

RIGHTS LIST
FALL 2025



OVERVIEW

A UNIQUE PUBLISHING MODEL

- ▶ **Reading makes you happy!** A simple idea & XO Editions' guiding principle! Our ambition is to share this happiness with as many people as possible.
- ▶ Hence the company's motto – **XO READING FOR PLEASURE** – and the choice to publish quality works geared toward a mass-market audience.
- ▶ The notion of pleasure is essential. One of the major challenges ahead will be to get the young generation, so hooked on screens and social media, to discover the pleasure of reading books.

PUBLISHING STRATEGY

- ▶ **An intentionally small number of titles** (25 titles per year) so as to give a maximum of attention and resources to each title and thus optimize their sales potential, both in France and abroad.
- ▶ **An ambitious strategy aimed at discovering new talents** and propelling our authors to the top of bestseller lists in France and around the world.

ACHIEVEMENTS IN 25 YEARS

571 titles published (an average of 23 titles per year)

367 titles hit bestseller lists (nearly 70% of our production)

241 titles have been widely licensed internationally (52% of our production, with the exception of the 60 titles acquired abroad)

Average sales of 48,000 copies per title, which is 10 times above average for the trade market in France

PUBLISHING POLICY

XO NOVELS

CONTEMPORARY & HISTORICAL NOVELS

After the publication of two major authors of historical novels, Christian Jacq & Max Gallo, XO Editions has welcomed new authors whose debut novels became bestsellers. From Guillaume Musso (14 titles published by XO, #1 bestselling author since 2011, with 26 million copies sold in France, translated into 41 languages, a unique and remarkable achievement in publishing), to Romain Sardou, Mireille Calmel, Nicolas Vanier, Mark Miller, etc.

CRIME & THRILLER NOVELS

XO'S TRADEMARK : MAJOR THRILLER AUTHORS

With more than 6,9 million copies sold in France out of his 12 novels, Bernard Minier is one of the most widely read French authors, and his talent is internationally renowned (translated into 28 languages). Nicolas Beuglet (over 2,4 million copies sold), Henri Loevenbruck, Olivier Bal, Xavier Muller and, at the crossroads between thrillers and spy novels, Cédric Bannel, also stand out for their talent and success on the XO Editions list.

XO BLOCKBUSTER MEMOIRS

Next to fiction, XO stands out as a publisher of blockbuster memoirs, including those of Ingrid Betancourt, Farah Pahlavi, Mireille Darc, Sylvie Vartan, Michel Sardou, Renaud Séchan.

XO ADVENTURE NARRATIVES

Our list of publications also include narratives from adventurers such as Mike Horn (over 6 million copies sold in France) or Nicolas Vanier whose dreams and achievements inspire us all.

XO FRENCH & WORLD HISTORY

XO Editions excels in publishing books on the history of France, Europe and the world.

XO is the publisher of numerous works by the academician Max Gallo, all widely acclaimed by the readers. We are also the publisher of the gripping historical narratives of François-Guillaume Lorrain ("Louis XIV: A King's Childhood and The Age of Treason") as well as of Frédéric Mitterrand, with "The Duel", "Napoleon III & Victor Hugo", and "1938: The Eye of the Hurricane".

XO GENERAL NON-FICTION

A committed publisher, XO is dedicated to publishing titles that are thought-provoking and that sensitize the general public. Among them are publications shedding light on violence against women ("Burned Alive", 700,000 copies sold in France; translated into 36 languages), bullying, harassment, end of life.

XO is equally committed to educating our youth and has published works of reference aimed at parents in preschool and elementary education.

XO ESSAYS

Our catalog includes works by major celebrities, including French President Emmanuel Macron (his book "Revolution" has been translated into 22 languages worldwide), Luc Ferry, Jacques Attali, and Nicolas Bouzou, as well as anthologies such as "The Black Book on the Condition of Women", or "The Black Book on the Condition of Christians in the World".

BERNARD MINIER

THE STORY OF AN INTERNATIONAL SUCCESS



AN INTERNATIONAL BESTSELLING AUTHOR

- ▶ **OVER 8 MILLION COPIES
SOLD WORLDWIDE**
- ▶ **TRANSLATED INTO 28 LANGUAGES**

“ THE BEST THRILLER AUTHOR IN THE WORLD

” ADRESSEAVISEN / NORWAY

“ THE KING OF THE THRILLER GENRE

” EL PAIS / SPAIN

“ THE GREATEST EUROPEAN THRILLER AUTHOR

” LA REPUBBLICA / ITALY

“ OVER THE PAST FEW YEARS, FRANCE HAS PRODUCED
SOME OF EUROPE’S MOST STRIKING AND ORIGINAL CRIME NOVELISTS.
BERNARD MINIER IS UP THERE WITH THE BEST.

” THE SUNDAY TIMES

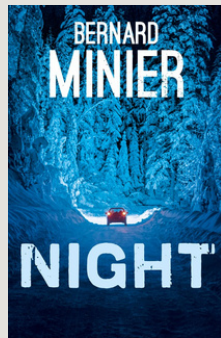
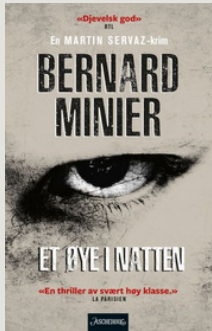
“ BERNARD MINIER’S NOVELS CONFIRM HIS STATUS IN
THE FOREFRONT OF CRIME FICTION’S FRENCH RENAISSANCE.

” THE TIMES

BERNARD MINIER'S NOVELS TRANSLATED INTO 28 COUNTRIES

BULGARIA / ENTHUSIAST
 CZECH REPUBLIC / XYZ
 DENMARK / LINDHART & RINGHOF
 GERMANY / DROEMER-KNAUR
 GREECE / MINOAS
 HUNGARY / GABO

INDONESIA / PENERBIT HARU
 ISRAEL / KENNERET
 ITALY / LA NAVE DI TESEO
 JAPAN / HARPER COLLINS
 KOREA / BALGUNSESANG
 LATVIA / ZVAIGZNE ABC



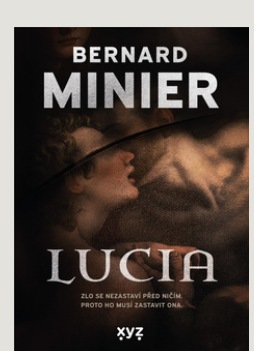
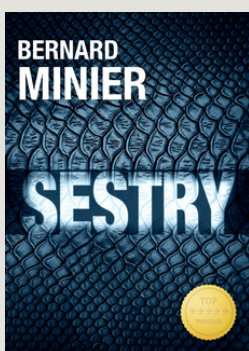
“THE FROZEN DEAD” ON THE *SUNDAY TIMES* LIST OF THE 100 BEST CRIME NOVELS & THRILLERS SINCE 1945



ASCHEHOUG'S EDITION OF “LUCIA” #1 ON THE NORWEGIAN LISTS

LEBANON / CENTRE CULTUREL ARABE
 LITHUANIA / OBUOLYS
 NETHERLANDS / XANDER
 NORWAY / ASCHEHOUG
 POLAND / REBIS
 ROMANIA / EDITURA TREI
 SERBIA / PUBLIK PRAKTIKUM
 SLOVAKIA / ALBATROS

SPAIN / SALAMANDRA
 SWEDEN / AKADEMIUS
 UK / HODDER
 UKRAINE / FOLIO
 US / ST. MARTIN'S PRESS
 TAIWAN / SHARP POINT PRESS
 TURKEY / PEGASUS
 VIETNAM / INNOVATIVE



BERNARD MINIER

THE ERASED (LES EFFACÉES)

TWO KILLERS
TWO OPPOSITE WORLDS
TWO DILEMMAS

In the Spanish region of Galicia, a killer kidnaps women early in the morning on their way to work. Invisible women. Erased. In Madrid, another killer targets billionaires, leaving on the walls of their homes the same message: KILL THE RICH. Two killers. Two opposite worlds. And in the light of a general frenzy, an explosive confrontation between social classes. What's at stake becomes gradually clearer for Lucia Guerrero, the investigator with the Guardia Civil, and what she sees is dizzying. Lucia receives messages from an unknown sender, and the question that begs an answer is: has she become a mere plaything in the hands of two killers?

“With this second Spanish investigation, Minier stays razor-sharp and crafts an unputdownable story.”
Bruno Corty / Le Figaro Littéraire

“Bernard Minier's great diabolical show.”
Anne Crignon / L'Obs

“Minier's diabolical imagination carries with it the major concerns of our time: social violence, misogyny & the influence of social media.”

Elise Lépine / Le Point

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



BERNARD MINIER was born in 1960 and grew up in the Southwestern France. He now lives near Paris and writes full-time. Published in 2011, his first novel, “ICED” (Glacé), marks the beginning of the investigations of Martin Servaz and was adapted in TV series currently available on NETFLIX. The success of his ensuing 12 novels have made him an essential French and European thriller author.



April 2024
Pages : 418

**A RAZOR-SHARP THRILLER &
AN AUDACIOUS CLIMAX**

**A WEB OF MYSTERIES &
INCANDESCENT SOCIAL RAGE**

**MINIER MASTERFULLY
MANIPULATES
HIS READERS' EXPECTATIONS
RIGHT UP TO THE LAST PAGE**

**358,000
COPIES SOLD**

**BERNARD MINIER'S NOVELS
TRANSLATED INTO
28 LANGUAGES**

**SOLD OVER 8 MILLION
COPIES WORLDWIDE**

BERNARD MINIER

LUCIA

A group of criminology students at Salamanca university discover the existence of a serial killer who has gone undetected for several decades and who stages his crime scenes to resemble Renaissance paintings.

In Madrid, detective Lucia Guerrero finds her colleague crucified on a calvary and sets out to follow the trail that leads to the man they nicknamed "The Glue Killer".

They are all confronted with their own past, their worst fears, and a truth more terrifying than any legend or myth.

AN ENDEARING HEROINE WHO FOLLOWS A TRAIL OF UNSPEAKABLE CRIMES

“

Lucia Guerrero, has the same obstinate warrior's determination as Stieg Larsson's Lisbeth Salander.

A thriller of a kind not seen since

Millénium.

Anne Crignon / L'Obs

”

“

Readers will love the new saga by this master of the genre.

Bruno Corty / Le Figaro littéraire

”

“

A heroine as intrepid as she is determined.

François Lestavel / Paris Match

”

“

A smashing new heroine.

Bernard Lehut / RTL

”

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



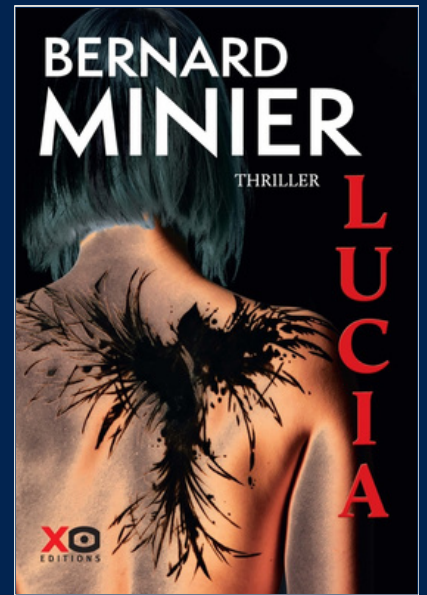
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THRILLER

LUCIA SERIES / Vol. 1



March 2022
Pages : 480

FEAR, MYSTERY, TERROR &
ANGUISH ARE ALL ON THE
MENU

BAROQUE PAINTING IS
THE APPETIZER & MYTHOLOGY
THE DESSERT

CONTEMPORARY SPAIN IS THE
BACKDROP

438,000

COPIES SOLD

#1

ON THE FRENCH
BESTSELLER LIST

FILM RIGHTS SOLD TO
NOSTROMO PICTURES

ENGLISH SAMPLE AVAILABLE

XO EDITIONS

BERNARD MINIER

H...

"H" AS IN HAUNTED
"H" AS IN HECATOMB
"H" AS IN...

EVIL IS A LEGACY

Since Julian Hirtmann, the notorious and methodical serial killer, has recently escaped from the Austrian Leoben prison, Martin Servaz isn't the only one investigating. Everyone has joined the hunt, from amateur web sleuths and true crime enthusiasts to a bestselling author and Damien Dax, the host of one of the most-watched French TV shows. When journalist Charles Fayolle is found dead at his home, what appears to be a suicide reveals itself as murder. The discovery of a macabre dollhouse at the crime scene plunges Servaz into the darkest corners of human nature.

Meanwhile, Damien Dix issues a public challenge to Julian Hirtmann : a private meeting that will turn into a dangerous cat and mouse race. As the threat tightens around those he loves, Martin Servaz discovers an even more terrible truth: what if Julian Hirtmann were part of a greater, older, more deeply rooted evil than he had ever imagined.

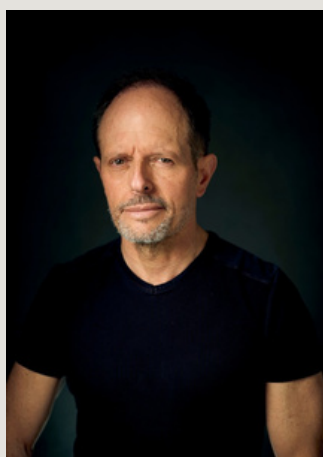
“ This thriller takes the guise of political criticism and transforms into an enjoyable massacre against entertainment industry..

Anne Crignon / L'Obs ”

“ A new exhilarating, dark, and riveting thriller.

Victoria Lasserre / Cosmopolitan ”

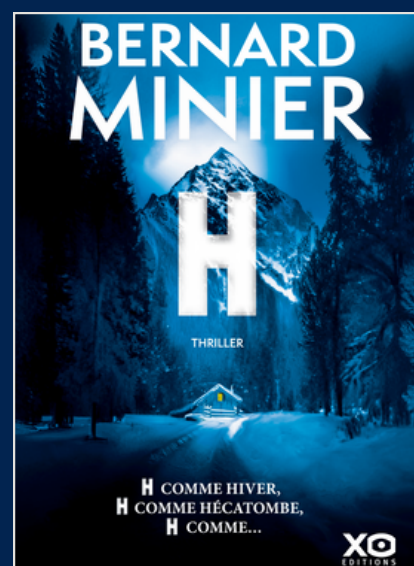
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THRILLER

SERVAZ SERIES



March 2025
Pages : 544

THREE LITTLE "H" THAT WILL
MAKE YOU
SHIVER WITH DREAD

A LABYRINTHINE PLOT
PREMISED ON THE TRAUMAS
THAT CREATE MONSTERS

“ An ultra-contemporary thriller.
A novel that will keep you up all night
— no rest until its dizzying finale,
I promise it will leave you breathless.
Augustin Trapenard / La Grande Librairie ”

170,000
COPIES SOLD

BERNARD MINIER'S NOVELS
TRANSLATED INTO
28 LANGUAGES

SOLD OVER 8 MILLION
COPIES WORLDWIDE

BERNARD MINIER

AN EYE IN THE NIGHT (UN OEIL DANS LA NUIT)

With five movies considered scandalous at the time of their release, the horror movie director, Morbus Delacroix, has become a cult favorite with the younger generations. Then, from one day to the next, Morbus stopped making films, and went into seclusion up in the mountains, refusing all interviews, and any visitors. Except for one: Judith Tallandier, a young film student.

To Judith's great surprise, Morbus agreed to receive her in his lair hidden from the world. He is provocative, misanthropic, excessive, brilliant, and mad. Movies are his life. He's a cross between Tarantino and Kubrick.

While Judith is driving toward the mountains to meet the legendary horror movie director, a patient is discovered dead, killed under brutal circumstances in a psychiatric ward in Toulouse. Other equally dramatic events ensue that all seem to be related to a cursed movie that never came out on the big screen: Orpheus or the Spiral of Evil, the latest movie made by Delacroix.

“
A diabolical talent. You won't be able to get a wink of sleep.
Bernard Lehut / RTL
”

“
A thriller that flies high. Soars. Simply great art, truly great.
Olivier Bureau / Le Parisien
”

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THRILLER

SERVAZ SERIES



April 2023
Pages : 512

A RECLUSIVE HORROR FILM DIRECTOR & A COLLEGE GIRL FASCINATED BY THIS EYE IN THE NIGHT...

WHAT IF THE UNSPEAKABLE IS RELATED TO A CURSED FILM?

“
Welcome to the brilliant but disturbing universe of Bernard Minier.
Nicolas Carreau / Europe 1
”

**372,000
COPIES SOLD**

ENGLISH SAMPLE AVAILABLE

BERNARD MINIER

SERVAZ SERIES BACKLIST

THE HUNT



452,000
COPIES SOLD

2021
480 pages

THE VALLEY



635,000
COPIES SOLD

2020
548 pages

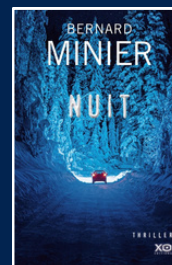
SISTERS



614,000
COPIES SOLD

2018
480 pages

NIGHT



570,000
COPIES SOLD

2017
528 pages

FULL ENGLISH TRANSLATION

Full moon. A deer leaps out of the forest. His eyes are those of a... man. Chased! Hunted! Secret society, gangland killings & inflaming tensions in the suburbs. On the paths of fear, Servaz's life and honour are in jeopardy.

"I think someone is acting as if they think they are God..."
A cry for help in the middle of the night. A valley cut off from the world. An abbey filled with secrets. A mysterious forest. A series of terrible murders. Terrified inhabitants who want justice done. A community on the brink of chaos!

A nightmare written in black ink. A spouse, two sisters, three communicants... For Servaz, the past, resurfacing, will turn into a nightmare. «Immense, enormous, the forest stretched out before them. Poor, fallen souls, I had to kill you...»

A stormy night on the North Sea, on an off-shore platform. Kirsten Nigaard, the Norwegian inspector, is investigating on a murder. A few days later she finds herself in the office of Martin Servaz who is tracking Julian Hirtmann, the illusive killer he has been pursuing for years.

What happens when someone takes control of your life and your relationships? And what is hiding in the darkness? Don't turn out the lights... and if you do, prepare for the worst!

An oppressive atmosphere! A surprise phone call from the past, a mysterious e-mail, both signs that the most twisted of all serial killers may be back...

In the Pyrenees, the body of a headless horse is found with traces of DNA belonging to an infamously dangerous serial killer, currently locked away in a neighboring psychiatric hospital.

DON'T TURN OUT THE LIGHT

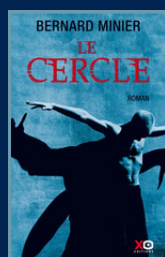


621,000
COPIES SOLD

2014
616 pages

FULL ENGLISH TRANSLATION

THE CIRCLE



645,000
COPIES SOLD

2012
572 pages

FULL ENGLISH TRANSLATION

ICED

NETFLIX TV-SERIES



835,000
COPIES SOLD

2011
572 pages

FULL ENGLISH TRANSLATION

BERNARD MINIER

STAND-ALONES

A HELL OF A STORY (UNE PUTAIN D'HISTOIRE)

DANGER IS NOT WHERE YOU THINK

Bernard Minier delves into a universe where danger is not where we think and intimacy is an illusion... he brilliantly tells us a dark and tension filled story... A hell of a story.

M, THE EDGE OF THE ABYSS (UNE PUTAIN D'HISTOIRE)

WELCOME TO THE DARKEST SCENARIO

While Moira is just starting her mission at Ming, the Chinese digital giant company, she is convinced that the truth that awaits her at the end of the night will be more frightening than the most terrifying nightmares.

THE CATS

15 MYSTERIOUS, DEVILISH & CRUEL STORIES

Two young couples addicted to macabre tourism, children confronted with the cruelty of their foster family, a TV presenter ready to do anything to boost ratings, animals suddenly delivered from men, a priest too good to be true, cats with strange intentions, a World War I aviator confronted with a primitive and perverse entity...

Fifteen unforgettable short stories, as chilling as they are spellbinding, about love and madness, death and revenge, greed and jealousy, lies and darkness.

The master of the French thriller unfolds in this collection of short stories all the facets of his talent between thriller, historical narrative, anticipation and fantasy.



698,000
COPIES SOLD

2015
Pages : 528



492,000
COPIES SOLD

2019
Pages : 576

SHORT STORIES



84,000
COPIES SOLD

2024
Pages : 336

**A MIX OF INTIMATE &
THRILLING,
OF BIZARRE & MONSTROUS**

15 SPINE-CHILLING JOURNEYS

**FASTEN YOUR SEAT BELT AND
GET READY FOR A ROLLER-
COASTER RIDE**

NICOLAS BEUGLET

TRANSYLVANIA

A RICH TAPESTRY OF SUSPENSE & FOLKLORE

Romanian police officer Mina Dragan is called to Bran Castle in Transylvania to investigate the mysterious murder of Hans Karloff.

As Mina delves into Karloff’s belongings, she uncovers five files, each relating to a missing person: a priest, the marketing director of a major television network, a best-selling author, a historian, and finally, a psychologist known for her work on the collective unconscious of humanity. All five mysteriously disappeared on September 3rd, 2023, leaving behind objects evoking fairy tales.

The mastermind behind this global scenario soon reveals himself: Alphonse Grimm, the last descendant of the Grimm brothers. Three years earlier, he had kidnapped the five missing persons and forced them to write a book meant to convert humanity back to reading. *Once Upon a Time*: “the best story in the world since the Bible”, a book that has “the power of myths, the charm of fairy tales, the depth of the sacred texts, the fluidity of a novel.

“This story reads like a dizzying plunge into the abyss of the subconscious. “Transylvania” will appeal to fans of the genre, but beware of a sleepless night!

Loïse Delacotte / Huffington Post

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



NICOLAS BEUGLET, a former TV screenplay writer, has chosen to devote himself to writing. In just a few years, he has become one of the most acclaimed French thriller authors. He published at XO Editions: “The Scream”, “The Alliance”, “Devil’s Island”, “The Last Message”, “The Passanger with No Face”, “The Archipelago of the forgotten”, “The Final Warning”. “Transylvania” is his 8th novel.

**INITIAL PRINT RUN
80,000 COPIES**



September 2025
Pages : 352

**A MANIFESTO ON THE
IMPORTANCE OF READING**

**THE INFLUENCE OF ARTIFICIAL
INTELLIGENCE ON OUR
IMAGINATION**

**WHAT IF BOOKS & READING
COULD SAVE THE WORLD?**

“A chilling thriller set against the backdrop of a very topical issue: the decline in reading.”

Loïse Delacotte / Huffington Post

WITH

**OVER 2,5 MILLION
COPIES SOLD**

**NICOLAS BEUGLET IS
THE 7TH MOST READ
FRENCH THRILLER
AUTHOR IN FRANCE
(2020–2024, SOURCE: GFK)**

NICOLAS BEUGLET

THE FINAL WARNING (L'ULTIME AVERTISSEMENT)

A BEWILDERING DIVE INTO THE MEMORY OF MANKIND

Driving through the Appalachian Mountains, Felicia smiled at the sight of their snowy peaks. The young art expert had been asked to examine three pieces in the celebrated Castelmore collection.

But when she reached the famous family's mansion, her blood froze on learning that she would instead be investigating some unexplained human disappearances. Supported by a former cop turned priest named Armand, Felicia will embark in a feverish pursuit, on the trail of a mysterious group that calls itself The Sentinels. Tracked by deadly enemies as intelligent as they are powerful, the pair has no choice.

To escape the worst, Felicia and Armand will have to heed the final warning sent by those who have witnessed the unthinkable.

“The hunt for an Elon Musk copycat spares neither suspense nor mystery. Gripping!”
Jade Olivier / *Version femina*

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September 2024
Pages : 304

TIME CAPSULES &
THE TRANSMISSION OF
KNOWLEDGE TO FUTURE
GENERATIONS

WHAT WILL EARTH
AND HUMANITY LOOK LIKE
IN 6,000 YEARS ?

“You’ll be swept up in an addictive thriller, traveling through hellish lands and experiencing an almost cinematic adventure worthy of a James Bond movie...”
Bernard Babkine / *Madame Figaro*

158,000
COPIES SOLD

TOP 10 BESTSELLER

NICOLAS BEUGLET

GRACE CAMPBELL TRILOGY

THE ARCHIPELAGO OF THE FORGOTTEN (L'ARCHIPEL DES OUBLIÉS)

AN ODE TO THE POWER OF IMAGINATION

Detectives Grace Campbell and Sarah Geringën know this much: they must work together to catch the architect of a diabolical plan to destroy humanity. And they have only one lead: a manor house lost in the Scottish mists. In a race against time, they push back the boundaries of fear to reach the Archipelago of the Forgotten - the last stronghold against the chaos of the world.

THE PASSENGER WITH NO FACE (LE PASSAGER SANS VISAGE)

“YOU’RE NOT THE ONLY ONE SEARCHING FOR THE TRUTH...”

The anonymous letter left on her doorstep is more than a signal: it’s an electric shock. Inspector Grace Campbell takes us from the isolated Scottish countryside to the depths of the Black Forest where the most chilling fairy tale of our childhoods is re-enacted. Grace could never have imagined she would be riding this train that appeared out of nowhere, having to confront the Passenger with no face...

THE LAST MESSAGE (LE DERNIER MESSAGE)

THE LAST MESSAGE IS ABOUT TO CHANGE THE COURSE OF HUMANITY

The island of Iona, west of Scotland. At the end of the “Street of the Dead”, the grey silhouette of the abbey. Behind its wind-battered walls, a resident has just been found murdered, his body mutilated in the strangest of ways. The five monks who live there only know his name: Anton. They also know that he had a secret study hidden away in the walls...

THRILLER

GRACE CAMPBELL TRILOGY

2.5 MILLION COPIES
SOLD OUT OF
BEUGLET’S 8 NOVELS



237,000
COPIES SOLD

2022
Pages : 395

#1
ON PAPERBACK LIST



348,000
COPIES SOLD

2021
Pages : 368

#1
ON FRENCH LISTS



347,000
COPIES SOLD

ENGLISH SAMPLE

2020
Pages : 395

#1
ON FRENCH LISTS

NICOLAS BEUGLET

SARAH GERINGËN TRILOGY

DEVIL'S ISLAND (L'ÎLE AU DIABLE)

REVENGE IS A MATTER OF MEMORY

The body covered with a strange white powder... the extremities gangrenous... A face frozen in a grimace of pain...

Sarah Geringën is gripped with horror when she sees her father's body. And she's paralysed with fear when the pathologist gives her the key found in his stomach.

What if her father was not the man he seemed to be?

THE ALLIANCE (COMLOT)

WHAT IF, LONG BEFORE MEN, WOMEN RULED THE WORLD?

Norway. An island stricken by icy winds. Atop a cliff, the naked and martyred corpse of a woman. The country's Prime Minister.

While investigating the case, Sarah discovers that the same type of crime happened... 2700 years ago. Soon after, inside a sanctuary beneath the Prime Minister's house, she finds the names of three women in charge of carrying out an incredible mission: restoring the power of women.

THE SCREAM (LE CRI)

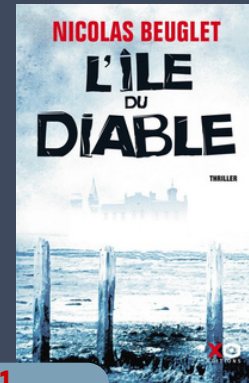
THE DISCOVERY OF A GREATLY TALENTED WRITER

Psychiatric Hospital in Gaustad, Oslo. After a night of bitter cold, the body of a patient is found strangled to death in his cell, his mouth open in a silent scream. Rushed to the scene, inspector Sarah Geringen immediately senses that this case will be unlike any other... While digging up CIA records, Sarah will discover the truth about one of the questions that haunts each and every one of us: life after death...

THRILLER

SARAH GERINGËN TRILOGY

2.4 MILLION COPIES
SOLD OUT OF
BEUGLET'S 8 NOVELS



320,000
COPIES SOLD

2019
Pages : 320

#1
ON FRENCH LISTS



402,000
COPIES SOLD

2018
Pages : 496

#1
ON FRENCH LISTS



RIGHTS
SOLD
BULGARIA
CZECH REP.
GREECE
POLAND
RUSSIA
SLOVAKIA

651,000
COPIES SOLD

2016
Pages : 496

TV SERIES RIGHTS SOLD
TO SKYVERSE NORDIC

FULL ENGLISH TRANSLATION

SANDRINE DESTOMBES

THRILLER

THE SHAPE OF HARM (LES MALVEILLANTS)

A LONG SILENCE LASHED BY A STORM

A deluge of heavy rains has lashed the south of France for several weeks now. An embankment collapses and the earth spits up a body : Océane, who disappeared eight years earlier. She was celebrating her birthday. She had just turned 12. She is 20 today. And alive.

The Nîmes investigation unit is set to high alert. Captain Domitille Fourest and Major Gab Zeller are not just hunting a killer: they are tackling a secret that is both suffocating and suffocated. What happened to Océane eight years ago? Who saved her, and who destroyed her? Who killed Karine Alban, a reclusive who lived with her six cats and was brutally tortured? Who murdered Vincent Hachemin, whose body was found in a freezer? Who sealed Mathieu Witowski's head into a plastic laundry bag?

The investigation unfolds and the two detectives uncover a system of family abuse where rescue becomes confinement, love becomes domination, and truth becomes a breath that someone constantly tries to stifle.

“An exceptional detective duo! Like them, we are standing in front of a blackboard covered in arrows pointing in all directions.”

“A real page-turner, addictive and exhilarating, driven by a gripping atmosphere and finely crafted writing.”

Michel Bussi / about “The Twins from Piolenc”

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Born in 1971, SANDRINE DESTOMBES won the 2018 VSD RTL Prize for best French thriller, with “Les Jumeaux de Piolenc” (translated into 8 languages). She is also the winner of the 2020 Ligue de l’Imaginaire prize for “Madame B”. “Les Malveillants” is her first novel published by XO Editions.



October 2025
Pages : 376

**A BONE-CHILLING INVESTIGATION
INTO LONG-BURIED SECRETS**

**A DETECTIVE DUO,
TWO APPROACHES,
A COMMON SENSE OF INTUITION**

**WHEN THE SILENCE OF THE PAST
SURFACE FROM THE VERY EARTH**

“Sandrine Destombes is an expert at crafting sinuous, chilling, labyrinthine, and Machiavellian plots. She’ll take you deeper into her characters’ minds than you’ve ever been before.”

La Razón

**SANDRINE DESTOMBES’
NOVELS HAVE BEEN
TRANSLATED INTO
8 LANGUAGES**

JEAN RENO

EMMA

ADVENTURE & PASSION
AGAINST A BACKDROP OF ESPIONAGE

Emma, a masseuse at a world-renowned hydrotherapy spa in Brittany, has everything she could dream of: a spoiled cat, a few but trusted friends, and an uninterrupted view to the Atlantic Ocean's horizon. Not to mention her spectacular beauty and the energy in her hands that works magic on her patients. When her massage talent is discovered by Tariq Khan, one of the most important leaders in Oman, the young woman agrees to leave for Muscat, the capital of the Sultanate. As Tariq is about to open a luxury retreat, her mission there is to train the masseurs staff. What Emma ignores is that by accepting this position, she has just embarked on a dangerous spiral...

“Anxiety, adrenaline, thrills, a new heroine is born...
This novel is about the legacy we carry within us,
the mistakes we make and what we turn them into.

” **France Info**

“Cleverly crafted, this exotic, feminist thriller also
explores romantic passion & maternal absence.

” **Marie France**

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



An icon of French and international cinema, JEAN RENO has always wanted to write a novel about a woman both strong and fragile who unwittingly turns into one of France's greatest detectives. Between suspense, love, and ambush, a winning combination!

NOVEL

ROMANCE & ESPIONAGE



May 2025
Pages : 380

**A NOVEL FRESH IN APPROACH
TO THE SPY GENRE**

**A HIGHLY RELATABLE & ATTRACTIVE
HEROINE BOTH STRONG AND FRAGILE**

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JAPAN / U-NEXT
POLAND / ALBATROS
PORTUGAL / LEYA
ROMANIA / TREI
SERBIA / LAGUNA
SLOVAKIA / IKAR
SPAIN / PLANETA
TURKEY / INKLAP
UKRAINE / OLD LION PRESS

OLIVIER BAL

MALAVEN (MALAVEN)

A PUZZLE MADE OF SECRETS & LIES

“Among you, there is a liar, a traitor, and a murderer. The island will now reveal your secrets.”

Malaven island. Four friends are invited to return to the scene of a forgotten tragedy. Alice, Stan, Erwan, and François have answered the invitation of Jonas Waverley, a mysterious writer and owner of this abandoned place nicknamed “The Isle of the Damned”. They quickly realize they’re trapped, with no way to return to the mainland. Cameras scrutinize their every move, and they have only one night to explore Malaven and unravel its mysteries.

Hour by hour, they begin to understand that the trials they face are connected to their past and to the writer’s novels. Everything remains hazy in their minds, but they all know they’ve been to this island before, long ago... And to survive, they must remember. Each holds within them a piece of Malaven’s terrible puzzle.

“Olivier Bal’s new novel unfolds like an escape game set against the backdrop of friendship, identity, and what remains of our adolescence.

GALA

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



A few years ago, OLIVIER BAL has taken the thriller world by storm. With each new novel he outdoes himself. Olivier Bal addresses human adventure through characters that he brings to life with the skill of a masterful puppeteer. He is the author of “Beware of Angels”, “The Clara Miller Affair”, “The Forest of the Vanished”, “Bloody stones”, “The Pack”, all published by XO Éditions.



April 2025
Pages : 464

**A MACHIAVELLIAN THRILLER
TAILORED LIKE A TRAP
WHERE PAST & PRESENT COLLIDE**

**AN EXPLORATION OF MEMORY
THROUGH A WEB OF GUILT &
REDEMPTION**

“Malaven” flawlessly fulfills its mission as a thriller. You will only put it down reluctantly. A novel about death, friendship, and a poignant love story, “Malaven” is all of these at once...

Olivier Bureau, *Le Parisien*

OLIVIER BAL'S
NOVELS SOLD
OVER
485,000
COPIES

OLIVIER BAL

BACKLIST

PAUL GREEN SERIES

THE CLARA MILLER CASE

102,000
COPIES SOLD2020
496 pages

The body floated up to the surface of the water, like those of the other women. Six in total... This cursed place, in the forests of New Hampshire, is known as Suicide Lake. Clara Miller was a journalist. Like Paul Green, the Globe reporter who takes up Clara's case. He is certain that she did not commit suicide.

THE FOREST OF THE VANISHED

105,000
COPIES SOLD2021
548 pages

Redwoods. An isolated town in Oregon, set between the Pacific ocean and an ancient forest of giant redwood trees. A town with a sinister record : every year, several ramblers disappear there without trace. In the heart of the forest, a man lives in total isolation. Here, he is known as The Foreigner...

BEWARE THE ANGELS

74,000
COPIES SOLD2022
480 pages

High in the California hills sits The Compound, a seemingly ideal spiritual community. Paul Green is convinced that the young woman he is looking for is trapped within its walls. In the underbelly of LA, Paul Green will have to confront one of the most notorious sects in the country.

STAND-ALONES

THE SECRETS OF FANATIC RIGHT-WING CIRCLES

All over France, people of the high society are being murdered. Drugged. Buried alive. And on their tombs, the same killer signature, The Black Angel. At the same time, in Paris, Gabriel Geller, a criminal investigator, is looking into who is beating migrants to death.

BEHIND THE SCENES OF ORGANIZED CRIME

Corsica, 1993. Ange Biasini is forced to return home. His younger brother needs his skills as a former professional freediver. London, 2019. In an apartment overlooking the Thames, the police have just found a Serbian billionaire strangled and a message written in blood: Che la mia ferita sia mortale!

THE PACK

85,000
COPIES SOLDTV SERIES
RIGHTS SOLD2024
550 pages

BLOODY STONES

85,000
COPIES SOLD2023
480 pages

NADINE MOUSSELET

BESPOKE MURDERS (MEURTRES COUSUS MAIN)

A DAZZLING SUCCESS IN SELF-PUBLISHING!

When a young Brazilian man is found murdered near The Volcan, a cultural center designed by architect Oscar Niemeyer in the city of Le Havre, Laura Claes finds herself at the heart of a series of murders, each one as gruesome as it is mysterious. The victim's body is horribly mutilated – castration, trepanation, and an unsettling, theatrical staging – suggesting a killer of unseen cruelty.

Soon, more victims are found across the city: each subjected to unspeakable brutality, and all questioning or exploring their gender, sexuality, or a sense of difference. Each time, the murderer leaves his mark: a theatrical and ritualistic setup, forced sexual transformations.

Laura Claes, Jumet, Théo Bricart, and forensic scientists race against time. The serial killer seems to single out victims for their gender identity. Tension mounts as the fear is spreading in the local LGBTQ+ community. Gradually, the psychological portrait of the murderer emerges: he is obsessed with gender and stages his crimes like medical artworks.

Published by POCKET



ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Born in Belgium, NADINE MOUSSELET lives in Normandy with her husband. Once a school teacher, she raised Labradors before turning to crime fiction. Her style is blunt, her plots meticulously crafted. In 2025, she joined XO Editions, and her self-published novels are now out in paperback with Pocket.



May 2025
Pages : 416

**AN OBSESSIVE & ELUSIVE
KILLER SPREADS TERROR
ACROSS LE HAVRE**

**VICTIMS TURNED INTO
GROTESQUE WORKS OF ART**

**FROM THE MISTY SHORES
OF NORMANDY, A NEW VOICE
IN FRENCH CRIME FICTION**

“ Nadine Mousselet has invented 27 killing methods. She is the Agatha Christie of Normandy!

Rodolphe Geisler / Le Figaro

“ With Nadine Mousselet, XO Editions is expanding and showcasing the exceptional career of a self-published author who has built up an impressive and loyal readership.

Eric Dupuy / Livre Hebdo

OLIVIER MERLE

THE MORTICIAN (LE CROQUEMORT)

A DARK, OFFBEAT & ECCENTRIC NOVEL

David Livingstone takes the train to Paris to do a favor for an old friend: Hector, a charming and elusive actor whose little “side business” needs a discreet courier. David’s mission: hand a small taped-up box to a certain Mr. Kastel.

From the moment he rings the wrong doorbell, nothing goes as planned. What follows are forty-eight hours of escalating chaos! David finds himself translating for gangsters, transporting human organs in ice coolers, breaking into a private clinic where a minister’s son awaits surgery, and fleeing from both cops and Moldovian thugs all while falling madly in love with Libertad, a magnetic woman who may not be who she claims to be.

At the heart of this whirlwind, a name that terrifies everyone and identifies no one: “The Mortician”. Is it Kastel? Hector? Someone else? Every time David thinks he has found the mastermind behind the chaos, the ground shifts—revealing new players, new deceptions, and a deeper game.

“Original, fast-paced, and somewhat surprising, a great French-style thriller.

Florence Dalmas / Vacluse Matin

” Pitch-black humor on every page - an utterly brilliant crime novel that’s at once humorous dark, and completely eccentric.

Karine Leroy / Paris Normandie

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



OLIVIER MERLE, born in 1956 in Rennes, is a geologist and teaches at the University of Clermont-Ferrand. The son of Robert Merle, he is also a novelist. In 2013, he was awarded the Charles-Exbrayat Prize.



August 2025
Pages : 288

AN EVERYMAN DRAWN INTO
THE DANGEROUS WORLD OF
ILLEGAL ORGAN TRAFFICKING

A SIMPLE FAVOR FOR AN OLD
FRIEND TURNS INTO
A DELIRIOUS BLACK FARCE

A DIVE INTO THE VIBRANT
YET MENACING UNDERBELLY
OF PARIS

BACKLIST



2024
416 pages



2023
352 pages



2021
544 pages



2019
464 pages

OLIVIER DESCOSSE

WILD BEASTS AT DUSK (L'HEURE DES FAUVES)

THE TIME OF THE WILD BEASTS HAS COME

From the suburbs of Marseille to the islands off the Turkish coast, the hour of the wild beasts has come.

Who is this woman, whose throat was slit in front of the police station where she was seeking refuge? Why was her hand cut off? And why this tattoo on her arm: "Men have authority over women"?

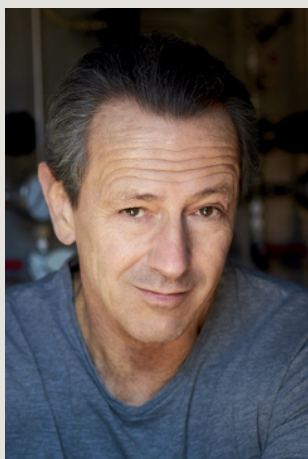
For Chloé Latour, commander of the Marseille Crime Unit, this heinous murder is not an isolated case. She is convinced that a sprawling network is behind this femicide. Worse still, the case awakens her own nightmares and gives her a personal reason to track down this demonic killer. Even if it means getting lost in the most hostile lands...

From Marseille to the deserts of Saudi Arabia, from Dubai to the Turkish islands, Chloé's trail will lead her to an appalling truth.

“
A rollercoaster finale that leaves no one unaffected
(...) In other words, L'Heure des Fauves is a beautiful
piece of fine-tuned plot machinery.

Olivier Bureau / Le Parisien

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



OLIVIER DESCOSSE is a lawyer and lives in Marseille. Fascinated by the most bizarre and extreme places on earth, he is the author of 14 novels. In 2022, he published his first novel with XO Editions, "Deep-Sea Terror".



February 2025
Pages : 496

A PATH OF ABSOLUTE VIOLENCE

**THE CODIFIED UNIVERSE
OF DRUG TRAFFICKERS,
RAP MUSIC & GOD-FEARING
MADMEN**

A WILD & GRIPPING THRILLER

“
**Extreme conditions, femicide, drug
trafficking... This thriller takes us on
a thrilling investigation without
overlooking social issues. (...) Full of
twists and turns, and well
documented.**

Emilie Gille / Pleine Vie

**A NEW CHLOE LATOUR
INVESTIGATION**

OLIVIER DESCOSSE

THE DEVIL’S CIRQUE (LE CIRQUE DU DIABLE)

Massif de la Meije. A frozen body, completely naked. Found by a group of snowboarders who end up stranded in the Devil’s Cirque, an inaccessible place they thought to be first humans to have trodden it. A place of terrifying legends.

Haut-Var region. Three calcified cadavers. Found in an abandoned sheepfold in the middle of the forest. Ice and fire!

And two criminal cases handed over respectively to two investigators so different from each other. Paul Cabrera - a cop who looks like a biker, a hothead with a remarkable record of service, an MMA enthusiast transferred over to the crime unit after earning his stripes with a police

squad of dubious reputation. And Chloé Latour, a brilliant investigator and group leader at the Crime Unit in Marseille, who hides beneath an aloof demeanor secrets that have been haunting her for so many years.



2023
Pages : 528

26,000
COPIES SOLD

**AN UNORDINARY MANHUNT
IN A HOSTILE NATURE WHERE
DANGERS LURK EVERYWHERE**

**A TERRIFYING SECRET LIES
HIDDEN INSIDE THE HEART OF
THE DEVIL’S CIRQUE**

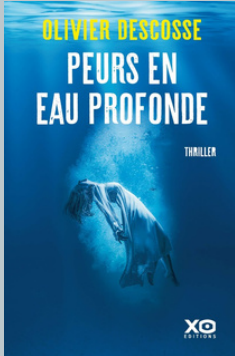
DEEP-SEA TERROR (PEUR EN EAU PROFONDE)

Off the coast of Marseille, the body of a young woman is found in the nets of a trawler. She is completely naked, covered with bites and her left foot has been severed.

For Chloé Latour, head of the Crime unit, it is the beginning of a relentless chase that will take her into the shadowy world of professional divers and shipwreck hunters – specialists who dive to the bottomless depths and confront the worst dangers.

Jean Sardi is one of the best among these divers : a technical diving whizz. He knew the victim intimately and could well have a motive linked to the terrible secret that has made him seek refuge in the silence of the sea depths.

Domestic murder or crazed ritual? The presence in the victim’s lungs of plankton unknown in Mediterranean waters intrigues the Crime unit detectives. As the mystery thickens, other bodies float to the surface, sewing terror among the deep-sea divers.



2022
Pages : 491

18,000
COPIES SOLD

“ Identities hidden beneath oceans of mystery and a violent, surprising epilogue. Olivier Descosse unfolds his plot as a kind of Stephen King or Jean-Christophe Grangé of the deep-sea territory.

La Povençe

”

XAVIER MÜLLER

OCTOPUS (OCTOPUS)

WHEN THE UNTHINKABLE BECOMES REAL

Throughout the world a bewildering phenomenon is taking place: animal intelligence is reaching staggering and worrying levels. In every corner of the planet, marine and land animals are showing signs of intense brain activity, causing absurd situations and tragedies. Giant mimetic octopuses emerge from the depths of the sea, capable of taking on the appearance of any object or living being.

With an accelerating climate change, the waters are rising and giant octopuses are invading the coasts. Why do they want to cross paths with human beings? What's the meaning of the strange light signals they emit?

Biologist Margot Klein looks after the dolphins at Mona Ocean Park, on the Caribbean island of Saint Thomas. A specialist in animal language, she developed the software used by NASA in its search for extraterrestrial life. Margot Klein tries to decipher this astounding phenomenon, before governments, who are convinced that the human species is in great danger, decide to eradicate these super-intelligent animals.

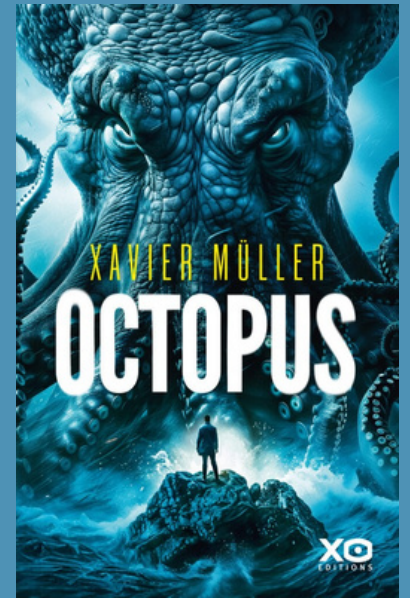
“ An intelligent thriller full of twists and turns, and an environmental view at the effects of human activity on the animal world.

Pierrick Fay / Les Echos

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



XAVIER MULLER is 49 years old. He holds a PhD in physics and works as science journalist for prestigious specialized magazines. He is a frequent contributor to the publications of National Science Research Center (CNRS).



November 2024
Pages : 460

**A DYSTOPIA SUPPORTED BY
VERTIGINOUS
SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE**

**WHAT OCTOPUSES CAN TEACH
US ABOUT THE MEETING OF
TWO VERY DIFFERENT SPECIES?**

**WHO'S GONE THE FURTHEST
ALONG THE ROAD TO
LANGUAGE:
ANIMALS OR HUMANS ?**

“ Global warming, genetic manipulation, and insights into animal intelligence form the backdrop to this novel, which blends pure science and unbridled fiction. (...)

A sizzling futuristic thriller.

Fabrice Drouzy / Libération

XAVIER MÜLLER

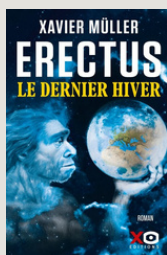
ERECTUS (VOL. 1)

A FAST-PACED SCIENCE THRILLER

In the heart of Kruger Park, South Africa, animal and plant species are suddenly changing and turning back into their prehistoric form. Anna Meunier, a young French paleontologist, explores the region to trace the trail of contamination. But soon the very first human cases of regression are discovered. What was only a risky assumption becomes a global nightmare!

As States mobilize, anti-prehistoric militias are forming everywhere. Erectus try to flee the places where they are parked. At the UN, the debate is raging: should these erectus be considered as men? Should they be protected or should the population be protected from them?

Upon learning that her companion, Yann, is infected too, Anna embarks on quest to get back the love of her life.



2021
Pages : 496
Vol. 2



2022
Pages : 460
Vol. 3

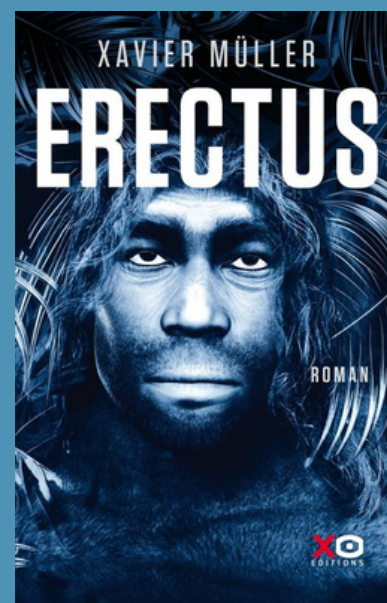
ABOUT THE AUTHOR



XAVIER MULLER is 49 years old. He holds a PhD in physics and works as science journalist for prestigious specialized magazines. He is a frequent contributor to the publications of National Science Research Center (CNRS).

DYSTOPIAN THRILLER

ERECTUS SERIES



April 2019
Pages : 450

WHAT IF THE LOVE OF YOUR LIFE TURNED INTO A PREHISTORIC MAN?

WHAT IF WE ALL BECAME PREHISTORIC HUMANS AGAIN?

THE TERRIFYING SPECTRE OF HUMANITY'S REGRESSION

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RUSSIA / FAMILY LEISURE CLUB

CZECH REPUBLIC /
ALBATROS MEDIA
SPAIN / PLAZA& JANÉS
POLAND / SWIAT KSIASKI

CORALIE JANNE

SO THAT LOVE HEALS US (POUR QUE L'AMOUR NOUS RÉPARE)

CAN LOVE HEAL EVERYTHING AND TRULY SAVE US?

Lucas is a firefighter. His mantra? To save lives. With this commitment, he hopes to forgive himself for not having been able to avoid the tragedy that ruined his life and those of the two people he loved most in the world.

When he comes across Gabrielle, he can't resist the urge to help her. But he goes even further and starts following her. Every day. Like a new obsession.

Gabrielle is a life coach, she preaches positive thinking but, she is sad as a rock. She's fighting against an inexplicable sense of unease. Yet she has a comfortable situation and the nicest fiancé in the world, whom she's about to marry...

On the eve of her wedding, she suffers a serious accident on a mountain road. Lucas, who was still following her, comes to her rescue. Stuck in the middle of nowhere, Gabrielle and Lucas talk openly, getting to know each other. Then comes that incredible feeling that they've known each other all their lives...

Torn between two choices, Gabrielle tries to answer the question on everyone's lips: can love really heal everything?

“ An unputdownable novel (...) Coralie Janne's second novel is just as outstanding as her debut. The author explores the theme of love and takes her readers on an emotional journey, from laughter to tears.

Hubert Lemonnier / La Presse de la Manche ”

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



CORALIE JANNE is 35 years old. She wrote her first novel at 11, the story of a little girl who could step into the world of her own paintings. "What if You Came Back", her debut novel, was published by XO Editions in 2024.

FEEL-GOOD NOVEL



March 2025
Pages : 352

A SPARKLING & MOVING
NEW NOVEL BY CORALIE
JANNE

SOMETIMES HE WHO SAVES
OTHERS
NEEDS TO BE SAVED HIMSELF

A CAREFULLY CRAFTED
SUSPENSE & A TAPESTRY OF
COMPLEX EMOTIONS

“ A riveting story! Coralie Janne's writing style is a blend of Marc Lévy and Valérie Perrin. Twists and turns, a touch of the supernatural, endearing yet contrasting characters, emotion, humor.

Cécile Chevalier / Le Parisien ”

16,000
COPIES SOLD

CORALIE JANNE

WHAT IF YOU CAME BACK (ET SI TU REVENAIS)

A STUNNING FICTION DEBUT

LOVE IS THE GREATEST POWER OF ALL

Mia and Stan were the perfect couple. But ever since Mia's miscarriage, they've been lost in their own grief. After another endless argument, Stan leaves the apartment, fuming. He runs a red light... and Mia's world falls apart.

Mia feels responsible for Stan's death. She has survivor's remorse and no longer wants to live. She goes to visit his tombstone for the last time, to remind herself of the couple burning with love that they once were, and also to ask for forgiveness for letting herself fall into a pattern of bitterness and hatred.

On a bench in the cemetery, a stranger comes up to her who seems to know everything about her.

The question he asks her will change her life, and even Stan's, from beyond death.

“— WHAT WOULD YOU DO TO BRING BACK THE MAN YOU LOVE?

— ANYTHING, I'D DO ANYTHING !”

“

A tear drop from Faust, two dashes of fantasy, a pinch of humor... the delicious cocktail of this debut novel.

Gilles Médioni / Marie-France

”

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



CORALIE JANNE is 35 years old. She wrote her first novel at 11, the story of a little girl who could step into the world of her own paintings. “WHAT IF YOU CAME BACK” is her debut novel.



March 2024
Pages : 320

A MODERN-DAY FAUST

A HEARTRENDING STORY
OF ABSOLUTE LOVE

A NOVEL FULL OF DARING &
SUSPENSE

“

Addressing themes such as forgiveness, the meaning of sacrifice, unconditional love, regret, and the fear of death, this novel intertwines different insights, pushing readers to their limits and shifting between dramatic and light-hearted writing.

A real emotional roller coaster.
Eloïse Judéaux-Legendre / Cosmopolitan

”

30,000
COPIES SOLD

GILBERT BORDES

AN THE TREES BEGAN TO SING (ET LES ARBRES SE MIRENT A CHANTER)

On a summer morning, the destinies of two broken souls battered by life cross paths.

Paul is a talented luthier. Or rather, "was". Since the death of his daughter in a car accident and that of his wife from cancer, his soul has been silenced and his hands can no longer hear the song of wood. Alone and aging, with his dog Râteau as his only companion, Paul's life is now nothing more than a solitary wandering among memories.

Angline is a former cellist who had to give up her career after a domestic accident. Since then, the mere sight of a cello has been like a knife twist in a still-open wound. She now works in a clothing store and shamefully drowns her distress in a gambling addiction.

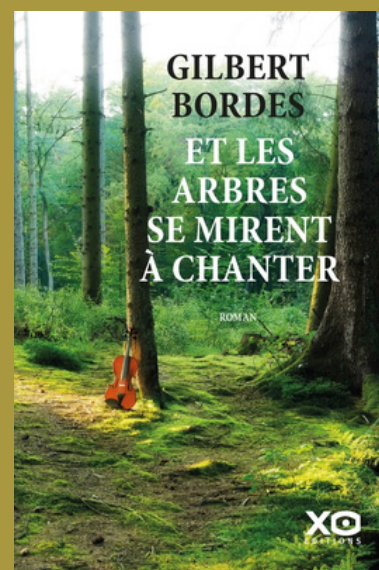
Their encounter, as unlikely as it is salutary, brings a new light to these two battered lives. Together, they will take the path that leads back to the soul of the wood. Angeline finds refuge in Paul's workshop when he begins to teach her the craft of luthiery: listen to trees, find those whose wood will enhance the sound of instruments. A promise is born!

“From the heart of forests where the trees seem to sing the promise of a sovereign music, to the bench where singular instruments are born, this novel is an ode to resilience.”

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



GILBERT BORDES used to be a teacher, then he became a journalist, before turning to writing. He is a peerless story teller, author of "Jésus", "The Last Night of Pompeii", "The Newfoundland Violin", "The Children of the Winter".



October 2025
Pages : 288

**TWO LONELY HEARTS
CONNECTED AND SAVED BY
THE MUSIC OF TREES**

**A NOVEL DEDICATED TO THE
DELICATE MUSIC OF TREES**

**A GREAT NOVEL ABOUT
HOPE AND REBIRTH**

BACKLIST



2022
288 pages



2023
368 pages

BENOIT D'HALLUIN

A CRY IN THE OCEAN (UN CRI DANS L'OCÉAN)

Thailand. On a December evening in a small fishing port. Arun, a thirty-something of Cambodian origin, finds refuge in a bar, after an argument with his boyfriend Olivier. A man offers him a drink. A few hours later, he wakes up in a locked room, with no papers and no cell phone. Arun realizes that he is in the hold of a fishing boat, in the middle of the ocean... The next day, Olivier who has no news from his boyfriend, is convinced that Arun has chosen to disappear and he returns to Paris alone. In the apartment where they had lived together for 7 years, Olivier stumbles across a notebook left by his boyfriend. What he reads in Arun's notes challenges all his certainties.

Arun was no longer happy; he felt ignored by his lover, whom he still loved in spite of everything. Olivier knows now that he absolutely has to find Arun and rebuild a healthy love story with him. So he sets off on a mad odyssey and gradually discovers a cruel reality that goes under the radar : slavery at sea, to which hundreds of thousands of men fall victim.

“ You'll grab onto the railings and face big waves head-on. And love too. Which makes the violence of men less bitter.

” Pierre Vavasseur / *Le Parisien weekend*

“ A call to action against slavery and the overexploitation of the ocean

” José-Manuel Lamarque / *France Inter*

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



BENOIT D'HALLUIN is 38 years old. Born in Toronto, he moved to France at the age of ten. A French-Canadian, he works for a luxury cosmetics brand. He feels equally at home in European and American culture. Alongside his business studies, he studied art history at the École du Louvre.



January 2025
Pages : 448

**IN THE SILENCE OF THE SEA,
A MAN CRIES OUT WITH
DESPAIR**

**THE UNTOLD STORY OF HUMAN
TRAFFICKING AT SEA**

**AN ODYSSEY WHERE VIOLENCE
STRIKES SEA AND MEN ALIKE**

“ This novel is a magnificent cry of distress and love for the ocean. It also deals with an essential contemporary issue: slavery at sea. *Ici Paris*

A NIGHT WITH NO DAWN
(UNE NUIT SANS AUBE)



**RIGHTS SOLD
GERMANY
KARL RAUCH**

**ENGLISH SAMPLE
AVAILABLE**

2022
368 pages

SANDRA MARTINEAU

ON THE BUTTERFLY PATH (SUR LE CHEMIN DES PAPILLONS)

A HEARTWARMING & INTERGENERATIONAL STORY

Jacques, a widower and retired veteran, leads a peaceful and solitary life in the village of Maintenant. Until that day when his daughter Joanna, whom he hasn't seen since for years, shows up unannounced. She leaves her three children and their suitcases i and takes off without the slightest explanation, only a letter suggesting they'll be staying with him for two weeks.

LITTLE PLEASURES ON EVERY FLOOR (PETITS BONHEURS À TOUS LES ÉTAGES)

HUMOR, TENDERNESS & FRIENDSHIP

Joanna Baron's partner is a prominent tax expert, and by his side, she leads a peaceful existence in a chic neighborhood. But when her partner is arrested for criminal conspiracy and money laundering, this mother of three finds her life upended. With no money or place to live, she is forced to move to a lowincome housing complex on the wrong side of the highway.

LOOK TO ANOTHER SKY TO BETTER SEE THE STARS (CHANGER DE CIEL POUR MIEUX VOIR LES ÉTOILES)

THE DISCOVERY OF A GREATLY TALENTED WRITER

Chloe Edouard is a successful young Parisian author who has lost her inspiration. She was ready for anything expect the news that the grandmother she never knew—who she thought had died three decades ago—just recently passed away. And then there was her inheritance: a house in a French village.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



SANDRA MARTINEAU was born in Saint-Brieuc in 1978 and she now lives in the Sarthe region. She joined XO Editions in 2021, where she published three novels acclaimed by the press and the readers.



“
A novel as light as a butterfly's flight. (...) Humor, love, and friendship (will overcome this clash of generations).

Olivier Calon / Femme Actuelle
”

April 2025
Pages : 350



“
A joyful and sparkling novel, perfect for getting ready for summer

Télé 7 jours
”

April 2023
Pages : 350



“
An ode to tolerance. This novel is truly heartwarming.

Maxi
”

May 2022
Pages : 304

JOSÉ FRÈCHES

THE PRESIDENT (LA PRÉSIDENTE)

On Sunday, May 6, 2040, a 31-year-old Chinese woman is elected President of the French Republic. Her name is Jade, and she was born in China in 2009. Thirty-one years later, she presides over the destiny of France. How did such a trajectory become possible? A turning and dizzying point in history... and yet entirely plausible.

To arrive at this incredible epilogue, José Frèches goes back to 1981—the year French President François Mitterrand was elected in France and Deng Xiaoping reigned supreme over China.

A rich tapestry where heroes rub shoulders with major historical figures and fiction unfolds in reality.

“In this book, I have not shied away from the violence of the world and our fears about climate change and the rise of dangers. But I have also imagined a surprising outcome, perhaps happier than it seems...”

„ JOSE FRECHES

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



JOSÉ FRECHES was born in 1950, Author of several bestsellers, including “The Legend of the Jade”, José Frèches, a great connoisseur of China, was a museum curator, press executive, and France’s general commissioner at the 2010 Shanghai World Expo. Some of his novels have been translated into more than twenty languages.



November 2025
Pages : 320

A MASTERFUL & UTOPIAN BOOK

**WHAT RESPONSIBILITY DO
POLITICAL, ADMINISTRATIVE,
AND ECONOMIC ELITES HOLD
FOR THE STATE OF OUR
MODERN WORLD?**

**A NOVEL THAT EXPLORES
THE COMPLEXITY OF HUMAN
NATURE & ITS ENDLESS QUEST
FOR HAPPINESS**

**JOSÉ FRÈCHES' NOVELS
OVER
1 MILLION
COPIES SOLD
&
TRANSLATED INTO
OVER 20 LANGUAGES**

HENRI LŒVENBRUCK

SO THAT WE HAVE NO REGRETS (POUR NE RIEN REGRETTER)

DARE DREAM OF A BETTER FUTURE

« My name is Vera, and I wanted to tell you about the sound of rain on corrugated roofing sheets, which is so painful to remember, just like a good memory. » In Providence, a small town lost in the middle of nowhere, a voice rises softly above the silence. A special, a different voice. An unusual voice. Vera's voice.

Little by little, Vera – a sensitive, delicate and tormented soul – will become a symbol of resistance in the face of the injustices of the modern world. With a strong heart and filled with love for her planet, she draws those around her into the ultimate combat of David against Goliath.

Because even on the ruins of a devastated earth, there are fragile flowers that nothing can prevent from blossoming.

“ I wanted to write a novel that makes readers want to give the kids a hand.

Henri Loevenbruck

“ Henri Loevenbruck narrates a profound paradigm shift in our societies. The young generation finds fulfillment through commitment and the fight against injustice and inequality. A different path, but the same ideal: freedom.

Léonard Desbrières / Lire Magazine

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



HENRI LŒVENBRUCK was born in Paris in 1972. He is the author of over twenty novels that have been translated into many languages. His Gabriel Joly series set during the French Revolution met a huge success.



October 2024
Pages : 336

AN ODE TO HOPE & FREEDOM

A COMMITTED NOVEL
AGAINST A BACKDROP
OF ENVIRONMENTAL
DESTRUCTION

AN ORIGINAL & ENDEARING
NARRATIVE VOICE
RECOUNTING THE HUMAN
COST OF PROGRESS

“ A burst of hope, the book celebrates the ever-possible triumph of David over Goliath.

Claire Julliard / Le Nouvel Obs

30,000
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HENRI LÆVENBRUCK

THE MISSING OF BLACKMORE (LES DISPARUS DE BLACKMORE)

THE MULDER & SCULLY OF THE 1920s

Blackmore, October 1925. On this island cut off from the world, off the coast of Guernsey, murders and one disappearance after another spread terror. While the police waffle, Lorraine Chapelle, the first woman in her graduating class at the Criminology Institute of Paris, is called in for reinforcement. This resolute Cartesian pursues her investigation with the help of Edward Pierce, a British detective specializing in the occult. Together they confront Blackmore's darkest secrets, including the mysterious statues strewn across the landscape, rumored to belong to a cult lurking in the shadows. And then there is that ceaseless brutal wind, the Murmur of the Mist. The duo will have to untangle the real from the fake, the secrets, and the lies, in a diabolical race against the clock.

Historical crime, Gothic novel, and esoteric quest blend together seamlessly in this investigation full of twists and turns and an unexpected finale.

L'Est éclair,

Thrills on every page (...) A fantastic atmosphere infuses this mystery novel, a tribute to Lovecraft and Agatha Christie.

Claire Julliard / L'Obs

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



HENRI LÆVENBRUCK was born in Paris in 1972. He is the author of over twenty novels that have been translated into many languages. His Gabriel Joly series set during the French Revolution met a huge success.



February 2023
Pages : 528

**A GRIPPING & ENIGMATIC
THRILLER IN THE STYLE OF
H.P. LOVECRAFT & AGATHA
CHRISTIE**

**A DUO OF INVESTIGATORS AS
IMPROBABLE AS TOUCHING**

**AN ODE TO THE POPULAR
LITERATURE OF THE 1920s**

ENGLISH SAMPLE AVAILABLE

**147,000
COPIES SOLD**

HENRI LÆVENBRUCK

THE PHANTOM OF VERSAILLES (LE FANTÔME DE VERSAILLES)

A TRIBUTE TO REVOLUTIONARY WOMEN

October 1789. The city is in turmoil and famine fuels riots when the Parisian elite is informed of the sudden death of renowned journalist Gabriel Joly. On the evening of the October 5th, thousands of Parisian women march on Versailles. In no time, the palace is stormed.

In the corridors, an elusive figure haunts the King's House, which has become the scene of a series of murders. Caught up in the turmoil, Gabriel's companions unite to unmask the Phantom of Versailles. Between court intrigues and popular fury, each clue brings them closer to a truth more dangerous than they could have imagined...

As the fate of the monarchy is threatened by the rebellious women of Paris, the shadow of Colonel Duvilliers reappears. Does his past conceal a plot to overturn History?

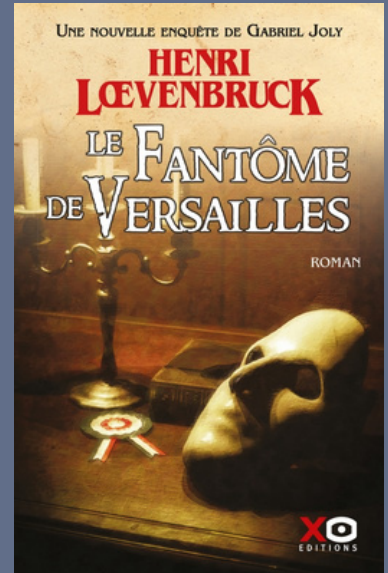
ABOUT THE AUTHOR



HENRI LÆVENBRUCK was born in Paris in 1972. He is the author of over twenty novels that have been translated into many languages. His Gabriel Joly series set during the French Revolution met a huge success.

HISTORICAL CRIME NOVEL

GABRIEL JOLY SERIES / VOL. 4



October 2025
Pages : 480

THE FINAL VOLUME OF A
COMPELLING SAGA BETWEEN
CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION &
GREAT HISTORY

A GRIPPING HISTORICAL
THRILLER IN THE VEIN OF
ALEXANDRE DUMAS

GABRIEL JOLY
SERIES
330,000
COPIES SOLD

HENRI LŒVENBRUCK

THE MURDERER OF THE RUE VOLTAIRE (VOL. 3)

SOMETIMES THE COMÉDIE-FRANÇAISE
TURNS BLOODY

Paris, August 1789. On one end, The Declaration of the Rights of Man and the Citizen is being drafted... On the other end, people are assassinated behind the curtains of the Comédie-Française. Actors, spectators, revolutionaries, the suspects are all over !
The nascent revolution shakes the whole of France and the mysterious Wolf of the Cordeliers reappears in the Parisian streets. As for Gabriel Joly, young investigative journalist, he is taken over by these murders in the Comédie Française. And what if the Wolf of the Cordeliers himself became his best ally?

THE RED HAND MYSTERY (VOL. 2)

THE TURMOIL OF THE FRENCH REVOLUTION

July 1789. As Parisian revolutionaries storm the Bastille, brilliant young journalist Gabriel Joly makes the greatest discovery of his new career. He has uncovered the identity of the Wolf of the Cordeliers, a mysterious vigilante who haunts the streets of Paris at night...

A high-speed pursuit ensues that will take Gabriel Joly to the Corsican scrublands on the trail of the Red Hand, a strange secret society whose members have connections with the Revolution raging in the capital.

THE WOLF OF THE CORDELIERS (VOL. 1)

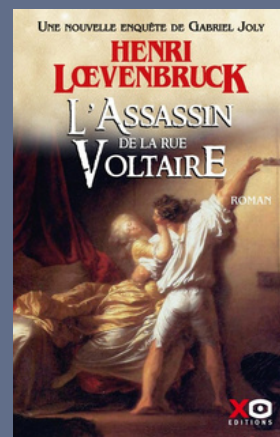
A DIVE INTO THE BACKSTAGE OF THE FRENCH
REVOLUTION...

In May 1789, a wind of revolt blows in Paris. Gabriel Joly, brilliant young provincial, goes to the capital where he dreams of becoming the greatest journalist of his time. His first challenge: to unmask the Wolf of the Cordeliers, this terrifying vigilante who, at night, holds a wolf on a leash and commits bloody murders to protect women in the streets of Paris...

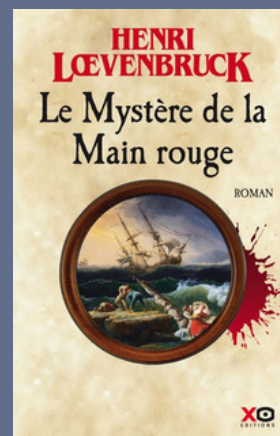
HISTORICAL CRIME NOVEL

GABRIEL JOLY SERIES

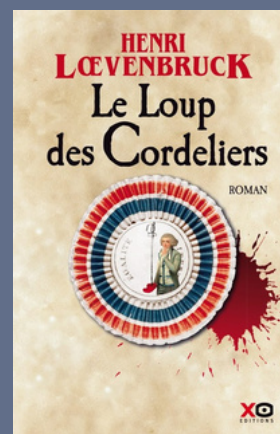
GABRIEL JOLY
SERIES
330,000
COPIES SOLD



2021
Pages : 480



2020
Pages : 560



2020
Pages : 480

CHRISTIAN JACQ

THE GREAT DIVINER OF HELIOPOLIS (LE GRAND VOYANT D'HELIOPOLIS)

Heliopolis, Egypt's oldest sacred city.

As preparations are underway for the election of Ounis as head of the Fifth Dynasty, the vision of the Great Seer Branir blurs, raising fears that the golden age of Pharaonic Egypt is coming to an end and that extreme dangers await the land cherished by the gods.

With his grey hair, wide forehead, and deep blue eyes shining with rare intensity, Branir impresses his audience. He alone can ensure the transmission of power based not on human ambitions, but on the Rule of Harmony of the Universe.

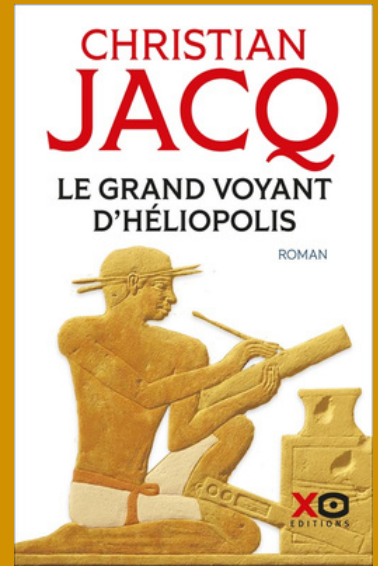
However, one of Ounis' opponents has decided to hire a Libyan assassin to eliminate him. Will the great seer be able to identify him in time, neutralize him, and overcome all the other obstacles that stand in his way? The stakes are high: the preservation of the sacred values that make Egypt a civilization of light.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



CHRISTIAN JACQ declared one day that his greatest happiness was to write on the banks of the Nile... A beautiful summary of a passion that took him over very young, after he discovers Egypt aged thirteen, through his readings. With his erudite and enchanting pen, Christian Jacq, one of the most widely read French authors in the world, brings Ramses III, the last great pharaoh, back to life.

HISTORICAL NOVEL



October 2025
Pages : 374

**A HIGH-STAKES BLEND OF
POLITICAL THRILLER, MYTHIC
QUEST, AND SPIRITUAL
INITIATION**

**A MASTERPIECE OF ERUDITION
& STORYTELLING**

**A LUMINOUS HISTORICAL
NOVEL ABOUT KNOWLEDGE
AND POWER**

CHRISTIAN JACQ'S NOVELS

OVER
30 MILLION
COPIES SOLD
&
TRANSLATED INTO
27 LANGUAGES

CHRISTIAN JACQ

EGYPTE, MY LOVE (EGYPTE, MON AMOUR)

THE JOURNEY OF A LIFETIME, OF A PASSION: ANCIENT EGYPT

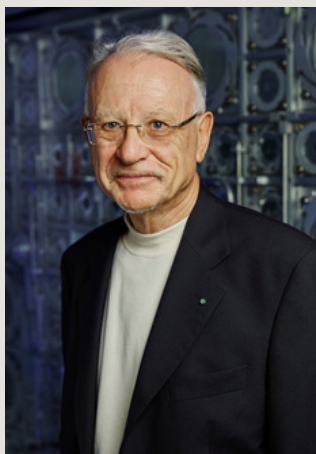
He is one of the world's most renowned specialists on ancient Egypt. Through novels and essays, Christian Jacq has led us to discover its history, its heroic figures, and the spirituality that underlies each of its wonders.

In this book, Christian Jacq reveals for the first time the birth of this passion. The journey of a lifetime, where love and Egypt intertwine, leading him through the most astonishing adventures.

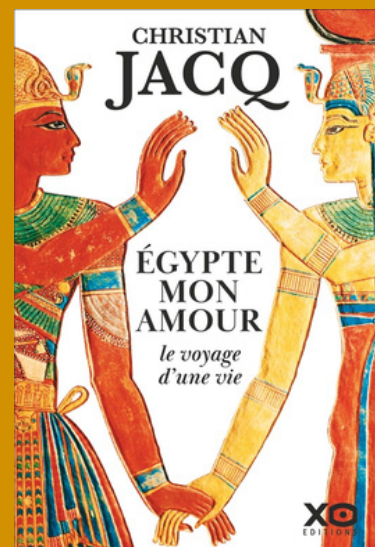
The author reminds us that for the ancient Egyptians, "to love" means to dig a channel through which energy flows, then build a pyramid. Indeed, ancient Egypt is not a country like any other. With this book, Christian Jacq invites us to walk in his footsteps to understand its profound meaning.

From Memphis to Philae, from the pyramids of Giza to the temples of Karnak, through the Valley of the Kings and the desert oases, each chapter plunges the reader into a new adventure. The author brings unique moments to life: the exploration of mysterious tombs, encounters with legendary queens like Nefertari, unique experiences in the desert, and moments of grace in sacred places.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



CHRISTIAN JACQ declared one day that his greatest happiness was to write on the banks of the Nile... A beautiful summary of a passion that took him over very young, after he discovers Egypt aged thirteen, through his readings. With his erudite and enchanting pen, Christian Jacq, one of the most widely read French authors in the world, brings Ramses III, the last great pharaoh, back to life.



March 2025
Pages : 216

**MORE THAN JUST A TRAVEL
NARRATIVE, A DECLARATION
OF LOVE TO ANCIENT EGYPT**

**A MIX OF PASSION &
ACCESSIBLE ERUDITION,
BLENDING HISTORICAL
KNOWLEDGE & PERSONAL
ANECDOTES**

**A BOOK FOR BOTH
EGYPTOLOGY ENTHUSIASTS
AND MEMOIRS READERS**

“

We have all been waiting for this moment when Christian Jacq will share with his millions of readers the origins of a passion that has guided and illuminated his entire existence. A passion that he has so successfully conveyed to his readership.

Florence Dalmas/ Le Dauphiné Libéré

”

MIREILLE CALMEL

MORGANE, THE QUEEN OF MISTS (MORGANE DES BRUMES)

Armorica, 6th century.

Led by Vortigern, the throne usurper, and his formidable sorcerer, the army of Saxons and the Black Mages storms the Armorican lands.

Only an unlikely alliance between Arthur, the rightful heir, and Morgane of the Mists, Vortigern's daughter, can turn the course of the upcoming battle.

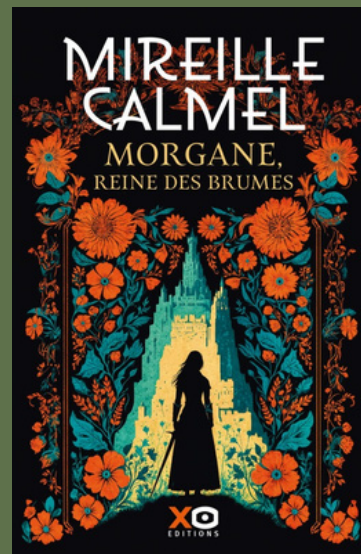
But while Brocéliande, the source of white magic, prepares for the confrontation, the hand of Darkness falls upon the druids, the creatures of the Little People... and Morgane's very heart.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



MIREILLE CALMEL born in 1964, has been writing since the age of eight. Like many authors, her writing career started discreetly, with songs and short stories. Then, she took several years to write her first novel, "Eleanor's Bed" (XO, 2002), the success of which was like a fairytale come true for Mireille. Her novels published with XO, have all been best-sellers.

MEDIEVAL THRILLER



November 2025
Pages : 320

**DRIVEN BY HER INCREDIBLE
STORYTELLING TALENT,
MIREILLE CALMEL REVISITS
THE LEGEND OF KING ARTHUR**

**A NOVEL OF INCREDIBLE
INTENSITY, BETWEEN LIGHT
AND SHADOW, LOYALTY AND
BETRAYAL**

**WE ALL NEED TO NURTURE OUR
INNER LIGHT SO WE DON'T
FALL INTO DARKNESS**

“

A novel that moves from magic to wonder, from Christian myths to legends, with vibrant characters and vivid scenes.

**Isabelle de Montvert-Chaussy /
Sud-Ouest**

”

**MIREILLE CALMEL'S NOVELS
OVER
3 MILLION
COPIES SOLD
&
TRANSLATED INTO
14 LANGUAGES**

HAKIM AREZKI

REBIRTH IN THE NIGHT (RENAÎTRE DANS LA NUIT)

A PARALYMPIC CHAMPION'S RACE AGAINST THE DARK

On April 27, 2001, during this “Black Spring” protests, on the eve of his 18th birthday, Hakim Arezki was hit by two bullets, fired by Algerian police during a student protest. While it did not take his life, one of the two bullets left him blind. The young students had gathered to denounce the injustices suffered by the Algerian people and to defend Kabyle culture and language. The repression was bloody ”

Twenty-three years later, on September 7, 2024, Hakim Arezki kicked the winning goal in the final of the Paris Paralympic Games and won the gold medal with the French blind football team. Among the 13,000 spectators at the Tour Eiffel stadium and the millions watching the match around the world, few knew that for Hakim the Olympic medal was inseparable from another piece of metal, still lodged under his skin, anchored in his flesh and heart forever.

“ A truly moving story

Bruce Toussaint / La Matinale TFI

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



HAKIM AREZKI's long journey is a journey into darkness, between two countries, France and Algeria, between two worlds, that of the sighted and that of the blind, and between two metals, the lead of a bullet and the gold of an Olympic medal.



September 2025
Pages : 272

**AN INSPIRATIONAL STORY OF
A PARALYMPIC ATHLETE
DEFYING AND OVERCOMING
HIS VISION LOSS**

**A TESTIMONIAL ACCOUNT
THAT CHANGES HOW YOU
LOOK AT DISABILITY IN SPORT**

**FROM THE BLACK SPRING
REVOLT IN KABYLIE TO
PARALYMPIC GOLD IN PARIS**

“ A wonderful book that you must read.

(...) A poignant
and deeply touching testimony.

Wendy Bouchard / Ma France, Ici

ROSELINE HAMEL & NASSERA KERMICHE & SAMUEL LIEVEN

SISTERS IN SORROW (SOEURS DE DOULEUR)

Roseline Hamel is the sister of Father Hamel, murdered in his church on July 26th, 2016, as he finishes celebrating mass. Nassera Kermiche is the mother of one of the two terrorists killed during the raid.

Two women for whom this friendship became a vital resource and the necessary path to overcome their suffering as sister and mother.

Sisters in sorrow is a book written by three people: Roseline, Nassera and Samuel Lieven, the journalist who gathered the testimonies of these two women whom horror should have driven apart, yet brought them together in a dialogue of hope and peace.

The evening after her brother's funeral, Roseline kept asking herself who else could suffer more than her? The answer to this rhetorical question became immediately obvious: the mothers of the two young men who killed her brother. Roseline refused to let hatred prevail over the need to understand, and she decided to contact Nassera. A dialogue developed between these two women wounded by the same tragedy, and transformed, over the years, into friendship.

Samuel Lieven was the first journalist to receive the Jacques Hamel Prize. It was on this occasion that he met Roseline and Nassera, who entrusted him with the story of their encounter and friendship.

This moving dialogue between the sister of the priest murdered murdered in Saint-Etienne-du-Rouvray and the mother of the terrorist tells of a magnificent human endeavor and reveals an extraordinary call for forgiveness shattered by the intolerable violence of the crime.

Philippe Bernard / Le Monde



February 2025
Pages : 240

**A MOVING FRIENDSHIP &
AN EXTRAORDINARY MESSAGE
OF PEACE & HOPE**

**THE MOVING STORY OF TWO
WOMEN WHO HAVE PAID THE
HEAVIEST PRICE - BROTHER
AND SON - TO FANATICISM
AND RADICALIZATION**

18,000
COPIES SOLD

“ The strength of forgiveness over hatred. (...) By crossing their dark paths, they gave birth to a new light.
Arnaud Bizot / Paris Match ”

“ Roseline and Nassera offer us forgiveness rather than vengeance.
Claude Askolovitch / France Inter ”

EMMANUEL MACRON

REVOLUTION (RÉVOLUTION)

In Revolution, Emmanuel Macron reveals his personal history and his inspirations, and discusses his vision of France and its future in a new world that is undergoing a 'great transformation'. This is a remarkable book that seeks to lay the foundations for a new society — a compelling testimony and statement of values by a political leader who has become the flag-bearer for a new kind of politics.

EXCERPT

"To regain hope, we need to confront the reality of our world.

Some believe that our country is in decline, that the worst is yet to come, that our civilization is withering away. That only isolation or civil strife are on our horizon. That to protect ourselves from the great transformations taking place around the globe, we should go back in time and apply the recipes of the last century. [...]

I am convinced that they are all wrong. It is their models, their recipes, that have simply failed. France as a whole has not failed. I am convinced that our country has the strength, the resilience, and the desire to progress. Its history and its people make this possible."

“ Emmanuel Macron has stood up for liberal values. He put forward a vision for the important role that France plays in Europe and around the world, and he is committed to a better future for the French people. He appeals to people's hopes and not their fears.

Barack Obama
”

FULL ENGLISH
TRANSLATION AVAILABLE

NON FICTION

Emmanuel
Macron

Révolution

C'est notre
combat
pour la France

XO

November 2024
Pages : 304

TRANSLATED INTO 22 COUNTRIES

ARMENIA / NEW MAG LLC
BRAZIL / GRUPO EDITORIAL RECORD
BULGARIA / SLUNTSE
CHINA / HACHETTE PHOENIX
DENMARK / INFORMATIONS FORLAG
GERMANY / MORSTADT VERLAG
GREECE / PSICHOGIOS
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ITALY / LA NAVE DI TESEO
JAPAN / POPLAR PUBLISHING
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RUSSIA / LOMONOSV LSU
SERBIA / OBODSKO SLOVO
SPAIN / LINCE EDICIONES
TAIWAN / CHINA TIMES
US & UK / SCRIBE PUBLISHING
AUS & NZ / SCRIBE PUBLISHING
VIETNAM / FIRST NEWS

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FALL 2025



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rzaharia@xoeditions.com