

**GROUPE LIBREX  
GROUPE VILLE-MARIE**

**INTERNATIONAL  
HIGHLIGHTS**

# **LONDON 2021 FICTION**



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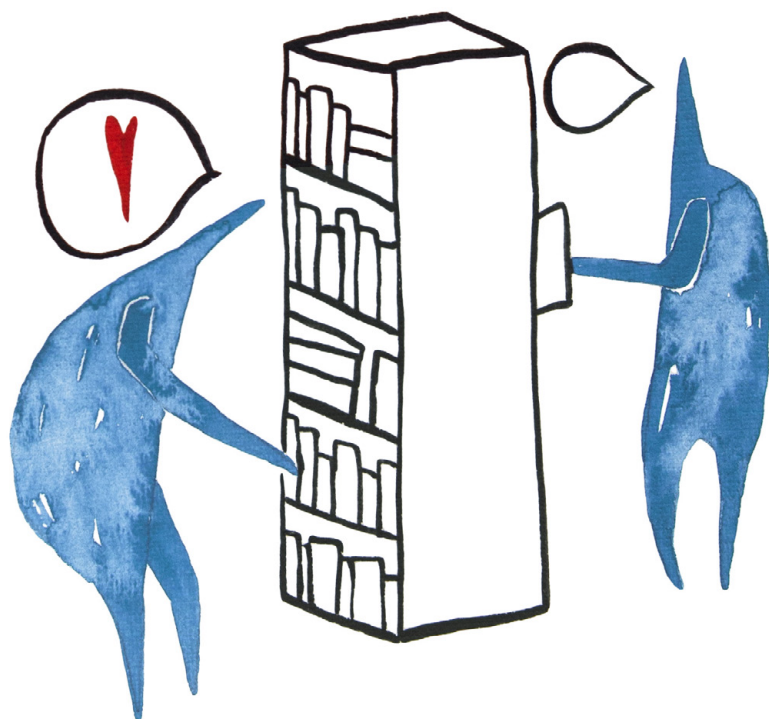
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# NEW RELEASES

LITERARY FICTION / Novel

Libre  
Expression



Em / Em

Kim Thúy

• • • • •

A TRAGIC TALE STEEPED IN HUMANITY, INSPIRED  
BY HISTORICAL EVENTS

#1 BEST-SELLING FICTION BOOK IN 2020 IN FRENCH CANADA



## DESCRIPTION

Written in her trademark style, Kim Thúy's stunning and formally complex new novel reveals a fascination with connection. *Em*, which in Vietnamese means "little brother", "little sister" or "beloved", explores how humans traumatized by war and exile are driven to seek out love and family when their present catches up with their past.

Through the linked destinies of a family of characters, the novel touches on Operation Babylift, which evacuated thousands of biracial orphans from Saigon in April 1975, the nail polish and nail salon industry, as well as the rubber plantations of Indochina that was.

## EXCERPT

*Louis isn't the first baby to appear at the foot of the tamarind trees, like a ripe fruit fallen from a branch or a seedling sprouting out from the ground. So this astonishes no one. A few people take care of him, they offer him a cardboard box, rice water, a piece of clothing. In the street, the older children adopt the younger ones at random, creating loose, flexible families.*

*Obviously, a child's personality has to take shape before a name can be found for him. Sometimes children are identified by a nickname: con què ("disabled leg girl") or thăng theo ("scar boy"). In Louis's case, it's because of Louis Armstrong, whose voice often wafts out from the bar's open door at the end of the midday nap.*

## REVIEWS

"One subtle, delicate word at a time, the author draws you into the heart of wartime Vietnam. Oh-so gently she coaxes you to peer through the lens of life of two orphans and of those who have lent a helping hand. There's a beauty, maturity and wisdom to this novel that will fill you with grace and insight." *Les Libraires*

"An ingenious tapestry of words that connects the burgeoning of nail salons around the world to Operation Babylift, the evacuation of thousands of orphans from Saigon in April 1975. Simply divine." *Coup de pousse magazine*

## AUTHOR

Born in Saigon in 1968, **Kim Thúy** left Vietnam with the boat people when she was 10 and settled in Quebec with her family. As well as being a writer, she has degrees in translation and law and has worked as a seamstress, interpreter, lawyer and restaurant owner. Her debut novel, *Ru*, was published in 2009 and became a bestseller in Quebec and in France, garnering several prestigious literary awards, including a Governor General's Award in 2010. Translation rights have been sold to some 38 countries and territories around the world.

### Complete biography:

<https://bit.ly/3aUJlIS>

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LIBRE EXPRESSION  
NOVEMBER 2020  
13.3 CM × 22.9 CM  
152 P.  
\$24.95

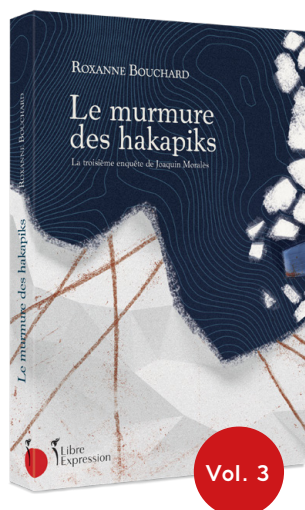
## RIGHTS SOLD

Canada (Random House),  
World English rights except Canada  
(Seven Stories Press), Finland  
(Gummerus), France (Liana Levi),  
Germany (Kunstmann), Romania  
(Spandugino), Serbia (Clio), Spain  
(Periférica), Sweden (Sekwa)

# NEW RELEASES

UPMARKET FICTION / Crime Series

Libre  
Expression



Le Murmure des hakapiks – La troisième enquête  
de Joaquin Moralès

**The Hakapik's Whisper: Moralès' Third Investigation**

**Roxanne Bouchard**

.....  
A STUNNING, POETIC DETECTIVE NOVEL WITH A SALTY TANG  
AND AN ICY CHILL



## DESCRIPTION

Simone Lord can't wait until spring, when she'll get to see Detective Joaquin Moralès again. But for now, she's on watch aboard the Jean-Mathieu, a crab boat that's gone to sea for a week to join the seal hunt. Far from being welcome on board, she soon sees that nothing is going to go as planned. Meanwhile, in an attempt to bounce back from his divorce, a forlorn Moralès finds himself trekking along the shores of the St. Lawrence on cross-country skis. But now forensic psychologist Nadine Lauzon is here to join him and his friend, Erik Lefebvre, with her own ski gear and a major case file that Moralès has no choice but to open.

## EXCERPT

*Simone Lord had no survival plan in mind, and no Machiavellian plan for revenge up her sleeve. She had nothing anymore. In the face of fear, obedience seemed to be the only path, but it was unlikely she would emerge unscathed.*

*So, she kept tagging the skins. She was good at it, top of the class.*

*She reflected on the decisions that she had made, that had led her here. She thought back to Moralès and regretted not having told him everything right off the bat during the investigation the previous autumn. She regretted the mistake that had led to this punishment in exile in the Magdalen Islands. She also — and above all — regretted, as she fastened a tag to yet another seal skin, that she hadn't called Joaquin that winter, and that she hadn't looked at the email he sent her the day before yesterday. Her tears melted into the ice encasing the boat.*

## AUTHOR

**Roxanne Bouchard** is a writer and teacher of literature. She has published eight novels and received several literary awards, including the 2005 Robert-Cliche Award and the 2007 Archambault Newcomer's Award. Her literary crime novels novel *Nous étions le sel de la mer* (*We Were the Salt of the Sea*) was published by VLB éditeur in 2014 and shortlisted for the France-Quebec Award in 2015. Its sequel, *La Mariée de corail* (*The Coral Bride*) was published by Libre Expression in 2020.

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LIBRE EXPRESSION  
APRIL 2021  
15.2 CM × 22.9 CM  
264 P.  
\$24.95

# BACKLIST

## UPMARKET FICTION / Crime Series



Vol. 1

Nous étions le sel  
de la mer  
**We were the Salt  
of the Sea**  
**Roxanne Bouchard**

VLB ÉDITEUR  
MAY 2014  
13.97 CM × 20.32 CM  
360 P.  
\$26.95

**RIGHTS SOLD**  
World English (Orenda  
Books), Germany  
(Atrium), Italy (E/O  
Edizioni)

### DESCRIPTION

As Montrealer Catherine Day sets foot in a remote fishing village and starts asking around about her birth mother, the body of a woman dredges up in a fisherman's nets. Not just any woman, though: Marie Garant, an elusive, nomadic sailor and unbridled beauty who once tied many a man's heart in knots. Detective Sergeant Joaquin Moralès, newly drafted to the area from the suburbs of Montreal, barely has time to unpack his suitcase before he's thrown into the deep end of the investigation.

On Quebec's outlying Gaspé Peninsula, the truth can be slippery, especially down on the fishermen's wharves. Interviews drift into idle chit-chat, evidence floats off with the tide and the truth lingers in murky waters. It's enough to make DS Moralès reach straight for a large whisky... Both a dark and consuming crime thriller and a lyrical, poetic ode to the sea, *We Were the Salt of the Sea* is a stunning, page-turning novel, from one of the most exciting new names in crime fiction.

### REVIEWS

"It's moving yet funny, it's a poem of a crime novel, it's a sea shanty of a love story, all rolled into one. *We Were the Salt of the Sea* snares you in its nets and cries out to be read all in one go." *La Presse*



Vol. 2

La Mariée de corail –  
La deuxième enquête  
de Joaquin Moralès  
**The Coral Bride:  
Moralès' Second  
Investigation**  
**Roxanne Bouchard**

LIBRE EXPRESSION  
JUNE 2020  
15.2 CM × 22.9 CM  
392 P.  
\$27.95

**RIGHTS SOLD**  
World English (Orenda  
Books), Germany  
(Atrium), Italy (E/O  
Edizioni)

### DESCRIPTION

Angel's heart skips a beat as the anchor chain clatters over the edge of her lobster trawler. It's caught on something. But what? Something yanks at her ankle and pulls her off her feet. Her wedding dress rides up around her waist as she feels her body being dragged away. She feels the cold air biting into her bare thighs. Angel draws a sharp breath as it dawns on her that someone's trying to kill her.

When Lieutenant Marlène Forest ropes Detective Sergeant Joaquin Moralès in to investigate the disappearance of a woman from her lobster trawler, he's reluctant to get involved. He has enough on his plate dealing with his eldest son, who's just turned up here on the Gaspé Peninsula from Montreal, blind drunk. Angel's body is found two days later. Ever present in the background is the beautiful yet merciless sea, slowly slipping into her winter cloak with every rising autumn tide. DS Moralès soon finds out for himself that "the women of the sea leave no one indifferent," as he comes to see that investigations like these have a way of drawing you in, whether you like it or not.

### REVIEWS

"Roxanne Bouchard's writing is pure poetry. The dialogue is a lively dance and the narration a lyrical journey, especially when the pages turn to the beauty of the land and the sea on the Gaspé Peninsula."

*La Presse*

# NEW RELEASES

UPMARKET FICTION / Novel

Libre  
Expression



## Marie-Lumière / Marie-the Light Lucie Pagé

THIS NOVEL SEEKS TO RECONCILE THE WESTERN APPROACH TO MEDICINE WITH THAT OF THE FIRST PEOPLES OF THE WORLD, EXPLORING THE ROLE SPIRITUALITY PLAYS IN THE PHYSICAL, MENTAL AND EMOTIONAL HEALING OF THE HUMAN BODY



### DESCRIPTION

Dr. Marie-Jeanne Richard is 50 years old, and she's at her wit's end. After 30 years of therapy and antidepressants, she still feels trapped by self-shame and the traumatic experience that marked her as a 16-year-old. But when Marie-Jeanne's husband Louis and friend Sofia, an osteopath and seasoned spiritual practitioner, persuade her to try alternative therapy in the form of ayahuasca, a traditional Amazonian medicinal plant, she, Louis and their grown-up twin sons soon find themselves on a three-day retreat led by shamans from Brazil and South Africa in Kanehsatake, on the land of her mother's Mohawk ancestors.

As Marie-Jeanne finds the light she's been looking for, she sets about bridging the divide between the modern medicine she practices and the medicinal plants favoured by her ancestors.

### EXCERPT

*She slumped into her chair and wondered, What if I were the one sitting on the other side of the desk? What would I prescribe myself? What would I do? She didn't know the answer. Of course, Marie-Jeanne's osteopath friend, Sofia, had been trying for years to coax her into her world of yoga, meditation and introspection. She had even suggested she try Vipassana, a 10-day closed, silent meditation retreat. To find yourself, you must look inside yourself, Sofia had said. She was talking about spirituality, a word that had no place in Marie-Jeanne's medical books or practice. "I know exactly what's inside myself," Marie-Jeanne had scoffed, having dissected and examined every inch of the human body when she was studying medicine.*

### AUTHOR

Filmmaker and writer **Lucie Pagé** worked for many years as a journalist and researcher. Since 1990, she has divided her time between South Africa and Québec. She became known for her travel writing through her accounts and essays on life in South Africa, which have sold in several countries. *Marie-the Light* is her eighth book.

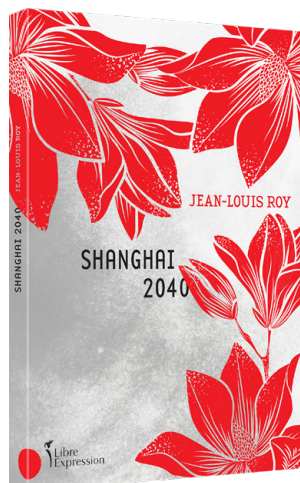
LIBRE EXPRESSION  
FEBRUARY 2021  
14 CM × 21.6 CM  
288 P.  
\$27.95



# NEW RELEASES

UPMARKET FICTION / Novel

Libre  
Expression



Shanghai 2040 / **Shanghai 2040**

**Jean-Louis Roy**

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A FASCINATING GEOPOLITICAL NARRATIVE THAT EXPLORES  
CHINA'S RISE TO POWER AMIDST THE DECLINE OF THE WEST



## DESCRIPTION

In a series of flashbacks, this novel tells the story of the life and career of Wei Shu--the girl, woman and politician--from the legacies of her mother and grandmother to her encounter with the man who would become her guru and ultimately pave the way to her being elected President of the People's Republic of China. She's the driving force behind the United Nations moving from New York to Shanghai—a sign of the times as the global dynamic evolves like never before. The allusions and references to the lives and times of China's fabled dowager empresses, including the late 19th-century regent Cixi, are not only beautifully rendered by the author but the parallels drawn between these and Wei Shu's rise to power are striking.

## EXCERPT

*Wei Shu is known the world over. Her nicknames are notorious. In Washington, they call her "The Lightning Strike." She's known as "Catwoman" in Tokyo, "The Mud Hut" in Delhi, "The Gentlewoman" in Berlin, "The Fixer" in Moscow, and "The Power" in Abuja. To everyone in China, throughout Asia and across the Chinese-speaking world, she's "The Empress."*

*As the sun rises following her election to the presidency of the People's Republic of China, Wei Shu has choreographed every sequence of this day down to the minutest detail. Today belongs to me, she writes in her journal, as now I belong to China and China, to the world.*

## AUTHOR

Formerly the editor of *Le Devoir* newspaper (1981-1986), Quebec's delegate-general to Paris (1986-1988), chief of francophone affairs (1990-1998) and president of Canada's Rights & Democracy agency (2002-2007), **Jean-Louis Roy** is the author of some 20 books. He continues to play a significant intellectual part in the contemporary landscape of Quebec in his current role as Chief Executive Officer of Quebec's national library and archives.

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LIBRE EXPRESSION  
APRIL 2021  
14 CM × 21.6 CM  
176 P.  
\$24.95



# NEW RELEASES

UPMARKET FICTION / Thriller

Libre  
Expression



Dis-moi qui doit vivre... / Tell Me Who Must Live...

Marc-André Chabot

.....

TAKE A TANGLED WEB OF POLICE INVESTIGATIONS AND THE ISSUE OF MEDICALLY ASSISTED DEATH, WEAVE IN A SERIAL KILLER AND AN OUTRAGED CITIZEN AND THE RESULT IS A THRILLING CRIME NOVEL WITH A TWIST OF HUMOUR



## DESCRIPTION

It's been several months since the events that led to the demise of kingpin Sir Chuck when Antoine Aubin finds himself embroiled in the drama surrounding a notorious criminal who wants to die a medically assisted death—before being accused of murder. Adamant about stopping this psychopath from having his way, Antoine turns for help to McGraw, the cop who's already saved his life once before. McGraw already has more than enough to investigate when he realizes there's probably a serial killer on the loose, who's bumping off defence lawyers to his heart's content in the most creative of ways. As McGraw and Antoine team up to take down the killer, they must play with life and death and sort the good guys from the bad... again.

## EXCERPT

*The last time Antoine walked in the door of the Montreal Major Crimes Unit, it was to tell McGraw he had just set a fatal clock ticking and get the cop to see he was mixed up in a tragedy that was now playing out its final act. This morning, Antoine had to convince the guy to wade into another murky affair but, this time, it was to try and shine a little light on things, not to save his skin.*

*McGraw was greeted by a lukewarm smile.*

*"Don't tell me you're here because you've only got 24 hours left to live?"*

*"Ah, that I'll never know. I could choke on a handful of peanuts in front of my TV to-night. Fate does have some strange idea sometimes."*

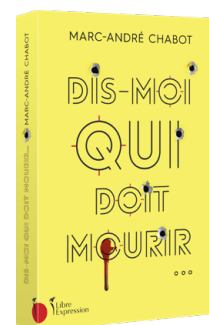
*"So just don't eat peanuts and don't watch TV and you'll live a long time."*

## AUTHOR

Seasoned director and designer **Marc-André Chabot** is no stranger to showcasing his talent on TV in Quebec and France. *Tell Me Who Must Live...* is the sequel to the author's first venture into crime fiction *Tell Me Who Must Die...*, which was a favorite with critics and readers alike.

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LIBRE EXPRESSION  
MAY 2021  
15.2 CM × 22.9 CM  
392 P.  
\$29.95



# NEW RELEASES

COMMERCIAL FICTION / Novel



Trois mois tout au plus / **Three Months, Max**  
**Josélito Michaud**

• • • • •

A NOVEL OF INNUMERABLE SECRETS



## DESCRIPTION

Olivier Dubreuil, the child hero of the author's previous novel *Through My Little Eye* (*Dans mes yeux à moi*), adapted for television in 2017, is now 50 years old and a popular television presenter. As fame begins to lose its shine and he grows tired of being in the media spotlight, he is racked by strange pains that seem to come from out of nowhere. Olivier is soon told he has just three months to live. Devastated by the news, he decides not to tell anyone, embarking instead on an odyssey that will take him from Montreal to New York, from the bedside of his dying biological mother to the grave of his unknown father, unearthing one secret at a time until he reaches the end of the road at last in the ultimate celebration of life.

## EXCERPT

*As it dawned on me that life was slipping through my fingers by the second, I was surprised to find myself whispering the words 'by the grace of God' to myself, over and over again. Later, I would resort to someone else. I stomped on the brakes and managed to bring the car to a stop, and only just avoided crashing into the wall.*

*It was nothing short of a miracle. My faith in life flashed back to me just as quickly as it had vanished 20 years earlier.*

*The last thing I wanted was to die before I was dead.*

## AUTHOR

**Josélito Michaud** is an author, an impresario and a radio and TV presenter and interviewer. His first book, *Passages obligés* (*Rites of Passage*) spent nearly a year on the bestseller list in Quebec.

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LIBRE EXPRESSION  
NOVEMBER 2020  
13.3 CM × 22.9 CM  
280 P.  
\$24.95



# NEW RELEASES

COMMERCIAL FICTION / Novel

Libre  
Expression



Les Vertiges du cœur / Heart in a Spiral

Nathalie Roy

• • • • •

A NOVEL THAT SHINES A NON-JUDGMENTAL AND NON-CRITICAL SPOTLIGHT ON FEMALE INFIDELITY



## DESCRIPTION

Four years after they left the final pages of *Tremors of the Heart* (*Turbulences du cœur*) Catherine Préfontaine and Louis-Philippe Rousseau are back, but this time readers see the story from Catherine's perspective.

Now 56 years old and a lawyer, Catherine is nothing but enthusiastic and determined to succeed in her new legal career. Determination is just the half of it, though, as she has to think on her feet to hold her own among all her younger colleagues. Especially as she changes course and decides not to join the firm founded by her partner as planned. As she seeks a position elsewhere instead, the distance leads her to reflect on her relationship with Louis-Philippe, and on one fundamental question: Are they really made for one another?

## EXCERPT

*These last few days, I've realized the distance between us was there before this part-time move away from Louis-Philippe. In the beginning, we were head over heels. It was all so intense, passionate and brutal. We dived headfirst into this relationship. We both gave a hundred percent of ourselves and we were so tightly intertwined, it was almost too much.*

*Then, reality set in. Our differences in age, values and lifestyle started to show, and that started to bother me. Not to the point of breaking up, because I still have a deep love for him, but I started to ask myself questions.*

## AUTHOR

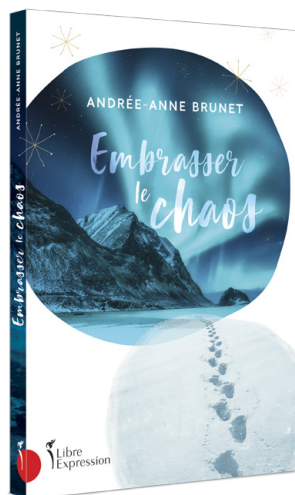
**Nathalie Roy** is an author, scriptwriter and columnist. Since the publication of her first series *La Vie épicée de Charlotte Lavigne* (*The Spicy Life of Charlotte Lavigne*) in 2011, she has written several best-selling novels.

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LIBRE EXPRESSION  
MAY 2021  
13.3 CM × 22.9 CM  
336 P.  
\$27.95

# NEW RELEASES

## COMMERCIAL FICTION / Novel



Embrasser le chaos / **Embrace the Chaos**

**Andrée-Anne Brunet**

.....

A ROAD TRIP THROUGH ICELAND FOLLOWING THE WORDS  
OF A BELOVED MISSING BROTHER



### DESCRIPTION

Malorie has just lost her beloved big brother, Arnaud, in a stupid accident. While she's clearing out the apartment her brother shared with a roommate, Malorie comes across the travel journal he kept during a solo trip to Iceland. Compelled by Arnaud's words, she decides to follow in his footsteps. Is this Malorie's way of paying tribute to her late brother, or an attempt to somehow bring him back to life? It doesn't matter. Maybe this road trip is just what she needs to come to terms with his departure and to understand why he distanced himself from the family. Snowstorms are not the only thing Malorie must grapple with as she travels in the land of winter, finding herself with no choice but to face the storms raging inside herself as well.

### EXCERPT

*You see, that's what I don't want to happen. I refuse to find out that I didn't know you the way I thought I did. I'm scared I'll find out you were into things or people I knew nothing about. You've no right to become a stranger now that you're not here anymore to explain yourself.*

*The last two nights I've fallen asleep turning the pages of your journal. It must run in the family, this thing for dreaming with a travel book on your chest. I've been reading little bits at a time, really slowly, separating every syllable because I never want to finish reading you, Arnaud. I feel like I can see you living in these snippets of pages I'm savouring. It's better than seeing you just sitting lifeless in that urn. Mom's put you on the kitchen counter. I say 'Hi' to you when I'm making toast in the morning, just for a laugh. And Mom says 'Good night' to you, serious as can be, every time she goes to bed.*

### AUTHOR

**Andrée-Anne Brunet** has hosted a commercial radio show since 2012 and created her own webseries of interviews with Quebec artists, Meetings with AA ([meetingsavecaa.com](http://meetingsavecaa.com)). She has written for various blogs and shared her passion for travel with *La Presse* newspaper readers. *Ne pas toucher s'il vous plaît* (*Please Do Not Touch*), her first novel, was published by Libre Expression in 2019.

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LIBRE EXPRESSION  
FEBRUARY 2021  
14 CM × 21.6 CM  
208 P.  
\$24.95

# NEW RELEASES

LITERARY FICTION / Novel



Olivia Vendetta / Olivia Vendetta

Hugo Meunier

.....

A DUAL-TIMELINE NOVEL CAUGHT BETWEEN THE VIOLENCE  
OF ADOLESCENCE AND THE URGENCY OF REVENGE

## DESCRIPTION

On the surface, Olivia's return from an exile of sorts to attend her 20-year high school reunion is all about reconnecting with old friends. But as painful memories resurface for her, the reunion is just a pretext for her to finally settle scores and put her coolly calculated plan to exact revenge into execution. Operation Club Sandwich is a go.

## EXCERPT

"Olivier...?"

*I'm usually quick to condemn any mention of my dead name, but my life is a perpetual awareness campaign and my former neighbour is one of those kinds of people who have a right to be a little bit shocked before I educate them. Just the once, though, there are limits to my magnanimity.*

*"Hello, Mr. Balthazar."*

*His eyes don't know where to hide, and the look on his face is worth 10 thousand bucks. He pulls himself together after a few long seconds—an admirable effort—but not to the point of being able to look me in the eye. I'm lapping up his awkwardness. I can be such a little shit sometimes.*

STANKÉ



## AUTHOR

**Hugo Meunier** earned a degree in literature and has made a name for himself in immersion journalism. He worked as a newspaper journalist with *La Presse* for around a decade before moving on to manage digital media and production for Québecor Média. He is currently a reporter for URBANIA. The author of three previous books, Hugo Meunier's first novel, *Le Patron* (*The Boss*) was published by Stanké in autumn 2019. *Olivia Vendetta* is his second novel.

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STANKÉ  
MAY 2021  
12.7 CM × 20.3 CM  
256 P.  
\$24.95



# NEW RELEASES

LITERARY FICTION / Short stories

STANKÉ



Wapke / Wapke

Edited by Michel Jean

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FIFTEEN FIRST NATIONS AUTHORS TAKE A DYSTOPIAN  
APPROACH TO WRITING ABOUT TODAY AND TOMORROW

## DESCRIPTION

*Wapke*, which means “tomorrow” in the Atikamekw language, is a collection of 15 dystopian stories that explores contemporary sociopolitical issues from Indigenous perspectives. Written by authors from different First Nations with different outlooks, and curated by author and former news anchor Michel Jean, these stories offer a glimpse of the future, delivered with a social commentary imbued with a desire for change.

## EXCERPT

*She's advancing without stopping, swallowing a little dried meat at regular intervals, drinking water to keep up her strength. Stay focused. Breathe calmly. Pace yourself. Don't wake the beast. Wait. Wait for the Great Trees to reveal themselves. The sun is already high, warming the lake's surface, sweeping away the mist little by little. Then a scene of unfathomable beauty appears.*

*Dozens of giants of different shapes and sizes emerge from the water as if reaching for the sky. The sun glints off their unreal-seeming trunks.*

*Juuk, as much in fascination as in fear, rows toward the forest. How can these amazing creatures stand right in the middle of the water? It's beyond understanding. The lines of trunks trace watery paths, through which her canoe now hesitantly advances, like a dwarf among titans. Overhead, clouds of great white birds skim the dizzying treetops. Some, having succeeded in grasping some rough hold in their claws, cast a disdainful glare at her from their lofty perches. Their cries carry through the sky, glancing off the smooth surfaces of the trees before being lost in the vastness. Everything here seems enormous.*

Excerpt from *The Great Trees*, by Michel Jean.

## AUTHORS

Joséphine Bacon, Katia Bacon, Marie-Andrée Gill, Elisapie Isaac, Michel Jean, Alyssa Jérôme, Natasha Kanapé Fontaine, Julie Kurtness, Melissa Mollen-Dupuis, Janis Ottawa, Virginia Pésémapéo Bordeleau, Isabelle Picard, Louis-Karl Picard-Siouï, Jean Sioui et Cyndy Wylde.

Michel Jean is a TV anchorman, presenter and investigative journalist revered and appreciated by audiences across Quebec. In March 2017, he was invited to the Paris Book Fair on the strength of *Amun*, a collection of Indigenous short stories he curated, which is slated for distribution in France and is currently being translated into English and German. In 2020, he won the 2020 France-Québec Award for his novel *Kukum*.

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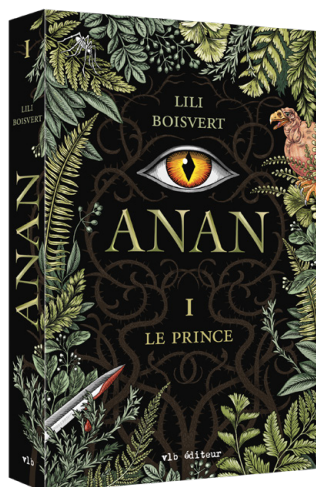
STANKÉ  
MAY 2021  
12.7 CM × 20.3 CM  
272 P.  
\$24.95



# NEW RELEASES

UPMARKET FICTION / YA Fantasy

v1b éditeur



Anan 1 – Le Prince

Anan Vol. 1: The Prince

Lili Boisvert

• • • • •

THE FIRST INSTALLMENT OF A THRILLING NEW YA  
FANTASY TRILOGY



## DESCRIPTION

For centuries, the Continent has been dominated by the queendom of Anan, a matriarchal state with unvanquished armies whose priestesses' power allows it to control its climate and crops. But now, a country long dismissed as insignificant has suddenly grown powerful and aggressive, a shrewd, greedy merchant is putting her pawns in place to overthrow the established order, and the queen of a rival realm demands the hand of the young Anasquian prince in exchange for a crucial military alliance. It's up to Chaolih, a gifted captain with a troubled past, to lead a clandestine party on a mission to deliver the prince to his terrifying bride. As she embarks on her epic journey, she knows that she will have to cross a vast forest inhabited by a mysterious people with uncanny martial abilities, and a reputation of cannibalism...

## EXCERPT

*Three servants were milling around them, keen to fetch more steaming floral-scented cloths to cover the queen's recumbent body. Senator Niaj hesitated for a moment, fearing she might worry her sovereign for nothing.*

*"I think it might be... interesting to bring in the Harvest's survivor for an audience with Your Majesty," she eventually said.*

*The queen drew herself up on her elbows, and the warm cloths the servants had just applied slid off her chest.*

*"The Harvest's..." she mused, trying to remember. "What was that story, again?"*

*"It happened more than 30 years ago. A battalion on the Province frontier was under orders to track and kill a Visitor who had massacred a family of villagers. The soldiers were dispatched to the very edge of the forest to keep an eye out for him. But they were the ones who ended up getting ambushed. A number of Visitors—we don't know how many—neutralized all 40 of our troops in the dead of night, without a sound. It seems some had been eaten alive.*

## REVIEWS

"With its break-neck pace and many plot twists, this well-crafted novel is a page-turner. And the very last words leave no room for doubt: we'll definitely be there for the second instalment."  
*La Presse*

## AUTHOR

**Lili Boisvert** is a TV documentary journalist and presenter. She hosted the show *Sexplora*, co-created the feminist webseries *Les Brutes*, and penned *Le principe du cumshot* (*Screwed: How Women Are Set Up to Fail at Sex*), which was shortlisted for the Quebec Booksellers' Award. She's also a huge fan of fantasy books, shows and movies. This first volume in a sexy, fast-paced and witty YA fantasy trilogy reveals a great storyteller's talent.

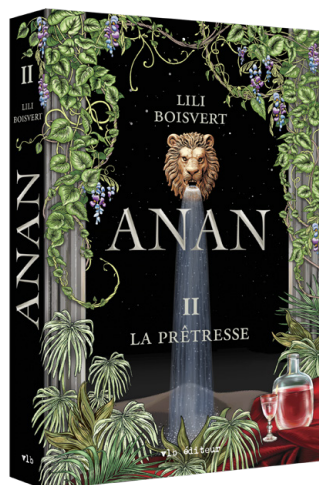
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VLB ÉDITEUR  
JUNE 2020  
14.6 CM × 21.6 CM  
376 P.  
\$29.95

# NEW RELEASES

vlb éditeur

UPMARKET FICTION / YA Fantasy



Anan 2 – La prêtresse

Anan Vol. 2: The Priestess

Lili Boisvert

.....

IN VOLUME TWO OF THE ANAN TRILOGY, THE CHARACTERS REVEAL THEIR FLAWS—AND THE STAKES HAVE NEVER BEEN HIGHER



## DESCRIPTION

Captain Chaolih has led her expedition to the Ouranian capital, but not without making some heavy sacrifices. As agreed, Prince Byrns will be wed to Queen Lâépar, who's even more terrifying than her reputation suggested, not to mention grossly incompetent. Her court is both a web of intrigue and a den of debauchery, while the rebellion against her is far from having been quelled. The Inarian invaders are all too happy to use this to their advantage and keep the bloodbath raging across the Continent.

## EXCERPT

*She did it. She tamed her powers and then, unleashed them. Better, maybe, than any of her sisters ever could have. She regrets, now, having strayed so far from the palace and the afternoon strollers. She looks around in search of some accidental witness of her prowess. There is a woman standing still in a shady path that runs along the pond.*

*« Did you see ? Drissayonna hollers in her direction. Did you see all that ? »*

*Kathobe smiles warmly back at her. Yes, yes. She saw everything...*

## AUTHOR

**Lili Boisvert** is TV documentary journalist and presenter. She hosted the show *Sexplora*, co-created the feminist webseries *Les Brutes*, and penned *Le principe du cumshot* (*Screwed: How Women Are Set Up to Fail at Sex*), which was shortlisted for the Quebec Booksellers' Award. She's also a huge fan of fantasy books, shows and movies.

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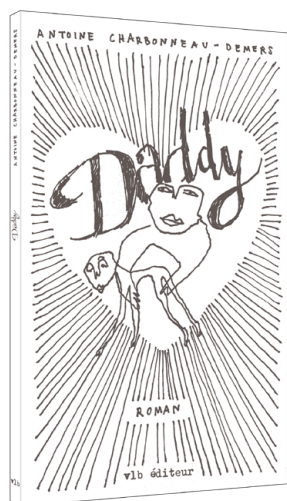
VLB ÉDITEUR  
APRIL 2021  
14.6 CM × 21.6 CM  
368 P.  
\$29.95

The final book of the series, *Anan Vol. 3: The Warrior*, will be published in Spring 2022.

# NEW RELEASES

LITERARY FICTION / Novel

vib éditeur

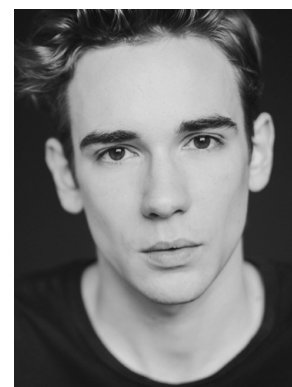


Daddy / Daddy

Antoine Charbonneau-Demers

.....

A LUSTFUL, SHOCKING, CLEVER TALE OF LIFE IN LOCKDOWN



## DESCRIPTION

In the spring of the Montreal Covid lockdown, Antoine Charbonneau-Demers published a novella online. *Daddy* was written at breakneck speed, a challenge for the young author to strip down his style in a work of autofiction which would lay his world bare. That, it did.

*Daddy* is the story of a young man who was an actor until he grew tired of playing hetero parts and decided to become a writer. Let's call him "Sonny." In the early weeks of the pandemic, Sonny is nursing a brutal case of chlamydia. He's thinking about "Daddy," the banker he's been sleeping with lately: 20 years his senior, huge penis, hates books. They've been having a steamy fling, but the problem is, one time, Daddy called him "my love," and another time, he said "I love you." He said he was sorry, but he did it again. So, Daddy is in love, and Daddy is jealous. That ruins everything.

## EXCERPT

*Daddy sent me a photo of a dude with a stethoscope around his neck: blue eyes, fair hair, everything I don't have. He's one of my mother's nurses, he said. He messaged me on Grindr. He wanted me to say, so that's where we're at? Here I am, rotting in Montreal while you're fucking nurses? Just so that, then, he could be reassuring: Oh, don't be silly, sweetie! I won't answer him, of course. I just wrote back: hehe.*

## REVIEWS

"(...)This tantalizing novella introduces a new Antoine Charbonneau-Demers, now less preoccupied with the cleverness or originality of his writing than by the impact of his storytelling." *Le Devoir* (\*\*\*\*)

"Once again, this story exemplifies this young author's talent, cementing his place in the literary landscape and Queer writing scene in Quebec." *Les Libraires*

## AUTHOR

**Antoine Charbonneau-Demers** is an actor, writer, and graphic artist. Born in 1994 in Rouyn-Noranda, Quebec, he studied at the Conservatoire d'art dramatique de Montréal and has a degree in literary creation. His debut novel, *Coco*, won the 2016 Robert-Cliche Award, and his second novel, *Good Boy*, won the 2020 Prix du roman gay.

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VLB ÉDITEUR  
SEPTEMBER 2020  
13.3 CM X 21 CM  
114 P.  
\$16.95

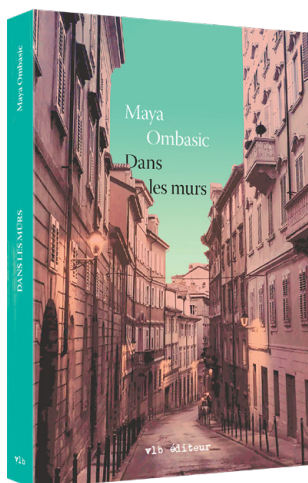
## RIGHTS SOLD

France (Arthaud)

# NEW RELEASES

LITERARY FICTION / Novel

vlb éditeur



## Dans les murs / Within the Walls Maya Ombasic

• • • • •

A SENSUAL AND MYSTICAL QUEST



### DESCRIPTION

Laure has abruptly left her husband and son in Montreal to travel to Trieste, in search of original manuscripts or unpublished works for her thesis. There, she soon has a sensual entanglement with a man that tempts her to use her real name again, one she had wanted to bury along with the grief of war and exile. Embracing her sensual awakening leads Laure, or Lejla, on a spiritual quest that then takes her to Istanbul, then to Beirut, and finally, to Sarajevo, here native, scarred city. Woven through the novel are themes Maya Ombasic holds dear: the allure of ancient cities, the search for family memory, and questions on the idea of nation, the branch from which fatal violence spawns and nostalgia blossoms.

### EXCERPT

*I first saw him from behind, at the Café San Marco. His full head of salt-and-pepper hair, cascading to cover his whole neck, was what caught my eye. I've always had a weakness for men with long hair. With his dejected look, almond-shaped eyes, and strange poise, he looked out of place, like some Ulysses finally fed up of having come home—even though 'home' did not really exist.*

### AUTHOR

A novelist and poet, **Maya Ombasic**'s works include *Les Chroniques du lézard*, *Rhadamanthe* (Marchand de feuilles, 2007 and 2010) and *Mostarghia* (VLB, 2015; Flammarion, 2017; English translation published by Biblioasis in 2019).

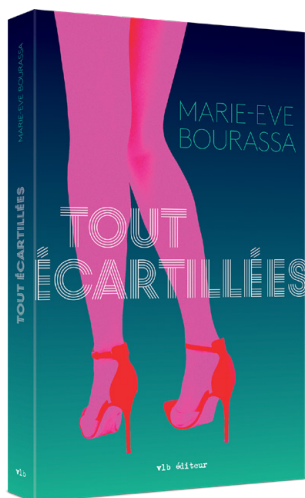
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VLB ÉDITEUR  
MARCH 2021  
13.6 CM × 19.7 CM  
288 P.  
\$27.95

# NEW RELEASES

UPMARKET FICTION / Thriller

vlb éditeur



Tout écartillées / Children of the Chaos

Marie-Eve Bourassa

.....

A MASTERFUL HARD-BOILED NOVEL SET IN THE MYTHICAL YEARS OF "QUÉBEC LOVE"



## DESCRIPTION

It's the height of the hippie revolution in Montreal and Georges Kirouac, private detective, is far from being in his element amid all the dope, rock music and the budding industry of blue movies. But that doesn't stop him from digging deep into a shady affair in which, worst of all, his own daughter and fruit of his loins, Marie-Baby, is mixed up in.

Marie-Eve Bourassa shifts the codes of classic noir to 1970s Montreal in a way only she knows how. Her warm yet heart-wrenching story takes on a psychedelic hue, bringing to life a gallery of characters as exasperating as they are irresistible.

## EXCERPT

*He probably would never have admitted it to anyone, but he longed to prove himself to his beautiful Roxy. He could hear himself say to her "See? I found him, your louse!" Of course, he'd pissed off money he owed. Nearly got beat up. But Georges Kirouac, private eye, was a man you could count on. Taking his first puff of Mary Jane, he even saw the barmaid's face smiling in a halo: "Georges, my savior!" For sure, she'd find a way to thank him.*

## AUTHOR

Novelist and screenwriter, **Marie-Eve Bourassa** is the author of the *Red Light* trilogy which has been a critical and commercial success.

.....

VLB ÉDITEUR  
MAY 2021  
14 CM × 21.6 CM  
376 P.  
\$29.95



# NEW RELEASES

LITERARY FICTION / Novel

vlb éditeur



Tout est ori / All Is Ori

Paul Serge Forest

.....

WHERE MAGIC REALISM MEETS THE SEAFOOD INDUSTRY:  
FROM THE NORTH SHORE TO JAPAN, THIS CRAZY SAGA WILL  
HAVE READERS TEARING THEIR HAIR OUT

## DESCRIPTION

The Lelarge family quietly lords over the seafood trade on the northern shores of the Gulf of the St. Lawrence. One day, a mysterious visitor, member of the Isumi Hues, Pigments, Colours, Mollusks and Shellfish Conglomerate, makes his arrival. Nobody knows at first that Mori Ishikawa has made an invention that will come to change the course of history. Nobody, that is, except for Frédéric Goyette, an official from the Canadian Food Inspection Agency and a lover of aquavit and fusion jazz, and Laurie, the younger, rebellious Lelarge daughter, on whom Ishikawa exerts an irrepressible attraction...

## EXCERPT

*He sat down near the waves to observe the particulates doing their strange dance. They behaved more like animals than minerals. One could easily impart them with an intention: to spread their eerie glimmer as far as possible. Entranced by the phenomena, Goyette forgot to scoot back. The river entered his shoes, his pants, his ass. It was ice-cold and sublime.*



## AUTHOR

**Paul Serge Forest** was born in 1984 in the Côte-Nord region of Québec. He now lives in Montréal, where he practises medicine. *All Is Ori* is his first novel.

.....

VLB ÉDITEUR  
MARCH 2021  
13.6 CM × 19.7 CM  
456 P.  
\$29.95





### Kukum / Kukum Michel Jean

.....

LOVE BRINGS ORPHANED ALMANDA TO AN INNU COMMUNITY, WHERE SHE WILL STRUGGLE TO GET ACCEPTED AND BREAK DOWN THE BARRIERS THAT INDIGENOUS WOMEN FACE

#2 BEST-SELLING FICTION BOOK IN 2020 IN FRENCH CANADA



### DESCRIPTION

This novel tells the story of Almanda Siméon, an orphan who goes to share her life with the Pekuakami Innu community. They come to accept her as one of their own when she falls in love with a young Innu man. She goes on to learn not only the language, but also how to live a nomadic existence, and succeeds in breaking down the barriers forced on Indigenous women. As time passes, Almanda and her family find themselves facing the loss of their traditional lands, being confined to reserves and enduring the violence of residential schools. Unfolding over the course of a century, this woman's story is recounted from a personal perspective, expressing the attachment of the Innu to their ancestral values and the need for freedom still felt by nomadic peoples to this day.

### EXCERPT

*It was one of those nights, when I was milking the cows in the dappled light of the setting sun, that I saw her for the first time. Summer was just beginning, a warm breeze sweeping through the tall grass. A canoe came into sight, making its way down the Rivière à la Chasse in silence. A bare-chested young man with coppery skin was paddling with no great hurry, content to let the current sweep him along. He looked barely older than me, and from where I was standing, I could see five bustards lying in the bottom of his birch-bark boat. Our eyes met. He didn't smile. And I wasn't afraid. The hunter disappeared around a meander in the river, behind a hill.*

### REVIEWS

"Canadian writer Michel Jean pays tribute to his Innu Indigenous heritage in this flamboyant novel, writing about nature and great open spaces with such incredible realism it'll transport you to another place." Emmanuel Khérad – La librairie francophone (France-Inter radio)



### LITERARY AWARDS

WINNER FOR THE 2020 FRANCE-QUEBEC AWARD

.....

WINNER FOR THE 2020 VLEEL AWARD

.....

SHORTLIST FOR THE 2020 JACQUES LACARRIÈRE AWARD

### AUTHOR

**Michel Jean** is a TV anchorman, presenter and investigative journalist revered and appreciated by audiences across Quebec. In March 2017, he was invited to the Paris Book Fair on the strength of *Amun*, a collection of Indigenous short stories he curated, which is slated for distribution in France and is currently being translated into English and German.

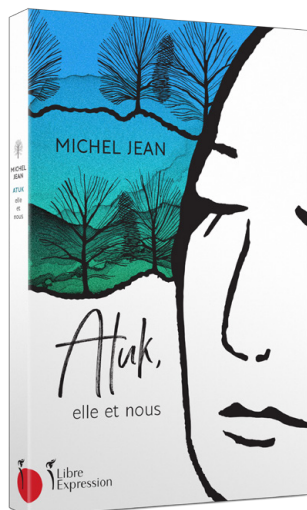
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LIBRE EXPRESSION  
SEPTEMBER 2019  
13.9 CM × 21.6 CM  
224 P.  
\$24.95

### RIGHTS SOLD

France (Éditions Dépaysage)  
Germany (Wieser Verlag)





Atuk, elle et nous

Atuk, Her and Us

Michel Jean

.....

IN LIGHT OF THE PHENOMENAL SUCCESS OF MICHEL JEAN'S NOVEL *KUKUM*, IN WHICH HE TELLS THE LIFE STORY OF HIS GREAT-GRANDPARENTS ALMANDA AND THOMAS SIMÉON, THIS NEW EDITION OF HIS WORK *HER AND US* TRACES THE LIFE OF THEIR DAUGHTER, THE AUTHOR'S MATERNAL GRANDMOTHER



### DESCRIPTION

"Michel, the Indian is right there inside you." She whispered those words as if she were confiding in me. The way you'd share a secret. And those words have troubled me. *Atuk* means caribou in the Innu-aimun language. My grandmother Jeannette, daughter of Almanda Siméon, rarely spoke of her Innu origins. Yet this woman, who was always impeccably dressed and coiffed, lived a life of hunters and trappers in the boreal forest until she met the man who would transform her existence. Her large family, gathering for her funeral, knew very little of her story, not even the name given to her by her father Thomas, a century ago: Shashuan Pileshish. In *Atuk, Her and Us*, a grandmother and her grandson retrace the respective trails of their lives. Little by little, their criss-crossing paths weave a tapestry of shadows and light in which nothing is quite black or white.

### EXCERPT

*I'm searching this sunken-cheeked face, wrinkled like an old apple, for the features that were once those of a young woman with darkness in her eyes, who liked to plunge into the silent forest, who knew how to find the healing herbs and roots. Her hands are clasped on her belly, her parched fingers holding a black rosary. The skin, tanned like old leather, is as dark as always.*

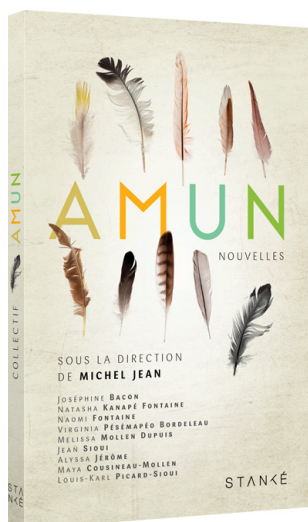
*A reminder of the blood that ran through her veins. Montagnais, as she described it. Innu, as we call it today. I place my own hand beside hers, trying to see a resemblance. I have the same slender fingers and subtly protruding joints, but a slightly longer palm. My skin, too, seems darker than most people's. I wish I could read the lines of her hand. And understand.*

### AUTHOR

**Michel Jean** is a TV anchorman, presenter and investigative journalist revered and appreciated by audiences across Quebec. In March 2017, he was invited to the Paris Book Fair on the strength of *Amun*, a collection of Indigenous short stories he curated, which is slated for distribution in France and is currently being translated into English and German. In 2020, he won the 2020 France-Québec Award for his novel *Kukum*.

.....

LIBRE EXPRESSION  
MARCH 2021  
14 CM × 21.6 CM  
232 P.  
\$24.95



Amun / Amun

Edited by Michel Jean

• • • • •

QUEBEC'S FIRST COLLECTION OF SHORT STORIES  
TO EXCLUSIVELY FEATURE INDIGENOUS AUTHORS

### DESCRIPTION

In the Innu language, amun means "gathering." Edited by Innu journalist and writer Michel Jean, this blazingly contemporary collection brings together Indigenous authors of different nations, generations and outlooks. Their varied works of fiction reflect not only the history and traditions, but also the harsh reality of First Nations in Quebec and across Canada. Featuring an array of renowned wordsmiths, this book is a forum for a rare gathering of voices and viewpoints.

### EXCERPT

*Where are you?*

*Last night, the river carried the ice away. The roar of thunder over the water roused me. Then, from my bed, I heard the water flow. The river we both saw turn to ice then don its cloak of snow is now reborn. Spring is so beautiful. The weather is mild and the melting snow is music to my ears. I'll be able to fish and hunt muskrat. I love you.*

### REVIEWS

"Amun speaks up and speaks out both politically and poetically. Filled with beauty and sadness, there's an aching pain running right through this moving collection edited by Michel Jean that's hard to ignore." *La Bible urbaine*

"They all write with a drop of their own blood, their stories ring of personal drama and a memory sullied by centuries of oppression." *Le Devoir*

"These novellas are remarkable in their inspiration, engagement and authenticity, bearing witness to the invaluable support the authors' voices have brought to Francophone Quebec literature." *L'Actualité*

### AUTHORS

Joséphine Bacon  
Maya Cousineau-Mollen  
Naomi Fontaine  
Michel Jean  
Alyssa Jérôme  
Natasha Kanapé Fontaine  
Melissa Mollen Dupuis  
Virginia Pésémapéo Bordeleau  
Louis-Karl Picard-Siouï  
Jean Sioui

• • • • •

STANKÉ  
SEPTEMBER 2016  
12.7 CM × 20.3 CM  
168 P.  
\$24.95

### RIGHTS SOLD

France (Éditions Dépayage)  
Canada-English (Exile Editions)  
Germany (Wieser Verlag)





Ru / Ru  
Kim Thúy



### DESCRIPTION

From the moment of its release, Kim Thúy's first book, *Ru*, published by Libre Expression in 2009, was a phenomenal success. A bestseller in Quebec and France and translated into more than 25 languages, *Ru* also garnered numerous literary awards.

### RIGHTS SOLD

Albania (Dritan), Brazil (Âyiné), Bulgaria (Colibri), Canada (Random House), China (Haitian), Czech Republic (Emitos), Denmark (Gad), Estonia (Loomingu Raamatukogu), Finland (Gummerus), French outside Canada (Liana Levi, Livre de Poche, Grand Livre du Mois, France Loisirs Feryane), Germany (Kunstmann, DTV), Great Britain (Clerkenwell Press), Greece (Agra), Italy (Nottetempo), Japan (Sairyu Sha), Korea (Moonji), Macedonia (Antolog), Netherland (Van Gennepe), Norway (Perleblekk), Poland (Drzewo Babel), Portugal (Objectiva), Romania (Spandugino), Serbia (Clio), Spain (Periférica), Sweden (Sekwa), Turkey (Epsilon), Ukraine (Anetta Antonenko Publishers), United Arab Emirates (IQRANI), United States (Bloomsbury)

Film & TV Rights

### AUTHOR

Born in Vietnam, **Kim Thúy** arrived in Quebec at the age of 10. She lives in Montreal and devotes herself to writing.

### Complete biography:

<https://bit.ly/3aUJlIS>



LIBRE EXPRESSION  
OCTOBER 2009  
13.3 CM × 22.9 CM  
152 P.  
\$24.95



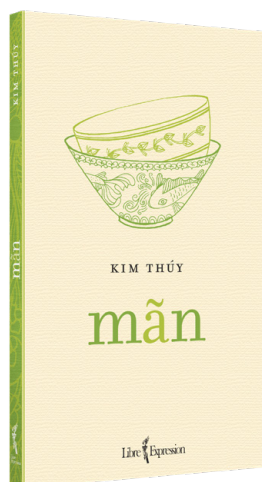
### LITERARY AWARDS

- 2018 FINALIST – THE NEW ACADEMY PRIZE IN LITERATURE (THE ALTERNATIVE NOBEL)
- 2015 WINNER – CANADA READS
- 2014 WINNER – PRIX LITTÉRAIRE DES AMBASSADEURS DE LA FRANCOPHONIE (DENMARK)
- 2011 WINNER – MONDELLO PRIZE FOR MULTICULTURALISM (ITALY)
- 2011 WINNER – GRAND PRIX LITTÉRAIRE ARCHAMBAULT–PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD
- 2010 WINNER – PRIX DU GRAND PUBLIC, SALON DU LIVRE DE MONTRÉAL
- 2010 WINNER – GOVERNOR GENERAL'S LITERARY AWARD FOR FICTION (CANADA)
- 2010 WINNER – GRAND PRIX RTL-LIRE, SALON DU LIVRE DE PARIS (FRANCE)
- 2012 FINALIST – SCOTIABANK GILLER PRIZE (CANADA)



# BACKLIST

## LITERARY FICTION / Novel



mãn / mǎn  
**Kim Thúy**



### DESCRIPTION

Kim Thúy's third work, *mãn*, was released in 2013. Shortlisted for the 2014 Prix des cinq continents de la Francophonie and translated into nine languages, the English paperback version was among Barnes & Noble's Discover Great New Writers Fall 2015 Selections.

### RIGHTS SOLD

Bulgaria (Colibri), Canada (Random House), China (Shanghai 99), French outside Canada (Liana Levi, France Loisirs), Germany (Kunstmann), Great Britain (Clerkenwell Press), Italy (Nottetempo), Japan (Sairyu Sha), Korea (Moonji), Romania (Spandugino), Serbia (Carobna knjiga), Spain (Periférica), Sweden (Sekwa), Turkey (Epsilon)

### AUTHOR

Born in Vietnam, **Kim Thúy** arrived in Quebec at the age of 10. She lives in Montreal and devotes herself to writing.

#### Complete biography:

<https://bit.ly/3aUJlIS>

LIBRE EXPRESSION  
APRIL 2013  
13.3 CM × 22.9 CM  
152 P.  
\$24.95

### LITERARY AWARDS

2013 FINALIST – PRIX OUEST-FRANCE ÉTONNANTS VOYAGEURS  
2013 FINALIST – PRIX DES CINQ CONTINENTS DE LA FRANCOPHONIE  
FALL 2015 – BARNES & NOBLE'S DISCOVER GREAT NEW WRITERS SELECTION (UNITED STATES)  
2015/2016 – BOOK OF THE YEAR, MACEWAN UNIVERSITY AND ALGONQUIN COLLEGE (CANADA)







### Vi / Vi Kim Thúy



#### DESCRIPTION

In Vietnamese, "Vi" means infinitesimal, microscopically tiny. In this book, Vi is the first name of a little girl, the younger sister of three older brothers, the "little treasure" who finds herself caught up in a privileged life and its turmoil. Leaving Saigon for Montreal via Suzhou and Boston and growing up beside ordinary heroes, Vi witnesses the vastness of the ocean, the multiplicity of horizons, the sameness of sadness, the luxury of peace, the complexity of love, the endlessness of possibilities and the violence of beauty. Like a good student, she watches, learns and takes it all in. But will she ever live Life, with a capital L?

#### EXCERPT

*My body had assumed the shape of my brothers and mother. I slept in their arms, against their ribs on the lumpy ground. How do you find yourself alone from one day to the next, wrapped in the softness of the mattress, no longer enveloped by the sweat of loved ones, no longer rocked by their breath? How did I suddenly lose the permanent presence of my mother? How will I find my way across a horizon without end, without barbed wire and without guards?*

#### REVIEWS

"A voyage into the Vietnamese soul, a story of rupture and a long rebirth of the self, *Vi* is a novel that is at once astonishing and energizing, one that pays magnificent homage to the quiet power of women." *Elle* (France)

#### AUTHOR

Born in Vietnam, **Kim Thúy** arrived in Quebec at the age of 10. She lives in Montreal and devotes herself to writing

#### Complete biography:

<https://bit.ly/3aUJlIS>

LIBRE EXPRESSION

APRIL 2016

13.3 CM × 22.9 CM

144 P.

\$24.95

#### RIGHTS SOLD

France (Liana Levi)

Italy (Nottetempo)

Sweden (Sekwa)

French Canada book club

(Québec-Loisirs)

Germany (Kuntsmann)

Canada (Random House)

Romania (Spandugino)

Finland (Gummerus)

Spain (Periférica)

Japan (Sairyu sha)

Turkey (Epsilon)

#### LITERARY AWARDS

2018 SHORTLISTED – SCOTIABANK GILLER PRIZE

2017 WINNER – NORDSUD INTERNATIONAL AWARD, PESCARABRUZZO FOUNDATION

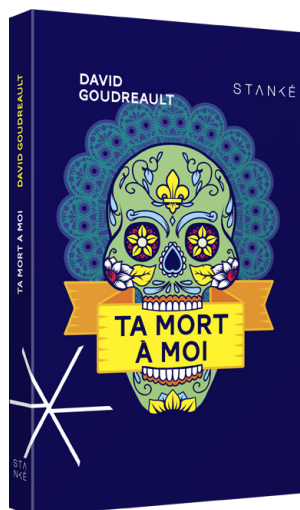
2017 WINNER – PRIX ARLETTE COUSTURE

2017 SHORTLISTED – PRIX LITTÉRAIRE DES LYCÉENS (FRANCE)

2016 SHORTLISTED – PRIX DES CINQ CONTINENTS DE LA FRANCOPHONIE







### Ta mort à moi / Your Death is Mine

David Goudreault

.....

AN AUTHOR AT THE HEIGHT OF HIS CREATIVE POWERS  
AN ABSOLUTE LITERARY GEM

#### DESCRIPTION

Marie-Maude Pranesh-Lopez is struggling with a “white hole” that is constantly pushing her out of her comfort zone and making her try anything and everything, which invariably leaves her totally apathetic. Her mother deliberately provokes road accidents and causes traffic jams. Her father, a devout consumer of pop psychology, can’t get enough of chromatic meditation and buys into anything that might further his personal growth. Through this deconstructed story, woven together by pages from Marie-Maude’s diary, author David Goudreault explores the idea of fate with a cast of characters who will never live to see redemption.

#### EXCERPT

*I was lucky to never have any of that. I’ve managed to pick myself to pieces and piece myself perfectly back together from scratch, from less than nothing. I deserve a break. I leave in these pages all the doubts and secrets that have crushed my soul to pieces, all that I have had to endure to get to where I am now, here, at peace, at last. Legions of imbeciles dare to claim that the journey is more important than the destination. They know nothing of the steep and winding roads women of my race have to travel. I know Nietzsche’s sickly type kept going on about what doesn’t kill us making us stronger, but that’s a load of BS! What doesn’t kill us, cripples, traumatizes or humiliates us. The rest of the time, we’re either loving or lying to ourselves.*

*When you’re condemned to crawl your way up a path of broken glass on your elbows in the kind of solitude that’s only broken by the rarest of encounters with another exhausted Sisyphus along the path, you couldn’t give a shit anymore about the scenery and what it can teach you, you just want to get to the finish line. Make it to the top, for once in your life.*

#### REVIEWS

“With his ability to juggle language so masterfully, Goudreault is one of our greatest contemporary authors.”  
Odile Tremblay, *Le Devoir*



#### LITERARY AWARDS

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#### AUTHOR

**David Goudreault** is a novelist, poet and songwriter. He was the first Quebecer to win the World Cup of Slam Poetry in Paris, France. David Goudreault leads creative workshops in schools and detention centres across Quebec—including the northern communities of Nunavik—and in France. He has received a number of prizes, including Quebec’s Medal of the National Assembly for his artistic achievements and social involvement.

#### Complete biography:

<https://bit.ly/3kt2OEL>

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Mama's Boy

David Goudreault

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Written with gritty humour in the form of a confession, *Mama's Boy* recounts the family drama of a young man who sets out in search of his mother after a childhood spent shuffling from one foster home to another. A bizarre character with a skewed view of the world, he leads the reader on a quest that is both tender and violent. His search takes an unexpected turn.

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La Bête et sa cage

Mama's Boy:

Behind Bars

David Goudreault

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### DESCRIPTION

The beast is back! Now incarcerated in a wing reserved for psychiatric cases, he struggles to survive in the hierarchical and violent prison world. Through the eyes of this character's distorted views of reality, David Goudreault paints a picture of the prison world, its daily life and inhabitants. If prison breaks men, the cage excites the beasts...

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Abattre la bête

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David Goudreault

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The grand finale of the trilogy picks up where the first two novels left off and unravels the intrigue. Delving deeper into egocentricity and cognitive distortion, the author leads his protagonist to run away frantically again and again. Still driven by a desperate need to feel a family connection, the narrator finds refuge in drugs and denial, as well as in the arms of Maple, a hooker in her fifties who takes him in after he escapes from the Pinel Institute. Together, they track down the narrator's mother, for worse or for worse.

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