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Merde Encore! Feb 21 2022 Explains the meaning of French slang expressions, idioms, and colloquialisms, and identifies common French gestures

Hide this French Book Jul 05 2020 It's not the French and Spanish you learned in school. This uncensored language guide has everything you need to speak real French or Spanish, from cool lingo to hard-core insults. Learn the lingo on: Love, Sex, Extreme Sports, Video Games, Fashion, Body and Gross Bodily Functions, Internet, Text Messaging, Gossip, Entertainment, and Partying. Also exposed in **Hide This Book** are hilarious language mishaps, social trends, and cool cultural features. Entertaining as well as enlightening, this is one language reference you'll enjoy reading cover-to-cover.

Talk to the Snail Mar 25 2022 Have you been taken to what you've been assured is the perfect house deep in the French countryside, only to find there's no electricity or running water? Gone to the doctor with a nasty cough, and been diagnosed with a rather more personal complaint? Walked into an half-empty restaurant, only to be told that it's complet? If the answer to any of the above is oui, **Talk to the Snail** is the book for you. Find out how to get served in a restaurant; the best way to deal with French hypochondria; learn the language of love, sex and suppositories (not necessarily in that order); it's all here in this funny, informative, seriously useful guide on how to get what you really want from the French. With advice on essential phrases and bons mots to cover all eventualities, and illustrated with witty real-life anecdotes, **Talk to the Snail** is a book that no self-respecting Francophile - or Francophobe - can afford to be without. Don't go to France without reading this book. And don't even think of buying a house there.

The Merde Factor Aug 30 2022 Englishman Paul West is living the Parisian dream, and doing his best not to annoy the French. But recently things have been going très wrong: He's stuck in an apartment so small that he has to cut his baguettes in two to fit them in the kitchen. His research into authentic French cuisine is about to cause a national strike - and it could be all his fault. His Parisian business partner is determined to close their tea-room. And thinks that sexually harrassing his female employees is a basic human right. And Paul's gorgeous ex-girlfriend seems to be stalking him. Threatened with eviction, unemployment and bankrupcy, Paul realises that his personal merde factor is about to hit the fan...

The French Revolution and What Went Wrong Oct 20 2021 An entertaining and eye-opening look at the French Revolution, by Stephen Clarke, author of *1000 Years of Annoying the French* and *A Year in the Merde*. The French Revolution and What Went Wrong looks back at the French Revolution and how it's surrounded in a myth. In 1789, almost no one in France wanted to oust the king, let alone guillotine him. But things quickly escalated until there was no turning back. The French Revolution and What Went Wrong looks at what went wrong and why France would be better off if they had kept their monarchy.

How the French Think Oct 27 2019 Sudhir Hazareesingh's *How the French Think* is a warm yet incisive exploration of the French intellectual tradition, and its exceptional place in a nation's identity and lifestyle Why are the French an exceptional nation? Why do they think they are so exceptional? An important reason is that in France intellectual activity is regarded not just as the preserve of the thinking elite but for almost everyone. French thought can sometimes be austere and often opaque, yet it is undeniably bold and innovative, and driven by a relentless quest for the regeneration of humanity. Sudhir Hazareesingh traces its tumultuous history in an enormously enjoyable and highly original manner, showing how the French ways of thought and life connect. This will be one of the most revealing books written about them - or any other European country - for years. Sudhir Hazareesingh was born in Mauritius. He is a Fellow of the British Academy and has been a Fellow and Tutor in Politics at Balliol College, Oxford, since 1990. Among his books are *The Legend of Napoleon* (Granta, 2004) and *Le MytheGaullien* (Gallimard, 2010). He won the Prix du Memorial d'Ajaccio and the Prix de la Fondation Napoleon for the first of these, and a Prix d'Histoire du Senat for the second.

A Year in Provence Sep 26 2019 NATIONAL BESTSELLER • In this witty and warm-hearted account, Peter Mayle tells what it is like to realize a long-cherished dream and actually move into a 200-year-old stone farmhouse in the remote country of the Lubéron with his wife and two large dogs. He endures January's frosty mistral as it comes howling down the Rhône Valley, discovers the secrets of goat racing through the middle of town, and delights in the glorious regional cuisine. *A Year in Provence* transports us into all the earthy pleasures of Provençal life and lets us live vicariously at a tempo governed by seasons, not by days.

Merde Actually Apr 25 2022 A year after arriving in France, Englishman Paul West is still struggling with some fundamental questions: _____ What is the best way to scare a gendarme? Why are there no health warnings on French nudist beaches? And is it really polite to sleep with your boss's mistress? In his second comedy of errors, Paul West opens an English tearoom, and mutates (temporarily) into a Parisian waiter. Meanwhile, he continues his search for the perfect French mademoiselle. But will Paul find l'amour éternel, or will it all end in merde? Author's apology: 'I'd just like to say sorry to all the suppository fans out there, because in this book there are no suppositories. There are, however, lots of courgettes, and I see this as progress. Suppositories to courgettes - I think it proves that I'm developing as a writer.'
Stephen Clarke

Merde Happens Oct 08 2020 Paul West is in deep financial merde. His only way out of debt is to accept a decidedly dodgy job: _____ It involves him touring America in a Mini, while pretending to be typically British. Also in the car is Paul's French girlfriend, Alexa, and his American poet friend, Jake, whose main aim in life is to sleep with a woman from every country in the world. Preferably in the back of Paul's Mini. But as the little car battles from New York to Miami, leg-room turns out to be the least of Paul's troubles. His work is being sabotaged, his tour plans are in tatters, and his love life becomes a Franco-American war zone. And as Paul knows better than anyone, when you mix love and war - merde happens...

Merde Happens Nov 20 2021 Paul West is in deep financial merde. His only way out of debt is to accept a decidedly dodgy job that involves him touring America in a Mini, while pretending to be typically British. Also in the car is Paul's French girlfriend, Alexa, and his American

In the Merde for Love Sep 30 2022 The sequel to the international bestseller *A Year in the Merde* continues the hilarious saga of Paul West's misadventures in l'amour (this title was originally published as *Merde*, Actually in the UK). The latest episode in Stephen Clarke's almost-true account of his adventures as an expat in France is just as delightful as the original—and already a #1 bestseller in the UK. A year after arriving in France, Englishman Paul West is still struggling with some questions. What is the best way to scare a gendarme? Why are there no health warnings on French nudist beaches? Is it really polite to sleep with your boss's mistress? And how do you cope with a plague of ripe garden vegetables? Paul discovers how to judge a French vacationer by the rustiness of his bicycle; opens his English tea room and finally understands why Parisian waiters are so cranky; and, on a return visit to the UK, sees the full horror of a British office party through Parisian eyes. Meanwhile, he continues his search for the perfect French mademoiselle. Will Paul find l'amour éternel, or will it all end in merde?

Year in the Merde Jun 27 2022 Based loosely on his own experiences and with names changed to "avoid embarrassment, possible legal action—and to prevent the author's legs being broken by someone in a Yves Saint Laurent suit (or quite possibly, a Christian Dior skirt)," *A Year in the Merde* is the almost true account of Paul West's adventures as an expat in Paris. Brought to Paris by a French company to open a chain of British tea rooms, Paul, a twenty-seven-year-old Brit, soon finds himself managing a group of lazy, grumbling French employees, manoeuvring around a slick, treacherous Parisian boss, and lucking into a succession of lusty girlfriends (one of whom happens to be the boss's morally challenged daughter). Immersed in the contradictions of French culture, he learns how to get the best out of the grumpiest Parisian waiter, how to survive a French business meeting, and how not to buy a house in the French countryside.

Foutre la Merde, Dans Jun 03 2020 Multi award-winning novelist Aaron Goldberg returns with his debut award-winning novel "Foutre la merde, dans." A recipient of a \$400,000 Arts Grant from Merde-och University, "Foutre la merde, dans" is a by-the-dots piece of contemporary literature, exploring notions of identity, sexuality, multi-culturalism, oppression from the dominant paradigm, persecution, depression, repression, acceptance and the ultimate triumph of getting your own retrospective at the Wheeler Dealer Centre, as well as increasing your Facebook friend count and your industry currency by 100,000 points/friends. What "Foutre la merde, dans" isn't, is vicarious. Which means you will be afraid to read it because Goldberg is a radical practitioner of 'psycho-physical transference'. This book will assault you (don't say we didn't warn you) with repetitive whining of a life less lived. But at least it isn't vicarious. Lost in translation, the title of the book is a metaphor for the novel itself, as it unravels like reverse-engineered origami. Taking cues from Antonioni's *Blow Up*, Burroughs' cut-ups and rude bastards from Europe, Goldberg's biggest regret in life is his inability to speak the mother tongues of his mother: Spanish and French... Does vulgarity count as a second language?

The Merde Factor Dec 22 2021 Englishman Paul West is living the Parisian dream, and doing his best not to annoy the French. But just recently, things have been going TRES wrong. His apartment is so small, he has to cut his baguette in two to fit it into the kitchen. His research into authentic French cuisine is about to cause a national strike. His Parisian business partner is determined to close their English tea room. And his ex-girlfriend seems to be stalking him. Threatened with eviction, unemployment and bankruptcy, Paul realises that the MERDE really is about to hit the fan...

1000 Years of Annoying the French Jul 17 2021 Was the Battle of Hastings a French victory? Non! William the Conqueror was Norman and hated the French. Were the Brits really responsible for the death of Joan of Arc? Non! The French sentenced her to death for wearing trousers. Was the guillotine a French invention? Non! It was invented in Yorkshire. Ten centuries' worth of French historical 'facts' bite the dust as Stephen Clarke looks at what has really been going on since 1066 ... From the Norman (not French) Conquest, to XXX, it is a light-hearted - but impeccably researched - account of all out great-fallings out. In short, the French are quite right to suspect that the last 1,000 years have been one long British campaign to infuriate them. And it's not over yet...

La Vie en bleu May 03 2020 Rod Kedward brings to life the great, and often terrible, dramas of modern France - the two cataclysmic wars, the Algerian disaster, the student and worker revolt of 1968 - but also explores the special worlds of the workplace, immigration, minorities, the role of women, and the politics of everyday life and collective memory. *La Vie en Bleu* is a history of people and events that tells a multitude of stories, some impressive, some shameful and many that starkly divide the French among themselves.

A Year In The Merde Nov 01 2022 What are the French really like? Paul West, a young Englishman arriving in Paris to start a new job, is about to find out. _____ They do eat a lot of cheese, some of which smells like pigs' droppings. They don't wash their armpits with garlic soap. Going on strike really is the second national participation sport after petanque. And, yes, they do use suppositories. Less quaint than *A Year in Provence*, less chocolatey than *Chocolat*, *A Year in the Merde* will tell you how to get served by the grumpiest Parisian waiter; how to make perfect vinaigrette every time; how to make amour - not war; and how not to buy a house in the French countryside.

A Brief History of the Future May 15 2021 What if teleportation was really possible? Englishman Richie Fisher is about to find out ... Richie and his wife Clara have won a weekend in New York in a newspaper competition. While Clara is off blowing their spending money, Richie wanders aimlessly, chewing on a veggie-burger, ending up in a gift-shop where he finds himself standing in front of an instant transporter machine. It looks nothing like the open-plan teleporter on Captain Kirk's *Starship Enterprise*; in fact, it seems more like a glorified microwave oven. Richie places his burger inside, hits the return key on the linked-up computer - and the burger disappears. But if he can teleport a half-eaten veggie-burger, what else could you do with the machine? For criminals, the possibilities are endless. Who could catch you if you beamed drugs

into nostrils a hundred miles away? And how much would illegal immigrants pay to be teleported into the rich host country of their choice? Richie buys a teleporter and takes it back to England, where the chaos begins ...

Une Famille Compliquée Aug 25 2019 John and Becky, two American grandparents from Texas, are visiting their son Joshua, who lives in France with Caroline, his French wife, and their son Guillaume. After a few fun days in a typical small French village with their son's family, Becky and John are ready to do some sightseeing. They can't wait to visit antique shops, a few old castles and a lot of wineries. Unfortunately, their son has another plan for his parents... The book, written in easy French, has two sections, allowing more levels of French students to enjoy it. Section 1 has the story written completely in French, and includes exercises at the end of each chapter. Section 2 contains a full English translation so students can check their comprehension.

Code Name Badass Dec 30 2019 "Bringing together rigorous research and a vibrant writing style" (School Library Journal), Code Name Verity meets Inglorious Basterds in this riotous, spirited biography of the most dangerous of all Allied spies, courageous and kickass Virginia Hall. When James Bond was still in diapers, Virginia Hall was behind enemy lines, playing a dangerous game of cat and mouse with Hitler's henchmen. Did she have second thoughts after a terrible accident left her needing a wooden leg? Please. Virginia Hall was the baddest broad in any room she walked into. When the State Department proved to be a sexist boys' club that wouldn't let her in, she gave the finger to society's expectations of women and became a spy for the British. This boss lady helped arm and train the French Resistance and organized sabotage missions. There was just one problem: The Butcher of Lyon, a notorious Gestapo commander, was after her. But, hey—Virginia's classmates didn't call her the Fighting Blade for nothing. So how does a girl who was a pirate in the school play, spent her childhood summers milking goats, and rocked it on the hockey field end up becoming the Gestapo's most wanted spy? Audacious, irreverent, and fiercely feminist, Code Name Badass is for anyone who doesn't take no for an answer.

Merde in Europe May 27 2022 THE POST-BREXIT EDITION - brand new chapters with extra EU chaos for Englishman Paul West. An Englishman, Paul West, goes to Brussels to work for a French MEP. There he gets an insider's view of what really goes on in the massive madhouse that is the EU Parliament. With the referendum on the horizon, things are even more hysterical than usual. When the Brexit result comes in, Paul has to make a decision. If he wants to work in Europe, should he apply for a French passport? But can an Englishman really become French? Can he sing the bloodthirsty 'Marseillaise'? Can he even pronounce the word 'Marseillaise'? And as Paul contemplates his own personal Brexit, the whole of Brussels seems to be going into meltdown ...

Annoying The French Encore! Mar 01 2020 A NOTE FROM THE AUTHOR Bonjour cher reader, Ever since European history began, we Brits have been happily engaged in our national pastime - annoying the French. And the past couple of years have shown that this annoying never stops. To give just three examples: After a mid-Atlantic collision between French and British nuclear submarines, France's Minister of Defence seemed to blame the accident on ... shrimps. When French political superstar Dominique Strauss-Kahn was arrested in New York, France's establishment was outraged. It soon emerged that sexual harassment was regarded as a basic human right by the country's male élite. (This theme provided so much excellent material that I decided to include it in the plot of my soon-to-be published novel, *The Merde Factor*.) And when David Cameron walked out of a Eurosummit, a French politician accused him of being 'like a man at a wife-swapping party who refuses to bring his own wife.' Yes, a very French image, and it just one of the many anti-Anglais insults that came flying across the Channel. You will find all this, and much more, in *Annoying the French Encore!* Because, for the French, the merde never ends. Yours historically, Stephen Clarke, Paris, August 2012 'Tremendously entertaining' Sunday Times 'Relentlessly and energetically rude' Mail on Sunday

Dial M for Merde Jan 23 2022 This international bestseller from the author of *A Year in the Merde* "combines the gaffes of Bridget Jones with the boldness of James Bond" (Publishers Weekly). When the glorious oceanographer Gloria Monday convinces Paul West to travel to the swank beaches of southern France—where she's investigating caviar-smuggling cartels—he assumes he's about to have the time of his life. But for West, France has always been full of surprises underfoot, and this trip is no exception to the rule. He's soon dragged into an undercover investigation that goes all the way to the top and leaves him feeling sometimes like James Bond, sometimes like Inspector Clouseau. *Dial M for Merde* is a comic caper that pokes fun at French society at every level, from pompous politicians to grumpy waitstaff.

Lunch in Paris Jan 29 2020 Has a meal ever changed your life? Part love story, part wine-splattered cookbook, *Lunch in Paris* is a deliciously tart, forthright and funny story of falling in love with a Frenchman and moving to the world's most romantic city - not the Hollywood version, but the real Paris, a heady mix of blood sausage, pains aux chocolats and irregular verbs. From gutting her first fish (with a little help from Jane Austen) to discovering the French version of *Death by Chocolate*, Elizabeth Bard finds that learning to cook and building a new life have a lot in common. Peppered with recipes, this mouth-watering love story is the perfect treat for anyone who has ever suspected that lunch in Paris could change their life.

Dirty Bertie: An English King Made in France Feb 09 2021 The entertaining biography of Edward VII and his playboy lifestyle, by Stephen Clarke, author of *1000 Years of Annoying the French* and *A Year in the Merde*. Despite fierce opposition from his mother, Queen Victoria, Edward VII was always passionately in love with France. He had affairs with the most famous Parisian actresses, courtesans and can-can dancers. He spoke French more elegantly than English. He was the first ever guest to climb the Eiffel Tower with Gustave Eiffel, in defiance of an official English ban on his visit. He turned his French seduction skills into the diplomatic prowess that sealed the Entente Cordiale. A quintessentially English king? Pas du tout! Stephen Clarke argues that as 'Dirty Bertie', Edward learned all the essentials in life from the French.

Talleyrand Nov 28 2019 A renegade bishop and aristocratic revolutionary, he helped make and break the power of Napoleon. With bravura he then dominated the Congress of Vienna which re-shaped Europe, but soon discovered that the Bourbons had, in his own words, 'learned nothing and forgotten nothing'. Disgrace followed. The Revolution of July 1830 finally brought a renewal of Talleyrand's former influence. So, in his late seventies, he arrived as ambassador in London, where he and his beautiful companion, the duchesse de Dino, dazzled and captivated British society. At the end, his famous death-bed reconciliation with the Catholic Church created almost as great a scandal as his notorious early life. In this authoritative new biography, Talleyrand emerges as always ahead of his times. He urged the advantages of peace, while Europe was racked by war; he consistently advocated political moderation, a free press and a liberal constitution; he

was a forceful proponent of Anglo-French entente; he understood the importance of free trade as the route to national prosperity; and he foresaw the rise of America as a great power. Robin Harris depicts a statesman of truly world-class stature.

Paris Revealed Mar 13 2021 PARIS - one of the most visited cities in the world. BUT do you know ... Which is the most romantic spot to say 'je t'aime'? And the sexiest? Where to see fantastic art, away from all the crowds? Why Parisian men feel compelled to pee in the street? How to choose a hotel room where you might actually get a good night's sleep? Stephen Clarke goes behind the scenes to reveal everything Parisians know about their city - but don't want to tell you.

The Spy Who Inspired Me Jun 23 2019 For legal reasons, this novel does not mention James Bond. Which is a shame, because it is a comedy spy story based on the idea that Ian Fleming's famously macho secret agent might have been inspired by a woman ... A comedy spy spoof set in Occupied France in 1944, by the bestselling author of *A Year in the Merde*, 1000 Years of Annoying the French and How the French Won Waterloo (or Think They Did). It is April 1944, and chic armchair naval officer Ian Lemming is accidentally beached in Nazi-occupied Normandy. With no access to a razor or clean underwear, and deprived of his cigarettes, Lemming just wants to go home. But he is stranded with a young, though hugely experienced, female agent, who is on a perilous mission to unmask traitors in a French Resistance network. So, as she bullies him across France, Lemming receives a painful crash course in spycraft, and starts to fantasize about a fictional agent - male of course - who would operate only in the most luxurious conditions, and lord it over totally subservient women. A fictional spy is born ...

Merde, French Is Hard... But Fun! Dec 10 2020 This book should be the second novel you read in French, right after you read "Merde, It's Not Easy to Learn French", volume 1 in this series! Reading a book in French can be difficult, even for advanced students. French novels are usually full of idiomatic expressions. They use complicated tenses, complex sentence structures, and often slang. The books in this series are in simple French. They tell of the joys and the frustrations of an adult learning French. You'll find a good dose of humor, exercises, and illustrations. Note: this book contains adult language. The book has two sections, allowing more levels of French students to enjoy it. Section 1 has the story written completely in French, and includes grammar exercises. Section 2 contains the complete translation in English and the answers to the exercises.

Merde! Jan 11 2021 Explains the meaning of French slang expressions, idioms, epithets, and colloquialisms

Merde, It's Not Easy to Learn French Nov 08 2020 This book, the first in a series, should be the first novel you read in French! Reading a book in French can be difficult, even for advanced students. French novels are usually full of idiomatic expressions. They use complicated tenses, complex sentence structures, and often slang. This book is in simple French. It's about the joys and the frustrations of an adult learning French. It includes a good dose of humor, a few exercises, and illustrations. Note: this book contains adult language. A school edition of the book without adult language entitled *Oh Là Là, It's Not Easy Learning French* is also available on Amazon. The book has two sections, allowing more levels of French students to enjoy it. Section 1 has the story written completely in French, and includes grammar exercises. Section 2 contains a list of the more difficult vocabulary translated into English and the complete text in English so students can check their comprehension.

A Year in the Merde Jul 29 2022 Published privately by the author in English in Paris, *A YEAR IN THE MERDE* became an immediate local bestseller. Instant word-of-mouth spread like wildfire to England where booksellers began clamouring for it. Now Stephen Clarke's delightful first novel will be rush-published officially in the UK to meet the ever-growing demand of fans. In *A YEAR IN THE MERDE* Stephen Clarke describes the French as they really are. They're not cheese-eating surrender monkeys, but they do eat a lot of cheese, some of which smells like pigs' droppings. In general, they do not wash their armpits with garlic soap. They are still in shock at being stupid enough to sell Louisiana and thereby losing the chance to make French the global language. Going on strike really is the second national participation sport after petanque. And they really do use suppositories. Paul West, a young Englishman, arrives to set up some English tea-rooms in Paris and gives a laugh-out-loud account of the pleasures and perils of being a Brit in France. Less quaint than *A Year in Provence*, less chocolatey than *Chocolat*, this book will tell you how to get the best of the grumpiest Parisian waiter, how to survive French meetings,

French Like Moi Jul 25 2019 When a Minnesotan moves to Paris, what could possibly go wrong? The answer: everything. While battling bureaucracy, dodging riots, and scampering through catacombs, prize-winning humorist Scott Dominic Carpenter takes on the City of Light. In eighteen hilarious accounts, he lifts the curtain on what makes the French French--and Midwesterners Midwestern.

F My Life Aug 18 2021 The idea is simple: in a few sentences, people describe the various moments that have ruined their day. From the sublime and ridiculous to the truly mortifying, these snapshot anecdotes are all 100 per cent genuine, and very, very funny. 'Today, my mother and I got into a huge fight about me being a lesbian. It ended with me saying "Fuck you!" to which she responded, "I bet you'd probably like to!" FML' 'Today, I was volunteering at a nursing home and I was calling bingo numbers. One woman stood up and started making noises. I assumed she had won and I started clapping. She then fell on the floor and died of a heart attack. I essentially applauded her death. FML' 'Today, I fell asleep. I felt something on my face. I batted it away. It was my hamster. It died from hitting the wall. FML' 'Today, my girlfriend dumped me proclaiming she wanted someone more like her "Edward". I asked her who Edward was. She held up a copy of her Twilight book. She was talking about a fictional vampire. FML' 'Today, I went to the doctor with my parents. When the doctor asked if I was sexually active, I said, "Yes." My mom laughed and said, "Good one." My dad, for added effect, said, "Your hand doesn't count." FML'

Flirting with French Aug 06 2020 In this "charming memoir," a determined Francophile pursues fluency in the language he loves—and we read along to find out if it will ever love him back (Kirkus Reviews). William Alexander is more than a Francophile. He wants to be French. If only he could speak the language. In *Flirting with French*, Alexander eats, breathes, and sleeps au français. He travels to France, where mistranslations send him bicycling off in all sorts of wrong directions. At an immersion class in Provence where he faces the riddle of masculine breasts, feminine beards, and a turkey cutlet of uncertain gender, he wonders if he should've taken up golf instead. While playing hooky from grammar lessons and memory techniques, Alexander reports on the riotous workings of the Académie Française, the centuries-old institution charged with keeping the language pure; explores the science of human communication, learning why it's harder for fifty-

year-olds to learn a second language than it is for five-year-olds. Never giving up his quest for fluency, Alexander discovers that studying French may have had a far greater impact on his life than actually learning to speak it ever would. "Alexander proves that learning a new language is an adventure of its own—with all the unexpected obstacles, surprising breakthroughs and moments of sublime pleasure traveling brings." —Julie Barlow, author of *The Bonjour Effect*

History of Shit Apr 13 2021 "A brilliant account of the politics of shit. It will leave you speechless." Written in Paris after the heady days of student revolt in May 1968 and before the devastation of the AIDS epidemic, *History of Shit* is emblematic of a wild and adventurous strain of 1970s' theoretical writing that attempted to marry theory, politics, sexuality, pleasure, experimentation, and humor. Radically redefining dialectical thought and post-Marxist politics, it takes an important—and irreverent—position alongside the works of such postmodern thinkers as Foucault, Deleuze, Guattari, and Lyotard. Laporte's eccentric style and ironic sensibility combine in an inquiry that is provocative, humorous, and intellectually exhilarating. Debunking all humanist mythology about the grandeur of civilization, *History of Shit* suggests instead that the management of human waste is crucial to our identities as modern individuals—including the organization of the city, the rise of the nation-state, the development of capitalism, and the mandate for clean and proper language. Far from rising above the muck, Laporte argues, we are thoroughly mired in it, particularly when we appear our most clean and hygienic. Laporte's style of writing is itself an attack on our desire for "clean language." Littered with lengthy quotations and obscure allusions, and adamantly refusing to follow a linear argument, *History of Shit* breaks the rules and challenges the conventions of "proper" academic discourse.

Merde Happens Apr 01 2020 In the acclaimed third installment of the popular *Merde* series, Paul West winds up stuck in America, chin-deep in financial trouble. He and his French girlfriend set off to America, with hopes of veering off the path to fiscal ruin. But as the not-so-dynamic duo stumble toward Los Angeles, via Boston, Miami, New Orleans, and Las Vegas, Paul's well-oiled plans for success, of course, turn to merde: the couple takes on carjackers, old flames, and liaisons dangereuses. The result is a madcap, hilarious adventure, an acerbic tour through America, France, England, and the places that make us who we are.

How the French Won Waterloo - or Think They Did Sep 06 2020 Published in the 200th Anniversary year of the Battle of Waterloo a witty look at how the French still think they won, by Stephen Clarke, author of *1000 Years of Annoying the French* and *A Year in the Merde*. Two centuries after the Battle of Waterloo, the French are still in denial. If Napoleon lost on 18 June 1815 (and that's a big 'if'), then whoever rules the universe got it wrong. As soon as the cannons stopped firing, French historians began re-writing history. The Duke of Wellington was beaten, they say, and then the Prussians jumped into the boxing ring, breaking all the rules of battle. In essence, the French cannot bear the idea that Napoleon, their greatest-ever national hero, was in any way a loser. Especially not against the traditional enemy - les Anglais. Stephen Clarke has studied the French version of Waterloo, as told by battle veterans, novelists, historians - right up to today's politicians, and he has uncovered a story of pain, patriotism and sheer perversion ...

Dial M for Merde Sep 18 2021 After his disastrous American adventures, Paul West is back in France, and this time he'll be kicking up merde all along the Cote d'Azur. Hooking up with an English girl nicknamed M that he met in Vegas, it's a peaceful working holiday—at first. Suddenly, M becomes secretive, going off to meetings and overreacting to questions about her whereabouts. Then, a bombshell. While M is at one of her meetings, Paul is told that she is not who she seems to be. That she is involved in a plot so sinister that she and Paul's every move has been watched since they arrived. And if Paul doesn't agree to stick with M and find out who she's working for, then he's going to prison for a long, long time as an accomplice. Suddenly the Cote d'Azur doesn't feel quite so sunny...

Talk Dirty French Jun 15 2021 Let's be sérieux! Can't quite come up with the right French quip or four-letter word? With *Talk Dirty: French*, you'll be able to put your (middle) finger on it. Each entry provides an individual foreign gem, a useful French sentence employing the word, the expression's English counterpart, and its literal translation. Whether you're a native-speaker, world traveler, or just looking to tell off those brash Parisians, these naughty words and risqué slang will surely give your tongue a French twist. Les couilles: the balls French Expression: Je l'ai avertie-elle ne m'a pas écoute alors maintenant je m'en bats les couilles. Translation: I warned her--she didn't listen to me so now I'm washing my hands of it. Literal Translation: I warned her--she didn't listen to me so now I'm flapping my balls of it.