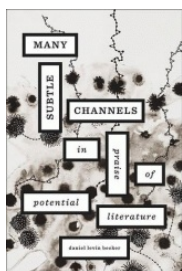


BKLYN introduction to OuLiPo and constrained writing

OuLiPo (short for Ouvroir de littérature potentielle; roughly translated: "workshop of potential literature") is a group of writers and mathematicians founded in 1960. OuLiPo creates constraints for writers to work within, thus creating "potential literature." Check out the works on this list for a good introduction, and join The Writhing Society at the Central Library for a constrained writing salon.

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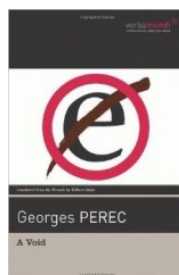


Many subtle channels : in praise of potential literature

Levin Becker, Daniel.

Daniel Levin Becker became the youngest Oulipan in 2009 shortly after he graduated from Yale. His history of this colorful and thought-provoking movement is written from the perspective of both an insider

and educated admirer. He offers insight onto Oulipan philosophy, history, and technique.



A void

Perec, Georges, 1936-1982.

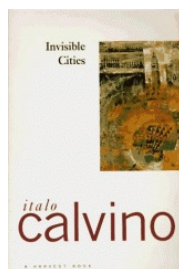
Perhaps the most famous Oulipian work, A Void (La Disparition) is a novel with no E's about the disappearance of Anton Vowl.



Exercises in style

Queneau, Raymond, 1903-1976.

Oulipo co-founder Raymond Queneau tells the same banal short story 99 times using 99 different styles: from sonnet to onomatopoeia to Cockney.



Invisible cities

Calvino, Italo.

In what is perhaps Italo Calvino's most beloved book, Marco Polo describes to Kublai Khan the cities he has visited in this travels. The book has a complex mathematical structure.



Sphinx

Garréta, Anne, author.

Sphinx is a love story with no gender markers. First published in France in 1986, it was published in English in 2015.



The sextine chapel

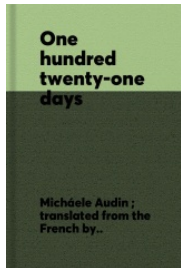
Le Tellier, Hervé, 1957-

26 characters from Anna and Ben to Yolande and Zach, pair up for an intricate crisscrossing of 78 sexual encounters.

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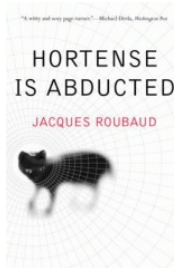


One hundred twenty-one days [electronic resource]

Audin, Michèle.

One Hundred Twenty-One Days retraces the lives of French mathematicians over several generations during World Wars I and II. The narrative oscillates stylistically from chapter to chapter, sometimes resembling a novel, at others a fable,

historical research, or a diary, locking and unlocking codes,...



Hortense is abducted

Roubaud, Jacques.

In this metafictional mystery, a 22-year-old philosophy student is kidnapped and a dog is murdered - the imaginary country of Poldevia is somehow involved. The novel is arranged in the form of a sestina (replete with authorial asides and plenty of puns, jokes and wordplay).

JACQUES JOUET | MY BEAUTIFUL BUS
A NOVEL TRANSLATED BY DAVID LIND

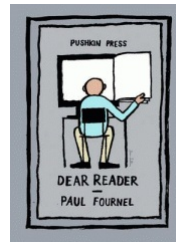


My beautiful bus

Jouet, Jacques.

Based on an actual bus trip across France taken by Oulipo-member Jacques Jouet in the late '80s, his fictional reconstruction of the experience twenty years later focuses not so much on the scenery as on the possibilities offered an author by the

eponymous vehicle and its occupants.



Dear reader

Fournel, Paul, 1947-

Old-school publisher meets e-reader: chaos ensues.