

Telling a story or opening up to the countless  
*possible stories*? *Oreille rouge* by Éric Chevillard or  
how to put literature and the world to the test

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**Abstract.** The variations on the adventure fiction genre, seemingly playful, such as those that one can find in the story of *Oreille rouge*, the main character of the homonymous novel published by Éric Chevillard in 2005 by Éditions de Minuit, bespeak an attempt at undermining literature, coupled with a desire to resemantize the world, two components representing a recurrent feature in the author's work. Through this story, an incredible experience and, at the same time, an experience of limits, Chevillard is tackling travel literature, and this becomes a true delight, as all traditional canons are shattered: Chevillard's novel no longer tells *a story*; instead, it opens up to the countless *possible stories* – just as many accounts of the adventure of writing –, which does not prevent it from continuing to represent an ideal space for man's questioning of the world and of oneself.

**Keywords:** Éric Chevillard, *Oreille rouge*, travel literature, adventure of writing, story, possible stories.