

Flirting with French: How a Language Charmed Me, Seduced Me, and Nearly Broke My Heart

William Alexander

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"A delightful and courageous tale and a romping good read. Voila!" —Mark Greenside, author of I'll Never Be French (No Matter What I Do)

William Alexander is more than a Francophile. He wants to be French. There's one small obstacle though: he doesn't speak la langue française. In Flirting with French, Alexander sets out to conquer the language he loves. But will it love him back?

Alexander eats, breathes, and sleeps French (even conjugating in his dreams). He travels to France, where mistranslations send him bicycling off in all sorts of wrong directions, and he nearly drowns in an immersion class in Provence, where, faced with the riddle of masculine breasts, feminine beards, and a turkey cutlet of uncertain gender, he starts to wonder whether he should've taken up golf instead of French. While playing hooky from grammar lessons and memory techniques, Alexander reports on the riotous workings of the Académie française, the four-hundred-year-old institution charged with keeping the language pure; explores the science of human communication, learning why it's harder for fifty-year-olds to learn a second language than it is for five-year-olds; and, frustrated with his progress, explores an IBM research lab, where he trades barbs with a futuristic hand-held translator.

Does he succeed in becoming fluent? Readers will be as surprised as Alexander is to discover that, in a fascinating twist, studying French may have had a far greater impact on his life than actually learning to speak it ever would.

"A blend of passion and neuroscience, this literary love affair offers surprise insights into the human brain and the benefits of learning a second language. Reading William Alexander's book is akin to having an MRI of the soul." —Laura Shaine Cunningham, author of Sleeping Arrangements

"Alexander proves that learning a new language is an adventure of its own--with all the unexpected obstacles, surprising breakthroughs and moments of sublime pleasure traveling brings."—Julie Barlow, author of Sixty Million Frenchmen Can't Be Wrong



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Elaine Gold:

Reading can called mind hangout, why? Because while you are reading a book particularly book entitled Flirting with French: How a Language Charmed Me, Seduced Me, and Nearly Broke My Heart your brain will drift away trough every dimension, wandering in each and every aspect that maybe unidentified for but surely might be your mind friends. Imaging every word written in a publication then become one type conclusion and explanation this maybe you never get just before. The Flirting with French: How a Language Charmed Me, Seduced Me, and Nearly Broke My Heart giving you one more experience more than blown away the mind but also giving you useful details for your better life with this era. So now let us show you the relaxing pattern the following is your body and mind are going to be pleased when you are finished looking at it, like winning an activity. Do you want to try this extraordinary spending spare time activity?

Dennis Gaines:

What is your hobby? Have you heard this question when you got college students? We believe that that problem was given by teacher to the students. Many kinds of hobby, Everybody has different hobby. So you know that little person such as reading or as reading through become their hobby. You need to know that reading is very important along with book as to be the issue. Book is important thing to include you knowledge, except your personal teacher or lecturer. You see good news or update regarding something by book. Different categories of books that can you take to be your object. One of them are these claims Flirting with French: How a Language Charmed Me, Seduced Me, and Nearly Broke My Heart.

Gladys Jackson:

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