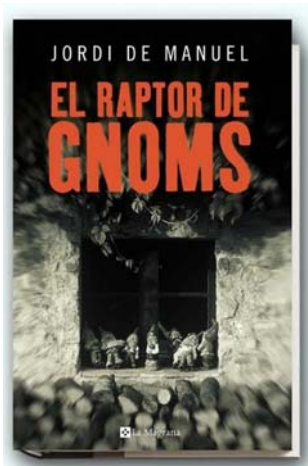


El raptor de gnoms.

The kidnapper of gnomes.



Publication details

El raptor de gnoms

Last Edition: 2007

Pages: 224

Copies sold to date:

Author:

[Jordi de Manuel](#)

Publisher:

RBA Libros

Dragan Isakovic leads a hermit-like existence in the Collserola Range as he spends his time filching and liberating garden gnomes in expiation of an old crime. His quiet life starts getting complicated the day when, committing his strange thefts, he sees something he should never have seen. Karl Baumann, fruitlessly pursued by the law for many years because of his alleged involvement with drug trafficking, is found dead in his Pedralbes home, apparently from a heroin overdose. Inspector Marc Sergiot, who is very familiar to Jordi de Manuel's readers, has only a week to demonstrate that the millionaire's death has been intentional. These events coincide with the train bombings in Madrid on 11 March 2004, the subsequent demonstrations against the Government and the elections of 14 March, all of which complicates the investigation. Sergiot, a solitary and stubborn man has closed in on the criminal as much as he can. There is only one link missing: he must find the kidnapper of gnomes. PRESS The reader is captivated by the prose from the very first page of this fast-moving story, which is also a tour through almost all of Barcelona, from its bestknown neighbourhoods to its most recondite and inhospitable corners. (Meritxell Doncel, <http://w3.bcn.es>)

[Jordi de Manuel](#) (*Author*)

Jordi de Manuel (Barcelona 1962) is a biologist, secondary school teacher and writer. He is a member of the Catalan Society of Fantasy and Science Fiction. He has published several novels and short novels: *El pes de la por* (The Burden of Fear), *El beuratge* (The Potion), *Tres somnis blaus* (Three Blue Dreams – winner of the Valldaura Prize), *Cels taronges* (Orange Skies – winner of the Ciutat de Mollerussa Prize), *Cabells porpres* (Purple Hair – winner of the Pere Calders Prize), *Pantera negra* (Black Panther – winner of the Sant Just Desvern Prize) and *El cant de les dunes* (Song of the Dunes). With the story *Calcs* (Tracings) he received the Manuel de Pedrolo Science Fiction Prize (2004).

2006

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