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As the Andes Disappear

Caroline Dawson

63,000 COPIES SOLD IN QUEBEC

An expansive autobiographical novel about immigration and how to embrace a new culture without betraying your origins.

Editions du Remue-Ménage (Québec, 2020); Book*Hug Press (NA);
French rights recently acquired by Editions de L'Olivier
256 pp

Caroline is seven years old when her family flees Pinochet's regime, leaving Chile for Montreal on Christmas Eve, 1986. She fears Santa won't find them on the plane but wakes to find a new doll at her side, her mother preserving the holiday even amidst persecution and turmoil. This symbol of care is repeated throughout their relocation as her parents work tirelessly to provide the family with a new vision of the future.

Once in Canada, Caroline accompanies her parents as they clean banks at night. She experiences racist microaggressions at school, discovers Québécois popular culture, and explores her love of reading and writing in French. Slowly, a fracture between her parents' identity and her own begins to grow.

Caroline Dawson, is a sociologist and her novel probes the plurality of identity, elucidating the interwoven complexities of immigrating to a new country. It also is a beautiful ode to family commitment and the importance of home—however layered that may be.

Awards:

Prix Littéraire des collégiens
Prix AEIQ
Prix de libraires du Québec
(finalist)
Prix Radio Canada's Combat
national des livres (finalist)

“Sitting somewhere between a memoir, a novel, and a love letter to decades of women who came before her, *As the Andes Disappeared* is a bold, beautiful, and tender account of becoming a writer.” Emily Mernin, Quill & Quire

“The power of this largely autobiographical novel lies in its refusal to let anger give rise to gratitude. Nor is gratitude permitted to soften the rage of knowing that the comfort of the rich continues to be built with the egregiously paid labour of those who cannot push back” Dominic Tardiff,
Le Devoir

About the author: Caroline Dawson (Santiago de Chile, 1979) is a sociology teacher. She immigrated to Quebec with her family when she was seven. *As the Andes Disappeared*, is her debut-novel. She is also the author of the poetry collection, *Ce qui est tu* (Editions Tryptique, 2023).



Fantastic Love Story

Sophie Divry

A page-turner that mixes scientific thriller, social novel and romantic comedy and explores the possibility of love in a world of solitude.

Le Seuil (France, 2024)
514 pp

Bastien Fontaine is a labor inspector vaguely inclined to alcohol and slightly misanthropic. Maïa di Natale is a science journalist, rational and somehow melancholic. Both are grappling with professional challenges: Fontaine is deeply affected by a workplace accident that resulted in a worker's death, shrouded in mystery. Meanwhile, Maïa must navigate the mounting pressures for profitability within the science magazine she is employed by.

In an alternating pattern of chapters that take on the perspectives of Bastien and Maïa, Sophie Divry masterfully orchestrates the coming together of these two lonely souls, whose destinies are, in fact, inherently intertwined. Both will be swept up in a thrilling quest all the while escaping their own solitude.

Awards

Prix RTL-LIRE (long-listed)
Prix des Libraires (long-listed)

Media:

Le Monde, France Inter (Le Masque et la Plume), France 5 (La Grande Librairie), L'Obs, Le Figaro, France Culture, Le Parisien, L'Humanité, LIRE, etc.

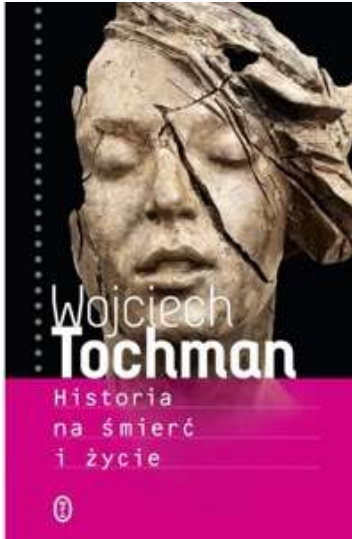
"It's a mix of Tintin, David Cronenberg, and David Foster Wallace, encompassing detective fiction, romantic comedy, and social satire with a thorough critique of the world of work. Sophie Divry assembles these facets with virtuoso agility in this delightful novelistic Rubik's Cube."

Elisabeth Philippe, L'Obs

"The novel, which moves at full speed and plays with the reader's expectations, subtly intertwines with a meditation on the allure that evil holds over individuals and the struggle that goodness opposes to it." Raphaëlle Leyris, Le Monde

"While this new novel is thick, it reads at lightning speed. The author, who has written her unwavering faith in the power of fiction, reveals the breadth of her art. Portraits, dialogues, descriptions, atmospheres, events, suspense, insight, worldview—nothing is lacking in her talent." Alice Ferney, Le Figaro

About the author: Sophie Divry (Montpellier, 1979) worked as a journalist for several years before becoming a fiction writer. Her novel "La Condition Pavillonnaire" was awarded the special mention of the Prix Wepler. Her work has been translated into several languages and unanimously acclaimed by critics. "Fantastique histoire d'amour" is her seventh novel.



A Matter of Death and Life

Wojciech Tochman

13,000 COPIES SOLD IN POLAND

A reportage at the intersection of true crime and psychological drama about a case that shook an entire country.

Wydawnictwo Literackie (Poland, 2023)
256 pp

In January 1996, three high school students were sentenced to life imprisonment for the murder of a young woman. Among them was 18-year-old Monika Osińska, who, although present at the crime scene, did not participate in the murder. Partly thanks to a media campaign supported by the victim's brother-in-law, Monika became a nationally reviled figure.

'A Matter of Death and Life' resurrects the memory of the victim, Jola, while narrating the story of Monika and the quarter-century she spent in prison, uncertain of her release. Wojciech Tochman also recounts Monika's relationship with the brilliant journalist Lidia Ostałowska, who was the first to document this tragedy. Tochman examines the media and legal persecution fueled by misogyny and makes a case against life imprisonment, which has since been abolished in Poland.

A tale of profound humanity, 'A Matter of Death and Life' explores the concepts of violence, justice, revenge, and redemption, questioning the value of human life in the face of the judicial system. The book has achieved great success in Poland, selling over 13,000 copies since its release in June 2023.

“[Tochman’s] style is all the more powerful for its restraint: outrage speaks terribly for itself, needs no hype, no color.” Sunday Times (UK)

“[Tochman] relies on suggestive details on suggestive details, pungent quotes and simple, understated prose that is mannered at times but powerful in its own way.” Matthew Price, The New York Times Book Review

About the author: Wojciech Tochman (born in Krakow in 1969) is a prominent voice in contemporary Polish journalism and one of the architects of the new Polish school of journalism that advocates using literature to narrate reality. His trilogy on the consequences of genocides has earned him international acclaim, and his work has been published in fourteen countries. In 2015, he was awarded the Pen of Hope by Amnesty International for his commitment to human rights advocacy. He won the Kapuściński Prize in 2016 and has been a two-time finalist for the Nike Literary Award



On the Lost Paths

Stéphane Chaumet

A deep dive into the mind of a former Colombian guerrilla fighter: between the desire to move forward and the weight of the past

Globe (France, 2024)

135 pp

Karen, a young Colombian woman, has just been released from prison in Bogotá, where she was incarcerated for rebellion. She reunites with Sacha, who led writing workshops in jail, and shares her story with him: from her tumultuous journey during the conflict to the challenges of returning to a civilian life, with the help of two women, one inside prison and the other outside.

With this first-person narrative, written in a tense and direct language, Stéphane Chaumet makes the voices of those rarely heard resonate and exposes the scars of a country that has not yet healed its wounds.

Originally conceived as non-fiction, 'Sur les chemins perdus' is the result of extensive investigative work. Stéphane Chaumet, who has lived in Colombia since 2018, spent several months interviewing key figures in the Colombian conflict: judges, guerrilla fighters, paramilitaries, and collateral victims. He also conducted writing workshops in prison with female guerrillera fighters. He also attended hearings related to the peace and reconciliation process. While his text eventually took the form of a novel, driven by Karen's unfiltered monologue, everything recounted therein is entirely real."

"This novel possesses a conciseness and density that stem from the voice of its narrator, lending vigor and scope to its text." Raphaëlle Leyris, Le Monde

"It is rare to come across a novel as balanced, as powerful despite its brevity, as full of humanity despite the violence in the background, and as hopeful despite the darkness of the setting." Christian Roinat, Des Amériques

"This is the story of Colombia, its prisons, pervasive sexual violence, social classes, the imperative to eat, and enlisting in one camp or another for survival—not driven by ideology. It's also the tale of encounters, of liberated voices that expand horizons." Marion Quantin Amigorena, Des livres et du cinéma

About the author: Stéphane Chaumet (Dunkirk, 1971) has published three novels with Le Seuil. He also works as a translator from Spanish to French. His translation of the complete poetry of Luis Sepúlveda was published in France in 2023 by Points Poésie.



When I Turned Forty

Gonzalo Maier

A collection of short texts, like a conversation with an all-too-relatable friend who shares his observations, anecdotes, and thoughts about mid-life.

Minúscula (Spain, 2024)
160 pp

And suddenly, on any given morning, we turn forty years old. After blowing out the candles, everything seems normal, as if not much has changed, but gradually, some details begin to take on disproportionate importance. Death and global warming, for example, become an everyday horizon, just like life's multiple onslaughts, which are fought in the manner of Montaigne in the penthouse of a Brazilian hotel or finding solace in small gardens or curious cat toys.

These short texts are small epiphanies about the passage from one age to another, the inevitability of changes, and the secret continuities that traverse and determine us. Daily life, literature, childhood: a cocktail to celebrate the halfway point.

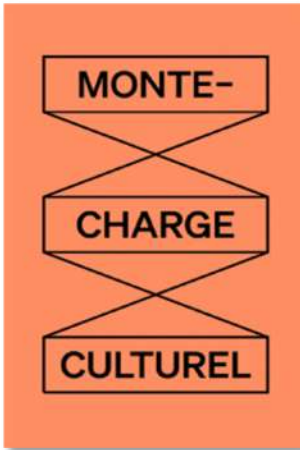
“Maier seems to say [...] there may be a path here, in these brief forms, in this approach to the autobiographical from the right distance to avoid the dangerous self-absorption and to allow air into the room, and light, a lot of light. And then, let's see what appears on the path, what readers will find along these diverging trails, filled with beautiful and memorable images, amusing and intimate – and that evoke in the reader a strange happiness, the hint of the same smile that arises after watching a film by Nanni Moretti or Kaurismäki.” Diego Zuñiga

“Gonzalo Meier's literature is the best kept secret of recent Chilean literature.” Mauro Libertella, Qué pasa

“Maier is part of that family of fine creators who shamelessly combine non-fiction and the novel, and have made metaliterature a major genre.”

Hector J. Porto, La voz de Galicia

About the author: Gonzalo Maier (Talcahuano, 1981) is notably the author of "Material rodante", "El libro de los bolsillos", and "Leer y dormir," all published by Minúscula in Spain. His books have also been published in Chile (Penguin Random House) and Brazil (Dublinense). He is a University profesor and regularly writes columns for various newspaper in Chile.



Sand-catcher

Omar Khalifah

A dark-humored fable on Palestinian identity, exile and collective memory

Dar al-Ahlia (Jordan, 2020); Liana Levi (France, 2024)
206pp

Four Palestinian journalists employed at a Jordanian newspaper are tasked with producing a report for the occasion of the seventieth anniversary of the Nakba, the "ataclysm that upended Palestine in 1948. They are initially confident in the outcome of their assignment to interview an elderly Palestinian who is the last surviving member of his family to have witnessed the catastrophe known as the *Nakba*. Very soon, however, they are rudely confronted by his seemingly perverse refusal to speak to them - or to anyone - about his background. After the journalists' feet are held to the fire by their editor-in-chief, they grow increasingly desperate to wrest the old man's story from him.

Omar Khalifah's first novel is a breath of fresh air in the Arabic literary landscape. With a well-conducted plot and a sarcastic tone, fairly uncommon in Arabic literature, the writer reflects on the Palestinian identity, in all its nuanced diversity, exile and collective memory, topics that are also at the heart of his academic research.

"Without appearing to be so, and with great humor, this tragicomic novel invites the reader to a sincere reflection on the question of what makes our identities." Marianne Babut

"Omar Khalifah surprises his readers with tightly-wrought prose, succinct and dense." Katia Tawil, The Independent

About the author: Of Palestinian background, Omar Khalifah grew up in Jordan. He holds a PhD from Columbia University and currently teaches Arabic literature and culture at Georgetown University's Qatar campus. Khalifah's current book project, "The Immediacy of Palestine: The Holocaust, the Nakba, and the Limitations of Memory", is under contract with Stanford University Press. "Sand-catcher" is his first novel.



The Women Who Wrote Frankenstein

Esther Cross

A moving portrayal of Mary Shelley and a fascinating immersion in 19th-century England, its literature, its doctors and its dead.

Minúscula (Spain, 2023), Emecé (Argentina)
184 pp

Argentinian writer Esther Cross walks in Mary Shelley's footsteps. She follows her to the cemetery where, as a child, she hid to read; she studies her letters, her diary, observes her as she grieves her dead and travels with her husband, Percy Shelley, across Europe.

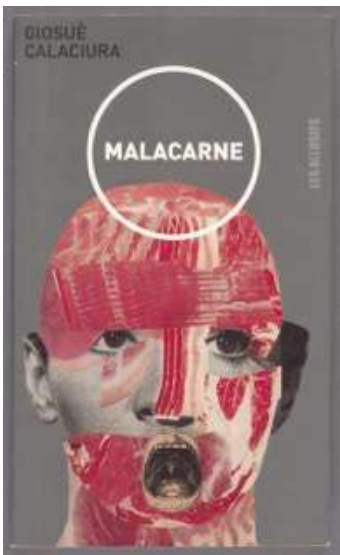
This non-fiction also delves into Mary Shelley's time: the 19th-century London marked by the progresses of medicine through corpses' dissection, the unstoppable development of the city, its economic disparities and literary effervescence. This non-fiction acutely depicts the British writer's relationship with her own time and how she shaped it as much it shaped her and her body of work.

"It is a book about Mary Shelley, about her time and her work, about the characters of clandestine medicine and dark London, about some romantic writers and some famous surgeons - all in a compact and absorbing parade, like a cabinet of literary curiosities - but, above all, it is a book about the body. In its pages, with a sober and sharp style, flesh is cut as on a dissection table, living flesh and dead flesh." Mariana Enriquez, writer

"Cross is an exceptional writer and a subtle narrator. Since her first novel, she has continuously created captivating, original worlds that are close to poetry. (...) Her book 'La mujer que escribió Frankenstein' is extraordinary."

Eduardo Álvarez Tuñón, writer

About the author: Esther Cross (Buenos Aires, 1961) is a translator and prolific Argentinian writer, author of novellas, collections of short stories and novels such as Her work received the Fortabat, First, Siglo XXI, Regional and Municipal awards, among others, and she was a recipient of the Fulbright and Civitella Ranieri scholarships. In 2023, she was appointed as a member of the Academia Argentina de Letras.



Malacarne

Giosuè Calaciura

A mafia story told like no other mafia story, a confession like a lava flow fueled by the urge to unveil what has been silenced for too long.

Sellerio (Italy, 2022); Aufbau (Germany, 2024); Notabilia (France), 216 pp

Malacarne, “bad flesh” in Sicilian, means petty mobster. The novel, in the shape of a long monologue of Malacarne addressed to a judge, offers a deep dive in the rise and fall of a mafioso.

Like a lava flow, the Sicilian mafia mobster unveils his life to a judge, from his poor childhood to his first petty offences, the years spent in prison, the thriving business of drug-trafficking, the constant rivalry with other gangs....As we get into the head of this violent character, we also go through the history of Southern Italy from the 60s to the 90s and major political events such as the maxi-trial of Palermo.

The confession is remorseless, and death, always violent and inevitable, is described crudely, stripped of any emotions. The narrator does not spare any realistic details about his crimes. Yet, the story constantly flirts with an imaginary world full of hyperboles and grotesqueries.

“Calaciura is an important name of the Sicilian literature, and beyond. There is no doubt about it. He is, with some other writers, our only wealth.”

Andrea Camilleri

“This novel has been and remains a very important book for me.”

Jérôme Ferrari, French writer and winner of the Goncourt Prize

“Readers of *Malacarne* still remember, somewhere in their flesh if not in their memory, the incipit of this book, as they necessarily keep the memory of its scorched and burning language.”

Claro, Le Monde

About the author: Giosuè Calaciura (Palermo, 1960) is a prolific writer. With a background in journalism, he draws inspiration from the reality of his homeland, Sicily. In 2017, his novel “Borgo Vecchio” was awarded the prestigious Volponi Prize. His work is translated in French, German and Spanish.



MONKEY

Zsuzsanna Szkurka

The investigation of an amnesiac young woman trying to reconstruct her history in 1920s Louisiana.

Graphic novel

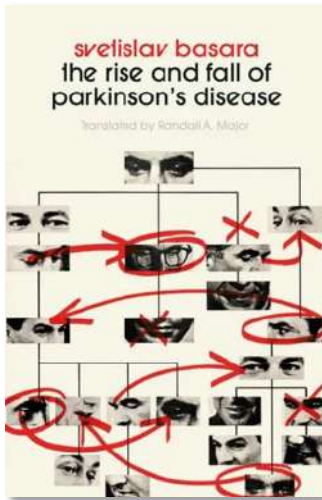


In 2021, at a flea market in Mexico City, amid broken toys, incomplete figurines, old utensils, and vintage comics, Zsuzsanna Szkurka purchased a 100-year old photo album. It belonged to a family from the city of Shreveport, in Louisiana. In this album, amidst family pictures, emerge stories of unexpected deaths, unsolved crimes, and unexplained accidents. Martha Fields, also known as Monkey, the creator of this album and protagonist, is the common thread in these events.

"Monkey" is a graphic novel inspired by this unique discovery. The story follows Martha Fields, a young woman who lost her memory after a car accident. Following the clues in her own family album, she desperately attempts to recover her memory.

She is accompanied on her quest by Snookie, her best friend, and Leo Gentry, a local detective obsessed with recreating her past. Through these encounters, the reader is immersed in the Louisiana of the 1920s and in the search for lost memories. Is forgetfulness an absence or a faculty of memory?

About the author: Zsuzsanna Szkurka (Budapest, 1979) is a psychiatrist and illustrator. She has collaborated with writer Mario Bellatin on several editorial projects, worked with visual artist Francis Alÿs and illustrated dozens of books and magazines published by Alfaguara (Spain), Sexto Piso (Mexico), Phoneme Media (USA) and Ludion (Belgium). In 2023, she was selected for a six-month residency at Maison des auteurs de la Cité internationale de la BD d'Angoulême to work on several graphic novel projects.



Rise and Fall of Parkinson Disease

Svetislav Basara

An unblinking and deconstruction of the Soviet psyche, exploring sanity and insanity, truth and untruth.

Dereta (Serbia, 2006); Dalkey Archive (USA, 2025)
278 pp

Told as an eclectic collection of appropriated testimonies, treatises, missives, and police files, *The Rise and Fall of Parkinson's Disease* follows the progression of the contagion's patient zero, a Soviet citizen (sometimes) named Demyan Lavrentyevich Parkinson, as he ascends from hellish health to the sacred illness.

Award:
NIN Award

Hailed as one of Serbia's most influential living writers, Svetislav Basara's scathing, irreverent critiques of authoritarianism have twice won him Serbia's prestigious NIN Award. In *The Rise and Fall of Parkinson's Disease*, Basara lives up to this reputation with a book as formally ambitious as it is intellectually sophisticated. His blend of grotesque absurdism and wry humor evokes the paranoid, vexing worlds of Franz Kafka's novels and the meta-textual assemblages of Paul Auster. Told from a colorful range of perspectives, the novel is a multifaceted, crystalline account of truth, lies, and history, a sprawling case study of humans in an inhuman society.

"Basara is an author capable of making fun of absolutely anything."

Enrique Vila-Matas

"Basara is to literature what Kusturica is to cinema: a madman, a genius, a libertarian, an entertainer, a brazen, a sentimental."

Martine Laval, *Télérama*

"Basara goes on a mission, lays mines, shakes certainties, sabotages reality through the absurd." Xavier Lapeyroux, *Le Monde*

About the author: Svetislav Basara is a writer, editor and former diplomat. He is the author of over thirty novels, short story collections, and essays translated into 10 languages. His writing has been praised for its caustic humor, its intellectual irreverence, and its impressive depiction of the absurd.

A Chocolate Doll

Amandine Gay

An autobiographical essay and striking plea to politicize adoption and rethink the concepts of family, filiation and identity.



Amandine
Gay
Une poupée
en chocolat

La Découverte

La Découverte (France, 2021); Remue-ménage (Québec)
368 pp

Amandine Gay was born to an unknown mother and owns nothing of her past: no medical record, no family tree, no family memories. For her story not to be a sum of silences, traumas and dispossessions, she needs to write it. This book is a trace, an archive, a piece of the puzzle she tries to complete thanks to the political analysis of what happened to her.

If families are formed through adoption, it is because more precarious families have been destroyed. Whether it is a question of class relations, global inequalities or the colonial continuum, in the Western context, adoption is inscribed in a history of violence. It is this history that adoptees inherit.

Une poupée en chocolat text navigates between a poignant life story and affiliations with critical theories of race, cultural studies, feminist studies, decolonial studies and queer theories. Amandine Gay responds to the urgency for adoptees - and others - to open a field of reflection, based on their experiences and expertise, analyzing the power dynamics exercised in adoption, and questioning the conventional structures of parenthood.

“The strength of the text is enhanced by its autobiographical aspect [...] . Amandine Gay’s story captivates us, often revolts us, and touches us deeply, especially in the last pages, which are poignant.” Erwan Cario, Libération

“A poignant and relentless intimate story.” Julie Hainaut, ELLE

“Speaking for herself, but also for all adoptees, Amandine Gay raises vital issues and does so with the authority of one who speaks from personal experience.”

Catriona Seth, En attendant Nadeau

About the author: Amandine Gay divides her time between research, creation and activism. She directed the documentaries “Ouvrir la voix” and “Une histoire à soi” which also deals with the topic of adoption, following the journey of five adoptees. “Une poupée en chocolat” is her first book. She is currently working on her next book on how white supremacy shaped different aspects of her life.

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