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The American Library in Paris

ESTABLISHED 1920

e-Libris 8 December 2020

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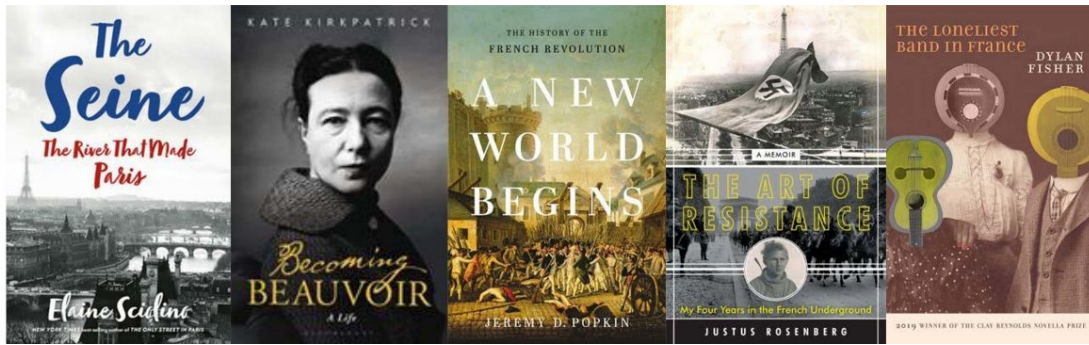
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***Coups de Cœur*: American Library in Paris Book Award**

Five exceptional new books about France have been selected as “*coups de cœur*” in the runup to the 14 January announcement of the 2020 American Library in Paris Book Award winner. The *coups de cœur* were selected from the seventy-seven submissions by the award’s screening committee as having special merit. They are available for checkout at the Library.



The Art of Resistance, an extraordinary wartime memoir of a young French resistanant during Nazi occupation, Justus Rosenberg, now an American citizen of 99.

Becoming Beauvoir, a commanding portrait of France’s leading woman of ideas by British philosopher Kate Kirkpatrick.

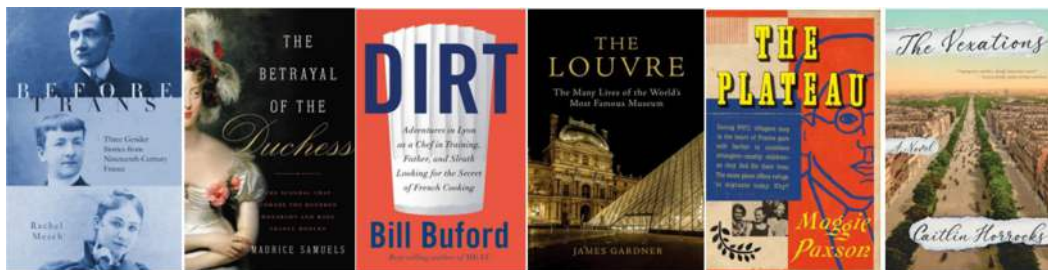
The Loneliest Band in France, a perceptive novella narrated by a Sri Lankan student in Toulouse, swept up in the musical and drinking scene, by Dylan Fisher.

A New World Begins, a rich new history of the French revolution by American historian Jeremy D. Popkin.

The Seine, a passionate exploration, in time and space, of the great French river by Paris writer Elaine Sciolino.

SAVE THE DATE:

The six 2020 Book Award finalists were announced in July, and more information about them may be found on the Library [website](#). The winner will be revealed in a special live online event on 14 January 2021. [Register online](#) and join us for this sparkling event.



Holiday Gift Guide



LIBRARY GIFT MEMBERSHIP:

A Library membership is the gift that keeps giving all year long. You can [register online](#) for a Library membership for your household, or contact our Member Services team to purchase a membership for a friend: info@americanlibraryinparis.org.

2020 BOOK AWARD SHORTLIST AND COUPS DE CŒUR:

If you're like us, you think books make the best gifts. Even better? Receiving a title from the [2020 Book Award Coups de Cœur](#) list or the shortlist from which a winner will be chosen on 14 January. (If you're in Paris, consider purchasing from a local independent English-language bookshop: [The Red Wheelbarrow](#) and [The Abbey Bookshop](#) each accept orders by phone and email. [Shakespeare and Company](#) offers a "Call & Collect" service.)

SPONSOR A BOOK SHELF:

As the American Library in Paris celebrates its centennial, we are expanding the Children's Library and Teen Mezzanine and adding a group study room and atelier. Donors may sponsor a shelf in the new space in honor of a friend or family member. Your 500€ sponsorship will be recognized with a commemorative plaque with the name of your honoree. Please contact the Library's Advancement Coordinator Morgan Wurzburger at wurzburger@americanlibraryinparis.org to find out more about sponsoring a book shelf.

LIBRARY TOTES, MUGS, AND T-SHIRTS:

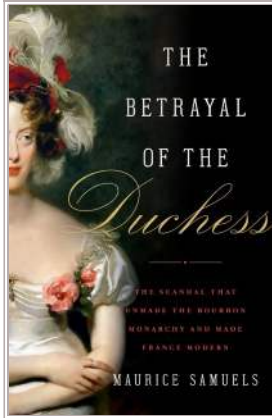
Consider the gift of Library swag this holiday season. Tote bags from the American Library in Paris are perfect for Library visits and grocery runs. Our mugs are just what you need to enjoy a cozy cup of hot chocolate with a good book. And our organic cotton t-shirts show the world that you support the Library. Visit the Library today to pick up gifts for everyone on your list.

MORE GIFT IDEAS ON OUR BLOG:

Children's and Teens' Services Manager Celeste has compiled [a list of gift ideas](#) to satisfy readers of all ages.

Programs for Adults

All programs, including book groups, workshops, and *Evenings with an Author* sponsored by GRoW @ Annenberg, will continue virtually for the present time.



[Evenings with an Author: Dr. Maurice Samuels](#)

Tuesday 8 December at 19h30 via Zoom

Join us for a book talk on *The Betrayal of the Duchess: The Scandal that Unmade the Bourbon Monarchy and Made France Modern*. The year was 1832, the French royal family was in exile, and the Duchesse de Berry—the mother of the eleven-year-old heir to the throne—hatched a plot to restore the Bourbon dynasty. Her betrayal by her trusted advisor, the son of France's Chief Rabbi, became a cause célèbre for Bourbon loyalists and ignited a firestorm of hate against France's Jews.

Free and open to the public via Zoom.

[RSVP required](#) to receive meeting details and password.



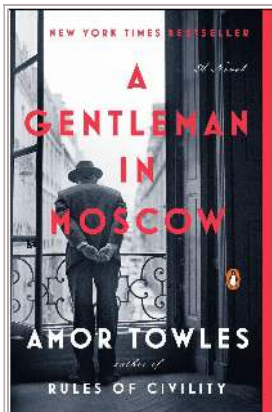
[Evenings with an Author: Kristen Richardson](#)

Wednesday 9 December at 19h30 via Zoom

We invite you to discover *The Season: A Social History of the Debutante*. Author Kristen Richardson traces the social seasons of debutantes on both sides of the Atlantic. Originally conceived as a way to wed daughters to suitable men, debutante rituals have adapted and evolved as marriage and women's lives have changed. *The Season* reveals the complex emotional world of the girls at its center.

Free and open to the public via Zoom.

[RSVP required](#) to receive meeting details and password.



[Evenings with an Author: Amor Towles in conversation with Mark Mayer](#)

Wednesday 16 December at 19h30 via Zoom

Please join us for a special conversation with author Amor Towles (moderated by Mark Mayer) about writing, inspiration, and his hugely popular novel, *A Gentleman in Moscow*. Published in 2016 and on the *New York Times* bestseller list for over a year while in hardcover, it was named as one of the best books of 2016 by the *Chicago Tribune*, the *Washington Post*, the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, the *San Francisco Chronicle*, and *NPR*.

Free and open to the public via Zoom.

[RSVP required](#) to receive meeting details and password.


Programs on our Podcast, Facebook, and YouTube



Past programs on YouTube, including Peter Gumbel in conversation with Charles Fleming, Scott Carpenter in conversation with Erin Byrne, and an Evening with Judy Collins and Sara Somers.



Listen to our podcast, Evenings with an Author, available wherever you get your podcasts.

 Visit our Facebook page for information about upcoming virtual events and Evenings with an Author sponsored by GRoW @ Annenberg.

Programming for Kids and Teens



KIDS' NEWS

[THE SHIP WE BUILT EVENT](#): Save the date for a virtual event with author Lexie Bean and illustrator Noah Grigni on 16 January, as they talk about their middle grade novel *The Ship We Built*. The event is sure to inspire young writers and avid readers alike.

YAFF: Aspiring writers should stay tuned for more information about the [2021 Young Authors Fiction Festival](#).

[Candy Cane Cookie Making](#)

(ages 6-12)

Saturday 12 December at 14h00

Children's and Teens' Services Librarian Kirsty will lead participants in the creation of candy cane cookies; as the cookies bake, the group will take turns sharing their latest reads. Bring along your current or most recent fiction or nonfiction read and join us for this special virtual baking event!

For Library members. [RSVP required](#).

[Story Hour](#)

(ages 3-5)

Wednesday 16 December at 10h30 and 14h30

Join us for an interactive story time featuring reading, songs, and rhymes in English.

For Library members. [RSVP required](#).

[Pop-Up Card Making](#)

(ages 6-12)

Saturday 19 December at 11h00

Join Children's and Teen's Services Manager Celeste for a DIY craft workshop. Celeste will guide participants in the creation of unique DIY pop-up cards, using the simplest techniques for beginners and more complicated folds and cuts for experienced card-makers.

For Library members. [RSVP required](#).

Story Hour

(ages 3-5)

Wednesday 23 December at 10h30 and 14h30

Join us for an interactive story time featuring reading, songs, and rhymes in English.

For Library members. [RSVP required.](#)



TEEN NEWS

VIRTUAL EVENTS: Virtual events and clubs continue for teens through 23 December, with several workshops on the calendar for aspiring writers. Events will resume (virtually) when we reopen in the new year.

SAVE THE DATE: Join [author Lexie Bean and illustrator Noah Grigni](#) on 16 January for a dynamic discussion on inspiration, identity, and the creative process.

Fantasy Book Club: Prequels, Companions, and Multiverses

(ages 12–adult)

Saturday 12 December at 14h00

Bring along your current or most recent fantasy read to talk about for this online book group. For this December meeting, participants are encouraged to read a companion novel, prequel, or a book in a multiverse ([suggestions here](#)), but all fantasy reads are good fodder for discussion.

For Library members. [RSVP required.](#)

Master Shot Film Club Meeting

(ages 12–adult)

Saturday 12 December at 17h00

Led by Paris-based filmmaker and writer Clarence Tokley, this club allows budding filmmakers to meet in a relaxed and creative setting where they can share their ideas, get feedback, and work on their technique, all while learning about how to produce high-quality short films.

For Library members. [RSVP required.](#)

Historical Fiction Book Club

(ages 12–adult)

Saturday 19 December at 14h00

Join fellow fans of historical fiction to discuss your favorite reads with like-minded bookworms.

For Library members. [RSVP required.](#)



Upcoming virtual events by the Library's partner Pandemonium U:

["The invention of the modern Frenchwoman," with author Rachel Mesch, in conversation with Pamela Druckerman](#)

Friday, December 11 @ 9:30 am Pacific / 12:30 NY / 18:30 Paris

*please note that this program begins 30 minutes later than the usual start time

In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, Frenchwomen began to write and publish in record numbers. Some even began dressing in men's clothing and adopting an early form of transgender identity. Rachel Mesch is the author of *Before Trans: Three Gender Stories from Nineteenth-Century France*, which is shortlisted for the upcoming American Library in Paris Book Award.

["Is Narendra Modi the Indian Trump?" with Ramachandra Guha, in conversation with Simon Kuper](#)

Friday December 18 @ 10am New York/15:00 London/16:00 Paris/20:30 Indian Standard Time

*Please note that we have departed from our usual class time to accommodate an Indian audience

When Narendra Modi became Indian prime minister in 2014, he departed aggressively from Mahatma Gandhi's vision of India, as a country where people of all faiths and ethnicities could live together in peace. Is Modi attempting to dismantle multicultural India? And could he also dismantle the world's largest democracy? Historian and author Ramachandra Guha explains the implications for India.

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As an independent, non-profit institution, we rely on the support and generosity of our community. How can you help the American Library in Paris throughout the year? Renew your Library membership, make a donation online, and tell your friends about the Library.

[RENEW](#)

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The American Library in Paris is an independent, non-profit institution that receives no regular government funding. Your generosity is essential in keeping the Library vibrant and creative.

All contributions are tax-deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

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www.americanlibraryinparis.org



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