

ÉDITIONS  
**MULTIMONDES**

# **RIGHTS CATALOGUE**

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**SPRING 2023**

**GENERAL &  
CHILDREN  
NONFICTION**



Éditions MultiMondes is committed to producing and promoting science culture by publishing essays and illustrated works intended for the general public. Founded in 1988 and acquired by HMH in 2014, the publishing house now offers more than 400 titles covering various subjects and issues related to the environment, astronomy, ethics, and horticulture.

As the only publishing house exclusively dedicated to producing popular science and ecology essays throughout French-speaking America, MultiMondes has documented remarkable advances in scientific research over the years.

Science and innovation continue to play a crucial role in our future. As such, there is a strong demand for scientific knowledge. The books published by MultiMondes meet this demand and shed light on issues raised by current research.

New scientific voices are being brought forward, including that of Karine Pontbriand and Claude-Yves Charron who draws on real-life examples to shed light on the vulnerability of IT companies and the consequences of international cyberattacks in *Building Cyberpeace* (2023). Using computer technology is not without risk and digital piracy is a real threat to critical infrastructures including the energy, health and finance sectors.

This season also brings its share of books for animal lovers. Such as *The Fascinating Panda* by Cyrille Barrette (2023) in which the author explores the giant panda's distinctive adaptive features that could very well have doomed it to extinction. Is the panda a mistake of nature or a wonder of adaptation?

As for the titles that have been much talked about, we think of François Y. Doré who proposes a new social contract that takes animal rights into account and fosters coexistence based on respect and interdependence in *Animals and Us* (2022). And other interesting voices such as Audrey-Anne Leblanc, whose debut essay *Immunity Explained* (2022) sets the record straight and counterbalances arguments used to market so-called “natural” medicine.

The catalogue also includes texts designed for those ever-curious readers, such as *The Carbon Neutral Illusion* by Gaëtan Lafrance, *Music and Your Brain* by Michel Rochon, *Waves in Spacetime* by astrophysicist Laurent Drissent, *Lithium & the Energy Transition* by geological engineer Christian Hocquard and Michel Jébrak, and *Amazing Fruits* by horticulturist Bertrand Dumont.

You can find these unique voices, along with many others, in the following pages. We can't wait to share them with you!

## CONTACT

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# ÉDITIONS MULTIMONDES FOREIGN REPRESENTATION

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(children's books)**

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**Italy**

**AC2 Literary Agency**

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**Eastern/Central Europe & Baltic countries  
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**Lester Literary Agency**

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# INTERNATIONAL TRANSLATION GRANTS

## SODEC

SODEC provides financial assistance for the translation of literary works written by Quebec authors and published by Quebec publishers. This program aims at providing visibility for Quebec authors and literature throughout exportation by helping with translation costs for foreign publishers who have bought the rights to a book.

### Eligible works

Novels, human sciences essays, storytelling, short stories, comic books, children's literature, poetry, theatre, comic books or songbooks.

### Amount of funding

The request for funds must be submitted to SODEC by a Quebec-based publisher. The subsidy granted may be up to 75% of the translator's fee and up to a total amount of CA\$12,500.

### To find out about eligibility criteria:

[Programme SODEXPORT](#)

## CANADA COUNCIL FOR THE ARTS

The "Translation" component of Arts Abroad funds the translation of Canadian-authored literary works or dramatic works for international presentation or publication. Foreign publishers are eligible.

### Eligible works

Translation funding is available for literary nonfiction, fiction, poetry, short stories, drama, graphic novels, children's and YA literature.

### Amount of funding

Up to 50% of translation costs and a maximum of CA\$20,000 for each translation. Each applicant is eligible to receive up to two translation grants per year. Costs are calculated based on translation fees.

### For more information:

Visit the Canada Council for the Arts website:

<https://canadacouncil.ca/funding/grants/arts-abroad/translation>

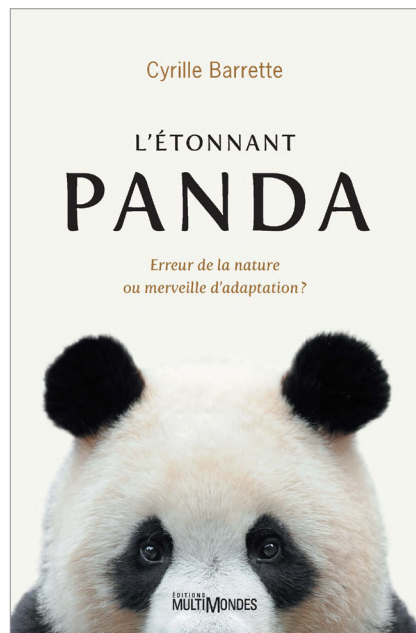
Or contact a Program Officer:

[artsabroad@canadacouncil.ca](mailto:artsabroad@canadacouncil.ca)

# THE FASCINATING PANDA

## L'étonnant panda

Cyrille Barrette



Brilliantly adapted for the general public, this book lays out the interrelated aspects of natural history whose adaptive pressures influenced the panda's anatomy.

CYRILLE BARRETTE holds a PhD in ethology from the University of Calgary and is professor emeritus of biology at Laval University in Quebec City. Well known for his work on the behavior and ecology of mammals, he has authored several books on evolutionary biology.

CATEGORY: **NONFICTION/ANIMALS**

PAGES: 132

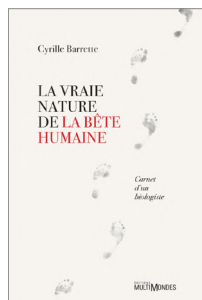
PUB. DATE: January 2023

RIGHTS HELD: World

**A mistake of nature or a wonder of adaptation? A powerful exposé of the natural world, perfect for any animal lover.**

Everyone goes gaga over these adorable black and white balls of fluff. After all, what's not to love about a calm, chubby, cuddly bear? But the panda's history and evolution raise questions. How did it become a vegetarian? Where did it get such spectacular markings? How can we explain its extra thumb? Why is it so poorly adapted for digesting bamboo—its only source of food?

The giant panda evolved 2.5 million years ago, making it the oldest living member of the bear family. It has become a worldwide symbol of endangered species, prompting major conservation efforts. And yet its distinctive adaptive features could very well have doomed it to extinction.



**THE TRUE NATURE OF HUMANS**

What sets us apart from other species?

# BUILDING CYBERPEACE

## Préparer la cyberpaix

Karine Pontbriand & Claude-Yves Charron

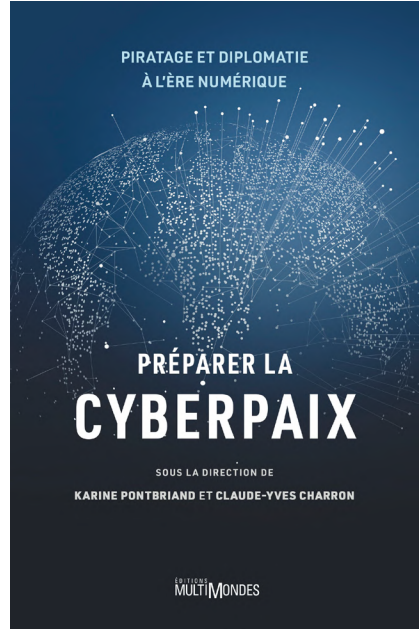
**This essay draws on real-life examples to shed light on the vulnerability of IT companies and the consequences of cyberattacks.**

Cybersecurity poses a major international geopolitical challenge for diplomacy and the future of technological cooperation between countries. How can we make cyberspace more secure? The question is more complex than it seems.

Using computer technology is not without risk. Internet scams are everywhere you look, and hackers are working behind the scenes to access private user content. Digital piracy is becoming widespread, targeting social media accounts and large enterprise servers.

**KARINE PONTBRIAND** is a Professor of Cybersecurity and Strategy at Deakin University, Australia, and a PhD student in Cybersecurity and International Relations at the University of New South Wales.

**CLAUDE-YVES CHARRON** is Director of the Cyberdiplomacy and Cybersecurity Research Group at the Institut d'études internationales de Montréal (IEIM). He was also a professor of international communications at UQÀM from 1978 to 2018, while working as a diplomat in Beijing, between 1987 and 1989, and Quebec's delegate general in Tokyo from 2011 to 2013.



**A fascinating account of how digital security is changing the world.**

Whether you think of the Sony hack in 2014 or the United States Office of Personnel Management (OPM) data breach in 2015, cyberattacks pose a real threat to critical infrastructure, including the energy, healthcare and financial sectors.

CATEGORY: **NONFICTION/ TECHNOLOGY**

PAGES: 168

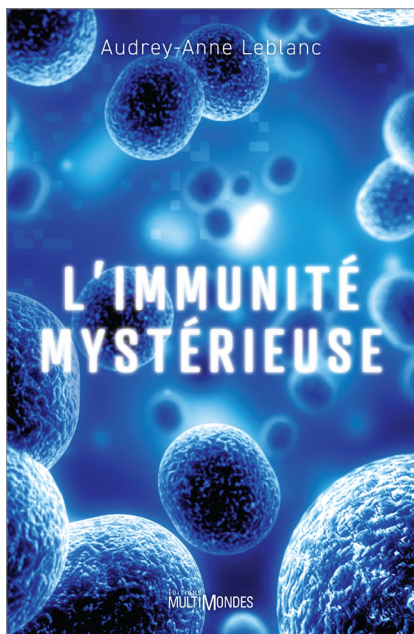
PUB. DATE: May 2023

RIGHTS HELD: World

# IMMUNITY EXPLAINED

## L'immunité mystérieuse

Audrey-Anne Leblanc



An essay that sets the record straight and counterbalances arguments used to market so-called “natural” medicine. Can we really boost our immunity with new treatments or vaccines?

The author uses simple language to explain our immune system responses and to address popular health concerns, especially at a time when many people question the effectiveness of vaccines.

CATEGORY: **NONFICTION/HEALTH**

PAGES: 176

PUB. DATE: October 2022

RIGHTS SOLD: Under offer in China

**“This first essay by Leblanc is a detailed course on the immune system, an evolutionary jewel of great complexity. Nothing about human immunity is left out in this book. Her deconstruction of the myths about vaccination is trenchant.”—*Le Devoir***

While it is often said that a healthy body can help strengthen immunity, a green tea smoothie won't help your cells fight antigens. In fact, scientists keep finding that the immune system is more complicated and more fascinating than we think.

As you read these words, your immune system is firing on all cylinders, rallying whole armies of lymphocytes, basophils, neutrophils or NK cells to keep your body healthy. These cells work around the clock to recognize and defend against dust, pathogens, viruses, bacteria and allergens that come into contact with our bodies on a daily basis. What is less known is that the immune system is also involved in fighting diseases like diabetes, Alzheimer's, cardiovascular disease and certain cancers.

**AUDREY-ANNE LEBLANC** is a microbiologist and science educator. A graduate of York University in Toronto, she is pursuing her research in biology as part of a research project at the Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières.



# MUSIC AND YOUR BRAIN

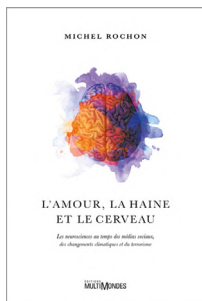
## Le cerveau et la musique

Michel Rochon

**“Neurology, cell biology, anthropology and even astrophysics: when Michel Rochon says he approaches music from a scientific perspective, he leaves no territory unexplored”—*La Presse* +**

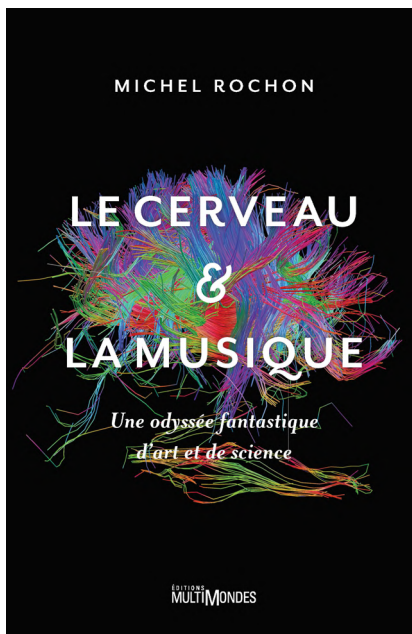
All it takes is a sound, a note or a melody to set our brains buzzing. What is it about music that can bring us to tears, give us goosebumps, put a smile on our face or make us dance? What is so compelling about a Beethoven symphony, a Céline Dion song or an Arcade Fire concert? The answer starts with our ears. When we hear music, our ears capture sound waves and transform them into nerve impulses that are sent to different areas of the brain. But what happens next?

After this book, you'll never listen to rock, jazz, classical, opera, folk, rap or techno in the same way again.



### LOVE, HATE AND THE BRAIN

Rights sold: Italian (Codice)



**Finalist — Hubert-Reeves Award 2019**  
**Finalist — Opus Award 2019**

**More than 15,000 copies sold!**

MICHEL ROCHON is a science and medical journalist, lecturer, guest speaker and presenter. He has worked for several news teams at CBC/Radio-Canada.

CATEGORY: **NONFICTION/SCIENCE**

PAGES: 192

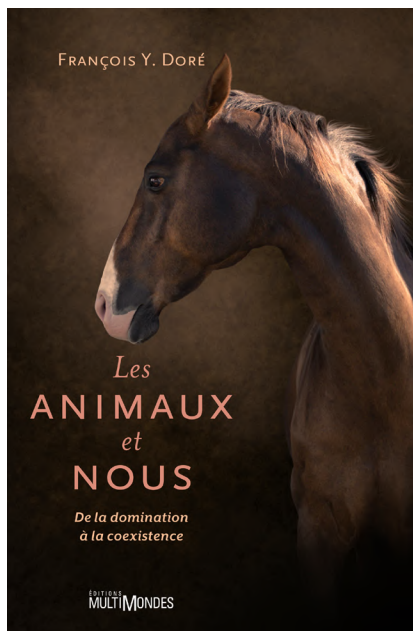
PUB. DATE: September 2018

RIGHTS SOLD: Simplified Chinese  
(Commercial Press), French pocket  
for N. America (BQ)

# ANIMALS AND US

## Les animaux et nous

François Y. Doré



A multidisciplinary approach that draws on arguments of philosophy, evolutionary biology, cognitive psychology and neuroscience.

FRANÇOIS Y. DORÉ is the author of nearly a hundred scientific publications related to animal behaviour. He is a professor at Université Laval's Psychology School and his research has focused on learning and memory as well as cognitive development and intelligence in animals.

CATEGORY: **NONFICTION/ANIMALS**

PAGES: 168

PUB. DATE: September 2022

RIGHTS HELD: World

**From domination to coexistence. Finally, a book that strikes a balance with the controversy over animal rights. A well written essay that proposes a new social contract that takes animal rights into account.**

Our understanding of animals and our relationships with them have significantly evolved over the past few decades. If most animals can feel pain, do they suffer in the same way as humans? What responsibility do we have towards them? What rights should they have? Should we all become vegan?

Invoking neither speciesism nor anti-speciesism, this essay by a researcher who has devoted his career to studying animal behaviour proposes a different way to view our mutual relationship—a third avenue that fosters coexistence based on respect and interdependence.



## THE CAT'S ENIGMA

What do we really know about cats?

# AMAZING FRUITS

## Étonnantes histoires de fruits

Bertrand Dumont

**Did you know that there are no less than 140 indigenous species of blueberries? That the cultivation of wild pears dates back 3000 or 4000 years? Or that in the 13th century, rows of vines covered a good part of present-day Paris?**

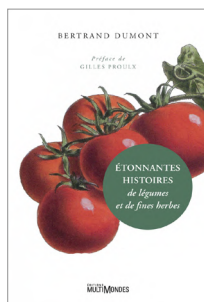
Take a fascinating journey through centuries and across continents as you explore the origins of fruits. The author highlights roughly thirty different species, guiding the reader through history's twists and turns from Japan to Île d'Orléans and more. The book features popular fruits such as apples and pears, along with lesser-known species such as seaberry and squashberry.

A remarkable foray into the fascinating world of fruit, from its origins to our plates. Guaranteed to delight plant lovers. A book that traces the rich history of fruit across the globe.



**Explores the different myths and symbols associated with fruit around the world, from the promise of eternal youth to the fruit of desire.**

**BERTRAND DUMONT** has spent more than 40 years sharing all the knowledge he has collected as an horticulturist. He is the recipient of the Prix Henry-Teuscher, awarded by the Montreal Botanical Garden.



## AMAZING VEGETABLES AND HERBS

For history and gardening lovers.

CATEGORY: **NONFICTION/**  
**HORTICULTURE**

PAGES: 300

PUB. DATE: Mars 2022

RIGHTS HELD: World

# THE CARBON NEUTRAL ILLUSION

## L'illusion carboneutre

Gaëtan Lafrance



An essay that paints a clear-eyed and uncompromising picture of the urgent energy and climate choices to be made.

Through startling contextual analysis, the author reveals what the media cannot in an era that features all sorts of international climate summits and panels.

CATEGORY: **NONFICTION/  
CLIMATE CHANGE**

PAGES: 236

PUB. DATE: May 2022

RIGHTS HELD: World

**“The words of the author are reassuring. Far from minimizing our justified concerns, he tells us to be optimistic while being vigilant, because adapting to changes in nature is part of the intrinsic qualities of the human being.”—*Le Journal de Montréal***

Wondering what the weather will be like after 2050 also means wondering what type of society we will leave to future generations. One thing is certain: the ecological or energy transition will be far from a picnic.

There is an overwhelming consensus in the data models predicting the future of our climate: it's going to get hot. To keep the planet's temperatures from rising more than 2°C, an “urgency to act” has become a leitmotif and reducing greenhouse gas emissions a goal. But achieving carbon neutrality will not be enough to stabilize the global thermostat by 2050. Will we be able to reduce our carbon, oil and natural gas footprint? What alternative solutions exist? Can we turn to solar, wind, bioenergy and hydrogen power?

GAËTAN LAFRANCE is a professor emeritus at the Institut national de recherche scientifique (INRS) and contributor to the Quebec research network Ouranos. He is one of the few specialists in energy forecasting and analysis of energy consumer behaviour.

# LITHIUM & THE ENERGY TRANSITION

## Objectif lithium : Réussir la transition énergétique

Michel Jebrak et Christian Hocquard

**An ambitious essay with the scope of a reference volume that aims to shed light on a very topical issue: energy supply. Perfect for eco-anxious readers, sustainable development supporters, and electric car enthusiasts.**

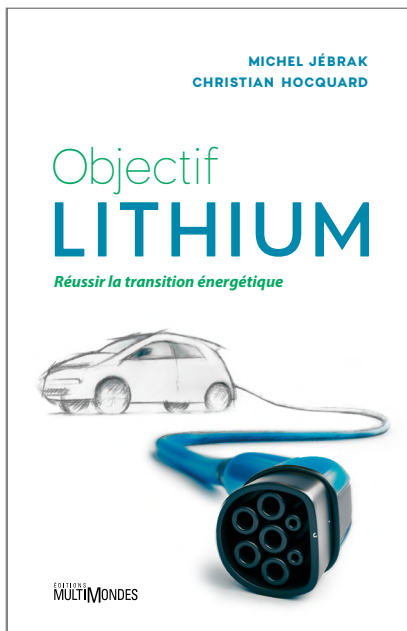
Lithium is everywhere: it can be found in cell phones, tablets, and electric bicycles and cars. Lithium-ion batteries are being hailed as the next generation of energy technology and are growing in popularity across the planet.

How does a lithium battery store energy? Are there enough lithium deposits to meet our industrial and domestic needs? Can lithium be used in an environmentally friendly way?

One thing is certain: lithium use could have a profound impact on the world's power grid, freeing us from relying on fossil fuels.

**CHRISTIAN HOCQUARD** is a geological engineer and economist specializing in raw materials at the BRGM (French Geological Survey) in France.

**MICHEL JÉBRAK** is a professor emeritus for UQAM's Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences and is the author of more than 100 scientific publications. He is President of the Scientific council for Ouranos, a consortium that studies climate change.



**An essay that asks the real questions about the stakes of exploiting this energy resource.**

**An exploration of the geological sources of lithium exploited in the world, its distribution and storage.**

***Longlisted - Prix Roberval 2022***

CATEGORY: **NONFICTION/  
ENVIRONMENT**

PAGES: 210

PUB. DATE: November 2021

RIGHTS SOLD: Italian (Tarka)



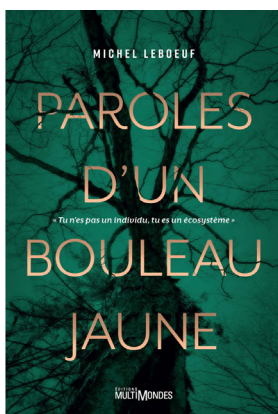
# ADULT NONFICTION BACKLIST



**HERE ON EARTH**  
by Frédéric Bouchard

Ten extraordinary scientific adventures teach readers some of history's greatest geology lessons as they travel the world.

All rights available



**WORDS OF A YELLOW BIRCH**  
by Michel Leboeuf

This is the remarkable story of Old Jack, a 250-year-old yellow birch, dark colossus of the Laurentian forest, who bares his soul to a biologist.

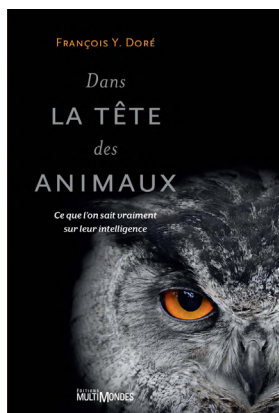
All rights available



**WAVES IN SPACETIME**  
by Laurent Drissen

Discover the splendor of massive stars, a scientific reflection on the cutting edge of astronomical research.

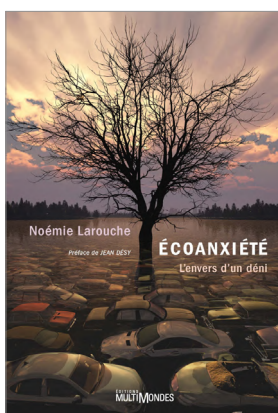
Rights sold: French excl.  
N. America (Quanto)



**IN THE HEAD OF ANIMALS**  
by François Y. Doré

An admirable synthesis of studies in comparative psychology and ethology made over a hundred years long.

Rights sold: Turkish and French  
excl. N. America



**ECO-ANXIETY:  
THE FLIP SIDE OF DENIAL**  
by Noémie Larouche

An essay that demystifies eco-anxiety felt by youth around the world in the face of environmental concerns.

All rights available

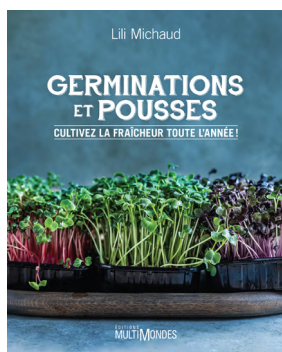


**THE HIGGS BOSON**  
by Pauline Gagnon

Explains how the Higgs boson fills the missing link of the current theoretical model used to describe all existing matter. An accessible book.

Rights sold: Turkish, Persian,  
Simplified Chinese, Complex  
Chinese, German, Greek

# GARDENING BACKLIST



**SPROUTS AND MICROGREENS**  
by Lili Michaud

A complete illustrated guide to sprouts and microgreens! These little plants are healthy, environmentally friendly, cost-effective and oh so tasty.

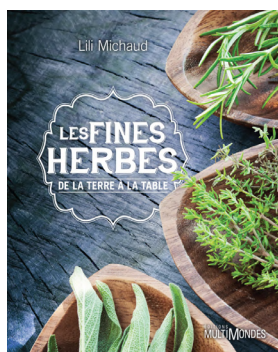
All rights available



**COMPOST: WHY? HOW?**  
by Lili Michaud

The perfect book to understand how to use compost to take full advantage of its great properties.

All rights available



**HERBS FROM THE EARTH**  
by Lili Michaud

A practical reference, abundantly illustrated for anyone who wants to grow and cook these wonderful plants.

All rights available



**URBAN GARDENING**  
by Bertrand Dumont

Approaches the vegetable garden in several forms: in a container, vertically, in front, for children, indoors, with germinated seeds, or with recycled material.

All rights available



**CONTAINER GARDENING**  
by Bertrand Dumont

An invitation to modest and friendly gardening. A book that perfectly accompanies those who are new to gardening. The ideal book for your balcony or terrace.

All rights available



**PRODUCTIVE GARDEN**  
by Bertrand Dumont

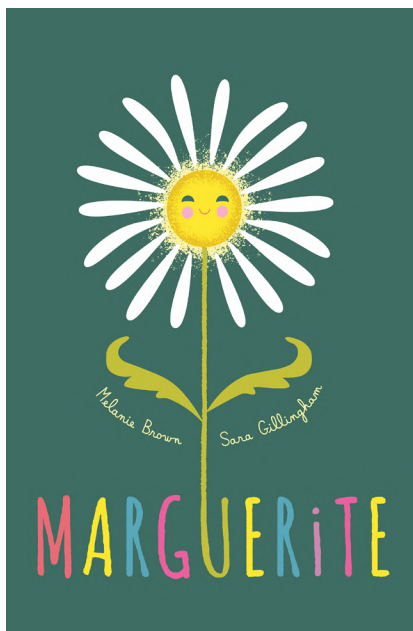
Explains how to plan and maintain a small garden. Plus, the role that each plant plays in relation to its companions is described in detail.

All rights available

# MARGUERITE

Melanie Brown & Sara Gillingham

Disponible en langue française seulement



Des illustrations haut en couleur qui offrent une ambiance éclatante et un style réaliste.

Magnifiquement illustrée par Sara Gillingham, artiste maintes fois primée, cette douce histoire de Melanie Brown nous donne la force nécessaire pour définir qui on est et nous fait voir comment l'entraide permet de grandir.

CATÉGORIE: **NON-FICTION/ NATURE**

PAGES: 32

PARUTION: Avril 2023

Droits disponibles en langue française (hors Amérique du Nord)

**Un album tout en simplicité pour apprendre à connaître une vingtaine de fleurs. Un bel exemple d'entraide et d'acceptation de soi.**

Marguerite vient à peine d'ouvrir ses pétales quand Rose lui annonce qu'elle n'est rien d'autre qu'une mauvaise herbe. Une mauvaise herbe ? Une mauvaise herbe, lui explique Rose, c'est une plante qui n'a pas été semée volontairement et qui dérange. Marguerite n'est pas grande comme Tournesol, elle ne donne pas de fruits sucrés comme Fleur de fraiser et elle n'embaume pas comme Rose. Alors que Marguerite est sur le point de se laisser convaincre, la rencontre avec d'autres plantes lui offre un tout autre point de vue.

Et si les mauvaises herbes n'étaient pas si mauvaises qu'on le dit ? Et pourquoi laisser les autres décider de ce qu'on est ?

MELANIE BROWN a travaillé à la fois comme enseignante dans une école primaire et comme designer d'intérieur. Elle vit à Vancouver avec sa famille. *Marguerite* est son premier livre.

SARA GILLINGHAM est une auteure et illustratrice de livres pour enfants primée, qui a contribué à la publication de nombreux livres à succès. Elle a écrit et illustré plus de 25 titres pour enfants.





# THE ATOMIC NEURONS

## Les Neurones Atomiques

Martin & Stéphane Brouillard (ill. PisHier)



An essential tool for educational development that opens students up to the world and provides an initial contact with science.

CATEGORY: **NONFICTION/SCIENCE**

VOLUMES: 10

PAGES: 24

PUB. DATE: January 2020

RIGHTS SOLD: Simplified Chinese (Children's Fun Publishing), Turkish (Domingo), Russian (Peshkom).

**"The books explain many natural events and offer basic science experiments that can be carried out at home or at school. The explanations are brilliant and the characters entertaining."**

**—Mitsou Magazine**

A child's first attempts at understanding the world are defining moments in their development. For parents, teachers, and other instructors, they can also pose educational challenges.

In a series of books featuring the endearing characters Charlotte, Alice, Jules, and Léon, the Atomic Neurons help explain the remarkable answers behind everyday phenomena.

Why does my bike rust? Why is there static electricity in my hair?

**Winner**

**Hubert-Reeves 2018 Award**

Brothers MARTIN and STÉPHANE BROUILLARD founded the Atomic Neurons in 2004. They organize classroom workshops to support teachers, science camps, and even children's birthday parties geared towards science.

PIERRE GIRARD, a.k.a. PISHIER, works as atomic accomplice to provide the illustrations.

## 10 TITLES AVAILABLE IN THIS SERIES

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- Chemical Reactions
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- Water Cycle
- The Light
- Electric Circuits
- Air and Atmosphere
- Electric Battery

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