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- **Voland** Highlights [3](#)
- **Otago** Focus [8](#)
- **Otago** Selection [25](#)

• *We are happy you are browsing our rights list (provided in alphabetical order)! •*



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.

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

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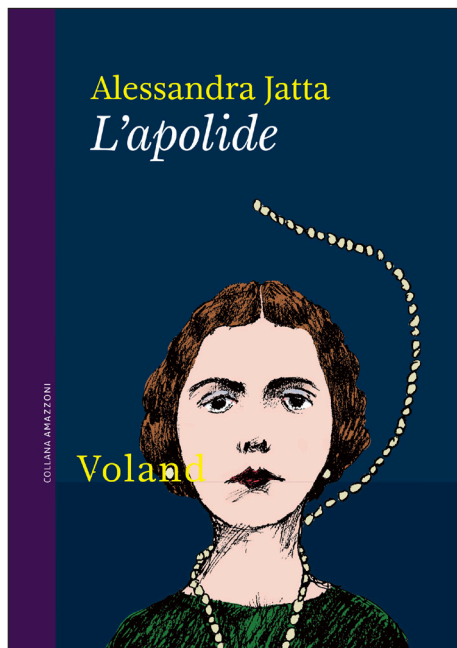
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L'APOLIDE *The Stateless*

The true story of a Russian family's journey to Italy
after the October Revolution.



«If history is consistently narrated from the
perspective of the victors,
Jatta lends a voice to the vanquished.»

il Venerdì di Repubblica

«Alessandra Jatta meticulously portrays,
with both psychological depth and historical
precision, every stage of a journey that assumes
the qualities of an epic.»

il manifesto

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.

Olga stands on the prow of the ship bound for Italy, leaving behind a war-torn lands and haunting memories of pain and death. The second chapter in the saga initiated by *Scattered Leaves*, *The Stateless*, follows the Olsufiev family's journey as they grapple with and surmount the challenges of their new life in Florence. At the helm of their resilience is Olga, a remarkable matriarch, alongside her five spirited sons who harbor aspirations of a fresh start. Amidst this narrative, Aleksej, the youngest and most cherished of them all, affectionately known as Alyosha, occupies a central role. Yet, a curious absence looms over him during a pivotal moment captured in a solemn group photograph taken in Florence on the occasion of his baptism. What led to his conspicuous absence?

FOGLIE SPARSE *Scattered Leaves*



Russia, August 1917. The revolution is relentless, with murders and aggression escalating, leaving no one safe. Ol'ga Pavlovna Olsufieva makes the difficult decision to leave their country estate just outside Moscow, where she had sought refuge with her five children and two nannies. Her family, one of the most significant and noble in Russia, has long been connected with the Tsars and witnessed the major events of the 19th and 20th centuries. This is the story that Ol'ga imparts to her children during their arduous journey, which will first take them to Moscow and then to Constantinople, Athens, Southern Italy, and, ultimately, almost two years later, to Florence. All the while, history unfolds in the background.

Scattered Leaves is the result of two decades of research by the author, Alessandra Jatta. Beginning with her great-grandmother's journals, she meticulously reconstructed the history of her ancestors and presents us with a novel that is as moving and authentic as only real life can be.

Original Publisher: **VOLAND** | Genre: **Novel** | Pages: 224 | Release: Feb 2024
Language: Italian | Rights: World

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



LA MALEDIZIONE DI RASPUTIN

Rasputin's Curse

Three generations marked by Rasputin's curse.



↑ READ THE
ENGLISH SAMPLE



↑ READ THE
PLOT SUMMARY

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.

His father, Giorgio, a Russian exile, was a university professor of Russian literature and an Italian translator of major Russian authors such as Majakovskij, Dostoevskij, Pasternak, Bulgakov, and many others.

«An exhilarating, ironic, tender, and funambulistic family saga, which the author - the protagonist's real son - openly acknowledges as overtly fictional. It's an epic of reconciliation and resilience. We journey alongside the protagonist, from his days as a refugee to his role as a resilient and stubborn communist, only to witness his understandable disappointment with real socialism. As he gradually learns to shake his head in disbelief, we empathize with his struggles. Additionally, we are deeply moved by his love story with Sigrid, a German Jewess.»

GIANCARLO DE CATALDO, *Tutto Libri - La Stampa*

«A love story amidst dictatorships and regime cynicism. Reading it feels akin to being slightly intoxicated, inclined to smile along with the author even as he narrates both significant and private tragedies.»

PIERGIOGIO PATERLINI, *Robinson - la Repubblica*

«Kraisky recounts the October Revolution, the rise of Nazism, and the Second World War, which serve as a watershed for the private affairs of the protagonists, with a good-natured and amused detachment.»

Alias - il manifesto

He's from Russia, and she's from Germany. Their lives and destinies become inexorably entwined due to their love and the necessity to seek refuge from the oppression of tyrannies and the cynicism of democracies. Their journey is marked by private tragedies, Nazi persecutions, political disillusionment, and a lifelong pilgrimage through the Soviet Union, Italy, Germany, Romania, Afghanistan, and Brazil. All of this they must endure in their quest to eventually reunite and seek a means to break free from the curse that has shaped an entire century.

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



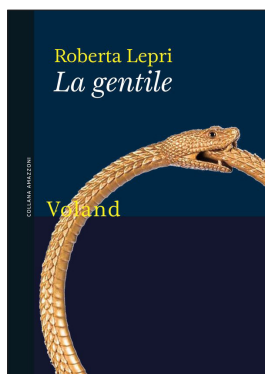
LA GENTILE

Gentile

A gripping historical novel that explores the limits of love and the vital force of hatred.

«This compelling story traces the early steps in the fight for women's rights, told not from the grassroots perspective, but through the eyes of someone who, with the advantage of financial resources, education, and a visionary mindset, was able to help pave the way, at least for part of the journey.»

La Lettura - Corriere della Sera



Arriving in Italy at the beginning of the 1900s, the American Alice Hallgarten married Baron Leopoldo Franchetti and convinced him to fund a major philanthropic project: the establishment of a school for the children of farmers. Alice's story thus intertwines with that of Ester, poor and uneducated, a descendant of converted Jews: a "gentile." Born into a family that does not understand her ideas and hinders her in every way, thanks to the support of the noblewoman, the young girl is able to attend school and nurture the hope of one day becoming a teacher. But the baroness's health soon deteriorates, forcing her to leave Ester to her fate...

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

LA SCRITTRICE

NEL BUIO

The Writer in the Dark

A novel that will captivate those who love reading of literature, filled with unexpected twists and turns.

«His voice is both original and exquisitely mannered; one can hear Walter Siti's influence and sometimes Humbert Humbert's tone, as well as echoes of Foster Wallace and Vollmann.»

minima&moralia



Marco and Federico couldn't be more different: one is shy and introverted, hailing from a humble family, while the other is outgoing and flamboyant, born into wealth in Padua. Despite their disparities, a bond forms between them fueled by their mutual love for literature, albeit tinged with a fierce rivalry. Their lives soon intertwine with that of Vittorio Ferretti, a journalist and writer who, during the 1960s, engaged in extensive correspondence with a young author from Veneto, Pier Luigi Carraro. As Federico delves into editing the letters exchanged between Ferretti and Carraro, he uncovers Ferretti's profound admiration for a poem penned by the enigmatic Maria Zanca. This epistolary revelation propels Marco and Federico into a perplexing narrative, fraught with unsettling implications.

Born in 1991, **MARCO MALVESTIO** works at the University of Padua, where he manages a research project on Italian science fiction and ecology. He is the author of two essays and numerous articles on science fiction, gothic literature, and contemporary fiction. His first novel, *Annette*, was published in 2021 by Wojtek.

Original Publisher: **VOLAND** | Genre: **Novel** | Pages: 192 | Release: Sep 2024
Language: Italian | Rights: World

Original Publisher: **VOLAND** | Genre: **Novel** | Pages: 144 | Release: Apr 2024
Language: Italian | Rights: World

MOSCHE

Flies

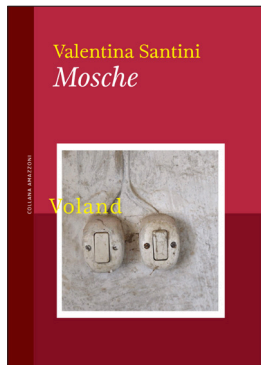
The rebirth of a man who discovers the secrets of his own past.

«Valentina Santini has a surgical and essential style.»

Leggere:Tutti

«Given her skill in crafting her writing, Santini has a bright future ahead of her.»

Altro Giornale



At forty-six, Daniele Sforzi lives with his parents and delivers flyers on his bike. When tasked with refurbishing his grandmother's mansion, he discovers its dilapidated state, revealing hidden objects and secrets. This process forces Daniele to confront the falsehoods he believed about himself. As reality begins to shift around him, he hears a persistent buzzing, reminiscent of flies, while navigating the infested rooms. What starts as trauma becomes a catalyst for his transformation. Daniele experiences a profound self-realization and gains newfound assertiveness, evolving from a low-paid delivery rider to a political figure with unexpected confidence, ultimately finding himself responsible for the fate of the country.

VALENTINA SANTINI was born in 1983 in Tuscany. Holding a degree in psychology, she actively collaborates as an editor and copywriter with several publishing companies. Her short stories have been featured in various collections and online magazines. Additionally, she serves as a co-writer for the interactive TV series *Il confine di Moebius*. In 2022, she published the novel *L'osso del cuore* with Edizioni e/o.

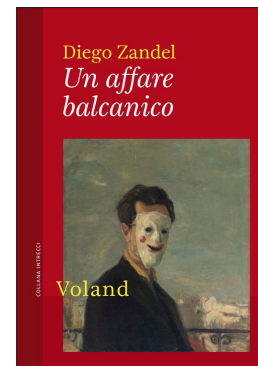
UN AFFARE BALCANICO

A Balkan Affair

A blend of historical truth and fiction, this novel masterfully intertwines mysterious women, dancing bears, Serbian folk singers, shady political dealings, and bursts of Kalashnikov fire.

«A gripping book, an action-packed novel that captures the reader from start to finish. At the same time, it sheds light on a story where the boundaries—those that should exist—between politics and corruption disappear, a story we know little or nothing about. One of the many mysteries of Italy, in short.»

il Fatto Quotidiano



In late April 1997, after lengthy negotiations, Telecom Italia (along with the Greek company OTE) acquired 49 percent of Telekom Serbia's shares. The deal, which also involved the secret services of both countries, was facilitated by shady figures—so-called “fixers”—connected to Serbian President Slobodan Milošević. The Italian company paid an enormous sum: 1.5 billion Deutsche Marks, which Milošević insisted on receiving in cash, part of which was delivered to him by private jet in eighteen jute sacks from the Serbian Postal Service. A Balkan Affair is inspired by this unsettling transaction. At the time of these events, the author was head of Telecom Italia's Corporate Press.

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 docufilm *Hotel Sarajevo*, produced by Clipper Media and RAI Cinema.

Original Publisher: **VOLAND** | Genre: **Novel** | Pages: 160 | Release: Apr 2024
Language: Italian | Rights: World

Original Publisher: **VOLAND** | Genre: **Novel** | Pages: 200 | Release: Jun 2024
Language: Italian | Rights: World

FOCUS

CHIARA CLINI

**AN INTIMATE AND PASSIONATE NOVEL SET IN WORLD WAR II-ERA GREAT BRITAIN,
CENTERED ON THE FORGOTTEN TRAGEDY OF THE 'ARANDORA STAR'**

CHIARA CLINI graduated in acting from the Accademia dei Filodrammatici in Milan and has performed in various national theaters. She earned a degree in Literature from Ca' Foscari University and a master's in Screenwriting from Università Cattolica. She has written for popular TV series and directed plays at Teatro Goldoni and Teatro La Fenice.





L'ULTIMA CROCIERA

The Last Cruise

An intimate novel about the “forgotten tragedy” of the Arandora Star, sunk by a German submarine with over 1,500 “enemy aliens” on board as it sailed from Liverpool to Canada.



DETAILED
ENGLISH
SUMMARY
AVAILABLE

ENGLISH
SAMPLE
AVAILABLE

With a steady, precise hand, attuned to every emotional nuance and unflinching in the face of historical trauma, Chiara Clini has crafted a captivating page-turner. World War II, anti-fascism, Judaism, and a love story fraught with tribulations yet culminating in a hopeful ending all converge in this gripping and deeply researched novel.

England, Summer 1940. Jacopo Abramo Errera, a young Jewish socialist and correspondent for the Foreign Office at the BBC, has fled Venice for London due to racial laws. On June 10th, he is arrested with other Italians and taken to an abandoned school for interrogation, where he meets Harriet Smith, a secretary at the Alien Committee responsible for “enemy aliens.”

Harriet, a timid and insecure woman, lives with her son Ismay and her best friend and lover Julie, who has helped her after Ismay’s father abandoned them. Despite Harriet’s struggles, she and Jacopo form a deep connection, sparking hope in their bleak situation.

However, Jacopo is mistakenly interned in a prison camp in Bury, where conditions are dire. Harriet, driven by her feelings for him, travels to Bury but finds that Jacopo and other prisoners have been moved to Liverpool to board a ship bound for Canada. They meet briefly before Jacopo boards the Arandora Star, a ship intended for fewer than 400 passengers but now carrying over 1,500 men. The Nazi captain Gunther Prien attacks the ship, causing the deaths of more than 800 people, including 466 Italians. Jacopo survives and spends a month in a Glasgow military hospital. Harriet, determined to reunite with Jacopo, learns of the attack and resolves to find him.

VITO DI BATTISTA

THE NEW NOVEL, SCHEDULED FOR SPRING 2025 BY FELTRINELLI EDITORE, IS A FAMILY SAGA SET IN A MID-20TH-CENTURY SEASIDE VILLAGE—A PLACE WHERE COMETS FALL, SYMBOLIZING NEW LIFE, UPHEAVAL, AND EVEN DEVASTATION

PRAISE FOR PREVIOUS NOVEL, *IL BUON USO DELLA DISTANZA* (MAKING GOOD USE OF DISTANCE):

«It is worth following the author down this road and realizing that there is an idea in this novel, as well as beautiful writing to convey it. One could ask for more from a book, but not much more.»

PIERGIORGIO PATERLINI, *Robinson* – *la Repubblica*

Born in 1986, VITO DI BATTISTA works as a literary agent and translator. He lived in Florence, where he graduated in Comparative Literature with a study on the works of Romain Gary, Tarjei Vesaas, and J.M. Barrie. Then he moved to Alma Mater Studiorum in Bologna, focusing on American and English poetry. He wrote about Ted Hughes and Romain Gary for the literary magazine *Nuovi Argomenti* (Mondadori). His first novel, *L'ultima diva dice addio*, was published in 2018 by SEM and was shortlisted for several awards. His second book, *Il buon uso della distanza* (Gallucci, 2023), won the 'Premio Iannas' 2024. It was also shortlisted for 'Premio Letteraria' 2024, and longlisted for 'Fiesole Narrativa Under 40' award 2024. His new novel, *Dove cadono le comete*, will be published by Feltrinelli in 2025.



His works:

- 2025: *Dove cadono le comete*, Italy (Feltrinelli)
- 2023: *Il buon uso della distanza*, Italy (Gallucci)
- 2018: *L'ultima diva dice addio*, Italy (SEM)



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DOVE CADONO LE COMETE

We Know a Place Where Comets Fall

Written in immersive, hypnotic prose and narrated through the voices of the village, this novel is inspired by the true chronicle of the author's family.

Narratori  Feltrinelli

Vito di Battista

Dove cadono
le comete**COVER
NOT FINAL**

Set in a seaside village in central-southern Italy from the '30s to the '60s, this family saga follows a girl twice disgraced, a young man who finds solace in writing poetry and plays, a woman trapped by tragic fate, and a baby girl whose life might have been different—if only her father had allowed it.

**DETAILED
ENGLISH
SUMMARY
AVAILABLE****ENGLISH
SAMPLE
AVAILABLE**

Feltrinelli acquired the rights based solely on the synopsis and a short sample.

A hilltop village in the Abruzzo region, where many peculiar lives unfold.

First, there's Emma, a young farm girl. She knows the secrets of herbs—and perhaps can even see the dead—but never reveals her true thoughts. Abandoned by her fiancé when she became pregnant and cast out by her family, she now lives in a stable like a forgotten animal. After giving birth to a stillborn child, she finds herself pregnant again, with no choice but to give the baby up for adoption.

Then there's Anita, a sharp and well-mannered young woman with striking blonde hair. Once destined for a perfect life as a wife, a tragic accident in her father's bakery cost her an arm and condemned her to spinsterhood.

Next is Olimpo, who broke with family tradition, refusing to become a cobbler. Instead, he pursued writing, earning his living as a civil registry clerk and journalist.

Finally, there's Bianca, a little girl haunted by a voice constantly singing in her head. She was meant to be adopted by a wealthy family, but her father decided to keep her.

May 1938. Now married, Anita and Olimpo have a one-year-old son when Anita gives birth to a baby girl. A wealthy landowner asks Olimpo to adopt the girl as his own, since he and his wife are unable to conceive. Though Anita manages everything with just one arm, two children are a lot to handle. But Olimpo refuses. He names his daughter Bianca—after the color of comets—and vows to raise her with all the love he can offer. However, Anita doesn't have enough milk for both children. Olimpo approaches Emma with a proposal: she will live in the village to nurse Bianca and support Anita. And so, little Bianca grows up with two mothers, yet she will always feel that neither truly belongs to her.

This is only the beginning of a tale that spans an entire village—one deeply scarred by war when it finds itself on the front lines. It's a story of choices and secrets, of traditions and revolutions. A story of how pride can change the course of a life, and of comets that, when least expected, arrive or return, turning everything into a different story altogether.

Original Publisher: **FELTRINELLI** | Genre: **Novel** | Pages: 300 | Release: Spring 2025
Language: Italian | Rights: World

FULL MANUSCRIPT AVAILABLE SOON



IL BUON USO DELLA DISTANZA

Making Good Use of Distance

The story of an author who penned only debut novels,
loosely inspired by the 'Émile Ajar affair' of French writer Romain Gary.



«Splendours and miseries of the
publishing world».
RAI Cultura

With mesmerizing and vibrant prose,
Vito di Battista skillfully navigates
the perils of ambition and the
intricacies of the human soul.



↑ READ THE
ENGLISH SAMPLE



↑ READ THE
ENGLISH SUMMARY

WINNER OF THE 'PREMIO IANNAS' 2024

SHORTLISTED FOR 'PREMIO LETTERARIA' 2024

LOONGLISTED FOR 'PREMIO FIESOLE NARRATIVA UNDER 40' AND 'PREMIO ZENO' 2024

«A novel that proudly distinguishes itself, with original and masterful writing, from the commercial and narrative trends that often dominate the contemporary literary mainstream. In Pierre Renard's endless string of debuts (evoking a nearly namesake character from Borges), tragedy and irony intertwine, delving into the soul and the deepest nightmares of what it means to be a writer. A cast of unforgettable characters and a plot reminiscent of 19th-century novels give this work a rare strength and integrity, marking it as a truly unique piece destined to leave a lasting impact.»

Premio Iannas' Jury

Paris, 1976. Pierre Renard, a 27-year-old who has moved to France from Florence, works at the publishing house that published his debut novel. When his editor tells him they're not interested in his new book, Pierre fears that his career might be over. What appears to be a failure will unexpectedly turn into an insane opportunity. That very night, Pierre receives a letter from an unknown woman who only identifies herself as 'Madame.' She offers to pay him to write novels inspired by her letters, but they must never meet, and each novel must be published under a different pseudonym. Though initially reluctant, Pierre eventually agrees. Over the years, Pierre will bend the rules of the world around him, concocting schemes and creating literary intrigues about authors who don't exist—all to ensure that his novels are deemed worthy of publication. Meanwhile, his life becomes entangled with those who, to varying degrees of awareness, are part of his shadowy career: Colette, the madam of an illegal brothel chosen by Madame as her direct spokesperson; Philippe, Pierre's only true friend; Louis, an enigmatic young man with whom Pierre reluctantly falls in love; and Philippe's girlfriend Claire, an aspiring actress who is the only one to understand that what 'many call a gift is actually a life-long sentence.' It is to Claire that eventually Pierre reveals the whole truth. On that fateful day in 1976, when everything began, he had no idea that Madame harbored her own hidden agenda. An agenda fueled by resentment and family secrets that would ultimately shatter Pierre's life.

Original Publisher: **GALLUCCI** | Genre: Novel | Pages: 396 | Release: Nov 2023
Language: Italian | Rights: World

THIRD REPRINT!

EMMANUEL EXITU

THE FIRST NOVEL EVER WRITTEN ABOUT BRITISH DAME CICELY SAUNDERS,
CHAMPION OF THE HOSPICE MOVEMENT AND THE BENEFITS OF PALLIATIVE CARE

«Emmanuel Exitu has the perfect recipe for a great novel: a captivating character, a gripping plot, and, above all, compelling prose that serves as a testament to our most mysterious virtue—hope.»

DANIELE MENCARELLI, *author of "Everything Calls for Salvation",
winner of Premio Strega Giovani and now a Netflix series*

EMMANUEL EXITU is an author, writer, and director. He has been involved in various projects for RAI television, including the film *La stella dei re* (2006), which was based on his debut novel. His documentary *Greater–Defeating AIDS*, a finalist at Cannes 2008, was selected as 'Best Documentary' by Spike Lee during the Babelgum Contest and showcased at numerous international film festivals. In addition to his work in film and television, he has contributed to advertising and social media campaigns for Wip Italia. In 2016, he founded Ways!, an agency specializing in 360-degree storytelling for businesses and products. His new book, *Di cosa è fatta la speranza*, released in October 2023 by Bompiani, won the 2024 Premio Comisso.



His works:

- 2023: *Di cosa è fatta la speranza*, Italy (Bompiani)
- 2006: *La stella dei re*, Italy (Marietti)





DI COSA È FATTA LA SPERANZA *What Hope Is Made Of*

An exceptional and illuminating biographical novel about an unforgettable woman who changed how the world looked at terminal care: Cicely Saunders.



AN AMAZON BESTSELLER!
+10,000 COPIES SOLD

What Hope Is Made Of
is a meticulously researched
and vivid testament to the
founder of the modern hospice
movement – a woman who
achieved success at a time when
unconventional thinking was met
with extreme hostility.



↑ READ THE
ENGLISH SAMPLE



↑ READ THE
ENGLISH SUMMARY

WINNER OF THE 'PREMIO COMISSO' 2024

«With a keen eye and profound consideration for his heroine's inner thoughts, Exitu portrays the life of a woman who made a significant impact on the field of medicine.»

ALESSANDRO ZACCURI, writer and literary critic

In the 1940s, Cicely made a decision that many considered unconventional. Instead of completing her degree at Oxford University, she chose to become a nurse because she felt a strong calling to help her country during the war. Her classmates at the prestigious Nightingale Nursery School often teased her for her clumsiness, partly due to scoliosis, and her unfashionable hairstyle. Despite the challenges, she earned her nursing diploma but soon realized that her back pain would prevent her from pursuing her dream. Undeterred, she enrolled in a social work course.

While working at St. Thomas Hospital, Cicely unexpectedly found herself falling in love with David, a terminally ill patient from Poland. Their relationship lasted less than two months, but it helped Cicely conceive the idea of a home-hospital—a place where the terminally ill, often deemed unrecoverable and neglected by the healthcare system, could receive compassionate care.

During her free time, Cicely volunteered at St. Luke's, a hospital run by nuns. Here, she crossed paths with the rebellious Sister Teresa and learned the significance of administering small, regular doses of opiates to bring comfort to her dying patients. She realized that to accomplish her goals, she needed to become a doctor.

At the age of 39, Cicely graduated as a doctor and began her research on pain management for cancer patients. She fell in love with Antoni, who, once again, was Polish and terminally ill. This time, her heart was shattered. She contemplated leaving everything behind, but doing so would mean abandoning her patients just as her dreams were beginning to take shape. In 1967, the St. Christopher Hospice was inaugurated, and Cicely's dream became a reality.

Original Publisher: **BOMPIANI** | Genre: **Biographical Novel** | Pages: 424 | Release: Oct 2023
Language: Italian | Rights: World

THIRD REPRINT!

MARTINO GIORDANO

A MESMERIZING DEBUT NOVEL ABOUT QUEER LIVES

Born in Palermo in 1997, MARTINO GIORDANO is a **transgender author**. He graduated in Literature and spent a year in Prague. He later studied at the **Scuola Holden** in Turin (founded and directed by Alessandro Baricco), where he currently lives while pursuing a **master's degree in Comparative Literature**. He has **written about Pajtim Statovci** for «SuccedeOggi», and one of his short stories is featured in the anthology *Quasi di nascosto*, a collection of works by authors under 25, published by Accento.

His debut novel, *Variazioni sul tema*, will be published by Solferino in 2025 as part of a series curated by renowned journalist, author, and Premio Strega finalist **Teresa Ciabatti**.



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VARIAZIONI SUL TEMA

Variations on a Theme

A tale of two lives adrift but not without hope, weaving together and pursuing one another in a subtle and unstoppable crescendo, until a final revelation uncovers what truly binds them.



DETAILED
ENGLISH
SUMMARY
AVAILABLE

ENGLISH
SAMPLE
AVAILABLE

Martino Giordano's debut is a mature, self-aware, intimate, and gripping exploration of twenty-something queer individuals seeking meaningful connections. It delves into their struggles to find one another or their belief that they've met someone who genuinely recognizes them, leading to profound self-discovery.

Lidia, a 23-year-old student at the Sicilian Conservatory of Palermo, lives a seemingly perfect life with a supportive family, a loving girlfriend named Dalila, and a privileged position in the city's elegant society. As she prepares for a crucial audition with the Berliner Philharmoniker, she grapples with an inner voice revealing that she feels trapped in the wrong body. Struggling with self-harm and doubts about transitioning, she risks both her audition and her future with Dalila.

Parallel to Lidia's story is Leo, a young man new to Prague, trying to make sense of his unfamiliar surroundings. Living in a motel and wrestling with his sexuality, Leo becomes enthralled by a drag queen named Selene. After being assaulted and hospitalized, Leo finds solace with Selene, who turns out to be Lucien. Their turbulent relationship exposes their deep-seated struggles and the impact of their past decisions. As their stories converge, Lidia and Leo's experiences intertwine in a shared journey of transformation and self-discovery.

Original Publisher: **SOLFERINO** | Genre: **Novel** | Pages: 200 | Release: Jan 2025
Language: Italian | Rights: World

GIANLUCA MOROZZI

AN AUTHOR WITH AN INIMITABLE STYLE, WHO NAVIGATES BETWEEN GENRES AND LITERARY FORMS WITH EXTRAORDINARY NATURALNESS

«Gianluca Morozzi possesses an innate stylistic fluency.»

TuttoLibri – La Stampa

GIANLUCA MOROZZI, born in 1971 in Bologna where he currently resides, is a **writer, musician, radio host, screenwriter, and creative writing teacher**, with a diverse body of work spanning essays, short stories, graphic novels, and novels.

He made his literary debut in 2001 with *Despero* (Fernandel), followed by a series of novels including *Blackout* (Guanda, 2004), **translated into several languages**, which served as the **basis for the movie of the same name** directed by Rigoberto Castañeda. Other notable works include *L'era del porco* (Guanda, 2005), *Radiomorte* (Guanda, 2014), *Lo specchio nero* (Guanda, 2015), and *Gli annientatori* (TEA, 2018). With the graphic novel *Pandemonio*, which he wrote, he won the **Micheluzzi award** in 2007 for the **best graphic novel of the year**.



Some of his works:

- 2024: *A Bologna con A. Paziienza*, Italy (Perrone)
- 2024: *Che fine ha fatto la Neve?*, Italy (TEA)
- 2022: *Il libraio innamorato*, Italy (Fernandel)
- 2020: *Andromeda*, Italy (Perrone)
- 2019: *Dracula ed io*, Italy (TEA)
- 2018: *Gli annientatori*, Italy (TEA)
- 2017: *Il vangelo del coyote*, Italy (Mondadori Ink)
- 2015: *Lo specchio nero*, Italy (Guanda)
- 2014: *Radiomorte*, Italy (Guanda)
- 2013: *Marlene in the sky*, Italy (Gallucci)
- 2011: *Chi non muore*, Italy (Guanda)
- 2010: *Cicatrici*, Italy (Guanda)
- 2007: *L'abisso*, Italy (Fernandel)
- 2006: *Pandemonio*, Italy (Fernandel)
- 2005: *L'era del porco*, Italy (Guanda)
- 2004: *Blackout*, Italy (Guanda), UK / US (Bitter Lemon Press), Germany (Goldmann Verlag), Spain (Alba Editorial)
- 2001: *Despero*, Italy (Fernandel)



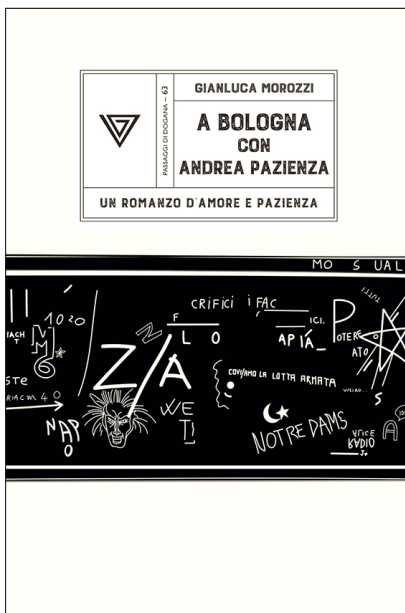


A BOLOGNA CON ANDREA PAZIENZA

Walking in Bologna with Andrea Pazienza

The novel traces the Bologna experienced
by the great comic artist Andrea Pazienza.

Andrea Pazienza (1956-1988), a legendary Italian cartoonist and graphic novelist, is celebrated for his bold, subversive, and deeply personal works. His most famous characters, such as Pentothal and Pompeo, have become iconic in Italian underground comics, often mirroring the political and cultural upheavals of 1970s Italy. Pazienza's groundbreaking style and fearless storytelling have left an indelible mark on Italian visual arts and literature, securing his place as an enduring and influential figure in contemporary art and culture.



ENGLISH
SAMPLE
AVAILABLE

Bologna. Every year on May 23rd, the birthday of Andrea Pazienza, a writer supplements his meager income by organizing tours through the places frequented or immortalized by the brilliant artist. But this time, among the participants, he encounters a young woman who looks as though she was beautifully drawn by Pazienza himself. What follows is a multifaceted romantic relationship, destined for an inevitable end. Before that, however, they experience their surreal love affair in the very streets Pazienza once drew and narrated: university halls, student-filled squares, trattorias and osterias, and corners where crimes were committed. As they walk, the line between present-day reality and the vivid panels and comics of Pazienza blurs more and more. Eventually, the doomed couple finds themselves chasing a mysterious third party, someone who claims to know the whereabouts of the unpublished pages from Andrea Pazienza's final, enigmatic story. But is it true?

Original Publisher: **PERRONE** | Genre: Novel | Pages: 480 | Release: Apr 2024
Language: Italian | Rights: World



CHE FINE HA FATTO LA NEVE?

What Became of Snow?

A wide-ranging novel with an unpredictable interweaving of stories and characters, vivid and convincing.



Che fine ha fatto la Neve? is the dramatic and absurd story of Vilo Vulcano, a bookseller-detective from Bologna who suffers from a very rare syndrome that prevents him from feeling fear. The upside? He faces the most unsettling cases with absolute clarity.

The novel is divided into three parts, which could potentially also be published as a series.



↑ READ THE
ENGLISH SAMPLE



↑ READ THE
ENGLISH SUMMARY

«Morozzi really knows how to make you laugh».
il Venerdì di Repubblica

«A breezy and rousing writing.»
Wired

In *Prisma*, Vilo is drawn into a dangerous love affair while investigating a Houdini-inspired death; *Picco Scuro* sees him unraveling disappearances in a 'Twin Peaks'-like village, which are strangely connected to a rare edition of Dino Campana's poems; and *Neve in cantina* reveals dark family secrets and a vengeful past connected to modern-day vampires.

Vilo Vulcano owns a small bookstore in the center of Bologna, which is also his home and office. Struggling with debts, he has a bed in the back of the bookstore and a desk in the rest of the space.

Very clandestinely, Vilo Vulcano works as a private investigator too. Anyone with an absurd case to solve asks around, and sooner or later, they find him. He always says yes, even though he has no investigative techniques or the constitution for it. To solve cases, he relies on Star Trek episodes for inspiration or on an illiterate woman named Remedios, a nomad who has enlightening visions during moments of orgasm. As for the physical aspect of the matter, Vilo gets help from one of the few regular customers of his bookstore, a gigantic metalhead known as the Dreadful, who doesn't hesitate to act as his hefty Watson.

Vilo has a buried secret from his childhood: in the basements of his building, where he used to play with his little friend Snow, something horrible and inexplicable happened. Snow disappeared without a trace, never to be found again, and young Vilo, who remembers nothing, suffered terrible wounds. The scars from those wounds make it impossible for him to have sexual relations without experiencing excruciating pain. Furthermore, Vilo has a rare condition (Urbach-Wiethe disease): he cannot feel fear. He knows danger, he can identify it, but panic, terror, or even simple fear never touch him. He faces the most unsettling cases with absolute clarity.

Original Publisher: TEA | Genre: Mystery Novel | Pages: 480 | Release: Apr 2024
Language: Italian | Rights: World

MICHELA PANICHI

ONE OF THE YOUNGEST AND MOST PROMISING TALENTS IN ITALIAN LITERATURE,
BORN IN 2000, AND ALREADY A WINNER OF THE PREMIO CAMPIELLO GIOVANI
AND A FINALIST FOR THE PREMIO ITALO CALVINO

MICHELA PANICHI was born in Naples in 2000. She graduated in Literature from the universities of Naples and Bologna and is currently pursuing a **master's in Serial Fiction Writing at RAI** in Perugia. In 2020, she **won the Campiello Giovani** with her short story *Meduse*. Another of her stories was included in the 2022 anthology *Quasi di nascosto*, published by Accento Edizioni. In 2024, her novel *La Cecilia* was a **finalist for the Premio Calvino**.



COMING
SOON!

o t a g o

foreignrights@otago.it

LA CECILIA

Caecilia

The upheavals of adolescence through the story of a thirteen-year-old questioning how well her body represents who she truly is.

A delicate and powerful queer debut novel, already a finalist for the 2024 Premio Italo Calvino, Italy's most prestigious award for unpublished authors.

«In a novel, the word is queen, and in this case, the value of the writing is undeniable, as is the unique ability to analyze family dynamics and adolescent relationships. [...] A memorable summer leaves Cecilia with a bittersweet taste, realizing that nature seems unbiased and open to every possibility.»

PREMIO CALVINO'S JURY



DETAILED
ENGLISH
SUMMARY
AVAILABLE

ENGLISH
SAMPLE
AVAILABLE

Ischia, a small island off Naples, in the late 1990s. At thirteen, Cecilia's body seems unready to grow, just as she struggles to understand who she truly is. Sharing her name with a South American amphibian that is both male and female feels like more than a coincidence.

As the summer unfolds, Cecilia navigates sun-drenched beaches, daring cliff dives, solitary moments, and innocent transgressions. Confused and grappling with her awkward age, she uncovers the true shape of her world: her beloved father reveals secrets and betrayals; her mother shows an unexpected side; and a new group of friends mistakes her for a boy due to her undeveloped body. Adopting the name Luca and using a silicone cup to maintain the ruse, Cecilia is unsettled by Alba, an older girl who shows unexpected interest in her. Through Alba, Cecilia faces the darkness of sex and the hypocrisy of social conventions in a timeless summer that will change her forever.

Original Publisher: **NOTTETEMPO** | Genre: Novel | Pages: 220 | Release: Apr 2025
Language: Italian | Rights: World

FULL MANUSCRIPT AVAILABLE IN JANUARY

MATTIA TORTELLI

THE FIRST WORK OF A YOUNG AND WELL-REGARDED BLOGGER
AND CULTURAL ACTIVIST

«A captivating and unique debut novel in the Italian literary scene, distinguished by its profound reflectiveness throughout.
The imperative is to feel what Gabriele has experienced or still perceives.»

Critica Letteraria



MATTIA TORTELLI (1996) was born in Milan. He works as a **primary school teacher** and a **basketball coach for children**. Additionally, he's **blogger and podcaster**, he serves as a **cultural promoter** in bookstores and libraries, and **manages communications** for the Italian publishing house Utopia. He has published **short stories** in numerous literary magazines. *Solo i santi non pensano* is his debut novel.



SOLO I SANTI NON PENSANO

Saints Don't Think

A poignant, unapologetic, and emotionally gripping literary debut.



↑ READ THE
ENGLISH SAMPLE

«I wrote it while listening to the soundtrack of the TV series *The Leftovers*.»
from the interview with the author on *Il Libraio*

«The theme of work emerges, even if it's not central, along with the struggles of a generation of thirty-somethings who are merely surviving. The novel delves into the relationship with memories and explores plant cuttings as a metaphor for the possibility of becoming something different while still carrying the cells of our parents. It discusses motherhood and being a child, care as a solution, overcoming trauma, and the exploration and reclamation of our bodies.»

Universo Letterario

With a poetic and “painterly” prose, *Solo i santi non pensano* tells the story of a young man searching for a way to be a son without giving up being himself.

Gabriele is thirty years old. He loves plants and works for a pest control company despite being an architect. He lives alone surrounded by pots, with his own private rituals and a few apps for occasional sex. He hasn't spoken to his mother for ten years, since he left the Jehovah's Witnesses, the religious sect that had become their entire life after his father's passing. One day, when Gabriele is at the cemetery for the anniversary of his father's death, his aunt, the person who instilled in him the love for plants and with whom he severed ties during his dissociation from the sect, is there waiting for him. He finds out some developments in his mother's life that, due to the long estrangement, he was unaware of and that will lead him to maybe reconsider his own steps. What remains of an individual when all their certainties are erased? How do we reconstruct our roots when our plant can no longer draw from the soil that nourishes it? What happens when our affections reject us, and what remains after the collapse of the dearest references we have had all our lives?

SELECTION



Ci Siamo Traditi Tutti *Our Mutual Betrayal*

A novel that brings to life a season of terrorism, political conflict,
and social unrest.



↑ READ THE
ENGLISH SAMPLE

Born in Rome in 1994, **MADDALENA CREPET** is the daughter of Paolo Crepet, a renowned Italian psychiatrist, writer, and sociologist. She pursued her studies in Modern History and Literature at the University of Padua. Her thesis focused on the attempted murder of Professor Sergio Lenci by the armed group 'Prima Linea' in 1980. She furthered her education by enrolling in a two-year Writing course at Scuola Holden.

With her strong and engaging debut, Maddalena Crepet vividly depicts a turbulent era of terrorism, political strife, and social upheaval, while also exploring the intricacies of love, betrayal, hope, and horror. Peeling away the layers of the past, the novel delves into the truth of a tragically lost youth, yet one that resonates with the impulses and illusions of any era. It presents the Italian civil war of the 1970s in vibrant and unexpected hues, like a restored image brought to life anew for contemporary eyes and reflections.

«A debut novel that delves into hopes and horrors, relationships, and reflections of a generation lost in a dark era. A courageous choice that we can confidently deem triumphant».

La Lettura - Corriere della Sera

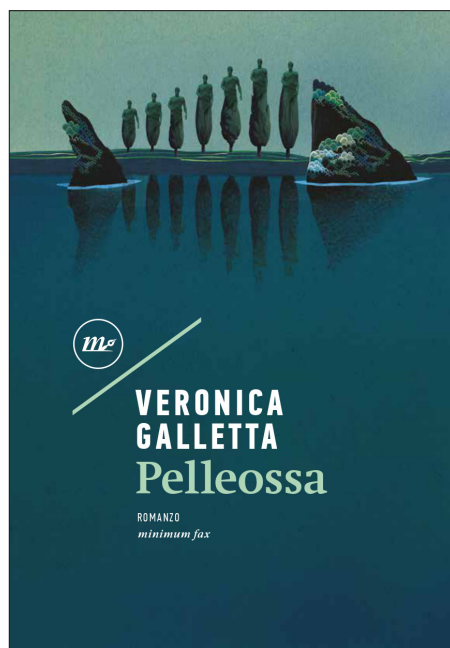
He is a factory worker in Breda, Milan, earning the nickname “Husky” due to his peculiar bright eyes. She is Costanza, the daughter of a wealthy Roman family, known for her striking beauty and unscrupulous nature. Their first victim is Enea Cassini, a magistrate, brutally murdered with three gunshots. In the dark beginnings of the 1970s, those who choose the path of armed struggle find there’s no turning back. Husky and Costanza, alongside a handful of friends, transition from Lotta Continua to establish Prima Linea, determined to punish or eliminate the “enemies of the people” through their operations. Initially, it’s an adventure that solidifies their bond and relationships with fellow comrades, forming a potent mix of passion, blood, loyalty, and purpose. However, internal conflicts within the group and with other factions arise, forcing them into clandestine life where danger looms at every corner. As events unfold, Husky realizes he’s no longer driven by the ideal he once believed in; his sole concern now is winning Costanza’s love. But what about her? What is she truly fighting for?

Original Publisher: **SOLFERINO** | Genre: **Novel** | Pages: 390 | Release: Mar 2024
Language: Italian | Rights: World

PELLEOSSA

Skin and Bones

The ten-years-in-the-making new book by a 'Premio Strega' finalist and winner of 'Premio Campiello' for debut novel.



Born in 1971, **VERONICA GALLETTA** worked as a mechanical engineer for many years before dedicating herself exclusively to her writing. In 2015, her unpublished novel, *Le isole di Norman*, was shortlisted for the 'Italo Calvino' prize. Finally published in April 2020 by Italo Svevo, *Le isole di Norman* won the prestigious 'Premio Campiello' for debut novel. Her second novel, *Nina sull'argine*, was published in October 2021 by minimum fax and was shortlisted for the 'Premio Strega' in 2022. In the same year, it also received the 'Premio Letteratura d'Impresa.'

Pelleossa is an enchanting story that continues the exploration of the ambiguity between the real and the fantastic, a theme that has already distinguished Veronica Galletta's previous books.

«Veronica Galletta masterfully and naturally dominates the architecture of his tales, as well as the plots that hold together places and characters, as evident in 'Pelleossa' where he manages to orchestrate around sixty characters moving within the imaginary town of Santafarra, intertwining their stories with History.»

il manifesto

Sicily, 1943. Paolino is a seven-year-old boy. To avoid being bullied by a group of young boys, he agrees to undergo a test of courage: he must enter the Garden of Filippu, an elderly man who lives alone on a hill and spends his time carving heads out of stone. The Garden is an enchanting place, where thousands of stone heads coexist among the olive trees, bearing witness to the changing seasons. Paolino and Filippu become acquainted, with the old man evolving into a friend and advisor to the child. An entire community revolves around them – a network of rivalries, ancient secrets, social and political changes, and unchanging rituals. In the four years that transform him from a child into a young boy, Paolino will come to understand the true meanings of betrayal, death, and love.

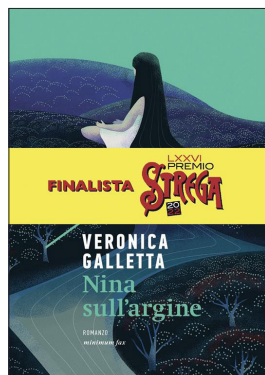
By mixing Italian and Sicilian dialect to create a new language – with influences from authors such as Leonardo Sciascia, Andrea Camilleri, Vincenzo Consolo, and Gesualdo Bufalino – Veronica Galletta recounts a period in history that is not as distant as it may seem.

NINA SULL'ARGINE

Nina on the River Bank

«Veronica Galletta brilliantly employs the riverbank as a metaphor for the soul: the soul of a woman compelled to grapple with herself, her life aspirations, and a male-dominated world. It's a story written with profound care and insight.»

La Lettura - Corriere della Sera



WINNER OF 2022 'PREMIO LETTERATURA D'IMPRESA'.
FINALIST FOR: 'PREMIO STREGA',
'PREMIO CLARA SERENI', 'PREMIO DOLORES PRATO',
'PREMIO THE BRIDGE', 'PREMIO CITTÀ DI LEONFORTE', 'PREMIO BIELLA'

«A sense of loneliness, work alienation, a struggle with nature, and the impossibility of achieving perfection – all of this and more can be found in Galletta's novel. Galletta had already demonstrated her talent with her debut novel, which earned her the 'Premio Campiello Opera Prima'. Now, her gift is even more precise, palpable, and original.»
Nina sull'argine nomination letter for the 'Premio Strega'

As a young engineer taking on her first significant project, Caterina, known as Nina to her friends, is tasked with overseeing the construction of a riverbank in northern Italy. Surrounded by a predominantly male team, she grapples with a constant stream of challenges: demands from surveyors and council members, technical obstacles, environmentalist objections, safety responsibilities for her workers, not to mention a love story gone awry and a complex connection to her Sicilian homeland. Caterina's life soon transforms into a fog-covered construction site, as if she herself needs a riverbank of her own. The temptation to resign from her job grows, but gradually, the people around her cease to be defined solely by their roles and start to resemble real individuals. As the construction of the riverbank nears completion, Caterina's reckoning with her own inner demons compels her to live and learn before she can move forward with her life.

LE ISOLE DI NORMAN

Norman Islands

«An amazing and remarkable novel.»

TuttoLibri - La Stampa

«A fully mature and conscientious debut.»

La Lettura - Corriere della Sera



Ortygia is the heart of Syracuse, one of the most beautiful and ancient cities in Sicily. However, Ortygia itself is a small island, and it's here that Elena resides with her father, a man who continues to pretend that everything is fine, and her mother, Clara, a woman who hasn't left their island within an island for years. Clara spends most of her time in her bedroom, surrounded by books that she arranges and moves according to some mysterious order – a system that Elena has been studying in an attempt to unravel her mother's thoughts. Despite sketching 103 maps of these book movements, finding a solution to the riddle and her mother's depression appears impossible.

One day, Clara vanishes suddenly, prompting Elena to embark on a ritualistic journey through their peculiar hometown. She follows her mother's maps and leaves her books in different locations, hoping to piece together not only Clara's thoughts but also an incident from her own past when Elena accidentally spilled boiling water on her body, leaving scars resembling tiny maps themselves. It is perhaps within this intersection of maps, burns, and secrets that the hidden truth of Elena's parents and the rest of the island around her is concealed.

With a remarkable eye for detail and a remarkably powerful voice, Veronica Galletta draws from her own experiences to vividly depict the imprints left by others and the hidden secrets we carry. She seamlessly navigates between the extremes and the nuances of everyday life in a distinctive yet deeply authentic city.



Original Publisher: **MINIMUM FAX** | Genre: **Novel** | Pages: 220 |
Release: Oct 2021
Language: Italian | Rights: World

+ 15,000 COPIES SOLD
Edition for kiosk in Summer 2023



F I C T I O N



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

+ 20,000 COPIES SOLD



F I C T I O N



LA CANTADORA

La Cantadora

FINALIST FOR 2024 'PREMIO POP - OPERA PRIMA', 'PREMIO SAN SALVO',
AND 'PREMIO SEVERINO CESARI'

«The mythical story of a woman poet with a gun.»

La Nuova Sardegna

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.

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. *La Cantadora* is Vanni Lai's debut novel.

On the enchanting island of Sardinia in the early 20th century, a fearless woman with a pistol tucked in her pocket embarks on a journey, traveling from village to village, festival to festival. Her name is Candida Mara, but throughout the island, she's renowned as 'La Cantadora.' A woman with a mystical aura, she's often perceived as a witch, a goddess, and, above all, a legendary figure capable of challenging the male singers and their guitars in late-night showdowns that draw crowds to bustling squares. These cantori vie for a humble prize of soup and a few glasses of wine, but it's said that La Cantadora possesses a remarkable and spellbinding voice that can captivate anyone who listens, bending them to her will. The last man to surrender his heart to her is Antoni Zusepe, a married man who forsakes his wife to begin a new life alongside Candida Mara. They establish themselves in the city of Sassari, venturing into the world of Arabian horse breeding and illegal racing. But as time unfolds, their idyllic existence proves ephemeral.

Quick to temper, simultaneously cherished and reviled, Candida Mara emerges as the first Sardinian female singer to command the stage at rustic country festivals, boldly challenging the chauvinistic and backward norms of her era. A charismatic yet long-forgotten figure, her legacy is shrouded in decades of mystery and legends. That is until an intrepid writer takes it upon himself to uncover her enigmatic tale, nearly a century later.

Delving into dusty archives, confronting reticent elderly residents, and deciphering the perplexities presented by eccentric musicologists, the writer stumbles upon a golden gramophone that may hold the key to buried and profound secrets.



Original Publisher: **MINIMUM FAX** | Genre: Novel | Pages: 186 |

Release: Jun 2023

Language: Italian | Rights: World

FOURTH REPRINT!



CHIUDI GLI OCCHI, NINA

Close Your Eyes, Nina

Chiudi gli occhi, Nina is a poignant tale, at once tender and profound. It navigates the complexities of modern family dynamics, exploring relationships that transcend biological ties. With sensitivity and insight, Paolo Mascheri masterfully depicts the bonds and pains that shape human connection, painting a vivid portrait of a few essential characters in a microcosm of life.

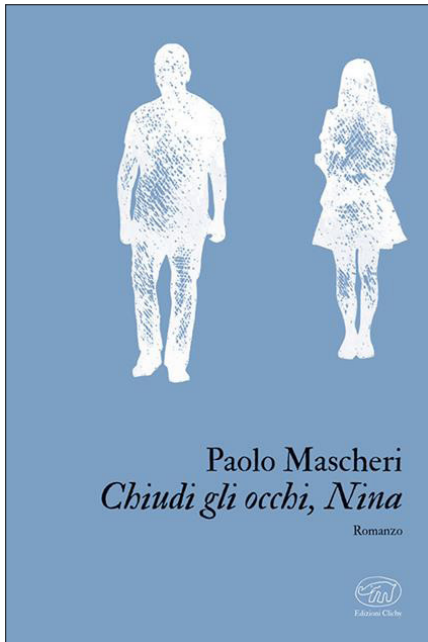
The sincere and intimate tale of a family bond that transcends blood ties.

«Mascheri investigates paternal love».

La Nazione

«A homeopathic novel that teaches us how we can only heal from pain through pain».

Corriere della Sera



↑ READ THE
ENGLISH SAMPLE

PAOLO MASCHERI (1978) lives in Tuscany. He is hailed by literary critics such as Filippo La Porta and Andrea Di Consoli as one of the finest writers of his generation. Mascheri made his literary debut at a remarkably young age with the collection of short stories *Poliuretano*. In 2008, his novel *Il gregario*, published by minimum fax, earned him the Perelà Prize. In 2021, he released the novel *L'albero delle farfalle* through peQuod.

Andrea earns his living as a gardener, seeking solace amidst the serene beauty of the Tuscan countryside. Shy and introspective, he finds himself in harmony with the tranquility that envelops him. However, tragedy strikes when his wife, Chiara, suddenly passes away, leaving Andrea to care for Nina, Chiara's daughter from a previous relationship. Nina embodies the innocence and curiosity of an eleven-year-old girl, and Andrea strives to maintain a sense of normalcy in their lives. He shields her from the harsh reality of her mother's death, confiding only in one of Chiara's former colleagues. Just as Andrea and Nina begin to find their footing, Nina's biological father resurfaces from Venezuela, where he now lives with his new partner. His desire to reconnect with Nina threatens to disrupt the fragile balance Andrea has worked so hard to maintain. Caught in a delicate balancing act, Andrea grapples with the dilemma of how much he should intervene in Nina's life. Can he protect her while respecting her father's right to be a part of her life?



LA CONCA BUIA

A Valley in the Dark

A story of petty Italian politics and unburied family resentments.



READ THE
ENGLISH SAMPLE



READ THE
ENGLISH SUMMARY

CLAUDIO MORANDINI is an accomplished writer with works that include radio plays, theater monologues, and numerous novels. His novels are translated into several languages.

In his career, he has won numerous literary awards in Italy, France, and the UK.

«His seemingly limpid prose contains murky depths.»

The Herald

«At its best, Claudio Morandini's mountain is shrouded in darkness.

At its worst, it transforms into an unmistakable hell.»

La Lettura – Corriere della Sera

As the municipal elections draw near, Franco Cavaglià, the current mayor of a mountain village, becomes increasingly preoccupied with the prospect of losing his job. The problem is that, after years of a sedentary lifestyle and indulgent work lunches, he no longer resembles the typical mountain man: his once hardy hands, slim figure, and weathered wrinkles have been replaced by urban obesity that might alienate potential voters. To regain the favor of his community, Franco requires the assistance of an Alpine hero, someone who embodies sacrifice, industriousness, and tradition. Someone much like his own father.

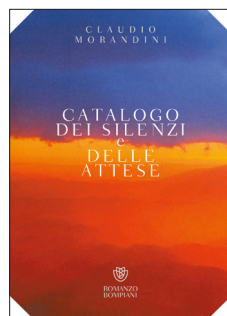
The truth, however, is that Franco's father is a loathsome, selfish, and cruel man who subjected his wife and son to years of abuse. Nevertheless, Franco understands all too well that politics and truth rarely align. As for the truth, he himself is a master in the art of deception, having learned it from a young age when he needed to evade his father's wrath. The real challenge lies in persuading the old man to accompany him to the grueling campaign meetings. Initially, sedation seems like the perfect solution, but this tactic quickly proves inadequate. This is where Leda, Franco's daughter, enters the picture. Though initially reluctant, she joins this unusual duo because she is the only one capable of soothing her grandfather. It's at this juncture that things take a dramatic turn, and Franco reveals his willingness to do whatever it takes to secure victory.

A Valley in the Dark is a 'mountain novel' focused on contradictions and petty rivalries among family members, revealing what lies beneath a bittersweet and satirical façade.

CATALOGO DEI SILENZI E DELLE ATTESE

All This Waiting and Silence

A superb and emotionally charged coming-of-age story; a delicate portrayal of a life that is simultaneously ordinary and exemplary, as well as uniquely magical.



↑ READ THE
FRENCH SAMPLE

«You unmistakably sense that you are in the presence of an author who has a profound understanding of the most intimate mysteries of human life»

La Lettura – Corriere della Sera

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

TuttoLibri – La Stampa

«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

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.

Original Publisher: **BOMPIANI** | Genre: **Novel** | Pages: 220 | Release: Mar 2022
Language: Italian | Rights: World | Sold to: **France** (Anacharsis)

NEVE, CANE, PIEDE

Snow, Dog, Foot

WINNER OF 2016 'PREMIO PROCIDA-ISOLA DI ARTURO-ELSA MORANTE' IN ITALY

WINNER OF 2021 'PRIX LIRE EN POCHE' IN FRANCE

RUNNER-UP OF 2022 'THE JOHN FLORIO PRIZE' IN UK

LONGLISTED OF 2023 'EUROPESE LITERATUURPRIJS' IN THE NETHERLANDS



↑ 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 lies a solitary valley where the elderly and absent-minded Adelmo Farandola roams, driven to madness by his isolation. Adelmo's sole companion is a persistent dog, and together, they create an oddly comical pair, for Adelmo possesses the rare ability to understand the dog's speech, as well as the voices of other mountain creatures. He can even decipher the voices of the wind, the sky, and the departed.

As Adelmo grapples with the harsh and unforgiving nature that surrounds him, we accompany him through the changing seasons and the repetitiveness of his actions. However, one Spring day, Adelmo and his faithful dog stumble upon a human foot in the melting snow.

Snow, Dog, Foot is a unique little book that captivates readers with its intriguing characters and their sardonic wisdom.

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



UN BALCONE CON VISTA BISMARCKSTRASSE *Watching Bismarckstraße*

A precious and powerful novel based on the true story
of a little girl who met Hitler.



Born in 1937 in Silesia, which was part of the Third Reich at the time, **HELGA SCHNEIDER**'s life is a novel itself. Abandoned by her mother in 1941, she finds out only three decades later that the woman was still alive and had left the family to work in the SS as a guardian in Auschwitz-Birkenau. Schneider told this story in her best-selling novel *Lasciami andare, madre* (*Let me go*), published in 2004 by Adelphi and translated into several languages. A biopic based on the book was released in 2017 and premiered at the Edinburgh International Film Festival. She later published two more novels with Adelphi and others with Einaudi, Rizzoli, and Salani. In 1996 she won the 'Premio Rapallo', and in 2015 she received the 'Premio Ceppo' Lifetime Achievement Award for her children's books. Helga Schneider has been living in Bologna, Italy, since 1963.



↑ READ THE
ENGLISH SUMMARY



↑ READ THE
ENGLISH SAMPLE

«This story might seem like the plot of a breathtaking movie.
But Helga Schneider's story is not the plot of a film; it is her real life.»

Vanity Fair

«Helga Schneider's style is delicate, dry, careful to outline
the historical context.»

La Stampa

Berlin, December 1944. Helga is a child, and like all children worldwide, she's living through the horrific reality of war. The city is under siege by Allied bombs, and those who can must seek refuge in basements. In Helga's family, her father is away at war, her mother vanished years ago, and her stepmother, Ursula, openly dislikes her.

However, on this December morning, Helga decides to run away because she refuses to meet him. Her grandfather always claims that he is evil and responsible for Germany's suffering. Yet, she eventually returns home because she doesn't know where else to go. Along with her brother Peter, she is selected to visit Adolf Hitler himself as part of a propaganda effort to boost the German people's morale in the face of the virtually lost war. Fast forward to 1948. The war has ended, Helga's father has returned, but Berlin lies in ruins. The family relocates to a small village in Austria. There, Helga believes she might finally find happiness. Amid new friendships and minor misunderstandings, she experiences a carefree summer that offers a semblance of normalcy at last.



ADDIO ARRIVEDERCI CIAO

Goodbye, See You, Hi

«A modern tale, more gray than dark, centered on the protagonist's restlessness.».

Satisficcion

A tale of the mind's struggle between change and the comfort of stability. In this tension of progress and memory, we remain our own greatest obstacle.



Born in Naples and raised in San Giorgio a Cremano, **FRANCESCO SPIEDO** is a non-practicing engineer. His works have appeared in numerous literary magazines, as well as online and in various anthologies.

He is the founder of Itaca Colonia Creativa, where he focuses on creative writing and works as a ghostwriter.

So far, he has written three novels, all published by Fandango.

His debut novel will be published in Argentina in November 2024.

S. has had enough of the city and its rules, the same old company, and the routine that drives him. He's tired and ready for a change. He's planned a departure—the latest in a lifetime of many—but this time it feels different, final. The decision is made. With one last party, he bids his friends farewell. He won't be coming back.

Yet, the moment he finds himself alone, ready to cross the threshold and leave home behind, his departure turns into a journey on the edge of the surreal—an odyssey through a reality that bends to the laws of a new logic. Urban spaces dissolve, giving way to an out-of-place fauna. Streets, buildings, monuments—the very coordinates of his memory—blur and merge with impossible landscapes, other lives, alien presences.

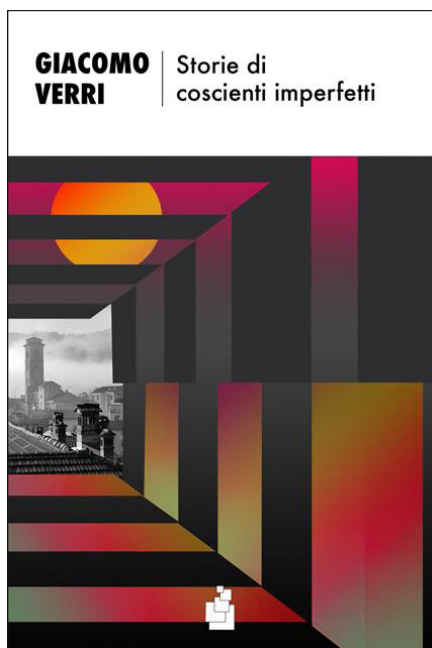
At the precise moment when he should be leaving and forgetting, S. instead remembers. He remembers everything.



STORIE DI COSCIENTI IMPERFETTI

Tales of Imperfect Consciousness

A narrative rhythm reminiscent of American minimalist literature.



↑ READ THE
ENGLISH SAMPLE

Born in 1978, **GIACOMO VERRI** made a significant impact on the literary world with his debut novel *Partigiano Inverno* (Nutrimenti, 2012), which was shortlisted for the prestigious Calvino Prize. The novel was subsequently translated into Dutch by Uitgeverij IJzer and released in a kiosk edition alongside la «la Repubblica» in 2020. Verri went on to publish *Racconti partigiani* (Biblioteca dell'Immagine, 2015), and the novel *Un altro candore* (Nutrimenti, 2019).

«Verri breaks down the walls between stories, providing readers with a microcosm in which to reflect and see themselves».

RAI Cultura

«These *Stories of Imperfect Consciousness* show us how, faced with life's complexities, it is possible to examine the consciousness of things in its gentle, imperfect, and therefore most human forms, which are part of us».

La Stampa

«Tales with varied atmospheres».

NotiziaOggi

In *Storie di coscienti imperfetti*, we encounter a myriad of characters and situations: a family frozen in silence as a violent quarrel unfolds; aging partisans gathered around a memorial stone; a man who bares his soul before marriage; a former prostitute participating in self-awareness sessions; a lioness adored by her family but despised by others; a former partisan imprisoned for defending a young girl's honor; children learning about friendship; a middle-aged man relegated to housework for a wealthy woman; and two retired women settling an age-old score. These stories, woven together, unfold against the backdrop of a town nestled between plains and mountains, resembling a delicate flower pressed between the pages of an ancient tome. Through the trials and tribulations of children, heroes, prostitutes, and elderly women, each grapple with their own imperfect conscience while navigating the complexities of life intertwined.



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