

Beat: Arts

In FRANCE are published Three Great Books provoking DESTINY and FATE

K. Joy Fowler, D. Whitehouse, F. Friday

PARIS - LONDON - NEW YORK, 29.10.2016, 10:33 Time

USPA NEWS - In modern usage, the terms DESTINY and FATE are often used interchangeably. In casual conversation, this makes no great difference. We can mention also 'The Wheel of Fortune' to which man believed to be bound throughout his life....

In modern usage, the terms DESTINY and FATE are often used interchangeably. In casual conversation, this makes no great difference. We can mention also 'The Wheel of Fortune' to which man believed to be bound throughout his life. Sometime the wheel turned and took him high, while other times the wheel brought him low. Whether high or low, there is nothing the individual can do about it. A believer in destiny will try to influence his place on the next turn of the wheel through his education and actions. Is all that true ?

'NOS ANNEES SAUVAGES' (We Are All Completely Beside Ourselves) by Karen Joy Fowler at Presses de la Cité Editions. Karen Joy Fowler is the author of six novels and three short story collections. Her previous novel 'Sister Noon' was a finalist for the 2001 PEN/Faulkner Award for fiction. Her debut novel 'Sarah Canar', was a New York Times Notable Book, as was her second novel 'The Sweetheart Season'.... Karen Joy Fowler's short story collection 'Black Glass' won the World Fantasy Award in 1999, and her collection 'What I Didn't See' won the World Fantasy Award in 2011. In this last book, the Cookes family is some kind of dysfunctional American family. The center character is a girl called Rosemary. Her father is a pedantic college professor, her mother had a nervous breakdown, her brother is wanted by the FBI, and her sister is a chimpanzee. This last one is an infant female named Fern and brought up alongside baby Rosemary as part of a primate experiment.... And why not ? Karen Joy Fowler places her story in the 1970s and extends the experiment to five years. Rosemary never stops talking, Fern never starts. But their parents have 'promised to love them both exactly the same.'... (Review by Ruby BIRD & Yasmina BEDDOU)

'L'ECHAPÉE BELLE DU BIBLIOTHÈQUE' (The Mobile Library) by David WHITEHOUSE at Presses de la Cité Editions. David Whitehouse is a versatile man, he wrote two novels. The first 'Bed' was published in UK in 2011 and the second 'Mobile Library' published in UK in 2015. He wrote for several newspapers and magazines (The Guardian, Esquire, The Times, The Observer Magazine, Sunday Times Style...) and wrote a couple of short films. This second Novel is a modern fairytale of four people thrown together as a makeshift family who take to the road in a stolen mobile library. The protagonist is 12-year-old Bobby Nusku, who obsessively archives remnants of his mother as he waits for her to return. He befriends forty years old mobile-library cleaner Val (Valerie Reed) and her disabled daughter Rosa. But when a 'scandalous' RUMOR starts growing, the trio take to the library and end up, very quickly, adding another traveller to their ranks, in the form of ex-soldier Joe. ... (Review by Ruby BIRD & Yasmina BEDDOU)

'FREDDIE FRIDAY' (Love Notes for Freddie) by Eva RICE at BakerStreet Editions. Eva RICE is the daughter of lyricist Sir Tim Rice and has both a musical and a literary bent. She is married to Pete Hobbs, a musician and the couple lives in West London with their three children. And creativity runs in the family... Perhaps it was inevitable that she would be drawn to musical theatre given her background. Having graduated in theology from Bristol, she was determined to pursue a writing career, and in 1997 published A Guide to the Characters of Enid Blyton. Her first novel 'Standing Room Alone', appeared when she was 23. She wrote two novels before this one 'The Lost Art of Keeping Secrets' and 'The Misinterpretation of Tara Jupp'. 'Love Notes for Freddie' is set at the end of the 1960s, and tells the story of prodigy in mathematics school girl called Marnie FitzPatrick and her mathematics Teacher Miss Julie Crewe. When Marnie is expelled from her private boarding school, the events that follow have huge consequences on everyone around her. In the book all characters are deeply complex, the relationships within the book are all unpredictable. She meets Freddie Friday who seems to be a normal everyday job. We discover him when he starts to embrace his talent of dancer and soon becomes the perfect love interest for Marnie... The book is about overcoming tragedy and the way people cope with life shattering circumstances.... (Review by Ruby BIRD & Yasmina BEDDOU)

Article online:

<https://www.uspa24.com/bericht-9777/in-france-are-published-three-great-books-provoking-destiny-and-fate.html>

Editorial office and responsibility:

V.i.S.d.P. & Sect. 6 MDSStV (German Interstate Media Services Agreement): Ruby BIRD & Yasmina BEDDOU (Journalists/Directors)

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Editorial program service of General News Agency:

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Official Federal Reg. No. 7442619