



LITERARY &  
COMMERCIAL  
FICTION /  
NONFICTION

# RIGHTS CATALOGUE

LONDON  
BOOK FAIR  
2020

GROUPE  
HMHC



Groupe HMH has achieved both national and international acclaim as one of Canada's oldest independent publishers. The Groupe brings together four independent publishers, Hurtubise, XYZ, MultiMondes and MD, each managed individually.

**HURTUBISE** | Known for its catalogue of fiction (adults and children's books), Hurtubise also publishes practical resources, illustrated volumes and essays. Hurtubise was one of the first French-language Canadian publishers to take an interest in English authors (Marshall McLuhan's *The Gutenberg Galaxy* and Mordecai Richler's *The Street*, to name a few). Translations are a fixture of the group's catalogue today, particularly in the genres of children's literature (Alice Kuipers, Norah McClintock, David Skuy, Karen Levine) and nonfiction (Peter Gossage, Jeff Rubin, Ronald Wright). Hurtubise is also the proud publisher of local authors like Anaïs Barbeau-Lavalette, Valérie Chevalier, Michel David, Pierre Szalowski and many others.

**XYZ** | One of the province's most influential publishers of contemporary Quebec literature, XYZ has been the recipient of many prestigious literary awards (Governor General's Award, Prix des collégiens, Grand Prix du livre de Montréal). Its catalogue includes authors that have made a lasting mark on 21<sup>st</sup> century literature, including Jocelyne Saucier, Marie-Renée Lavoie, Aude and Jean Désy. XYZ also publishes many Canadian authors in translation—notably Yann Martel, whose novel *Life of Pi* sold more than 200,000 copies across Quebec.

**MULTIMONDES** | Éditions MultiMondes publishes essays and practical guides on science and nature. The catalogue contains titles that cover a range of themes including natural science, astronomy, animals and the environment. A division specializing in educational content puts out supplemental materials for children, parents and teachers. MultiMondes also translates authors of international renown such as Peter Wohlleben.

Today, Groupe HMH is proud of its authors, who continue to receive growing attention. Thanks to their immense talent and fantastic writing, Quebec literature is carried far beyond borders. We invite you to browse through the following pages to discover this season's highlights.

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### **Linwood Messina Literary Agency**

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# INTERNATIONAL TRANSLATION GRANTS

## CANADA COUNCIL FOR THE ARTS

The “translation” component of Arts Abroad funds the translation of Canadian dramatic works or literary works for international presentation or publication.

### **Types of writing covered by the funding**

Translation funding is available for fiction and short stories, poetry, drama, graphic novels, children’s and YA literature, and literary non-fiction.

### **Amount of funding**

Up to 50% of translation costs and a maximum of CA\$20,000 for each translation. Each applicant is eligible to receive up to two translation grants per year. Costs are calculated based on translation fees.

### **For more information:**

<https://canadacouncil.ca/funding/grants/arts-abroad/translation>, or contact Lien De Nil, Program Officer, at [lien.denil@canadacouncil.ca](mailto:lien.denil@canadacouncil.ca)

### **DEADLINE APRIL 8 2020: The Frankfurt 2020 Incentive for Purchasing Translation Rights and for Publishing in German**

A one-time initiative for the translation, and in some cases, the production and promotion of Canadian works into German. For the duration of the initiative, the Council will fund the translation of works by Canadian authors even in genres normally outside its mandate.

### **For more information:**

<https://canadacouncil.ca/initiatives/frankfurt2020>

## SODEC

SODEC provides financial assistance for the translation of literary works written by Québec authors and published by Québec publishers. This program aims at providing visibility for Québec authors and literature throughout exportation and international rights markets.

### **Amount of funding**

The request for funds must be submitted to SODEC by a Québec publisher. The subsidy granted may be up to 75% of the translator’s fee and up to a total amount of CA\$12,500.

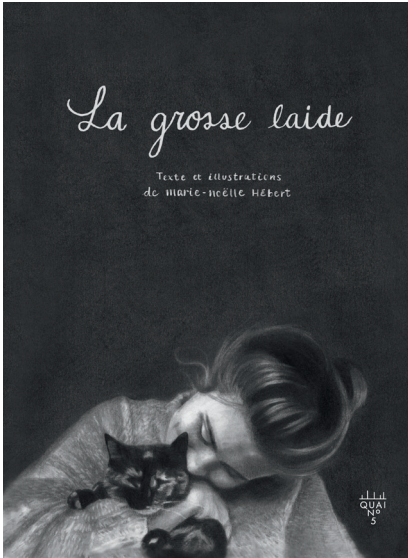
To find out about eligibility criteria: <https://sodec.gouv.qc.ca/wp-content/uploads/programme-aide-exportation-rayonnement-culturel-livre.pdf>, (p.20-22), or contact HMH’s rights manager Sandra Felteau.



# THAT FAT GIRL

La grosse laide

Marie-Noëlle Hébert



*This is my body, and it's beautiful. Maybe some day I'll believe that. Stop melting into the background. Free myself from the "ideal body" we take for granted and get stronger, more confident. Be myself. And never make the mistake of apologizing again.*

CATEGORY: **FICTION/ GRAPHIC NOVEL**

FORMAT: 7.6 x 10 po

PAGES: 104

PUB. DATE: October 2019

RIGHTS SOLD:

World English (Groundwood Books)

**"A powerful, thrilling read!"**

**— Jimmy Beaulieu,  
author and illustrator.**

Marie-Noëlle isn't comfortable in her body. Disheartened by the curves that take her further from her ideal body and scorned by everyone who doesn't have her "problem", she starts to spiral. *That Fat Girl* addresses issues of self-loathing, awkward interactions with friends who don't know how to help and the contradictions of a society that fails to accept the atypical.

The visually stunning comic is drawn entirely in graphite pencil, rendering Marie-Noëlle Hébert's debut at once deeply personal and universal, able to touch anyone who has ever felt marginalized.

MARIE-NOËLLE HÉBERT lives in Montreal. Largely self-taught, she studied advertising illustration at Collège Salette. She did a series of illustrations for the documentary *Carricks, dans le sillage des Irlandais* by Viveka Melki (Tortuga films, 2017) and illustrated the children's book *Le voyage de Kalak* (Cuento de luz, 2018). *That Fat Girl* is her first graphic novel.

Je pars.  
17 ans.  
C'est fini  
les efforts,  
la sueur  
et la  
perseverance.

Je dis adieu  
à la simplicité  
on oublie  
temporairement  
mon corps et ses  
angoisses.

Je quitte mes parents.  
Je me salue d'un air féminin  
qui y rit. L'amitié devient le cœur de ma vie. Double  
mon horaire, les restrictions et mes entraînements.  
Je passe tout mon temps avec mes amis. Comme si  
plus rien d'autre n'existait.

Le soir,  
quand je me  
retrouve seule,  
parfois la tristesse  
m'emplit.  
Ça parait  
je suis bonne  
pour enfourer le  
Mal sous-jacent.

C'est si compliqué de  
vivre parmi les autres.  
Parfois suis.  
Moi. Moi. Moi.  
Je ne trouve tellement  
courage d'être des  
sentiments pour  
rien. Pour rien.  
Même.  
Je voudrais  
tellement être  
quelqu'un d'autre.  
"J'aurais". J'ai tout.  
Plus moi-même.  
J'ai beaucoup  
envie de mourir.  
Je pleure à tout  
tout le temps  
et ça me rend  
triste plus seule.  
Ça me rend encore  
plus malade.  
La grosse  
Enide.

En ce moment,  
je me rends compte soudainement  
qu'un jour je serais si ne se  
passera quelques chose  
avec moi. Il ne s'agit  
rien pour moi.

J'ai tellement peur  
qu'il ne m'arrive pas.  
Ça me fait mal.  
Corps vide.

Il faut que je rigole  
tout ce temps je vais  
devenir folle.

Ça me ferait tellement  
mal qu'il sorte avec  
une autre fille.

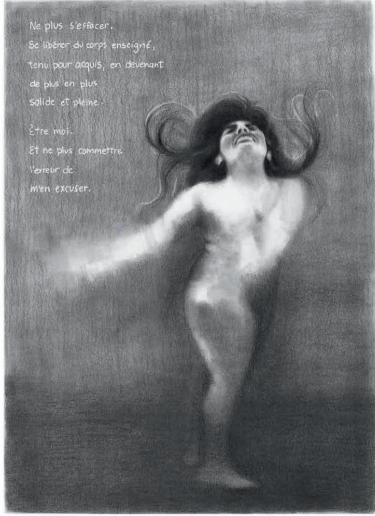
Il m'aime c'est sûr.  
Il faut que  
je lui dise.

Je ne vivrais pas.  
Des fois, je m'aime.  
Mais c'est rare.  
Même un peu faux.  
Et si je faisais semblant...



C'est mon corps  
et il est beau.  
Peut-être  
qu'à la longue,  
je finirai  
par le croire.

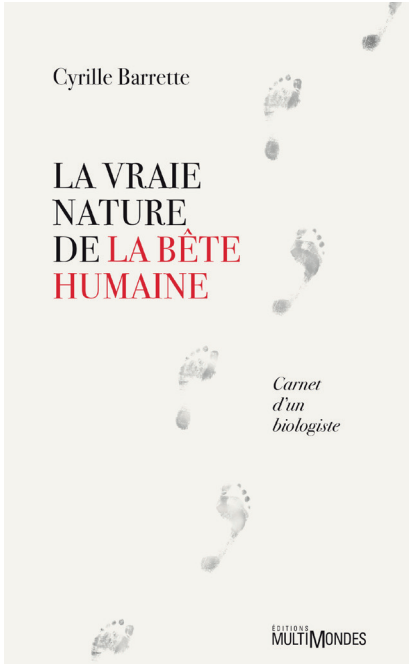
Ne plus souffrir.  
Se libérer du corps enserré,  
Tenir pour acquis, en devenant  
de plus en plus  
solide et pleine.  
Être moi.  
Et ne plus commettre.  
Verser de  
mon excuser.



# THE TRUE NATURE OF HUMANS

La vraie nature de la bête humaine

Cyrille Barrette



An unprecedented reflection on the future of humans.

CATEGORY: **NONFICTION/  
BIOLOGY**

PAGES: 228

PUB. DATE: April 2020

**RIGHTS HELD BY:**

Linwood Messina Literary Agency  
gregory@linwoodmessina.com

**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.”

**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 published by Éditions Multimondes.

# THE MAN WHO DISCOVERED STRESS

Le stress d'une vie  
Mathieu-Robert Sauvé

**“Everyone looked sick.” Young Hans Selye, a student at the time, makes this naïve — yet obvious — observation as he studies the waiting room of a medical clinic. If the patients aren't sick for the same reasons, he wonders, then why do symptoms such as joint pain or gastrointestinal issues all seem to overlap?**

Selye begins his research, hoping to shed light on the enigma. In 1931 he immigrates to Montreal, where he makes a major discovery: he coins the condition “general adaptation syndrome”, otherwise known as stress, today universally acknowledged as the body's silent response to pressure. But who was Dr. Selye?

Step into the fraught world of Selye's research to better understand the bitterness that will result from his fruitless attempts at capturing a Nobel Prize. Watch as laboratory rats are shaken by spasms, listen to the gong that punctuates days of experimentation and attend the meeting with French doctor Henri Laborit.

MATHIEU-ROBERT SAUVÉ is a journalist and essayist. His work has appeared in *Forum*, *L'actualité*, *Le Devoir* and *Québec Science*. He has also published a dozen titles, including *Dr Stanley Vollant, my Innu Journey* and *Survive: Evolution in a Wink* with Éditions MultiMondes.

MATHIEU-ROBERT SAUVÉ

## LE STRESS D'UNE VIE

Grandeur et misère  
du montréalais  
Hans Selye,  
découvreur du stress

ÉDITIONS  
MULTIMONDES

Hans Selye founded Université de Montréal's Institute of Experimental Medicine and Surgery in 1945 and was the author of over 1,700 scientific publications and 39 books. He died in 1982.

CATEGORY: **NONFICTION/  
SCIENCE**

PAGES: 216

PUB. DATE: April 2020

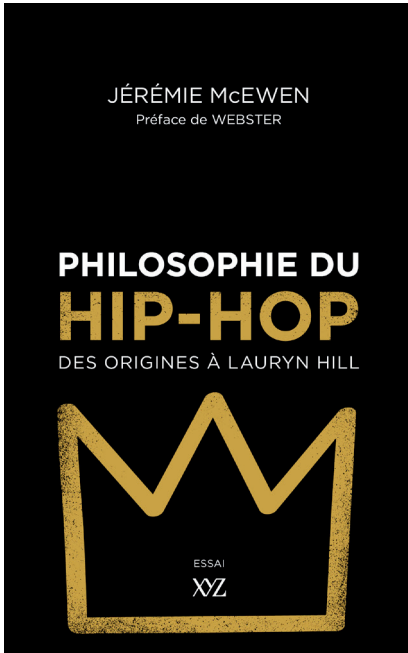
**RIGHTS HELD BY:**

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# THE PHILOSOPHY OF HIP-HOP

Philosophie du hip-hop, des origines à Lauryn Hill

Jérémie McEwen



*Philosophy is everywhere, for the simple reason that everyone lives their life according to certain guiding principles. If philosophy is to become accessible to the masses, it must be sought out in existing contemporary culture and not only in well-structured systems of thought from the distant past.*

CATEGORY: **NONFICTION/  
CULTURAL STUDIES**

PAGES: 280

PUB. DATE: August 2019

RIGHTS SOLD:

French Audio (Vues & voix)

Can we mix Tupac with Machiavelli, DJ art with Kant, NWA with Plato? This is the surprising bet of Jérémie McEwen, philosopher, professor and hip-hop specialist who extends the mission of his “Philosophy of hip-hop” class to this thorough, accessible and original essay.

By combining big-name philosophers with influential hip-hop artists, McEwen uses numerous examples to demonstrate that what is often perceived as music’s poor relation can in fact be interpreted through the lens of currents and concepts judged to be above street culture.

A fascinating read for hip-hop and philosophy fans alike — neophytes as well as experts. McEwen sketches out the genre and its most important figures while restoring philosophy to its rightful place — real life.

JÉRÉMIE MCEWEN is a professor of philosophy at College Montmorency and a Radio-Canada columnist. A hip-hop fan since adolescence, he was a member of the now-disbanded hip-hop band NuSiDécouvert and is now one half of the La Brigade des Moeurs rap duo. *The Philosophy of Hip-Hop* is his second book, after *I Used to Scream Louder*, published in 2018.

# TERROR AND THE SUBLIME

## La terreur et le sublime

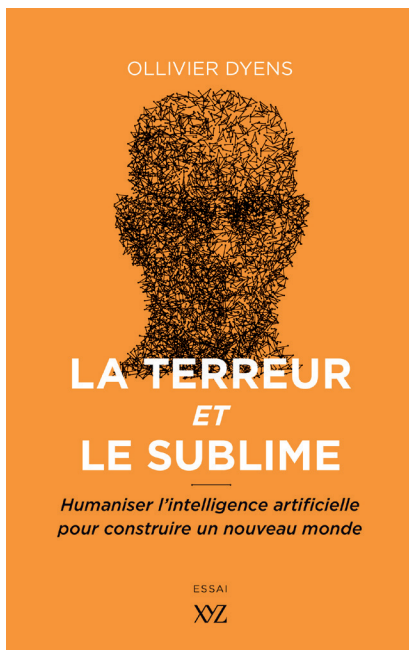
Ollivier Dyens

**For readers of Yuval Noah Harari, Ronald Wright & Kai-Fu Lee.**

How can we exist in a world that will experience the equivalent of 10,000 years of progress by 2100? Are machines becoming emotional, curious and intelligent? One thing we do know is that they are pervading our world in all its dimensions, becoming entrenched in civilization and our ecosystem. We are entering the era of aloracy — a world dominated, enriched, governed, monitored and healed by algorithms.

In the face of this remarkable fact, we experience both terror and the sublime in the immense gap between what we perceive ourselves to be and the new reality that technology imposes. The ecological, humanitarian and ethical challenges that lie ahead will require an unprecedented partnership with artificial intelligence, a fusion of intelligences. We will have to learn to live, create, think and educate alongside AI and its algorithms. Mankind and AI will be students, professors and partners alike in the creation of a new human-machine world.

OLLIVIER DYENS is a professor in the Department of French Language, Literature, Translation and Creation at McGill University. He is Founder and co-Director of Building 21 ([building21.ca](http://building21.ca)), a lab dedicated to innovation. He is the author of twelve books including *Metal and Flesh* (VLB, 2000; English edition: MIT Press, 2001).



English language rights for *Metal and Flesh*, a previous title by the same author, have been acquired by MIT Press.

CATEGORY: **NONFICTION/  
DIGITAL HUMANITIES**

PAGES: 240

PUB. DATE: August 2019

RIGHTS HELD: WORLD



# THE LAST JOURNEY

À train perdu

Jocelyne Saucier

© Ariane Ouellet



## MANUSCRIPT AVAILABLE

*The result is not a trial of character but an attempt to track the desperate flight of a desperate woman aboard the trains of the North, sifting through scattered bits of evidence to determine a motive.*

— The narrator

CATEGORY: **FICTION/  
LITERARY**

PAGES: 290

PUB. DATE: FALL 2020

RIGHTS SOLD:

German (Suhkamp Verlag)  
and many territories under  
negotiation.

**After *And The Birds Rained Down*, a stunning meditation on aging and freedom, Jocelyne Saucier is back with her unique outlook on self-determination in this unsettling story about a woman's disappearance.**

Gladys might look frail and old, but she still has the stamina to jump aboard the Northlander and let the train carry her off on a mysterious quest that will puzzle everyone around her.

One September morning she leaves Swastika, her home of the past fifty years, and puts thousands of kilometers between her and the improbably named village. Thus begins an investigation that will captivate the book's narrator for the years it takes to gather testimonies of train employees and longtime friends across Northern Canada.

But meanwhile, who will care for Gladys' perennially tormented daughter Lysana? And who, in fact, is this mysterious narrator?

JOCELYNE SAUCIER was born in New Brunswick and lives in Abitibi, Quebec. Her book *And the Birds Rained Down* has won several awards in Canada and France, including the Prix des cinq continents de la Francophonie, making her the first Canadian to win the award. The English version was a CBC Canada Reads Selection in 2015.



265 000  
copies  
sold

## AND THE BIRDS RAINED DOWN

Il pleuvait des oiseaux

Jocelyne Saucier

**“Truly marvellous.”**

— *Voir*

**“A highly inspired novel,  
incredibly humane.”**

— *Elle Québec*

July 29, 1916. In the woods of Northern Ontario, the flames are rising. Soon, this will be known as the Great Fire of Matheson, one of many forest fires that ravaged the province in the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. On that day, the young Boychuck will narrowly escape death, forever scarred by the sight of his homeland in ashes.

Many decades later, a photographer takes interest in the survivors of those Great Fires. She will come to know some of them, venerable old hermits living deep in the woods, still prizing their freedom.

Other tormented souls will come into this story of survival and dignity, a shining demonstration that love, hope and the desire to be free do not wither with age.

**The book's movie adaptation raised more than 2 millions dollars in Quebec theaters only.**

**Best international movie at  
Göteborg Film Festival 2020/  
Presented at TIFF, Quebec,  
Vancouver and San Sebastian  
festivals (2019)**



### AWARDS

Prix des collégiens  
Prix des lecteurs Radio-Canada  
Prix des Cinq continents  
de la Francophonie  
Prix Les irrésistibles  
Prix France-Québec  
Prix Salon du livre de Montréal  
Prix Ringuet

### CATEGORY: FICTION/LITERARY

**Rights sold in 15 languages:**

Arabic, Czech, Dutch, English, French  
exc. N. America, German, Italian,  
Macedonian, Norwegian, Polish,  
Serbian, Spanish, Swedish, Turkish,  
Ukrainian.

French Audio rights (Audible),  
Movie rights (Films Outsiders).

# THE WILD ONES

## Sauvagines

Gabrielle Filteau-Chiba



“An hour. It’s all that it takes to go through this debut novel signed by Gabrielle Filteau-Chiba. And after turning the last page, we only wish one thing: that a hundred other pages are waiting for us to turn them.”

— *Page par page*,  
about *Trapped Inside*

CATEGORY: **FICTION/  
LITERARY**

PAGES: 320

PUB. DATE: October 2019

RIGHTS SOLD:

Italian (Lindau)

While the author’s first novel questioned the frenetic pace of urban lifestyles, this time the lens is turned to excessive hunting practices that serve the market for fast-fashion. Anouk, the narrator of *Trapped Inside*, returns as a secondary character as a love story gradually develops between her and Raphaëlle. The author’s imagery and poetic voice furthers the dramatic intrigue and keeps readers on tenterhooks.

The “wild ones” are Raphaëlle and Anouk, two women who chose to settle in the Kamouraska forest, Raphaëlle to be among animals and Anouk in search of solitude for writing. A common enemy will bring them together: a dangerous poacher, a threat to both the women and the animals.

In order to survive and protect the region and the life it hosts, they will have to turn the violent traps against the hunter himself.

GABRIELLE FILTEAU-CHIBA lives in a solar-powered house on the banks of the Kamouraska River. She writes, translates, illustrates and defends the natural beauty of her adoptive region. *Trapped Inside*, her poetic debut about her first winter spent in isolation in the forest, earned a wide audience and was a finalist for the Prix Jovette-Bernier.

# THE REAWAKENING

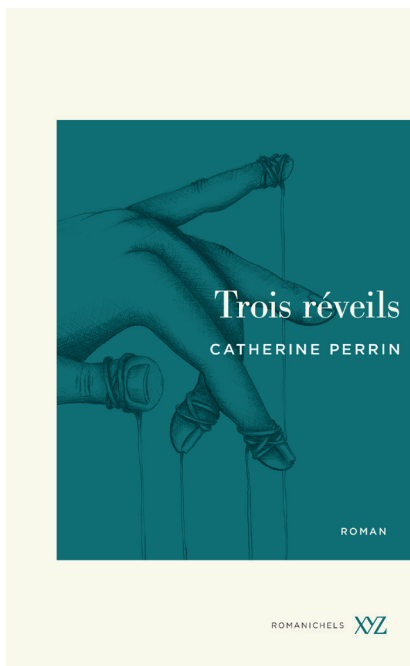
Trois réveils  
Catherine Perrin

**A novel whose singular score follows the emotional roller-coaster of a young man pulled by invisible threads, a bipolar protagonist whose moods, described with rare art and science, are skilfully rendered through the music he listens to.**

Antoine is studying at the Conservatoire de musique when, shortly after he discovers the oboe, he has his first manic episode that leads to a psychosis. He is medicated and the crisis is averted — until a relapse brings on a survivalist obsession and growing isolation. Then comes the accident, the climax of his fall.

Once life has calmed down again, Antoine must find a reason to continue. He has to rekindle an interest in life while agreeing to “sacrifice a flamboyant part of himself, to keep it under chemical control. In exchange, he asks only for peace.” And those around him must come to terms with the reality: his ever-worried sister; his best friend and opera virtuoso; his father, whom he must one day learn to forgive.

After eight years hosting a daily radio show, the harpsichordist and broadcaster CATHERINE PERRIN turned to writing — though she does not stray far from her love of music. Written with perceptiveness and great sensitivity, her first novel addresses art — and the people you meet in the street.



*Every once in a while, someone lingers a bit as he plays in the metro. In those moments, Antoine can tell the music has touched a life; he is playing for this particular listener, even while others stream past. The music changes and beyond the mechanics, there is an almost animal desire to do good.*

CATEGORY: FICTION/  
LITERARY

PAGES: 176

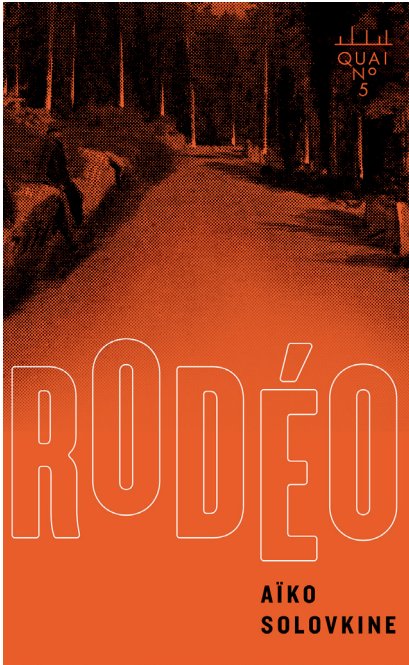
PUB. DATE: February 2020

RIGHTS HELD: WORLD

# RODEO

## Rodéo

Aïko Solovkine



*The hunting was good and the cars rang pell-mell with victory anthems. Once again, it was great fun. You think about the girl and the nursery rhyme stuck in your head. A little ditty that rises in your throat at the same time as your childhood.*

CATEGORY: **FICTION/  
LITERARY**

PAGES: 144

PUB. DATE: April 2020

RIGHTS SOLD: French excl.

North America (Espace Nord).

**A gripping book that reads like a roman noir yet offers a scathing report of the “other Belgium” where, far from the city centres, idle youth has found a way to fend off boredom.**

At first, it's a game. A way to kill time. Find a rabbit — or rather, a woman driving along a solitary back road — and chase her down. A screech of tires, tailing the car so close they can see the fear in her eyes. The days are long and life is dull in the Belgian countryside. It's normal for Mike, Jeff, Jimmy, Lucky Strike and company to want to have a little fun... Until the night it all goes too far.

*Rodeo* is inspired by real events that shook Northern France. The rich narrative will appeal to those who enjoy language that is luminous and raw.

After studying art history and archaeology, AÏKO SOLOVKINE decided to become a freelance journalist. Written over evenings and completed in only three months, her debut novel *Rodeo* won the 2016 Prix de la première oeuvre awarded by the Fédération Wallonie-Bruxelles. First published by Filipson, it was republished in 2020 in Europe by Espace Nord and XYZ for the North American market.

## CUBA LIBRE!

Cuba Libre!

Gabriel Anctil

**In his most recent work, Gabriel Anctil refreshes his palette and delivers a glowing surprise with language that is both poetic and vibrant. The author and travel writer manages to capture the mood of Havana, an ever-popular tourist destination.**

From the very first page of this hypnotic novel, we encounter a city that pulsates, drunk off the island heat and its hopes for a renaissance. Narrated in free verse, *Cuba Libre!* is an homage to the whims and paradoxes of a nation slow to make peace with its past. It represents an internal, yet also very physical journey at a turning point in the island's history: two months after Fidel Castro dies, one week after Donald Trump is inaugurated.

Behold the magic of streets whose anachronistic beauty lead to the sea, the poor neighbourhoods juxtaposed with the arrogant opulence of unbridled tourism, the local youth whose dreams are struggling to take flight.

Born in Montreal in 1979, GABRIEL ANCTIL has written extensively for television, spearheaded a radio series on Jack Kerouac and is the author of the popular picture book series, *Léo*. His first three novels, *On The 132*, *The Snowstorm* and *The Erotic Adventures of a Tortured Soul* (currently being adapted for film) were critical and popular successes.



*“Gabriel Anctil lead us through Havana’s busy streets, going beyond the tropes and clichés to bring out its colours, its life and its warm sensuality. You finish the book and you want to jump on a plane and go party on the Malecón!”*

— *La Presse*

CATEGORY: **FICTION/  
LITERARY**

PAGES: 296

PUB. DATE: October 2019

RIGHTS HELD: WORLD



# STAR DANCERS CLOUD YOUR SKY

Les danseurs étoiles parasitent ton ciel

Jolène Ruest



A realistic portrayal of how rethinking the future can upend the present. Jolène Ruest's second novel skilfully weaves the comical in with the serious, using a style that is colourful (like the characters), vivid and accessible.

CATEGORY: FICTION/  
LITERARY

PAGES: 256

PUB. DATE: April 2020

RIGHTS HELD: WORLD

**A unique foray into the world of ballet, seen through the eyes of a true enthusiast. A story with unexpected and tender friendships, where everyone's differences are respected.**

When her dreams of getting hired as a professional dancer evaporate, it's as if Prunelle's whole world — and the future she has imagined since childhood — crumble at the same time. She never would have believed that one day she'd be trading rigorous workouts for shifts at a HoMa's Dairy Queen, the violins of the Romantic era for punk and ska, and mice from the Nutcracker for actual urban vermin.

When her apartment is treated for bedbugs, Prunelle meets Javel, an eccentric exterminator whom she will run into again at the local bar. She decides to join in his antics and adopt his nonconformist lifestyle — including dumpster diving and squatting in abandoned condos.

The stars that Prunelle used to idolize will take on a new aura, and she must draw inspiration from the words of prima ballerina Marie-Agnès Gillot: "It's within the fall that I rise."

JOLÈNE RUEST was a radio host and currently works in music. In addition to writing zines and a forthcoming collection of poetry, she published *Monogamy or How a Country Singer Fucked my Sexual Life* with XYZ in 2016. *Star Dancers Cloud Your Sky* is her second novel.

## MODERN MYTHS

### Troies

Geneviève-Anaïs Proulx

**Their names are Éloïse, Vali, Cassandre, Marika and Gabriel. They're imperfect, hungry and splendid.**

Idealistic, excessive and sensual, Éloïse struts through the streets of Montreal. *Modern Myths* is a story of multiple loves and blinding passion steeped in ancient myths. It is about a job we hate, a story of forgotten painters and of intoxicating waltzes.

We run into *Swan Lake* in a bar, Cinderella in a one bedroom and the most beautiful red spot in a Philadelphia museum. When the Rivière des Prairies becomes the Styx, it turns into lame shags under the weeping willows and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* in a pool.

Bursting with a burning eroticism, *Modern Myths* represents a contemporary love tragedy.

GENEVIÈVE ANAÏS PROULX was born in Montreal. She earned a master's degree in art history in 2011. Among all the jobs she's held, her favourites include bookseller, heritage tour guide and professor of the history of public art in Montreal. She has been managing editorial projects since 2016. *Modern Myths* is her first novel.



Driven by a thirst for grandeur, a lyricism that doesn't hesitate to mix ancient mythology and popular culture, this first novel surprises by the refusal of our heroine, at once romantic and rebellious, to let herself be swallowed by the banality and conventions of reality.

CATEGORY: **FICTION/  
LITERARY**

PAGES: 280

PUB. DATE: September 2019

RIGHTS HELD: WORLD



# FAR NORTH TERMINAL

## Terminal Grand Nord

Isabelle Lafortune



An electrifying thriller that tackles many issues making headlines today and an exquisite ode to the Canadian Far North and the wildness that lives in both man and nature.

**CATEGORY: FICTION/  
THRILLER**

**PAGES:** 354

**PUB. DATE:** January 2019

**RIGHTS SOLD:**

French Audio (Vues & voix)

Movie Rights (François Bouvier)

**“A debut novel full of shadows you’ll want to devour in an evening or two.”**

— *Coup de pouce*

**“Isabelle Lafortune writes with intensity and such an alluring perception of life up North that her descriptions almost convince us we are there.”**

— *Le Devoir*

April 2012. The bodies of Natasha and her sister Gina are found near a snowmobile trail just outside of Schefferville. Detective Émile Morin, rushed to the scene from Montreal by a government fearing a scandal, searches high and low but nobody remembers running into the pair.

He will have to rely on his friend Giovanni “Johnny” Celani, who spent a few years living in the community, to teach him to navigate the tense climate of this former mining Eldorado where steady employment is now harder to come by than brawls around a slot machine.

Born in Montreal, ISABELLE LAFORTUNE has a degree in literature and also works in the fields of event planning and communications. From her very first trip to Schefferville, she always knew that one day she would write a novel set in the northern community.

## PASSING CARS

### Les chars meurent aussi

Marie-Renée Lavoie

**Lavoie's talent shines through, lending a singular voice — at once naïve and mature — to her remarkable young protagonist.**

At nineteen, Laurie has a new waitressing job and her first set of wheels: a rust-coloured Poney in need of some love that her father dug up for her. Her mother Suzanne, a parking lot attendant, has passed on her love of books, though Laurie ultimately decides to study science at college. Her parents dream of sending her to university, so Laurie can do better than they did.

The family takes care of little Cindy, who has essentially been abandoned by her own parents. Cindy is delighted by the stories Laurie invents and the treats Suzanne makes for her. When Laurie loses her job at the restaurant, learns her mother is hiding a dark secret and sees her fledgling romance with the dazzling Romain come to an abrupt end, she must turn to her loved ones to find the strength to smile.

MARIE-RENÉE LAVOIE was born in 1974 in Limoilou, near Quebec City. She is the author of four novels, including *Mister Roger and Me* which won ICI Radio-Canada's "Battle of the Books" and the Archambault Prize. She also writes children's books and young adults novels all published by Hurtubise. She holds a masters degree in literature and teaches at college level.



**"Lavoie shares a sensibility with Miriam Toews, where flitty, whimsical kites of characters are tethered to earth with threads of melancholy and darkness."**

— *National Post*

CATEGORY: **FICTION/  
UPMARKET COMMERCIAL**

PAGES: 248

PUB. DATE: November 2018

RIGHTS SOLD:

World English (Anansi)

French Audio (Audible)

# DIANE ASKS FOR A RECOUNT

## Diane demande un recomptage (vol.2)

Marie-Renée Lavoie



**“Very compelling”**

— René Homier-Roy, ICI Radio-Canada

**“Grounded and dense characters, perfectly chiseled sentences and a fine sense of humor even in the most difficult parts.”**

— *L'Actualité*

CATEGORY: **FICTION/**  
**UPMARKET COMMERCIAL**

PAGES: 280

PUB. DATE: January 2020

RIGHTS SOLD:

English (Anansi)

French Audio (Audible)

**“Lavoie continues to bring her brand of intelligent pop fiction to life using clever and accessible language that steers clear of clichés. A feel good book? Absolutely. Where other novels rankle for their always-happily-ever-after formula, the author of *Autopsy of a Boring Wife* reminds readers that friendship, generosity and a good bottle of wine can do wonders to ease life’s misfortunes.”**

— *Le Devoir*

After *Autopsy of a Boring Wife*, Diane is back in this follow-up novel chronicling her adventures in the dating world as she embarks on a new career. Her marriage may be over, but she has more than enough love to go around and gives it away generously.

First, to her grown children, next to her best friend Claudine and her daughters, then to a classroom of children who soak up her attention, and finally to Madeleine, her sweet, wizened old neighbour whose big drafty house becomes a haven for stray cats.

But there’s still room in her heart for a man who can treat her like royalty... like the Lady Di she is.

# AUTOPSY OF A BORING WIFE

## Autopsie d'une femme plate (vol.1)

Marie-Renée Lavoie

**“Lavoie’s fiercely hilarious take on the pains and triumphs of marital abandonment feels perfectly right.”**

— *Toronto Star*

**“With great humour and tenderness, Marie-Renée Lavoie recounts Diane’s journey to regain trust in both herself and the people around her . . . A piercing commentary on gender, marriage, and the nuances of self-love.”**

— *Toronto Life*

**“*Autopsy of a Boring Wife* is slapstick, funny, and absurd, but underlined with a tenderness and poignance that will have you rooting for happily ever after after that.”**

— *Pickle Me This*

Like a Québécois *Bridget Jones’s Diary*, Marie-Renée Lavoie’s third novel tells the hysterically funny and ultimately touching tale of forty-eight-year-old Diane, a woman whose husband leaves her and is having an affair because, he says, she bores him.

An astute commentary on women and girls, gender differences, and the curious institution of marriage in the twenty-first century.



A wonderfully fresh and engaging novel of the pitfalls and missteps of an apparently “boring” life that could be any of ours.

CATEGORY: FICTION/  
UPMARKET COMMERCIAL

PAGES: 248

PUB. DATE: April 2017

RIGHTS SOLD: Czech (Euromedia), Drama (C. Lalumière), English (Anansi), French exc. N. America (J'ai Lu), French Audio (Audible), Italian (Sperling & Kupfer), Romanian (Trei) Serbian (Cigoja štampa).

# JEALOUSY IS A CRUEL MISTRESS

La jalousie est un vilain défaut

Hugo Léger



**As Philippe sinks into madness, tormented by all his characters, the reader is sucked into a downward spiral that makes putting down the book almost impossible.**

When Philippe is asked to write a biography for one of Quebec's rising stars, a young Oscar-winning actress who is a fervent defender of animal rights, he has no choice but to accept. He is not drawn to her exceptional story (although the granddaughter of a Swedish immigrant who settled in Sainte-Adèle has accomplished quite a lot in 28 years), or her powerful message (even if Laurence wants to use the book as a platform for her cause). He doesn't even do it for money, not really. What motivates him is the proximity to someone whose story is worth telling, someone whose life will be remembered much more than his own. Even if it means touching up a few memories and blunting some edges. After all, who really needs to know about the fits of jealousy that launched Laurence Stewart's career?

CATEGORY: **FICTION/**  
**UPMARKET COMMERCIAL**

PAGES: 200

PUB. DATE: May 2020

RIGHTS HELD: WORLD

**HUGO LÉGER** studied sociology before turning to journalism. He has worked for publications such as *Le Devoir*, *L'actualité* and *Elle Québec* and eventually made the leap into advertising. Today, free as a bird, he goes where the wind takes him and continues to tell stories to whoever wants to read or listen to them.

# THE ROAD TO NOWHERE

## En route vers nowhere

Sophie Laurin

**A story of friendship fuelled by snack-bar poutine and inedible gas station sandwiches. A teen romance, in spite of the whiffs of warm beer and sweaty bodies during a summer heat wave. A story from an era when phones weren't quite so smart.**

Summer 1996. Sara and Sébastien, both 10, meet in the dining hall of the campground where they are spending their vacation. But the summer ends too quickly, interrupting their budding relationship. They reconnect years later, when Sébastien winds up at the same school as Sara. Months of basement parties and MSN conversations later, they are closer than ever. But could they be more than just friends?

Summer 2007. Sara and Sébastien set off on a road trip behind the wheel of Lucette, a real clunker that belongs in the scrapyard. Over the past 11 years their relationship has flirted with ambiguity and misunderstandings — much to the regret of their family and friends. In search of adventure, the pair set out towards nowhere, ready for the surprises awaiting them around the bend.

**SOPHIE LAURIN** is a journalist. She likes a good love story, trips where nothing is planned and sour candy that makes your gums tingle. *The Road to Nowhere* is her first novel.



**A book with dual timelines, infused with gentle nostalgia and irresistible humour. This summer-tinged read will delight young readers, especially Generation Y audiences.**

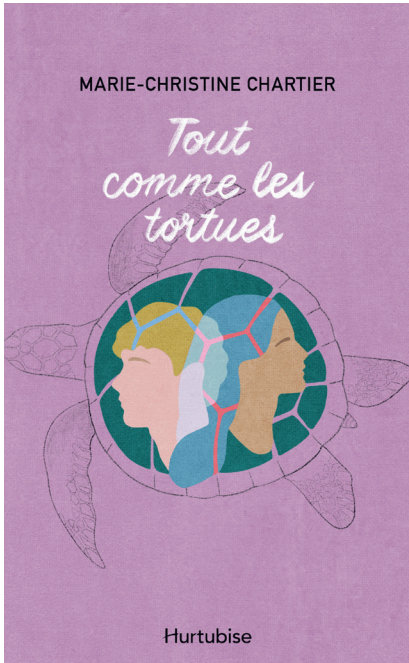
**CATEGORY: FICTION/  
COMMERCIAL**  
PAGES: 282  
PUB. DATE: April 2020  
RIGHTS HELD: WORLD



# JUST LIKE TURTLES

## Tout comme les tortues

Marie-Christine Chartier



“Sometimes these things happen, a tidal wave, a forest fire, a hurricane... natural forces that ravage everything for miles, yet we can't seem to look away. We're fascinated by their destructive beauty. One look from Ariane Côté always had that effect on me.”

CATEGORY: **FICTION/COMMERCIAL**

PAGES: 232

PUB. DATE: September 2019

RIGHTS SOLD:

French Audio (Audible).

**Like turtles returning to the place where they were born, Ariane somehow always finds her way home. Her return will upset the man she left behind — and the woman for whom he has found a replacement.**

After the unbridled emotion and invincibility of the teenage years, the twenties is the time for realizations. Friends since childhood and lovers for almost as long, Ariane and Samuel lose their footing when an event too painful to be ignored pushes Ariane to flee to South America. Samuel tries to rebuild his life with gentle, caring Anaïs, but their fragile balance is threatened when Ariane returns a year later.

With *Just Like Turtles*, Marie-Christine Chartier offers readers a wonderful story about healing, forgiveness, the power of time and, of course, love.

A former top-tier tennis athlete, MARIE-CHRISTINE CHARTIER spent six years in the United States on an academic scholarship at Iowa State University. When she returned to Quebec, she began a doctorate in psychopedagogy at Université Laval. After *The Allegory of the Rainbow Trout* which received both critical and commercial success, she is back with a second novel.



# THE ALLEGORY OF THE RAINBOW TROUT

## L'allégorie des truites arc-en-ciel

Marie-Christine Chartier

4.05 stars on *Goodreads*

### FEATURED IN:

- #3 Bestseller on August 12 (Indie Bookstores' day)
- July's Favorite - (*Clin D'œil*)
- In "5 summer reads" (*Elle QC*)
- Weekly Favorite (*Journal Metro*)
- In "30 super good quebécois books on your TRL" (*Narcity*)
- In "Top 10 of the books to read this summer on your balcony" (*Nightlife.ca*)

Max is cool, outgoing, and carefree. Though he often behaves like he's the centre of the world, he's charming enough to get away with it. His relationship with his parents is complicated. He loves women, and women love him. And Max loves Cam more than anyone, but he's not sure how to go about telling her. It's hard to love when you're afraid of ruining everything.

Cam is bright, sensitive, and damaged. Her mother died when she was young, which can explain some of her scars. Her world is small, her heart large. She is finishing up a master's degree and pursuing a doctorate. Her dream is to become an artist, but she'll most likely end up a professor.

Cam loves Max, but it's tough to love when you've been hurt so many times. What do you do when you love someone, but you don't know if love is enough?



"Marie-Christine Chartier's debut novel is authentic and perceptive. It deserves to be read."

— *Journal Metro*

"Captivating and cute as hell."

— *Narcity*

CATEGORY: **FICTION/COMMERCIAL**

PAGES: 220

PUB. DATE: May 2018

RIGHTS SOLD:

French Audio (Audible).

# FICTION BACKLIST



**I Would Like to Be Erased**  
by Anaïs Barbeau-Lavalette

**25 000 copies sold**

“An extremely moving book whose story unfolds in a very cinematic fashion.”

— *Voir*

**Rights sold:**  
English (Coach House Books),  
French Canada pocket (BQ).

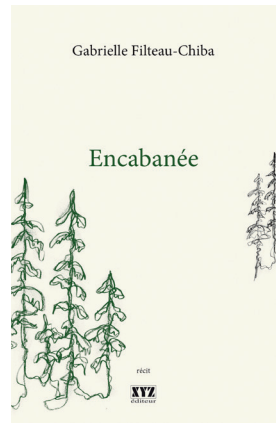


**Tiny Storms**  
by Valérie Chevalier

**25 000 copies sold**

A surprising and tender road novel that brings us from Montreal all the way to Newburyport and Paris.

**Rights sold: French (J'ai Lu),  
French Audio (Audible).**



**Trapped Inside**  
by Gabrielle Filteau-Chiba

*Trapped Inside* is a voyage deep into the woods and deep into the self. It is a quest for meaning, far from civilization.

**Rights sold: Italian (Lindau),  
Spanish (Edicola Ediciones).**



**Mister Roger and Me**  
by Marie-Renée Lavoie

**Rights sold:**

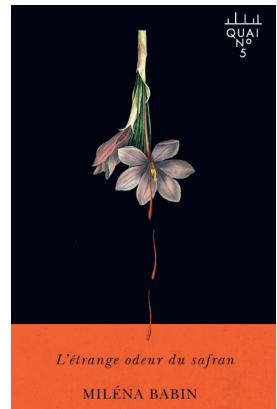
English (Anansi); French  
Canada pocket (BQ); French  
exc. N. America (Denoël,  
Folio Gallimard); French  
audio (Audible); Indonesian  
(Marjin Kiri); Italian (Sperling  
& Kupfer); German (Hanser);  
Mexico (Planeta).



**Like Beasts**  
by Eve Lemieux

The story of a modern heroine who brandishes her passion for life and emotional dependency like a torch, at the risk of it being all-consuming.

**Rights sold:**  
World English  
(Dundurn Press)



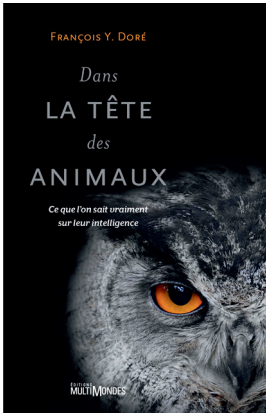
**The Smell of Saffron**  
by Miléna Babin

“A heroine that doesn’t lack nerve in a Lower St. Lawrence associated with saffron, it makes a quite surprising novel!”

— *Le Journal de Montréal*

**Rights sold:**  
English (Guernica),  
Movie rights (Element)

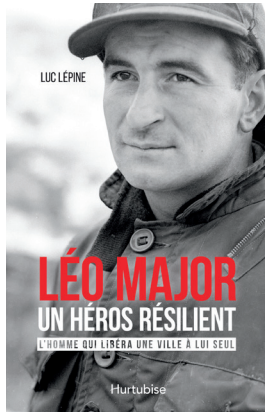
## NONFICTION BACKLIST



**Inside the Head of the Animals**  
by François Y. Doré

An excellent synthesis of comparative psychology and ethology studies conducted in the last hundred years!

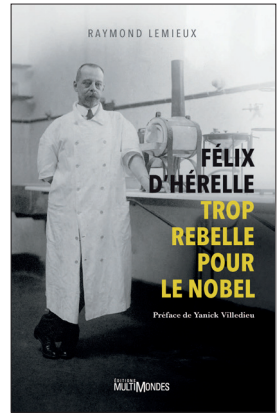
**Rights sold:** French (Trédaniel) and Turkish (Alakarga Yayinlari)



**Léo Major: A Resilient Hero**  
by Luc Lépine

Major's achievements earned him two DC Medals. He is mostly known for singlehandedly liberating the Dutch city of Zwolle during WWII.

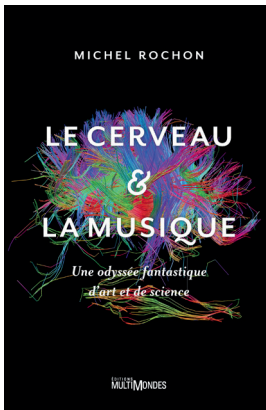
**Rights sold:**  
French Audio (Audible).



**Felix D'Hérelle**  
by Raymond Lemieux

The unbelievable story of a self-taught genius, whiskey and chocolate manufacturer-turned bacteriologist who was nominated 28 times for the Nobel Prize.

**All rights available**



**Music and your Brain**  
by Michel Rochon

This essay examines all aspects of music, drawing on arguments ranging from paleontology and digital art to astrophysics, medicine and mathematics.

**Rights sold:**  
Chinese (The Commercial Press)  
French Audio (Vues & voix)



**I Used to Scream Louder**  
by Jérémie McEwen

Jérémie tackles issues such as fake news, boredom, war, artificial intelligence, and modesty, borrowing from René Descartes, Mel Gibson and Donald Trump, to name a few.

**Rights sold:**  
French Audio (Vues & voix)



**Stolen Motherhood**  
by Maria De Koninck

An unsettling and compelling essay condemning the reckless use of new reproductive technologies that sheds a harsh light on a debate where individual rights and social values butt heads.

**Rights sold:**  
World English (Baraka Books)

# Hurtubise



ÉDITIONS  
MULTIMONDES

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