

The American Library in Paris

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The 2019 American Library in Paris Book Award goes to *Hate: The Rising Tide of Anti-Semitism in France (and What It Means for Us)* by Marc Weitzmann

For immediate release

7 November 2019

PARIS - *Hate: The Rising Tide of Anti-Semitism in France (and What It Means for Us)*, by Marc Weitzmann, has won the seventh annual American Library in Paris Book Award.

"Marc Weitzmann blends memoir, scholarship and reportage to create a powerful nonfiction study of anti-Semitism in France today," declared the prize jury in its citation. "In prose that's by turns expansive and taut, he reframes a story we thought we knew, and offers glimmers of clarity into what's happening in France and beyond. Improbably, by doing so, he offers something like hope."

Yale professor Alice Kaplan chaired the 2019 jury, joined by Paris-based authors Pamela Druckerman and Thomas Chatterton Williams.

The five other books on the 2019 shortlist were:

- *A Bite-Sized History of France: Gastronomic Tales of Revolution, War, and Enlightenment* by Stéphane Hénaut and Jeni Mitchell
- *Diderot and the Art of Thinking Freely* by Andrew S. Curran
- *The Flight Portfolio: A Novel* by Julie Orringer
- *Little: A Novel* by Edward Carey
- *Voices: The Final Hours of Joan of Arc* by David Elliot

Marc Weitzmann is a French journalist and author of twelve books of fiction and nonfiction. A former editor-in-chief of *Les Inrockuptibles*, he now hosts a weekly radio show, "Signe des Temps," on France Culture and is a regular contributor to *Le Monde*, *Le Point*, and *Le Magazine Littéraire*.



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In the United States, he contributes to *Tablet*, where *Hate* originated as a five-part series of articles. Weitzmann, 60, is the first French winner of the Book Award.

The ceremony announcing the prize took place this evening at the George C. Marshall Center in Paris. Weitzmann received a \$5,000 cash award and a leather-bound copy of his book. The annual award is supported by a grant from the Florence Gould Foundation.

This year's award was for books originally published in English between July 2018 and June 2019. Eighty-two books were received for consideration by a panel of screeners in Paris, who announced a shortlist of six in July. All the books are in the Library's circulating collection.

The American Library in Paris was founded in 1920 with books sent by American libraries to United States personnel serving in World War I. It has since grown to more than 100,000 volumes, making it the largest English-language lending library on the European continent.

Past winners of the award are Fredrik Logevall's *Embers of War: The Fall of an Empire and the Making of America's Vietnam* (2013); Robert Harris's *An Officer and a Spy* (2014); Laura Auricchio's *The Marquis: Lafayette Reconsidered* (2015); Ethan B. Katz's *The Burdens of Brotherhood: Jews and Muslims from North Africa to France* (2016); David Bellos's *The Novel of the Century: The Extraordinary Adventure of Les Misérables* (2017); and Julian Jackson's *A Certain Idea of France : The Life of Charles de Gaulle* (2018).

Submissions for the 2020 American Library in Paris Book Award are welcome immediately. Details about the award and submission guidelines are available on the Library's website, at <https://americanlibraryinparis.org/bookaward/>.

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