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American Library in Paris Book Award: 2024 Longlist Announced

**Ten titles have been selected for the
longlist of the 2024 American Library in Paris Book Award.**

The Library's literary prize, now celebrating its twelfth 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.

The award is supported by a generous grant from the Florence Gould Foundation.



Photo by Alfonso Sjogreen.

THIS YEAR'S LONGLISTED TITLES ARE:

The Revolutionary Temper Paris, 1748-1789

by **Robert Darnton** (W. W. Norton US / Allen Lane UK)

Well-written and well-shaped, this history gives a rich and interesting cultural perspective on the half century leading up to the social explosion of the French Revolution.

House of Lilies: The Dynasty That Made Medieval France**by Justine Firnhaber-Baker** (Allen Lane UK / Basic Books US)

This is a fully immersive, wonderfully fluid and engaging popular history of the medieval Capetian dynasty in France.

Liberty Equality Fashion: The Women Who Styled the French Revolution**by Anne Higonnet** (W. W. Norton)

An original take on a fresh and lively subject, the book brings a time and place in French history alive for the reader while also raising provocative questions relevant to our culture today.

Toussaint Louverture: The Story of the Only Successful Slave Revolt in History**by C.L.R. James and Illustrated by Sakina Karimjee and Nic Watts** (Verso)

Using the text of a play by C. L. R. James, this is a rich storytelling of Toussaint Louverture's involvement in the slave revolt in Haiti with beautiful, cinematic illustrations.

This Strange Eventful History**by Claire Messud** (W. W. Norton US / Fleet UK)

A beautifully written journey of a family through the 20th century, from the Second World War and the Algerian independence to today, the book evokes the difficult relationship one can have with one's country of origin.

Young Queens: Three Renaissance Women and the Price of Power**by Leah Redmond Chang** (Farrar, Straus and Giroux US / Bloomsbury UK)

Exploring the intertwined and endlessly fascinating stories of Catherine de Medici, Mary Queen of Scots, and Elisabeth Valois, this is a thoroughly researched history rich in details of court life, international political drama, and personal anxieties and anguish.

Alfred Dreyfus: The Man at the Center of the Affair**by Maurice Samuels** (Jewish Lives, Yale University Press)

This short, accessible, and fascinating biography of Dreyfus manages to tell us something new about *l'affaire* by re-centering upon Dreyfus himself.

The Rebel's Clinic: The Revolutionary Life of Frantz Fanon**by Adam Shatz** (Farrar, Straus and Giroux US / Head of Zeus UK)

This is a significant, readable, well-researched biography of Fanon and a brilliant, nuanced exploration of his ideas.

Paris is Not Dead: Surviving Hypergentrification in the City of Light**by Cole Stangler** (New Press US / Westbourne Press UK)

An intelligent, immersive examination of the city's transformation to theme park irrelevance, and a glimpse into the parts of Paris that, in their particular ways, keep alive what makes a great city great.

Monet: The Restless Vision**by Jackie Wullschläger** (Allen Lane)

Finely executed, authentic and heartfelt, this solidly captured story conveys the essence of the time and place that forged his artistry while lovingly building a narrative of Monet's evolution as a man and artist.

A screening advisory panel chaired by John Burnham Schwartz, the award's Administrator, selected the longlist from seventy-three nominees.

The 2024 shortlist will be announced in September. The winning title will be selected by an independent jury of distinguished writers: Andrew Sean Greer (Chair); Jonas Hassen Khemiri; and Ayelet Waldman.

All seventy-three submissions for the 2024 Book Award are in the Library's circulating collection and are available for checkout by Library members.

THE BOOK AWARD CEREMONY:

The winner of the 2024 award will be announced at a ceremony in early November 2024. This event is the Library's most important donor appreciation event of the year. If you would like to receive an invitation to the 2024 Book Award Ceremony, please join our [Friends of the Library donor benefit program](#) by making a gift at the Folio Society level (250€) or above.

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Photo by Krystal Kenney.

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