



# 2020-2021

## Rights List

### Fiction and Narrative

### Highlights



Aline Girard-Gaget  
[droits@editionsboreal.qc.ca](mailto:droits@editionsboreal.qc.ca)

Pascal Assathiany  
[passathiany@editionsboreal.qc.ca](mailto:passathiany@editionsboreal.qc.ca)

# SUMMARY

**EN SUIVANT SHIMUN**

NEW

LAURE MORALI

3

**RELIQUES PROFANES**

NEW

PIERRE-MARC ASSELIN

4

**UN CŒUR HABITÉ DE MILLE VOIX**

NEW

MARIE-CLAIRE BLAIS

5

**FAIT PAR UN AUTRE**

NEW

SIMON ROY

6

**L'HOMME AUX CHATS**

NEW

MICHÈLE OUMET

7

**MANAM**

RIMA ELKOURI

8

**LES CRÉPUSCULES DE LA YELLOWSTONE**

LOUIS HAMELIN

9

**PETITES CENDRES OU LA CAPTURE**

MARIE-CLAIRE BLAIS

10

**L'ŒIL AMÉRICAIN**

PIERRE MORENCY

11

**LES MARÉES**

BRIGITTE VAILLANCOURT

12

**CICATRICES**

CAMILLE BOUCHARD

13

**LE SIÈCLE DES MALHEURS SERIES**

BY CAMILLE BOUCHARD

14

**BACKLIST**

15





© Sarah Rouleau

Boréal



NEW

## EN SUIVANT SHIMUN

LAURE MORALI

Narrative Nonfiction

Published: August 2021

ISBN 9782764626788 | 184 pages

### At a glance

- The exciting adventures of Laure Morali in the heart of the Innu community.
- A life-changing meeting with a land, a people, and a man, Shimun.
- The author excels in transmitting stories that bring the past to life.

### The author

Laure Morali lives in Montreal. Her anthology *Aimititau! Parlons-nous!* (Mémoire d'encrier, 2008 and 2017) helped strengthen the ties between Quebec's and Indigenous writers.

### The book

*Shimun waits for the wind to drop so that the plane can take us into the heart of the land. We have bought supplies of food to last us at least two months in the bush. I have been gifted with a pair of snowshoes woven from strips of rawhide. Man-iten has knitted a pair of woolen socks for me and made a fur hat out of Arctic hare. Nuenau loans me a pair of her high-rise moccasins that she slips into my bag with these words: "You have no idea how happy you will be in Nutshimit. You can walk, paddle, admire the lake and the mountains, hunt, cut firewood. It never stops. Shimun's face lights up. He is not the same man there. You need to come with us to understand." "The forest is our father's home," adds Penassin.*

A young woman born on the other side of the ocean begins a journey alone. She heads north, stubbornly continuing beyond Tadoussac, past Baie-Comeau. She will only stop once she has reached Ekuanitshit, where she meets two sisters, Penassin and Nuenau, and their father Shimun. With the arrival of fall, Shimun invites the young woman to join him on a trip through Nutshimit, in the heart of the Quebec-Labrador Peninsula.

*En suivant Shimun* paints a vibrant picture of the Innu community at a turning point in its history. Although the daily life of the Innu is heavily impacted by modernity and contact with people from very far away, the call of the land still exerts a magnetic pull, and the spirit of hospitality of this nomadic people still dictates how they treat unexpected guests.



© François Couture

Boréal



NEW

## RELIGUES PROFANES

PIERRE-MARC ASSELIN

Short stories

Published: September 2021

ISBN 9782764626825 | 184 pages

### At a glance

- Written in a playful and lucid style, this first collection of short stories explores the growing materiality and virtuality of today's world.
- How can one find meaning in a seemingly senseless reality?
- Unsettling stories that will appeal to readers of Don DeLillo, George Saunders, and David Foster Wallace.

### The author

Pierre-Marc Asselin was born in Alma, near Lac Saint-Jean. His essays and short stories have appeared in *Moebius*, *Contre-jour*, *Captures*, *Nyx*, *Quartier F*, *Revue Saturne* and *Le Crachoir de Flaubert*. *Reliques profanes* is his first book.

### The book

*If only my girlfriend were with me [...]. I admire the way she can make the most outlandish purchases with almost lyrical nonchalance. I tend to let the object take the lead, to set myself up before it, receptive to any strange force it emits, as though some trinket made in Myanmar could totally change the course of my life.*

A man in search of a gift feels the aisles of a department store close in around him. Another man in the middle of a divorce is trapped by the smartphone of a stranger that enchants him like her siren's song. Parents who have come to the big city to help their son move interpret a vacant parking space as a miracle. A patriarch is convinced that the dirt road that borders his property is responsible for the tragedy that has befallen him.

In a world in which God has long since died, history has ended, and grand narratives have been replaced by advertisements and tabloids, the characters in *Reliques profanes* wander aimlessly along the path of meaning and destiny like a flock of lost sheep. Subject to the legion temptations of consumerism and technology, they seek transcendence in what surrounds them: everyday items, living spaces, and sundry debates. They hope to elevate themselves ever so slightly above their sad realities, at the risk of falling into idolatry.

Anchored in worlds that are sometimes absurd, sometimes dreamlike, sometimes fantastical, the 14 short stories in this collection are playful yet unsettling in their questioning of the current human condition, in which the material and the virtual constantly increase their dominance over our lives like the twin heads of a hydra.





Boreál



NEW

“One of the most distinctive and original living writers of fiction.”

*The New Yorker*, 2019

See backlist page 15.

## UN CŒUR HABITÉ DE MILLE VOIX

MARIE-CLAIRE BLAIS

Novel

Published: October 2021

ISBN 9782764626856 | 288 pages

### At a glance

- In this novel, Marie-Claire Blais reconnects with the characters at the heart of two important works she published decades ago: *Les Nuits de l'Underground* (*Nights in the Underground: An Exploration of Love*) and *L'Ange de la solitude* (*Angel of Solitude*).
- *Un cœur habité de mille voix* introduces us to a plethora of unforgettable characters notable for their complex and moving humanity.
- A work entrenched in the fight for queer nights.

### The author

Marie-Claire Blais is the internationally revered author of more than thirty books, many of which have been published around the world. In addition to the Governor General's Literary Award for Fiction, which she has won four times, Blais has been awarded the Médicis Prize, Prince-Pierre-de-Monaco Prize, the Molson Prize, and Guggenheim Fellowships. She lives in Key West.

### The book

Taking a break from the scorching heat of the Caribbean and the characters populating the expansive mosaic of the *Soifs* series, Marie-Claire Blais reconnects with the people at the heart of two important novels that she published decades ago: *Les Nuits de l'Underground* and *L'Ange de la solitude*.

René suddenly feels like an old man and is both comforted and annoyed by the officious care provided by his Russian nurse, Olga. She insists on reminding René that, despite having a masculine name, despite what René wants everyone to think, René is a woman. René just wants to keep dressing elegantly, as in the old days of playing piano in women-only cabarets. What if a lover decides to visit? What about Louise, for example? She always loved René but refused to be just one of the assorted “strays” that flocked around the pianist. Or perhaps Lali will come—the German doctor, René’s “little brother,” who devoted her life to the fight against AIDS. And what about Nathalie, to whom René gave everything, absolutely everything?

In René’s orbit, we encounter the writer Johnnie, the musician Doudouline, the theologian Polydor, the painter l’Abeille, and Gérard, a lover of forbidden pleasures. They support each other, offering warm shelter from the cold, snowy world outside. They celebrate together, intoxicated, convincing each other that no ill fate can reach them in their cocoon. They reminisce about past loves, tragedies, fights. They steel themselves to take on the monster of bigotry and intolerance whenever it rears its ugly head, revealing their inexhaustible thirst for rebellion.

Marie-Claire Blais brings to life pivotal moments in the fight for queer rights that characterized the last century.



© Frédéric Duchesne



Boréal



NEW

# FAIT PAR UN AUTRE

## SIMON ROY

Novel

Published: September 2021

ISBN 9782764626887 | 232 pages

### At a glance

- In this book, the author of *Ma vie rouge Kubrick* (*Kubrick Red: A Memoir*) is on a quest in search of the “true” forger Réal Lessard, telling the tale in a masterful and mischievous way.
- A maze of a book in which the author gleefully leads the reader astray.
- Simon Roy invites us on a fascinating journey through truth and lies.

### The author

Simon Roy teaches literature at Collège Lionel-Groulx. He has published two novels: *Ma vie rouge Kubrick* (Boréal, 2014; Prix des libraires du Québec) and *Owen Hopkins, Esquire* (Boréal, 2016).

### The book

On February 5, 1988, on the set of Bernard Pivot’s famous French talk show, a Quebec author makes a splash. Under the fascinated gaze of Jacques Attali and Pierre Assouline, Réal Lessard talks about his autobiography, *L’Amour du faux*, which has just been released to great acclaim by a renowned Paris publishing house.

The audience is told the tale of a multifaceted painter. Lessard recounts the extraordinary life he has lived alongside some of the greatest forgers of his era. Notably, he talks about Fernand Legros, the merchant who became Lessard’s lover and introduced him to “high society”; Elmyr de Hory, alias the “princess of Transylvania,” who was the subject of a film by Orson Welles; and the writer Clifford Irving, who caused a massive scandal by publishing the fake memoirs of multimillionaire Howard Hughes.

Lessard also talks about his artistic talent, clear from early in his childhood in Mansonville. He explains how a number of his paintings found their way into the galleries of some of the most famous museums in the world, even though they carried someone else’s name. He is, for example, responsible for certain paintings attributed to Matisse, Van Dongen, and Picasso—or so he says.

But who remembers Réal Lessard today? His presence is fleeting, appearing and disappearing, leaving nothing but a cloud of mystery in its wake. And who is he, really? A genius equal to the masters he imitates? An artist with a misguided calling? A con man? A defender of true art opposed to the snobbish pretensions of the so-called experts?

The author of *Ma vie rouge Kubrick* embarks on a search for the “true” Réal Lessard. On his journey, he shares his reflections on a number of questions that have always been close to his heart. Is it possible to draw a line between truth and fiction? What’s in a name? Why is it so important? Do we have the right to tell someone else’s story?



Boréal



NEW

# L'HOMME AUX CHATS

## MICHÈLE OUIMET

Crime Novel

“Boréal Noir” series

Published: November 2021

ISBN 9782764626900 | 288 pages

### At a glance

- A noir novel that takes us on a dizzying plunge into the depths of a serial killer's psyche.
- In her first thriller, Michèle Ouimet brings us from laughter to horror, from scenes of violence to tenderness.
- With its direct, merciless style, *L'Homme aux chats* grips the reader from the very first page.

### The author

Michèle Ouimet was a journalist at *La Presse* from 1989 to 2018. She has written two novels, *La Promesse* (2014) and *L'Heure mauve* (2017), as well as an autobiographical work describing her career as a foreign reporter, *Partir pour raconter* (2019), all published by Boréal.

### The book

Montreal is in a state of shock. The body of a fourth woman, brutally tortured and killed, has just been found in an alley. This is clearly the work of a prolific, meticulous, perfectionist killer in thrall to a gruesome ritual. But neither the police nor the media have been able to unearth a single clue to lead them to the murderer.

Journalist Marie Pinelli is pressured by her boss Jean-Marc to get the scoop. Why are the police fumbling the case? Why has the body of a disembowelled cat been found next to each victim? What is the significance of the neatly folded clothes? Marie groans. Her herniated disks are agonizing, the sexism of her bosses is exasperating. Nevertheless, her journalistic instincts take over. She will move heaven and earth to crack this case, even if it means putting her own life in danger by getting too close to the psychopath.

In her first thriller, Michèle Ouimet displays a peerless talent for bringing likeable characters to life, portraying the hectic atmosphere of the newsroom and capturing the less-than-heroic drudgery of police work. Notably, we are introduced to François Prévost, who is in charge of the investigation and cannot help but be moved by the human drama that he witnesses every day.

With its direct, merciless style, *L'Homme aux chats* grips the reader from the very first page.



© Alain Roberge

# Boréal



## MANAM

### RIMA ELKOURI

Novel

Published: September 2020

#### Rights sold

English North America (Mawenzi)

Spanish World (Tiempo de Papel)

Georgian (Agora)

ISBN 9782764626474 | 224 pages

#### At a glance

- Rima Elkouri untangles the threads of a scarred family history and tells the story of the Armenian genocide.
- A touching perspective on Montreal and its immigrants.
- A bestseller in Quebec.

#### The author

Rima Elkouri is a journalist for *La Presse*. She received the Jules-Fournier Prize from the Quebec Board of the French Language. *Manam* is her first novel.

"It's a very, very beautiful novel. A real page turner."

Radio-Canada / Montreal

"The word *hope* is important. Frequently, it comes back. The hope of a better life when you arrive in a new country, the hope that can hold when you have to stay in the one that is at war."

*La Presse*

#### The book

Léa is a teacher. She does not believe in silence and secrecy, and this is what she always tells her pupils. Silence isn't a large part of the inheritance she received from her Téta, her beloved Armenian grandmother, who has just died at the age of one hundred and seven. Regularly over the years her large Armenian family would gather around Téta, and she would tell stories. But there is one story that she refused to tell. As soon as Léa brought it up, Téta quickly changed the subject. Now Léa wants to find out and understand the story of her ancestors. She goes to Turkey, and with the help of a Kurdish filmmaker and guide, visits her ancestral village, Manam. She learns that during the Armenian genocide at the beginning of the twentieth century, almost the entire population of Manam was killed or fled to exile in Syria. How did her grandmother and her family survive? Rima Elkouri, with great sensitivity paints the portrait of a family that wills itself to survive...





© Eloi Brunelle

# Boréal



## LES CRÉPUSCULES DE LA YELLOWSTONE

LOUIS HAMELIN

Novel

Published: June 2020

All rights available

ISBN 9782764626191 | 376 pages

### At a glance

- A novel about a French and American legend, the naturalist Jean-Jacques Audubon.
- A great American novel imbued with fascination for adventurers from the past and aversion to urban sprawl.
- Louis Hamelin wonders about his life as a man and a writer with a touch of irreverence and poetry.

### The author

Louis Hamelin has written several novels, including *La Rage* (Governor General's Literary Award) and *La Constellation du lynx* (Prix des libraires du Québec, Prix des collégiens). He is also a translator and the editor of "L'œil américain", a nature writing series published by Boréal.

"Probably one of the Quebec writers who best describes nature. There is something very moving about reading these passages which speak of extinct species."

*La Presse*

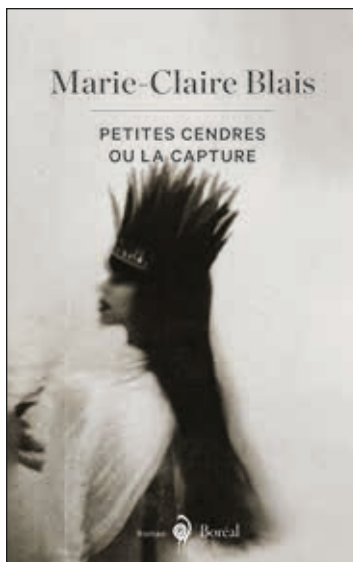
"Hamelin succeeds in making science a worthy adventure and a great western, with an American background still French."

*Le Journal de Montréal*

### The book

In April 1843, the famous naturalist John James Audubon embarked, from St. Louis, on what would prove to be his final expedition. His ambition was to collect as many specimens as possible to immortalize them in the book he had been writing on the "viviparous quadrupeds"—mammals—of North America. Born Jean-Jacques Audubon in Saint-Domingue (the future Haiti) and raised in France, he felt at home aboard the *Omega*. French was the main language spoken on the boat, which flew the U.S. flag as it steamed up the Missouri River. His guide was Étienne Provost, a celebrated French-Canadian *coureur de bois*. This part of the continent—from New Spain to the Great Lakes—was inhabited by Indigenous peoples and trappers. It teemed with astounding amounts of wildlife. The trekkers didn't hold back as they pillaged the fauna, shooting anything that moved in the name of science, or perhaps simply from the giddiness men feel when holding a gun.

Louis Hamelin explores the myths of an entire continent as one sails upriver. He walks in the Audubon's footsteps, following his trail by car in the plains of North Dakota, where packs of SUVs have replaced the herds of grazing bison. His odyssey ends with a bender in Livingston, Montana, in the company of a rising literary star and admirer of Jim Harrison. *Les Crépuscules de la Yellowstone* is a poignant homage to all the lives and dreams buried under the crushing weight of highway asphalt.



© Jill Glessing

# Boréal



SELECTED FOR  
PRIX WEPLER 2021

## PETITES CENDRES OU LA CAPTURE

### MARIE-CLAIRE BLAIS

Novel

Published: March 2020

Rights sold

France (Seuil)

ISBN 9782764626160 | 216 pages

### At a glance

- This is a novel about an America scarred by social inequality, racial injustice and war wounds.
- Marie-Claire Blais' powerful, inimitable style shines brightly in this ode to cultural and sexual difference.
- As always, she is perfectly in tune with her time.

### The author

Marie-Claire Blais is the internationally revered author of more than thirty books, many of which have been published around the world. In addition to the Governor General's Literary Award for Fiction, which she has won four times, Blais has been awarded the Médicis Prize, Prince-Pierre-de-Monaco Prize, the Molson Prize, and Guggenheim Fellowships. She divides her time between Quebec and Florida. Her masterpiece, *Soifs*, was published in German (Suhrkamp), Spanish (Random House) and Italian (Safarà) in 2020 and 2021.

"One of the most distinctive and original living writers of fiction."

*The New Yorker*, 2019

"A poetic and mastered universe which belongs totally, entirely to Marie-Claire Blais. I read it like you read poetry, like slam. There is rhythm. Marie-Claire Blais is our Patti Smith."

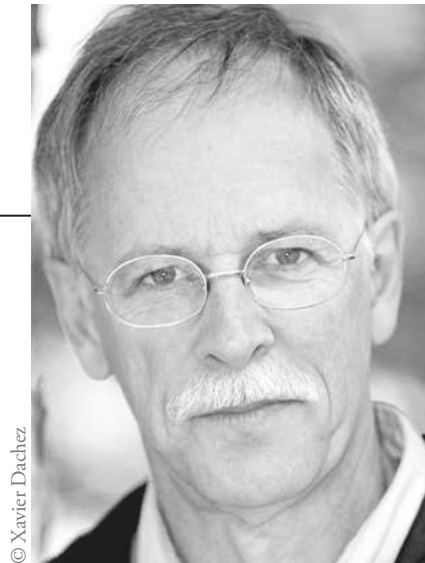
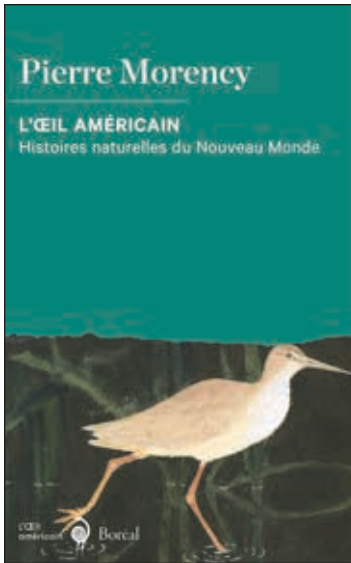
*Radio-Canada*

"She bears a beautiful testimony to trans prostitutes, to the black community and to marginalized people in general since always. It is a fight for dignity. The feather becomes a sword. She writes as if sometimes blood flows."

*La Métropole*

### The book

A small town in the American South, just before the first light of dawn. A policeman on horseback approaches a homeless black man who's sleeping in the street. The old man is beaten down by misery and drugs. He berates the cop furiously, rattling off a litany of injustices his ancestors suffered at the hands of white people. The policeman only wants one thing: to arrest the man and put him in jail for the rest of the night. What right does this old man have to harangue him? After all, doesn't a police officer represent the order to which all citizens are subject? Then a transvestite happens by, on the way home from a bar. He tries to reason with the policeman. When he sees the cop reach for his holstered gun, he shields the homeless man with his body. He tells himself the cop would never dare shoot a poor, defenceless man. But is he really sure?



© Xavier Dachez

Boréal



## L'ŒIL AMÉRICAIN

PIERRE MORENCY

Narrative Nonfiction

“L'Œil américain” series

Published: September 2020

### Rights sold

English North America (Exile)

France (Le Mot et le Reste)

ISBN 9782764626481 | 296 pages

### At a glance

- A new edition of a classic of Quebec literature.
- The exceptional love story between a writer and the nature of his country.
- A book rich with illustrations of flora and fauna.

### The author

Born in 1942, Pierre Morency is one of the most important writers of his generation. His work as a poet has been rewarded throughout the French speaking world.

*“An ode to nature and life.”*

*Tribune de Genève*

*“L'Œil américain is the wonder to be savored in small doses.”*

*Guide de Montréal*

*“Pierre Morency is one of the best living poet of Québec.”*

*La Presse*

### The book

Pierre Morency has turned his eagle eye to nature in this beautiful prose meditation that is at once animistic and practical. This is prose in service of no political position: this is seeing nature—the thing—as it is in itself, and therefore arguing by implication for preservation. This is prose in the great tradition of meditations on nature.

*L'Œil américain* is also a famous series of radio interviews that Pierre Morency has assembled and rewritten to make a unique document. Throughout these texts, he invites us to explore the marshes, the lakes, the forests, the fields, the islands of the river, the shores; to stop in front of the dandelion, cedar, spruce, birch; to search the privacy of insects; to follow in their rounds the hare, the raccoon, the porcupine, the coyote, the bats; to listen to the night and the wind sing; and discover bird life from within.



Boréal



YOUNG  
ADULT

## LES MARÉES

### BRIGITTE VAILLANCOURT

Young Adult

Published: October 2017

Rights sold

Poland (Polamy Lis)

ISBN 9782764625071 | 200 pages

### At a glance

- Two sisters grew up on different continents, in completely different worlds. As they meet for the first time, they struggle to make sense of their tangled feelings.
- Set on the secluded British island of Jersey.
- A powerful and poetic tale about family, identity and self-discovery.

### The author

Brigitte Vaillancourt was born in 1978 in Togo. She spent part of her teenage years in Africa, a continent she loves to revisit through her writing. *Les Marées* is her second novel dedicated to young readers. It received overwhelming praise and was named as a finalist for the Governor General's Literary Awards (Youth – French text) and for Quebec's Prix des Libraires.

FINALIST: GOVERNOR  
GENERAL'S LITERARY  
AWARDS 2018

FINALIST: PRIX DES LIBRAIRES  
DU QUÉBEC 2018  
(QUEBEC BOOKSELLERS' CHOICE AWARD)

### The book

Capucine feels like a fish out of water. For her exuberant mother Solange and the rest of her extended family, her shyness is an inexcusable flaw. As her graduation draws closer, she looks forward to only one thing: setting off on her own to study the peaceful inflexions of whale songs. In the meantime, she holds onto her only lifeline: her grandmother, who helps her keep her sanity in the midst of all the noise.

But one day, Solange's chatter suddenly stops. A mysterious phone call puts her in a state of silent stupor that is unlike her. Eager to understand this sudden change in her mother's attitude, Capucine uncovers a disturbing family secret: a sister, born several years before her and put up for adoption to avoid scandal. A sister she never knew anything about.

Filled with questions, Capucine travels to the island of Jersey to meet Joy. Do they look alike? Do they have the same red hair, the same eyes? The same love for the open sea?

Along the sandy beaches of Jersey, two sisters get to know each other in a suspended universe where time is punctuated only by the changing tide.





© Maurice Gagnon

Boréal



TEEN

# CICATRICES

## LE SIÈCLE DES MALHEURS BOOK 5

CAMILLE BOUCHARD

12+

Published: March 2020

ISBN 9782764626184 | 144 pages

### At a glance

- The fifth and final instalment of a captivating historical saga that shines a new light on critical events of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.
- An emotional and important novel highlighting the racial inequalities that have impacted—and continue to impact—the southern part of the United States.
- Each novel in the series can be read independently from the others.

### The author

Camille Bouchard was born in Forestville, Canada. An eager traveler and seasoned writer, he draws inspiration from his travels to the four corners of the world. *Cicatrices* is his eleventh novel with Boréal and the fifth of an historical series entitled *Le Siècle des malheurs*. Critically acclaimed, it was named as a finalist for the Governor General's Literary Awards (Youth – French text) in 2020.

FINALIST: GOVERNOR GENERAL'S  
LITERARY AWARDS 2020

### The book

On a terrible night in 1910, two Whites assault a young black man for allegedly having a love affair with their sister. In the middle of a deserted bayou, in Louisiana, the cruel men hang the young Jeremie from the branch of an oak tree. The only witness of this gruesome scene: the oak tree itself.

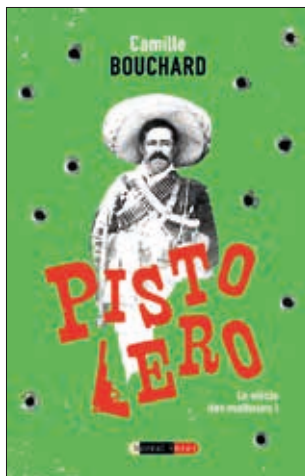
As years pass, the tree remains solidly rooted in the Louisiana soil. Through this unusual witness, the reader will observe the comings and goings of those who survived Jeremie's death: his mourning parents, his brother, his murderers... This seemingly eternal tree will live through the 20<sup>th</sup> century, with nothing to show for it but a few scars on the surface of its bark.

In this final episode of the *Siècle des malheurs* saga, Camille Bouchard is as ambitious as ever. While shining a light on the upsetting racial inequalities that continued to impact the southern United States well after the Civil War, he paints a picture encompassing an entire century. Through a surprising and original narrative, he posits that the top of an oak tree is the ideal spot from which to observe human madness.

# LE SIÈCLE DES MALHEURS SERIES

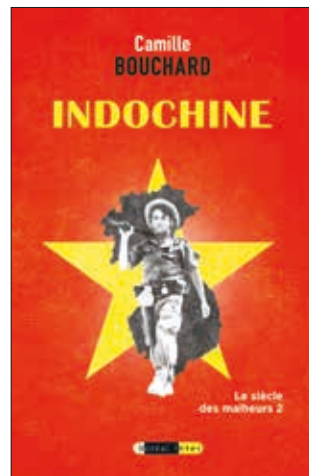
BY CAMILLE BOUCHARD

Boréal



## Book 1: *Pistolero*

Benjamin's father is not like most. He recklessly brings his 13-year-old along on dangerous adventures and has him wandering the world by his side, in search of a new thrill. In the middle of the Mexican Revolution, father and son suddenly find themselves among the ranks of Pancho Villa's revolutionary troops. Camille Bouchard brings 1910 Mexico back to life in a frenetic and exciting novel. Through Benjamin's eyes, the reader experiences the effervescence of the Mexican Revolution as the *pistoleros* capture Ciudad Juárez near the American border.



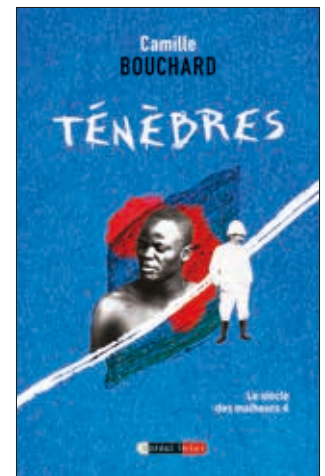
## Book 2: *Indochine*

Valentin is only 14 when he sets off to enrol in the French Foreign Legion, eager to prove to his father that he's brave enough to fight by his side. He manages to join the troops deployed in Diên Biên Phú, in the heart of French Indochina, where he's parachuted into a grim and violent world. The boy discovers hard life in the trenches and quickly realizes that war is not a game, but his goal remains to find his father and prove himself to him.



## Book 3: *Plutonium*

In Los Alamos, New Mexico, Marie-Louise, daughter of Benjamin Lavoie (*Pistolero*), witnesses alarming military testing taking place in the middle of the desert. What is this mysterious "Manhattan Project" people speak of in hushed tones? On the opposite side of the world, a Japanese girl named Yuriko sees her life turned upside down by the wave of terror that engulfs Hiroshima after the launch of the first nuclear bomb. Through the intersecting tales of these two young women, Camille Bouchard sheds a fascinating light on an unprecedented human disaster.



## Book 4: *Ténèbres*

August 1925. Thirteen-year-old Ovila Barza leaves the French motherland to start a new life in the Congo. When he disembarks in the port of Brazzaville, alone, a Canadian man named Benjamin Lavoie (*Pistolero*) is waiting to escort him to Bangui, nestled in the African jungle. Together with young Desneiges, a Congolese girl who has her own (secret) reasons for wanting to reach Bangui, they embark on a long journey at the end of which Ovila will finally reunite with his estranged father. Along the way, Ovila discovers that terrible, dark secrets creep in the heart of the Congolese jungle—secrets he won't be able to ignore.



## Book 5: *Cicatrices*

On a terrible night in 1910, two Whites assault a young black man for allegedly having a love affair with their sister. In the middle of a deserted bayou in Louisiana, the cruel men hang the young Jeremie from the branch of an oak tree. The only witness of this gruesome scene: the oak tree itself. In this final episode of the *Siècle des malheurs* saga, Camille Bouchard brings an unlikely narrator to life, shining a new light on the upsetting racial inequalities that continue to impact the southern United States, well after the Civil War.

# BACKLIST

## Marie-Claire Blais

### Cycle *Soifs*

#### Rights sold all titles

English North America (House of Anansi)

France (Seuil)

“Rarely has a novel stuck as perfectly to its time as the *Soifs* offered by Marie-Claire Blais.”

### *Soifs*

#### Novel

ISBN 9782890527188 | 320 pages

#### Rights sold

German (Suhrkamp)

Italy (Safarà)

Lithuania (Tyto Alba)

Romania (Editura Univers)

Spanish World (Literatura Random House)

#### The book

A sun-drenched paradise in the Gulf of Mexico surrounded by the glimmering blue sea; Renata is convalescing on this island poised between two worlds: between great wealth and extreme poverty, between the past and an uncertain future, between the beauty of the world and the horrors of history. Over the course of three days and three nights a flock of characters assembles: wealthy, poor, writers, artists facing their own mortality, children immersed in innocent games, young men dying of Aids, refugees, the Ku Klux Klan—an entire spectrum of humanity is depicted in the grip of doubt and suffering. In this swirling, baroque fresco, Marie-Claire Blais captures the essence of our apocalyptic age, rendering it in powerfully evocative prose.





## Cycle *Soifs*



*Dans la foudre  
et la lumière*

**Rights sold**

Italy (Safarà)  
Spanish World  
(Literatura Random  
House)



*Augustino  
et le chœur  
de la destruction*

**Rights sold**

Italy (Safarà)



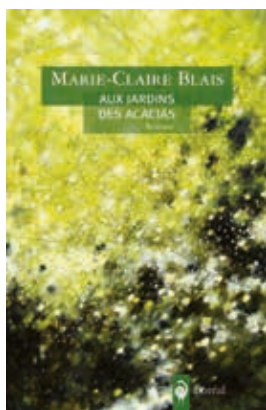
*Naissance  
de Rebecca à l'ère  
des tourments*



*Mai au bal  
des prédateurs*



*Le Jeune Homme  
sans avenir*



*Aux Jardins  
des Acacias*



*Le Festin  
au crépuscule*



*Des chants pour  
Angel*



*Une réunion  
près de la mer*



## *Une saison dans la vie d'Emmanuel*

Prix Médicis 1966

Novel

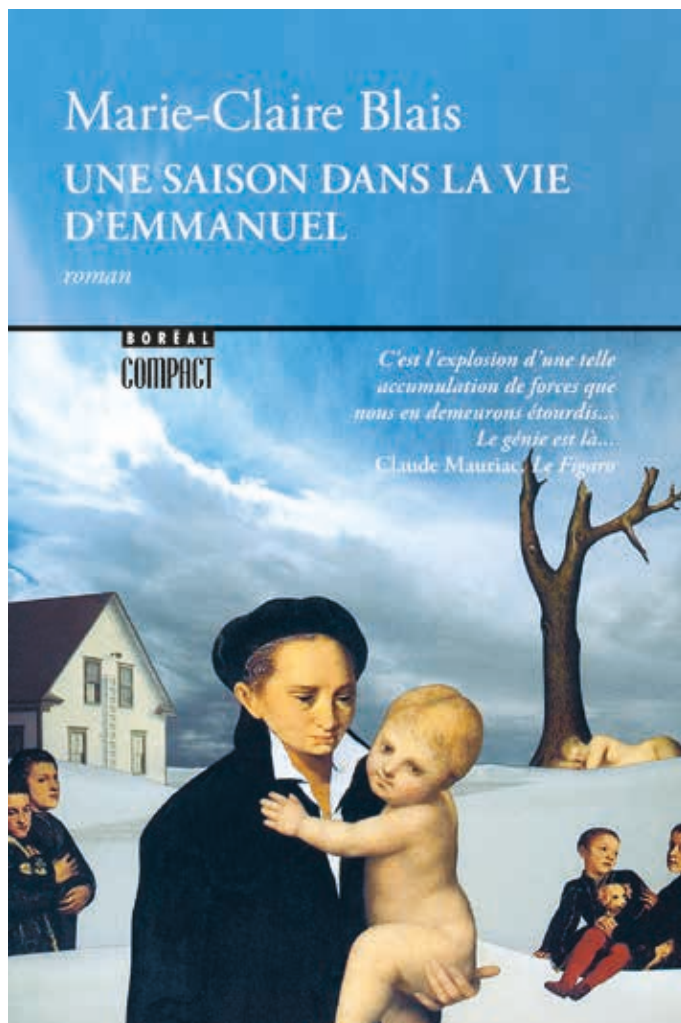
ISBN 9782890523661 | 168 pages

### Rights sold

France (Points)

### The book

When Emmanuel is born, he is the sixteenth child of a poor Quebecois family. *A Season in the Life of Emmanuel* unfolds over the course of a season in his life, and chronicles the struggles of his family, in particular four of his older siblings, through his eyes. A heartbreaking and powerful depiction of what it means to be poor and struggling in church-dominated Quebec, *A Season in the Life of Emmanuel* is often considered Marie-Claire Blais' most important work.





## *Un lien familial*

Nadine Bismuth

Novel

ISBN 9782764626238 | 328 pages

### **Rights sold**

English World (Anansi)  
German (btb Verlag)  
Romania (Editura Univers)  
TV Series (ALSO)

### **The book**

This moving, engrossing love story is also a novel of manners: a portrait, steeped in irony and pathos, of a time when decorating a kitchen can be a matter of utmost importance. With her corrosive gaze and her crystal-clear prose, Nadine Bismuth's novel is a mirror held up to ourselves and what has become of our lives in a world of which we are the makers, witnesses and crazed, pathetic protagonists. A bestseller in Québec and French Canada. Winner of the Combat national des livres 2020 (Radio-Canada).



## *L'Habitude des bêtes*

Lise Tremblay

Novel

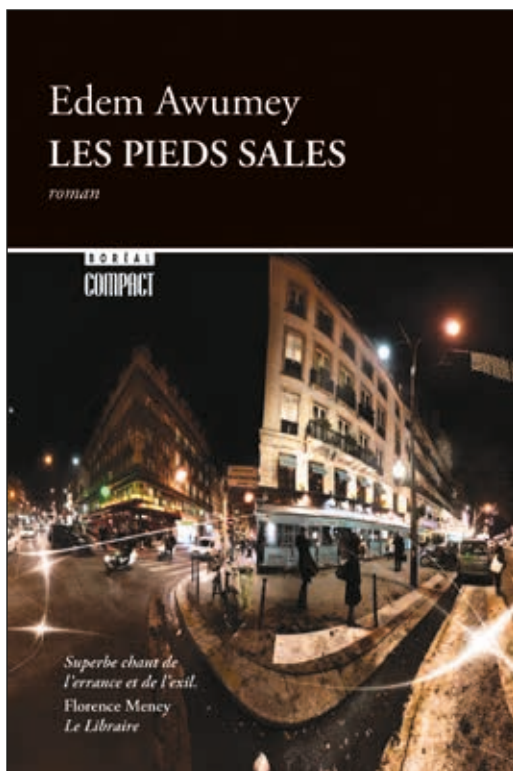
ISBN 9782764625156 | 168 pages

### **Rights sold**

France (Delcourt)  
Georgia (Agora)  
Romania (Univers)  
Sweden (Ramus)

### **The book**

The wolves have returned. Half-devoured moose carcasses have been found in the immense wildlife reserve. The wolf has been man's enemy since the dawn of time. It will never be possible to share the land with him. A powerful novel in which everything that appears to be an irreversible end, an apocalypse, is in fact only nature's and the world's vast respiration.



## *Les Pieds sales*

Edem Awumey

Novel

ISBN 9782764622759 | 162 pages

## **Rights sold**

English North America (Anansi)

France (Seuil)

German (Weidle)

Netherlands (Querido)

Spain and Mexico (Baile del Sol)

## **The book**

“Some are wet, just barely escaping from the sea; others have dirty feet because they flee, treading upon the earth in search of refuge, a land where they can rebuild their lives. Awumey has recreated a world where we find characters who belong to the world of pain. Whether they are in Africa or Europe, these cursed souls roam under the novelist’s complicit gaze. This novel, whose scope is universal, concerns us all.” Tahar Ben Jelloun



## *Ma vie rouge Kubrick*

Simon Roy

Novel

ISBN 9782764624135 | 180 pages

Prix des libraires du Québec 2015

Prix Excellence des Grands prix de la culture  
des Laurentides 2016

## **Rights sold**

English North America (Anvil)

Spain (Alpha Decay)

## **The book**

Roy has seen *The Shining* over forty-two times, and the painstaking bond he has knitted with this story of evil has enabled him to absorb the disquieting traits of his own family’s “macabre lineage.” Analysis of the film, and the many parallels to his own family’s troubled history, have allowed him to gain insight into the nature of domestic violence. A bestseller in Québec and French Canada.

*Viral*

Mauricio Segura

Novel

ISBN 9782764626702 | 306 pages

**Rights sold**

Croatian (Leykam)

TV series (Ugo Media)

**The book**

On a hot september morning, some bus passengers see their lives turned upside down by a video that is causing havoc on the web. Mauricio Segura takes pleasure in debunking prejudices and preconceived ideas and paints a striking portrait of Montréal with its miseries and its hope.





# Boréal



www.editionsboreal.qc.ca

Les Éditions du Boréal  
4447, rue Saint-Denis  
Montréal (Québec) H2J 2L2  
Tel: 514 287-7401  
Fax: 514 287-7664  
Mail: boreal@editionsboreal.qc.ca  
Website: www.editionsboreal.qc.ca

## Translation grants

The Canada Council for the Arts reimburses translation costs for literary works fee.

Two translation grants per year for each participant.  
[canadacouncil.ca/funding/grants/arts-abroad/translation](http://canadacouncil.ca/funding/grants/arts-abroad/translation)

Government of Quebec (SODEC) provides financial assistance for translation costs. The Quebec publisher must apply for this funding.  
[sodec.gouv.qc.ca/wp-content/uploads/programme-aide-exportation-rayonnement-culturel-livre.pdf?v=bc5f164e3b03a715fec5ebcb3d1f7a19](http://sodec.gouv.qc.ca/wp-content/uploads/programme-aide-exportation-rayonnement-culturel-livre.pdf?v=bc5f164e3b03a715fec5ebcb3d1f7a19)

Les dates, les prix et les nombres de pages figurant dans ce document sont donnés sous toutes réserves et peuvent être modifiés sans préavis.

## Follow us on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram.

Ce document a été réalisé grâce à l'appui du gouvernement du Canada par l'entremise du Fonds du livre du Canada (FLC), et grâce à l'aide du gouvernement du Québec par l'entremise du Programme d'aide aux entreprises du livre et de l'édition spécialisée de la SODEC.

## Foreign Rights

With a catalogue of over 2000 titles, Boréal is a Canadian trade publisher active in international markets. Over the years, through direct distribution in Europe, co-editions, and the selling of translation rights, we have established a strong network of partners.

We have great success on an international level with *Soifs* (Marie-Claire Blais), *Un dimanche à la piscine à Kigali* (Gil Courtemanche), *La petite fille qui aimait trop les allumettes* (Gaétan Soucy), *Un lien familial* (Nadine Bismuth) and *Explication de la nuit* (Edem Awumey), sold in many countries.

Moreover, many titles—such as *Borderline* (Marie-Sissi Labrèche), *C'est pas moi je le jure!* (Bruno Hébert) and *C'est le cœur qui meurt en dernier* (Robert Lalonde)—made it to the silver screen after their film rights were sold.

Boréal is also engaged in an important translation program (mainly Canadian writers), offering to readers works by Margaret Atwood, Michael Ondaatje, Alice Munro, Charles Taylor, Miriam Toews, Rachel Cusk, Jonathan Franzen and many others.

### For further information, please contact:

Aline Girard-Gaget  
[droits@editionsboreal.qc.ca](mailto:droits@editionsboreal.qc.ca)  
Tel: 514 287-7401 ext. 328  
Fax: 514 287-1019

Canada

Société  
de développement  
des entreprises  
culturelles

Québec



Conseil des arts  
du Canada

Canada Council  
for the Arts