

The  
American  
Library  
in Paris

# Book Award 2021

Five titles have been selected as finalists for the  
2021 American Library in Paris Book Award



# 2021 American Library in Paris Book Award

The Library's annual Book Award recognizes the most distinguished book of the year, written and published in English, about France or the French. Eighty-three titles were submitted for consideration by authors, publishers, and others across the English-speaking world. All the submissions for the 2021 Book Award are listed in these pages and are in the Library's circulating collection.

The winning title will be selected by an independent jury, this year consisting of **Lauren Collins** (jury chair), **Julian Jackson**, **Dinaw Mengestu**, and **Maggie Paxson** and will be announced at an invitation-only ceremony in January 2022.

The Book Award is supported by generous funding from the Florence Gould Foundation. For questions or inquiries about the Book Award, please contact Book Award administrator, Charles Trueheart, at [bookaward@americanlibraryinparis.org](mailto:bookaward@americanlibraryinparis.org).

<b>After the Deportation: Memory Battles in Postwar France</b>	Philip Nord, Cambridge University Press
<b>Anne and Louis: Forever Bound</b>	Rozsa Gaston, Renaissance Editions
<b>At Home in Our Sounds: Music, Race, and Cultural Politics in Interwar Paris</b>	Rachel Ann Gillett, Oxford University Press
<b>Balzac's Lives</b>	Peter Brooks, New York Review of Books
<b>Band of Sisters: A Novel</b>	Lauren Willig, William Morrow
<b>Black Spartacus: The Epic Life of Toussaint Louverture</b>	Sudhir Hazareesingh, Allen Lane (UK) / Farrar, Straus & Giroux (US)
<b>The Blood of the Colony: Wine and the Rise and Fall of French Algeria</b>	Owen White, Harvard University Press
<b>The Book of Lost Names</b>	Kristin Harmel, Gallery Books
<b>The Chanel Sisters</b>	Judithe Little, Graydon House
<b>The Contradictions</b>	Sophie Yanow, Drawn & Quarterly
<b>Crossings: A Novel</b>	Alex Landragin, St. Martin's Press
<b>Dark Archives: A Librarian's Investigation into the Science and History of Books Bound in Human Skin</b>	Megan Rosenbloom, Farrar, Straus & Giroux
<b>Discomfort Food: The Culinary Imagination in Late Nineteenth-Century French Art</b>	Marni Reva Kessler, University of Minnesota Press
<b>The Dressmaker of Paris</b>	Georgia Kaufmann, Hodder & Stoughton
<b>The Eagle and the Viper</b>	Loren D. Estleman, Forge Books
<b>Émigrés: French Words That Turned English</b>	Richard Scholar, Princeton University Press
<b>Finding Napoleon: A Novel</b>	Margaret Rodenberg, She Writes Press
<b>Flowers of Darkness: A Novel</b>	Tatiana de Rosnay, St. Martin's Press
<b>France in the Second World War: Collaboration, Resistance, Holocaust, Empire</b>	Chris Millington, Bloomsbury Academic
<b>Francophone Literature as World Literature</b>	Christian Moraru, Bloomsbury Academic
<b>The French Film Musical</b>	Phil Powrie, Bloomsbury Academic
<b>French Like Moi: A Midwesterner in Paris</b>	Scott Dominic Carpenter, Travelers' Tales
<b>The French Paradox</b>	Ellen Crosby, Severn House
<b>The French Revolution: A History in Documents</b>	Micah Alpaugh, Bloomsbury Academic

<b>The French Terror Wave, 2015—2016: Al-Qaeda and ISIS Attacks from Charlie Hebdo to the Bataclan Theatre</b>	Marc E. Vargo, McFarland
<b>Göring's Man in Paris: The Story of a Nazi Art Plunderer and His World</b>	Jonathan Petropoulos, Yale University Press
<b>The Heatwave</b>	Kate Riordan, Penguin Michael Joseph
<b>The House of Fragile Things: Jewish Art Collectors and the Fall of France</b>	James McAuley, Yale University Press
<b>An Infinite History: The Story of a Family in France over Three Centuries</b>	Emma Rothschild, Princeton University Press
<b>The Invisible Life of Addie LaRue</b>	V.E. Schwab, Tor Books
<b>The Invisible Woman</b>	Erika Robuck, Berkley
<b>Jacob's Advice</b>	Jude Cook, Unbound
<b>The King of Nazi Paris: Henri Lafont and the French Gestapo</b>	Christopher Othen, Biteback Publishing
<b>Kisses and Croissants</b>	Anne-Sophie Jouhanneau, Delacorte Press
<b>Lana's War: A Novel</b>	Anita Abriel, Atria Books
<b>Last Train to Auschwitz: The French National Railways and the Journey to Accountability</b>	Sarah Federman, University of Wisconsin Press
<b>Leonora in the Morning Light</b>	Michaela Carter, Avid Reader Press
<b>Let Them Eat Pancakes: One Man's Personal Revolution in the City of Light</b>	Craig Donald Carlson, Pegasus Books
<b>Letters to Camondo</b>	Edmund de Waal, Farrar, Straus & Giroux (US) / Chatto & Windus (UK)
<b>Life in Revolutionary France</b>	Mette Harder, Bloomsbury Academic
<b>Lost in Paris: A Novel</b>	Elizabeth Thompson, Gallery Books
<b>Loving Modigliani: The Afterlife of Jeanne Hébuterne</b>	Linda Lappin, Serving House Books
<b>Maggie Finds Her Muse: A Novel</b>	Dee Ernst, St. Martin's Griffin
<b>Minerva's French Sisters: Women of Science in Enlightenment France</b>	Nina Rattner Gelbart, Yale University Press
<b>Mission France: The True History of the Women of SOE</b>	Kate Vigurs, Yale University Press
<b>My Place at the Table: A Recipe for a Delicious Life in Paris</b>	Alexander Lobrano, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt
<b>Napoleon: A Life in Gardens and Shadows</b>	Ruth Scurr, Chatto & Windus
<b>Nemesis and the Swan</b>	Lindsay K. Bandy, Blackstone Publishing
<b>The New Parisienne: The Women and Ideas Shaping Paris</b>	Lindsey Tramuta, Abrams
<b>The New White Race: Settler Colonialism and the Press in French Algeria, 1860–1914</b>	Charlotte Ann Legg, University of Nebraska Press
<b>The Nine: The True Story of a Band of Women Who Survived the Worst of Nazi Germany</b>	Gwen Strauss, St. Martin's Press
<b>L'Origine: The Secret Life of the World's Most Erotic Masterpiece</b>	Lilianne Milgrom, Little French Girl Press
<b>Paper Bullets: Two Artists Who Risked Their Lives to Defy the Nazis</b>	Jeffrey H. Jackson, Algonquin Books of Chapel Hill

<b>The Paris Library</b>	Janet Skeslien Charles, Two Roads (UK) / Atria Books (US)
<b>Paris Never Leaves You: A Novel</b>	Ellen Feldman, St. Martin's Griffin
<b>Paris to New York: The Transatlantic Fashion Industry in the Twentieth Century</b>	Veronique Pouillard, Harvard University Press
<b>Paris, A Life Less Ordinary: A Memoir</b>	Krystal Marie Kenney, Self-published
<b>Perestroika in Paris (UK title: The Strays of Paris)</b>	Jane Smiley, Alfred A. Knopf (US) / Mantle Books (UK)
<b>Pickpocket</b>	Karen Spafford-Fitz, Orca Book Publishers
<b>Pont Neuf</b>	Max Byrd, Permuted Press
<b>Prose of the World: Denis Diderot and the Periphery of Enlightenment</b>	Hans Ulrich Gumbrecht, Stanford University Press
<b>Proustian Uncertainties: On Reading and Rereading <i>In Search of Lost Time</i></b>	Saul Friedländer, Other Press
<b>Queen of Versailles: Madame de Maintenon, First Lady of Louis XIV's France</b>	Mark Bryant, McGill-Queen's University Press
<b>Rain in Plural: Poems</b>	Fiona Sze-Lorrain, Princeton University Press
<b>Sacral Kingship in Bourbon France: The Cult of Saint Louis, 1589–1830</b>	Sean Heath, Bloomsbury Academic
<b>A Saint from Texas</b>	Edmund White, Bloomsbury USA
<b>Savoir-Faire: A History of Food in France</b>	Maryann Tebben, Reaktion Books
<b>Searching for Family and Traditions at the French Table, Book Two: Nord-Pas-de-Calais, Normandy, Brittany, Loire, Auvergne</b>	Carole J. Bumpus, She Writes Press
<b>Sex, Love, and Letters: Writing Simone de Beauvoir</b>	Judith G. Coffin, Cornell University Press
<b>Sisters of the Resistance: A Novel of Catherine Dior's Paris Spy Network</b>	Christine Wells, William Morrow
<b>The Spy Who Inspired Me</b>	Stephen Clarke, pAf
<b>Sweet Land of Liberty: America in the Mind of the French Left, 1848–1871</b>	Tom Sancton, Louisiana State University Press
<b>This One is Ours</b>	Kate O'Donnell, University of Queensland Press
<b>Three Rings: A Tale of Exile, Narrative, and Fate</b>	Daniel Mendelsohn, University of Virginia Press
<b>To Kidnap a Pope: Napoleon and Pius VII, 1800–1815</b>	Ambrogio A. Caiani, Yale University Press
<b>Today Sardines Are Not for Sale: A Street Protest in Occupied Paris</b>	Paula Schwartz, Oxford University Press
<b>Totes Paris: A Dog's Travel Guide</b>	Rosanne Kang Jovanovski, Dog 'n' Bone
<b>Victoire: A Wartime Story of Resistance, Collaboration and Betrayal</b>	Roland Philipps, Bodley Head
<b>What Ails France?</b>	Brigitte Granville, McGill-Queen's University Press
<b>While Paris Slept</b>	Ruth Druart, Headline Review
<b>White Freedom: The Racial History of an Idea</b>	Tyler Stovall, Princeton University Press
<b>Why We Are Restless: On the Modern Quest for Contentment</b>	Benjamin Storey & Jenna Silber Storey, Princeton University Press
<b>The Women of Chateau Lafayette</b>	Stephanie Dray, Berkley