

## **L'assassin de Sebastian Dubois**

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With yet another addition to the blossoming story of feisty gay French investigator Hugo Duchamp, it should be evident that Hugo's personal growth and life is as much a central part of his stories as his investigations into matters that too often hold big impacts on his personal life and evolution.

The setting is small town Montgenoux, France in 2017, where Hugo has just returned to his job as Captain of a small French town's police station after two weeks on a Caribbean island, where loneliness and the possibility of quiet anonymity is juxtaposed by the attention he earns as an obvious stranger in town.

While there, he comes to realise that his previous London life didn't hold the same happiness he's experienced in Montgenoux - nor the same challenges. He still loves Ben even as he acknowledges Ben's decision changed his life and caused him to run away from everything he's loved. Now he's back, with trouble extending beyond romance, stemming from an old promise made to Sebastian Auguste Dubois, a man he met the previous year, who saved Hugo's life and is now in prison.

But all this is just the backdrop to a riot at the new prison, a terrible murder, and the appearance of criminals from his past who return to haunt Hugo's future.

Kidnapped girls endangered, internal investigations when no crime has really been committed, and circumstances which keep drawing Hugo back to the past and to the new Centre Pénitentiaire de Montgenoux all coalesce in a story that examines gay life in prison and subterfuge that embraces Sebastian Dubois, a "cat with nine lives", and a situation which has spiralled out of control and out of the hands of the police.

In the midst of this all, does Hugo have a future with Tristan - without hiding, without secrets, and with full reciprocity? Hugo's always been single and has always been a wanderer - but Montgenoux is his home and Ben is his life, even if circumstances have changed. And as Hugo and Tristan join forces to handle both personal and professional complexities, one of the most difficult challenges of their lives and careers may turn out to be love.

Hugo's life is always filled with possibilities, whether it's racing against time, tracking down perps, or dealing with a myriad of romantic challenges. *L'assassiner de Sebastian Dubois* is a powerful continuation of all the forces evident in previous books in this series, takes many unexpected turns, and is very highly recommended for prior readers who have developed an affection for a French investigator who constantly finds his personal and professional lives entwined and challenged by deadly forces.