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Astragal

By Albertine Sarrazin

New Directions Publishing Corporation, United States, 2013. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Reprint. 201 x 130 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. As if the reader were riding shotgun, this intensely vivid novel captures a life on the lam. L astragale is the French word for the ankle bone Albertine Sarrazin s heroine Anne breaks as she leaps from her jail cell to freedom. As she drags herself down the road, away from the prison walls, she is rescued by Julien, himself a small-time criminal, who keeps her hidden. They fall in love. Fear of capture, memories of her prison cell, claustrophobia in her hideaways: every detail is fiercely felt. Astragal burst onto the French literary scene in 1965; its fiery and vivacious style was entirely new, and Sarrazin became a celebrity overnight. But as fate would have it, Sarrazin herself kept running into trouble with the law, even as she became a star. She died from a botched surgery at the height of her fame. Sarrazin s life and work (her novels are semi-autobiographical) have been the subject of intense fascination in France; a new adaptation of Astragal is currently being filmed. Patti Smith, who brought Astragal to the attention of...



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