

ADULT FICTION AND ESSAYS

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Spring 2021

# QuébecAmérique Group

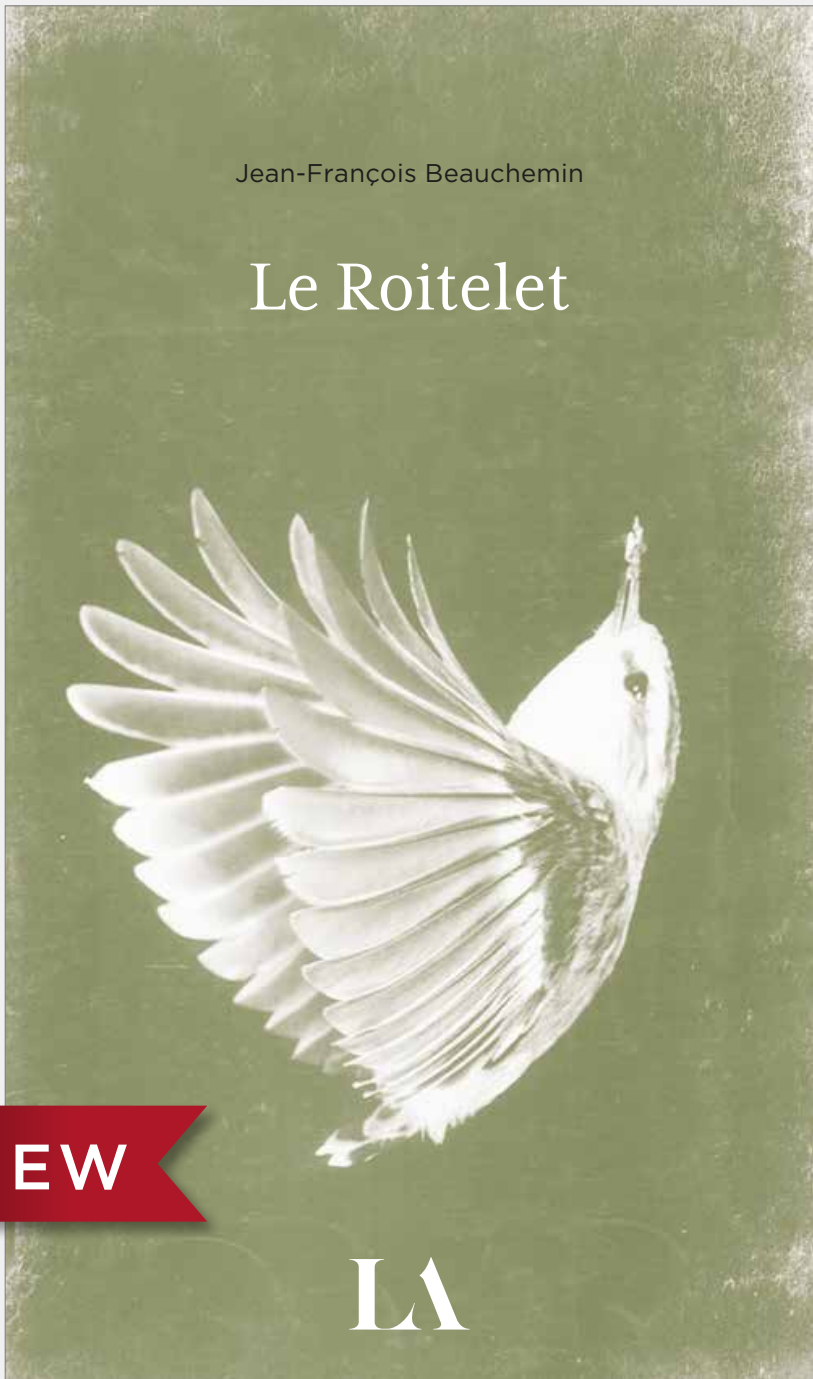
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# THE WREN

Another piece of slow, delicate writing from experienced writer JFB. Two aging brothers are as close as you can get despite one’s schizophrenia.

A man leads a peaceful life in the countryside with his wife Livia, dog Pablo, and cat Lennon and receives regular visits from his schizophrenic brother. For this writer on the cusp of old age, the essential is no longer what he does as much as how he inhabits the world—specifically, his need for love. With indescribable delicacy, the pages reveal a fraternal bond marked by pain, loneliness, and concern and strengthened by tenderness and solicitude.



## Jean-François Beauchemin

Jean-François Beauchemin has been a writer for over twenty years. All of his books, many of which have won prestigious awards, examine the human soul, marvel at the human psyche, wonder at the splendour of the senses, and stand in awe at the beauty of the world. *The Wren* is his twenty-third title.

**PAGES:** 114  
**WORD COUNT:** 25,143  
**SUBJECT:** Brothers, aging, country life  
**RETAIL PRICE:** 21,95 CAD



## By the same author: ARCHIVES OF JOY

World English Rights Sold (Greystone)

**English and Spanish excerpts available**



## WHEN GLOOMY BERTHA SINGS

The author pays tribute to his recently departed mother Bertha, a tall Black woman who “loved to love” and whose energy and generosity were an inspiration to others.

An established Bookseller Top Pick

In this admirably written tale, Rodney, Bertha’s eldest son, tells the story of his impoverished childhood in the country of his birth, and their separation in exile—as she found herself in New York, and he ended up in Montreal. This is a dialogue between a son and his mother. He grew up under the dictatorship, dreaming of becoming a writer and succeeding in putting his anger, pain, joy, courage and love into words. She was a mother who carried the memory of both the “rotten country” she left behind and the light of hope. Bertha’s words are beautiful and poignant, conveying all the music and dignity of the art of being a mother.

English Excerpt available

— Reviews —

*A book that leaves the reader soothed by the language, yet grieving a woman. Bertha, the titular character, dies in the first pages of this magnificent homage of a son to his mother. The text vibrates with a portrait of Haiti, at once a beautiful and “rotten” country, and the strength of those that carry it to another land.*

Sonia Sarfati, *Reader’s Digest Selection*



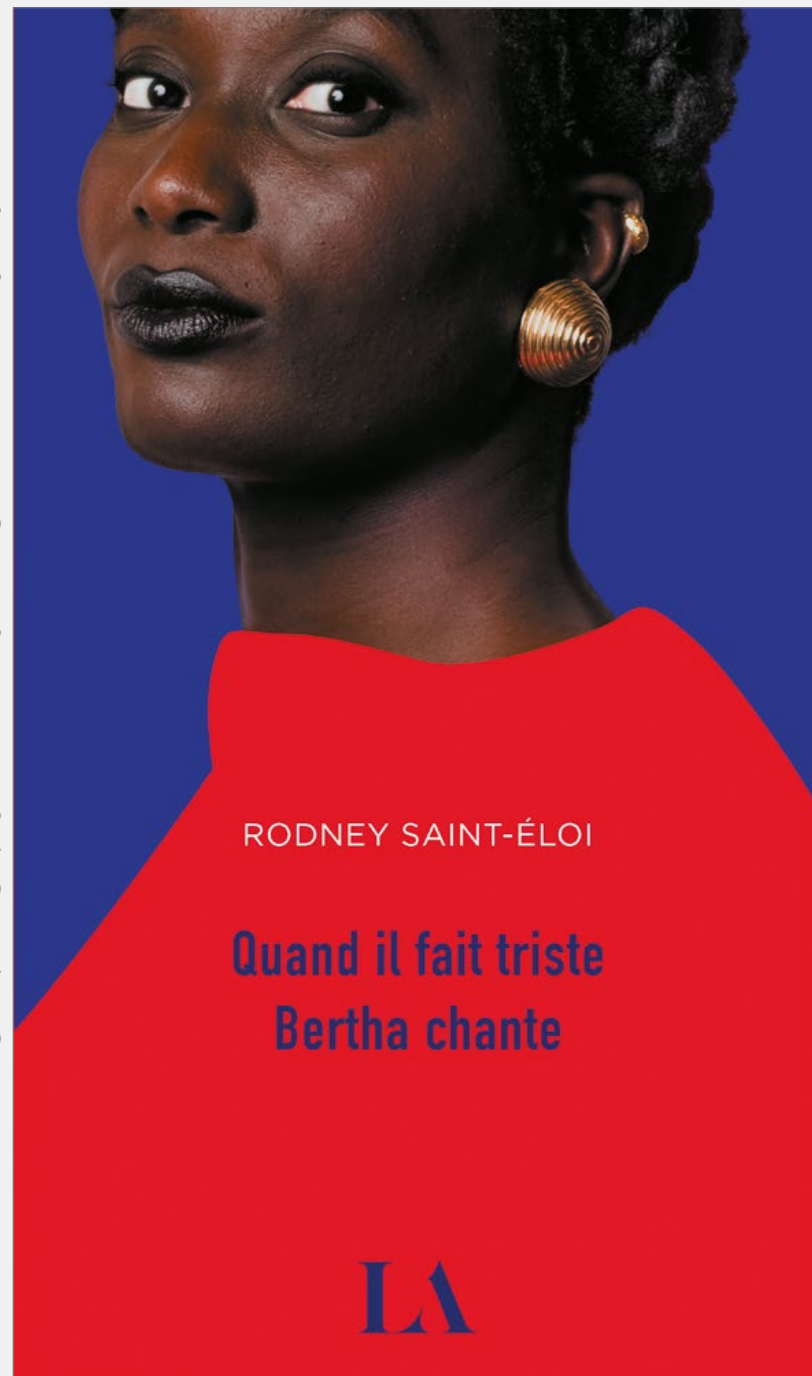
### Rodney Saint-Éloi

The poet, essayist and publisher was born in Cavaillon, Haiti and has penned more than fifteen works of poetry, including *Je suis la fille du baobab brûlé* (2015, shortlisted for the Governor General’s Award and the Prix des Libraires), *Jacques Roche, je t’écris cette lettre* (2013, shortlisted for the Governor General’s Award). He was admitted to the

Académie des lettres du Québec in 2015 and was made a companion of arts and literature of the Canada Council for the Arts in 2019. He continues to manage Mémoire d’encrier, the Montreal-based publishing house he founded in 2003.

*When Gloomy Bertha Sings (. . .) is a singular and profoundly moving book that overlaps time periods, places, stories, and memories. It does not fit neatly into any one genre, but embodies them all: fable, poem, prayer, elegy, song, lament. It is a tale of grief, but also a celebration brought to life through its beautifully woven language.*

Laurence Pelletier, *Lettres québécoises* (4 star review)



PAGES: 304

WORD COUNT: 62,092

SUBJECT: Mourning, mother-son relationship

RETAIL PRICE: 24,95 CAD

## CHASING THE PHOENIX

Buoyed by its gorgeous writing, this odyssey brings us as far as Babylon on a quest to discover the mysteries of genius and the healing powers of art.

On a public piano in Old Montreal, a tormented vagabond expertly performs a Rachmaninoff concerto. The same man, unable to remember his own name or where he comes from, can transform a simple stew into a sumptuous feast, solve impossible equations, and speak disjointed words in any language. What's more, the nameless prodigy travels to seedy neighbourhoods scattering dazzling works of graffiti whose enigmatic Eastern-inspired signature casts heavy suspicion onto him.

Who is this stranger people call “the Phoenix”, who has seemingly washed up on Montreal’s shores? What connects him to a Chinese piano virtuoso, a Spanish pastry chef extraordinaire, a gifted English mathematician, and so many other geniuses around the world? An unlikely pair of women—a dedicated and guileless street worker and an opinionated, sceptical neuropsychologist—set out on the trail of this rare bird.

**English Excerpt available**



### Marie-Anne Legault

Marie-Anne Legault grew up in the Abitibi region of Quebec before moving to Montreal to study communications. Over the years, her passion for the transmission of knowledge has led her to write and edit a number of reference books published by Québec Amérique.

— Review —

*Marie-Anne Legault's second novel Chasing the Phoenix is a work that twists both mystery and fascination and genius and folly together in a kaleidoscope of exquisite canvases depicting a myriad of eras, cultures, and historical events.*

Iris Gagnon-Paradis,  
*La Presse*

MARIE-ANNE LEGAULT  
*La traque du Phénix*



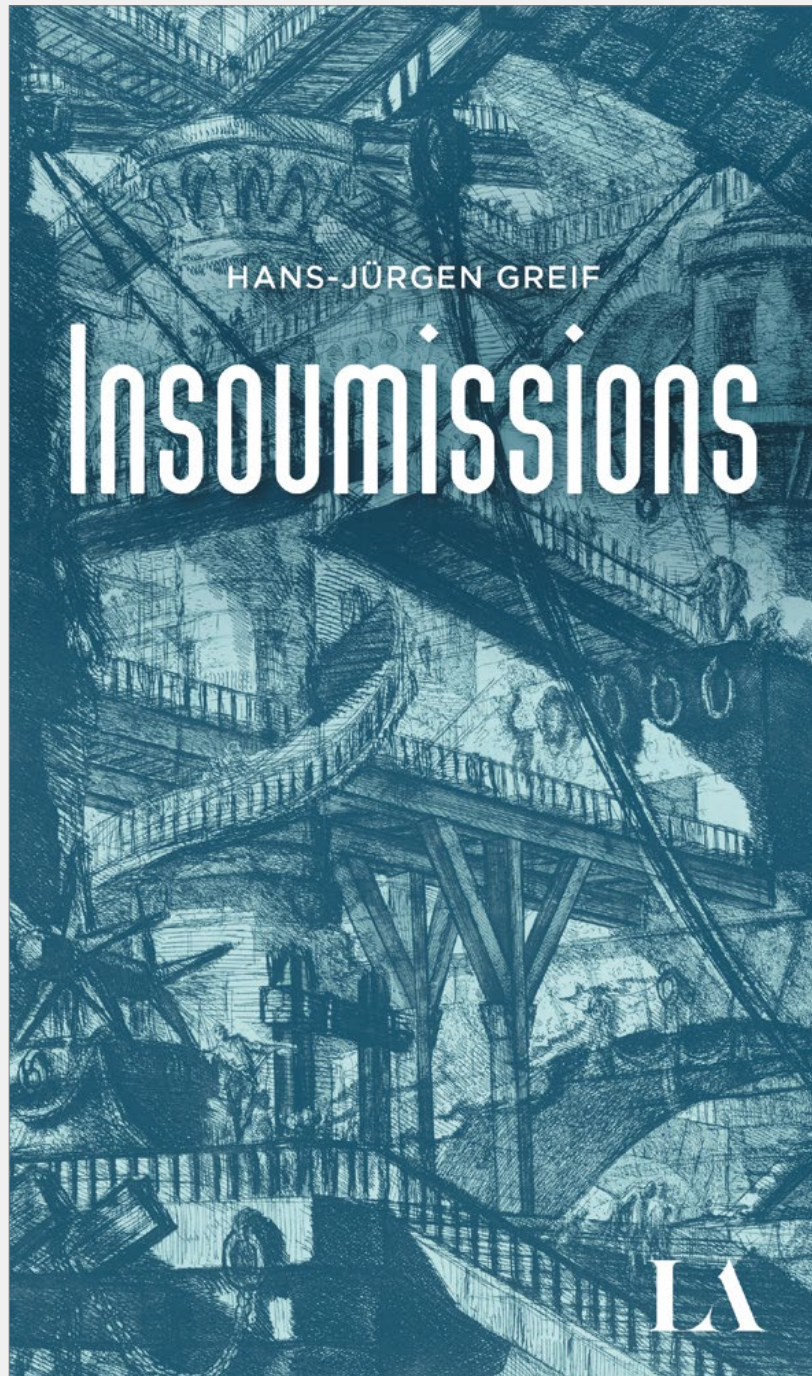
**PAGES:** 344

**WORD COUNT:** 83,956

**SUBJECT:** Genius, arts, homeless

**RETAIL PRICE:** 24,95 CAD





**PAGES:** 344

**WORD COUNT:** 92,230

**SUBJECT:** Immigration, scheming

**RETAIL PRICE:** 26,95 CAD

## DISOBEDIENCES

A novel with hints of autobiography, *Disobediences* features a young German who comes to Quebec in 1969.

He finds the unrest of the October Crisis only amplifies news from his home country, where terrorism is holding all of West Germany hostage. Between moments of culture shock, he finds a teaching position at Université Laval where his superior, a shrewd upstart, tries to have his head. But the German won't let himself be pushed around . . .

### — Excerpt —

The manager slides a pen in front of me and hands me a page on University letterhead: "Sign here." I read my resignation. It's a slap in the face. I know the woman who wrote this garbage.

"Deceit hanging on the arm of malice," Chateaubriand would have said.

I stand, snatch the letter. "I'm not signing anything that comes from you. I'll leave when I'm ready."

So-and-so screams: "Insubordination? Threats? Are you disobeying me?"



### Hans-Jürgen Greif

Born in the multicultural region of Saarland, Hans-Jürgen Greif studied in Germany, France and Italy before teaching French and German literature at Université Laval. He has published essays and novels, including *Orfeo*, *La colère du faucon* and *Le photographe d'ombres* (Prix du Salon international du livre de Québec 2004, 2014, 2016), as well as several short

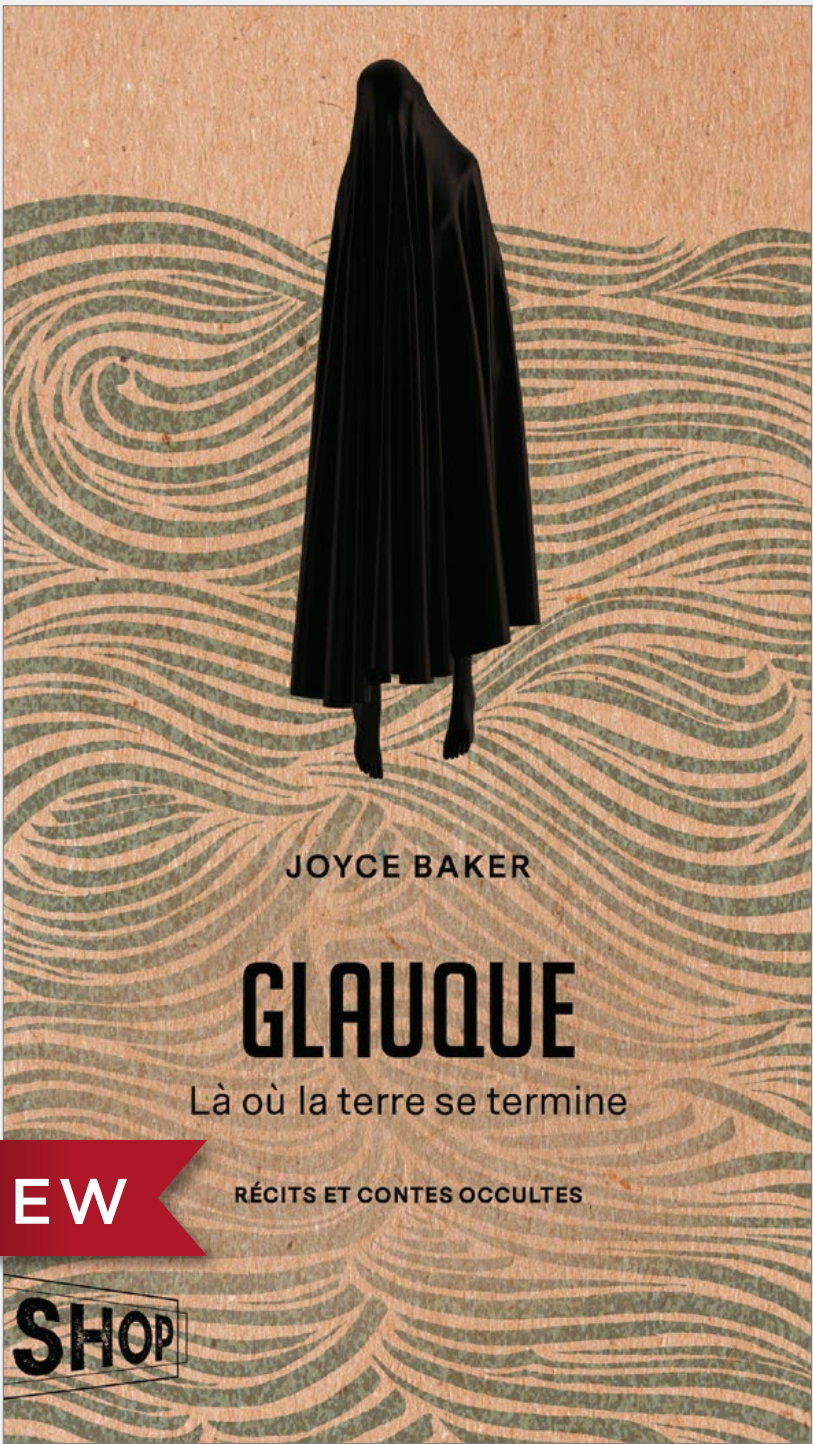
stories collections and novellas. His books have been translated into English, German, Spanish and Polish and have been named finalists for the Governor General's Award and the Prix littéraire France-Québec. His work has appeared numerous times in anthologies and literary or academic journals. *Disobediences*, the final volume of the "German trilogy", is his eleventh novel.

### — Review —

*This intimate story with political and social undertones is bursting with wit and humanity. The author writes with style and sensitivity to convey the complexity of the immigration experience.*

Yvon Larose,  
*Le Soleil*





# MURKY: WHERE THE LAND ENDS

An eerie journey through the Gaspésie lands: nine modern and harrowing folk tales derived from Joyce Baker’s childhood memories.

A reminiscence of H. P. Lovecraft’s work

People of the Gaspé Peninsula have always lived surrounded by a nature so threatening it fuels countless legends. Ghosts, demons, vampires, witches, and monsters; in nine short stories, the author spins modern, spine-chilling folktales inspired from her own childhood and native soil, where the Earth ends.

— Excerpt —

I always felt that if my sister and I didn’t heed my grandmother’s visceral fears and walked from her house to ours just as it was getting dark and especially—especially—in winter, the men with the beards would catch us, abduct us, do terrible things to us. As we grow older, the haunted tree-lined spaces among the shadows take on another form of terror. We considered ourselves lucky after learning of the abuses a woman can suffer at the hands of tormenters when she is alone in the dark.

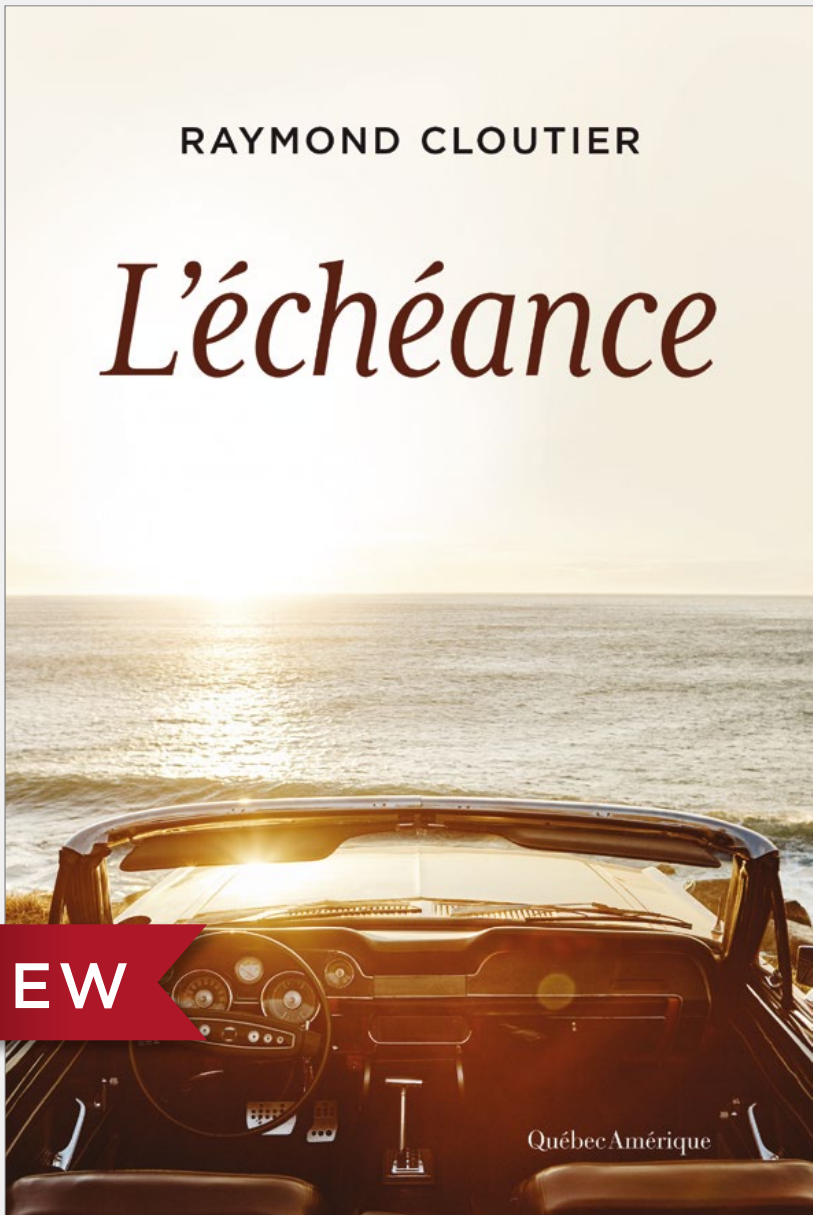


Joyce Baker

Joyce Baker is an author and occultist. Born on the Gaspé Peninsula in 1989, she splits her time between Montreal and Grande-Rivière, where she grew up. She is a literature researcher and co-edited the 2019 collection *Stalkeuses*. *Murky* is her first work of fiction.

**PAGES:** 136  
**WORD COUNT:** 28,495  
**SUBJECT:** Occult & supernatural, folk tales  
**RETAIL PRICE:** 22,95 CAD



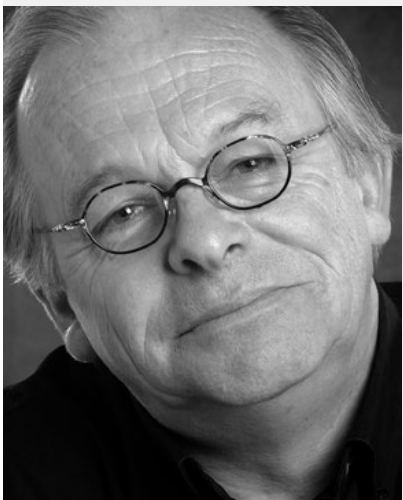


# THE DEADLINE

Véronique, thirty-seven, and Robert, seventy, have been together ten years—but they know the relationship is doomed.

Once they were madly in love, but those days are long gone. Now, a huge chasm has opened between them. The age difference has finally caught up to them, but they are unable to acknowledge it, unable to face the facts. How long will they live in denial, caught in a web of lies? How far will they go before they tear themselves apart?

*The Deadline* invites us into the minds of both man and woman with remarkable skill. Two visions of the world and two visions of love take shape when two generations come face to face—and the skeletons come out of the closet.



## Raymond Cloutier

Raymond Cloutier is an actor and a writer. A founding member of the Grand Cirque Ordinaire, he is known for his cinema, TV, and stage roles. Passionate about teaching, he directed the Conservatoire d'art dramatique de Montréal for twelve years. He hosted cultural programs for Radio-Canada's Première chaîne for several years and was also the artistic director for Théâtre Outremont. After *Fin seul*, based on his childhood, *The Deadline* is his fourth novel.

**PAGES:** 256  
**WORD COUNT:** 53,239  
**SUBJECT:** Breakup, secrets  
**RETAIL PRICE:** 24,95 CAD



**PAGES:** 432**WORD COUNT:** 114,361**SUBJECT:** Humankind, magical realism**RETAIL PRICE:** 32,95 CAD

## THE MULTI-COLOURED MONKEYS or The Fall Of Humankind

In this ambitious dystopia, the author brings readers to experience first-hand the lives of men and women doomed to disappear.

One day in 2000, on a small island in the Indian Ocean, a biologist comes into contact with a curious primate that can enter human consciousness. Over the next millennium, this monkey and his partner will give rise to a mysterious legend.

An African musician, a Quebec philosopher, a rebellious soldier, an ageless woman, and a young messenger . . . a host of characters will perpetuate the fable, setting off on a spiritual quest in the hope of ending humans' hegemony on Earth.

After centuries of war, greed, injustice, and recklessness—not to name the pandemics that decimate entire populations—the human species is in decline. What if it were for the best?

*The Multi-coloured Monkeys* explores how we have abused the planet, the environment, and ourselves. It raises feelings of urgency and powerlessness, a realization stamped with clarity—and possibly a vision of harmony.



### Bernard Gilbert

For over forty years, Bernard Gilbert has worked in the arts and culture sector. In Quebec City, he has directed radio CKRL, Théâtre Périscope, Carrefour international de théâtre, Maison de la littérature, and Festival Québec en toutes lettres. After taking on opera production direction for Ex Machina, he is now the general manager and programming

director of Le Diamant, a venue and incubator for creation founded by Robert Lepage. *The Multi-coloured Monkeys* is his fourth novel.

**PAGES:** 240**WORD COUNT:** 56,607**SUBJECT:** Humorous, investigation**RETAIL PRICE:** 26,95 CAD

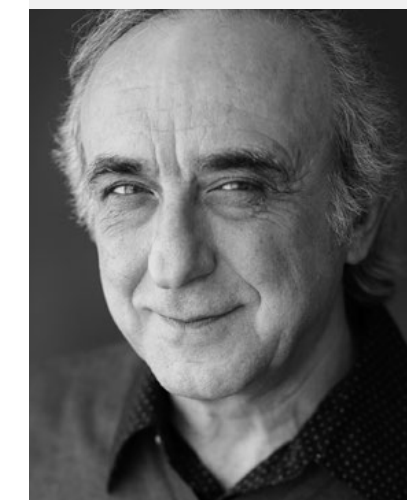
## ASSASSIN IN RESIDENCE

This charming, irreverent novel is part whodunit, part comedy, part romance.

In a respectable retirement residence, six of the residents, aged 63 to 94, decide to solve a murder mystery . . . their way.

Some have lost their teeth, others their flexibility, but all have retained a sense of humour and their sharp wits! At Jardin Desjardins, residents eat well, drink up, laugh loudly and, when necessary, investigate crime. Did it have anything to do with the nurse's cookie trafficking? Is it a coincidence that Marguerite met her new sweetheart on the day of the murder? Does Marie-Rose really want the best for the residents—despite drowning all her dishes in sauce? Is it Ginette, whose past is catching up to her? Or Jasmin, who is tired of being constipated all the time?

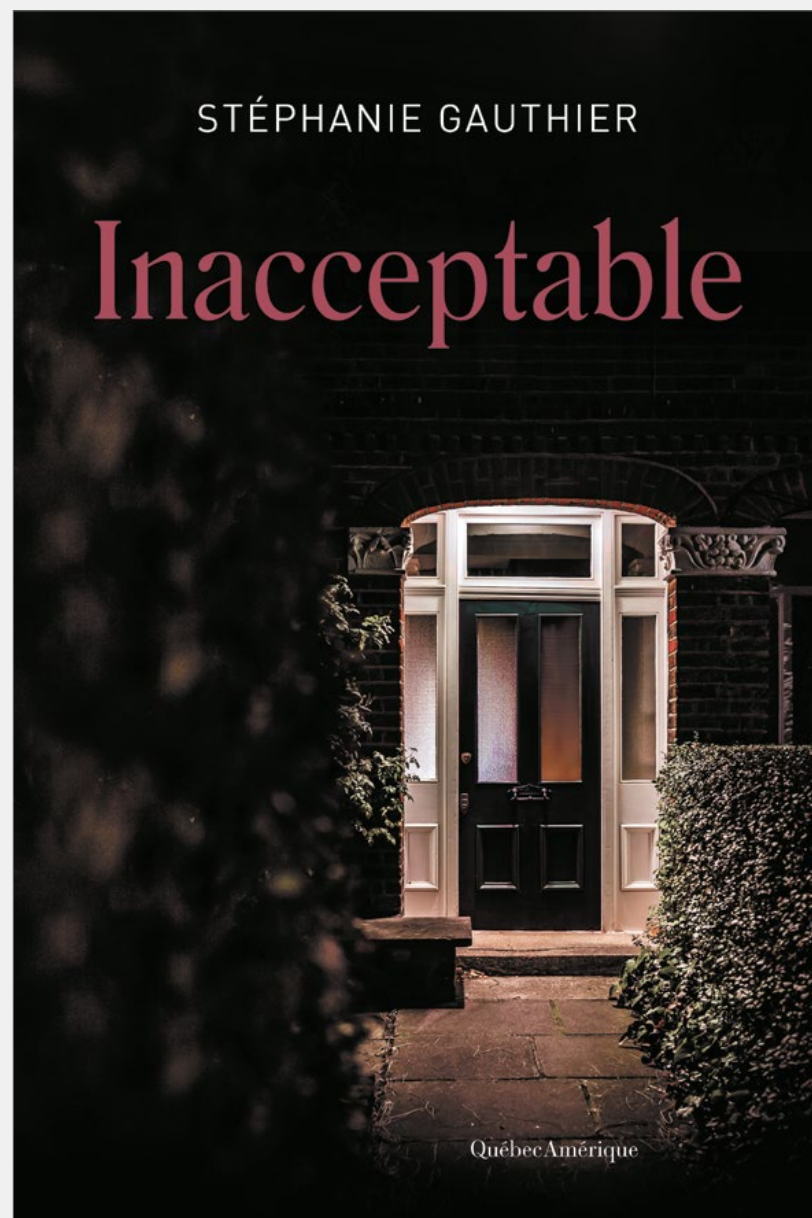
*Assassin in Residence* features the snappy style and storytelling talents of Jean Bello, whose elegant pen brings to life the pleasures of friendship, food, and love. Set against a backdrop of suspense, he offers a story brimming with gaiety and cheer that goes down like a refreshing summer cocktail.



### Jean Bello

Originally from Italy but a long-time Quebecker, Jean Bello was a prolific author/illustrator in newspapers (*Le Devoir*, *La Presse*) and children's magazines throughout the 1970s and 80s. He has written and illustrated one children's book (*Le Chamane fou*, Boréal junior) and published two novels (*Exil en la demeure* and *La Porte entrouverte*, Éditions Sémaphore).





**PAGES:** 480

**WORD COUNT:** 90,818

**SUBJECT:** Crime, psychological

**RETAIL PRICE:** 34,95 CAD

## UNACCEPTABLE

Friends and new widows Laure and Sabine unveil troubling secrets whilst trying to understand the mysterious deaths of their respective husband, 38 hours apart.

**An efficient and gripping whodunit novel**

Philippe Langevin, acclaimed host of an investigative journalism show for television, is married with twin girls. Joseph Secco, respected psychiatrist, is also married and a father of two. Their families are bound by a long-standing friendship. The days pass peacefully enough until Joseph is brutally murdered in his office. No suspects, no motive. Thirty-eight hours later, Philippe is found hanged at his own workplace: a baffling suicide. Their wives, Laure and Sabine, struggle to come to terms with their grief as they learn troubling information about their husbands. And in the midst of this mystery, Amandine, Philippe's young protégé, is investigating a bizarre therapy group. Could the deaths of the two friends be connected? And do Amandine's investigations have anything to do with the tragedy?

— Review —

*"It draws you in right from the start, and you can't stop turning the pages to find out how the intrigue unfolds. Before you know it, you'll have read the whole book, and you won't be disappointed with the ending."*

Josée Boileau,  
*Le Journal de Montréal*



### Stéphanie Gauthier

Stéphanie Gauthier has always been passionate about the arts. A graduate of the Université de Montréal's undergraduate arts and science program, she is a songwriter, playwright and novelist. She has written a number of plays and three novels (*L'effet domino*, Éditions de Mortagne, 2009, *Une fille trop curieuse*, Éditions Triptyque, 2015 and *Le Moule*, Éditions Québec Amérique, 2018). *Unacceptable* is her fourth novel.





**PAGES:** 376

**WORD COUNT:** 91,061

**SUBJECT:** Performance, books, romance

**RETAIL PRICE:** 29,95 CAD

## MISS LIBRARY

With humor and exquisite self-derision, the author depicts a character as imperfect as endearing. Librarian Lucie is so passionate about books that she might be forgetting there's more to life.

### A Booksellers Top Pick

Can books change the world and bring back a taste for life? Lucie, a.k.a. Miss Library, is convinced so. Her mission: to get people reading and libraries recognized as key in our society. Performance-minded, excessive in all aspects of her life, including when she runs, Lucie forgets to take care of herself . . . and of her love life. Even her best friends, Zahra and Arno, do not recognize her anymore. Definitely, Miss Library is doing too much.

Peppered with recipes and comforting songs, *Miss Library* is the author's first novel, for whom the library and running worlds hold no secret.

#### — Excerpt —

— Lucie, you might want to . . . see someone.

— Like a psychologist? Honestly! You've known me for a long time, Arno . . . You know that I thrive on adrenaline, that I need to push my limits. At the moment, I feel like I'm losing my balance. It's like everything is slipping away from me and that I don't control anything anymore. I'll get through it.

— Precisely, Miss Library . . . you're doing too much! Let it go! Stop worrying about what you can't control.



### Chantal Brodeur

Chantal Brodeur holds a French Literature degree as well as a Master in Library and Information Studies from the Université de Montréal. She works for the Repentigny public library as a Head of Division.

While being a prominent figure of the Quebec library community, she nurtures her passion for running by training intensively for marathons. Her dream is to one day qualify for the prestigious Boston Marathon.

#### — Review —

*Trapped in a whirlwind of never-ending work, frenzied days, misadventures in love, and political subterfuge, just how far will Miss Library go before she breaks down? Chantal Brodeur delivers a light-hearted slice of bibliotherapy that reflects the realities many people face . . . with an ending full of hope.*

Laura Beaudoin, *Les libraires*



**PAGES:** TBC**WORD COUNT:** 74,974**SUBJECT:** Indigenous people, spirituality**RETAIL PRICE:** TBC

## DEEP DOWN

### Vol. 2—The Other World

Second volume of a trilogy.

Marie, a nutritionist from Montreal, gets to know the Indigenous community of Kigawôgan. She learns to embrace a whole other culture where spiritual beliefs and traditions are tightly intertwined. In the midst of an enchanted forest, mysterious gifts and enigmatic words conspire to turn Marie's entire world upside down.

What will become of Marie, now that she has settled in Quebec City? Kigawôgan may well be hundreds of kilometres away, but she will soon realize that her connection to Indigenous peoples is too strong to be ignored. Feeling herself slowly slipping away, Marie ends up at a new crossroads where she will be forced to make heartbreaking choices and live with her grief. She will once again be helped and protected by Indigenous friends who will bring her to an enchanting place, a bar called the Survivor. There, a series of strange encounters will connect Marie to a forgotten place buried deep inside her.



#### Marie-France David

Marie-France David has been a nutritionist in indigenous communities for more than twenty-five years. *Kigawôgan's Fire*, her first novel and the first volume of the trilogy *Deep Down*, is strongly inspired by her experience. Her writing, sensitive and respectful, delivers a touching story about love and friendship coming from the most unexpected places.



#### By the same author:

##### DEEP DOWN

Vol. 1—Kigawôgan's Fire

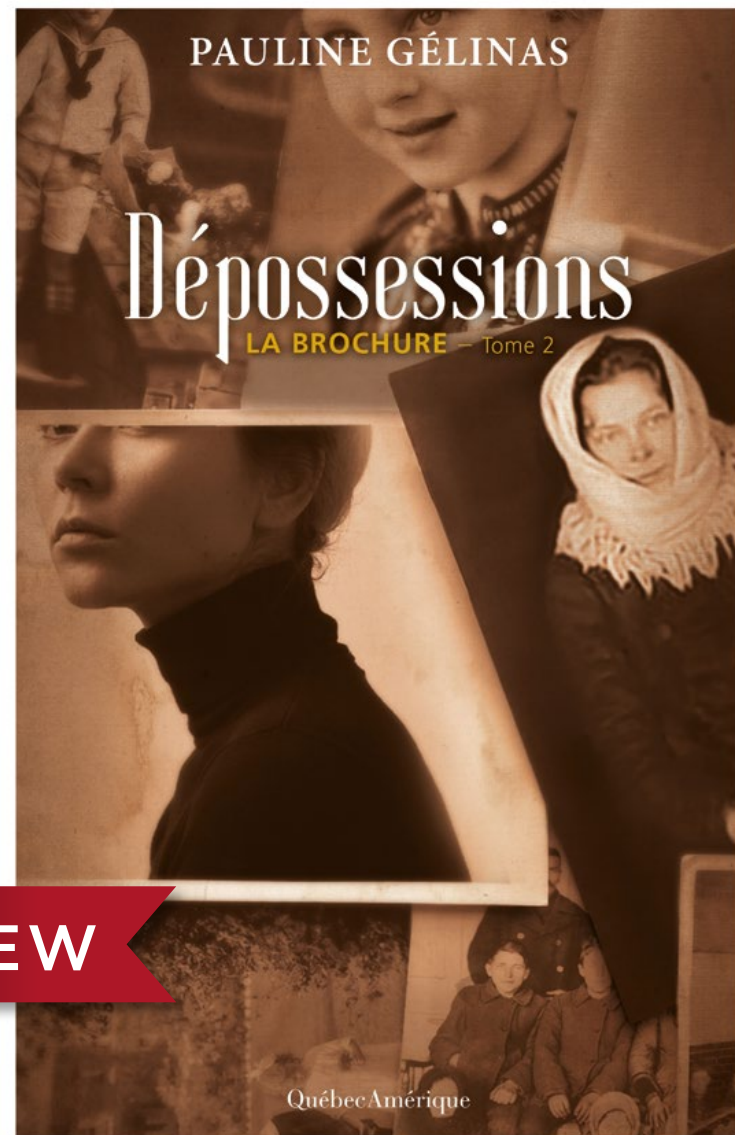
## THE BROCHURE Vol. 2—Dispossessions

The conclusion to a poignant 2-part story revealing one of Canada's darkest secret from the past.

Betrayal in all forms, ending in dispossession. That is at the heart of The Brochure, whose alternating time periods hide surprises at every turn. In this saga where greed and cowardice, generosity and courage take centre stage, we follow the heartbreaking journeys of Ukrainian immigrants, Indigenous and Métis as well.

1920. Volume 2 centres on the Pylypow family, who, after fleeing the Austro-Hungarian Empire eighteen years prior, finally believe they have emerged from the clutches of the swindlers. And yet they will suffer a final betrayal at the hands of their adopted country. The latest setback will take the reader through some of the darkest and most tragic pages of Canada's history.

2014. The life of Anna Pylypow, a successful Montreal radiologist, has already begun to falter. Once she learns of the extent to which the government has betrayed her Ukrainian ancestors, Anna will discover that her beloved grandfather has committed a grave betrayal of his own. Can she ever forgive a man whose childhood was forged out of deceit?



NEW

**PAGES:** 312

**WORD COUNT:** 87,236

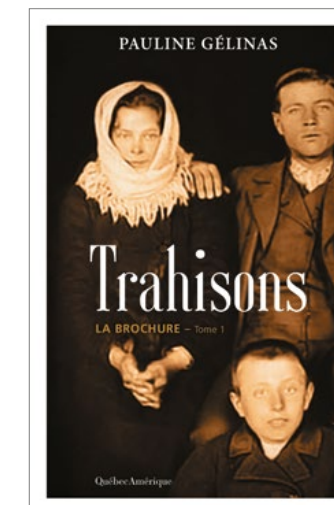
**SUBJECT:** Colonisation, family secrets

**RETAIL PRICE:** 29,95 CAD



### Pauline Gélinas

Originally from Baie-de-Shawinigan, Pauline Gélinas has a background in political science and spent fifteen years as a reporter and news anchor for Radio-Canada. She was also the managing editor of the Journal du Barreau and spent years recording audiobooks for blind or visually impaired audiences. *Dispossession* is her fourth novel.



### By the same author:

#### THE BROCHURE

Vol. 1—Treasons

— Review —

*This novel by Pauline Gélinas is one of those rare gems able to convey weighty, dense information without putting readers to sleep. The author deftly manages to graft specific and well-documented historical facts onto a touching and utterly human story. Borrowing from the tragic fate of the Pylypow family that immigrated to Canada at the turn of the 20th century, the former journalist denounces our collective ignorance regarding the grim events that took place on our very own soil.*



**PAGES:** 256**WORD COUNT:** 74,241**SUBJECT:** Colonial America, adventure**RETAIL PRICE:** 27,95 CAD

## THE AMAZING LIFE OF PIERRE BOUCHER

Marvel at an abundant New France left to its own devices and revel in the burlesque theatre at the court of the greatest king of France. This is the incredible story of the founder of the city of Boucherville, part tall tale and part historical fiction.

New France, 1635. Nothing is going well for the young colony: immigration has slowed to a trickle, families live in constant fear of Iroquois attacks, there is a shortage of soldiers and girls to marry, priests are having a hard time converting the Hurons, and the abuse they suffer at the hands of the enemy sends a shudder through the community.

Enter Pierre Boucher and his family. Pierre learns to speak the native languages as he works alongside the Jesuits in Huron country, and four years later he becomes a soldier. During this time he undertakes the difficult quest of finding a wife. He quickly rises through the ranks, becoming a corporal, interpreter, and official negotiator for enemy nations before being named captain at Trois-Rivières, where he settles.

But by the autumn of 1661, the governor of New France sends Boucher to go plead the cause of the floundering colony before Louis XIV and ask him for help. At the King's Court, Pierre discovers an elite class swathed in glitz and glamour, a life of pomp a world away from life in New France—but he also stumbles upon a France plagued by poverty. Will this humble, worthy man find a way to save his country?



### Nicole Lavigne

Nicole Lavigne was born in Ville-Marie, Témiscamingue. A trained journalist, she worked for La Presse canadienne before joining the news team at Radio-Canada, where she spent the next 25 years. *The Amazing Life of Pierre Boucher* is her sixth novel. She lives in Boucherville.





**PAGES:** 208

**WORD COUNT:** 56,914

**SUBJECT:** Epistolary, Scottish Highlands

**RETAIL PRICE:** 24,95 CAD

## LETTERS FROM MALLAIG

A complementary episode to *Mallaig*, Lacombe's medieval trilogy set in Scotland, that sold more than 500,000 copies and earned her great success in Quebec and abroad

Gunelle Keith, wife of clan chief Iain MacNèill and lady of the castle in the Scottish Highlands village of Mallaig, had her fair share of disappointments before fully embracing her duties. Now the head of a respectable household, a mother of two and a correspondent of the Queen, Gunelle uses the power of her pen to play an active interest in the undertakings of those close to her.

When she learns of the elopement of a friend—and its unsettling consequences—Gunelle, her childhood friend Davina and elderly aunt Rosalind MacNèil come to the assistance of the unfortunate bride. Their ensuing correspondence and excursions run the risk of missing the mark amid a disruption in transportation.

Forging alliances with the aristocracy and striving to ensure peace in the clan while sidestepping the scheming tactics of family members and attempting to mitigate Davina's amorous deceptions, Gunelle entrusts her messengers with a flurry of letters, some alarming and others comforting. She positions herself as a powerful intermediary, mediator and matchmaker within her circle of influence. But her altruistic lady-of-the-castle ideals soon clash with the exacting demands of a life of nobility in Medieval Scotland.



### Diane Lacombe

First a journalist and then a communications advisor, Diane Lacombe specializes in historical fiction. *Mallaig*, her medieval trilogy set in Scotland, sold more than 500,000 copies and earned her great success in Quebec and abroad. In 2011, she published *Pierre et Renée – Un destin en Nouvelle-France*, inspired by the adventures of her

ancestors who came to the New World from France in the 17th century.



### By the same author:

**INVESTIGATION IN NEW FRANCE**



**PAGES:** 216**WORD COUNT:** 58,740**SUBJECT:** Quarantine station, medical staff**RETAIL PRICE:** 24,95 CAD

## SOWERS OF HOPE

In this work of historical fiction, a doctor and a nurse work on a quarantine island to save lives and ease the migrants' suffering, improving their odds of survival.

Grosse-Île, located in the St. Lawrence just north of Quebec City, was once a quarantine station. In 1847, it was forced to accommodate nearly 400 ships arriving from Europe carrying thousands of Irish migrants, many of whom were suffering from dysentery and typhus. Under these conditions poverty, disease, and death proliferated like never before on the tiny island, then spread to the surrounding communities.

In this work of historical fiction based on well-documented facts, a doctor and a nurse will become sowers of hope. Pierre and Antoinette will not hesitate to devote body and soul to the cause. In their own way, along with many nameless French Canadians whose generosity remains legendary, they work to save lives and ease the migrants' suffering, improving their odds of survival. But alas! These deeds will come at a hefty price. A story guaranteed to touch even the most indifferent reader.



### Micheline Duff

Prior to becoming a writer, Micheline Duff worked in the medical technology sector before devoting herself to her family and teaching piano. This last activity inspired her novel *Mon cri pour toi*, her first book with Québec Amérique. After the success of her series *D'un silence à l'autre*, *Au bout de l'exil*, *Pour les sans-voix*, *Coup sur coup*, *Le Passé recomposé*, and *Le Passé simplifié*, along with her novels *Un temps nouveau*, *Et Pourquoi pas ailleurs?*, and *Vivre enfin!*, she is back with a new title just as rich in emotions.



**PAGES:** 192

**WORD COUNT:** 33,207

**SUBJECT:** Feminism, impacts of pop culture

**RETAIL PRICE:** 24,95 CAD

World Rights available excl. French

## MISTER BIG or The Glorification Of Toxic Love

A nuanced reflection on romantic comedies and their impact on our own lives.

By the author's of *Le journal d'Aurélie Laflamme* series, which has sold over two million copies in the French-speaking world

Can fiction influence the way we see the world, particularly when it comes to romance? By dissecting the relationship between Mister Big and Carrie, two characters central to the TV series *Sex and the City*, India Desjardins crafts a careful argument showing how their relationship exhibited all the traits of psychological abuse. Even the series finale, still referenced today in popular culture, may not have been as happy as one might think.



### India Desjardins

India Desjardins is the author of nearly twenty books, including the series *Le journal d'Aurélie Laflamme*, which has sold over two million copies in the French-speaking world. She has written novels, comics, children's books, articles, columns, and screenplays for film and television. *Mister Big* is her first essay. Once she did try a cupcake from Magnolia Bakery in New York City, just to be like Carrie Bradshaw.





**PAGES:** 144

**WORD COUNT:** 27,309

**SUBJECT:** Paternal leave, modern fatherhood

**RETAIL PRICE:** 19,95 CAD

## REINVENTED FATHERS

Quebec's dads are revolutionising parenthood. Here is why they should be taken as a positive model for other countries.

In just a few generations, Quebec fathers have completely transformed their relationship with their children; Quebec is now among the world leaders in its use of paternal leave benefits. What has changed from the time when fatherhood was mostly about discipline and putting food on the table? Is paternity leave important? And what can be improved upon?

This book responds to these questions, debunks myths, includes testimonials from several fathers, and encourages reflection. While taking several weeks' paternity leave has become a social norm in Quebec, the length of parental leave remains a delicate issue. Studies have shown that when a father is present for the first months of a child's life, it has a positive impact on the child—as well as both parents. Evidence that should not be overlooked!

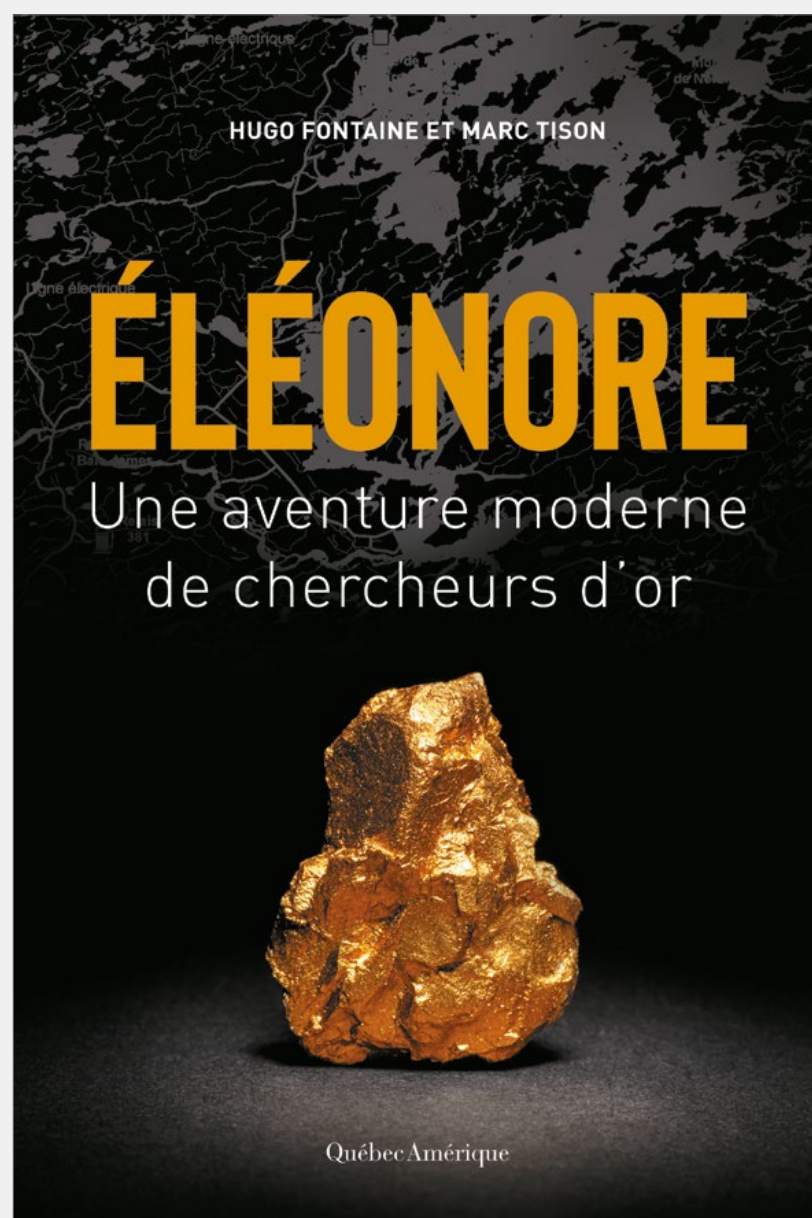
*Reinvented Fathers* is aimed at readers with both a casual interest and a deeper understanding of the subject, tackling issues related to the mental load, same-sex parenting, and epigenetics. It is a timely work of sociological reflection that opens the door to a critical discussion.



### Valérie Harvey

Valérie Harvey is a sociologist and author. In 2019, she wrote her doctoral dissertation on Quebec fathers and parental leave. She has a long-standing passion for all things Japanese since living in Japan, and she has written several books about the country. She is a collaborator on the TV show *On va se le dire* and is a sociologist in residence on ICI Radio-

Canada's *Ça prend un village*. She has also participated in Télé-Québec's docuseries *Code Québec*.



**PAGES:** 296

**WORD COUNT:** 73,380

**SUBJECT:** Entrepreneurship, Geology

**RETAIL PRICE:** 26,95 CAD

## ÉLÉONORE

### A Modern Gold Rush Story

A quest for treasure, a thrilling expedition and a fight for survival across some of nature's most unforgiving expanses.

The gold was there. Billions of dollars of gold, buried in the taiga, 200 kilometres east of James Bay. The \$2 billion mining complex still sprawls today, as big as a village, on land where there had once been only stunted spruce, lichen and water. Water as far as the eye could see. In the middle of nowhere, the expression goes? No, it was absolutely somewhere. Relying on a unique blend of vision, tenacity, ambition, intuition, science and a little luck, a handful of treasure seekers set out to find the legendary fortune—and succeeded! The site is named “Éléonore,” inspired by a Georges Brassens song.



#### Hugo Fontaine

Hugo Fontaine is the director of the Business section of *La Presse*. As a journalist, he covered the Quebec mining industry from 2008—2013.



#### Marc Tison

Marc Tison has been writing for the Business section of *La Presse* since 2005, where he has profiled countless entrepreneurs.



**PAGES:** 272**WORD COUNT:** 59,448**SUBJECT:** Air force, WW2**RETAIL PRICE:** 27,95 CAD

## THE BERLIN KID

Somewhere between investigative journalism and personal history, *The Berlin Kid* reads like an adventure novel. The author draws from unpublished documents, including Coulombe's own diary. She skilfully pieces together the apocalyptic night raids executed by the Kid and other airmen, without glossing over the hero's own violence.

July 1941. Twenty-year-old Roger Coulombe of Montmagny, Quebec, enlists in the Royal Canadian Air Force to go fight the Nazis in Europe. He would eventually become the only pilot in the Allied Forces to complete twelve raids on Berlin, earning him the nickname "Berlin Kid."

Hélène de Billy, whose father was a close friend of the Kid's, shines a spotlight on this fascinating character who earned a reputation for his death-defying raids aboard his Lancaster bomber during the Second World War.

"I liked flying, adventure, the unexpected," Coulombe would later write. Woven into the text are his memories of planes exploding in mid-air, his friends' seats empty at the breakfast table the following day, love stories abandoned in the wreckage, friendships that crumbled. And the haunting image of the German pilot's face glimpsed through the window of the Fokker in the midst of battle, shells whistling all around. A scene so vivid it's like being there.



### Hélène de Billy

Quebecker Hélène de Billy grew up in Eeyou Istchee (James Bay) in a mining community with no access to fresh vegetables, flowers, or even television. At four, she won her first (and last) ski competition. At ten, she became a boarder at the School of the Ursulines. By twenty, she was working as a waitress in the dining room of the family motel. She left to

study political science at Memorial University of Newfoundland, then at the University of Manitoba and Université Laval. Journalist and editor-in-chief of three magazines, including enRoute by Air Canada (French section), she has been awarded some ten prizes and mentions and is a three-time recipient of the Prix Brascan. A writer, designer, and web project director, she wrote a TV program on art (Art sous enquête, about Quebec painters) and co-directed an interactive web documentary called Sacrée montagne for the National Film Board of Canada. *The Berlin Kid* is her eighth book.

## AN INCORRUPTIBLE WOMAN

Christiane Ayotte came to lead one of the world's top laboratories in the field of illegal drug use in sports, accredited by the International Olympic Committee. But it wasn't an easy journey for a woman.

Cover coming soon

NEW

**PAGES:** TBC  
**WORD COUNT:** TBC  
**SUBJECT:** Women in science  
**RETAIL PRICE:** TBC

Like all women of her generation, Christiane Ayotte's career path was paved with obstacles. And yet, there was nothing ordinary about her journey. In fact, this fighter struggled to play her cards right in the almost exclusively male world of university-level chemistry. Once she finally landed a position as a research associate at the INRS-Santé laboratory, recognition and privileges were slow to follow—recognition that was considered the prerogative of her male colleagues.

Today, professor Ayotte is the director of that same laboratory and leads with integrity. Entire careers in sports live and die as a result of her analyses. This is the portrait of an incorruptible woman.

Christiane Ayotte regularly appears on public affairs programs for TV and radio, especially when they concern illegal drug use in sports. Ayotte is an expert who answers journalists with aplomb, who knows exactly what she is talking about and doesn't mince words.



### Mathieu-Robert Sauvé

Journalist, author and communications researcher Mathieu-Robert Sauvé has won numerous awards for his writing. He has worked as a journalist for the University of Montreal's Forum for over 30 years, as a science writer at Radio-Canada's Ici Première station, lecturer and blogger. From 2008 to 2012, he served as president of the Association des communicateurs scientifiques du Québec.



# About Québec Amérique

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