



FOREIGN RIGHTS CATALOGUE

LONDON BOOK FAIR 2023

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Literary Agency
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LUCA GIACHI

THE FIRST 'NEW ADULT' NOVEL BY A MONDELLO AWARD WINNER

«Luca Giachi tells the nuances of human soul and life in all its unpredictability.»
la Repubblica

Born in Rome in 1977, Luca Giachi is a writer and musician.
His two previous novels have been published by Hacca: *Oltre le parole* (2008),
for which he won the Premio Mondello Opera Prima, and *Come una canzone*
(2018).



His titles:

- 2023: *Senza disturbare nessuno*, Italy (Giunti)
- 2018: *Come una canzone*, Italy (Hacca)
- 2008: *Oltre le parole*, Italy (Hacca)





LUCA GIACHI



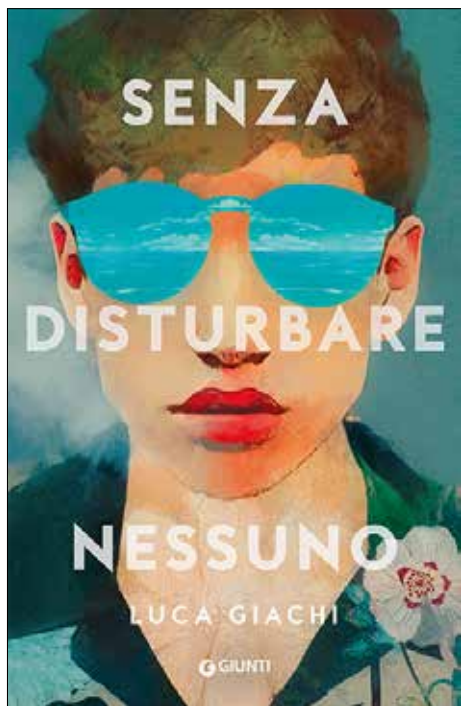
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SENZA DISTURBARE NESSUNO

Without Bothering Anyone

An engaging story of first experiences, love troubles and exciting discoveries.



Told with delicacy and the right amount of humour, *Without Bothering Anyone* is an irreverent coming-of-age novel about what happens when the best Summer of your life takes a most unexpected turn.

«An author who brings out the most intimate and true parts of us.»

Flaneri

«An undoubted narrative talent.»

Gazzetta di Mantova

«Rome is the true protagonist of his novels.»

il manifesto

Enrico was supposed to graduate high school at the end of June, make love for the first time with his girlfriend Marta, and then leave with his friends for an Interrail. But none of this happened. He fails his finals, Marta leaves for the Interrail without him, and his parents force him to work at his uncle's beach resort, a few miles off Rome.

His Summer break is therefore split between the chaotic life of the restaurant and the peacefulness of the Eternal City, where locals have gone away and only tourists lazily walk in the streets.

Among days at work and nights riding around on his scooter, a new friendship blossoms with Sara, a librarian, that will encourage in Enrico an unpredicted passion for books. But he will also find out a secret that his mother has been keeping from everyone, bringing him to understand that, above everything else, parents are simply human beings.

Original Publisher: **GIUNTI** | Genre: **Novel** | Pages: 176 | Release: May 2023
Language: Italian | Rights: World

NEW ADULT

VANNI LAI

THE DEBUT NOVEL FROM AN AUTHOR WHO HAS BEEN SELECTED TWICE FOR PREMIO ITALO CALVINO, THE MOST IMPORTANT AWARD IN ITALY FOR UNPUBLISHED WRITERS

Vanni Lai lives in Sardinia.

He is a two-time finalist of Premio Calvino, the most important award in Italy for unpublished authors. The prize launched the careers of several esteemed writers, including Veronica Galletta (winner of Premio Campiello Opera Prima award and finalist at Premio Strega), represented by Otago Literary Agency.

La Cantadora is Vanni Lai's debut novel.





VANNI LAI



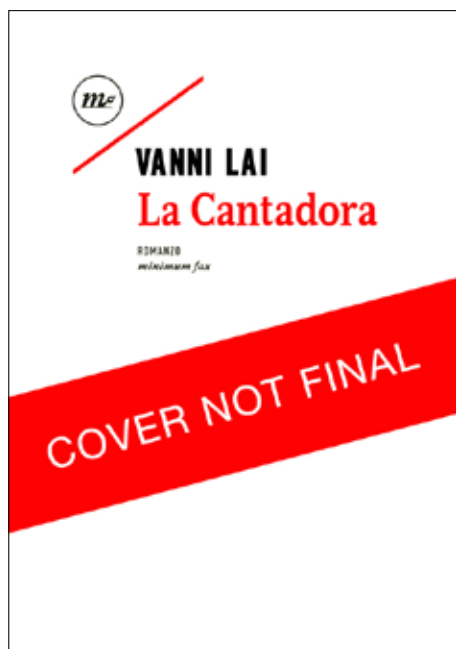
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LA CANTADORA

La Cantadora

The story and mystery of the first Sardinian female singer who stood up to the chauvinist and backward society of her time.



Vanni Lai spent years researching the story and personality of “La Cantadora” Candida Mari (1877-1927), a tangled mix of truth and myth. With very few written sources at hand, he had to rely mostly on oral tales and testimonies.

No photographs or voice recordings of “La Cantadora” survived – or maybe existed in the first place.

Island of Sardinia, early 20th century. A woman with a pistol in her pocket travels on a cart from village to village, going from festival to festival. Her name is Candida Mara, but she is known all over the island as La Cantadora. She has a reputation for being something of a witch – and a goddess as well. But above all, she is the only woman who can keep up with the male singers and their guitars during late-night contests before crowded squares. Taking their places on rudimentary wooden stages, these *cantori* compete for a bowl of soup and a few glasses of wine. Still, it seems that La Cantadora has a real gift indeed: Her voice can bewitch everyone who’s listening, bending them to her will. The last man who gives her his heart is Antoni Zusepe. Antoni is married, but he leaves his wife to begin a new life with Candida Mara. They settle in the city of Sassari and start breeding Arabian horses, using them for illegal races. But nothing can last forever.

Quick to violence, cherished and loathed in equal measure, Candida Mara has been the first Sardinian female singer to take the stage during country festivals, going against the chauvinist and backward society of her time. A charming but long forgotten figure, for decades she is surrounded by mystery and legends, until a wretched writer gets on her trail. Almost a century later, he must navigate through dusty archivers, reticent old people, and the red herrings of some strange musicologists. But then he finds a golden gramophone, and this may be the key to buried and enigmatic secrets.

Original Publisher: **MINIMUM FAX** | Genre: Novel | Pages: 240 | Release: Jun 2023
Language: Italian | Rights: World

F I C T I O N

MARINO MAGLIANI

ONE OF THE 12 LONGLISTED AUTHORS FOR 'PREMIO STREGA' 2022
WITH HIS NOVEL *IL CANNOCCHIALE DEL TENENTE DUMONT*

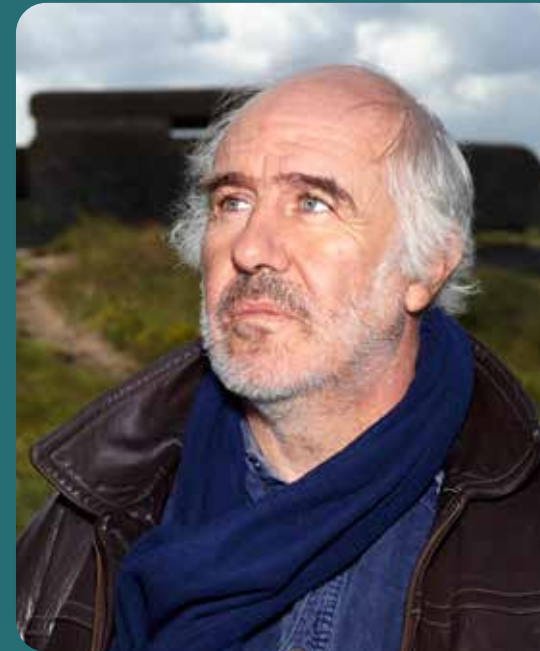
«A writer who has lived a thousand lives.»
Robinson - la Repubblica

«Magliani is the ultimate traveller of our literary scene, and he never stands still.»
Il Secolo XIX



«Carefully crafted and articulated through different levels of action, Magliani's historical novel focuses on three deserters of the Napoleonic army and their adventurous journey back home. But it also a novel of landscapes, masterfully depicted with a prose of great beauty.»

Il cannocchiale del tenente Dumont nomination letter for the 'Premio Strega'



Marino Magliani was born in 1960 and lives in The Netherlands. He is a novelist and translator from Spanish and Dutch, and he has been honored with several lifetime achievement awards. Some of his novels and short-stories have been translated into English, Dutch, Spanish, French and German.

Prima che te lo dicano altri, published by Chiarelettere (an imprint of GeMS group), has been awarded with the 2019 'Selezione Bancarella' prize and 'Augusto Monti' prize, with film rights optioned.

His novel *Il cannocchiale del tenente Dumont*, published in 2021 by L'Orma (the Italian publisher of Nobel Prize's Annie Ernaux, amongst others), has been longlisted for 'Premio Strega' 2022.

Throughout his career, he also won the 'LericiPea' prize (2012), the 'Frontiere' prize in 2010 and in 2017, the 'L'Albatros' prize (2018), the 'Novaro' prize (2019) and the 'Sergio Maldini' prize (2022).



Some of his titles:

- 2023: *Il bambino e le isole*, Italy (66thand2nd), USA (Bordighera Press)
- 2021: *Il cannocchiale del tenente Dumont*, Italy (L'Orma)
- 2018: *Prima che te lo dicano altri*, Italy (Chiarelettere), Chile/Argentina (Edicola)
- 2014: *Soggiorno a Zeeijwik*, Italy (Amos), USA (Bordighera Press), France (Éditions des lacs), Spain (Editorial Carpe Noctem)
- 2011: *La spiaggia dei cani romantici*, Italy (Instar Libri), The Netherlands (Prometheus), Spain (Iliada)
- 2006: *Quattro giorni per non morire*, Italy (Sironi), The Netherlands (Serena Libri)



MARINO MAGLIANI



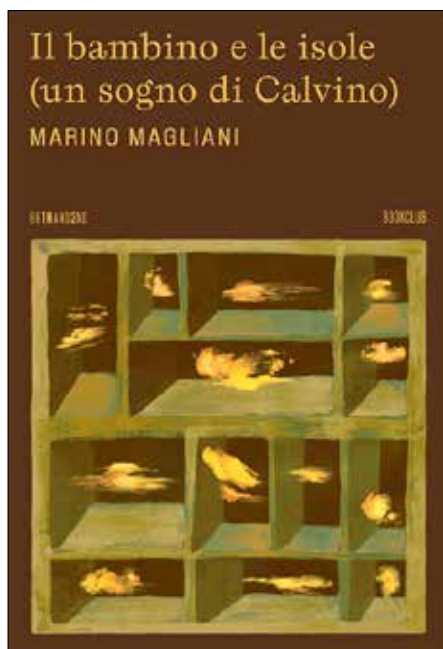
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IL BAMBINO E LE ISOLE

Where the Railway Ends

An extraordinary and visionary *fictional biography* of Italo Calvino.



PUBLISHED ON THE CENTENARY
OF ITALO CALVINO'S BIRTH.

**US ENGLISH RIGHTS
SOLD BEFORE PUBLICATION!**

«Tristano, Dantés, Pereira, Chatwin, and Calvino: dressed up with brand new guises, all of these voices resonate inside a novel by Magliani.»

la Repubblica

‘Premio Strega’ nominee Marino Magliani retrieves a secret project that Italo Calvino had in the pipeline all his life: the story of a man looking for the end of the railway. Rather than forging its development, Magliani speculates about its genesis, and in doing so he gives us a marvelous tribute to an unforgettable writer, and a poetical and touching tale of endless longing.

1935. Sanremo, a city on the coast of Liguria. A little boy called Italo Calvino comes across a man who steps off a train with a suitcase full of children's book. The man is called Walter Benjamin. They meet a few times over the course of that Summer, and Walter inspires Italo to write a story about a boy who loses sight of his ball over a railway; his mother told him that railways cannot be crossed, so what should he do to get his toy back? Many years after that Summer, Italo is a renowned editor and writer, and the little boy from his childhood fantasy exists for real. He is a “railway flaneur”: a vagabond with a peculiar obsession. Every time Italo publishes a new novel, this man goes to the public library and reads it. Sometimes he doesn't understand his stories, sometimes he simply dislikes them. Until he begins to recognize himself in Calvino's words. But how could this be?

Putting together Italo Calvino and Carlo Levi with other fascinating characters, Marino Magliani investigates the never-ending daydream that lies beneath and beyond the powers of words.

Il bambino e le isole is an imaginative dialogue between two writers who share the same hometown, a journey through both Italo Calvino and Marino Magliani's landscape of silvery sea, distant islands, and dreamy stories.

Original Publisher: **66THAND2ND** | Genre: **Novel** | Pages: 192 | Release: Apr 2023
Language: Italian | Rights: World
Sold to: **USA** (Bordighera Press)

F I C T I O N



IL CANNOCCIALE DEL TENENTE DUMONT

Lieutenant Dumont's Spyglass



LOGLISTED
FOR 'PREMIO
STREGA' 2022

WINNER OF 2022
'PREMIO SERGIO MALDINI'

FINALIST OF 2023 'PREMIO CHIANTI'



↑ READ THE
ENGLISH SAMPLE!



↑ READ THE
FRENCH SAMPLE!



↑ READ THE
SPANISH SAMPLE!



↑ READ THE
GERMAN SAMPLE!

«Powerful and extremely enjoyable.»

il Giornale

«Moving and evocative, with a very unpredictable ending. The book that
definitely places Magliani amongst our greatest writers.»

Il Secolo XIX

«The novel that Eugenio Montale never wrote.»

Altri Animali

«Marino Magliani is one of the last masters, today in Italy,
of this type of approach to literature.»

Gazzetta di Parma

«A plot made up of images and told with the right words.»

Corriere della Sera

When Napoleon Bonaparte's campaign in Egypt faces consistent defections, a medical commission stumbles upon an unexpected cause: the clues all point towards an unknown drug called "hashish", which troops discovered along the Nile. Three unaware drug-smugglers – a literate captain, a tough Basque soldier and a lieutenant who is something of a dreamer – land in Italy after days of navigation. When chaos breaks loose during the battle of Marengo, they all defect and flee to a future free from war and blood.

Welcomed by Liguria's valleys and shores – a local paradise that is also a shelter to countless spies and soldiers, as well as a gruff yet heaven-sent woman –, the three fugitives will face crossed love stories, deaths both real and fake, and delusions from their past under the beaming Italian sun.

Lieutenant Dumont is the compelling and lyrical narrator who skilfully conducts this visionary and ever-changing novel by one of the most esteemed Italian authors of our time.

PRIMA CHE TE LO DICANO ALTRI *I'll Tell You First*

WINNER OF THE 2019 'SELEZIONE BANCARELLA' PRIZE,
AND 'AUGUSTO MONTI' PRIZE.



«Magliani reveals the world through his language. Nature, relationships, light: everything in his books seems new and eternal at the same time.»

Fabio Geda

A solitary farmer, Leo Vialetti lives in a valley in Liguria. He is passionate about olives and graft, but he is also a poacher. And he has an obsession: to buy a crumbling villa that the City will auction in 2024. The owner is a supposedly dead desaparecido called Raul Porti. In 1976, before his disappearance, Raul had been Leo's tutor and their lessons took place in the same villa that now Leo, almost sixty years old, is willing to purchase.

Once he has sold his best piece of land in order to take part of the auction, Leo decides to go looking for Raul in Argentina, and this journey will lead him to discoveries that he never thought possible.

Original Publisher: **CHIARELETTERE** | Genre: **Novel** | Pages: 330 | Release: Aug 2018
Language: Italian | Rights: World | Sold to: **Chile** and **Argentina** (Edicola)
Movie rights sold to: **Skull Joke Production**, Italy

SOGGIORNO A ZEEWIJK *A Window to Zeewijk*

A little literary phenomenon, out in 2021 in 3 countries!
NUMBER 17 IN USA ON THE ITALIAN FICTION BEST-SELLERS LIST



«A peculiar, nostalgic and thoughtful
geography of the soul.»

Vibrisse

Full English
translation
available

This book is a walk through the streets of a quarter of the Dutch sea town of IJmuiden, not far from Amsterdam.

Built on the sand dunes, every 50 years this town is forced to change its urban shape. This is the story of a changing landscape, of houses whose lives are shorter than the ones of their inhabitants. It is also the story of an unexpected encounter, happy and melancholic at the same time, like anything else in Zeewijk.

It is the novel of an observer but also a map, a travel book between Holland and Liguria, where the author sets intense pages amongst hills and orchards.

Original Publisher: **AMOS** | Genre: **Novel** | Pages: 180 | Release: Mar 2014
Language: Italian | Rights: World | Sold to: **USA** (Bordighera Press), **France** (Éditions des Lacts), **Spain** (Carpe Noctem)

ALESSIO ARENA

A WRITER AND SINGER-SONGWRITER BASED IN BARCELONA

«Arena is one of the most interesting literary talents of his generation.»

Il Mattino

«An incendiary and melodious prose.»

la Repubblica

Alessio Arena was born in Naples in 1984 and he lives in Barcelona. He is a singer-songwriter, guitarist, writer and translator. With his debut novel, *L'infanzia delle cose*, he won the “Giuseppe Giusti Opera Prima” award. He translated into Italian Alejandro Palomas’ novels *Una madre* and *Un hijo* (both published in Italy by Neri Pozza).

He received several awards for his musical career, including the “Parodi World Music Prize” in 2021. His new record, *Marco Polo*, is out in April 2022.

His latest musical show, *Nana de las moscas*, is based on his novel *Ninna nanna delle mosche* (*Flies’ Lullaby*), **winner of 2022 ‘BookCiak Legge’ award**, and **2022 ‘Premio Procida-Isola di Arturo-Elsa Morante’**.

His website is: www.alessioarena.com



Some of his titles:

- 2021: *Ninna nanna delle mosche*, Italy (Fandango Libri)
- 2018: *La notte non vuole venire*, Italy (Fandango Libri)
- 2014: *La letteratura tamil a Napoli*, Italy (Neri Pozza)

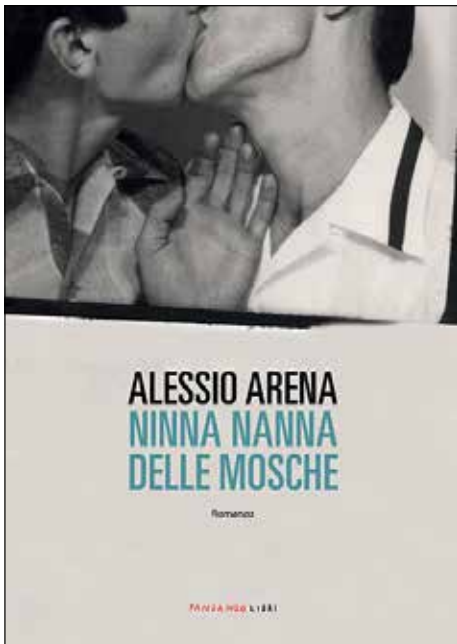




NINNA NANNA DELLE MOSCHE

Flies' Lullaby

Hitting the mark once again with its “Latin-Neapolitan magic realism”, the new novel by Alessio Arena is a story that crosses oceans and shows how love can really last a lifetime.



WINNER OF 2022: 'PREMIO PROCIDA-
ISOLA DI ARTURO-ELSA MORANTE',
AND 'BOOKCIAK LEGGE' AWARD.

SHORTLISTED OF 2022 'PREMIO LETTERARIA',
LONGLISTED OF 2022 'PREMIO DEI LETTORI'.



↑ READ THE
SPANISH SAMPLE!

«The love, the passion, and the nostalgia of Italian emigrants
in a Chilean land steeped in fatigue and waste.»

Laura Pugno, *L'Espresso*

«A passionate, eccentric and ambitious novel.»

La Lettura - Corriere della Sera

«A love story that is also a powerful social criticism,
as if it was a song by Violeta Parra.»

la Repubblica

At the beginning of the 20th century, a community of Italian miners finds a promised land in the north of Chile. They settle in a boundless pampa around the nitre quarries, living off an underground and lethal job, few diversions and alcohol, and a lot of nostalgia.

Gregorio is one of these miners, and his other task is to write letters on behalf of his illiterate companions so that they can keep in touch with their families in Italy. But his own letters addressed to Berto, a young baker, remain unanswered.

In the grips of a never-ending melancholy, Gregorio can't help but wonder what has happened to the boy he fell in love with when they were both living in the south of Italy.

And then, one day, everything changes: Berto receives a letter from his forbidden love with a little fly stuck inside the envelope, and he decides to leave all his world behind so that he can be reunited with him.

But his journey to Chile won't be a solitary one: Berto's wife Serafina — a singer of lullabies whose voice has a sleep-and-love-inducing effect — is going after him, and she will soon be joined by a fascinating crowd of dancing pilgrims, women riding on mule's back across the Andes and a circus of misfits.

A captivating and poetic story about unspeakable desires, *Flies' Lullaby* is a novel that will take its readers to the edge of the world, burning up in the flames of passion and revolution.

MAURO BALDRATI

**AFTER A LONG CAREER AS A CRIME AUTHOR,
MAURO BALDRATI EMBRACES HISTORICAL FICTION
WITH A MARVELLOUS PORTRAYAL OF PARIS AT THE END OF 1800s**

**«Mauro Baldrati knows how to depict a clear image, lavish with details.»
*il Resto del Carlino***

Born in Emilia-Romagna, Mauro Baldrati now lives in Bologna.
In 1980 he moved to Milan where he worked as a freelance photographer.
Over the years, his short stories have been published on several anthologies, magazines and websites, including *Nazione Indiana* e *Carmilla*.
His new novel, *Madame*, is out in **October 2022** by Bompiani, on the centenary of Marcel Proust's death.



His titles:

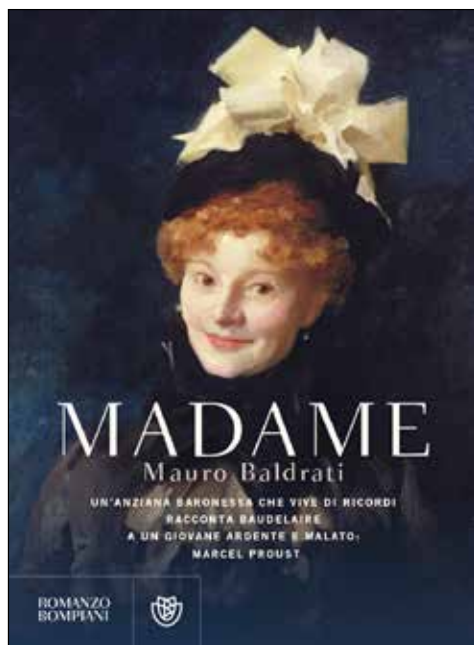
- 2022: *Madame*, Italy (Bompiani)
- 2020: *Lo specialista*, con Shi Heng Wu, Italy (Fanucci)
- 2018: *Io sono El Diablo*, Italy (Fanucci)
- 2016: *Avventure di un teppista*, Italy (Transeuropa)
- 2014: *Il mio nome è Jimi Hendrix*, Italy (Arianna)
- 2013: *Professional killer*, Italy (Anordest)
- 2010: *La città nera*, Italy (Perdisa Pop)





MADAME Madame

Published on the centenary of Marcel Proust's death,
Madame is a fascinating tale of love, hunger and desire
that looks like a lost Guy de Maupassant's novel.



«A gentle and delicate prose.»

La Lettura - Corriere della Sera

«A prose that manages to immerse the reader in the atmosphere of the Belle Époque. The description of Proust's courtship of Madame seems to be taken from an unwritten passage of the *Recherche*.»

il manifesto

«An historical novel about life's unexpected turns and the affinity that can blossom between very different people.»

RAI Cultura

«An unmissable book for lovers of the Ville Lumière.»

Affari Italiani

Paris, 1894. Veronique Fourier is an old widow, once married to one of Napoleon's generals. Now she spends her days in the darkness of her palace or attending the soirées in the salons that have been – and still are – an important part of her life. During a lunch party she meets a young man who wishes to interview her. He is writing an essay on Baudelaire, and he's aware that in her youth Veronique spent a lot of time with the poet. This young man is quite melancholic and very graceful. His name is Marcel Proust.

As an old and charming world gets revived through their words, Marcel and Veronique embark on a journey of secrets and revelations, bringing Madame back to a time of decadent passion, and the young writer closer to the object of his fascination.

ANDREA BRUNO

THE THREE STORIES OF *CINEMA ZENIT* NOW IN ONE VOLUME

«Bruno is a great master of dark and anti-narrative comics, and *Cinema Zenit* is his latest effort. This story was previously published in three tabloid sized books, perfect to experience Bruno's dense, gloomy and enveloping imaginary. It's now collected in a smaller format; however, it still works pretty good as a regular graphic novel.»

The Comics Journal – “The Best Comics of 2022”

Born in Sicily in 1972, Andrea Bruno is a cartoonist and illustrator.

He lives in Bologna, and his works are frequently exhibited in Italy and abroad (St. Petersburg, Lucerna, Buenos Aires, Paris, and Geneva).

His books have been published by Canicola and Coconino Press in Italy, and by Editions Rackham in France.

He has been awarded with the Gran Giunigi Prize for Best Author at Lucca Comics in 2007, and with the Micheluzzi Prize for the Best Illustrator at Naples Comicon in 2010.



Some of his titles:

- 2023: *Le baiser*, with Frédéric Debomy, France (Ici Même)
- 2022: *Cinema Zenit*, Italy (Canicola); France (Rackham)
- 2018: *La minaccia del cambiamento*, with Silvio Valpreda, Italy (Eris)
- 2012: *Come le strisce che lasciano gli aerei*, with Vasco Brondi, Italy (Coconino Press); France (Rackham)
- 2012: *Samedi répit*, France (Rackham)
- 2008: *Boullion de neant*, France (Rackham)





CINEMA ZENIT

Cinema Zenit

The tables of *Cinema Zenit* have been exhibited in 2014
at the Centre d'Art Contemporain Genève (Swiss).



«A masterpiece: definitively one of the
greatest contemporary Italian cartoonists.»

Lo Spazio Bianco

FULL ENGLISH
TRANSLATION AVAILABLE



LOOK THE
ENGLISH SAMPLE!

«A mighty blackness from which bodies come out as if they are rockets' carvings.
Cinema Zenit proves one more time that Andrea Bruno is a first-class author,
and not just for his drawings.»

Blow Up

«A lost and found manuscript gives way to a story in the vein of J.J. Abrams' *Lost*.
Andrea Bruno's tables are impactful and beautiful, alienating and unsettling.»

la Repubblica

«Day and night merge in this extraordinary and dreamlike metaphor of what post-
modern narrative is. Andrea Bruno's awareness enlightens us all as we read.»

Internazionale

«Cinema Zenit is amazing, with powerful and strong drawings that hit you
like a gunshot straight to the stomach.»

Nicola Galli Laforest (Hamelin Association)

A girl returning to her hometown, now
occupied by foreign settlers. An aban-
doned movie theatre, a city in flames,
a never-ending night. A dreamlike and
out-of-time scenario, decadent and
grand, like a David Lynch film.



MARINA DI GUARDO

DRESS CODE ROSSO SANGUE (DRESS CODE: BLOOD), A THRILLER BY THE MOTHER OF CHIARA FERRAGNI SET IN THE FASHION WORLD OF MILAN

«The lioness: brave, feminist, spirited.»
Vanity Fair

Born in 1961, Marina Di Guardo is the mother of the “Ferragni sisters”: Chiara, Valentina and Francesca. She is a very popular public figure in Italy, constantly appearing on TV shows, magazines and social events. Her novels have been published by Feltrinelli and Mondadori, with her latest thriller, *Dress code rosso sangue*, published by Mondadori in October 2021. In 2018, together with her daughter Chiara, she has been the global face of Swarovski Summer campaign. Recently, she joined The Blonde Salad team.



Some of her titles:

- 2021: *Dress code rosso sangue*, Italy (Mondadori)
- 2020: *Nella buona e nella cattiva sorte*, Italy (Mondadori)
- 2019: *La memoria dei corpi*, Italy (Mondadori), Poland (Sonia Draga), Greece (Livanis), Brazil (Tordesilhas)
- 2017: *Com'è giusto che sia*, Italy (Mondadori)

**More than 650,000 followers on
Instagram from all over the world.**

Rights to her novel *La memoria dei corpi* sold to Greece, Poland and Brazil. **Movie rights sold to Roman Way Productions** (New York) founded by Frank Rainone (filmmaker and producer who worked with Miramax and Weinstein Company) and Teresa Sorkin (producer, writer and ex-journalist for RAI television).

**Marina Di Guardo stars in
Amazon Prime series
The Ferragnez, available
worldwide from December '21.**



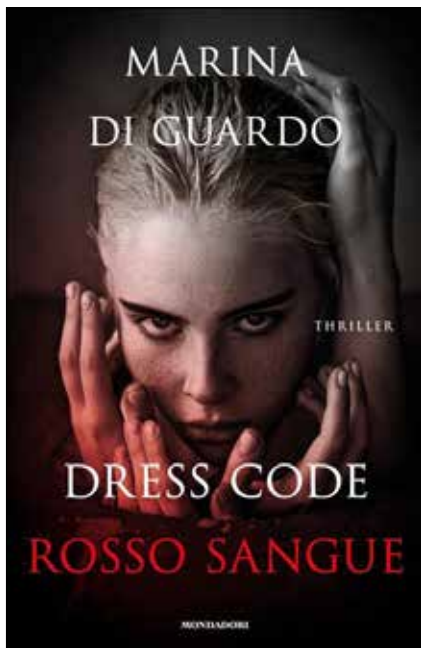


DRESS CODE

ROSSO SANGUE

Dress Code: Blood

Marina Di Guardo puts her long-lasting experience in the fashion industry at the service of a decadent, mysterious and gripping story, where the ultimate truth is utterly unpredictable and obscure.



↑ READ THE
ENGLISH SAMPLE!

«Marina Di Guardo is perfectly at ease in the fashion world, something she's very familiar with.»

MilanoNera

«The most glamorous city in Italy is shaken by a scandal. The sparkly world of Milan gets stained with blood.»

Thriller Café

With her new, fast-paced thriller, Di Guardo takes us among lights and shadows of the fashion world in Milan. Let's step into the most exclusive and devious clubs, surrounded by the darkest secrets of their VIPs.

At 25, Cecilia spent her life following her father's diktat, to the point where she studied Law in order to work at the family firm. But when she stumbles upon a job opportunity at the prestigious showroom of Franco Sartori, a worldwide renowned stylist, she doesn't let it slip through her fingers – and for the first time ever she won't allow others to make decisions for her: not her father Alberto, nor her boyfriend Andrea.

Her choice soon proves to be successful: Cecilia is skilled, she closes major deals and her rise to the top is unstoppable. That is, until Franco Sartori is found dead in a dilapidated farmstead. Around his slaughtered body, all evidence leads to a satanic ritual. And this is only the beginning...

At the showroom, Spring Sales are now bringing not only costumers but policemen, new secrets and – unfortunately for everyone – new victims as well.

What is truly happening? And what if Cecilia is next on the list?

NELLA BUONA E NELLA CATTIVA SORTE *In Good Times and Bad*

A woman on the run from an abusive husband.



READ THE
ENGLISH SAMPLE!

«Marina Di Guardo is the female voice that Italian publishing world has been looking for ages, a true match for American, English and Nordic writers.»
Lampoon

Irene, thirty-four years old, has been living for a long time as a hostage of her husband Gianluigi, a jealous and violent manager. After the umpteenth black eye and thanks to her friend Alice, Irene loads her young daughter in the car and escapes from Milan. She finds shelter in her parents' old house in a small town in the countryside. The woman hopes to put the pieces of her life together again, but Gianluigi tracks her down and orders her to return to the city, threatening repercussions – and not just from his lawyers. Irene starts to lose her nerve, but she discovers unexpected allies in town: an old neighbour, a shopkeeper with a soft spot for her, and her husband's ex-girlfriend who is seeking revenge. Soon, however, some disturbing incidents threaten her fragile serenity. Everything collapses when someone protecting her from Gianluigi is found brutally murdered...

Original Publisher: **MONDADORI** | Genre: **Thriller** | Pages: 254 | Release: Nov 2020
Language: Italian | Rights: World

LA MEMORIA DEI CORPI *The Memory of Bodies*

A *Basic Instinct* story, full of tension and eroticism, and with an unexpectedly stunning ending.



READ THE
ENGLISH SAMPLE!

«A strong, bloody story set in Val Trebbia, a place that Hemingway called 'the most beautiful hills of the world'.»
Vanity Fair

Living like an hermit in his luxurious family mansion, Giorgio is a former lawyer in his forties. His mother died in a car accident, his father committed suicide, and the only connection he has with the real world is Agnese, the housemaid that raised him up.

Everything changes when Giorgio runs into Giulia, and the two get tangled-up in a very hot, ambiguous relationship. The day that Agnese goes missing, the net begins to close in around Giulia and her lies. But Giorgio is hiding some unimaginable, dark secrets of his own...

Original Publisher: **MONDADORI** | Genre: **Thriller** | Pages: 256 | Release: Jan 2019
Language: Italian | Rights: World | Sold to: **Brazil** (Tordesilhas), **Poland** (Sonia Draga), **Greece** (Livanis) | Movie rights sold to: **Roman Way Production**, USA

VERONICA GALLETTA

FINALIST OF 'PREMIO STREGA' 2022
WITH HER NOVEL *NINA SULL'ARGINE*

WINNER OF 2020 'PREMIO CAMPIELLO' FOR DEBUT NOVEL
WITH HER NOVEL *LE ISOLE DI NORMAN*

«A writing style that echoes Anna Maria Ortese's masterpieces.»
Corriere della Sera



«Sense of loneliness, work alienation, fight with Nature, impossibility to achieve perfection: you can find all this and more in Galletta's novel. Galletta proved her gift a first time with her debut novel, awarded with the Premio Campiello Opera Prima. This gift is now even more on point, even more palpable and original.»

Nina sull'argine nomination letter for the 'Premio Strega'

Born in 1971, Veronica Galletta worked as a mechanical engineer for many years. She is now focused exclusively on her writing. In 2015 her unpublished novel *Le isole di Norman* has been shortlisted for the 'Italo Calvino' prize, the most renowned and reliable Italian prize for aspiring writers, which launched the careers of Marcello Fois and Paola Mastrocola, amongst others. Finally published in April 2020 by Italo Svevo, less than two months later *Le isole di Norman* won with unanimous vote the 'Premio Campiello Opera Prima', the most prestigious and important award in Italy for first novels and new authors. The jury of 'Premio Campiello' stated that «Veronica Galletta declares Ortigia' seaward geography a sanctuary of remembrance, brilliantly managing her topics of interest. The young protagonist, Elena, embarks on a restoration of her past with extreme inventiveness». Her new novel *Nina sull'argine*, published in October 2021 by minimum fax, has been shortlisted for 2022 'Premio Strega'. It won the 2022 'Premio Letteratura d'Impresa'. Her website is www.veronicagalletta.it





NINA SULL'ARGINE

Nina on the River Bank



SHORTLISTED
FOR 'PREMIO
STREGA' 2022

«Rare and refined.»
Ansa

+ 15,000 COPIES SOLD
Now in an new edition for kiosk

WINNER OF 2022
'PREMIO LETTERATURA D'IMPRESA'.
FINALIST OF 2022: 'PREMIO STREGA',
'PREMIO CLARA SERENI', 'PREMIO DOLORES
PRATO', 'PREMIO THE BRIDGE',
'PREMIO CITTÀ DI LEONFORTE',
FAHRENHEIT RADIO 3 'BOOK OF THE MONTH'



↑ READ THE
ENGLISH SAMPLE!

«With a story that somehow recalls the tradition of magic realism, Galletta's characters move between the world of the living and the dead, leading us into the great building site of life.»

il Venerdì - la Repubblica

«Veronica Galletta is brilliantly using the river bank as a metaphor for the soul: the soul of a woman forced to fight with herself, with her life goals, and with a men's world. It's a story written with great care and awareness.»

La Lettura - Corriere della Sera

«A novel about work, vulnerability and ghosts to be tamed.»

Marie Claire

«This disenchanted bildungsroman succeeds in avoiding any possible cliché.»

Il Foglio

An engineer on her first important project, Caterina (known as Nina to her friends) is in charge of the building of a river bank in the north of Italy. Young and surrounded by an all-male ensemble, she is faced with constant difficulties: surveyors and council members' demands, technical hurdles, complaints from environmentalists, responsibilities towards her worker's safety – not to mention a love story gone awry and a troubled bond with her Sicilian homeland.

Caterina's whole life soon turns into a construction site drenched in fog, as if she's the one in need of some sort of river bank in the first place. She is more and more tempted to resign from the job, but then people around her slowly stop to be defined only by their roles and begin to look like real persons. And as seasons and landscapes change, and the river bank's construction draws to a close, Caterina's day of reckoning with her own ghosts forces her to live and learn before she can move on with her life.



LE ISOLE DI NORMAN

Norman Islands



PREMIO
CAMPIELLO
OPERA PRIMA

«With her debut, Galletta successfully
floored both critics and readers.»

Icon



+ 20,000 COPIES SOLD

WINNER OF 2020 'PREMIO CAMPIELLO'
FOR DEBUT NOVEL.
FINALIST OF 'PREMIO WONDY', 'PREMIO
MEGAMARK', AND 'PREMIO ITALO CALVINO'.



↑ READ THE
ENGLISH SAMPLE!



↑ READ THE
FRENCH SAMPLE
AT 'LA BIBLIOTHÈQUE
ITALIENNE'

«A fully mature and conscientious debut.»

La Lettura - Corriere della Sera

«The abyss can't be filled, and that's the reason why Elena abandons her
mother's books: to tell the impossibility of a reconciliation.»

la Repubblica

«To hell with those contemporary novels! Galletta takes us back to the Great Novels from
the last century, somewhere between Proust and Calvino. Her writing is persuasive and
absorbing, a literary dream that is both mysterious and upsetting.»

il Fatto Quotidiano

«An amazing and remarkable novel.»

TuttoLibri - La Stampa

Ortygia is the centre of Syracuse, one of the most beautiful and ancient Sicilian cities. But Ortygia is also a small island itself, and it's here that Elena lives together with her father, a man who keeps pretending that all is fine, and her mother Clara, a woman who hasn't left their island inside an island for years. She spends most of the time in her bedroom, surrounded by books that she stacks and moves according to some mysterious order, a system that Elena has been studying to try and understand what is going on inside her mother's head. But even though she managed to sketch 103 maps of these books' motion, the solution to the riddle – and to her mother's depression – seems impossible to find.

One day, Clara suddenly disappears and Elena embarks on a ritual journey across their strange hometown, following her mother's maps and leaving her books in different places, in the hope to finally piece together not only Clara's thoughts but also an incident from her own past, when Elena spilled a pot of boiling water all over her body, leaving scars that look little maps themselves.

And it's perhaps in this crossroad of maps, burns and secrets that lie the truth concealed by Elena's parents and the rest of the island around her.

With a spectacular eye for details and an outstandingly powerful voice, Veronica Galletta draws directly from her own experiences to describe the marks left by someone else and one's own secrets, switching from the extremes to the in-betweens of everyday life inside an outlandish and deeply realistic city.

Original Publisher: **ITALO SVEVO** | Genre: **Novel** | Pages: 304 | Release: Apr 2020
Language: Italian | Rights: World

TAREK KOMIN

**STRANGER THINGS MEETS LES REVENANTS:
IL GIORNO IN CUI RITORNANO (THE DAY THEY RETURN) IS A BRILLIANT AND
UNCONVENTIONAL YA NOVEL – WITH A TOUCH OF URBAN FANTASY –
ABOUT THE DIFFICULTY OF LETTING GO**

Born in Sansepolcro, Tuscany, in 1984, Tarek Komin is an author of Syrian origin. After studying piano at the Perugia Conservatory, he graduated in historical-anthropological studies at the University of Siena. He wrote several novels and poetry collections.



Some of his titles:

- 2022: *Il giorno in cui ritornano*, Italy (Gallucci)
- 2019: *Il primo poeta nello spazio*, Italy (Bertoni)
- 2017: *Hiroi Kata*, Italy (Bertoni)
- 2017: *Il nido delle tasche*, Italy (Augh)
- 2015: *Emilio Seminci e i Giorni dell'Umanesimo*, Italy (Watson)





IL GIORNO IN CUI RITORNANO

The Day They Return

Every year, on the same day, the dead returns.

«A compelling debut novel with unexpected twists.»

SoloLibri

This cleverly constructed novel immerses readers in the atmosphere of *Strangers Things* and *Les Revenants*, keeping them tied to the page in a labyrinth of mysteries, expectations and twists.



1996. Neri is a young boy of 13 when his mother suddenly dies and his father decides that the family must leave Florence and move to Holzbrücke, a small village on the outskirts of the Black Forest. Their new neighborhood soon proves to be an inhospitable and somewhat unsettling place, as if there is something lurking in the shadows and behind people's reluctance to be welcoming towards newcomers. It doesn't take long for Neri to discover what is really happening around him: every year, on the 11th of November, the dead returns from the afterlife, and the families of the neighborhood are visited by the ghosts of their loved ones. On top of that, what's really disturbing is that the dead have no conscience of being so, and the living make their best to keep up this appearance.

Everyone has their secrets, whether it's a young boy who's still processing his mother's death; a tomboy whose parents' marriage may not be as idyllic as it seems; two thieves on the hunt for a buried treasure; a widow who's patiently waiting for her husband's return; and an old, bad-tempered woman who can possibly be the only one to really know what is going on. And why.

Original Publisher: **GALLUCCI** | Genre: YA Novel +13 | Pages: 350 | Release: Nov 2022
Language: Italian | Rights: World

CLAUDIO MORANDINI

**A GREAT ITALIAN AUTHOR
ACCLAIMED BY INTERNATIONAL CRITICS AND READERS**

**«Simply one of the greatest Italian writers of our time.»
*il Giornale***

**«One of the best authors of the current Italian literary scene.»
*La Lettura - Corriere della Sera***

A high school teacher, Claudio Morandini lives in Aosta. He has written radio plays, theatre monologues and several novels. His book *A gran giornate* won the “Città di Trebisacce” Literary Prize in 2013. His short story *Dita fredde* is included in *Santi – Lives of Modern Saints* (Black Arrow Press, USA, 2007). In August 2018, Salani published his first children’s book, *Le maschere di Pocacosa*. *Gli oscillanti* has been published by Bompiani in 2019 and *Anacharsis* in France in 2021.

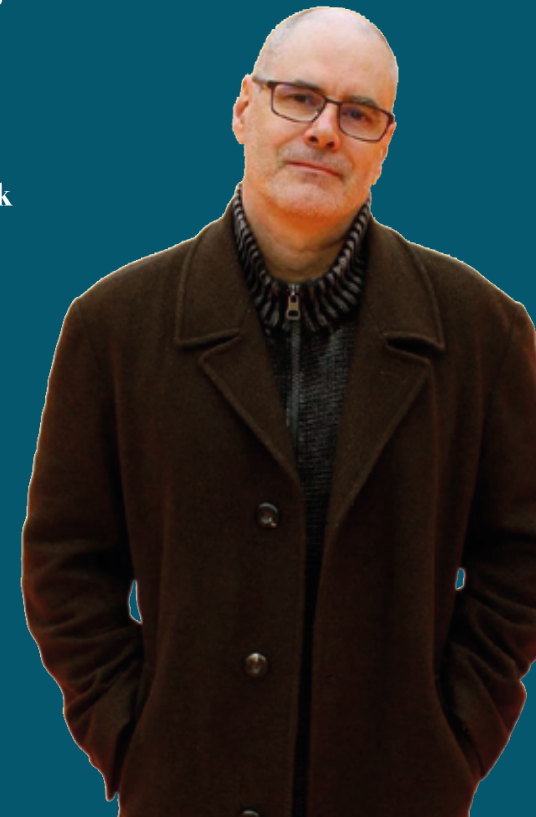
***Neve, cane, piede*, his most famous novel, has been a true literary phenomenon: a top 5 best-seller, it won the ‘Premio Procida-Elsa Morante-Isola di Arturo’ in 2016 and it has been sold to 8 Countries so far. A new expanded edition has been published in June 2021 by Bompiani as part of “Le Finestre”, a series of novels by “great Italian authors”. The French paperback of *Le chien, la neige, un pied* won the ‘Prix Lire en Poche de littérature traduite’ (2021).**

In 2022, *Snow, dog, foot* was shortlisted for the John Florio Prize in the UK.



Some of his titles:

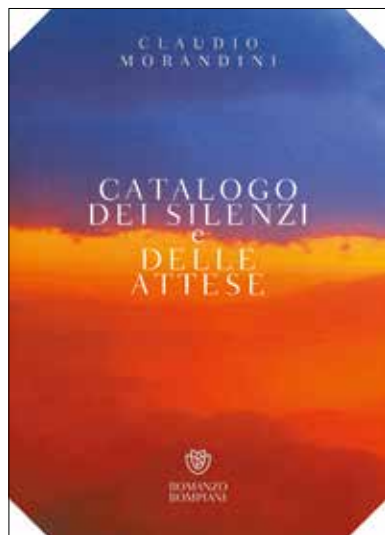
- 2022: *Catalogo dei silenzi e delle attese*, Italy (Bompiani), France (Anacharsis)
- 2021 (new edition): *Neve, cane, piede*, Italy (Bompiani), UK (Peirene Press), France (Anacharsis), The Netherlands (Koppertnik), Turkey (Timaş), Chile and Argentina (Edicola), Russia (Polyandria), Egypt (Al Arabi)
- 2021 (new edition): *Le pietre*, Italy (GEDI-la Repubblica), France (Anacharsis), Turkey (Timaş)
- 2019: *Gli oscillanti*, Italy (Bompiani), France (Anacharsis)
- 2018: *Le maschere di Pocacosa*, Italy (Salani)
- 2010: *Rapsodia su un solo tema*, Italy (Manni), USA-Esperanto (Mondial)





CATALOGO DEI SILENZI E DELLE ATTESE *All This Waiting and Silence*

The new novel by Claudio Morandini is a superb and emotional coming-of-age story, the delicate account of a life as ordinary and exemplary as it is unique and magical.



↑ READ THE
FRENCH SAMPLE!

«In this novel by Morandini, one has the distinct sensation of being in front of an author who manages to grasp the most intimate mystery of human life.»

La Lettura – Corriere della Sera

«Claudio Morandini is a writer who knows how to dream.»

TuttoLibri - La Stampa

«No one definition of this book is taken for granted.»

L'Ottavo

«Morandini's latest novel is the story of a lifetime, that of Cosimo Peragalli, yet another Morandinian character that we will struggle to forget.»

Blow Up

«A fictional existential catalog.»

Il Sole 24 Ore

«His seemingly limpid prose contains murky depths.»

The Herald

Cosimo Peragalli is a shy, sensitive boy whose life is as ordinary as it gets – or maybe this is just what it seems on the surface. We first see him in his childhood years at his grandmother's (who is not the nicest person in the world, but that's ok), surrounded by nature and all its mysteries, wonders and laws. Then we grow up with him a little bit to try and understand the secrets of the opposite sex, or to explore a new friendship born out of a common passion for fossils. Next, we move forward and meet with a charming aunt and her off-key piano, or end up taking care of his dad's garden. The innocence and devotion of first love is not far away, and so it's the moment when Cosimo is now a son of two old people and a father himself.

NEVE, CANE, PIEDE

Snow, Dog, Foot

RUNNER-UP OF 2022 'THE JOHN FLORIO PRIZE' IN UK
WINNER OF 2021 'PRIX LIRE EN POCHE' IN FRANCE
WINNER OF 2019 'PEIRENE STEVNS TRANSLATION PRIZE' IN UK
WINNER OF 2016 'PREMIO PROCIDA-ISOLA DI ARTURO-ELSA MORANTE' IN ITALY



↑ READ THE
ENGLISH SAMPLE!

**NUMBER 5 ON ITALIAN
BEST-SELLERS LIST**
New edition published
by Bompiani in June 2021
English rights now available again

«One of the 15 most beautiful
books of our century.»
Panorama

In the Alps, there is a lonesome valley where the old and scatterbrained Adelmo Farandola wanders, crazy with solitude.

Adelmo's only companion is a nagging dog; together they form an unusual comic pairing, since Adelmo is able to understand its talking as well as those of other animals of the mountains. He also understands the voices of the wind, the sky, and even of the dead.

Struggling in the wild and hostile nature around him, we follow him in the changing of seasons and in the repetitiveness of his actions: but then one day, as spring arrives, Adelmo and his dog notice a foot in the melting snow.

Snow, dog, foot is a strange little book that one can read cover to cover, enchanted by its characters and their sarcastic profundity.

Original Publisher: **BOMPIANI** | Genre: **Novel** | Pages: 160 | New Release: Jun 2021
Language: Italian | Rights: World | Sold to: **UK** (Peirene), **France** (Anacharsis),
The Netherlands (Koppertnik), **Turkey** (Timaş), **Chile** (Edicola), **Argentina** (Edicola),
Russia (Polyandria), **Egypt** (Al Arabi)

LE PIETRE

Stones

Kiosk edition published on July 2021 for
GEDI Group (*la Repubblica*, *L'Espresso*, etc.)



↑ READ THE
FRENCH SAMPLE!

«Unpredictable, fiendish and spiteful:
these are Morandini's stones.»
Giorgio Vasta, *la Repubblica*

«An enchanting prose on a dark
and hidden world.»
DoppioZero

In this novel, everything is in motion.

There is a little town in the Alps, Sostegno, where all the locals keep moving to and from the mountains; the river too is never still, changing its shape overnight. But most of all, the stones can't stay idle. Bizarre events happen all the time, and the stones make their way into homes, fields, everywhere they can. Until they appear in the living room of an old couple's "villa", and the story unfolds with echoes of Ionesco and Buster Keaton.

A funny and choral novel where past and present merge and collide, just as if they were stones rolling down the mountainside.

Original Publisher: **GEDI GROUP** | Genre: **Novel** | Pages: 192 | New Release: Jul 2021
Language: Italian | Rights: World | Sold to: **France** (Anacharsis), **Turkey** (Timaş)

VITTORIO PUNZO

HIS FIRST NOVEL RECEIVED A SPECIAL MENTION FROM THE JURY OF 'PREMIO CALVINO' AND IT WON THE 'PREMIO CITTÀ DI AMANTEA'

«A psychological debut novel set in an undefined place,
where the spirit of Count D'Avalos lingers.»
Il Mattino

Born in 1998, Vittorio Punzo lives near Naples.

In 2019 he attended a creative writing class at Scuola Holden in Turin.

L'età delle madri (A Mother's Age) is his debut novel, finalist at 'Premio Calvino' 2021 and highly praised by the jury as follows:

«A drunken novel, surreal and claustrophobic, where time is suspended and days can last a moment or an eternity. The jail-house is a full-fledged character, and the writing is deeply evocative, fresh and innovative – just like the story itself.»



L'ETÀ DELLE MADRI

A Mother's Age

A brave debut novel where everything is ambiguous,
starting with the love triangle at its core.



WINNER OF THE 2022 'PREMIO CITTÀ DI
AMANTEA' UNDER 25

FINALIST AND SPECIAL MENTION OF THE JURY
OF 2021 'PREMIO ITALO CALVINO'

SELECTED FOR FESTIVAL DU PREMIER ROMAN
DE CHAMBÉRY (2023)



↑ READ THE
ENGLISH SAMPLE!

«An extraordinary writing.»

Piergiorgio Paterlini, *Robinson - la Repubblica*

«Ingenious splinters of thoughts and conversations that it's up to the reader to
put back together.»

Style - Corriere della Sera

«A sketch of suburban life, mental narrowness, and creeping gossip.»

Il Mattino

«A new release not to be missed.»

SoloLibri

«A fascinating story on the threshold of a dream.»

L'Indice

Domenico is 16 years old and has no intention of dealing with school anymore. He aspires to become a collage artist, but above everything else, he wants to prove the world that he is no longer a kid.

His girlfriend Maria Vittoria is 21, and everything runs smoothly up until Domenico decides to meet her mother. That's when the trouble begins. Maria Vittoria's mother, Anna, welcomes him into their house of never-ending drinking, crazy quarrels and floor-cleaning robots. Unresolved traumas from the past are soon added to this enigmatic present, while the house where this unusual trio gets separated from the rest of the world keeps becoming more and more claustrophobic and dangerous – up until the point when Domenico asks himself “How can I go back to the start?”

ADRIAN R. REDNIC

A YOUNG WRITER WITH 83 MILLION VIEWS ON YOUTUBE

THREE-BOOK DEAL MADE ON SAMPLE CHAPTERS

Born in Romania in 1997, Adrian Raul Rednic lives in Italy. With over 340,000 subscribers and 83 million views on YouTube so far, he is famous especially for his commentaries on *Game of Thrones* episodes and on *Harry Potter* books and movies.

The second volume of his fantasy saga *I rinnegati di Arest* (*The Renegades of Arest*) has been published in 2022.



His titles:

- 2022: *Il canto del Leviatano*, Italy (Fanucci)
- 2018: *La caduta dello Zentir*, Italy (Fanucci)

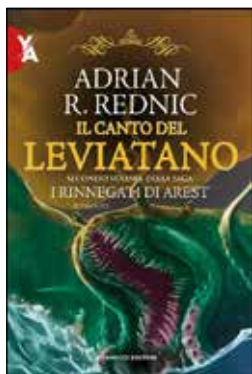


WATCH THE
ADRIAN REDNIC'S
INTERVIEW ON
ROMANIAN CHANNEL
TVR INTERNATIONAL



IL CANTO DEL LEVIATANO

Leviathan Song



With the second volume of his phenomenal fantasy saga, Adrian R. Rednic puts his characters to the test, expanding the magical world they end up living – and struggling – in.

After everything that has happened in the first volume of the saga, Nathan, John and Gwen reach Liiandris and are welcomed by the Gilda of Draconi, an ancient organization in charge of protecting the Zentir. Sam, on the other hand, fell through the Veil and is now nowhere to be found...

Inexplicable events begin to occur almost everywhere, all coming down to water and the creatures who live in it, while the guys try and learn more about their powers and how to control them: John with the help of Maverik, a strong and crude warrior; Gwen thanks to a werewolf named Louvel who's been chased away from his pack by his own brother; and Nathan with the support of his old friend Montgomery, the librarian.

Original Publisher: **FANUCCI** | Genre: **Fantasy Saga** | Pages: 590 | Release: Jan 2022
Language: Italian | Rights: World

LA CADUTA DELLO ZENTIR

The Fall of the Zentir



«In this novel we face unknown worlds, new powers, and, above all, deepest fears.»
La Stampa

When the stone pillar known as Zentir gets destroyed, thousands of tiny fragments scatter in the streets of a city that could be London – or maybe not. The Zentir was filled with an immeasurable amount of magic, and from the moment that four random guys get infected by it, nothing will be the same.

They will discover how magic has been a hidden constant of Human History throughout the centuries, and that there is an hidden world called Liiandris where wizards, Templars and knights fight each other for supremacy. But their war is getting closer and closer to our reality too... *The Fall of the Zentir* is the first book in an urban fantasy saga by Adrian R. Rednic, a YouTube personality known under the pseudonym of Caleel.

Original Publisher: **FANUCCI** | Genre: **Fantasy Saga** | Pages: 576 | Release: Nov 2018
Language: Italian | Rights: World

FRANCESCO BORTOLOZZO

One of the most famous Italian literary mysteries concerns the missing chapter of *Petrolio*, the final, unfinished book by Pier Paolo Pasolini.



READ THE
ENGLISH SAMPLE!

Born in 1982, FRANCESCO BORTOLOZZO studied at the Academy of Teatro Stabile and at the London Film School of Covent Garden under J. Appignanesi, H. Frost and P. Cronin. Since 2011 he's been working at Teatro La Fenice in Venice, both as actor and director. *Grey Worms* is his debut novel.

I VERMI GRIGI *Grey Worms*

«Bortolozzo rewrites the Italian history of the second half of the twentieth century, focusing on lights and shadows of an elusive past.»

Magma Magazine

«Bortolozzo makes use of a somewhat baroque writing. A style that is anything but sober, particularly apt for a historical narrative.»

Quaerere

With his debut novel *Grey Worms*, Francesco Bortolozzo not only recounts the last days of Pasolini's life, but also speculates what might have happened to his missing pages.

While they are engaged with the preparations for a party, the servants at Villa Alberti receive an unexpected surprise: a pack of dogs arrive in the kitchen dragging the body of a woman. In the meantime, a few among Senator Alberti's guests try to sneak away from the reception to retrieve some documents that are kept safe in the attic. What will follow is a surprising twist of private secrets and known facts of Italian history, from the rise of Mussolini to the last days of Pier Paolo Pasolini and his "supposedly missing" pages. Behind the scenes, pulling the strings of everything, there is a group of people the history books fail to mention: they are the "grey worms", and they have the power to rule the fate of an entire nation.

ANTONIO L. FALBO

A choral novel, a persuasive and sinister story that borrows from Jorodowsky's psychogenealogy the principle of family inheritance that transcends generations.



Born in Turin in 1981, ANTONIO L. FALBO is a teacher of art history, a video maker and an author. Among his main publications: *Bonding* (2009), *Finché brucia la neve* (2014). He was the screenwriter of a graphic novel *Revolushow* (2016), drawn by Alessandro Caligaris. He lives between Italy and Holland.

IL SENSO DELLE STELLE *The Meaning of the Stars*

«His writing is refined and powerful, visionary at times, and in narrating the relationship between man, nature and mysterious forces of the subconscious, he shows to have fully comprehended and renewed the work of Cesare Pavese and Federigo Tozzi.»

Sara Tosetto

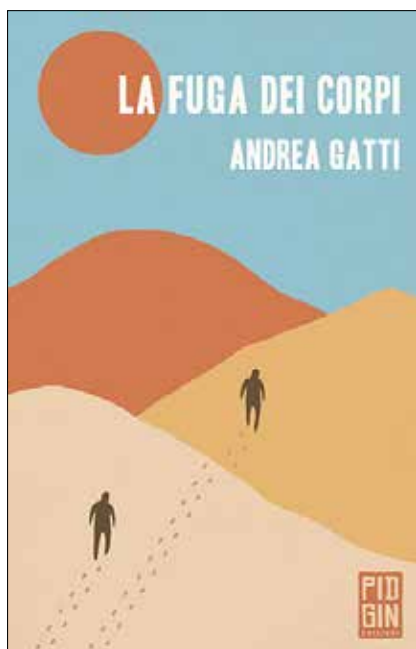
«In his novels Falbo tells the “inside” and not the “outside”.»

Thriller Magazine

Brothers Filippo and Tobia have had no contact for years. A young widower, Filippo is now raising alone Cischi, the son he had with Lara. As for Tobia, he lives by his wits, devoting himself to his one and only “love”: heroin. The two brothers are united only by the memory of a childhood marked by their father's violence, a man that everybody call the Caporal. But it is exactly when he dies in their old family farmhouse that the two brothers will find each other again, and right where it all began. The ghosts of the past are far from being dormant: the house seems to be animated by the uneasy presence of the Caporal, who forces Filippo to repeat on Cischi the same violence that he himself had suffered; meanwhile, Tobia faces his demons and the still vivid memory of his never expressed love for Lara, his brother's former wife. While more and more inexplicable facts take place at the farm, and Cischi seems to develop strange powers, Filippo convinces himself that a strange curse hangs over their family. The only one who maintains a kind of desperate lucidity seems to be Tobia. Will this be enough to awaken his brother's conscience and unravel the mystery that hangs over Cischi and the farm, before it is too late?

ANDREA GATTI

Two friends go in search of a mysterious beach in the Andalusian desert.
Their journey will unveil the dark nature of their relationship,
forcing them to make a choice from which there is no going back.



FINALIST OF THE 2022
'PREMIO COMISSO - UNDER 35'



↑ READ THE
ENGLISH SAMPLE!



↑ READ THE
SPANISH SAMPLE!

Born in Rome in 1992, ANDREA GATTI currently lives in Cádiz (Spain), and he is a literary translator from Spanish. He studied Filmmaking and Story-telling Techniques at the "Scuola Holden". His short stories have been published by a number of magazines and websites, and one is included in a collection edited by Filippo Tuena. *Bodies on the Run* is his debut novel.

LA FUGA DEI CORPI *Bodies on the Run*

«One hell of a debut. A fierce and brave novel that is also an opportunity for reflection, especially for those who already know that the only place to find refuge is within themselves.»

Alessio Forgione, *Corriere del Mezzogiorno*

«A real consideration on the journey within the self through a bold, contemporary perspective.»

il Reformista

«Andrea Gatti wrote a novel of rare intensity and mature style.»

Critica Letteraria

To escape an ordinary and suffocating life, Vanni and Daniel embark on a journey to Cala Bruja, a beach in the Andalusian desert. Rumour says that a community lives there in complete self-sufficiency, fully committed to explore all kinds of pleasure.

The two friends pass through cities like ghosts, playing music in the streets with their faces covered with masks and a protective circle on the ground drawn with chalk. Theirs is a mutual initiation process, a test to prove that they can achieve anything they want. But soon their sharing of space and time becomes complete, absolute and morbid, and their individual desires start to collide. While their friendship founders, Vanni and Daniel lose themselves to ferocious and extreme deeds, as if violence were the only answer to their need for rebellion and the pattern to pour out frustration and disenchantment.

Through fallen myths, mystical travels and mind-altering experiences, *Bodies on the Run* is a story told by two distinctive voices, each with their own personality, unforgivable flaws and imperfect humanities.

MASSIMILIANO M. MAGGI

A novel of delusions, chimeras and an awful lot of alcohol.

Allegra embodies the typical teenager raised up in suburban Italy, whose only way to stay afloat in her golden age is by facing and openly embracing its decadence.



↑ READ THE
ENGLISH SAMPLE!

MASSIMILIANO M. MAGGI was born in Siena in 1995 and has been living in Orvieto (Umbria) for most of his life. In 2017 he graduated at Alessandro Baricco's "Scuola Holden" in Storytelling and Performing Arts. He describes himself as a "professional cynic" who cannot live without (or do anything else apart from) writing.

ALLEGRA

**«How does it feel to be 20 years old in the Italian province?
This is what Maggi reveals to us with his debut novel.»**

Style - Corriere della Sera

«A novel to devour.»

Il Foglio

«Maggi's voice is fresh, vivid, and trenchant.»

CriticaLetteraria

**«With his conscious and immediate writing,
Allegra is a coming-of-age story free of clichés.»**

Mar dei Sargassi

Allegra would describe her family as "people from the countryside", but these four words hide a much trickier existence. Her father is an alcoholic and her mother is addicted to psychoactive medicines; Her older sister Luna had to carry the whole family on her shoulders, resulting in her being constantly on the verge of a nervous breakdown. And then, to cap it all, her older brother Libero disappeared into thin air when she was only three, triggering a snowball effect for Allegra's still wealthy but yet problematic family.

Now eighteen and a senior high school student, Allegra slaloms through the ups and downs of her age drinking a glass of wine after another, much like her friends, her own family (which owns a wine shop), and apparently everyone else in Orvieto. Never-ending summer days follow wild nights, up until Libero abruptly returns, sharing his secrets and presence only with his little sister.

GIANLUCA MOROZZI

A new story by the author of the best-selling novel *Blackout*.

«Morozzi's writing has only one great and profound flaw: it flies!»

Chiara Ricci



Born in 1971 in Bologna, **GIANLUCA MOROZZI** is one of the most prolific Italian authors of his generation. He writes novels, short-stories collections, non-fiction titles and graphic novels. The bulk of his books are published by Guanda, TEA and Fernandel. Rights to *Blackout* (Guanda, 2004) have been sold to UK/US (Bitter Lemon Press), Germany (Goldmann Verlag), and Spain (Alba Editorial), with an English movie released in 2008.

IL LIBRAIO INNAMORATO *A Bookseller in Love*

«Gianluca Morozzi is our own Irvine Welsh.»

Bruno Quaranta, *TuttoLibri - La Stampa*

«A naturally relaxed prose.»

Sergio Pent, *TuttoLibri - La Stampa*

«A breezy and rousing writing.»

Wired

«Morozzi really knows how to make you laugh.»

il Venerdì - la Repubblica

Alessio works as a bookseller and is secretly in love with Monica, a girl who sells books as well. Even though he dreams of marrying her and merge their shops together, for now all they do is meeting in the oldest osteria in Bologna to talk about their most peculiar clients – such as a man who visits Alessio's bookshop everyday at the same time, wonders among the shelves for thirty minutes sharp, and then buys the first book he stumbles upon; or a girl always on the hunt for nonexistent novels of which she perfectly remembers the synopsis (and that are eventually published for real). Then there is a famous writer, and he has a secret too: he wrote tons of novel when he was a nobody, and now he can't write anymore. How will his agent and publisher react when they'll find out the truth?

And then we have a woman who writes erotic stories, and she's looking for someone who's willing to pay for watching her as she writes barefoot.

Alessio and Monica decide to get these two desperate writers together, and that's when the unexpected happens.



**Arkadia Editore is a publishing house founded in 2009 in Sardinia.
It is present on the national market with promotion and distribution by Messaggerie Libri.**

Among its several editorial collections, the followings stand out:

Eclipse

The generic fiction series.

SideKar

Novels and short stories that investigate our reality through original points of view and languages.

Senza Rotta

The travel narrative series, to explore physical and imaginary places.

Historica

The series of historical non-fiction.

Historica Paperbacks

The best-selling paperback non-fiction books.

To see their complete catalogue [CLICK HERE](#).

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MARCO VISINONI

A story set in the pharmaceutical world in the vein
of *American Psycho*.



AN ITALIAN WRITER OF UNDERDOG-
PICAESQUE NOVELS IS NOW PUTTING
HIMSELF TO THE TEST WITH HIS MOST
CHALLENGING STORY.

MARCO VISINONI was born in Iseo and lives in Bologna. He made his debut with the novel *Macabre danze su sagome bianche* (2007), continuing with the short story collection *Apocalypse Wow* (2009), and the literary promotion manual *Come diventare uno scrittore di successo* (2012). With Arkadia Editore he published *Il caso letterario dell'anno* (2018), and *Teatro Pereyra* (2022).

TEATRO PEREYRA *Pereyra Theater*

Teatro Pereyra is a descent into a hell where no boundaries
or redemption are possible.

«Sharp and disenchanted.»
Senzaudio

«An unsettling, and at times disturbing, wonderful
and profoundly true reading.»
Rinascita Oggi

Spyral is an experimental drug to cure autism, but its side effects can be quite exciting. This is what this story's protagonist finds out and what he's eager to explore to the point of becoming addicted. He works at the pharmaceutical company that produces *Spyral*, and even though he has a wife and a daughter, his life is full of excesses, especially during business trips. He and his boss know no limits, and sexual encounters pile up. But while they're in Ibiza for a "business holiday", one of his female colleagues, Emma, threatens to report him for rape and for surreptitiously giving her a dose of *Spyral* to lower her inhibitions. He doesn't have much choice: Emma must die.

TITO BARBINI *IL FABBRICANTE DI GIOCATTOLI* *The Toymaker*

The forgotten story of Simón Radowitzky.



«Tito Barbini tells
the extraordinary life
of a forgotten man.»
Toscanalibri

During his life, Simón Radowitzky has been more than just a single man: anarchist, Russian, Jew, Argentinian, killer the police chief of Buenos Aires, prisoner, fugitive, war activist, exile – and toymaker. None of these labels could really describe who he really was and how painful every step of his journey proved to be – a journey that will eventually bring him to spend twenty years in a prison at the edge of the planet. At the time of this death, in 1956, the world was astonished by this elusive and contradictory character. But soon after, everyone forgot about him.

Through dense and heart-breaking pages, Tito Barbini recalls the life and story of a genuine rebel.

TITO BARBINI had a long and prestigious career in local and regional politics. In 2004 he decided to change his whole life, starting with a 100-days-travel from Patagonia to Alaska. And then, a dozen of novels and non-fiction books followed.

ARIASE BARRETTA *CANTICO DELL'ABISSO* *A Song from the Abyss*

A morbid relationship between a father and his children gives way to drama, challenges and a life-changing resolution.



+ 2,000 COPIES
SOLD IN TWO
WEEKS

WINNER OF 2022
'PREMIO DEI'

Davide is 13 years old and he lives in Bologna. He loves his father Osvaldo beyond reason, knowing no boundaries nor limitations. But this extreme kind of love is just the start of a life-long process that will bring Davide to clarity and self-acceptance, culminating with the decision to transition. Ariase Barretta wrote a story as powerful as only real life can be, where past and present collide and overlap through the memories of a Summer filled with dreams, expectations and violence.

Born in Naples, ARIASE BARRETTA lives in Madrid. In 2018 he founded an artistic project called "Sacrificium Viduae" together with performer Manuela Maroli, and at present he is deeply involved in Queer Art and Trans-modernism, with a specific interest into the works of Chilean writer Pedro Lambel. His previous novels, published by Meridiano Zero from 2009 to 2018, won several awards.

GIORGIO BONA *LA LACRIMA DELLA GIOVANE COMUNISTA* *The Young Communist's Tear*

An intense novel that takes the reader to a time in which beauty and splendor merge with their opposites.



Swallowed up deep inside a lager, in one of the darkest moments of Soviet cultural hegemony, Venedikt Erofeev vanishes into thin air leaving behind him a deep void. Years later, a university professor gets on his trail. He decides to leave for Moscow, searching for an explanation. During his train journey, the professor wonders about Erofeev's life and works – censored by the communist regime –, and about his tragic destiny and mysterious end. After meeting with the writer's lover, remnants of a troubled and cursed existence will finally emerge.

«A persuasive and captivating novel, halfway
between a thriller and a spy-story.»
Corriere della Sera

GIORGIO BONA (1956) wrote many articles on «Thriller Magazine», «Carmillaonline», «Lavoro & Salute» e «Transform! Italia». He published several novels, including *Sangue di tutti noi* (2012), about the murder of the communist dissident Mario Acquaviva.

Original Publisher: **ARKADIA** | Genre: **Novel** | Pages: 180 | Release: Dec 2022
Language: Italian | Rights: World

OLIVIA CROSIO *LA MENTALITÀ DELLA SARDINA* *Thinking Like a Sardine*

A new novel by the Italian translator of *Fried Green Tomatoes* and *Bridget Jones's Diary*.

A story of hope and change.



Angela and Severino have been married for 35 years, but if you look at them now you'd think they have nothing in common. Both retired, their life is marked by monotony: he spends most of his days on the sofa, and she in the kitchen or going to yoga lessons. With their children all grown-up and living far, all that's left for them is the memory of how life used to be. Angela occasionally indulges in some innocent diversions – getting drunk on limoncello on her own, dancing naked when Severino is not around – and a dream: to walk the “Via Francigena”, alone. And this is exactly what she decides to do, embarking on a journey made of miles, places, people and emotions.

OLIVIA CROSIO lives in Milan and works as a translator (*Fried Green Tomatoes* and *Bridget Jones's Diary*, among others). Her previous novels are *Solo in città* and *Giulio e il colore dei baci* (Fanucci), *La felicità non fa rumore* (Giunti) and *Un amore incosciente* (Feltrinelli).

Original Publisher: **ARKADIA** | Genre: **Novel** | Pages: 248 | Release: Sep 2022
Language: Italian | Rights: World

MIRIAM D'AMBROSIO

FOLISCA

Folisca

The city of Milan, the glamour of the Belle Époque, the magic atmosphere of a café chantant, the artistic liveliness of young writers. And the Great War just around the corner.



It's a Summer night in 1913 and a girl who dreams of redeeming her life is violently attacked by those who should enforce the law. They'll say what happened never happened. They'll say she was just a prostitute, a poor girl who committed suicide with the poison commonly used by women like her. The only person who refuses to believe this is the journalist of a socialist newspaper.

The real story of Rosetta Andrezzi, a young, fragile and charming actress known as Rosetta de Woltery.

«An accurate historical tableau of refined beauty.»
La casa delle storie

A teacher of Italian and History, MIRIAM D'AMBROSIO wrote theater reviews for several national newspapers and magazines.

Original Publisher: **ARKADIA** | Genre: **Novel** | Pages: 130 | Release: Jul 2022
Language: Italian | Rights: World

GIUSEPPE FODERARO

SE TUTTI DIVENTASSERO RE

If Everyone Became King

An authentic interlocking game, in which different periods and characters are intertwined in a mosaic of strong literary taste.



Lypsia is a proud and noble Spartan woman on the run from the oppression of her State. Along her journey she meets the merchant Balthus from Boeotia, a resourceful land but also home to shameless adventurers. The two end up living together, welcoming into their home a multitude of characters from Athens, a liberal city but at the same time merciless towards the poor and marginalized. Involved in the rescue of a wealthy salt trader, they eventually move to the only colony founded by Sparta, the flourishing and lively Taras (today's Taranto, in the south of Italy). Thousands of years later, their lives are studied by an archeologist, Andrea Saverio Ronchi, forced to face a mysterious past and a highly uncertain future.

Born in 1973, GIUSEPPE FODERARO lives in Milan. He's a writer, dramatist and screenwriter. He studied at the Scuola Holden in Turin. Among his latest works there are *Anche gli angeli mangiano kebab*, *Parigi in un retrobottega*, *I sogni non si ammalano*, *Esoscheletro distopico*. He published with Arkadia the novel *La santità del padre*.

Original Publisher: **ARKADIA** | Genre: **Novel** | Pages: 340 | Release: Mar 2023
Language: Italian | Rights: World

MARINETTE PENDOLA

LA RIVA LONTANA

The Distant Shore

A little girl traces the salient episodes of her life as pieces of a mosaic that illustrates the life of a community and the decline of an era.



At the end of the nineteenth century, an era of strong migratory pressure, thousands of men and women left Sicily to move to Tunisia. Around the end of 1950, following the movement that led to the independence of Tunisia, the Italian community had to abandon what had become their true homeland. The descendants of these emigrants knew nothing about their country of origin.

This diaspora caused the dispersion of a culture developed over the course of a century, a mix of Arab-Berber, Jewish and French elements. *The Distant Shore* evokes fragments of it through the memories of a little girl on her last day in Tunis, as she's leaving the country together with her family.

«With a painful and nostalgic crescendo, Marinette Pendola describes a land lost for generations.»

PuntoZip

Born in Tunisi, MARINETTE PENDOLA lives in Bologna. She wrote several essays and novels. *La riva lontana* has been originally published in 2000 by Sellerio.

Original Publisher: **ARKADIA** | Genre: **Novel** | Pages: 196 | Release: Jun 2022
Language: Italian | Rights: World

EMANUELE PETTENER

GIOVANI CI SIAMO

AMATI SENZA SAPERLO

We Loved Each Other Without Knowing

A comedy in which Venice acts as a background to our better years.



Venice, late Summer of 1990. FIFA World Cup has just ended, but Italian radio stations keep playing the anthem, as if nothing has changed. Feli, Barbara, Rodrigo and Ema are all twenty years old. University is around the corner, and everybody knows this can be a perfect opportunity to meet new people... especially girls. It seems they are having the time of their lives, but love can be tricky and recognizing its signs isn't something school teaches you.

«His prose becomes almost poetry.»
ThrillerNord

English
sample
available

Born near Venice, EMANUELE PETTENER is a teacher of Italian studies and a "writer in residence" at the Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton. He published a number of essays on Italian and American periodicals, and several novels. One of his short-stories collections has been translated into English and published by Bordighera Press in USA.

Original Publisher: **ARKADIA** | Genre: **Novel** | Pages: 120 | Release: Apr 2022
Language: Italian | Rights: World

PAOLO RESTUCCIA

IL COLORE DEL TUO SANGUE

The Color of Your Blood

The pursuit of truth is both gruelling and extremely dangerous.



«A Lynchian, fast-paced and visionary thriller where everything flows just like a movie.»
Suite Italiana

While watching some video stills, the young filmmaker Greta Scacchi notices a detail that puts her life in danger. Accused of murder by the police executive Tommaso Del Re, she is dragged into a series of events that involve the film teacher Rossella Gardini, a couple of brothers from her own past, Farid and Anissa Akram, the little Nadir, the creepy Ahmad, and the bartender Tong. In the background stands out the threatening Biolab, a laboratory where chemical weapons of mass destruction are studied.

A writer, translator, teacher of creative writing, and radio/TV author and director, **PAOLO RESTUCCIA** previous novels are *La strategia del Tango* (Caffi, 2014) and *Io sono Kurt* (Fazi, 2016).

Original Publisher: **ARKADIA** | Genre: **Thriller** | Pages: 272 | Release: Jan 2022
Language: Italian | Rights: World

MARCO ROVELLI

LA DOPPIA PRESENZA

Not Really Here, Not Even There

Torn between Bangladesh and Italy, a father and a daughter try to understand each other and their new lives.



«Rovelli's writing is always sharp, educated and compelling.»
il manifesto

«A writer with multiple keyboards under his hands.»
L'Espresso

Born and raised near Milan, Sara is now 18 years old. Her parents came to Italy from Bangladesh, but she doesn't know much about that place, its history or her parents' past. At the same time, she doesn't really feel like an Italian girl, being labelled as one of the so-called "second-generation immigrants". Her everyday life revolves around her passion for the theater, a challenged love story with Lorenzo, and a very close but also difficult relationship with her father Arun. But her real, unknown identity and the weight of her family's past will soon force Sara to come to terms with who she really is and the person she wants to be.

Born in 1969, over the last 20 years **MARCO ROVELLI** wrote many novels and non-fiction books published by Rizzoli, Feltrinelli, Giunti, Laterza and minimum fax, among others. He is also a musician and singer-songwriter.

Original Publisher: **ARKADIA** | Genre: **Novel** | Pages: 122 | Release: Jun 2022
Language: Italian | Rights: World

MARISA SALABELLE

LA SCRITTRICE OBESA

An Obese Writer

A tragicomic story with a very peculiar heroine.



Susanna is a lonely and bad-tempered woman. Her two passions are writing absurd novels and eating junk food. She has only two friends, but everytime they visit her house she mal-treats them. Maybe that's why when her dead body is found in her apartment, nobody seems to care. Nobody but her two friends, that is. And it's now up to them to take care of Susanna's legacy, giving at least to her writing that happy ending that Susanna never achieved while she was live.

Born in 1955, MARISA SALABELLE worked as a teacher for almost forty years. Her debut novel has been published in 2015 by Piemme.

BEPI VIGNA - LORELLA COSTA

LA STIRPE DEI WURDALAK

The Wurdalak Line

A breathtaking story in which the protagonist's fate is entangled with those of people fighting for dominance in the world of finance and politics.



Abruzzo, 2009. A terrible earthquake shakes the earth. Inside a crypt covered by the ruins, rescuers find the body of a girl with a bullet hole in her forehead and a medallion bearing the name of Lorena Diodati. At first, she is believed to be dead; but then she wakes up and is immediately taken to the hospital to undergo a very delicate surgery. Who is this young woman who seems to have lost her memory? Why was she in the crypt? And why do some strange characters seem to take a great interest in her?

BEPI VIGNA is a writer, film and theater director, and comic book author. He worked with Disney Italy, Comic Art and other publishing imprints. He is the author of radio and television shows for RAI. A freelance journalist, he collaborates with national newspapers and. He is the director of the International Centre of Comic Books in Cagliari.

LORELLA COSTA has been a part of several cultural projects, including Il Giramondo, that involves reading, writing and comic books workshops for young people. She is on the editorial staff of the «S&H Magazine».

Original Publisher: **ARKADIA** | Genre: **Novel** | Pages: 160 | Release: Oct 2022
Language: Italian | Rights: World

Original Publisher: **ARKADIA** | Genre: **Novel** | Pages: 208 | Release: Oct 2022
Language: Italian | Rights: World



Caracò deals with traditional and multimedia publishing, educational projects, and theatre.

Their roots are in Naples, Bologna, and Palermo.

In old Neapolitan language Caracò means *snail*.

Their name and their symbol are the link between tradition and future.

Their books, their shows and their workshops try to explain reality and work on the present.

One of their projects is the online platform [Educativvù](#).

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EMANUELE FERRETTI

A refined, passionate and hilarious debut.



↑ READ THE
ENGLISH SAMPLE!

Born in 1981, EMANUELE FERRETTI lives in Milan. He studied at the Academy of Fine Arts in Bologna. In 2005 he published his first poetry collection, and in 2020 Butter, his first record with the musical project called Exwyfe.

BESTIE AFFAMATE *Hungry Beasts*

**Disclaimer: "No animal has been killed in this book.
Except for me."**

«Ferretti portrays an obsessive and stubborn love, where eroticism clashes with disillusion and awareness with surreal turns. Set in the streets of Bologna, between alcoholic parties and endless talks under the Porticoes, *Hungry Beasts* is actually all about the end of youth, that unique moment in time when everything seems possible – even though it almost never is.»

Matteo B. Bianchi

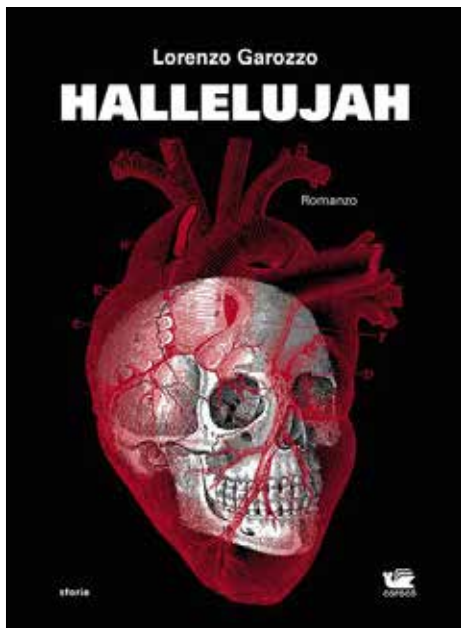
«Fun and upsetting.»
Mangialibri

Mattia has one peculiar passion – or better still, an obsession – for the “little men”. Not really a homo herectus, that is, but more a hominus herectus: A quite small species of man, not particularly ugly but definitely hairy and a little overweight. In other words, a mediocre man. The day that Mattia finds the perfect candidate to meet his every desire is also the day that the travesty of his life reaches a new level of craziness – soon turning all that passion into a real torture.

Surprisingly funny and sensual, *Hungry Beasts* is a very eccentric and unusual debut novel.

LORENZO GAROZZO

A nameless man from an ordinary suburbia –
a place as toxic and fierce as himself.



Born in 1982, **LORENZO GAROZZO** is a playwright and a theatre instructor. He also works as a teacher at the University of Brescia. He was a runner-up for the prestigious Premio Riccione in 2013. *Hallelujah* is his debut novel.

HALLELUJAH *Hallelujah*

A solitary, evil man. He doesn't have a name. He collects debts on behalf of a mafia king and picks up rich married women that he later he will blackmail. He has everything, and nothing at the same time.

One day, he blackmails the wrong woman. She is as fierce as he is, as reckless as he is. Maybe, as fragile as he is too. Their meeting unlocks something in his mind. A small crack that gives way to doubts. After all, maybe Jeff Buckley was right when he sang that love can save us all.

Original Publisher: **CARACÒ** | Genre: **Novel** | Pages: 190 | Release: Jan 2023
Language: Italian | Rights: World



Erasmus of Rotterdam stated that
«Best ideas don't come from reason but from a lucid visionary folly.»
These words have been Pessime Idee' stepping stone.

Pessime Idee is an Italian publishing house founded in 2020,
promoted and distributed by Messaggerie Libri.
They publish both Italian and foreign authors of fiction.

In 2021 they opened their own bookshop in Rome.

To see their complete catalogue [CLICK HERE](#).

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CLAUDIO CONTI

A one-of-a-kind debut novel.

Set between Italy, Germany and Sweden, *The Man Who Sold the World* is a brave and “absurdly true-to-life” story about deep longings, shattered dreams, redemption and apocalypse



FINALIST OF 2021 'PREMIO ITALO CALVINO',
AND FINALIST OF 2022 'PREMIO ZENO'

«A perfect balance of comedy
and drama – precious,
touching and extremely “pop”.
Reading *The Man Who Sold the
World* is an hypnotizing and
shocking experience.»

Calvino Prize's Jury

«A profound, ambitious, very funny
and very painful story, where the sci-fi
element is just a pretext for approaching
great universal themes through a
multifaceted and captivating writing»

Nicoletta Verna

L'UOMO CHE HA VENDUTO IL MONDO *The Man Who Sold the World*

«*L'uomo che ha venduto il mondo* is an audacious sci-fi novel,
full of events and characters, with a touch of Lewis Carroll.»

Il Libraio

«Apocalypse and romance are key factors of this story,
an attempt to repair the damage done by life.»

Il Sole 24 Ore

A strange line appears in the sky and a little dog returns home with a human foot in her mouth. This is how everything begins. Or maybe not.

The foot belonged to Geremia, a brilliant physicist who decided to go back in time in order to give his beloved, deceased woman a different future. He had spent years preparing for that day, building up a machine that could intercept human emotions and turn them into electric power. This is why he was in Berlin when David Bowie was recording *Heroes* or took part in designing the world-famous videogame *Ghosts'n Goblins*. During the decades that followed, every single person who listened to that record or played that game was unconsciously helping Geremia in his crazy plan: To create a black hole and bend space and time.

What Geremia couldn't know is that his desperately romantic endeavor would have not only changed the fates of many people around him, but the whole world's. And this what happens when the line in the sky – an unpredicted effect of his time travel – slowly widens and swallows every source of light and power in its shade.

ILARIA BORIA

LE FORMICHE CANTANO SOTTO LA NEVE

Ants Sing Under the Snow



Anna had a very hard childhood living with her father, Fosco, a frustrated, violent man, so weak that he needed to vent his anger on the women of the family, and with her mother, Anita, a timid and compliant woman. The spite and abuse she lived with engendered anxiety and uncertainties in Anna, who increasingly escapes in Amalia, an imaginary person who lives the life that Anna would have liked, without worries, as if the past had left no trace. Anna's fantasies remain unconscious until the suicide of her fiancé, Alberto, a gay man, that upsets her balance and leads Anna to reshape Amalia's world into a world where Alberto never took his own life. Anna is increasingly unable to differentiate between real and imaginary life and therefore considers Amalia a friend with whom to share her life. Amalia is outgoing and charming, a solid and secure woman. Anna, on the other hand, is fragile and introverted, and finds it hard to get free from her memories. And while Amalia stays with Alberto, Anna has a story with Zeno, a story full of ups and downs. The lives of the two young women run parallel until Amalia disappears, compelling a pregnant Anna to try and find her and relive the past she had tried to leave behind. At the end of this journey, Anna will finally manage to come to terms with Amalia, accepting the turn of events, knowing that she could have done nothing to change it and realising that Amalia's imagined life was far from perfect.

«A novel where class differences
dictate the pace of events.»
il Resto del Carlino

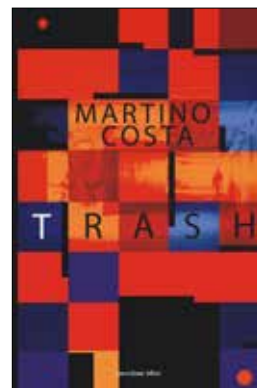
ILARIA BORIA was born in 1987 near Ancona, graduated in law and became a lawyer, with a PhD in Law, Economy and Society. She is a civil servant.

Original Publisher: **PESSIME IDEE** | Genre: **Novel** | Pages: 256 | Release: Feb 2021
Language: Italian | Rights: World

MARTINO COSTA

TRASH

Trash



«The language is
rough, very effective,
which contributes
to the credibility
of a fascinating text,
capturing the reader
with the unfolding
of a dramatic reality in
action.»

The 'Calvino Prize'
reading committee

An interconnection of stories developing against the background of a trade union war, in a city that is slowly drowning in waste. The dignity of work, the opacity of power, the short and destructive path of crime, immigration, the daily struggle for survival and love, in all its myriad facets, are the themes that run through this choral novel, which comes to life on the outskirts of north-eastern Italy, amidst hills, vineyards, industrial hubs and ever-expanding construction sites.

There are two types of Trash here: physical trash, that pollutes the streets, people, homes, and that is steadily growing as the waste collectors' strike described in the novel goes on. And then there is metaphorical trash: human rubbish, made up of outcasts, prostitutes, immigrants, ex-junkies... In short, all those who cannot hope to climb the social ladder, who are destined to be eternally discarded.

SHORTLISTED FOR 2020 'ITALO CALVINO' PRIZE

MARTINO COSTA was born in Milan in 1974, graduated in Philosophy. Later he specialised in applied cultural anthropology and obtained a master's degree in development projects management. He studied musical composition and the cello at the G. Verdi Music School in Milan.

He married Frosse, a Palestinian woman from Jerusalem and he currently lives in Amman where he works for the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation.

Original Publisher: **PESSIME IDEE** | Genre: **Novel** | Pages: 282 | Release: Apr 2022
Language: Italian | Rights: World

ENRICO RENZI

PIZZINI

Pizzini



After losing his job, Claudio Terranova has been dumped by his wife as well, and so he ends up living with an obnoxious old man, Gino, who's constantly pushing Claudio to do little things for him. Claudio suspects that Gino is hiding a fortune somewhere in his wretched house, and so when the old man suddenly dies, Claudio conceals his passing from everyone, focusing on finding out where he was keeping his money. But then, something strange begins to happen: every night, someone leaves a note under the entrance door. These notes, addressed to Gino, are called pizzini in the Roman dialect, meaning a message written in code by the mafia. In order to keep the death of Gino a secret, Claudio forges his handwriting and leaves notes in return. He will soon find out that Gino was actually a very dangerous fugitive of the Sicilian mob, and that now he's been inadvertently giving orders on his behalf...

«Since his debut
Renzi has shown the
vivacity of a “done”
narrator.»
TusciaWeb

ENRICO RENZI was born in Rome in 1969. This work is his submission to the thirty-second edition of the Calvino Prize and was singled out by the reading committee for the originality of the story and above all for the maturity of his writing.

ENRICO RENZI

LA TOMBA DI PASCUCCI

The Pascucci Tomb

LONGLISTED FOR 2021 'JOHN FANTE' DEBUT PRIZE
SHORTLISTED FOR 2019 'ITALO CALVINO' PRIZE



Tarquinia, Lazio coastline, in the 1980s, between the sea and the tombs. Not your usual tombs, the tombs of the Etruscan necropolis, rich in precious relics. Here the Pascucci family spend most of their time, and here they practice their trade of grave robbers. During one of their nightly excursions in the necropolis, three Pascucci brothers are arrested and a fourth will die, shot accidentally. The “Frenchman”, their accomplice, shall escape. The story is told by Giuseppe, the son of Ottavio Pascucci, who is considered the black sheep of the family because he is educated and not inclined to fraud. Fate shall lead Giuseppe to meet the “Frenchman”, who has been missing for years and who was considered responsible for tipping off the police on that fateful night. Lively and humorous, the story soon becomes a means to describe a world, the world of the Pascucci family, made of predators and deceit, but also of redemption. A light-hearted narration with intense moments, that highlights a considerable narrative flair and a mature, ironic and whimsical writing style.

«Ironic, clever,
original.»
il Fatto Quotidiano



Founded in 1995 by Slavist Daniela Di Sora, Voland is a publishing house based in Rome.

Just as the character from Bulgakov's *The Master and Margarita*, Voland's passion is exclusively for good literature.

In 1999 and 2003 they have been presented with Culture Awards by the Italian Government for «their prestigious work in the publishing industry» and their «significant engagement in cultural mediation» through high-level translated titles.

They are the Italian publisher of Belgian author Amélie Nothomb,

In 2021 Voland won the Premio Strega Europeo with *Cronorifugio* by Georgi Gospodinov, and in 2022 they won this prestigious prize again with *Primo sangue* by Amélie Nothomb.

Their catalogue of foreign fiction and non-fiction books is enriched every year by a carefully selected list of Italian authors.

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DIEGO ZANDEL

EREDITÀ COLPEVOLE *Guilty Heritage*

A true story turned into an unsettling noir novel.



IN 2023 DIEGO ZANDEL WAS GIVEN
THE HONORARY CITIZENSHIP OF
SERVIGLIANO, WHERE HE LIVED AS A
CHILD FOR FOUR MONTHS IN A REFUGEE
CAMP FOR ISTRIAN PEOPLE.

DIEGO ZANDEL was born in 1948 in the refugee camp of Servigliano. His parents were Fiumian refugees. He wrote more than twenty novels for several publishing houses, including Mondadori and Mursia. Lately, he worked on the 2022 docu-film *Hotel Sarajevo*, produced by Clipper Media and Rai Cinema.

«An educational heritage for the new generations.»
L'Incontro

Son of refugees originally from the city of Fiume (Rijeka), in modern Croatia, Guido Lednaz is a journalist who takes an interest in the homicide of Judge La Spina. His murder has been claimed by a far-right party as a consequence of Josip Strčić's acquittal – a war criminal who resembles Oskar Piškulić, Tito's chief of police and the mind behind the Foibe massacres. Lednaz embarks on a journey between Rome and Trieste to uncover the truth about one of History's most bloody events, a journey that will lead to a most tragic discovery.

Original Publisher: **VOLAND** | Genre: **Novel** | Pages: 256 | Release: Feb 2023
Language: Italian | Rights: World

Yael Artom

IL PESCE DEL TEMPO

The Fish of Time

A call-out to the triviality and monotony of contemporary arts.



«Original and
amazing.»
L'Adigetto

After losing his job, Claudio Terranova has been dumped by his wife as well, and so he ends up living with an obnoxious old man, Gino, who's constantly pushing Claudio to do little things for him. Claudio suspects that Gino is hiding a fortune somewhere in his wretched house, and so when the old man suddenly dies, Claudio conceals his passing from everyone, focusing on finding out where he was keeping his money. But then, something strange begins to happen: every night, someone leaves a note under the entrance door. These notes, addressed to Gino, are called pizzini in the Roman dialect, meaning a message written in code by the mafia. In order to keep the death of Gino a secret, Claudio forges his handwriting and leaves notes in return. He will soon find out that Gino was actually a very dangerous fugitive of the Sicilian mob, and that now he's been inadvertently giving orders on his behalf...

For a long time, Yael Artom lived between Italy and Israel. She studied English literature at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, and worked for an NGO and Keter Publishing. She now teaches English literature at an international school in Genoa.

Original Publisher: **VOLAND** | Genre: **Novel** | Pages: 208 | Release: Jun 2022
Language: Italian | Rights: World

Gianluca Di Dio

LA SUBLIME COSTRUZIONE

The Sublime Construction



The city Andrej knew all his life no longer exists. His world has been swiped away by a catastrophe and a long war. The only chance of survival is a bus going to the North, to a building site where *The Sublime Construction*, a mysterious, universal project, is under development. Andrej and his friend Arvo embark on this risky and hypnotic journey. But the road is long and filled with deceptions and illusions.

«Halfway between fairytale and drama, *The Sublime Construction* is a contemporary Odyssey built on a dystopian setting, and Di Dio is a wise, conscious and atypical writer.»
La Lettura - Corriere della Sera

«Here, the island of Ithaca is like the island of Neverland: God is dead, and the Earth is a destroyed and useless point in the infinity of the universe.»
Robinson - la Repubblica

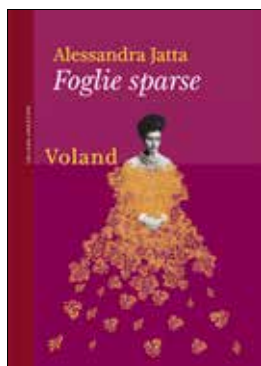
GIANLUCA DI DIO lives in Bologna. One of his plays, *J.C. Woyzeck: a dog wandering through Europe*, has been translated into German. *The Sublime Construction* is his third novel.

Original Publisher: **VOLAND** | Genre: **Novel** | Pages: 224 | Release: Oct 2021
Language: Italian | Rights: World

ALESSANDRA JATTA

FOGLIE SPARSE

Scattered Leaves



«History is always written by the winner, but with her novel Jatta is giving a voice to the defeated – and to us a real life fairytale of yesterday’s world.»
il Venerdì di Repubblica

Russia, August 1917. The revolution is unstoppable. Murders and aggressions escalate, and no one is safe anymore. Ol’ga Pavlovna Olsufieva decides to leave the country estate just outside Moscow where she found refuge with her five children and two nannies. Her family – one of the most important and noble ones in Russia – has always been connected with the Zar’s and the greatest turns of XIX and XX centuries. And this is the story that Ol’ga tells her children on their long journey – a journey that will first take them to Moscow and then to Constantinople, Athens, Southern Italy, and finally, almost two years later, to Florence. In the background, History unfolds.

Scattered Leaves comes from a two-decades research conducted by author Alessandra Jatta. Starting with her great-grandmother’s journals, she finally pieced together the history of her ancestors and gave us a choral novel as moving and true as only real life can be.

Born in 1960, **ALESSANDRA JATTA** works as a translator, interpreter and journalist. She studied Russian language and history at the Sapienza University in Rome and French literature at Sorbonne in Paris.

Original Publisher: **VOLAND** | Genre: **Novel** | Pages: 144 | Release: Feb 2022
Language: Italian | Rights: World

SERGIO KRAISKY

LA MALEDIZIONE DI RASPUTIN

Rasputin’s Curse

Three generations marked by Rasputin’s curse.



He’s from Russia and she’s from Germany. Their lives and fates get inextricably intertwined out of their love and the need to find refuge from tyrannies’ oppression and democracies’ cynicism. Private tragedies, Nazi persecutions, political illusions, and a lifelong pilgrimage through Soviet Union, Italy, Germany, Romania, Afghanistan, and Brazil: This is what they must endure in order to finally meet, looking for a way to escape the curse that shaped an entire century.

Born in Rome, **SERGIO KRAISKY** worked for more than thirty years as teacher of Italian for foreigners and immigrants. He wrote several “apocryphal novels” about Sherlock Holmes, turned into radio plays for RAI Radio.

Original Publisher: **VOLAND** | Genre: **Novel** | Pages: 256 | Release: Nov 2022
Language: Italian | Rights: World

ROBERTA LEPRI

DNA CHEF

DNA Chef

«Roberta Lepri wrote an ambitious novel set in the Tremiti islands.»
La Lettura - Corriere della Sera



Guido Nocentini knows he is destined to become a great chef: his grandfather Giovanni, a Florentine cook confined to the Tremiti islands during fascism era, is still remembered by the islanders for an exceptional dish (tagliatelle with sea urchin sauce), a delicacy that his grandson is now offering in a renowned London restaurant. Is it pure coincidence or the consequence of DNA? In order to carry out his father's last will and find confirmation of some intuitions, Guido returns to San Domino, while the first lockdown is about to hit the island. But a surprising past is waiting for him there...

Born in 1965, **ROBERTA LEPRI** has published ten novels and won several literary awards, including Moak, Teramo and Cimitile prizes.

Original Publisher: **VOLAND** | Genre: **Novel** | Pages: 160 | Release: Jan 2023
Language: Italian | Rights: World

STILIANA MILKOVA

STORIA DELLE

PRIME VOLTE

A Collection of First Times

A sophisticated literary game made of ten cross-border stories,
where reality and fiction collide and blend together.



A young graduate student moves to Berkeley. A translator is about to meet her author on the riverfront in Turin. A researcher is waiting for her boyfriend in Liguria. A professor is working on the last chapter of his essay as he's on a train to Rome. A high school teacher writes letter as she drinks a Negroni. And then more students, graduates, and writers. There's always someone who's writing, or reading, or translating. But are they the same person?

Born in Bulgaria, **STILIANA MILKOVA** teaches Comparative Literature at the Oberlin College, Ohio, and works as a translator. She wrote several essays, including *Elena Ferrante as World Literature*, published in 2021 by Bloomsbury.

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