Samuel Benchetrit serves up an elegant, tender and zany story about paternity, inspiration and imagination in which the hero, a Dostoyevskian ‘idiot’ who is fundamentally good, falls into all the traps that are laid for him.

Addicted to cigarettes and alcohol, lazy and responsibility-shy, and forever wanting for inspiration, an author and confirmed bachelor is desperately clinging on to the only viable project he has been offered: to adapt his book into a TV series. The problem is that the book can’t be found and the producer in question has not yet read it.

The author sets off in search of the last extant copy of his book and, discovering that it is in the possession of a bedridden female admirer in a retirement home, resolves to go there and steal it from her. But he has not reckoned with Suzanne, a pretty nurse with a stammer whom he immediately falls in love with and sets about seducing.

There ensues a whole series of misunderstandings and unlikely encounters involving Paul Blanchot the tax inspector, Pierre Lamberti the successful writer he envies, Claire, Madrid and a farmer who is missing a hip...

The common thread running through all these amusing vignettes is the absence of the son, who has headed off on a trip around the world and addresses to his father this the following riddle: ‘What does an Inuit father say to his son before he goes out into the World?’ Come back.

Samuel Benchetrit is a writer, actor, scriptwriter and film and theatre director. In 2008, he won the Prix Lumière du scénario for best screenplay at the Sundance festival for his film J’ai toujours rêvé d’être un gangster. His works include Le Coeur en dehors (Prix Eugène Dabit du roman populiste 2009), La nuit avec ma femme, three volumes of Chroniques de l’asphalte and Chien, which he adapted for the cinema in 2015 and 2018.