



2025 French-American Foundation Translation Prize

Finalist Interview with Jordan Stump, translator of *About Uncle* by Rebecca Gisler (Two Lines Press)

Q: What did you enjoy most about translating *About Uncle* by Rebecca Gisler?

Jordan: What really drew me to the novel was the narrator's wonderful voice—dry and wry but beautifully sensitive at the same time. (Also, the last lines made me cry.) The experience of trying to make that voice come across in English was a delight.

Q: You have produced over 30 French-to-English translations over the course of your career. Of them, which was your favorite translation to work on and why?

Jordan: No answer for that, I'm afraid! It seems like such a cliché, but every one of those projects was an exhilarating joy in one way or another.

Q: The French-American Foundation Translation Prize seeks to honor translators and their craft, and recognize the important work they do bringing works of French literature to Anglophone audiences. What does being named a finalist for this prize mean to you, and, in your own words, why does a Prize like this matter?

Jordan: In all honesty, I translate for myself – for the deep pleasure of making books I love exist in different words – and for me personally everything else takes second place to that. In a more general sense, prizes like this matter because they constitute a stand against the insularity and provincialism that is a constant (and, just now, growing) threat in this country.