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NON FICTION
SPRING 2022

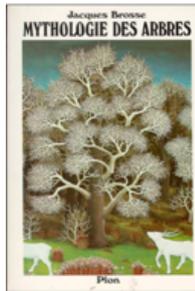
Russia
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CONTENTS

RECENT DEALS & SUCCESSES	3
THE CENTENARY OF PROUST'S DEATH.....	10
HIGHLIGHTS	12
CURRENT TOPICS / SOCIETY	18
HISTORY.....	23
BIOGRAPHIES.....	30
PHILOSOPHY	36
CULTURAL ESSAYS & REFERENCE.....	37
WOMEN'S PERSPECTIVES	43
WORK & PRODUCTIVITY.....	47
TRUE CRIME / COLD CASES.....	49
REPORTAGE	51
TRUE STORY / MEMOIRS.....	52
CLIMATE & ECOLOGY	53
NATURE & ANIMALS	55
SCIENCE	62
PSYCHOLOGY & SELF-HELP	66
HEALTH & WELL-BEING	71
POP CULTURE.....	72

RECENT DEALS & SUCCESSES

Jacques Brosse
LA MYTHOLOGIE DES ARBRES
(Mythology of Trees)
Plon, 1989, 448 pages



- ◇ **Worldwide Best-seller 50.000 copies sold!**
- ◇ **Rights sold to: Japan, Italy, Korea, Germany.**

First published in 1989, this essay became a best seller now sold at more than 50.000 copies and is translated in 4 languages (Korean, German, Italian & Japanese). A more than ever relevant and necessary book to understand the great mystery and role of trees in our nowadays world.

In the past, trees played an important part in men's lives. Protectors, supplying almost all their needs, trees were considered as manifestations of the presence of gods on earth, to the extent that each of them had been attributed a particular essence.

This abounding book, full of beautiful forgotten stories, gathers our beliefs about the trees, but also the traditional knowledge of the civilizations from which we are born, whether Egyptian, Semitic, Cretan, Greek, Latin, Germanic or Celtic. At the same time, it restores to us the keys to an ordering of the universe that made man fit nature and can today serve as an example.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Jacques Brosse, naturalist, philosopher and Buddhist monk, received in 1987 the prize of literature of the French Academy for the whole of his work.

Jean-Claude Ellena
JOURNAL D'UN PARFUMEUR
(The Diary Of A Nose: A Year In The Life Of A Parfumeur)
Sabine Wespieser, May 2011, pages



- ◇ **Rights sold: Brazil (Editora Record), China (Beijing Yongzhen Kaiyuan Media Co), Germany (Suhrkamp/Insel Verlag), Italy (Adriano Salani Editore), Japan (Hara Shobo), South Korea, (Yeo Woon Corporation), Taiwan (Azoth Books), UK (Penguin Books UK), Romania (Corint book), USA (Rizzoli USA).**
- ◇ **French sales: 9,000 copies sold.**
- ◇ **Jean-Claude Ellena offer readers a rare insight into the secrets of his business, his art, and his life as one of the world's most important and admired perfumers.**

Perfume creation is an exclusive and secretive endeavour. What is day to day life like for a perfume-maker? How does the creation of a new scent begin? How do you capture the essence of a smell on the skin? The story behind the creation of a perfume, from the head perfumer at Hermès.

For one year, Jean-Claude Ellena kept a diary of his life as 'parfumeur exclusif' ('le nez' or 'the nose') for Hermès. Believing that creating a scent is like creating a work of art, and describing himself as a writer using 'olfactory colours', he explains how all of the five senses come into play when creating a perfume. He also reveals how inspiration can come from a market stall, a landscape, or even the movement of calligraphy, and concludes this charming, perceptive diary with recipes for natural fragrances, each made up of three synthetic ingredients, to create the illusion of smells like freesia, orange blossom, grapefruit, pear, chocolate, cashew and cotton candy.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: In 2004, Jean-Claude Ellena was made Hermès' first 'parfumeur exclusive' at Hermès. He lives and works in the hills in Grasse in France, and designs his scents at his studio in Cabris.

The man is a magician, a nose, a parfumeur ... His journal reveals in simple words a real secret: the creation of perfumes. Day by day, every emotion, every encounter, every precious moment is preserved. Here, everything is customary but nothing is ordinary, for this is where the magic happens (Le Monde)

More than a chemist or composer, I'd call Ellena a poet (Suzi Feay Independent)

RECENT DEALS & SUCCESSES

Gérald Bronner
APOCALYPSE COGNITIVE
(Cognitive Apocalypse)
PUF, January 2021, 396 pages



- ◇ [English sample chapter available.](#)
- ◇ Rights sold: Spanish, Japanese, German and Chinese (simplified characters).
- ◇ 50,000 copies sold.
- ◇ Awarded the Prix de la Société des gens de lettre
- ◇ Awarded the prix Elina et Louis Pauwels.
- ◇ Awarded the prix étudiant du livre politique

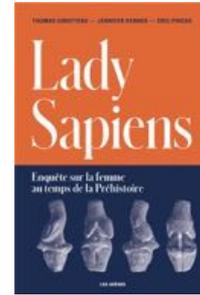
A hold up on our brains: a challenge for humanity.

Never in the history of humanity have we enjoyed so much mental availability to educate ourselves, learn the sciences and get to know the world. Our predecessors dreamt of it: they predicted that science and technology would set humanity free and give us more time to cultivate our minds. This dream is veering to nightmare, because we do not use this available brain time as they hoped we would. The precious treasure of our mental availability has been stolen and the historic tragedy that is taking place in front of our eyes has grave effects on what we might call the “cognitive market”.

Yet the situation is not hopeless: it reveals a fundamental aspect of our humanity. In truth, it reveals us to ourselves. Our possibilities to succeed depend on our reception of this revelation. This is the subject of the Gérald Bronner’s latest book.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Gérald Bronner is a Professor of Sociology at the University of Paris, member of the Académie des technologies and the Académie nationale de médecine. His books have earned him several prizes. His previous book, published by Puf, is Cabinet de curiosités sociales (2018).

Thomas Cirotteau, Jennifer Kerner, Éric Pincas
LADY SAPIENS
(Lady Sapiens)
Les Arènes, October 2021, 256 pages



- ◇ Rights sold: UK (Hero Press), Italy (Piemme), the Netherlands (Noordboek), Poland (Znak), Sweden (Sweden (Natur & Kultur), Spain, Turkey
- ◇ The documentary associated with the book will be broadcast in: France, USA (PBS), Canada (RDI/Québec et TVO/Ontario), Poland (NC+), Japan (NHK), Belgium (RTBF).
- ◇ A study of women during prehistoric times.

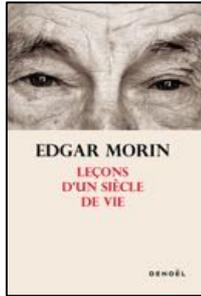
45,000 years ago, rare and precious statues of faceless women with hourglass figures, sturdy hips and generous breasts surfaced across Europe. Spanning thousands of years and nurturing many a fantasy, they are known as the prehistoric Venus figurines. But what were the women who inspired these artefacts really like?

For 150 years researchers offered no archaeological insights into the daily lives of prehistoric women and underestimated their role in society. In fact, these women became imprisoned by clichés. Prehistoric man hunted, went on adventures, invented, created and drew, whereas the role of prehistoric women was limited to educating children and carrying out domestic chores. That’s all there was to say about it, or almost.

Over the past fifteen years a new generation of researchers – many of whom are women – have shaken up this model. By establishing groundbreaking analysis protocols and defining new excavation methods, these scientists are finally able to make the invisible visible. It is thanks to their tenacity that the essential and even prestigious role of prehistoric women is emerging. For the first time ever these ancient women are being resurrected before our very eyes, shedding light on a new theory of our origins!

RECENT DEALS & SUCCESSES

Edgar Morin
LEÇONS D'UN SIÈCLE DE VIE
(*A Century Life Lessons*)
Denoël, June 2021, 200 pages



- ◇ #1 of Non Fiction best-seller lists with 35,000 copies (GfK) sold, and the media coverage is huge
- ◇ Rights sold: Italy (Mimesis), Spain (Paidos), Portugal (Instituto Piaget), Brazil (Bertrand), Romania (Curtea Veche), Greece (Ekdoseis Tou Eikostou Protou).
- ◇ German rights under offer.
- ◇ National homage will be paid to Edgar Morin for his 100th birthday.
- ◇ A highly inspiring book authored by an unclassifiable thinker.
- ◇ Changeons de voie (Denoël, 2020) sold over 30,000 copies and has been licensed in 9 countries (Italy, Spain, Romania, Brazil, Portugal, Turkey, Egypt, Israel and China)

The life and work of Edgar Morin are inextricably connected. A philosopher, sociologist, and cinema aficionado, Edgar Morin lived through the 20th century as an actor of history.

Born in 1921 to Sephardic Jewish parents, he is a true Parisian nurtured by Mediterranean culture. A member of the Resistance, free from political constraints, he is an intellectual of complex thoughts, bringing together all forms of knowledge by freeing them from their individual schools of thought.

At 100 years of age, Edgar Morin is still engaged and active, a fraternal thinker, an ally of the destitute, and sensitive to ecological imperatives. In all humility (as he detests those who pontificate), in this book, he offers up lessons of wisdom that life has taught him.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Born in 1921, Edgar Morin is a sociologist and philosopher with 38 Honoris Causa doctorates and the author of more than 60 books. His critical thought has infused most of the 20th century.

Éric Branca
LE ROMAN DES DAMNÉS
(*The Dark Novel of the Damned*)
Perrin, May 2021, 432 pages



- ◇ Rights sold: Portugal (Aya/Grupo), World English (Skyhorse Publishing).
- ◇ A fascinating gallery of portraits driven by a rare sense of narrative.

A lot has been said about Hitler's accomplices; those either tried at Nuremberg (Göring, etc) or caught subsequently (Eichmann, Barbie, etc.) or who died in hiding (Mengele). But little attention has been paid to those who, not content with having escaped execution, began second major careers under the noses of the victorious allies

The most spectacular example is that of Kurt-Georg Kiesinger, who became Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany from 1966 to 1969 after being nicknamed "Goebbels abroad", between 1940 and 1945, Then there are the most shameful examples... Reinhard Gehlen, Adolf Heusinger and Ernst Achenbach.

Eric Branca's book also looks at a number of other recycled Nazis. SS Walter Schellenberg, main collaborator of Heydrich then of Himmler, heard in the Nuremberg trials as a simple "witness" despite having laid the foundations for the mass shootings of Jews by the German army as it moved through Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union. Friedrich Paulus, Defeated at Stalingrad, who became an ardent Soviet propagandist! Rudolf Diels. Branca also focuses more severely on some well-known historical figures like Hjalmar Schacht (the wizard), who mobilized industry and finance in favor of the Third Reich before converting himself into an international lecturer... and Otto Skorzeny, the "James Bond of the Führer", who was involved in numerous post-war covert initiatives, serving the CIA as well as the Mossad! And then there was the exception who proves the rule: Hanna Reitsch, aviation heroine, whose fatal mistake was to believe in Hitler and to put her prestige as a test pilot at the service of a criminal regime. Continuing to break aviation records until 1977, she dared to face the horrors she had caused.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Journalist and historian Éric Branca has published some fifteen books, including L'ami américain, Washington contre de Gaulle, 1940-1969 (2017), Les entre-tiens oubliés d'Hitler, 1923- 1940 (2019), and De Gaulle et les grands (2020).

Baptiste Morizot
MANIÈRES D'ÊTRE VIVANT
(*Different Ways of Being Alive*)
Actes Sud, February 2020, 336 pages



- ◇ **20,000 copies sold**
- ◇ **Longlisted for the the Prix des Inrockuptibles 2020.**
- ◇ **Rights sold: UK/USA (Polity books), the Netherlands (Octavo), Germany (Matthes und seitz), Chinese complex (Acropolis), Spain (Errata Naturae), Argentina (Ediciones Isla Desierta), Taiwan, Hong Kong, Spain (Errata Naturae) Spain/Europe,).**

Philosopher Baptiste Morizot expands his philosophical enquiry into the notion of tracking, not only tracking living creatures in their natural habitat but also our ideas of them in literature and thought.

Baptiste Morizot's expands his philosophical enquiry into the notion of tracking, not only tracking living creatures in their natural habitat but also our ideas of them in literature and thought. In his work we set out on the trail of a pack of wolves in the Vercors snow, investigating the mysterious meanings of nocturnal howling shared with them by night. This leads us to the trail of the very appearance of the notion of animality in the history of our own culture. We then trace our ancestors right back to sea sponges, before setting out on the mark left in our thought by our "inner-animals", the animal metaphors used to describe our feelings. Then we set out on the trail of the interdependencies inherent in a Provençal prairie ecosystem inhabited by sheep, shepherds and predators to imagine an alternative approach to life. Each trail brings us back the importance of our sensitivity to living creatures and how we have to learn to live side-by-side with them and consider them differently. The animal kingdom cannot be reduced to the stuff of children's tales or considered as inferior life-forms. We cohabit the Earth alongside them and we share the same ascendancy, and thus the enigma of life itself. The mystery of living within a body, a body that has to interpret and negotiate its life is shared throughout animal- and human-kind: it is the vital universal condition, one which gives us the strongest sense of belonging.

Here lies the paradox: through our shared ancestry, animals are both related to us yet foreign to us, because their different bodies suggest forms of existence incomprehensible to our minds. This book looks at animal-life in general, including that of humans, as "different ways of being alive".

Baptiste Morizot
SUR LA PISTE ANIMALE
(*On The Animal Trail*)
Actes Sud, April 2018, 208 pages



- ◇ **Rights sold: Germany (Reclam); Italy (Nottetempo); Spain (Errata Naturae), Japan**
- ◇ **We are invited to become detectives of nature and to follow the trail of extraordinary, often mythical creatures – bears, wolves, and snow panthers.**
- ◇ **By deciphering and interpreting paw prints and signs, we gradually discover not only their animal perpetrator but also the animal's motives.**
- ◇ **The work brings new life to the wild and enriches our own inner worlds.**

From the forests of Yellowstone to the peaks of Kirghizstan and Haut-Var steppes or an apartment balcony, Baptiste Morizot offers a different approach to nature: as he calls it, "philosophical tracking".

We get to experience that unique animal perspective and learn to live through the eyes of other living beings to create a singularly enhanced experience of nature. Through his various animal tracking tales, Baptiste Morizot gives us a chance to "enforest" ourselves, as Canadian trackers in the Great North say – to enter the forests of the tundra, wastelands or kitchen gardens and let their forest inhabit us. We learn how to pay increased attention to the living world around us and inside us and to cohabit with it. These encounters with living beings become moments for philosophical enquiry, revealing our relationship with the wild. They tell us about the inner-animal inside us. We learn how we can cohabit with grizzly bears and the virtues we share with the snow panther.

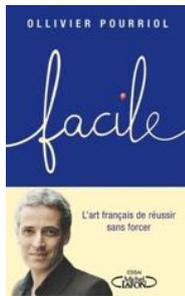
ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Baptiste Morizot is a writer and lecturer in philosophy at the University of Aix-Marseille. His work is devoted to the relationship between the human and living and is based on extensive fieldwork, especially in tracking wild animals. He has also written *DIPLOMATES. COHABITER AVEC LES LOUPS SUR UNE AUTRE CARTE DU VIVANT* (Wildproject, 2016).

« Servi par une plume talentueuse, le pistage devient un art de lire et de transmettre les signes entre espèces et constitue pour Morizot la base d'une « diplomatie » agissant à l'interface entre cultures humaine et animale. » Philosophie Magazine

RECENT DEALS & SUCCESSES

Olivier Pourriol FACILE, L'ART FRANÇAIS DE RÉUSSIR SANS FORCER

(Easy, the French art of not trying too hard)
Michel Lafon, October 2018, 250 pages



- ◇ Full English translation (Penguin Press Edition) available
- ◇ **Rights sold:** English US (Penguin Press), English UK (Profile), Chinese Simple characters (Shangai Translation), Korean (Darun), Portuguese for Brazil (Record), Arabic (Centre Culturel Arabe).
- ◇ Link to a selected press review [available here](#).

Since the 19th century, influenced by anglo-saxon work ethics and capitalist productivism, we tend to establish a connection between effort and work.

And yet, claims Olivier Pourriol, one does not need to work more to work better, one simply needs to work efficiently, that is, intuitively: since Montaigne, French philosophers have put forward that a certain 'je ne sais quoi' can sometimes reap in more results than effort and persistence.

Rounding up lessons learnt from the likes of Descartes and Gainsbourg, Stendhal and Hélène Grimaud, Françoise Sagan and Napoléon, Rodin and Zidane, Cyrano de Bergerac and Valmont, Simone Weil and Alain Passard, Olivier Pourriol explains how to be efficient à la française, not only at work but also in love, sports, the arts et al.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Olivier Pourriol is a philosopher, journalist, lecturer and author of various essays and novels including *ÉLOGE DU MAUVAIS GESTE* (NiL, 2010) and *UNE FILLE ET UN FLINGUE* (Stock, 2016). He likes to write and discuss on a variety of popular topics, with a particular interest for cinema and sports. He runs philosophy conferences for the general public at the Paris Philharmonic and the Maison de la Poésie.

Jean-David Zeitoun LA GRANDE EXTENSION, HISTOIRE DE LA SANTÉ HUMAINE

(Rétrogression)
Denoël, May 2021, 350 pages



- ◇ **Rights sold:** Turkey, Japan, China, Lithuania (Tyto Alba).
- ◇ English synopsis and sample available.
- ◇ The great story of our health: an intelligent, radiant, and multidisciplinary fresco.
- ◇ There are many histories of medicine, but no history of health, that is to say, of humanity and its living conditions.
- ◇ For the first time ever, the effects of climate imbalance on health are studied on a global scale. Fascinating.

The great story of human health: after centuries of progress, are we entering a phase of decline? A compelling pop science work, and a fresco on the history of human health – international and pluridisciplinary.

Since the Neolithic Revolution approximately 12,000 years ago, human health stagnated and life expectancy didn't increase until the middle of the 18th century. It then slowly (yet nearly continuously) progressed until the end of the 20th century.

Advances in public health – sanitation, potable water, nutrition, and vaccination – all played a role until the mid-20th century. After World War II, progress in the medical field was synonymous with better health, resulting in a life expectancy that was three times that of 1750.

But in parallel, human societies have also been at the root of new behavioral and environmental sets of risks, which have slowed that rise and might now bring about the decline of worldwide human health. The Covid-19 pandemic merely illustrates these new worldwide health risks, which are undeniably the result of human behavior.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Jean-David Zeitoun is physician, specialized in hepatology and gastroenterology. He also holds an Executive Master of Health Policy and Management from Sciences Po Paris, and a PhD in clinical epidemiology. He is the author of approximately 100 scientific articles - more than 50 of which were published in international journals - and a reviewer for several international scientific journals. Moreover, he regularly writes articles for reference media, like Le Monde or Les Echos.

RECENT DEALS & SUCCESSES

Frédéric Gros
**LA HONTE EST UN SENTIMENT
RÉVOLUTIONNAIRE**
(Shame is a Revolutionary Feeling)
Albin Michel, September 2021, 234 pages



- ◇ **Rights sold: Korean (Chaek-Se-Sang), catalan (Angle) Portuguese (Ubu Editoria).**
- ◇ **Under offer for Castilian and Turkish.**

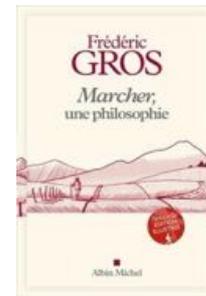
Could it be that the secret function of philosophy is to provoke the shame that does not make us withdraw into a painful and secret intimacy, but increases our anger and makes us show more solidarity?

In our times, shame has become the overriding feeling. Three imperatives traverse our contemporary societies: “Stop being ashamed of yourself!”, “There is no more shame!”, “Shame on you!”. Each one of them represents a specific context of shame.

Firstly, the sadness-shame that ruins lives, and prevents people from enjoying the happiness of being alive (social denigration, childhood traumas, underestimating oneself, etc.). “What is the seal of freedom regained? No longer feeling ashamed of oneself” (Nietzsche). Secondly, the restraint-shame that moderates our enthusiasms, establishes inner order and harmony, structuring the relation with ourselves and others, warning against existential chaos. “Shame is the principal director of the good man” (Plato). Thirdly, the anger- shame that provokes our indignation, encourages solidarity, excites our political imagination. “Shame is a revolutionary feeling” (Marx).

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: PhD, graduate of the École normale supérieure (Ulm), Frédéric Gros is a Professor of Political Thought at Sciences Po Paris. After the success of *MARCHER, UNE PHILOSOPHIE* and *DÉSOMBÉIR*, which received several prizes, he brings us today a remarkable reflection on shame.

Frédéric Gros
MARCHER, UNE PHILOSOPHIE
(A Philosophy of Walking)
Albin Michel, September 2021, 336 pages



- ◇ **“An art of walking, that will delight compulsive hikers and the incurably sedentary alike.”**
- ◇ **Rights sold in 25 languages.**

*The first edition of this book was hugely successful, selling a total of more than 70,000 copies in all formats, and translated into 19 languages. Here, the author brings us a new illustrated version of *MARCHER, UNE PHILOSOPHIE* and Albin Michel has acquired world rights.*

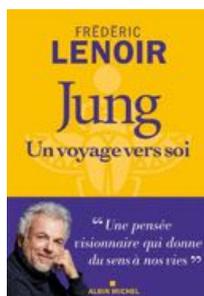
If putting one foot in front of the other is child’s play, walking is much more than the mechanical repetition of a trivial gesture: it is an experience of freedom, the apprenticeship of slowness, a taste for solitude and reverie, an infusion of the body in space.

In this book, Frédéric Gros explores a series of philosophical meditations and, together with famous perambulating thinkers, the thousand and one ways of walking.

For Nietzsche, Rimbaud, Rousseau, Thoreau, Nerval, Hölderlin, Kant, Gandhi, and Kierkegaard, walking was not a sport, even less an amusement – walking is an art, walking is a spiritual exercise, an asceticism.

RECENT DEALS & SUCCESSES

Frédéric Lenoir
JUNG UN VOYAGE VERS SOI
(Journey to the Self with Jung)
Albin Michel, November 2021, pages



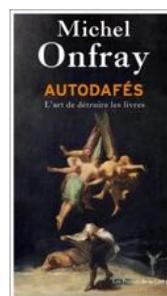
- ◇ **OPTION: RUSSIA (Eksmo)**
- ◇ **Rights sold :** Castilian (Obelisco), Portuguese (Vozes Editora), Romanian (Humanitas), Simplified Chinese (Changjiang), Korean (Editions du Puits de la Lune), Arabic (Dar al Khayal) Greek (Patakis).
- ◇ **More than 65,000 copies sold.**
- ◇ Lenoir shows how Jung's thoughts guide us from the unconscious to consciousness through a "process of individuation"; how to become oneself by removing our social masks, integrating our parts of masculine (for women) or feminine (for men); by traversing our shadow, attempting to decode the messages from our unconscious through our dreams or the synchronicities that map out our lives.
- ◇ **A path that helps us to grow in humanity and inner freedom.**

Just as Spinoza guided us through his Ethic of joy, Jung guides us through a knowledge of ourselves. After popularising the philosophy of Spinoza with a wide public, here Frédéric Lenoir shares his passion for this great doctor and explorer of the human soul.

A friend and disciple of Freud, with whom he quarrelled in 1913, Carl Gustav Jung is one of the greatest thinkers of the 20th century. An internationally renowned psychologist, he invented concepts that were to enjoy extraordinary posterity: the collective unconscious, archetypes, synchronicity, the anima and the animus, persona, psychological types, the Self...

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Philosopher and author, Frédéric Lenoir has published about fifty books (essays, novels, tales, encyclopedias), translated into a score of languages with total sales of seven million copies throughout the world.

Michel Onfray
AUTODAFÉS L'ART DE DÉTRUIRE LES LIVRES
(Book Burning in The Modern Age)
Presses de la Cité, August 2021, 200 pages



- ◇ **Rights sold: Poland (PIW), Portugal (Guerra y Paz)**

Michel Onfray analyses 50 years of censorship by a biased press which has sought to stifle the impact of essential works by ignoring or discrediting their authors. He looks at eight books by the likes of Simon Leys, Solzhenitsyn, Salman Rushdie, Pétré-Grenouilleau and Sylvain Gouguenheim which people have sought to burn.

A small number of journalists, most of them Parisian, are in charge of the culture pages of the press and they deploy a well-oiled strategy: censorship through silence, for the surest way of killing a book is to ignore its publication and connive instead to promote bad books out of ideological conviction, spreading disinformation and shamelessly misrepresenting the contents of a work to discredit both the book and its author. Silence, collusion and denigration are the salient features of a culture industry in which honesty is a rarity, and the last half a century has been marked by a series of polemics that have seen the defenders of the system fly to its rescue. That system has championed the ideologies which underpin it: Maoism, Islamism, imperialism and psychoanalysis. And when we look more closely at how it works, we realise that we are already in the world of 'thought crimes' that Orwell evoked in 1984.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Michel Onfray is the author of over a hundred books, which have appeared in translation in 25 countries. In 2020, he founded the 'people's university' in Caen, followed in 2016 by his own web TV channel, michelonfray.com.

THE CENTENARY OF PROUST'S DEATH

In 2022, we celebrate the centenary of the death of Marcel Proust, one of the most emblematic authors of French literature. On this occasion, we suggest you discover or rediscover various works published by our imprints that shed light, in one way or another, on his work.

Antoine Compagnon
PROUST DU CÔTÉ JUIF
(Proust, the Jewish Way)
Gallimard, February 2022, 432 pages



◇ **FOR POLISH AND RUSSIAN LANGUAGES ONLY.**

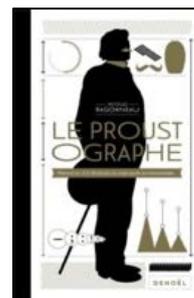
◇ 2022 marks the 100th anniversary of Marcel Proust's passing.

*Antoine Compagnon has engaged in the rigorous study of a little-researched topic: on the one hand, the Jewish element in Proust's family, and on the other, how Judaism is reflected in his *Research of Lost Time*, which was traditionally used to show that Proust was either anti-Semitic, or a Kabbalist.*

Antoine Compagnon's remarkable erudition, as well as his research within the archives, have brought to light an entire social circle: the one of young Zionists of the 1920s who read, debated on, commented, embraced, and used Proust as a point of reference or of controversy. For instance, the poet and writer André Spire, and other authors who wrote for Jewish journals, including *Revue juive* (published with Gallimard under the direction of Albert Cohen) and *Tribune juive*, which had contributions from the French author, critic and literary historian Benjamin Crémieux. This circle, which included Proust's first Jewish readers, is largely illustrated in his portraits of men – now unknown to us – and through commentators such as André Gide, Charles Péguy, Maurice Barrès. This book brings to light an entirely unsung facet of Proust, which offers an unexpected depth of riches.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Antoine Compagnon, born in Brussels in 1950, is a professor of French literature at the Sorbonne, at Columbia University in New York and at the Collège de France. He published seven books with Éditions Gallimard and contributed to several collective works.

Nicolas Ragonneau
LE PROUSTOGRAPHE
(Proustographics)
Denoël, September 2021, 192 pages



◇ **Rights sold in: South Korea, Italy, Taiwan.**

◇ **Ongoing Spanish offer.**

◇ **A unique and extremely compelling overview on Proust's work and life.**

◇ **An everlasting book about one of the major writers of all time.**

◇ **The increasing success of infographics.**

All you wanted to know about Marcel Proust. Through infographics.

What is the longest sentence Marcel proust has ever written? And what is the shortest one?

How many copies of each volume of *La Recherche* have been printed up to now?

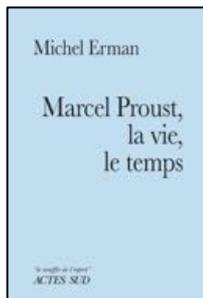
How many punctuation marks does *La Recherche* feature?

The answers to these questions - and to many others - are given in this elegant and illuminating book.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Nicolas Ragonneau is a French journalist, writer, editor and translator. He is a lover and a fine connoisseur of Marcel Proust's work and life. He has authored and translated several books about him and he is in charge of the website Proustonomics.

THE CENTENARY OF PROUST'S DEATH

Michel Erman
MARCEL PROUST, LA VIE, LE TEMPS
(Marcel Proust, Life, Time)
Actes Sud, September 2021, 160 pages



- ◇ Michel Erman's original perspective opens doors for the reader that until now had been hidden, revealing among other things a metaphysics of time and leading us to appreciate that Proust was not only a great writer but also in his own manner a philosopher of existence.

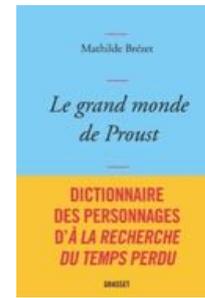
Proust specialist Michel Erman has adopted a fresh approach based on the following observation: 'À la recherche du temps perdu is generally read as a quest for literary expression as the supreme value and thus as the story of a writer's vocation. The aim of this essay to show that the novel's hero is not merely in search of a 'beautiful book' but of life itself.'

Proust has been one of the most-written-about French writers ever since the publication in seven volumes of *À la recherche du temps perdu* in 1913. The universality of his novel has inspired many works of literary criticism and biographies of the author.

Unsatisfied with the life he is leading, this hero universally known as the 'narrator' of *À la recherche*, seeks consolation through the compensations of the imagination, aspiring "constantly to change his life, or rather to begin living it". Proust's novel is a fascinating text about searching for a life in the midst of everything that is missing from it: a life that makes the hero feel alive and of which time in all its manifestations is the very fabric.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: A philosopher and writer, Michel Erman has devoted a considerable body of his work to Marcel Proust. He is the author of *L'ŒIL DE PROUST* (Nizet, 1990), *MARCEL PROUST, UNE BIOGRAPHIE* (Fayard, 1994), *LES 100 MOTS DE PROUST* (PUF, 2013), *LE PARIS DE PROUST* (Alexandrine, 2015) AND *BOTTINS PROUSTIENS* (La Table ronde, 2016). As a philosopher, he takes a particular interest in contemporary passions, which are often the focus of his philosophical essays such as *LA CRUAUTÉ. ESSAI SUR LA PASSION DU MAL* (PUF, 2009), *ÉLOGE DE LA VENGEANCE* (PUF, 2012), *LE LIEN D'AMITIE* (Plon, 2016), *AU BOUT DE LA COLÈRE. ESSAI SUR UNE PASSION CONTEMPORAINE* (Plon, 2018) and *AIMONS-NOUS ENCORE LA LIBERTÉ ?* (Plon, 2019).

Mathilde Brézet
LE GRAND MONDE DE PROUST
(The Great World Of Proust)
Grasset, January 2022, 608 pages



- ◇ This book opens perspectives by quoting extensively from the original texts of *In Search of lost time*, the author's correspondence, and the testimonies of his contemporaries. However, the perspective and the tone of Mathilde Brézet are always personal: they are those of a reader who speaks to others.
- ◇ For those who have not read Proust, this dictionary is an opportunity to become familiar with his heroes and to discover the incredible richness of his universe. For the expert Proustian, there is the pleasure of reunion, of the discovery of one's own reading feelings, but also the surprise of new interpretations: everything is graceful in these erudite pages, which take us to the most beautiful of countries.

*They are a legendary people, immense, alive as if they had really lived. They are the characters of *In Search of lost time*, with their faces, their desires, their mannerisms, their famous expressions: there are about a hundred of them in this free and passionate dictionary, based on numerous and recent academic works.*

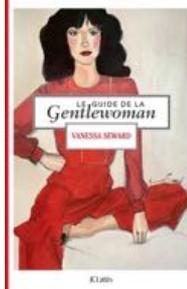
Each name is a story - sometimes an apparition: the story of a life, but also the story of a creative journey. How was Albertine born? And Swann? Why did a character like the Baroness Putbus's maid, so important in the first versions of the work, almost disappear? There are also characters without names but not without eyes, such as the elevator man or the "girls who carry the milk". Mathilde Brézet dives into the hazards of the literary atelier and into the twists and turns of the author's desire for his characters... The first true Proustian guidebook: a must for visiting or revisiting the fascinating world of *In Search of lost time*.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Mathilde Brézet is a literature professor. *The Great World of Proust* is her first essay.

HIGHLIGHTS

HIGHLIGHTS

Vanessa Seward
LE GUIDE DE LA GENTLEWOMAN
JC Lattès, January 2022, 208 pages



- ◇ **Rights sold: Japan (Kanki Publishing).**
- ◇ In this elegant and artful alphabet book, Vanessa Seward describes the gentlewoman of today, and how to be one at any age, in short illustrated chapters.
- ◇ Offering not only valuable lessons in style and elegance in terms of sartorial choices (what to wear instead of the omnipresent sneaker, for example), the book also discusses what manners and attitudes to adopt to be perfectly bred at all times and in all situations.
- ◇ With topics broadly ranging from the gentlewoman's approach to alcohol and cigarettes, friendships and relationships, hair and cosmetic surgery, pajamas and the quest for the ultimate navy blue sweater, this book is as fun and as bubbly as a flute of champagne!
- ◇ Kate Middleton and Drew Barrymore are fans of Vanessa Seward!
<https://www.hellomagazine.com/fashion/news/2016121956644/kate-middleton-drew-barrymore-same-dress/>

Being a gentlewoman is the solution for all women who want to create a unique style for themselves, far from the dictates of "must-haves". Vanessa Seward defines what makes women naturally charming: simple and chic femininity with a bit of rebelliousness thrown in. A must-have for all aspiring fashionistas, and Paris-lovers around the world!

A fabulous alphabet book, written by Vanessa Seward, Argentinian by birth and Parisian by adoption, who created her eponymous brand in 2014, after a lifetime spent in fashion. In short illustrated chapters she describes how to be a modern Gentlewoman, that is how to be chic in every circumstance.

Is an elegant woman necessarily rich, covered in labels, and filled with a feeling of superiority? Using her multi-cultural background (born in Argentina, raised in London, living in France) and her experience in fashion, Vanessa Seward disagrees and composes the portrait of the casually chic gentlewoman in the form of an illustrated ABC guide. Examples:

- The gentlewoman has a weakness for pajamas – well-made and silk

- The gentlewoman never gives up on going to the hairdresser. On a side note: Mike Brant went to his hairdresser right before committing suicide – a final coquetry.

- The gentlewoman knows how to find inspiration: "Keep an eye on the top muses". La Comtesse de Ségur who published her first book at age 57, or Jane Birkin who is phenomenally chic just wearing the basics.

- The gentlewoman does not compare herself to others, she is inspired by them. Her ego possesses the elegance of not taking center stage.

You too can become an icon of the sophisticool thanks to this guide!

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Born in Buenos Aires in 1969, raised in London and Paris, Vanessa Seward has built a name for herself in fashion, beginning her career at 21-years-old at Chanel and eventually creating her own label in 2014. Married to the Corsican musician Bertrand Burgalat, Seward is the perfect embodiment of the cosmopolitan Parisienne, at home and in style wherever she finds herself in the world.

"Though the term "gentlewoman" referred to the well-born women who historically attended aristocratic ladies, for Seward, it's more about an attitude. She likes the notion of kindness that the word conveys, and her manual is less about what to wear, than how to wear it." WWD

"Le Guide de la Gentlewoman explores how the designer views femininity, relationships, and personal style as a push-and-pull between outward performance and inner insecurities—and what we can do to arrive at a more realistic equilibrium." VOGUE US

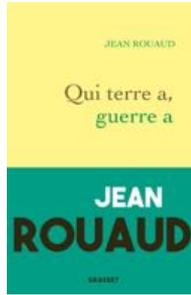
"She has chicness in her blood. Generously and with elegance, fashion designer Vanessa Seward has decided to share her tips and inspirations in a delicious alphabet book." GALA

"The subjects explored are as wide as they are intimate and inspiring." M LE MAGAZINE DU MONDE

"Born in Argentina, raised between Paris and London, the designer created a look in her image, one that is feminine, slightly vintage, absolutely chic. Her secret? It's based on a philosophy that she reveals in this guide." LE FIGARO MADAME

HIGHLIGHTS

Jean Rouaud
QUI TERRE A, GUERRE A
(*He Who Has Land Has Quarrels*)
Grasset, March 2022, 180 pages



- ◇ The first essay in the new collection “Espace vert” directed by Jean Rouaud, which analyses the major issues responsible for the brutal changes in our society: exhaustion of natural resources, air and water pollution, extinction of species, thawing of ice, plastification of the oceans...

A brilliant essay explaining how war is at the origin of man's supremacy on Earth and how the warrior spirit will lead the man to his downfall.

If we were to believe the frescoes of Tassil and the Spanish Levant, the war, understood as a confrontation between two armed groups, is an invention of the Neolithic era, and the reason for it, according to purely economic criteria, would be the pursuit of the goods produced by farming and stockbreeding, that appeared at the same time.

A few thousand years before, in the Ice Age, men bowed before the creatures of the tundra: bison, mammoths and aurochs, which they depicted with devotion on the walls of their caves, not deeming themselves worthy to appear at their side. This rivalry with the nature nourished frustration and desire for revenge.

Nowadays, since the victory over the animal reign, one can consider that it is with the sky that the earth is at war. Indeed, it is the sky that warms up and rebels against the brutal methods of industrial farming, whose “progress” (nitrite, pesticides, fongicides) is a direct legacy of the wars of the 20th century.

Each man carries the potential for war within him.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Jean Rouaud is the author of a considerable body of work, including *Un peu la guerre*, *Etre un écrivain*, *Kiosque*, *L'avenir des simples* and *La Constellation Rimbaud*.

Guillaume Erner
RATER EST UN ART : BÊTISE COLLECTIVE ET SUPERFAIL

(*Failing As An Artform: Collective Stupidity And The Superfail*)

Grasset, April 2022, 148 pages



- ◇ In each of the examples analysed, the superfail arises in a situation that people believed was under control and rational, and where they thought nothing could go wrong.
- ◇ And every time, on account of prejudices, ignorance, negligence, and apparently good ideas that turned out to be bad ideas, these projects seemingly guaranteed to succeed fell apart in pitiful fashion.

What is a superfail? It's the title of French radio show all about mega-failures, which also highlights just how difficult it is to succeed at failing... Guillaume Erner, the presenter of Superfail on France Culture, explains that we must meet a number of criteria and follow a fairly precise set of rules in order to pull off failure to perfection. In this highly engaging book, he uses a host of examples to reveal the ten secrets behind collective failure.

It becomes clear from reading *Rater est un art* that the best way of guaranteeing failure is to work on it as a team. Gather together intelligent and competent people with a soundtrack record, because only then can you hope to achieve a superfail. For a start, the project has to have been superbly designed from the outset. And collective stupidity can only emerge from the individual intelligence of each of the participants. It is well known that if you ask a committee to design a horse, they will come up with a camel.

Drawing on a host of case studies, this highly amusing but at the same time insightful book reveals the ten secrets behind collective failure. How do you manage to set fire to Notre-Dame? Or manufacture a cutting-edge smartphone whose battery catches fire? Or make a plane that falls out of the sky or build an airport from which nothing ever takes off? If you don't want to take the risk of succeeding, this is the book for you. In an age of widespread disasters, it is perhaps not such a bad thing to smile at failure, and maybe even learn something from it...

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: The presenter of one of the most listened-to slots on French morning radio (the 3rd most popular in the Paris region), Guillaume Erner is also the author of *Expliquer l'antisémitisme* (PUF) and *La Souveraineté du peuple* (Gallimard).

HIGHLIGHTS

David Haziza
LE PROCÈS DE LA CHAIR
(The Trial Of The Flesh)
Grasset, January 2022, 416 pages



- ◇ In this brilliant essay that resists prevailing trends without being anti-modern, David Haziza takes us on a journey with some of his artistic and literary heroes, including Botticelli, Romain Gary, Rabelais, René Char and Camille Paglia. How do we reconcile modernity with desire, our bodies and life itself? A galvanising and totally original perspective that,
- ◇ While not entirely writing off developments in society and post-modern thought, takes us off on a rich, stimulating and unusual tangent. It is a personal take of great erudition, and remarkably well written.

Fifty years on from the sexual revolution, it is now the age of cancel culture, the politically correct and a new puritanism. What is the state of play for freedom? And indeed sex, which is the object of relentless criticism? David Haziza denounces this trial of the flesh that seems to be orchestrated from both the left and the right of the political spectrum.

A homogenising of the genders in place of eroticism, the creeping encroachment of machines and screens, a vegan movement that claims to be saving the planet even as it cuts Man off from his animal roots, a legalistic conception of sexual consent... And what if the thing missing from our current age were an acceptance of a certain form of violence? Not to be confused with brutality or cruelty – a mistake that is too often made and leaves room only for sterility or savagery.

In response to normative and legalistic feminism, the author talks of witches and goddesses. And instead of transsexuality, he favours androgynous subversion that leaves its imprint on culture from century to century. He encourages us to reconnect with the mythical and sacred so that we can once again embrace humankind as animal life endowed with a spirit – as opposed to a machine.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: David Haziza is a graduate of the École normale supérieure and the holder of a PhD in French literature from Columbia University in New York. He is a regular contributor to the reviews *La Règle du Jeu* and *Tenou'a* and is the author of *Talisman sur ton cœur* (Cerf, 2017), an exegesis of the Song of Songs.

Antonina Grunenberg
WALTER ET ASJA UNE HISTOIRE DE PASSIONS
(Water & Asja A Story of Passion)
Payot, February 2022, 224 pages



- ◇ Translated from the German by Olivier Mannoni – German manuscript available.
- ◇ The translation shall be made from the edited, enriched French translation.
- ◇ A philosopher's passionate and unrequited love of for a revolutionary at a time when passion was political and ideological, too.

The tale of the total (emotional, physical, intellectual and political) love inspired in Walter Benjamin by a woman who was far better-known and freer than he in their time, but who has been invisibilized since: Asja Lacis.

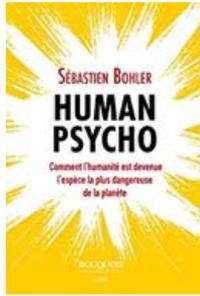
A pedagogical-theatre pioneer who was close to Brecht and immersed in the Soviet Revolution, she introduced Benjamin to Marxism. Having met her in Capri, she became his alpha and omega; he searched for her everywhere, from Riga to Moscow and Berlin, finding her, losing her, and finding her again, as she lived her life to her guise, until the day the fates would tragically separate them. Through this fiery couple, the intellectual history of an entire era unfurls: its violence, its moments of hope and its theater, which, it should be remembered, was a political crucible.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Antonia Grunenberg is a Professor of Political Science at the University of Oldenburg, where she founded the Hannah Arendt Center and ran it for years. She is also the author of a critically acclaimed history of the philosophical and romantic relationship between Arendt and Heidegger.

HIGHLIGHTS

Sébastien Bohler HUMAN PSYCHO

Bouquins, January 2022, 288 pages



How did homo sapiens become the most dangerous species for the planet? In his new essay, Sébastien Bohler puts forward an iconoclastic theory: that mankind as a whole is psychopathic.

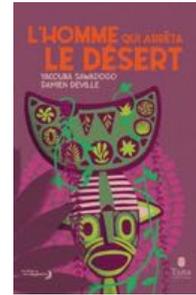
By now, most of us are aware that we are seemingly headed for disaster, what with climate change, rising temperatures and sea levels, and pandemics. But despite our awareness of the situation, some higher force appears to be preventing us from acting on our desire to change our behaviour. What could this force be? To answer this question, Sébastien Bohler considers mankind's behaviour towards its environment and compares that to the character traits of an individual. And when considered thus, it transpires that mankind possesses all the characteristics of a psychopath: a sense of its own superiority, a tendency to exploit others, an absence of empathy, and a failure to take into account the consequences of its actions. So how to explain the fact that individuals are not on the whole psychopaths? Sébastien Bohler prescribes a treatment, just as one would for a single individual, for mankind as a whole. In the brain of a psychopath, it is the prefrontal cortex, the seat of self-control, that is affected. We lack an inhibiting structure that operates according to general laws and grand, collective narratives, and it is nothing less than a prefrontal cortex for mankind that this book sets out to invent.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Graduate of the prestigious École polytechnique, doctor of neurobiology, and editor in chief of the magazine *Cerveau & Psycho*, Sébastien Bohler's previous works include *Le Bug humain* (Robert Laffont, 2019, Grand Prix du Livre sur le Cerveau).

Damien Deville & Yacouba Sawadogo L'HOMME QUI ARRÊTA LE DÉSERT

(*The Man Who Stopped The Desert*)

EDI8 / Tana, January 2022, 112 pages



- ◇ Bringing green and life back to the Sahel desert is the commitment of this Burkinabé farmer who has dedicated 40 years of his life to fight against the desertification of his native land.
- ◇ Yacouba Sawadogo, an inspiring man widely-known for his work, awarded the 2018 Right Livelihood Award and the 2020 Champions of the Earth Award.
- ◇ A 2010 documentary feature film *The Man Who Stopped the Desert*, first screened in the UK, portrays his life.

From Burkina Faso to the outer limits of Saharian dunes, an inspiring voice rises, Yacouba Sawadogo's. Awarded the Right Livelihood Award, an Alternative Nobel Prize, he devoted himself to planting trees at the edge of deserts.

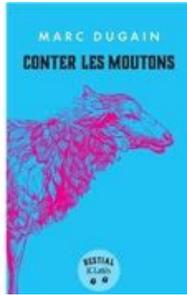
While everything seemed hopeless at the beginnings of the 80s, with a terrible drought and famine killing hundred of thousands of people, Sawadogo chose to farm his land. By reusing the traditional farming technique called *Zai*, by taking up the legacy of his own family again, the "Rain Makers", he resuscitated life in his village as a green oasis.

Telling Sawadogo's work is revealing a man's philosophy, who became through the years the beating heart of a whole population.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Damien Deville is a Franco-Burkinabé nature anthropologist and geographer, teaching at the West Catholic University, France. He seeks to explode individualism and anthropocentrism by rethinking the link to the other.

HIGHLIGHTS

Marc Dugain
CONTER LES MOUTONS
(*Autoportait By My Sheep*)
JC Lattès, March 2022, 144 pages



- ◇ The ovine also observe the writer. Their frank impressions give free rein to Dugain for self-criticism and irony with no holds barred.
- ◇ A surprising text, a literary tour-de-force and pro-Nature manifesto – exactly what this new savagely audacious collection is all about.

The inauguration of a new collection, a chance for great writers to side-step their usual pursuits. The sheep adopted by Marc Dugain speak of the human race, and in particular their owner.

Marc Dugain has lived in Brittany in a house near the edge of a cliff for three years. He acquired a piece of land next to his to allow his prized sheep to graze peacefully. They are Soay, a rare race that has never been mixed with any other since their arrival in Scotland at the time of the Vikings.

People from the village regularly stop by to ask if the land is for sale since they would like to build a house there. To which Dugain invariably responds: “Why shouldn’t my sheep enjoy an ocean view?”

Writer, animal lover, particularly sheep lover, Marc Dugain has imagined himself as one of them, to see humans through their eyes, and to see himself. Sheep watch us live, slowly destroying the planet, baffled by a society that has forgotten the link between man and animal, one that privileges its own comforts over the detriment, even the pain and death, of the other.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Marc Dugain is a novelist, author of the phenomenal *La chambre des officiers*, and more recently, *La volonté* (2021; 21 190 copies sold GFK), *Transparence* (2019; 65 273 copies sold GFK) He has also directed a film released in September 2021: *Eugénie Grandet*.

David Bessis
MATHEMATICA. UNE AVENTURE AU CŒUR DE NOUS-MÊMES
(*Mathematica. An Adventure at the Core of Ourselves*)
Seuil, January 2022, 368 pages



- ◇ 15,000 copies sold.
- ◇ Mathematics are the science of imagination. Between those who allow themselves to imagine, to observe and to manipulate mathematical objects, and those who forbid themselves to do so, the gap deepens. Over the years, this gap becomes monstrous and obscene, as monstrous and obscene as the gap between children whose bedrooms are filled with toys, and those who don’t know that toys exist.
- ◇ Luminous, inspiring and remarkably well written.
- ◇ It’s normal not to understand. It’s normal to be afraid. It’s normal to have to struggle to contain one’s fear. It’s even exactly the subject.

Between the initiatory story and the subversive essay, a book with depth and humour on our capacity to construct our own intelligence. A "Sapiens" for Math.

We often hear it said that talent in mathematics is innate. Yet the greatest mathematicians in history have claimed the exact opposite. Like Einstein who claimed he had received “no special gift”, they told how they invented and followed their own method, based on intuition and imagination. David Bessis draws from these examples to guide us on the way to deeper comprehension and reconciles us with its source, the mental plasticity of our childhood. With simple, concrete examples, we find mathematical experience linked to the great learning acquisitions of life: learning to see, to speak, to walk, to eat with a spoon. Mathematics is in fact deeply human, carnal and accessible to all.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: David Bessis is a French mathematician and entrepreneur born in 1971. Graduate of the Ecole normale supérieure (Ulm), he was an assistant professor at Yale then a researcher with the CNRS. Today he directs a firm specialised in artificial intelligence. *Mathematica* is his third book.

David presented his book on Arte, and for you, he summarizes it in three words: “Sapiens for Math”.

HIGHLIGHTS

Michel Eltchaninoff

LÉNINE A MARCHÉ SUR LA LUNE

(Lenin Walked On The Moon The Madcap Story Of The Russian Cosmists And Transhumanists)

Actes Sud, January 2022, 256 pages



◇ **Rights sold: Italian and English. E/O et EUROPA.**

A little over a hundred years ago in Russia, mystical thinkers and anarchists had the notion of resurrecting the dead and sending them into space to colonise the cosmos.

Deferring death and bringing the deceased back to life, creating life, setting up a global network, liberating the power of the mind, understanding and mastering cosmic processes, manipulating atmospheric phenomena and saving the Earth... All of these projects were part of a virtually unknown side to Russian history that was a blend of extensive scientific research, pure metaphysics, and mysticism that went by the name of cosmism. It shaped the Soviet century and is also one of the sources of inspiration of the Californian transhumanist movement of today. Google's secret laboratory has taken up many of these ideas and it could be said that the cosmists are now writing our future.

"Putin's glowing homage to Konstantin Tsiolkovsky (1857-1935) sketches out a vision of the conquest of space that is uniquely Russian. If we analyse quotes from the Russian president, his implicit message is clear enough: whereas the Americans, whom Russia is designating more and more openly as its main adversary, explore space to satisfy their selfish needs and out of a frustrated thirst for power, the Russians by contrast are doing so for the good of the human race as a whole. As in every other domain, Vladimir Putin criticises the calculating and dominating mindset of the United States in order to emphasise the idealism, generosity and sacrificial heroism of Russia, both in the Soviet and tsarist era. But had he studied a little more closely the works of Konstantin Tsiolkovsky, whom he is so fond of quoting, the Russian president may have thought twice before renaming a town in his honour, for this self-taught scholar was part of a rather strange philosophical movement called cosmism. For Tsiolkovsky, the purpose of conquering space was indeed the happiness of the human race, as Putin never tires of repeating. But the point of exploring planets was, in his view, to colonise them since Man was destined to live eternally and to populate the entire cosmos." (extract)

Michel Eltchaninoff

DANS LA TÊTE DE VLADIMIR POUTINE

(Inside Vladimir Putin's Mind)

Actes Sud, March 2022, 176 pages



◇ **Full English translation available.**

◇ **Rights sold in: Germany (Klett-Cotta/Tropen), Poland (Studio Emka), Norway (Lava Forlag), Turkey (Iletism), Greece (Diametros Publications), Spain (Librooks), World English (Hurst), Italy (E/O). Under offer in Japan**

◇ **30,000 copies sold for the first edition.**

◇ **Winner of the Prix de la Revue des Deux Mondes.**

◇ **Having systematically analyzed Vladimir Putin's speeches, Michel Eltchaninoff defines a doctrine that sheds new light on the evolution of the Russian president.**

◇ **A fascinating and accessible text that leads readers inside the mind of Vladimir Putin, introducing them to the thinkers that have influenced him and allowing them to see the world from his point of view.**

Correlating classics of Russian thought with a systematic analysis of Vladimir Putin's speeches, the author defines a hybrid, unstable doctrine that sheds light on the actions of the Russian president.

Can Russian philosophers help us understand Vladimir Putin's strategy? The idea's not nearly as absurd as it might seem at first glance, now that the prophets of conservatism, the "Russian Way" and the "Eurasian Empire" are in such good stead at the Kremlin – and even beyond, since their appeal has spread to the European Far Right, starting with France's National Front. This book, which is based on the realization that since 2013, when Putin took a turn towards Conservatism, Russian politicians have started speaking in philosophical terms, actually paints a philosophical portrait of the Putin doctrine.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Michel Eltchaninoff is a Doctor of Philosophy and editor in chief of Philosophie Magazine. His previous books include DOSTOÏEVSKI. LE ROMAN DU CORPS (Jérôme Millon, 2013), DANS LA TÊTE DE VLADIMIR POUTINE, (Solin/Actes Sud, 2015), LES NOUVEAUX DISSIDENTS (Stock, 2016) and DANS LA TÊTE DE MARINE LE PEN (Solin/Actes Sud, 2017).

CURRENT TOPICS / SOCIETY

Isabelle Facon RUSSIE TURQUIE

(Russia, Turkey)
The Powers That Are Defying The West
Humensis, April 2022, 200 pages



Russia and Turkey would seem to have nothing in common, and yet their ties are forever being strengthened. This is the conclusion of the researchers who have contributed to this book.

Despite multi-secular wars, Ankara and Moscow are going forward hand in hand in their fight against a liberal West. The articles here deal with all the issues at stake. Putin and Erdogan may have points on which they disagree, but their common interest in terms of influence and power comes first. Whether it be about civil nuclear energy, armaments, or diplomatic or military cooperation, they overcome their disagreements in order to increase the power of this new front devoted to combatting interference from the West. All in all, this work paints a picture of a world undergoing fundamental changes. Turkey and Russia are the embodiments of a changing world order in which the overpowerful West is the perfect excuse for alliances that, up to now, have been unthinkable.

What if Putin's dream of a Christian empire and Ergodan's dream of a Moslem empire were but two sides of the same coin?

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Isabelle Facon is assistant research director at the FRS (a government-funded foundation for strategic research) and heads up the team of authors: Bayram Balci, Galip Dalay, Igor Delanoë, Nicolas Mazzucchi, Gaidz Minassian, Claire Mouradiann Soli Özeln Jean-François Pérouse and Dorothee Schmid.

The Red Team CES GUERRES QUI NOUS ATTENDENT

(Those Wars that Awaits Us 2030-2060)
Les Équateurs, January 2022, 224 pages



- ◇ Ranking #5 in the non fiction bestselling list (Livres Hebdo).
- ◇ 10,000 copies sold in France.
- ◇ A remarkably well-informed, geopolitical sci-fi crime novel where readers may read our near future.

The Red Team is not the new Netflix series. And yet, under this code name, a commando team has carried out a particularly breathtaking pioneering operation. A particularly informed geopolitical thriller in which it is not forbidden to read our near future.

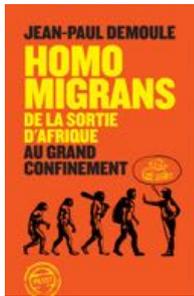
For the first time, the French Minister of Defence and the PSL Research University have launched an innovating project of prospection. Analysts and researchers freely shared their ideas with the authors of noir novels and science-fiction, and designers, to imagine the possible conflicts on the horizon 2030-2060: the creation of a pirate nation born of climate change, possible hacking of neuronal implants, the emergence of communitarian spheres that develop alternative reality, the fragmentation of the real, environmental crises and bioterrorism, cognitive wars based on mass disinformation, the polarisation of the world into hyper-fortresses and hyper-clouds.

ABOUT THE AUTHORS: Red Team : François Schuiten, Jeanne Bregeon, Colonel Hermès, Capitaine Numericus, Virginie Tournay, Laurent Genefort, Romain Lucazeau, Xavier Mauméjean, Xavier Dorison, DOA. The University of Paris Sciences et Lettres (PSL) trains researchers, artists, entrepreneurs, and managers who are aware of their individual and collective social responsibility. It is one of the world's top 50 universities.

Jean-Paul Demoule
HOMO MIGRANS

(*Homo Migrans: From Leaving Africa to the Great Lockdown*)

Payot, March 2022, 432 pages



While the media are focusing on the issue of migration more keenly than ever in Europe, we have actually never been little mobile...

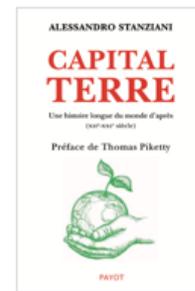
In the beginning, some two million years ago, a few *Homo Erectus* decided to check out if the grass was greener elsewhere, and left Africa. Having become *Homo Sapiens*, they invented agriculture, spread pretty much everywhere, and populated the planet. They built empires controlled by metropolitan areas, leading, in the era of globalization, to a constant blending of populations with their “barbarian” neighbors: nomads ignoring borders, merchants establishing trading posts, deportees being banished, conquerors and colonizers imposing their domination, refugees fleeing oppression, climate disasters and more. From the population shifts of the Paleolithic Period to current urban concentrations, we have never stopped moving, never stopped migrating. But with the inexorable disappearance of nomadic peoples and the generalization of remote work, let alone lockdowns, are we already – and totally unexpectedly – bearing witness to the approaching end of human migrations?

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Much appreciated by the general public, Jean-Paul Demoule, emeritus professor at Paris 1, is one of the top archeologists and historians of proto-history. A hugely successful popular-science writer with a brash style, he loves to slay clichés about *Les dix millénaires oubliés qui ont fait l'histoire* (“The Ten Millennia that Made History,” Fayard, 2017). His successful books explore ideological constructions around archaeology and the question of its public and political uses.

Alessandro Stanziani
CAPITAL TERRE

(*Earth Capital: A Long History of the World After (12th to 21st Century)*)

Payot, October 2021, 250 pages



◇ **Rights sold in Greece.**

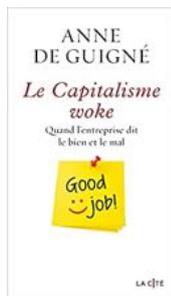
- ◇ A conception of global economy, paired with concern for social justice and a commitment to preserving the planet, as well as for more fair and caring societies, should fuel tremendous debate.
- ◇ A long-term vision by a brilliant, world-renowned historian informed by decades of research in the field (Europe, Russia, India, Central Asia, the Indian Ocean and Equatorial Africa), who is an ally of the work of so-called development NGOs.

With a preface by Thomas PIKETTY, a global economic and political approach to the planet's issues to make sure that the world after doesn't resemble the one before.

What if the crux of the matter of hunger in the world weren't demographic growth but rather modes of agricultural production and, above all, distribution, that are designed to benefit the wealthy? In this militant text, which goes back to the roots of Capitalism, Alessandro Stanziani suggests reconnecting with the social contract that was so dear to Rousseau, and turning democracy, social equality and the environment into the three pillars of the world after. A champion of public policies that reconcile economic and demographic growth, labor rights, fighting inequalities and protecting the environment, he pleads for an end to speculation on food commodities, the appropriation of land, and patents, especially on crop seeds, which he would like to see declared “humanity's common heritage.” He also advocates for more egalitarian tax and public-finance reforms that go far further than energy transition and green taxation.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Alessandro Stanziani (born in 1961) is an economic historian, director of studies at EHESS and researcher at the CNRS. A specialist in global history, he has taught in the United States (Stanford and Princeton) and Japan (Tokyo). His fields of interest include the history of market regulation, food quality and forced labor around the world. He has written several books on those topics in both French and English, including the *HISTOIRE DE LA QUALITÉ ALIMENTAIRE. FRANCE, 19E-20E SIECLE* (Seuil, 2005) and *LES METAMORPHOSES DU TRAVAIL CONTRAINT* (Presses de Sciences Po, 2020).

Anne de Guigné
LE CAPITALISME WOKE
(*Woke Capitalism*)
Presses de la Cité, March 2022, 208 pages



These days, companies are expected to embody values and to contribute to the grand project of a better society. Paralyzed by the fear of doing things wrong, intimidated by the injunctions of woke culture, prey to the contradictions of consumers who expect 'guidance' from them, companies are caught up in a moral conception of business. In this investigation, Anne de Guigné denounces the turn that capitalism has taken and highlights the shortcomings - indeed the bankruptcy - of public policies aimed at manufacturing the society of tomorrow. Her essay sheds light on the business world at a time when it is contending with new injunctions concerning production (organic, sustainable, etc.), the treatment of staff (gender equality, recognition of minorities), and their relationship with consumers who are demanding a sense of purpose.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Anne de Guigné is a journalist who has been writing about France's economic policy for Le Figaro since 2017. Previously she covered finance and then labour policies for the same newspaper.

Denis Colombi
POURQUOI SOMMES-NOUS CAPITALISTES
(*Why Are We Capitalists (In spite of our best intentions)?*)
Payot, January 2022, 384 pages



◇ **Why do we play the game (of capitalism)? Welcome to the creation of *homo oeconomicus*.**

Work, produce, consume. Work more, produce more, keep consuming. Is capitalism absurd? Undoubtedly. And yet... And yet, every day we act in accordance with its principles. And we often even adhere to them fully, whether or not they conflict without political beliefs. But why?

Through a series of investigations into our day-to-day relationship with the established economic order (from children learning about the economy to accounting reforms, via our fascination with conquering space), this book reveals the different mechanisms through which economic activity is learned, legitimized and finally, produced. Neither brainwashing nor physical force, nor even a culture or economic organization, capitalism is all that rolled into one. It insinuates itself into our lives through a multiplicity of small attachments and small enrolments that add up to a tight-knit web that can be difficult to extricate oneself from. We're not born capitalists, we become them – whether we like it or not!

Exposing the machine's gears means giving yourself the means to step back and think about what we do, and, perhaps, to make our minds up to do things differently.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: A sociologist, Denis Colombi teaches economic and social sciences in a Parisian high school and manages a popular-sociology blog called *Une heure de peine*, (A 1-Hour Sentence). Since his first book, *OÙ VA L'ARGENT DES PAUVRES* (*Where Does Poor People's Money Go?*) he has appeared frequently in the media to decipher French people's consumer habits.

Emmanuel Pont

**FAUT-IL ARRÊTER DE FAIRE DES ENFANTS
POUR SAUVER LA PLANÈTE ?**

(Should We Stop Having Children to Save the Planet? An Investigation into Global Demographics)

Payot, February 2022, 288 pages



- ◇ With the environmental crisis, the issue of whether or not to have children has shifted from an essentially private decision to a social issue.
- ◇ An investigation into the ecological, political and ethical stakes of global demography.

To save the planet, must we start by reducing the worldwide population? Is that even possible? On an individual level, some studies show that having a child is actually by far the worst thing we could do for the climate. Does that mean we must give up on having children – or feel guilty about those we've already had?

The debate about the birth rate and about populations' environmental impact concentrates a dramatic number of falsehoods that should be corrected in order to contradict the anti-natalists – both environmentalists and others – who oversimplify an issue that is clearly more complex. That is precisely what this investigation aims to do by going back over the world's demographic inventory, the concept of populations' environmental impact, migration issues, and the great question of a hypothetical reduction in the birth rate – which necessarily raises ethical and political issues that we must be aware of. And finally, it offers us an opportunity to take a clear-eyed look at the injunction to save humanity in a world where having children might no longer be synonymous with hope.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: After studying engineering at Centrale Supélec and attending Sciences-Po, Emmanuel Pont was first a consultant and then the head of a startup. For several years now, he has been running a blog about ecology, called Écosophie, in which he tries to shed light on complex issues at the crossroads of science, politics and ethics. His first and still principal research subject is the intersection of demography and the environment, with, most notably, an article titled "Demography and Climate".

Carlo Purassanta

POUR UNE CULTURE DE L'INNOVATION

(For a Culture of Innovation)

Le Cherche Midi, May 2022, 200 pages



- ◇ Finally an optimistic and well-argued book about the role of digital, founded upon the experiences of an ex-boss of Microsoft.
- ◇ An original vision of Europe's digital future that champions the collective potential of a continent and a generation.
- ◇ An analysis that extends well beyond economic considerations and questions our lifestyles and even our very culture of work, creation, consumption and cultural identity.

The iconoclastic proposal from a big tech boss.

Tech now seems to be definitively dominated by the American and Chinese giants, but is it really such a done deal? What if Europe also had outstanding advantages, acknowledged creativity and remarkable talents? In short, what if Europe had a unique technological culture which would neither copy nor reject existing models but would instead find its own individual path? This is no utopia, and it's Carlo Purassanta, the former head of Microsoft France, who says so. He is intimately familiar with the challenges and the power balances, and if he is such an ardent champion of a tech Europe, it is because throughout his career he has seen for himself the reserves of disruptive creativity, innovation and daring that exist in Europe. There are startups that are constantly renewing themselves and are easily the equal of their older American counterparts, as well as unicorns that are upsetting the conventions of the market: digital culture is an opportunity to be seized in the wake of a pandemic that has undermined traditional economies. As we know, digital technology already surrounds us: it is at the heart of everything we do. The challenge now is not to endure the situation but rather to actively embrace digital solutions that are collectively beneficial and afford businesses a genuine opportunity to make progress and reinvent themselves. Carlo Purassanta's proposal, which rejects the defeatist attitude that is all too common these days, is a resounding (and realistic) call for a digital environment that is useful, actively chosen, well-mastered, shared and mutually beneficial.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Born in Italy, Carlo Purassanta joined Microsoft in 2011 after 15 years at IBM. He became CEO of Microsoft Italy and then of Microsoft France in 2017, where his contributions included developing artificial intelligence and the use of digital as a tool of socio-professional transformation. Since this July, he has presided over an investment fund that seeks to identify and finance potential European unicorns.

Fabrice Mateo
LA MORT DE LA VIE PRIVÉE
(The Death Of Private Life)
Denoël, February 2022, 220 pages



- ◇ **FOR POLISH AND RUSSIAN LANGUAGES ONLY.**
- ◇ There are very few works on the strategic subject of personal data.
- ◇ Fabrice Mateo, an investigative journalist, has been working on new technologies for twenty years.
- ◇ An overwhelming assessment of the situation, but also good tricks for protecting your private data.

Whether or not you have something to hide, your personal data are out of your control.

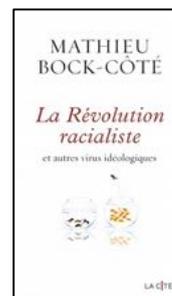
Most of the time, our personal data are collected, sold, and used without our consent. Surrender is our only option; accepting this defeat is our future. A multitude of predatory companies have us surrounded, ready to pounce on that which makes or reveals our identity.

Mark Zuckerberg warned us that private life was an archaic concept. They say that with 300 likes on Facebook, the company based in Menlo Park can better understand us than our own spouse...

Facial recognition, cookies, biometric devices, data brokers, and mass surveillance: the revelations in *The Death of Private Life* will send chills down your spine. Together, States and GAFAM have sounded the death knell for our identity's inner sanctum.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: A journalist specializing in technologies, Fabrice Mateo works primarily for OInet Magazine, *Le Canard enchaîné*, and *We Demain*. He is also the author of *Les métiers de l'intelligence artificielle*, published in November 2020 by Editions L'Étudiant.

Mathieu Bock-Côté
LA RÉVOLUTION RACIALISTE
(The Racist Revolution)
Presses de la Cité, April 2021, 240 pages



- ◇ Rights sold: Brazil (E realizações editora), Greece (éditions alternative).
- ◇ 25,000 copies sold.
- ◇ The author's latest work, *L'EMPIRE DU POLITIQUEMENT CORRECT* set Canada on fire. Recommended by the Prime Minister, it quickly became the focus of heated controversy.

For twenty years, the divergent vision of the world has sought to distort our institutions, our mentalities, our ways of life. And in Canada, the United States, and France, we are dangerously adjusting to the ever-increasing demands of diversity: a form of terrorism that, by reversing the duty of integration, strives to make the rules.

In this short essay, Mathieu Bock-Côté analyzes as much the subversive fury that has been unleashed on all Western societies, knocking over statues, as the degeneration of the academic social sciences, symptomatic of a mental Americanization of Western societies, the transgender revolution, and what might be called its religious dimension, and the way in which the struggle against hatred and intolerance has become one of the main vectors of a new form of totalitarianism. And he takes an uncompromising view of all these issues, expanding on militant considerations.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: A sociologist and political expert, Mathieu Bock-Côté is a prominent figure in intellectual life in Quebec. An academic, essayist and columnist, he has contributed to *Le Figaro*, *Commentaire* and, previously, to the newspaper *Le Débat*. He has successfully PUBLISHED *LE MULTICULTURALISME COMME RELIGION POLITIQUE* (Le Cerf, 2016) and *L'EMPIRE DU POLITIQUEMENT CORRECT* (Le Cerf, 2019).

HISTORY

Sébastien Le Fol

**LA FABRIQUE DU CHEF D'ŒUVRE :
COMMENT NAISSENT LES CLASSIQUES**

(What makes a Literary Masterpiece?... How the 'classics' are born)

Perrin, January 2022, 480 pages



- ◇ Accompanied by a prestigious team, Sébastien Le Fol tells the stories of some twenty classics - their genesis, their publication, their initial critical reception (often fierce) before their posthumous triumph.

“The history of the ‘classics’”. There is undoubtedly a French art of writing, whether in fiction, theatre, politics, essays or philosophy. But how did France’s classics become classics? In other words, what is the story behind those rare works that have been constantly reissued since their initial publication so that they become classics of French literature?

From Rabelais’s Gargantua to Camus’s La Peste, the reader will discover the little-known history of Montaigne’s Essays (Antoine Compagnon), La Fontaine’s Fables (Jean-Michel Delacomptée), Las Casas’ Memorial of Saint-Helena (Thierry Lentz), Stendhal’s Le Rouge et Noir (François-Guillaume Lorrain), Hugo’s Les Misérables (Jean-François Khan), Chateaubriand’s Memoirs from Beyond the Grave (Olivier Frébourg), Céline’s Journey to the end of the Night (Jérôme Dupuis), Yourcenar’s Memoires of Hadrian (Josyane Savigneau) and many others, in contributions of rare quality and interest.

This dynamic and innovative approach tells a new history of literature (in the broad sense) largely justifying Bernard de Fallois’s adage: “The history of a novel is a novel in itself”.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Sébastien Le Fol is the Editorial Director of the weekly magazine Le Point. He recently penned a remarkable essay published by Albin Michel.

Bruno Halioua

LES MÉDECINS D'AUSCHWITZ

(The Doctors of Auschwitz)

Perrin, April 2022, 368 pages



- ◇ Rights sold: Czech Republic (Dobrovsky).

- ◇ In this work based on numerous testimonies, Doctor Bruno Halioua retraces with mastery the little-known history of the doctors of Auschwitz, a story that is above all that of a confrontation between two totally opposed conceptions of medicine.

A Journey to hell.

On 27 January 1945, Soviet troops liberated Auschwitz Birkenau, the largest concentration, work and extermination camp of Hitler’s regime. On that day, 2,819 detainees were released. But how did they manage to survive five years of hell? Some were used as guinea pigs in Dr. Josef Mengele’s medical experiments. Like Mengele, many SS doctors took advantage of their postings to Auschwitz to conduct experiments on detainees and to participate actively in each step of the process of exterminating Jews, from the moment they arrived like cattle in trains to the moment they were forced into gas chambers. On the other side of the mirror, we encounter a number of deported doctors who showed courage and determination in treating the patients around them at all costs.

How could members of the medical profession, who, a priori, had embraced a medical career to relieve the suffering of their fellow humans, commit such atrocities? Conversely, how did the deported caregivers manage to give succour to other detainees with the very limited means at their disposal?

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Bruno Halioua is a medical historian at Paris-Sorbonne University and a commentator/chronicler on France 5. He has published numerous books, including ‘White Coats, Yellow Stars’, ‘Medicine during the Pharaonic era’, ‘Science and Conscience’ and ‘The Nuremberg Trail of Nazi Doctors: The Foundation of Modern Medical Ethics’.

Jean-Michel Steg
QUI A GAGNÉ LA GUERRE DE 14 ?
(Who Won World War I? A New Look At The Past Century With 1918 As The Starting Point)
 Perrin, March 2022, 272 pages



- ◇ A historical essay that is both original and profound.
- ◇ Using the symbolic date of 11 November as a chronological anchor point, this work offers a different perspective on WWI and represents, above all, a formidable political, economic and social investigation into its consequences.
- ◇ From the signing of the Treaty of Versailles on 11 November 1919 to the Armistice centennial commemorations on 11 November 2018, Jean-Michel Steg shows us that ultimately all the belligerents in Europe lost The Great War together.

Defining the winners and losers of a modern war is not as easy as it seems. On what elements is the notion of victory based? The occupation of enemy territory? The subjugation of a population? At what point is the notion of defeat valid?

On the day of the signing of the peace treaty? While it is now generally accepted that the Great War ended in victory for the Allied Forces over Germany, in reality, the situation appears much more complex: As of the signing of the armistice on 11 November 1918, voices among the Allies expressed regret that the war had not been fought on German territory. Worse, the Treaty of Versailles was quickly considered by Ferdinand Foch as “twenty year truce” and Clemenceau was given the nickname “victory loser”. Moreover, since 1918, various arguments have been advanced, on both sides, which present World War I as a German victory.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: An investment banker for over thirty years, Jean-Michel Steg is a graduate of Sciences Po Paris and holds a doctorate in history. In 2019 he defended a thesis on “Death in combat during the First World War”. He is also the author of *These Englishmen Who Died for France*, and *The Deadliest Day* in French History.

Jean-Christophe Brisard
LE DERNIER MANDCHOU
(The Last Mandchu)
 Fayard, January 2022, 256 pages



- ◇ No need to introduce Jean-Christophe Brisard, celebrated author of *La mort d'Hitler*, which was translated into 17 languages!

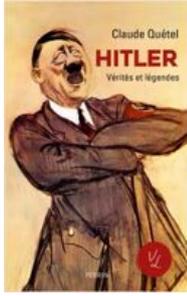
*Wang Tifu, a Chinese diplomat who survived some of the worst dictatorships of the 20th century. Forced to collaboration with the Japanese invaders of his native Manchuria, he became a diplomat for the Manchukuo puppet empire, and as such, was sent to Nazi Germany in 1938. There, he lived among European elites, while providing thousands of Jews visas to escape the country. After the war, he was sent to the terrible Soviet gulags and Mao's "reeducation camps", in the midst of the Chinese Cultural Revolution. *Le dernier Mandchou* gives life to this ambiguous character, whose extraordinary story has never been told!*

Jean-Christophe Brisard uncovers the compelling story of Wang Tifu, a Chinese diplomat who survived some of the worst dictatorships of the 20th century. Forced to collaboration with the Japanese invaders of his native Manchuria, he became a diplomat for the Manchukuo puppet empire, and as such, was sent to Germany on a diplomatic mission just before WWII. He spent the whole war in Berlin, where he lived in luxury, among European elites and visited European royal courts, while providing thousands of Jews (12 000) visas to escape the country. After the war, he will be tracked down and sent to the terrible Soviet gulags and Mao's reeducation camps, in the midst of the Chinese Cultural Revolution.

Le dernier Mandchou gives life to this ambiguous character – hero for some but always considered a traitor by his people –, whose extraordinary story has never been told. Jean-Christophe Brisard conducted this investigation by searching through Chinese, Russian and German archives, some never consulted, to bring Wang Tifu out of the shadows.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Jean-Christophe Brisard is a journalist and documentary filmmaker. He also wrote several historical investigations, among which *La mort d'Hitler*. Dans les archives secrètes du KGB (Fayard, 2018), which was an international success, translated into 17 languages, and *Le livre d'or d'Hitler* (Fayard, 2020).

Claude Quétel
HITLER VÉRITÉS ET LÉGENDES
(Hitler, Facts and Falsehood)
 Perrin, March 2022, 384 pages



After the publication of thousands of articles and books, including a number of hefty biographies, what more can be said about Adolf Hitler? The world's most notorious latter-day monster demystified at last.

Without saying more Claude Quétel's latest work manages to filter out the truth and adopt different viewpoints by focusing on the aspects that really pose problems in the majority of Hitler biographies. In this spirit, we follow Quétel as he poses a number of highly pertinent questions that everyone asks and that very few can answer. Starting at the beginning: did Hitler have an unhappy childhood? Was he always anti-Semitic? Was he a hero of World War I? etc... Along the road we discover that Mein Kampf was by no means premeditated and that his march towards power could have been blocked. We also discover that he did nothing to improve labour conditions, nor the status of women in German society and that he backed down under pressure from the German churches. Hitler may have been a poor strategist... but he managed to precipitate the world into a terrible conflict.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Historian, former Research Director at the CNRS, Claude Quétel is the author of numerous books, including World War II (Tempus, 2018) and All about Mein Kampf (Tempus, 2019).

Isabelle Mity
LES ACTRICES DU IIIE REICH
(Actresses Under The Third Reich)
 Perrin, May 2022, 300 pages



◇ Isabelle Mity's work is an unprecedented exploration and analysis of the Nazi star system focusing on the special and ambiguous status of the actresses, their astonishing careers, their extraordinary lives, their relationships with high dignitaries and the roles they were given...

◇ By unveiling this hidden side of the National Socialist universe, Mity revisits the history of the Third Reich in an original and unexpected way.

Ten portraits of actresses at the heart of the Nazi star system.

As we know, film production was intense in Germany under the Third Reich. But while many of us are familiar with the propaganda films exalting the warrior spirit (Stukas and Kolberg) and Leni Riefenstahl's documentaries (notably that on the Olympic Games of 1936), Third Reich entertainment cinema is often overlooked. However, between 1933 and 1945 German studios such as UFA produced numerous films (comedies, melodramas, romance films, crime, etc.) and raised a number of actresses to the rank of icons (Zarah Leander, Brigitte Horney and Camilla Horn, among others). Largely inspired by the Hollywood model, this industry was a genuine dream factory which presented two major advantages for the Reich: firstly by entertaining German citizens and allowing them to forget the war by offering them a world of glamour and glitter, and secondly by providing the party's leaders – particularly Goebbels – with a steady stream of beautiful actresses for their personal amusement...

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Isabelle Mity is a German language specialist (Agrégé) and holds a doctorate in Germanic Studies. She teaches German language and civilization at Paris-Dauphine University. A regular contributor to Historia magazine, she also chairs the Historia Prize for historical detective novels.

Jean Lopez
KHARKOV 1942

(Kharkov 1942 The Last Disaster of the Red Army)
Perrin, January 2022, 316 pages



- ◇ **8,000 copies sold.**
- ◇ The first volume of the new “Battlefields” collection, edited by Jean Lopez

What happened in May 1942 in the steppe around Kharkov, Ukraine? The Red Army launched an offensive which ended in fiasco. However, lessons were learned and it turned out to be the last disaster for Stalin’s troops.

This book describes, analyses and explains in detail this enormous confrontation, the outcome of which was indeed unpredictable. The keys to the battle – at the heart of the spring 1942 campaign and the German-Soviet war – are delivered with a map-book (in colour) that allows the reader to follow the twists and turns of the conflict from day to day. A final section exposes the consequences of the Soviet defeat and looks at how historians – from East and West alike – have written about the battle how they are still searching for memorial traces in Ukraine and Russia.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Jean Lopez, editor of *Guerres & Histoire* and of the Mook *De la guerre*, author of numerous books - including, published by Perrin, *LES MYTHES DE LA SECONDE GUERRE MONDIALE*, *LES GRANDES ERREURS DE LA SECONDE MONDIALE* (with Olivier Wieviorka), *Joukov* and, last year, *LES MARÉCHAUX DE STALINE* (with Lasha Otkhmezuri).

Alexandre Jevakhoff
DE GAULLE ET LA RUSSIE

(De Gaulle & Russia)
Perrin, February 2022, 450 pages



- ◇ Jevakhoff gives relations between Charles de Gaulle and Russia a much broader and more contrasted reading than that accepted to date.
- ◇ De Gaulle saw Russia, both pre-1917 and under the Soviet regime, as a natural ally contributing to the reinforcement of France’s international position and standing. Unfortunately this rather romanticized vision ignored certain realities about the USSR and its leaders, for whom France represented an ‘objective’ and not a partner.

De Gaulle’s Russophilia.

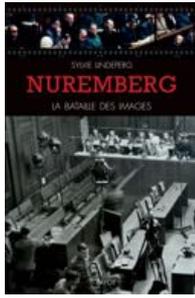
All his life de Gaulle had a ‘certain idea’ of Russia. Born during Nicolas II’s visit to Paris in 1896, maturing during the First World War during his imprisonment with Tukhachevsky, experiencing the Polish-Soviet War (1919-1920), this idea shaped relations between the leader of Free France with Stalin and the French Communists on the one hand, and subsequently, between the President of the Fifth Republic and Khrushchev and Brezhnev.

The special relationship between de Gaulle and Russia is like a mirror in which the General’s personality, his relationship to History, his successes and his failures are all revealed. Alexandre Jevakhoff, prioritising various lesser-known sources as well as some completely new testimonies and documents (correspondence with Admiral de Gaulle, interviews with President Giscard d’Estaing, Soviet archives and declassified military intelligence) paints a singularly searching and detailed picture of this intense relationship which largely conditioned France’s diplomatic history between the 1940s and the 1970s.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: A historian and senior government official, Alexandre Jevakhoff (an ENA graduate) chairs the Circle of the Imperial Russian Navy and is a member of the Union of Russian Nobility. He is the author of several books including, with Perrin, *The Russian Civil War*.

Sylvie Lindeperg
NUREMBERG

(Nuremberg: The Battle of Images)
Rivages, April 2021, 528 pages



- ◇ **Rights sold: Spain**
- ◇ The story of the staging and the image-making, the Americans' wild but disappointed ambitions, and their losing battle of images against the Russians is told here for the first time.

How the Americans fought a battle of images against the Russians, in the most famous trial in History, of Nazi leaders.

In late 1944, the Allies decided to hold a major, exemplary trial of Nazi war criminals, which would begin in Nuremberg in October 1945. The Americans, who intended to turn it into a media show, quickly took over orchestrating it. The Field Photographic Branch of the OSS (the future CIA), run by John Ford, was put in charge of gathering images bearing witness to the Nazi's invasion plans and to the genocide of the Jews. Budd Schulberg, the author of *What Makes Sammy Run?*, crisscrossed Europe in search of the precious footage, while his brother, Stuart Schulberg, who would become a film and TV producer, arranged the courtroom at the Palace of Justice for filming a trial that would last 10 months and where the Allies' different film crews would have conflictual relationships.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Sylvie Lindeperg is a professor of Cinematic History at the University of Paris I, and a documentary filmmaker. Her research focuses on the connections between cinema, memory, and history, particularly regarding World War II. Her books include *LES ÉCRANS DE L'OMBRE. LA SECONDE GUERRE MONDIALE DANS LE CINÉMA FRANÇAIS (1944-1969)* (Dark Screens : WWII in French Film (Points, 2014); *NUIT ET BROUILLARD. UN FILM DANS L'HISTOIRE* (Night and Fog: A Film in History, Odile Jacob, 2007). She also co-edited *LE MOMENT EICHMANN* with Annette Wieviorka (Albin Michel, 2016) about the 1961 trial of the architect of the extermination of European Jews.

Johann Chapoutot
LE GRAND RÉCIT

*(The Great Narrative
Introduction to the History of Our Times)*
PUF, September 2021, 144 pages



- ◇ **Rights sold: Greece.**
- ◇ **50,000 copies sold.**

In his essay, Johann Chapoutot shows how conspiracy theory, illimitism or declinism have filled the void left by the collapse of the revealed religions and political religions.

History is, above all, the narrative we make of it to give meaning to the times we have lived, and to passing time. Formerly, the meaning was self-evident: it had name(s) such as God, Salvation, Providence or, for the better informed, Theodicy. On the fringes of the 20th century, in the context of the fall of religion that characterises the West, religious readings are no longer credible. The question of meaning, after the height of absurdity constituted by the Great War, has become urgent. Literature entered a state of crisis, as well as philosophy and "European" thinking. We can barely understand fascism, Nazism, Communism, national-traditionalism or even "liberalism" and its avatars, without taking into account that essential dimension of donation and allocation of meaning. It is a question of entering directly into the history of our era by elucidating the manner in which we attempt to give meaning to time.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Professor of Contemporary History at the Sorbonne University, Johann Chapoutot specialises in the history of Germany and Nazism. He published *Le nazisme et l'Antiquité* (Puf, 2008), *La loi du sang. Penser et agir en nazi* (Gallimard, 2014) and more recently *Libres d'obéir. Le management, du nazisme à aujourd'hui* (2020). At the same time, he is publishing *Les 100 mots de l'Histoire* (QSJ, 2021). His books, which have been awarded many prizes in France and abroad, have been translated into ten languages.

**Johann Chapoutot
LIBRES D'OBÉIR**

(Management, from Nazism to West Germany)
Gallimard, January 2020, 176 pages



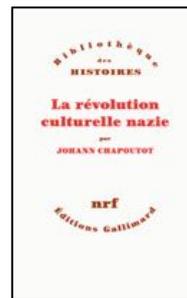
- ◇ **FOR RUSSIAN LANGUAGE ONLY.**
- ◇ **37,000 copies sold (July 2021)**
- ◇ **Rights sold: English (Europa), German (Propylaen), Greek (Agra), Italian (Einaudi), Romanian (Alexandria) and Spanish (Alianza).**
- ◇ **Awarded the Prix Briguet 2020**
- ◇ **Was longlisted for the Prix Medicis.**
- ◇ **What Johann Chapoutot studies here is the adaptability of identical forms of productive organization to political regimes which can be completely opposed, when ceases the reflection on the social nature of work.**

Reinhard Höhn (1904-2000) is the archetypal technocrat-intellectual who served the IIIrd Reich. His radicalism and his groundbreaking reflections on the progressive disappearance of the State - replaced by a “community” defined by its race and its “living space” - put him at the forefront of the regime. A brilliant civil servant in the SS, he was in charge of enriching the reflection of the Nazi party, of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and of the Wehrmacht in order to adapt the State institutions to the coming Greater Reich - which structures? which reforms? - and was an Oberführer (general) by the end of WW2. Since he didn't commit any “crime”, he then went back to civil life without being troubled and created, soon after, a management training institute, Bad Harzburg, for the economical elites of the Federal Republic, and he published numerous textbooks. Some 600,000 executives from the most important German companies, and an additional 100,000 distance-learning students, learnt Management there - more specifically the hierarchical organization of work through the definition of goals, the producer remaining free of choosing the means to achieve these goals. This was precisely the Reich's policy to rearm itself, starve Slavic populations in the Eastern territories, and exterminate the Jews. These management techniques continued being widely used until the 80s, after which other management models took over (the Japanese model, for example, where hierarchy is not as essential).

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Johann Chapoutot is a professor of contemporary history at the Sorbonne University. A specialist of the history of Nazi culture and of political and cultural contemporary history, he is the author, among others, of *La Loi du sang. Penser et agir en nazi* (2014) and *La Révolution culturelle nazie* (2017), both published by Gallimard.

**Johann Chapoutot
LA RÉVOLUTION CULTURELLE NAZIE**

(The Nazi Cultural Revolution)
Gallimard, January 2017, 280 pages



- ◇ **FOR RUSSIAN LANGUAGE ONLY.**
- ◇ **7,000 copies sold (July 2021)**
- ◇ **Rights sold: Italian (Laterza), Spanish (Alianza), Polish (Taiwpm Universitas), Portuguese (Brazil – Leonardo da Vinci) and Greek (Polis).**
- ◇ **Awarded the Prix Maurice Beaumont 2017.**
- ◇ **By delving in depth into particular points, like the Third Reich's interpretation of Stoicism and of Plato, the use of Kant and his categorical imperative, or Germany's reaction to Roman law, he demonstrates how the Nazis went about rewriting Western history and by what channels such ideas were absorbed by the perpetrators of Nazi crimes.**

With this collection of articles, Johann Chapoutot connects and perfects the project begun in two of his earlier books, LE NATIONAL-SOCIALISME ET L'ANTIQUITÉ (2008) AND LA LOI DU SANG (2014).

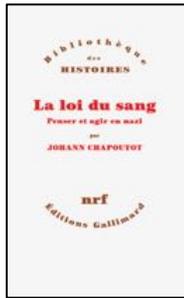
For the Nazis, “culture” was originally simply a mirror representation of Nature: the trees and waterways were objects of worship, one mated, one ate and fought like all other animals, one defended one's tribe and one's tribe alone. The distortion of this concept occurred when the Semites established themselves in Greece, when evangelization introduced Judeo-Christianity, and when the French Revolution then added the finishing touches to these absurd ideological constructions with the concepts of equality, compassion, abstraction of the law, and such.

It would take a “cultural revolution” to save the Nordic-Germanic race, one that would rediscover the Ancients' way of being and once again make culture coincide with Nature. In thus rebuilding the foundations of law and morality, Germanic man could act in harmony with the dictates of his survival. Thanks to the rewriting of law and morality, it would become legal and moral to attack and to kill.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Johann Chapoutot is professor of contemporary history at the University Sorbonne Nouvelle – Paris 3. A specialist in the history of Nazi culture and contemporary political and cultural history, he is the author of *LA LOI DU SANG. PENSER ET AGIR EN NAZI* (2014) published by Gallimard.

Johann Chapoutot
LA LOI DU SANG
(The Law of Blood)

Gallimard, October 2014, 576 pages



- **FOR RUSSIAN LANGUAGE ONLY.**
- **16,000 copies sold (July 2021)**
- **Rights sold: Chinese (Gingko Books), Czech (Rybka), English (world rights: Harvard UP), Italian (Einaudi), German (WBG/Zabern Verlag) and Spanish (Alianza).**

The Nazis acted in history with astounding haste and violence, wreaking chaos upon the European continent, displacing populations en masse, starving and murdering millions, and destroying great swathes of territory. How could they combat, plan, conquer, kill, and build so much in such a short time? These acts were based upon motives and motivation. They were founded as well upon norms that, up until now, have been little studied. Yet an abundance of sources introduce the historian to a multitude of texts, images, and words that recommend acts and indicate methods of action, revealing the reasons for such behavior. All of these sources invite a return to the law of nature. Jurists, physicians, historians, philosophers, leaders of the party and the State, racialists, journalists, documentary makers, and film makers teach that, in order for the race to live in a hostile world, it must procreate, combat, and rule. These are the normative foundations of the actions of the Nazis.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: A historian of contemporary history, Johann Chapoutot was born in 1978. A lecturer in history at the Université Pierre Mendès-France of Grenoble, he specializes in Nazi culture and contemporary political and cultural history. Among his works are *Le National-socialisme et l'Antiquité* (PUF, 2008) and *Le Meurtre de Weimar* (PUF, 2010).

Sabine Dullin
L'IRONIE DU DESTIN

(The Irony of Fate: A History of the Russians and their Empire 1853-1991)

Payot Rivages, October 2021, 224 pages



Structured around eight key dates, from the Crimean War to the fall of the Soviet Union, this book, by a renowned specialist in the history of the Soviet Union, will help everyone understand what motivates that immense world power.

For the leaders of the Russian, then Soviet, Empire, the irony of fate was to initiate policies that most often led to results in direct opposition to their intentions. Thus when the tsars wanted to enlarge, consolidate and modernize their empire by Russianizing it and modeling it on European-style nation-states with colonial empires, the outcome was widespread rebellions that led to the end of the Empire in 1917. By the same token, the Bolsheviks who then took over were opposed to Empire and wished to abolish States and borders. The result was the establishment of a vast, authoritarian and bureaucratic empire tucked behind an almost impenetrable border. The Soviet Union was supposed to found a homogenous and egalitarian Socialist society rid of the narrow framework of nationalism and Russian domination. Yet by the time the USSR collapsed, in 1991, the principal “achievement” of a century of Communism was restoring and consolidating Russia’s position of dominance over nearby nations, including those that had been striving toward independence.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Sabine Dullin was born in 1966. She teaches global history of the contemporary world, the history of the Russian and Soviet Empires, and of the Soviet state and society at Sciences Po, where she has been the head of the history department since 2017. Her books include a *History of the USSR* and an *Atlas of the Cold War*.

BIOGRAPHIES

Edgar Morin & Laure Adler
HISTOIRE(S) DE VIE
(The Common Destiny Of All Mankind)
 Bouquins, February 2022, 312 pages



- ◇ **First print: 48,000 copies.**
- ◇ **Offer from Spain.**

Edgar Morin, whose 100th birthday has just been celebrated with great brilliance, is the last of the great figures intellectuals of our time. His word continues to be authoritative. Just as much as his thought, it's his long destiny he evokes here with his friend Laure Adler in this final testimony which has the value of a testament.

In this book, which brings together all of their regular exchanges continued until his last months, Edgar Morin goes around with her of his life, of the two centuries he has gone through. He evokes his childhood marked by the death of his mother, his relations, among others, with Marguerite Duras and François Mitterrand painting a very personal portrait of both. He looks back on his commitment to the Communist Party, then during the Algerian war, on May 68 and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, among the innumerable topical themes which have fueled its thinking and its positions. Everything interested, passionate, mobilized Edgar Morin in this complex and tormented time which merges with the story of his existence. The European idea, the ecological challenge, artistic creation as a whole, the subject migration, racism and anti-Semitism, the role and duty of intellectuals in times of crisis, particularly in Covid time. On all these subjects, Edgar Morin provides Laure Adler with an analysis, a point of view that have become those of a sage not devoid of acuteness and capable of self-criticism.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Edgar Morin, whose real name is Edgar Nahoum, was born in Paris on July 8, 1921. The Spanish war in 1936 marked his first political commitment. Edgar Morin has received honorary doctorates from numerous universities around the world. His books have been translated in more than forty countries.

Lionel Esparza
EN AVANT LA MUSIQUE AVEC STRAVINSKY
(Music with Stravinsky)
 Les Équateurs, March 2022, 200 pages



- ◇ **From the most famous ballets to the little-known creations of his youth or at the end of his life, Lionel Esparza speaks, as no one else could, to neophytes and connoisseurs, pays homage to the complex and paradoxical revolutionary, to his work but also to the man, relating his countless lives and musical directions.**

Lionel Esparza recalls the mad life of emblematic composer of the Rite of Spring. Far from being reduced to that fundamental work, Stravinsky opened the door to modernity and remains today one of the most influential artists of the 20th century.

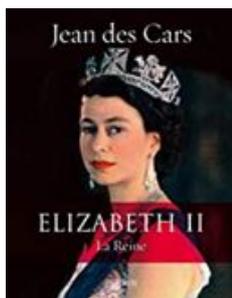
Fervent admirer of the Russian genius, Lionel Esparza recounts with passion the details of the life of a man that nothing promised to the art of composition. Obligated to study law, Igor did not give up: he would be a composer.

Just a few years later, his career was launched by one of the most astounding feats in the history of music: the scandalous premiere of the Rite of Spring, in 1913, in collaboration with one of his mentors, Serge de Diaghilev, founder of the Russian Ballets. It was the beginning of a musical path perpetually reinvented, from the avant-gardism of 1910 to the serialism of the 70s, and an existence made up of a countless lives. Growing and influencing personalities of his times – Chaplin, Picasso, Gabrielle Chanel and even JFK – ,Stravinsky inspired fervour or violent dislike, but left no one indifferent as his talent evolved, guided by his sparkling genius.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Holder of the agrégation in musicology, Lionel Esparza has been a producer for France Musique for almost twenty years.

**Jean Des Cars
ELIZABETH II**

Perrin, March 2022, 432 pages



- ◇ **New Edition. 15,000 copies sold for the first edition.**
- ◇ **Rights previously sold: Italy (LEG Edizioni); Romania (Corint).**

To mark the exceptional and historic Platinum Jubilee (70th anniversary) of Elizabeth II's reign in 2022, Jean des Cars recounts the life of the most informed woman in the world, a true icon of the 20th and 21st centuries. Des Cars, a connoisseur of European Royal courts, invites us into the privacy of "The Queen".

Respected and adored, Elizabeth II seems to reign over time itself; but while the sovereign is the most famous woman in the world, not a great deal is actually known about her. Since 1952, she has always amazed her contemporaries, evolving with the times (while remaining the same) in order to preserve the monarchy of which she is both heir and guarantor. In many respects, she embodies a universe that might be unthinkable without her.

When Elisabeth was born, her position (3rd in line) in the Royal hierarchy made it unlikely she would ascend to the throne. Today, aged 95, she has enjoyed the longest reign in the history of the British monarchy.

Drawing on the best sources, Jean des Cars plunges us into the life of Elizabeth II, from her childhood to her accession to the throne, including all the minor and major episodes that marked her life: World War II, the death of her father, rumours about her marriage, the recent death of her husband, the dissolute life of her sister, the marital problems of her children, the difficult relationship with her ostracised uncle Edward, the 'rebellion' of her grandson Harry, and of course her passion for corgies and horses... France's leading journalist on European regal affairs takes us on a highly intimate tour of the British Royal family.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Jean des Cars is the historian of the great European dynasties and their most illustrious representatives. Among his many successes: Ludwig II or the Lightning King, Sissi or Fatality, The Romanov Saga, The Habsburg Saga, The Windsor Saga, The Sceptre and the Blood, Nicholas II and Alexandra of Russia, Franz Josef and Sissi and Elizabeth II.

**Jean Des Cars
POUR LA REINE**

(For the Queen)

Perrin, May 2022, 224 pages



An intimate biographical portrait: a tribute to the Stateswoman and to the monarchical institution.

- Her majesty's education and her relationship with her nanny show the dominant aspects of her character.
- A visionary in the field of communication: against Churchill's advice, she demanded that her coronation be televised. Elizabeth II became Queen of England but also that of visual communication.
- The wife madly in love with her husband, a reciprocal passion especially between 1947 and 1952, before her accession to the throne.
- Her lack of warmth and tenderness towards her first children, Charles and Anne, although she appears to have been closer to Andrew and Edward.
- Her conflictual relationship with her sister Margaret.
- Her formidable ability to adapt tradition to innovation: in the mid-1960s, she embraced the musical revolution of the Beatles, which was also that of "swinging London" and the mini-skirt.
- When faced with decisions, she has taken them, sometimes harshly, for example, at the end of the marriages of her sons Charles and Andrew. However, she settled these divorces more as a grandmother than as a queen.
- Her abhorrence of family and private conflicts being exposed to the general public.
- Politically, she has been known to disagree with her Prime Ministers.
- Her love for her grandchildren, her happiness about William and Kate's marriage and, on the contrary, her unease regarding Harry and Meghan.
- The importance of the Queen's private secretaries.
- A Head of State who loves the countryside, dogs and horses. But who has never put her personal pastimes before the exercise of her duties as Queen.
- In public, she moves with a variety of secret codes: the jewelry and hats she wears, the colours, the handbag that changes arms to discreetly indicate that a meeting is over...

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Jean des Cars is the French historian of the great European dynasties and their most illustrious representatives. Among his many successful books are his portraits of Louis II of Bavaria ("Louis II de Bavière ou Le roi foudroyé"), of Sissi Empress of Austria and Queen of Hungary ("Sissi ou la fatalité"), of the Romanovs (La Saga des Romanov), a book about Kings and Queens during the turmoil of the two World Wars "The Scepter and the Blood", and his portrait of Nicolas II and Alexandra of Russia.

Jean des Cars
LA SAGA DES WINDSOR
(The Windsor Saga)
 Perrin, November 2021, 528 pages



- ◇ **Rights sold: Spain (Santillana Ediciones), Romania (Editura Trei), Czech Republic (Dobrovsky)**
- ◇ From an England still imbued with the prestige of the legendary Queen Victoria, «grandmother of Europe», to that of Elizabeth II, the longest reigning monarch of its history, from the British Empire to the Commonwealth of Nations, from the end of “the colonies” to the much mediated marriage of William and Kate, this is the extraordinary saga of a royal line whose individual destinies often resemble novels.

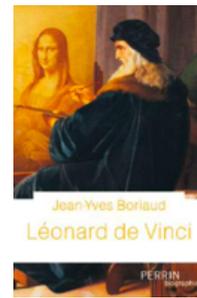
The true story, one that reads like a novel, of an extraordinary family, subject to the tragedies of history as well as its own intimate dramas. By a master of the genre.

Windsor! Both the largest still-inhabited fortress in the world and the name chosen by King George V in 1917 to erase his German heritage so evident in the patronym of the House of Hanover, legacy of Victoria of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, while England faced the German Empire on the battlefields of Europe.

But who could have imagined that this new name, gingerly imposed and eventually accepted by its subjects, would become the symbol of the greatest scandal the Crown had ever known, on the eve of the Second World War? Barely eight months into his reign, Edward VIII abdicated, sacrificing the throne for the love of the twice-divorced American (which was worse?) Wallis Simpson. By renouncing his position on December 11th, 1936, George V's eldest son became the Duke of Windsor, charming host and pacifist, a Hitler sympathizer willing to look the other way at the menacing aspects of National Socialism. His painfully shy, stammering, and totally unprepared younger brother, who courageously overcame his shortcomings, succeeded him as George VI and became a symbol of fortitude to the nation throughout World War II.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Jean Des Cars is the historian of the great European dynasties and their most illustrious representatives. Among his many successes: *Ludwig II of Bavaria or the Lightning King*, *Sissi or Fatality*, *The Romanov Saga*, *The Habsburg Saga*, *The Windsor Saga*, *The Sceptre and the Blood*, *Nicholas II and Alexandra of Russia*, *Franz Josef and Sissi and Elizabeth II*.

Jean-Yves Boriaud
LÉONARD DE VINCI
(Leonardo Da Vinci)
 Perrin, March 2022, 432 pages



- ◇ **Upcoming US-Italian Netflix series.**
- ◇ Relying mainly on primary sources – notably the artist's diaries and notebooks – Jean-Yves Boriaud has positioned himself here as an art historian and carefully analyzes the conditions under which Leonardo created his most masterful works (Last Supper, Mona Lisa, Saint John the Baptist, etc.).
- ◇ But he also relates the stories behind his many unfinished works (Sforza Horse, Portrait of Isabelle d'Este, etc.). He thereby manages to offer us the first faithful and authentic portrait of this most emblematic figure of the Renaissance.

When writing about the life of Leonardo da Vinci, two pitfalls are to be avoided: portraying the artist as an enigmatic and inscrutable genius, or, on the contrary, reducing his existence to a few uncertain or even fantasized episodes of his private life, such as his reputed unbridled sexuality.

Far from received ideas about the artist, this book invites us to take Leonardo's real journey, from the small Tuscan village of Vinci in which he was born in 1452, to Amboise in France where he died in 1519. While following his progress in the many disciplines he explored, we are taken to the heart of Renaissance Italy. We discover Verrocchio's studio in Florence where the young painter acquired his basic skills; we visit Milan, where he put himself at the service of the powerful Sforza family; in Rome, we meet the Medici family who admired and protected the extraordinary polymath; finally, in the Loire Valley, at the court of François I, we relive the master's last years.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Professor emeritus at the University of Nantes then lecturer at the University of Toulouse-le-Mirail, Jean-Yves Boriaud is a specialist in the Italian Renaissance. For Les Belles Lettres (Paris) and the publishing house Leo S. Olschki (Florence), he has edited and translated many Latin works. With Perrin he has published biographies of Galileo and Machiavelli (which won the Provins-Moyen Âge prize in 2015), a book on the Borgia family (LES BORGIA, Purple and Blood, 2017) and a work titled *The Fortune of the Médicis* (2019).

**François Kersaudy
GOERING**

Perrin, June 2022, 330 pages



- ◇ François Kersaudy invites us to revisit this disproportionate character - with the help of an abundant iconographic illustration.

The second man of the Third Reich told by François Kersaudy with his customary mastery in a lively in a lively and illustrated biography.

Hermann Goering, the second most important figure in the Third Reich, was simultaneously Prussian Minister of the Interior, President of the Reichstag, master of the Four-Year Plan, and Grand Veneur of the Reich. But Goering was above all a military man: a virtuoso aviator and the last commander of the famous Richthofen squadron during the Great War, it was as a field marshal and commander-in-chief of the German air force that he entered the great turmoil of the Second World War backwards. From then on, from Dunkirk to Stalingrad, he played an essential role in the development of German military enterprises - and in the successive defeats of the Wehrmacht.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Professor François Kersaudy, known in France for his works on Winston Churchill and General De Gaulle, is already the author of the only French biography of Marshal Goering (Perrin, 2009), as well as the best-selling *LES SECRETS DU TROISIÈME REICH*. (Perrin 2013). A polyglot historian, he speaks nine languages and has received twelve French and foreign literary awards.

**Joséphine Baker
MÉMOIRES**

(Memoirs collected by Marcel Sauvage)

Phébus, March 2022, 336 pages



- ◇ Rights sold: World English (Vintage Classics /Penguin Random House)

These Memoirs collected until 1949 by the great journalist of the inter-war period Marcel Sauvage, pay homage to a personality as extraordinary as endearing.

What a destiny for Freda Josephine Mac Donald, born in Saint-Louis, in the United States (Missouri), to a young, poor, single black woman and an unknown white man! The one who was a star celebrated throughout the world recounts here the difficulty of her first steps in an openly racist society, her arrival in France, her debut in Paris with the "Revue nègre", her triumph at the Folies-Bergère, her loves...

During the Second World War, Lieutenant Josephine was illustrious for her courage: several times operated on, she suffers in her flesh but engages alongside General de Gaulle. Member of the secret services, she risked her life in the name of Freedom. She encouraged the soldiers. Joséphine Baker, singer, dancer, woman of convictions, also found, in Milandes, a place of happiness for the many children she adopted. It is this exceptional woman who reveals herself in this finally reissued book.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Joséphine Baker (1906-1975) was a French singer, dancer, actress, leader of a magazine and resistance fighter of American origin. Her entry into the Panthéon on November 30, 2021 makes her a true icon, a symbol of a certain idea of France and the Free World..

Marcel Sauvage (1895-1988) was a French journalist and writer. He achieved great notoriety by collaborating on the Memoirs of Josephine Baker.

Claudine Monteil
MARIE CURIE ET SES FILLES
(Marie Curie and her Daughters)
 Calmann Lévy, May 2021, 342 pages



- ◇ **Rights sold:** Chuokoron-Shinsha (Japanese) Minerva Kustannus (Finnish) Psychogios (Greek), Schocken (Hebrew), Singel / Querido-Facto (Dutch) Suhrkamp Verlag (German).
- ◇ **One Curie can hide two others.** Though the talent of Marie Curie, physicist, chemist, and double Nobel Prize winner in physics and chemistry, marks our spirits, it is also the adventurous lives of her daughters, Irene and Eve who can still inspire us today.

Claudine Monteil paints the portrait of these three women with dazzling and complex stories, whose courage, intelligence and commitment have change the history of the world. Three brilliant, pioneering, inspiring, free, and powerful women.

Marie Curie, their mother, is a fighter. Despite a difficult start with a sick mother in occupied Poland and then studying in Paris with not a penny to her name, she revolutionized medicine and research on radioactivity alongside her husband, Pierre Curie. They are awarded the Nobel Prize together in 1903 and Marie Curie lives a rich life as a scientist, a woman and a mother. Sadly, tragedy strikes in 1906 with the sudden death of Pierre Curie, and she is left alone a widow. Still this does not hinder the education that she provides for her two daughters which leads each of them to a great destiny.

Irene will follow the scientific path of her mother: from the age of seventeen she is on the battlefields of the Great War to save the wounded using new medical materials. Then, later, alongside her mother in the re- search work of the Radium Institute. In 1935, together with her husband Frédéric Joliot-Curie, she wins the Nobel Prize in chemistry. A committed activist she took part in the struggle for women's rights and against Nazism, long before the Second World War.

After a successful career as an international pianist, Eve, the youngest daughter, choses to pursue literature and diplomacy. She writes the first biography on her mother—the award-winning Madame Curie which re- ceives the prestigious National Book Award in 1937. Eve Curie was the only non scientist in her scientist family who received five Nobel prizes. She became one of the first and most important French diplomat in the 1940s and 1950s, meeting thousands of people to persuade the US to join the Allied forces alongside de Gaulle against Hitler.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Claudine Monteil is the au- thor of ten books, most of which have been translated into many languages. A retired French diplomat, as well as a writer and an historian, her memoir The Beauvoir Sisters is translated in English and was published by Calmann-Lévy about her friendship with the philosophers Jean-Paul Sartre, Simone de Beauvoir and her sister Hélène de Beauvoir, the artist. Originally from a presti- gious French scientist family, her father, French mathematician Jean-Pierre Serre, is Fields Medal and Abel prize winner, as there is no Nobel prize in mathematics. Her mother, Josiane Serre, was a chemist and university professor, and the president of the prestigious Ecole normale supérieure de Jeunes Filles, where Marie Curie and Irène Joliot-Curie taught and trained the first ge- nerations of women scientists in France.

Irène Joliot-Curie
MARIE CURIE, MA MÈRE
(My Mother Marie Curie)
 Plon, March 2022, 112 pages



Irène Joliot-Curie shares for the first time her memories of her mother Marie Curie. Encompassing family life, personal anecdotes and scientific research, this is a rare and moving insight into an exceptional family and two towering female figures who both won Nobel prizes jointly wiht their husbands.

In 1954, on the 20th anniversary of Marie Curie's death, the Europe review commissioned an article from her daughter Irène that remains little-known and had never been republished until now. In it she shares her 'memories and impressions' of her mother, describing the education she received and the importance that both she and her mother accorded to physical exercise, excursions to the mountains or the seaside, and any kind of active leisure activity. The years 1914-1918 were a major turning point in Marie Curie's life. It was during this period that she equipped vehicles with X-ray machines and trained nurses in how to use them. Irène became involved in her mother's work early on at the age of 17, ultimately becoming one of Marie's favourite collaborators and taking after her father in terms of her calm and reflective character. Irène also addresses Marie's personality and her religious and political opinions.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: The chemist and physicist Irène Joliot-Curie (1897-1956), the daughter of Pierre and Marie Curie, won the Nobel prize for chemistry in 1935 for her joint discovery of induced radioactivity with her husband, Frédéric Joliot-Curie.

BIOGRAPHIES

Isabelle Aristide-Hastir
MARIE ANTOINETTE & AXEL DE FERSEN
(Marie Antoinette and Axel de Fersen, Hidden Correspondance)
Michel Lafon, October 2021, 192 pages



◇ **Rights sold: Italian (Ippocampo), Thai (Avocado Books)**

The mystery of Marie-Antoinette's letters to her lover Axel de Fersen finally revealed.

These sixty or so letters were written between 1790 and 1792 as Marie-Antoinette was confined to quarters in the Palais des Tuileries then imprisoned in the Temple Tower.

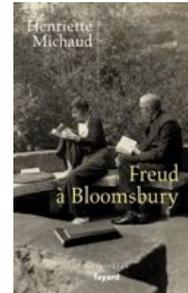
An intriguing part of their content was unreadable, having been crossed out in ink or written in code. Today, thanks to intricate analysis and the use of

the most innovative techniques, researchers have achieved the feat of gaining access to the blocked-out passages.

From the story of the deciphering of code to the revelation of the young queen's awakening, these letters read like a suspense story. For the first time, not only can the readers witness Marie-Antoinette and de Fersen in intimate, heart-to-heart conversation, they will also discover the queen's steadfastness and bravery in the worst of times.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: ISABELLE ARISTIDE-HASTIR oversees the private archives within the National Archives and worked in collaboration with the National Museum of Natural History on the deciphering of these letters.

Henriette Michaud
FREUD À BLOOMSBURY
(Freud in Bloomsbury)
Fayard, January 2022, 288 pages



This is the story of James and Alix Strachey, who brought psychoanalysis to the English language in the early 1920s. They belonged to the Bloomsbury group – intellectuals and artists among which Virginia Woolf and her husband Leonard, founder of the Hogarth publishing house.

James Strachey and his wife Alix traveled to Vienna in 1920 to learn from Freud and train in psychoanalysis. Immediately, they got along well with the master and started translating his works. Later, they found him a publishing house in the heart of Bloomsbury, the prestigious Hogarth Press, which helped Freud gain recognition all over the world.

In 1946, after Freud's death, the journey unexpectedly started again. James and Alix started working on the 24 volumes of Freud's complete works, giving up everything else to devote themselves to it. They were the only ones up to the task, but it will still take them 20 years. In 1966, the Standard Edition is finally completed, and Freud's dream is fulfilled: he has become an English author.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Henriette Michaud is a French psychoanalyst, who has published several books on Freud and his relationship to the English language. This book is to date the only introduction to the masterpiece, unequalled even in German, that is the Standard Edition.

PHILOSOPHY

Claire Marin
ÊTRE À SA PLACE
(Being in your Place)

L'Observatoire, February 2022, 250 pages



◇ Shortlisted for the Prix Essai France Télévisions 2022.

After the success of Rupture(s), Claire Marin continues to focus on the ordeals of intimate life. In a world that is reeling, the expression ‘to find one’s place’ raises many questions. Philosopher Claire Marin confronts human beings with their aspirations and their ability to adapt: constantly being shifted by the world around them and their own feelings, they are nevertheless summoned to ‘find their place’, even if they have to choose it first?

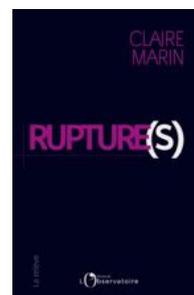
“It sometimes starts with a worry or a malaise. You feel out of step, afraid of putting a foot wrong. You have the feeling you are ‘not in your place’. But what does it mean to be ‘in your place’, in your family, with your partner, in your work? What are these places, real or symbolic, that welcome or reject us? Do we have to conquer the places that are withheld from us, because of our gender, our handicap, our age, our ethnic or social origin? Perhaps we must transform these places from the inside and make our own place within?”

In this captivating and sensitive book, philosopher Claire Marin explores all the places we occupy – daily, willingly or against our will, those we have lost (childhood), those we are afraid of losing (or being replaced there) – and explores the most anachronistic social requirements of our times. It remains for us to discover if, finally, we find a place or if the specific nature of the place is not in reality constantly having to move, or to move the person who believes they can settle there...

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Claire Marin is a professor of philosophy. She researches the ordeals we have to face in life. Her first book published by Eds. Observatoire, Rupture(s), was a great success with the critics and the public.

Claire Marin
RUPTURE(S)

L'Observatoire, March 2019, 160 pages



◇ English & German samples available.

◇ Arabic, Spanish and Turkish rights already granted

◇ More than 50,000 copies sold

Whether joyful or tragic, visible or invisible, turning points punctuate our lives, transform us, and make us question ourselves.

Births or deaths, separations or new loves, exile or the need for an elsewhere: whether they are a source of joy or sadness, ruptures rhythm our existence; they transform us, causing us to ask the most fundamental questions about ourselves.

How can we reconcile these “forks in the path” of our lives that are ruptures with the idea of our unique and constant identity? Do they reveal the multiplicity of our possible identities, or the fact that we become gradually more assured as we face life’s “accidents”? Do they perfect us? Or do they demolish us?

For philosopher Claire Marin, the definition of our being is to be observed as closely in our detours as in our intended routes, in the snags in the contract rather than in the contract itself. For the subject, these oscillations shake certitudes and fragilize representations. Also, they fundamentally underline the importance of the unforeseeable and question our ability to endure incertitude, to compose with catastrophe.

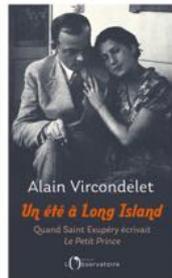
ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Claire Marin is a professor of philosophy in prep classes of France’s “grandes écoles” and an associate member of ENS-Ulm. Her research focuses on life’s ordeals.

CULTURAL ESSAYS & REFERENCE

Alain Vircondelet
UN ÉTÉ A LONG ISLAND

(A Summer on Long Island. When Saint Exupéry wrote
The Little Prince)

L'Observatoire, January 2022, 290 pages



- ◇ Alain Vircondelet plunges readers into that summer of '42 when Saint Exupéry wrote his last masterpiece with the woman who would remain, for all eternity, his only real love.

The whole world knows Le Petit Prince, but few know how it came to be... With the help of documents from the Consuelo de Saint Exupéry succession, published here for the first time, Alain Vircondelet recounts what went on backstage when the work was created, and the love that inspired it.

Summer 1942. Antoine de Saint Exupéry found refuge with his wife, Consuelo, on Long Island to write what would become his best known and esteemed book, Le Petit Prince.

Depressed, torn between love for his wife and his many infidelities, he agreed to consider an idea suggested by his American publishers: to write a tale for children.

He and Consuelo settled in a villa alongside the bay at Long Island: Bevin House, which he immediately nicknamed 'The Little Prince's House'. There, far from the persistent noise in New York and the rumours, he lived a summer of renaissance: passionate reunion with his wife ('The Little Prince was born,' he says, 'of your great fire'), promenades along the beach, studious days as well as escapades to Manhattan to see his mistress, the journalist Silvia Hamilton...

But the storm was looming; he was tormented by what was happening in France and would soon drop everything to go back to France and join in the war effort...

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Alain Vircondelet is one of the greatest experts of Saint Exupéry. Until today, has was one of the rare people to enjoy access to his archives

Fabrice Guignault
**PATRICK PROCKTOR DOUBLE MAUDIT DE
DAVID HOCKNEY**

(Patrick Proctor, the Cursed Doppelganger of David
Hockney)

Séguier, April 2022, 200 pages



- ◇ A study of David Hockney's career, who became 'the most expensive living artist in the world'. But was it at the price of sacrificing the authenticity and insolence embodied by his former accomplice?
- ◇ An immersion in the effervescence of the Swinging London of 1960s and 1970s, of which he was one of the most flamboyant figures.
- ◇ Following in Procktor's footsteps, exploring his legend and his paradoxes in the streets of London, interviewing those who knew him, and reflecting on the strange disparities between his destiny and that of Hockney.

Patrick Procktor (1936-2003) was the closest friend, possibly the lover, and also the rival of David Hockney. A cursed doppelganger, who in a sense was the collateral damage of Hockney's extraordinary success, in this personal account that is haunted by the ghosts of a bygone age.

At the start of the 1960s, the 'twin dandies of the art world' experienced a meteoric rise. But whereas Hockney flew off to California, Procktor preferred to seek out his models in hospitals and drying out clinics or to celebrate his male lovers. His painting exudes an eroticism, fragility and paradoxical classicism that was out of synch and disturbing in a still largely puritanical age. Even worse, Hockney did not hesitate to 'borrow' from Procktor's paintings, attracted by the touch of magic and 'supplement of soul' that was sometimes missing in his own work. And it is doubtless true that Procktor was too gifted, or was neglecting his work in favour of partying and high society. He shrugged off these criticisms by countering, like Wilde, that his life was the true work of art. By the 1970s the two friends had grown apart: Hockney's star continued to rise while Procktor began a long descent into the doldrums, eventually dying broke and alcoholic in 2003.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Fabrice Guignault is a writer and journalist. He is the author of two cult books on rock, the novels L'Eau noire and Aspen Terminus, and the Dictionnaire de littérature à l'usage des snobs, which has been translated into several languages. His last book, Bobby Beausoleil, was published by Séguier in 2017.

Brigitte Benkemoun
SA VIE POUR PICASSO
(A Life For Picasso)
Stock, May 2022, 252 pages



◇ **Under option in Russia (AST).**

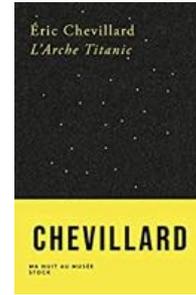
An enquiry based on unpublished documents about Picasso's most mysterious and secret muse: Marie-Thérèse Walter.

When Picasso met 17-year-old Marie-Thérèse Walter one winter's evening in Paris, he asked her to sit for him. From there she discovered l'amour fou before being abandoned once her daughter Maya was born. Even though she marked the most dazzling, ebullient and erotic phase of the Picasso's career, he always tried to keep her hidden.

The author reveals the story of a woman who spent fifty years in the shadow of a tyrant even though her body is exhibited in the world's greatest museums.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Brigitte Benkemoun is a journalist and writer. She is the author of *La Petite Fille sur la photo* (Fayard, 2012) and *Albert le Magnifique* (Stock, 2016), and her last book, *Je suis le carnet de Dora Maar* (Stock, 2019), was translated into 9 languages.

Éric Chevillard
L'ARCHE TITANIC
(The Titanic Arch)
Stock, January 2022, 176 pages



◇ **With its sublime writing, this book takes an inventive look at preserving threatened species.**

Éric Chevillard spends a night in the hall for extinct and threatened species at the Paris Natural History Museum.

The place is frightening, exotic and very inspiring for writing. Between his wanderings and contemplations, the author imagines being a saviour for these lost worlds. He encourages us to think about these extinct species and the conservation of the human race, raising a question at the heart of modern-day concerns: what is our place on this earth and what is our relationship with nature and other animals? He claims that "To resuscitate lost species, rather than the uncertainties of cloning, wouldn't it be wiser to put our faith in poetry?"

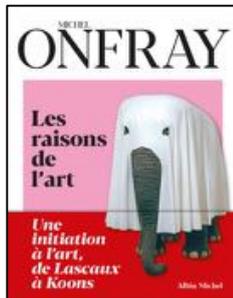
ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Éric Chevillard first came to public attention in the 80s as one of the "minimalist" writers at Les Éditions de Minuit, alongside Jean Echenoz, Jean-Philippe Toussaint and François Bon. His work is characterised by its subverting of narrative conventions and its quirky humour; it has earned widespread critical acclaim and has been translated into 12 languages. His most famous books include *Mourir m'enrhume* (1987), *La Nébuleuse du crabe* (1993) and *Vaillant Petit Tailleur* (2004). Since 2007, he has written a literary blog called *L'Autofictif*.

Michel Onfray

LES RAISONS DE L'ART

(Art Has Its Reasons. An initiation to art, from Lascaux to Koons)

Albin Michel, October 2021, 176 pages



L'Histoire de l'art by Michel Onfray: all the keys to decode and become initiated to classical and contemporary art.

“Contemporary art is a language to which you must be initiated, as you must be with any other artwork whatever it may be, whatever its century. Hyacinthe Rigaud's portrait of Louis XIV is no more easily understood if we are unaware of the symbolism of those times than Jeff Koons's bouquet of tulips if we know nothing of his LGBTQ+ struggle in our times.

I would like to follow the path that leads from the first traces of art (Chauvet 40,000 years ago) to Jeff Koons's famous bouquet (2019), in other words, from prehistory to modern times, in order to fight off the scaremongers who maintain that art is dead, Beauty having always made the laws, and this no longer being the case; to which we must add that, according to them, all contemporary art deserves to be consigned to the trash can. Beauty was a recent concern in art history, and it stopped being so quite quickly – a few decades between the invention of the word aesthetic in 1750 and that of photography in 1826. Hence to argue that since contemporary art has ceased to be beautiful, it is no longer valid to talk about art, is nothing less than stupidity.” Michel ONFRAY

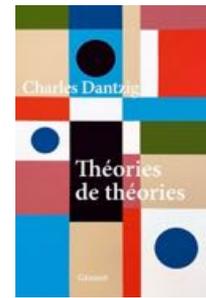
ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Michel Onfray, author of almost a hundred books, constructed his work around the themes of hedonism, atheism and the construction of the self. Today he is the best-known and appreciated French philosopher with the wide public.

Charles Dantzig

THÉORIES DE THÉORIES

(Theories on Theories)

Grasset, September 2021, 400 pages



◇ **OPTION: UKRAINE (Anetta Antonenko).**

◇ Rights sold for previous titles: English (Inde: Yoda Press New Delhi), German (Steidl Verlag), Italian (Archinto), Chinese (Xiang shi wen hua), Korean (Iru, MediaWill), Arabic (Arab Scientific Publishers), Spanish (451 Editores), Ukrainian (Anetta Antonenko).

For a long time, Charles Dantzig has been looking for laws. Laws exist, but essentially for trivial things. What Charles Dantzig's theories allow us to find are tendencies, less rigid and more precise than laws. His theories – funny, erudite, concerning objects of our daily lives – are propositions, and this book, if one is willing to handle it well, is nothing more than a toolbox.

Everything in the book, from the first to the last page, takes place over the course of exactly one day: from the moment we get up and get dressed ('a theory on fine clothes') to the close of the day ('a theory on sunset'). Between these two moments, Dantzig offers theories on everything we call 'life', or at least life as he understands it.

There is a theory on desire, one on love, one on bridges - which are in a bad way in this world of walls that we live in. There is a theory on grand old theatre actresses, on gloves, on time, on the colour brown, on laughter, on fine literature. There is a theory of smells, of cut flowers, of light, of shade - and many more besides...

Together, these theories gather together what is scattered, at the mercy of customs, stereotypes, superstitions, and ignorance, and offer plausible interpretations. While never seeking to be 'true', these theories nonetheless offer a kind of toolbox to their reader.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Charles Dantzig is a writer and editor at Grasset, where he also manages the collection and the magazine *Le Courage*. He is the author of several essays (DICTIONNAIRE EGOÏSTE DE LA LITTÉRATURE FRANÇAISE and DICTIONNAIRE EGOÏSTE DE LA LITTÉRATURE MONDIALE, in 2005 and 2019, and ENCYCLOPÉDIE CAPRICIEUSE DU TOUT ET DU RIEN in 2009 with Grasset), as well as novels (HISTOIRE DE L'AMOUR ET DE LA HAINE, 2015) and poems (DEMOCRATIE DE BORD DE MER, 2018).

Olivier Rey
RÉPARER L'EAU
(*Repairing Water*)

Stock, October 2021, 155 pages



- ◇ In this brilliant essay, Olivier Rey seeks to rediscover the sensitivity to water that we have lost along the way.
- ◇ From Leonardo da Vinci to Bachelard and Ponge by way of Courbet, he follows the stream of water to return its dignity and allow us to feel what cannot be reduced to a formula: the poignant sensuality of being part of this world.

The philosopher and mathematician Olivier Rey delivers rigorous criticism of science and signs his most sensitive essay yet.

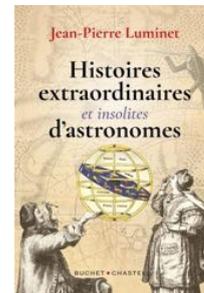
Who does not know what water is? Everyone has an intimate and immediate knowledge of it. How, then, did we end up summing up this primary element with the abstract chemical formula H₂O?

Since the advent of modern science shook our perception of the world, something as simple as water has become an issue of chemical analysis and resource management. Yet, has science kept its promise to reveal the world in all its truth? Has it not, on the contrary, driven us away from it?

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Olivier Rey is a mathematician and philosopher. He is namely the author of *UNE QUESTION DE TAILLE* (Stock, 2014, Prix Bristol des Lumières), *QUAND LE MONDE S'EST FAIT NOMBRE* (Stock, 2016) and *LEURRES ET MALHEURS DU TRANSHUMANISME* (Desclée de Brouwer, 2019, Prix Jacques Ellul).

Jean-Pierre Luminet
**HISTOIRES EXTRAORDINAIRES ET INSOLITES
D'ASTRONOMES**

(*Extraordinary And Unexpected Stories About Astronomers*)
Buchet Chastel, March 2022, 270 pages



- ◇ Translation rights sold to Italy (La Lepre Edizioni)

Little-known but fabulous stories about great astronomers who risked their lives, accumulated extraordinary discoveries and definitively transformed our view of the world and of the universe.

“But scholars – oh, My Lordship – and astronomers in particular, never do anything like everyone else. That’s why the adventures they get into are not like those of ordinary people.” Scheherazade, on her 849th night with Sultan Shahryar.

With his in-depth knowledge of astrophysics and his novelist’s knack for writing, J.-P. Luminet illustrates that comment from Scheherazade by revealing 9 little-known anecdotes about great and singular astronomers : from Regiomontanus, famous for his measurements of cosmic dimensions, who was assassinated inside the Vatican for having made fun of one of his colleagues’ slapdash theories, to the court gown that the famous Halley gave to the wife of Hevelius to thank her for the nights they’d spent together on an observatory platform watching the stars’ orbs; from Maupertuis’s escapades with pretty Laplanders, when he was trying to find out if the earth was shaped like a mandarin or a lemon, to the beheading of Bailly, mayor of Paris during the French Revolution and an illustrious astronomer who scorned the calculations of mere mortals; from Victor Hugo, who, in his poem *The Comet*, from *The Legend of the Ages*, mangles the history of science to shape it to his own needs, to Camille Flammarion, whose library had manuals bound in human flesh... and other amazing adventures.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Astrophysicist, writer, poet and musician, J.-P. Luminet is an internationally renowned specialist in black holes and cosmology. Director of Research at the CNRS (National Scientific Research Center), he has won numerous prizes, including the 2007 European Scientific Communication Prize. In 2021, he received the Kalinga Prize, which has, in the past, been awarded to Bertrand Russell, Jean Rostand, Konrad Lorenz, Margaret Mead, Yves Coppens, Trinh Xuan Thuan and others. The Luminet asteroid was named after him to honor his work. He has published over a dozen essays, seven novels, and seven books of poetry, been translated into a dozen languages, and has co-directed several documentaries/has co-authored several works of non-fiction

Guillaume Martin
LA SOCIÉTÉ DU PELOTON
(Society of the Peloton)
 Grasset, November 2021, 208 pages



There is a battle raging at the heart of the peloton. Every team member is fighting to ensure their leader is best placed at the decisive moment. There will be only one champion, yet this individual could not hope to cross the finish line first without leaning on the work of the others. The hierarchical universe of the cycling race is similar to our own society, with its power games and favours exchanged, where every impulse is exacerbated and yet everyone must get along. So what can we learn from this cycling microcosm about the great peloton we call society?

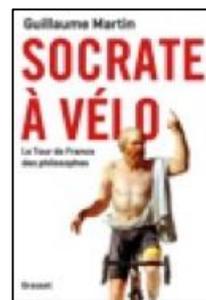
As an individual sport practised in teams, cycling exposes our deepest contradictions. Like all man-made organisations, a peloton is made up of various 'social classes' in which every individual's place is attributed according to their role to play: the bosses (the leaders), the bureaucrats (the road captains) and the workers (the water carriers).

With world-wide ecological, ideological and health crises multiplying, are we so different from the ambiguous, recalcitrant cyclist who privileges their own interest above others, without seeing the damage this will cause to society as a whole?

The author is no stranger to these questions: an established 'cyclophilosopher' thanks to his columns in *Le Monde* and his book *Socrate à Vélo*, Guillaume Martin offers up a personal journey through the contradictions of our era, proposing sport as a model for rethinking our society. And what if the right path can be found in the marriage of two disciplines that one would assume to be opposed in every way: an ethical code at the pinnacle of thought, where philosophy and sport interact as allies and friends?

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: A professional cyclist with a Masters in Philosophy, Guillaume Martin ran eighth in the 2021 Tour de France. He has a seasonal column in the newspaper *Le Monde* and has written a play, *Platon vs. Platoche*, which is currently performed by the Théâtre de la Boderie. His first book, *SOCRATE À VÉLO*, was a bestseller and has been translated into a number of languages.

Guillaume Martin
SOCRATE À VÉLO
(Socrate on a Bike A Philosopher's Tour De France)
 Grasset, February 2019, 240 pages



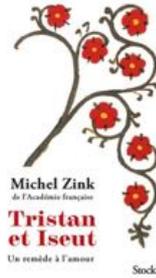
- ◇ Rights sold for the first edition: Chinese (Beijing Fonghong Books), Dutch (Balans Uitgeverij).
- ◇ A philosophical fable in the tradition of *Sophie's World* and *Le Miracle Spinoza*.
- ◇ Invites various renowned philosophers to participate in the Tour de France and demonstrates that high-level physical exertion is no enemy to intellectual activity.
- ◇ A burlesque philosophical fantasy, both recreational and humorous, which serves to illustrate one of Bergson's maxims: 'One needs to think like a man of action and act like a man of thought.'
- ◇ Two new chapters of this entertaining, funny and farcical philosophical fantasy, illustrating perfectly the words of Bergson: "Think like a man of action, act like a man of thought".

A new revisited edition of the wonderful philosophical tale, inviting famous philosophers to take part in the Tour de France and show that contrary to stereotypes on athletes, physical effort was never an enemy of intellectual thought.

Guillaume Martin mixes up fiction and essay, philosophy and spirituality and invites us to discover the world of cycling through an insightful conversation. We can often hear that "athletes are not expected to think, but to act". Stereotypes are hard to overcome, but through a philosophical approach Martin manages to reconcile body and mind and to show that legs and the brain are parts of one. During the Tour every country is represented by a philosopher. Sartre is running for France, Platon represents Greece. We see Nietzsche getting ready listening to a philosophy podcast, famous philosophers climbing the hills next to great champions, Heidegger falling in a ditch. Then the competition begins. They will have to pass 21 steps and as many life-lessons on sport. The only allowed doping? Intelligence. Will it be enough to finish the ride and win the desired yellow shirt?

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: A professional cyclist and holder of a Master's in philosophy, Guillaume Martin came 21st in the 2018 Tour de France. He writes a column for *Le Monde* newspaper and has written a play, *Platon et Platoche*, which is currently being performed in Paris. *SOCRATE À VÉLO* is his first book.

Michel Zink
TRISTAN ET ISEUT
(Tristan and Iseut)
Stock, January 2022, 198 pages



- ◇ By exploring this seminal medieval myth, Michel Zink delivers a fascinating essay that questions our present-day concepts of love.

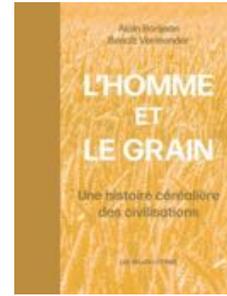
What do Tristan and Iseult tell us about our contemporary romantic ideals?

Michel Zink delves into this medieval legend and reveals the questions, reservations and enthusiasms it has aroused over the centuries. Tristan and Iseult loved each other with all their lives, to the death. They incarnated romantic passion in its purest state. But what sort of love can it have been between two addicts who mistakenly drank what medieval poems refer to as “poison”? A love that sabotaged duty and loyalty? Lovers who were cunning, sly and sometimes cruel?

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Michel Zink is a specialist of medieval literature, a philologist and a professor of literature. His publications include *Bienvenue au Moyen-Âge* (2015) and *Livres anciens, lecture vivante* (2010). He is a member of the Académie française.

“Both tragic and thrilling. Unsettling and fascinating.” L’Obs

Alain Bonjean & Benoît Vermander
L'HOMME ET LE GRAIN
(A Cereal History Of Civilizations)
Belles Lettres, November 2021, 480 pages



- ◇ Along the richly illustrated pages of this complete and detailed book, they invite us to travel through the millennial history of human-grain interactions.
- ◇ A breathtaking world panorama.
- ◇ Rights for all photos have been cleared by the authors and therefore there is no additional flat-fee for files!

In this timely and international essay, Alain Bonjean and Benoît Vermander unveil on an unprecedented scale the diversity of grain-producing species and the societies that are organized around their culture.

A world panorama which takes into consideration cereals and pseudocereals in their relation with the sedentarization of humanity, the evolution of different civilizations since the Neolithic, and the future of our relations with all forms of living things.

A concrete and abundantly illustrated study of the different species of cereals and their uses.

A source of reflection on the answers that cereals can bring to the food, environmental and spiritual challenges for future generations.

A perspective on the symbolic and religious significance of cereals through eras and civilizations.

A complete account of the biological and technological up to the current challenges of globalization.

A transdisciplinary approach, which combines field experience and the complementary knowledge of Alain Bonjean, plant geneticist, and Benoît Vermander, teacher in social and religious sciences.

ABOUT THE AUTHORS: Alain Bonjean, plant geneticist and ethnobotanist, has worked on cereal improvement in Asia, Europe, America and Africa. In particular, he directed the publication of the three volumes of the *World Wheat Book*, summing up the knowledge available on wheat.

Benoît Vermander, professor of religious anthropology at Fudan University (Shanghai), studies the rituals and modes of governance of local societies, particularly in several Asian contexts, updating the “wisdom” that the practices of these societies always conceal.

WOMEN'S PERSPECTIVES

Alice Zeniter
JE SUIS UNE FILLE SANS HISTOIRE
(I Am A Girl Without Story)
 L'Arche, March 2021, 112 pages



- ◇ 20,000 copies sold.
- ◇ Playing with the genre of the literary conference, Alice Zeniter humorously deconstructs the canonical models in the making of stories, the links between fiction and lies, and how patriarchy has shaped great narratives since Antiquity.

Zeniter : "A good story, even today, is often the story of a guy who does stuff. And if it can be a bit violent, if it can include meat, a rifle and spears, it's better..."

Alice Zeniter humorously deconstructs the hero's model in the making of stories and the way patriarchy has shaped narratives since antiquity. Starting from Aristotle's Poetics, whose sexism she reveals, she draws her references from the great classics of literature as well as from pop culture. With a lot of humour and irony, she tells us about her storytelling and the place of women in literature, from the authors to the representation of the female body in stories over the centuries.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Alice Zeniter was born in 1986. She is a theater producer, author of plays and novels. For ten years she has published several novels and stories for young audiences, (*The Art of losing, Like an empire in an empire* with Editions Flammarion.). She is an English translator (*I love Dick* by Chris Kraus and *Sleeping Men* by Martin Crimp). At L'Arche she published her play *When will come the wave*, in 2019. Since the 2020 season, she has been an associate artist at the Comédie de Valence where she performs her text *Je suis une fille sans histoire* everywhere in France and soon at the Théâtre du Rond Point in Paris

Titou Lecoq
LES GRANDES OUBLIÉES
(History's Forgotten Women)
 L'Iconoclaste, September 2021, 364 pages



- ◇ Shortlisted for the Prix Essai France Télévisions 2022.
- ◇ A successful feminist author who combines rigorous scholarship and biting wit.
- ◇ Titou Lecoq has made her subjective historical panorama a real page-turner. Once picked up, you can't put it down.
- ◇ An important milestone in the contemporary feminist debate that has launched several bestselling titles such as Mona Chollet's *Sorcières*.

History seen through the eyes of women. Exploring and understanding why women have been overlooked throughout history, from the medieval period to the modern world.

As an adult, Titou Lecoq came to realise that the history lessons she sat through at school were all biased, viewed through the prism of male domination. Across the centuries, the story was the same: men first, women in the background. As if women were somehow biologically programmed to keep the home fires burning since the dawn of time.

Yet prehistorical women were hunters, medieval women helped build cathedrals and spied on the enemy during the Hundred Years War, nineteenth-century women worked as journalists. Women have always been active leaders, creators, and rulers, though many of their achievements are elided in history manuals.

From the Stone Age to the modern day, Titou Lecoq explores the most recent research on the lives of women past. She analyses the mechanisms of their oppression, voicing her anger as she foregrounds their forgotten lives. Her scalpel-sharp prose makes for a delightfully incisive read. Women have never been silent. This book gives them back their voice.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Titou Lecoq is a freelance journalist and blogger for *Girlsandgeeks.com*. Her books include *Libérées! Le combat féministe se gagne devant le panier de linge sale* (Fayard, 2014), and the novel *Les Morues* (*Au Diable Vauvert*, 2011). In 2019 *l'Iconoclaste* published *Honoré et moi*, a witty, accessible homage to Balzac.

WOMEN'S PERSPECTIVES

Marie-Laure Buisson
FEMMES COMBATTANTES
(Women on the Front Lines)
Presses de la Cité, February 2022, 352 pages



Through seven portraits of committed, exemplary yet little-known women, from Second World War veterans to participants in the conflicts of the present day, Marie-Laure Buisson, herself a soldier, pays a wonderful homage to female courage and strength.

Lily Litviak, who was from a working-class Moscow family, had been passionate about aviation ever since childhood. In 1941 when Hitler's troops were advancing on Moscow, Lily enlisted in the women pilots' unit created to expand the existing squadrons and repel the Luftwaffe. We experience with her the terrible siege of Stalingrad from both the civilian and barracks perspective.

Suzanne Travers, another female pilot but from an aristocratic family, played a major role in May 1942 in the Battle of Bir Hakeim, which put an end to the advance of Rommel's Afrikakorps and paved the way later for the Allied landings on the south coast of France.

Noor, born to an American mother and a father who descended from an Indian sultan, grew up in a polyglot family of musicians and literary types. Recruited by the British Special Operations Executive (SOE) and dispatched to France, she organised the repatriation of English pilots who had been shot down. We follow the SOE's training methods and the workings of the networks in France, and when Noor is arrested by the Gestapo and deported, we witness at close quarters her exemplary courage.

These are just some of the remarkable tales contained in this book.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Originally a corporate lawyer, Marie-Laure Buisson worked at the European Parliament and as deputy managing director of the Veolia Environment foundation. Attracted by the army and its values, in 2011 she attended a series of lectures and classes at the Institut des hautes études de Défense nationale and discovered the Foreign Legion. She is now an honorary legionnaire, a colonel in the air force's citizen's reserve force, and the 'godmother' of the 4th Regiment of the Foreign Legion.

Laure de Chantal
LIBRE COMME UNE DÉESE GRECQUE
(Free As a Greek Goddess)
Stock, February 2022, 300 pages



◇ The reader will find, against all expectations, that women in mythology were sometimes far freer than those of today, and will delight in the sheer beauty of their stories.

What if mythology were feminist?

Ancient societies can easily be described as macho, but their mythology paints a very different picture. It depicts smart sorceresses such as Medea and Circe; wise householders such as Penelope; indomitable warriors like the Amazons; and many goddesses – and all of them are examples of culture and creativity. Released from the shackles of cliché, these female figures are glorious, fundamental role models for our time to be handed on to men and women of the future. They encourage us to be humanist, in other words feminist.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Laure de Chantal graduated from the Ecole Normale Supérieure and holds the prestigious "agrégation" teaching qualification for classics. She has several books to her name.

"A reminder that in mythology, greatness was not gendered." Le Monde des Livres

Aliette de Laleu
MOZART ÉTAIT UNE FEMME
(Mozart Was a Woman)
Stock, February 2022, 288 pages



◇ Composers, instrumentalists, orchestra directors, founders of ensembles, patrons... this book finally shines a spotlight on these women.

Paying homage to prodigiously talented female musicians who have been left in the shadows.

“Forsake your triumphs that don’t suit your sex and make way for your brother,” were the words of Fanny Mendelssohn’s father. Her compositions were already being signed by her brother Felix.

Have you heard of Kassia of Constantinople, the first female composer in history whose scores have been identified? Destined to marry Emperor Theophilus, she insolently spurned him to devote herself to music and religion. The saint and Christian mystic Hildegard of Bingen corresponded with emperors and popes but found time to compose sacred hymns recognised as leading lights of medieval music. Barbara Strozzi, she of the scandalous reputation, was Italy’s most prolific female baroque composer.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Aliette de Laleu is a journalist who specialises in classical music. In her unmissable weekly piece for France’s top music radio station, she dismantles clichés and talks feminism.

“This book reminds us of our unjust ignorance of the role women played in the history of classical music.” Elle

Klou
BAGARRE ÉROTIQUE
(Erotic Fight)

Anne Carrière, January 2022, 112 pages



◇ In her first graphic novel, Klou, the author and drawer, tells us about her personal journey, both intimate and political, as a sex worker.

◇ She elucidates genre-related socialization and her own discovery of pro-sex and LGBTQIA+ feminist activism. Her perspective is scathing, amusing and committed.

A young artist gives a personal account of the oldest profession in the world in the light of the most modern social struggles.

I am a 24 year-old sex worker – a whore, in short. To me, selling a sexual service is neither degrading nor traumatic. I like being a whore and I’m shocked that some might find that offensive.

On the other hand, what is unbearable is to have to practice my job within a system that doesn’t want me. A system that doesn’t recognize the fact that free and totally fulfilled whores might even exist. A system that refuses to give us basic rights or a status. A system that doesn’t want to hear us or our claims.

But you can’t muffle a cry of revolt. This book proves it.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:: At 24, Klou has been a sex worker for the last three years, a job she chose to practise at the same time as studying, because she considers it both political and pragmatic. She prefers calling herself a « whore » to reappropriate the insult intended to her. Her family and close relations all support her. *Erotic Fight* is her first graphic novel.

Léonora Miano
L'AUTRE LANGUE DES FEMMES
(The Other Language of Women)
Grasset, September 2021, 256 pages



Western determinism has elaborated a fundamentally victimising feminine ontology that reduces the female condition to subjugation by men. Léonora Miano challenges this tradition by proposing the existence of an 'other language' that women speak by displaying their accomplishments on the African continent. By drawing on the history, myths, spirituality and social norms of the Sub-Saharan people, the author demonstrates in a highly original manner that Sub-Saharan Africa is a resource of a rich matrimonial tradition that can enhance our understanding and celebration of women's power.

Africa alone has produced dynasties of powerful women that contradict the Western postulate of traditional histories evacuating the memory of women. This book does not seek to deify these women, but to reveal the diverse profiles that Africa offers to the world. This is a continent where women have distinguished themselves in every domain, and the Sub-Saharan concept of gender never took them far from the battlefield - their female warriors were certainly not the 'second sex'!

Sub-Saharan women have reigned over patriarchal societies, given land to their exiled people, made sexual pleasure a right and did not revere virginity. They engaged in anti-colonial struggles, often funded from their own personal fortunes. These women, whose lives have long remained in shadow, created single-sex societies, including some of great affluence. By creating their own spaces without seeking to storm the citadel of masculinity, they seized power of their own.

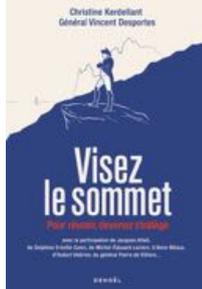
Despite the richness and diversity of their contribution to the global history of women, the experience of Sub-Saharan African women remains marginalised. We do not identify with them, but we claim to dictate their path to emancipation. Through a critique of the hegemony of the West, this work reflects on the relations between women. The 'sisterhood' we dream of at a global scale is currently compromised: history has endowed some women with a symbolic, political and economic power from which others are excluded. While we complain about male domination, we fail to evoke this asymmetry that turns some women into oppressors, whether they wish it or not. This establishes the legitimacy of Sub-Saharan women achieving self-determination with full autonomy, and developing a discourse that recognises their journey, their realities and their aspirations.

Still today, in contexts deconstructed by the colonialism that stripped them of their former prerogatives, Sub-Saharan women are characterised by their dynamism and authority. Without the need to produce theories, they speak this other language that they must rediscover and share. This other language of women is the unique speech that emerges when we define ourselves as and for ourselves, and not as the counter-relief of the other's negative action upon the self.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Léonora Miano was born in 1973 in Douala, in Cameroon. She was awarded the Prix Goncourt des lycéens for *CONTOURS DU JOUR QUI VIENT* in 2006, the Grand prix littéraire d'Afrique noire en 2011 for the totality of her works, and the Prix Femina for *LA SAISON DE L'OMBRE* in 2013. She is the author of over twenty fiction and non-fiction works. Her most recent essay, *AFROPEA: UTOPIE POST-OCCIDENTALE ET POST-RACISTE*, was published by Grasset in 2020.

WORK & PRODUCTIVITY

Christine Kerdellant & Vincent Desportes
VISEZ LE SOMMET
(Aim For The Top
If You Want To Succeed, Become Strategic)
Denoël, April 2022, 400 pages



- ◇ This book brings together theory and practice, analysis and testimony.
- ◇ The best French strategists share their own experiences.
- ◇ As of today, this is the only book of its kind.
- ◇ With the participation of: Jacques Attali, Alain Mic, Stéphane Richard, Delphine Ernotte, Antoine Frérot, Alain Bauer, Hubert Védrine, Anne Méaux, Michel-Edouard Leclerc,
- ◇ Général McChrystal, General de Villiers....

Drawing inspiration from Lewis Carroll's Alice in Wonderland, a veritable strategy guide posing as a tale for children, this book explores its subject from a lively and playful angle that is accessible to all.

In a world of growing tensions and uncertainty, and on the heels of a historic economic crisis that turned our habits on their heads, leaders in politics, the military, and the private sector can no longer be content with being tacticians. If they want to succeed, they must become strategists. But how?

This book is for those in the world of constant competition who must make decisions without having all of the cards in their hand. It instills the right strategic reflexes and enables the reader to project into the future and meet with success.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Christine Kerdellant, editor-in-chief at Les Échos, has written several books on management, including *Ils se croyaient les meilleurs... Histoire des grandes erreurs de management* (Denoël, 2016). Her latest book is a fictionalized biography, *The Real Life of Gustave Eiffel* (Robert Laffont, 2021). General Vincent Desportes, former director of the “Collège interarmées de la défense” at the Military Academy, is currently a strategy professor at HEC and Sciences Po. He is the author, among others, of *Entrez en stratégie* (Robert Laffont, 2019).

Laëtitia Vitaud
EN FINIR AVEC LA PRODUCTIVITÉ
(Getting Over Productivity: A Feminist Critique of a Tenacious Myth
Payot Rivages, April 2022, 300 pages



- ◇ At a time when the need for restraint and for an ecology of relationships is making itself felt, productivity locks us into debilitating venality rather than freeing up time to focus on more human values in our professional lives.

Why we urgently need to change our software, both individually – because productivity is alienating for us, and socially, at a time of necessary restraint.

Not a day goes by without someone sharing the secret of their productivity at work on professional social networks... Yet both individually, where productivity is synonymous with assembly-line work and dehumanization; and economically and socially, at a time when productivity rhymes with soil pollution and resource scarcity, it seems clear that the world of tomorrow would do well to reconsider productivity's place in the system. And that's not even taking productivity's absolutely sexist side into account... By retracing the ties between productivity and slavery, Laëtitia Vitaud raises our awareness of the obvious incompatibility between productivity and the caring professions and creativity in particular, and of that overriding notion's incapacity to measure the true value of most of those professions of the future ... which are often seen as feminine.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: A graduate of HEC with an advanced degree in English, Laëtitia Vitaud is a writer and keynote speaker about the future of work and consumerism, the head of Cadre Noir Ltd, a firm specialized in research into the future of work, and the editor-in-chief of the B2B media *Welcome to the Jungle*.

Serge Latouche
TRAVAILLER MOINS, TRAVAILLER
DIFFÉREMENT OU NE PAS TRAVAILLER DU
TOUT
(Work Less, Work Differently or Don't Work at All)
Payot Rivages, November 2021, 120 pages



- ◇ **Rights sold: Spanish, Japan.**
- ◇ An essay that tries to free work from the grip of wage earning and capitalist domination to reconnect with the idea of self-realization through activity.

Work less to live better!

While former-president Sarkozy's campaign slogan, "Work more to earn more," now seems ob- scene, it's not just because it flies in the face of the Ten Command- ments, but also because current work hours are already excessive. They devour our lives, suffocating participatory citizenship and engendering stress and suffering. Working more is all the more absurd in that, without a change of orientation, it will only hasten the tipping point toward ecological catastrophe. Which is why we need a new slogan: "Work less to live better!" In the long run, the ideal would be to abolish wage-earning work in favor of freely chosen activities – which could in part cover the concept of working differently – and, therefore, not to work at all. Yet we need to distinguish the theoretical stance of abolishing work in the perspective of a society of frugal abundance from practical positions that can be defended in the short and medium term (reducing work time, sharing tasks, etc.)

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Serge Latouche is an economist and professor emeritus at the University of Orsay. As one of the principal theorists of the degrowth society, he has written several best-sellers.

Gaël Chatelain-Berry
LE MANAGER BIENVEILLANT
(The 2.0 Positive Manager)
Support your team at the remote and digital era)
Edi8 / First, January 2022, 216 pages



- ◇ How to care for your employees' well-being at remote and digital work era.
- ◇ Kindness and positivity are the keys for a serene and efficient team work.
- ◇ By the creator of the positive management concept, taking strength of his previous numerous positions as a top manager.

Gaël Chatelain-Berry, creator of the positive management concept, provides in this book all the necessary advice to managers in the 2.0 era for a serene and efficient collaboration with their team: using digital tools, managing emotions at a distance, dealing with humility...

The pandemic has completely changed the way we work and our perception of it. Many of us realise that working remotely offers flexibility, relieves stress, develops autonomy and initiative, in short, it makes us happier. We won't go backwards after such a breakthrough and managers must therefore take this new revolution in the way we work. How can we support employees who are not physically present? How can we care for their well-being when communication over phone or visioconference is not possible?

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Gaël Chatelain-Berry has built up his experience as a manager in numerous French top companies (TF1, Canal+, INA, etc.). Today, as a speaker and consultant, he has decided to combine his two passions, writing and management, to talk about what has become his hobby: kindness and positivity at work.

TRUE CRIME / COLD CASES

Fayçal Ziraoui
J'AI ÉLUCIDÉ L'AFFAIRE DU ZODIAC
(I Have Solved The Case Of The Zodiac Killer)
 Robert Laffont, April 2022, 304 pages



50 years after the crimes, the case of the Zodiac killer is finally solved.

In the United States, people tend to compare the case of the Zodiac killer to the famous London case of Jack the Ripper. In the state of California in the 1970s, a mysterious killer creates a sense of panic amongst the population as he goes on killing randomly, mostly young couples. Not satisfied with only executing his victims, the serial killer plays a disturbing cat and mouse game, claiming his bloody deeds by provocative and coded messages sent to the press.

For the last 50 years, only one of his codes has been decrypted while three other have resisted all attempts from the FBI's code breakers. Until today, the killer's identity remains unknown...

Christmas 2020, Fayçal Ziraoui, a young graduate from France's elite university École Polytechnique has too much free time during the holidays. Having heard of the case of the Zodiac killer, he starts reading up on the subject and gets passionate about it. In only a few days, working from his kitchen table, he is able to decipher the three last messages, thus finally establishing the identity of a serial killer that has fascinated and terrified the United States of America for half a century.

This brilliant non-fiction narrative adroitly going back and forth between the tension ridden state of California of the 1970s and present day inquiry conducted by a brilliant mind, is an enthralling page-turner and a deep dive into one of the most famous cold cases of all times.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Fayçal Ziraoui, a graduate of France's prestigious University École Polytechnique, is a brilliant and versatile entrepreneur. This is his first book.

Quentin Bruet Ferreol
DIEU EST UN VOLEUR QUI MARCHE DANS LA NUIT
(God Will Come like a Thief in the Night)
 Bouquins, January 2022, 448 pages



◇ [English sample available.](#)

◇ A cross between a murder mystery and a coming-of-age story, this book is the fruit of a seven-year-long investigation of the Heaven's Gate cult, which attracted the world's attention with the mass suicide of 39 of its members in March, 1997

◇ Blending fact and fiction, the novel is a dizzying dive into one of the strangest anecdotes of the 20th century – and into the souls of members of the cult, who are more like us than we might care to imagine.

◇ Through his extraordinary, sometimes quixotic investigation, the author met several survivors of the Heaven's Gate cult, and entered into a dialogue that went on for years.

California. Thirty-nine corpses are found in a luxury villa. They are wearing black uniforms and brand-new sneakers, and purple cloths are draped over their faces. Death seems to have come upon them peacefully – there are no signs of a struggle. And yet an alarm signal is flashing on a computer screen on the first floor, a message in capital letter that reads: "Red Alert".

Twenty years before, in the mid-1970s: Young Bartholomew is at the end of his rope. A broke hippie, he's crashing on a friend's couch in a small town in the middle of nowhere in Oregon, after having failed at pretty much everything he has tried to do. Then one day he meets God himself in a motel, in the guise of a charismatic man in his 40s with a melodious voice and ideas about another world. The young man decides to abandon everything and follow him around the United States. But that's just the beginning, because this mysterious god is demanding the impossible: Bartholomew has to renounce his humanity. If he succeeds, his spiritual teacher has promised to throw open Heaven's Gate for him.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Quentin Bruet-Ferreol, has been writing about cults and marginal practices for over 20 years (Vice, Slate, Europe 1). He is the founder of Tryangle, a "contemporary cabinet of curiosities for the Internet Age" focused on cults and the occult that is well-established on Instagram. He is frequently invited to speak on those topics by various YouTubers, particularly Sylar (250,000 subscribers), and has recently finished his first documentary film, about a French psychedelic artist.

Raphaël Malkin
LIEUTENANT VERSIGA
(Lieutenant Versiga, A Cop Life in the Mississippi)
Marchialy, February 2022, 240 pages



◇ Lieutenant Versiga has the makings of a hero from noir fiction: a former professional boxer, a shooting champion, a survivor of Hurricane Katrina, he's a cop in the state of Mississippi and spends his free time solving cold cases.

When you find yourself face to face with a body, it's not enough to know the killer's identity; you also need to know that of the victim.

To shed light on the murder of a black woman that took place in the 1970s, he will need to pry – fifty years later – a confession out of the country's most prolific serial killer: the terrifying Samuel Little. Thus begins a long investigation spanning several years in the bayou that will push the Lieutenant to question his deepest convictions.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Raphaël Malkin was born in 1987 in Paris. He is a journalist for Society and also founded Snatch Magazine. His previous book *Le Rugissant* was published by Marchialy in 2019.

Michel Sapanet
AUTOPSIES
Plon, February 2022, 336 pages



◇ Under option: Russia (Eksmo).

Taking us from the crime scene to the autopsy, the reconstruction and the eventual trial, Dr Sapanet guides us down the long path that leads from a crime mystery to the revelation of the truth in a court of law.

Whether murder is done by a hunting rifle, a kitchen knife, a Japanese sword or strangulation, every method leaves behind a signature on the victim's body that an autopsy is capable of identifying. Together with his team, Michel Sapanet examines, dissects and analyses the evidence, and in this book he explains to us the procedures and his reasoning process, often with a little dash of humour. Taking us from the crime scene to the autopsy, the reconstruction and the eventual trial, Dr Sapanet guides us down the long path that leads from a crime mystery to the revelation of the truth in a court of law. Murders of women, altercations that degenerate, a parricide with a Japanese sword, a burglary that gets out of hand – the cases revisited in this book range from the commonplace to the extraordinary, and sometimes the barely describable. Like the story of a bunch of alcoholic drug addicts living on the margins of society who tortured and assassinated four members of their group as a form of entertainment, as if to enliven a dull life in the provinces... A chapter to be read with precaution.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: In this his fifth book, the coroner and lecturer Dr Michel Sapanet, who is the director of the Institut Médico-légal of Poitou- Charentes and regularly gives evidence in court, looks back at some thirty criminal cases in which he has been directly involved.

REPORTAGE

Grégoire Osoha & Timothée Demeillers
VOYAGE AU LIBERLAND
(Journey To Liberland)
 Marchialy, January 2022, 300 pages



- ◇ **Rights sold: Spanish. Italian offer.**
- ◇ Is it possible to establish a new country, today ? How rules apply ? Who are the libertarians ? Extreme-right fascists ? Anarcoliberals ? Bitcoins' passionates ? Hippies ? A little bit of everything, even if that sounds bizarre ?
- ◇ In the midst of a territory traumatized by its recent history and its borders, how a foreigner come to establish new ones ? This book recalls with irony and a narrative tone the birth of a country, or, more precisely, the birth of its attempt.
- ◇ An invitation to think about the complex sens of « freedom », and about the place for utopia in today's globalized world.

The new Far West is in the heart of Europe. Between Serbia and Croatia, on a bank of the Danube, is located a terra nullius, a stretch of unclaimed land. A godsend for Vít Jedlicka, a Czech politician, who seizes the opportunity to create a State, proclaiming himself the President: in 2015, Liberland is born. A harebrained project or the last chance for a utopia in Europe?

Liberland attracts the attention of Grégoire Osoha and Timothée Demeillers, who are filming a documentary in this region scarred by nationalism. Yet another border in this already divided region? And what are Vít's true motives? This young cryptocurrency enthusiast, fervently defends the libertarian ideology. Liberland becomes a unique experiment, which draws libertarians from all over the world who want to bear witness to this historic moment. A collective experiment that could soon turn into a fiasco. After all, in a land where liberty reigns supreme, where does one person's liberty begin and where does another's end?

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Timothée Demeillers has published three novels with Asphalte, including *Jusqu'à la bête* and *Demain la Brume*, Awarded Prix Hors Concours 2021. Grégoire Osoha works as an independent journalist. Together, they have made numerous trips to the Balkans to co-create two documentaries: *Vukovar(s)* and *Kosovo, troubles identitaires*.

Jake Adelstein
J'AI VENDU MON ÂME EN BITCOINS
(I Sold My Soul For Bitcoins)
 Marchialy / Delcourt, September 2019, 230 pages



- ◇ **Complete original text available in English.**
- ◇ **5,000 copies sold.**
- ◇ **Chinese offer.**
- ◇ **Previous books sold in: Germany (Riva Verlag), China (Nanfang Daily Press), Italy (Einaudi), the Netherlands (Lebowski), Vietnam (Alpha Books).**
- ◇ **Adelstein's first book, Tokyo Vice, is currently adapted into a 12 episode HBO series. The sequel of the books is scheduled for 2022.**

The wild true story of cyber-era commerce, crime, not-so-cold-hard cash and one of the greatest heists in history.

Even in hell, bitcoin talks. This modern take on an old Japanese saying still holds true. The cryptocurrency was supposed to do for money what the Internet did for information, but it didn't work out that way. Its virtual existence unleashed real-world chaos — especially in the homeland of its mysterious creator, Satoshi Nakamoto. Tokyo was the center of the world's largest bitcoin exchange, Mt. Gox, until that company collapsed with nearly half a billion dollars' worth of bitcoin gone missing. It might be the greatest heist in history. If it was a heist. So what really happened? Here's the true story of the humble-to-hot commodity, from the former geek website that launched the boom to an inside world of absent-minded CEOs, hucksters, hackers, cybercrooks, drug dealers, corrupt federal agents, evangelical libertarians, and clueless techies.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Jake Adelstein has been an investigative journalist in Japan since 1993. Considered one of the foremost experts on organized crime in that country, he works as a writer and consultant in Japan and the United States, writing for the *Daily Beast*, the Japanese economic monthly *ZAITEN*, and other publications. He has served as a special correspondent for the *Los Angeles Times* and is the best-selling author of *Tokyo Vice: An American Reporter on the Police Beat in Japan* (Vintage), which has been translated into twelve languages, and *The Last of the Yakuza* (Marchialy).

"A fascinating retrospective into the turbulent teen-age years of Bitcoin currency" - Capital

"A bunch of underhanded actors straight out from Raymond Chandler mixed with cybercrime and organized crime." - Le Point

TRUE STORY / MEMOIRS

Edith Blais
LE SABLIER

(My 450 Days Held Hostage In The Sahara)
L'Homme, February 2021, 296 pages



- ◇ Full English translation available.
- ◇ World English rights sold to Greystone Books.
- ◇ Over 70,000 copies sold in French (Canada)
- ◇ A hostage memoir from a civilian point of view, with details about the conditions in which hostages are held and an insider view on a terrorist organisation's functioning.
- ◇ A high-profile story, combined with a true literary and artistic value.
- ◇ Magnificently illustrated by poems written in captivity and art by the author herself, who is also a very inspiring 37-year-old storyteller. The book contains a photo insert.

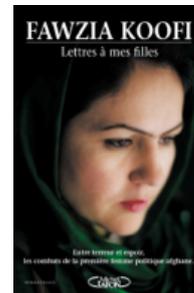
"I was their hostage: both a treasure and a nobody." The story of Canadian Edith Blais who was held hostage by a group of Islamic terrorists in Africa and escaped in 2020.

January 2019: Canadian Edith Blais and her Italian friend Luca Tacchetto went missing in Africa, somewhere between Togo and Burkina Faso. Their families spent the next 15 months in agonizing worry without any news. March 2020: while the rest of the world was plunging into the pandemic, Edith and Luca resurface. They managed to escape their captors and reach Mali and safety. News of their abduction and escape hit media outlets all over the world. Edith's story of how her life and her view of the world were put to the test during her captivity. Why and how were they kidnapped? How they survived, in what conditions? How they escaped? A lover of nature and travel and a self-taught artist, Edith Blais emerged changed but unscathed from the hands of her dangerous captors, a group of Islamic terrorists, and from the harsh conditions of the African desert, saved by hope, chance, good hearts and poetry. Her forceful and compelling story of courage, resilience and compassion will keep you on the edge of your seat and leave you breathless but also emotionally drained.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Edith Blais is a seasoned traveller and nature lover who voluntarily leads a simple life. After becoming interested in international cuisine on her many journeys, she has made it her job. Endowed with remarkable creativity and artistic talent, this young woman has learned to paint and write intuitively by teaching herself. The Weight of Sand: My 450 Days Held Hostage in the Sahara is her first book.

Fawzia Koofi with Nadene Ghouri
LETTRES À MES FILLES

(The Favored Daughter)
Michel Lafon, January 2022, 384 pages



- ◇ Full English translation available.
- ◇ Rights sold: WEL (St Martins Press), Chinese simple characters (Citic), Chinese complex characters (Titan), Germany (Kailash Reinman).
- ◇ New York Times Bestseller.
- ◇ Movie adaptation by award-winning screenwriter Sarah Solemani in Los Angeles.
- ◇ Initially published in February 2011 and translated in 13 languages. This updated version, including a « Letter to the world » and a new chapter, bridges the gap to the events of August 2021 and the return of the Taliban.

The true and inspiring story of how one Afghani woman overcame poverty and prejudice to become the first female speaker of the Afghani Parliament, a leading contender for president and a constant opponent to the Talibans.

The story of how Fawzia Koofi overcame hardship and prejudice in an ultra-traditionalist society to become the first female Deputy Speaker of Parliament in the history of Afghanistan, despite the murders of her father, brother, and husband, and numerous attempts on her life. She shares her remarkable story, punctuated by a series of poignant letters she wrote to her two daughters before each political trip—letters describing the future and freedoms she dreamed of for them and for all the women of Afghanistan.

Her testimony reminds us of the tragic consequences that the abandonment of Afghanistan to Taliban control will inevitably have, snuffing out the fragile but real gains of recent years. A call for the world to never forget!

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Fawzia Koofi is an Afghan politician and women's rights activist. Elected to parliament in 2005, she was one of the four women members of the Afghan delegation negotiating peace with the Taliban in 2020. She was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize the same year.

CLIMATE & ECOLOGY

Gaëtan Lafrance
L'ILLUSION CARBONEUTRE
(The Carbon Neutral Illusion)
MultiMondes, May 2022, 236 pages



- ◇ An essay that paints a clear-eyed and uncompromising picture of the urgent energy and climate choices to be made.
- ◇ Through startling contextual analysis, the author reveals what the media cannot in an era that features all sorts of international climate summits and panels.

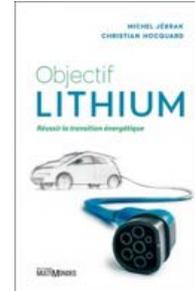
What will the weather be like after 2050? Wondering what the weather will be like tomorrow also means wondering what type of society we will leave to future generations. One thing is certain: the ecological or energy transition will be far from a picnic.

There is an overwhelming consensus in the data models predicting the future of our climate: it's going to get hot. To keep the planet's temperatures from rising more than 2°C, an "urgency to act" has become a leitmotif and reducing greenhouse gas emissions a goal. But achieving carbon neutrality will not be enough to stabilize the global thermostat by 2050.

Overpopulation and its subsequent food needs and consumption will require increasing energy production. Will we be able to reduce our carbon, oil and natural gas footprint? What alternative solutions exist? Can we turn to solar, wind, bioenergy and hydrogen power? from relying on fossil fuels.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Gaëtan Lafrance is a professor emeritus at the Institut national de recherche scientifique (INRS) and contributor to the Quebec research network Ouranos. He is one of the few specialists in energy forecasting and analysis of energy consumer behaviour.

Michel Jebrak et Christian Hocquard
OBJECTIF LITHIUM
(Lithium & The Energy Transition)
MultiMondes, November 2021, 210 pages



An ambitious essay with the scope of a reference volume that aims to shed light on a very topical issue: energy supply. Perfect for eco-anxious readers, sustainable development supporters, and electric car enthusiasts.

Lithium is everywhere: it can be found in cell phones, tablets, and electric bicycles and cars. Lithium-ion batteries are being hailed as the next generation of energy technology and are growing in popularity across the planet.

How does a lithium battery store energy? Are there enough lithium deposits to meet our industrial and domestic needs? Can lithium be used in an environmentally friendly way?

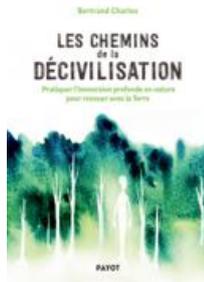
One thing is certain: lithium use could have a profound impact on the world's power grid, freeing us from relying on fossil fuels.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Christian Hocquard is a geological engineer and economist specializing in raw materials at the BRGM (French Geological Survey) in France. Michel Jebrak is a professor emeritus for UQAM's Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences and is the author of more than 100 scientific publications. He is President of the Scientific council for Ouranos, a consortium that studies climate change.

Bertrand Charles

LES CHEMINS DE LA DÉCIVILISATION

(The Paths of Decivilization: Practicing Deep Immersion in Nature to Reconnect with the Earth)
Payot, February 2022, 320 pages



- ◇ This book takes us to the heart of the bond, to the roots of ecology as a science of the relationships between living beings and their environment.
- ◇ Ecology turns into an absolute quest for an archaic, nomadic self whose environment is the entire Earth – that self's shelter.
- ◇ By practicing immersion regularly, humans can reestablish permeability with the raw reality of the world, and thus an awareness of the self as part of the whole.

In a similar vein to Peter Wohlleben's books, a suggestion for getting out from under our powerlessness in the face of the ecological crisis by rediscovering our archaic relationship with the Earth.

The comfort and safety offered by modern life have severed the last of the archaic bonds between Sapiens and Gaia. That split explains our current incapacity to prevent – or escape – the ecological crisis. Precisely when we should be caring for the Earth like our own home, or our mother, we don't know a thing about her needs, even though we know precisely – and there lies the terrifying paradox! – how to measure the problem, as the IPCC reports shows us with such painful eloquence.

To emerge from our incapacity to care for the planet or even to take care of ourselves, Bertrand Charles suggests putting our cognitive reflexes on standby in order to put ourselves in a position of being able to reconnect with the Earth. The idea is to break the pact of civilization... for just a few hours. With neither roof, nor tools, nor social interactions, we can intimately sense nature's welcoming character and our place within it.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: A graduate of the Haute École des Arts du Rhin and the Centre de Formation des Journalistes, with a master's degree in Economic Intelligence from the University of Paris-East Marne-la-Vallée, Bertrand Charles has made investigating his playground. Alongside his professional activities, he extends his craving for investigation by using himself as a subject of study: he has been experimenting with "decivilization" on long hikes for over 15 years. He shares those very personal experiences in this book.

Noémie Larouche

ÉCOANXIÉTÉ: L'ENVERS DU DENI

(Eco-Anxiety: The Flip Side Of Denial)
MultiMondes, April 2021, 160 pages



- ◇ By combing the scholarly literature on the effects of climate change on mental health, as well as by collecting multiple testimonies from activists, psychologists and ecologists, the author succeeds here in identifying this unprecedented civilizational malaise.

An essay that demystifies eco-anxiety and exposes the anguish felt by youth around the world in the face of environmental concerns. A well-documented "International Report" that sheds light on the tenuous nature of mental health in an era of climate change.

Has the planet's fragility become a source of stress for its human inhabitants? Psychologists are already using the terms "pre-traumatic stress" and "eco-anxiety" to describe what is plaguing thousands of people across the globe, from Labrador, to Australia, to Bangladesh. Given such concerns, how is it possible to think calmly about the future—especially if you are 20 and have your whole life ahead of you?

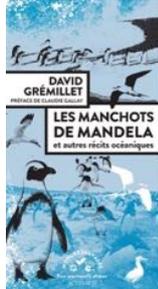
Personal anecdotes interspersed throughout the report reveal how eco-anxiety can act as a springboard for the great social awakening necessary to save the planet.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Noémie Larouche is the editor-in-chief of the science magazine *Curium*. She has a degree in geography and is interested in the present and future challenges of the younger generation, as well as the technological, scientific and social means to take part in them.

NATURE & ANIMALS

David Grémillet
**LES MANCHOTS DE MANDELA, ET AUTRES
 RÉCITS OÉANIQUES**

(Mandela's Penguins and Other Oceanic Stories)
 Actes Sud, October 2021, 240 pages



- ◇ David Grémillet has a real gift for storytelling on multiple levels, depicting the tragi-comic adventures of the scientist out in the field, revealing fascinating facts about the many species of seabird, each unique in their own way, and also bringing home to us the heavy toll that geopolitics and our rampant economies are exacting on marine environments across the planet.

David Grémillet is a French biologist who specialises in seabirds. He travels the world's oceans to study the physiology and behaviour of a wide variety of birds with the help of cutting-edge technologies.

From the penguins of the Antarctic to the little auks of Greenland, the terns of the Maldives and the puffins of the Marseille archipelago, he attaches miniature tracking devices to birds to explore in a non-invasive way the mysteries of their extraordinary ability to adapt to extreme climates, to track them in their mammoth migrations across the oceans, and to better understand how they interact with the marine ecosystem. The amazing capacities of these bundles of feathers seem to defy belief, but with the author as our guide we are taken into their inner world and, though confined to the shoreline ourselves, are afforded a glimpse of what life is like beyond the distant horizon. Sadly, the picture is not always rosy because pollution and above all industrial fishing are wreaking havoc, and seabirds are among the primary victims.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: An oceanographer at the CNRS, and director of the Centre d'études biologiques de Chizé, David Grémillet is first and foremost a world-renowned seabirds expert. He has travelled the globe to study them at every latitude and is one of the pioneers of the use of miniature geolocators to track birds. By the same author: Daniel Pauly, un océan de combats (éditions Wildproject, 2019).

François Sarano
AU NOM DES REQUINS

(In the Name of Sharks)
 Actes Sud, February 2022, 304 pages



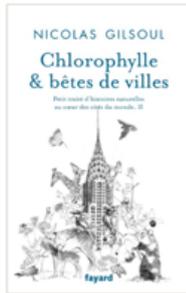
- ◇ Ethology and neurobiology have proved that sharks develop their own unique, individual identities and personalities.
- ◇ More than a synthesis of shark-life, this book draws on François Sarano's extensive experience in the field of cartilaginous fish and looks at their symbolic function in society.

This book is a plea to rehabilitate a fair understanding of sharks, against the current of its threatening image. Sharks are a perfect representation of the otherness of wilderness that modern man seeks to exploit and dominate with irreparable destructive results.

A diver and oceanographer, François Sarano has devoted his life to the ocean. Living in proximity with whales and other marine life, he has learned to know them and to love them. While diving alone and encountering a great white shark, Lady Mystery, during the shooting of the film, Océans, in 2006, he decided to become a spokesperson for the shark. Fifteen years later, this desire has produced this plea for a deeper understanding of sharks, a creature that terrorizes our collective imaginations. The animal's reputation is, in reality, unjustified. Sharks lived on Earth long before humans, 400 million years ago. Today, although 90% of sharks have disappeared in the last 50 years in relative indifference, cinema and the media still depict them as bloodthirsty monsters. Sharks are a perfect representation of the otherness of wilderness that modern man seeks to exploit and dominate with irreparable destructive results. François Sarano highlights how we can only reconcile ourselves with nature, and sharks in particular, a creature that has been hunted and exterminated like so many others, if we abandon our prejudices and encounter them head-on. So that each living entity, human and non-human, can take their rightful place in the broader global ecosystem.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: François Sarano is a doctor in oceanography, professional diver, and former expedition leader of the Calypso. He has written a number of books about oceans, especially le retour de Moby Dick (Actes Sud, 2017), and Océans. UN FILM DE JACQUES PERRIN ET JACQUE CLUZAUD (Seuil, 2009), adapted from the eponymous film for which he was the scientific advisor. François Sarano has already been published in several scientific journals (in English, as in the Royal Society Publishing).

Nicolas Gilsoul
CHLOROPHYLLE & BÊTES DE VILLES
(*Chlorophyll & City Creatures*)
Fayard, March 2022, 250 pages



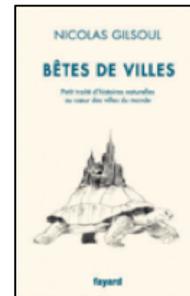
A fascinating, whimsical and informative look at the world just outside our doorstep and a reminder that we are all connected.

Nicolas Gilsoul takes us on a journey around the world, to meet the animals and plants that populate, share and change our urban spaces. He introduces us to migratory Mexican butterflies and their relationship with goldenrods; passerines in the vertical forests of Singapore; and baboons who improvise as winemakers in South Africa.

After *Bêtes de villes* (Fayard, 2019), which focused exclusively on fauna, *Chlorophylle & bêtes de villes* welcomes our new neighbors and shows how plants can be both friend and foe, ally and enemy, healer and destroyer. Flora is taking possession of our cities, which are getting greener, proving once more that humans and animals are not the only ones who can live on concrete.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Nicolas Gilsoul is an architect who was awarded the Grand prix de Rome. His work has won him many prizes and distinctions and he is solicited around the world from Europe, to India and the Middle East. He is also a Professor at the École Nationale Supérieure d'Architecture de Paris-Malaquais and at the École Nationale Supérieure du Paysage de Versailles.

Nicolas Gilsoul
BÊTES DE VILLES
(*City Creatures. A Little Treatise on Animal Stories in the Heart of the World's Cities*)
Fayard, October 2019, 200 pages



Nicolas Gilsoul's scholarly bestiary of 1 001 tales provides keys to reconnecting with life in the city, opening new perspectives along the way to the art of urban planning with animal genius. The moral of the story: We have a lot to learn from our fellow creatures.

With the world today facing an unprecedented biodiversity crisis, our cities are becoming hybrid jungles – the alternative habitats of a good number of forest creatures. Parks in Berlin are home to an estimated 33,000 clandestine wild boars; leopards live on the outskirts of Bombay; not to mention the coyotes in Chicago and the cougars on Mulholland Drive. Some species have mutated, either physically or behaviorally, for survival in the city: The Brooklyn mouse is resistant to heavy pollutants; the Barcelona snail can endure urban heatwaves; the Manhattan swallow has reduced its wingspan to navigate skyscrapers; and the Lima vulture has turned into a team player. It's our turn, now, to transform these new environments, to forge new alliances with those precarious custodians – the fur-clad, feathery and coldblooded bioengineers, gardeners and entrepreneurs of our cities.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Nicolas Gilsoul is an architect, a landscape designer, and a science PhD.

Camille Brunel
ÉLOGE DE LA BALEINE
(In Praise of Whales)
Payot Rivages, March 2022, 120 pages



With passion and affection, Camille Brunel has written an environmentally committed book about whales – creatures who verge on the divine.

In our collective imagination, when we think of whales, we rarely go beyond Moby Dick, the biblical Jonas or Monstro, from *Pinocchio*. And if someone says, *cetacean*, we think of *Free Willy* or *Flipper*.

Camille Brunel remedies that by shining a spotlight on these amazing inhabitants of the vast aquatic world. They are equipped with remarkable intelligence, highly developed empathy, and extraordinary strength – one can't help speaking in superlatives when portraying these marine behemoths! In order to do so, the author draws on various art forms, including novels and films, scientific and historical knowledge, and his own experience. Together, those different points of view allow readers to shift their own perception and to grasp the importance of preserving these mysterious beings, and even to be inspired by them.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Camille Brunel is the author of several novels, including *LA GUÉRILLA DES ANIMAUX* (The Animal Guerilla, Alma, 2018) and *APRÈS NOUS, LES ANIMAUX*, Casterman, 2020. He is also a journalist and a film critic. Animal rights are at the heart of his work.

Ludovic Dickel
LA VIE PRIVÉE DU POULPE
(The Private Life of the Octopus)
Humensis, March 2022, 290 pages



- ◇ This easy-to-read illustrated book also touches on the worlds of Jules Verne and Commander Cousteau, as well as the Kraken and other myths, and includes mentions of occurrences involving giant octopuses or squids.
- ◇ The book also deals with animal intelligence and consciousness, sensitivity to pain and death, and the ethics of research.

Find out all about the private life of the octopus.

Among the questions that the author asks and answers are “What do octopuses do all day long?,” And, because these cephalopods are so strange, he also wonders if there are psychologists who treat molluscs!

Ludovic Dickel is no ordinary researcher. He has been fascinated by octopuses since he was a child, and has become one of the greatest experts on the subject. So, when he talks about these fascinating creatures, it is no surprise that he does so in a lively fashion, with a wealth of anecdotes backed up by the latest scientific discoveries about these princes of the depths.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Ludovic Dickel teaches ethology at the University of Caen Basse Normandie. His research is devoted to the study of cephalopods.

François Y. Doré
L'ÉNIGME DU CHAT
(The Cat's Enigma)
MultiMondes, September 2021, 126 pages



- ◇ While this book does not profess to solve the cat's enigma, it provides a wealth of knowledge regarding feline cognition (perception, attention, learning capacity, and memory) and the associated functions, such as communication style and personality.

The ultimate reference for anyone who has—or is hoping to get—a cat. Complete with the most up-to-date scientific research, the book artfully deconstructs longstanding myths about cats, such as their characteristic independence or resistance to training.

There are over 600 million cats in the world today. But whether they are even-tempered or rough- and-tumble, pacifists or hunters, what do we know about these endearing animals? Not much at all! Research on feline behaviour and cognition is scarce and only at the beginning of the year 2000, following interesting archaeological discoveries have we begun to understand the strange life that the cat has led for thousands of years in our company.

Can cats distinguish a familiar from a stranger face? How can they live alone, with humans, in small groups, or in large packs—a pattern of social behaviour that is rare among other mammals?

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: FRANÇOIS Y. DORÉ is the author of nearly a hundred scientific publications related to animal behaviour. He is a professor at Université Laval's Psychology School and his research has focused on learning and memory as well as cognitive development and intelligence in animals.

Thierry Lodé
TOUS LES SEXES SONT DANS LA NATURE
(All Genders are in the Natural World)
Humensis, January 2022, 260 pages



- ◇ Sex is a strange business. Between the hermaphroditism of the earthworm, the homosexual embraces of lions and the transsexuality of sea breams, nature presents a multitude of sexualities. Some embrace without penetration while others display oversized penises. In some as in others, heterosexuality is far from being the rule. But what do the masturbation of macaques or the sexual inconstancy of dolphins tell us? That it is not procreation that guides the animal in the passage to the act but the search for pleasure.

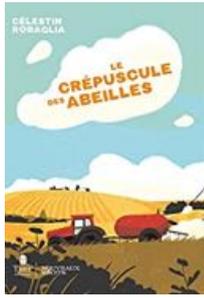
In this universe where sexualities play to distort and to tangle, Thierry Lodé reveals the true role of the sex which is nothing less than the engine of evolution, the one which makes biodiversity possible!

In this book, you will find out everything about the infidelities of earthworms and penguins, why penises are the shape they are, female homosexual lizards, transformist bream, the over-the-top seduction technique of the black kite, the deceitfulness of monogamous birds, and the orgies that certain mice indulge in...

The author is one of the greatest French experts on the subject and, through a great many examples and anecdotes, he reveals the incredible diversity of animal sexuality – monogamy, polygamy, polyandry, homosexuality and autoeroticism. He not only looks at the reproductive and social role of sexuality, but also at its role as a provider of pleasure. The immense variety of practices has influenced the history of species and biodiversity.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Thierry Lodé teaches evolutionary ecology at the University of Angers and is considered as one of the major specialists in animal sexuality.

Célestin Robaglia
LE CRÉPUSCULE DES ABEILLES
The Bees' Twilight
 ED18 / Tana, February 2022 , 256 pages



- ◇ A committed and documented novel on the danger of pesticides and neonicotinoids: the author built his novel with scientific studies, legal concept explanations, summaries of historical facts which feed the understanding of the stakes and implicit conflicts of interest.
- ◇ A two-narrative novel combining legal battle and reality on the ground, with two twin sisters against the agrochemical lobby.
- ◇ In the same vein as Erin Brockovich.

Elsa is a young determined and promising lawyer. Alice is a lively and clever beekeeper. Two twin sisters, two dreams and the same love for the living: while one pleads for the silent victims of the agrochemical industry, which exploits and damages nature with impunity; the other aspires to a simple life in a countryside farm, where she could change the world at her own scale. They both share the goal to build a society more respectful of the living and of nature.

While Elsa succeeded in getting sentenced Oxol, an agrochemical firm, for first-degree murder to glyphosate poisoning - a first in France, a real judiciary marathon starts until the appeal and brings its share of surprises with scientific data manoeuvring and conflicts of interest. Seeing her beehives being decimated one after another, Alice discovers the tough reality behind the pesticides use, such as glyphosate: the systematic poisoning of soils and water, the massive extinction of pollinating insects, the drop in fertility, the intentional disinformation of the agrochemicals towards farmers, or the sweep of the sanitary disaster for which they are the first victims.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: After his studies, Célestin Robaglia left Paris for Brittany, where he founded an eco-place with a group of friends to live in accordance with his deepest aspirations: the quietest for a lifestyle in harmony with nature. *The Bees' Twilight*, his third novel, is a committed text, stemming from his conviction that the major challenge of our time is the safeguarding of biodiversity and of weakened natural balances, in the hope of offering a viable future to the world, humanity and all living things.

Mathieu Lihoreau
À QUOI PENSENT LES ABEILLES ?
(What do Bees Think About?)
 Humensis, April 2022, 208 pages



- ◇ This book goes back over a century of research into insects, and particularly into bees, which have been shown to have unexpected and fascinating cognitive skills.
- ◇ The author looks at the discoveries, recounts anecdotes, and reflects on the subject, making us aware of how important it is for us to give more consideration to insects and protect them.

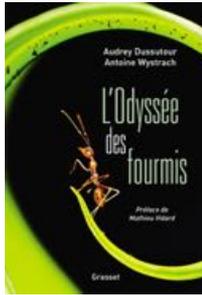
Have you ever observed a bee? Close up, in detail, without disturbing it? Did you wonder what was going on in its head? Was it frightened? Did it even notice you?

Like us, insects have a brain that takes up almost all the space in their head. But, unlike us, their brain is tiny. It's even smaller than any microchip. So, what purpose does it serve? Do insects have a form of intelligence, a conscience, or any creative element? Do they have emotions?

After all, we are not so different from insects, and our survival on the planet depends to a large degree on them! This is an important ecological message about bees – like us, intelligent creatures in the living world.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Mathieu Lihoreau is a researcher at the CNRS, specialising in the study of insect intelligence. He has worked on communication between ants, the personality of cockroaches, flies that vote, the schooling of bees and their private lives. He is currently the head of a research team in Toulouse looking into the intelligence of bumblebees.

Audrey Dussutour & Antoine Wystrach
L'ODYSSÉE DES FOURMIS
(*The Odyssey of the Ants*)
Grasset, April 2022, 448 pages



Two leading myrmecologists (ant experts) introduce us to the daily lives of these remarkable insects, about which we know comparatively little and whose social structures are at least as complex as our own, if not more so. A scientific odyssey that is full of surprises and reads like an adventure novel!

Scientists have catalogued 13,000 species of ant and estimate that there are some 25,000 in total. These insects, which appeared on our planet 170 million years ago, have colonised every continent with the exception of Antarctica. The great conquerors of history turn out not to be Napoleon or Genghis Khan but ants, and their sheer diversity is impressive.

Drawing on their travels around the globe, Audrey Dussutour and Antoine Wistrach describe in detail one of the key activities of ants: the search for food. This task can occupy millions of individuals within a single colony, and to achieve their goal they are capable of undertaking journeys of several dozen kilometres, often in very hostile terrain. Their route is strewn with obstacles, as well as predators that they may have to fend off at any moment. Indeed, you could be forgiven for thinking that the art of warfare was invented by ants, so diverse is the range of weapons and tactics to which they resort.

They are also blessed with incredible memories, a gift for strategy and Herculean physical strength, and a description of their daily lives reads like the most thrilling of adventure novels! And then of course there is their social structure, with its swimmers, weightlifters, doctors, farmers, drug users, suicide attackers, fliers, gliders, slaves and many other social categories besides.

ABOUT THE AUTHORS: Audrey Dussutour is a renowned myrmecologist who is known in particular for her cutting-edge research into single-celled organisms. Antoine Wystrach is also a myrmecologist and neuroethologist whose specialist field is insect behaviour. He has studied ant navigation both in the laboratory and in the field using sophisticated tools such as virtual reality, 3D computer graphics and neuron network models.

Alexis Jenni
CETTE PLANÈTE N'EST PAS TRÈS SÛRE
(*This Planet is not Very Safe : A History of the Six Great Extinctions*)
Humenscience, January 2022, 240 pages



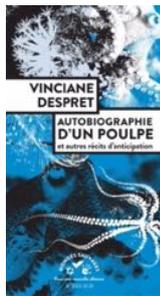
◇ **It is fascinating, it reads like a novel, but everything is true; which is even better!**

A story about science, told as if it were a novel, by the winner of the 2011 Prix Goncourt.

As well as being a well-known author, Alexis Jenni is passionately interested in science and he tells the story of our planet through five important species that have become extinct, evoking the possibility of a threat to our own extinction. Everything in this book is fact, but any element that could cloud the clarity of the account has been removed, so as to make it totally accessible even to non-scientists.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Alexis Jenni holds a teaching degree in biology. He is passionately interested in science, history and the future of humanity. His first novel, *L'ART FRANÇAIS DE LA GUERRE* (*The French Art of War*) won the Prix Goncourt in 2011.

Vinciane Despret
AUTOBIOGRAPHIE D'UN POULPE
(Autobiography of an Octopus)
 Actes Sud, April 2021, 160 pages



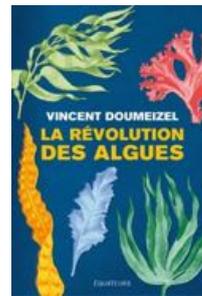
- ◇ **Rights sold: Polity Press (World English rights), Arcadia (Catalan rights), Turkey (KIRMIZI KEDI), offer from Brazil & USA.**
- ◇ Vinciane Despret takes a series of fascinating scientific debates and situates them in an indeterminate future then lets her imagination run wild. Inspired by recent scientific discoveries Vinciane Despret imagines animal behaviors, whole life stories and perfectly feasible narratives, which who knows, might one day be proved right by future research.
- ◇ Through this surprising thought experiment, Vinciane Despret shows a new salutary vision that opens up the path to different ways of being human on Earth.

Are you familiar with the vibratory poetry of spiders? Or the sacred architecture of Australian wombats? Or perhaps the ephemeral aphorisms of octopi? Welcome to “therolinguistics”, a discipline invented in the early 1970s by the science-fiction writer Ursula Le Guin, resuscitated here by Vinciane Despret for the pleasure of all. For indeed, animals do talk and they do have something to say, we simply have to learn how to listen and work out their codes in order to decipher their mysterious messages.

The author cleverly blurs the boundaries between scientific facts and poetic meanderings to create a fascinating alternative reality: what if indeed spiders are trying to send signals to us to stop the incessant white noise of the human machine? What if through their strange constructions of cubic feces, wombats are demonstrating a new form of all-inclusive cosmology for whoever might pass, visible or invisible, animal or human, thus offering us a formidable lesson in life and tolerance? And what if octopi, as early believers in metempsychosis, were frantic not to be able to guarantee the reincarnation of their souls due to overfishing and ocean pollution?

ABOUT THE AUTHOR A philosopher and psychologist, Vinciane Despret has always asked questions of our relationship to animals in a number of internationally acclaimed works. She is also the curator of the exhibition “Being Animal” at the Cité des Sciences in Paris. This is her fourth work with Actes Sud after her highly acclaimed *HABITER EN OISEAU* (Mondes sauvages collection, 2019). For 2021, Vinciane Despret has been appointed “intellectual of the year” at the Centre Pompidou in Paris, where she will be organizing a series of events throughout the period including an octopus performance in November.

Vincent Doumeizel
LA RÉVOLUTION DES ALGUES
(The Seaweed Revolution)
 Les Équateurs, January 2022, 320 pages



The time has come to enter the civilisation of the oceans!

Of all the unexploited resources in the world, seaweed is the greatest! Thrust by the sea on to our shores, seaweed is a nuisance that our earthly pollution transforms into a red or green tide. Today, overpopulation and the ecological crisis oblige us to think about it. The most recent research tells us that seaweed is one possible solution for our future on the planet.

There exist approximately 12,000 types of macroalgae, and that’s without counting the thousands of microalgae. Seaweed develops everywhere, from the eternal glaciers to lagoons heated by the sun, from seas saturated with salt to the fresh water of our rivers. How many varieties do we know how to cultivate? A few dozen, at the most. The time has come to enter the ocean civilisation. Seaweed is a fundamental link. If there were no seaweed, there would be no crustaceans, nor fish. The ocean would be a desert without carbon or oxygen. And at least half of our oxygen comes from the oceans.

Seaweed could feed human beings, reduce plastic pollution, absorb enough carbon to cool the atmosphere, reconstruct generative ecosystems, treat certain illnesses that are incurable today, replace land livestock farming that exhausts the environment, and give jobs to coastal populations. The seaweed revolution is a hope for tomorrow!

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Vincent Doumeizel is the Ocean Consultant with the United Nations Global Compact. He is also director of the food industry programme with the Lloyd’s Register Foundation in London.

SCIENCE

Raphaël Gaillard
UN COUP DE HACHE DANS LA TÊTE
(An Axe Blow to the Head: Madness and Creativity)
 Grasset, January 2022, 230 pages



- ◇ Shortlisted for the Prix Essai France Télévisions 2022.
- ◇ This lucid essay shows how people can be touched by creativity but also by illnesses that hamper their lives and are a source of suffering.

What makes us into beings who are capable of creating? When Diderot wrote that "great artists have received a little axe blow to the head" he was endorsing an idea that has been common across the ages and all cultures, namely that there is a link between madness and creativity.

Should we conclude that the supposed link between madness and creativity is a mere cliché that has been comprehensively discredited by the facts? Thanks to recent scientific research, it has become possible to resolve this apparent contradiction and update our understanding of the conditions necessary for creativity. Epidemiological and genetic evidence suggests that it is among the patients' parents, children, brothers and sisters that the propensity for creativity may lie. Meanwhile, anthropology indicates that evolution has always favoured the complexification of our brains, making us more intelligent but also potentially more fragile. The connection between madness and creativity becomes one of genetic inheritance: our DNA renders us vulnerable to mental illness even as it enables us to create. Such mental illnesses are frequent precisely because they are the price we have to pay for our creativity. To understand this link, when engaging with a work of art we need to recognise these symptoms of the human condition. To create a work, the world needs to be represented in thought, but the elementary act of thinking is in itself an act of creation, and a power that is not without its risks: by fashioning our representations of the world, we become capable of enriching them endlessly, to either produce artistic works or end up losing ourselves entirely...

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: A graduate of the École normale supérieure, a psychiatrist and a legal expert, Raphaël Gaillard runs the psychiatry department at the Hôpital Sainte Anne and Université de Paris. His research into consciousness and the workings of the unconscious has been published in the most prestigious neuroscience and psychiatry reviews. He is the president of the Fondation Pierre Deniker, which supports research into mental illness and works to raise awareness of these conditions among the general public.

Michel Rochon
L'AMOUR, LA HAINE ET LE CERVEAU
(Love, Hate And The Brain)
 MultiMondes, October 2020, 192 pages



After the success of Music And Your Brain (2018), finalist for the 2019 Prix Hubert-Reeves (Grand Public) and the Prix Opus, Michel Rochon is back with a new book that examines neuroscience and current affairs with fresh eyes. How can we counteract the brain's natural mechanisms—and should we? By seeking to better understand them and banking on our natural empathy, argue recent studies in neuroscience.

What happens inside our heads when love drives us beyond reason and sense? Or when a sense of heightened animosity pushes a person towards terrorism and delirium? The answer is... pretty much the same thing!

Love and hate: current studies in neuroscience shed light on the true nature of these contradictory, yet all-too-human impulses. As surprising as it may seem, we now know that our brains are constantly reorganizing themselves—and have been for hundreds of thousands of years—to develop new behaviours that help us adapt to a changing environment. So whether we like it or not, love and hate are essential to our survival.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Michel Rochon is a science and medical journalist, lecturer, guest speaker and presenter. He has worked for several news teams at CBC/Radio-Canada.

Jean-Marc Lemaître, Preface by Luc Ferry
GUÉRIR LA VIEILLESSE
(A Cure for Old Age)
 Humensis, March 2022, 320 pages



What if old age were an illness that could be cured? The author of this work has shown that the ageing process can be reversed.

Jean-Marc Lemaître and his team have succeeded in rejuvenating cells by reprogramming them genetically. This has already had staggering results when applied to mice: the ones that have been treated live 30% longer than the others, and are in much better physical shape.

Jeff Bezos, head of Amazon, has just invested \$200 million in a start-up devoted entirely to cellular reprogramming. It is high time we all took an interest in this research and thought seriously about the political and ethical issues this biotechnology raises for humanity.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Jean-Marc Lemaître is a research director at INSERM (the National Institute of Health and Medical Research) and deputy director of the Montpellier Institute of Regenerative Medicine and Biotherapies.

Cyrille Barrette
LA VRAIE NATURE DE LA BÊTE HUMAINE
(The True Nature Of Humans)
 MultiMondes, April 2020, 228 pages



◇ **An unprecedented reflection on the future of humans.**

A crucial redefinition of the human species at a time when research in evolutionary biology is increasing.

We are animals—but what sets us apart from other species? Today, biologists highlight our distinctiveness, our humanism. While natural selection drives the social lives of other animals, this is not quite the case for homo sapiens. What does this mean? Human mammals are capable of doing things that are useless to our survival or reproduction (i.e. plan vacations, listen to music, applaud a sports performance); we grasp the notion of “future” and can imagine one for ourselves; we aspire to live freely by defending our ability to make choices.

Is this what sets us apart? Not only this, the author argues: “We are violent, prolific, obese, macho and combative by nature, but contrary to all other species, we are neither prisoners nor slaves of this nature (...). We are right to be optimistic; it shows that we are at least capable of exercising superior intelligence.”

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Cyrille Barrette was a professor of evolutionary biology at Université Laval. He has extensive experience studying the behaviour and ecology of mammals. *Mystery Without Magic* and *The Mirror of the World* were also published by Éditions Multimondes.

“A fantastic book to learn about Darwinism.” — Boucar Diouf

SCIENCE

Collective, directed by Jean-Sébastien Steyer.
LE TRÔNE DE FER ET LES SCIENCES
(*Science and the Iron Throne*)
Belin, November 2021, 256 pages



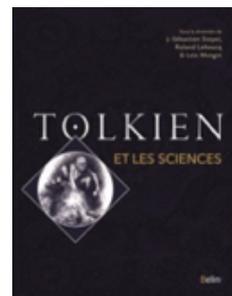
- ◇ **Rights sold: Germany.**
- ◇ The results will delight both fans of the saga and science buffs.
- ◇ Furthermore, the book has some magnificent unpublished illustrations by William Simpson, who did the storyboards for the series.

The internationally popular saga measured up against science!

Following on from the success of Tolkien and Science, this book provides all the science you need to understand the universe of G. R. R. Martin's Game of Thrones – whether it be in his books or in the TV series. Some of our greatest scientific specialists have looked into the dragons, the peoples beyond the Wall, the geography, landscape and climate of the Seven Kingdoms, the history and culture of that world, the psychology of the characters, the nature of the Wights... and throw new light on this “heroic fantasy” Mediaeval world.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Jean-Sébastien Steyer is a paleontologist who has written several popular science books. He was the editor of Tolkien and Science, published in 2019.

Jean-Sébastien Steyer, Roland Lehoucq,
TOLKIEN ET LES SCIENCES
(*Tolkien and Science*)
Belin, October 2019, 400 pages



- ◇ **8,000 copies sold.**
- ◇ **Rights sold: World English (Pegasus Books), Russia (Eksmo/Bombora).**
- ◇ 38 experts (archaeology, astrophysics, philosophy, palaeontology, economics, psychoanalysis, volcanology, chemistry, medicine) have sifted through Tolkien's many novels, poems and letters and uncovered their roots in science.
- ◇ Each chapter is about one specific discovery: the hidden meaning of the Ring with its power to corrupt, why Hobbits have big feet, the origins of the Dwarves, the animals that inspired his dragons, the possibility that Ents could in fact exist...
- ◇ This work, with superb and previously unpublished illustrations by Arnaud Rafaelian, is aimed at fans of Tolkien, lovers of science and others, and throws new light on the complete worlds he created.

The missing link to understanding Tolkein's world: science.

Tolkien was a great writer – the creator of imaginary worlds and an inventor of languages. But not everyone knows he was also a botanist, palaeontologist and geologist, as well as being passionately interested in archaeology and chemistry. He was a great observer of flora, fauna, sea currents and volcanoes, and pondered lengthily over them. This is what makes his imaginary worlds and creatures so believable.

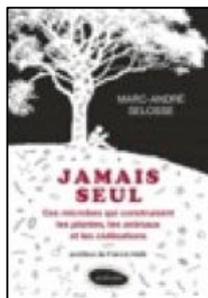
ABOUT THE AUTHORS: Jean-Sébastien Steyer is a CNRS palaeontologist attached to the National Museum of Natural History in Paris.

Roland Lehoucq is an astrophysicist at the CEA (the French Atomic Energy Authority) at Saclay. Loïc Mangin is assistant chief editor of Pour la Science, the French edition of Scientific American.

Marc-André Selosse

JAMAIS SEUL*(Never Alone Bugs That Build Plants, Creatures and Civilizations)*

Actes Sud, June 2017, 368 pages



- ◇ **30,000 copies sold.**
- ◇ **Rights sold: China, Poland (WL), Esotnia, Korea.**
- ◇ This work takes the reader through the world of bugs, germs and microbes and their role in the lives of plants and animals.
- ◇ A journey through the history of 20th-century science that reads like a novel in a fun and entertaining way.
- ◇ The work tells the tale of a major revolution in science which will change readers' perspectives of the bacterial world.

An essay that sheds new light on the ecological processes around us. It is a tribute to the need for interactions between living species and homage to their diversity and subtle functioning.

Bugs and bacteria are the root of many illnesses. But recent research in biology has revealed that instead of disturbing organisms and creating infection, they have an essential role to play in the sustenance of life. Every creature or plant on the planet is inhabited by bug-life which enables them to carry out varied, vital functions aiding nutrition, development and immunity. Their presence has an influence on animal behavior and, on a larger scale, contributes to the creation of populations, ecosystems, societies and their dynamics. Since this research plants and animals, including human beings, have stopped being considered as autonomous entities. The fact that we are caught in a mutually supportive relationship with the bug-world is not all bad news however. Not all these interactions are negative and instead of competitive, parasitic and predatory relationships, there is deep symbiosis taking place.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Professor at the National Natural History Museum, Marc-André Selosse has lectured at several universities in France and abroad. His research and teaching looks at the mutually beneficial associations involving mushrooms, microbes, ecology and evolution. The editor of the international scientific journal and *Espèces*, a mainstream journal dedicated to the natural sciences. With Actes Sud, he has published *JAMAIS SEUL* (2017) and *LES GOÛTS ET LES COULEURS DU MONDE* (2019).

« L'ouvrage est dense, souvent drôle et parfois déroutant dans son approche, bousculant beaucoup d'idées reçues. » Le Figaro Santé

Marc-André Selosse III. by Arnaud Rafaelian

L'ORIGINE DU MONDE*(Natural History of The Soil For Those Who Walk Upon it)*

Actes Sud, September 2021, 480 pages



- ◇ **10,000 copies sold.**
- ◇ **Rights sold: China (Beijing Science and technology publishing).**
- ◇ Marc-André Selosse is the author of "Symbiotic: the essentiality of microbes", which has been sold in France at 23 500 copies and for the foreign rights in China, Poland, Estonia, Netherlands and Korea.

In this work, Marc-André Selosse offers us an underground journey to discover the soil and better understand it. The soil we walk on is nothing less than the origin of the world. It hosts the largest fraction of biodiversity and the greatest diversity of mechanisms that allow ecosystems to function. It is only very recently that we have become aware of its importance and of the threats that weigh on it.

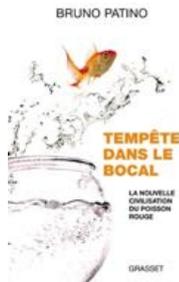
The soil beneath our feet contains nothing less than the origin of the world. It is warming with life and it is possibly the most fascinating construction of the living world which has developed the gift of seizing its inherent inertia and controlling it. Soil harbors the largest part of our Earth's biodiversity. There are more invisible species within the soil than those visible on the surface, which means that underground is also a great repository for the huge variety of mechanisms that enable our ecosystem to function. However, because the soil is opaque we only know its surface and because it is often considered "dirty", it is only very recently that we have become aware of its importance and of the threats posed by urbanization, intensive agriculture and erosion. Not only is it struggling to perform its invaluable services to humanity but it is literally beginning to disappear before our eyes.

« Ce livre est une invitation à chausser ses bottes pour arpenter les sols des sous-bois et des prés, à se pencher, gratter et observer! » Sciences et avenir.

« Les lecteurs les plus pressés pourront se contenter des parties Pour conclure qui résument chaque chapitre. Mais comme un jardinier trop pressé manque la floraison, ce serait se priver des anecdotes qui font le sel et le bonheur de l'ouvrage. » Audrey Dufour, La Croix

PSYCHOLOGY & SELF-HELP

Bruno Patino
TEMPÊTE DANS LE BOCAL
(Storm in the fishbowl: The New Civilisation of the Goldfish)
Grasset, January 2022, 184 pages



- ◇ Rights sold for LA CIVILISATION DU POISSON ROUGE: Arabic (Centre culturel Arabe), Chinese (Beijing Qianqiu Zhiye), Spanish (Alianza), Finnois (Niin & Nain), Greek (Kastaniotis), Italian (Antonio Vallardi), Portuguese for Portugal (Gravida), Turkish (Dogan Egmont).

It has been two years since the resounding success of La Civilisation du poisson rouge, with 80,000 copies sold and rights sold in eight languages. Over this time, we have experienced multiple lockdowns as a result of the pandemic, definitively propelling us into the virtual fishbowl. Now, Bruno Patino returns to his 'treatise on the market for attention', both to deepen it and deploy it in the pursuit of supporting every individual to find their own path of freedom and peace.

We last left the goldfish in his virtual fishbowl: perfectly free, open to all, but incapable of growth, struggling to concentrate for more than eight seconds, exhausted from time rushing by and the endless solicitations for his attention. Victim, also, to algorithms... Here, we find him having passed through an unprecedented global event: a goldfish in lockdown, saved by his technological capacity for conversing, working, watching, keeping in touch, and having fun... and discovering faster than ever before the reality of his virtual prison. Free to know everything but losing the desire to. Speaking to everyone but starved of authentic interactions. Hunched back, red eyes, trudging through life with a vague sentiment of waiting and emptiness...

No turning back now: it is up to us to do what we can with this new civilisation that has swept us away and transformed our society in just twenty years. To disconnect is delusion, but we can fight flexibly - transform our way of doing, knowing and loving - to thwart Artificial Intelligence. Most importantly, we can make time and space for ourselves. Such are the lessons and possible paths presented in this brief, incisive and significant essay. Free yourself. Return to life.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: President of Arte France and a specialist in the media and virtual worlds, Bruno Patino is the author of UNE PRESSE SANS GUTENBERG, TÉLÉVISIONS and LA CIVILISATION DU POISSON ROUGE, PETIT TRAITÉ SUR LE MARCHÉ DE L'ATTENTION, among other works.

Christophe André
CONSOLATIONS
(Consolations Received and Given)
L'Iconoclaste, January 2022, 330 pages



- ◇ Rights sold: Portuguese Brazil (Autentica), Lithuanian (Tyto Alba), Chinese simpl. (Beijing Guangchen Culture), Romanian (Trei).
- ◇ 60,000 copies sold.
- ◇ Christophe André has the gift of flushing out themes that are sometimes invisible in psychology, such as self-esteem, feelings of guilt, and imperfections.
- ◇ A useful book for personal progression despite the wounds of life that touches each and every one of us, above all in times of anxiety and turmoil.

The reader finds keys to learn how to give comfort, shedding light on those moments of deep adversity that we are confronted with sometimes and teaches us how to find comfort in our surroundings, nature, interaction, animals and art.

Sorrow, deception, frustration, sickness, grief or simply boredom, our lives are peppered with adversities, both small and large, that have to be dealt with. Sometimes, nothing seems to work in this hostile reality. That's when consolation is needed. Or rather, consolations in the plural, pick us up every time we stumble. And even if we are not confronted with adversities ourselves, they often befall someone close to us, and so we are then transformed into the consoler. Consolation is an ancient topic, usually seen from either the perspective of the consoler (hence "Consolations" being a literary and philosophical genre that stretches back to antiquity), or from that of the sufferer (therefore accounts by those who have lost a loved one). Christophe André reviews a vast group of all forms of consolation and describes the processes. He also clarifies the recently discovered concept of "post-traumatic growth" that allows us to live better lives after having dealt with adversities in life. And he also explores the dimension of self-consolation.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Christophe André is a medical psychologist, one of France's best specialists in the psychology of emotions and author of numerous bestsellers. His book, Meditate Day After Day is regarded as the number one book for an introduction to meditation. While collaborating with Matthieu Ricard and Alexandre Jollien, he signed Three Friends in Search of Wisdom, which was a number one bestseller in 2016.

Guillaume Dulude, Ph.D.
JE SUIS UN CHERCHEUR D'OR
*(I Am A Seeker After Gold The Mechanisms Of
Communication And Human Relationships)*
L'Homme, February 2020, 568 pages



- ◇ **Over 32,000 copies sold in French (Canada).**
- ◇ **Pocket French rights sold to Livre de Poche.**
- ◇ **An innovative view of the interpersonal communication variables common to all human beings, regardless of their culture, their language, and the social or religious context in which they live.**
- ◇ **Guillaume Dulude's work is considered to be avant-garde in the field of the development of social interactions. His method represents a significant advance in interpersonal communication and in human development in general.**
- ◇ **The author is considered an authority in his field. He is invited to lecture all over the world.**

You can significantly improve the effectiveness of your human interactions through training.

We know we all need each other. We know we have to work in teams. We want to collaborate. We want to have influence. We want better, more satisfying relationships. Neuropsychology and experimental psychology have enabled us to identify the cognitive and behavioural mechanisms related to interpersonal communication. Nonetheless, it still seems to be impossible to put these mechanisms into practice in everyday communications.

What are the actual processes under our control that make our conversations effective? How can we use our main instrument, our brain? The ability to communicate effectively is not a gift. It is the result of training based on specific factors, with the power to change the direction and nature of collaboration among human beings.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Guillaume Dulude has studied, practised, and taught the psychology of communication and interpersonal influence since 2005. After more than a decade as a high-performance athlete, he set off on his first journey of adventure at age 20, aiming to travel around the world on less than \$5000, using human communication as his main means of survival. His challenge was to discover common elements in communication across different cultures and social contexts. On his return, he founded Psycom, began his studies in psychology and continued his adventurous travels.

Anne de Pomereu
À LA RECONQUÊTE DE L'ATTENTION
(Reclaiming your attention)
JC Lattès, August 2021, 304 pages



- ◇ **After reading this book you will be totally persuaded that attention is the key to a fulfilling life.**

Distraction is the plague of the century, bringing with it feelings of frustration and guilt. However, no use punishing yourself because all the studies prove that it's impossible to overcome the enormous powers of digital distractions, well organised to steal our most precious cognitive gift.

Who hasn't started reading a novel, that you've been waiting for days to read, only to find yourself a few minutes later scrolling through your smartphone ? The good news is that concrete and accessible solutions exist to heighten our concentration. The object of this book is to teach us how our attention span functions and describe short term and long term solutions to improve it : creating the right environment, modifying our relationship to time and urgency, limiting the use of screens, educating children and adolescents and setting up a healthy attention-enhancing lifestyle... The results will allow you to finally realise the projects you've been dreaming about and greatly improve your quality of life.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Anne de Pomereu graduated from HEC and is a professor of memory and methodology. She offers memory workshops for adults and teaches how to train children and adolescents at every level. She is also a consultant and coach for, among others, l'Oreal group, for whom she has elaborated and directed a workshop on attention.. She is the author of ELOGE DE LA PASSOIRE.

Julie Klotz
LES QUATRE ACCORDS DU COUPLE
(The Four Agreements of Coupledness)
Fayard, April 2022, 300 pages



- ◇ Though countless pages have been written on the subject, Julie Klotz's unprecedented holistic vision provides compelling new insights to coupledness.

What makes a successful couple? Julie Klotz spoke to the experts to look for answers.

For a successful life together, individuals need to find a good fit in four fundamental areas: biology, or the physical body and neurotransmitters that activate desire, attachment processes, and “chemistry”; psychology, or our understanding of feelings, behaviors, and mental processes, both conscious and unconscious, and the transgenerational and childhood stories that shape our romantic relationships; the cultural and social considerations of a given time and space, with individuals and relationships emerging from particular contexts that strongly impact the stories of couples; and spirituality, or the fundamental values and search for meaning essential to building a happy life together.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Born in 1975, Julie Klotz is a journalist. She has made contributions to numerous books about psychology, philosophy, and personal histories.

François St Père & France Duval
AMOUREUX ET HEUREUX
(In Love And Happy Despite Our Differences)
L'Homme, February 2022, 176 pages



- ◇ The best advice from a psychologist specialized in couples therapy.
- ◇ An up-to-date discussion that takes into account new approaches in psychotherapy and the latest perspectives in neurobiology.
- ◇ Few books for a general readership present so many psychological concepts in such a concise and readable way, or talk about the importance in the life of a couple of the healthy management of individual differences.
- ◇ An accessible and fascinating approach, with situational examples that illustrate the concepts touched on.

So many elements define us: our personality, our temperament, our past experiences and even our genetics! No wonder the union of two people causes a few surprises, and even friction. For forming a couple means sharing our life with someone who, of course, resembles us, but who is inevitably different. These differences are often deeply entrenched in each of us, but it is possible to use them to our advantage to enrich a relationship.

To achieve this, you first have to know yourself well. You also have to be able to identify those wounds that haven't quite healed, because they have the potential to resurface at any age and disrupt a couple's life. This can then lead to conflict in the relationship, without either one knowing exactly why two beings who love each other so much can come to distrust each other. Luckily, because of recent developments in psychotherapy and neurobiology we have been able to discover the origins of this pain and lighten its emotional load.

Since self-knowledge is fundamental in a happy relationship, this book invites you on a true voyage of self-discovery and exploration. It will also help you come to terms with individual differences by developing compassion and acceptance. Being happy as a couple? It's possible!

ABOUT THE AUTHORS: François St Père has a doctorate in psychology. A specialist in couples therapy, he is also an author, lecturer, trainer and supervisor. He has had a private clinical practice for more than 20 years.

France Duval has a masters in literary studies, and has been by turns an author, designer-editor, project director, journalist and columnist for various magazines, dailies, production companies and publishing houses.

Fischetti & Roudière
SAC À DOS ET LIBIDO
(The Backpacker's Guide To Sexuality)
JC Lattès, June 2022, 304 pages



Tell me how you make love and I'll tell you what country you're from...

Antonio Fischetti is a seasoned traveller and backpacker who travels with a specific goal in mind: to explore the sexual practices of every country he visits.

And sexual practices can say a lot about a population. The fact that Thailand is perfectly tolerant of transexuals, called ladyboys, reveals the predominance of Buddhist teaching that recognises not just two sexes, but four: male, female, homosexual and hermaphrodite. Religion is not always the enemy of carnal pleasure. Nor is age: in the Himalayas, yarsagumba, a natural viagra, has been used for centuries. This mix of mushrooms and caterpillars sells for 100 000 euros per kilo.

Since pleasure is the common goal of every population, Fischetti imagines geography as a vast boudoir. He investigates with the rigor and discipline of the trained scientist that he is. However, beyond the folklore, some practices raise real questions. Does living completely naked like in some Amazonian tribes, encourage an untamed sexuality?

These are the hidden sides of countries and peoples that tourist guidebooks never mention. Instructive and stimulating.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Antonio Fischetti is a scientific journalist with Charlie Hebdo. He is the author of numerous books on popular science.

Lee Ann d'Alexandry
FAMILLES EXPLOSIVES
(Explosive Families)
Payot, April 2022, 250 pages



◇ This book not only provides keys to understanding the mechanisms of this “everyday violence” within the family structure, it also supplies the tools needed to create change, to prevent and defuse conflicts within the couple in order to soothe and pacify interfamilial relationships.

A book for families who shouldn't have any problems yet who still run into them... Or how aggressiveness insinuates itself into our daily lives.

Explosive families aren't “We-don't-tell-each-other-anything” or “Nobody's-home” families. They are families that believe in the virtues of communication, in which parents care about creating an environment where everyone can blossom. And yet, one day you realize that not a meal goes by without a blow-up any more. Verbal violence insinuates itself insidiously: over-packed schedules, stress, sibling rivalry, adolescence, fatigue, tension and mutual incomprehension gradually begin to disrupt the dynamic of the parental couple's relationship and derail the loving routine to the point of corrupting all of a family's channels of communication...

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Lee-Ann d'Alexandry is a clinical psychologist with a Master's degree from the University of Aix-Marseille and degrees in family therapy and Ericksonian hypnosis. Ten years ago, after having worked for several years in a hospital setting, she opened her own office for treating children and teens. She is also frequently called up on as an expert witness in court.

Philippe Turchet

LE GRAND LIVRE DE LA SYNERGOLOGIE

(The Big Book Of Synergology Decoding body language to improve relationships)

L'Homme, October 2021, 416 pages



- ◇ A book containing more than 400 scientific references for researchers and specialists.
- ◇ An enhanced version of the first lexicon of body language, synergology.
- ◇ A description of the hidden or unconscious aspects of body language.
- ◇ A successful author of four best-sellers.

A revealing overview of all aspects of non-verbal communication!. Finally, a book that brings together and updates all essential knowledge about body language!

In the 1990s, Philippe Turchet created synergology, the study of non-verbal communication as a means of decoding body language, gestures, and emotions, and of detecting what is unspoken, while enhancing the quality of our communications.

Synergology, now widely recognized by all communications specialists, is used in many fields and can be applied by anyone wanting to improve their interpersonal and professional relationships and acquire new communication tools. This book explains the fundamentals of synergology and the changes in perspective that have occurred in the past ten years. The author discusses the main keys to observing body language and takes a close look at how easy it is to fall into stereotyping. He also tackles the issue of authentic space, so necessary for better understanding others, and covers the dynamic of lying in our conversations.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Philippe Turchet, who holds a doctorate in language sciences, is an authority in his field of expertise: non-verbal communication. His research has led him to create synergology, a discipline whose aim is to understand human beings based on their body language. Synergology is now taught on every continent. A trainer and lecturer, the author has written several best-sellers that have been translated into fifteen languages.

Solène Daoudal

HYPNOCONTES

(Hypnotic Stories)

Robert Laffont, February 2022, 160 pages



- ◇ The book consists of 18 stories. Each story is based on a different technique of hypnosis which aims to calm the readers and to facilitate falling asleep.
- ◇ Every story is followed by an explanation of the applied method of hypnosis which enables the reader to safely and efficiently practice hypnosis for and by himself.

18 hypnotic stories to make you feel better.

We generally consider hypnosis as a mysterious and inaccessible practice that we can only access through a professional. Nevertheless, with sleeping problems increasing in the context of COVID, more and more people turn to hypnosis, autohypnosis and alternative therapies to seek relief for their ailments. Today France counts about 6,000 hypno-therapists billing an average fee of 40 to 80 Euros per session. With this book, Solène Daoudal makes hypnosis accessible for all with a series of stories that set the stage for a sounder sleep.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Solène Daoudal is a professional specialized in Ericksonian hypnotherapy. In her private practice in Rennes, she offers short term therapies – 2 to 10 sessions. Eager to broaden her scope, she also undertook training courses in symbolic, energetic and traditional therapy methods. She has her own blog where she posts regularly for her large community of followers.

HEALTH & WELL-BEING

Michel Odoul
**DIS-MOI COMMENT ALLER CHAQUE JOUR
DE MIEUX EN MIEUX**

(Tell Me How to Feel Better Every Day)
Albin Michel Pratique, March 2022, 272 pages



- ◇ 10,000 copies sold.
- ◇ UNDER OPTION RUSSIA (EKSMO) & UKRAINE (VIVAT).

50 keys to enjoy good health with full awareness.

Keen to help us achieve harmony physically and psycho-emotionally, Michel Odoul invites us to (re)discover “5 right actions” that guarantee harmony between body and spirit (the right effort, the right rest, the right diet, the right way to think and the right desire) as well as essential advice for good balance (breathing, reception and respect of the seasons, falling asleep and waking up).

A real treasure chest, his book is full of practical tools, each one a key: physical resources (respiration, stretching, 5 flavours, essential oils...), energy points and work on mindfulness (symbolic cleaning, meditation), etc.

An authentic ikigai - reconciliation with the being, whose bond and linking element are love and respect for life. This essential, positive book addresses all readers.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Michel Odoul is a shiatsu practitioner and the author of several books published by Albin Michel among them: DIS-MOI OU TU AS MAL, JE TE DIRAI POURQUOI»; DIS-MOI QUAND TU AS MAL, JE TE DIRAI POURQUOI; CHEVEU, PARLE-MOI DE MOI, L’HARMONIE DES ENERGIES. He is also an educator and conferencier.

Jean-Bernard Daeppen
LA MALADIE DU DÉSIR
(The Malady of Desire)
JC Lattès, March 2022, 250 pages



- ◇ Focussing principally on alcoholism, which is one of the most common addictions throughout the world, the book follows well over 20 cases of addictions of all varieties, and ends with a chapter dedicated to people close to addicts.
- ◇ What sets this book apart is both the expertise of the author, but also the intimacy of his patients’ sessions with him. His patients’ stories are both troubling and touching, and whilst some situations may seem extreme, others may be frighteningly familiar.

A fascinating and informative book about addiction.

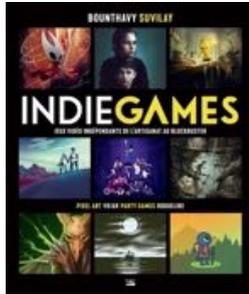
Jean-Bernard Daeppen is a doctor specialised in addictions of all varieties, and in this book he invites the reader into his office to meet his patients. Each chapter is dedicated to a different patient, and through their stories, the author provides practical advice on how to both treat addiction and to help those who suffer from it.

The aim of this book is to understand addiction, to grasp why some people cannot stop after one glass of wine and others can without even thinking about it. Mixing psychology and psychiatry, it is a powerful tool for addicts and those who want to help them recover.

POP CULTURE

Bounthavy Suvilay
INDIE GAMES I & 2

(From Blockbuster to Independent Video Games)
Bragelonne, May 2022, pages



- ◇ Full manuscript available in English.
- ◇ Rights sold: USA (Ablaze).
- ◇ A work of reference, well documented, and bursting with anecdotes.
- ◇ The book is official and authorised, with the participation of studios around the world.
- ◇ More than 250 emblematic and previously unpublished images, all rights included!

The history, artwork, and sound design of independent video games. (Vol.1: years 2008 - 2018) (Vol.2: years 2018 - 2025). A second volume covering the most recent (and forthcoming !) video games.

Video games have grown exponentially in recent years and have captured the hearts of millions thanks to the success of titles such as Minecraft, Journey, Limbo, Terraria, or Firewatch. To compete with the blockbusters, the independents have had to be massively creative and come up with innovative gameplays, top-notch writing, original graphic universes, and sumptuous soundtracks.

Venturing into territory that holds infinite possibilities, such games can now be a way to discover a foreign culture (Year Walk, Never Alone), promote a moral viewpoint (This War of Mine, Beholder, Papers Please), go on a poetic journey (Abzu, Journey), or simply tell a story set in an extraordinary landscape (Firewatch, Everybody's Gone to the Rapture).

The two volumes pay homage to the greatest success stories in the world of indie games and take the readers behind the scenes at the independent studios that participated in their making.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Bounthavy Suvilay is a journalist who covers the video games scene, writing for IG Magazine and JeuxVideo.com, and is completing her doctorate in modern literature. For the purposes of this book, she has interviewed an extraordinary number of sound designers, authors, graphic designers, and developers in indie studios across the world.

Rémi Lopez
L'IMPACT D'AKIRA UNE RÉVOLUTION DU MANGA

(The Impact Of Akira. A Manga [R]Evolution)
Third, June 2022, 192 pages



- ◇ English full text available.
- ◇ Discover the themes and influences of this fundamentally anti-establishment work by exploring its socio-economic or simply literary aspects. The author of the work analyzes the phenomenon, from its tiny seed to the mighty tree, and reveals why Akira is, above all, a purely Japanese series. Let's revisit the impact of Akira, the manga series that turned everything on its head.

This book dives headfirst into the radioactive culture that is the creative power of Katsuhiro Otomo, from the mangaka's—already explosive—beginnings, up to winning recognition for Akira.

The catalyst of an era, of a world that was unaware of its downfall, Katsuhiro Otomo's visionary work marked a turning point in the industry. First, in his homeland, Japan, in terms of graphics and plot on an entire generation of post-Akira artists who adopted his attention to detail, his realism and his dizzying views. But above all with his international reach, which threw Japanese comic strips and animations into the limelight in numerous countries, and particularly in France, by trampling the rest of the world's notion that cartoons are exclusively for children.

SPRING 2022.....	1	Nicolas Ragonneau	10
RECENT DEALS & SUCCESSES	3	LE PROUSTOGRAPHE	10
Jacques Brosse.....	3	(Proustographics).....	10
LA MYTHOLOGIE DES ARBRES	3	Michel Erman.....	11
(Mythology of Trees).....	3	MARCEL PROUST, LA VIE, LE TEMPS	11
Jean-Claude Ellena	3	(Marcel Proust, Life, Time).....	11
JOURNAL D'UN PARFUMEUR	3	Mathilde Brézet	11
(The Diary Of A Nose: A Year In The Life Of A		LE GRAND MONDE DE PROUST	11
Parfumeur).....	3	(The Great World Of Proust).....	11
Gérald Bronner	4	HIGHLIGHTS	12
APOCALYPSE COGNITIVE.....	4	Vanessa Seward.....	12
(Cognitive Apocalypse).....	4	LE GUIDE DE LA GENTLEWOMAN	12
Thomas Ciotteau, Jennifer Kerner, Éric Pincas ...	4	Jean Rouaud	13
LADY SAPIENS.....	4	QUI TERRE A, GUERRE A	13
(Lady Sapiens)	4	(He Who Has Land Has Quarrels).....	13
Edgar Morin.....	5	Guillaume Erner	13
LEÇONS D'UN SIÈCLE DE VIE.....	5	RATER EST UN ART : BÊTISE COLLECTIVE ET SUPERFAIL	
(A Century Life Lessons)	5	13
Éric Branca.....	5	(Failing As An Artform: Collective Stupidity And The	
LE ROMAN DES DAMNÉS	5	Superfail).....	13
(The Dark Novel of the Damned)	5	David Haziza	14
Baptiste Morizot.....	6	LE PROCÈS DE LA CHAIR	14
MANIÈRES D'ÊTRE VIVANT	6	(The Trial Of The Flesh)	14
(Different Ways of Being Alive).....	6	Antonina Grunnenberg	14
Baptiste Morizot.....	6	WALTER ET ASJA UNE HISTOIRE DE PASSIONS	14
SUR LA PISTE ANIMALE	6	(Water & Asja A Story of Passion).....	14
(On The Animal Trail)	6	Sébastien Bohler.....	15
Olivier Pourriol	7	HUMAN PSYCHO	15
FACILE, L'ART FRANÇAIS DE RÉUSSIR SANS FORCER ...	7	Damien Deville & Yacouba Sawadogo	15
(Easy, the French art of not trying too hard)	7	L'HOMME QUI ARRÊTA LE DÉSERT	15
Jean-David Zeitoun	7	(The Man Who Stopped The Desert)	15
LA GRANDE EXTENSION, HISTOIRE DE LA SANTÉ		Marc Dugain	16
HUMAINE	7	CONTER LES MOUTONS	16
(Retgression).....	7	(Autoportait By My Sheep)	16
Frédéric Gros	8	David Bessis.....	16
LA HONTE EST UN SENTIMENT RÉVOLUTIONNAIRE ...	8	MATHEMATICA. UNE AVENTURE AU CŒUR DE NOUS-	
(Shame is a Revolutionary Feeling).....	8	MÊMES.....	16
Frédéric Gros	8	(Mathematica. An Adventure at the Core of	
MARCHER, UNE PHILOSOPHIE	8	Ourselves)	16
(A Philosophy of Walking)	8	Michel Eltchaninoff.....	17
Frédéric Lenoir.....	9	LÉNINE A MARCHÉ SUR LA LUNE	17
JUNG UN VOYAGE VERS SOI.....	9	(Lenin Walked On The Moon The Madcap Story Of	
(Journey to the Self with Jung).....	9	The Russian Cosmists And Transhumanists)	17
Michel Onfray.....	9	Michel Eltchaninoff.....	17
AUTODAFÉS L'ART DE DÉTRUIRE LES LIVRES	9	DANS LA TÊTE DE VLADIMIR POUTINE	17
(Book Burning in The Modern Age).....	9	(Inside Vladimir Putin's Mind)	17
THE CENTENARY OF PROUST'S DEATH.....	10	CURRENT TOPICS / SOCIETY	18
Antoine Compagnon	10	Isabelle Facon	18
PROUST DU CÔTÉ JUIF	10	RUSSIE TURQUIE	18
(Proust, the Jewish Way)	10	(Russia, Turkey	18
		The Powers That Are Defying The West)	18

The Red Team	18	(Actresses Under The Third Reich).....	25
CES GUERRES QUI NOUS ATTENDENT	18		
(Those Wars that Awaits Us 2030-2060).....	18		
Jean-Paul Demoule	19	Jean Lopez	26
HOMO MIGRANS.....	19	KHARKOV 1942	26
(Homo Migrans: From Leaving Africa to the Great		(Kharkov 1942 The Last Disaster of the Red Army) ..	26
Lockdown).....	19		
Alessandro Stanziani	19	Alexandre Jevakhoff	26
CAPITAL TERRE	19	DE GAULLE ET LA RUSSIE	26
(Earth Capital: A Long History of the World After (12 th		(De Gaulle & Russia)	26
to 21 st Century)	19		
Anne de Guigné	20	Sylvie Lindeperg	27
LE CAPITALISME WOKE	20	NUREMBERG	27
(Woke Capitalism).....	20	(Nuremberg: The Battle of Images)	27
Denis Colombi	20	Johann Chapoutot	27
POURQUOI SOMMES-NOUS CAPITALISTES.....	20	LE GRAND RÉCIT.....	27
(Why Are We Capitalists (In spite of our best		(The Great Narrative	27
intentions)?	20	Introduction to the History of Our Times)	27
Emmanuel Pont	21	Johann Chapoutot	28
FAUT-IL ARRÊTER DE FAIRE DES ENFANTS POUR		LIBRES D'OBÉIR	28
SAUVER LA PLANÈTE ?	21	(Management, from Nazism to West Germany).....	28
(Should We Stop Having Children to Save the Planet?			
An Investigation into Global Demographics)	21	Johann Chapoutot	28
Carlo Purassanta	21	LA RÉVOLUTION CULTURELLE NAZIE	28
POUR UNE CULTURE DE L'INNOVATION	21	(The Nazi Cultural Revolution)	28
(For a Culture of Innovation).....	21	Johann Chapoutot	29
Fabrice Mateo	22	LA LOI DU SANG	29
LA MORT DE LA VIE PRIVÉE	22	(The Law of Blood)	29
(The Death Of Private Life).....	22	Sabine Dullin	29
Mathieu Bock-Côté	22	L'IRONIE DU DESTIN	29
LA RÉVOLUTION RACIALISTE	22	(The Irony of Fate: A History of the Russians and their	
(The Racist Revolution)	22	Empire 1853-1991)	29
HISTORY	23	BIOGRAPHIES	30
Sébastien Le Fol	23	Edgar Morin & Laure Adler	30
LA FABRIQUE DU CHEF D'ŒUVRE : COMMENT		HISTOIRE(S) DE VIE.....	30
NAISSENT LES CLASSIQUES	23	(The Common Destiny Of All Mankind)	30
(What makes a Literary Masterpiece?... How the		Lionel Esparza	30
'classics' are born).....	23	EN AVANT LA MUSIQUE AVEC STRAVINSKY.....	30
Bruno Halioua	23	(Music with Stravinsky).....	30
LES MÉDECINS D'AUSCHWITZ	23	Jean Des Cars	31
(The Doctors of Auschwitz)	23	ELIZABETH II	31
Jean-Michel Steg	24	Jean Des Cars	31
QUI A GAGNÉ LA GUERRE DE 14 ?	24	POUR LA REINE	31
(Who Won World War I? A New Look At The Past		(For the Queen)	31
Century With 1918 As The Starting Point)	24	Jean des Cars	32
Jean-Christophe Brisard	24	LA SAGA DES WINDSOR	32
LE DERNIER MANDCHOU	24	(The Windsor Saga).....	32
(The Last Mandchu)	24	Jean-Yves Bouriaud	32
Claude Quétel	25	LÉONARD DE VINCI	32
HITLER VÉRITÉS ET LÉGENDES.....	25	(Leonardo Da Vinci)	32
(Hitler, Facts and Falsehood)	25	François Kersaudy	33
Isabelle Mity	25	GOERING	33
LES ACTRICES DU IIIE REICH	25	Joséphine Baker	33
Lester Literary Agency & Associates / Spring 2022 / Non Fiction / Russia, Ukraine, Belarus		MÉMOIRES	33
		(Memoirs collected by Marcel Sauvage).....	33

Claudine Monteil	34	(Society of the Peloton)	41
MARIE CURIE ET SES FILLES	34	Guillaume Martin	41
(Marie Curie and her Daughters)	34	SOCRATE À VÉLO.....	41
Irène Joliot-Curie	34	(Socrate on a Bike A Philosopher's Tour De France) .	41
MARIE CURIE, MA MÈRE	34	Michel Zink	42
(My Mother Marie Curie).....	34	TRISTAN ET ISEUT.....	42
Isabelle Aristide-Hastir	35	(Tristan and Iseut).....	42
MARIE ANTOINETTE & AXEL DE FERSEN	35	Alain Bonjean & Benoît Vermander	42
(Marie Antoinette and Axel de Fersen, Hidden		L'HOMME ET LE GRAIN	42
Correspondance).....	35	(A Cereal History of Civilizations)	42
Henriette Michaud	35	WOMEN'S PERSPECTIVES	43
FREUD À BLOOMSBURY	35	Alice Zeniter	43
(Freud in Bloomsbury)	35	JE SUIS UNE FILLE SANS HISTOIRE.....	43
PHILOSOPHY	36	(I Am A Girl Without Story)	43
Claire Marin	36	Titio Lecoq	43
ÊTRE À SA PLACE	36	LES GRANDES OUBLIÉES.....	43
(Being in your Place)	36	(History's Forgotten Women).....	43
Claire Marin	36	Marie-Laure Buisson	44
RUPTURE(S).....	36	FEMMES COMBATTANTES.....	44
CULTURAL ESSAYS & REFERENCE	37	(Women on the Front Lines).....	44
Alain Vircondelet	37	Laure de Chantal	44
UN ÉTÉ A LONG ISLAND	37	LIBRE COMME UNE DÉESSE GRECQUE	44
(A Summer on Long Island. When Saint Exupéry wrote		(Free As a Greek Goddess).....	44
The Little Prince)	37	Aliette de Laleu	45
Fabrice Guignault	37	MOZART ÉTAIT UNE FEMME.....	45
PATRICK PROCKTOR DOUBLE MAUDIT DE DAVID		(Mozart Was a Woman).....	45
HOCKNEY.....	37	Klou	45
(Patrick Proctor, the Cursed Doppelganger of David		BAGARRE ÉROTIQUE	45
Hockney)	37	(Erotic Fight)	45
Brigitte Benkemoun	38	Léonora Miano	46
SA VIE POUR PICASSO	38	L'AUTRE LANGUE DES FEMMES	46
(A Life For Picasso)	38	(The Other Language of Women)	46
Éric Chevillard	38	WORK & PRODUCTIVITY	47
L'ARCHE TITANIC	38	Christine Kerdellant & Vincent Desportes	47
(The Titanic Arch).....	38	VISEZ LE SOMMET	47
Michel Onfray	39	(Aim For The Top	47
LES RAISONS DE L'ART.....	39	If You Want To Succeed, Become Strategic)	47
(Art Has Its Reasons. An initiation to art, from Lascaux		Laëtitia Vitaud	47
to Koons).....	39	EN FINIR AVEC LA PRODUCTIVITÉ	47
Charles Dantzig	39	(Getting Over Productivity: A Feminist Critique of a	
THÉORIES DE THÉORIES	39	Tenacious Myth	47
(Theories on Theories)	39	Serge Latouche	48
Olivier Rey	40	TRAVAILLER MOINS, TRAVAILLER DIFFÉREMENT OU	
RÉPARER L'EAU	40	NE PAS TRAVAILLER DU TOUT.....	48
(Repairing Water).....	40	(Work Less, Work Differently or Don't Work at All) .	48
Jean-Pierre Luminet	40	Gaël Chatelain-Berry	48
HISTOIRES EXTRAORDINAIRES ET INSOLITES		LE MANAGER BIENVEILLANT.....	48
D'ASTRONOMES.....	40	(The 2.0 Positive Manager	48
(Extraordinary And Unexpected Stories About		Support your team at the remote and digital era) ...	48
Astronomers)	40	TRUE CRIME / COLD CASES	49
Guillaume Martin	41	Fayçal Ziraoui	49
LA SOCIÉTÉ DU PELOTON	41		

J'AI ÉLUCIDÉ L'AFFAIRE DU ZODIAC	49	BÊTES DE VILLE.....	56
(I Have Solved The Case Of The Zodiac Killer)	49	(City Creatures. A Little Treatise on Animal Stories in the Heart of the World's Cities)	56
Quentin Bruet Ferreol.....	49	Camille Brunel	57
DIEU EST UN VOLEUR QUI MARCHE DANS LA NUIT ..	49	ÉLOGE DE LA BALEINE	57
(God Will Come like a Thief in the Night).....	49	(In Praise of Whales).....	57
Raphaël Malkin.....	50	Ludovic Dickel.....	57
LIEUTENANT VERSIGA	50	LA VIE PRIVÉE DU POULPE	57
(Lieutenant Versiga, A Cop Life in the Mississippi) ...	50	(The Private Life of the Octopus)	57
Michel Sapanet.....	50	François Y. Doré.....	58
AUTOPSIES	50	L'ÉNIGME DU CHAT.....	58
REPORTAGE	51	(The Cat's Enigma)	58
Grégoire Oshoa & Timothée Demeillers.....	51	Thierry Lodé.....	58
VOYAGE AU LIBERLAND	51	TOUS LES SEXES SONT DANS LA NATURE	58
(Journey To Liberland)	51	(All Genders are in the Natural World)	58
Jake Adelstein	51	Célestin Robaglia.....	59
J'AI VENDU MON ÂME EN BITCOINS.....	51	LE CRÉPUSCULE DES ABEILLES	59
(I Sold My Soul For Bitcoins)	51	The Bees' Twilight	59
TRUE STORY / MEMOIRS.....	52	Mathieu Lihoreau	59
Edith Blais.....	52	À QUOI PENSENT LES ABEILLES ?	59
LE SABLIER.....	52	(What do Bees Think About?)	59
(My 450 Days Held Hostage In The Sahara)	52	Audrey Dussutour & Antoine Wystrach.....	60
Fawzia Koofi with Nadene Ghouri.....	52	L'ODYSSÉE DES FOURMIS.....	60
LETTRES À MES FILLES	52	(The Odyssey of the Ants).....	60
(The Favored Daughter)	52	Alexis Jenni	60
CLIMATE & ECOLOGY	53	CETTE PLANÈTE N'EST PAS TRÈS SÛRE	60
Gaëtan Lafrance	53	(This Planet is not Very Safe : A History of the Six Great Extinctions)	60
L'ILLUSION CARBONEUTRE.....	53	Vinciane Despret.....	61
(The Carbon Neutral Illusion).....	53	AUTOBIOGRAPHIE D'UN POULPE	61
Michel Jebrak et Christian Hocquard.....	53	(Autobiography of an Octopus)	61
OBJECTIF LITHIUM.....	53	Vincent Doumeizel.....	61
(Lithium & The Energy Transition)	53	LA RÉVOLUTION DES ALGUES	61
Bertrand Charles.....	54	(The Seaweed Revolution)	61
LES CHEMINS DE LA DÉCIVILISATION	54	SCIENCE	62
(The Paths of Decivilization: Practicing Deep Immersion in Nature to Reconnect with the Earth) ..	54	Raphaël Gaillard	62
Noémie Larouche	54	UN COUP DE HACHE DANS LA TÊTE	62
ÉCOANXIÉTÉ: L'ENVERS DU DENI	54	(An Axe Blow to the Head: Madness and Creativity) ..	62
(Eco-Anxiety: The Flip Side Of Denial).....	54	Michel Rochon.....	62
NATURE & ANIMALS	55	L'AMOUR, LA HAINE ET LE CERVEAU	62
David Grémillet	55	(Love, Hate And The Brain)	62
LES MANCHOTS DE MANDELA, ET AUTRES RÉCITS		Jean-Marc Lemaître, Preface by Luc Ferry	63
OÉANIQUES.....	55	GUÉRIR LA VIEILLESSE	63
(Mandela's Penguins and Other Oceanic Stories).....	55	(A Cure for Old Age)	63
François Sarano	55	Cyrille Barrette	63
AU NOM DES REQUINS	55	LA VRAIE NATURE DE LA BÊTE HUMAINE	63
(In the Name of Sharks)	55	(The True Nature Of Humans)	63
Nicolas Gilsoul	56	Collective, directed by Jean-Sébastien Steyer....	64
CHLOROPHYLLE & BETES DE VILLES	56	LE TRÔNE DE FER ET LES SCIENCES	64
(Chlorophyll & City Creatures)	56	(Science and the Iron Throne)	64
Nicolas Gilsoul	56	Jean-Sébastien Steyer, Roland Lehoucq,	64
		TOLKIEN ET LES SCIENCES	64

(Tolkien and Science)	64
Marc-André Selo	65
JAMAIS SEUL	65
(Never Alone Bugs That Build Plants, Creatures and Civilizations)	65
Marc-André Selo III. by Arnaud Rafaelian	65
L'ORIGINE DU MONDE	65
(Natural History of The Soil For Those Who Walk Upon it)	65
PSYCHOLOGY & SELF-HELP	66
Bruno Patino	66
TEMPÊTE DANS LE BOCAL	66
(Storm in the fishbowl: The New Civilisation of the Goldfish)	66
Christophe André	66
CONSOLATIONS	66
(Consolations Received and Given)	66
Guillaume Dulude, Ph.D.	67
JE SUIS UN CHERCHEUR D'OR	67
(I Am A Seeker After Gold The Mechanisms Of Communication And Human Relationships)	67
Anne de Pomereu	67
À LA RECONQUÊTE DE L'ATTENTION	67
(Reclaiming your attention)	67
Julie Klotz	68
LES QUATRE ACCORDS DU COUPLE	68
(The Four Agreements of Coupledness)	68
François St Père & France Duval	68
AMOUREUX ET HEUREUX	68
(In Love And Happy Despite Our Differences)	68
Fischetti & Roudière	69
SAC À DOS ET LIBIDO	69
(The Backpacker's Guide To Sexuality)	69
Lee Ann d'Alexandry	69
FAMILLES EXLOSIVES	69
(Explosive Families)	69
Philippe Turchet	70
LE GRAND LIVRE DE LA SYNERGOLOGIE	70
(The Big Book Of Synergology Decoding body language to improve relationships)	70
Solène Daoudal	70
HYPNOCONTES	70
(Hypnotic Stories)	70
HEALTH & WELL-BEING	71
Michel Odoul	71
DIS-MOI COMMENT ALLER CHAQUE JOUR DE MIEUX EN MIEUX	71
(Tell Me How to Feel Better Every Day)	71
Jean-Bernard Daepfen	71
LA MALADIE DU DÉSIR	71
(The Malady of Desire)	71

POP CULTURE	72
Bounthavy Suvilay	72
INDIE GAMES 1 & 2	72
(From Blockbuster to Independent Video Games) ...	72
Rémi Lopez	72
L'IMPACT D'AKIRA UNE RÉVOLUTION DU MANGA ...	72
(The Impact Of Akira. A Manga [R]Evolution)	72



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