



# Véhicule Press



**RIGHTS CATALOGUE**

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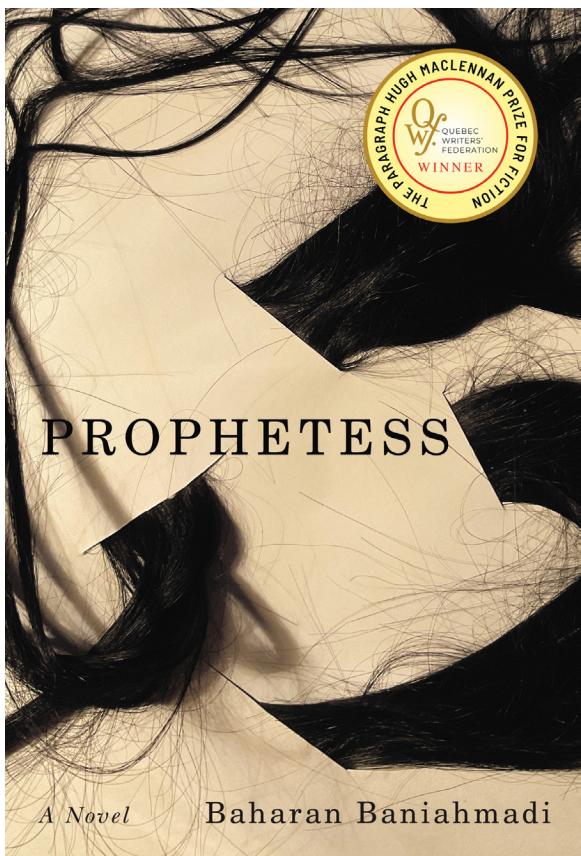
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# PROPHETESS

## A novel by Baharan Baniahmadi

An unflinching allegorical novel that explores trauma, women's rights, and religious tradition.

In the slums of Tehran, seven-year-old Sara witnesses the horrific murder of her sister Setayesh, an event leaves her in shock and unable to speak. As the neighbourhood frantically searches for the missing girl, Sara is locked inside herself, unable to tell her parents or police all she knows.

Over time, the mute Sara develops a strange allergic reaction, in which hair covers her face every time a man approaches her. One day in school, when an imam gets too close, she faints. After Sara reawakens, classmates show her video of her speaking freely and eloquently while unconscious . . . in Polish. These are only the first of many unexpected developments in Sara's life, as she grapples with how to live with her sister's memory in a world that abuses women from a very early age.

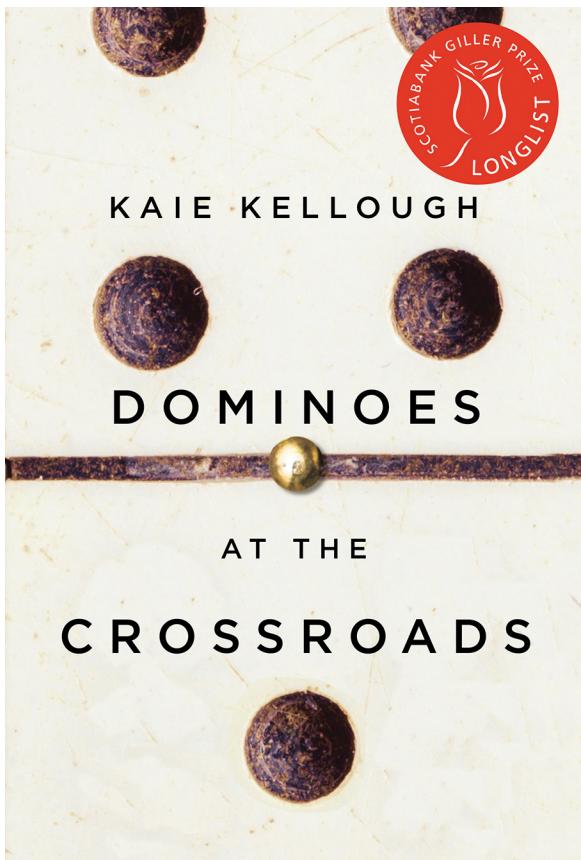
*Prophetess* is a fearless novel of gripping and surreal turns that push the limits of the imagination in their collision of tradition and nonconformity. Baharan Baniahmadi has crafted a wild, allegorical interrogation of trauma, women's rights, and religious tradition.

**Winner, 2022 QWF Paragraphe Hugh MacLennan Prize for Fiction**



Publication date: Spring 2022  
Pages: 194  
Rights available: World except Iran

**Baharan Baniahmadi** is an actor, author and playwright from Iran, now living in Canada. She studied theatre at the Art University of Tehran, and has worked with many international directors.



# DOMINOES AT THE CROSSROADS

Stories by Kaie Kellough

**Linked portraits from the Caribbean diaspora.**

In this collection of stories, Kaie Kellough's characters navigate race, history, and coming-of-age by way of their confessions and dreams. Through the eyes of jazz musicians, hitchhikers, quiet suburbanites, student radicals, secret agents, historians, and their fugitive slave ancestors, Kellough guides us from the cobblestones of Montreal's Old Port to the foliage of a South American rainforest, from a basement in wartime Paris to an underground antique shop in Montréal during the October Crisis, allowing the force of imagination to tip the balance of time like a line of dominoes.

**Winner, 2020 QWF Paragraphe Hugh MacLennan Prize for Fiction**

**Finalist, Grand Prix du Livre de Montréal 2020**

**Longlisted for the 2020 Scotiabank Giller Prize**

**Finalist, 2020 Danuta Gleed Literary Award**

**Finalist, 2021 ReLit Award for Fiction**

**Longlist - Canada Reads 2022**

**French-language rights sold  
Audiobooks rights sold**

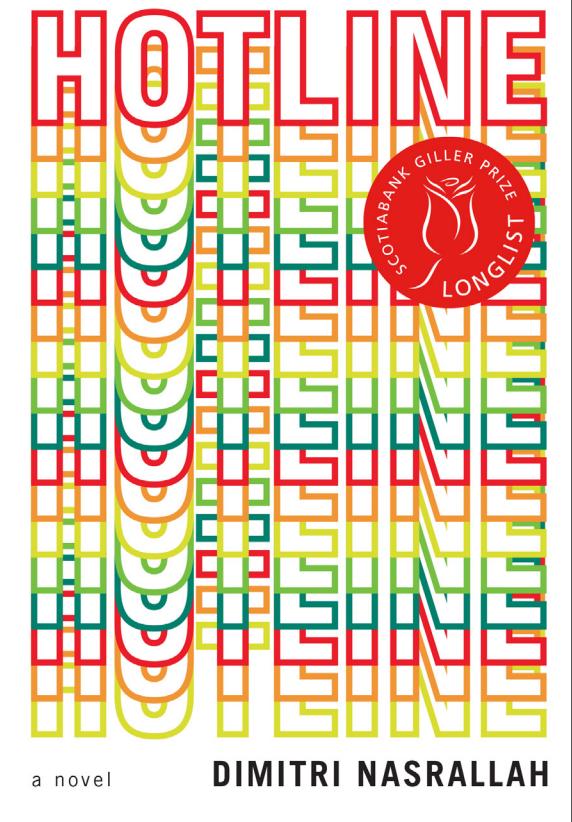
“The sheer torque of *Dominoes at the Crossroads* is a testament to Kellough’s willingness to dwell in the hurricane. The result is an urgent and inimitable collection that honours the rebels in the diaspora.” —SHAZIA HAFIZ RAMJI, *Quill & Quire*

**Kaie Kellough** is a novelist, poet, and sound performer. He has traveled internationally, notably to festivals in the UK, Australia, Asia, the Caribbean, and Europe. He lives in Montréal and has roots in Guyana, South America.

Publication date: Spring 2020

Pages: 212

Rights available: World except French



# HOTLINE

## A Novel by Dimitri Nasrallah

**A vivid love letter to the 1980s and one woman's struggle to overcome the challenges of immigration.**

It's 1986, and Muna Heddad is in a bind. After escaping Lebanon's civil war, she'd hoped to work as a French teacher in Montreal, but no one trusts her to teach the language. The only work Muna can get is at a weight-loss centre. All day, she takes calls from people phoning a hotline who are responding to ads seen in magazines or on tv. These strangers all have so much to say once someone shows interest—marriages gone bad, parents dying, isolation, personal inadequacies. Even as her new life faces invisible barriers at every turn, on the phone Muna is privy to the city's deepest secrets.

**Longlisted for the 2022 Scotiabank Giller Prize**

**French-language rights sold**

"*Hotline* intertwines hope and sorrow to create a moving story that sears the heart." —ZEAHAA REHMAN, *Quill & Quire*

"Fiction about immigrants tends toward melancholy and tragedy. [This] novel delivers something different. The problems of bootstraps narratives aside, happy endings are still worth writing." —AMANDA PERRY, *The Walrus*

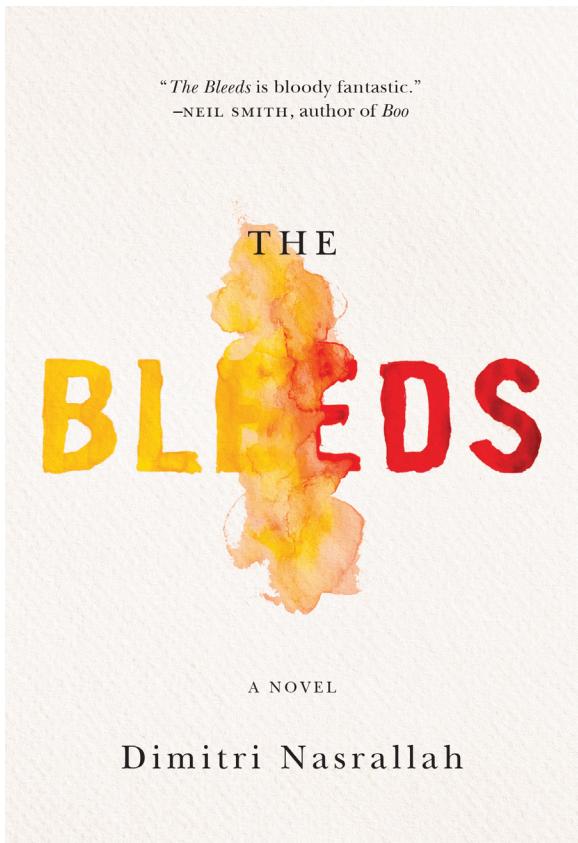


**Dimitri Nasrallah**, the author of four novels, was born in Lebanon in 1977, and lived in Kuwait, Greece, and Dubai before moving to Canada. His books have garnered nominations for CBC Canada Reads, the IMPAC Dublin Literary Award, and the Grand Prix du Livre de Montréal, and won the Hugh MacLennan Prize for Fiction and the McAuslan First Book Prize.

Publication date: Spring 2022

Pages: 274

Rights available: World except French



## THE BLEEDS

### A Novel by Dimitri Nasrallah

**Power, intrigue and father-son rivalry.**

A fresh take on the political thriller, an allegory of power and privilege resurrected from the thwarted ideals of the Arab Spring. For half a century, the Bleeds have ruled with an iron fist. Once hailed as the founders of an independence movement, they've long since cemented into corrupt autocrats upheld by the foreign investors who manage their region's uranium trade.

"*The Bleeds* delivers a damning vision of freedom as merely a useful concept to discuss loudly while quietly seizing absolute power." —NABEN RUTHNUM, *Literary Review of Canada*

**Publication date: Spring 2018**

**Pages: 194**

**Rights available: World except French**

## NIKO

### A Novel by Dimitri Nasrallah

**A powerful epic story of what it takes to survive after war.**

Six-year-old Niko Karam has never known a life outside civil war. He rarely leaves his parents' small apartment, and from its small balcony he listens to the world outside tumble down one building at a time. But after a car bomb kills his pregnant mother, Niko is thrust into a much wider and confusing world as he and his father embark on an impossible twelve-year odyssey that leads them across seven countries in search of a new place to call home.

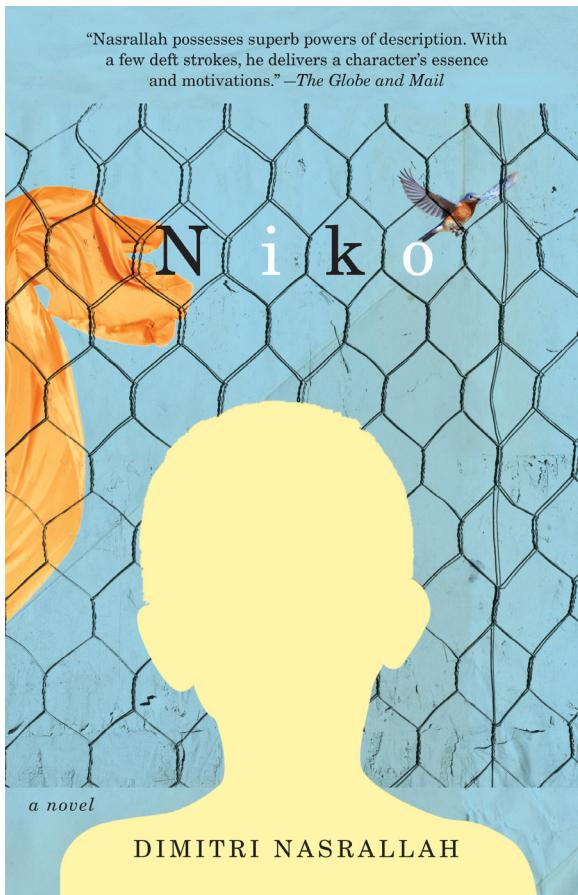
**Winner, 2011 Hugh MacLennan Prize for Fiction  
Longlisted for the 2013 IMPAC Dublin Literary Award  
Longlisted for CBC Canada Reads 2016**

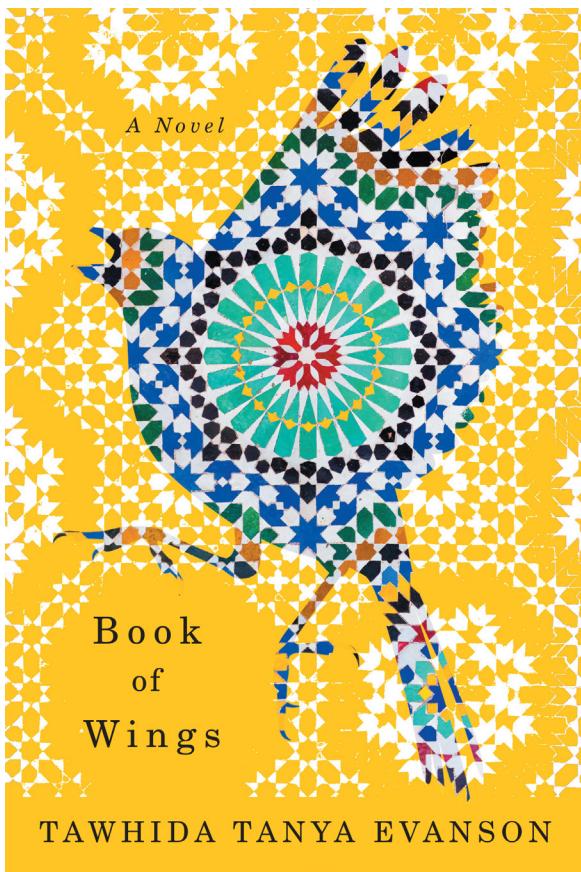
**French-language and Turkish rights sold**

**Publication date: Spring 2010**

**Pages: 234**

**Rights held: World except French**





# BOOK OF WINGS

## A novel by Tawhida Tanya Evanson

**An Afro-futurist writer circles the globe in search of spiritual fulfillment.**

In this sweeping novel, the celebrated poet, dervish, and oral storyteller Tawhida Tanya Evanson comes to terms with what it means to stand on one's own two feet in an uncertain world. The acclaimed Antiguan-Canadian artist traces a global journey from Vancouver to the United States, Caribbean, Paris, and Morocco as a relationship with her lover and travel partner disintegrates and she finds herself on a path toward personal discovery and spiritual fulfillment that leads her deep into the North African landscape.

“Tawhida Tanya Evanson’s novel is a stunning testament to how the grief of heartbreak can bring us back to who we are.”  
—SHENIZ JANMOHAMED, *Quill & Quire*

“Evanson is a seasoned poet, spoken word performer, and oral storyteller, and her craft is evident in this first work of prose fiction.” —HELEN CHAU BRADLEY, *Montreal Review of Books*

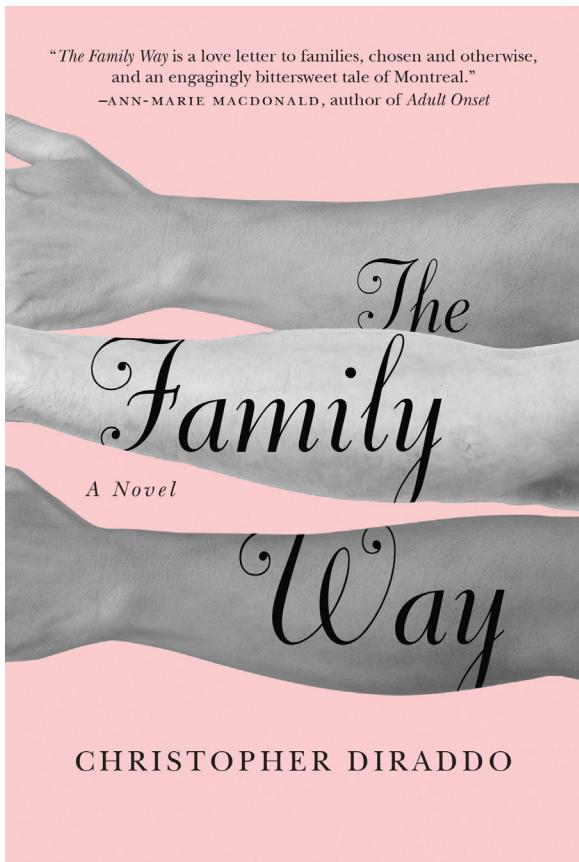
“As the protagonist runs away from her broken heart and tries to leave her memories behind her, Evanson crafts a

**Longlist, Canada Reads 2022  
Winner, 2022 Blue Metropolis/Conseil des arts de Montréal New Contribution Literary Prize**

**French-language rights sold  
Audiobooks rights sold**

**Tawhida Tanya Evanson** is an Antiguan-Québécoise poet, performer and producer. *Book of Wings* is her first work of fiction. With a 20-year practice in spoken word, she performs internationally and has released several studio albums and videopoems. She has been named Poet of Honour at the Canadian Festival of Spoken Word.

Publication date: Spring 2021  
Pages: 180  
Rights available: World except French



# THE FAMILY WAY

## A novel by Chris DiRaddo

**A generation of LGBTQers embrace family and redefine friendship.**

The year Paul turns forty, his friends Wendy and Eve ask him to help them get pregnant. Nothing about the process feels natural to him. But for a gay man of a certain age, making a family still means finding your own way through a world with few ready answers. The eighteen-month journey reveals many insights about Paul's past and present, from his strained relationship to his father, his overprotective relationship with his partner Michael, and the many friends around him whom he considers his family.

“Tender, affectionate and sexy, *The Family Way* is an astute chronicle of modern queer life at middle age. With sharp-eyed observations on love, loss, sex and friendship, Christopher DiRaddo has crafted a timely tale about creating families that can fit us all.” —RACHEL GIESE, author of *Boys: What it Means to Become a Man*

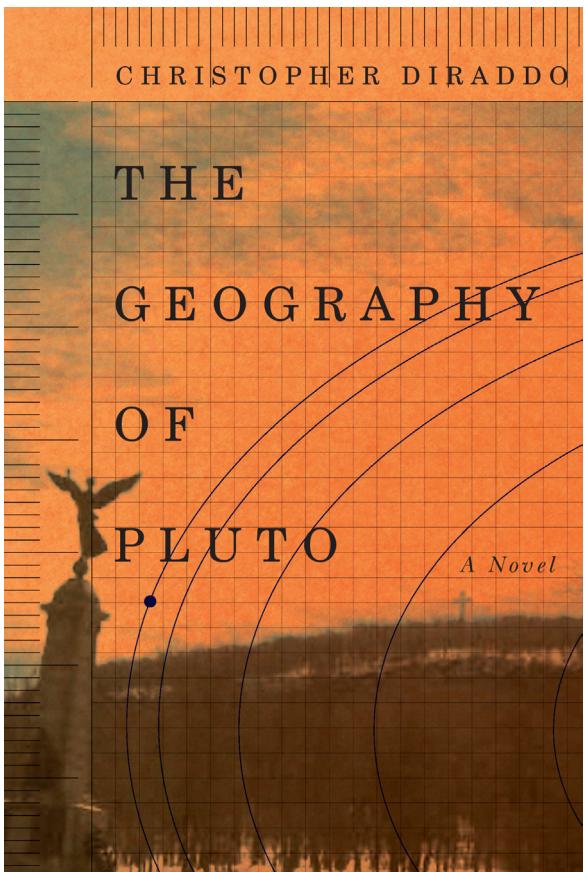


Publication date: Spring 2021

Pages: 418

Rights available: World

**Christopher DiRaddo** lives in Montreal where he is the founder and host of the Violet Hour LGBTQ reading series. He is also the author of *The Geography of Pluto*.



# THE GEOGRAPHY OF PLUTO

A novel by Chris DiRaddo

**A young man's struggle with uncertainty.**

Twenty-eight-year-old Will, a teacher living in Montreal, has spent the last few months recovering from a breakup with his first serious boyfriend, Max. He has resumed his search for companionship, but has he truly moved on? Will's mother Katherine – one of the few people, perhaps the only one, who loves him unconditionally – is also in recovery, from a bout with colon cancer that haunts her body and mind with the possibility of relapse. Having experienced heartbreak, and fearful of tragedy, Will must come to terms with the rule of impermanence: to see past lost treasures and unwanted returns, to find hope and solace in the absolute certainty of change.

In *The Geography of Pluto*, Christopher DiRaddo perfectly captures the ebb and flow of life through the insightful, exciting, and often playful story of a young man's day-to-day struggle with uncertainty.

“An honest and moving account of one gay man’s life. Friendship, desire, rejection, first love, and, above all, the bond between parent and child, are dramatized with deceptive simplicity. Embellished with a strong sense of place and season, its real location is the human heart—which is why I could not put it down.”

—ANDREW HOLLERAN, author of *Dancer from the Dance*

“Sharply written and so full of insights into the human condition, DiRaddo has crafted a fine book about one young gay man’s struggle to realize his first big relationship really is over, while holding his mother’s hand as she struggles through a cancer diagnosis and treatment. Set in the 1990s, this is one of those books that gets better as you keep reading”

—MATTHEW HAYS, *Daily Xtra*

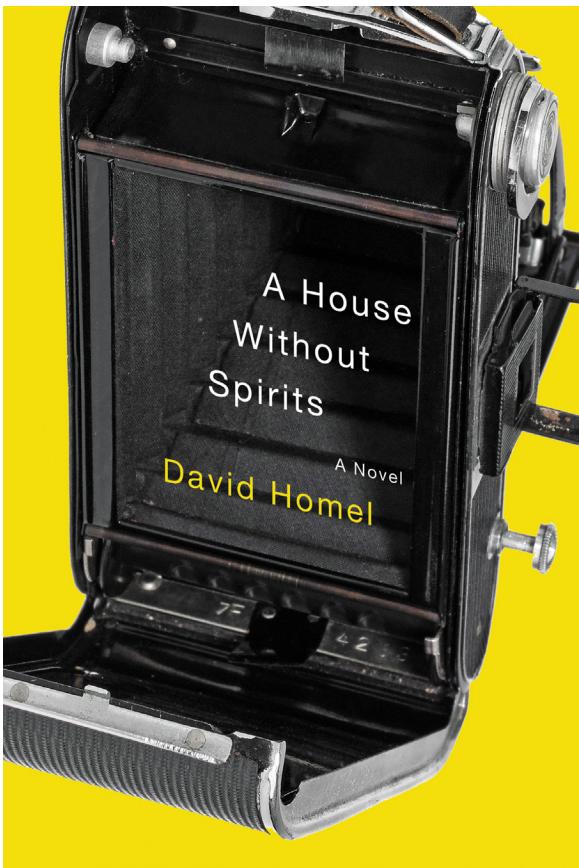


Publication date: Spring 2014

Pages: 212

Rights available: World

**Christopher DiRaddo** lives in Montreal where he is the founder and host of the Violet Hour LGBTQ reading series. He is also the author of *The Geography of Pluto*.



# A HOUSE WITHOUT SPIRITS

A novel by David Homel

**A contemporary noir that reveals how much we learn about ourselves when we begin to ask questions of others.**

When Paul is hired to write a monograph of photographer John Marchuk, he assumes he'll be able to turn over the eccentric project in a matter of weeks. Little does he know that over the next few months his visits with Marchuk, in a house stuffed with boxes stacked floor to ceiling with his life's archive, will expose an emptiness in his own home.

In *A House Without Spirits*, Homel delivers some of his most memorable characters to date—reclusive artists, disaffected life partners, wandering ghosts, cult-affiliated nuns—in a contemporary Montreal noir that reveals how much we learn about ourselves when we begin to ask questions of others.

“Long a pillar of Montreal’s literary scene as both writer and translator, [Homel] maintains his prolific surge with his ninth and arguably best novel.”

—IAN MCGILLIS, *Montreal Gazette*

“His novels are acts of witnessing, and his characters carry the conscience of our times.” —MARIE-CLAIRES BLAIS

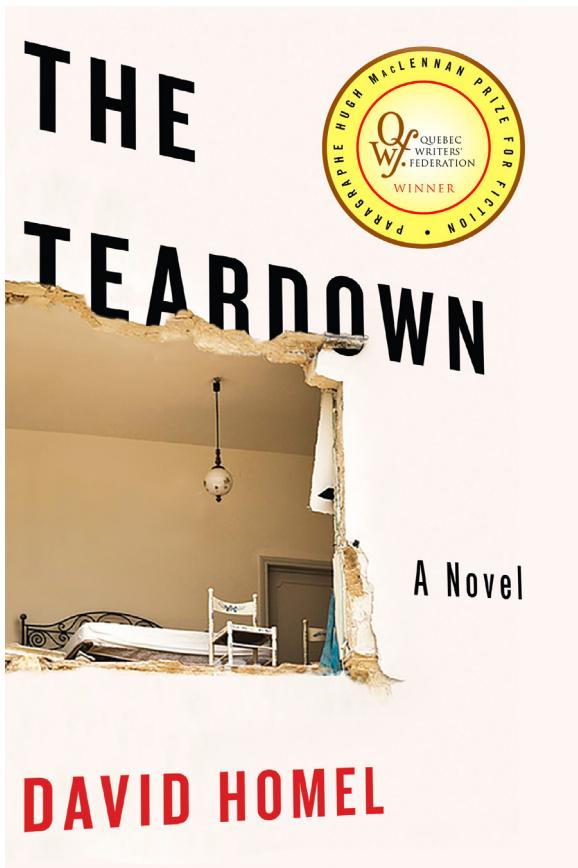


**David Homel** is the author of nine novels and a memoir. A prize-winning writer and translator, he has worked in documentary film, print and radio journalism.

Publication date: Fall 2022

Pages: 228

Rights available: World except French



# THE TEARDOWN

A novel by David Homel

**A brave work from a two-time Governor General Award winner at the peak of his powers.**

Phil Brenner has fallen into a slump. All of his life's achievements have somehow crept into disarray. As a freelance journalist, his career pinnacles keep receding in the rearview, as he struggles to stay relevant in a culture that prizes identity over experience. He feels unfairly cast aside by younger generations, designated the very "white male of privilege" he spent much of his youth rallying against. As a husband, he's estranged from his wife, whose job supports the suburban lifestyle he never wanted. As a father, his two daughters repel any attempt he makes to connect.

But when a chance arises to cover the refugee crisis in Eastern Europe, Phil seizes the opportunity to reinvent himself into the person he could be, if only he can bring himself to tear down the tired notions of who he has become.

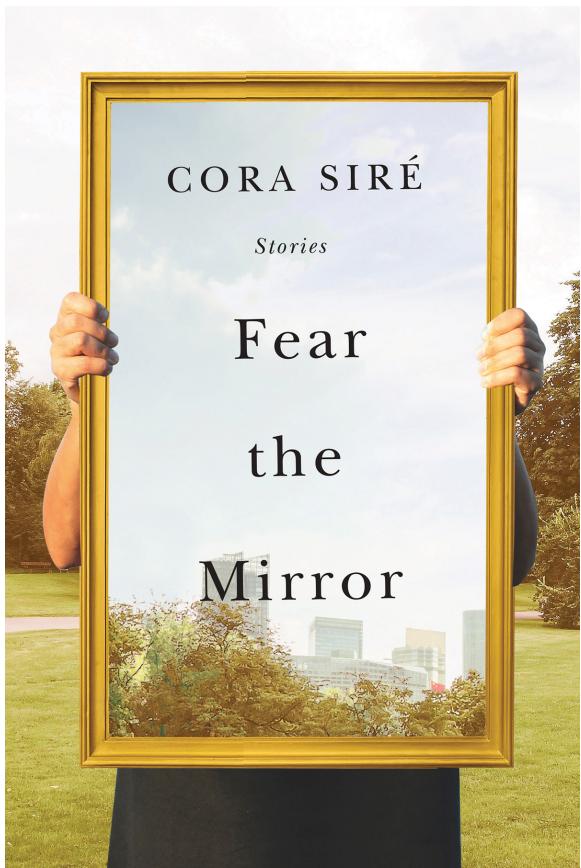
### **Winner, 2019 QWF Paragraphe Hugh MacLennan Prize for Fiction**

"Fiction this bold is rare, and a welcome reminder of the novel's power as a humble witness to human complexity."  
—CHARLES FORAN, author of *Mordecai* and *Lolita*



**David Homel** is the author of nine novels and a memoir. A prize-winning writer and translator, he has worked in documentary film, print and radio journalism.

Publication date: Spring 2019  
Pages: 220  
Rights available: World except French



## FEAR THE MIRROR

Stories by Cora Siré

**Encounters in Latin America and elsewhere.**

In *Fear the Mirror*, Cora Siré weaves together a web of interconnected stories to portray the people who have left significant marks on her life. A feminist mother who fled Estonia. A father who arrived in Canada with nothing but a violin. A Catalan boy whose parent is dying. A love triangle among novelists. Bodies stolen in the night and never found.

Blending essay, memoir, and fiction, Siré draws on her encounters in Latin America and elsewhere to compose loving and conflicted portraits—of family members, writers, filmmakers, and gravediggers—culminating in the persistent legacies and strange alchemies that haunt the person she sees in the mirror.

“*Fear the Mirror* is a human reflector. It’s an exhuming of familial investment, a memory-driven collection that intends to tell of united and divided lives. Ultimately, it tells a truth, as remembered, lived, and loved by those alive and those long gone.” —NATHANIEL G. MOORE, *Literary Review of Canada*

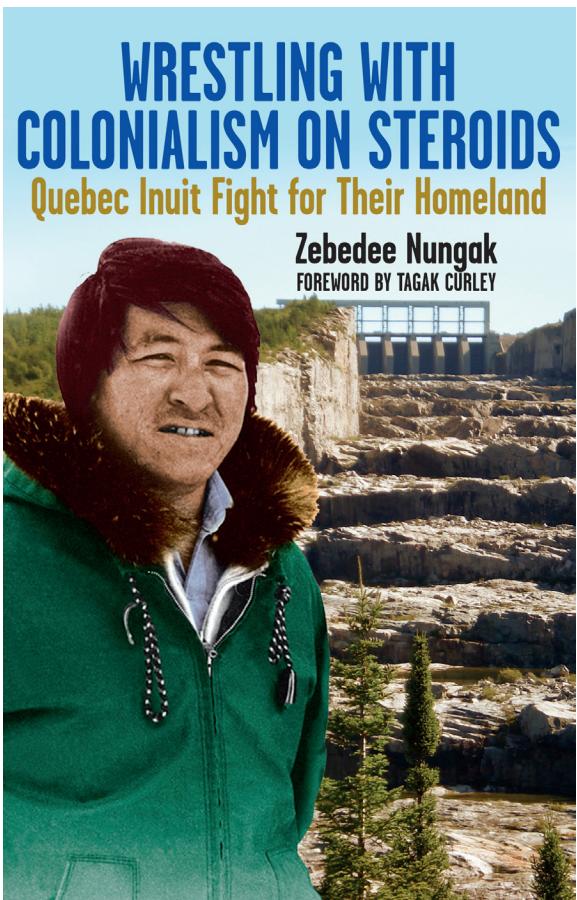


**Cora Siré** is the author of two works of fiction and two poetry collections. Her novel *Behold Things Beautiful* was a finalist for the 2017 QWF Paragraphe Hugh MacLennan Fiction Prize. Her stories, essays and poems have been published in many anthologies and magazines in Canada, the U.S., and Mexico.

Publication date: Fall 2021

Pages: 208

Rights available: World



# WRESTLING WITH COLONIALISM ON STEROIDS: QUEBEC INUIT FIGHT FOR THEIR HOMELAND

Essays by Zebedee Nungak

For decades, the Inuit of northern Québec were among the most neglected people in Canada. It took The Battle of James Bay, 1971-1975, for the governments in Québec City and Ottawa to wake up to the disgrace.

In this concise, lively account, Zebedee Nungak relates the inside story of how the young Inuit and Cree “Davids” took action when Québec began construction on the giant James Bay hydro project. They fought in court and at the negotiation table for an accord that effectively became Canada’s first land-claims agreement. Nungak’s account is accompanied by his essays on Nunavik history. Together they provide a fascinating insight into a virtually unknown chapter of Canadian history.

**Finalist, 2020 Quebec Library Prize**

## French-language rights sold

“Nungak’s body of work could be described as one of Canada’s most unique post-colonial voices. He makes unusual word combinations that command attention, pushing the reader into resolutely decolonial thinking.”

—CAROLINE DESBIENS, *Canadian Journal of History*.

**Zebedee Nungak** is a writer and broadcaster, an outspoken defender of the Inuktitut language and a leading figure in the building of Nunavik. He helped negotiate, and is a signatory to, the 1975 James Bay and Northern Québec Agreement. He later held several leadership positions in Nunavik, and was Co-Chairperson of the Inuit Committee on National Issues during the Aboriginal Constitutional conferences, 1984-87. He lives in Kangirsuk.

Publication date: Spring 2017

Pages: 130

Illustrations: Archival photographs

Rights available: World except French



# Véhicule Press

Since 1973, Véhicule Press, situated in Montreal, has published award-winning fiction, poetry, essays, translations, and vintage noir.

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