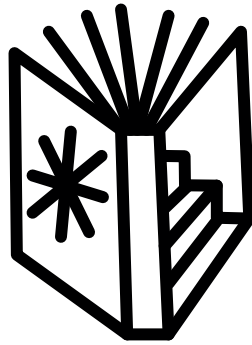


JULIE FINIDORI AGENCY  
**FALL 2021**

**FICTION**

CONTACT  
jf-agency.com  
julie.finidori@gmail.com



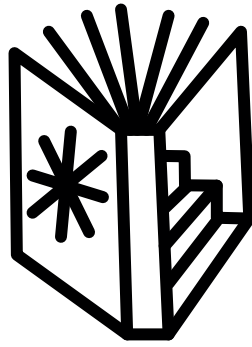
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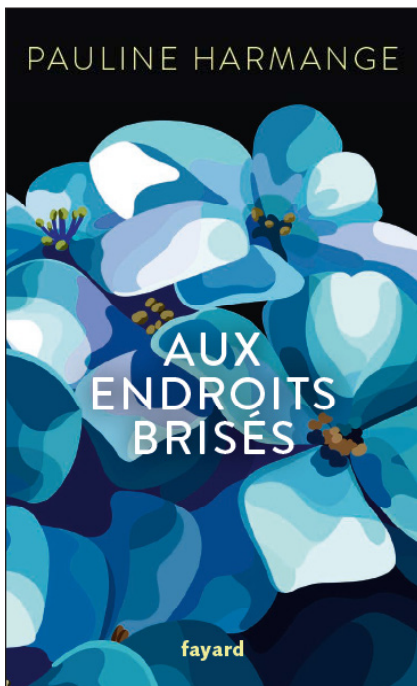
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# NOVELS



**Pauline Harmange** is a feminist activist and the author of *I Hate Men*, which sold at more than 20,000 copies and is in translation in 20 languages. She strongly believes that fiction has a crucial role to play in shaping representations. *Aux endroits brisés* is her first novel, for which German and Italian rights have been sold before publication.

## **Aux endroits brisés** ***At the Broken Places***

by Pauline Harmange

09/2021

396 pages

Éditions Fayard

**fayard**

Anaïs is a young woman who is a bit lost, she drifts through her routine punctuated by the pains of her chronic illness. When she loses both her job and the man who she thought was the one, she impulsively decides to move to Limoges. But she's not going there to change her life. She heard it was a sad town and so she moves there set on committing suicide. There she meets Tiziana, a blind old Italian woman who takes her under her wing. She also meets Hémon, a young teacher with old school charm who makes her confront a form of otherness she never experienced before. Her sister, Camille, a young mother, comes to visit her at one point. Her outlook is so different that it shakes the walls Anaïs carefully built between herself and the world... In an intimate and moving novel with different portraits of women, Pauline Harmange subtly addresses some hard topics like depression, illness, motherhood and manages to instill the narrative with light and hope.

### **Shortlisted for the Angoulême Book Fair Prize for first novels**

“

**This sentence that continued to haunt me: "Limoges is a city where one goes to die." Like a ridiculous mantra, which reminded me the strength of a hidden death wish. We've done far stupider things for much less than those few words.**

”





**Jacqueline Merville** is a writer, a poet and a painter. She has published over ten books at Éditions des femmes – Antoinette Fouque.

## **Le courage des rêveuses** ***Dreamers Are Brave*** by Jacqueline Merville

*des femmes*  
Antoinette Fouque

10/2021  
80 pages  
Éditions des femmes

A woman escapes from the camp where she has been confined after an explosion contaminated her. There, she was submitted to scientific experiments. When travelling through a desert landscape, she remembers her daily life in the camp, and the deep sisterhood built with the other prisoners in the face of adversity. This novel, with its mysterious dreamlike atmosphere, questions the boundary between memory and imagination, dream and reality, and echoes events that have marked the author, as well as the world, such as the Holocaust and the 2004 tsunami that hit India, where she lives part of the year.



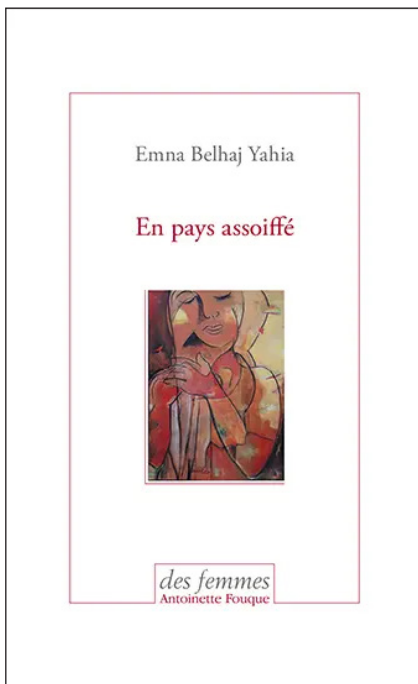
©DR

“

**This sleep is a stranger to ordinary dreams, to rest, it made me re-live a part of my life.**

**Is this why these women I saw only wanted to sleep? They were going back to before, to their life, in life?**

”



**Emma Belhaj Yahia** lives in Tunis and is a member of the Tunisian Academy of Science, Letters and Arts. She is also part of a think tank for the defense of Tunisian women's rights.

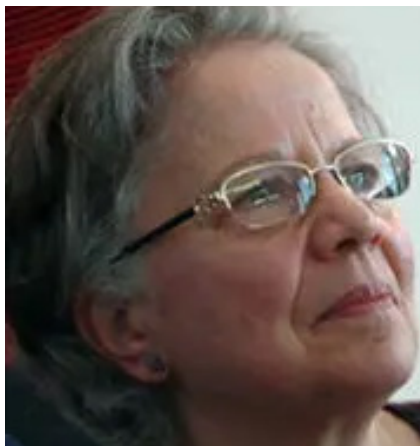
## **En pays assoiffé** ***In a Thirsty Land*** by Emma Belhaj Yahia

06/2021  
252 pages  
Éditions des femmes

*des femmes*  
Antoinette Fouque

Linked together by the terrorist attack at the Bardo Museum in Tunis, an old woman and her granddaughter meet every week in the spring of 2020, in the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic. Officially, the granddaughter comes to tell stories, but in fact, it is Nojourn, the grandmother, who tells the tale of her life, from 1949 to 2020, from Tunisia to France.

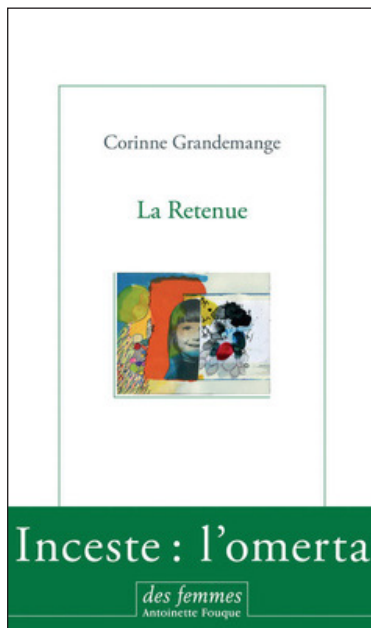
This family portrait crosses 70 eventful years for Tunisia – independence, revolution(s), women's liberation, but also terrorism, hatred of women, Islamism. Women are the heroines of the stories, who struggle against determinism and against the will of men to find their independence. Women are the ones carrying hope, when facing Islamism and the deep misogyny it carries.



“

**We saw heads with hair of all cuts,  
all colors, women without complexes  
invading the streets, schools, offices,  
stores, factories, and movie theaters.**

”



**Corinne Grandemange** is specialized in children's and teenager's psychopathology. She has been working with incest survivors since then.

## **La retenue** ***Restraint***

by Corinne Grandemange

03/2021 - 144 pages - Éditions des femmes

*La Retenue* is the result of a woman's long healing process, a woman who found the strength to break the silence around incest that every survivor is confronted with. Her family members perpetuated this silence and threatened to destroy her vital psychological resources at any moment, when she was a child, a teenager and even a woman.

With a lucid courage and an incisive style, Corinne Grandemange talks about the multiple sexual abuses and rapes committed by her uncle, in the deafening silence of the adults. She managed to deconstruct the mental prison that survivors are put into and, after going through therapy, she retrained to work for child protection and actively fight against incest. Since incest is secretly present in every aspect of our society, stories like this one pave the way for a collective reflection that is absolutely necessary.

*des femmes*  
Antoinette Fouque

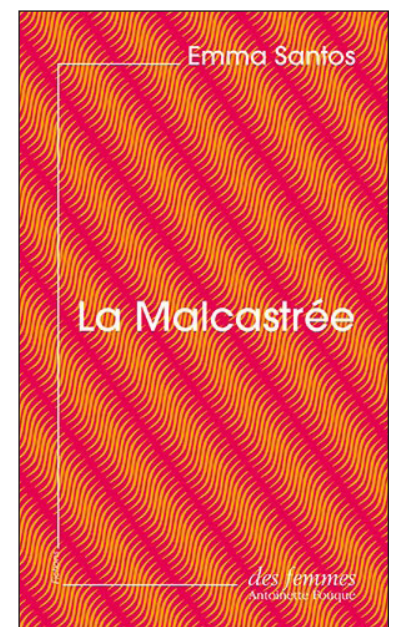
## **La malcastrée** ***The Illcastrated***

by Emma Santos

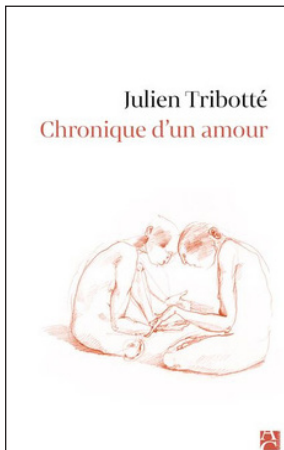
1973/2021 - 128 pages - Éditions des femmes

In the early 1970s, the psychiatric institution was sometimes extremely violent. This is what the narrator, extremely close to the author, describes. While she is in charge of tying children with Down's syndrome to their seats all day, she decides to rebel and unties them all, thus allowing them to move freely. She goes through painful moments caused by the mistreatment of the institution, alone: the author describes, in this testimony full of rage, the chemical treatments, the forced abortions, the prohibition to write, the loss of the loved one. Until she is expelled – an event paradoxically painful and liberating at the same time.

*des femmes*  
Antoinette Fouque



**Emma Santos** (1946-1983) is an author who has devoted much of her work to writing about illness. In 1976, she became known thanks to the mass-market edition of *La Malcastrée* by Éditions des femmes.



## **Chronique d'un amour - *Chronicles of a Love Story***

by Julien Tribotté

01/2021 - 96 pages - Éditions Anne Carrière

A few years ago, Julien met Alex in Baltimore. Their love affected his body, his thoughts, and his desires, like a chronic disease. He ended up writing about their love for two years. Writing a diary implies that you must be sincere. But what does sincerity mean when it comes to describing your own relationship? By staying as close as possible to the emotions and the sensations the author experienced, this chronicle faces the great incongruity of love: trivial and sublime at the same time.

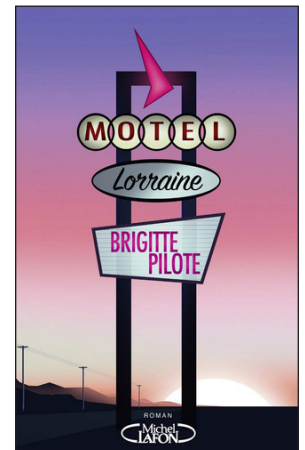
## **Motel Lorraine - *Motel Lorraine***

by Brigitte Pilote

2017 - 240 pages - Éditions Michel Lafon

**Audiovisual adaptation rights sold for a TV series!**

1977. Sonia, a fortune-teller, and her two daughters find refuge in Memphis, in the only vacant room of Motel Lorraine: the room where Martin Luther King Jr was assassinated. How can they find their place in such a city still divided by racial tensions? Each colorful character they meet embodies the dream of equality for which reverend King gave his life.

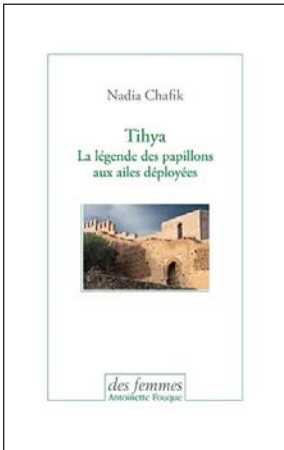


## **Là où le feu et l'ours - *Where the Fire and the Bear*** by Corinne Morel Darleux

05/2021 - 256 pages - Éditions Libertalia

This is the story of the encounter between a young woman, Violette, and a baby bear, Têtard, in a hostile, arid environment, where the climate is dysregulated and lightnings strike the earth randomly, creating fires. They meet fellow travelers on their way to escaping the fires and finding a garden to temporary settle in. But one day, Violette brutally remembers her past and an old legend, stating the existence of a community based on interdependence and cooperation, where humans and non-humans learn, grow and live in harmony, and where nature is luxuriant: the Oasis.





## Tihya - Tihya

by Nadia Chafik

01/2021 - 320 pages - Éditions des femmes

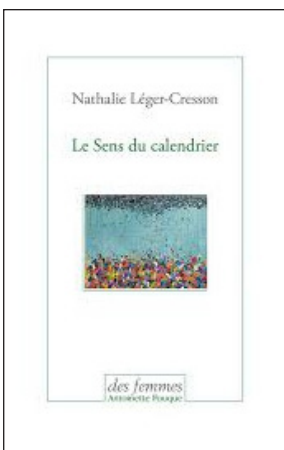
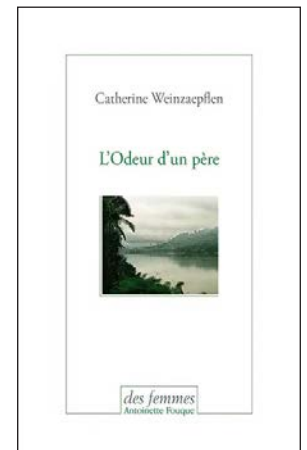
In the majestic Bouyblande, a mountain range with eternal snow, Nanna Tuda entertains her grandchildren during the long winter nights. The story she tells night after night is Tihya's, the beautiful warrior who federated the Berber tribes, to defend her people against the Arabic and muslim conquest when Rome was falling. A story in which some will recognize Dihya, the Kahena, warrior of the Aurès mountains, transformed by centuries of oral tale traditions, to a point where reality and fiction intertwine harmoniously.

## L'odeur d'un père - A Father's Scent

by Catherine Weinzaepflen

01/2021 - 144 pages - Éditions des femmes

At the age of 11, the author left Strasbourg, where her mother lived after suddenly leaving her marriage, and goes to Central African Republic to spend the summer break with her father and his new wife. Her father's scent is a persistent and aggressive smell, a mix of aftershave, hairloss lotion and rose soap's fragrance. A reconciliation book as well as a "Letter to my father", this narrative sheds a retrospective and human look on a paternal figure, without sparing its more brutal aspects.



## Le sens du calendrier - The Calendar's Meaning

by Nathalie Léger-Cresson

10/2020 - 167 pages - Éditions des femmes

An inventive narrative, full of fantasy and humour, lifted by an original and vivid writing style.

*"Love has been shipwrecked. [...] In her hammock, she welcomes her children or lovers, echoes from outside, dreams or nightmares from within. This book is her bittersweet journal, where realism, poetry and cruel tales are intertwined."*

Nathalie Léger-Cresson



Maud Mayeras is an author much appreciated in the thriller sphere for the originality of her tone and her way of exploring the dark territories of the human psyche.

## Les monstres

### *Monsters*

by Maud Mayeras

10/2020 - 300 pages - Éditions Anne Carrière

Two children and their mother live in a “burrow”, sheltered from the light of day that could kill them. Dirty and famished, they only survive thanks to Aleph, their father who patiently educates and prepares them until the day they will be able to go out. But one day, Aleph does not come back and the human predators come knocking at their door. So, ready or not, they will have to face up to it, go out and survive.

Meanwhile, in a hospital room, a man regains consciousness. A natural catastrophe spreads panic throughout the area but this man knows only one emergency: urgently getting back to the house where he is awaited.



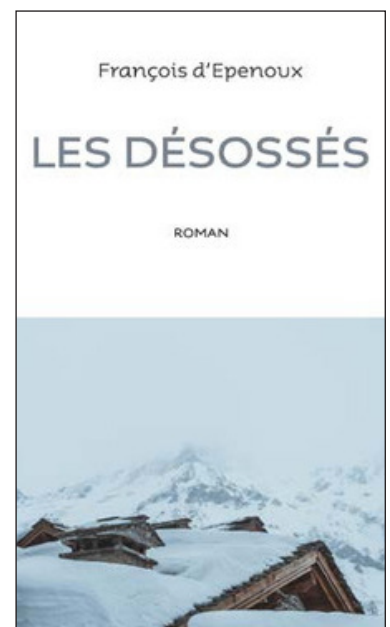
## Les désossés

### *To The Bone*

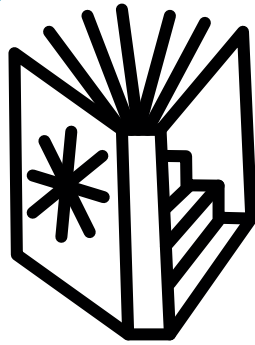
by François d'Epenoux

10/2020 - 176 pages - Éditions Anne Carrière

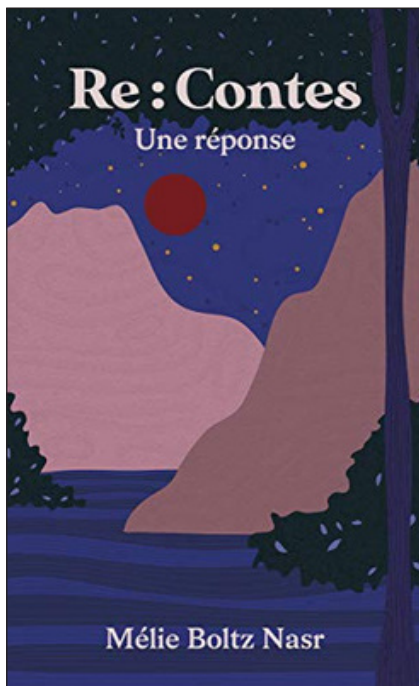
In a luxurious chalet outside a posh ski resort, a wealthy family gets stuck by unusual snowfalls due to climate change. After the first rations — of water, food and electricity — comes genuine hunger. Not to mention the lack of privacy, the hygiene issues and the cold. What remains of civilization is imperiled. The veneer starts peeling off, revealing everyone's true colours. The instinct of self-preservation gives way to savagery. When captivity finally ends, fire has been returned to its original vocation and pretentious fur coats to their genuine role as animal skins.



François d'Epenoux published about ten books at éditions Anne Carrière, two of which were adapted for the screen.



# SHORT STORIES



**Mélie Boltz Nasr** is a young French-Lebanese author who spent her childhood in the UK before moving to France. She has always navigated through cultures, identities and languages. *Re : Contes, une réponse* is her first work.

## **Re : Contes, une réponse**

### ***Re: Tales, a Reply***

by Mélie Boltz Nasr

05/2020

126 pages

Self-published

The forest is no longer enchanted, Hansel and Gretel are lost in a supermarket, Snow White is black and white and is saved by a lesbian kiss, Sleeping Beauty put her prince to sleep for a quarter century to pursue her artist career, and Little Red Riding Hood, helped by a wolf, triumph over men. These tales and many more can be discovered in this collection... Here, princesses are not pale, passive or waiting to be saved. Sometimes they are even cruel, princes are helpless and children desperate. And when love triumphs, it is not where you would expect it.

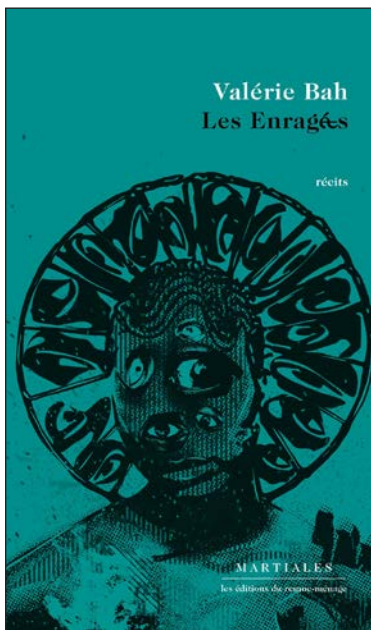
These tales are feminist, modern, even radical but also dark and troubling. And if you encounter Blue Beard, the Little Mermaid or Rapunzel, they have shed their old skins and are ready to lead you on more subversive paths.



“

**Fairy tales used to scare me. I was hearing, between the lines, the presentation of two archetypes that frightened me. I was glimpsing the role I was expected to play in it and the tragedy inherent to binary societies.**

”



## Les Enragé·e·s

### *The Enraged*

by Valérie Bah

les  
éditions  
du  
remue  
—  
ménage

05/2021 - 216 pages - Éditions du remue-ménage

They are kids, mothers, lovers, strangers; they are artists, telemarketers, social workers, activists; they are women, dykes, trans and black folks; they are bold, tender, radiant, realistic. They are those who are usually relegated to the background, those whose stories are not told. They are the enraged protagonists of Valerie Bah's collection of short stories you will never forget.

*Les Enragé·e·s* is the second book published in the collection "Les Martiales" that aims at bringing powerful unheard voices into the publishing world!

An author, filmmaker and photographer, **Valérie Bah** is a multidisciplinary artist who is interested in the resistance and struggles of black and queer people.

## Chroniques frigides de modèle vivant

### *Frigid Chronicles of an Art Model*

les  
éditions  
du  
remue  
—  
ménage

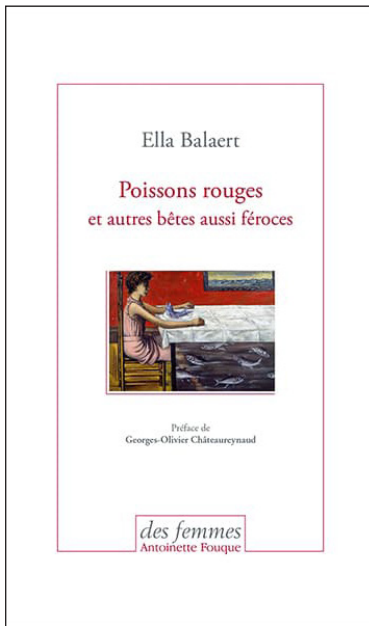
by Pascale Bernardin

10/2020 - 104 pages - Éditions du remue-ménage

We did not listen to her and we went back to the streets. It was like going to the movie theatre. There were all sorts of fights, there were bombs, many couples chasing each other all around, sisters ripping each other up and saying "I love you". One day, we saw our school principal. He ran after us. We were scared. He had been shot in the head with a stray bullet. The school had been closed for a week. Hailed by the critics when it first appeared in Quebec, this collection of wild news stories immerses us in a world peopled by sombre and grotesques characters, A new voice, undisciplined and mixed, calling to mind at times Marie Vieux-Chauvet or Hilda Hilst, Pascale Bernardin alternately explores madness and violence, childhood and social class, memory and Haiti's roots.



**Pascale Bernardin** has been working as an art model for over 25 years. She dove into her sharp sense of observation, her undisciplined imagination and her Haitian roots to write this book.



## **Poissons rouges et autres bêtes aussi féroces - *Goldfish and Other Ferocious Beasts* by Ella Balaert**

*des femmes*  
Antoinette Fouque

10/2020 - 224 pages - Éditions des femmes

*Poissons rouges et autres bêtes aussi féroces* is a collection of novellas presented in the form of a bestiary in which fantastic elements help decipher secret urges and obscure corners of the human heart. In this other world that opens its doors, we actually explore this world, penetrated by ferocious conflicts: rich and powerful vs. poor, man vs. woman, child vs. adult, racism, wars. This book is a dizzying dive into a literature of the bizarre where reality and fantasy intertwine lifted by a subtle and mastered writing style.

**Ella Balaert** is an author and literary critic. Her last book *Petit bouton de nacre* was awarded in 2019 by the ADAN and the Soroptimist Prizes.

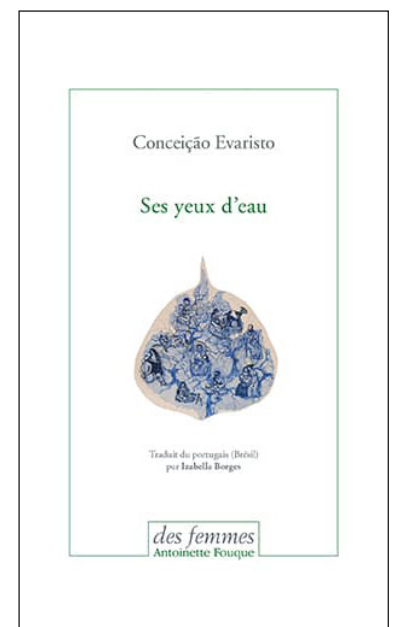
## **Ses yeux d'eau** ***Her Water-Colored Eyes***

*des femmes*  
Antoinette Fouque

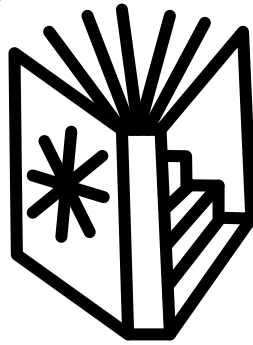
by Conceição Evaristo - translated from Portuguese (Brazil) by Izabella Borges

2020 - 192 pages - Éditions des femmes

*Ses yeux d'eau* is a collection of 15 short stories, the first of which – the author's homage to her mother – gives the book its title. It tells the fates of women, children and men in the favelas, all of Afro-Brazilian origin, who courageously face the misery, violence or emptiness of their daily life with a vital desire to get out of it, without always succeeding.



**Conceição Evaristo** is one of the great voices of contemporary Brazilian literature.



# JULIE FINIDORI AGENCY

NOURI  
TURFU



 monstrograph

 quai  
des  
brunes

les  
éditions  
du  
remue  
— ménage



*La belle Colère*

**BINGE**  
AUDIO.ÉDITIONS



*des femmes*  
Antoinette Fouque



CONTACT

[jf-agency.com](http://jf-agency.com)  
[julie.finidori@gmail.com](mailto:julie.finidori@gmail.com)



@juliefnidori



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