

## **Francis DANNEMARK**

Both writer and publisher, Francis Dannemark was born in Macquenoise, at the Belgo-French border, in 1955. Living today in Brussels, he wrote more than 30 books, including novels mostly published by Robert Laffont. While writing he managed to hold several jobs: professor, translator, film critic, cultural attaché...

He is also director and independent literary counsellor of the publishing house L'Escale des Lettres. In 1988, he also creates the collection Escales du Nord. His last novels, Le grand jardin (Prize Bernheim), Du train où vont les choses à la fin d'un long hiver and most recently La véritable vie amoureuse de mes amies en ce moment précis, (2012) have been wildly acclaimed by the press.



## Histoire d'Alice qui ne pensait à rien (et de tous ses maris, plus un)



The last novel of Francis Dannemark is a beautiful portrait of a woman, Alice, who at 73 years old hasn't finished with life, on the contrary. Amusingly enough, the title is quite long for such a short text, but equally original to its content.

The day of the funeral of his mother, Paul meets his aunt Alice living in England, (his mother's sister) who he knows indirectly but has never met before. After re-establishing the contact, Alice tells Paul about her life and those of her numerous husbands. Married for the first time at an early age, right after the end of the war, she had a life out of the ordinary and indeed, she became a widow nine times!

Like on his previous novels, Dannemark stands out as the writer of simple joys, with a positive story marked by humour and lightness. However under the cover of simplicity, he tackles serious topics such as love, death, loneliness, ...

On the style side, the novel is structured in easy to read chapters: for each husband, a chapter - as many 'slices of life' full of colour. The book can easily be taken in hands and quickly put down. Everything is there for the reader to spend a good time.

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