'This book will trigger dreams': The memoirs of lifestyle migrants in rural France—recounting, entertaining, promoting

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Abstract: The migration of British individuals in rural and coastal areas of Europe and beyond has received an outstanding attention in media, with TV programs, movies, news articles or news magazine entirely dedicated to it and with a plethoric entertainment literature of "travel writings" and memoirs. In this paper I will present a critical analysis of such a literature, which explores how it is participating to the fetishisation of lifestyle migration, producing commercial argumentation for a lifestyle change via positive narratives and depictions of the migration processes, of the French rural places and of autochthone populations, marked with the socioeconomic structural conditions of lifestyle migration.
Rural to city migration is a much larger movement of people, at a global scale, and is accompanied by a very different set of issues. Adequate housing is probably the most significant of these. Although informal settlements exist all around the world, 97% of slum dwellers live in poor countries. The project I worked on examined the impact of violence on migrants in the city. Through the surveys conducted with groups of these relocated households, we witnessed the enormous contribution that local community and neighbourhood organisations can make to help those coping with forced relocation and the disintegration of migrant communities. Migration to cities significantly contributes to urbanisation.