

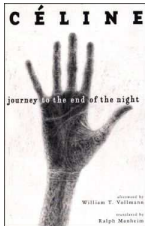


# Alliance Française de Denver

## New acquisitions

April 2010

### BOOKS

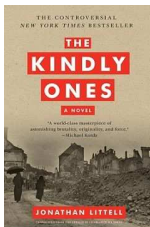


IN ENGLISH  
TRANSLATION

#### **Céline, Louis-Ferdinand. Journey of the End of the Night / Voyage au bout de la nuit (new translation 2006)**

This book shocked most critics when it was first published in France in 1932, but quickly became a success with the reading public in Europe, and later in America where it was first published by New Directions in 1952. The story of the improbable - yet convincingly - described travels of the petit-bourgeois (and largely autobiographical) antihero, Bardamu, from the trenches of World War I, to the African jungle, to New York and Detroit, and finally to life as a failed doctor in Paris, takes the readers by the scruff and hurtles them toward the novel's inevitable, sad conclusion.

This book is also available in its original French version (*Voyage au bout de la nuit*)



IN ENGLISH  
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#### **Littell, Jonathan. The Kindly Ones / Les Bienveillantes(2010) -**

The book is a fictitious autobiography, describing the life of Maximilien Aue, a former officer in the SS who decades later tells the story of a crucial part of his life when he was an active member of the forces of the Third Reich. In the book, Aue accepts his responsibility for his actions in massacres of the Jews, but most of the time he feels more an observer than a direct participant. The book is divided into seven chapters, each one with the name of a baroque dance, following the sequence of a Bach Suite.

This book is also available in its original French version (*Les Bienveillantes*)



#### **Némirovsky, Irène. Fire in the Blood (2007)**

In a leisurely narrative, middle-aged narrator Silvio recounts three interlocking stories of love and betrayal over two decades. These secret affairs, he says, can be explained only by fire in the blood, the intense passion that can overtake men and women when they are young, highly sexed and vulnerable. Silvio's laconic descriptions of unappeasable desire

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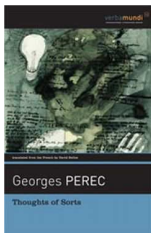


IN ENGLISH  
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are seasoned by bitter assessment of the wisdom earned after things cool. Linked through blood and common local history, the characters in this *la ronde* of betrayal exist in a seemingly idyllic community that is always alert for deviations from the social code. Némirovsky's restraint in unfolding her story contributes to the emotional crescendo at the story's denouement. In its penetrating distillation of manners and mores, this spare and elegant book makes a worthy follow-up to *Suite Française*.

### **Némirovsky, Irène. *Suite Française* (2006)**

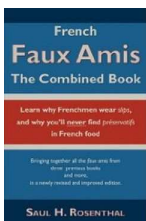
This gripping "suite" collects the first two unpolished but wondrously literary sections of a work cut short. The first, "Storm in June," chronicles the connecting lives of a disparate clutch of Parisians, all fleeing city comforts for the chaotic countryside, mere hours ahead of the advancing Germans. The second, "Dolce," set in 1941 in a farming village under German occupation, tells how peasant farmers, their pretty daughters and petit bourgeois collaborationists coexisted with their Nazi rulers. Némirovsky noted that her goal was to describe "daily life, the emotional life and especially the comedy it provides." This heroic work does just that, by focusing—with compassion and clarity—on individual human dramas.



IN ENGLISH  
TRANSLATION

### **Perec, George. *Thoughts of Sorts / Penser - classer*(2009)**

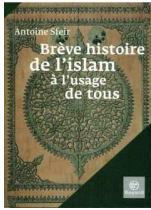
*Thoughts of Sorts* is a compilation of musings and essays attempting to circumscribe, in Perec's words, "my experience of the world not in terms of the reflections it casts in distant places, but at its actual point of breaking surface." Perec investigates the ways by which we define our place in the world, reveling in listmaking, orientating, classifying. This book employs all of the modes of questioning explored by his previous books, and at the same time breaks new ground of its own, ending with a question mark in typical / atypical Perec fashion.



IN ENGLISH

### **Rozental Saul. *French Faux Amis – The Combined Book* (2009)**

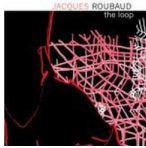
*French Faux Amis: The Combined Book* will help you avoid these embarrassing misunderstandings. It is written in conversational language and it is easy and fun to read. You will learn how each French word differs from the English one and see it used correctly in example sentences. And you will find that you will learn most of these faux amis without having to consciously memorize them, simply because they are so interesting.



### **Sfeir, Antoine. Brève histoire de l'islam à l'usage de tous (2007)**

L'auteur raconte selon un plan chronologique l'histoire et les enjeux culturels et géostratégiques du développement de l'islam. Il va par grandes périodes de la naissance du prophète jusqu'à l'actualité la plus récente. Cet ouvrage s'efforce de distinguer les faits historiques, les croyances, les mythes et l'imaginaire : il a pour but de dépasser les idées toutes faites, les lectures idéologiques ou l'inculture de beaucoup de musulmans sur l'islam. Il s'adresse aussi au grand public.

### **Roubaud, Jacques. The Loop / La Boucle (2009)**



*The Loop* finds Roubaud returning to his earliest recollections, as well as considering the nature of memory itself, and the process—both merciful and terrible—of forgetting. Neither memoir nor novel, by turns playful and despairing, *The Loop* is a masterpiece of contemporary prose.

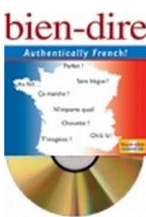
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### **Tesson Philippe. Petit traité sur l'immensité du monde (2005)**

Pour ralentir la fuite du temps, Sylvain Tesson parcourt le monde à pied, à cheval, à vélo ou en canot. Cet amoureux des reliefs poursuit le merveilleux et l'enchantement. Dans nos sociétés de communication, Sylvain Tesson en appelle à un nouveau nomadisme, à un vagabondage joyeux. Ce Petit traité sur l'immensité du monde est un précis de désobéissance naturaliste, une philosophie de poche buissonnière, un récit romantique contre l'ordre établi.

## **AUDIO**



### **Bien-dire Essentials - La Politesse /Social Conversations / The Good Pronunciation Guide /French Expressions / Dialogues pour tous les jours / Bon appétit! Authentically French!**

The **Bien-dire** CD includes over 60 minutes of articles read by native speakers as well as pronunciation and intonation exercises. Published every two months in Lyon, France, **Bien-dire** is a complete and enjoyable French learning experience.