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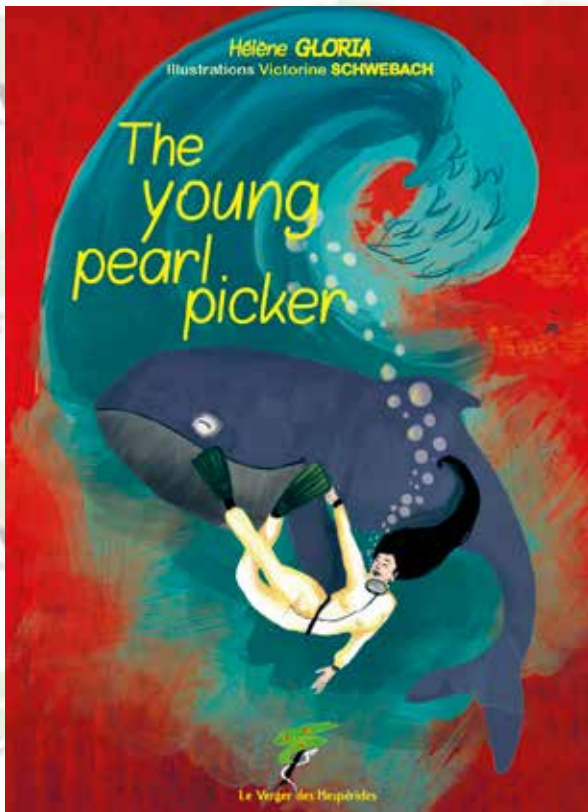


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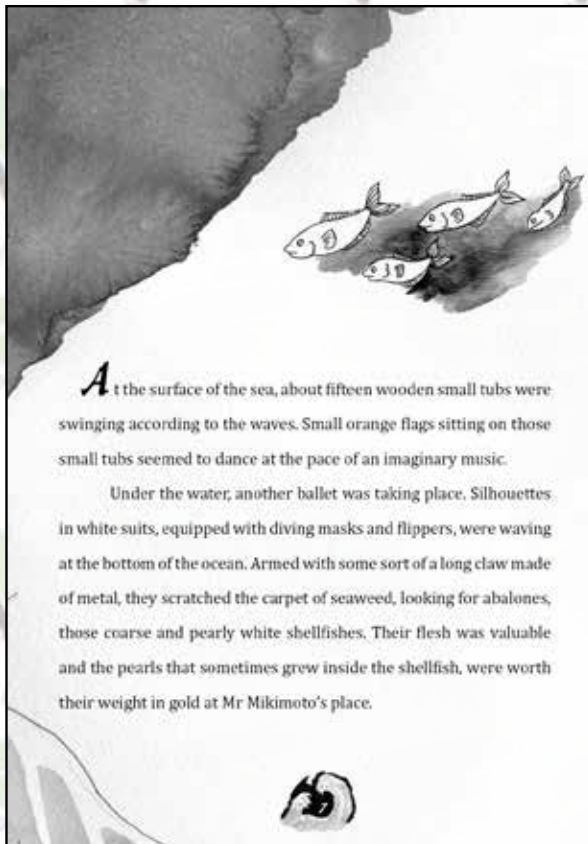
**Tradition, modern life, Japanese society, adventures,
life of the amas and the picking of pearls,
friendship, betrayal, solidarity.**

Collection *Du coq à l'âme*

Junior

A very beautiful novel about the daily life of the amas, Japanese young girls who dive to collect shellfishes with pearls. It is also an opportunity to talk about the difficulty to combine tradition and modern life.

11 years old and more



At the surface of the sea, about fifteen wooden small tubs were swinging according to the waves. Small orange flags sitting on those small tubs seemed to dance at the pace of an imaginary music.

Under the water, another ballet was taking place. Silhouettes in white suits, equipped with diving masks and flippers, were waving at the bottom of the ocean. Armed with some sort of a long claw made of metal, they scratched the carpet of seaweed, looking for abalones, those coarse and pearly white shellfishes. Their flesh was valuable and the pearls that sometimes grew inside the shellfish, were worth their weight in gold at Mr Mikimoto's place.



The young pearl picker

In Fuki's family, women are « amas » from mother to daughter. No matter the weather is like, they dive to collect pearls and shellfishes that are then to be sold in the harbor.

Fuki, 15 years old, has already been « ama » for 3 years. In her teenager's modern daily life, she must manage to find balance between traditions and modern world, between her family and her peers' look.

It is far from being easy. Even Takeo, her childhood friend is growing apart from her because of his friends' influence on him. Fuki has to face the sea's dangers, the lack of understanding and human cruelty all at once.

A wounded person, a storm, a disappearance, a theft, a fisherman, a manga's story, a succession of events will turn everyone's world upside down.

This novel is a huge poetry's insight into the heart of Japan, a fascinating country where everyone is continually walking on a tightrope and wavering between tradition and modernity with one goal: to protect their soul.

Dimension: A5, price: 17€

ISBN: 978-2-36587-417-5

50 black and white illustrations

152 pages

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Collection
Du coq à l'âme
Junior

For all - 17 €



ISBN : 978-2-36587-417-5

The author
Hélène GLORIA
Britannia

The illustrator
Victorine SCHWEBACH
Belgium

Born in a region full of vegetation, not too far away from the sea, she makes her first steps among a river, dairywomen and primroses.

She could have become a market gardener, a post-office worker or even a veterinary...

She could have go through the desert riding a dromedary and drink tea with Berbers.

Cross the Milky Way on board of her spaceship and go around the Earth.

She could have touched the snowy summits, and fly with eagles while holding tight to their claws.

But instead she chose to dive into the world of imaginary:

To tell random adventures or extraordinary ones.

To play with words, and full sentences.

To meet dragons, wizards, horsewomen and even sorceresses.

Her characters live big happy moments and small misfortunes.

She loves all of them like a mother, she is proud of them!

They grew up in her head.

Thus, she lives happily, in the land of corsairs and green crabs.

Since forever, she is torn between her two biggest passions: animals and drawing. As a child, she dreamt about becoming a veterinary, but it is by listening to stories before bedtime that she developed a taste for drawing.

Drawing was first a way to escape but then, growing up, it became a way to share, to tell a story.

She thus very naturally chose to do drawing-related studies. She now has a good excuse to draw all the time, a cup of tea near her, and under the kindly eyes of her furry friends: Néon and Zion.

