

LEMÉAC

YOUNG  
ADULT  
FICTION

RIGHTS LIST  
2023

Since 2010, the Leméac Jeunesse Series publishes novels and stories first aimed at young people aged twelve and up, but also highly readable by adult readers.

Books in the series explore a wide array of subjects, styles, genres and formats, remaining voluntarily open while respecting a high standard of literary quality.

From futuristic to intimist novels, from poetry to autobiography, Leméac Jeunesse offers writers' voices that immerse readers into surprising literary universes, and into deep and complex emotions that bring about reflection, entertain, upset and unsettle.



# LE JARDIN D'AMSTERDAM

[A GARDEN IN AMSTERDAM]

LINDA  
AMYOT

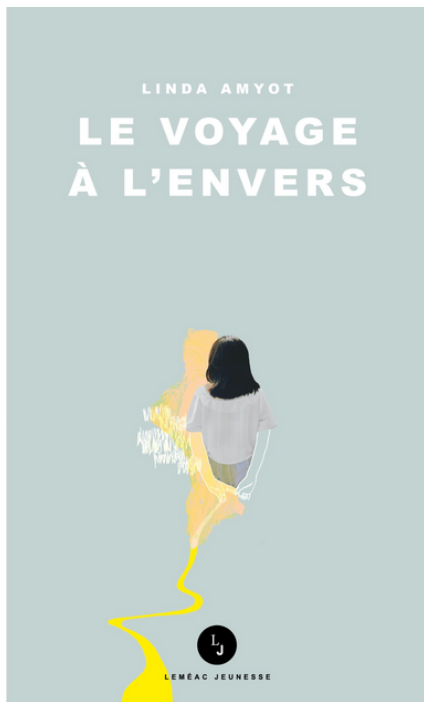
88 PAGES

PUBLISHED SEPTEMBER  
2013

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*Le jardin d'Amsterdam* deftly follows two parallel stories: that of an old woman, Adèle, who would have liked so much to live out her passion with the young soldier she fell in love with during the Second World War, and that of Élaïne, who, like all teenagers of her time, complicates her own love affairs. Poignantly written, this novel is also the story of an improbable and saving complicity, of a bridge stretched between generations...

*A screenwriter, editor and novelist Linda Amyot won the Prix jeunesse des libraires du Québec and the TD Children's and Youth Literature Award with La fille d'en face. Her second young adult novel, Le jardin d'Amsterdam, won the Governor General's Literary Award and the Prix du livre jeunesse des Bibliothèques de Montréal. She is the director of youth programming for the Blue Metropolis Festival.*



# LE VOYAGE À L'ENVERS

[A JOURNEY IN REVERSE]

Sixteen-year-old Laura divides her time between school, her boyfriend Adrien and her part-time job. Underneath this quiet day to day life, stifled anger is brewing: after five years, the teenager is still angry at her father who could have easily avoided an accident, had he not been so careless to play tennis on a suffocatingly hot day and dying of a heart attack on the court.

When her mother suggests that they should go together on the trip her husband and her were about to make, Laura is reluctant. Yet, in order not to disappoint her mother, she agrees to accompany her. While her mother revisits places full of memories, the young woman struggles to overcome the culture shock, and is torn by conflicting emotions. After a visit to the orphanage where she was sent as a baby, the tensions within her rise, and the barrier she had built for herself finally breaks down.

In this touching and very personal novel, Linda Amyot tackles the difficult question of origins. What determines where one comes from? How and why can we build a link with the country we were born in, without ever having lived there, and where everything is foreign to us?

LINDA  
AMYOT

104 PAGES

PUBLISHED FEBRUARY  
2023

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AVAILABLE



# LÉONORE

*All of a sudden, I want to go into that damned dark and still closed room and rush to Mom and shake her again and again. To shout at the top of my lungs: "I'm here! I'm here!"*

LINDA  
AMYOT

88 PAGES

PUBLISHED  
AUGUST 2021

WORLD RIGHTS  
AVAILABLE

Shaken by a heartbreaking tragedy, Léonore's family is trying to look forward and get back to normal life. In her difficult transition from elementary to high school, the young girl can count on her grandmother, who tries to make up for the absence of her parents and bring a little joy to the home. When her teacher asks the students in her class to recount the story of their year, wounds are reopened. The façade everyone displays sometimes hides painful stories. What will Leonore tell?

Each new book by Linda Amyot conveys the same beauty and enchantment. From this novel rise strong teenage characters that life puts to the test.



# LA CHAMBRE ÉTEINTE

[ECHOES OF A DISTANT ROOM]

*I dust folders that are sorted by colour, size, and significance.*

*My father says, « You can't possibly keep all of it ».  
That truth hits me like a ton of bricks.*

---

## JONATHAN BÉCOTTE

160 PAGES

PUBLISHED  
AUGUST 2022

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AVAILABLE

On an autumn morning, the narrator gets a call from his father, who wants to turn his old childhood bedroom into a workshop. So the young man makes the drive to his hometown, where the daunting task awaits of choosing what, among the memories accumulated in the boxes is worth saving. As he retrieves time-worn familiar objects, vivid memories of moments shared with a first love – the boy across the street –, long since lost, resurface.

Composed like an evocative long poem, this short book sensibly explores the feelings that remain attached to childhood, and the inner light they can still hold, despite the passage of time.



# MAMAN VEUT PARTIR

[MOMMY WANTS TO LEAVE]

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JONATHAN  
BÉCOTTE

216 PAGES

PUBLISHED  
JANUARY 2018

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*Maman veut partir* is a very delicate text, written as poems, that tells of the joyful carefree nature of childhood, the love of parents, and of the slow estrangement from a mother. A distance that is at first desired, chosen, but that soon proves to be absolute.

Readers will put down this book fascinated by the candor and the acuity of the young narrator's gaze, which allows the lightness of quiet happiness, the crumbling of feelings and the abysmal sorrow to shine through.

*Jonathan Bécotte is an elementary school teacher. His unmistakable poetic writing style is ever present in his stories and the childlike voices that look for beauty in the ordinary.*



# SOUFFLER DANS LA CASSETTE

[BLOWING IN THE CARTRIDGE]

*Souffler dans la cassette* is a poetic novel about the friendship between two elementary school boys. From their games and adventures will grow the roots of the men they will become.

136 PAGES

PUBLISHED  
JANUARY 2017

This book will make readers smile, sometimes tenderly, sometimes nostalgically, and trigger in them the desire to go back to their childhood. The story moves swiftly and prompts the narrator to pass from his candid early school days to the tremors of his first real heartbreak.

## AWARDS AND DISTINCTIONS



- *Souffler dans la cassette* : Prix Cécile-Gagnon 2017 / Winner
- *Souffler dans la cassette* : Prix Espiègle des bibliothèques scolaires du Québec 2018 / Finalist
- *Souffler dans la cassette* : Prix jeunesse des libraires du Québec 2018 / Preliminary list
- *Maman veut partir* : Prix Alvine-Bélisle 2019 / Winner
- *Maman veut partir* : Prix littéraires du Gouverneur général 2018 / Finalist
- *Maman veut partir* : Prix du livre jeunesse des Bibliothèques de Montréal 2019 / Finalist





# LES RICOCHETS

[SKIMMING STONES]

Fifteen-year-old Jacob's world shatters when he has to follow his mother who is moving to the country with her new partner. Rebellious, he refuses to settle down for good and spends his time ranting and brooding in the den he's set up near a creek in the village, all the more distraught as, surprisingly, his friends and his girlfriend Tamara only answer his messages once in a while... He devises a plan: to sneak back to Montreal before the two-week deadline imposed by his mother. But his enthusiasm is quickly dampened when, once back in town, he learns why Tamara and her friends have become so distant.

The bitter betrayal felt by Jacob is however progressively soothed by the presence of Henri, a mountain-bike enthusiast, by the high spirits of Emma, an ace at skimming stones, by the generosity of Florette, Emma's grandmother, and by the kindness of amateur mechanics Fred, Étienne and Émile. New bonds are formed, prejudices fall, and Jacob eventually discovers that what seemed like hell to him may not be so bad after all.

*Christine Bertrand's Les ricochets is a feelgood novel that eschews all the clichés about country life. The author of La balade de Jo et Alicia (Leméac, 2020) focuses instead on the disarray felt by teenagers uprooted from their world following a move, and she portrays young people living in the country in a rarely seen way in YA fiction.*

CHRISTINE  
BERTRAND

136 PAGES

PUBLISHED  
FEBRUARY 2023

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# L'ENFANT MASCARA

[BECOMING LETICIA]

*L'enfant mascara* is a story of unrequited love, a pretty common thing in any secondary school, except this one ends in a particularly tragic way. Inspired by real events that took place in the town of Oxnard, California, Simon Boulerice fictionalizes one of the most violent murders motivated by homophobia and transphobia to ever take place in the USA. In doing so, the author pays tribute to Larry/Leticia, a yearning, proud and flamboyant individual who lived the short life of a shooting star.

A singular novel, penned with the utmost empathy.

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**SIMON  
BOULERICE**

184 PAGES

PUBLISHED  
SEPTEMBER 2016

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## AWARDS AND DISTINCTIONS



- Prix du Combat aux mots / Winner (2017)
- Prix Espiègle des bibliothèques scolaires du Québec / Finalist (2017)
- Prix Alvine-Bélisle / Finalist (2017)



# PAYSAGE AUX NÉONS

[NEONS LANDSCAPES]

In this novel in the form of an illustrated exercise program dotted with nutritional advice, Simon Boulerice brings to life again Léon, the endearing protagonist of one of his earlier novels *Jeanne Moreau a le sourire à l'envers*. Right there, in the gym - a fascinating neon landscape - the teenager reads poetry on a stationary bike and copies verses on the training sheets, Marky Mark compulsively sculpts his muscles while his younger brother loses the use of his, and Félintra, an Adidas fairy with extra pounds, drinks Diet Coke while observing her beloved from a distance.

*Paysages aux néons* is a serious, funny, tender and caustic story, that tackles issues familiar to the author, namely the body and desire, while offering a colourful satire of our obsessions and a benevolent portrait of our vulnerabilities.

Actor, writer, dancer, and stage director, Simon Boulerice is also among the most prolific authors of his generation. His book *Jeanne Moreau a le sourire à l'envers* was awarded a White Ravens label by the International Youth Library in Munich, Germany, and was also short-listed for the 2014 Quebec Booksellers Association prize for juvenile fiction.

SIMON  
BOULERICE

200 PAGES

PUBLISHED  
AUGUST 2015

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AVAILABLE



# OLAS

After years of preparation, the day has come when Talía can lavishly celebrate her fifteenth birthday in the *quinceañera* Latin American tradition. But as she dances with her lover, the young Cuban can't help wondering about her future. What life awaits her once the party is over? Her career path seems already set for her: like her parents, she'll become a doctor, get married, raise children, and take care of her grandparents...

Talía gradually becomes aware of the limits imposed by the precarious living conditions in her country. While on vacation with her family, the young woman reunites with her childhood friend, Ulises, who informs her of his plan to move to Florida to become a marine contractor. She then decides to leave with him. Three years will be necessary for them to prepare their flight, with Ulises building their boat, and Talía saving every penny from the sale of her paintings to tourists. Will they make it across the Florida Straits? Will the waves - olas, in Spanish - carry them to the place of their dreams?

MARÍA  
CARLA

184 PAGES

PUBLISHED  
AUGUST 2022

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AVAILABLE

*María Carla was born in Cuba, and has been living in Quebec since 2013. In *Olas*, she takes a completely different look at the paradise island so beloved by tourists. In this debut novel written directly in French, the twenty-year old Montreal student depicts Cuba from the inside, in a strong and lyrical voice reminiscent of her original culture. Yet, it is above a look at the hopes that thousands of young people, in Cuba or elsewhere, dare not entertain, and for which some will go to great lengths to achieve.*



# CARREAUTÉ KID

*I'm sick and tired of all those grunge love songs, I really am. They all end up with the singer wailing about how impossible his love is. That's all right, I guess that's the ethos. At a pinch, to be successful at anything in 1998 was seen as dubious. But we're twenty years into the 21st century now, and everything's possible*

Carreauté Kid, a.k.a. Caro, doesn't fit in with his fellow students at his high school: raised by a single-parent father with a mild drinking problem, he's a fan of grunge music, whose spirit he embodies even in his clothing style. A loner and introvert, he's secretly in love with Adele, a beautiful, radiant and levelheaded redhead - except that Adele, despite the obvious chemistry between them, is in a relationship with Aymeric, the popular captain of the school hockey team. Caro shyly opens through the song covers he dedicates to her on his YouTube channel, until the day he decides to confess his feelings in a letter. The situation becomes more complicated when Aymeric gets hold of the letter and makes fun of it on TikTok with his teammates...

In a novel that plays with both nostalgia and issues of our time, Marc-André Dufour-Labbé portrays a young man caught up in the turmoil of a seemingly impossible love, through which he learns about the complexity of feelings and discovers that the solution may lie outside monogamy...

*Marc-André Dufour-Labbé was born in Drummondville in 1983. He works for the Centre de ressources pour hommes Drummond. Carreauté Kid is his first YA novel.*

MARC-ANDRÉ  
DUFOUR-LABBÉ

128 PAGES

PUBLISHED  
AUGUST 2023

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AVAILABLE



## QUAND LES GRANDS JOUAIENT À LA GUERRE

[WHEN GROWN-UPS PLAYED AT WAR]

When the war breaks out, Ilona Flutsztein-Gruda is only nine years old. Forced to flee her country, the young girl must leave everything behind. A carefree childhood ends and a long and difficult exodus begins. Through the eyes of the young refugee, we're forced to confront the parts of humanity and cruelty that coexist within us. This moving testimony is vital reading.

200 pages

Published August 2016

## QUAND LA GUERRE EST FINIE

[WHEN THE WAR IS OVER]

In *Quand la guerre est finie*, Ilona Flutsztein-Gruda continues to explore a period of her life that remains marked by challenging questions. Can anyone become a murderer? Or a hero? How could Hitler incite almost an entire nation to participate in his criminal project? In this crucial testimony, the daily memories of a young girl and the war stories of the survivors intersect.

***Ilona Flutsztein-Gruda*** was born in Warsaw, Poland, in 1930. She moved to Quebec in 1969.



184 pages

Published March 2018



# HENRY ET MOI

[HENRY AND ME]

During the Second World War, a young man from Lac-Saint-Jean joins the troops. But when his best friend dies in combat, his moral convictions are shaken and he decides to flee.

With the army on his tail, he hides in a cave called Le Trou de la Fée – The Fairy Hollow –, where he spends many months with only the animals of the forest for companions and, above all, a book, *Walden* or *Life in the Woods*. Reading this story by Henry David Thoreau allows him to slowly grasp the surrounding nature, until a profound upheaval occurs in him. "I am no longer who I was", he notices. How far can the deserter take his desertion?

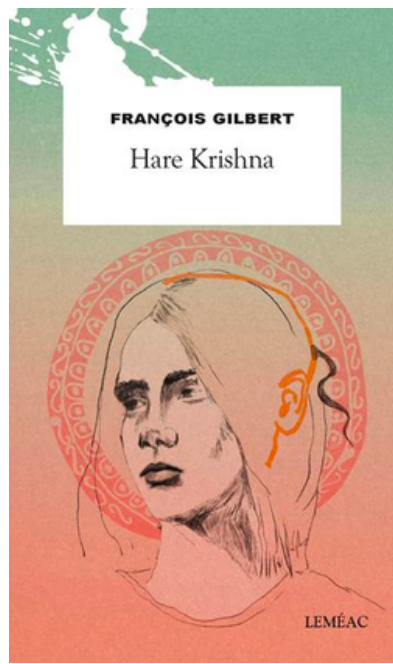
*The doyen of YA writers, Cécile Gagnon has been writing for sixty years. She was awarded the Prix Raymond-Plante in 2012 for her outstanding contribution to children fiction. With over a hundred publications, her stories and drawings have left their mark on several generations of young readers.*

CÉCILE  
GAGNON

96 PAGES

PUBLISHED  
MARCH 2019

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# HARE KRISHNA

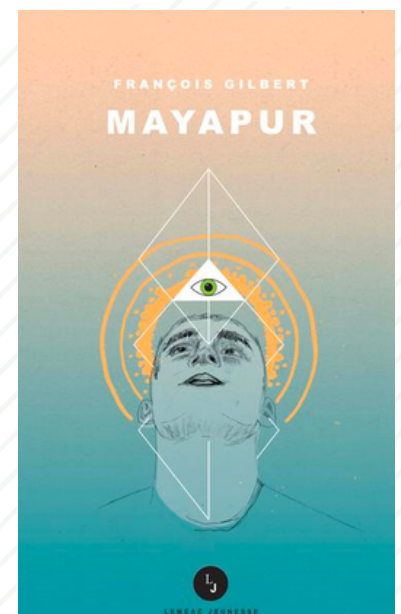
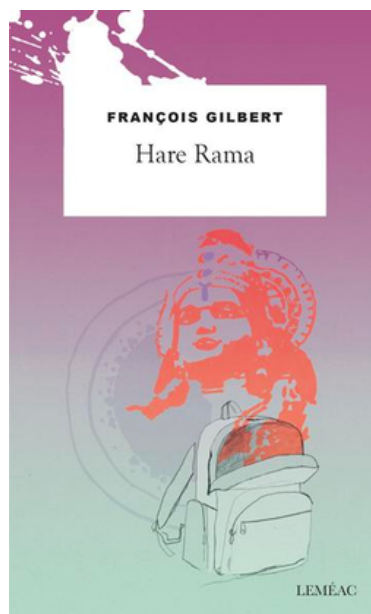
Soon to be seventeen, Mikael Dionne has left the Beauce region of Quebec for a Montreal drift that led him, after a shoplifting incident, to become a Krishna devotee. When he comes back to his native village dressed as a monk, his head shaved, he may as well come from a distant planet. The occasion is set for him, in spite of himself, to reconnect with his old identity, his brother, his relatives, his friends, and the parish priest; all of them questioning his choice and trying to bring him back on the “right path.” But can this life paved in advance still suit him?

200 PAGES

PUBLISHED  
AUGUST 2015

**François Gilbert** published two acclaimed first novels, *Coma* and *La maison d'une autre*, before embarking on a praised trilogy for young readers. He was the winner of the Governor General's Award in 2016 for *Hare Krishna*, which title was on the list of the *White Ravens*.

*Hare Rama* (2018) and *Mayapur* (2020) are the second and third titles of this trilogy.







# EUX

## [THEM]

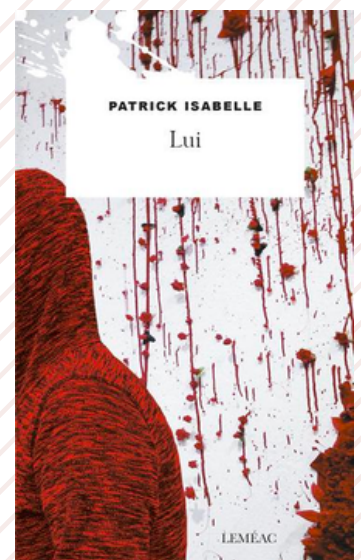
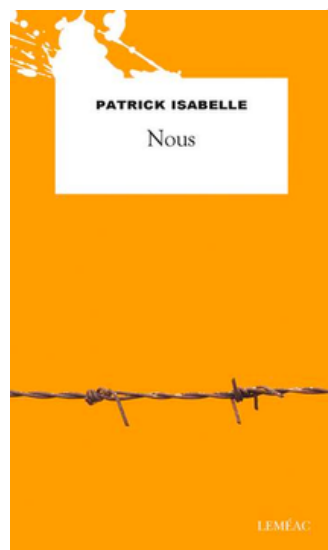
*Eux* is the story of a bullied teenager. A young boy beaten, robbed, and ridiculed beyond reason by his classmates. A young person whose distress is ignored by those who turn a blind eye: the other students, the school staff, the parents, the few friends. His pain is so strong, his agony so long, that he's driven to exact take revenge on his torturers, to become the source of an inconceivable violence. In short chapters, Patrick Isabelle recounts how this tragedy came to be, this account being in itself another tragedy, just as terrible but more insidious. In doing so, he blurs the line separating the victims from the perpetrators, and invites us to reflect on the potential for cruelty, but also for empathy, that lies dormant in everyone. Them: what if they were us? A shocking novel as disturbing as it is essential.

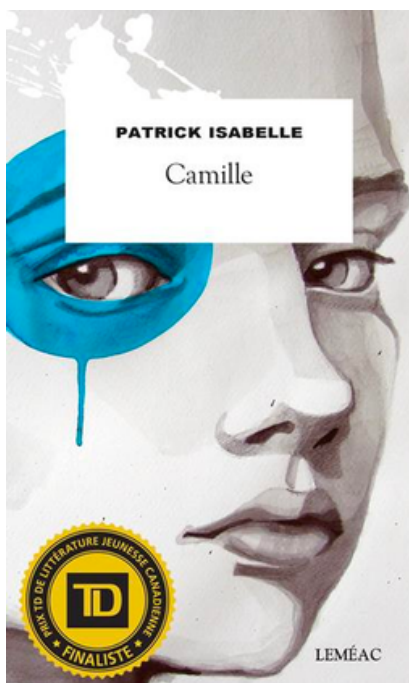
**Patrick Isabelle** writes for both teenager and adult readers. He has received several awards, including the *Prix jeunesse des libraires du Québec* for his novels *Eux* and *Camille*.

112 PAGES

PUBLISHED  
FEBRUARY 2014

*Nous* (2016) and *Lui* (2017) are the second and third titles of this trilogy.





# CAMILLE

In *Camille*, Patrick Isabelle explores the issue of violence further. The story is set within a broken family where abuse and love form an explosive combination that is difficult to understand from an outside point of view. Young Camille grows up amidst tension, fears and desires. She is the witness of her parents' arguments and reconciliations, but she is also the target of her father's fits of anger. At school, she has to cover her legs and arms, hide the bruises on her body. Often, she just would like to disappear, as attested by the entries in her diary, whose heartbreaking passages are part of the novel.

One night, her panicked mother wakes her up and they both flee. Thus begins a desperate flight that will lead them to Acadia, a return to their roots. With a cousin she had never met before, Camille abandons herself to the beauty of the landscape, the sea and a complicity that slowly leads her to discover herself. She also meets a boy with whom she falls in love.

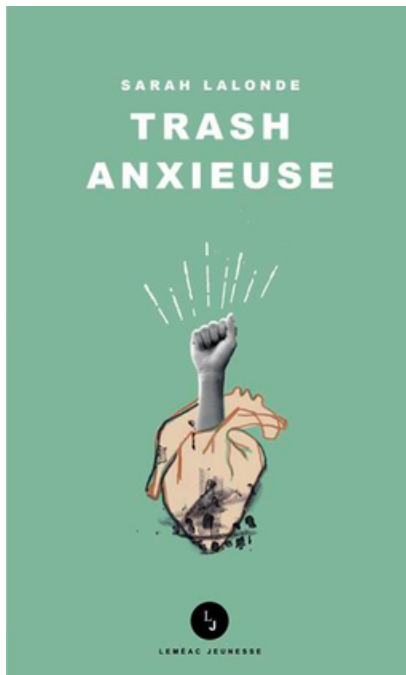
Then Camille disappears. Everyone starts looking for her, and so many questions arise: Was she kidnapped? Did she take her own life? Did she run away? Not far from the restaurant where mother and daughter had found a job, the police discover the father's pick-up truck. Such a man could be your uncle, your neighbour, the father of your best friend...

## PATRICK ISABELLE

320 PAGES

PUBLISHED  
OCTOBER 2015

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SARAH  
LALONDE

120 PAGES

PUBLISHED  
MARCH 2021

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# TRASH ANXIEUSE

[TRASHY ANXIOUS]

Struggling with an unlimited quota of fear, the novel's main character is constantly bombarded by her thoughts.

Her mother travels to Italy with her new flame. Her father cries in the shower. The planet's carbon footprint is at an all-time high. Her friends have told her off. She must deal with eco-anxiety, eviction, influencers, social media, the moral contradictions of our time.

Fortunately, she can rely on Régis, her homeless friend, and the single-parent waitress at the local snack bar, on Orion. But most of all, she can count on life-saving writing and acts of rebellion; on the happiness spreading all around, and on the future that's just around the corner.

Fluctuating between bitterness and tenderness, harshness and sensitivity, demands and indulgence, mixing caustic dialogues, sitcom scripts and poetry in a fragmented narrative, Sarah Lalonde's voice both hurts and consoles.

*A graduate of the Institut national de l'image et du son, Sarah Lalonde divides her time between scriptwriting, book writing and cultural mediation projects. She is the author of the children albums Si Simone... and Simone et la plus belle journée de l'été (2010 and 2011) and the YA novel Le défi sexy de Lou Lafleur (2017).*



# DE SON OËIL

[IN HIS EYE]

*I want to observe you in your natural habitat, like a scientist wishing to know the innermost habits of an unknown animal. I intend to do this by using the gift of invisibility I was bestowed with at birth. Just the opposite of you who have the gift of being noticed everywhere you go.*

MARYSE  
PAGÉ

152 PAGES

PUBLISHED  
AUGUST 2021

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Anju, a lonely and introverted teenager, speaks inwardly to Noah, the most popular student in his school, whom he considers his ideal: Noah is handsome, brilliant, a leader, athletic, ambitious, and empathetic. He is the person Anju admires, to whom he tries to get closer, someone he would like to resemble. To the point of becoming one with him. A student trip to New York offers him the perfect opportunity to spy his idol and his devoted fans even more. His plan seems to work: Noah gradually takes him under his wing and introduces him to rap. However, a disturbing event puts a stop to his almost obsessive voyeurism and opens his eyes to the lure of appearances...



# RAP POUR VIOLONCELLE SEUL

[RAP FOR SOLO CELLO]

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## MARYSE PAGÉ

152 PAGES

PUBLISHED  
FEBRUARY 2020

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Sentenced to community service, Malik finds himself in a seniors' residence, caring for an obnoxious old man he'd rather not know. Underneath the petty crime past of one and the bitterness of the other, hides some sensitivity that will gradually transform this forced relationship into a sincere friendship.

From Malik's difficult journey, marred by foster homes, poverty and the abandonment by an alcoholic mother struggling to raise her son, Maryse Pagé manages to extract the material likely to question our own lives. With tenderness and humour, she shows us that a simple encounter can change the course of a life.

*Maryse Pagé is a screenwriter, researcher and novelist. Rap pour violoncelle seul was a finalist for the Prix jeunesse des libraires du Québec, the Prix Espiègle and the Governor General's Literary Awards. It is currently being adapted for television.*



# LE BOULEVARD

[THE BOULEVARD]

Chris has the body of a young man and the mind of a child. On the day of his eighteenth birthday his mother leaves their home, forcing him to cope with life on his own. At first overwhelmed by despair, he manages to regain his strength and to support himself working as the caretaker of the building he lives in. In order to ease his sorrow and loneliness, he talks to his absent mother, telling her of his everyday life – his walks along the suburban boulevard, his visits to the flea market, his emotional disappointments, his sometimes incredible adventures...

Seemingly helpless, the endearing innocent and kind character who shows unusual strength and maturity befriends people, sparking a relationship of mutual support. The generous community with a workingclass background will become the family that Chris has missed all his life.

With *Le boulevard*, Jean-François Sénéchal tells a story that's in turns funny, touching and deeply moving, a lesson in hope and resilience, written in a simple and singular language of harrowing beauty.

JEAN-FRANÇOIS  
SÉNÉCHAL

304 PAGES

PUBLISHED  
OCTOBER 2016

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FRENCH  
ITALIAN  
GREEK



# AU CARREFOUR

## [AT THE CROSSROADS]

320 PAGES

PUBLISHED  
AUGUST 2018

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ITALIAN



# LES AVENUES

## [THE AVENUES]

312 PAGES

PUBLISHED  
AUGUST 2020

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ITALIAN

### AWARDS & DISTINCTIONS

- Lifetime literary work award : Prix Joseph-S.-Stauffer 2017 / Winner
- *Les avenues* : Prix littéraires du Gouverneur général 2021 / Winner
  - *Le boulevard* : Prix littéraire des ados 2017 / Winner
  - *Le boulevard* : Prix Adolecteurs 2017-2018 / Winner
- *Le boulevard* : Honour List Award of the International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY) 2018
  - *Le boulevard* : Prix Bernadette-Renaud 2018 / Winner
- *Le boulevard* : Prix du livre jeunesse des Bibliothèques de Montréal 2017 / Finalist
  - *Au carrefour* : Prix jeunesse des libraires du Québec 2019 / Winner
  - *Au carrefour* : Prix littéraires du Gouverneur général 2019 / Finalist
    - *Au carrefour* : Prix Bernadette-Renaud 2020 / Finalist

# LEMÉAC

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Canada 



Conseil des arts  
du Canada

Canada Council  
for the Arts

SODEC

Québec 