

Paule NOYART

Novelist, short story writer and translator, Paule Noyart was born in Belgium where she studied fine arts and theatre before settling down in Quebec.

She evolves in Quebec literary circles since more than 30 years. As a writer, she published several novels including **La danse d'Issam** (award winner of the prize Alfred-Desrochers), **Compote et gruau** and more recently **Les pékinois de monsieur Chang**. An accomplished literary translator, she received many rewards for her work.



La nuit d'Ostende



This novel is a fascinating saga published in 2011 and so far Paule Noyart's most ambitious work.

Belgium, beginning of the century. There is Irène, the woman who wishes above all to be free and who chooses divorce rather than an unhappy marriage. She travels around Europe, discovering places, at the whim of her lovers. There is also Delphine, her niece, caught between her father Armand, a resigned man, and her mother Alma, a theatrical woman whose musical career was broken at an early age by her own mother. Then comes Delphine's daughter, Odile, the challenging rebel who sees more things than we might think.

These three women live and love in the years 1920 and 1930, surrounded by their family and friends until their life shifts on the 10th of May 1940, when Germany invades Belgium. This novel beautifully portraits women capable of shaping their destinies during wartime.

Reading the 638 pages of Paule Noyart is a real pleasure. The story is dense, powerful with constant twists and turns taking place in the characters' daily life.

An absolute discovery for those who appreciate World War II history.

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Service de la Promotion des Lettres

Boulevard Léopold II, 44 · 1080 Bruxelles
<http://www.promotiondeslettres.cfwb.be>

Grants manager : Silvie Philippart de Foy

Email : silvie.philippart@cfwb.be

Phone : +32 2 413 23 11 - Fax : +32 2 413 28 94

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