

# CATALOG QUÉBEC LITERARY WORKS

For audiovisual adaptation

Göteborg Film Festival 2026

**QUÉBECRÉATIF**

SODEC  
Québec 

# ÉDITIONS ABDUCO

[abduco.ca](http://abduco.ca)



Description:

A publishing house founded in 2005 that achieved significant international success, both through rights sales in Europe and by publishing European authors in Québec. Its activities have been scaled down in recent years and it was acquired by Abduco in 2025.

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## QUÉBEC AMÉRIQUE

[quebec-amerique.com](http://quebec-amerique.com)



Description:

Québec Amérique is one of the most important independent publishing houses in Quebec. For over 50 years, it has been publishing quality works that leave a lasting mark on the French-language literary landscape.

Its diverse catalogue includes fiction with distinctive voices, children's and young adult literature, reference books, and inspiring essays.

Its authors, including Andrée A. Michaud who is among the most remarkable writers in contemporary Quebec literature—captivate readers in Europe and around the world. In children's and young adult publishing, several titles from its varied catalogue, ranging from early childhood to teen novels, are translated and distributed throughout Europe, Asia, and Latin America, demonstrating the global reach of its publications.

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## CHOUETTE PUBLISHING (CRACKBOOM! BOOKS)

A division of PAPP International

[editions-chouette.com](http://editions-chouette.com)



Description:

Chouette Publishing is driven by a deep passion for books and for children, and its mission has always been clear: to publish books that support and encourage the development of every child throughout their journey.

In 2016, Chouette Publishing created a new division dedicated to books for children aged 0 to 10: CrackBoom! Books. This imprint offers a playful way of telling stories through unique formats designed to spark young readers' imagination and curiosity—baby books, picture books, word books, night-light books, puzzles, gift sets, and much more.

# ÉDITIONS MICHEL QUINTIN

[editionsmichelquintin.ca](http://editionsmichelquintin.ca)



## Description:

Founded in 1982, Les Éditions Michel Quintin have since then been producing high-quality picture books, documentary books and a variety of fiction and fantasy books for children as well as adult fiction books and field guides. The publishing house now gathers about 1000 titles in its catalogue, to which are added about 50 new releases each year.

## LES ÉDITIONS XYZ INC.

[editionxyz.com](http://editionxyz.com)



## Description:

Les Éditions XYZ is a French-language publishing house based in Quebec, founded in 1985 and part of Groupe HMH. We mainly publish literary fiction, nonfiction, essays, and a few graphic novels. Many of our titles have been honored with Quebec and international literary awards. Groupe HMH has been very active internationally for many years: we sign an average of 80 agreements with publishers, audio and audiovisual producers every year. We attend major international rights fairs and participate in various missions and events where Quebec's cultural presence is sought after and noticed. Our rights department is composed of two people who, with the help of literary and audiovisual agents, promote our titles in various markets.

## ÉDITIONS MULTIMONDES

[editionsmultimondes.com](http://editionsmultimondes.com)

## Description:

Founded in 1988, Éditions MultiMondes is a Quebec-based publishing house that is part of the HMH Group. We publish popular science books on the environment, ethology, astrophysics, and cognitive science. Since 2023, we have developed a second imprint to cultivate an interest in science among young readers. We are recognized for the quality of our scientific publications, which have won numerous awards. Groupe HMH has been very active internationally for many years: we sign an average of 80 agreements with publishers, audio and audiovisual producers every year. We attend major international rights fairs and participate in various missions and events where Quebec's cultural presence is sought after and noticed. Our rights department is composed of two people who, with the help of literary and audiovisual agents, promote our titles in various markets.



# LÉMÉAC ÉDITEUR

[lemeac.com](http://lemeac.com)

LEMÉAC

## Description:

With more than four hundred authors and a catalog of over fifteen hundred titles, Leméac Éditeur is today considered one of the most important general literature publishing houses in Quebec. For several years, Leméac Éditeur has pursued an editorial objective based on an author-focused policy and the creation of a high-quality catalog. A French-language publisher specializing in literature (novels, theater, essays), Leméac is attentive to emerging voices as well as those that assert and confirm themselves. In 1989, Leméac began a collaboration with the French publishing house Actes Sud to ensure wider distribution of works by Quebec and Canadian authors. Since the early 2000s, special attention has been given to the translation of Canadian English-language literature.

## LES ÉDITIONS DU BORÉAL

[editionsboreal.qc.ca](http://editionsboreal.qc.ca)



Les Éditions du  
Boréal

## Description:

Les Éditions du Boréal is a Canadian publishing house based in Montreal that publishes general literature in French.

Founded in 1963, it has become one of the leading independent publishers, respected for the quality of its publications. Many of its authors have received awards both in Canada and abroad. Le Boréal publishes around 40 new titles each year, and its catalogue includes more than 2,500 titles. The team actively participates in international book fairs, including the Paris Book Fair, Paris Book Market, and Frankfurt Book Fair. Over the past two years, there have been more than 26 foreign rights sales and four film/TV series option contracts.

## L'INSTANT MÊME

[instantmeme.com](http://instantmeme.com)

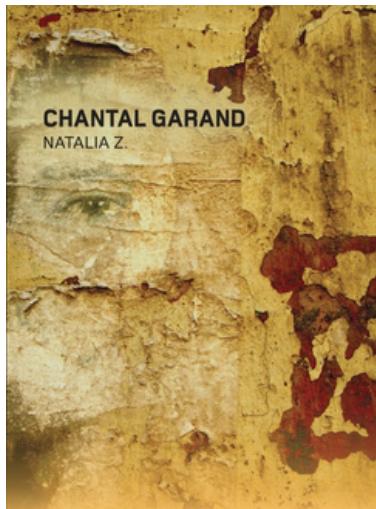


L'instant même

## Description:

Founded in 1986, Éditions de L'instant même is dedicated to supporting and promoting contemporary French-language literature. The publishing house provides a rigorous editorial space for works distinguished by the quality of their writing and the relevance of their vision of the world. Initially devoted to the short story, it has gradually expanded its catalogue to include novels, narratives, essays, plays, and poetry — always with a commitment to editorial coherence and an unwavering demand for literary excellence.

# Natalia Z., by Chantal Garand



Type: Novel

Year: 2018

Intended format: Film or Television

Genre: Drama

Target audience: Adults

Historical period: End of World War II and the 2000s

Duration: Several months at the end of the Second World War and several months in contemporary times

Locations: Poland, Norway, Ukraine, and Québec

Available translations: Norwegian and Ukrainian

Keywords: Search for biological parents, horrors of war

## Awards and distinctions:

- Finalist for the 2020 New Voices in Literature Award at the Trois-Rivières Book Fair

## Highlights:

- Inspired by true events

## Synopsis:

Oslo, June 1945. Natalia gives birth to a boy, whom she abandons at birth.

60 years later, Tollef receives his adoption file. He learns that his mother's fate is closely linked to the state of the world during the Second World War. Disconcerted by what he discovered, he decided to take steps to clarify the circumstances of his birth.

To his surprise, his mother no longer lives in Norway, but in Chambly, Quebec. Through a friend from Quebec, he manages to establish initial contact with her. But Natalia is reluctant to lift the veil on her past. This unexpected reunion revives deep wounds. Images of the hell she survived return to haunt her, memories bordering on the line between truth and lies.

What can we hope for from each other when exceptional circumstances shape the course of a life? Tollef's obsession with knowing everything clashes with Natalia's desire to forget everything.

## About the author:

Originally from Victoriaville, Québec, Chantal Garand has been living in Norway since 2003, where she works on integrating refugees into Norwegian society. In 2015, her story *Un hibou, un Égyptien et l'étrangère* was awarded the Radio-Canada Short Story Prize.

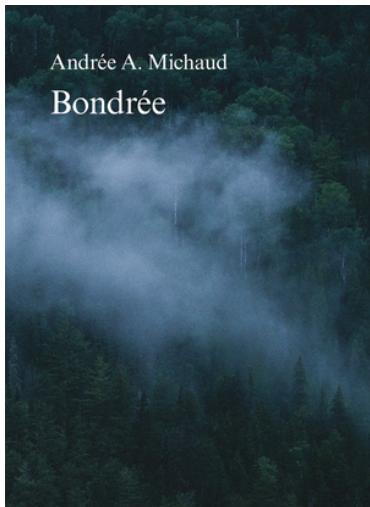
## Strengths for an audiovisual adaptation:

- Universal themes that reach and move a vast audience around the world.
- A small number of characters with strong and engaging personalities but with opposing aspirations.
- The fast-paced action unfolds in different key moments amidst beautiful Nordic landscapes.

## Strengths for a co-production with Nordic Countries:

- The rights were acquired by a Norwegian publisher (Cappelen Damm) and an Ukrainian (Anetta Antonenko).
- The characters are of Quebecois and Norwegian nationality.
- The action takes place in Quebec and Norway.

# Boundary, by Andrée A. Michaud



**Type:** Novel  
**Year:** 2014  
**Intended format:** Television  
**Genre:** Thriller  
**Target audience:** Adults  
**Historical period:** Summer 1967  
**Duration:** A few weeks during summer vacation  
**Locations:** Boundary Pond, a lake on the Canada–United States border  
**Available translations:** French (excluding Canada – Payot & Rivages), English (Oldcastle/No Exit + Biblioasis), German (btb), Spanish (Alianza), Italian (Marsilio), Armenian (Guitank), Czech (Argo), Ukrainian (Nora-Druk), Greek (Ekdoseis tou Eikostou Protou), Arabic (Al Arabi Publishing)  
**Keywords:** Noir, crime fiction, suspense, collective fear, loss of innocence, confrontation with the unknown

## Awards and distinctions:

- 2014 Governor General's Literary Award (Fiction category)
- 2017 Quais du Polar / 20 Minutes Readers' Prize
- 2019 SNCF Crime Fiction Prize

## Highlights:

- Translated into 10 languages, with over 80,000 copies sold

## Synopsis:

It's the Summer of 1967. The sun shines brightly over Boundary lake, a holiday haven on the US-Canadian border. Families relax in the heat, happy and carefree. Hours tick away to the sound of radios playing 'Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds' and 'A Whiter Shade of Pale'. Children run along the beach as the heady smell of barbecues fills the air. Zaza Mulligan and Sissy Morgan, with their long, tanned legs and silky hair, relish their growing reputation as the red and blond Lolitas. Life seems idyllic.

But then Zaza disappears, and the skies begin to cloud over...

## About the author:

Andrée A. Michaud is the author of fourteen novels, each more disquieting than the last. Her specialty is evocative, finely crafted writing that envelops you in mystery, unsettling and bewitching you. Translated into several languages, she continues to accumulate literary awards not only in Quebec and Canada, but also in Europe.

## Strengths for an audiovisual adaptation:

- The plot, centered on disappearances and unexplained murders, sustains gripping suspense and dramatic tension — key ingredients for a successful audiovisual thriller.
- The story is told in an original way, through the eyes of a child who lives near the lake where the disappearances occur.
- *Translated into 10 languages and with over 80,000 copies sold, Bondrée already enjoys international visibility and credibility with its universal themes such as the loss of innocence and fear of the unknown.*

## Strengths for a co-production with Nordic Countries:

- The story unfolds in a wild, misty, and mysterious natural setting, evoking Nordic landscapes and allowing for an easy visual and cultural transposition to Scandinavian countries.
- The Quebec context serves primarily to emphasize the interaction between the two languages used in this border village. The investigator, who does not speak French, must be accompanied by a local resident serving as translator. This dynamic could readily be adapted to any other border setting.
- Nordic audiences have a keen interest in crime fiction; this original and deeply "human" story could truly set itself apart.

# Iron Daughter, by Isabelle Grégoire



**Type:** Novel  
**Year:** 2019  
**Intended format:** Film  
**Genre:** Thriller  
**Target audience:** Adults  
**Historical period:** Present day  
**Duration:** A few months (winter and spring)  
**Locations:** Northern Quebec  
**Available translations:** French (excluding Canada – Le Mot et le Reste; J'ai lu), Turkish (Yeni İnsan Yayınevi – New Human Publishing)  
**Keywords:** Far North, feminism, Indigenous communities, suspense, wilderness, ecoterrorism

## Awards and distinctions:

- Finalist for the 2021 Prix Saint-Pacôme for Crime Fiction

## Synopsis:

Marie works as a mining train conductor in northern Quebec, the only woman in an inhospitable man's world. One evening during a storm, her convoy stops dead. Is it a derailment? She gets out to assess the damage and ends up face down in the snow, injured. She is taken in by a mysterious recluse who proves enchanting and well-read. Against a backdrop of environmental degradation and tension between white and Indigenous communities, a love story emerges. It's a tale as wild and perilous as the land Marie travels across in her train.

## About the author:

Globe-trotting journalist, Isabelle Grégoire has covered stories in some forty countries. A contributor to *L'actualité* and *Châtelaine* magazines, she has won several awards for her work. With her three novels, *Sault-au-Galant*, *Fille de fer*, and *Vert comme l'enfer*, she has established herself as a powerful voice in Québec noir fiction.

## Strengths for an audiovisual adaptation:

- Marie navigates a male-dominated and hostile environment. Her journey as a strong and resilient woman offers an inspiring lead character — rare on screen and carrying universal themes.
- The plot survival in a hostile environment, and an encounter with an enigmatic character, combined with the tension of being confined together in the wilderness, offers ideal dramatic tension.
- The protagonist's relationships weave an intense emotional palette that creates captivating dramatic depth.

## Strengths for a co-production with Nordic Countries:

- The story takes place in Northern Quebec, a wild, snowy, and majestic land that instantly evokes Nordic landscapes and offers strong visual potential. The story could take place in another country.
- The tensions between settlers and Indigenous peoples, combined with mining pollution concerns, directly mirrors Sweden's current struggles over mining operations in Sápmi (Sami lands), where economic development clashes with Indigenous rights and environmental protection.
- Northern Québec and Scandinavian trains answer the same imperatives: breaking the isolation of remote communities, transporting resources and people across extreme distances, surviving Arctic climate.

# Snowflakes for Christmas, by Vanessa Bergeron



Type: Children's Book

Year: 2025

Intended format: Film or Television

Genre: Children's

Target audience: Children aged 4-8

Historical period: A fictional children's story set in winter during the Christmas holidays.

Duration: Short period, one or two days.

Locations: Flurria — a fictional village at the North Pole, suggested to be Santa's village

Available translations: English

Keywords: Children, Christmas, The North Pole, determination, unity, perseverance, winter, hope, community, gratitude, Santa Claus, Reflection, beauty of winter, elves, magic, appreciation, inspiration, unity, climate.

## Highlights:

- *Snowflakes for Christmas* is the first manuscript Vanessa Bergeron signed with a publishing house. She will also be releasing another picture book in 2026 with CrackBoom! and is also writing novels for adults.

## Synopsis:

An enchanting Christmas story filled with hope, highlighting the strength of community and the magic of mindfulness.

In the snowy village of Flurria, everyone is too busy to notice that the snow has stopped falling—everyone except little Yuka. Determined to save her beloved white Christmas, Yuka sets out on a mission that will inspire her neighbors to look up, come together, and rediscover the beauty of winter.

*Snowflakes for Christmas* is much more than a seasonal read—it's a gentle reminder of the joy found in living fully in the moment and the strength that comes from unity. With its poetic language, whimsical winter imagery, and powerful message of awareness and togetherness, this book is perfect for families, classrooms, and holiday gift-giving.

## About the author:

Authentic, transparent, and having lived with sensory hypersensitivity all her life, Vanessa fully embraces her unique journey. A graduate in English studies, she first taught preschool before finding her place in the wonderful world of community work, where she spent many years facilitating workshops on preventing violence against children. Now settled in Estrie, surrounded by trees and animals, she remains convinced that connection to oneself, to nature, and to others are the greatest keys to happiness.

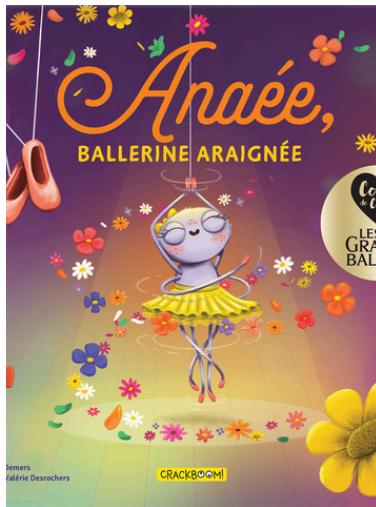
## Strengths for an audiovisual adaptation:

- Beautiful messaging : Heartfelt sentiments that can easily expand into multiple storylines, giving longevity and weight to the overall concept.
- Poetic flow of text lends itself well in Narration; could easily be adapted into an audio book, or a narrated children's TV series or film.
- Beautifully illustrated: Immersive winter landscapes and expressive characters bring to life the magical village of Flurria (at the North Pole), the Christmas village. Visually engaging for any age!

## Strengths for a co-production with Nordic Countries:

- Enchanting winter tale: A poetic and heartwarming story about a little girl determined to bring snow back to her distracted northern village—perfect for the Nordic territory, but easily could apply anywhere geographically.
- Powerful messaging of awareness and unity, values that are universal.
- Compelling visuals that depict direct influence from traditional Nordic art style.

# Rosalina Spider Ballerina, by Véronique Demers



Type: Children's Book

Year: 2025

Intended format: Film or Television

Genre: Children's

Target audience: Children aged 4-8

Historical period: Present day

Duration: 5-6 months (length of a dance session)

Locations: Swallowtail (fictional town in the story)

Available translations: English

Keywords: Kids, Ballerina, Spiders, Determination, perseverance, hope, father-daughter relationship, dance, confidence, self-belief, stereotypes, ballet, butterflies, bumblebees, pursuing your dreams, overcoming your fears.

## Awards and distinctions:

- "Top Pick" Selection by Les Grands Ballets (of Montreal) - 2025

## Synopsis:

Rosalina is not like other spiders—she dreams of becoming a ballerina! But in the village of Swallowtail, everyone knows that only butterflies (and sometimes bees) can dance. Will Rosalina be able to prove them wrong and become the very first spider ballerina? *Rosalina Spider Ballerina* is a charming and beautifully illustrated picture book for children ages 4 to 8, perfect for encouraging perseverance, confidence, and self-belief. With a gentle story that challenges stereotypes, this tale opens discussions about overcoming fears, celebrating differences, and following your dreams—no matter what others think.

## About the author:

Author and elementary school teacher, Véronique Demers places significant importance on fostering creativity and self-esteem in children. By combining her passion for books with her love of education, she creates stories that share valuable messages to help young readers flourish. *Rosalina Spider Ballerina* is Véronique's first published book.

## Strengths for an audiovisual adaptation:

- Adorable illustrations: visually engaging, sure to capture the audience's attention. Shine a new, friendly light on spiders, to make children less scared of them.
- Inspires perseverance and confidence: a beautiful story about determination, courage, and self-belief. Universal messaging!
- Storyline lends itself to greater concepts and can be expanded to explore alternate characters facing moral or personal challenges (ex: new Butterfly at Dance School who can't find her rythym).

## Strengths for a co-production with Nordic Countries:

- The Scandinavian approach to ballet, which has its roots in traditional Nordic folk dances, makes it easy to incorporate into an adaptation.
- The art style of the book's illustrations align with Nordic market, and popular styles of animation already seen and loved there.
- Strong female character that leads by example: depictive of the strong, female leadership in several Nordic countries' members of Government.

# How To Catch A Bear Who Loves To Read, by Juliana Léveillé-Trudel et Andrew Katz



Type: Children's Book

Year: 2018

Intended format: Television

Genre: Children's

Target audience: Children aged 4-8

Historical period: Present day

Duration: Two days (in the story), but adaptable for a longer timeframe in audiovisual narration

Locations: A fictional forest and a fictional town

Available translations: English, Arabic, Russian, Armenian, Nepali, Simplified Chinese

Keywords: Children's literature, girl-animal relationships, determination, curiosity, reading, friendship, patience, creativity, imagination, forest animals, problem-solving, emotional intelligence, kindness

## Awards and distinctions:

- Was nominated for the 2020 Forest of Reading's Peuplier Prize (Canada)
- Coup de cœur Renaud-Bray

## Synopsis:

Julia has plenty of forest friends—but no bear has ever appeared. Inspired by a book she's reading, she tries honey ... then blueberries ... and soon, she's on a heartwarming quest to meet a bear who just might love books as much as she does.

*How to Catch a Bear Who Loves to Read* is a gentle, funny story about friendship, patience, and the magic of reading.

## About the authors:

Born in Montreal in 1985, Juliana Léveillé-Trudel practices various forms of writing: novels, children's literature, and theatre, and she founded Productions de brousse.

Andrew Katz is a bilingual author based in Montreal. He has been teaching in Montreal for over fifteen years. Specializing in children's literature, he received the Dawson College Director General's Award for Teaching Excellence in 2013.

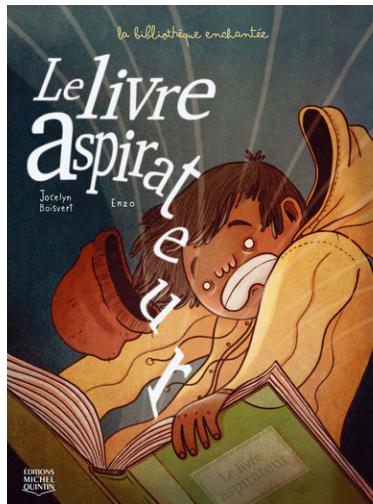
## Strengths for an audiovisual adaptation:

- Magical and evolving universe: the first volume in a three-book series, this title immerses readers in the magical world of a vibrant, mysterious forest alongside Julia, a brave and determined young heroine.
- The series follows Julia through a rich, colorful forest that transforms with the seasons and could represent many different landscapes.
- Endearing heroine and universal values: Friendship, courage, and perseverance are at the heart of adventures that blend humor and imagination.
- Strong visual potential: Detailed illustrations and anthropomorphic characters are perfectly suited to inspire short films, feature-length movies, or animated series. Created by Joseph Sherman, who has worked on several children's television shows.

## Strengths for a co-production with Nordic Countries:

- Julia's new friend-Bertand the Bear is a brown bear, the National animal of Finland and a symbol of power in Nordic heritage.
- Promotes a love of reading: Literacy and Early Childhood development is a major focus for Nordic countries and their socio-economic policies.
- The artistic direction of the book's illustrations lends itself well to familiar Nordic animation styles.

# The Enchanted Bookshelf 1 - The Vacuum Book, by Jocelyn Boisvert



Type: Comic book

Year: 2024

Intended format: Film

Genre: Youth

Target audience: 8 years and up

Historical period: Present day

Duration: A few hours

Locations: Alice's bedroom, inside a book (mostly on page 7, then various settings: forest, beach, sand dunes, etc.)

Available translations: Swedish (for coming at Hegas)

Keywords: Imagination, youth, reading, mutual help, nature, adventure, humor

## Awards and distinctions:

- Governor General's Literary Awards - Young People's Literature – Illustrated Books (Finalist)
- Yvette-Lapointe Award - Bédéis Causa - Festival Québec BD (Winner)
- Bédélys Youth Québec - Montreal Comic Arts Festival (Winner)

## Highlights:

- The work has won numerous awards.
- Will be published in Swedish.

## Synopsis:

In Alice's room there is a vast bookshelf strewn with enchanted books. Every time the young girl chooses one, it's the same old story... She never knows what will happen to her!

Today, while browsing the shelves, Alice comes across THE VACUUM BOOK. As soon as it is opened, the book swallows her up on page 7, where other readers have been stuck for weeks. What is stopping them from going further?

## About the author:

Jocelyn Boisvert has published more than 85 books for young readers: humorous and interactive novels, horror stories, illustrated books, and graphic novels. He sometimes feels like his life is a giant book that he reads day by day, curious to discover the next chapters. For him, the blank page is an infinite space where he can explore new worlds.

## About the illustrator:

Based in Montreal, Enzo is an illustrator and musician. He discovered the magic of drawing when he was very young and has been passionate about music since his teens. Today, he never leaves home without a pencil in his pocket and a mandolin slung over his shoulder. Between concerts, he illustrates albums and comic books.

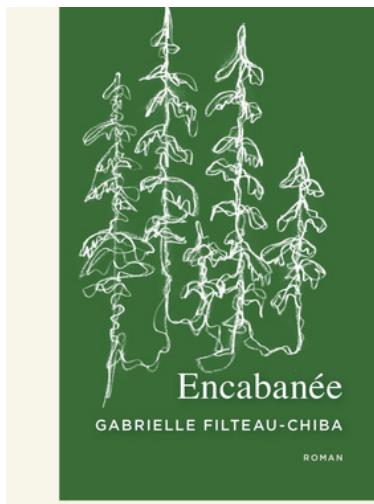
## Strengths for an audiovisual adaptation:

- The originality of the immersive concept has been recognized by peers and readers.
- There aren't too many locations or characters, which would make an animated adaptation quite simple.
- The illustrations and dialogues create a unique, magical, and humorous atmosphere.

## Strengths for a co-production with Nordic Countries:

- Universal settings: although the story takes place within a book, most of the locations are in nature and outdoors.
- Universal themes: cooperation, mutual support, imagination, friendship, adventure.
- The story features a dragon, an important creature in Norse mythology.

# Gimme Shelter, by Gabrielle Filteau-Chiba



**Type:** Novel  
**Year:** 2018  
**Intended format:** Film  
**Genre:** Drama  
**Target audience:** Adults  
**Historical period:** 2010s  
**Duration:** Several months, in winter.  
**Locations:** Kamouraska Forest (Quebec)  
**Available translations:** Swedish, Italian, Spanish, Catalan, English (excerpts)  
**Keywords:** Environmental challenges, inner life, local heritage, identity and sense of belonging

## Awards and distinctions:

- Prize Nominee - Folio-Télérama (France) 2022
- Prize Nominee - Hors Concours 2021
- Prize Nominee - Mots en marge 2022

## Highlights:

- The book has sold over 60,000 copies worldwide.

## Synopsis:

Anouk left her comfortable apartment in Montreal for a dilapidated forest refuge in Haut-Kamouraska. Holed up far from everything in the harshest of winters, she recounts her story in the form of a journal dotted with illustrations. Seeking to embrace her frugal lifestyle and overcome her fears, she writes about the transformation taking place within her: fear of the dark and coyotes gives way to wonder; disgust for the system gives way to hope; the difficulties of daily life give way to the refinement of techniques for snow removal, stove heating, and cohabitation with the animals that reign in the boreal forest...

Gimme Shelter is a journey into the depths of the woods and of oneself; a quest for meaning far from civilization, a return to one's roots.

## About the author:

Gabrielle Filteau-Chiba writes, translates, illustrates and defends the natural beauty of the untamed forests of North America. *Gimme Shelter*, her first novel inspired by her own life in Haut-Kamouraska, has won over a wide audience here and abroad. Gabrielle Filteau-Chiba's work, translated into 10 languages, includes four successful novels and two collections of poetry belonging to the ecofeminist movement.

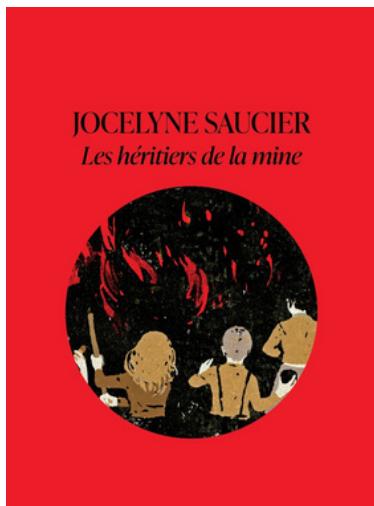
## Strengths for an audiovisual adaptation:

- A novel that is part of a bestselling literary triptych (*Encabanée*, *Sauvagines*, and *Bivouac*), with 150 000 copies sold.
- A closed-door narrative that can be produced on a modest budget.
- A story combining different successful plot lines offering possibilities for adaptation into several genres (adventure, thriller, romance, introspective memoir).

## Strengths for a co-production with Nordic Countries:

- The book was published in Sweden in May 2025 and sold approximately 3,500 copies (Editions J).
- A forest and winter setting that can be seamlessly transposed to Nordic Countries.
- The themes addressed in the work (rural traditions, natural and wild world, environmental issues, feminism) are valued by Quebec, Scandinavian and Nordic cultures.

# 21 Cardinals, by Jocelyne Saucier



Type: Novel

Year: 1999, new editions in 2006 and 2025

Intended format: Film

Genre: Drama

Target audience: Adults

Historical period: Late 1990s - the characters recount episodes ranging from the 1940s to the present day.

Duration: Time jumps between the 1940s and the late 1990s.

Locations: Val d'Or, Abitibi-Temiscamingue (Quebec)

Available translations: English, German, Italian, Arabic, Spanish, Catalan, Croatian, Ukrainian, Albanian, Swedish (translation in progress)

Keywords: Death and grief, heritage and rurality, societal challenges, identity and sense of belonging

## Awards and distinctions:

- The author was awarded the Ordre des arts et des lettres du Québec in 2021
- France-Québec prize nominee

## Highlights:

- A standout title in XYZ's catalogue, translated into ten languages. Editions J will publish the swedish translation in Fall 2026.

## Synopsis:

Long scattered to the four corners of the earth, the children forming the Cardinal clan are congregating for the first time in decades; their father is being honored for discovering, fifty years ago, a zinc mine their now-deserted hometown was built around. Of the twenty-one children, there are now twenty, and the siblings' greatest fear is that their mother discovers what happened to their missing sister... What secrets does the mine hold?

## About the author:

Jocelyne Saucier is a multi award-winning novelist, notably recipient of the Ordre des arts et des lettres du Québec. Her bestselling novel *And the Birds Rained Down* won several awards in Canada and France, including the Prix des 5 continents de la Francophonie, making her the first Canadian to win the award. Her passion for wild, railroad-crossed territories has been the fuel of many other novels.

## Strengths for an audiovisual adaptation:

- A family saga based on the characters' perspectives and biases; a narrative device that plays with the reader by keeping them involved and captivated, which works very well in cinema.
- Ensemble casts are in fashion, and the popularity of stories filled with family secrets shows no sign of slowing.
- The storylines surrounding the main plot are complex and rich in narrative possibilities: the dynamics of a large rural family, the theft of a mine by a large corporation and its consequences, the scattered lives of the Cardinal children across the globe.

## Strengths for a co-production with Nordic Countries:

- Swedish rights sold to Editions J -- the novel will be published in time for the Gothenburg book fair in 2026. Another work by the author, *And the Birds Rained Down*, was published in Sweden and Norway.
- In terms of decors and landscapes, the nordicity of the setting can be transposed in Quebec as well as in scandinavian countries.
- In Québec, as in Sweden and Finland, metal mining has played a significant role in industrial development and economic growth.

# Glass Flowers, by Eve Patenaude



Type: Graphic novel

Year: 2025

Intended format: Television

Genre: Animation

Target audience: All ages

Historical period: Undefined, between the past (fashion and architecture) and the future (artificial intelligence)

Duration: Undefined, over a period of severral months.

Locations: Thea's family mansion and the surrounding valleys

Available translations: Korean (in progress)

Keywords: Artificial intelligence, childhood illness, brain plasticity and memory, connections, limits of reality, human experiences

## Highlights:

- Eve Patenaude won the Governor General literary prize in 2023 for her previous graphic novel, *Le plus petit sauveur du monde* (XYZ, 2022).

## Synopsis:

Thea is a sick, bedridden young girl. To help her regain a sense of normalcy, her parents have acquired an auto-memory android who looks like Thea and "attends" events for her - events the clone then secretly deposits into the girl's subconscious after dark. Everything goes according to plan until the night Thea wakes up and lays eyes on her double.

## About the author:

Eve Patenaude is an author and illustrator, as well as a linguistic and editorial proofreader. She illustrated two graphic novels published by XYZ: *Papier bulle* and *Le plus petit sauveur du monde*, the latter of which won the 2023 Governor General's Award.

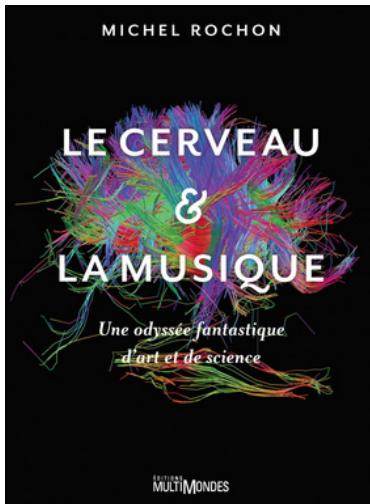
## Strengths for an audiovisual adaptation:

- Rich visual symbolism.
- There are various possibilities for adaptation: with its visual style blending manga and Scandinavian aesthetics, its science fiction narrative and gothic elements in the setting, *Fleurs de verre* could be adapted into an anime-style animation, like *Paprika* (dir. by Satoshi Kon, 2006) or a short film in the style of an episode of *Black Mirror* (Netflix, 2016).
- A philosophical fable exploring the ambiguous concept of reality —a central theme in the age of artificial intelligence and misinformation.

## Strengths for a co-production with Nordic Countries:

- A meditation on duality that echoes the premise of the renowned film *Persona* by legendary Swedish filmmaker Ingmar Bergman.
- The clean illustrations, pastel colors, abundance of floral motifs, and vast expanses of wild valleys evoke the codes of Scandinavian aesthetics.
- AI is at the center of Sweden's technological development; the government wishes to deploy in service of its population in terms of welfare and care. [Source](#)

# Music and Your Brain, by Michel Rochon



Type: Essay

Year: 2018

Intended format: Television

Genre: Documentary

Target audience: All ages

Available translations: Simplified Chinese, German, Italian, Spanish, Arabic, English (excerpts)

Keywords: Cognitive studies, musicology, cognitive psychology, cognitive and behavioral neuroscience

## Awards and distinctions:

- Hubert Reeves (Grand Public) prize nominee 2019
- Opus prize nominee 2019

## Highlights:

- The author is a science journalist who has contributed to numerous Quebec-based television programs and regularly hosts conference-concerts internationally.

## Synopsis:

An experienced science journalist, Michel Rochon offers a fascinating exploration of the musical brain. Divided into twelve chapters, this popular science essay takes us on an ambitious journey from the Big Bang to artificial intelligence. It reveals the latest discoveries in neuropsychology, linguistics, and even mathematics that give us a new understanding of musical harmonies.

Why do certain tunes move us to tears, give us goose bumps, excite us, or make us dance? Why are we touched by Beethoven's symphonies, Céline Dion's vocal performances, or symphony orchestra concerts? Despite the complexity of the concepts addressed, this book is accessible to all thanks to its fluid writing style. A fascinating encounter between art and science!

## About the author:

Michel Rochon is a science and medical journalist, lecturer, guest speaker and presenter. For 30 years, he worked with several news teams at Radio-Canada, notably for the programs *Découverte*, *Enquête*, *La semaine verte*, and *Le Téléjournal*.

## Strengths for an audiovisual adaptation:

- Each chapter of this essay reads like a short, dynamic, and thoroughly researched report—perfect for a television adaptation.
- A great science communicator, the author has worked as a researcher for several television news program.
- Globally, the book has sold over 25,000 copies and is translated in five languages.

## Strengths for a co-production with Nordic Countries:

- Michel Rochon cites researchers from universities in Sweden, Bergen (Norway), and Aarhus (Denmark).
- Technological innovation in music is at the forefront in Sweden, where the streaming giant Spotify was founded.
- Sweden is the birthplace of many globally influential musical figures, such as ABBA and producer Max Martin.

# Professor Planet : SOS Plastic, by Valérie S. Langlois



Type: Children's Book

Year: 2025

Intended format: Television

Genre: Animation

Target audience: Children aged 6-8

Historical period: Present day

Duration: Depending on the investigation, the story can take place over one day or several days.

Locations: Various: Prof. Planet's planetary environmental laboratory, the team's investigation sites (landfill, bathroom)

Available translations: None

Keywords: Science, adventures, friendship, teamwork, protection of the environment and fauna, pollution, biodiversity, ecosystems

## Synopsis:

Welcome to the all-new Global Environment Laboratory, where Professor Planet and her faithful friends conduct their investigations: what's causing Sammy Seagull's strange tummy aches? What's behind the Gull kids' unusual orange poop? Through a series of wild adventures, young readers learn how macro, micro, and nanoplastics affect our planet and discover simple, real-life solutions to one of the biggest environmental challenges of our time: reducing our plastic footprint.

## About the author:

Valérie S. Langlois is a professor at the Institut national de la recherche scientifique and holds the Canada Research Chair in Ecotoxicogenomics and Endocrine Disruption. Her goal in becoming an author of children's books is to raise public awareness regarding environmental issues. Her extensive expertise covers the impact of organic contaminants on living organisms and the use of molecular biology to measure their effects on animal physiology and ecosystem biodiversity.

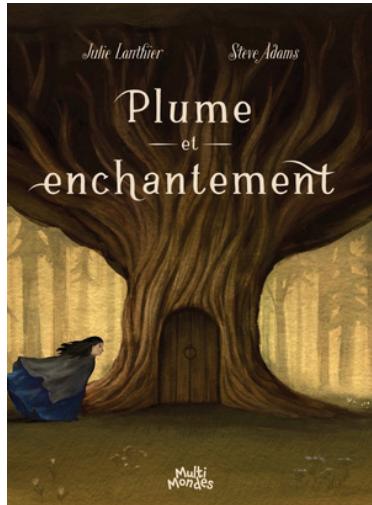
## Strengths for an audiovisual adaptation:

- Original and appealing visual identity, a cast of endearing characters.
- Short investigations that explain the environmental issues of our time in a simple, step-by-step manner, using vocabulary invented by the author, adding a touch of creativity and imagination to the brigade's adventures. The approach is reminiscent of the animated series *The Magic School Bus* (PBS Kids, 1994).
- A four-volume collection (two new volumes to be published in 2026-2027) featuring numerous adventures that could serve as the basis for a multi-episode television series. Two volumes were already published in 2025: *SOS Plastic* and *SOS Rescue*.

## Strengths for a co-production with Nordic Countries:

- Prof Planète* is a documentary series that blends adventure and science to entertain children while educating them about contemporary environmental challenges. This educational approach is also implemented at the preschool level in Sweden.
- In Sweden and Norway, ecotoxicogenomics and endocrine disruptors present in the environment have been the subject of numerous reports and studies for over a decade.
- In Sweden, since 2023, a super factory has been set up in Motola to recycle all types of plastic. Recycling this material was not a priority in the past, but recent years have shown Sweden's determination to improve this issue. In Norway, the plastic recovery and recycling rate exceeds 90%.

# The Enchanted Quill, by Julie Lanthier



Type: Children's Book

Year: 2023

Intended format: Television

Genre: Animation

Target audience: Children aged 4-8

Historical period: No specific time period, it is specified that the story takes place "in a distant era."

Duration: This imaginary tale recounts the birth of night, the sun, winter, etc. It is therefore difficult to talk about time.

Locations: Northern forest

Available translations: None

Keywords: Northern forest, forest animals, balance of nature, tales and legends

## Awards and distinctions:

- Selected by Communication-Jeunesse – Jeunesse 2023

## Synopsis :

This eco-fable transports us deep into a northern forest of long ago, before there was day or night, winter or summer, wind or rain, moon or stars...

One by one, the animals that live there, such as the hare, the owl, the lynx, and the black bear, come to meet Kakouajoula, the great enchantress of the forest, to present her with a request. Sensitive to their distress, the enchantress finds a solution to help each of them and, by extension, all the inhabitants of the forest.

This fabulous story will forever change the face of this majestic northern forest.

## About the author:

Julie Lanthier has always loved the forest and animals. She roams the boreal forest and shares her passion and knowledge of wildlife with her three daughters. She is a mail carrier in Baie-Comeau, where she pursues her other passion, writing.

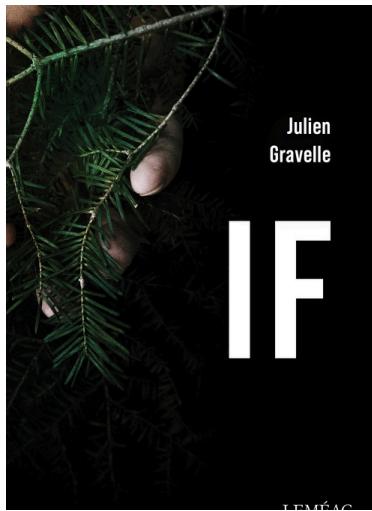
## Strengths for an audiovisual adaptation:

- History magnified by the iconic and original signature of illustrator Steve Adams.
- Symbolic of nature's cycles, visually evocative on screen.
- Text rich in visual descriptions that further enrich the subject matter.

## Strengths for a co-production with Nordic Countries:

- The Cinematic landscape—northern forests and winter climates—in which the story unfolds, along with the animals featured, are both representative of the wild landscapes of Québec, as well as those of Scandinavian and Nordic countries.
- This tale about the balance of nature is loosely inspired by the beliefs and spirituality of northern Indigenous peoples, as well as by female figures from Nordic (European) mythology.
- Quebec and Nordic literature are primarily an art of oral tradition, storytelling, and mythology.

# If, by Julien Gravelle



**Type:** Roman  
**Year:** 2024  
**Intended format:** Television  
**Genre:** Thriller  
**Target audience:** Adults  
**Historical period:** 1921-2023  
**Duration:** A century  
**Locations:** Forest environment  
**Available translations:** None  
**Keywords:** Family saga, forest, nature, thriller, intergenerational relationships, secrets, territory, trappers, survival, First Nations

## Highlights:

- Editions Stock acquired the rights for French-speaking Europe and published the novel in 2025 under the title *Ce pays n'est pas pour les faibles* (This Country Is Not for the Weak).

## Synopsis:

Summer 1984. Avid of freedom, Lyne and her lover get lost as they set off to explore the backwoods. They find shelter in a cabin once built by a trapper. What awaits them there will change their lives forever.

From ancestor Léopold to grandfather Siméon, and between Lyne, the mother, and Tania the daughter, Julien Gravelle weaves time and points of view to portrait the rise and fall of the Malençons in Fond-du-Lac, a family whose roots lie deep in the soil of the boreal plains and who, from generation to generation, have born a heavy secret in the heart of the magnificent and overwhelming nature of northern Lac-Saint-Jean.

## About the author:

Frenchman Julien Gravelle has lived in Quebec since 2006. His writing is driven by an ethical reflection that he puts into words in the form of novels (*Nitassinan*), stories (*Musher; Debout sur la carlingue*) or essays (*Nos renoncements*). Simultaneously with If, Leméac will release a paperback edition of his 2021 crime novel *Les cowboys sont fatigués*, that was also published in French-speaking Europe by Éditions du Seuil. If is published by Stock (2025).

## Strengths for an audiovisual adaptation:

- The plot of this family thriller is deeply rooted in the territory, where several themes—survival, Indigenous peoples, sexuality, relationship with the forest, and feminism—are explored with a biting sense of irony.
- The universal theme of intergenerational transmission—here, traumas spanning four generations—is at the heart of the story, carried by a cast of diverse and vibrant characters.
- The themes explored are universal (quest for truth, family relationships, sexuality, feminism).

## Strengths for a co-production with Nordic Countries:

- The story takes place in the Quebec forest, an environment similar to Scandinavian landscapes.
- The author paints a striking picture of Nordic landscapes and human lives.
- Simple and to the point, this thriller shares similarities with Scandinavian noir and can appeal to a wide audience.

# Life on Mars, by Marie-Sissi Labrèche



**Type:** Novel  
**Year:** 2014  
**Intended format:** Film  
**Genre:** Dramatic Comedy  
**Target audience:** Adults and/or young adults  
**Historical period:** Future - 2035s  
**Duration:** A few months  
**Locations:** Small French town, in Lorraine  
**Available translations:** None  
**Keywords:** Humor, grief, family, motherhood, heritage, anxiety, lies, guilt, boundaries between fiction and reality

## Highlights:

- The author's first novel, *Borderline*, received significant critical acclaim and was later adapted into a film, with the author as co-screenwriter.

## Synopsis:

The year is 2035. Enter Neil, a young dropout from Montreal, whose mother Fédora, a well-known writer, has practically raised alone, as Christian, his French astronaut father has been on a mission to Mars for a long time. When Fédora is found dead, Neil must travel to Raon-l'Étape in Lorraine to sort things out.

Accompanied by his faithful Rosaline and pestered by the overwhelming Rita-Adèle, Neil pops bottle-loads of anti-anxiety pills to face the ordeal, especially since Fédora has left behind a manuscript containing disturbing revelations. Between visits to the undertaker, he is stunned to read his story—that of his conception, his birth, his early childhood with his parents, his visits to his grandfather in France—reluctantly continuing when he discovers the truth about his astronaut father.

As a film, we would call that story a dramatic comedy. Marie-Sissi Labrèche demonstrates her gift for tackling serious subjects with humour, offering not just a story about family, lies and guilt, but also about cultural and social differences. The characters are colourful, the plot full of twists and turns, and the writing lively. In *La vie sur Mars* anything goes... And it's far from sad!

## About the author:

Marie-Sissi Labrèche is the author of four novels, a collection of short stories, and a series of thirteen titles for teenagers entitled *Psy malgré moi (Psychologist Despite Myself)*. Her first two novels, *Borderline* and *La brèche*, were turned into a feature film, released as *Borderline* in 2008.

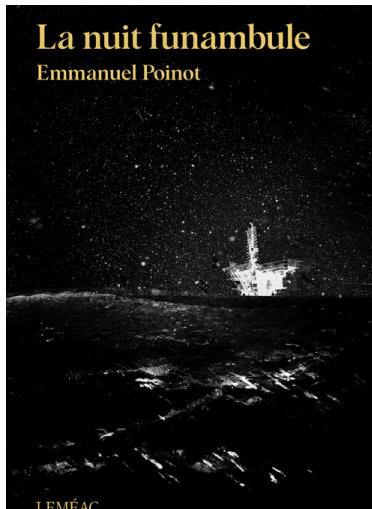
## Strengths for an audiovisual adaptation:

- The author writes a story about family, lies, and guilt, but also about cultural and social differences — which can only benefit the current social context.
- Marie-Sissi Labrèche has a gift for creating colourful and vivid characters.
- Comic situations coexist with dramatic subjects and definitely leave a lasting impression on readers.

## Strengths for a co-production with Nordic Countries:

- This is a very funny and quirky novel, aimed at a broad readership, and therefore highly accessible.
- Universal themes: grief, family, motherhood, heritage, anxiety, boundaries between fiction and reality.
- The story takes place in a small town, a familiar setting both in Europe and Quebec, and the present-day plot unfolds in France. The cast is therefore mixed, which naturally encourages co-production.

# The Night Funambulist, by Emmanuel Poinot



**Type:** Novel  
**Year:** 2024  
**Intended format:** Film  
**Genre:** Drama  
**Target audience:** Adults  
**Historical period:** Present day  
**Duration:** Several years  
**Locations:** Oil rig + isolated island  
**Available translations:** None  
**Keywords:** Friendship, guilt, redemption, nature, sea, accident, drama

## Awards and distinctions:

- Jovette-Bernier Award 2024 (Finalist)

## Highlights :

- The rights have been sold to Éditions Arthaud (2025).

## Synopsis:

On an offshore oil rig, Sven the head nurse watches as a helicopter called to evacuate a critically injured man flies away.

Two years later, isolating himself on an island that was once home to a slate quarry, Sven looks back on his loosely tied relationship with Solveig, his strange attraction to Niels, the injured man from the beginning, and the even stranger relationship the latter entertained with his sister Else, a circus artist.

Through this tale of an unlikely friendship between two men with nothing in common, questions of responsibility, guilt and redemption are explored, following a line that goes from grief to hard-won peace.

Reminiscent of Simenon in his most sensitive books, Emmanuel Poinot's *La nuit funambule* confirms a discreet and touching writer, reaching subtly within human nature and emotions.

## About the author:

Emmanuel Poinot lives in Quebec. After *Les voyages éphémères* in 2019 and *L'angle de chute* in 2022, *La nuit funambule* is the author's third novel.

## Strengths for an audiovisual adaptation:

- The narrative is dense and highly descriptive, almost cinematic.
- The story alternates two plots between a wild island and the oil platform where Sven worked for many years, which adds dynamism to the plot.
- The relationship between the two characters is ambiguous and open to interpretation. They seem to have become platonic lovers during their years working on the platform.

## Strengths for a co-production with Nordic Countries:

- The story is not set in a specific location but takes place in a maritime setting.
- The characters' names are inspired by Scandinavian names.
- The characters hail from diverse backgrounds and various regions.

# The Widow, by Michael Delisle



**Type:** Novel  
**Year:** 2025  
**Intended format:** Film  
**Genre:** Science fiction / Drama  
**Target audience:** Adults  
**Historical period:** A not-so-distant future  
**Duration:** Several weeks  
**Locations:** Dystopian universe  
**Available translations:** None  
**Keywords:** Dystopia, mother-son relationship, death, escape, freedom, justice

## Synopsis:

In this dystopian tale, Michael Delisle invites us on a journey to a land both familiar and strange. In a country divided by a river as wide as an ocean, a totalitarian regime keeps a close eye on its citizens thanks to an army of drones flying tirelessly over their heads — when they don't fall to the ground, that is, leaving their decrepit carcasses to decompose here and there. Military service is mandatory, but there is one way to get out of it: one can agree to "the chore" and serve as a one-time executioner for the state, as the death penalty is also in effect.

This is the path Jean-Marc has chosen. But when the time comes, just as he's about to put the noose over the head of the convict that was appointed to him, he recognizes Veuve Chose, the renowned poisoner made famous by her strychnine-laced caramels. A glimmer in her eye stops him in his tracks, even though the price for not completing the chore is a high one: the convict immediately becomes the sole responsibility of the failed executioner. The fate of Veuve Chose, dead or alive, will forever be linked to his own.

## About the author:

Michael Delisle writes poetry, novels, and short stories. He was awarded the Émile-Nelligan Award for *Fontainebleau* (1987), the Adrienne-Choquette Award for *Le Sort de Fille* (2005) and *Rien dans le ciel* (2021), as well as the Grand Prix du livre de Montréal for *Le Feu de mon père* (2014). He's also the author of *Tiroir no 24* (2010), *Le Palais de la fatigue* (2017) and *Cabale* (2023).

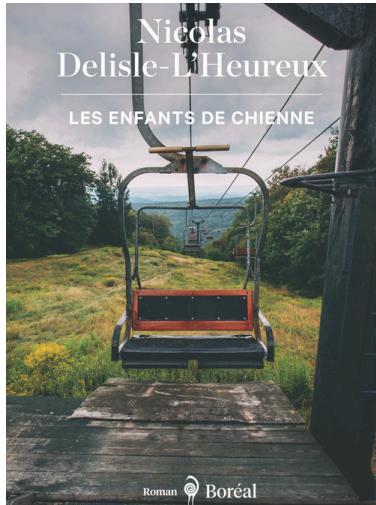
## Strengths for an audiovisual adaptation:

- A dystopian universe that allows for a broad vision of place and time, as well as a certain freedom of creativity. The description of the settings and scenery creates an overall atmosphere that is rather gloomy and tinged with dark humour.
- Well-rounded characters with developed psychologies and complex relationships that make the story captivating.
- A short novel with a visually rich, immersive world and a fast-paced plot.
- An original narrative that leaves a lasting impression. A cynical story, gloomy and full of dark humour reminiscent of Swedish cinema (movies directed by Roy Andersson for example).

## Strengths for a co-production with Nordic Countries:

- A dystopia with disturbing links to the contemporary world allowing adaptation anywhere in the world.
- Universal themes (death, complex relationships, the search for happiness and self-discovery).

# Son of Bitches, by Nicolas Delisle-L'Heureux



Type: Novel

Year: 2022

Intended format: Film or Television

Genre: Drama

Target audience: Adults

Historical period: Present day and the 1980s and 1990s

Duration: Several years (flashbacks between the characters' childhood, adolescence, and adult lives)

Locations: Upper North Shore (Quebec)

Available translations: None

Keywords: Friendship, desire, revenge

## Awards and distinctions:

- Marie-Claire prize winner 2023 (France)

## Highlights:

- Rights sold in France : Les Avrils (trade) and J'ai lu (mass market)

## Synopsis:

When Louise Fowley arrives unexpectedly in the places where she grew up, her past resurfaces—the time when she formed an inseparable trio with Marco, the son of the local kingpin, and Laurence, the little brother of the dreadful Willy. With adolescence, the trio breaks up, each following their own trajectory, never quite escaping the gravitational force of tragedy, of a wound that never healed. Written in style at once poetic and colloquial, Nicolas Delisle-L'Heureux's novel is captivating and lyrical. His masterful storytelling gives the reader the impression of looking at an incomplete jigsaw puzzle, zooming in on different individual pieces, with the full picture only coming into focus at the end.

## About the author :

Nicolas Delisle-L'Heureux grew up in Gatineau during the 1980s and 1990s and now resides in Montreal after two years in Germany. He is a social worker in Pointe-Saint-Charles, where he works on building social bonds. *Les Enfants de chienne* is his second novel.

## Strengths for an audiovisual adaptation:

- Multiple points of view are interwoven throughout the story, keeping us guessing until the very end.
- Well-rounded characters with developed psychologies and complex relationships that make the story captivating.
- Strong visual aesthetic and descriptions of the scenery.

## Strengths for a co-production with Nordic Countries:

- Universal themes (death, complex relationships, coming-of-age).
- Landscapes that can be found in both Quebec and Scandinavia.

# The Origami Mysteries, by Gabrielle Dubé



**Type:** Children's novel  
**Year:** 2024  
**Intended format:** Film or Television  
**Genre:** Animation  
**Target audience:** Children  
**Historical period:** Present day  
**Duration:** One summer month  
**Locations:** Quebec or any town near a forest  
**Available translations:** None  
**Keywords:** Magic, adventure, mystery, friendship

## Synopsis:

This summer, Arthur decides to explore the surrounding countryside on his bicycle. On one of his outings, he sees a strange creature rummaging through the tall grass. He could swear it was a squirrel... made of paper. The next day, he decides to investigate further despite the disturbing news of several children disappearing from the neighbouring village. With his new friend Julie, they set off in the woods, determined to spot the mysterious squirrel. What they find is well beyond anything they could've imagined: a world of origami and magic ruled by the strange figure of the Baron of Paper. Arthur and Julie will spend the summer learning the basics of an ancient form of magic—but can they really trust the Baron?

## About the author:

Born in Lévis, Gabrielle Dubé writes books for children. The first volume of her series *La sorcière d'hiver* (*Victor et Anaïs*, 2022) was selected for the *Prix jeunesse des univers parallèles* in 2024. She works for the Presses de l'Université du Québec.

## Strengths for an audiovisual adaptation:

- It has all the key ingredients of a captivating story: a curious and endearing young hero, a fearless young girl who becomes his friend, a curious character made of paper and magic, all set against a backdrop of mystery and danger.
- Highly visual with the potential for beautiful animation aesthetics.
- A captivating story, sometimes dark and mysterious, reminiscent of the world of Hayao Miyazaki.
- An emotionally charged story that shows to young children that danger is not necessarily where we think it is.

## Strengths for a co-production with Nordic Countries:

- A tale that could take place in any country where a town is located near a forest.
- Universal themes (complex relationships between parents and children, loneliness, bravery, danger)

# Of vengeance, by J. D. Kurtness



**Type:** Novel  
**Year:** 2017  
**Intended format:** Television  
**Genre:** Thriller  
**Target audience:** Adults  
**Historical period:** Present day  
**Duration:** Several weeks  
**Locations:** An unspecified large city  
**Available translations:** English, Arabic, German  
**Keywords:** Ethics, violence, ecology, humanity

## Awards and distinctions:

- Prize winner - Coup de cœur des amis du polar 2018
- Indigenous Voices Award 2018

## Highlights:

- Publishing rights for J. D. Kurtness's three books have already been sold to a French publisher for French-speaking Europe.

## Synopsis:

One day, a thirteen-year-old girl decides to startle a classmate. Instead, she accidentally kills him. And she likes it. Over the years, she begins experimenting with murder. Her victims are, of course, people that deserve it: a careless driver, a CEO of an energy corporation that is destroying the planet, a rapist. Every crime scene is flawless — untraceable and made to look like an accident or suicide. But, as she sleepwalks through her day job and lives in a crummy apartment, one thing becomes increasingly clear: she needs more. Because nothing compares to the thrill of violent retribution.

## About the author:

J. D. Kurtness left her native North to study microbes in Montreal, but eventually branched out into writing. She won an Indigenous Voices Award for her first novel, *De vengeance* (*Of Vengeance*).

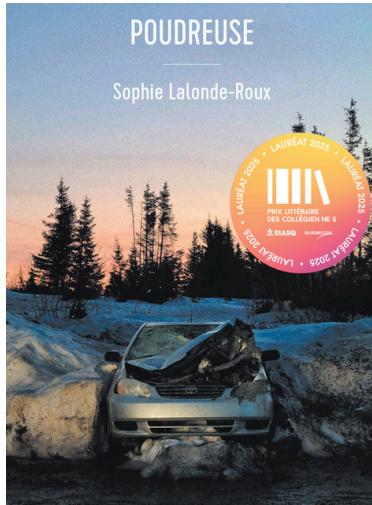
## Strengths for an audiovisual adaptation:

- A strong, dark, and ambiguous central character.
- Universal and contemporary themes.
- A compact format, yet with an open structure conducive to serial adaptation and narrative expansion.

## Strengths for a co-production with Nordic Countries:

- The story unfolds in a nameless city, cold yet universal, which could lie in Canada, Scandinavia, or any metropolis haunted by the same human unease.
- A combination of tones — both chilling and offbeat — could help create a strong audiovisual signature, in the vein of certain contemporary Nordic works that blend aesthetic restraint with moral tension.
- With its dark humor, offbeat tone, and clear-eyed view of human flaws, the work shares an affinity with the Nordic literary and cinematic sensibility — a blend of tender cruelty, irony, and melancholy that faces reality without complacency or moral evasion.

# Poudreuse, by Sophie Lalonde-Roux



**Type:** Novel  
**Year:** 2024  
**Intended format:** Film  
**Genre:** Drama  
**Target audience:** Adults  
**Historical period:** Present day  
**Duration:** Several years  
**Locations:** Montreal and the Gaspé Peninsula... but it could be any large city or any place where the sea meets the snow.  
**Available translations:** None  
**Keywords:** Addiction, grief, friendship/love, queer, resilience

## Awards and distinctions:

- Award - Prix littéraire des collégien.ne.s 2025
- Nominee - Les rendez-vous du premier roman 2025-2026

## Highlights:

- An audiobook will soon be available in French.

## Synopsis:

Loup-Antoine, a young man struggling with addiction, is kicked out by his mother, who hopes to force him to take control of his life. Left to his own devices, he reconnects with his friend Étienne, a medical student who tries to help him while paradoxically becoming his partner in excess. Their friendship turns into a love affair, but Loup-Antoine's inner turmoil and self-destructive tendencies doom their relationship. His only hope is to escape what destroys him. Exiled to the countryside, he must confront his grief, fight his addictions, and learn how to be happy.

## About the author:

Born in Montreal in 1996, Sophie Lalonde-Roux is one of the most promising voices of Quebec's new literary generation. Her debut novel, *Poudreuse*, won the 2025 Prix littéraire des collégien·ne·s (College Students' Literary Prize).

## Strengths for an audiovisual adaptation:

- A short novel with a clear narrative arc. An ideal foundation for a realistic feature film driven by two intense lead roles.
- The book, marked by restrained emotion and control, offers strong adaptability and scenes with high dramatic intensity.

## Strengths for a co-production with Nordic Countries:

- A wintery and coastal setting that resonates with the landscapes and aesthetics of Nordic countries.
- The character's move to the countryside, where he confronts his inner demons far from the city, echoes themes dear to Nordic cinema and literature: a return to nature as a space for renewal, introspection, and personal transformation.