

The American Library in Paris

Book Award 2023

Five titles have been selected as finalists for the 2023 American Library in Paris Book Award

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The American Library's \$5,000 literary prize, now celebrating its eleventh year, is given to a title originally published in English that best realizes new and intellectually significant ideas about France, the French people, or encounters with French culture. Sixty-three titles were submitted this year by authors, publishers, and others across the English-speaking world. All sixty-three nominees for the 2023 Book Award are listed in these pages and are in the Library's circulating collection.

The winner, announced at an invitation-only ceremony in November 2023, will be selected by an independent jury, this year consisting of Lauren Groff (chair), Doan Bui, and Sudhir Hazareesingh.

The Book Award is supported by generous funding from the Florence Gould Foundation.

For questions or inquiries about the Book Award, please contact bookaward@americanlibraryinparis.org.

Shortlist

#You Know You're Black in France When...: The Fact of Everyday Antiblackness

Trica Keaton, MIT Press

Americans in Paris: Artists Working in Postwar France, 1946–1962

Debra Bricker Balken & Lynn Gumpert (eds), Grey Art Gallery, New York University, and Hirmer Publishers

The Curse of the Marquis de Sade: A Notorious Scoundrel, A Mythical Manuscript, and the Biggest Scandal in Literary History Joel Warner, Crown

France on Trial: The Case of Marshal Pétain
Julian Jackson, Allen Lane (UK) / Belknap Press (US)

Joan: A Novel
Katherine J. Chen, Random House (US) / Hodder & Stoughton (UK)

A groundbreaking study about everyday antiblackness in an officially race-blind France.

Illuminating essays on the various circles of artists who lived in France following World War II, to accompany a forthcoming exhibition.

The true story of how an infamous manuscript landed at the heart of one of the biggest scams in modern literary history.

A gripping analysis of how Pétain's three-week trial sheds light on one of the most controversial periods of twentieth-century French history.

A thrilling, feminist reimagining of the life of Joan of Arc, from her childhood until her capture.

Longlist (including the above listed titles)

Barnave: The Revolutionary Who Lost His Head for Marie-Antoinette

John Hardman, Yale University Press

The French Resistance and its Legacy

Rod Kedward, Bloomsbury Academic

Kiki Man Ray: Art, Love, and Rivalry in 1920s Paris

Mark Braude, W. W. Norton & Company

Paris and her Cathedrals

R. Howard Bloch, Liveright

Unmaking Sex: The Gender Outlaws of Nineteenth-Century France

Anne E. Linton, Cambridge University Press

Submissions

1923: The Mystery of Lot 212 and a Tour de France Obsession

Ned Boulting, Bloomsbury Sport

After Paris

Nicole Kennedy, Aria/Head of Zeus

An Age to Work: Working-Class Childhood in Third Republic Paris

Miranda Sachs, Oxford University Press

Agent Josephine: American Beauty, French Hero, British Spy Damien Lewis, PublicAffairs

Along a Breton Shore

Arlem Hawks, Shadow Mountain

Art Hiding in Paris: An Illustrated Guide to the Secret Masterpieces of the City of Light

Lara Zimmer & Maria Krasinski (Illustrations), Running Press

The Book of Goose

Yiyun Li, Farrar, Straus & Giroux (US) / 4th Estate (UK)

Café Society: Time Suspended: The Cafés & Bistros of Paris

Joanie Osburn, Goff Books

Cassoulet Confessions: Food, France, Family and the Stew That Saved My Soul

Sylvie Bigar, Hardie Grant

The Chateau

Jaclyn Goldis, Atria/Emily Bestler Books

Defeat and Division: France at War, 1939-1942

Douglas Porch, Cambridge University Press

Diaghilev's Empire: How the Ballet Russes
Enthralled the World

Rupert Christiansen, Farrar, Straus & Giroux (US) / Faber & Faber (UK)

Doctors at War: The Clandestine Battle Against the Nazi Occupation of France

Ellen Hampton, Louisiana State University Press

Elixir: A Parisian Perfume House and the Quest for the Secret of Life

Theresa Levitt, Harvard University Press

Empress of the Nile: The Daredevil Archaeologist Who Saved Egypt's Ancient Temples from Destruction

Lynne Olson, Ballantine Books

Essex Dogs

Dan Jones, Viking (US) / Head of Zeus (UK)

The French Art of Living Well: Finding Joie de Vivre in the Everyday World

Cathy Yandell, St Martin's Press

The French House

Helen Fripp, Read Forever

The Girl Who Built an Ocean: An Artist, an Argonaut, and the True Story of the World's First Aquarium

Jess Keating, Knopf Books for Young Readers

The Golden Doves

Martha Hall Kelly, Ballantine Books (US) / Penguin (UK)

Goodnight from Paris

Jane Healey, Lake Union Publishing

The House in the Rue Saint-Fiacre: A Social History of Property in Revolutionary Paris

H.B. Callaway, Harvard University Press

I Always Think It's Forever: A Love Story Set in Paris as Told by an Unreliable but Earnest Narrator

Timothy Goodman, Simon Element

La Duchesse: The Life of Marie de Vignerot-Cardinal Richelieu's Forgotten Heiress Who Shaped the Fate of France

Bronwen McShea, Pegasus

The Last Hours in Paris

Ruth Druart, Grand Central Publishing (US) / Headline (UK)

Liberty in their Names: The Women Philosophers of the French Revolution

Sandrine Bergès, Bloomsbury Academic

Liberty-Loving Lafayette: How 'America's Favorite Fighting Frenchman' Helped Win Our Independence

Dorothea Jensen, Past Times Press

The Librarian of Burned Books

Brianna Labuskes, William Morrow Paperbacks

Lost in Paris

Betty Webb, Poisoned Pen Press

The Lost Paratroopers of Normandy: A Story of Resistance, Courage, and Solidarity in a French Village

Stephen G. Rabe, Cambridge University Press

Magnificent Rebel: Nancy Cunard in Jazz Age Paris

Anne de Courcy, St Martin's Press

Major Jake Fortina and the Tier One Threat

Ralph Richard Steinke, Koehler Books

Marvelous

Molly Greeley, William Morrow

The Messenger

Megan Davis, Zaffre (UK) / Pegasus Crime (US)

Midnight on the Marne

Sarah Adlakha, Forge Books

Napoleon: The Decline and Fall of an Empire: 1811–1821

Michael Broers, Pegasus

Night Flight to Paris

Cara Black, Soho Crime

One Place de l'Eglise:

A Year in Provence for the 21st Century

Trevor Dolby, Penguin Michael Joseph

Paradise Now: The Extraordinary Life of Karl Lagerfeld

William Middleton, Harper (US) / Ebury (UK)

The Paris Daughter

Kristin Harmel, Gallery Books

The Paris Deception

Bryn Turnbull, MIRA (US) / Headline (UK)

Paul

Daisy Lafarge, Riverhead Books (US) / Granta Publications (UK)

The Perfumist of Paris

Alka Joshi, MIRA

Plus-Size in Paris

Erin Zhurkin, Dépaysement

The Ruins

Phoebe Wynne, St Martin's Press

Switchboard Soldiers

Jennifer Chiaverini, William Morris

The Tiffany Girls

Shelley Noble, William Morris

Travels With Tocqueville Beyond America

Jeremy Jennings, Harvard University Press

Two Houses, Two Kingdoms:

A History of France and England, 1100–1300

Catherine Hanley, Yale University Press

Vincent's Arles: As It Is and As It Was

Linda Seidel, University of Chicago Press

The Voice of Virtue:

Moral Song and the Practice of French Stoicism, 1574–1652

Melinda Latour, Oxford University Press

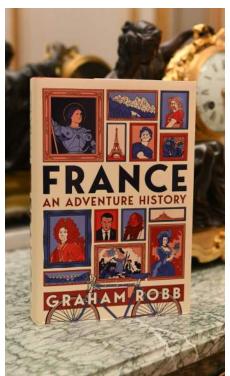
Winning French Minds:

Radio Propaganda in Occupied France, 1940-42

Denis Courtois, Casemate

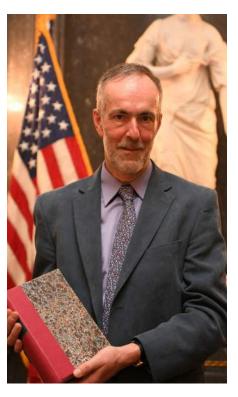
The World According to Proust

Joshua Landy, Oxford University Press









2022 Book Award Ceremony celebrating the winning title, *France: An Adventure History* by Graham Robb, at the Hôtel de Talleyrand on the Place de la Concorde. Photo © Krystal Kenney