



Jessica Lavoie | New York City, New York, USA | April 18, 2020 | 7:00 pm

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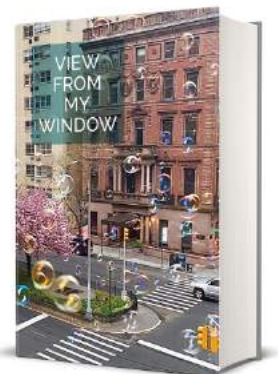
“View from my window” volume 2, a radically different approach

>> More than just a view, real-life stories <<

RELEASE DATE > 17 NOVEMBER 2021

On 17 November, the second volume of the successful book *View from my window* is being released, nearly a year to the day after the release of the first, which sold more than 17,000 copies. As part of a radically different approach to the first, this new opus of 370 pages aims to pay homage to the many life stories that formed the success of this global phenomenon. A truly sensitive immersion in intimacy.

> Available in bookshops and on the internet (www.viewfrommywindow.world) for the price of 32 euros.



More than just a view

Far from just a view, a **real global community** has been created. *View from my window* volume 2 pays homage to these relationships, connections and friendships that have been, and are still being formed. A few months ago, the windows opened again. The group is taking shape in **real meetings**.

This is, for example, the case of Cari, an American who visited Sébastien this summer in the south of France. Together, they shared a moment which they immortalised with a photo of the two of them, in front of the view posted by Sébastien a year earlier:

« Here is the story : I joined View from my window during Covid as a way to feel connected with the world. (...) When I saw the post of the view from Sebastian’s window with the soft blue light of the evening painting soft shadows on the ancient rooftops, I felt compelled to paint it and even more compelled to visit. I reached out to Sebastian on Facebook and connected that way I enjoyed seeing the posts from his Auberge Les Dimes which holds the view. Luckily this year I was able to Travel to France. I was visiting friends that have a vineyard about 30-40 minutes away from Issigeac. It was kismet when my friend said we were going to visit Issigeac the next day. It wasn’t hard to find the Auberge and we went in and asked for Sebastian. He was so gracious and happy to give us a tour of the building and tell us the storied history of the building. He took us to see the view from the window. My photos don’t do it justice, but his does.(...) » (Cari, USA)

There are **hundreds of testimonies** like the one that Belgian Barbara Duriau, group founder, wanted to show that the View from my window phenomenon is above all **real-life stories**. As a moment for dreams and escape, books are an invitation to travel and go to another’s home to chat around a cup of tea.

With currently 2.3 million members and 1 million pending acceptance (thanks to a new team of admin volunteers, recruited within the group from the four corners of the world), the group View from my window is today in the **top 10 largest global communities** on Facebook.

The content

The book has **five parts** – in reference to the five continents – each time with a map on which all the photos are pinned.

A real daily geography lesson, it invites us to global connectivity, through intimacy (from Vanuatu to Kazakhstan via Belize). It offers the reader a **sensitive snapshot of everyday life** through many testimonies from across the world that are always different and have a shared viewpoint: humanity.

« Your VFMW made it possible for me to get in contact with a lady in Israel. After the recent death of her partner, we have become close, despite the distance which separates us. In those tragic hours that once again threatened peace in the Middle East, she turned to me and said: You are the only person I can call at this time of the night (for me, on the other side of the world, it was only early evening...). She was very shaken. I helped her to calm down and relax so that she could get some rest. It’s really amazing – just think – we’ve never even met and yet I could help this person when she was most in need. » (Edna, USA)

It was therefore very natural that Barbara Duriau also decided to give a part of herself by writing a very personal preface in which she traces her journey and the genesis of this group’s creation.

Brief history of this Belgian success story

Many people have joined or visited the public group, View from my window. The concept was simple: to capture the view from your home during lockdown and share it with others. It quickly went viral, becoming a global success.

Created on 23 March 2020 with 60 members, the group grew to over 2 million members in just four weeks. The enthusiasm transcended all borders. Each photo was accompanied by a simple caption, maybe an anecdote, a feeling or a real-life story...

In just a few weeks, thanks to lively interactions between members, the group took off and the movement went global!

»»» Behind each photo is an ordinary person’s unique story.

About the founder



Behind this initiative is a 48-year-old Belgian woman, Barbara Duriau. With a degree in Visual and Graphic Communication from La Cambre, one of the most prestigious schools in Belgium, Duriau worked for fifteen years at the Moulinsart graphic design studio where she was responsible for the design of the Airbus A320 in the effigy of the famous Belgian comic book hero, Tintin.

In 1998, her curiosity and passion for the unknown led her to spend a year travelling around the world. In 2018, this globetrotter and lover of life decided to leave everything behind to make a change and settle in Amsterdam, the European city where “everything is possible”.

By March 2020, the whole world was in lockdown. Between isolation and her own desire to escape, Duriau had an idea: “We’re all going to be confined to our homes, with the same view from our window, for many, many weeks. I wonder what that view’s like on the other side of the world? What if I asked people in lockdown to take a photo of their view and share it with others online?” And like that, View from my window was born. A unifying initiative during this difficult time that combines all of the founder’s passions: the visual image, travel and connections.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Release date : 18 November 2021

Price : € 32

Language : English, French

Number of pages : 370

Co-auteur : Dominique Maricq, a former French teacher, joined Studios Hergé in 1997 and developed a career as an author. At the same time, he also publishes other work that reflect his appetite for images and words.

ISBN code ENG version : 978-2-9602912-1-6

ISBN code FR version : 978-2-9602912-0-9

> ONLINE SHOPPING

www.viewfrommywindow.world

> STAY TUNED!

An exhibition is coming at the Atomium from 23 March 2022.

> PRESS CONTACT

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