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In 1976, the notion of belgitude opened an enduring debate. Dedicated to Belgium, Europalia 80 constituted otherwise an important moment in the realization of the specificity of Belgian and French literatures and their respective literary fields. But it was still missing a work which marks the bearings, draws out the stages of literary history and sorts the commentary from enumeration and pointillism. Such was the mission of the Alphabet des Lettres belges de langue française, the subject of the preface. Beacons for the History of Belgian Letters raised a beautiful outcry when it appeared. This stimulating text maintains all of its initial power to this day.