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**EL COMETAGIROAVIÓ**  
*(The Flying Comet),*  
Sebastià Alzamora

Half way between comedy and a lyrical evocation of a lost world, *El cometagirotavió* is a celebration of the irresistible force of love and the story of a man who overcomes all his circumstances because of his desire to fly.

This novel is partly based on the true story of Pere de Son Gall, a young farmer from Lluçmajor —a small village in southern Majorca—who, in 1920, decided to build a flying machine capable of taking off and landing vertically, which he gave the name of 'the flying comet'. His project suffered every kind of technical and economic setback and provoked a sarcastic reaction from his fellow villagers, who thought Pere was mad. But he continued with his project and decided to bring it to fruition, whatever the cost. Meanwhile, he falls deeply in love with a girl called Maria Boscana, who he had used to know in his childhood, and who has grown into a beautiful woman. Pere's love is returned by Maria, but her father, a rich landowner who has an ongoing feud with Pere's family, opposes their relationship. The intervention of the poet Maria Antònia Salvà, Maria's tutor, is necessary, to allow the love of the two young people to flourish. Soon, the arrival of a commission of ladies from the 'League of the Good Word', a quaint group dedicated to fighting blasphemy, causes a stir in Lluçmajor as the women set about eradicating the villager's bad habits, finding more work than they had expected—as well as a few surprises.

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**S**ebastià Alzamora was born in Lluçmajor (Majorca) in 1972. He is the author of the poetry collections *Rafel* (1994), *Apoteosi del cercle* (1997), *Mula morta* (2001) and *El benestar* (Barcelona Premi Jocs Florals 2003), as well as of the novels *L'extinció* (Premi Documenta 1999), *Sara i Jeremies* (Premi Ciutat de Palma Llorenç Villalonga 2002) and *La pell i la princesa* (Premi Josep Pla 2005). In 2008 he won the Premi Carles Riba de Poesia for *La part visible*.



Option publishers: Quidnovi (Portugal), Elliot Edizioni (Italy), Métailié (France).