## BOOKS FRANCE



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## **Ordinary Magic**

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Elderly

The heart-wrenching portrait of a courageous woman.

There comes a moment in every writer's life when they lay their cards on the table, overcome by a kind of urgency. The call to action in this shattering tale is a long-lost brother's phone call announcing that their mother is very sick, at the Lomé hospital. The woman who, twenty years earlier, told the writer: "Go live your life. Live far from here and don't come back." The mother who constantly advised him to forget the hard stuff. From this portrait of an illiterate, joyful, inspiring, and loving woman, and of a world of utter destitution, emerges a mysterious grace intimately entangled with the genesis of a writer and his calling.