

# Thomas GUNZIG

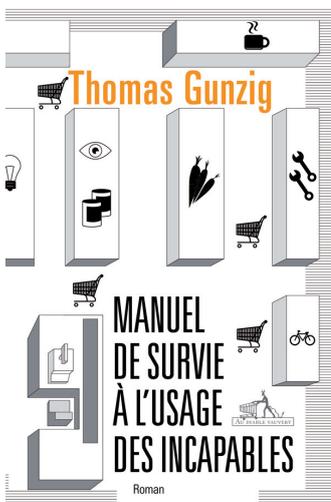
Born in Brussels in 1970, Thomas Gunzig worked for 10 years in the famous bookstore Tropismes (Brussels), before becoming a teacher of literature. Since 2006, he is also a regular chronicler for the Belgian National Broadcasting Company and the press, among others, the newspaper Le Soir.

Gunzig's universe is filled with black humour, such as in his collection of short stories **Le plus petit zoo du monde**, where adorable little pets experience a dreadful end. He is constantly torn between erudite and popular culture, to which he pays an explicit tribute in his fourth novel *10 000 litres d'horreur pure* (2007). His first novel **Mort d'un parfait bilingue** was awarded the Victor Rossel Prize in 2001 and his collection of short stories, the Prize of the Publishers in 2003.



He is laureate in 2004 of the Prize of the Belgian Royal Academy of French-speaking language and Literature. In 2009, *Assortiment pour une vie meilleure* gathers the totality of his short stories published between 2004 and 2009.

## *Manuel de survie à l'usage des incapables*



In Thomas Gunzig's third novel, it is the supermarket that inspired the author's devastating humour and sense for adventure. In the trash world we live in today, the temple of consumption is the ultimate bleak social setting where people destinies are entwined. Jean-Jean, a watchman at the local hypermarket, kills accidentally a cashier. The four sons of the poor woman, Blanc, Brun, Gris and Noir, highly trained young wolves, are going to start chasing Jean-Jean to get their revenge.

There is also Marianne, Jean-Jean's wife, the green mamba and a first class saleswoman whose gods are Anita Roddick, founder of the Body Shop, Tom Monaghan, founder of Domino's Pizza or Sam Walton, founder of the large department stores Wall-Mart, etc.

The whole novel looks like "a Quentin Tarantino film revisited by William Gibson and J. G. Ballard, quite some references!" (Le Soir) There is some blood and gore in this Manuel de survie as well as a dose of madness and luckily... humour!

Once again, Thomas Gunzig makes the demonstration of his art of imagining nutty situations with an indescribable cruelty in the way of saying things. Love, capitalism, post-industrial culture, man and woman relationship and a noise of Murder Metal by the group Macabre... This novel will delight B movie fans but not only!

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