



# THE GOLDEN TREASURE OF THE ENTENTE CORDIALE

by Michel Becker, Vincenzo Bianca, Stephen Clarke  
and Pauline Deysson

Published on 8 April in hardback at £24.99

by Editions De La Chouette D'Or®

A brand-new Treasure Hunt book for the whole  
family with an amazing prize for the winner worth  
over £650,000

***The Golden Treasure of the Entente Cordiale*** is a beautifully illustrated armchair treasure hunt book created by Michel Becker, the co-creator of legendary *On the Trail of the Golden Owl* treasure hunt book.

Published on the Entente Cordiale signing anniversary, which took place on the 8th April 1904, ***The Golden Treasure of the Entente Cordiale*** is also a celebration of this historic alliance between Britain and France. When Edward VII and French President Émile Loubet signed the Entente Cordiale, the agreement was sealed with a golden casket given to France by the UK. The casket was made by the prestigious Goldsmiths & Silversmiths Company, jewellers by appointment to the Crown. Its lid is decorated with a golden sculpture, the allegorical figure of Peace crowning France and Britain with laurels. The casket also contains a roll of parchment inscribed with a text celebrating Anglo-French friendship.

The winner of the treasure hunt will be awarded the golden casket which experts have valued at over £650,000. The golden casket is currently locked away in a crystal cabinet which can only be unlocked by tracking down the location of two hidden geode crystals. The treasure hunter who finds both crystals can unlock the cabinet and claim the prize.

**Michel Becker** said: 'Now is the time for the casket to emerge from the shadows and deliver its message of peace and hope across political borders.'

***The Golden Treasure of the Entente Cordiale*** contains 9 puzzles created by Vincenzo Bianca. Each puzzle is made up of an illustration by Michel Becker and of a secret text hidden in the accompanying story, *The Tale of the Edrei*, written by Pauline Deysson. Each puzzle is written as a poem which has some parts of its text missing. To find the missing text, the player needs to crack the hidden code in the accompanying illustration.

Once the player has successfully solved all 9 puzzles, he or she will have to use the Treasure Map and the Adventurer's Notebook (*which will be available from the website of the treasure hunt as soon as it is launched*) to find the exact spot where the geode crystals are located.

Helen Richardson PR  
Press Release

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Each geode is hidden in a chest along with documentation clearly stating that it is one of the geodes of the Entente Cordiale treasure hunt. One piece of geode is hidden in the UK and the other in France. The two pieces of geode need to be put together to open the crystal cabinet containing the golden casket. You could say it requires a new Entente Cordiale!

Bestselling British author and historian Stephen Clarke has also written an irreverent and informative history of the *Entente Cordiale* for the book, revealing how it came about and how it reshaped Europe.

Editions De La Chouette d'Or® is launching a website to tie with *The Golden Treasure of the Entente Cordiale*. The site will host a forum enabling treasure hunters to post questions to the authors, as well as to talk to each other and compare notes.

Website: <https://www.thegoldentreasureoftheententecordiale.com/en>

Youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCUuqpfE6SrlxLqhXVNswFA>

Facebook: The Golden Treasure of the Entente Cordiale

Twitter: @the\_entente

Instagram: @treasure\_of\_the\_entente\_cordiale



- **Michel Becker** is a painter and sculptor. Most famously, he illustrated the legendary treasure hunt book *On the Trail of the Golden Owl*, for which he also sculpted the still-unclaimed prize of the statuette of an owl using 10 kilos of gold, silver and diamonds.



- **Vincenzo Bianca** is CEO of N-Zone, a Belgian company specializing in leisure and learning gamification. He is the author of several well-funded treasure hunts including the innovative *Guardians of Legends*. Enigma designer, creator and inventor of all kinds of games, Vincenzo has been passionate about treasure hunts since he was eight years old and is a walking encyclopaedia on the subject.



- **Stephen Clarke** is the bestselling author of the *Merde* series of comedy novels (*A Year in the Merde* et al.) which have been translated into more than 20 languages and sold over a million copies worldwide. He has also written several serious-yet-humorous books on Anglo-French history, such as *1000 Years of Annoying the French* (a UK number-one bestseller). He lives in Paris and his latest novel is *The Spy Who Inspired Me*.



- **Pauline Deysson** Pauline Deysson is the author of *The Library* series of novels which blend fantasy and science fiction, magic, philosophy, romance, dystopia and poetry, to create a world that is both complex and coherent - just like the world today. She is a librarian in a bank and is fluent in French, English, Spanish and German.



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