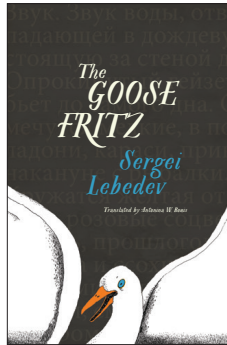
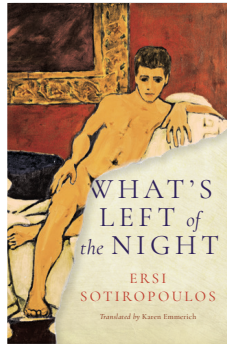
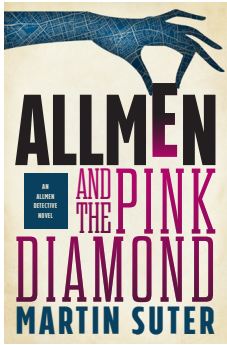




*New Vessel Press 2018–19*



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 2018-19 offerings will continue to make their mark and look forward to bringing the world's great literature to ever more readers.

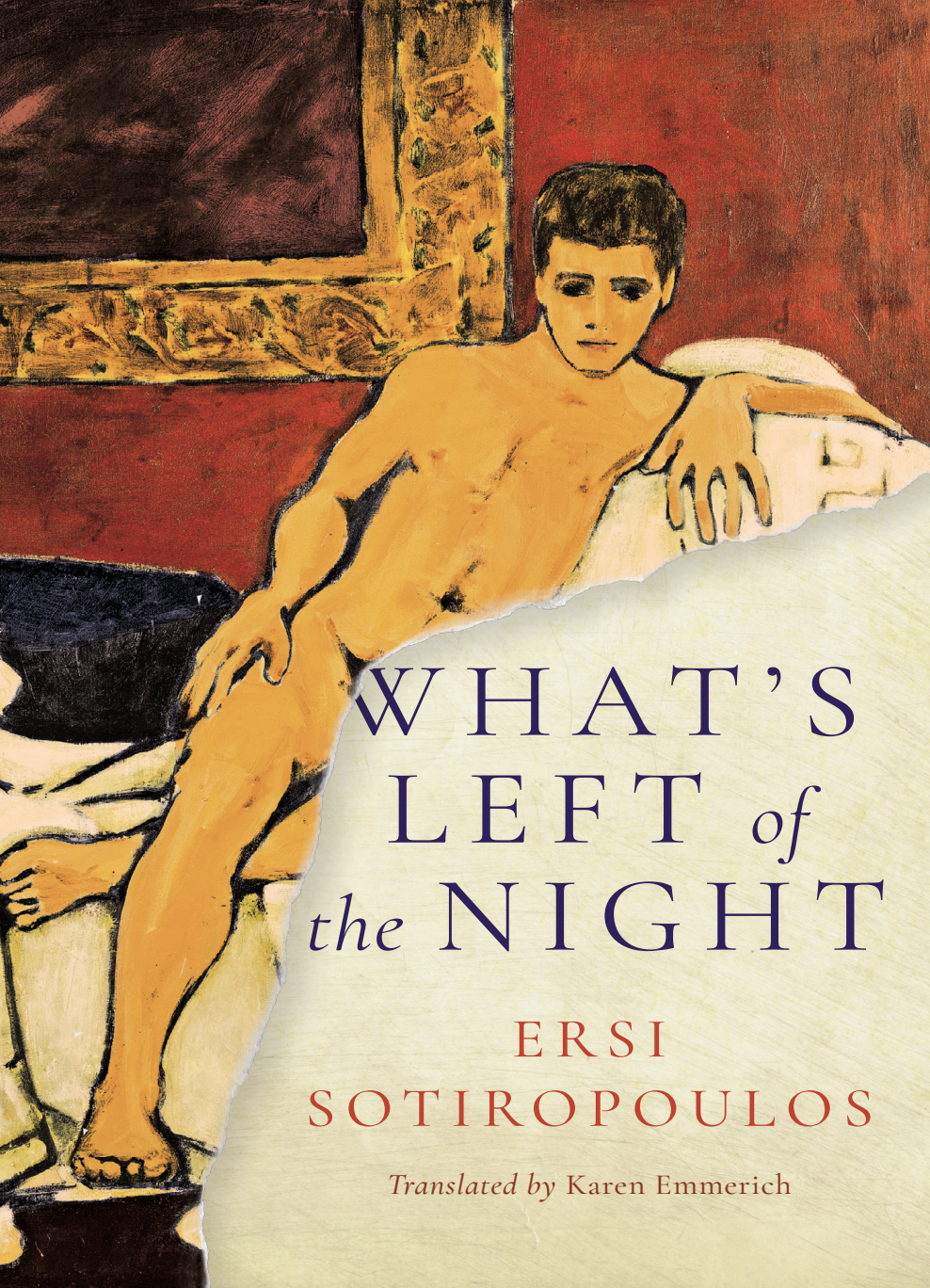


New Vessel Press

[www.newvesselpress.com](http://www.newvesselpress.com)

[info@newvesselpress.com](mailto:info@newvesselpress.com)





## WHAT'S LEFT OF THE NIGHT

By Ersi Sotiropoulos / Greece

Translated by Karen Emmerich

FICTION

October 2018

5 ¼ x 8 / 290 pp

Trade Paper \$16.95

978-1-939931-61-0



"You can read this beautiful book by Ersi Sotiropoulos as an account of three key days in the life of Constantine Cavafy ... but you can also see it on a more metaphorical level. That of a reflection about art. How is it born? Where does it come from?"

—*Le Monde*

"Sotiropoulos fathoms with acuity the birth of her hero's unique voice ... She suggests that the gloomy darkness of real life is often the breeding ground of a great oeuvre."

—*Le Magazine littéraire*

"Sensual, carnal and profound, this novel manages to render through its own rhythm the scansion of Greek verse, thereby transporting us along on the wanderings of one of the greatest poets in the history of world literature. Not to be missed."

—*Les Chroniques culturelles*

In June 1897, the young Constantine Cavafy arrives in Paris on the last stop of a long European tour, a trip that will deeply shape his future. With this lyrical novel, tinged with an hallucinatory eroticism, celebrated Greek author Ersi Sotiropoulos depicts Cavafy in the midst of a journey of self-discovery across a continent on the brink of massive change. He is by turns exhilarated and tormented by his homosexuality; the Greek-Turkish War has ended in Greece's defeat and humiliation; France is torn by the Dreyfus Affair, and Cavafy's native Alexandria has surrendered to the indolent rhythms of the East. A stunning portrait of a budding author—before he became C.P. Cavafy, one of the 20th century's greatest poets—that illuminates the complex relationship of art, life, and the erotic desires that trigger creativity.

**Ersi Sotiropoulos** has written ten works of fiction and a book of poetry. Her *Zigzag through the Bitter Orange Trees* was the first novel ever to win both the Greek national prize for literature and Greece's preeminent book critics' award. Sotiropoulos lives in Athens.

*A spellbinding novel based on the visit to Paris by C.P. Cavafy, one of the twentieth century's greatest poets, filled with lyrical observations and infused with erotic desire.*





# ALLMEN

AN  
ALLMEN  
DETECTIVE  
NOVEL

AND  
THE PINK

DIAMOND

MARTIN SUTER

## ALLMEN AND THE PINK DIAMOND

By Martin Suter / Switzerland

Translated by Steph Morris

FICTION

January 2019

5 ¼ x 8 / 180 pp

Trade Paper \$16.95

978-1-939931-63-4



“In the honorable vein of elegant, gentleman thieves, comes Allmen.”

—Noah Charney, author of *The Art Thief* and *The Art of Forgery*

“Fritz von Allmen [is] an unapologetically profligate bon vivant and petty thief ... all with the aplomb of a slightly more self-aware Bertie Wooster. Martin Suter is a terrific writer.”

—Jonathan Rabb, author of *Among the Living* and *Rosa*

“Allmen is a protagonist of impeccable taste and dubious morality ... He is also excellent company, and the dark charms of Suter’s novel are irresistible from the first pages.”

—Joshua Max Feldman, author of *The Book of Jonah* and *Start Without Me*

An unimaginably valuable pink diamond has gone missing and a mysterious Russian residing in Switzerland is suspected of having made off with the treasured jewel. But the investigative duo of Johann Friedrich von Allmen and his Guatemalan butler Carlos are on the case. Their search leads from London through Zurich to a grand hotel on the Baltic coast. Amorous adventures and diverting mishaps litter the path through a world of European high culture and luxury. This is the second in a series of fast-paced detective novels devoted to a memorable gentleman thief who, with his trusted sidekick, runs an international detective agency to recover stolen precious objects. New Vessel Press published the first in the series, *Allmen and the Dragonflies*, in May 2018.

**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 thirty-two languages. Suter lives with his family in Zurich.

**Also available from Martin Suter**

*Allmen and the Dragonflies* 978-1-939931-57-3

*The Last Weynfeldt* 978-1-939931-27-6

*The second in a fast-paced series centered on a memorable gentleman thief, his butler and their madcap adventures and mishaps in a world of European high life.*





## **A VERY ITALIAN CHRISTMAS** *The Greatest Italian Holiday Stories of All Time*

Italy

FICTION

September 2018

7 x 10 / 150 pp

Paper over Board \$22.95

978-1-939931-62-7



**Giovanni Boccaccio, Luigi Pirandello, Anna Maria Ortese,  
Grazia Deledda, Natalia Ginzburg and Others**

The third in the very popular Very Christmas series, this volume brings together the best Italian Christmas stories of all time in an elegant and vibrant collection featuring classic tales and contemporary works. With writing that dates from the Renaissance to the present day, from Boccaccio to Pirandello, as well as Anna Maria Ortese, Natalia Ginzburg and Nobel laureate Grazia Deledda, this choice selection delights and intrigues. These literary gems are filled with ancient churches, trains whistling through the countryside, steaming tureens, plates piled high with pasta, High Mass, dashed hopes, golden crucifixes, flowing wine, shimmering gifts and plenty of style. Like everything the Italians do, this is Christmas with its very own verve and flair, the perfect literary complement to a *Buon Natale italiano*.

### **Also Available**

*A Very French Christmas* 978-1-939931-50-4

*A Very Russian Christmas* 978-1-939931-43-6

*A continuation of the very popular Very Christmas story collection series which, like everything the Italians do, overflows with its own verve and flair.*

# The GOOSE FRITZ

Sergei  
Lebedev

Translated by Antonina W. Bouis

## THE GOOSE FRITZ

By Sergei Lebedev / Russia

Translated by Antonina W. Bouis

FICTION

March 2019

5 ¼ x 8 / 280 pp

Hardcover \$26.95

978-1-939931-64-1



“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 for Literature

This revelatory novel shows why Karl Ove Knausgaard has likened its celebrated Russian author to an “indomitable ... animal that won’t let go of something when it gets its teeth into it.” The book tells the story of a young Russian man named Kirill, the sole survivor of a once numerous clan of German origin, who delves relentlessly into the unresolved past. His ancestor, Balthasar Schwerdt, son of a prominent surgeon, migrated to the Russian Empire in the 1830s, where he practiced alternative medicine, landing in the court of Catherine the Great. Schwerdt became captive to an erratic nobleman who supplied midguts, hunchbacks from Africa, and magicians to entertain the empress. Kirill’s investigation takes us through centuries of turmoil during which none of the German’s nine children or their descendants can break free from their adoptive country’s cruel fate. Intent on uncovering mystery upon mystery, Kirill searches archives and cemeteries across Europe, while pressing witnesses for keys to understanding. *The Goose Fritz* illuminates both personal and political history in a passion-filled family saga about a difficult and often confounding country that has long fascinated the world.

**Sergei Lebedev** was born in Moscow in 1981 and is a novelist, essayist and journalist. *Oblivion*, his first novel, has been translated into many languages and was named one of the ten best novels of 2016 by *The Wall Street Journal*. Lebedev’s second novel, *The Year of the Comet*, has also received considerable acclaim.

**Also available from Sergei Lebedev**

*Oblivion* 978-1-939931-25-2

*The Year of the Comet* 978-1-939931-41-2

*A novel like an enchanting train ride that takes us deep into Russian history and national identity through the saga of one exceptional family.*



# Sleepless Night

Margriet de Moor

## **SLEEPLESS NIGHT**

By Margriet de Moor / The Netherlands

Translated by David Doherty

FICTION

May 2019

5 ¼ x 8 / 120 pp

Trade Paper \$16.95

978-1-939931-69-6



Photo © John Foley/OpaleLemage

“The charm of Margriet de Moor’s book is due to a combination of sensuality and reflection, as well as a musical language of great beauty that explores the meanderings of the human soul with rare clarity.”

—*Le Figaro*

“Carefully narrated, cleverly constructed and fascinating in its psychological finesse.”

—*Frankfurter Rundschau*

PRaise for Margriet de Moor’s other work:

“An astute sense of musical form as a way of organizing narrative, and a wonderful sense of passion ... there is life and love and hurt on every page.”

—*The New York Times*

A woman gets up in the middle of a wintry night and starts baking a cake while her lover sleeps upstairs. When it’s time for her to take the cake out of the oven, we have read a story of romance and death. The narrator of this novel was widowed years ago and is trying to find new passion. But the memory of her deceased husband and a shameful incident still holds her in its grasp. Why did he do it? Margriet de Moor, the grande dame of Dutch literature, tells a gripping love story about endings and demise, rage and jealousy, knowledge and ambiguity—and the possibility of new beginnings.

**Margriet de Moor** had a career as a classical singer before making her fiction debut in 1988. She has written many novels including *The Virtuoso*, *The Kreuzer Sonata*, *The Storm* and *The Duke of Egypt*. Her work has been translated into twenty-four languages.

*The grande dame of Dutch literature recounts a story of romance  
and death punctuated by a midnight baking ritual.*



## EXPOSED

By Jean-Philippe Blondel / France

Translated by Alison Anderson

FICTION

June 2019

5 ¼ x 8 / 200 pp

Trade Paper \$16.95

978-1-939931-67-2



“What makes Jean-Philippe Blondel’s universe so precious is above all its muffled nostalgia and delightful charm.”

—*Le Figaro*

“The magic of this intimate novel ... plunges into the depths of the heart of its two heroes; one seizing the ‘essence of the other’ who agrees to put himself in absolute danger with a sort of perverse pleasure.”

—*Livres Hebdo*

“Blondel writes superbly.”

—*Le Monde*

A French teacher on the verge of retirement is invited to a glittering opening that showcases the artwork of his former student, who has since become a celebrated painter. This unexpected encounter leads to the older man posing for his portrait. Possibly in the nude. Such personal exposure at close range entails a strange and troubling pact between artist and sitter that prompts both to reevaluate their lives. Blondel, author of the hugely popular novel *The 6:41 to Paris*, evokes an intimacy of dangerous intensity in a tale marked by profound nostalgia and a reckoning with the past that allows its protagonists to move ahead into the future.

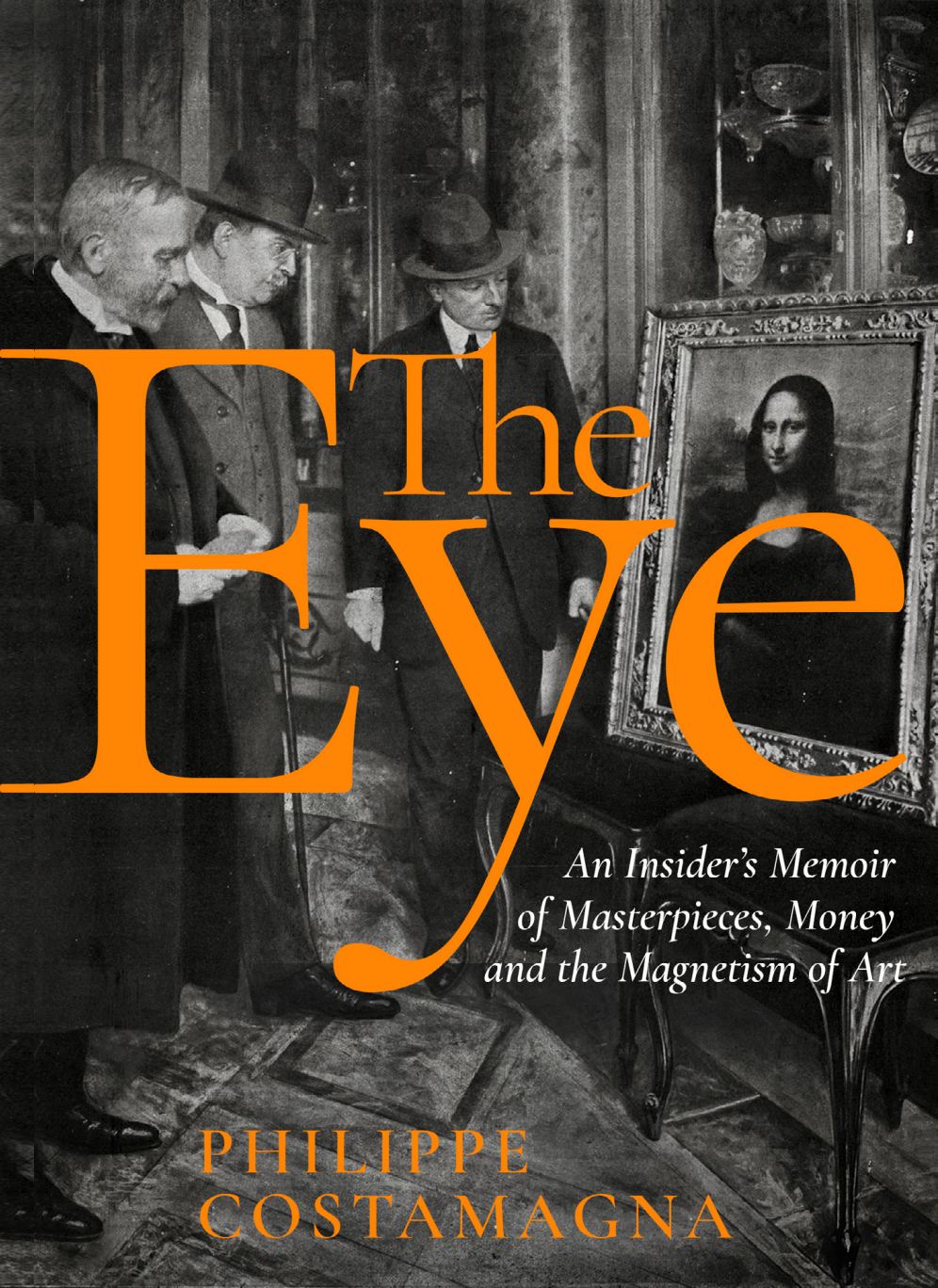
**Jean-Philippe Blondel** was born in 1964 in Troyes, France where he lives as an author and English teacher. His novel *The 6:41 to Paris* has been acclaimed in the United States and across Europe.

**Also available by Jean-Philippe Blondel**

*The 6:41 to Paris* 978-1-939931-26-9

*A dangerous intimacy emerges between a French teacher and a former student who has achieved art world celebrity; the painting of a portrait upturns both their lives.*





## THE EYE

*An Insider's Memoir of Masterpieces, Money and the Magnetism of Art*

By Philippe Costamagna / France

Translated by Frank Wynne

NONFICTION

August 2018

6 x 9 / 270 pp

Hardcover \$26.95

978-1-939931-58-0



"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.*

PHILIPPE  
COSTAMAGNA



# 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

5 ¼ x 8 / 200 pp

Trade Paper \$16.95

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 is a writer of exceptional prowess and force. The stories collected in this volume, which reverberate with Chekhovian energy and melancholy, are revered in Italy by writers and readers alike. Ann Goldstein and Jenny McPhee reward us with a fresh and scrupulous translation."

—Jhumpa Lahiri, author of *The Lowland* and *In Other Words*

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.*





# *If Venice Dies*

## *Salvatore Settis*

*Translated by André Naffis-Sabely*

"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*

### **IF VENICE DIES**

*By Salvatore Settis*

*Translated by André Naffis-Sabely*

**NONFICTION**

5 ¼ x 8 / 180 pp

Trade Paper \$16.95

978-1-939931-3-75



"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*

"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*

"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

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 Pearl 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 the world's greatest architectural treasures.*



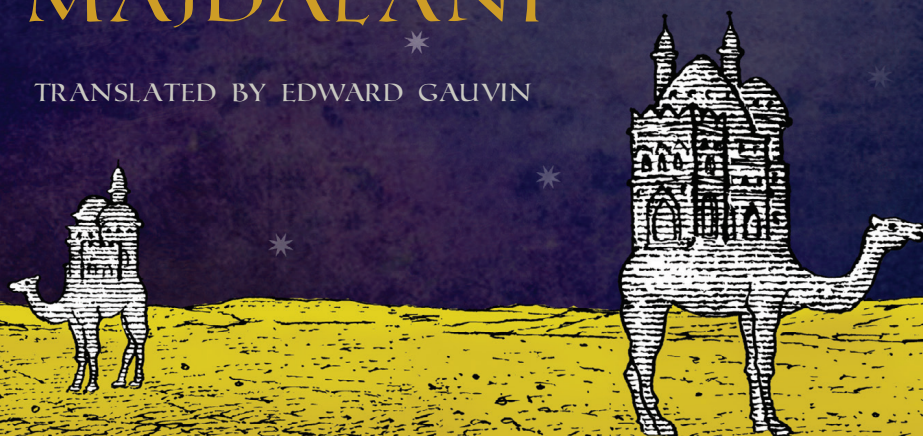
"Transporting, wholly engaging, deeply moving.  
This book is why I travel and why I read."

—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

Translated by Edward Gauvin

FICTION

5 ¼ x 8 / 200 pp

Trade Paper \$16.95

978-1-939931-46-7



"A Middle Eastern heart-of-darkness tale that flows like a dream, occasionally turning nightmarish, but is always rendered with a hypnotic quality beautifully captured in Edward Gauvin's elegant translation ... Majdalani's novels are much praised in the Francophone world, and with good reason. His seductive prose twists and turns, deftly matching hallucinatory content with form."

— *The New York Times Sunday Book Review*

"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*

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 Francois-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.*



# • The 6:41 to PARIS •

JEAN-PHILIPPE  
BLONDEL

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



TRANSLATED BY  
ALISON ANDERSON



## THE 6:41 TO PARIS

by Jean-Philippe Blondel / France

Translated by Alison 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.*

# OBLIVION

SERGEI LEBEDEV

TRANSLATED BY ANTONINA W. BOUIS

## OBLIVION

by Sergei Lebedev / Russia

Translated by Antonina W. Bouis

FICTION

5 1/4 x 8 / 290 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)

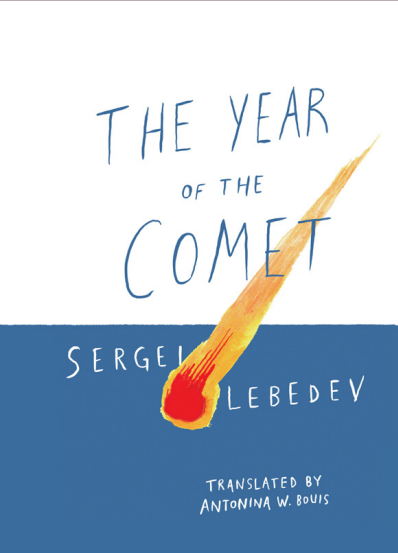
### A *Wall Street Journal* Best Book of the Year

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 novelist, 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.*



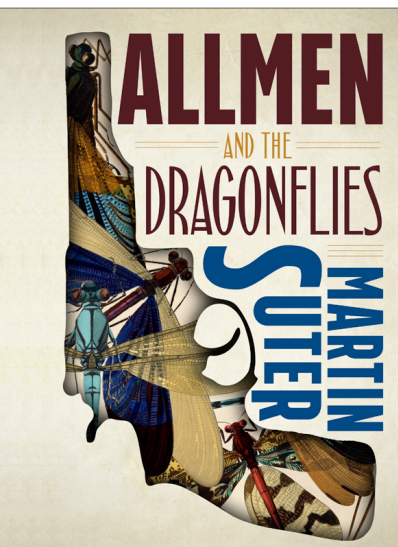


## THE YEAR OF THE COMET

By Sergei Lebedev / Russia • Translated by Antonina W. Bouis  
FICTION • 5 ¼ x 8 / 275 pages  
Trade Paper \$16.95 • 978-1-939931-41-2

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. Sergei 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.

“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*



## ALLMEN AND THE DRAGONFLIES

By Martin Suter / Switzerland • Translated by Steph Morris  
FICTION • 5 ¼ x 8 / 195 pp  
Trade Paper \$16.95 • 978-1-939931-57-3

A thrilling art heist escapade infused with European high culture and luxury that doesn’t shy away from the darker side of human nature. 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.

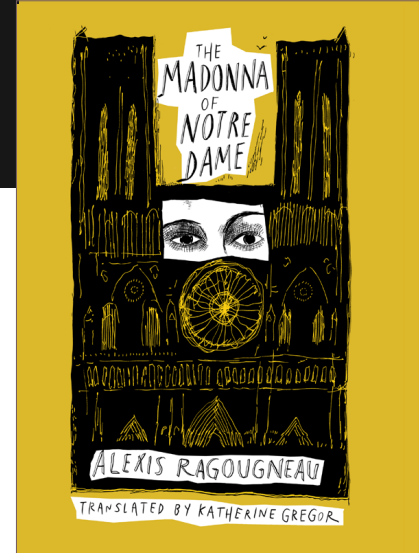
“In the honorable vein of elegant, gentleman thieves, comes *Allmen*, the colorful protagonist of Suter’s beautifully observed, deliciously fun novel, which draws the reader along through a brightly glazed world, disguising a loving character study in the packaging of an art heist.”  
— Noah Charney,  
author of *The Art Thief* and *The Art of Forgery*

## 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*

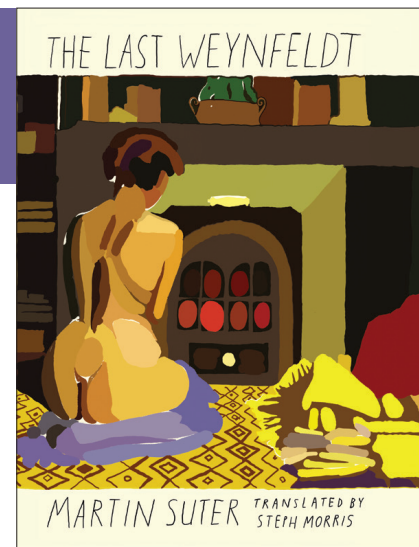


## THE LAST WEYNFELDT

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)





## A VERY RUSSIAN CHRISTMAS

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 Russian Christmas celebrated in supreme pleasure and pain by the greatest of writers, including Dostoevsky, Chekhov, Tolstoy and Teffi. There is no shortage of vodka or wit on display in this volume packed with sentimental songs, footmen, whirling winds, solitary nights, snow drifts, and hopeful children.

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

## A VERY FRENCH CHRISTMAS

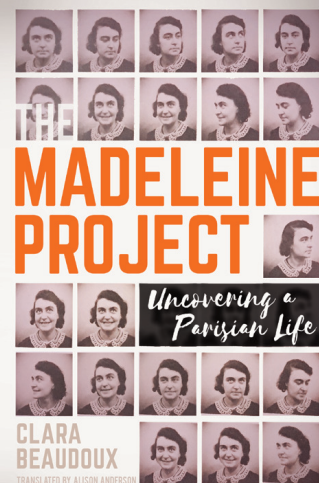
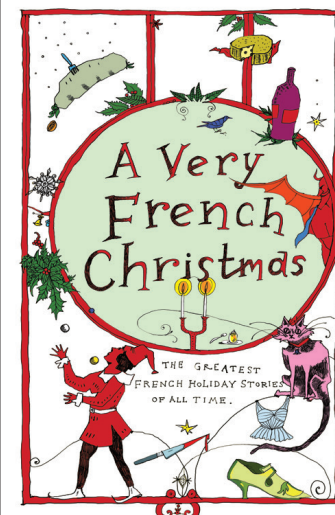
France • FICTION

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 is 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, oysters, bonbons, flickering desire, and more than a little wine, this collection encapsulates the holiday spirit and proves that the French have mastered Christmas.

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



## THE MADELEINE PROJECT

By Clara Beaudoux / France • Translated by Alison Anderson

NONFICTION • 5 ½ x 8 ½ / 285 pp

Trade Paper with Color Photographs \$23.95 • 978-1-939931-49-8

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.

"This extraordinary little book touched me deeply. Part graphic novel, part literary archeology, the author slowly unpacks a dusty cellar, and brings her subject to life ... Who would have guessed Twitter could be so poetic."

— Elizabeth Bard, author of *Lunch in Paris*

## ADUA

By Igiaba Scego • Translated by Jamie Richards

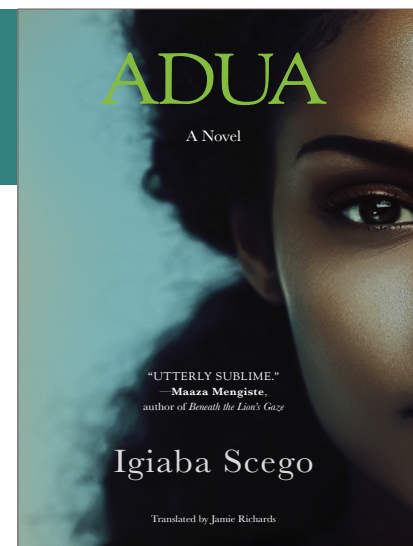
FICTION • 5 ¼ x 8 / 185 pp

Trade Paper \$16.95 • 978-1939931-45-0

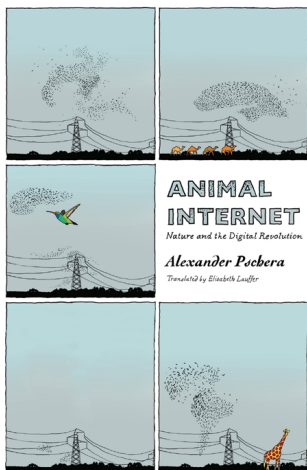
Adua, an immigrant from Somalia to Italy, has lived in Rome for nearly forty years. She came to escape a strict father and an oppressive regime, but her hopes of becoming a film star ended in shame. Now that the civil war in Somalia is over, her homeland beckons. A searing novel about a young immigrant woman's dream of freedom and the bittersweet legacies of her past.

"The Italian-born daughter of Somali parents, Scego ... writes with forthright simplicity and unblinking honesty ... Bearing witness through fiction, Scego's 'Adua' gives urgent voice to the silent caught between shifting loyalties, abusive power, and nations at war."

— *The Christian Science Monitor*





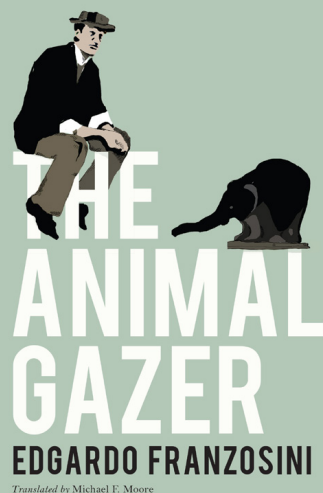


## ANIMAL INTERNET

By Alexander Pschera / Germany • Translated by Elisabeth Lauffer  
NONFICTION • 5 1/4 x 8 / 209 pp  
Trade Paper \$14.95 • 978-1939931-33-7

A bestial Brave New World is on the horizon: Tens of thousands of creatures around the globe—including whales, leopards, flamingoes, bats, and snails—are being equipped with digital tracking devices. The data about their behavior will warn us about tsunamis and earthquakes, but also radically transform our relationship to the natural world. Contrary to pessimistic fears, author Alexander Pschera sees the Internet as creating a historic opportunity for a new dialogue between man and nature.

“Charts the new digital frontier in the human-animal relationship ... [An] intriguing book.”  
—*The Washington Post*



## THE ANIMAL GAZER

By Edgardo Franzosini / Italy • Translated by Michael F. Moore  
FICTION • 5 1/4 x 8 / 128 pp  
Trade Paper \$16.95 • 978-1-939931-52-8

A hypnotic novel inspired by the strange and fascinating life of sculptor Rembrandt Bugatti, brother of the fabled automaker. Bugatti becomes increasingly obsessed with zoo animals as he and Europe teetered on brink of World War I. He obsessively observes and sculpts the baboons, giraffes and panthers in the zoos of Paris and Antwerp, finding empathy with their plight, identifying with their life in captivity. Edgardo Franzosini recreates the young artist's life with intense lyricism, passion and sensitivity.

“Sparkling ... The tone is mellifluous throughout ... Multi-award-winning Italian author Franzosini's English-language debut is an irresistible, elegantly conceived example of biographical fiction.”  
—*Library Journal*

## ALEXANDRIAN SUMMER

by Yitzhak Gornetzano Goren / Israel • Translated by Yardenne Greenspan  
With an Introduction by André Aciman • FICTION  
5 1/4 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*

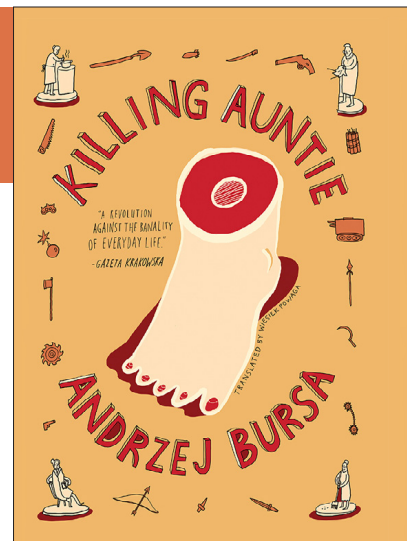


## KILLING AUNTIE

by Andrzej Bursa / Poland • Translated by Wiesiek Powaga  
FICTION / Rebel Lit Series • 5 1/4 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*



## 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 1/4 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.

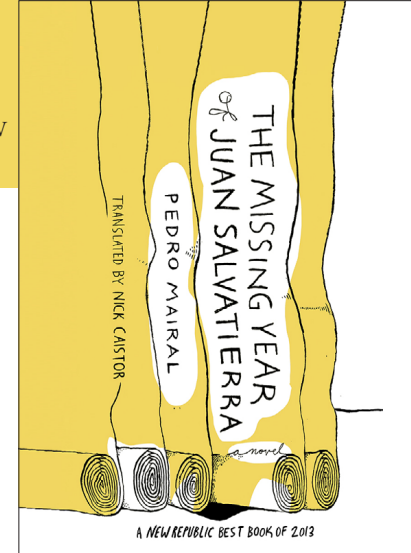
"The best of the best from this year's bountiful harvest of uncommonly strong offerings ... Deeply original."  
—*O, The Oprah Magazine*

## THE MISSING YEAR OF JUAN SALVATIERRA

by Pedro Mairal / Argentina • Translated by Nick Caistor • FICTION  
5 1/4 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 1/4 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.

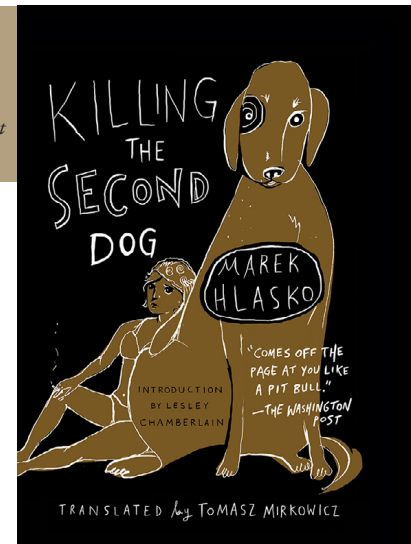
"Fabre's unexpectedly touching novel has a laugh of its own behind its low-key, smoothly translated narrative voice ... The city it evokes isn't the Paris of tourists but of local people."  
—*The New York Times*

## KILLING THE SECOND DOG

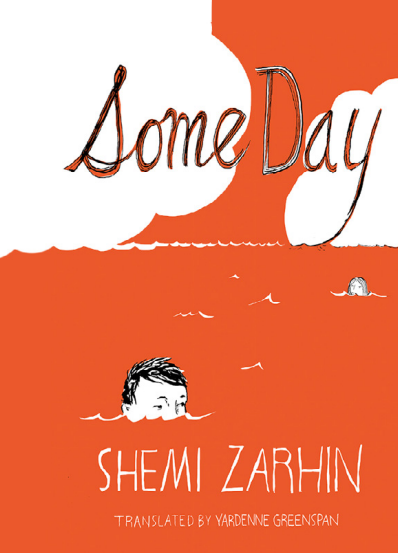
by Marek Hlasko / Poland • Translated by Tomasz Mirkowicz  
With an Introduction by Lesley Chamberlain • FICTION / Rebel Lit  
Series • 5 1/4 x 8 / 138 pp • Trade Paper \$15.99 • 978-1-939931-11-5

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

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*



## 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*

## 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*

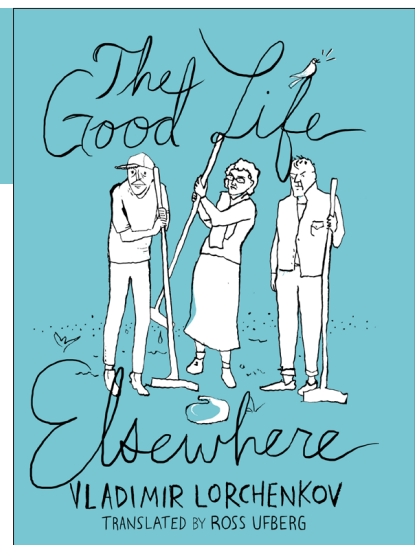


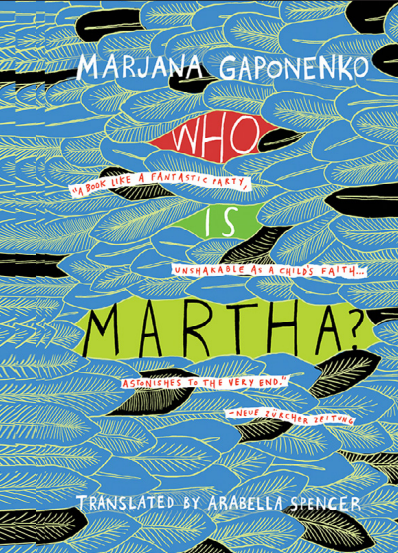
## THE GOOD LIFE ELSEWHERE

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*



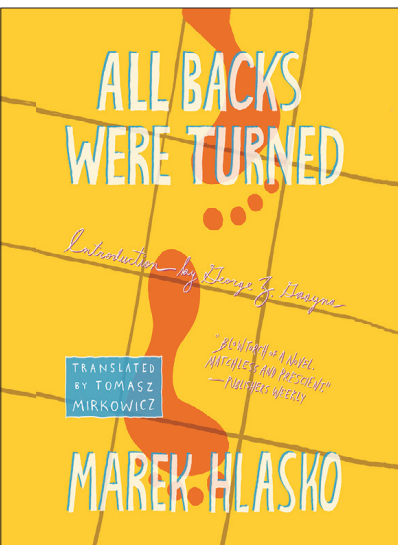


## WHO IS MARTHA?

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*

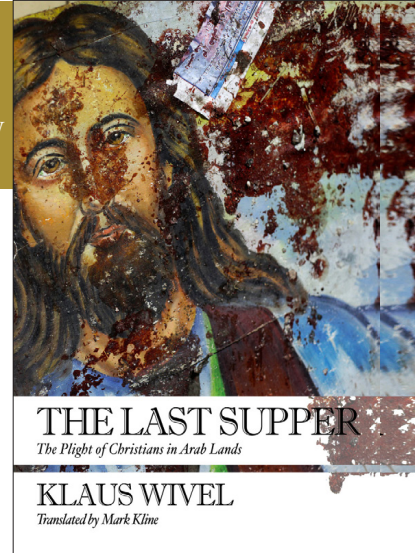
## THE LAST SUPPER

*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*



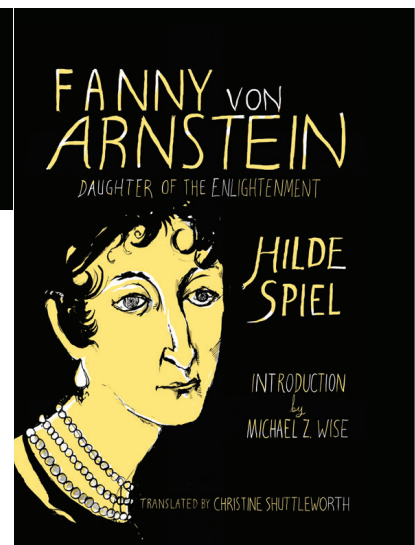
## FANNY VON ARNSTEIN

*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*







***NEW VESSEL PRESS BOOKS***

***Are distributed to the trade by***

**Consortium Book Sales & Distribution**

**34 Thirteenth Avenue NE, Suite 101**

**Minneapolis, MN 55413-1007**

**(866) 400-5351**

**[orders@ingrampublisherservices.com](mailto:orders@ingrampublisherservices.com)**

Covers by Beth Steidle and Liana Finck

Catalogue by Beth Steidle