

RA in a Day

Speed Dating Through the Genres

FRENCH CANADIAN

Hosted by BCLA Readers Advisory Interest Group
Presented by Meghan Whyte

October 18, 2016

En Français

- Canada is officially bilingual:
English and French
- Majority of French-Canadian authors
live/work in Québec
- But also in the Maritimes (Acadian),
Ontario and the West of Canada



En Français

- Canadian – French Canadian – Québec literature
- Strong sense of place and francophone culture
- Novels, poetry, plays



Some numbers

2008 - 2009

62 translations*

41 English to French

21 French to English

2010 - 2011

111 translations*

68 English to French

38 French to English

* Translations funded by the Canada Council for the Arts

Source: <http://news.nationalpost.com/arts/books/found-in-translation>

“Quebec finds itself too exotic to be easily digested by the Canadian and U.S. market, but not exotic enough to compete with the appeal of something new from Indonesia or Iceland. To North American readers, especially, I think it’s at once too different and too familiar.”

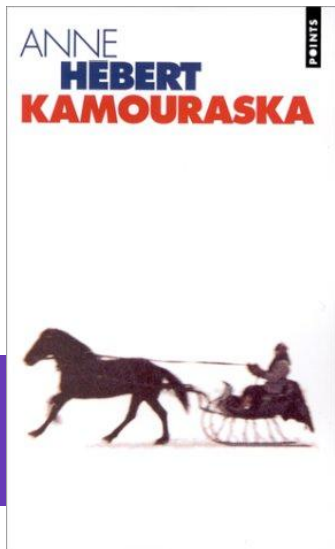
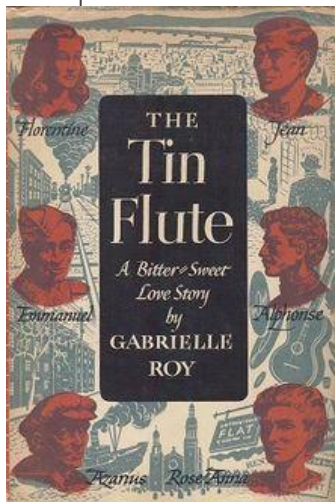
Peter McCambridge

translator in Quebec City, *quebecreads.com*

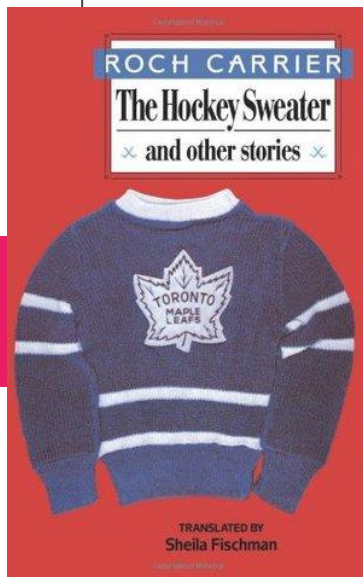
Source: <http://www.newyorker.com/books/page-turner/too-different-and-too-familiar-the-challenge-of-french-canadian-literature>

Classics

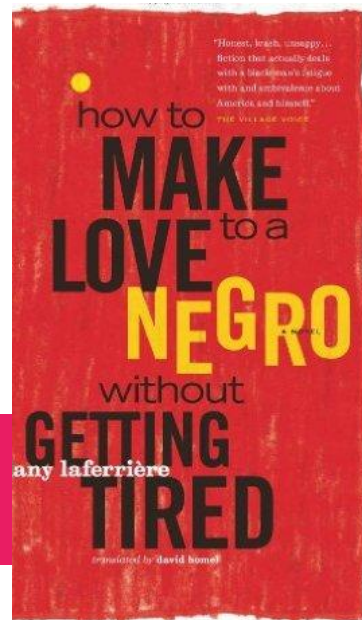
1945



1979



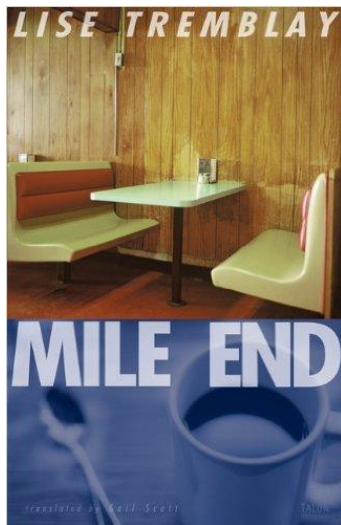
1984



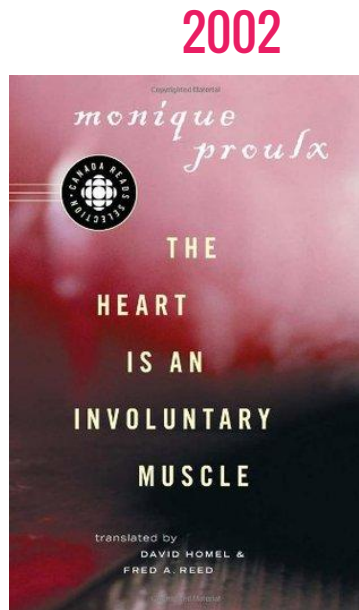
1970

1985

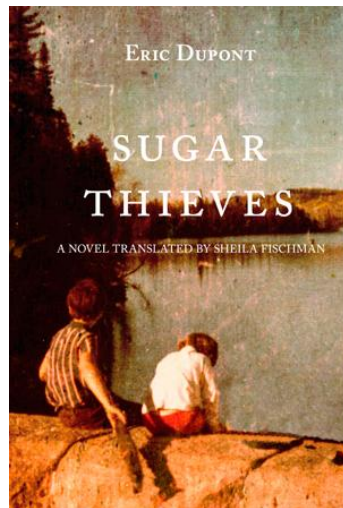
Contemporary



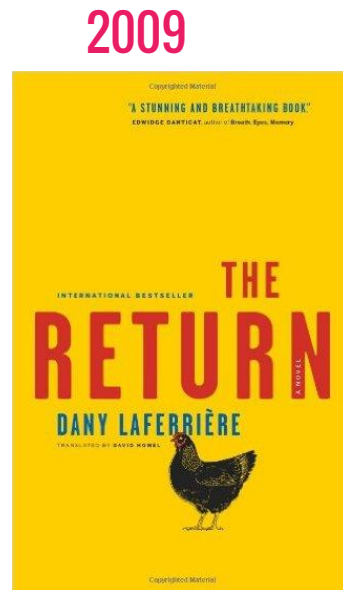
1999



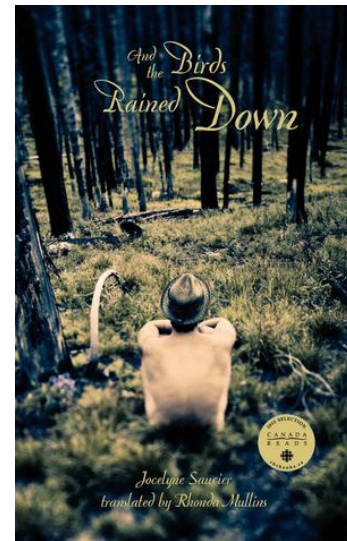
2002



2004



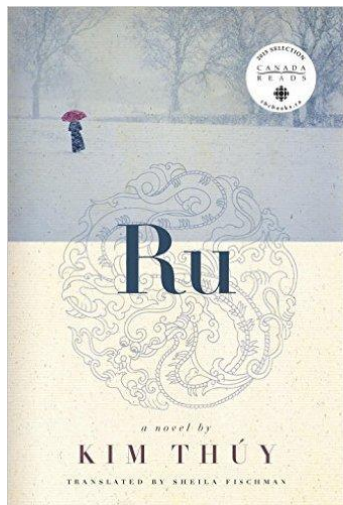
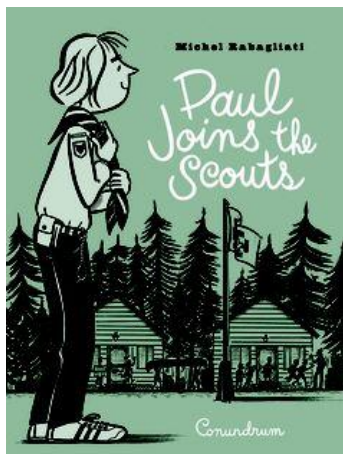
2009



2011

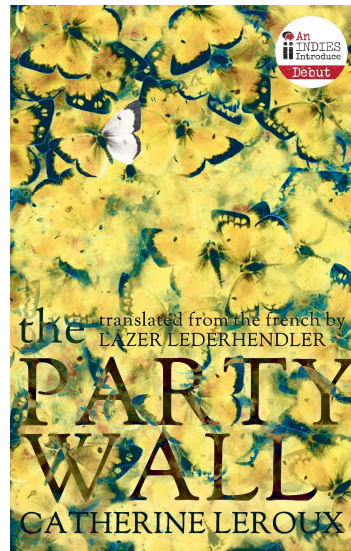
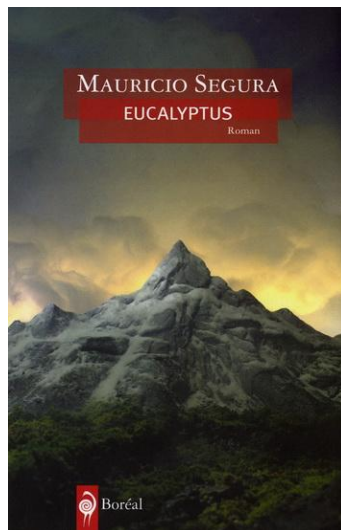
Contemporary

2011



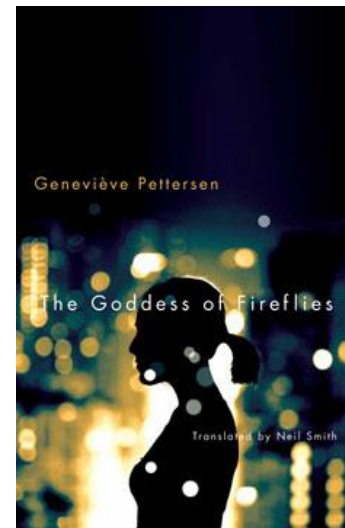
2009

2013



2013

2013



(A few more) Authors

France Daigle

Nelly Arcan

Marie-Claire
Blais

Nicolas Dickner

Nicole Brossard

Michel Tremblay

Samuel

Gaétan Soucy

Archibald

Ying Chen

Awards

- [Governor General Awards](#)
French to English translation award since 1987
- Prix Québec-Paris (1958-1997)
- Prix Molson/Riguet

Resources

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- [The Canadian Encyclopedia](#): Literature in French
- [\[Booklist\] CBC Books](#): Translated works that are essential to Canada
- [Ambos](#): Magazine of Quebec translated literature aimed at English audiences
- [Quebec Reads](#): Current reviews of Quebec Literature
- [49th Shelf](#): Books in translation to read this Fall (2016)
- GoodReads: [Quebec](#) and [French Canadian](#)
- [Culture Trip](#): Ten acclaimed French-Canadian writers

A hand-drawn illustration of the word "Merci" in a cursive script. The word is centered on a white square background. Above the word, there are several short, radiating lines of varying lengths, resembling sunburst rays or a stylized sun. The entire white square is set against a solid magenta background.

Merci