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**SALONE INTERNAZIONALE DEL LIBRO
DI TORINO 2024**

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MADDALENA CREPET

THE DEBUT OF A YOUNG WRITER WHO BRINGS TO LIFE THE ERA OF TERRORISM,
POLITICAL CONFLICT, AND SOCIAL UPHEAVAL IN ITALY DURING THE 1970s

«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

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 in Turin, a prestigious institution founded by Alessandro Baricco.

In March 2024, her debut novel, *Ci siamo traditi tutti*, was published by Solferino Libri, a publishing house affiliated with the RCS MediaGroup.



Her works:

- 2024: *Ci siamo traditi tutti*, Italy (Solferino)





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

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.

«The armed struggle told through the eyes of twenty-year-olds».

Il Libraio

«If the streets bleed, certain pages of this novel burn.».

Critica Letteraria

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

VITO DI BATTISTA

A NOVEL OF SECRETS, DECEPTIONS AND AMBITION IN THE FRENCH PUBLISHING SCENE OF THE 1970s

«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*

«A novel brimming with profound reflections on life's truths, the artistry of writing, and the beauty found within words.»

Satisfaction

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* (issued by 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*, is out with Gallucci in November 2023, and reaches its third reprint. After reading just a one-chapter sample, Feltrinelli Editore acquired the Italian rights to his next novel, with a publication planned for early 2025.



His works:

- 2023: *Il buon uso della distanza*, Italy (Gallucci)
- 2018: *L'ultima diva dice addio*, Italy (SEM)





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.



Making Good Use of Distance tells us about a career that is both wondrous and plausible in its uniqueness. But how much freedom there can be for those who live a lie, and how much we miss out on others' lives by not sharing the foundation of our own?

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

«Vito di Battista embarks on an existential inquiry into the discovery of love, family ties, memory, and storytelling, all infused with a charming and compelling retro style evocative of French literature».

Rumore

«Splendours and miseries of the publishing world».

RAI Cultura

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, exploiting others' weaknesses and dark affairs, orchestrating vendettas, 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 and captivating 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, after years of deceiving everyone and concealing parts of his life, Pierre finally 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.

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 works:

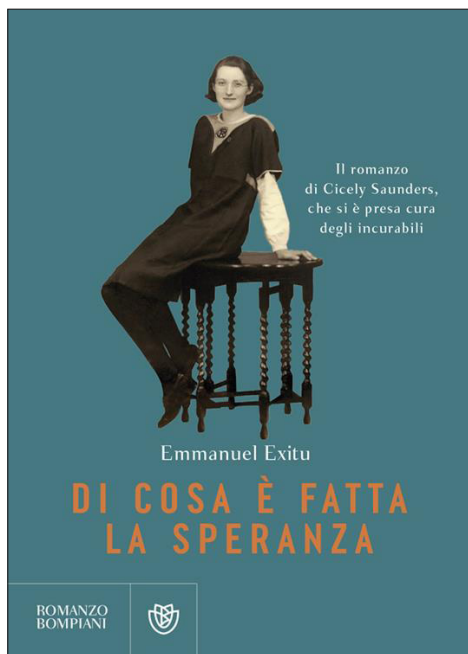
- 2023: *Di cosa è fatta la speranza*, Italy (Bompiani)
- 2006: *La stella dei re*, Italy (Marietti)





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.



+ 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

AN AMAZON BESTSELLER!
THIRD REPRINT IN APRIL 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.

VERONICA GALLETTA

SHORTLISTED FOR 'PREMIO STREGA' 2022 WITH *NINA SULL'ARGINE*

WINNER OF 'PREMIO CAMPIELLO OPERA PRIMA' IN 2020 WITH *LE ISOLE DI NORMAN*

NEW BOOK OUT IN OCTOBER 2023

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

Corriere della Sera

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, the most renowned and reputable Italian contest for aspiring writers, which has launched the careers of authors like Marcello Fois and Paola Mastrocola.

Finally published in April 2020 by Italo Svevo, *Le isole di Norman* won the prestigious 'Premio Campiello' for debut novel less than two months later, with a unanimous vote. This award is the most prestigious and important in Italy for debut novels and new authors.

Her second novel, *Nina sull'argine*, was published in October 2021 by minimum fax and was shortlisted for the 'Premio Strega' in 2022, one of Italy's most esteemed literary awards. In the same year, it also received the 'Premio Letteratura d'Impresa.'

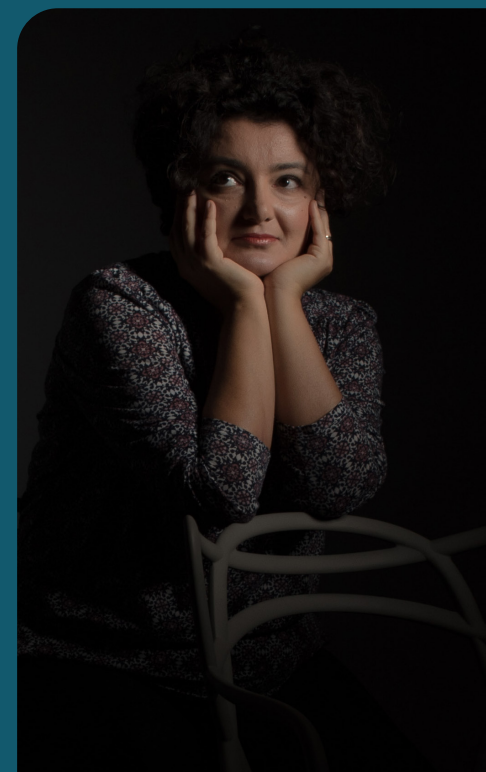
Her latest novel, *Pelleossa*, is out in October 2023.

You can find more about her work on her website: www.veronicagalletta.it.



Her works:

- 2023: *Pelleossa*, Italy (minimum fax)
- 2021: *Nina sull'argine*, Italy (minimum fax)
- 2020: *Le isole di Norman*, Italy (Italo Svevo)

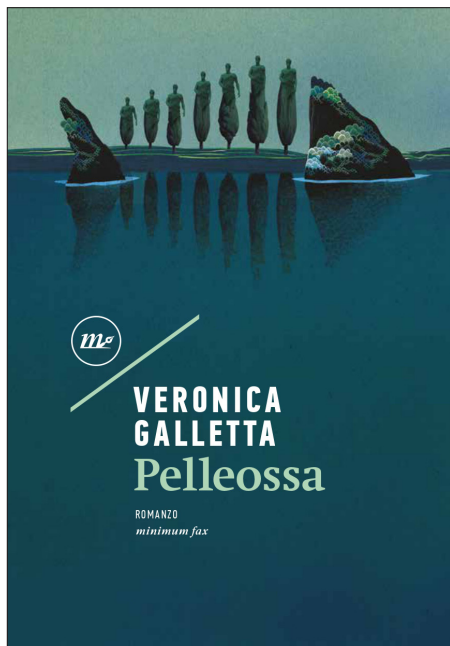




PELLEOSSA

Skin and Bones

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



Pelleossa is an enchanting story that continues the exploration of the ambiguity between the real and the fantastic, a theme that has already distinguished Galletta's previous books, *Le isole di Norman* (winner of 'Premio Campiello Opera Prima') and *Nina sull'argine* (shortlisted for 'Premio Strega' in 2022).



↑ READ THE
ENGLISH SAMPLE



↑ READ THE
ENGLISH SUMMARY

«With a story that resonates with the tradition of magic realism, Galletta's characters navigate the realms of the living and the deceased, guiding us through the profound construction site of life.»

il Venerdì di Repubblica

«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'.
SHORTLISTED TO: 'PREMIO STREGA',
AND '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.



READ THE
ENGLISH SAMPLE

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

FICTION

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

+ 20,000 COPIES SOLD

FICTION



READ THE
ENGLISH SAMPLE

MARCO GHIZZONI

THE LATEST WORK BY A CRIME WRITER WHO OFFERS
A MASTERFUL PORTRAYAL OF PROVINCIAL LIFE

«Marco Ghizzoni writes both detective stories and Italian comedy.»

LUCA CROVI, *il Giornale*

MARCO GHIZZONI was born in Cremona in 1983, where he currently resides. He is the **author of several novels published by Guanda**, including *Il cappello del maresciallo* (2014) and *I peccati della Bocciofila* (2015), both of which were also re-issued in **kiosk edition together with «la Repubblica» and «L'Espresso»**. Additionally, Ghizzoni published the novel *Gli accordi di Stradivari* (2019) with TEA. In 2020 and 2022, he published collections of short stories with the publishing house Oligo. Outside of his writing pursuits, Ghizzoni is employed in the commercial sector of a German multinational company.



Some of his works:

- 2024: *Le bionde del Benaco*, Italy (Laurana)
- 2019: *Gli accordi di Stradivari*, Italy (TEA)
- 2016: *L'eredità del Fantini*, Italy (Guanda)
- 2015: *I peccati della bocciofila*, Italy (Guanda)
- 2014: *Il cappello del maresciallo*, Italy (Guanda)





LE BIONDE DEL BENACO

The Blondes from Lake Garda

A thorny case by the lake, an out-of-the-ordinary commissioner,
and a cast of unlikely characters: a thrilling and humorous page-turner.



READ THE
ENGLISH SAMPLE

«A comedy of errors against the backdrop of the largest lake in Italy.»

GardaPost

«Petty acts, small frauds, and attempts at deceit that take shape
within the narrative.»

La Provincia

In Gardone Riviera, a cold and rainy April throws a wrench into the plans of hoteliers and campers alike. Among them is German Jurgen Mann, proprietor of the campground The Enchanted Beach. Amidst swearing and grumbling, Jurgen savors the scenery with a cold beer, resigned to another uneventful day, until something catches his eye: the lifeless body of a man floating in the water. Meanwhile, in Desenzano sul Garda, Commissioner Umberto De Tullio begins his day with no inkling of what it holds. Upon arriving at the police station, he is introduced to his new trainee, Sabrina Toniolo, a strikingly beautiful Venetian woman whose presence only serves to highlight his own insecurities. Shortly after, news of a body discovered on the beach of a nearby campsite, mere meters from his home, adds another layer of complexity to his day. But the worst is yet to unfold. The only witnesses to the crime—an eccentric fisherman known as Hemingway, and the opportunistic German camper attempting to exploit the murder for personal gain—are notoriously unreliable. How will De Tullio navigate their testimonies? Amidst twists and turns, rum, tales of old-fashioned smuggling, and the intrusive presence of his meddlesome mother, Commissioner De Tullio will ultimately crack the case with the aid of some unexpected allies.

PAOLO MASCHERI

AN INTIMATE AND RAW NOVEL, AN EXTREMELY CURRENT STORY

«The story of fatherhood forged through dedication and love, rather than blood ties. *Close Your Eyes, Nina* delves into the intertwined pain that connects two souls, that of a young girl and her adoptive father.»

la Repubblica

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. His latest work, *Chiudi gli occhi, Nina*, was published in February 2024 by Edizioni Clichy.



His works:

- 2024: *Chiudi gli occhi, Nina*, Italy (Clichy)
- 2021: *L'albero delle farfalle*, Italy (peQuod)
- 2008: *Il gregario*, Italy (minimum fax)
- 2004: *Poliuretano*, Italy (Pendragon)





CHIUDI GLI OCCHI, NINA

Close Your Eyes, Nina

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

«Mascheri investigates paternal love».

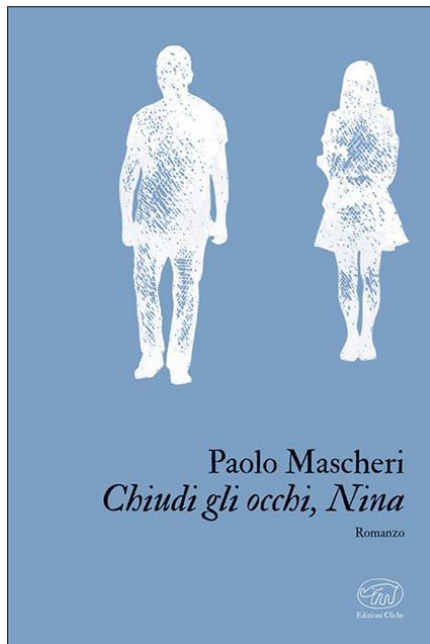
La Nazione

«This novel is deeply moving, empathetic, and profoundly human, written with a rare and poetic sensitivity».

Convenzionali

«Paolo Mascheri demonstrates his mastery as an authentic writer».

Lankenauta



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.



↑ READ THE
ENGLISH SAMPLE

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?

CLAUDIO MORANDINI

**AN AUTHOR HIGHLY PRAISED
BY BOTH ITALIAN AND 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

CLAUDIO MORANDINI, a high school teacher residing in Aosta, is an accomplished writer with works that include radio plays, theater monologues, and numerous 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*.

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, with translations rights 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).

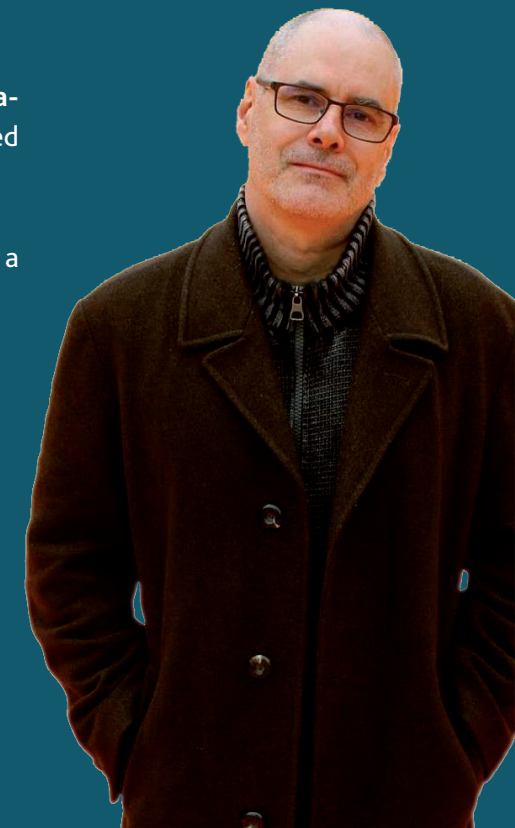
In 2022, *Snow, dog, foot* was shortlisted for the 'John Florio Prize' in the UK, and in 2023 the Dutch edition *Sneeuw, hond, voet* was a finalist for the 'Europese Literatuurprijs'.

His new novel is published in October 2023 by nottetempo.



Some of his works:

- 2023: *La conca buia*, Italy (nottetempo)
- 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 (Kopernik), 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)

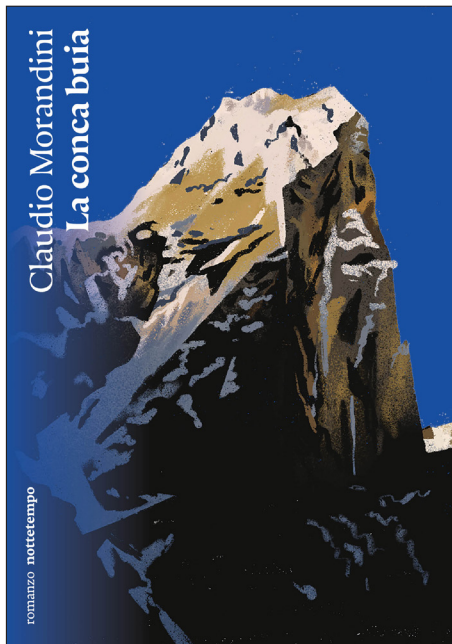




LA CONCA BUIA

A Valley in the Dark

A story of petty Italian politics and unburied family resentments.



↑ READ THE
ENGLISH SAMPLE



↑ READ THE
ENGLISH SUMMARY

«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.

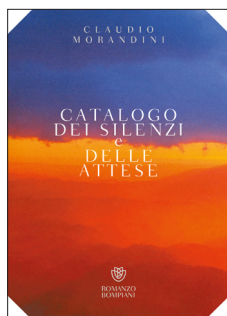
The truth, however, is that Franco's father is a loathsome, selfish, and cruel man who subjected his wife and son to years of abuse. Nevertheless, Franco understands all too well that politics and truth rarely align. As for the truth, he himself is a master in the art of deception, having learned it 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 (Koppernik), **Turkey** (Timaş), **Chile** (Edicola), **Argentina** (Edicola),
Russia (Polyandria), **Egypt** (Al Arabi)

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: *Che fine ha fatto la Neve?*, Italy (TEA)
- 2023: *La morte a colori*, Italy (Fernandel)
- 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)





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.

HELGA SCHNEIDER

THE LATEST NOVEL BY A WRITER WHO ONCE ENCOUNTERED ADOLF HITLER

«Except for a handful of post-war German authors, we are rarely given such a glimpse of life on the other side.»

The Washington Post

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.

Her latest novel, *Watching Bismarckstraße*, out with Solferino (RCS Group) in the Fall of 2023, opens with a specific event that took place in 1944, with Helga and her brother Peter meeting Adolf Hitler in his bunker as part of a project by the Reich's Ministry of Propaganda.

Schneider has been living in Bologna since 1963.



Some of her works:

- 2023: *Un balcone con vista Bismarckstrasse*, Italy (Solferino)
- 2017: *Un amore adolescente*, Italy (Salani)
- 2009: *La baracca dei tristi piaceri*, Italy (Salani) - paperback: 2022, TEA
- 2008: *Heike riprende a respirare*, Italy (Salani) - paperback: 2011, TEA
- 2006: *Io, piccola ospite del Führer*, Italy (Einaudi), Siruela (Spain)
- 2004: *L'usignolo dei Linke*, Italy (Adelphi), Germany (Piper)
- 2002: *Stelle di cannella*, Italy (Salani)
- 2001: *Lasciami andare, madre*, Italy (Adelphi), USA (Penguin), UK (Walker), France (Robert Laffont), Germany (Piper), Spain (Salamandra)
- 1995: *Il rogo di Berlino*, Italy (Adelphi), UK (Heinemann), France (Robert Laffont), Germany (Piper), Spain (Salamandra), The Netherlands (Wereldbibliotheek)





UN BALCONE CON VISTA BISMARCKSTRASSE

Watching Bismarckstraße

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

«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



↑ READ THE
ENGLISH SAMPLE



↑ READ THE
ENGLISH SUMMARY

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.

MATTIA TORTELLI

THE DEBUT NOVEL OF ONE OF THE RISING STARS
OF NEW ITALIAN LITERATURE



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.

COMING
SOON!

o t a g o

foreignrights@otago.it

SOLO I SANTI NON PENSANO

Saints Don't Think

A poignant, unapologetic, and emotionally gripping literary debut.



READ THE
ENGLISH SAMPLE

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?

Original Publisher: **FANDANGO** | Genre: **Novel** | Pages: 174 | Release: Jun 2024
Language: Italian | Rights: World

GIACOMO VERRI

**AN AUTHOR WHOSE NOVELS AND SHORT STORIES
HAVE BEEN TRANSLATED INTO DUTCH**

«Within the fragility of Verri's characters lies a source of hope: in their acknowledgment of weakness, their acceptance of occasional failure, and their willingness to let go of certain things. They strive, from time to time, to be a little less harsh on themselves.»

Avvenire

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), the novel *Un altro candore* (Nutrimenti, 2019), and the short story collection *Storie di coscienti imperfetti* (Wojtek, 2024).



His works:

- 2024: *Storie di coscienti imperfetti*, Italy (Wojtek)
- 2019: *Un altro candore*, Italy (Nutrimenti)
- 2015: *Racconti partigiani*, Italy (Biblioteca dell'Immagine)
- 2012: *Partigiano Inverno*, Italy (Nutrimenti), The Netherlands (Uitgeverij IJzer)

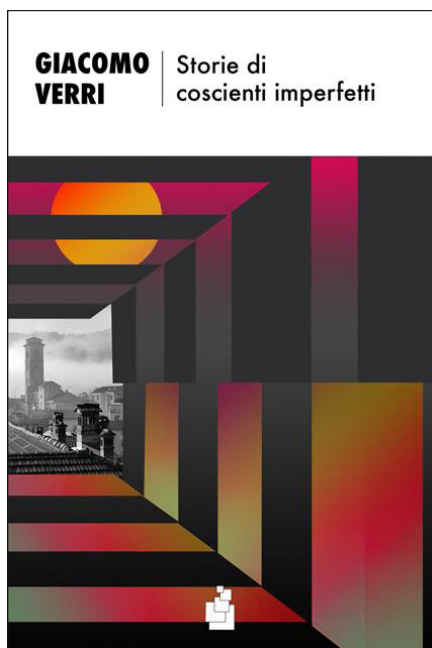




STORIE DI COSCIENTI IMPERFETTI

Tales of Imperfect Consciousness

A narrative rhythm reminiscent of American minimalist literature.



↑ READ THE
ENGLISH SAMPLE

«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

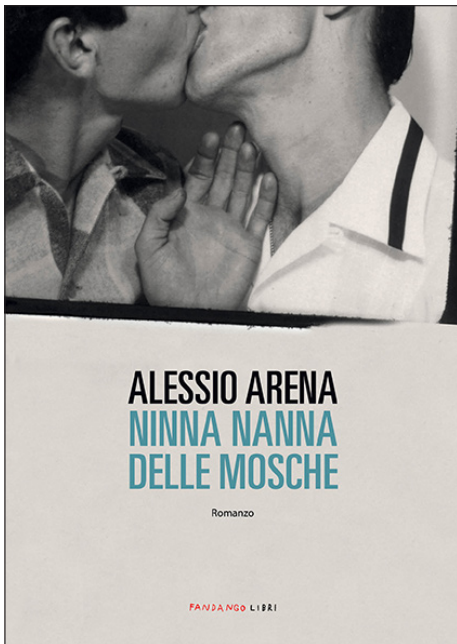
In *Storie di coscienti imperfetti*, we encounter a myriad of characters and situations: a family frozen in silence as a violent quarrel unfolds; aging partisans gathered around a memorial stone; a man who bares his soul before marriage; a former prostitute participating in self-awareness sessions; a 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.



NINNA NANNA DELLE MOSCHE

Flies' Lullaby

Once more, Alessio Arena hits the mark with his 'Latin-Neapolitan magic realism' in the new novel—a tale that spans oceans and demonstrates how love can truly endure a lifetime.



↑ READ THE
ENGLISH SAMPLE



↑ READ THE
SPANISH SAMPLE

ALESSIO ARENA was born in Naples in 1984 and currently resides in Barcelona. He is a multi-talented artist (singer-songwriter, guitarist, writer, and translator). His debut novel earned him the prestigious 'Giuseppe Giusti Opera Prima' award. As a translator, he has brought works like Alejandro Palomas' novels 'Una madre' and 'Un hijo' into the Italian language. In the realm of music, he has received several accolades, including the 'Andrea Parodi - World Music Prize' in 2021.

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

RIGHTS SOLD TO THE NETHERLANDS IN 2023

«Love, passion, and nostalgia intersect as Italian emigrants navigate the
challenging and desolate terrain of Chile.»

LAURA PUGNO, *L'Espresso*

«A love story that also serves as a compelling social critique, akin to the verses of a song
by Violeta Parra.»

La Repubblica

At the dawn of the 20th century, a community of Italian miners discovers their promised land in northern Chile. They establish themselves in the vast pampa surrounding the nitre quarries, living off perilous underground work, with few distractions beyond alcohol and an overwhelming sense of nostalgia.

Gregorio is one of these miners, tasked not only with his grueling underground labor but also with composing letters on behalf of his illiterate comrades, allowing them to maintain contact with their families in Italy. However, his own letters addressed to Berto, a young baker, remain unanswered.

Enveloped by a perpetual melancholy, Gregorio cannot help but ponder the fate of the boy he once fell in love with when they both resided in the south of Italy. Then, one fateful day, everything changes: Berto receives a letter from his clandestine love, complete with a small fly trapped inside the envelope. Motivated by this correspondence, he decides to leave behind his entire world to be reunited with Gregorio.

A captivating and poetic narrative of unspoken desires, *Flies' Lullaby* is a novel that transports its readers to the ends of the earth, where they will burn with the flames of passion and revolution.



↑ READ THE
ENGLISH SUMMARY

Original Publisher: **FANDANGO** | Genre: Novel | Pages: 250 |
Release: Sep 2021 | Language: Italian | Rights: World
Sold to: **The Netherlands/Belgium** (Borgerhoff & Lamberigts)

Some of his previous works:

2018: *La notte non vuole venire*, **Italy** (Fandango)
2014: *La letteratura tamil a Napoli*, **Italy** (Neri Pozza)



CINEMA ZENIT

«Andrea 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”



↑ READ THE
ENGLISH SAMPLE

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 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.

«A profound darkness from which figures emerge as if they were etchings from rocket ships. *Cinema Zenit* once again demonstrates that Andrea Bruno is a top-tier author, not solely for his illustrations.»

Blow Up

«A rediscovered manuscript unveils a tale reminiscent of J.J. Abrams' *Lost*. Bruno's illustrations are striking and captivating, evoking both a sense of alienation and unease.»

la Repubblica

«Day and night converge in this extraordinary and dreamlike metaphor of post-modern narrative. Bruno's insight enlightens us all as we delve into its pages.»

Internazionale

«A true masterpiece that firmly establishes Andrea Bruno as one of the foremost contemporary Italian cartoonists.»

Lo Spazio Bianco

A girl returning to her hometown, now occupied by foreign settlers. An abandoned 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.



Original Publisher: **CANICOLA** | Genre: **Graphic Novel** | Pages: 136 | Release: Nov 2022
Language: Italian | Rights: World | Sold to: **France** (Rackham)

FULL ENGLISH
TRANSLATION AVAILABLE



QUELLO CHE TI NASCONDEVO

What I Hid From You

‘You thought you knew her, but there was an unexpected abyss behind her.’



Born in 1961, **MARINA DI GUARDO** is a highly popular public figure in Italy, frequently appearing on TV shows, in magazines, and at social events. Alongside her daughter Chiara Ferragni, she has served as the global ambassador for a Swarovski Summer campaign. Her gripping and visceral psychological thrillers have been published by Feltrinelli and Mondadori.

700,000 followers on Instagram
from all over the world.

Rights to one of her previous works, *La memoria dei corpi*, have been sold to Greece, Poland and Brazil.

Marina Di Guardo's new book is a fast-paced psychological thriller that delves into one of our deepest fears:
What if our loved ones are hiding terrible secrets?

«Marina Di Guardo delves deep behind appearances.»

Critica Letteraria

«Suspenseful and insanely filled with unexpected twists.»

il Giornale

“Ever since his wife, Allegra, died, falling from a cliff on Lake Como, Giacomo, the owner of a jewelry brand, lazily moves through grey mornings into unending afternoons, waiting for the moment he can shut out the world at the end of the day. His only wish is to pour a glass of his favorite whiskey and listen to his wife’s old voice messages, clinging to her voice as an illusion of her presence. During one of these solitary and melancholy nights, Giacomo suddenly catches a new detail: he hears another voice in one of Allegra’s messages, even if just for a split second. A voice he doesn’t recognize. A man’s voice. Consumed by doubt and anguish, Giacomo looks for clues in Allegra’s computer, uncovering an astonishing secret: Allegra’s death may not have been a tragic accident at all.



↑ READ THE
ENGLISH SAMPLE

Original Publisher: **MONDADORI** | Genre: **Thriller** | Pages: 274 |

Release: Oct 2023

Language: Italian | Rights: World

Some of her previous works:

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)

LUCA GIACHI



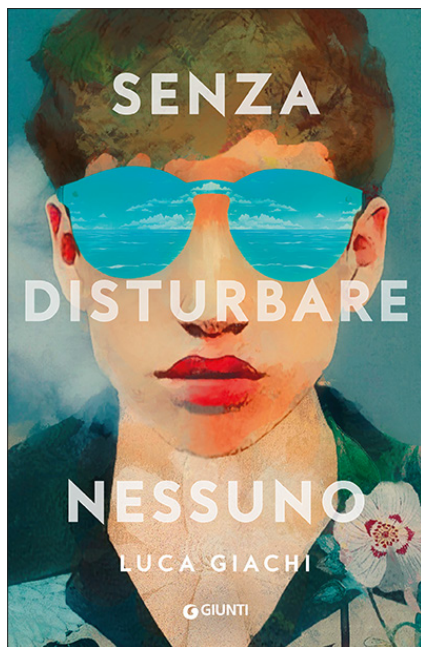
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SENZA DISTURBARE NESSUNO

Without Bothering Anyone

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



READ THE
ENGLISH SAMPLE

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), winner of 'Premio Mondello' for debut novel, and *Come una canzone* (2018).

«An 18-year-old young man's tumultuous journey of self-discovery, exploration of the world around him, and, most importantly, his evolving relationship with the woman behind the mother.»

il Messaggero

«Vivid and unpredictable prose that authentically captures the sensitivities of adolescence.»

La Lettura – Corriere della Sera

«Rome emerges as the true protagonist in his novels.»

il manifesto

Told with delicacy and just the right touch of humor, *Without Bothering Anyone* is an irreverent coming-of-age novel that explores what happens when the best summer of your life takes an unexpectedly dramatic turn.

Enrico was supposed to graduate from high school at the end of June, experience his first intimate moment with his girlfriend Marta, and embark on an Interrail adventure with his friends. However, none of this unfolded as planned. He failed his finals, Marta left for the Interrail trip without him, and his parents compelled him to work at his uncle's beach resort, a few miles outside of Rome.

Consequently, his summer break became a division between the bustling life of the restaurant and the tranquility of the Eternal City, where the locals had departed, leaving only leisurely strolling tourists on the streets.

Amidst days of work and nights riding around on his scooter, a new friendship blossomed with Sara, a librarian, igniting an unexpected passion for books in Enrico. However, he also uncovered a secret that his mother had concealed from everyone, leading him to realize that, above all else, parents are simply human beings.

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

His previous works:
2018: *Come una canzone*, **Italy** (Hacca)
2008: *Oltre le parole*, **Italy** (Hacca)

NEW ADULT



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.



↑ READ THE
ENGLISH SAMPLE

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.

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.

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

La Nuova Sardegna

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.

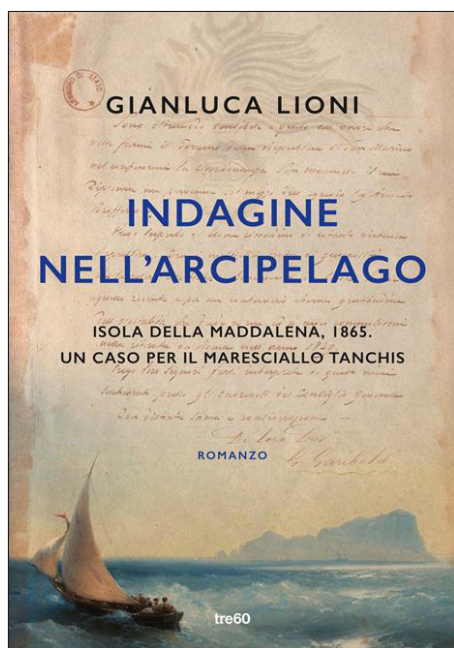
Delving into dusty archives, confronting reticent elderly residents, and deciphering the perplexities presented by eccentric musicologists, the writer stumbles upon a golden gramophone that may hold the key to buried and profound secrets.



INDAGINE NELL'ARCIPELAGO

The Archipelago Murder

An historical mystery novel set on a small island
that is a true paradise on earth.



READ THE
ENGLISH SAMPLE

Born in 1981, **GIANLUCA LIONI** is a journalist, and the official Spokesperson of Dario Franceschini, the former Minister of Cultural Heritage and Activities. He's also the author of the nonfiction best-seller *I grandi discorsi che hanno cambiato la storia*, published by Newton Compton.

«Scenes from everyday life on the island of La Maddalena, a small and captivating microcosm where historical figures coexist with fictional yet intricately developed characters. It's a delightful novel brimming with the scents and colors of one of the most beautiful places in Italy.»

STEFANIA AUCI, author of the best-selling series *The Florios of Sicily*, sold to 23 Countries

«Lioni's triumphant concept thrives on his unapologetic manipulation of history. Following in the footsteps of Garibaldi's fame, amidst the arrivals and departures of adventurers, intellectuals, politicians, soldiers, princesses, and artists, he resurrects La Maddalena's international significance—an epicenter of the Mediterranean since time immemorial.»

il Messaggero

On the island of La Maddalena, Sardinia, in the year 1865, as everyone gathers to witness the fireworks and the traditional procession in honor of the patron saint, and enjoy games and various stalls, the lifeless body of a woman is discovered. She is a well-known prostitute by the name of Isis. Simultaneously, Enea, the coachman of one of the island's public carriages, mysteriously vanishes. But who could have a motive to harm a destitute prostitute, and why has Enea, who was awaiting a significant sum of money, disappeared without a trace?

Once more, the marshal of the Carabinieri Reali, Bachisio Tanchis, must step in.

However, the island of La Maddalena serves as a crossroads for conspirators, aristocrats, secret agents, and smugglers. The investigation will take the marshal and a former captain of the British Navy, Daniel Roberts, on a journey through the islets of the archipelago, amidst the crystal-clear sea, alluring vistas, and unique inhabitants. They will encounter everyone from the king of Tavolara to the lighthouse keepers of Razzoli, and the most famous of all, Giuseppe Garibaldi, the 'hero of two worlds' who retired to Caprera after his endeavors to unite the country. Bachisio Tanchis will soon find himself entangled in murky village schemes and a convoluted plot that extends far beyond the island's borders.

Original Publisher: **TRE60** | Genre: **Historical Crime Novel** | Pages: 208 | Release: Jul 2023
Language: Italian | Rights: World

His previous works:

2020: *La processione dei fantasmi*, **Italy** (Tre60)

2017: *I grandi discorsi che hanno cambiato la storia*, **Italy** (Newton Compton)



VIAGGIO AL MONTE ANALOGO

The ark mountain

Monte Cocuzzo is an ark-like mountain: a powerful presence accompanied by myths, a place of superstitions, literary narratives, and ethnographic accounts.

Mauro Francesco Minervino
Viaggio
al monte analogo

Monte Cocuzzo. La montagna-arca



MAURO FRANCESCO MINERVINO teaches Cultural Anthropology, Ethnology, and Sociology of New Media at the Academies of Fine Arts in Catanzaro and Bari. He is a writer and essayist, regularly contributing to the cultural sections of major Italian newspapers. Since 2022, he has served as a contributor and columnist for «Corriere della Sera», where he maintains a column focused on anthropological commentary and cultural insights. Furthermore, Minervino is an author for RAI programs on both television and radio. In February 2022, he was honored with the Umberto Zanotti Bianco-Italia Nostra Prize in recognition of his contributions as a scholar and public intellectual from southern Italy. He is the translator into Italian of the work of the great Victorian novelist **George Gissing**.

«With his unmistakable pen, Minervino tells us about a place that gives him impressions not only visual but also tactile.»

Class Travel

«A truly extraordinary book that should be leafed through, read and reread, pondered.»

Giuditta Legge

«It's an engaging linguistic adventure.»

La poesia e lo spirito

Mount Cocuzzo is a peak of dolomitic rocks that emerged in ancient times opposite the Aeolian Islands, along the shores of the Tyrrhenian Sea, also known as the Odyssey Sea. This remarkable geological formation, located in the Calabrian Apennines, towers over the landscape like a majestic pyramid. Its contours and allure bear a striking resemblance to the revered Sainte-Victoire mountain, beloved by Cézanne. Like its French counterpart, Mount Cocuzzo exudes a magnetic presence, surrounded by superstitions, magical legends, and tales of fate. Enveloping Cocuzzo is a rugged and captivating terrain, intersected by streams and adorned with abandoned villages that once flourished along an ancient caravan route. This historic road linked the legendary Pandosia to the Tyrrhenian port of Temesa, a Greek city immortalized by Homer in the Odyssey. Thus, Cocuzzo stands as a monumental ark mountain: a formidable presence steeped in myth, a hub of superstitions, and a focal point of literary and ethnographic narratives. Its enduring natural beauty, combined with its rich history, renders it an exceptional site of environmental, historical, and anthropological significance.

Original Publisher: **OLIGO** | Genre: **Novel** | Pages: 144 | Release: Dec 2023
Language: Italian | Rights: World

Some of his previous works:
2016: *Stradario di uno spaesato*, Italy (Melville)
2010: *Statale 18*, Italy (Fandango)



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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.

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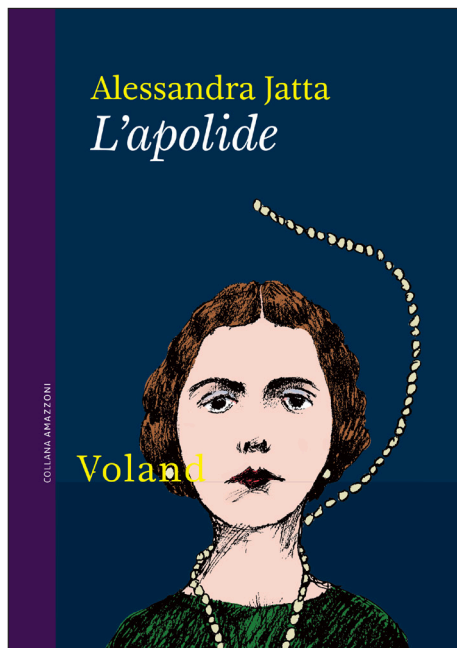
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L'APOLIDE *The Stateless*

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 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
David Foster Wallace and William T. Vollmann.»
minima&moralia



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.

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.

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



MOSCHE

Flies

«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

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

Valentina Santini
Mosche



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.

At forty-six, Daniele Sforzi still lives with his parents, his only occupation being the delivery of flyers on his super-equipped bicycle. One day, he is tasked with refurbishing his grandmother's mansion, a project that unveils the dilapidated state of the rooms, which seem to vomit forth objects and secrets. In the midst of this process, Daniele realizes that much of what he believed about himself is false. As he grapples with these newfound truths, a strange phenomenon occurs: reality begins to shift and reshape itself. A persistent buzzing, akin to the sound of flies, accompanies Daniele as he navigates through the rooms infested with the very insects he's attempting to eradicate. What initially appears as trauma transforms into a catalyst for rebirth. Daniele undergoes a profound self-realization, emerging with a newfound assertiveness, ready to confront the world. Miraculously, he transitions from being an underpaid delivery rider to a political figure, assuming the roles of a leader with an unsettling confidence. Moreover, to his surprise, the fate of the country suddenly rests in his hands.

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



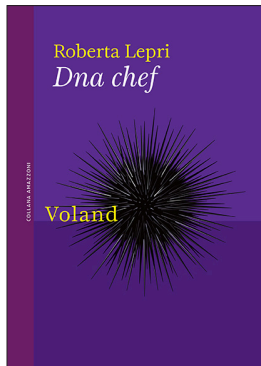
DNA CHEF

DNA Chef

The recipe for nostalgia.

«Roberta Lepri wrote an ambitious novel set in the Tremiti islands.»

La Lettura - Corriere della Sera



Guido Nocentini is fully aware that he is destined to become a great chef. His grandfather, Giovanni, a Florentine cook who was confined to the Tremiti islands during the fascist era, is still celebrated by the islanders for a remarkable dish—tagliatelle with sea urchin sauce. This delectable creation is now being served by his grandson at a prestigious London restaurant. Is it mere coincidence or the result of inherited culinary talent? To fulfill his late father's final wishes and seek confirmation of certain intuitions, Guido returns to San Domino, just as the island is on the brink of its first lockdown. Little does he know that an astonishing past awaits 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



EREDITÀ COLPEVOLE

Guilty Heritage

A true story turned into an unsettling noir novel.

IN 2023, DIEGO ZANDEL WAS AWARDED HONORARY CITIZENSHIP IN SERVIGLIANO, WHERE HE RESIDED AS A CHILD FOR FOUR MONTHS IN A REFUGEE CAMP FOR ISTRIAN PEOPLE.



The son of refugees originally hailing from the city of Fiume (Rijeka), located in modern-day Croatia, Guido Lednaz is a journalist who becomes engrossed in the investigation of the murder of Judge La Spina. This homicide has been claimed by a far-right party as retaliation for the acquittal of Josip Strčić, a war criminal who bears a striking resemblance to Oskar Piškulić, Tito's chief of police and the mastermind behind the Foibe massacres. Lednaz embarks on a journey between Rome and Trieste to unearth the truth about one of history's bloodiest events, a journey that will ultimately lead to a profoundly tragic revelation.

«A thriller inspired by the author's own memories.»

Il Piccolo

«An educational heritage for the new generations.»

L'Incontro

«A compelling investigation between Rome and Trieste.»

RTL 102.5

«Diego Zandel expresses himself masterfully.»

Thriller Magazine

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: 256 | Release: Feb 2023
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