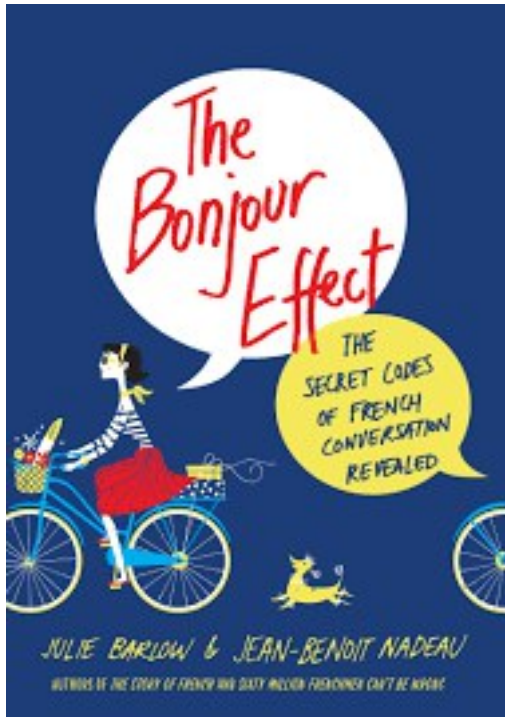


# The Bonjour Effect



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著者:Julie Barlow

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Jean-Benoît Nadeau and Julie Barlow spent a decade traveling back and forth to Paris as well as living there. Yet one important lesson never seemed to sink in: how to communicate comfortably with the French, even when you speak their language. In *The Bonjour Effect* Jean-Benoît and Julie chronicle the lessons they learned after they returned to France to live, for a year, with their twin daughters. They offer up all the lessons they learned and explain, in a book as fizzy as a bottle of the finest French champagne, the most important aspect of all: the French don't communicate, they converse. To understand and speak French well, one must understand that French conversation runs on a set of rules that go to the heart of French culture. Why do the

French like talking about "the decline of France"? Why does broaching a subject like money end all discussion? Why do the French become so aroused debating the merits and qualities of their own language? Through encounters with school principals, city hall civil servants, gas company employees, old friends and business acquaintances, Julie and Jean-Benoît explain why, culturally and historically, conversation with the French is not about communicating or being nice. It's about being interesting. After reading *The Bonjour Effect*, even readers with a modicum of French language ability will be able to hold their own the next time they step into a bistro on the Left Bank.

Praise for *The Bonjour Effect*:

"Whether you're an expat in France, or simply dream of living there one day, *The Bonjour Effect* is a helpful resource to cracking the arcane cultural code. Engaging and often funny, filled with examples drawn from the authors' experiences, this is a guide to the most essential of French arts: conversation." – Ann Mah, author of *Mastering the Art of French Eating*

Praise for *The Story of French*:

"A well-told, highly accessible history of the French language that leads to a spirited discussion of the prospects for French in an increasingly English-dominated world." —William Grimes, *The New York Times*

"Exceptionally told, a celebration of the lasting influence of la langue française." —Kirkus Reviews (starred review)

"Excellent...An engaging and well-conceived book. Highly recommended." —Library Journal

"Francophiles will be well-served by the care and detail with which the authors handle their subject, while English speakers will find an illuminating portrait of Gallic sensibility." —Publishers Weekly

Praise for *Sixty Million Frenchmen Can't Be Wrong*:

"Learning to love the French as they are." — The New York Times

"...finally there is a book which explains in non-romantic, lucid terms, better than anything else I have read, why the French are as they are...*Sixty Million Frenchmen Can't Be Wrong* should be handed out at Calais and Charles de Gaulle airport to anyone hoping to get a grip on France and make a holiday or life work here." — The Daily Telegraph

"*Sixty Million Frenchmen* does its job marvelously well. After reading it, you may still think the French are arrogant, aloof and high-handed, but you will know why." —The Wall Street Journal

"...simply marvellous. *Sixty Million Frenchmen* will interest those readers who want to understand what makes the French mind go tickety-tock. And it will definitely help smooth anyone's introduction to this puzzling and beautiful country." —The Globe and Mail

"... a hard-eyed and mostly affectionate survey of what makes French society tick and why outsiders, and particularly North Americans, so often misread it." — The Toronto

Star

“...a must read for Francophiles and surprise hit of the year...Sixty Million Frenchmen Can't Be Wrong [is a] penetrating and witty enquiry by two Canadian journalists into the unique essence of being French.” —Critic's Choice, The Daily Mail

“A surprising book written with a touch of humour, that combs through all the ticks and obsessions of the French.” — Le Monde.fr

“It's the story of two Canadians, who, coming out of nowhere, help us see ourselves in a different light.” —Le Figaro

“An invigorating read” — Bernard Pivot

作者介绍:

JEAN-BENOIT NADEAU and JULIE BARLOW are the award-winning authors of The Story of French, The Story of Spanish, and the bestselling Sixty Million Frenchmen Can't be Wrong. They live in Canada.

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标签

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## 评论

这一类文化相关的书我很少读，感觉还真不错。学习法语这么多年，虽然许久不用都忘的差不多了，可读 to 书中很多内容时都颇有感触，尤其是自己光学法语而不去探究法国文化所造成长久以来的谬误，要知道我一直都把“c'est ma faute”和“je ne sais pas”挂嘴边，只知其中文意思，却不知其在社会场景中的真实面貌。另外还有法国人对英语的态度，本来我一直以为法国人就是敌视英语，原来完全不是这样啊。法国教育体制与方法也特色极其鲜明，与我们完全不同。当然了，这本书是魁北克人看法国人，特别是巴黎人的情况，可能不是100%精确，毕竟就算是法国当地人也不一定同意书中全部内容，但有趣就是有趣，我们对同一话题或行为等事物的看法和做法就是那样的不同，是不是礼貌、是不是妥当、是不是理所当然都要好好考虑文化差异。

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了解法国，比如法国人为什么这么喜欢聊天（对话，或对谈）。

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说教育和背诵那一段，有点意思。。

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Nicolas推荐的，相当于法国版的“watching the French people”...  
读的时候觉得是本好书，但回想起来也只记得在法国向人打招呼说bonjour无比重要

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an interesting book on norms in French conversation. I found Ch16 on sexism, Ch17 on politics and Ch18 on the French identity interesting because those topics relates to me. I will keep an open-mind about the book until I get a chance to see for myself (probably) And I remain skeptic about The bonjour effect beyond white middle-class French people.

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