

Jean JAUNIAUX

Born in Ecaussinnes, Belgium, Jean Jauniaux has a degree in translation from the University of Mons as well as a master degree in Film-Radio-Television production from the Institut National des Arts du Spectacle (INSAS) in Brussels. He writes short stories, novels and scripts for comic books and documentaries. Jauniaux published **Le Pavillon des douanes** (short stories) in 2005 and **Les mots de Maud** (novel) in 2007 at Luce Wilquin (Belgium).



About the Pavillon des Douanes, Jean-Marie Le Clézio said: "I find your short stories striking. Humour balances your texts, makes us look away from an excess of gravity and makes us hear another sound." His last novel,

L'Année dernière à Saint-Idesbald was published in 2013 by Avant-Propos, Brussels. He also devotes himself to cultural journalism, among others as editor of the literary review "Marginales" together with Jacques De Decker, permanent Secretary of the Royal Academy of French Language and Literature in Belgium.

He is furthermore animator of the literary web radio "Espace Livres", broadcasting exclusive interviews of various international and national writers and other actors of the cultural scene.

L'Année dernière à Saint-Idesbald

The small seaside town of Saint-Idesbald on the Belgian coast, famous for its Delvaux Museum, is found in each of the thirteen chapters of this book, where evolve protagonists as unexpected as the King of Belgium.

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L'année dernière à Saint-Idesbald



We discover a small boy lost in the World Exhibition of 1958, Roma refugees, a Poilu of the Great War and many others. In some stories, Jean Jauniaux also transforms "social cases" in literary heroes: a homeless person sheltered in a public library who writes a blog on his daily life, a vagabond who paints on the pavement for pleasure, but also hopefully for a bit of money, a cleaner who discovers the memoirs of Polanski at the airport, etc.

One day, in a cottage in front of the sea, a writer receives a letter from the King who is looking for "a story teller" to take his country out of the crisis. If these short stories are never completely autobiographic, we find nevertheless real elements, such as the relationship of a child with a father living on his own, who never speaks about the mother, and who hides himself behind books (apart from comic books!).

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