

Children's Books

Fall 2023



For 25 years, **Les Arènes** has published a selection of books ranging from brainy but **accessible essays**, **nonfiction comics** and **graphic novels**, **children's books** and **noir novels**.

With less than a hundred titles a year, from spectacular bestsellers to more intimate publications, we put our hearts into every project we publish.

We are a **crafty, small** (50-person) team, and we produce everything **in-house**, from production to sales to digital communication. We strive to find **new ways of telling stories**, showcase groundbreaking voices, and reach out to readers in innovative ways.

We often wonder: **what does the future hold?**

Join us in discovering curious minds and **big idea books** and engage in **international projects**.

For years **L'Iconoclaste** has distinguished itself by publishing a **carefully selected** list of **literature** and **essays**. With each book, intimate narratives meet political commitment in its **many forms**.

In the **fiction** and **nonfiction** list alike, established authors such as Christophe André and Christian Bobin appear alongside **new talents** and **bold voices**, such as Adeline Dieudonné and Titiou Lecoq.

L'Iconoclaste is the home of **feminist** writers of all genders, first novels that become literary **sensations**, award-winning literature, poets and essayists, and a bold new **graphic novel** collection.

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» NONFICTION

A YEAR OF FESTIVITIES AROUND THE WORLD

Reza Dalvand and Camille Zabka

How do people celebrate major events in different cultures? A round-the-world trip of 16 festivities in a gorgeous album.

The Chinese New Year in January, the February carnivals of Rio and Venice, the Holi festival of colors in India in March, the Gay Pride in the US, the Day of the Dead in Latin America... Each year traditional festivities enchant and set the tempo for millions of families around the world. They are a perfect occasion to gather, dance, sing, and celebrate important events.

This album illustrates 16 major celebrations from countries and cultures all around the world: each festivity can be told like a bedtime story! The colorful double spreads are an invitation to dive in and look for beautiful details. A calendar of the most important festivities worldwide can be found at the end of the book, as well as a map! In the French edition, this map and calendar will be added in the book as a poster to hang on the wall.

Publication:
August 2023

Pages:
44

Size:
250 x 280 mm
Hardcover

Price:
16,90 €

Author
previously
sold in:
• World English
(Scribble),
• Korean
(Chaekyarn)

English PDF
available

- An invitation to travel through colorful and immersive illustrations.
- Each festivity can become a bedtime story.
- A calendar and a map to use as a poster (optional/added in the French edition).



Reza Dalvand is an Iranian author and illustrator who has won multiple awards. He has published more than twenty books and has been translated all across the world. He also wrote *Entre toi et moi* (with Catherine Gueguen, more than 12,000 copies sold,) and *J'ai le droit* (2022).

Camille Zabka is an associate professor of modern literature. Her first novel, *Celle qui attend*, was inspired by a true story.

» INSIDE LOOK

Carnaval de Venise

— Au mois de février en Italie —

À Venise, le carnaval commence par le vol de l'Ange : une acrobate s'élance dans le vide du haut de la basilique Saint-Marc. Accrochée à un filin, elle survole la place en jetant des confettis à la foule. Pendant une dizaine de jours, il y a des bals, des défilés, des spectacles, des pièces de théâtre... Les Vénitiens sont méconnaissables derrière leurs masques et leurs costumes. Cette célébration remonte au Moyen-Âge : une fois par an, la religion catholique imposait 40 jours de privation (le carême). Juste avant, le carnaval permettait à chacun de se dévouer.



Publication:
**September
2022**

Pages:
44

Size:
**215 x 245 mm
Hardcover**

Price:
13,90 €

Rights sold:
• **World English**
(Scribble)
• **Korean**
(Chaekyarn)

I HAVE THE RIGHT

Reza Dalvand

From the award-winning Iranian author Reza Dalvand comes a touching and beautifully illustrated story about our rights as human beings

In 1989, 175 states signed the international Convention on the Rights of the Child. This treaty committed them to guarantee and defend the rights of every child without any distinction and to address these commitments to the United Nations. A child who lives in a country where these rights are respected will feel respected and valued. They will be able to grow and flourish safely, both emotionally and physically.

In a large number of countries these fundamental rights are not always respected. Reza Dalvand deploys all his artistic talent in this wonderful book, which is prefaced by Dr Catherine Gueguen, to support children and their universal rights. His jovial, poetic and vibrant illustrations praise their fundamental rights. Page after page, children speak out and make this important subject accessible.

This beautifully illustrated book serves as a reminder to ensure that adults never forget that all children have rights. More importantly, it wants to make sure that children themselves are aware of these rights from a very young age.

- **An essential read on the subject of children's rights.**
- **Assures that adults remember and children learn about them.**
- **A book with an international scope.**



Reza Dalvand is an award-winning Iranian author and illustrator. He has published more than twenty books in many languages throughout the world. His previous title, *Between You and Me*, written by Catherine Gueguen, was published by Les Arènes in 2020.

» INSIDE LOOK



J'ai le droit d'avoir un toit.

Publication:
**October
2023**

Pages:
96

Size:
148 x 210

Price:
16,90 €

SHARING TREES WITH CHILDREN

Tahar Ben Jelloun

Everything that trees have taught Tahar Ben Jelloun, which he wants to share with the younger generations.

One day, when Tahar Ben Jelloun was in the sixth grade, his teacher invited him to plant a tree. He even gave it a name: Sahbi, my friend. This memory would leave its mark on the author, who turns trees into teachers in this wonderful book.

In these pages blending together the author's story, memories, and poems, we are enchanted by trees in turn. But they are increasingly threatened by the very creatures they protect. Deforestation, wildfires, storms, droughts: when a forest disappears, part of the Earth's memory goes up in smoke.

In an effort to combat these dangers, Tahar Ben Jelloun teaches us to observe, touch, and appreciate trees. And to never cease to be amazed by these silent friends.

In the author's words: "I wrote this little book for the younger generations because I knew they still have the open ears and ability to be amazed, which old oaks like ourselves have unfortunately lost. Now I see them in my mind's eye: autonomous, observant, hungry to learn, full of unparalleled fascination and wonder as they stand before a thuja or a beech or an acacia in the woods. I know that children can't help but love trees. It's up to them to convince their parents and teach them what they now know. It's up to them to read, touch, admire, and save. It's up to us to follow them along this path of leaves and bark."

- **Comparable to the author's successful book *Islam Explained to Children* (55 000 copies sold).**

- **Informative sidebars featuring astonishing facts about trees.**

- **A beautiful book, illustrated by the author (who is both a painter and a writer).**



A writer, painter, poet, and member of the "Académie Goncourt" (which awarded him the "Prix Goncourt" in 1987 for *The Sacred Night* [*La Nuit sacrée*]), **Tahar Ben Jelloun** is the author of an impressive body of works. In 2022, he published *The Color of Words* [*La Couleur des mots*] with L'Iconoclaste.

» INSIDE LOOK



vers le haut. Les hêtres devaient donc se dessécher et mourir. Le garde forestier en a vu survivre quelques-uns néanmoins. Aidés par leurs voisins, certains ont réussi à garder vigueur et force. «La solidité maximale d'une chaîne est celle de son maillon le plus faible, conclut-il. Cet adage issu du monde artisan aurait pu être inventé par les arbres. Sans doute est-ce parce qu'ils en ont la connaissance intuitive qu'ils s'aident les uns les autres sans condition.»

Ce qui m'émeut, c'est que cet amour, cette amitié, ce lien, appelons-le comme nous le voulons, nous, pauvres humains, est fondé sur un grand respect. Un arbre étale ses branches jusqu'à ce qu'elles rencontrent l'extrémité des branches de son voisin. Quelques centimètres restent vacants, une juste distance qui permet à chacun de respirer et de ne pas se sentir menacé dans son intégrité, comme lorsqu'une personne vous parle trop près de votre visage, ou insiste pour tenir votre bras alors que cela vous incommode. Chez les arbres, il semble que ces centimètres permettent de laisser passer suffisamment de lumière dans l'espace clos des frondaisons et d'éviter l'échange d'insectes parasites. Les spécialistes ont un très beau nom pour ce phénomène : la timidité.

I CAN DO THAT! 1000 WAYS TO BECOME INDEPENDANT

Alain Laboile & HifuMiyo

A well-illustrated fun and practical book to help your child learn to be independent!

Target audience:

The book is intended for parents who want to help their children become independent, from pre-school to the end of primary school.

Technical characteristics:

An easy to handle and surprisingly lightweight book ... less than 700 grams!

A family companion:

Life is an adventure when you're three years old, but it can take quite a few years to be able to do everyday things independently. As your child grows up, they will be able to say, 'I can do that!' every time they turn the page.

Photographs:

A series of colour photos depicting specific skills being learned by children. No or few accessories beyond what is strictly necessary to ensure that the pictures can be instantly understood. A series of full-page black and white photos of scenes from everyday life, full of the joy and tenderness of childhood, is also included.

Illustrations:

Hundreds of sketches, drawings and decorations illustrate the book which is written in a refreshing, readable, fun, and practical children's book style. Children of different origins, girls and boys, are portrayed to avoid stereotypes.

Text:

Very short titles and text to allow very young children to read or understand the subject. The text addresses the child directly with easy to understand words and syntax.

• **Everything a child can do alone from the age of four to twelve.**

• **Sold in 6 languages, and counting!**

• **A practical guide to growing up and doing things on one's own.**

Publication:
September 2020

Pages:
176

Size:
210 x 255 mm
Hardcover

Price:
19,90 €

Rights sold:

- **English** (Dorling Kindersley)
- **Spanish** (Thules)
- **Italian** (Fabbri)
- **Chinese** (Beijing New Oriental)
- **Russian** (Eksmo)
- **Bosnian** (Malik Books)



Alain Laboile is a photographer and father of six. He points his lens towards his growing family which became his major subject : a life on the edge of the world, where intemporality and the universality of childhood meet. He's also the author of the picture book *La Dispute* (Les Arènes, 2017).

HifuMiyo, an illustrator who was born in Hiroshima. Since 2010, she has lived and worked in France, notably for the press.

Je sais ranger ma chambre

Les vêtements, les chaussures

1 Je ramasse tout ce qui traîne et je fais trois tas:



2 Je porte les habits sales dans le panier à linge sale.

3 Je range mes habits propres dans le placard: pliés, sur l'étagère ou suspendus à des cintres.



Les livres

1 Je rassemble les livres qui se trouvent au sol ou sur mon lit.



2 Je les mets dans la bibliothèque (tranche du livre face à moi).

Ok là là!



Les jouets, les papiers

1 Je rassemble les jouets qui traînent au sol ou sur le lit et je fais des tas: poupées, jeux de construction, voitures, feutres...



2 Je remets chaque jouet à sa place (bac de rangement, coffre, armoire...).

3 Je jette les papiers à la poubelle.

Je rends à mon frère, à ma sœur ou à mes parents ce qui n'est pas à moi.

Je peux faire mon lit...



I CAN COOK: 1000 WAYS TO BECOME INDEPENDANT

Nina Davidson & HifuMiyo

With its fun and practical content that is richly illustrated with pictures and photos, this book is the go-to companion for a family learning how to cook.

After *I can do that!* (more than 10 000 copies sold), this new album is dedicated to a child's autonomy when cooking. For the first time, a single volume contains all the skills that a child will progressively learn in order to cook.

Thanks to simple and appetising recipes, which are easily accessible, basic techniques, and tips and tricks of the trade, a child discovers all that is needed to prepare family dishes in a fun way. The photos and drawings show the step-by-step realisation of the recipes in a cheerful and comprehensive way.

Savoury dishes: Gratins, soups, pasta, salads, cakes, pancakes...
Sweet recipes for desserts, snacks or breakfast: Brioche, biscuits, chocolate mousse, Swiss roll, fruit salad...
We learn peeling, cutting, kneading dough, squeezing an orange, cooking in the oven, pan frying...

The book follows three sisters aged 9, 7 and 2 in their own kitchen. Scenes, sketches, recipes in a comic book format that are explained step-by-step throughout the book. Children of different origins, boys and girls, are depicted.

• **All the skills that a child will progressively learn in order to cook alone.**

• **Easy-to-follow recipes with fun photographs and illustrations.**

• **Perfect for the future chef who loves to help out in the kitchen!**

Publication:
October 2022

Pages:
176

Size:
210 x 255 mm
Hardcover

Price:
19,90 €

Rights sold:
• **World English**
(Seven Stories)
• **Italian**
(Fabbri)
• **Dutch**
(Querido)
• **Russian**
(Eksmo)



Nina Davidson is a photographer. She lives in Scotland with her husband and her three daughters, Ada, Colette and Nicole, and their dog, Loup. She regularly publishes her photos on her Instagram account @ninadavidson_ (more than 25 000 followers).

HifuMiyo, an illustrator who was born in Hiroshima. Since 2010, she has lived and worked in France, notably for the press. She created the illustrations for *I can do that*, which was published at Les Arènes in 2020.

» INSIDE LOOK

Je sais cuire du porridge



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Je sais faire du granola



1 Verse les ingrédients
humides :

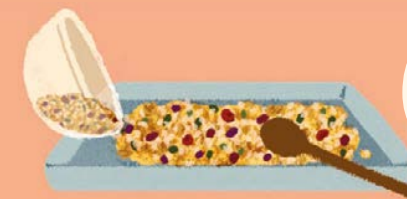
2 cuil. à soupe d'huile
100 ml de miel
ou de sirop d'érable ou d'agave
1/2 cuil. à café d'extrait de vanille
1 petit verre de jus d'orange
ou de pomme

2 Ajoute les ingrédients
secs :

160 g de flocons d'avoine
50 g de graines et de noix
50 g de fruits secs
1 pincée de sel

Compose le granola avec ce
que tu aimes : noix de coco râpée,
graines de courge, noix de cajou,
amandes, noisettes, abricots ou raisins
secs, cranberries, figues...

3 Mélange.



4 Répartis le granola sur une plaque
et enfourne 45 min à 120 °C.

Pour un granola
bien doré, remue le
mélange sur la plaque
en cours de cuisson.

Conserve le
mélange refroidi
dans une boîte
en fer.



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WHAT MAKES US HAPPY?

Marie-Agnès Gaudrat & Carme Solé Vendrell

A book with simple and universal questions relating to the meaning of life presented by France's leading psychiatrist and mindfulness expert Christophe André.

Publication:
2016

Pages:
64

Size:
280 x 250 mm
Hardcover

Price:
17 €

Sales:
13 000 copies

Rights sold:
• **Spanish**
(Vicens Vives)
• **Catalán**
(Vicens Vives)
• **English**
(Shelter Harbor Press)
• **Chinese complex**
(Grimm Press)
• **Chinese simplified**
(Post Wave)

"What makes us happy?

Turning our back on unfamiliar things?

Or being curious about how they taste?

Pretending to be someone we are not?

Or being ourselves with peace of mind?"

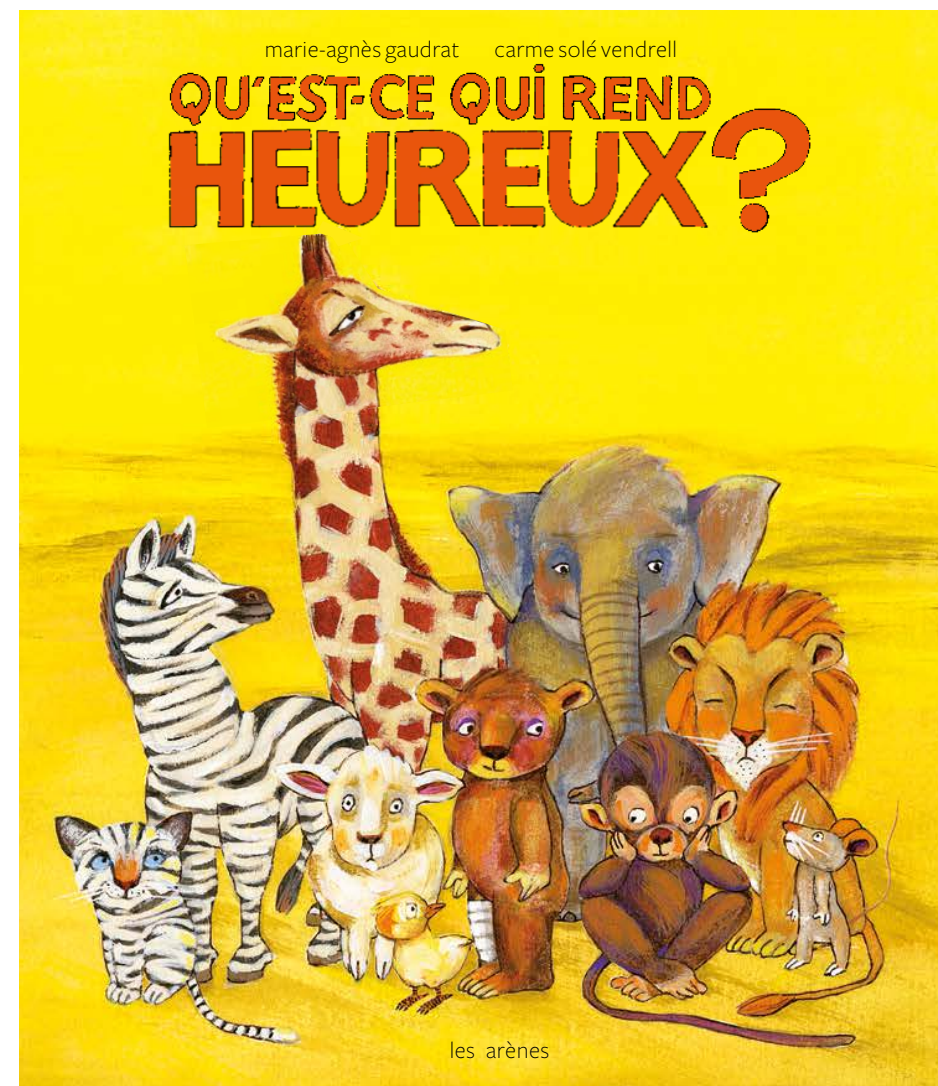
With colourful and vibrant images, here is an invitation to enjoy life and to be altruistic.

"Let's talk about happiness with our children. Otherwise, it is society that will deliver its lessons and lead them down the wrong path, materialistic, selfish and competitive. This joyful, practical and poetic book will help adults and children to discuss and reflect on what makes people happy, and to move towards an authentic and generous happiness."
Christophe André.

• **Existential questions which children can grasp.**

• **Learning about happiness through evocative and cheerful illustrations.**

• **Already sold in five languages: happiness is indeed universal!**



Carme Solé Vendrell is an internationally recognised Spanish artist who has illustrated books from all over the world. She has a unique way of working with light, distributing colours on the page and conveying the emotions of her characters.

Marie-Agnès Gaudrat is a senior editor at Bayard Presse who has authored numerous texts for the series *Les Belles histoires de Pomme d'Api*, including the bestseller at the start of every school year for the last ten years, *Le Petit Ogre veut aller à l'école*, and the very successful series *La Famille Cochon*. She has also written most of the stories in the series *Léo et Popi*, illustrated by Helen Oxenbury. Les Arènes has previously published her *L'Imagier malin*.

» INSIDE LOOK



Volume 1
and Volume 2:

Publication:
May 2022

Pages:
32

Size:
215 x 245 mm
Hardcover

Price:
10,90 €

TAMBOUILLE AND GRIBOUILLE: A SERIES

Seymourina Cruse and Joëlle Passeron

A new comic book series for children starring two heroes in the kitchen.

These comic books depict two main characters: Tambouille (a little girl who does everything right) and Gribouille (a cat who does everything wrong) are under the nose of a small mouse who never loses a crumb... Funny and endearing, these characters find themselves confronted with all sorts of situations throughout the various titles of the collection.

Each comic book is a recipe, each title an opportunity to read a story while following the happy path to creating something especially chosen for children that is easy, fun and appetizing.

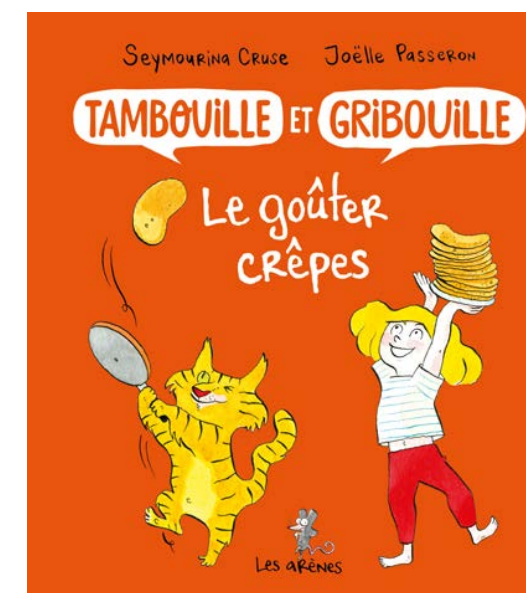
The first two titles of this collection tell you how to make pancakes ("Tambouille and Gribouille prepare a pancake snack") and how to make a fun cake using cupboard leftovers ("Tambouille and Gribouille dream up an amazing cake"). Whether the recipe is tried out or not, each comic book reads like a unique story allowing the young reader to laugh and discover their misadventures.

The recipe is written again clearly and precisely at the end of the book. The comprehensive cooking steps are accompanied by an advice page and all sorts of useful tips and tricks so that the recipe can be made without a hitch. And with a lot of fun!

• **Children's comic book with recipe: a new "two-in-one" concept.**

• **Endearing characters who know how to have fun in the kitchen.**

• **Useful tips and tricks to help children make the recipes.**



A graduate of the Ecole Supérieure Estienne, **Joëlle Passeron** started illustrating books at a very young age for numerous publishing houses (we find her work in stories such as *Lightweight Lucy* in *Zaza Mimosa* and *Slice-Face*, the artisan executioner from *Look I'm reading*). She teaches illustration and also works for the press.

Seymourina Cruse has authored several books in the illustrated books category. With regard to cooking, she has created a collection of children's cookery books for Thierry Magnier publishing and also the *Shameful Recipes series* (© Hachette, more than 300,000 copies sold).

» INSIDE LOOK



LE SUPER GÂTEAU



LE GOÛTER CRÊPES

NONFICTION

THE ODYSSEYS

Laure Grandbesançon

illustrated by twelve different artists

Who are the greatest heros of History? Dive into this illustrated collection of fun, informative stories of our most important cultural characters.

The history podcast children love

Laure Grandbesançon plunges us into the adventures of history's great heroes and takes us behind the scenes of the greatest legends in history with this book to podcast adaptation, courtesy of France Inter. We encounter the silk roads with Marco Polo; we experience the Apollo 11 mission with Neil Armstrong; we find ourselves in the heart of Tutankhamen's tomb, and we ride the plains of the Far West with Calamity Jane...

A perfect blend of illustration and history

Twelve captivating historical narratives, richly illustrated by twelve talented illustrators, have been chosen and presented in a theatrical and humorous way with a touch of mystery, allowing us to travel around the world and across centuries. The stories are complemented with a documentary booklet that is illustrated with maps and drawings, encouraging children to learn about these specific periods in history in more depth.

Laure Grandbesançon grew up in Marseille. After studying Philosophy at the Sorbonne and eight years of acting, she began working for France Inter as a production assistant and then as a broadcaster on the weekend morning show. Her passion for history and research led her to launch "The Odysseys" podcast in 2019, which has accumulated forty episodes.

• **Amazing historical facts in adventure story format.**

• **Richly illustrated by twelve talented illustrators.**

• **A calendar and a map to use as a poster (optional/added in the French edition).**

Volume 1

Publication:
May 2021

Pages:
165

Size:
180 x 250 mm
Hardcover

Price:
19,90 €

Volume 2

Publication:
October 2022

Pages:
168

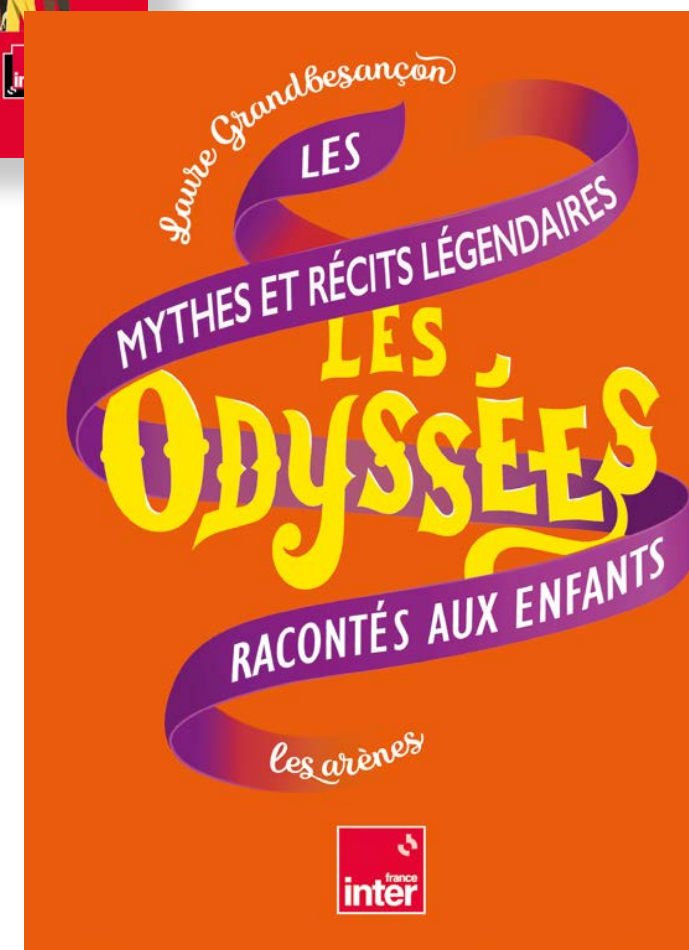
Size:
180 x 250 mm
Hardcover

Price:
19,90 €

Volume 1



Volume 2



» INSIDE LOOK



Le boycott des bus de Montgomery dure plus d'une année.

la nouvelle se répand dans toute la ville. Martin Luther King, lui aussi, vit à Montgomery. Tout jeune pasteur, il a fait de brillantes études et il sait très bien parler. Avec d'autres, il a une idée géniale : organiser un boycott des bus. Durant tout le week-end, un même message circule : pour protester contre l'arrestation de Rosa Parks, il faut arrêter de prendre le bus.

Le lundi matin, Martin Luther King est debout dès six heures.

Il a comme une grosse boule dans le ventre. Le boycott est-il suivi ? Impatient et anxieux, il sort dans la rue. Le froid pique un peu mais c'est un homme prévoyant, il a pensé à prendre son cache-nez.

Martin croise un premier bus : il est vide. Passe un deuxième bus, puis un troisième et un quatrième : vide, vide, vide. Ils sont tous vides.

Le cœur de Martin Luther King bat la chamade. Partout autour de lui, il voit des hommes et des femmes décidés, la tête haute : ils marchent pour leur dignité, pour la justice, pour l'égalité.

Le boycott des bus de Montgomery dure plus d'une année. Ce n'est pas facile tous les jours. C'est même plutôt très dur. Alors on s'organise et on se serre les coudes. Pour se déplacer, on partage des voitures, on se prête des vélos. Parfois, il faut marcher pendant des heures, mais cela ne fait rien, la communauté tient bon !

Leader du mouvement, Martin Luther King est menacé de mort. Quelqu'un fait exploser sa maison (heureusement, personne n'est blessé) et il est emprisonné plusieurs fois, comme Rosa Parks et d'autres camarades. Le pasteur reste calme et ne se décourage pas.

MARTIN LUTHER KING - 91

» PICTURE
BOOKS

Publication:
**September
2023**

Pages:
44

Size:
**260 x 290 mm
Hardcover**

Price:
16,90 €

Rights sold:
• **Italian**
(Rizzoli)

**Full English
and French
PDF available**

THE FULL PICTURE

Baptiste Beaulieu & Qin Leng

A poetic and modern tale about recognizing nuances in life, from the best-selling duo Baptiste Beaulieu & Qin Leng.

A child wakes up with two different eyes: one pupil is the shape of a crescent moon, the other one the shape of a star. Through the moon-eye, the child sees what is positive and joyful. Through the star-eye, a grimmer, sadder version of life. But the family doctor isn't alarmed: every child goes through this phase, we just tend to forget it once we grow up.

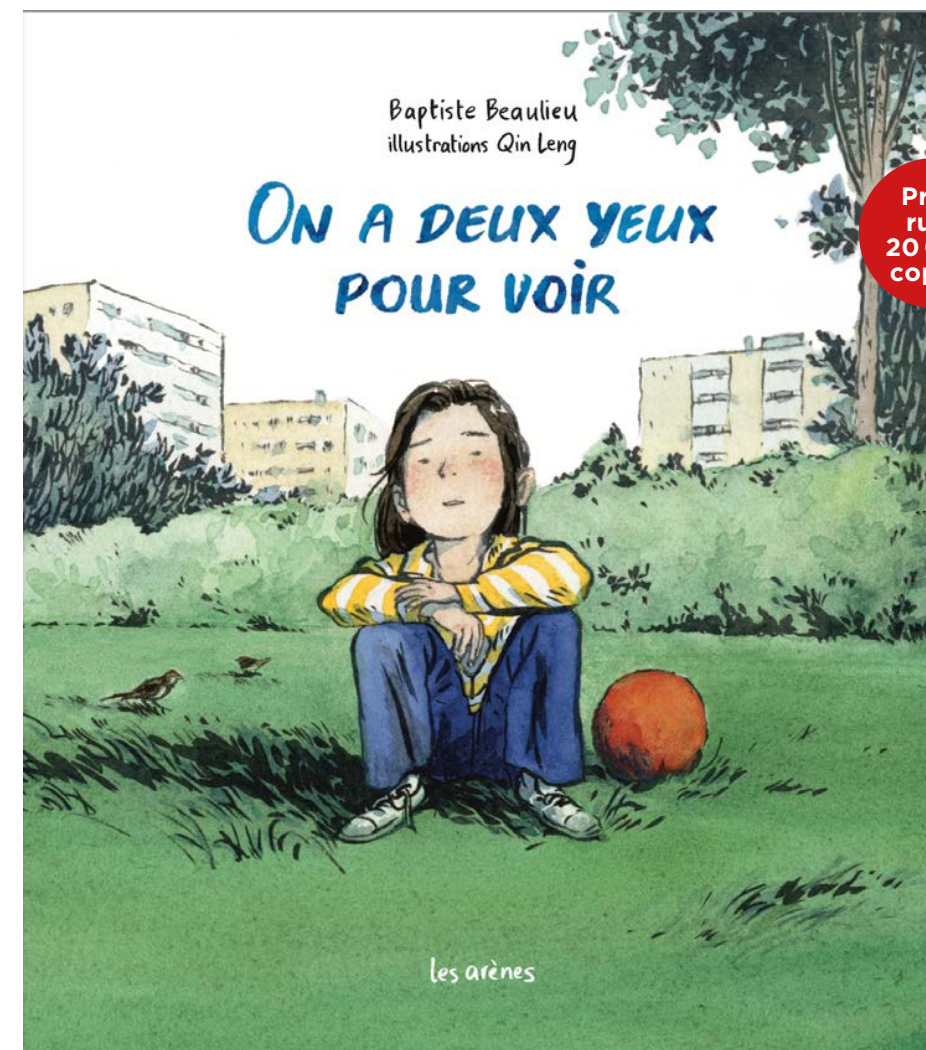
As the child soon realizes, it is a blessing, because we all need both eyes to see the full picture. For example, at a family gathering, the child realizes it's sad because their grandma is aging, but it's also happy, because a new baby is expected imminently. The child discovers that two emotions can exist simultaneously.

Readers are invited to experience moments in life (losing a pet companion, moving houses, riding a bike for the first time, making new friends) and to realize each is an opportunity to reconcile the bad and the good. After all, we need both eyes to see the full picture!

• **A universal tale for all ages that speaks to the benefit of recognizing good and bad emotions.**

• **A tender and realistic immersion into the daily struggles and victories in a child's life.**

• **The return of a best-selling duo: 70,000 copies sold in 3 months!**



Baptiste Beaulieu practices general medicine in the South of France. In 2012, he launched his blog "Alors voilà" (8 million readers), which he later transformed into a book that sold more than 60,000 copies and was translated into 14 languages. It follows his and his colleagues' daily lives as doctors in emergency situations and caretaker - patient relationship. His first album *Les gens sont beaux* became an instant best-seller and won the Prix Landerneau.

Qin Leng is a Canadian illustrator whose picture books have been translated worldwide. At Les Arènes, she is the author of *A kid is a kid is a kid* and *A family is a family is a family*. Born in Shanghai, Qin lived in France as a child and later moved to Toronto. She won the 2022 Governor Award for her title *Trefle*.

» INSIDE LOOK



L'autre soir, en rentrant à la maison, on a croisé ce monsieur qui vit dans la rue. Assis sur le trottoir dans son manteau troué, il demandait une pièce aux passants.

Avec mon œil «étoile», j'ai vu que les gens passaient devant lui sans lui répondre, parfois sans même le regarder. Avec mon œil «lune», j'ai vu qu'il serrait contre lui un petit chaton pour le protéger du froid. L'homme l'avait trouvé grelottant au fond d'une ruelle, il l'avait réchauffé, et maintenant c'était le chaton qui lui tenait chaud en ronronnant. Ils étaient bien tous les deux, ils étaient ensemble (d'ailleurs, il suffit d'être deux pour être ensemble).

Ce jour-là, grâce à mes yeux magiques, j'ai vu la solitude et son contraire. J'ai compris que protéger quelqu'un de plus petit que soi, ça peut nous rendre heureux.

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40

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100 000
copies

Rights sold:
• **Chinese simpl.** (Beijing Science and Technology Publishing)
• **Estonian** (Varrak)
• **Korean** (Esoop)
• **Italy** (Rizzoli)
• **Spanish + Catalan** (Hachette Heroes)
• **Turkey** (Kelime)

Full English and French PDF available

PEOPLE ARE BEAUTIFUL

Baptiste Beaulieu & Qin Leng

A doctor's soothing and universal message about acceptance that became an instant bestseller

Baptiste Beaulieu is a general practitioner and novelist. Every day, he sees all kinds of people and all kinds of bodies. People of different ages, trajectories, body shapes...

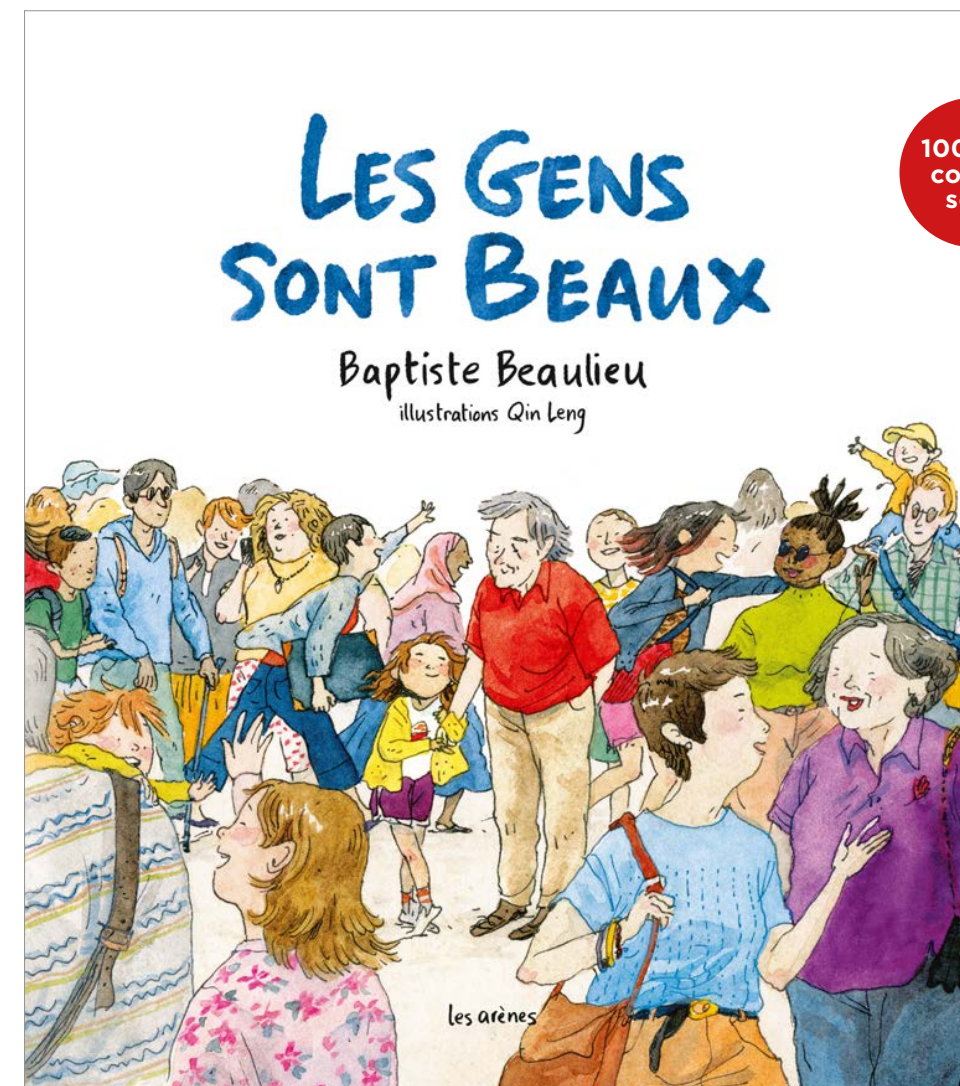
For his picture book debut, he tells the story of a grandfather and his grandson, on their way to Paris for the day. On the journey, the son will learn the greatest lesson of them all: when it comes to human bodies, there isn't a perfect model. Perfection is what makes you you; as it is, your body is beautiful and beyond reproach.

As grandfather and son travel together, they meet a gallery of characters who at first look imperfect: an old man who's completely bent in two, a woman with rashes on her arms, a worn-out waiter in a café, an overweight tourist on top of the Eiffel Tower, and a lanky, shy-looking guy in the bus. Each encounter allows the grandfather to explain what story lies behind a body. When they return home, the grandson realizes that, maybe, his own grandmother's face harbors the marks of a great story too.

• **1# on the children's book's bestseller list in France.**

• **A best and long seller with 100 000 copies sold, and counting!**

• **The first book in a series, featuring powerful messages about the world around us.**



Baptiste Beaulieu practices general medicine in southern France. In 2012, he launched his blog "Alors voilà" (8 million readers), which he later transformed into a book that sold more than 60,000 copies and was translated into 14 languages. It follows his and his colleagues' daily lives as doctors in emergency situations and the relationship between caretakers and patients. His first children's book *Les gens sont beaux* became an instant bestseller and won the Prix Landerneau.

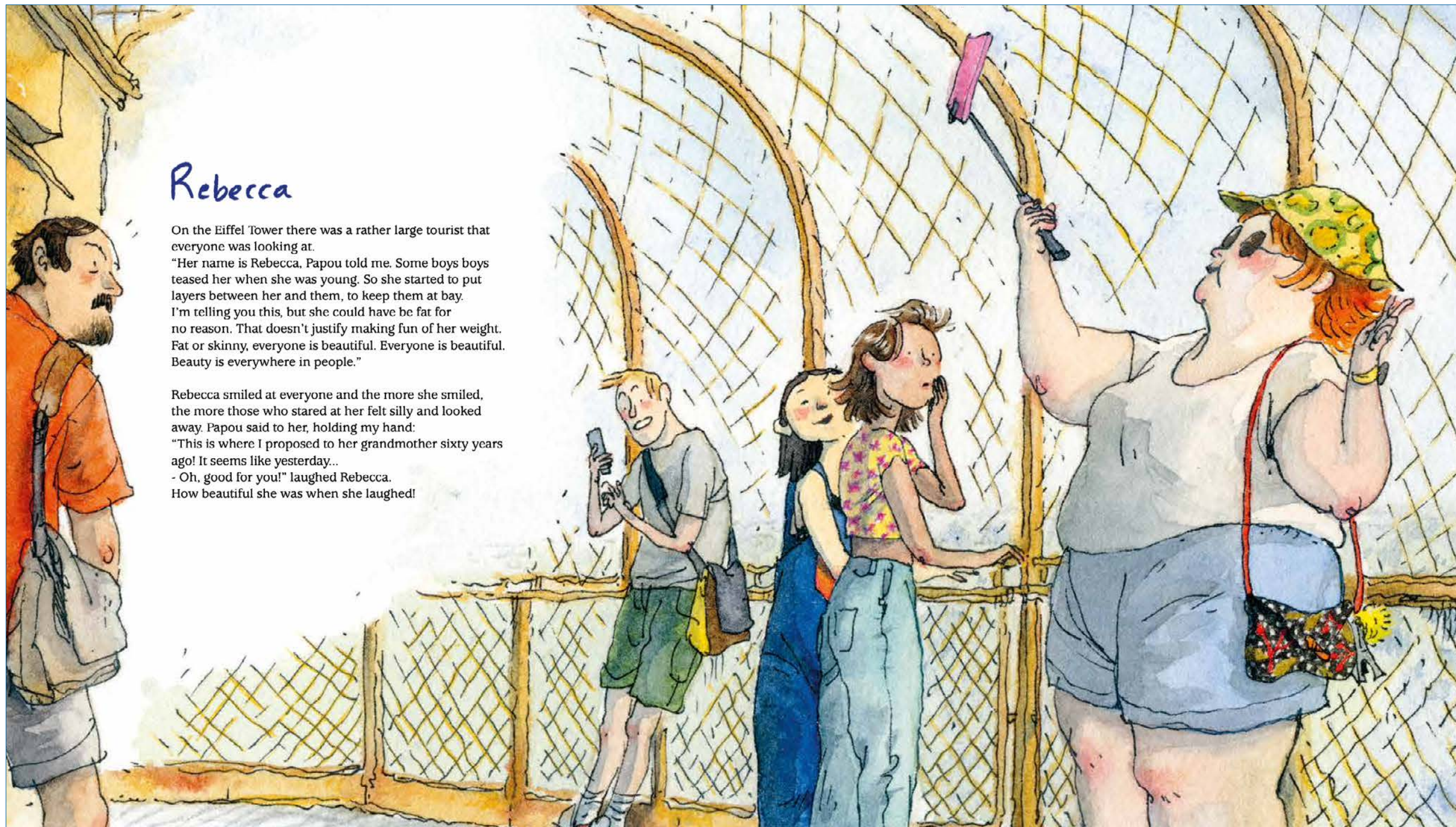
Qin Leng is a Canadian illustrator, whose picture books have been translated worldwide. At Les Arènes, she is the author of *A kid is a kid is a kid* and *A family is a family is a family*. Born in Shanghai, Qin lived in France as a child and later moved to Toronto. She won the 2022 Governor Award for her title *Trefle*.

» INSIDE LOOK

Rebecca

On the Eiffel Tower there was a rather large tourist that everyone was looking at.
"Her name is Rebecca, Papou told me. Some boys boys teased her when she was young. So she started to put layers between her and them, to keep them at bay. I'm telling you this, but she could have be fat for no reason. That doesn't justify making fun of her weight. Fat or skinny, everyone is beautiful. Everyone is beautiful. Beauty is everywhere in people."

Rebecca smiled at everyone and the more she smiled, the more those who stared at her felt silly and looked away. Papou said to her, holding my hand:
"This is where I proposed to her grandmother sixty years ago! It seems like yesterday...
- Oh, good for you!" laughed Rebecca.
How beautiful she was when she laughed!



Publication:
January 2024

Pages:
44

Size:
215 x 245 mm
Hardcover

Price:
12,90 €

COME ON, LET'S GO!

Amélie Graux

An children's book to make children laugh at their parents... and their parents laugh at them!

Hurry up and wait!

Parents and children exchange these two contradictory commands very frequently throughout the day. Who hasn't sighed and said with frustration, "Come on, get out of the bath!" while our child is busy playing. ("Wait, I'm washing my ducks!") And haven't you felt your child tug on your sleeve, saying impatiently, "Come on, I want to go to the park!" while you linger on the sidewalk chatting with friends? ("Wait, give us five minutes.")

Children count time differently

Children do not acquire the notion of time until very late in their cerebral development. They live in the present moment. Adults, on the other hand, are often caught up in their urgencies, victims of «acceleritis», a contemporary evil that forces us to do more things more quickly. The time we spend on our phones consumes more and more available brain energy, while our children soak up the world around them at an incredible speed.

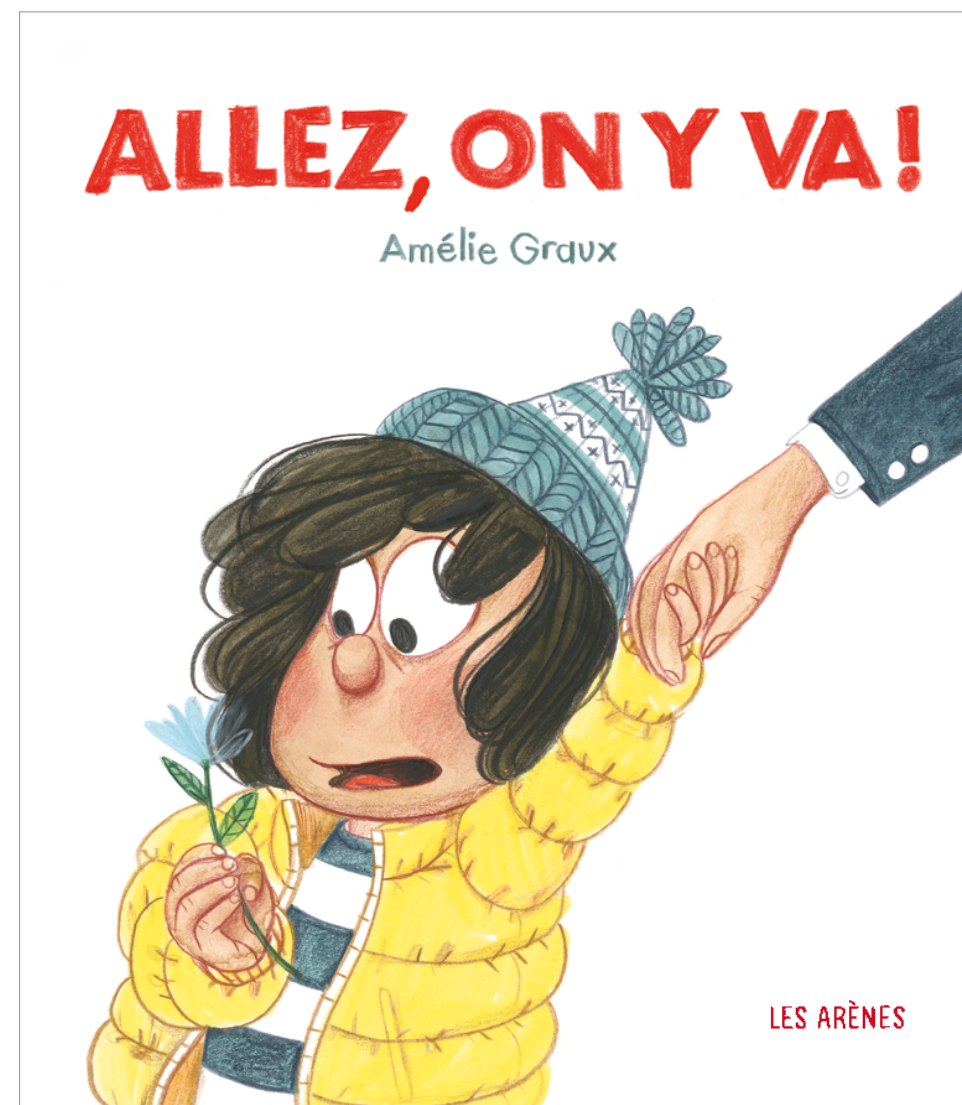
With humor and realism, this book illustrates the temporal duality between parents and children, along with the tension it imposes on daily life. We will recognize ourselves in this story's characters and admit that we've sometimes played "the bad role." And, in the end, the whole family joins together to share a moment that exists beyond time.

Afterword by the child therapist Deborah d'Hostingues.

• A book that doesn't take itself too seriously, but acknowledges the reality of parent-child dynamics.

• Allows for increased awareness of how the other person feels in a tense situation.

• With its realistic scenes, you, too, will learn how to fight the temptation to always be at top-speeds.



Amélie Graux was born in 1977 in Paris. She studied animation at the Arts décoratifs de Paris. Since then, she has illustrated many books for various publishers such as Gallimard, Flammarion, Milan, Nathan, Didier Jeunesse, Little Urban and abroad as well. She is the illustrator of the album «*Je n'ai plus peur de mes peurs*» (*I'm not afraid of my fears*), written by Emmanuelle Piquet (2022).

» INSIDE LOOK



Publication:
May 2022

Pages:
36

Size:
220 x 250 mm
Hardcover

Price:
12,90 €

Rights sold:
• Corea (Blue
Rabbit)

I'M NO LONGER AFRAID OF MY FEARS

Emmanuelle Piquet & Amélie Graux

Fear: a universal emotion

Children are afraid of the dark, of monsters, of spiders, afraid of crying in front of everyone, afraid their parents don't love them any more... But unfortunately they are often ashamed of them: in the playground fears are for "babies". As parents naturally want to quickly reassure and comfort our children. We see fear as a negative emotion to be concealed.

When fear becomes problematic

Sometimes, the fear is so strong that it becomes a source of daily suffering for a child and prevents them from leading a normal life. However, fear is positive as it warns against danger, encouraging children to cope and to find strategies for making them feel safe. So, as parents, when we instinctively stifle their fears or make them worse, we deprive children of invaluable tools.

A new approach of fear to help children cope

This book offers a new approach inspired by Palo Alto: he invites children to tame fear, a natural and vital emotion, and gives them concrete resources with which to deal with fear, such as imagining the worst, anticipating the mockeries of peers, inviting night monsters for a snack in order to see them in the light of day... By embracing their fears, children feel strong and brave, both from within and when in front of the gaze of others.

An album to release children from their fears

This first person narrative book allows children to reveal their fears and then find solutions and answers to overcome them. This particular book offers an effective tool for addressing and resolving children's fears through a reading that encourages exchanges with their parents.

• **Positive
resources that
enable children
to face their
fears.**

• **A contribution
from a renowned
psychotherapist.**

• **A framework
for parent-child
exchanges.**



Emmanuelle Piquet is a systemic therapist according to the Palo Alto School of which she is one of the recognized specialists in French-speaking Europe. She has created a new approach to alleviate suffering in schools.

Amélie Graux was born in Paris in 1977. She studied animation at the school of Decorative Arts in Paris. Since then, she has illustrated numerous books full of expressive and mischievous toddlers with various publishing houses in France and abroad.

» INSIDE LOOK



J'ai peur des araignées.
Mais elles me font moins peur
depuis que je les regarde
chaque jour en photo.
Ça me donne du courage
pour le jour où j'en verrai une
en vrai.

Publication:
**September
2020**

Pages:
36

Size:
220 x 250 mm

Price:
12,90 €

Rights sold:

- **Italian**
(La Margherita Edizioni)
- **Korean**
(Changbi)
- **Farsi**
(Tuti Books)
- **Spanish**
(Hachette Heroes)
- **Greek**
(Psichogios)

BETWEEN YOU AND ME

Catherine Gueguen & Reza Dalvand

Everything a child needs to grow up to be healthy and happy.

What are a child's deepest needs?

What is vital for a child's development? Modern neuroscience has radically changed our thinking in this respect. We now know that infants do not throw tantrums on purpose or deliberately set out to thwart their parents; they need empathy and love.

The book's guiding principle

Dr. Catherine Gueguen's new picture book gives children a voice to open a dialog with their parents: "I need you to listen to me with all your focus on me"; "I need you to encourage me without stepping in and taking over".

In praise of kindness

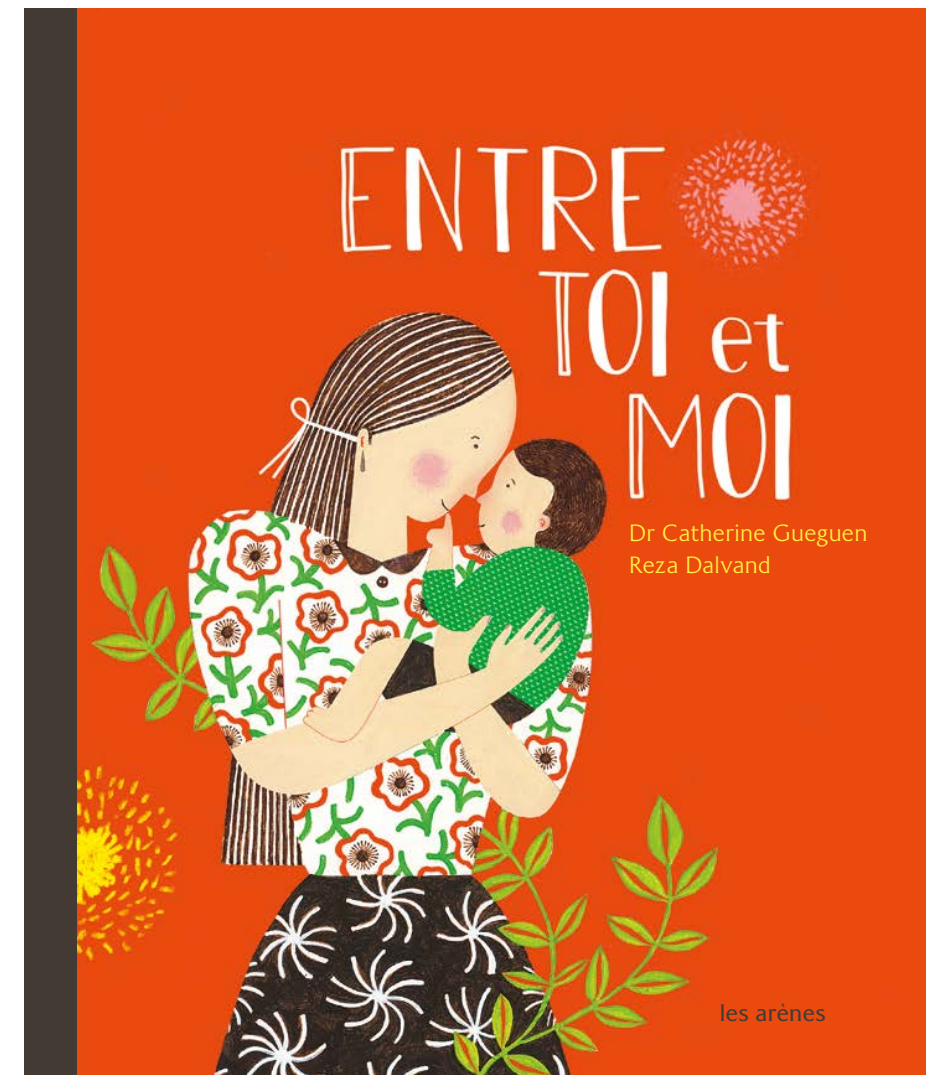
The child guides us through her needs, explaining that we need to encourage her to become autonomous, that she cannot self-soothe, and that telling her off while an emotional storm is raging is counterproductive.

The key message is that raising happy, healthy children takes infinite kindness. That is the secret to helping their brains develop, making for balanced, confident adults.

• **The first picture book by one of France's leading pediatrician.**

• **Fundamental guidelines on handling adult-children relationships.**

• **More than 12 000 copies sold.**



Catherine Gueguen is a pediatrician, trained in haptonomy and non-violent communication, and has practiced at the Institut Hospitalier Franco-Britannique in Paris. Specialized in parenting support, she is the author of numerous best-sellers, including *Pour une enfance heureuse* and *Heureux d'apprendre à l'école*.

Reza Dalvand was born in Iran in 1989. He studied graphic design in Isfahan and was awarded a Masters degree in illustration from the University of Tehran. He has published several children's books in France and elsewhere. He lives in Tehran and paints all his illustrations traditionally using oil paints.

» INSIDE LOOK



J'ai besoin que tu me protèges
mais aussi que tu m'encourages à découvrir le monde.



Publication:
May 2023

Pages:
64

Size:
270 x 270 mm

Price:
16,50 €

SONGS FOR MY SONS

Grand Corps Malade & Thomas Baas

Stunning illustrations accompany this heartfelt story about a father and his son

The impatient wait for the first child

The first text of the album, "Definitely", was written by Grand Corps Malade before the birth of his first son. It tells with humor and tenderness the waiting of the first child, the desire to be up to the task, the joy at the idea of the meeting, the dream of the small things of the everyday life to share.

Second birth, second revolution

In "You can already", Grand Corps Malade sings about the arrival and the first steps of his second child. The author is under the spell of his child's discoveries. He discovers his quest for independence, his determination, the world of his first words, his first experiences. An immense force that expresses itself with fervor, so early already.

A universal album about the complicity between a father and his children

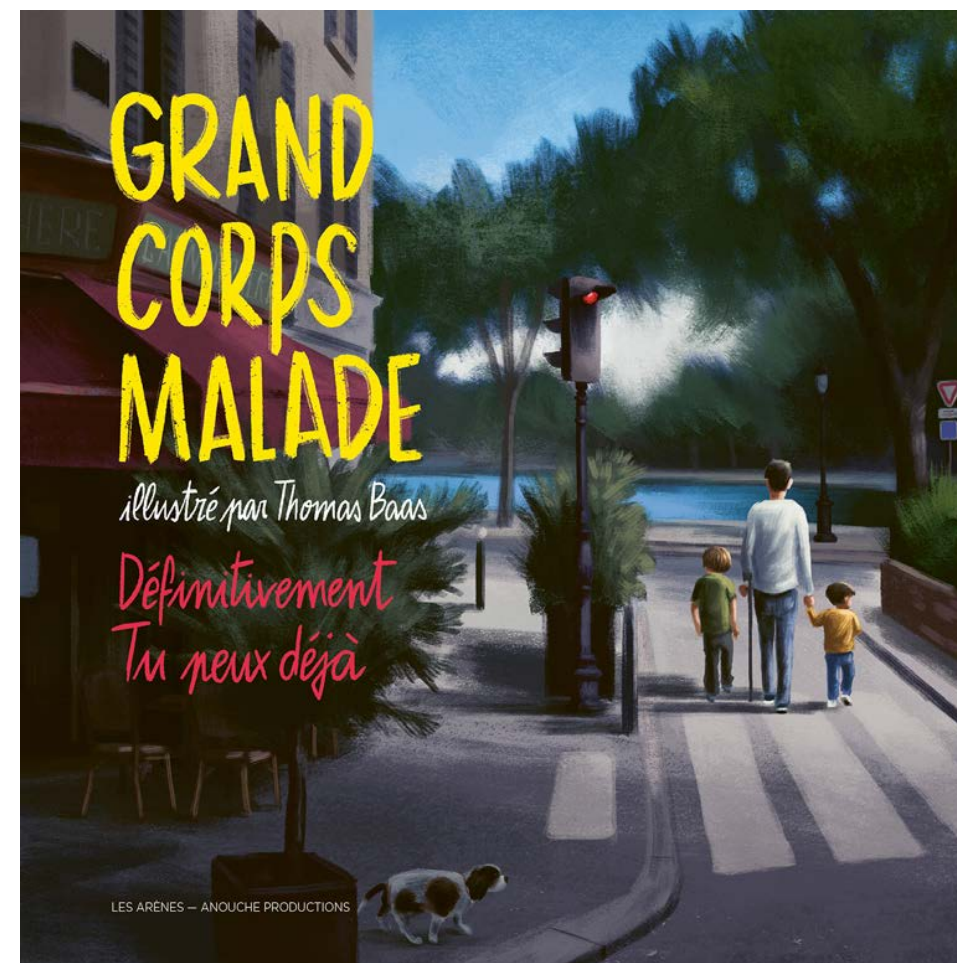
The two texts are illustrated in a realistic, modern and colorful style by the talented Thomas Baas, and presented in the form of a stroll in Saint-Denis, Grand Corps Malade's hometown, and then in Paris, where he lives today.

We first see a future father dreaming while watching other people's children, then a little later, live with his own in intimate and real scenes: in the park, in front of the school, in the intimacy of the home... Universal images of the complicity between a father and his children.

• A book that can be shared among the whole family.

• A gift that kids can offer to their father.

• Tender and gorgeous illustrations by Thomas Baas.



Grand Corps Malade, multi-talented artist, slammer, singer, author, composer, director... His real name is Fabien Marsaud. He is the father of two children.

Thomas Baas is a French illustrator who graduated from the Arts Décoratifs. With a very rich graphic universe, he creates books for children, posters, clips, drawn concerts... His publications are regularly awarded and translated around the world.

» INSIDE LOOK



Tu peux déjà avoir tes petits moments d'orgueil
Et quand tu perds au memory tu fais la gueule



Je te laisse boudier, je joue au papa insensible
Mais à ce moment-là, t'es encore plus irrésistible

Publication:
October 2022

Pages:
36

Size:
270 x 270
Hardcover

Price:
14,90 €

Rights sold:
• **Italian**
(Bompiani)
• **Portuguese**
Brazil (Veneta)

THE BOREDOM OF ENDLESS AFTERNOONS

Gaël Faye & Hippolyte

**Boredom gives rise to the most beautiful dreams
and the finest works of art.**

It all started with a song

Gaël Faye's first solo album, *Pili Pili sur un croissant au beurre*, was released in 2013. One of the songs on the album really stood out: «*L'ennui des après-midi sans fin*» [*The boredom of endless afternoons*]. The lyrics told a story, conjuring up childhood images and memories, sowing the seeds for a picture book. Gaël Faye now tells the story for readers big and small.

In Gaël Faye's own words

«As a child, I was lucky enough to feel bored. There was no school in the afternoons and at home, no screens or televisions. So I had to learn to develop my imagination to come up with games and pastimes. I lived with my father and my little sister in an old red brick house built in the days of Belgian colonization. ... Outside, a vast garden ringed the house. It was planted with mango, guava, and papaya trees. But my absolute favorite was a gigantic fig tree with powerful roots, an impressive trunk, and branches so long that they covered practically the entire garden. My father was a herpetologist, a reptile specialist. All over the garden stood cages full of cobras, vipers, garter snakes, and pythons. We also had aviaries full of fluttering, shimmering birds ... In that gloriously colorful realm, my life slowly passed to the alternating rhythm of the dry and rainy seasons. Of those days without movement, my abiding memory is of a magical period when I crammed the strongbox of my imagination full. The boredom of my childhood afternoons was a journey where time belonged to me, a space where I wove immense dreams, a world with no beginning and no end, like a sentence that ends with three little dots...»

• **Teaching
children
(and adults!)
the virtues
of boredom.**

• **Gaël Faye's first
picture book.**

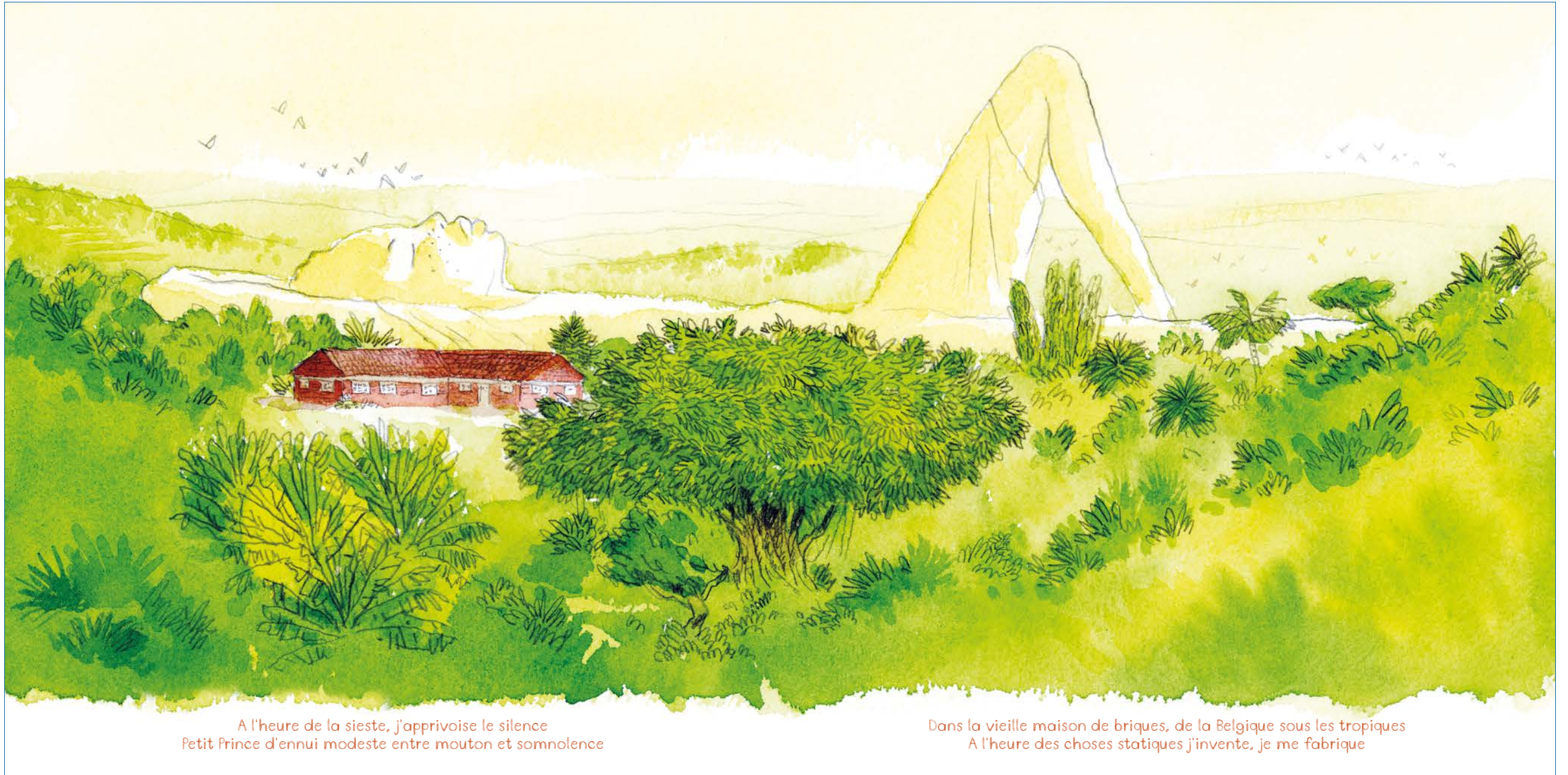
• **Featuring
Hippolyte's lush
dream world.**



Gaël Faye is an author, composer, and singer, born in 1982 in Burundi to a Rwandan mother and French father. His debut novel *Petit Pays* (Grasset 2016), which drew in part on his own experiences, was a worldwide literary sensation.

Hippolyte is a French illustrator and comic artist, born in 1976. He now lives in M La Réunion. He has published several series of comics and is a leading comic reportage author. His works include *La Fantaisie des Dieux* (Les Arènes) with a text by Patrick de Saint-Exupéry, documenting the Rwandan genocide of 1994.

» INSIDE LOOK



A l'heure de la sieste, j'apprivoise le silence
Petit Prince d'ennui modeste entre mouton et somnolence

Dans la vieille maison de briques, de la Belgique sous les tropiques
A l'heure des choses statiques j'invente, je me fabrique

Publication:
October 2017

Pages:
64

Size:
260 x 290 mm
Hardcover

Price:
19 €

Rights sold:
• **Italian** (Terre
di Mezzo)

THE DISPUTE

Alain Laboile & Victoria Scoffier

**The first fable for children ages 3+,
told through artistic photos**

Nil and her cat Matou Cachou are the best of friends. Outside in the natural world, they have a thousand and one adventures. One day, however, an argument breaks out. The little girl and the cat have to learn to live without each other. Fortunately, arguments never last long...

Rich in emotion, Alain Laboile's photographs speak of a childhood that is wild, rich, close to nature and the great outdoors, but very real.

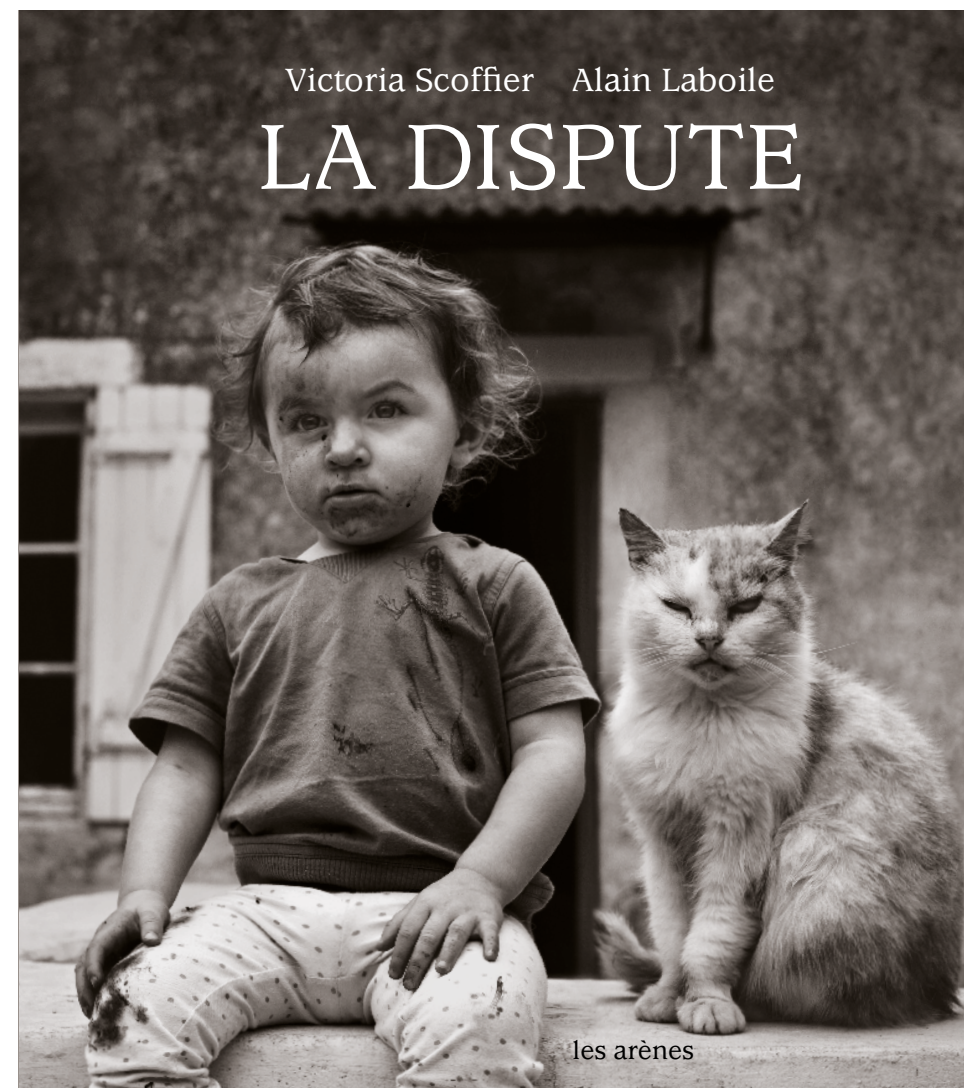
A particularity of Alain Laboile's photographs is that his own children appear in his images. They are always taken on the spot and never posed.

Victoria Scoffier, at the time a journalist for 6Mois, has taken these images and woven a story for our children: a story of adventure and friendship that will make a lasting impression on parents and children alike.

• **High quality
artistic photos
that parents will
enjoy alongside
children.**

• **Character
oriented story
that will break
and mend your
hearts.**

• **For all children
who love cats
and nature.**



Alain Laboile lives outside of Bordeaux with his wife and six children. His family photographs have been a worldwide hit on social networks for years, particularly with many parents. His photo books, *En attendant le facteur* (KnowWare éditions) and *At the edge of the world* (Kehrer Verlag), have sold over 4 000 copies, and his photos have been exhibited all over the world, in France, Japan, the United States, Brazil and elsewhere, and are part of the collection of the Musée français de la Photographie.

Victoria Scoffier is a children's editor for Les Arènes. *La dispute* is her first picture book.

» INSIDE LOOK

Les deux compères
deviennent vite inséparables.
Dès le petit matin, ils pensent avec délice
aux mille et un jeux
à essayer durant la journée.



» MIDDLE
GRADE

FICTION

Publication:
August 2023

Pages:
296

Size:
140 x 200 mm

Price:
15 €

Film rights:
**Animation
rights sold**



CORBA, MARJA'S SECRETS

Rémi Faure

A fantastical adventure story for Middle Grade readers that will be devoured as quickly as lava can consume intruders!

On a volcanic island inhabited by dragons, lies the ultimate goal of the entire saga: a green stone of mysterious power that the Guide ardently covets.

Guide has gathered her last troops to face the dragons and obtain for herself what she has been looking for forever: the magic stone. The dragons are enormous, the traps innumerable, the ground molten. The imprisoned children, Aden, Isla, Jacob and Jeanne, are part of this dangerous trio, and as soon as they reach the island, Isla and Jacob are killed by dragons.

In the middle of the danger Aden and Jeanne meet a strange young girl their own age. The powerful and toxic Nerea, last in the line of Sives witches. Abandoned on the same maiden voyage as Aden, she has managed to survive here thanks to her magic, and will lead them to a mini-society sheltered from the dragons.

There, they will try to «undo» the death of their friends.

• **A fast-paced book, full of cliffhangers.**

• **A story of friendship and solidarity set against an ecological fable.**

• **A family story about a mother and her son.**



CORBA, THE ISLE OF MAGE Rémi Faure

Publication: **August 2021**
Pages: **304**
Size: **140 x 200 mm**
Price: **14,90 €**
Volume 1
Middle grade fiction



CORBA, THE SIRE OF THE GLACIER COASTS Rémi Faure

Publication: **November 2021**
Pages: **416**
Size: **140 x 200 mm**
Price: **14,90 €**
Volume 2
Middle grade fiction

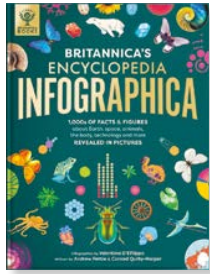


CORBA, THE WATER WAR Rémi Faure

Publication: **August 2022**
Pages: **368**
Size: **140 x 200 mm**
Price: **14,90 €**
Volume 3
Middle grade fiction

Rémi Faure lives in Paris with his wife and three children. Director of Flux Programs for the TF1 group (Voice, Koh Lanta, Quotidien, Burger Quiz, etc.), he has written short stories that have won him recognition (Grand prix du Crous, Prix du Jeune Ecrivain). His 9-year-old son suffers from a rare genetic disease, Pierre Robin syndrome, with autism-like variants. It was for him, during his long stays in hospital, that he invented these stories.

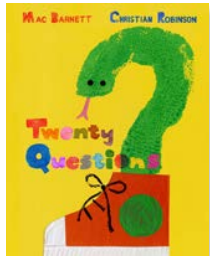
SELECTED CHILDREN'S ACQUISITIONS LIST



- *Britannica's Encyclopedia & Britannica's Encyclopedia Infographica* by Andrew Pettie, Conrad Quilty-Harper & Valentina D'Efilippo (What on Earth Publishing)



- *To the end of the World and Far, Far Away* by Ronda Armitage and Victoria Turnbull (Walker Books)



- *Twenty Questions* by Chris Robinson (Candlewick Press)



- *The Boy the Mole the Fox and the Horse* by Charlie Mackesy (Penguin Random House UK)



- *Good Night Stories for Rebel Girls* by Francesca Cavallo and Elena Favilli



- *A Kid is a Kid is a Kid/A Family is a Family is a Family* by Qin Leng & Sara O'Leary (Groundwood Books)



- *But First I Caught a Monster* by Tjibbe Veldkamp & Kees de Boer (Lemniscaat)

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Translation from French into English by Anna Howell

