

# WINTER SONG

## JEAN-CLAUDE MOURLEVAT

A powerful story of courage and the fight for freedom against a cruel tyrannical government.

Four teenagers escape from their prison-like boarding schools to take up the fight against the government that murdered their parents fifteen years earlier. Fleeing across icy mountains from a pack of terrifying dog-men sent to hunt them down, they arrive at Jahn's Restaurant, the headquarters of the secret resistance movement.

Here they discover secrets about their parents and learn the astonishing power of one voice, as the battle to free a depressed and terrified nation from a generation of cruelty begins . . .

At times surreal, this pacy and exciting novel is an emotive read full of unresolved conflict, ambiguity and tantalising descriptions. Deliberately obtuse, Mourlevat continues the tradition of French writers who examine politics and ethics by allowing their characters to be shaped and defined by their situations. In *Winter Song* the four children find reserves of bravery and strength, sacrifice and daring as they struggle to comprehend the political and emotional lives of those who command and control them.



Winter Song  
by Jean-Claude Mourlevat  
ISBN 9781406310382  
432pp, paperback  
Arrp \$16.95 • NZrrp \$19.99

### about the author

Jean-Claude Mourlevat was born in Ambert, France. He wrote and directed burlesque shows for adults and children, which were performed for more than ten years in France and abroad, before taking up writing in 1996.