



FALL LIST 2021

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NINA BOURAOUI

Satisfaction

288 pages - August 2021

A captivating, sensual, poetic novel that combines Nina Bouraoui's literary obsessions : the end of childhood, tumultuous love and insane desire.

For the love of her husband Brahim, Madame Akli settles in Algiers after the war for independence. Together with their son, they live in a house in the city heights: it is there that her identical days flow into weeks, there where she spends hours in her garden taking care of her flowers, there where she waits the return of her husband from his paper factory and her son from school.

In a diary, she writes what she can't say to anyone: that she is no longer the freshly arrived young woman full of love and dreams, that maybe she chose the wrong life, that she finds herself hoping for, and fearing, an encounter, a revolution, that she dreams of escaping or becoming someone else. What holds her back is the love she has for her son and for the countryside of this chosen place: the cliffs, the fiery mountains, the sea, the desert... A natural beauty so poetic that it affects people like a magnetic wave.

Like the terrifying war that is secretly brewing at the end of the seventies, everything is hidden, suspended. Until the day she meets Bruce and Catherine and Madame Akli allows herself to be swept away.

LITERATURE

NINA BOURAOUI
Satisfaction

roman



Listed for Médicis and Fémina Awards
Already 30,000 cps!
Sold in Germany & Sweden
Option in Spain & Italy

“

Nina Bouraoui's dense, swirling, almost incantatory writing captures the reader with its stunning dialogue, creating one of her most fascinating female voices yet. LIRE

Enchanting! VERSION FEMINA

Magnificent and powerful. LE PARISIEN

”

Born in 1967, Nina Bouraoui is a novelist. She received critical acclaim for her books *La voyeuse interdite* (Livre Inter award 1991), *Mes mauvaises pensées* (Prix Renaudot 2005) and more recently, *Tous les hommes désirent naturellement savoir* (Lattès, 2018) and *Otages*, (Lattès, 2020, Anaïs Nin Award, 40,000 copies).



The Woman and the Bird

396 pages - August 2021



Winner of the Feuille d'Or Award
Listed for Prix du Roman
FNAC 2021

Secrets, mistakes and Nature's powerful mystique are at the heart of this enchanting novel.

"It is impossible to have been a «Malgré-Nous»* and not being it any longer. That is the first secret. Once you are one, you are one forever. There are those that know and those who choose not to know. That is the second secret. (...). The third secret, is that those we love the most are always the furthest away. The more we love them, the more foreign they are to us. Whether the distance is in years, in generations, in thousands of kilometers, whether it separates a man and a woman, a mother and child or the dead from the living, this is a distance that only the falcon knows, it is the exact distance that separates our true self from the uniform, even if we take it off. And yet, sometimes we can get very close."

When her daughter, Vina, is suspended from high-school for threatening another student, Elisabeth decides to regroup with her daughter in Alsace at her Great-Uncle Thomas' home. There, at the edge of the forest, the three of them watch and learn about each other. All three are malgré-nous, trapped in a fight they did not choose: Thomas, who was forced to join the war on the Eastern front; Elisabeth who lives only for her daughter and her job; and Vina, an adolescent overcome by a violence she doesn't understand.

The young girl soon becomes fascinated by this great-uncle who communicates with birds and seems to read minds. These gifts, Thomas acquired them during the war when he had to learn to survive in the ranks of the German army, and then as a prisoner of war in Tambov and it was there where he met the falcon for the first time.

* The term Malgré-nous (French: «against our will») refers to some men of the Alsace-Moselle region who were conscripted into the German Wehrmacht or the Waffen-SS during the Second World War against their will.

“

The author knows perfectly how to make the hidden spirituality of objects, humans or animals appear by magic. It's all here, you need only look.

PSYCHOLOGIES MAGAZINE

”

Admirably balanced and beautiful. LIVRES HEBDO



© Patrice Normand

Isabelle Sorente is the author of several acclaimed novels, among which, *180 jours*, *La Faille* et *Le complexe de la sorcière*. She animates a radio chronicle for France Inter and regularly contributes to *Philosophie Magazine*.

VALÉRIE TONG CONG

A Shard of Eternity

300 pages - August 2021

What is left of little Anna Lacourt in the fiercely contained life of Anna Gauthier, a seemingly cheerful woman, respected by all?

An uncompromising novel about a social facade that suddenly disintegrates; a fascinating reflection on the roots of evil.

Anna Gauthier leads a quiet, sheltered existence between her pharmacy, her villa overlooking the Mediterranean Sea and her close-knit family. In a situation of social unrest, an incident occurs and her son Léo, a high-school student with no prior history, gets caught up in the justice system. Anna is powerless as she watches her world fall apart around her, a world she built up brick by brick, carefully measuring each step to maintain complete control.

What happens when, over the course of a summer, a grain of sand jams up the machine and shatters all pretense?

Through this powerfully emotional and intense portrait of a woman, *A Shard of Eternity* goes back to Anna's early life and breaks through the sequestered memory of a sacrificed childhood that never should have seen the light of day.

LITERATURE

VALÉRIE TONG CUONG
Un tesson d'éternité

roman



Almost 30,000 copies!

From her, we expect the best and are never disappointed. ELLE

VTC dives deep to explore the abyss of guilt and the ravages of repression. Intense and very dark, this is a novel that grabs us by the throat. The meaning of the title is revealed in a startling scene at the very last page. L'OBS

Valerie Tong Cuong is the author of twelve novels, among which, *L'Atelier des miracles* (JC Lattes, 2013, Nice Baie des Anges Award), *Par amour* (JC Lattes, 2017), recipient of numerous awards, among which, the Prix des lecteurs du Livre de Poche, and *Les Guerres intérieures*. Her works have been translated into 19 languages and have sold over 100,000 copies.



ANNE-MARIE REVOL – Priceless

280 pages - October 2021



**What if the most precious gifts are those that cannot be bought?
A breathtaking family saga starring an unforgettable heroine.**

Priceless: adj. So precious that its value cannot be determined.

Example : a priceless treasure.

Clermont-Ferrand, 1984.

Dough, loot, moulah, cash. That's what two teenagers wanted when they decided to rob Prudence, an eighty-year-old former midwife and well-known member of the local community. But it was all a misunderstanding because the "priceless gifts" that Prudence spoke of, gifts she offered to each of her seven grandchildren when they turned seven, were immaterial ones. An opportunity to delve into her past covering a century of History and the life of a French family intertwined with that of the Michelin enterprise.

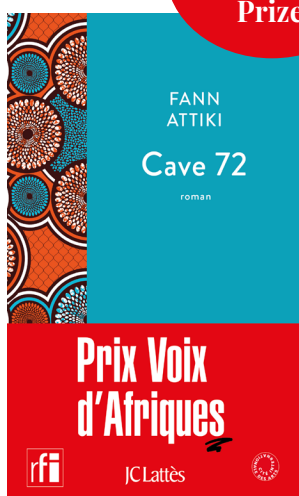
From the Grand Hôtel de la Californie in Cannes where our heroine was born in 1905, through the social unrest of 1936, the dark years of the Second World War, the prisons she visited with Simone Veil: family secrets, political struggles, love and betrayal vibrate across three generations.

With Prudence, Anne-Marie Revol, paints the flamboyant portrait of a strong and free woman and recounts with tenderness and humanity how the most precious gifts are those that cannot be bought.

Literary journalist with France Info, Anne-Marie Revol is the author of a narrative *Nos étoiles ont filé* (Stock, 2010) and two novels, *Gaspard ne répond plus* (Lattès, 2016) and *L'étoile russe* (Lattès, 2018).

FANN ATTIKI – Cave 72

252 pages - September 2021



Winner of a literary prize created with the help of RFI and the Cité internationale des arts in Paris. A first novel mixing investigation, satire and fable in which humor and poetry are focal points.

Three friends Verdass, Ferdinand and Didi, meet everyday at Cave 72, a bar, and the perfect place to forget about their daily life where everything seems to be ruled by absurdity: administrative hassles, war, love, divorce and the apparent indifference of men faced with dictatorship ... They talk, drink, recite poems, and harm no one. They are innocent of everything which is why a man, a national security council member, chooses them as the perfect scapegoats for a conspiracy against the country.

They become reluctant heroes, forced to defend themselves; heroes of a people who are used to tolerating oppression but who suddenly rise up to fight the army, demand freedom and the reopening of Cave 72, now a symbol of resistance.

«It is certainly not far from the truth that Fann Attiki's book is essentially political and that his weapon of mass derision is obviously his style. Reminiscent of Alain Mabanckou.

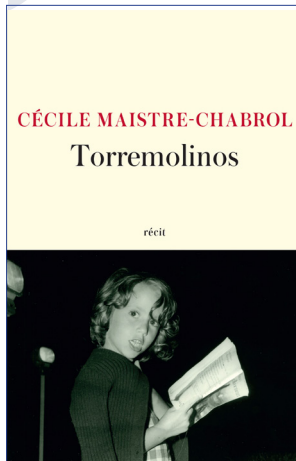
At any rate, at the top of our literary pile.» LIVRES HEBDO

Fann Attiki was born in 1992 in Pointe-Noire in Congo. Living in Brazzaville he dedicates himself to writing and theatre, participates in a reading club and teaches slam.

CÉCILE MAISTRE-CHABROL

Torremolinos

250 pages - October 2021



Cécile Maistre-Chabrol, adoptive daughter of Claude Chabrol, delivers a family portrait as delectable as it is moving. A desperate search for identity but also a fascinating look behind the scenes of moviemaking.

“Zélie was a peculiar little girl. She lied, she hid things and she stole. She still steals. Little things, upon occasion. Often salmon eggs at Monoprix. Someone said : If you steal, it means something was once stolen from you. So Zélie often wonders what exactly was stolen from her.”

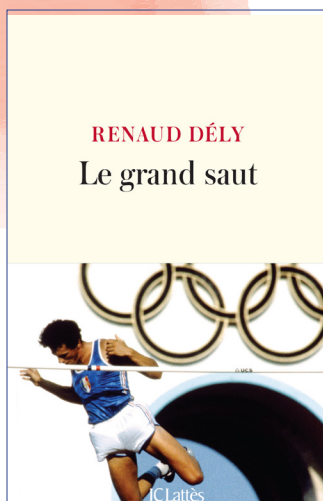
Zélie was born into world of cinema. Her mother, Mao, was a script girl who worked with the biggest names in cinema of the time. Her father, François, was an actor, famous for his role in *Les Brigades du Tigre*. She spends her early years moving back and forth from a tiny room in a Catholic pension for boys to the old, spacious and comfortable house of her mother’s best friend, Maie. She would see her mother Mao when she was between films and, more rarely, François, when he wasn’t acting or chasing after another love interest.

She is still quite young when Mao falls in love with Claude Chabrol whom Zélie chooses to call by his middle name, Henri. She becomes his adopted daughter and one of his closest collaborators until the end of his life.

From the seventies to today, Cécile Maistre-Chabrol describes the path of a woman searching for herself and takes us behind the scenes in the world of acting and French cinema.

RENAUD DÉLY - The Jump

216 pages - August 2021



The rise and fall of Pierre Quinon, pole-vaulting Olympic champion, woven into this first literary work by Renaud Dély.

August 8th 1984, Los Angeles Olympic Games. A young man with brown curls runs in small strides, pole in hand.

Millions of kilometers away, in the middle of the night, a child is glued to his TV screen. He watches Pierre Quinon fly through the air to win the gold medal in pole-vaulting. The prowess makes him forget, for a moment, the ragged breathing of his mother in the next room.

And still... Despite a difficult childhood, the child builds a life for himself.

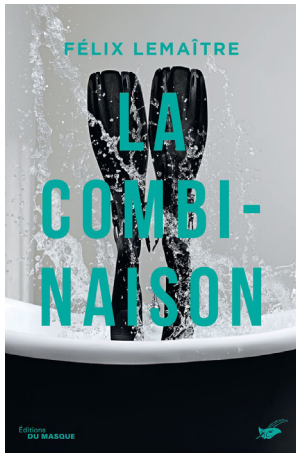
Despite a promising future, Pierre Quinon will cut his life short. He jumps out of a window on August 17th 2011, reverse image of the jump that crowned him God of the Olympus.

Two paths, two lives, told with the memory of the heart.

Renaud Dély is a journalist and columnist for La Matinale at France Info and the TV host for the show **28 minutes Samedi** on Arte.

FÉLIX LEMAÎTRE - The Diving Suit

250 pages - September 2021



The noir novel of the literary season, immersing us in the mind of an unemployed man from Picardie, searching for an escape. Wacky, incisive and brilliant.

«Legs firmly grounded in the carpeted floor, Christian contemplates himself in the mirror. He puffs out his chest, stretching the swordfish on the fabric. As neoprene hugs his body, he worries about the conquering collar pushing on the base of his throat, and makes circles with his elbows. He is domesticated by the warmth and the smell, more irresistible than that of a new car. He smiles. In his black fuselage, he almost forgets about the skin hanging from his shoulders. Even his profile, that usually reminds him of his perpetually swollen belly doesn't bother him as much. His skin remains silent. This big plastic tourniquet makes him drunk on its promise: feel nothing, or almost.»

Christian, 47 years old, is a supermarket employee in Picardie. A preacher of the aisles, a good soldier of distribution. But his job is as anachronistic as his name. The day the free market throws him out and he loses his job, he drowns in his own life. His diving suit becomes his new skin. Shedding that skin poisons his family and reveals the violence of the small town. Hunters, thugs, mothers and social media will meddle with his existential crisis.

«When a lively pen electrifies the roman noir with its best punchlines,
we applaud with both flippers.» LIVRES HEBDO

Félix Lemaître, age 34, is joint editor-in-chief at Brain Magazine. He became a journalist and started writing after he failed his thesis in sociology- his professor told him he had no style. Revenge is a dish best served with royalties. La Combinaison is his first novel.

GABRIELLE MASSAT - Thirty Grams

450 pages - June 2021



**When a trafficker of stolen art falls in love with a hitman.
The new noir novel by Gabrielle Massat.**

Yannick loves art, drugs, sex and money but he especially loves living on the edge. Not surprising when one works for Aslanov, the most successful trafficker of stolen art in southern France, and one's job is money laundering for high-end drug dealers through the acquisition and resale of masterpieces.

But there is one thing, or rather someone, that Yannick loves above all else: Phoenix, Aslanov's hitman and lover for more than fifteen years.

So, when the sale of a painting by Bacon, valued at over 5 million euros, goes sour and Yannick is almost poisoned to death, Phoenix is the one person that he would like to have at his back.

Trusting a hitman is his first mistake, many more will follow...

«Supported by its brilliant scenes and dialog, this action novel morphs into a heartbreaking love story. Gabrielle Massat has become the new revelation of the French noir novel.» LE PARISIEN

«A visceral and addictive crime novel.» RFI

Gabrielle Massat is a physical therapist. When she is not torturing her parents, she writes crime novels and reads them to the toad that lives in her garden. Her first novel, *Le Goût du rouge à lèvres de ma mère* was shortlisted for Prix des lecteurs Quai du polar 2021.

450 pages - October 2021



13 VOLUMES
3 MILLION READERS
SOLD WORLDWIDE

The much-anticipated return of Commissioner Marcus, cult hero to millions of readers.

The ceremony for the transition of power is about to take place in the Elysée Palace in Paris. Protocol number 5 is revealed to the new head of state. It is a secret known only to presidents and no else one has ever discovered its meaning.

Five years later, at the approach of the next presidential election, the mysterious protocol comes to light when a murder is committed at the heart of the freemason community. The legend becomes reality.

From the haunted depths of Moscow to a cursed castle in Perigord: something that has managed to survive throughout the ages is about to resurface.

And this time, Antoine Marcus will have to confront his destiny.

The Black Sun Saga

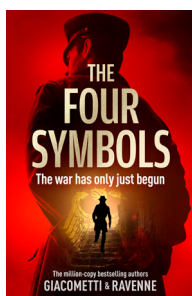
Dive into a nazi spy thriller for fans of Dan Brown, Steve Berry and Wilbur Smith!

In Europe on the verge of collapse, the Nazi organisation Ahnenerbe is pillaging sacred landmarks across the world. Their aim is to collect treasures with occult powers to help them establish the Third Reich.

The organisation's head, Himmler, has sent SS officers to scour a forgotten sanctuary in the Himalayas, while he tries to track down a mysterious painting to which ancient power do the Nazis believe they hold the key?

Meanwhile in London, Churchill has discovered that the war against Germany will also be a spiritual one: light must overcome the darkness of the occult if they are to win ...

Over
500,000
copies sold!



Rights sold in

Italy
Spain
Poland
Serbia
China
Japan
WEL



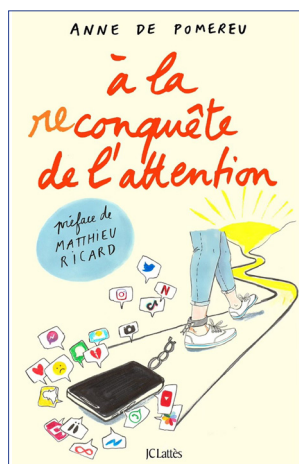
Eric Giacometti was a journalist with *Le Parisien*. He is also scriptwriter for the illustrated series *Largo Winch*.

Jacques Ravenne is a writer, Freemason, specialist of the French revolution and author of historical books.

ANNE DE POMEREU

Reclaiming your attention

304 pages - August 2021



Option in Italy (Mondadori)

Who hasn't started reading a novel, that you've been waiting for days to read, only to find yourself a few minutes later scrolling through your smartphone ? Distraction is the plague of the century, bringing with it feelings of frustration and guilt. However, no use punishing yourself because all the studies prove that it's impossible to overcome the enormous powers of digital distractions, well organised to steal our most precious cognitive gift.

The good news is that concrete and accessible solutions exist to heighten our concentration. The object of this book is to teach us how our attention span functions and describe short term and long term solutions to improve it : creating the right environment, modifying our relationship to time and urgency, limiting the use of screens, educating children and adolescents and setting up a healthy attention-enhancing lifestyle... The results will allow you to finally realise the projects you've been dreaming about and greatly improve your quality of life.

After reading this book you will be totally persuaded that attention is the key to a fulfilling life.

Anne de Pomereu graduated from HEC and is a professor of memory and methodology. She offers memory workshops for adults and teaches how to train children and adolescents at every level. She is also a consultant and coach for, among others, l'Oreal group, for whom she has elaborated and directed a workshop on attention.. She is the author of *Eloge de la passoire*.

BERTRAND PÉRIER & ADELINE FLEURY

Say It Out Loud

250 pages - October 2021



In his previous books Bertrand Périer demonstrated how the spoken word is a weapon: *La Parole est un sport de combat* and a directive *Sur le bout de la langue*. This time he sets out to prove that the spoken word is also a buoy. It can save a life or offer a second chance. Stars and other sought-after professionals can testify: one can be rescued with the spoken word.

Through a series of portraits, followed by interviews, Bertrand Périer, assisted by Adeline Fleury, demonstrates how the spoken word can save someone from a life of crime (testimony of Bruce Dombolo, ex-bank robber) or offer new professional opportunities (Bixente Lizarazu transformed his career thanks to the spoken word). It protects democracy (Gabriel Attal, government spokesman) and longevity (by performing great unknown texts, actor Guillaume Galienne rescues them from oblivion). The spoken word has that advantage that it exists to be said out loud and therefore to be heard. It promotes sharing and thus guarantees its longevity. The spoken word, like a saving messenger, finds an echo chamber in its audience. The spoken word is capable of influencing our existence and protecting us from our less desirable notions.

An enjoyable and necessary work.

Bertrand Perier is a lawyer in the highest courts of the French justice system. He teaches the art of public speaking at top French universities and participated in the movie *A Voix haute*.

Adeline Fleury was a journalist for fifteen years with *Journal du Dimanche* and *Le Parisien*. Today she is an independent journalist, novelist and essayist.

STÉPHANIE THOMAS

The Regrets of Motherhood

200 pages - October 2021



The first book in French to explore the painful regret some women feel after becoming a mother. Here are the stories of 11 women that offer a fascinating approach to a subject long considered taboo.

Motherhood is most often associated with a wide range of positive émotions : the joy of announcing one's pregnancy to family and friends, tears of happiness at the birth, often called « the happiest day of my life », and the pride in watching one's child grow and mature. The regret expressed by some mothers, often on women's internet forums that allow for the cover of anonymity, is perceived by society as against nature and the ultimate taboo. Journalist Stéphanie Thomas has met up with these women. Although they love their children, they tell how motherhood has upended their existence and describe the loss of freedom, the worry of taking care of children, how their identity as a woman became hijacked by their identity as a mother and how they deal with the often painful past that resurfaces... They also speak of the profound guilt that accompanies these feelings of regret and the anguish of not being able to share their feelings with their family and friends.

Stéphanie Thomas follows all the leads in her search to understand how a woman can come to such an extreme and irreversible mindset: social pressure, life history, heredity...

Stéphanie Thomas has directed many news reports in Africa, Oceania, and Europe for the radio France Inter. She is also a documentary producer for France Culture.

ISABELLE FILLIOZAT - Partners

306 pages - September 2021



This is the very moving diary Isabelle Filliozat kept as she accompanied her husband, who was diagnosed with a brain tumour, through to the end of his life. For the first time, the famous psychotherapist reveals a part of her personal life.

Jean-Bernard Fried, Isabelle Filliozat's husband, was struck by a severe headache on April 20th, 2018. No one suspected at the time that a glioblastoma, an extremely aggressive brain tumour, was taking over his brain and that it would progressively deprive him of his memory, speech and movement.

Isabelle Filliozat confronts the months that follow hand in hand with her husband. Using all her experience in emotional therapy and empathy, she urges him to express himself, to repair what needed repairing : Jean-Bernard is able to reconcile at last with his father, to express thoughts that have been hidden for years.

In her global approach to illness, she carefully monitors his diet and attempts alternative methods of healing to counteract the misjudgements in hospital care, relying on Buddhism, meditation and prayer. She is profoundly convinced that positive forces can work in their favour and they must be trusted. A journey to Brazil for a cure will be decisive in rallying the entire family around Jean-Bernard. Isabelle and Bernard's two adult children will be by her side offering moral and physical support throughout their father's illness.

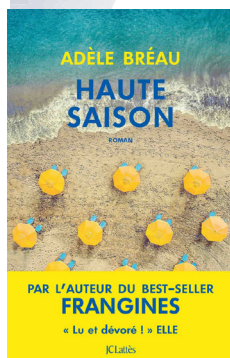
This is the story of a struggle, a union, an adventure and a certain peace. It is above all the story of a boundless love.

**Her works have been sold in 23 languages!
Over 3 million copies sold!**

Isabelle Filliozat created the concept of positive parenting, based on her research combining the fields of neuroscience and emotion. Unanimously recognized for her work, she was awarded the position of Vice-President of the Commission for a Child's First 1000 Days by Emmanuel Macron. She is the author of a parenting trilogy known worldwide and of *Au coeur des émotions de l'enfant*.

ADÈLE BREAU- High-Season

342 pages - May 2021



A holiday resort in the heart of summer.
Four lonely people who never should have met.
A story of friendship and redemption under the sunshine of the Basque coast.

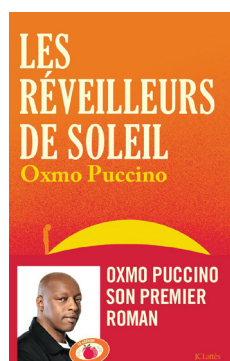
“Adèle Bréau masters the art of choral tales, in which characters cross paths, once or twice, before actually seeing each other and, even better, hearing each other” ELLE

1st print-run: 30,000 copies!

Adèle Bréau is the author of the bestseller *Frangines* (over 60,000 copies sold). Ex editor-in-chief of **Elle.fr**, she portrays with humor and ferocity the little idiosyncrasies of our society on her blog and in the media. *High Season* is her 6th novel.

OXMO PUCCINO- We Will Wake up the Sun

306 pages - September 2021



With poetic imagination and literary inventiveness, Oxmo Puccino uses the climate crisis and the energy of youth in this novel to reveal the vanity, carelessness and inaction of adults. With this text, a great French writer is revealed.
Between *The Little Prince* and Tim Burton.

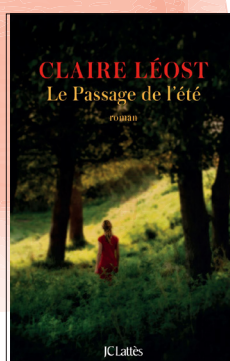
“Like a fantasy botanist, Oxmo Puccino sows the seeds of tomorrow in a singsong voice, with an environmental twist.” LIVRES HEBDO

1st print-run: 50,000 copies!

Nicknamed « the black Jacques Brel », Oxmo Puccino is a French-Malian singer, songwriter and rapper. Born in 1974, he is admired for his strong poetic texts. This is his first novel. In *We Will Wake up the Sun* Puccino follows the artistic vein that he developed, with Ibrahim Maalouf, in his album *Alice in Wonderland*: telling the story of today's world in the form of a tale for all ages.

CLAIRE LÉOST- Over the Summer

272 pages - May 2021



A family saga and coming-of-age novel, set in the heart of Brittany, about the end of innocence and the discovery of grief. It takes place over the course of one summer that will change everything.

« A captivating and mysterious family saga » VERSION FEMINA

“Nothing goes as planned in this novel that redefines the full-of-secrets saga genre. With a delicate and touching pen, Claire Léost explores the price of transgression, including its shame and sorrows.” ELLE

TV-rights sold!

Born in 1976 in Brittany, Claire Léost lives in Paris. Her first novel *Le Monde à nos pieds* (Lattès, 2019) is being adapted for television. She has also written an acclaimed essay, *Le Rêve brisé des working girls* (Fayard, 2013).



JULIA PIALAT – When the City Goes Dark

250 pages - August 2021



With a spirited style at 180 beats per minute, *When the City Goes Dark* mixes rap, electro and raï to tell the story of Cobra, torn between his modest origins and his dreams of fame. It also describes the gentrification of a neighborhood that has now become the headquarters for artistic production and that of a young generation struggling to find their place on the music scene where one can rise to fame quickly, or crash just as fast.

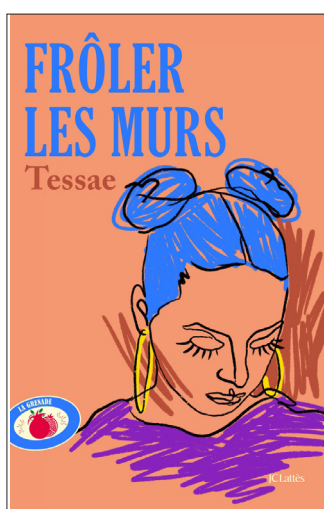
Cobra, in his early twenties, grew up in the Strasbourg – Saint-Denis neighborhood of Paris where for the past few years, new “hip” shops have been replacing traditional “mom and pop” stores. He spends his time working for his Dad in his grocery store, hanging out with friends at « Chez Jeannette » café and writing his first rap album. With no contacts and no money, he relies on his enthusiasm and strong will to succeed. He gives himself one year to make a name for himself. One day he meets Chérif, a former raï producer who accepts to lend him his recording studio. Their friendship will change everything.

“Written in an energetic, engaging style, *When the City Goes Dark* combines the history of pop music of the last thirty years with a subtle observation of the sociological transformations in Paris. A great discovery!” L'HUMANITE

Julia Pialat was born in 1993. She is a sociology student and is passionate about music. She lives in Paris. *When the City Goes Dark* is her first novel.

TESSAE – By the Walls

200 pages - November 2021



Tessae's story, from bullying to school phobia and then to resilience through music. A necessary testimony.

Tessa never liked school and always felt she did not belong. Then came the horrible comments on her body, her style, her hair, and her peculiarities. Followed by physical abuse, cyber-bullying and then, depression. Until the day she could no longer even walk through the school doors.

Back then, no one understood what was going on. Neither the administration, nor the teachers, her parents, or even Tessae herself. Yet, doctors are very familiar with Tessae's problem: School phobia. Every year, thousands of children feel threatened at school. A new struggle begins for Tessa: helping people understand that school phobia is not a whim or a caprice. She can then finally walk her own path, outside of the classroom, towards healing.

With this moving and impassioned testimony, Tessae attacks the taboo surrounding adolescent mental health and encourages others like her to break the silence and overcome the shame and isolation. She also recounts how writing and music helped her through it all.

THE RAISING STAR OF TIKTOK

Tessae is Tessa's stage name. She was born in Marseille in 2001. She leaves school at age 16 and decides to focus on music and writing.