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Mark Greenside

has been a civil rights activist, Vietnam War protestor, anti-draft counselor, VISTA Volunteer, union leader, and college professor. His stories have appeared in the *Sun*, the *Literary Review*, *Cimarron Review*, the *Nebraska Review*, *Beloit Fiction Journal*, the *New Laurel Review*, *Crosscurrents*, *Five Fingers Review*, and *The Long Story*, as well as other journals and magazines, and he is the author of a short story collection, *I Saw a Man Hit His Wife*; a novella, *The Night at the End of the Tunnel, or Isaiah Can You See?*; and two previous memoirs about life in France, *I'll Never Be French (no matter what I do)*, and *(not quite) Mastering the Art of French Living*. He resides in Alameda, California, and Brittany, France.



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Praise for
I AM FINALLY, FINALLY FRENCH

"A delightful deep-dive into the quirks, charms, and occasional chaos of life in the French countryside. *I Am Finally, Finally French* is more than a memoir. It's part comedy, and part self-help guide for anyone dreaming of making a foreign land feel like home. With wit, warmth, and wry insight, Greenside takes us on a journey to learn that becoming French is the beautiful pursuit of belonging."

—Jane Bertch, author of *The French Ingredient*

"An intimate portrait of an American expat who grapples with his mortality in a country that measures time by centuries, not minutes. After reading *I'm Finally, Finally French*, you may find yourself tempted to make an offer on the home that's up for sale next door to Greenside's cozy abode."

—Craig Carlson, author of *Pancakes in Paris* and *Let Them Eat Pancakes*

"Greenside offers a humorously thoughtful, in-depth, and in-his-shoes-style experience of life in a tiny village in Brittany. You will love getting to know the textured local characters and complicated situations as well as witnessing Greenside's most poignant and memorable moments. This is a personal look at life in *La France Profonde* that only such a skilled wordsmith could craft."

—Adrian Leeds, French property consultant, author and publisher of *Adrian Leeds Nouvellettres*, and #1 French agent on HGTV's *House Hunters International*

"Mark Greenside shares his decades-long journey in France with tremendous warmth, love, and, especially, humor. Time slows down in a very French way as his friendships and foibles unfurl in ways that provide meaningful life lessons to us all."

—Linda Witt, Vice President of the *Fédération des Alliances Françaises USA*

"Greenside has done the impossible. He buys a house in the French countryside and makes a life there without knowing a word of French. His trials and tribulations are a prize to read, full of humor, drama, and subtle 'Aha!' moments. For all the Americans who ever dreamt of moving to France, this book is for you."

—Leonard Pitt, author of *Walks Through Lost Paris*



Greenside

I AM FINALLY, FINALLY FRENCH



I AM FINALLY, FINALLY FRENCH

My Accidental Life in Brittany

Mark Greenside

Author of *I'll Never Be French (no matter what I do)* and
(not quite) Mastering the Art of French Living



Memoir US \$28.99/CAN \$38.99

**A hilarious and
heartfelt memoir of
embracing life in
rural France**

At forty-seven, Mark Greenside, a glass-is-half-empty native New Yorker living in California, unwillingly went to Brittany and, to his great amazement and surprise, fell in love with the place and its people. Then, because love makes you crazy and do crazy things, he borrowed money from his mom and bought a 120-year-old farmhouse in Plobien, a village of five hundred people. Thus began Mark's bumbling, hilarious journey of adapting to life in rural France. From navigating unwritten rules about touching tomatoes at the market to hosting dinners for discerning friends, every mishap and cultural or linguistic misunderstanding—of which there were many—became a lesson in resilience, perseverance, compliance, and humility.

Now, three decades later, Mark reflects on the unforeseen joys and challenges of growing older in the place he calls home every summer. With his trademark wit and self-awareness, he reveals how his life in Plobien—and his friends' and neighbors' enduring patience and kindness—have shaped him into something he never thought he'd become: truly, deeply, finally French.

Both a love letter to Brittany and a meditation on life's unpredictability, *I Am Finally, Finally French* is an invitation to laugh, learn, and savor the beauty of embracing change—no matter how daunting it seems.