Foreign rights
Autumn 2018
The polar bear commands respect. He is the King of the Ice, banishing any other creature who may attempt to get onto his ice floe. But this polar bear’s ice floe is rapidly disappearing, and soon it melts away entirely. No more ice. The entire ocean is his now, but he can only see what’s on the surface. The bear drifts through the water until a kind whale comes to his rescue and scoops him up in all his majesty. Everything seems promised to this bear. The providential island is his once more. But is he really the King here?

**Mine!**  
MARINE RIVOAL  
4 years +  
48 pages • 18 x 30 cm • hardcover  
16 €

A little creature stands before a tree. Taking great care and engaging with all his senses, he places an ear on the bark and breathes in the smell of the moss and the wind. He befriends the tree and becomes one with it, feeling roots and branches grow from his body. And so he enters the tree without even going through a door. Inside, he is another. A bear scratching its back, a caterpillar tickling the leaves, or a squirrel jumping from branch to branch. But this intimate and peaceful communion with the tree must come to an end. Night-time is falling and his real home is calling him back.

**Talking to the trees**  
SARA DONATI  
6 years +  
40 pages • 20 x 30 cm • hardcover  
15.90 €
In Bob and Co., Delphine Durand reveals the truth about the first day of creation. The players (water, the sun, the earth, the sky, the void, God, and Bob) make an appearance one after the other to tell their story and make history. The flurry of characters seat themselves in a disorderly fashion on the benches of life. Just like at school, there are the latecomers, the impatient ones, those chatting from daybreak until nightfall about the weather and what makes the world go round… The figures, surprising and yet familiar, are like unruly children, naïve and spontaneous, on the cusp of learning about life. What if, at the very beginning, the world looked like one big playground?

After Les Mous and Gouniche, meet Durand’s new character Ratapoil, scruffy hair and all. Ratapoil is very self-conscious about his hair, that just keeps on growing into a great big mess. No matter what he does, he simply cannot tame his bushy mane. Until one day, he encounters Death who is feeling down in the dumps. Ratapoil gives him some of his hair to make a wig in exchange for a potion with a little bit too much magic... Ratapoil undergoes multiple transformations before finally returning to his initial state. Well, almost. Ratapoil has a new positive outlook on life now and has never been happier!
“Concentrate!” The order is given to a little girl, sat at a kitchen table, with a book open in front of her. “Concentrate!”, the mother says again to her daughter at her side. But the little girl is lost in her thoughts, daydreaming, drifting away... Using her imagination, she remolds her surroundings, each little occurrence from the outside world adding something new. As her mind wanders further, the landscape becomes more and more complex, inviting the reader to get lost in the scenery on the double-page spreads. After several reminders, the little girl finally returns to where she started, sat in front of her open book, facing the reader... her way of drawing their attention and reeling them in.
Sidonie is a saw. At night, she sends the other tools to sleep with her story. In her adventures, Sidonie goes from being a musician, to a magic trick prop, to a kitchen utensil, and even a tool that cuts up text and reassembles it in a new order. In this chopped-up story, the reader encounters some legendary literary characters, against a Pinocchio backdrop. Just like in a picaresque novel, Sidonie’s eclectic adventures take her on a journey through all the layers of society. Passed from hand to hand, she finally becomes autonomous, an artist, a lucky tool, and a toothless storyteller, soothing the other tools with her tale.
There are four members in the Silence Brigade, Daddy Tom, Mummy Bou, Uncle Jo and Sergeant Pok. They live in the bottom of a shoe and spend a lot of time sweeping up dust to keep the noise of the vacuum cleaner at bay, and to stop Sergeant Pok sneezing from all his allergies. They are wary of pipes gurgling, and of Chester the dog, who they pacify by catapulting dog food in his direction. Noise is the Silence Brigade’s enemy. As is Lizzy, the newcomer’s laugh. Yet what she wants above all else is to be a part of this wonderful little clique.
Floyd, an invisible spectator, admires Pablo's work, ersatz grand master of modern art. Pablo is particularly considerate of his invisible friend. To make sure that he doesn't hurt himself, he reveals the shape and location of objects and obstacles through his painting. But Floyd, in his blindness, falls down a pre-existing invisible hole. With frantic strokes of his brush, Pablo rescues his friend by painting the hole and the way out (as well as what's inside!). In doing so, he reveals the shape and identity of his friend Floyd... an almost pink flamingo with a broken beak, a reminder of his little accident. An amusing yet magnificent bird, smudged in black by the darkness down below, but soon to be repainted by Pablo in pink, the colour of the artist's famous 'Rose Period'.
Fritz
ISY OCHOA
7 years +
64 pages • 23 x 32 cm • hardcover
18.50 €

Fritz the elephant is born in India in 1870. Taken into captivity at a very young age, he is tamed at a menagerie in Hamburg before becoming a circus animal in Germany and then America. Trained with daily punishments and beatings, the so-called biggest elephant in the world’s ordeal continues when, at the beginning of the 20th century, he becomes the main attraction in the “Greatest Show on Earth” and sets out on a relentless tour of Europe. When the circus comes to Tours in 1902, after performing over 120 times throughout France, Fritz is exhausted. During the street parade, he breaks free from his chains and fights back. For his final show, he is put to death in public. After being stuffed in Nantes, he is returned to Tours, a sculpture and skeleton, the only special treatment ever bestowed on him by a human being, posthumously. Fritz’ life was one long ordeal, and he continues to be an attraction... a surprisingly life-like one, so it would appear.
Antoine and Venus have a lot in common. They both love football, live in tiny apartments with a single mother or father, have a super annoying brother or sister, are at the two extremes of their class (Venus being at the very top and Antoine right at the bottom), and above all both love video games... especially Minecraft! So, when a new Cubetout shop opens in their neighbourhood, they are beyond excited! An interior design in the style of their favourite game, mysterious gifts for passers-by... they can't wait to check it out! But then strange things start to happen in their neighbourhood. Everyone who steps foot in the shop comes back out different... zombie-like even! Not to mention the store manager, Max, who looks just like a character out of Minecraft. Could Cubetout be a passageway from the game, to invade the real world?

Time for Antoine and Venus to put down their gamepads and save the planet!

My dog, God and the pokethings
MYREN DUVAL
CHARLES DUTERTRE
8 years +
64 pages • 14 x 19 cm
8.50 €

Pauline is 8 years old. She has her own bedroom, a dog, a strong personality, and Pokething cards. Everything is just right. So, she is less than impressed to find out that her parents have decided to welcome a family of Syrian refugees into their home. Four of them. The parents, Ahmed and Farah, and their two children, Zein, who is the same age as her, and Syrine, a little girl who can barely walk. Pauline will have to share her apartment, toys, friends and even her teacher... What an outrage! Her little world is turned upside down. So, if she wants some peace and quiet, she has no other choice but to end the war in Syria... But since the President of the World is doing nothing to solve the problem, and doesn't even exist, which is another cause for concern, Pauline must learn how to share her space. Without turning her back on her legendary bad faith, sense of humour and fiery personality of course! Laughter, tears, and that wonderful feeling of holding between your hands an important illustrated novel, that just keeps on giving.

The attack of the cubes
MARINE CARTERON
9 years +
336 pages • 14 x 19 cm
12.80 €

Antoine and Venus have a lot in common. They both love football, live in tiny apartments with a single mother or father, have a super annoying brother or sister, are at the two extremes of their class (Venus being at the very top and Antoine right at the bottom), and above all both love video games... especially Minecraft! So, when a new Cubetout shop opens in their neighbourhood, they are beyond excited! An interior design in the style of their favourite game, mysterious gifts for passers-by... they can't wait to check it out! But then strange things start to happen in their neighbourhood. Everyone who steps foot in the shop comes back out different... zombie-like even! Not to mention the store manager, Max, who looks just like a character out of Minecraft. Could Cubetout be a passageway from the game, to invade the real world?

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Germain, Matilda and Mehdi, otherwise known as “the Gazes”, meet up every evening after school on the roof of their Parisian apartment block in Ménilmontant. One thing that they all have in common is their parents. Each one’s mother or father is going through a rough patch... and their children often end up being the responsible ones! Which is how Germain ends up starring in a TV film, as his father struggles with a career temping in the entertainment industry, Mehdi finds himself running the administrative side of his mother’s small sewing business, and Matilda falls upon an amazing manuscript... that might just help her mother, an editor, finally publish a best-seller! A lively writing style, and a funny and spirited immersion into the daily lives of modern-day smart and resourceful kids, and their over-worked, irresponsible, daydreamer parents!

SOS: Broken parents
GÉRALDINE BARBE
8 years +
224 pages • 14 x 19 cm
11 €

Bellaque, Yazid and Miled all agree the following about last night’s attack. One: it was horrific. Two: it was not done. Three: all Arabs were going to be labelled terrorists again, and that really sucked. And the scary part, one of the terrorists had managed to get away and nobody knew where he was... So, when a helicopter and policemen armed to the teeth burst into their school, chaos ensues! And when the police arrest Bellaque, just like that, in front of the teacher and all his classmates, chaos leaves way to complete shock. The police had mixed everything up, because the terrorist and Bellaque shared the same name. And the way the police question Bellaque (the 9-year-old one, in Year 5 at Jean Moulin Primary School, who had not spent seven years in training camps in Pakistani tribal areas), leaves him feeling a little scared, as he witnesses the shambolic investigation led by adults, strange creatures who sometimes struggle to understand the simplest things. Out of this terrible coincidence, Vincent Cuvellier weaves a wacky novel, and so much more...

I am Bellaque
VINCENT CUVELLIER
9 years +
64 pages • 14 x 19 cm
8.50 €

Middle grade novels
The wall of appearances
GwlADYS ConStAnt
13 years +
192 pages • 14 x 20.5 cm
12.50 €

Why did the girl who had it all commit suicide?
A psychological thriller about jealousy among teenagers.

Justine had always been jealous of Margot, even in primary school. It was as though Margot had been born under a lucky star, and all the beauty, money and popularity had been sprinkled over one crib, and not the other. But in secondary school, Margot commits suicide. Justine, the nerdy outsider from a modest background, needs to understand why. So, she pretends to be Margot’s secret friend… and steals her diaries. What was Princess Margot’s life really like? Justine discovers that beneath the perfect exterior, Margot had a lot of secrets. Her relationship with Jordan for example, was just a front. And behind closed doors, inside the neighbourhood’s beautiful villas, the parents were hiding things too. Justine comes out of her shell and is determined to see her investigation through. Social injustice, an obsession with appearances, the dangers of social media… A fast-paced psychological thriller.
I want to be loved
MAGALI WIÉNER
13 years +
224 pages • 14 x 20.5 cm
13 €

Ten modern-day teenage girls and boys, faced with both funny and, at times, tragic events. Océane is an apprentice in a beauty salon, discovering first-hand the realities of working life… and her fantasies. Basile joins a political party, at odds with his own parents’ views, and falls in love with a woman… much older than him. Chiara, from a very bourgeois and misogynistic background, takes up boxing… to assert herself as a woman! As for Jules, he’s a bit of a creep who enjoys filming his friends at their worst. And finally, Sacha, in charge of cooking Christmas dinner for his far-right nationalist family… serves up a couscous dish!

Magali Wiéner further explores the complicated journey through adolescence, doing so once more, with a profound understanding of teenagers today. Coming from all different social backgrounds, the adolescents are faced with politics, work, other people’s judgements, love and break-ups, abortion and Lesbian desire, absent or over-bearing parents… Beautifully written and a spot-on portrayal.

The angry kind of love
AHMED KALOUAZ
12 years +
96 pages • 14 x 20.5 cm
7.50 €

Chloe doesn’t want to see her mum anymore. Not since she split up with her father. She still lives with her dad and her little brother Olivier on the family barge, even when Olivier is not there and stays with their mother. Ten months have gone by, but her anger has still not subsided. She simply cannot bring herself to forgive her mother for breaking up the family. In a moving novel, Ahmed Kalouaz aptly alternates from one chapter to the next between a mother and daughter’s point of view… As her mother sets off on a hiking trip, the loss of her daughter weighing heavily upon her, Chloe goes over and over all the reasons not to see her again. But a glimmer of hope for a reconciliation shines through in the last few pages. A novel that will speak strongly to children and parents alike going through divorce.
Camille and Chaïma, two teenage girls, meet and become friends in the corridors of a hospital in Toulouse. One is Jewish, of Israeli descent by her grandmother, the other is an Israeli-Arab, living in France ever since she was injured in an attack in Tel Aviv. Fast-forward to France and Palestine in the 1940s, and dive into the lives of four children, Leah, Oumaïma, David and Yashin. Nazi concentration camps, the creation of the State of Israel, the eviction of Palestinians from their land, moved to refugee camps in the West Bank... Sixty years of conflict between Israelis and Palestinians told through the lives of these children as they grow into young adults, and the future grandparents of the teenage girls at the beginning of the book. A remarkable novel, intelligent and sensitive, focusing on the everyday lives of these girls and boys, careful not to portray things as black or white.

Shalom Salam now
RACHEL CORENBLIT
12 years +
192 pages • 14 x 20.5 cm
11.70 €

Emma’s mother agreed to leave her the keys to the house for one night only, for a party with her friends. Things weren’t off the best start... Emma and Loïc had been sleeping together for the past four months. But she was so over him. Loïc was a good-looking guy who she enjoyed having sex with. He was her first. But she had never been in love with him. So, she had come to a decision. She would break up with him. Tonight. Besides, the party was really all about Simon and Méline. So that Simon could tell Méline how he really feels, and she could stop acting like she didn’t already know. She had even set up a bedroom for them, with clean sheets... For Simon, tonight is the night. He would make love to Méline for the first time. Even if she was three years older than him. But Simon has too much to drink at the party, falls over while dancing, and when he finally ends up in bed with her... nothing happens. The story of one night, and the teenage heart and body’s complex desires, told on one side by Emma, and on the other by Simon.

Tonight I'll do it /
Tonight I’m leaving him
CATHY YTAK
14 years +
64 pages • 14 x 20.5 cm
8.50 €

A double-sided novel about two teenagers and one party
There must be a way to save the Happa no ko people!

Planet Earth is now made up of one huge town, and towering buildings. All signs of nature have disappeared. The human beings spend their time playing, and the robots are in charge. One morning, Madeleine, a teenager living in the French 45-67 neighbourhood, notices that her hands have turned green... And she's not the only one. On the other side of the world, Ken, from the Japanese 23-58 neighbourhood, has also been struck by this strange phenomenon. Only he knows that his green hands give him the power to travel through space and time. His grandfather had green hands too and had shared all his secrets... A futurist novel, inspired by Japanese culture, in which Karin Serres opposes a terrifying world of machines without a soul, to the Happa no ko people, creatures made up only of energy, who communicate through telepathy and materialise under a coat of leaves. Can Madeleine and Ken save this enslaved species, on the verge of extinction?
A new great adventure novel by Alex Cousseau!

N.I.H.I.L.: a huge whirlwind also referred to as point zero, the centre of the world. A world made up only of islands. In these harsh terrains, tensions between the North and South Kingdoms are escalating, while the islands in the middle are, as usual, neutral. Aanj, Grethe, Askold and Jeremias live in uncertain times, different and yet in many ways similar, to the ones we live in today... Their journey through life is scattered with adventures and extraordinary encounters. Aanj discovers that she can travel through space and time and does everything within her power to save her brother. Grethe sails with her father around N.I.H.I.L., fishing for objects from another era, spat out by the whirlwind. Askold, jailed for taking part in the assassination of the King's son, shares a dirty cell with Jeremias, who has a strange tendency to zone out, hinting that he may have found an escape. They don’t know each other, but their lives are all connected through the big whirlwind of time... Alex Cousseau’s new novel is an implacable puzzle in which each character is a piece. Mind-blowing!