. That a man as pragmatic as Thomas Edison would have worked tirelessly on a machine that communicates with the dead says a lot about the deeper answers we, as humans, are seeking, even the most materialistic among us.

One of your characters cites Bernanos' *France Against the Robots*, declaring that modern society is a universal conspiracy against any inner existence. Do you denounce in your works the pan-digital and the difficulty of maintaining a critical mindset?

The digital is nothing more than a new tool. What worries me the most is its ability to condition the world's population at an industrial level. I believe that despite the laws in place - we all want to respect the rules that allow us to live in harmony - humans also need to know that they can escape a certain level of surveillance to feel at peace. Yet the digital, in the guise of protecting us of course, has the potential to invade our private lives and our intimacy. What is a human being when even their most inner thoughts are known and controlled by a higher power? Nothing more than an existential absurdity, or a machine.

You bring up the question of transhumanism and the metaverse, that crazy race towards the immortality of the body and the soul.

I deeply believe that certain corporations have an economic interest to sell us on the technological revolution by nourishing our imaginations with a Hollywood image of the world. But my sense is that the greater part of humanity does not want this immaterial or a virtual existence. There is and there will always be a curiosity about it, a desire to try it, but most people will realize that, when they are cut off from the earth and reality, they die. The only real danger is that these gigantic corporations won't give us the choice.



PUBLISHED
SEPTEMBER 2021
P. 368

**#1
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**333,000
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THE PASSENGER WITH NO FACE

(LE PASSAGER SANS VISAGE)

The anonymous letter left on her doorstep is more than a signal: it's an electric shock. Inspector Grace Campbell knows that she has no other option left this time. She has to open the security door at the bottom of her apartment – and thereby face the secret that has been haunting her for so many years...

The nail-biting suspense takes us from the isolated Scottish countryside to the depths of the Black Forest where the most chilling fairy tale of our childhoods is re-enacted. Grace could never have imagined she would be riding this train that appeared out of nowhere, having to confront the Passenger with no face...

With this new gripping thriller, Nicolas Beuglet plunges us into the most terrible perversions of our society, raising the question along the way: what if, among the powers that run the world, faceless monsters are hiding?

**"YOU'RE NOT THE ONLY ONE
SEARCHING FOR THE TRUTH..."**

A CHILLING & NERVE-RACKING THRILLER

A TRAIN, A PASSENGER WITH NO FACE &
A TERRIFYING SOCIETY

PRAISES

"Nicolas Beuglet probes the psyche of his heroine, who becomes increasingly endearing as her secrets are revealed. As is often the case, between two traps and three twists, Beuglet develops a social and historical theme close to his heart."

PARIS MATCH

"Nicolas Beuglet takes us on a whirlwind tour of Europe, inspired by spine-chilling legends and historical facts. Explosive!"

MARIE FRANCE



NICOLAS BEUGLET

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OUT OF HIS 7 NOVELS

NICOLAS BEUGLET ABOUT *THE PASSANGER WITH NO FACE*

In *The Passenger with No Face* we find out what is hidden behind the heavy security door of inspector Grace Campbell's flat...

Grace has always been petrified by the possibility of being confronted with the secret shut away for years behind her security door. Until an anonymous letter points her to a new lead in the tragedy that marked her earliest years. Who sent it? How much can she trust the mysterious author? Grace launches into an investigation that will plunge her into terrible doubts: are her parents implicated in her childhood tragedy? Was the police failure due to incompetence or connivance? What is the origin of that memory of a terrifying figure dressed in a strange, colourful costume watching her from the corner of her room? All these questions make Grace realise that her personal history is linked to a case that surpasses the imagination and yet which is all too real.

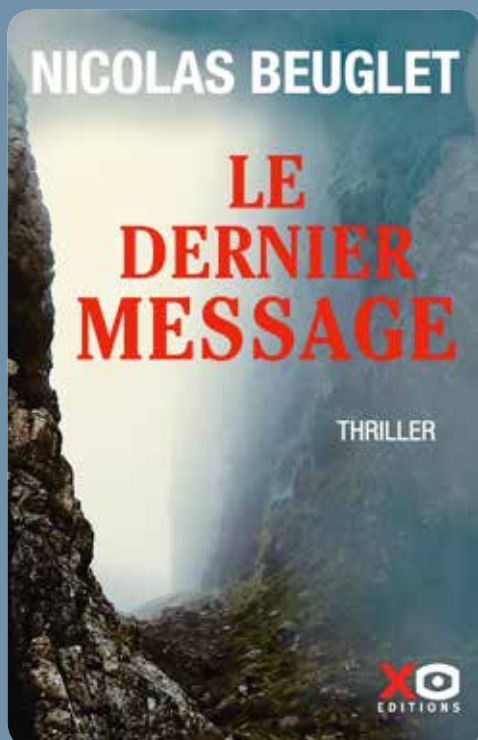
In your new novel, you revisit the Grimm fairytale *The Pied Piper of Hamelin*, putting it at the heart of Grace Campbell's investigation. How did that idea come to you?

The story about the Pied Piper was the one that most traumatised me in my childhood. I didn't really understand why until recently, when I realised that firstly it ends badly and secondly, it is almost the only tale that doesn't contain any magical or fantastical elements. Cinderella has the fairy, Little Red Riding Hood the wolf who dresses up, Tom Thumb an ogre, Hansel and Gretel a witch... In the story of the Pied Piper, the narrative is dry, factual – and therefore cruelly realistic. That made me want to find out more about its origin and that was when, to my amazement, I found out that the village of Hamelin had medieval records of the sudden disappearance of 130 children... I had to tell that story.

As in your previous novels, you base the story on real events to depict the dark side of humanity. How did you undertake that important research work?

The real event you are referring to is the most revolting paedophile scandal, which I actually had not heard of before accidentally coming across it in my research to flesh out the past of my heroine Grace Campbell. It is the German case of what is called the "Kentler experiment": over a period of 30 years, the Berlin social services deliberately placed neglected children with paedophiles under the pretext that they would be loved by their adoptive parent. That fact is so crazy that for a while I thought it must be fake. Unfortunately not. There were two university reports about it. As well as reading them attentively, I also contacted one of the authors who said it was still difficult to measure the scale of the scandal because even today the Berlin authorities were blocking access to over a thousand files on the subject.

I wanted to know how his research was proceeding but I didn't receive a reply. I can understand: it's a very sensitive subject that could, from what we are beginning to know, have repercussions in high places. What I cannot understand, on the other hand, is that no investigative journalist has ever delved into the story to expose how widespread it was... When it's so huge. So, to reply more precisely to your question, I worked on this subject in the spirit of a journalist, to reveal that the worst can be committed with the knowledge and even the support of authorities supposed to look after us and our children.



PUBLISHED
SEPTEMBER 2020
P. 395

**ENGLISH SAMPLE
AVAILABLE**

**#1
ON FRENCH
LISTS**

**345,000
COPIES
SOLD**

THE LAST MESSAGE

(LE DERNIER MESSAGE)

An abbey and its wind-battered walls, a body mutilated in the strangest of ways, indecipherable scientific formulas... Inspector Grace Campbell does not yet know that the last message is about to change the course of humanity.

The island of Iona, west of Scotland. Great stretches of brown grass interspersed with black rocks. And, at the end of the “Street of the Dead”, the grey silhouette of the abbey. Behind its wind-battered walls, a resident has just been found murdered, his body mutilated in the strangest of ways. The police investigation is headed by Scottish inspector Grace Campbell.

After a year of sidelining, she knows that her career is at stake. When Grace arrives at the monastery under the driving rain, she pushes open the heavy front door and is met by the shifting gaze of the five monks who live there. All they can say about the victim is his name: Anton. They all know, on the other hand, that he had a secret study hidden away in the walls, a space strewn with scientific formulas...

What was Anton researching? Why has he been killed with such savagery? As she tries to recover her lost self-confidence, Grace does not yet realize that the solution to one of the most intriguing puzzles of mankind rests solely on her shoulders...

BE WARNED...

**THE LAST MESSAGE MIGHT PLUNGE YOU TO
THE DEPTHS OF ANGUISH AND INSANITY...**

•

**THE MYSTERIOUS & SOLITARY FIGURE
OF THE SCOTTISH INSPECTOR
GRACE CAMPBELL**



NICOLAS BEUGLET

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OUT OF HIS 7 NOVELS

NICOLAS BEUGLET ABOUT *THE LAST MESSAGE*

In *The Last Message*, we meet your new heroine, Grace Campbell. Can you tell us something about her?

Grace is a young Scotswoman of 32, a police inspector in Glasgow. At work, she is known for her ability to laugh at herself and for her gentle approach: she has an astonishing empathy for victims, who confide in her freely. This great ability to listen probably comes from her solitary life – for Grace has chosen to live absolutely alone, without family or friends. Why? The reason for that decision hides behind a locked door in her apartment...

The starting point of your story is a particularly brutal crime, committed in a monastery on the little, windswept island of Iona. The victim is also a mystery...

When Grace turns up at this isolated monastery, all the monks are suspects. They can't look her in the eye, they speak in hushed tones and nobody seems to know who the victim was. He was a resident of the community who had rented a room there for two years. All they know about him is his name, Anton, and his habit of holing himself up in his little room for hours on end, doing nobody knows what. The way he was killed, unprecedented in the history of crime, is proof enough that he was not just a random victim.

In all your novels, you plumb the depths of humanity. Here, you deal with the development of human intelligence. Is it a way of exorcising your own fears and preoccupations?

It isn't the shadowy parts of humanity that interest me so much as the ideas, phenomena and realities that shape us – or rather, deform and traumatize us without our even realizing they exist. I like to shed light on ideas that we do not talk about but which change everything. The spark that ignited *The Last Message* came from the observation, both fascinating and terrifying, that for over 20 years now, western human intelligence has been in decline.

Homo sapiens has been on earth for thousands of years and it is in our era that they are becoming their most stupid! Why now? What has happened? Is it just chance or the consequence of certain choices of which we haven't realized the significance? Or, even worse, is it organized by certain people? The question is all the more pressing since intelligence is at the basis of our whole survival as a species. Just as a war for water is being talked about, this is a war over intelligence that is looming on the horizon...

Without giving away the plot, could you tell us more about this "last message" that involves the reader in mind blowing trains of thought?

It's important to know that I write thrillers based only on facts – little-known facts but real ones nonetheless. *The Last Message* is based on scientific research that has been carried out in universities but which has not yet reached the public domain. In fact, I wonder whether that isn't precisely because it is too unsettling. These discoveries are, as you say, truly mind blowing because they challenge all one's beliefs – and when I say "one", I mean "you" as well. So the only thing I can tell you with certainty is that this last message is likely to plunge you into a very strange state indeed...



PUBLISHED
SEPTEMBER 2019
P. 320

N°1
FOR 4 WEEKS
IN A ROW

318,000
COPIES
SOLD

PRAISES

"The third moving and unforgettable opus in Nicolas Beuglet's trilogy is a masterful blend of fiction and historical reality.."

LE POINT

"Family secrets and revenge, history and epigenetics, this is a blood-curdling thriller!"

ICI PARIS

DEVIL'S ISLAND

(L'ÎLE DU DIABLE)

REVENGE IS A MATTER OF MEMORY

The body covered with a strange white powder... the extremities gangrenous... A face frozen in a grimace of pain...

Sarah Geringën is gripped with horror when she sees her father's body. And is paralysed with fear when the pathologist gives her the key found in his stomach. What if her father was not the man he seemed to be?

From murky Norwegian forests to icy Siberian plains, the former Special Forces inspector goes on a journey to confront a terrifying family secret. What will she discover in that old manor house isolated in the woods? Will she dare venture onto Devil's Island?

Nicolas Beuglet's novel is a spine-chilling thriller that exhumes a horrifying unknown event from the depths of history and poses intriguing questions.

**How much of our ancestors live in us,
for better or worse?**

A THRILLER INSPIRED BY
RECENT DISCOVERIES & DRAMATIC EVENTS
•
SPINE-CHILLING AND TERRIBLY ADDICTIVE



NICOLAS BEUGLET

2,1 MILLION COPIES SOLD
OUT OF HIS 7 NOVELS

NICOLAS BEUGLET ABOUT *DEVIL'S ISLAND*

Your new thriller *Devil's Island* begins where you left off in *The Alliance*: Sarah Geringen is in a sticky predicament in a prison cell... What is she doing behind bars?

Sarah has been imprisoned as a result of the daring and determination that characterise her. In her job she has a reputation of being cold and taciturn but with a formidable efficiency that makes her one of the best inspectors in the country. Which is why the government had called on her to find out who assassinated the Norwegian Prime Minister in *The Alliance*. But at the most critical moment of her investigation, Sarah inadvertently caused the death of an innocent bystander whom she was trying to save. The circumstances are unclear and while the enquiry is being carried out, she is incarcerated. She is consumed with remorse and also with grief at the break up with the love of her life, Christopher.

Sarah is confronted with a murder that will shake her to the very depths, uncovering the pain of a past filled with shadows...

When she learns of her father's murder, Sarah is convinced it is the result of a burglary gone wrong. Her father was a peaceable man with a straightforward life. However, when she sees the terrifying staging of the murder, she realises he was not the man he seemed to be. His body is covered in a mysterious white powder, his extremities are frozen to the point of gangrene and his face is contorted with suffering. Stranger still, the pathologist finds a key in his stomach. What does it open? What terrible act can her father have committed to deserve such a death?

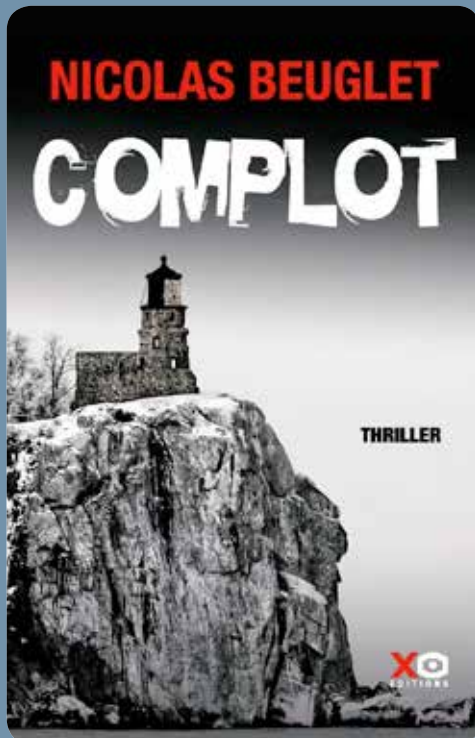
For me, finding out that someone you love is not the person you thought he was, is the most anxiety-making experience. Especially if that shadowy area has repercussions for oneself...

Your thriller deals with an incredible affair of revenge. A meal best eaten very very cold... And which takes us back to an unknown but chilling historical event. What can you tell us about this, without spoiling the intrigue?

One day I was helping friends move a small public library. A history book had been left on a shelf and when I saw its terrifying title, I was immediately captured. The book described in detail a terrible event that took place somewhere in Europe during the 1930s. The facts were so appalling that I was certain I would find references to them in every history textbook and in large number of articles but in fact there were none! It is extraordinary that such an affair is not known all over the world, particularly since what happened there inevitably left deep traces in our collective memory.

At the end of the book we finally understand the complex personality of your heroine. *Devil's Island* seems to conclude a trilogy. Is that right?

As an investigator, Sarah is a woman who fights for the truth – but in fact, most of all she is fighting herself. Eaten up with a guilt she does not understand, she immerses herself in work, trying to make amends for an unknown sin. All while hoping desperately for a child. In this latter aim, Sarah will be pushed to the furthest reaches of her unconscious. What will she find there? The redemption she hopes for or a truth that will destroy her? Her inner conflict reflects our own: we all have to move forward in life despite the traumas we have inherited from our parents. I feel that the psychological battle Sarah wages with herself captures the question that propels everyone's life: to what degree are we capable of / do we want, freedom?



PUBLISHED
MAY 2018
P. 496

**402,000
COPIES
SOLD**

PRAISES

"A spine-chilling feminist thriller!"

PARIS MATCH

"A topical thriller about the importance of women throughout the history, misogyny and the origins of male domination."

LE QUOTIDIEN DU MÉDECIN

THE ALLIANCE (COMLOT)

An island stricken by icy winds, in Norway on the edge of the Arctic Circle. Atop a cliff, the naked and martyred corpse of a woman. The country's Prime Minister. Her hands grip a piece of white chalk. Below, on a cornice, the hollowed out head of a bull.

Faced with this crime scene, as terrifying as it is bizarre, the Norwegian authorities have no other choice but to call in Sarah Geringën, the ex-special forces agent and super-investigator who was in charge of the investigation in *The Scream*, Nicolas Beuglet's previous novel.

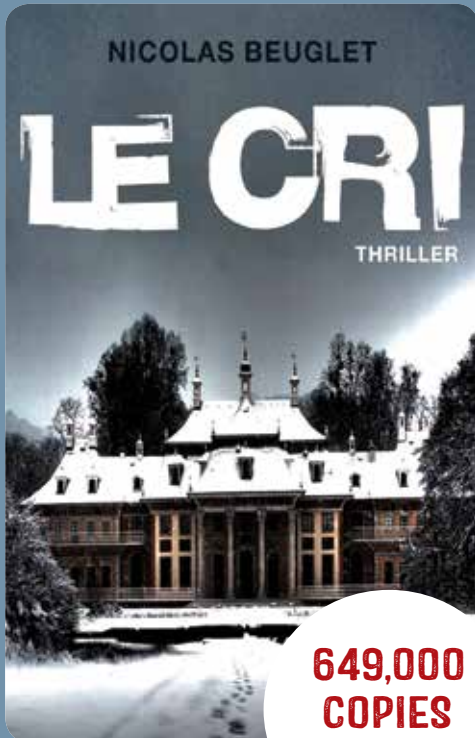
Sarah discovers that the victim was killed by sword and that between her toes there is a miniscule tattoo with the word "Etta". While researching the crime she discovers that the same type of crimes happened... 2700 years ago. Soon after, she unearths a sanctuary beneath the Prime Minister's house. Inside she finds a computer and the references of three women in charge of carrying out an incredible mission: restoring the power of women.

Next to the names of these women are three dates, very close together. This sounds like a guarantee of mayhem. Sarah is sure that these women are in danger. When she starts feeling the shadow of a killer hovering around her the elite policewoman understands that a deadly hunt has begun to stop them.

And keep men in power....

**A REMARKABLE THRILLER
FULL OF ACTION & SUSPENSE**

**AND WHAT IF, LONG BEFORE MEN,
WOMEN RULED THE WORLD?**



PUBLISHED
SEPTEMBER 2016
P. 496

**649,000
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**RIGHTS SOLD FOR AN
INTERNATIONAL TV SERIES TO
SKYVERSE NORDIC**

**FULL ENGLISH TRANSLATION
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Bulgaria : Enthusiast **Poland** : Sonia Draga
Czech Rep. : XYZ **Russia** : Centrpoligraph
Greece : Mati **Slovakia** : Albatros Media

THE SCREAM (LE CRI)

THE DISCOVERY OF A GREATLY TALENTED WRITER

Psychiatric Hospital in Gaustad, Oslo. At dawn after a night of bitter cold, the body of a patient is found strangled to death in his cell, his mouth open in a silent scream. Rushed to the scene, the disconcerting inspector Sarah Geringen immediately senses that this case will be unlike any other...

The mysteries pile up: why does the victim have a scar in the form of the number 488 on his forehead? What do the indecipherable drawings on the walls of his cell signify? Why does the hospital staff seem so uncomfortable with the identity of this man who had been interned in the Gaustad Hospital for over thirty years?

For Sarah it is the beginning of a terrifying investigation that will send her from London to Ascension Island, from the mines of Minnesota to the heights of ancient Nice. Subjected to a relentless countdown, Sara's destiny will be linked to that of a French investigative journalist, Christopher, and she will discover, while digging up CIA records, a staggering truth about one of the questions that haunts each and every one of us: life after death...

**A FASCINATING THRILLER OF
RARE COMPLEXITY, INSPIRED BY
REAL DISCOVERIES & EVENTS**



CO-EDITION WITH

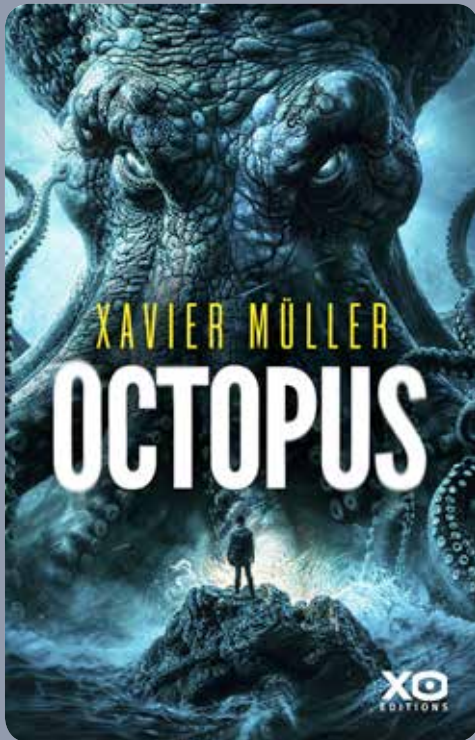
phileas

PUBLISHED
SEPTEMBER, 2023
P. 146

THE SCREAM (COMIC BOOK)

Pierre Fournier (Scenario)
Laval Ng Man Kwong (Drawings)

Laval's drawing and colorimetry are strongly reminiscent of the Francis Bacon's works on fear and horror? The scenarion leads to an unexpectewith finale throught multiple paths and twists ? With a backdrop of experiments on humans, locked away in an asylum. A major psychological thriller comic!



PUBLISHED
NOVEMBER, 2024
460 P.

THE NEW
NOVEL BY
XAVIER
MULLER



XAVIER MULLER is 49 years old.
He holds a PhD in physics. He works as science
journalist for prestigious specialized magazines,
and contributes to the publications of National
Science Research Center (CNRS).

OCTOPUS

(OCTOPUS)

WHEN THE UNTHINKABLE BECOMES REAL

Throughout the world, on land as well as at the bottom of the ocean, a bewildering phenomenon is taking place: animal intelligence is reaching staggering and worrying levels. In every corner of the planet, marine and land animals are showing signs of intense brain activity, causing absurd situations and tragedies. Giant mimetic octopuses emerge from the depths of the sea, capable of taking on the appearance of any object or living being.

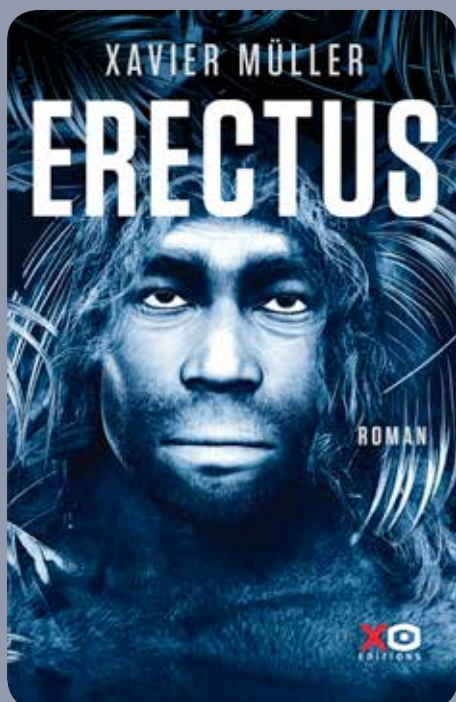
With an accelerating climate change, the waters are rising and giant octopuses are invading the coasts. Why do they want to cross paths with human beings? What's the meaning of the strange light signals they emit?

Biologist Margot Klein looks after the dolphins at Mona Ocean Park, on the Caribbean island of Saint Thomas. A specialist in animal language, she developed the software used by NASA in its search for extraterrestrial life. Margot Klein tries to decipher this astounding phenomenon, before governments, who are convinced that the human species is in great danger, decide to eradicate these super-intelligent animals.

A DSYTOPIA SUPPORTED BY VERTIGINOUS SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE

•
WHAT OCTOPUSES CAN TEACH US ABOUT THE
MEETING OF TWO VERY DIFFERENT SPECIES ?

•
WHO'S GONE THE FURTHEST
ALONG THE ROAD TO LANGUAGE:
ANIMALS OR HUMANS?



PUBLISHED
APRIL 2019
P. 450

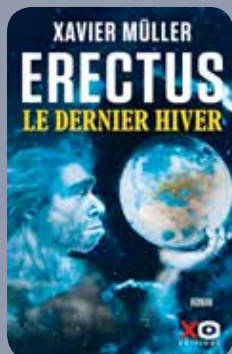
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RUSSIA / Family Leisure Club
CZECH REPUBLIC / Albatros Media



PUBLISHED
FEBRUARY 2021
P. 496
VOL. 2



PUBLISHED
NOVEMBER, 2022
460 P.
VOL.3

ERECTUS (VOL. 1)

**A FAST-PACED
SCIENCE THRILLER**

In the heart of Kruger Park, South Africa, animal and plant species are suddenly changing and turning back into their prehistoric form. Anna Meunier, a young French paleontologist, explores the region to trace the trail of contamination. But soon the very first human cases of regression are discovered. What was only a risky assumption becomes a global nightmare!

As States mobilize, anti-prehistoric militias are forming everywhere. Erectus try to flee the places where they are parked. At the UN, the debate is raging: should these erectus be considered as men? Should they be protected or should the population be protected from them?

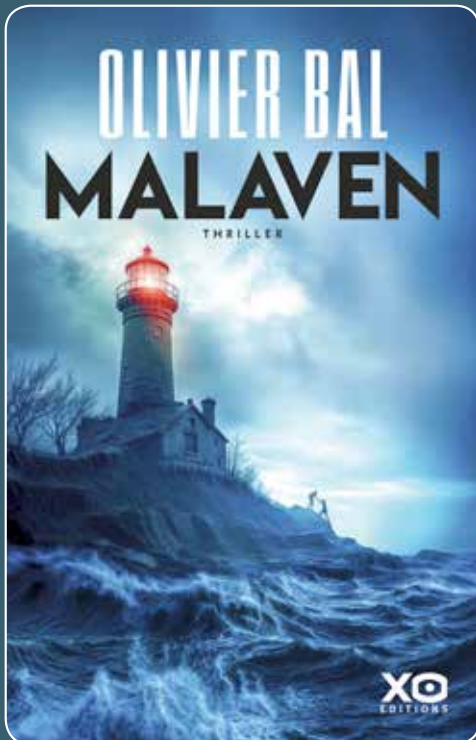
Upon learning that her companion, Yann, is infected too, Anna embarks on quest to get back the love of her life.

**190,000
COPIES SOLD
OF ERECTUS
SERIES**

**WHAT IF THE LOVE OF YOUR LIFE
TURNED INTO A PREHISTORIC MAN?**

•
**WHAT IF WE ALL BECAME
PREHISTORIC HUMANS AGAIN?**

•
**THE TERRIFYING SPECTRE OF
HUMANITY'S REGRESSION**



PUBLISHED
APRIL 2025
P. 464

OLIVIER BAL'S
NOVELS SOLD
OVER
370,000



OLIVIER BAL is 44 years old.

A few years ago, he has taken the thriller world by storm. He sold over 310,000 copies out of his four preceding novels, and with each book he publishes Olivier Bal outdoes himself. He addresses human adventure through characters that he brings to life with the skill of a masterful puppeteer. He is the author of *Beware of Angels*, *The Clara Miller Affair*, *The Forest of the Vanished*, *Bloody stones*, *The Pack* all published by XO Éditions.

MALAVEN

(MALAVEN)

A PUZZLE MADE OF SECRETS & LIES

An isolated island. Four friends invited to return to the scene of a forgotten tragedy.
“Among you, there is a liar, a traitor, and a murderer. The island will now reveal your secrets.”

October 2007. Four friends set foot on the island of Malaven, in the heart of the Iroise Sea. Alice, Stan, Erwan, and François have answered the invitation of Jonas Waverley, a mysterious writer and owner of this abandoned place nicknamed The Isle of the Damned. They quickly realize they're trapped, with no way to return to the mainland. Cameras scrutinize their every move. They have one night to explore Malaven and unravel its mysteries.

Hour by hour, they begin to understand that the trials they face are connected to their past and to the writer's novels. Everything remains hazy in their minds, but they all know they've been to this island before, long ago... And to survive, they must remember. Each holds within them a piece of Malaven's terrible puzzle.

October 1987. Twenty years earlier, the six inseparable friends of the Outskirts Gang spend a last weekend together before they go their separate way. But disturbing events begin to occur on Malaven Island. What happened in October 1987? What is Jonas Waverley really after? And, above all, why can't the four guests remember anything?

**A MACHIAVELLIAN THRILLER
TAILORED LIKE A TRAP
WHERE PAST & PRESENT COLLIDE**

**AN EXPLORATION OF MEMORY THROUGH
A WEB OF GUILT & REDEMPTION**



PUBLISHED
APRIL 2024
P. 550

OLIVIER BAL'S
NOVELS SOLD
OVER
370,000



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A few years ago, he has taken the thriller world by storm. He sold over 310,000 copies out of his four preceding novels, and with each book he publishes Olivier Bal outdoes himself. He addresses human adventure through characters that he brings to life with the skill of a masterful puppeteer. He is the author of *Beware of Angels*, *The Clara Miller Affair*, *The Forest of the Vanished*, *Bloody stones*, *The Pack* all published by XO Éditions.

THE PACK

(LA MEUTE)

"THERE WILL ALWAYS BE DEVILS, GODS AND, IN THE MIDDLE, HUMAN BEINGS."

All over France, people of the high society are being murdered. Drugged. Buried alive. And on their tombs, the same killer signature, The Black Angel. To Sofia Giordano, an investigator in the anti-terrorism unit, it's a complete mystery. At the same time, in Paris, Gabriel Geller, a criminal investigator, is looking into who is beating migrants to death.

By intermingling their investigations, the two cops come across a small ethnocentric group of nationalists that calls itself The Pack, based in the city of Lille. Meanwhile, its founder, the young Victor Mirval, is at his family estate, the Château de Noirval, working on a monumental plot.

Sofia infiltrates The Pack, and discovers strange rituals inspired by the Middle Ages, such as the Béhourt, a extremely violent confrontation of knights in medieval armor. Before she is accepted into the group, Sofia will have to overcome a series of obstacles, the "Nine Circles", one more terrifying than the next.

What secrets lurk in the underground passageways of the Château de Noirval? What does The Pack really want? Every structure on the Noirval estate seems to be tied to the strange fascination the Mirval family holds for the Dante's *Divine Comedy*.

A THRILLER THAT DELVES INTO THE SECRETS OF FANATIC RIGHT-WING CIRCLES

THE WORRISOME & CODIFIED WORLD OF ETHNOCENTRIC GROUPS



PUBLISHED
APRIL 2023
P. 480

**75,000
COPIES
SOLD**

BLOODY STONES

(ROCHES DE SANG)

BEHIND THE SCENES OF ORGANIZED CRIME

Corsica, 1993. After having fled his island, Ange Biasini is forced to return home. His younger brother Theo needs his skills as a former professional freediver to mount a series of unusual robberies involving the yachts of three billionaires. In the process, they will be confronted with something they should never have seen.

London, 2019. In an apartment overlooking the Thames, the police have just found a strangled man – a Serbian billionaire. Marie Jansen, an agent for Europol, who had been investigating him, is captivated by a message written in Italian in blood:

CHE LA MIA FERITA SIA MORTALE

Marie, who grew up in Corsica knows what these words mean: “May my wounds be mortal.” Thus begins a terrifying investigation that will bring her to the “scarred one”, the Godfather, in his lair.

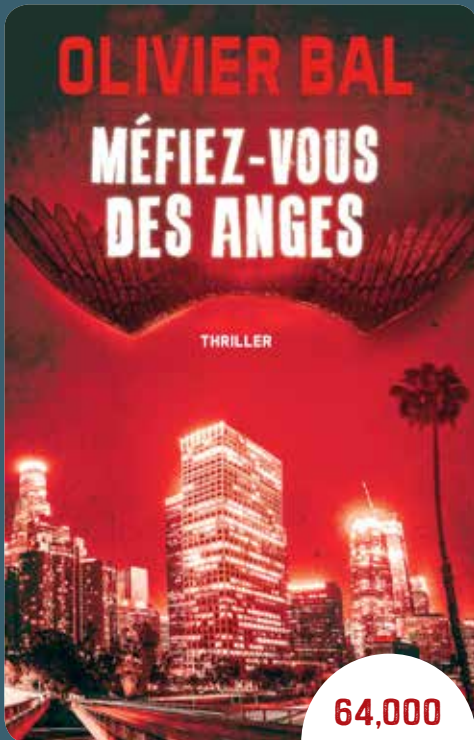
PRAISES

“Roches de sang is one of the greatest thrillers of this year. A plunge into the heart of banditry, the weight of tradition, vengeance and a certain code of honor. Through his magnificent descriptions of Corsica, the author, halfway between John le Carré and Dennis Lehane, leads us along a breathless path of the cross. A path on which his heroes, with their flaws and weaknesses, deliver a poignant lesson in redemption.” **ELLE**

“Olivier Bal joins the list of the top thriller writers. A highly effective plot, an apprenticeship novel, where the road to reunion is strewn with pitfalls and deadly traps.” **PARIS MATCH**

**A BREATHLESS HUNT & QUEST
FOR REDEMPTION
IN THE HEART OF EUROPE**

**WHAT IF THE VICTIMS
WERE ACTUALLY
THE CULPRITS?**



PUBLISHED
APRIL 2022
P. 464

**64,000
COPIES
SOLD**

**THE NEW
VOICE IN
THE FRENCH
THRILLER**

PRAISES

"Secret society, corruption and trafficking, manipulation, untouchable stars and hallucinated disciples, fial fireworks... All the ingredients for an effective thriller. Bonus: the heroine's unusual personality, condemned to live behih her sunglasses to avoid the stimuli of her freewheeling memory!"

LIBERATION

Whith this third volume of the Paul Green series, Olivier Bal has rises to the level of the best Los Angeles thriller writers. Thrilling!"

PARIS MATCH

BEWARE THE ANGELS

(MEFIEZ-VOUS DES ANGES)

"YOU'VE BEEN WARNED. IF YOU ENTER THE COMPOUND, IT WILL ALREADY BE TOO LATE!"

High in the California hills sits The Compound, a seemingly ideal spiritual community. Paul Green, a world-weary former reporter, is convinced that the young woman he is looking for is trapped within its walls.

He infiltrates The Compound and is shocked to discover its strange rituals, forbidden places, and mysterious guru.

Meanwhile, in Los Angeles, Inspector Sarah Shelley receives an urgent phone call. The body of a young woman was just discovered, slashed beyond recognition. She had most likely bled to death.

What if this crime took us to the heart of The Compound?

In the underbelly of Los Angeles, Sarah Shelley and Paul Green set out on a lugubrious trail. They will have to confront one of the most notorious sects in the country.

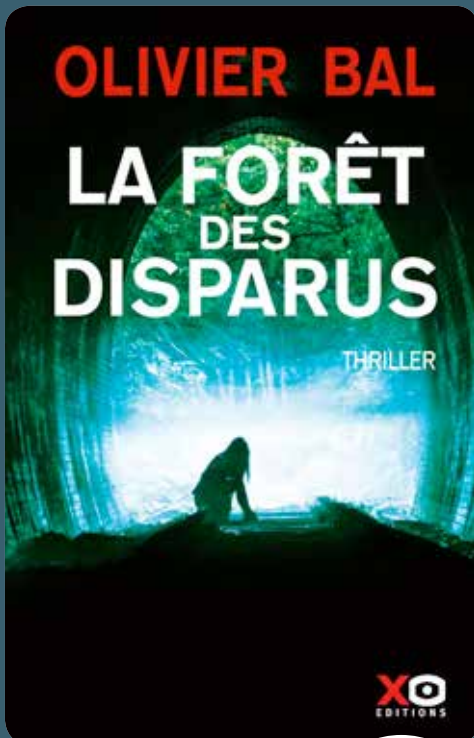
**HERE YOU ARE
WELCOMED WITH OPEN ARMS...
TO PUT YOU BACK ON THE PATH!**

**THE DARKEST DEPTHS OF THE HUMAN SOUL &
THE HEIGHTS OF MANIPULATION**

A BREATHLESS & TIMELY THRILLER

OLIVIER BAL

THRILLER
PAUL GREEN SERIES



PUBLISHED
APRIL 2021
P. 448

**95,000
COPIES
SOLD**

PRAISES

"This extraordinary new novel confirms Olivier Bal's diabolical talent. [...] an atmosphere as terrifying as it is fascinating, delivered through a vibrant narrative."

L'EXPRESS

"With this new novel, Olivier Bal delivers an addictive thriller that is as brilliant as it is chilling, set against a backdrop of human hunts, obscure cults, and family secrets."

LE PARISIEN

THE FOREST OF THE VANISHED

(LA FORÊT DES DISPARUS)

**A TERRIFYING EXPLORATION OF A CLANNISH
AND CLAUSTROPHOBIC COMMUNITY**

Redwoods. A small, isolated town in Oregon, set between the Pacific ocean and an ancient forest of giant redwood trees. A town with a sinister record : every year, several ramblers disappear there without trace.

In the heart of the forest, a man lives in total isolation. Here, he is known as The Foreigner... but his real name is Paul Green, the former journalist who investigated on the Clara Miller affair.

One evening, teenager Charlie knocks at his door. She is wounded, panicking, in terror after having encountered the Red Man in the forest. She believes only Paul can help her – will he agree to put himself in danger to protect Charlie?

A CROSS BETWEEN THRILLER & GOTHIC TALE

**THE RETURN OF PAUL GREEN,
JOURNALIST TORTURED BY HIS PAST**



PUBLISHED
MARCH 2020
P. 496

ENGLISH SAMPLE
AVAILABLE

PRAISES

"Hello anguish! Olivier Bal gives us a great show – fantastic, horrific and intriguing!"

L'EXPRESS

THE CLARA MILLER CASE

(L'AFFAIRE CLARA MILLER)

**A CURSED LAKE, A ROCK STAR,
A HEADSTRONG JOURNALIST
THE BLOODY RED CARPET OF CELEBRITY...**

The body floated up to the surface of the water, like those of the other women. Six in total... This cursed place, in the forests of New Hampshire, is known as Suicide Lake. Clara Miller was a journalist. Like Paul Green, *the Globe* reporter who takes up Clara's case; they had known each other as students and she had been his platonic love. He is certain that she did not commit suicide.

A man intrigues him: Mike Stilth, the mega-pop star holed up several kilometres away at Lost Lakes. He has transformed his manor house into a fortress where he lives with his two young children, Noah & Eva, who know nothing of the outside world.

The star is surrounded by a handful of loyal staff who guard his privacy

Paul Green is patient, however. In his old, beat-up Ford, he unwearingly circles the property, seeking to find out whether there is a road leading directly to the lake.

WHEN YOU HAVE EVERYTHING, WHEN YOU ARE
ON THE TOP, WHERE IS THERE LEFT TO GO?

•
THE DARK, HIDDEN FACE OF FAME

•
FAME IS A COSTLY DREAM, VERY COSTLY...



PUBLISHED
FEBRUARY, 2025
P. 496

A NEW
CHLOE LATOUR
INVESTIGATION



© Bruno Lévy - Photo12.com

OLIVIER DESCOSSE is a lawyer in Marseille. Fascinated by the most bizarre and extreme places on earth, he is the author of 14 novels. In 2022, he published his first novel with XO.

WILD BEASTS AT DUSK

(L'HEURE DES FAUVES)

THE TIME OF THE WILD BEASTS HAS COME

From the suburbs of Marseille to the islands off the Turkish coast, the hour of the wild beasts has come.

Who is this woman, whose throat was slit in front of the police station where she was seeking refuge? Why was her hand cut off? And why this tattoo on her arm: "Men have authority over women"?

For Chloé Latour, commander of the Marseille Crime Unit, this heinous murder is not an isolated case. She is convinced that a sprawling network is behind this feminicide. Worse still, the case awakens her own nightmares and gives her a personal reason to track down this demonic killer. Even if it means getting lost in the most hostile lands...

From Marseille to the deserts of Saudi Arabia, from Dubai to the Turkish islands, Chloé's trail will lead her to an appalling truth.

A PATH OF ABSOLUTE VIOLENCE

•

THE CODIFIED UNIVERSE OF
DRUG TRAFFICKERS, RAP MUSIC &
GOD-FEARING MADMEN

•

A WILD & GRIPPING THRILLER

THE GROWING SUCCESS OF CHLOÉ LATOUR TRILOGY

OLIVIER DESCOSSE ABOUT *WILD BEASTS AT DUSK*

In your new thriller, you address the issue of violence against women in a tense plot written in a particularly edgy and realistic style. Why did you choose this subject?

Violence against women is a societal issue that has been on my mind for quite some time. I'm father of three daughters, including a teenager, and I often discuss this issue with them. During a criminal hearing where I was pleading a defamation case, while I was waiting my turn, a domestic violence case was being discussed. I'll spare you the sordid details, but what struck me most was how the judge handled the interrogation of the defendant. The aggressor was a repeat offender, but the judge spoke to him as if he were a child, being careful not to upset him too much, as if he weren't really responsible... Unfortunately, the justice system doesn't always fully grasp what's at stake—the suffering of victims, lives shattered by this violence, often domestic and daily violence, that destroys bodies and minds, and in some cases ends in femicide. Despite evident goodwill, there's still a long way to go. I wanted to talk about that, in my own way, and the thriller is a good vehicle for it.

The opening scene of the novel is striking. How did you imagine it?

I wanted to put myself in the situation of a terrified woman being pursued by a killer, fully aware that she has no chance of escape. The scene is written from the victim's point of view, to convey everything she might feel. It's a bit like a movie scene filmed with a shoulder camera, allowing the viewer to be as close as possible to the action and to experience the scene rather than just watch it.

Drug trafficking is at the heart of your novel. As a lawyer, do you have particular knowledge of these environments?

I'm not a cop, and it's the police who have the best knowledge of the drug trafficking world. But as a Marseille native and especially as a lawyer, I live near this parallel universe that I sometimes have the opportunity to observe firsthand. Some police friends have enlightened me on certain aspects, and my imagination did the rest. Since I'm also specialized in music - I represent rap producers and artists - I know that sometimes there are connections between the two worlds. The breeding grounds are the same, the relationships often pre-existing, which leads to the establishment of natural collaborations.

After *Deep-Sea Terror* and the snowy peaks of *The Devil's Cirque*, you give in your new novel a prominent place to the desert, its mysteries, its traps. Why this desire to set your plots in extreme places...

I've always been fascinated by nature, especially when it's wild and therefore as beautiful as it is brutal. In a thriller, wild nature becomes almost a character, provided the plot justifies it. Regarding *Wild Beasts at dusk* the choice of the desert was also obvious as it's the last instalment of the Chloé Latour trilogy in which extreme environments serve as a backdrop to the story. Moreover, the settings in which the investigation unfolds naturally led at some point to countries where the desert is part of the landscape. Again, the setting must serve the plot and not the other way around, even though I admit I love bringing my characters in extreme environments.



PUBLISHED
NOVEMBER, 2023
P. 528

AN
ICE & FIRE
THRILLER
•
26,000
COPIES SOLD

THE DEVIL'S CIRQUE

(LE CIRQUE DU DIABLE)

Massif de la Meije. A frozen body, completely naked. Found by a group of snowboarders who end up stranded in the Devil's Cirque, an inaccessible place they thought to be first humans to have trodden it. A place of terrifying legends. Haut-Var region. Three calcified cadavers. Found in an abandoned sheepfold in the middle of the forest.

Ice and fire!

And two criminal cases handed over respectively to two investigators so different from each other. Paul Cabrera - a cop who looks like a biker, a hothead with a remarkable record of service, an MMA enthusiast transferred over to the crime unit after earning his stripes with a police squad of dubious reputation. And Chloé Latour, a brilliant investigator and group leader at the Crime Unit in Marseille, who hides beneath an aloof demeanor secrets that have been haunting her for so many years.

From the untouched glaciers to the centuries-old woods, from extreme sports enthusiasts to survivalist groups, the link between the two murders will gradually become clear. Crimes committed by a murderer with uncommon skill whose perversity is only matched by his or her determination.

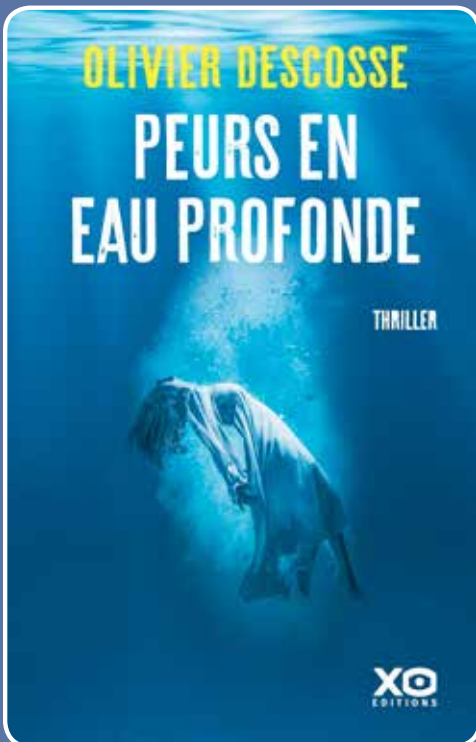
AN UNORDINARY MANHUNT
IN A HOSTILE NATURE WHERE
DANGERS LURK EVERYWHERE

A TERRIFYING SECRET LIES HIDDEN
INSIDE THE HEART OF THE DEVIL'S CIRQUE



© Bruno Lévy - Photo12.com

OLIVIER DESCOSSE is a lawyer in Marseille. Fascinated by the most bizarre and extreme places on earth, he is the author of 14 novels. In 2022, he published his first novel with XO, *Deep-Sea Terror*.



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MARCH, 2022
P. 491

**18,000
COPIES SOLD**

PRAISES

"A very salty plot. We suffocate at every twist and turn, hoping to reach the last page quickly, like a breathless diver dreaming of surfacing."

NOUS DEUX

"Identities hidden beneath oceans of mystery and a violent, surprising epilogue. Olivier Descosse unfolds his plot as a kind of Stephen King or Jean-Christophe Grangé of the deep-sea territory."

LA PROVENCE

"A breathtaking thriller, in which the character plunges back into the abyss of his past."

VAR MATIN

DEEP-SEA TERROR

(PEURS EN EAU PROFONDE)

Off the coast of Marseille, the body of a young woman is found in the nets of a trawler. She is completely naked, covered with bites and her left foot has been severed.

For Chloé Latour, head of the Crime unit, it is the beginning of a relentless chase that will take her into the shadowy world of professional divers and shipwreck hunters – specialists who dive to the bottomless depths and confront the worst dangers.

Jean Sardi is one of the best among these divers : a technical diving whizz. He knew the victim intimately and could well have a motive linked to the terrible secret that has made him seek refuge in the silence of the sea depths.

Domestic murder or crazed ritual? The presence in the victim's lungs of plankton unknown in Mediterranean waters intrigues the Crime unit detectives.

As the mystery thickens, other bodies float to the surface, sewing terror among the deep-sea divers.

A LOCK-UP ON THE EDGE OF ASPHYXIA

•

A CLAUSTROPHIC SETTING

•

A FAST-PACED INTRIGUE SET IN THE MYSTERIOUS WORLD OF DEEP-SEA DIVING



PUBLISHED
MAY, 2023
P. 512

THE MASTER
OF
FRENCH
SPY FICTION

FILM RIGHTS
SOLD

PRAISES

"At once a fast-paced spy novel and a realistic geopolitical thriller, *The Ghosts of Kyiv* can be read in one go, like sipping a shot of vodka."

LE FIGARO MAGAZINE

"A spine-chilling story... The plot is thrilling, the action scenes flawless and the suspense unbearable."

LE FIGARO LITTÉRAIRE

THE GHOSTS
OF KYIV

(LES FANTÔMES DE KIEV)

In Moscow, Olga Ranevskaya, head of the Kremlin's undercover operations, plots revenge on France. Vladimir Putin wants to use his security forces to punish France for supporting the Ukrainians : the Russian secret service have managed to discreetly steal a batch of anti-aircraft missiles supplied by France to Kyiv. Their goal: get them into the hands of an Islamist group so that they can destroy French planes and airports.

Edgar Van Scana, the best of French agents, is determined to foil the Russian maniacal plan. But in Ukraine, Edgar moves ahead like a ghost... He only has two pieces of information: the picture of an arms cache, without any indication of the date the photo was taken or the location, and a code name: *Fire Tornado*.

But what chances does he have in the face of the Russian intelligence juggernaut, especially when the mission is headed by Olga Ranevskaya, and Vladimir Vladimirovitch Poutine is out for cold-blooded vengeance.

A HIGH-OCTANE INTERNATIONAL INTRIGUE

THE SECRET WAR OF INTELLIGENCE AGENTS

A THRILLING STORY OF
POWER, SHADOW & REVENGE



CEDRIC BANNEL

CÉDRIC BANNEL has taken his place as the French master of the espionage novel. He has a broad range of relevant experience.

As former diplomat in London, he was once involved in the fight against the illicit financial flows and money laundering. Buoyed by his recent successes, he decided to join XO Editions with this new novel.

CEDRIC BANNEL **ABOUT** *THE GHOSTS OF KYIV*

A gripping espionage novel, *The Ghosts of Kyiv* echoes the Russian aggression against Ukraine, plunging the reader into the secret wars of intelligence agents. What is this maniacal scenario that your hero, Edgar, the best of the French spies, tries to foil?

Through its military, financial and diplomatic support, the West has enabled Ukraine to inflict heavy defeats on the Russian army. If going to war with NATO is not an option, all Western governments know that the Kremlin will not hesitate to try to punish his enemies. The Russian secret service managed to discreetly steal a batch of anti-aircraft missiles supplied by France to Ukraine. Their goal: get them into the hands of an Islamist group and thus have French planes destroyed and airports paralysed. The book - pure fiction, by the way - chronicles the search efforts led by Edgar Van Scana, one of the French Intelligence Services' best black agents, to find the missiles before the worst happens and disrupt the Russian operations.

Your book is extremely well documented on the strategies developed by the secret intelligence services. Where does this exceptional knowledge come from?

In the same way that most authors of crime novels are not policemen themselves, you don't need to be a former intelligence agent to write reliable spy novels. But it does require access to accurate and reliable information, and a very good understanding of the way a national state functions.

I was lucky enough to start my professional life at the French Ministry of Finance in the department of money-laundering control of foreign investments in France, and international financial sanctions against Iraq, Serbia and Libya. Our regular correspondents were the main French intelligence services, which proved to be an unparalleled source of information. Then, as a diplomat in London, I continued to work on the mechanisms of international financial sanctions, together with our Western partners.

Life is made up of encounters. During the time I worked for the French authorities, I've met many people, some of whom have become close friends over the years. So when I started writing espionage thrillers, it was only natural that I turned to them to help me make my novels as realistic as possible.

The intelligence service of the Russian Federation's army are at the centre of your novel. What makes them so special and ... feared?

Edgar Van Scana, my hero, faces the 29155 Unit, an elite group of the GRU - the foreign military intelligence agency of the Russian army. This very offensive elite Unit is tasked with foreign assassinations and other activities aimed at destabilizing European countries like the elimination, by means of poisons and radioactive weapons, of those who represent an embarrassment to Russian power. The West can never legally prove that Russia is behind these actions, but everyone knows that the GRU is responsible of these political crimes. This allows the GRU to leave a clear 'signature' while cynically denying their involvement. The reader will discover their very special methods throughout the novel.

There's a real craze for spy novels again. How do you explain it?

This new craze for spy fiction can be explained by the return of History (with a capital H) in our lives! After the fall of Communism, many of us believed that History has reached an end, that we would no longer suffer from wars, except perhaps economic wars. And now, suddenly, Europe, a «herbivorous» power, has found itself confronted with ferociously carnivorous enemies: Islamic terrorism, and then Putin's «Russianism». In this cruel war environment, the intelligence agencies are on the front line and this could explain the renewed interest in the men and women of espionage. It is up to us, the authors, to use fiction to shed intelligent light on the complexity of the world. In this respect, I have always been convinced that thrillers can really play a special role in understanding geostrategic dynamics.



PUBLISHED
MARCH 2025
P. 352

**INITIAL
PRINT RUN
15,000
COPIES**

A TAPESTRY OF COMPLEX EMOTIONS WHERE FRIENDSHIP, BETRAYAL & OBSESSION INTERTWINE

Coralie Janne's writing distinguishes itself by its ability to navigate between the rawest emotions and the most subtle unspoken truths. She offers us a striking portrait of human fragility and our visceral need for connection. A powerful novel that reminds us that it's in our darkest moments that we discover true light.

SO THAT LOVE HEAL US (POUR QUE L'AMOUR NOUS RÉPARE)

CAN LOVE HEAL EVERYTHING AND TRULY SAVE US?

Lucas, in his thirties, is a firefighter. His mantra? To save lives. As many as possible. With this commitment, he hopes to forgive himself for not having been able to avoid the tragedy that ruined his life and those of the two people he loved most in the world.

When he comes across Gabrielle crying in her car, he can't resist the urge to help her. But he goes even further and starts following her. Listening to her. Every day. Like a new obsession.

Gabrielle is a life coach, she preaches positive thinking but, she is sad as a rock. She's fighting against an inexplicable sense of unease. Yet she has a comfortable financial situation and the nicest fiancé in the world, whom she's about to marry...

On the eve of her wedding, she suffers a serious accident on a mountain road. Lucas, who was still following her, comes to her rescue. Stuck in the middle of nowhere, Gabrielle and Lucas wait together until the rescue services arrive. They talk openly, discovering each other, getting to know each other. Then comes that incredible feeling that they've known each other all their lives...

Torn between the security offered by her marriage and her attraction to Lucas, Gabrielle tries to answer the question on everyone's lips: can love really heal everything? But a tragic event turns their lives upside down. And perhaps, at last, heal them...

A SPARKLING & MOVING NEW NOVEL BY CORALIE JANNE

SOMETIMES HE WHO SAVES OTHERS
NEEDS TO BE SAVED HIMSELF

A CAREFULLY CRAFTED SUSPENSE



CORALIE JANNE

CORALIE JANNE is 35 years old.

She wrote her first novel at 11, the story of a little girl who could step into the world of her own paintings.

"WHAT IF YOU CAME BACK", her debut novel, was published by XO Editions in 2024.

CORALIE JANNE ABOUT *SO THAT LOVE HEAL US*

For *So That Love Heal Us*, your second novel, features Gabrielle, a young woman who seems to have everything. And yet, we discover she's suffering from a certain melancholy.

Unlike Gabrielle, I didn't have a perfect fiancé or a flourishing career, but I did have a kind of sadness that had been dogging me for years. This is what inspired Gabrielle's emotional distress and shaped her story. We all have our own stories: Gabrielle, for her part, is searching for the emotional stability she lacked as a child, which she thinks she has found with her fiancé. Until she realizes that the "stability" of an apparently "perfect" life isn't necessarily the key to happiness...

Lucas's profile is somewhat disturbing...

Yes, and I love it! The idea is to blur the lines about Lucas's true intentions, as he nurtures a genuine obsession with Gabrielle: he follows her everywhere, and when he's not following her, he listens to her podcast, dissects every new publication on her blog... How far will this obsession take him? Is he a real psychopath like the character from the series *You*? What secret is he hiding??

To develop Lucas's character, you met with firefighters.

From the moment I knew my hero would be a firefighter, there was no question of writing without going to the source. I needed to see the trucks, the uniforms, the equipment and above all meet the people, the firefighters... I asked thousands of questions and recorded hours of voice notes on my phone! During one of these sessions, a firefighter confided that what he loved most about his job wasn't so much the rescue work or the adrenaline, but the contact with those who are isolated. This conversation gave birth to the first chapter, where Lucas takes the time to talk with an elderly lady.

Sophie and Sarah are the other protagonists of the story. They perfectly illustrate the saying "you choose your friends, not your family"...

We don't choose where we're born, but we choose who we grow with, who we keep by our side, and who saves us. Sarah and Sophie represent life's most precious gift: souls who resemble us, complete us, and become our family! When Sarah and Sophie's story took an "unexpected" turn in my imagination, my editor encouraged me to go even further. I didn't want them to be forgotten or to be just "two moving characters" in my second novel! I had to isolate myself for a week to give each of them the place they deserved. Isolate myself and cry a lot.

Through Sarah's character, you explore sensitive issues such as school bullying and fat-phobia. Why are these subjects important to you?

As a mother, I have this visceral fear that my children might experience bullying. That school might become a place of suffering. I experienced school bullying myself. I've heard the "you need to toughen up" comments. But no, bullying leaves scars, destroys lives, and some children end up taking their own lives. As a journalist, I too often report on incidents where parents are completely blindsided: "We had no idea," "The school never told us anything!" . Children are suffering in silence, and adults are downplaying the facts or excusing their children's behavior. It's time for everyone to take responsibility, both at school and at home.

Your humor is firmly rooted in the present, in feelings, in betrayals... Everything rings true and moves the reader. What's your writing secret?

I've always been the clown of the group, but also the most sensitive one. I go from laughter to tears in no time And that's what I want my readers to experience: a few loops, some spins, a free fall, a touch of vertigo.

A STUNNING FICTION DEBUT



PUBLISHED
MARCH 2024
P. 320

15,000
COPIES SOLD

NOTE FROM
THE PUBLISHER

IT WAS LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT
FOR US HERE AT XO ÉDITIONS...

“WHAT WOULD YOU DO TO BRING
YOUR LOVED ONE BACK FROM THE
UNDERWORLD?”

“That is the question Coralie Janne asked us when she sent us her manuscript. We read it and were captivated from the very first pages by the spontaneity and originality of the book, and the way the author throws off convention, adding just a bit of the supernatural, like a pinch of salt. Coralie captures emotion and suspense, but also shares her exceptional sense of humor that will remind you of other great bestselling authors.”

WHAT IF YOU CAME BACK (ET SI TU REVENAIS)

LOVE IS THE GREATEST POWER OF ALL

Mia and Stan were the perfect couple. But ever since Mia's miscarriage, they've been lost in their own grief and have forgotten how to love one another. After another endless argument, Stan leaves the apartment, fuming. He runs a red light... and Mia's world falls apart.

Mia feels responsible for Stan's death. She has survivor's remorse and no longer wants to live. She goes to visit his tombstone for the last time, to remind herself of the couple burning with love that they once were, and also to ask for forgiveness for letting herself fall into a pattern of bitterness and hatred.

On a bench in the cemetery, a stranger comes up to her who seems to know everything about her. The question he asks her will change her life, and even Stan's, from beyond death.

“— WHAT WOULD YOU DO TO BRING BACK THE
MAN YOU LOVE?
— ANYTHING, I'D DO ANYTHING !”

A MODERN-DAY FAUST

A HEARTRENDING STORY OF ABSOLUTE LOVE

A NOVEL FULL OF DARING & SUSPENSE





CORALIE JANNE

CORALIE JANNE is 35 years old. She wrote her first novel at 11, the story of a little girl who could step into the world of her own paintings. "WHAT IF YOU CAME BACK" is her debut novel.

CORALIE JANNE ABOUT *WHAT IF YOU CAME BACK*

Your debut novel, *WHAT IF YOU CAME BACK*, is interwoven with humor and emotion. Did you put a lot of your personal story into it?

I am grateful that my publisher appreciated my very personal style. Beyond the story, I think that's what they liked about the book. Humor, yes, is part of who I am, it gives me confidence. But honestly, when I reread the manuscript, I didn't think it was that funny. It was other people who read it and thought it was humorous. By taking on a theme as somber as death, I didn't want my story to be too tragic and oppressive. I like emotion, the kind that presses down on your heart in your chest and rips your innards apart, but I didn't want the immeasurable pain my characters go through to lessen the strongest message in the book: the power of love.

Without giving away too much, could this be called a modern Faust?

You do find the same pact with the hereafter. But if Faust sells his soul to the devil in order to relive his youth, my heroin Mia only lets herself be guided by her love for Stan. There's nothing malicious or selfish in her decision to disrupt everything. She just can't imagine living in a world without Stan, and beyond that, she can't live with the feeling that Stan died because of her. The thought that you might be seeing someone for the last time without knowing it obsesses me and it was vital for me to address that in this novel. To lose those I love before getting the chance to tell them how much I love them, to find myself years later with the "what ifs" and a mountain of regrets are fears that haunt me on a daily basis. But the big question in my novel is: how far would you be willing to go to bring back the person you love? What exactly does Mia do to bring Stan back from the hereafter?

There are several thought-provoking themes in *AND IF YOU CAME BACK*. Which ones are the closest to home?

Forgiveness. Making peace with yourself and others is a very powerful act. And then there's the notion of sacrifice. The idea of giving it all away, to save yourself, or another, blows me away.

For Stan, Mia will have to perform an incredible act (we won't say more.) Do you think that love can take us to places inside ourselves that are terrifying and that we didn't know existed?

Of course! What else is there besides love? Whether you're talking about the love for a parent, a child, or a lover. Absolute love pushes us every day to explore aspects of ourselves we didn't know existed, to better ourselves and pushes us to our limits. Even if it hurts, and can rip us to pieces. Isn't that what we live for?

In this first novel, what do you want to give to your readers? Certainly, a roller-coaster of emotions.

I wrote a book I would have loved to read, where the central theme is love, but also a reflection on how we think about death. It's a catastrophe, for sure, but it forces us to reflect on the importance of thinking about our actions and our values. When I read a novel, I like to laugh, cry, smile and step into my characters' shoes, asking myself if I would have done anything differently, and once I close the book, know how not to make the same mistakes.

Do you feel like throwing yourself into another novel?

Only one? Not at all. I want to write dozens! I've just finished my second one, and already have ideas for the next three. I'm not close to stopping.



PUBLISHED
JANUARY, 2025
P. 448

PRAISES

"This novel is a magnificent cry of distress and love for the ocean. It also deals with an essential contemporary issue: slavery at sea."

ICI PARIS

"A committed novel. And a message from the heart"

NICE MATIN



BENOIT d'HALLUIN is 38 years old.

Born in Toronto, he moved to France at the age of ten. A French-Canadian, he works for a luxury cosmetics brand. He feels equally at home in European and American culture. Alongside his business studies, he studied art history at the École du Louvre.

A CRY IN THE OCEAN

(UN CRI DANS L'OCÉAN)

Thailand. On a December evening in a small fishing port. Arun, a thirty-something of Cambodian origin, finds refuge in a bar, after an argument with his boyfriend Olivier. A man offers him a drink. A few hours later, he wakes up on a mattress in a locked room, with no papers and no cell phone. Arun realizes that he is locked in the hold of a fishing boat, in the middle of the ocean...

The next day, Olivier who has no news from his boyfriend, is convinced that Arun has chosen to disappear. After waiting and searching for Arun all over their vacation spot in Thailand, Olivier returns to Paris alone. In the apartment where they had lived together for 7 years, Olivier stumbles across a notebook left by his friend. What he reads in Arun's notes challenges all his certainties.

Arun was no longer happy in their relationship; he felt ignored by his lover, whom he still loved in spite of everything. Olivier knows now that he absolutely has to find Arun and rebuild a healthy love story with him. So he sets off on a mad odyssey. He reconnects with his sister, who works as a researcher for the ocean protection, and gradually discovers a cruel reality that goes under the radar : slavery at sea, to which hundreds of thousands of men fall victim.

From the Siam Sea to the Mediterranean, from the Atlantic to the Indian Ocean, Olivier discovers that violence of human trafficking strikes seas and men alike.

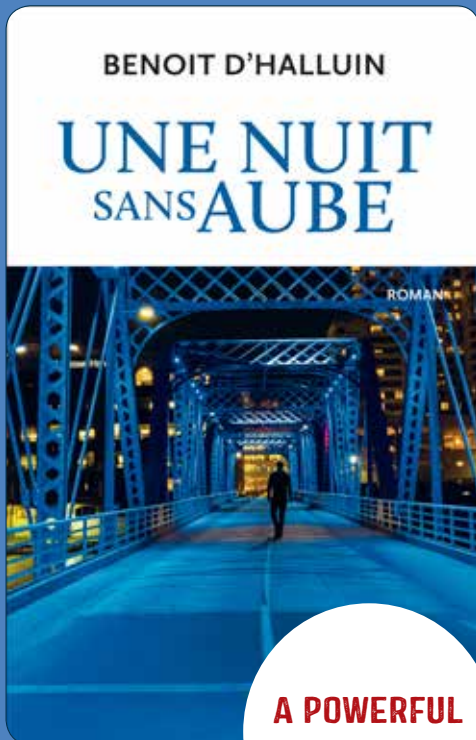
IN THE SILENCE OF THE SEA,
A MAN CRIES OUT WITH DESPAIR

•

THE UNTOLD STORY OF
HUMAN TRAFFICKING AT SEA

•

AN ODYSSEY WHERE
VIOLENCE STRIKES SEA AND MEN ALIKE



**A POWERFUL
DEBUT NOVEL**

PUBLISHED
MARCH, 2022
P. 368

ENGLISH SAMPLE AVAILABLE



« I wrote, put aside and picked up this novel again and again several times. I wanted it to be both simple and profound, poetic but relevant. Like my perfumes, I wanted it to be able to reach a large number of people, both homo and heterosexual, and to resonate for them.

I would not be pretentious enough to say it is a useful book but I sincerely hope that it is an accurate one.»

BENOIT d'HALLUIN

A NIGHT WITH NO DAWN (UNE NUIT SANS AUBE)

**SECRETS & TRUTH
DARK & LIGHT
LOVE & LOSS**

The Catskill mountains, in Upstate New York. In the mildness of the Indian summer, a young man is walking across a bridge when a car comes straight at him and hits him.

A plush house in Western **France**. In the middle of the night, Catherine receives a call from a stranger. He tells her that her 28-year-old son, Alexis, is in a coma. The stranger has already bought two tickets to New York and offers to come and pick her up.

Who is this man? What is he hiding from her?

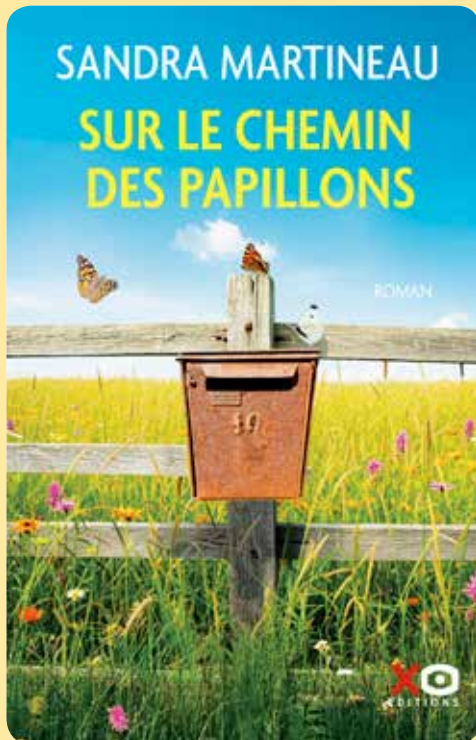
Catherine and the stranger do not know each other but they have no other choice: they have to trust each other. The beginning of a long journey along the road of truth.

At the end of a night that seems to never end.

**WHEN LONELY PEOPLE MEET EACH OTHER &
WHEN DESIRE FLIRTS WITH DESPAIR**

•
**FAMILY SECRETS, THE ACCEPTANCE OF
DIFFERENCE & THE CHALLENGES OF LOVE**

•
**A NOVEL FULL OF TWISTS WHICH TELLS
THE DESIRES & UNCERTAINTIES
OF CONTEMPORARY LIFE**



PUBLISHED
APRIL 2025
P. 350



SANDRA MARTINEAU

was born in Saint-Brieuc in 1978 and she now lives in the Sarthe region. She joined XO Editions in 2021, where she published *Changer de ciel pour mieux voir les étoiles*, *Petits bonheurs à tous les étages*, both acclaimed by the press and the readers.

ON THE BUTTERFLY PATH

(SUR LE CHEMIN DES PAPILLONS)

**SOMETIMES PEOPLE EMERGE
FROM THEIR CHRYSALIS AND
BECOME MAGNIFICENT BUTTERFLIES**

Jacques, a widower and retired veteran, leads a peaceful and solitary life in the village of Maintenant, in the Sarthe region. Until that day when his daughter Joanna, whom he hasn't seen since her unexpected departure at eighteen, shows up unannounced at his doorstep.

She leaves her three children and their suitcases in the farmyard and takes off without the slightest explanation, only a letter suggesting they'll be staying with him for two weeks. From the very first days, the coexistence between the grandfather and his descendants proves to be quite lively.

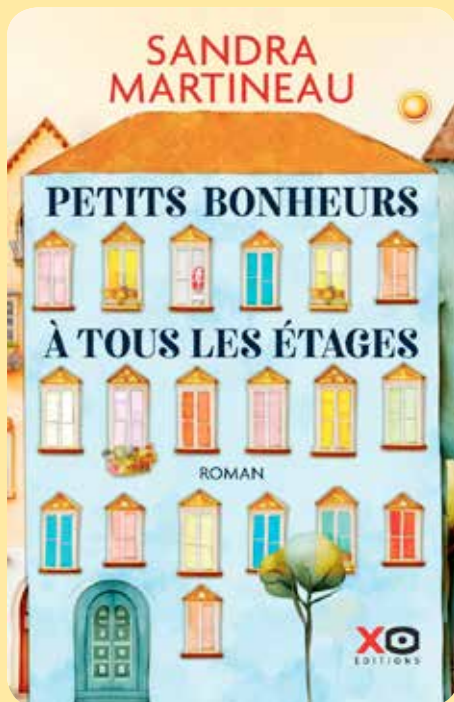
And that's without counting on Madeleine, Chloé, and other residents of the Maintenant village who don't hesitate to add even more color to this already tumultuous adventure.

A HEARTWARMING & INTERGENERATIONAL STORY

•
A COMPLEX YET REWARDING RELATIONSHIP
BETWEEN A GRANDFATHER AND HIS
GRANDCHILDREN

•
THE CHARMING ATMOSPHERE OF A SMALL VILLAGE

•
UNEXPECTED CIRCUMSTANCES
CAN CREATE NEW BONDS



PUBLISHED
APRIL 2023
P. 350

LITTLE PLEASURES ON EVERY FLOOR

(PETITS BONHEURS À TOUS LES ÉTAGES)

HUMOR, TENDERNESS & FRIENDSHIP

Joanna Baron's partner is a prominent tax expert, and by his side, she leads a peaceful existence in a chic neighborhood in a town in the Paris area.

But when her partner is arrested for criminal conspiracy and money laundering, this mother of three finds her life upended. With no money or place to live, she is forced to move to a low-income housing complex on the wrong side of the highway.

There, between life's surprises and happenstance, Joanna and her children cross paths with Djibril, a mysterious neighbor always surrounded by bimbos; Raymond, a young retiree at pains to declare his love to one of his neighbors; and then there's Fatou, who works three jobs as she home-schools her three children, always wearing a smile on her face.

They are all "little pleasures on every floor" that will change Joanna's vision of the world and bring her unexpected energy.



PUBLISHED
MAY 2022
P. 304

LOOK TO ANOTHER SKY TO BETTER SEE THE SKY

(CHANGER DE CIEL POUR MIEUX VOIR LES ÉTOILES)

Chloe Edouard is a successful young Parisian author who has lost her inspiration. She was ready for anything except the news that the grandmother she never knew—who she thought had died three decades ago—just recently passed away. And then there was her inheritance: a house in a French village in the Sarthe region called Maintenant ("Now").

Curious why the villagers are trying to buy the house, she goes to see for herself what the place is all about. She soon notices that it wasn't just the name of the village that was unusual.

Her car breaks down. She has no phone reception. She is unaccustomed to village life. She meets the quirky villagers, some welcoming, and some hostile... Her grandmother's house is at the origin of their differences.

Some confide in her and some hold back secrets. Chloé comes to realize that this place could well be the key to her family's history as well as the personal renewal she so badly needed—this despite the improbable tactics the villagers use to make her leave.

Against all expectations a bond begins to form between Chloé and the residents of Maintenant that will challenge their long-held beliefs.



PUBLISHED
OCTOBER, 2024
P. 336

**A NOVEL
THAT MAKES YOU WANT
TO GIVE THE KIDS A HAND**

**THE NEW
NOVEL BY
HENRI
LÖEVENBRUCK**

SO THAT WE HAVE NO REGRETS

(POUR NE RIEN REGRETTER)

DARE DREAM OF A BETTER FUTURE

« My name is Vera, and I wanted to tell you about the sound of rain on corrugated roofing sheets, which is so painful to remember, just like a good memory. » »

In Providence, a small town lost in the middle of nowhere, a voice rises softly above the silence. A special, a different voice. An unusual voice. Vera's voice.

Little by little, Vera – a sensitive, delicate and tormented soul – will become a symbol of resistance in the face of the injustices of the modern world. With a strong heart and filled with love for her planet, she draws those around her into the ultimate combat of David against Goliath.

Because even on the ruins of a devastated earth, there are fragile flowers that nothing can prevent from blossoming.

AN ODE TO HOPE & FREEDOM

•
**A COMMITTED NOVEL AGAINST A BACKDROP
OF ENVIRONMENTAL DESTRUCTION**

•
**AN ORIGINAL & ENDEARING NARRATIVE VOICE
RECOUNTING THE HUMAN COST OF PROGRESS**



HENRI LOEVENBRUCK

HENRI LOEVENBRUCK was born in Paris in 1972. He is the author of over twenty novels that have been translated into many languages. His Gabriel Joly series set during the French Revolution was a huge success.

HENRI LOEVENBRUCK **ABOUT** *SO THAT WE HAVE NO REGRETS*

Why *So That We Have No Regrets* was such an important project to you?

My new novel is reminiscent of allegorical narratives : set in undetermined time and space, it addresses our contemporary society. *We were just dreaming of freedom*, published ten years ago, looked at our relationships with others (especially feelings of friendship). *So that we have no regrets* examines humanity itself and its relationship to the environment. Both novels address topics that I hold dear. I wanted to imagine a possible and desirable future, at a time when all the warning lights are flashing red. Rather than writing another dark dystopia about the future that awaits us, I wanted to imagine a bright outcome in which we increase our freedoms rather than reign them in and heal the ties that bind us together as a society. *So that we have no regrets* offers an optimistic utopia and answers my current preoccupations.

Tell us about Vera, your heroine. Who is she? What do you feel she represents?

Vera, the narrator, is somewhat of an outsider, suffering from a mild autistic disorder. This cuts her off from a good number of her contemporaries, whom she doesn't understand, but this social and emotional distance also gives her a unique filter through which she sees the world, with a certain freshness and false naïveté. There's certainly a touch of Momo in her from Émile Ajar's *La Vie devant soi*, a book I keep on my nightstand: the quirky way she speaks, her odd syntax and her slightly off vocabulary say a lot about her interpretation of the world. But I also think Vera incarnates today's youth, as our children are faced with the climatic, economic and ecological challenges of the world we've left them. She's a kind of romantic Greta Thunberg, seeking out a future we can wish for. A little despite herself, she brings together all those who wish to sever ties with the errors of the past and embrace a new more equitable society, in harmony with its environment, that she calls *Mother Home*.

The characters in your novel are very endearing, like Freddy...

If Vera represents youth and hope, Freddy is filled with regret – mine probably. He represents the old world, the one in which, with its carefree spirit and dreams of freedom, we didn't react soon enough to the environmental threats inherent in our thirst for growth. Freddy represents my generation, the one that guzzled gasoline, drove enormous cars, and outrageously over-consumed. Rather than bury his head in the sand and resist change out of nostalgia for a bygone world, Freddy decides to help Vera and her friends in their fight. It was important to me to show that hope can be reborn in the union of these two generations. Peace between yesterday's world and tomorrow's. Action, without a doubt, is better than regrets.

There's poetry and humor in your novel, and it comes across clearly in Vera's unusual use of language.

Vera is a beautiful flower in an ugly world, and I wanted her language to be infused with poetry and softness. I wanted the book to be full of humor and tenderness even though it addresses some very serious problems. To tell you the truth, there's a lot of my children in Vera, and because I have an infinite love for my children, I wanted to make Vera infinitely loveable.

Could one almost say this novel has a political dimension?

What I wanted to demonstrate in this book is the possibility of a desirable outcome. It's not a book that sounds an alarm, but is rather a book that aims to give hope, feed our desire for an alternative, maybe even be moved to act. In that sense, yes, no doubt it has a political dimension - as long as you believe there's still a little room for dreams in politics.

What would you like people to say about your novel?

That it makes you want to give the kids a hand.



PUBLISHED
FEBRUARY 2023
P. 528

ENGLISH SAMPLE
AVAILABLE

122,000
COPIES SOLD

THE MISSING OF BLACKMORE

(LES DISPARUS DE BLACKMORE)

THE MULDER & SCULLY OF THE 1920s

Blackmore, October 1925. On this island cut off from the world, off the coast of Guernsey, murders and one disappearance after another spread terror. While the police waffle, Lorraine Chapelle, the first woman in her graduating class at the Criminology Institute of Paris, is called in for reinforcement. This resolute Cartesian pursues her investigation with the help of Edward Pierce, a British detective specializing in the occult.

Together they confront Blackmore's darkest secrets, including the mysterious statues strewn across the landscape, rumored to belong to a cult lurking in the shadows. And then there is that ceaseless brutal wind, the Murmur of the Mist. The duo will have to untangle the real from the fake, the secrets, and the lies, in a diabolical race against the clock.

A GRIPPING & ENIGMATIC THRILLER
IN THE STYLE OF
H.P. LOVECRAFT & AGATHA CHRISTIE

•
A DUO OF INVESTIGATORS
AS IMPROBABLE AS TOUCHING

•
AN ODE TO THE POPULAR LITERATURE
OF THE 1920s



HENRI LOEVENBRUCK

HENRI LOEVENBRUCK was born in Paris in 1972. He is the author of over twenty novels that have been translated into many languages. His Gabriel Joly series set during the French Revolution was a huge success.

HENRI LOEVENBRUCK **ABOUT** *THE MISSING OF BLACKMORE*

This thriller is set in the 1920s on an Anglo-Norman island cut off from the world. Did you plan to surprise your readers with something completely unexpected?

I've wanted to use an island as the backdrop for an investigation for a long time. And after the lockdown we've just experienced I was convinced that an island was the best setting possible to put intrigue into play in a disturbing detective story. I soon found myself thinking about the Anglo-Norman islands, at once so close and so remote, full of that peculiar mix of French and British culture that I've been awash in all my life. The 1920s appealed to me in the same way. It's a fascinating period, immensely quixotic, brimming with culture, that saw the real beginnings of the women's liberation movement—progress that should have begun made during the French Revolution, but in reality, only arrived after The Great War.

Your island is not completely imaginary. How much of the description of Blackmore is real and how much is fiction?

Blackmore is a fictional version of Alderney Island, the younger sibling to Jersey and Guernsey, that I simply cloaked in mystery. Just as Stephen King created the town of Derry and H.P. Lovecraft created Arkham, I really wanted to come up with a place that was at once imaginary and anchored in a kind of reality. That's why I spent a lot of time researching the available documentation on the island, testimonies and period photographs. I went for long walks around those Anglo-Norman islands so that I could anchor my story in reality while giving it a slight touch of fantasy.

The heroine, Lorraine Chapelle, was the first graduate of the Paris Institute of Criminology. Is she based on a real person?

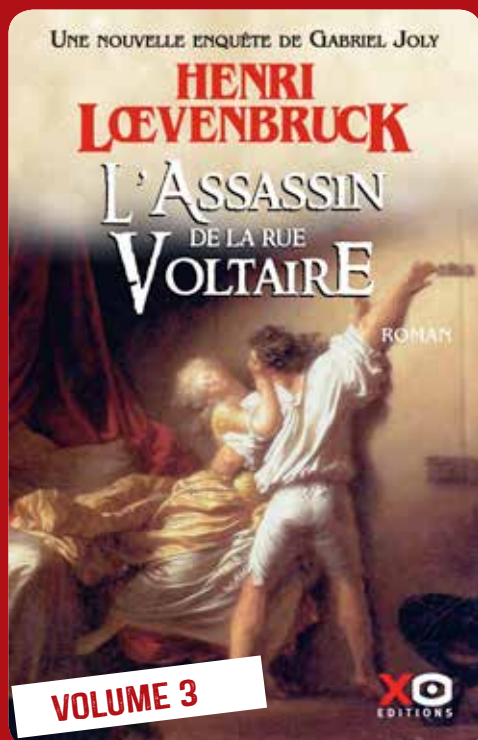
Not directly—although it's likely that a Lorraine Chapelle did exist at that time—but in any case, she represents a cosmopolitan and feminine youth that was steeped in the anarchic currents of the 1920s. Most of all she illustrates that desire among young women to access the same education that men received, a dream with roots in the 18th century. It was on the list of grievances addressed during the French Revolution in the general assembly of 1789. That dream has not fully come to fruition. Lorraine is one of those women who, for centuries, has struggled against the patriarchy, trying to stir things up.

Why did you choose to make her a young graduate of the Criminology Institute?

Because it was at the time that forensic policing was born and made its biggest leaps forward, thanks in part to the work of Edmond Locard, mentioned several times in the book. It's also when connections start to be made between the worlds of criminology and psychiatry when renowned criminals like Landru or the members of the Bonnot clan were arrested thanks to forensics, and I thought it would be interesting to give science a major role in the solving of the crime.

At Lorraine's side, we meet another detective, Edward Pierce, a Brit, with whom she forms a duo as improbable as it is touching. Who is he?

I had a lot of fun creating this pair of investigators whose way of working couldn't be more different. Lorraine is a scientist who only swears by rational proof; Edward, on the other hand, describes himself as a "detective of the strange," who lets mystery, the inexplicable and the science of the occult guide him. In some ways, they are the Mulder and Scully of the 1920s, very different but complementary, with humanism as their common denominator. Both are prickly, marginal, and swim against the tide. Edward is a gay man at a time when this sexual preference was not at all accepted. People consider him an introvert. Lorraine is confronted with a world of men.



PUBLISHED
OCTOBER 2021
P. 480

**GABRIEL
JOLY SERIES**
325,000
COPIES SOLD



HENRI LÆVENBRUCK
was born in Paris in 1972.
Writer, musician and
lyricist, he is the author of
over fifteen novels widely
translated.

THE MURDERER OF THE RUE VOLTAIRE (L'ASSASSIN DE LA RUE VOLTAIRE)

**SOMETIMES THE COMÉDIE-FRANÇAISE
TURNS BLOODY**

Paris, August 1789

On one end, The Declaration of the Rights of Man and the Citizen is being drafted... On the other end, people are assassinated...

Behind the curtains of the Comédie-Française, bodies are horribly mutilated.

The shadow of a dark man... Actors, spectators, revolutionaries, the suspects are all over !

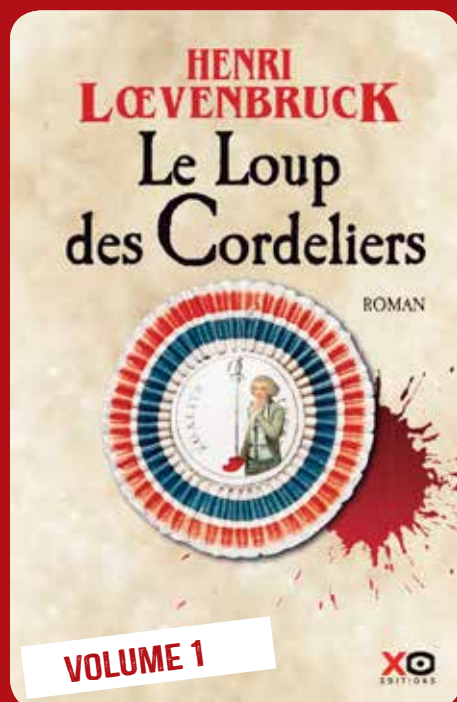
An infernal hunt!

The nascent revolution is continuing to shake the whole of France. In Paris, the mysterious Wolf of the Cordeliers – whom had been thought dead – reappears in the alleyways of notorious neighbourhoods. As for Gabriel Joly, young investigative journalist, he is taken over by a strange case of murders in the Comédie Française.

With the help of his faithful friend, the extraordinary pirate Récif, Gabriel will carry out a secret investigation with his usual sagacity. Real and false testimonies, hot pursuits : will he succeed in unmasking the author of these odious crimes? And what if the Wolf of the Cordeliers himself became his best ally?

**A COMPELLING SAGA BETWEEN CRIMINAL
INVESTIGATION & GREAT HISTORY**

**GRIPPING HISTORICAL THRILLERS
IN THE VEIN OF ALEXANDRE DUMAS**



PUBLISHED
OCTOBER 2019
P. 560

THE WOLF OF THE CORDELIERS

(LE LOUP DES CORDELIERS)

A DIVE INTO THE MYSTERIOUS BACKSTAGE OF THE FRENCH REVOLUTION...

In May 1789, a wind of revolt blows in Paris. Gabriel Joly, brilliant young provincial, goes to the capital where he dreams of becoming the greatest journalist of his time. His first challenge: to unmask the Wolf of the Cordeliers, this terrifying vigilante who, at night, holds a wolf on a leash and commits bloody murders to protect women in the streets of Paris...

His investigations lead Gabriel Joly on the trail of the great actors of the just-starting Revolution: Danton, Desmoulins, Mirabeau, Robespierre, but also the mysterious young woman Théroigne de Méricourt and the Masonic lodge of the Nine Sisters...

On July 14, a man discreetly escapes from the Bastille prison, the same day it capitulates. Will Gabriel Joly discover the true identity of the Wolf of the Cordeliers, and reveal one of the largest plots of the French Revolution?



PUBLISHED
OCTOBER 2020
P. 480

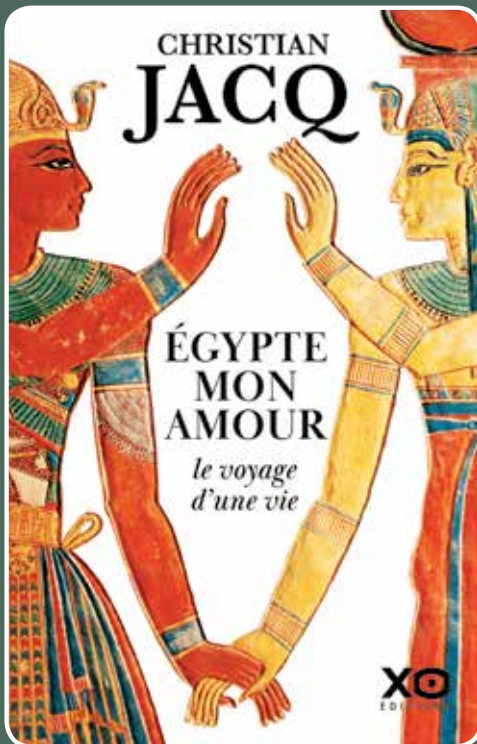
THE RED HAND MYSTERY

(LE MYSTÈRE DE LA MAIN ROUGE)

THE TURMOIL OF THE FRENCH REVOLUTION

July 1789. As Parisian revolutionaries storm the Bastille, brilliant young journalist Gabriel Joly – newly arrived in the capital – makes the greatest discovery of his new career. He has uncovered the identity of the Wolf of the Cordeliers, a mysterious vigilante who haunts the streets of Paris at night... However, just as he is about to be foiled, the Wolf disappears!

A high-speed pursuit ensues that will take Gabriel Joly to the Corsican scrublands on the trail of the Red Hand, a strange secret society whose members have connections with the Revolution raging in the capital.



PUBLISHED
MARCH, 2025
P. 216

I wanted to share with you some of my experiences in the "land beloved by the Gods". A tribute to these invisible powers that are nonetheless so present... Come, let me take you to Egypt! From a magical honeymoon sixty years ago, to the recent discovery of a pyramid, from a breakdown in the desert to an extraordinary banquet in the temple of Luxor, this is the journey of a lifetime where love and Egypt become one. I invite you to experience remarkable adventures, some joyful, others dramatic, in the land of Gods.

CHRISTIAN JACQ

EGYPT, MY LOVE

(ÉGYPTÉ, MON AMOUR)

THE JOURNEY OF A LIFETIME, OF A PASSION: ANCIENT EGYPT

He is one of the world's most renowned specialists on ancient Egypt. Through novels and essays, Christian Jacq has led us to discover its history, its heroic figures, and the spirituality that underlies each of its wonders.

In this book, Christian Jacq reveals for the first time the birth of this passion. The journey of a lifetime, where love and Egypt intertwine, leading him through the most astonishing adventures.

The author reminds us that for the ancient Egyptians, "to love" means to dig a channel through which energy flows, then build a pyramid. Indeed, ancient Egypt is not a country like any other. With this book, Christian Jacq invites us to walk in his footsteps to understand its profound meaning.

From Memphis to Philae, from the pyramids of Giza to the temples of Karnak, through the Valley of the Kings and the desert oases, each chapter plunges the reader into a new adventure. The author brings unique moments to life: the exploration of mysterious tombs, encounters with legendary queens like Nefertari, unique experiences in the desert, and moments of grace in sacred places.

MORE THAN JUST A TRAVEL NARRATIVE,
A DECLARATION OF LOVE TO ANCIENT EGYPT

A MIX OF PASSION & ACCESSIBLE ERUDITION,
BLENDING HISTORICAL KNOWLEDGE &
PERSONAL ANECDOTES

A BOOK FOR BOTH EGYPTOLOGY ENTHUSIASTS &
MEMOIRS READERS



CHRISTIAN JACQ

CHRISTIAN JACQ declared one day that his greatest happiness was to write on the banks of the Nile... A beautiful summary of a passion that took him over very young, after he discovers Egypt aged thirteen, through his readings. With his erudite and enchanting pen, Christian Jacq, one of the most widely read French authors in the world, brings Ramses III, the last great pharaoh, back to life.

CHRISTIAN JACQ ABOUT EGYPT, MY LOVE

“ Long ago, when the world’s most remote corners still welcomed explorers, I found myself crisscrossing Egypt, collecting adventures along the way — most delightful, some rather dicey, and one that ended in tragedy.

My soul has harbored a love for pharaonic Egypt since childhood. This passion first stirred through the pages of comic books like Jacobs’ *The Mystery of the Great Pyramid* and later deepened when I was thirteen, just as I began to write with serious intent, through Jacques Pirenne’s three weighty volumes of *The History of Ancient Egyptian Civilization* — a work that prized spirituality and its expression through society, literature, and art.

Egypt stands apart from all other lands. It exists both as a continent that birthed great civilizations, including the Western world, and as a realm where the light of Spirit shone for three thousand years.

With the wisdom of years, I’ve come to believe that we build our lives as architects, needing both blueprints and suitable materials. Egyptian thought became my guiding framework in this construction. Now, as I approach the great journey to which I dedicated my doctoral thesis, I feel compelled to share some experiences from this "land beloved by Gods" — a tribute to those invisible yet ever-present forces, and to my readers who have walked alongside me with such loyalty over the decades. Come, let Egypt welcome you through my eyes! ”

“ Two sensations marked my first arrival in Egypt: the unexpected joy of homecoming after a long absence, followed by the pleasure of breathing that luminous air that enchanted both soul and sight.

Egypt, at last ! Or perhaps more truly, the beginning of what we call "a life"—that stream flowing through us that we barely possess. Egypt offered me this life, and I needed to dedicate myself to it in return.

"The unique one, the beloved, the matchless one, like the morning star, she whose beauty radiates, with clear eyes and healing words"—an ancient Egyptian love song describes a woman appearing before her lover in a paradise garden, beneath palm trees and sycamores, near lotus-covered waters.

These words might just as well describe Egypt itself, that guiding star of human history for centuries. For me, amid the lemon trees in an Alexandrian garden, these weren’t merely beautiful words, but my real encounter with Egypt. ”



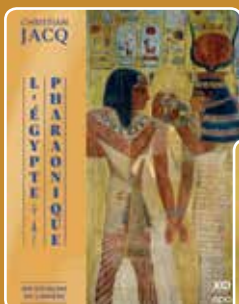
PUBLISHED
OCTOBER 2024
P. 368

**CHRISTIAN
JACQ'S NOVELS
SOLD OVER
30 MILLION
COPIES**

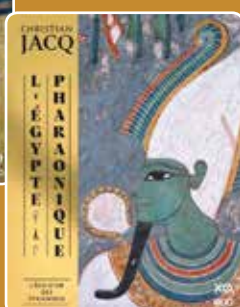
ILLUSTRATED BOOKS

CO-EDITION WITH

epa



PUBLISHED
OCTOBER 2022
P. 428



PUBLISHED
OCTOBER 2023
P. 456

THE GOLDEN LOTUS AND THE THREE PYRAMIDS OF SNEFERU

(LE LOTUS D'OR)

THE FABULOUS DESTINY OF THE FOUNDER OF THE IVTH DYNASTY

Pharoah Huni is dying, but doesn't have a designated heir. Rek, the scion of a wealthy family, can already see himself as the new pharaoh and promises his childhood friend Sneferu to make him his prime minister. What he hadn't anticipated was that the Great Council would instead choose Sneferu, who graduated at the top of his class at the high college of scribes.

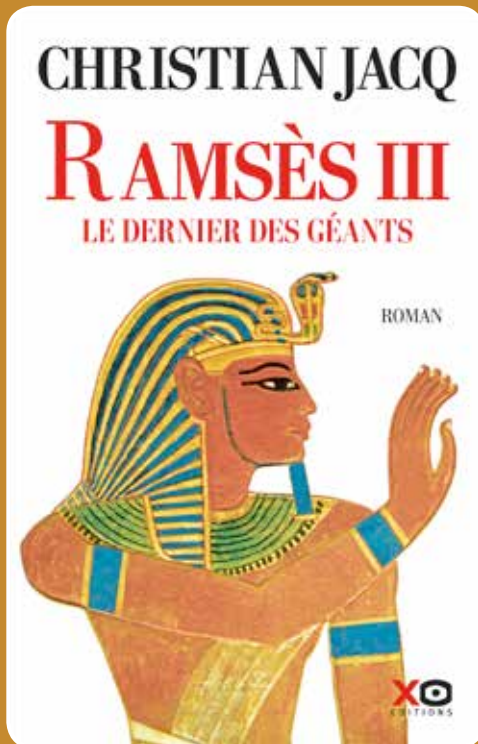
A furious Rek challenges him to a duel, but the god Seth gives victory to Sneferu. Thus begins the extraordinary rule of a man who would become the greatest pyramid builder in Egyptian history. "Sneferu" means "He who achieves perfection." And perfection is the search for the Golden Lotus that glows with the light of origins.

A veritable search for a kind of Holy Grail, strewn with numerous obstacles and dangers that Sneferu must overcome. In the face of Rek's vengeance, will the pharaoh eventually find the Golden Lotus?

**THE FABULOUS STORY OF SNEFERU,
THE UNKNOWN BUILDER OF GIANT PYRAMIDS**

•
AN ADVENTURE FULL OF SUSPENSE & PLOT TWISTS

•
**THE MOST FABULOUS ARCHITECTURAL PROGRAM
OF ALL TIME**



PUBLISHED
OCTOBER 2023
P. 400

CHRISTIAN
JACQ'S NOVELS
TRANSLATED INTO
27 LANGUAGES



CHRISTIAN JACQ declared one day that his greatest happiness was to write on the banks of the Nile... A beautiful summary of a passion that took him over very young, after he discovers Egypt aged thirteen, through his readings. With his erudite and enchanting pen, Christian Jacq, one of the most widely read French authors in the world, brings Ramses III, the last great pharaoh, back to life.

RAMSES III THE LAST OF THE PHARAOHS

(RAMSÈS III
LE DERNIER DES GÉANTS)

THE BEST-DOCUMENTED CRIMINAL CONSPIRACY IN EGYPTIAN HISTORY

He was the last of the pharaohs. Twenty years after his illustrious predecessor Ramses II (with whom he had no blood relation), Ramses III (1187–56 BCE) faces challenges that only a king with exceptional stature could overcome. Twice menaced by Libyan invasions and threatened by the Sea Peoples, Ramses III assembles a navy and wins the first naval battle in history.

But the most formidable enemy emerges from within: a dignitary going by the name of The Shadow, who surrounds himself with felons. Their malicious plot includes a secret weapon, black magic, the only kind that can thwart the protection of the Goddess Isis, the Great Royal spouse.

But that's forgetting the vigilance of the elder in charge of the king's security, and his assistant, the North Wind donkey. In extremis, the plotters are arrested and condemned to death. A brilliant strategist, the pharaoh goes on to ensure peace for his subjects and oversees the planting of thousands of trees.

INVSIONS & NAVAL WARFARE & CONSPIRACIES

•
WITH ISIS, THE GREAT ROYAL WIFE,
RAMSES III FACED ALL THE CRISIS

•
THE LAST GREAT MONARCH OF
THE NEW KINGDOM



PUBLISHED
OCTOBER, 2022
P. 384

CHRISTIAN
JACQ'S NOVELS
SOLD OVER
30 MILLION
COPIES

THE SECRET MISSION OF SINOUE THE EGYPTIAN

(LA MISSION SECRÈTE DE
SINOUHÉ L'ÉGYPTIEN)

A FASCINATING NOVEL ABOUT EGYPT'S GREATEST SPY

They say the Egyptians invented everything, including the spy novel. The first one was written in the twelfth dynasty, and Christian Jacq takes it as a loose inspiration for this extraordinary story about the head of the Egyptian secret service: Sinouhé.

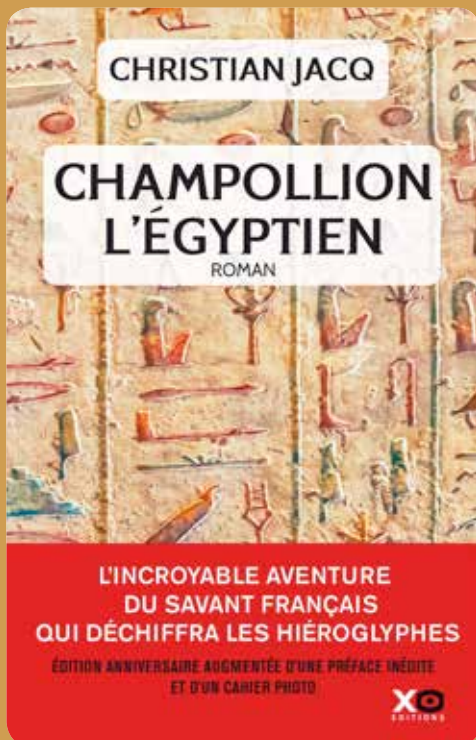
Sinhoue has been called upon by the pharaoh Amenemhat to solve a very dangerous case: find the enemy hidden in Palestine who wants to federate the tribes to invade Egypt. When Amenemhat is poisoned, Sinouhé is accused of the crime. His only way out is to flee after he is condemned to death for contempt of court.

When he is as good as gone, Sinhoue attempts to complete his mission. First, he is captured by the enemy at the end of a perilous voyage. He finds his way back to Egypt, convinced that he was betrayed by one of his three former colleagues

Will he be able to spread the truth before he is put to death?

THE EXTRAORDINARY STORY OF
EGYPT'S GREATEST SPY

•
A MASTERPIECE OF
ERUDITION & STORYTELLING



PUBLISHED
MAY, 2022
P. 400

CHRISTIAN
JACQ'S NOVELS
TRANSLATED INTO
27 LANGUAGES

CHAMPOLLION THE EGYPTIAN

(CHAMPOLLION L'ÉGYPTIEN)

**THE INCREDIBLE ADVENTURE OF
THE FRENCH SCHOLAR WHO
DECIPHERED THE HIEROGLYPHS**

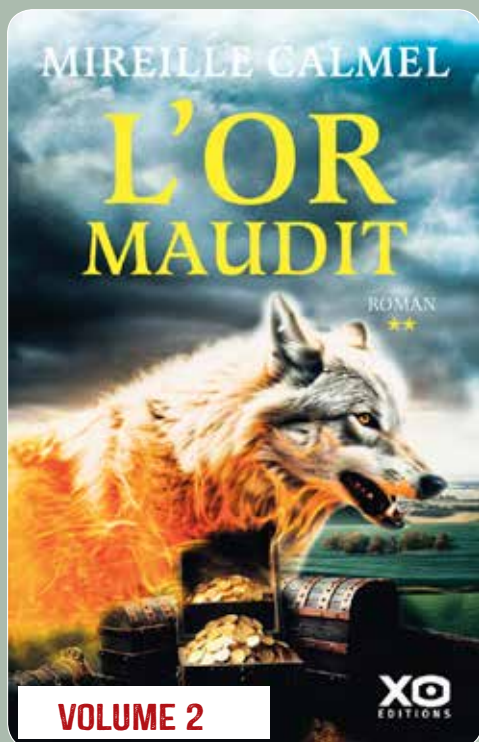
From July 1828 to December 1829, Jean-François Champollion made his dream come true and finally travelled the land of the Pharaohs to test his fabulous discovery, the hieroglyphs' key, the access to an ancient civilisation.

He was not, however, spared anything. Neither the destructive tyrants' schemes nor the traps set by traffickers of ancient stones.

Despite the death threats, Champollion, with an admirable courage and ridiculous means, obstinately followed his quest on the shores of the Nil river, determined to save what can still be.

THE LONG-AWAITED REPUBLICATION
OF CHRISTIAN JACQ'S GREAT NOVEL

•
A STORY THAT TRIGGERED,
AMONG MILLIONS OF READERS,
AN UNDYING PASSION FOR ANCIENT EGYPT



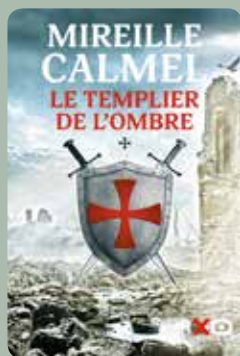
VOLUME 2

PUBLISHED
NOVEMBER, 2024
P. 354

VOLUME 1

THE CURSED GOLD

PUBLISHED
MAY, 2024
336 P.



© Bruno Levy / Photo12.com

MIREILLE CALMEL, born in 1964, has been writing since the age of eight. Like many authors, her writing career started discreetly, with songs and short stories. Then, she took several years to write her first novel, *Eleanor's Bed* (XO, 2002), the success of which was like a fairytale come true for Mireille. Her novels published with XO, have all been best-sellers.

THE CURSED GOLD

(L'OR MAUDIT)

**AN UNFORGETTABLE CHAPTER
IN HUMAN HISTORY**

10 April 1313, Vallée du haut Razès.

While a white wolf wreaks havoc near a slaughtered sheep, a sword held in a severed hand is found stuck in a pile of gold coins. The following night, strange signals take turns coming from the towers of abandoned Cathar castles: Puilaurens, Peyrepertuse, Quéribus, Albedun...

When three inquisitors are brutally murdered while questioning former Knights Templar suspected of hiding the Order's treasure, attention turns to Margaux de Dente, whose castellany seems to be at the heart of the mystery.

It is up to the Provost and the strange emissary of the Grand Inquisitor of Carcassonne to solve this intrigue. But at what cost?

**A MEDIEVAL THRILLER THAT TAKES US,
WITH RENEWED DELIGHT, TO THE HEART OF
THE CATHAR AND TEMPLAR LEGENDS**

•
THRILLING AND EXCITING!



PUBLISHED
OCTOBER, 2023
P. 350



*THE TEMPLAR
OF THE SHADOWS
1ST VOLUME*

PUBLISHED
MAY, 2023
368 P.

VOLUME 1

**MIREILLE CALMEL'S
NOVELS
SOLD 3 MILLION
COPIES**

**TRANSLATED INTO
14 LANGUAGES**

THE TEMPLAR OF THE SHADOWS

(LE TEMPLIER DE L'OMBRE, Vol. 2)

In her usual engaging style, Mireille Calmel continues her voyage to ancient Cathar to better shine a light on the mysterious order of the Knights Templar.

January 21, 1380. Nearly two years after her brother – one of the Knights Templar death and the tragic events that devastated the valley of Razès, Margaux de Dente seems to have found peace at last. The massive arrest of knights of the templar has distanced the threat of the “alchemist” who was working on destroying her people.

All she thinks of now is bringing her child into the world. But a shadow lurks, fleeting, deadly.

A shadow who believes this child is the ultimate pact with the devil. To vanquish this invisible enemy, Margaux can only count on a few people close to her, among them, Michel, whose love is quashed by the weight of a terrible secret.

A GRIPPING MEDIEVAL THRILLER

•

A NOVEL OF FEVER AND PASSION



PUBLISHED
FEBRUARY, 2025
P. 240

This book tells the moving story of two women, whom nothing predestined to meet, one Christian and the other one Muslim. Their paths collide one morning in the summer of 2016 in a small church. Two women who have paid the heaviest price - brother and son - to fanaticism and radicalization. Two women whose friendship is, as far as common sense is concerned, a transgression.

But for Roseline and Nassera, it has become a necessity to overcome their suffering as sister and mother. And to deliver to the world an incredible testimony of peace and hope.

SISTERS IN SORROW

(SŒURS DE DOULEUR)

**OUT OF DEVASTATING LOSS
COMES A HEALING FRIENDSHIP**

Roseline Hamel is the sister of Father Hamel, murdered in his church on July 26th, 2016, as he finishes celebrating mass.

Nassera Kermiche is the mother of one of the two terrorists killed during the raid.

Two women for whom this friendship became a vital resource and the necessary path to overcome their suffering as sister and mother.

Sisters in sorrow is a book written by three people: Roseline, Nassera and Samuel Lieven, the journalist who gathered the testimonies of these two women whom horror should have driven apart, yet brought them together in a dialogue of hope and peace.

The evening after her brother's funeral, Roseline kept asking herself who else could suffer more than her? The answer to this rhetorical question became immediately obvious: the mothers of the two young men who killed her brother. Roseline refused to let hatred prevail over the need to understand, and she decided to contact Nassera. A dialogue developed between these two women wounded by the same tragedy, and transformed, over the years, into friendship.

Samuel Lieven was the first journalist to receive the Jacques Hamel Prize. It was on this occasion that he met Roseline and Nassera, who entrusted him with the story of their encounter and friendship.

**A MOVING FRIENDSHIP & AN EXTRAORDINARY
MESSAGE OF PEACE & HOPE**

•
**THE UNTOLD TESTIMONIES OF
ROSELINE HAMEL & NASSERA KERMICHE**

BAMBOU
Pas à pas dans la nuit

PUBLISHED
NOVEMBER, 2024
P. 304

PRAISES

"This is a powerful & difficult narrative, but those years alongside Serge Gainsbourg shine brightly through BamboU's writing."

FRANCE 5

"A sincere and poignant voice. Each page reveals wounds, but also victories."

PARIS SELECT BOOK

BAMBOU is a French actress, fashion model and singer. She was the last partner of the French singer Serge Gainsbourg, from 1981 until his death in 1991.

**STEP BY STEP
THROUGH THE NIGHT**

(PAS A PAS DANS LA NUIT)

**POWERFUL, POETIC &
UNUSUALLY EXQUISITE**

BamboU, Serge Gainsbourg's last companion, breaks the silence and recounts for the first time the torments of her childhood, her early years in Paris, but also her love of words and the thirteen years she spent alongside of the internationally renowned and acclaimed French singer.

"Very early in my childhood, and for long time afterward, my life didn't look at all like the lives of other children my age. I lived in a kind of perpetual night through which I moved, step by step, without ever knowing where I was going or why, only that I had to keep moving forward.

One day, just when I'd given up, there came this unimaginable encounter: Serge Gainsbourg. And, with this encounter another miracle: love. It was a magnificent love pact that, I believe, kept us out of the night, beyond the darkness, against all odds.

I wanted to write this book to thank him, and to share with you all the gracious person he was despite his demons."

**THE JOURNEY FROM DARKNESS TO LIGHT
OF SERGE GAINSBURG'S LAST COMPANION**

•
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EMMANUEL MACRON REVOLUTION (RÉVOLUTION)

"To regain hope, we need to confront the reality of our world.

Some believe that our country is in decline, that the worst is yet to come, that our civilization is withering away. That only isolation or civil strife are on our horizon. That to protect ourselves from the great transformations taking place around the globe, we should go back in time and apply the recipes of the last century. [...]

I am convinced that they are all wrong. It is their models, their recipes, that have simply failed. France as a whole has not failed.

I am convinced that our country has the strength, the resilience, and the desire to progress. Its history and its people make this possible."

In *Revolution*, Emmanuel Macron reveals his personal history and his inspirations, and discusses his vision of France and its future in a new world that is undergoing a 'great transformation'. This is a remarkable book that seeks to lay the foundations for a new society — a compelling testimony and statement of values by a political leader who has become the flag-bearer for a new kind of politics.

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