

Patrick Renou



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From One Isle to Another

Author: Patrick Renou Publisher : Presses de la Cité Category : Literature and Fiction Genres : Novels/Fiction - Historical Novels Keywords : Illegal immigrant

The story of Milena, a pregnant young Latvian stowaway with a tragic past, will touch everyone aboard the ocean liner L'île de France.

"A truly wondrous novel, based on a wondrously true story," exclaimed André Comte-Sponville, one of the first people to read the manuscript. Leafing through a coffee table book about the Île de France's November 1946 journey to New York, Patrick Renou was moved by the tale of a stowaway who spoke a language no one could understand and gave birth en route to a little girl. Diving into archives from Cherbourg to New York, the novelist reimagined Milena's tale with elegance and style. Latvian, Jewish, a survivor of the camps, she saw her life transformed over the course of a memorable seven-day crossing.