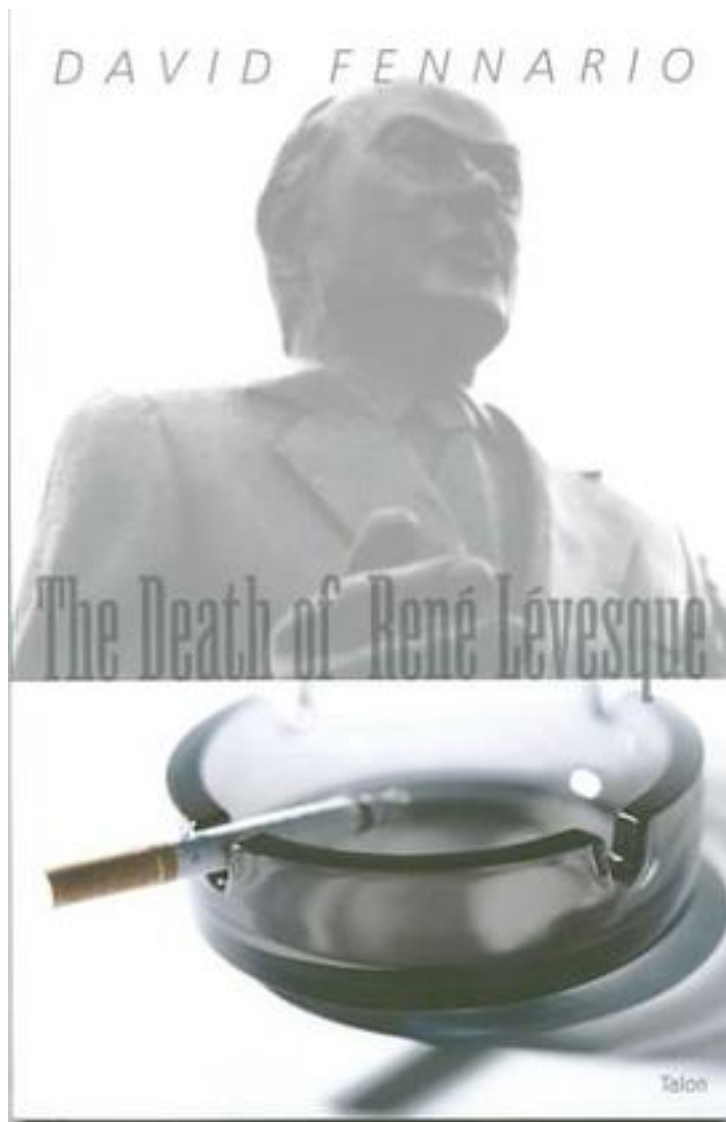


# The Death of Rene Levesque



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In taking on "The Matter of Quebec," David Fennario provides audiences and readers with an abiding critique of the notion that history is created around "great causes" by "great men." Given the recent reversal of fortune delivered to the tempestuous sound and fury of the Quebec separatist movement, "The Death of Rene Levesque is, in retrospect, not just an astonishingly profound and prophetic political document. Showcasing the surprising theatrical range and virtuosity of the author of Canada's first bilingual, though definitely not bicultural, working-class hit, "Balconville, The Death of Rene Levesque dramatizes the rise and fall of Canada's most tragic public figure of the 20th century. Fennario's deft and subtle characterization of the father of the Parti Quebecois, his re-telling of the compromising political realities which formed both the movement and the party as Levesque created it, and the gradual revelation of the fatal flaw which began to undermine both the man and his dream of a new republic, proceed here with a stately, devastating inevitability which recall the masterful tragedies of Euripides and Shakespeare. "The Death of Rene Levesque presents its audience with the powerful and cathartic stillbirth of a nation, stripped of both pity and fear, as only an Anglophone Quebec separatist could possibly imagine it. David Fennario's "Balconville, Banana Boots, Doctor Thomas Neil Cream, Joe Beef, Nothing to Lose, and "On the Job are also available from Talonbooks.

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