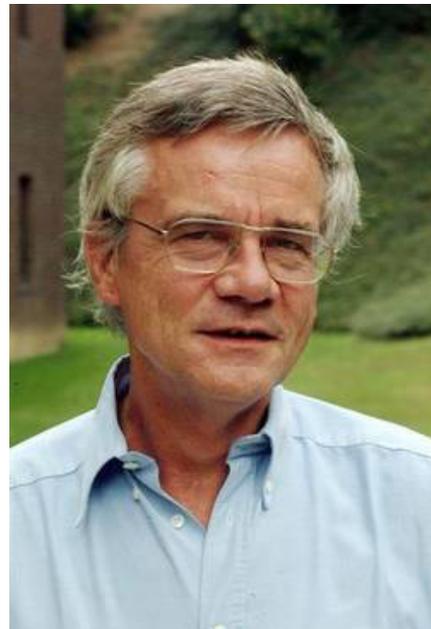


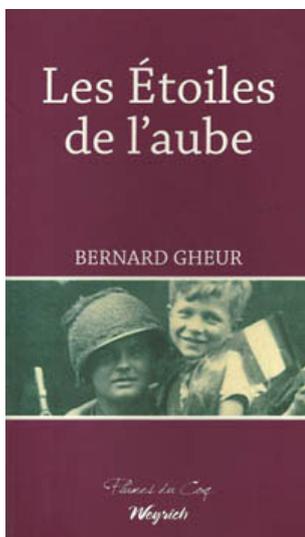
Bernard GHEUR

Bernard Gheur was born in Liège in 1945. At 25, he publishes his first novel, **Le Testament d'un cancre**, at Albin Michel, Paris, with a preface of François Truffaut. The famous French movie director has greatly encouraged the young author to write and provided him his advice. After a job as a journalist at La Meuse, Bernard Gheur publishes other novels: **La Scène du baiser**, **Retour à Calgary**, **Le Lieutenant souriant**, **La Bande originale** and **Nous irons nous aimer dans les grands cinémas**.

These novels often take the themes of childhood and adolescence against the backdrop of the 50's and 60's. **Le Lieutenant souriant** has become a classic of literature in Belgian secondary schools. His last book, **Les Étoiles de l'aube**, was awarded the Marcel Thiry prize, in 2012, and the prize of students in 2013.



Les étoiles de l'aube



"In 1944, you were children or adolescents. You have seen the Americans arriving in the city of Liège. Why not telling us about your childhood memories of the great history?". In 2004, an historian and journalist, Ralph Demy, invites the readers of a well-known newspaper in Liège to relate their personal experiences of the war. His request meets a great success. Many people crowd in the pressroom and Ralph collects their fond memories with great fervour...

What are these extraordinary childhood memories? The arrival of the first American soldiers, the first tanks displaying the white star... The euphoria along the streets, and right after in the winter, the terror of the flying bombs, the sinister humming of the planes above the "Cité Ardente" and the worrying news from the Ardennes...

One day, Jeanne Février, 16, comes along at the newspaper and asks Ralph to publish a portrait of the captain Jim Brady, an American pilot whose aircraft was shot down in the Hautes Fagnes, in 1944. At that time, the Resistance rescued Brady helping him to get back to England. Both Ralph and Jeanne must find this aviator,

and thus assemble the puzzle of his illegal journey through Belgium and France.

This novel will thrill all enthusiasts of war history. It will also delight fans of intrigues masterfully conducted, full of suspense and surprises.

Ministère de la Fédération Wallonie-Bruxelles

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<http://www.promotiondeslettres.cfwb.be>

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Title Les étoiles de l'aube

Publisher Weirish editions, Belgium

Date of publication 2013

Original language French

EAN 9782874891175

Size 22 x 13 cm

Pages 338

Already translated Contact the publisher

For more information <http://www.weyrich-edition.be>