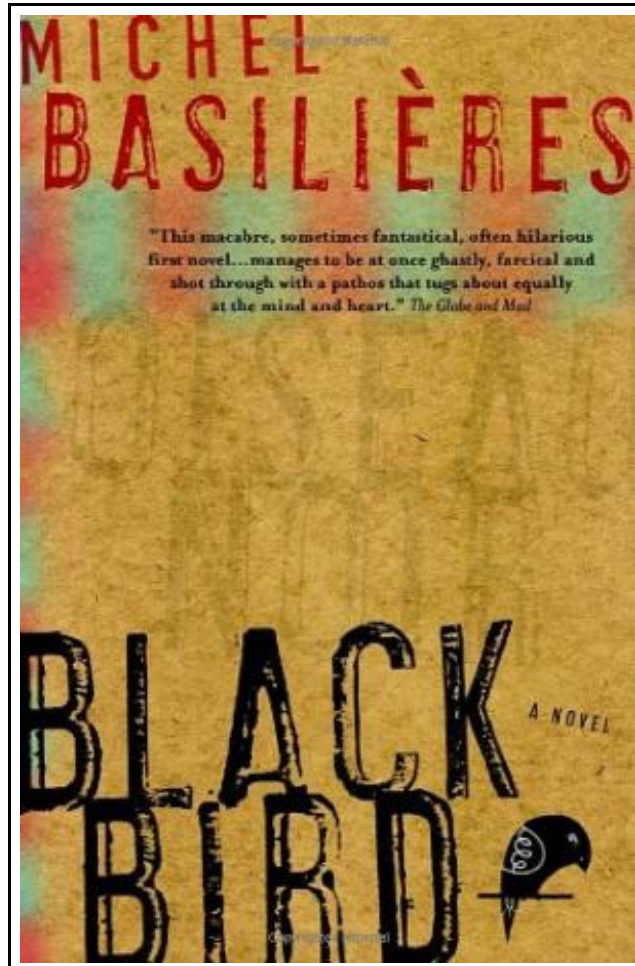


Black Bird



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Reviews

*The publication is great and fantastic. It is probably the most remarkable book i actually have read through. Its been printed in an exceedingly easy way and it is merely right after i finished reading through this publication where in fact altered me, modify the way i think.
(Tomasa Witting)*

BLACK BIRD



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Random House USA Inc. Paperback / softback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, Black Bird, Michel Basilières, In this wholly original novel alive with misfortune and magic, Michel Basilières uncovers a Montreal not seen in any other English-Canadian work: a forgotten blue-collar neighbourhood in between the two solitudes. Gothic, outrageous, yet tender and wise, Black Bird is as liberating as the dreams of its wayward characters, and as gripping as the insurgencies that split its heart. The Desouches have inhabited the same run-down house in working-class Montreal for years, much to the dismay of their landlord, and its ramshackle architecture perfectly mirrors that of the eccentric family living inside. Grandfather is a sour old grave-robber who relishes in the anguish he causes his wife and family. Uncle shares the same occupation, and otherwise spends much of his time drunk and alone. Neither is looking forward to the winter, which means lost work, due to the frozen ground. Father doesn't share their gruesome job, but comes up with his own schemes anyway. Mother lies down to sleep away her grief when her father dies, and does not wake up for months. A plain French woman named Aline marries into the family, having been fooled by Grandfather's smooth ways, only to find herself alienated in a household that chooses to speak English. Marie, the granddaughter and an FLQ terrorist, could share her language -- she certainly resents that a part of her is English -- but is too caught up in her politics and her anger to get involved. It falls to Marie's twin brother, Jean-Baptiste, to play occasional translator, though as always he'd prefer to be upstairs in his attic room reading literature and writing awful poetry. Throw in a judgemental pet crow, a confused ghost, a mad doctor, peculiar neighbours, maverick...



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