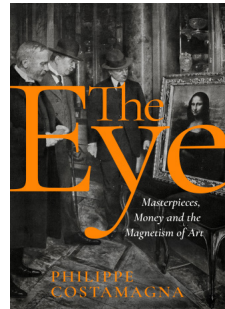
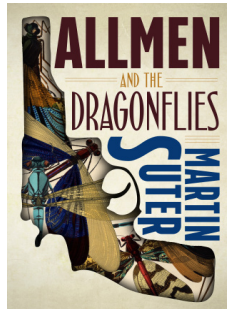
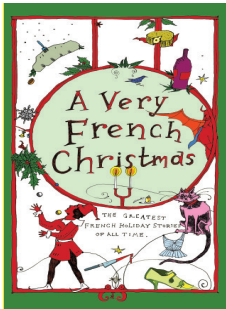
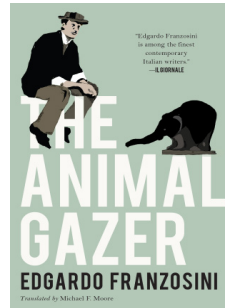
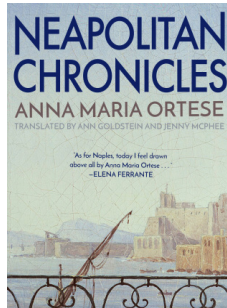
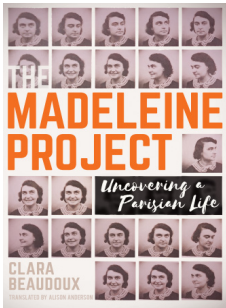




New Vessel Press 2017-18



New Vessel Press, founded in New York City in 2012, is an independent publishing house specializing in the translation of foreign literature into English.

By bringing readers foreign literature and narrative non-fiction, we offer captivating, thought-provoking works with beautifully designed covers and high production values. We scour the globe looking for the best stories, knowing that only about three percent of the books published in the United States each year are translations. That leaves a lot of great literature still to be discovered.

At New Vessel Press, we believe that knowledge of foreign cultures and literatures enriches our lives by offering passageways to understand and embrace the world. We regard literary translation as both craft and art, enabling us to traverse borders and open minds. We are committed to books that offer erudition and enjoyment, stimulate and scintillate, transform and transport.

And of course, what matters most is not where the authors hail from, or what language they write in. The most important thing is the quality of the work itself. And hence our name. We publish great books, just in a new vessel.

Our books have received a wide array of accolades, from *The New York Times* and *The Wall Street Journal* to *The New Yorker* and *O, The Oprah Magazine*. We are confident that our 2017-18 offerings will continue to make their mark and look forward to bringing the world's great literature to ever more readers.



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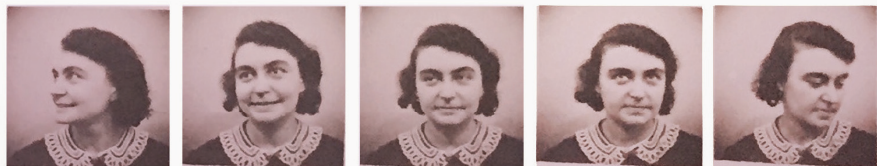
"TELLS HISTORY IN A BRILLIANT, ORIGINAL WAY FOR THE 21ST CENTURY... I LOVED THIS BOOK AND SHALL READ IT AGAIN AND AGAIN." —ANNE SABBA, AUTHOR OF *LES PARISIENNES* AND *THAT WOMAN*



MADELEINE PROJECT



*Uncovering a
Parisian Life*



CLARA
BEAUDOUX

TRANSLATED BY ALISON ANDERSON



THE MADELEINE PROJECT

By Clara Beaudoux / France

Translated by Alison Anderson

NONFICTION

September 2017

5 ½ x 8 ¼ / 304 pp

Trade Paper \$23.95

978-1-939931-49-8



"Tells history in a brilliant, original way for the 21st century ... I loved this book and shall read it again and again."

—Anne Sabba, author of *Les Parisiennes* and *That Woman*

"This book first delights the brain, then takes over the heart. Tweets turn into literature right before our eyes."

—Elizabeth Kendall, author of *Autobiography of a Wardrobe* and *American Daughter*

"A unique and engaging biography."

—Charles Kaiser, author of *The Cost of Courage* and *1968 in America*

"Brings the past into the present in a wildly creative and imaginative way."

—Samantha Vérant, author of *Seven Letters from Paris*

A young woman moves into a Paris apartment and discovers a storage room filled with the belongings of the previous owner, a certain Madeleine who died in her late nineties, and whose treasured possessions nobody seems to want. In an audacious act of journalism driven by personal curiosity and humane tenderness, Clara Beaudoux embarks on *The Madeleine Project*, documenting what she finds on Twitter with text and photographs, introducing the world to an unsung 20th century figure. Along the way, she discovers a Parisian life indelibly marked by European history. This is a graphic novel for the Twitter age, a true story that encapsulates one woman's attempt to live a life of love and meaning together with a contemporary quest to prevent that existence from slipping into oblivion. *The Madeleine Project* movingly chronicles, and allows us to reconstruct, intimate memories of a bygone era.

Clara Beaudoux is a Paris-based journalist for the France Info news network. *The Madeleine Project* has been wildly popular in France. You can follow her on Twitter at @Clarabdx.

*An audacious work of investigative journalism that reads
like a graphic novel for the digital age.*

NEAPOLITAN CHRONICLES

ANNA MARIA ORTESE

TRANSLATED BY ANN GOLDSTEIN AND JENNY MCPHEE

"As for Naples, today I feel drawn
above all by Anna Maria Ortese . . ."

—ELENA FERRANTE

NEAPOLITAN CHRONICLES

By Anna Maria Ortese / Italy

Translated by Ann Goldstein and Jenny McPhee

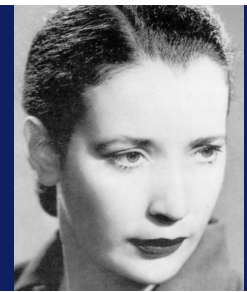
FICTION

March 2018

5 ¼ x 8 / 200 pp

Trade Paper \$17.95

978-1-939931-51-1



"As for Naples, today I feel drawn above all by Anna Maria Ortese . . . If I managed again to write about this city, I would try to craft a text that explores the direction indicated there."
—Elena Ferrante in *Frantumaglia: A Writer's Journey*

"Anna Maria Ortese was the last great writer of the generation that produced Italo Calvino and Primo Levi. Today, few critics would disagree with the poet Andrea Zanzotto, who rates her as 'one of the most important Italian women writers of this century.'"
—*The Independent*

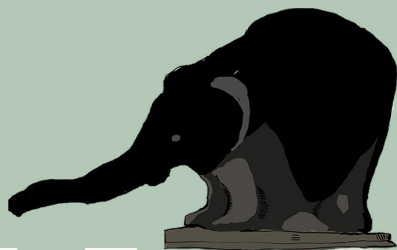
A masterful and gripping classic of European literature, this superb collection of short fiction and reportage is set in Italy's perhaps most vibrant and turbulent metropolis—Naples—in the immediate aftermath of World War Two. These writings helped inspire Elena Ferrante's best-selling novels and she has expressed deep admiration for the author of this volume. Ortese's work was also championed by Italo Calvino, who was her Italian editor. The powerful portrait of Naples high and low and its documentation of often trying conditions comprises a stunning literary companion to some of the great neo-realist films of the era by directors such as Vittorio de Sica and Roberto Rossellini. This classic is exquisitely rendered in English by Ann Goldstein and Jenny McPhee, two of the leading translators working from Italian today. Included in the collection is "A Pair of Eyeglasses," one of the most widely praised Italian short stories of the last century.

Anna Maria Ortese (1914-1998) is one of the most celebrated and original Italian writers of the 20th century. *Neapolitan Chronicles* brought her widespread acclaim in her native country when it was first published in 1953 and won the prestigious Premio Viareggio.

*A masterful and gripping classic of European literature that inspired
Elena Ferrante's depiction of Naples in her bestselling novels.*



“Edgardo Franzosini
is among the finest
contemporary
Italian writers.”
—IL GIORNALE



THE ANIMAL GAZER

EDGARDO FRANZOSINI

Translated by Michael F. Moore

THE ANIMAL GAZER

*By Edgardo Franzosini / Italy
Translated by Michael F. Moore
FICTION
January 2018
5 ¼ x 8 / 118 pp
Trade Paper \$16.95
978-1-939931-52-8*



“Edgardo Franzosini is among the finest contemporary Italian writers.”
—*Il Giornale*

“This wonderful book not only tells the life of a great sculptor, it is also a testimony to the devastation that every war brings to the life of men and artists.”
—*Il Fatto quotidiano*

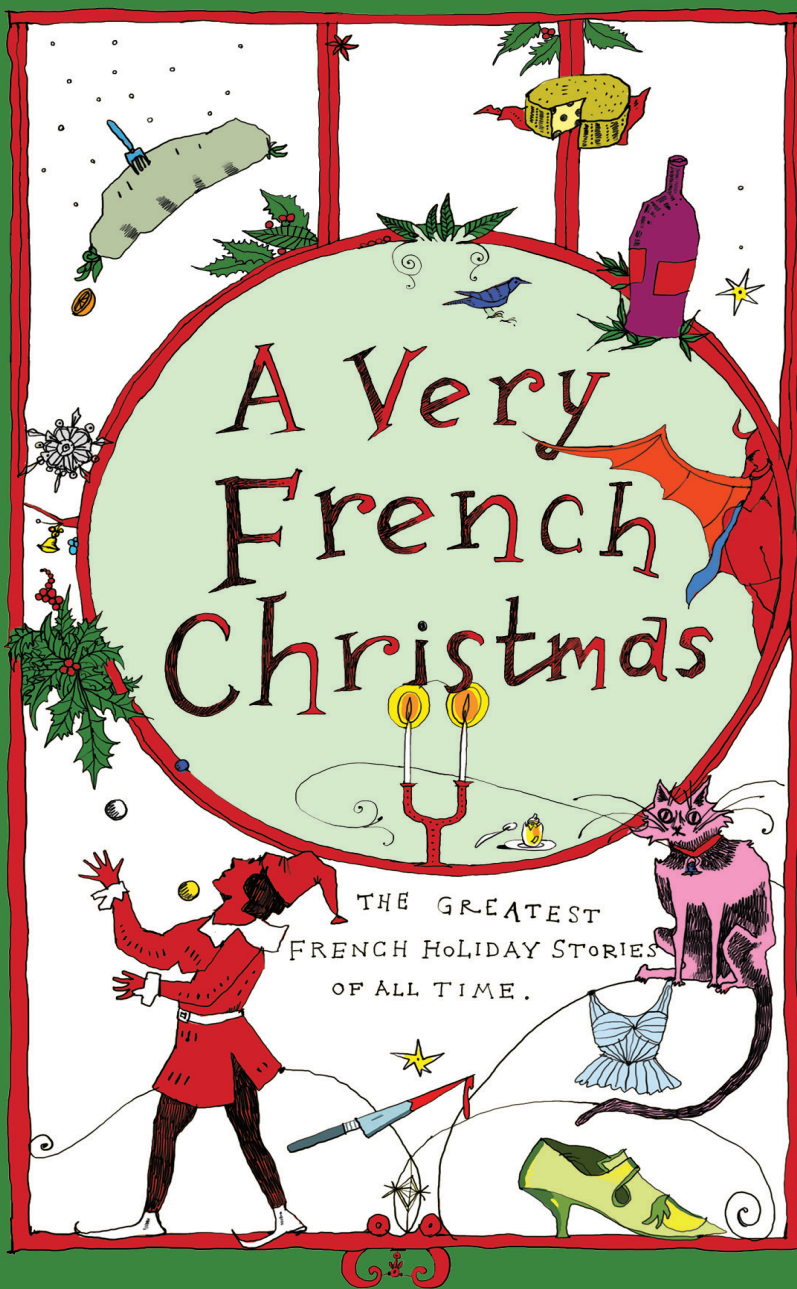
“So well documented and psychologically penetrating that the entire book gives the reader the feeling of an autobiographical testimony.”
—*Libero*

A hypnotic novel inspired by the strange and fascinating life of sculptor Rembrandt Bugatti, brother of the fabled automaker. With World War One closing in and the Belle Époque teetering to a close, Bugatti leaves his native Milan for Paris, and then volunteers in Antwerp during the war. While there, he obsessively observes and sculpts the baboons, giraffes and panthers in the zoo, finding empathy with their plight, identifying with their life in captivity. With the Germans dropping bombs over the city, the Belgian authorities are forced to make a heart-wrenching decision about the fate of the caged animals, and Bugatti is stricken with grief from which he'll never recover. His own end follows suit shortly: he returns to Paris, and at the age of 31, he is dead of suicide.

Rembrandt Bugatti's work is now displayed in major art museums around the world and routinely fetches millions at auction. Edgardo Franzosini recreates the young artist's life with intense lyricism, passion and sensitivity.

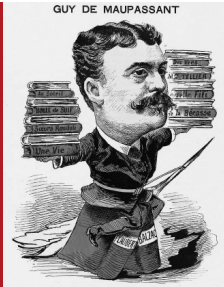
Edgardo Franzosini, born in 1952, is the author of five novels. *The Animal Gazer* won two distinguished Italian literary awards in 2016, the Premio Comisso and the Premio Dessi.

The hypnotic tale of a masterful sculptor increasingly obsessed with zoo animals as he and Europe teetered on the brink of World War One.



A VERY FRENCH CHRISTMAS
The Greatest French Holiday Stories of All Time

France
 FICTION
 October 2017
 7 x 10 / 162 pp
 Paper over Board \$22.95
 978-1-939931-50-4

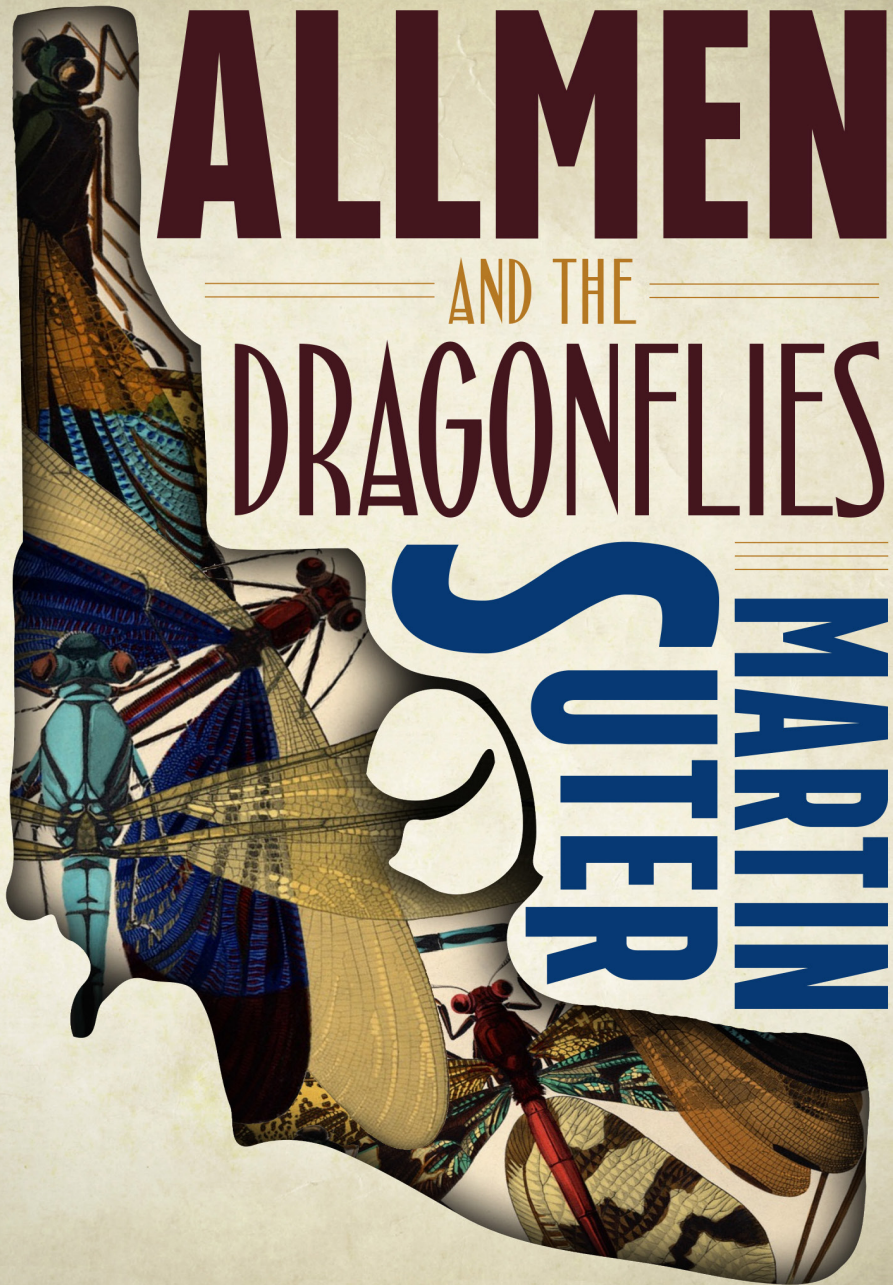


A continuation of the very popular Very Christmas Series, this collection brings together the best French Christmas stories of all time in an elegant and vibrant collection featuring classics by Guy de Maupassant and Alphonse Daudet, plus stories by the esteemed twentieth century author Irène Némirovsky and contemporary writers Dominique Fabre and Jean-Philippe Blondel. With a holiday spirit conveyed through sparkling Paris streets, opulent feasts, wandering orphans, kindly monks, homesick soldiers, oysters, crayfish, ham, bonbons, flickering desire, and more than a little wine, this collection encapsulates the holiday spirit and proves that the French have mastered Christmas.

With stories by

Alphonse Daudet
Guy de Maupassant
Anatole France
Irène Némirovsky
Jean-Philippe Blondel
Dominique Fabre
Paul Arène
François Coppée
Antoine Gustave Droz
Anatole Le Braz

This is Christmas à la française—delicious, intense and unexpected, proving that Nobody Does Christmas Like the French.



ALLMEN AND THE DRAGONFLIES

By Martin Suter / Switzerland

Translated by Steph Morris

FICTION

May 2018

5 ¼ x 8 / 195 pp

Paperback \$16.95

978-1-939931-57-3



“Martin Suter has found a new tone in the detective novel: a blend of reserve and attention to detail with clock-work precision ... Suter is as charming as his hero when he uses the conventions of the genre.”

—*Le Monde*

“One couldn’t imagine anything more diverting than a second novel with this team in the lead roles.”

—*Der Spiegel*

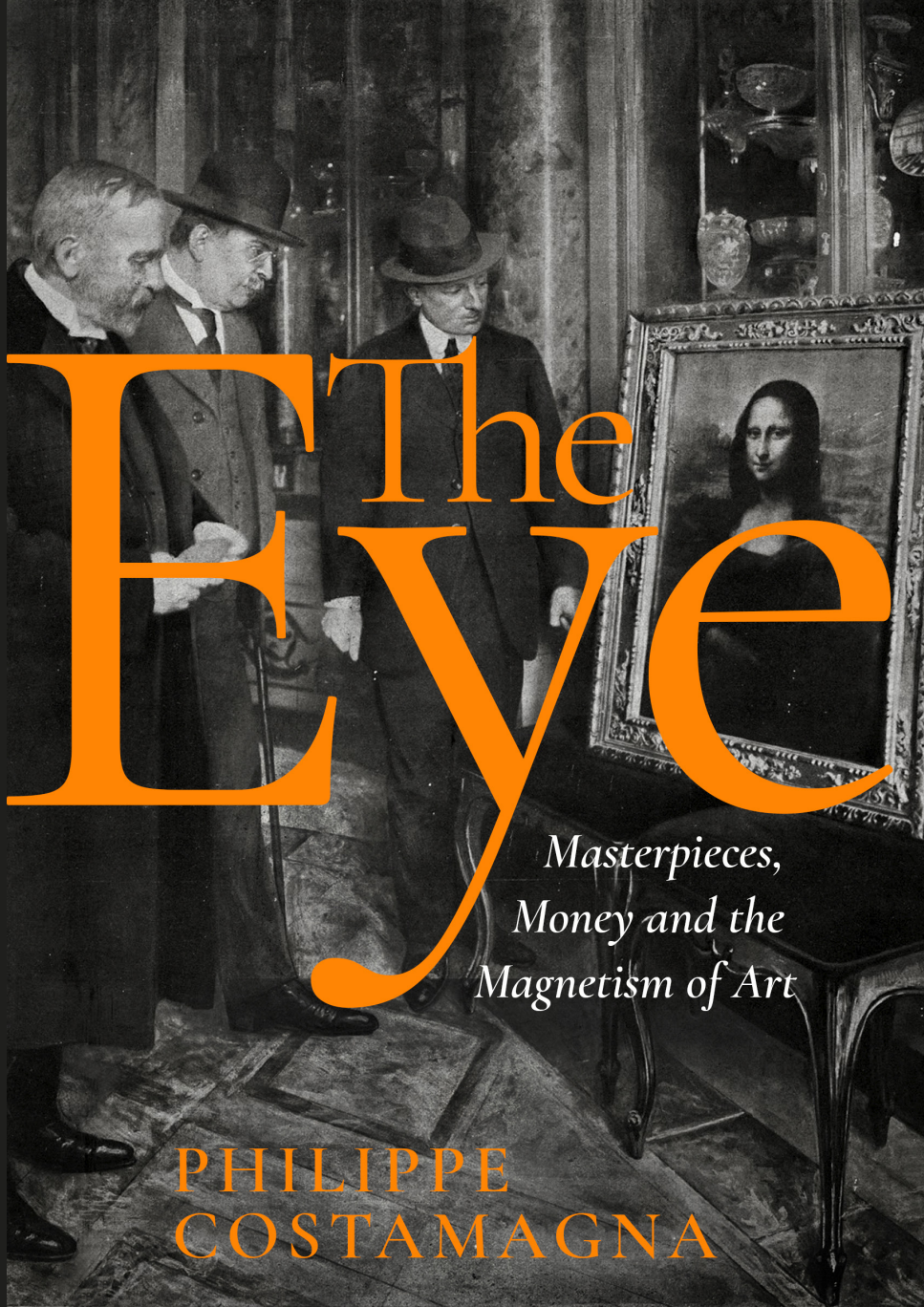
“Masterful.”

—*Westfälische Nachrichten*

Johann Friedrich von Allmen, a bon vivant of dandified refinement, has exhausted his family fortune. Forced to downscale, Allmen inhabits the garden house of his former Zurich estate, attended by his Guatemalan butler, Carlos. When not reading novels by Balzac and Somerset Maugham, he plays jazz on a Bechstein baby grand. Allmen’s fortunes take a sharp turn when he meets Jojo, a stunning blonde whose lakeside villa contains five Art Nouveau vases created by renowned French artist Émile Gallé and decorated with a dragonfly motif. Allmen, seeking to pay off mounting debts, absconds with the priceless vases and embarks on a high-risk, potentially violent bid to cash them in. This is the first of a series of fast-paced detective novels devoted to a memorable gentleman thief who with his trusted sidekick Carlos creates an investigative firm to recover missing precious objects.

Martin Suter, born in Zurich in 1948, is a novelist, screenwriter and newspaper columnist. He has written a dozen novels, many of them best-sellers in Europe and translated into 32 languages. His novel *The Last Weynfeldt* was published by New Vessel Press in 2016. Suter lives with his family in Zurich.

A thrilling art heist escapade that evokes a world of European high culture and luxury, while plumbing the vicissitudes of less exalted human foibles and obsessions.



The Eye

*Masterpieces,
Money and the
Magnetism of Art*

PHILIPPE
COSTAMAGNA

THE EYE

Masterpieces, Money and the Magnetism of Art

By Philippe Costamagna / France

Translated by Frank Wynne

NONFICTION

Summer 2018

6 x 9 / 270 pp

Hardback \$ 26.95

978-1-939931-58-0



“By placing connoisseurship back at the very center of art history, Philippe Costamagna weaves a fascinating tale and brilliantly highlights the enduring power of intuition and expertise in the visual arts today.”

—Salvatore Settis, chairman of the Louvre Museum Scientific Council and author of *If Venice Dies*

“Initiates us with quiet elegance ... part historical essay, part autobiographical account, enriched by a thousand anecdotes, *The Eye* follows its meandering path to our great delight.”

—*Le Monde*

“Passionate and often funny ... This work is very rich.”

—*La Tribune de l'Art*

“As thrilling as a police novel.”

—*La Croix*

It's a rare and secret profession, comprising a few dozen people around the world equipped with a mysterious mixture of knowledge and innate sensibility. Summoned to Swiss bank vaults, Fifth Avenue apartments and Tokyo storerooms, they are entrusted by collectors, dealers and museums to decide if a coveted picture is real or fake and to determine if it was painted by Leonardo da Vinci or Raphael. *The Eye* lifts the veil on the rarified world of connoisseurs devoted to the authentication and discovery of Old Master art works. This is an art adventure story and a memoir all in one, written by a leading expert on the Renaissance whose métier is a high-stakes detective game involving massive amounts of money and frenetic activity in the service of the art market and scholarship alike. It's also an eloquent argument for the enduring value of visual creativity, told with passion, brilliance and surprising candor.

Philippe Costamagna is a specialist in 16th century Italian painting and director of the Musée des Beaux Arts in Ajaccio, Corsica. He is the author of a book on the Florentine Renaissance painter Pontormo.

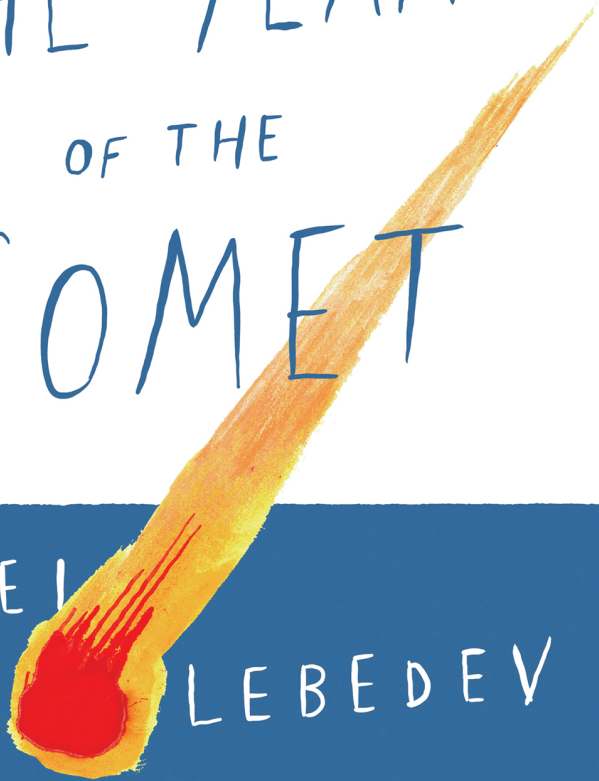
An art adventure story that exposes readers to a secret, high-stakes profession involving masterpieces, massive amounts of money and an intense love of painting.

"YOU READ AND REREAD LEBEDEV'S LYRICAL, CUTTING PROSE
WITH EQUAL AMOUNTS OF AWE AND ENJOYMENT."
—KIRKUS REVIEWS (STARRED REVIEW)

THE YEAR OF THE COMET

SERGEI
LEBEDEV

TRANSLATED BY
ANTONINA W. BOUIS



THE YEAR OF THE COMET

by Sergei Lebedev / Russia

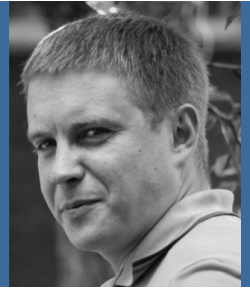
Translated by Antonina W. Bouis

FICTION

5 1/4 x 8 / 275 pages

Trade Paper \$16.95

978-1-939931-41-2



"Sergei Lebedev writes about our failure to understand the Stalinist era and to see that Russia is today a country torn into pieces. Lebedev's characters seek ways to cut the umbilical cord with the past."

—Svetlana Alexievich, 2015 winner of the Nobel Prize in Literature

"Examines the psychological trauma Stalinism continues to unleash ... Antonina W. Bouis has translated the best of Soviet and post-Soviet writings ... and the ease with which she renders Mr. Lebedev's prose creates the illusion that both his novels were originally written in English."

—*The Wall Street Journal*

"You read and reread Lebedev's lyrical, cutting prose with equal amounts of awe and enjoyment. This gorgeously written, unsettling novel—a rare work about the fall of the Soviet Union as told through the eyes of a child—leaves us with a fresh understanding of that towering moment in recent history."

—*Kirkus Reviews* (Starred Review)

From the critically acclaimed author of *Oblivion* comes *The Year of the Comet*, a story of a Russian boyhood and coming of age as the Soviet Union is on the brink of collapse. An idyllic childhood takes a sinister turn. Rumors of a serial killer haunt the neighborhood, families pack up and leave town without a word of warning, and the country begins to unravel. Policemen stand by as protesters overtake the streets, knowing that the once awe-inspiring symbols of power they wear on their helmets have become devoid of meaning. Lebedev depicts a vast empire coming apart at the seams, transforming a very public moment into something tender and personal, and writes with stunning beauty and shattering insight about childhood and the growing consciousness of a boy in the world.

Sergei Lebedev was born in Moscow in 1981 and worked for seven years on geological expeditions in Russia and Central Asia. *Oblivion*, his first novel, was published in 2016 by New Vessel Press, to great acclaim.

*A stunning novel about growing up in Russia on the brink of collapse,
from the preeminent storyteller of his generation.*

“Transporting, wholly engaging, deeply moving.
This book is why I travel and why I read.”

—ANDREW MCCARTHY,
award-winning director, actor, and author of *The Longest Way Home*

MOVING THE PALACE

CHARIF
MAJDALANI

TRANSLATED BY EDWARD GAUVIN



MOVING THE PALACE

by Charif Majdalani / Lebanon

Translated by Edward Gauvin

FICTION

5 ¼ x 8 / 200 pp

Trade Paper \$16.95

978-1-939931-46-7



“Renders the complex social landscape of the Middle East and North Africa with subtlety and finesse ... Yet one doesn’t need to care about the region’s history, or its present-day contexts, to enjoy *Moving the Palace* ... brio and Mr. Majdalani’s richly textured prose are reason enough.”

—*The Wall Street Journal*

“Charming and gently humorous ... Majdalani’s writing sparkles ... Those looking for an enjoyable and brisk literary adventure will be very satisfied.”

—*Publishers Weekly*

“Charif Majdalani has a ripping yarn to tell and tells it with a raconteur’s bravura. Transporting, wholly engaging, deeply moving. This book is why I travel and why I read.”

—Andrew McCarthy, award-winning director, actor, and author of *Just Fly Away* and *The Longest Way Home*

“*Moving the Palace* is an eloquent, captivating excursion through a Middle East history that is more relevant today than ever.”

—Rawi Hage, author of *De Niro’s Game* and *Cockroach*

“One of the most beautiful epics I’ve ever read.”

—Antoine Volodine, author of *Minor Angels* and *Naming the Jungle*

At the dawn of the 20th century, a young Lebanese adventurer leaves the Levant to explore the wilds of Africa, encountering an eccentric English colonel in Sudan and enlisting in his service. In this lush chronicle of far-flung adventure, the military recruit crosses paths with a compatriot who has dismantled a sumptuous palace in Tripoli and transports it across the continent on a camel caravan. The protagonist soon takes charge of this hoard of architectural fragments, ferrying the dismantled landmark through Sudan, Egypt and the Arabian Peninsula, where he meets T.E. Lawrence and Muslim pilgrims bound for Mecca, before he eventually returns to his native Beirut to reassemble the palace there.

Charif Majdalani, born in Lebanon in 1960, teaches French literature at the Université Saint-Joseph in Beirut. The original French version of *Moving the Palace* won the 2008 François Mauriac Prize from the Académie Française as well as the Prix Tropiques.

*A captivating modern-day Odyssey by a masterful Lebanese author
in the tradition of Bruce Chatwin and Paul Theroux.*

ADUA

A Novel

“UTTERLY SUBLIME.”

—Maaza Mengiste,
author of *Beneath the Lion's Gaze*

Igiaba Scego

Translated by Jamie Richards

ADUA

by Igiaba Scego / Italy
Translated by Jamie Richards

FICTION

5 ¼ x 8 / 185 pp
Trade Paper \$16.95
978-1939931-45-0



“Lovely prose and memorable characters make this novel a thought-provoking and moving consideration of the wreckage of European oppression.”

—*Publishers Weekly* (Starred Review)

“Lucid and forthright ... examines the linked consequences of Italian colonization, instability in 1970s Somalia, and the current refugee crisis in Europe ... an illuminating work appropriate for a wide range of readers.”

—*Library Journal* (Starred Review)

“A memorable, affecting tale ... brings the decolonialization of Africa to life ... all the more affecting for being told without sentimentality or self-pity.”

—*Foreword Reviews*

“Utterly sublime.”

—Maaza Mengiste, author of *Beneath the Lion's Gaze*

Adua, an immigrant from Somalia to Italy, has lived in Rome for nearly forty years. She came seeking freedom from a strict father and an oppressive regime, but her dreams of becoming a film star ended in shame. Now that the civil war in Somalia is over, her homeland calls her. Yet Adua has a husband who needs her, a young man, also an immigrant, who braved a dangerous crossing of the Mediterranean Sea. When her father, who worked as an interpreter for Mussolini's fascist regime, dies, Adua inherits the family home. She must decide whether to make the journey back to reclaim her material inheritance, but also how to take charge of her own story and build a future.

Igiaba Scego is an Italian novelist and journalist. She was born in Rome in 1974 to Somali parents who took refuge in Italy following a coup d'état in their native country, where her father served as foreign minister.

*A searing novel about a young immigrant woman's dream of freedom
and the bittersweet legacies of her past.*



IF VENICE DIES

By Salvatore Settis / Italy

Translated by André Naffis-Sahely

NONFICTION

5 ¼ x 8 / 180 pp

Trade Paper \$16.95

978-1-939931-3-75



If Venice Dies

Salvatore Settis

Translated by André Naffis-Sahely

“Anyone interested in learning what is really going on in Venice should read this book.”

—Donna Leon, author of

My Venice and Other Essays and Death at La Fenice

“This powerful work of cultural criticism ... feels chock-full of insight. It shines a harsh light on the risks in the way we live, much as Jane Jacobs did in ‘The Death and Life of Great American Cities’ more than 50 years ago.”

—The Washington Post

“A chilling account of the slow agony of Venice as illustrative of a global consumerist epidemic. Richly documented and imbued with deep angst about this supreme urban creation.”

—Philippe de Montebello, former director of the Metropolitan Museum of Art

“Anyone interested in learning what is really going on in Venice should read this book.”

—Donna Leon, author of My Venice and Other Essays and Death at La Fenice

What is Venice worth? To whom does this urban treasure belong? This eloquent book by renowned art historian Salvatore Settis urgently poses these questions, igniting a new debate about the Queen of the Adriatic and cultural patrimony at large. Venetians are increasingly abandoning their hometown—there’s now only one resident for every 140 visitors—and Venice’s fate has become emblematic of the future of historic cities everywhere as it capitulates to tourists and those who profit from them. In *If Venice Dies*, a fiery blend of history and cultural analysis, Settis argues that “hit-and-run” visitors are turning landmark urban settings into shopping malls and theme parks. This is a passionate plea to secure the soul of Venice, written with consummate authority, wide-ranging erudition and élan.

Salvatore Settis is an archaeologist and art historian and former director of the Getty Research Institute of Los Angeles. He heads the Louvre Museum’s Scientific Council and is the author of several books on art history.

*A passionate, eloquent plea to save the soul
of one of the world’s greatest cities.*

The 6:41 to PARIS

JEAN-PHILIPPE
BLONDEL

"TAUT, SUSPENSEFUL... A
GRIPPING YARN FOR OUR TIME."
—KATI MORTON, AUTHOR OF
PARIS: A LOVE STORY



TRANSLATED BY
ALLISON ANDERSON



THE 6:41 TO PARIS

by Jean-Philippe Blondel / France

Translated by Allison Anderson

FICTION

5 ¼ x 8 / 153 pp

Trade Paper \$14.95

978-1-939931-26-9



"A strong plot and a touching portrayal of how any of us might feel when unexpectedly confronted by the detritus of young love ... A timely reminder that the past is always waiting to ambush us."

—*The New York Times Sunday Book Review*

"Blondel conveys ... a shared, suspenseful dread that makes you want to turn every page at locomotive pace."

—*The St. Louis Post-Dispatch*

"Perfectly written and a remarkably suspenseful read ... An absorbing, intriguing, insightful book for all readers."

—*Library Journal* (Starred Review)

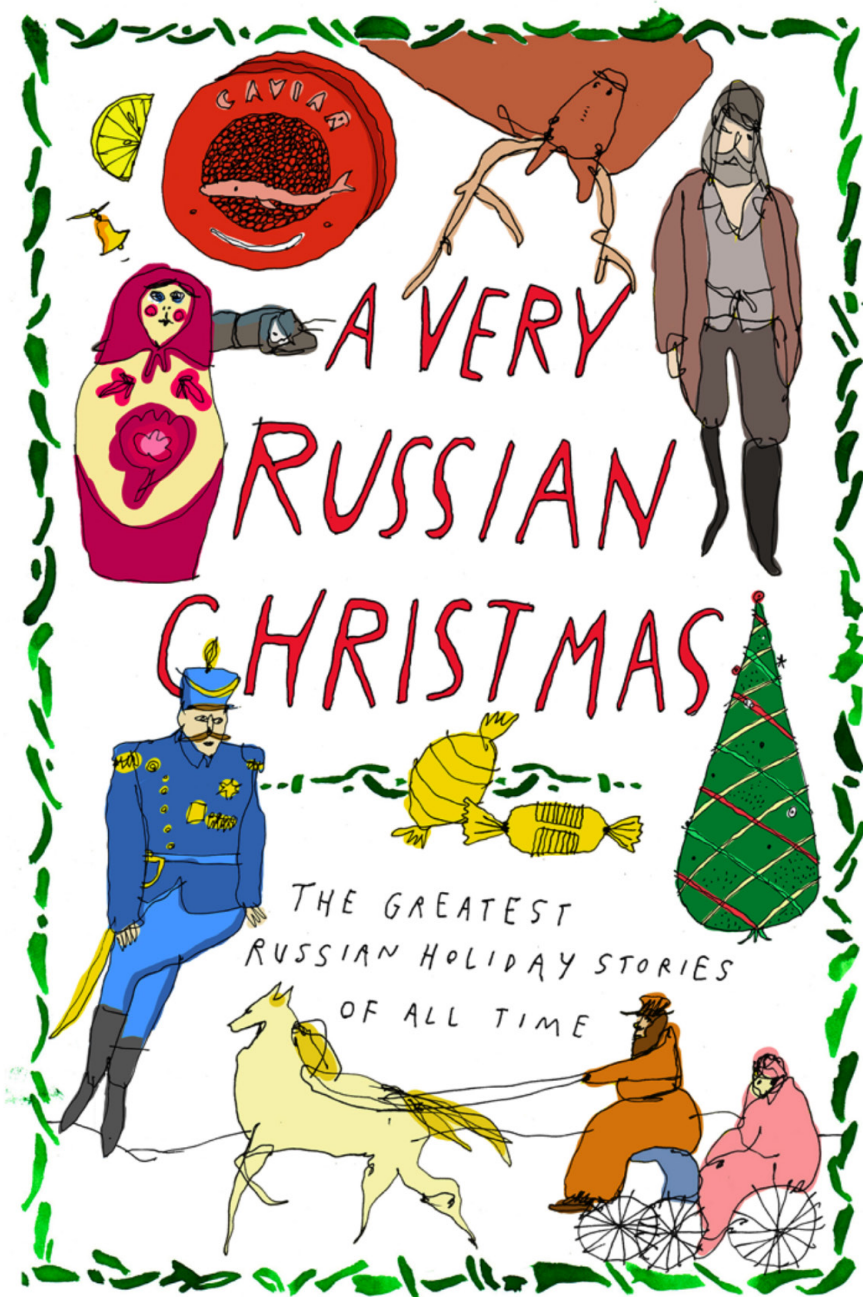
"A taut, suspenseful psychological journey from which there is no escape. *The 6:41 to Paris* shatters any illusions that acts of cruelty committed in our youth are of little consequence later in life. A gripping yarn for our time."

— Kati Marton, author of *Paris: A Love Story*

Cécile, a stylish 47-year-old, has spent the weekend visiting her parents in a provincial town southeast of Paris. By early Monday morning, she's exhausted. These trips back home are always stressful and she settles into a train compartment with an empty seat beside her. But it's soon occupied by a man she instantly recognizes: Philippe Leduc, with whom she had a passionate affair that ended in her brutal humiliation 30 years ago. In the fraught hour and a half that ensues, their express train hurtles towards the French capital. Cécile and Philippe undertake their own face to face journey—In silence? What could they possibly say to one another?—with the reader gaining entrée to the most private of thoughts. This bestselling novel is a psychological thriller about past romance, with all its pain and promise.

Jean-Philippe Blondel was born in 1964 in Troyes, France where he lives as an author and English teacher. His novel *The 6:41 to Paris* has been a European bestseller.

Brilliant psychological thriller constructed like an intensely intimate theater performance, a high-wire act of emotions on rails.



A VERY RUSSIAN CHRISTMAS
The Greatest Russian Holiday Stories of All Time

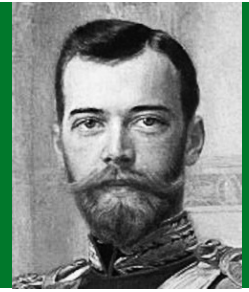
Russia

FICTION

7 x 10 / 160 pp

Paper over Board \$21.95

978-1-939931-43-6



Crimson ribbons and troubled souls, landowners yearning for love, peasants bent from labor, priests who raise a glass, and the salty joys of salmon and caviar. This is the first book in our popular Very Christmas Series. It's Russian Christmas celebrated in supreme pleasure and pain by the greatest of writers, running the gamut from sweet and reverent to twisted and uproarious, with many of the stories appearing in English for the first time. Dostoevsky brings stories of poverty and tragedy, Tolstoy inspires with his fable-like tales, Chekhov's insights into our melancholy woes are on full display, and Teffi puts a stethoscope to the heavy heart of a lonely child and her stuffed animal. Finally, Mikhail Zoshchenko recounts madcap anecdotes of New Year's trees and Christmas thieves. There is no shortage of vodka or wit in this volume packed with sentimental songs, footmen, whirling winds, solitary nights, snow drifts, and hopeful children.

With stories by

Anton Chekhov

Fyodor Dostoevsky

Lev Tolstoy

Vladimir Korolenko

Maxim Gorky

Teffi

Mikhail Zoshchenko

Klaudia Lukashovich

With its wonderful variety and remarkable human touch, this story collection proves that Nobody Does Christmas Like the Russians.

OBLIVION

SERGEI LEBEDEV

TRANSLATED BY ANTONINA W. BOUIS

OBLIVION

by Sergei Lebedev / Russia
Translated by Antonina W. Bouis
FICTION
5 ¼ x 8 / 300 pp
Trade Paper \$15.95
978-1-939931-25-2



“A Dantean descent . . . In a steely translation by Antonina W. Bouis, *Oblivion* is as cold and stark as a glacial crevasse, but as beautiful as one, too, with a clear poetic sensibility built to stand against the forces of erasure.”

—*The Wall Street Journal*

“Astonishing . . . ingeniously structured around the progressive uncovering of memories of a difficult personal and national past . . . with a visceral, at times almost unbearable, force.”

—*The Times Literary Supplement*

“Opening in stately fashion and unfolding ever faster with fierce, intensive elegance, this first novel discloses the weight of Soviet history and its consequences . . . Highly recommended.”

—*Library Journal* (Starred Review)

A Wall Street Journal Best Book of 2016

In this highly acclaimed novel that probes the legacy of the Soviet prison camp system, a young man travels to the vast wastelands of the Far North to uncover the truth about a shadowy neighbor who saved his life, and whom he knows only as Grandfather II. What he finds, among the forgotten mines and decrepit barracks of former gulags, is a world relegated to oblivion, where it is easier to ignore both the victims and the executioners than to come to terms with a terrible past. This disturbing tale evokes the great and ruined beauty of a land where man and machine worked in tandem with nature to destroy millions of lives during the Soviet century. Emerging from today’s Russia, where the ills of the past are being forcefully erased from public memory, this masterful novel represents an epic literary attempt to rescue history from the brink of oblivion.

Sergei Lebedev was born in Moscow in 1981 and worked for seven years on geological expeditions in northern Russia and Central Asia. Lebedev is a poet, essayist, and journalist whose work has been translated into many languages. His second novel, *The Year of the Comet*, was published by New Vessel Press in 2017.

This masterful novel represents an epic literary attempt to examine a very troubled Russia.



ANIMAL INTERNET

Nature and the Digital Revolution

Alexander Pschera

Translated by Elisabeth Lauffer

“Bold and fascinating ... A truly thought-provoking book for animal lovers and technology enthusiasts alike.”

— *Kirkus Reviews*



ANIMAL INTERNET

Nature and the Digital Revolution

by Alexander Pschera / Germany

Translated by Elisabeth Lauffer

NONFICTION

5 ¼ x 8 / 130 pp

Trade Paper \$14.95

978-1-939931-33-7



“Charts the new digital frontier in the human-animal relationship. Gone are the days of an untouched natural world. We have entered wilderness 2.0 ... [An] intriguing book.”

— *The Washington Post*

“Bold and fascinating ... proposing that the Internet—and other digital technology—offers an opportunity to rediscover our animals as more than abstracted images but as autonomous individuals with inherent value. A truly thought-provoking book for animal lovers and technology enthusiasts alike.”

— *Kirkus Reviews*

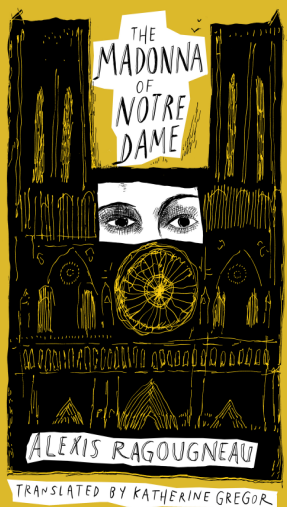
“At last, a convincing explanation for why waldrapps are on Twitter and quolls on Facebook. In beautiful, philosophical prose, Alexander Pschera even explains why cats rule the Internet. The first book that brings nature and technology together with animals as individuals and streams of big data alike.”

— David Rothenberg, author of *Bug Music* and *Survival of the Beautiful*

More than 50,000 creatures around the globe—including whales, leopards, flamingoes, bats and snails—are being equipped with digital tracking devices. The data gathered and studied by major scientific institutes about their behavior will warn us about tsunamis, earthquakes and volcanic eruptions, but also radically transform our relationship to the natural world. With a broad cultural and historical perspective, this book examines human ties with animals, from domestic pets to the soaring popularity of bird watching and kitten images on the web. Will millennia of exploration soon be reduced to experiencing wilderness via smartphone? Contrary to pessimistic fears, author Alexander Pschera sees the Internet as creating a historic opportunity for a new dialogue between man and nature.

Alexander Pschera, born in 1964, has published several books on the Internet and media. He studied German, music and philosophy at Heidelberg University. He lives near Munich where he writes for the German magazine *Cicero* as well as for German radio.

In the wake of the Internet's profound impact on society, an exploration of how a new digital revolution will transform human ties with the natural world.



THE MADONNA OF NOTRE DAME

by Alexis Ragougneau / France • Translated by Katherine Gregor
 FICTION • 5 ¼ x 8 / 200 pp
 Trade Paper \$15.95 • 978-1-939931-3-99

Fifty thousand people jam into Notre Dame Cathedral to celebrate the Feast of the Assumption. The next morning, a beautiful young woman clothed in white kneels at prayer in a cathedral side chapel. But when someone accidentally bumps against her, her body collapses. She has been murdered. This thrilling novel illuminates shadowy corners of the world's most famous cathedral, shedding light on good and evil with suspense, compassion and wry humor.

"A twisted and riveting story ... highly original."
 —*The Toronto Star*

ALEXANDRIAN SUMMER

by Yitzhak Gormezano Goren / Israel • Translated by Yardenne Greenspan
 With an Introduction by André Aciman • FICTION
 5 ¼ x 8 / 170 pp • Trade Paper \$15.99 • 978-1-939931-20-7

This is the story of two Jewish families living their frenzied last days in the doomed cosmopolitan social whirl of Alexandria just before fleeing Egypt for Israel in 1951. The conventions of the Egyptian upper-middle class are laid bare in this dazzling novel, which exposes sexual hypocrisies and portrays a vanished polyglot world of horse racing, seaside promenades and nightclubs.

"Helps show why postwar Alexandria inspires nostalgia and avidity in seemingly everyone who knew it ... The result is what summer reading should be: fast, carefree, visceral, and incipiently lubricious."
 —*The New Yorker*

ALEXANDRIAN SUMMER



THE LAST WEYNFELDT

by Martin Suter / Switzerland • Translated by Steph Morris
 FICTION • 5 ¼ x 8 / 300 pp
 Trade Paper \$14.95 • 978-1-939931-27-6

Adrian Weynfeldt is an art expert in an international auction house, a bachelor in his mid-fifties living in a grand Zurich apartment filled with costly paintings and antiques. Always correct and well-mannered, he's given up on love until one night—entirely out of character for him—Weynfeldt decides to take home a ravishing but unaccountable young woman and gets embroiled in an art forgery scheme that threatens his buttoned-up existence. This refined page-turner moves behind elegant bourgeois facades into darker recesses of the heart.

"Swift, edgy ... What distinguishes this work is the air of slightly faded existential elegance, which sets off the modern setting splendidly ... Great for sophisticated suspense fans."

—*Library Journal* (Starred Review)

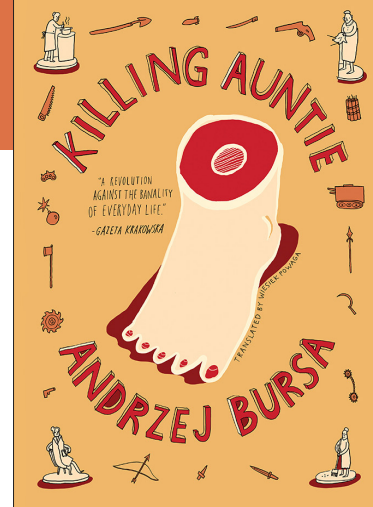
KILLING AUNTIE

by Andrzej Bursa / Poland • Translated by Wiesiek Powaga
 FICTION / Rebel Lit Series • 5 ¼ x 8 / 120 pp
 Trade Paper \$12.99 • 978-1-939931-21-4

A young university student named Jurek, with no particular ambitions or talents, finds himself with nothing to do. After his doting aunt asks the young man to perform a small chore, he decides to kill her for no good reason other than, perhaps, boredom. This short comedic masterpiece combines elements of Dostoevsky, Sartre, Kafka, and Heller, coming together to produce an unforgettable tale of murder and—just maybe—redemption.

"Deliciously wicked ... readers will also find plenty to enjoy (one sequence of unwitting cannibalism is particularly memorable)."

—*Publishers Weekly*

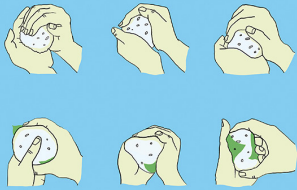


THE LAST WEYNFELDT



I CALLED HIM NECKTIE

MILENA MICHIKO FLAŠAR



TRANSLATED BY SHEILA DICKIE



I CALLED HIM NECKTIE

by Milena Michiko Flašar / Austria • Translated by Sheila Dickie
FICTION • 5 ¼ x 8 / 129 pp • Trade Paper \$15.99
978-1-939931-14-6

Twenty-year-old Taguchi Hiro has spent the last two years of his life living as a hikikomori—a shut-in who never leaves his room and has no human interaction—in his parents' home in Tokyo. As Hiro tentatively decides to reenter the world, he spends his days observing life from a park bench. Gradually he makes friends with Ohara Tetsu, a salaryman who has lost his job. The two discover in their sadness a common bond. This beautiful novel is moving, unforgettable, and full of surprises.

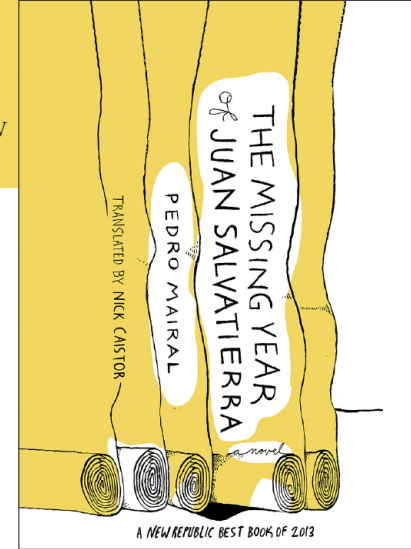
“The best of the best from this year’s bountiful harvest of uncommonly strong offerings ... Deeply original.”
—*O, The Oprah Magazine*

THE MISSING YEAR OF JUAN SALVATIERRA

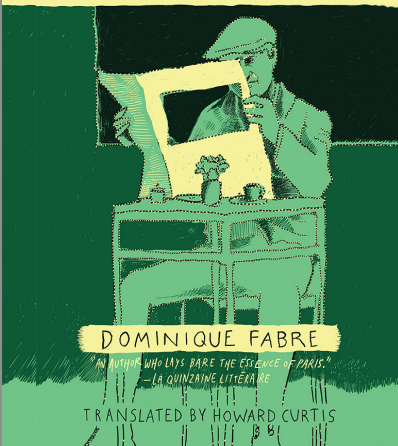
by Pedro Mairal / Argentina • Translated by Nick Caistor • FICTION
5 ¼ x 8 / 118 pp • Trade Paper \$15.49 • 978-1-939931-07-8

At the age of nine, Juan Salvatierra became mute following a horse riding accident. At twenty, he began secretly painting a series of canvases on which he detailed six decades of life in his village on Argentina’s frontier with Uruguay. After his death, his sons return to deal with their inheritance: a shed packed with rolls over two miles long. But an essential roll is missing. A search ensues that illuminates links between art and life, with past family secrets casting their shadows on the present.

“Pedro Mairal isn’t your old college literature professor’s idea of an Argentine novelist.”
—*The Los Angeles Times*



GUYS LIKE ME



GUYS LIKE ME

by Dominique Fabre / France • Translated by Howard Curtis
FICTION • 5 ¼ x 8 / 144 pp
Trade Paper \$15.99 • 978-1-939931-15-3

Dominique Fabre, born in Paris and a life-long resident of the city, exposes the shadowy, anonymous lives of many who inhabit the French capital. In this quiet, subdued tale, a middle-aged office worker, divorced and alienated from his only son, meets up with two childhood friends who are similarly adrift. He’s looking for a second act to his mournful life, seeking the harbor of love and a true connection with his son. Set in palpably real Paris streets that feel miles away from the City of Light, a stirring novel of regret and absence, yet not without a glimmer of hope.

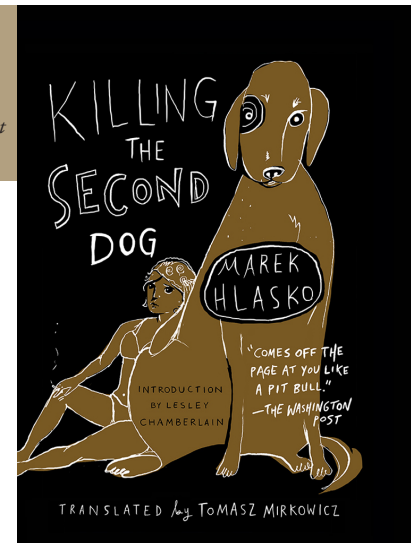
“Fabre’s unexpectedly touching novel has a laugh of its own behind its low-key, smoothly translated narrative voice ... The city it evokes isn’t the Paris of tourists but of local people.”
—*The New York Times*

KILLING THE SECOND DOG

by Marek Hlasko / Poland • Translated by Tomasz Mirkowicz
With an Introduction by Lesley Chamberlain • FICTION / Rebel Lit Series • 5 ¼ x 8 / 138 pp • Trade Paper \$15.99 • 978-1-939931-11-5

Two down-and-out Polish con men living in Israel in the 1950s scam an American widow visiting the country. Robert, who masterminds the scheme, and Jacob, who acts it out, are tough, desperate men, exiled from their native land and adrift in the hot, nasty underworld of Tel Aviv. Robert arranges for Jacob to run into the widow who has enough trouble with her young son to keep her occupied all day. What follows is a story of romance, deception, cruelty and shame. Hlasko’s writing combines brutal realism with smoky, hard-boiled dialogue, in a bleak world where violence is the norm and love is often only an act.

“Hlasko’s story comes off the page at you like a pit bull.”
—*The Washington Post*



Some Day



SHEMI ZARHIN

TRANSLATED BY YARDENNE GREENSPAN

SOME DAY

by Shemi Zarhin / Israel • Translated by Yardenne Greenspan

FICTION • 5 ¼ x 8 / 451 pp

Trade Paper \$16.99 • ISBN 978-1-939931-05-4

On the shores of Israel's Sea of Galilee lies the city of Tiberias, a place bursting with sexuality and longing for love. The air is saturated with smells of cooking and passion. *Some Day* is a gripping family saga, a sensual and emotional feast that plays out over decades. This is an enchanting tale about tragic fates that disrupt families and break our hearts. Zarhin's hypnotic writing renders a painfully delicious vision of individual lives behind Israel's larger national story.

"Ardent, salty, whimsical, steamy, absurd ... A wallop to the reader."

—*Ploughshares*

ON THE RUN WITH MARY

by Jonathan Barrow / England

FICTION • 5 ¼ x 8 / 129 pp

Trade Paper \$14.95 • 978-1-939931-24-5

Shining moments of tender beauty punctuate this story of a youth on the run after escaping from an elite English boarding school. At London's Euston Station, the narrator meets a talking dachshund named Mary and together they're off on escapades through posh Mayfair streets and jaunts in a Rolls-Royce. But the youth soon realizes that the seemingly sweet dog is a handful; an alcoholic, nymphomaniac, drug-addicted mess who can't stay out of pubs or off the dance floor. *On the Run with Mary* mirrors the horrors and the joys of the terrible 20th century.

"A masterpiece by a young genius, fated to die shortly after he had completed it."

—*A.N. Wilson, author of Victoria: A Life*

ON THE RUN WITH MARY



JONATHAN BARROW



COCAINE

by Pitigrilli / Italy • Translated by Eric Mosbacher

With an Afterword by Alexander Stille • FICTION

5 ¼ x 8 / 258 pp • Trade Paper \$16.49 • 978-1-939931-09-2

Paris in the 1920s—dizzy and decadent. Where a young man can make a fortune with his wits ... unless he is led into temptation. Cocaine's dandified hero Tito Arnaudi invents lurid scandals and gruesome deaths, and sells these stories to the newspapers. But his own life becomes even more outrageous when he acquires three demanding mistresses. Elegant, witty and wicked, Pitigrilli's classic novel was first published in Italian in 1921 and retains its venom even today.

"Pitigrilli was an enjoyable writer—spicy and rapid—like lightning."

—*Umberto Eco*

THE GOOD LIFE ELSEWHERE

by Vladimir Lorchenkov / Moldova • Translated by Ross Ufberg

FICTION • 5 ¼ x 8 / 204 pp

Trade Paper \$14.99 • ISBN 978-1-939931-01-6

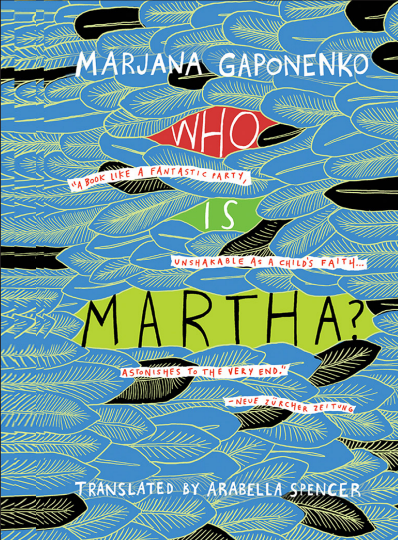
The very funny—and very sad—story of a group of villagers and their tragicomic efforts to emigrate from Europe's most impoverished nation to Italy for work. An Orthodox priest is deserted by his wife for an art-dealing atheist; a mechanic redesigns his tractor for travel by air and sea; and thousands of villagers take to the road on a modern-day religious crusade to make it to the Italian Promised Land. A country where 25 percent of its population works abroad, remittances make up nearly 40 percent of GDP, and alcohol consumption per capita is the world's highest – Moldova surely has its problems. But, as Lorchenkov vividly shows, it's also a country whose residents don't give up easily.

"Outstanding ... darkly hilarious."

—*The Wall Street Journal*



VLADIMIR LORCHENKOV
TRANSLATED BY ROSS UFBERG

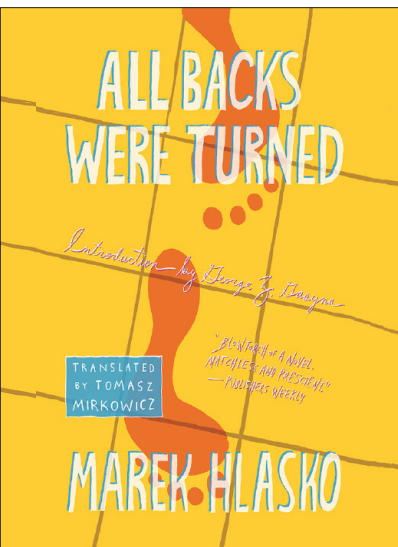


WHO IS MARTHA?

by Marjana Gaponenko / Germany • Translated by Arabella Spencer
FICTION • 5 ¼ x 8 / 230 pp
Trade Paper \$16.99 • 978-1-939931-13-9

In this rollicking novel, 96-year-old ornithologist Luka Levadski foregoes treatment for lung cancer and moves from Ukraine to Vienna to make a grand exit in a luxury suite at the Hotel Imperial. He reflects on his past while indulging in Viennese cakes and savoring music in a gilded concert hall. Levadski was born in 1914, the same year that Martha—the last of the now-extinct passenger pigeons—died. Levadski himself has an acute sense of being the last of a species. This gloriously written tale mixes piquant wit with lofty musings about life, friendship, aging and death.

“Hilarious, beautiful and compassionate ... exquisitely rendered.”
—*World Literature Today*



ALL BACKS WERE TURNED

by Marek Hlasko / Poland • Translated by Tomasz Mirkowicz
With an Introduction by George Z. Gasyina
FICTION / Rebel Lit Series • 5 ¼ x 8 / 150 pp
Trade Paper \$15.99 • 978-1-939931-12-2

Two desperate friends—on the edge of the law—travel to the southern Israeli city of Eilat to find work. There, Dov Ben Dov, the handsome native Israeli with a reputation for causing trouble, and Israel, his sidekick, stay with Ben Dov’s younger brother, Little Dov, who has enough trouble of his own. Local toughs are encroaching on Little Dov’s business, and he enlists his older brother to drive them away. It doesn’t help that a beautiful German widow is rooming next door. A story of passion, deception, violence, and betrayal, conveyed in hard-boiled prose reminiscent of Hammett and Chandler.

“Blowtorch of a novel ... matchless and prescient.”
—*Publishers Weekly*

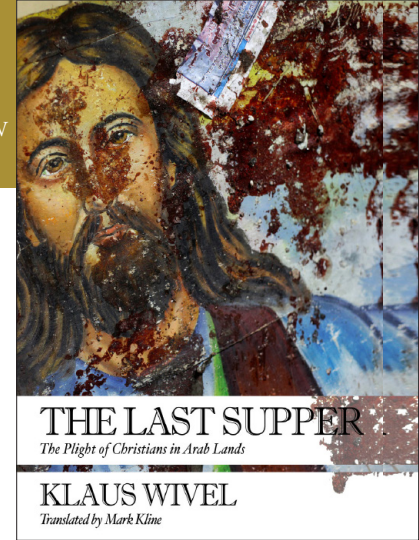
THE LAST SUPPER

The Plight of Christians in Arab Lands

by Klaus Wivel / Denmark • Translated by Mark Kline • NONFICTION
5 ¼ x 8 / 250 pp • Trade Paper \$16.95 • 978-1-939931-34-4

Alarmed by the oppression of 7.5 million Christians in the Middle East, journalist Klaus Wivel traveled to Iraq, Lebanon, Egypt, and the Palestinian territories to learn about their fate. He found a minority under threat of death and humiliation, desperate in the face of rising Islamic extremism and without hope their situation will improve. An unsettling account of a severely beleaguered religious group living, so it seems, on borrowed time. Wivel asks, Why have we not done more to protect these people?

“Deeply intelligent.”
—*Former Archbishop of Canterbury*



FANNY VON ARNSTEIN

Daughter of the Enlightenment

by Hilde Spiel / Austria • Translated by Christine Shuttleworth
With an Introduction by Michael Z. Wise • BIOGRAPHY
6 x 9 / 347 pp • Trade Paper \$18.99

In 1776 Fanny von Arnstein, the daughter of the Jewish master of the royal mint in Berlin, came to Vienna as an 18-year-old bride. She married a financier to the Austro-Hungarian imperial court, and hosted an ever more splendid salon which attracted luminaries of the day. Spiel’s elegantly written and carefully researched biography provides a vivid portrait of a passionate woman who advocated for the rights of Jews, and illuminates a central era in European cultural and social history.

“An elegant edition ... fascinating ... We must be grateful to have this biography.”
—*The Jewish Review of Books*





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