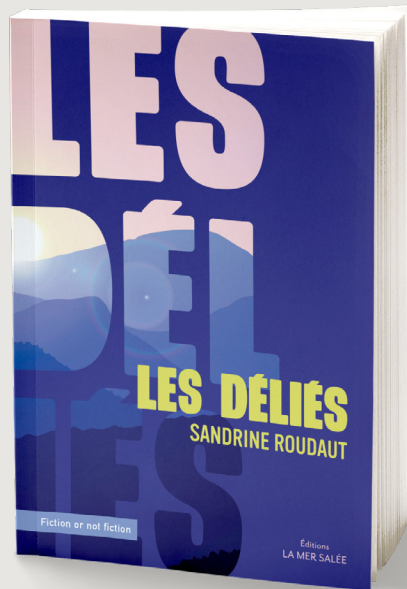




THE UNTIED

What if a work of fiction turned the world upside down...

Straddling the line between politics and poetry, between sabotage and gentle resistance, *The Untied* is the story of a world turned upside down—in stark contrast to today's apocalyptic scenarios.

Five women meet one afternoon at Place de la République in Paris. From this encounter, a utopia is born. They decide to defy the worst predictions and disrupt the prevailing narrative by devising a plan for civic resistance.

From the roads of Morocco to Saint-Malo, via Mongolia, *The Untied* takes us on a journey into the near future with grace and intensity—a luminous world where, admittedly, nothing is guaranteed, but where everything is still possible.

By protecting words and imagining the unimaginable, men and women gently free themselves from their modern chains to attempt, step by step, to overturn the immutable, a deadly system.

Amid the twists and turns of events, doubts, and strategies, the reader is swept up in a rich adventure where cynics, compromisers, radicals, lobbyists, and a troubling artificial intelligence named ZIA all cross paths. *The Untied* tells the story of how a world can be turned upside down. A civic adventure, full of desire and action. Perhaps a guide to revolution... Or at least an attempt to show other possible outcomes.

Why this book is essential:

Literature and Imagination between 1984 (George Orwell), *The Overstory* (Richard Powers), *Into the Forest* (Jean Hegland), and *Ecotopia* (Ernest Callenbach).

Convinced that fiction may be the most effective tool for building a different world, La Mer Salée, a publisher of essays, is launching the "Fiction or Not Fiction" series. Stories that challenge the world, just as Orwell's 1984 did, but with the intention of reclaiming the realm of the imagination — which has been hijacked by bleak or purely high-tech futures — in order to offer new perspectives that are resolutely hopeful and combative.

What if we moved from dystopia—what we don't want—to utopia—what doesn't yet exist?

The Author:

Sandrine Roudaut is currently a lecturer, futurist, and essayist. For the past 20 years, she has been exploring and experimenting with the limits of our society, the barriers to change, new economic models, utopias as forces of evolution, activist scenarios, and possible futures. She has published two essays: *Utopia: A User's Guide*—A Critique of Sustainable Development and *The Suspended*, which explores submission to authority, resignation, and the connection between commitment and personal fulfillment. *The Untied* is her first novel.



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An independent publishing house,
a sower of utopias for a bold world,
one that respects all beings and all life



Writing, publishing, and reading are political acts.

Publishing works that explore new paths means rediscovering the freedom to hope, to dream, to believe, and to stand up for what we believe in; it means regaining control over words, over our imaginations, and over our desires.

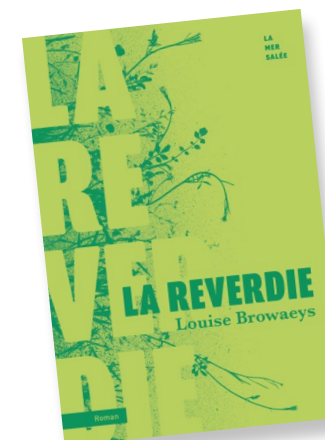
We bring new stories to life to change the course of history.

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We publish essays on essential and emerging topics, guided by the principles of playfulness without gloom, and nuance without complacency.

Our novels and stories envision the future and expand the present; they portray human beings elevated to bring about a brighter world.

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