

Maria Spissu Nilson

Sinnada

LAURA CECCACCI AGENCY CATALOGUE
LONDON BOOK FAIR 2026



Narratori  Feltrinelli

Maria Spissu Nilson

Sinnada

«Lellena doesn't speak, she listens to what no one dares to say.»
Maria Spissu Nilson's debut novel in all bookstores from
March 17, 2026.



SINNADA

Maria Spissu Nilson

Feltrinelli, from March 17th 2026

Pages 256

Sinnada is a work of fiction, but to imagine it the author delved deeply into the past and into the soul of Sardinia and of postwar Italy, still marked by poverty.

1950s. In the sun-scorched, impoverished Sardinian hinterland, Lellena—daughter of an unknown father—grows up in a poor farming family, unloved by her mother.

She is beautiful and striking, but above all different from her brothers: she speaks little and is of little use in the hard agricultural work.

One day she carves a star into her forehead, like the one her favorite horse bears on its muzzle. The scar resembles a cross. When a local woman touches it and later sees her own son recover from illness, word begins to spread that the girl is “sinnàda”—marked, predestined. Lellena soon becomes both feared and revered, almost like a saint. Yet reverence, as we know, often means imprisonment.

That “prison” lasts until Captain Gualtiero de Simone arrives in the village—a naval officer on medical leave who grows fond of the girl and decides to help her, educating her and attempting to rescue her from marginalization.

But obstacles stand in the way: Bastiana, a woman in love with the Captain, who pours her envy and jealousy onto Lellena; a journey to the mainland that becomes an adventure within the adventure; and a further series of events that will interfere with Sinnàda’s destiny—whether to fulfill it spectacularly, or overturn it entirely.



«Lellena is born alone and has a gift. Seeing into people's hearts will be her downfall. A unique voice, an unexpected debut.»



MARIA SPISSU NILSON was born in Sardinia. Her second surname is that of her American husband. A teacher by profession, she was among the pioneers who, before the official introduction of foreign languages in Italian primary schools, experimented with new methods of language teaching for the Ministry of Education.

She published her first short stories at the age of sixteen in national magazines. After many years of private writing and public silence, *Sinnada* marks her debut with Feltrinelli.

Grazia Scanavini

Burattinai

La prima indagine delle "Lavandaie"



The First Case of "The Washerwomen",
in all bookstores from April 2026

SALANI
LE STANZE



PUPPET MASTERS The First Case of “The Washerwomen”

Grazia Scanavini

Salani, from April 2026

Pages ca. 350

What if justice meant confronting the invisible hands that pull the strings?

After years in London, Commissioner Emma Mastrangeli returns to Ferrara to lead Squad F, the first Italian State Police unit dedicated exclusively to femicides. The project is politically fragile and constantly under scrutiny. Failure would mean its immediate dismantling.

But Emma carries a private mission.

In 2003, her sister Bianca was murdered. The case was never solved. Forced to resign after clashing with institutional resistance, Emma is now back—determined not only to prove Squad F indispensable, but to uncover the truth that was buried.

Installed in a former barracks in Via Cisterna del Follo, the all-female team earns the nickname “The Washerwomen,” tasked with cleansing the social fabric of its darkest stains. As Emma leads her first investigations—exposing a respected surgeon and reopening a decades-old cold case—she begins to rebuild her bond with her estranged daughter and reclaim a sense of belonging.

Until a young woman's body is found in the same abandoned farmhouse where Bianca was discovered twenty years earlier. Same place. Same method.

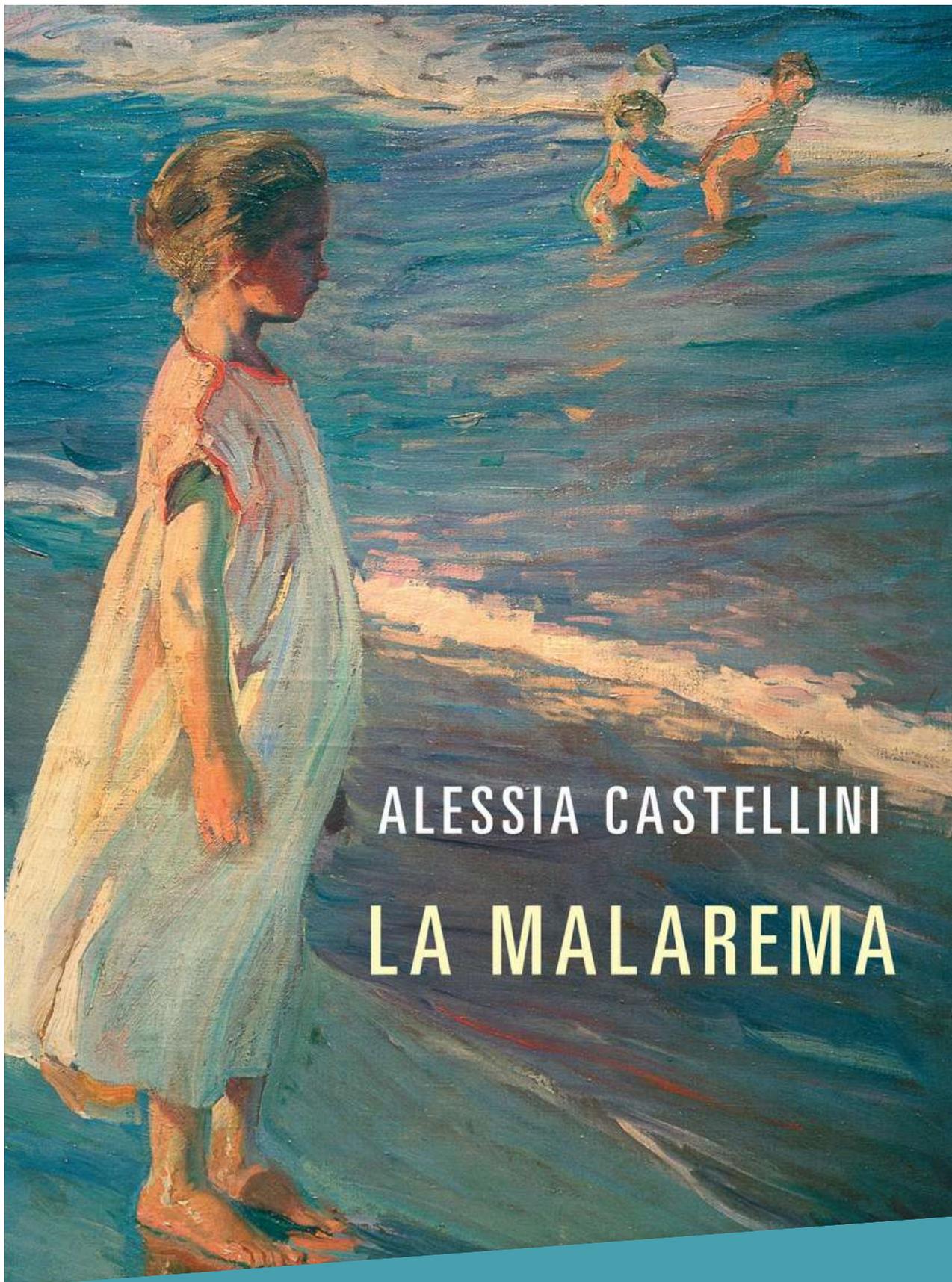
Coincidence—or proof that someone has been pulling the strings all along?

A crime novel about power, manipulation, and institutional silence. Because finding the truth is not enough. You must be ready to bear its weight.

First volume of a planned trilogy, with a long narrative arc centered on Emma's hunt for her sister's killer.



GRAZIA SCANAVINI is a philosophical counselor and educator specializing in Positive Disintegration (K. Dąbrowski). With a background in psychology, philosophy, and mindfulness, she works on identity reconstruction and the cultural dynamics of manipulation. Convinced that fiction can make psychological mechanisms visible and relatable, she uses crime narrative as a tool to explore power, emotional control, and resilience.



ALESSIA CASTELLINI
LA MALAREMA

Alessia Castellini's new novel,
in all bookstores from 17th March 2026



LA MALAREMA

Alessia Castellini

Piemme, from March 17th 2026

Pages 304

Sicily, 1894. A Secret Buried in the Sea.

Rossella watches her mother dive into the blue to retrieve the *Pinna nobilis*, the mollusk that produces sea silk. For generations, the women of her family have gathered byssus from the depths. She is the youngest, the most cherished, and her childhood unfolds to the rhythm of waves sliding onto the shore.

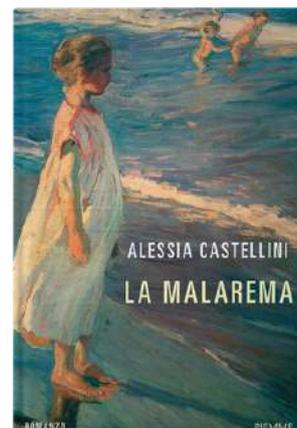
Until the day something unspeakable happens.

From the beach, Rossella witnesses a life shatter. Terror tightens her throat.

Her voice disappears.

Years later, in an inland town, a mute young woman lives within the walls of a charitable institution for “fallen women,” run by austere nuns. Mistaken for an adulteress in flight, she has learned to endure her cold refuge—a miniature world safer than the streets beyond it. But deep within her memory lies the day her family broke apart forever.

She knows that one day she will return to the sea—the boundless blue that once filled her eyes and soul—and face the past that stole her voice.



Is God a little bird?
Mimi reads the question and shakes her head.
«What are you saying, Rossé? God is God. That's all.»
«Then why does He live in the sky?»
«Because the sky is everywhere. It's a great balcony from which He watches us.»
«Like the gossips?»
«Like,» she says, hiding a smile behind her hand.
«God should live in the sea. The sea is everywhere too, isn't it?»
«No, Rossé. The sea is only for a few.»



ALESSIA CASTELLINI was born in Palermo and is thirty-one years old. She has a PhD in theoretical physics and is co-author of scientific articles published in international journals. She travels and takes photographs with her reflex camera, always in search of stories to tell.

sofia assante

la mia ultima storia per te

romanzo



Winner of the Viareggio Rèpaci Prize for Best First Novel (2025)

10.000 COPIES SOLD

MONDADORI



MY LAST STORY FOR YOU

Sofia Assante

Mondadori, June 2025

Pages 384

Andrea is walking through the streets of New York at night when he receives a call. He immediately recognizes Elettra's voice, even though he hasn't heard it in ten years. She is the reason he fled Rome, and now she's asking him to come back.

They met when they were twelve, when Elettra moved into the building near Andrea's childhood home. Apart from their address, they have nothing in common. He is the son of a shy, quiet restaurateur, working in his family's trattoria, Da Amilcare, in summer. She belongs to Roman aristocracy, the Alfieri della Scala family—cultured, elegant, loving. Both represent a fading Rome: Elettra's among nobility at Palazzo Borghese, Andrea's in the local taverns where Federico Fellini and Ettore Scola used to play cards. As children, they dreamed of dying together like Philemon and Baucis, united forever. But their idyll ends during a lake holiday when Elettra's mother has an accident, and they find a letter that sows doubt. That doubt and the secret it reveals will keep them apart for years. Now, with this call, everything might restart, giving a second chance to a love that seemed lost. Sofia Assante's debut features an ironic, romantic voice, paying homage to American authors like Salinger and Fitzgerald, making us smile and feel deeply. It's a story full of secrets and surprises, asking us all: can we truly know the people next to us?



RIGHTS SOLD TO:
Czech Republic (*Meridione*)

«A rich and compelling debut that holds within it the absolute intensity of friendship, the melancholy of adolescence, and the hidden secrets and guilt within every family.»

Daria Bignardi

«A dense, profound, moving and ironic novel. And then I discovered it was a debut! Sofia Assante is pure talent.»

Antonio Manzini

One of the most talked-about Italian debuts of the year.

«A coming-of-age novel, a love story, a mystery—an intricate tapestry of friendship and desire that speaks of the many possibilities life offers, and the enduring hope of reclaiming lost time.»

Serena Dandini

«The Roman Sally Rooney.»
Francesco Piccolo



SOFIA ASSANTE (1995) was born and lives in Rome. She studied Philosophy and Art History. She is currently attending a PhD and works as an editor and screenwriter.

My Last Story For You is her first novel just awarded with Viareggio Répaci Prize

<https://premioletterarioviareggiorepaci.it/>

LUCA DI FULVIO
LA GANG
DEI SOGNI

ROMANZO



The book that captivated millions is now a cult favorite.



THE GANG OF DREAMS

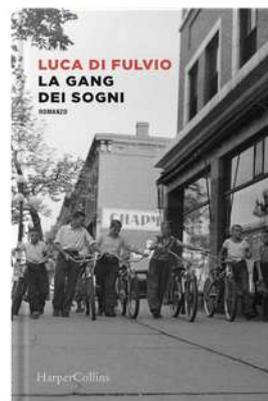
Luca Di Fulvio

HarperCollins, September 2024

Pages 688

***The Gang of Dreams* is a novel as roaring as the years in which it is set, a story of redemption where dreams and imagination triumph over anger and despair. Originally released in Italy in 2008, Luca Di Fulvio's novel, much like its protagonists, found success beyond borders. Translated into twelve languages and with millions of copies sold worldwide, it has become one of the most successful Italian novels of all time.**

The year is 1909. Concetta, known as Cetta, and her six-month-old son, Natale, are crammed onto a steamer bound for New York, along with hundreds of other migrants like them. They are fleeing Calabria and an Italy that, although now united, remains deeply divided. The privileges and abuses of the rich and powerful create a rift too vast for those who belong only to their masters and the fields. Now, as Cetta gazes out through the grimy porthole of the ship, she dreams of America. Upon disembarking at Ellis Island, no one understands her language, and so Natale becomes Christmas—a new baptism for a new life and the beginning of a new story, one of hope, courage, and dreams. In the narrow, smelly streets of the Italian ghetto on the Lower East Side, Christmas begins to carve out his destiny. He survives gang skirmishes, saves the life of a rich and beautiful girl, and falls in love with her. But it is a special gift, one delivered to him at birth along with his name, that will lead him to establish the first independent radio station in the dazzling, electric New York of the 1920s—a moment that will change his life forever.



RIGHTS SOLD TO:

France (*Istya Editeurs*)

Germany (*Bastei Luebbe*)

Hungary (*Maxim Publishing House*)

A year after the author's untimely death, the novel returns to bookstores, ready to transport readers on an unforgettable journey through time and space and to remind us of the extraordinary power of a dream to change our destiny.



LUCA DI FULVIO (1957-2023) was a writer, actor and playwright. He wrote ten published novels, and two still unpublished in Italy. *The Gang of Dreams* was published in 2008 in Italy and became an international publishing case, with more than one million copies sold in Germany alone.

Sabrina Gabriele
I BUONI PROPOSITI



Un luogo del cuore dove sono
custoditi i sogni più grandi.
E a volte si realizzano

A debut that entered Italy's Top-10 bestseller list. 3
printings in one week. 30.000 copies sold

SALANI
LE STANZE



GOOD INTENTIONS

Sabrina Gabriele

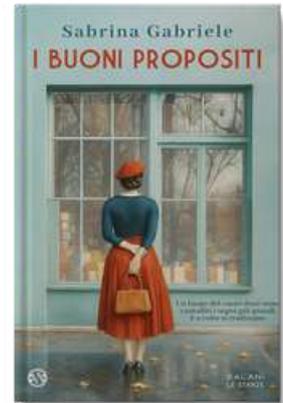
Salani, August 2025

Pages 256

A novel about the tenderness of dreams stranded in the past and the force of those still to be made real. The story of three friends who, in wartime, loved, betrayed, and lost one another.

December 1981. Vanni Maestri is the soul of a historic bookshop in the heart of Bologna, where customers, for good luck, tuck their New Year's resolutions between the pages of second-hand volumes. Having set aside his youthful dream, Vanni has resigned himself to being the keeper of other people's, to a quiet life, and to holding at bay the memory of a love left suspended in time. But when Agata, his young assistant, finds the first resolution in the back-room archive, it is as if, among the ashes of memory, she were to strike the spark of a pain ready to flare again.

At the same hour, in a notary's office, Countess Castelvetro discovers that her late husband has left her a manuscript no one knew existed: the story of three university students, of a love marked by the wail of air-raid sirens and the shame of a betrayal. Those yellowing pages cannot make amends for the wounds of the past, but they will offer— to every character in the tale— the chance, at last, to choose happiness in the present.



RIGHTS SOLD TO:
Poland (Znak Koncept)

**«Luminous prose,
reaching for emotion
yet never sentimental.
There is something
profoundly poetic in
Good Intentions.»**



SABRINA GABRIELE, born in Bergamo, graduated from the Paolo Grassi Academy of Dramatic Art in Milan in 2000 with a diploma in Performing Arts and Cultural Activities. She worked as a Casting Director at a well-known Milan agency and as a Theatre Manager within an international institution for the following two years. After moving to London in 2002, she obtained a degree in Fashion Management from University of the Arts London – London College of Fashion in 2006, the year that marked the start of a career of more than twenty years as a Global Visual Director for leading international fashion brands. Based in Paris since 2008, she founded her own visual merchandising company in 2020. Her writing includes the novel *Una* (Il Filo, 2009) and *Quattro giorni o sempre* (Edizioni e/o, September 2023). She has also contributed as a correspondent to several magazines, including the fashion monthly *Unfair*, *Vision Magazine*, and *Ottagono*, and in 2017 she wrote and directed the music video *Do You Love Someone* for Grouplove. She has additionally served as a lecturer on master's programs in Architecture, Design, and Fashion Management at the Camera della Moda di Milano, Politecnico di Milano, and IÉSEG University in Paris.

LETTER FROM THE EDITORIAL DIRECTOR OF SALANI

21 February 2025

Dear bookseller,
the protagonist of the novel we are delighted to place in your hands, Vanni Maestri, is himself a bookseller. Beneath the arcades in the heart of Bologna he pours coffee for friends in the back room and, above all, has spent the last three decades collecting New Year's resolutions—little vows his customers jot on slips of paper and tuck into the books on his shelves. Having relinquished the dream of his youth, a secret kept on ice in his heart, he has chosen to become the custodian of other people's dreams. And if a single wish may fail and fade for good, the capacity to wish endures within us—as does the stubborn desire to change. A turn of fate will bind him to a woman, the Countess Castelvetro, through the pages of a manuscript that seems to have stepped straight out of the past, carrying with it a different future for every one of the novel's characters. This is a story of second chances, of family secrets, friendship and betrayal, leading to surprising finale that prompts us to reflect on the choices we make and on the possibility, at any age, of redrawing the trajectory of our lives. It won us over because it reshapes, with striking originality, several of the key elements behind many recent successes—and because it does so in a voice of remarkable freshness.
Thank you, and here's to good resolutions,

Mariagrazia Mazzitelli
Editorial Director of Salani

BLURBS FROM THE PRESS

«A bookshop that safeguards people's wishes between the pages of second-hand novels; and a bookseller who, having not fulfilled his own dream, now protects those of others.»

Il Resto del Carlino — Bologna
Alice Pavarotti
(26/08/2025)

«Good Intentions is a delicate novel that looks to tomorrow and rummages through the rubble of memory, back to the hard years of the war. [...] The author composes a moving book for the ache of missed chances. A novel with an intriguing pace.»

Corriere di Bologna
Massimo Marino
(17/08/2025)

«Luminous prose, reaching for emotion yet never sentimental. There is something profoundly poetic in Good Intentions.»

laLettura — Corriere della Sera
Ursula Beretta
(17/08/2025)

«Good Intentions debuts straight at sixth place. A launch, as they say, with a bang.»

Robinson — la Repubblica
Redazione di Robinson
(31/08/2025)

«A choral novel, full of sweetness and memories, of missed opportunities.»

la Repubblica — Bologna
Sabrina Camonchia
(19/08/2025)

«Good Intentions unravels desires and impossible loves through the streets of Bologna. [...] The Good Intentions bookshop is a place of the soul, where in December a slip of paper is hidden inside a used book.»

Rubrica "Show Libri" Isabella Fava (26/08/2025)

«In this book, the pages are like guardians of dreams.»

Famiglia Cristiana
Fulvia Degl'Innocenti
(31/08/2025)

«A novel of second chances, wounds to heal and desires that keep guiding us.»

HuffPost Weekend
Redazione
(23/08/2025)

«A mosaic of stories... the tenderness of dreams stranded and the gentle obstinacy of those yet to be realised.»

L'Adige — "Letture d'agosto"
(25/08/2025)

26 **ROBINSON**

CLASSIFICHE

CHI SALE E CHI SCENDE
SOGNI DI RINASCITA
NELLE NOTTI
DI FINE ESTATE

S nasce in un'isola, tutte le parti sua, insomma Clark, che è meglio il fratello. Fotografia di una famiglia di fine secolo. Dove, come al tempo stesso, è un romanzo di guerra, con i primi sei libri rimasti stabili nelle posizioni della settimana scorsa, tranne da un nuovo entrante: Giuseppina Gatto. Tra le scendere c'è la nostra protagonista di questa classifica e la sorella c'è il fratello. La nuova serie è: Sabrina Gabriele, C'è con il suo secondo romanzo **I buoni propositi** la terza novità per il 2023 con quattro giorni di permanenza, appena uscito per Salani - è in libreria dal 29 agosto - diventa subito il best-seller, in libreria e nei tempi di vendita di oltre 100 mila copie in 24 ore. Un'uscita, come si direbbe, col botto. Dal resto la storia che racconta ha tutti gli ingredienti per incontrare il gusto dei lettori. Siamo all'inizio degli anni Ottanta, in un'epoca dunque precociale, c'è una giovane donna nel cuore di Bologna nota per una classica tradizione e liberata scivola su dei biglietti d'oro proposti per l'anno

TOP TEN

- 1  Giuseppina Gatto **VERRÀ L'ALBA, STARAI BENE**
Mondadori, euro 22
- 2  Milena Palminteri **COME L'ARANCIO AMARO**
Bompiani, euro 20
- 3  Andrea Bajani **L'ANNIVERSARIO**
Feltrinelli, euro 18
- 4  Giuseppina Gatto **SUCCIDE SEMPRE QUALCOSA DI MERAVIGLIOSO**
Mondadori, euro 19
- 5  Imogen Clark **LA FELICITÀ NEI GIORNI DI PIOGGIA**
Libreria Pienogiorno, euro 18,90
- 6  Hibhana Cini **LA LEVATRICE**
Nord, euro 16
- 7  Sabrina Gabriele **I BUONI PROPOSITI**
Salani, euro 16,90
- 8  Francesca Albanese **QUANDO IL MONDO DORME**
Rizzoli, euro 18
- 9  Roberta Rocchia **TUTTA LA VITA CHE RESTA**

New entry Sabrina Gabriele
 nasce e il fascino diventa il padre dei romanzi scelti. Certo, l'esperienza di ambientare la storia in una libreria non è così originale, tutt'al più negli ultimi anni si sono moltiplicati, da

28 LA LETTURA **CORRIERE DELLA SERA**

Libri Le classifiche

Le new entry dettano legge: K Nove italiani in Top Ten. Miel

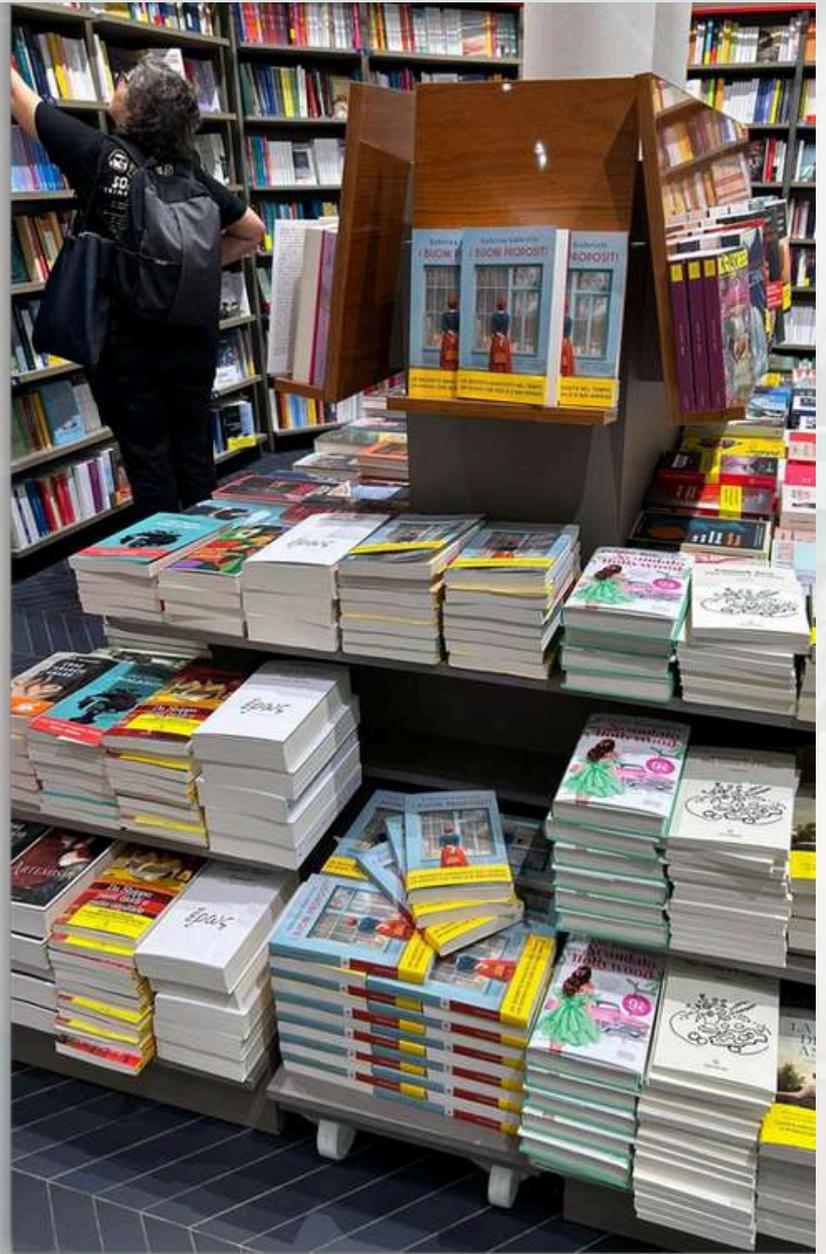
La striscia di Bruno Olivieri



Top 10

- 1 (-) Felicia Kingsley **Scandalo a Hollywood**
Newton Compton, € 9,90
- 2 Piergiorgio Pulici **L'uomo dagli occhi tristi**
Rizzoli, € 18
- 3 (1) Gianluca Gotto **Verrà l'alba, starai bene**
Mondadori, € 22
- 4 Milena Palminteri **Come l'arancio amaro**
Bompiani, € 20
- 5 Andrea Bajani **L'anniversario**
Feltrinelli, € 16
- 6 (5) Imogen Clark **La felicità nei giorni di pioggia**
Pienogiorno, € 18,90
- 7 (4) Gianluca Gotto **Succede sempre qualcosa di meraviglioso**
Mondadori, € 19
- 8 (7) Sabrina Gabriele **I buoni propositi**
Salani, € 16,90
- 9 Antonella Mollicone **La femminanza**
Nord, € 20
- 10 Francesca Albanese **Quando il mondo dorme**
Rizzoli, € 18

IN BOOKSHOPS



Domenica 17 Agosto 2025 Corriere di Bologna

Per BuratTday 2025 Burattini, laboratori e gadget nel cortile di Palazzo d'Accursio

Terzo di quattro appuntamenti con il BuratTday 2025 nel Cortile d'Onore di Palazzo d'Accursio. Oggi alle 18.30 sono previsti spettacoli estrapolati dal bacino dei burattini bolognesi, laboratori per i più piccoli

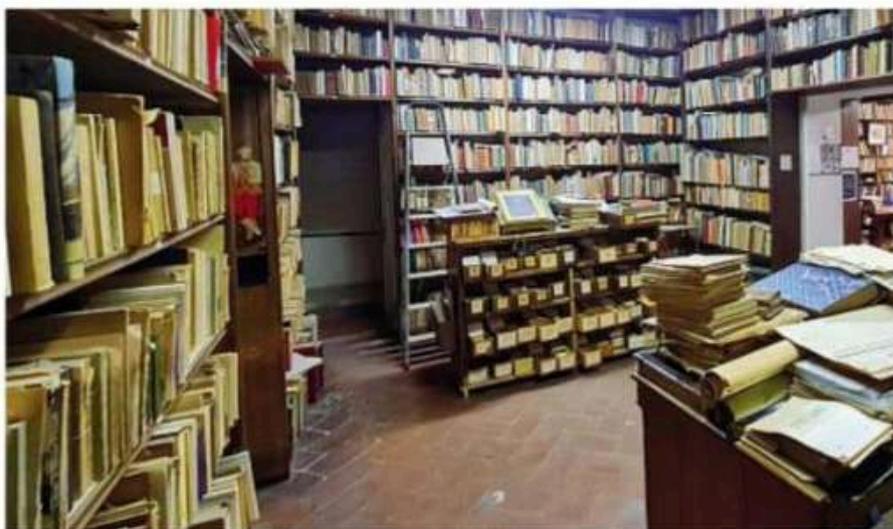
e distribuzione di gadget (ingresso gratuito). Un pomeriggio all'insegna del divertimento e della fantasia organizzato da Burattini a Bologna. Il format di questi ed altri incontri è stato ideato da Riccardo Pazzaglia, che ha pensato ad eventi culturali creati appositamente. Oggi il nome del format è diventato anche quello dell'associazione, che porta avanti la tradizione secolare delle teste di legno realizzate e messe in vita dai

maestri burattinai felsinei. Dal 2017, a pochi metri da piazza Maggiore, il teatro di figura regala sorrisi e risate tra gli spettatori più giovani ma anche ai loro accompagnatori. Per informazioni si può scrivere a info@burattiniabologna.it. Il quarto ed ultimo appuntamento di BuratTday è stato fissato per domenica 24 agosto. Sganapino vi aspetta. (a. t.)

IMMAGINARIA

di Massimo Marino

I buoni propositi sono di solito quelli che elenchiamo verso la fine di dicembre, per l'anno venturo. Fanno presto a trasformarsi in occasioni mancate o rimandate. Nel centro vecchio di Bologna, in via de' Coltelli, esiste una libreria chiamata proprio così, «Buoni propositi». Gli impegni che ognuno vorrebbe prendersi li raccoglie, in forma anonima, il proprietario Vanni Maestri. Li fa disseminare tra le pagine dei molti volumi, vecchi e nuovi, distribuiti su alti scaffali che segnano, nello spazio ridotto del locale, un vero e proprio labirinto, aperto su un retrobottega assiepato di cose e su un cortiletto con del verde. Poi li raccoglie, li classifica, anno per anno, in



Immaginaria La metaforica libreria «Buoni propositi» è al centro dell'omonimo romanzo di Sabrina Gabriele (foto sotto)

Intreccio di propositi

Il romanzo di Sabrina Gabriele, uscito martedì, ambientato in una metaforica libreria di Bologna

uno di quei vecchi schedari pieni di cassette che forse nessuno riaprirà mai, dove comunque si possono ritrovare sogni, desideri, promesse, intenti.

I buoni propositi (Salani, pp. 256, euro 16,90) di Sabrina Gabriele, in libreria da martedì, è un romanzo delicato, che guarda al domani e rovista nelle macerie della memoria, andando fino ai tempi difficili della guerra, quando a Bologna, piena di protervi fascisti, le sirene annunciavano i bombardamenti. Là, nonostante tutto, sboccia l'amicizia tra tre ragazzi di classi sociali diverse, un povero ebreo riccio-



luto proveniente dalla provincia, un nobile, una bellissima ragazza mezza ebrea. Tutto avviene all'università, con le complicazioni di un rapporto d'amore che si sovrappone alla fraternità scanzonata, e con minacce di delazione e di deportazione.

Il nostro romanzo ambientato nella metaforica libreria però inizia più di 30 anni dopo, alla vigilia della vittoria dell'Italia al Mundial

del 1982: quella è un'altra delle speranze nascoste tra le pagine dei volumi di Vanni, insieme a qualche bigliettino scritto guardando una sbiadita maglia del Bologna, che dovrà aspettarne ancora una quarantina, di anni, per tornare sugli altari. Ermanno, il nobile, è morto da poco, e oltre alla ricca eredità ha lasciato uno scartafaccio: un manoscritto intitolato appunto *I buoni propositi*. Lo ha scritto lui? Op-

Bologna

IL RACCONTO
di SABRINA CAMONICHA

Quella fantastica libreria con i nostri buoni propositi "L'ho immaginata a Bologna"

C dentro Bologna, dalla prima all'ultima pagina, del nuovo romanzo di Sabrina Gabriele, bergamasca, che per Salani ha scritto "I buoni propositi", in uscita nelle librerie proprio oggi. Una storia che scivola nel tempo, avanti e indietro, dagli anni '40 al 1982 con l'estate dei Mondiali di calcio sempre sullo sfondo.

Un romanzo corale, pieno di dolcezza e ricordi, di occasioni mancate, di ferite aperte ma sapientemente domate e poi risolte. *I buoni Propositi* è il nome della libreria di via de' Coltellini dove lavora Vanni Maestrì, il protagonista del romanzo che, nel 1982, ha poco più di una sessantina d'anni. Perché Bologna? Gabriele, che vive a Parigi e lavora nell'alta moda, ha scelto con accuratezza la nostra città: «Il motivo che mi ha portata ad ambientare la storia lì parte dalla storia stessa, quando ho scritto la prima stesura della scena d'apertura del romanzo, ancora non sapevo chi fossero i personaggi, quale fosse il loro passato e il loro presente o in che città si trovavano, ma avevo così bene in testa l'immagine della libreria, che mi sono chiesta se non esistesse per davvero un luogo strutturato in quella maniera, con un giardino nascosto nel retro, i libri impilati a piatto l'uno sull'altro, i volumi, usati e riuti, scelti con una cura certosiniana. Ricordo in me a ripercorrere le immagini, obiettivo raggiunto. «Per una questione di privacy, ho modificato l'indirizzo, ma l'architettura è quella». La scrittrice non vuole rivelarla. «Una volta che ho capito in che città si trovavano i personaggi, il re-

Sabrina Gabriele, bergamasca, e il suo romanzo ambientato qui "La mia domanda di partenza è stata: dove vanno a finire i sogni?"



Sabrina Gabriele, bergamasca, ha studiato a Milano e ora vive a Parigi dove lavora nella moda



LA SCENNA

"I buoni propositi" (edito da Salani) di Sabrina Gabriele, da oggi in libreria

sto della storia ha cominciato a scriverli, le strade ad aprirsi, i protagonisti a raccontarsi, i segreti a svelarsi».

Perché il romanzo è una storia di segreti, quasi a scotele cinesi, come i volumi accatastati nella libreria di via de' Coltellini. Che custodiscono, oltre alle loro parole, scritti a mano preziosi, sogni immaginati, desideri innocenti, dichiarazioni d'amore straranti. «Sono partita da questa domanda: dove vanno a finire i sogni delle persone, ma non solo quelli che si realizzano, anche i rimpianti? Questa risposta l'ho trovata appunto a Bologna nella storia di Vanni Maestrì, che è una storia intrecciata di rapporti con persone diverse, amicizie purissime, amori rima-

ti sospesi. Ma è anche una storia di libri che, a loro volta, conservano le storie di chi li ha letti prima di loro. Non per caso, «Il libro vende libri di seconda mano usati, come se le vite di quelle persone dovessero tornare». Lo stesso Vanni custodisce buoni propositi. Ne ha scritto uno nel 1952, il primo giorno d'apertura della libreria. «Celebro le esequie della mia giovinezza e delle parole che ho perso, della mia vita sospesa, dell'amore mai ricambiato». La trama è tutta in questo passaggio, meglio non aggiungere altro: «Aprò *I buoni Propositi* per archiviare il mio in un manoscritto mai ritrovato, sepolto dalle mani della donna che ho amato, dalla vergogna del mio sangue incrimina-

to, dalla poesia delle scuse e dei fallimenti, da tutto quello che ho perso mentre mi confessavo alla guerra. Ai *I buoni Propositi*, a quelli mancati».

Una storia nella storia, brividi di vita che Vanni Maestrì protegge. Saranno le circostanze, con l'aiuto della sua giovane collaboratrice Agata, a farlo uscire dal guscio, dalla sua fortezza a cui la storia con la S maiuscola lo aveva consegnato per via delle sue origini. «La mia - dice Gabriele - è una storia di riscatto, di un uomo che mentre rimpiange il suo sogno non realizzato poi si lascia andare alla felicità del presente. Perché, per Vanni come per tutti noi, non è mai troppo tardi».

GLI APPUNTAMENTI

Concerti, spettacoli e proiezioni di film

• **Ajle Zora**

La rassegna (3)Modi festival di musiche inconsuete presenta Ajle Zora, gruppo che nasce dall'incontro tra cinque musicisti italiani e la voce intensa della cantante serba Milica Polignano. Museo Internazionale e Biblioteca della Musica, strada Maggiore 34, ore 21, ingresso 10 euro.

• **Aldrovandi in piazza**

Serata Musicale "Alle Radici del Jazz - Il Ballad", con il Federico Calzavara Trio. Piazza Aldrovandi, ore 21.

• **L'ultimo turno**

Proiezione del film "L'ultimo Turno" (Civiltà-Germania/2023) di Peter Biskind. Arena Puccini - Parco DLF, via Sebastiano Serlio, 25/2, ore 21.30.

• **Malandrino & Veronica**

Il tour del duo comico "Vitate di quartiere" raggiunge i vest-punti della città nelle settimane d'estate. Parco Ca' Bura, via dell'Arciveggio, ore 21.15.

• **Mr Klein**

Proiezione del film "Mr Klein" di Joseph Losey. Con Alan Delon, Jeanne Moreau, Michel Lonsdale. Arena Orfenna, via Broccardosso 50, ore 21.15, ingresso 5 euro.

• **Emilia Perez**

Proiezione del film "Emilia Perez" di Jacques Zou Sardina. Arena Tivoli, via Giuseppe Massarenti, 48B, ore 21, ingresso film italiani, europei e UK 1,50 euro e abbonamenti 6,50 euro.

• **Un sacco bello**

Proiezione del film "Un sacco bello" (Italia/1980) di Carlo Verdone. Piazza Giovanni XXIII, ore 21.

Diventare grandi con la storia a fumetti di Macaione

di ALBERTO SEBASTIANI

Pochi anni Novanta, "L'esorcista" di William Friedkin in tv, la famiglia Paluzzo sul divano. Lacio vuol vedere il film, papà glielo permette, e così la posseduta Regan entra nell'immaginario di un bambino che dovrà scongiurare tanti mostri. «Tutte le volte che sono diventato grande» (Ibo Publishing) di Giulio Macaione, catanese (ma ci sono solo nato, mi sento palermitano), di cui, classe 1983, da anni a Bologna, è un fumetto davvero intenso, come immagini e narrazione. Già nel precedente "Innocenza" aveva parlato di una ragazza che doveva decidere la

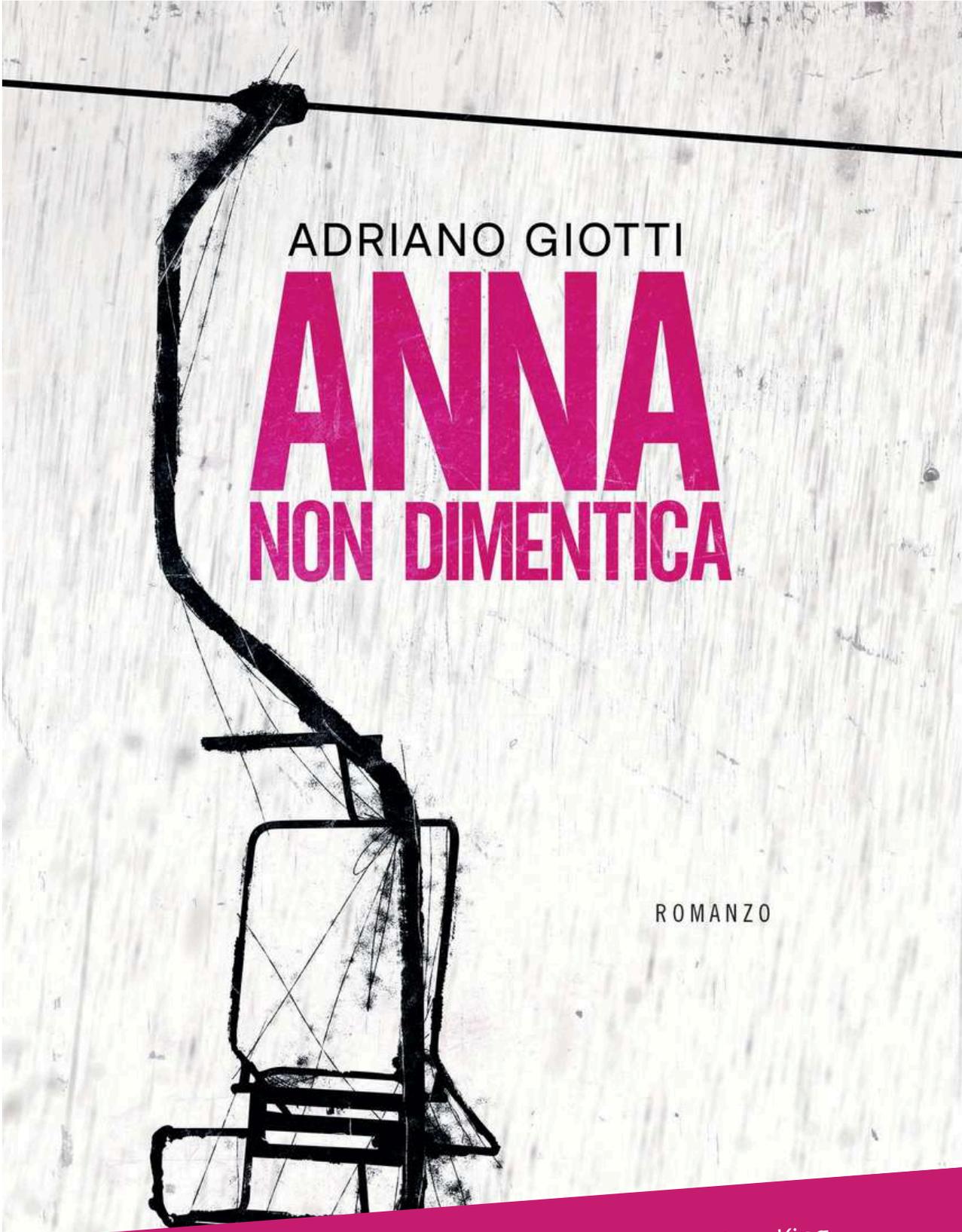
propria strada, ma in quel caso Mia era bloccata da un problema familiare, però sapeva cosa voleva e doveva fare; qui invece Lacio trova pace nonostante le tempeste familiari solo quando capisce cosa vuole fare. I fumetti, è allora va per la sua strada. Deve però fare i conti con la propria identità: è sulla soglia dell'adolescenza, è gay, intriso di educazione cattolica e sensi di colpa, e anche se vorrebbe solo chiudersi in camera e disegnare Sailor Moon, Regan lo perseguita come un incubo, e forse dovrà imparare a convivere. «Questa è una storia di autofiction, mi è successo quello che è capitato a Lacio, e i manga mi hanno fatto capire cosa potevo fare, oltre ad assami immaginare un modo di raccontare. Altri fumetti di Lacio ho poi scoperti, come nel libro, grazie a una profes-



La copertina del libro

ssa a scuola. Qui però volevo pagare il mio tributo al manga, a quell'elemento potentiale narrativo che negli anni Novanta ha investito l'Italia. Così ho scelto le briglie facendo emergere il manga come immaginario e come stile nei miei disegni. E poi sì, c'è Regan: è un personaggio che ha avuto peso enorme, prima trauma poi simbolo di tante paure, un concentrato di significati. Lacio è in una situazione complicata, familiare e personale. Sua madre è bisessuale, suo padre fa il possibile, ma Lacio è stato fin da bambino confidente della mamma, a suo modo quindi vittima delle sue ossessioni, e cerca il suo spazio tra una sorellina da accudire, un'amica alla quale farà coming out, i compagni che lo insultano, un ragazzo di cui s'innamora e il desiderio di iscriversi, dopo le in-

die, all'istituto d'arte. Un racconto di formazione: «da un lato volevo raccontarlo come ci si sente a stare in casa con una persona bisessuale, dall'altro anche del fare coming out. Finora la consideravo una questione superata, ma i fatti di cronaca mi hanno convinto che bisogna parlarne ancora, perché la rappresentazione della situazione che tante persone vivono è il racconto di come ce la si possa fare. Hanno un potere enorme. Possono aiutare. E un'altra cosa: di solito si parla di coming out dall'adolescenza, ma io sapevo di essere omosessuale già prima della pubertà, come Lacio dagli otto anni. Ho deciso di raccontarlo l'essere omosessuale dei bambini, perché si dà sempre per scontato che la scoperta avvenga in età avanzata, con la sessualità, ma non è vero».



ADRIANO GIOTTI

ANNA NON DIMENTICA

ROMANZO

Disturbing like *Adolescence*, scary like a novel by Stephen King.
In bookstores from January. 5.000 copies sold in the first weeks.

 LONGANESI



ANNA NEVER FORGETS

Adriano Giotti

Longanesi, January 2026

Pages 400

Anna doesn't exist.

Anna is one of the many terror legends that ricochet around the web, taking the form, by turns, of photographs, videos, social posts, or blog stories.

And Anna's story is simple: Anna was a child, and she was abducted ten years ago. Her kidnapper believes he has erased her memory, broken her will so completely that he even lets her use a computer and go online—no one would believe her anyway. And in fact, although Anna asks for help from the many teenagers she meets in chat rooms, no one believes her. Because Anna doesn't exist. And no one will save her.

And yet... Suddenly, in the province of L'Aquila, at the foot of mountains once full of snow and tourists and now strewn with disused ski facilities and abandoned holiday villages, a teenager vanishes into thin air.

Inspector Veronica Sgheis is assigned to investigate the disappearance of fourteen-year-old Pietro Marcelli. Married, with a son the same age as Pietro, Veronica takes the case to heart and soon realizes the simplest, most obvious explanations lead nowhere... But can she really follow the trail of an internet legend?

When things spiral out of control, Veronica will be forced to break every rule and set aside her own skepticism.

Because legends conceal the truth.

Because Anna exists—and she doesn't forget.



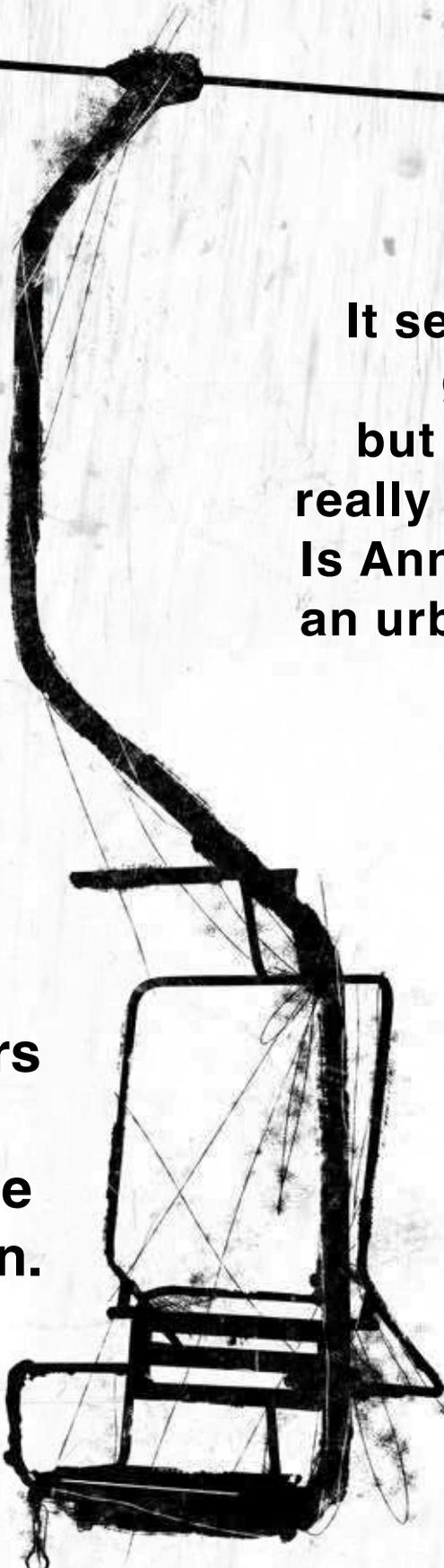
«Anna asks for help. Anna is waiting for you. Anna needs you, because only you can save her. But does Anna really exist? Or is she just a legend made of whispers and shadows?»



ADRIANO GIOTTI lives between Rome and Madrid. After earning a Master's in Writing & Storytelling at Scuola Holden, he devoted himself to screenwriting and directing; his short films have been nominated for the David di Donatello and the Globo d'Oro and selected by the Torino Film Festival, the Venice Film Festival (Italian Young Authors section), and other major Italian and international festivals, where they have received various awards and mentions. His first feature, *SEX COWBOYS*, won Best Italian Film at RIFF – Rome Independent Film Festival and was released first abroad and then in Italy. His short stories have appeared in leading Italian magazines, including Pastrengo, Tina, Neutopia, Narrandom, Crack, Risme, Digressioni, Piegami, L'Irrequieto, and Spore.

Anna Doesn't Forget is his first novel.

THE NEW VOICE OF ITALIAN THRILLER FICTION

A black silhouette of a chair hanging from a wire against a white background. The chair is suspended by a thick black line that loops around it, suggesting it is hanging from above. The chair has a simple, rectangular frame with a seat and backrest. The background is a light, textured white surface.

**It seems like a
game,
but someone
really disappears.
Is Anna really just
an urban legend?**

**Maybe monsters
do exist...
... And now, the
hunt has begun.**

**A MISSING TEENAGER.
A COMMUNITY PLUNGED INTO NIGHTMARE,
A YOUNG POLICE OFFICER INVESTIGATING.**

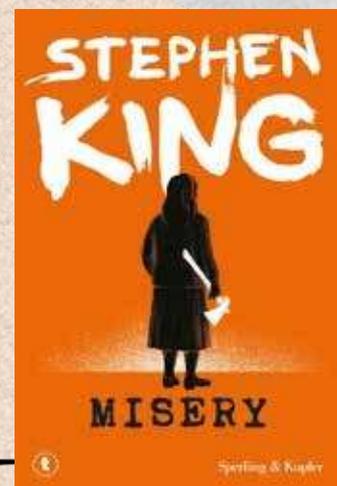
But can one really follow
the trail of an urban legend?

Anna Doesn't Forget is a gripping thriller that cuts with surgical precision into the darkest corners of the online world, exposing the haunting distance between teenagers and the adults who think they understand them.

A NOVEL THAT RECALLS THE **ADOLESCENCE** PHENOMENON - BOTH FOR ITS THEMES AND FOR ITS CALL TO PAY ATTENTION TO THE HIDDEN WORLD IN WHICH TEENAGERS LIVE.



Between psychological thriller and horror, a novel that shares the same clear-eyed, empathetic vision as



A DEBUT AUTHOR who impresses with the skillful blend of psychological insight and emotional tension.

A journey into darkness, where the line between **truth** and **illusion** grows ever thinner.

A freezing January evening, in the Abruzzo Apennines. Pietro Marcelli, fourteen years old, lives in his small corner of the world, feeding on the same fantasies available to most teenagers: urban legends, unbelievable stories that might—just might—be true, tales of strange and unsettling entities that seem to demand life from behind the cold glow of a computer screen... Like the story of Anna. Anna, who was kidnapped many years ago and, from the unknown place where she's being held, sends out faint SOS messages. But Pietro has realized that Anna isn't just a legend. Anna is real. And she's in grave danger. Only he can help her. Perhaps that's why, that night, he deletes his browsing history, erases his chats, and waits for his father to fall asleep. Then he gets on his scooter and rides to the edge of the forest. There, he has an appointment. With Anna? With the truth? Perhaps with death itself.

From that night on, Pietro disappears—and that very night, we, the readers, meet Anna. More real than real. As real as only the worst nightmares can sometimes seem. Chasing that elusive nightmare is Veronica Sgheis—police inspector. And mother. Adriano Giotti has turned one of the deepest fears of our time—the fear of the monsters lurking behind the virtual world our children inhabit—into the substance of a novel that is striking for its atmosphere, language, and vision. A novel that looks at the world of adolescence with the painful empathy of Niccolò Ammaniti and the existential chill of Stephen King at his best.

Let's welcome a brilliant new voice in Italian thriller fiction.
Enjoy the read,

Giuseppe Strazzeri

Editorial director



LEGENDS TRAVEL FAST.
BUT NOT ALL OF THEM ARE MADE UP:
SOME ARE MORE REAL THAN WE DARE
TO BELIEVE...

Anna doesn't exist.

Anna is one of the many horror legends that circulate online, taking shape as photos, videos, social media posts, or stories on blogs.

And Anna's story is a simple one.

Anna was a little girl who was kidnapped ten years ago. Her abductor believes he has erased her memory, broken her will so completely that he can let her use a computer and go online because no one will ever believe her. And in fact, **although Anna begs for help from the many teenagers she meets in chat rooms, no one believes her.** Because Anna doesn't exist. And no one will save her.

And yet... all of a sudden, in the province of L'Aquila, at the foot of mountains once alive with snow and tourists, now scattered with abandoned ski resorts and deserted holiday villages, **a teenager vanishes without a trace.**

Investigating the disappearance of fourteen-year-old Pietro Marcelli is **Inspector Veronica Sgheis**. Married, with a son the same age as Pietro, Veronica takes the case to heart and soon realizes that the simplest, most obvious explanations lead nowhere...

But can she really follow the trail of an online legend?

When the situation spirals out of control, Veronica will be forced to break every rule and set aside her skepticism.

Because legends hide the truth.

Because Anna is real and she doesn't forget.



A MARKETING PLAN YOU WON'T FORGET.

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- ✗ **Page** in the February issue of *IlLibraio*: print run of 440,000 copies
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laLettura tuttolibri ROBINSON
- ✗ **Extensive press coverage and digital campaign** to support the launch
- ✗ **Inclusion in the ILLIBRAIO.IT newsletter**, with over 100,000 subscribers.
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WITH THE VISUAL SENSITIVITY OF A FILM DIRECTOR, ADRIANO GIOTTI SHOWS WHAT HAPPENS

WHEN LEGENDS STOP BEING MERE FICTION... AND START MANIPULATING REALITY.

APPLICANT

LEAVE BLANK

TYPE OR PRINT ALL INFORMATION IN BLACK
(LAST NAME FIRST)

nome *Adriano*

cognome *Giotti*

ALIASES: *AKA*

CITIZENSHIP: *CIT*

TOUR NO.: *QCA*

FBI NO.: *8J*

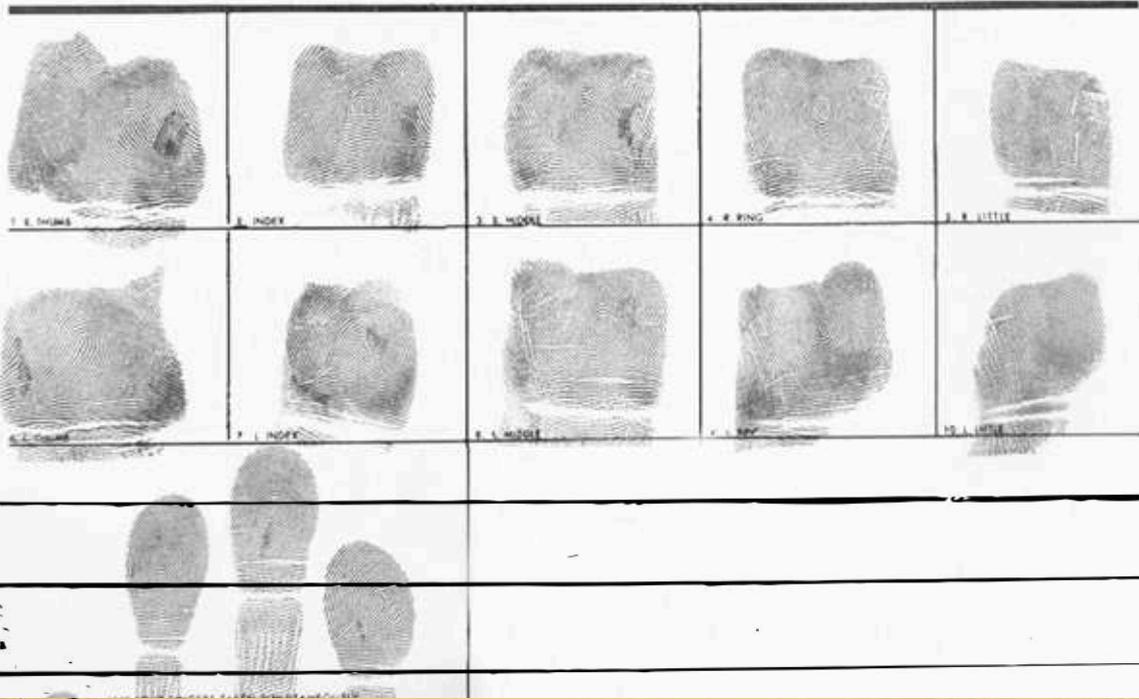
ARMED FORCES NO.: *MNU*

SOCIAL SECURITY NO.: *SOC*

MISCELLANEOUS NO.: *MNU*



Adriano Giotti is a film director and screenwriter. With his work, he has won numerous awards in Italy and abroad, and was nominated for the David di Donatello with his short film *Mostri*. He lives between Rome and Madrid. *Anna Doesn't Forget* is his first novel.



BLURBS FROM THE PRESS

«A remarkably assured novel that transcends genre conventions, weaving psychological suspense with a subtle and moving reflection on care, trauma, and the dangerous alchemy between victim and perpetrator.»

Robinson – la Repubblica
Piergiorgio Paterlini
(01/03/2026)

«An unsettling debut that transcends internet-horror clichés, delving into the darkest corners of contemporary adolescence.»

Il Manifesto
Guido Caldiron
(07/02/2026)

«A highly topical thriller that explores the dangers of the web, written in a sharp, direct, and incisive style that clearly reflects the author’s background in film and screenwriting.»

ThrillerCafe
Federica Cervini
(02/02/2026)

«A highly topical novel that explores bullying, cyberbullying, and the dangerous weight of virtual identity.»

Leggo.it
Stella Lorenzi
(07/02/2026)

«A powerful debut thriller that plunges into the darkest corners of adolescence, where social media, isolation, and violence intertwine [...] An accomplished debut that shows remarkable narrative control, structured in a relentless descent that constantly overturns the roles of victim and perpetrator.»

la Lettura, Corriere della Sera
Severino Colombo
(01/02/2026)

«A striking debut by a new voice in Italian crime fiction, capable of portraying evil in its many forms.»

Il Fatto Quotidiano
Fabrizio d'Esposito
(31/01/2026)

«Selected among the best books of the month.»

Wired
Federico Vergari
(20/01/2026)



ROBERTA RECCHIA
lo che ti ho voluto
così bene

The new novel by Roberta Recchia, an author sold in 19 countries.



HOW DEEPLY I LOVED YOU

Roberta Recchia

Rizzoli, May 2025

Pages 352

With her gentle yet profound pen, Roberta Recchia brings to life intense relationships, vivid dialogues, and a story that holds us close until the very last page. A novel full of grace, about the possibility of being reborn and learning to forgive, with a protagonist who captures our hearts and moves us from the start - because his voice reaches us with the full weight of silence and whispered truths.

Luca is not even fourteen, but he has a quiet sensitivity that sets him apart from his peers. He lives with his parents and older brother in a seaside town where everything seems unchanging—a safe haven that comes alive each summer with familiar rhythms and returning faces. One summer, a lively girl becomes his first dream of love. But when she suddenly disappears and the police knock on their door, Luca's life—and his family's—is changed forever. To protect him, to shield the innocence still clinging to his childhood from the dark shadow slowly consuming their home, his mother hurriedly packs a suitcase and sends him away with a one-way ticket. Up north, Uncle Umberto, a high school teacher, and Aunt Mara with their daughters are waiting for him. In a world so different from the one he left behind, Luca tries to rebuild himself. He grows, he puts down new roots, and he searches for meaning in words like trust and belonging.

Supporting him are Uncle Umberto—who gives him everything he has—and Flavia, a determined young girl who refuses to let him give up on the future.

«Luca stood there, pressed against the exit side so as not to block the passengers coming off. He stared at the platform floor, looking like someone who couldn't bring himself to take that final step—as if the drop from that stair were a leap into the void, and he wasn't ready.»



OPTION PUBLISHERS:

Poland (*Publicat*)

Portugal (*Porto Editora* at auction)

The Netherlands (*Xander* in a preempt)

Uk and Commonwealth English (*Dialogue Books* - Hachette Group)

Turkey (*Epsilon* at auction)

Romania (*Editura Trei* in a preempt)

Czech Republic (*Grada*)

Albania (*Botime Pegi*)

Serbia (*Dereta*)

Israel (*Keter Books*)

Russia (*Eksmo*)

RIGHTS SOLD TO:

Germany (*Fischer Verlag*)

France (*Slatkine*)

Spain (*Duomo Ediciones*)

Denmark (*Gronningen 1* in a preempt)

Greece (*Psichogios* at auction)

Arabic language (*Sada* for Publishing and Distribution LTD)



ROBERTA RECCHIA (Rome, 1972) graduated in European and American Languages and Literature. She lived in Lille, France, where she earned a master's degree in Relations Interculturelles et Coopération Internationale. She worked for ten years for a big company and then quit office work to devote herself to teaching. She currently teaches English in a high school in Rome. She is passionate about film and literature, especially Russian and French. She lives with his Chihuahua, Claudio, in a small town on the coast of Lazio. *All the Life That Remains*, her debut novel, was met with extraordinary success from both readers and critics. Among other accolades, it won the 2024 *iODonna* "Heroines of Today" Prize and has been translated into 19 languages. *How Deeply I Loved You* is her second novel.



ROBERTA RECCHIA

Tutta la vita
che resta

Rizzoli

A wonderful debut novel already sold in 19 countries.



ALL THE LIFE THAT REMAINS

Roberta Recchia

Rizzoli, March 2024

Pages 400

A family that tries to mend a deep tear, that over the years, experiences the delicate balance of affections.

A novel about forgetfulness, about the pain that almost suffocates the possibility of existing. A story about being parents and being children, about care and love that go beyond loss.

Rome, mid 50'. The Balestrieri family has owned a grocery store near Via Merulana for generations. Their existence flows quietly until their second daughter, Marisa, cracks the perfect picture. She remains pregnant with her boyfriend, who suddenly and unexpectedly leaves her. Her parents then decide to give her to their young apprentice, Stelvio. What was meant to be just a loveless arranged marriage will instead become a relationship full of love and complicity.

In the eighties, Stelvio and Marisa Ansaldo are truly satisfied: their business is going well, they love each other deeply, their eldest son is a concert pianist who travels the world, and their daughter, Betta, is a lively and dynamic sixteen years old girl.

The family spends their summer holidays in Torre Domizia with their grandmother and granddaughter Miriam, Emma's daughter, and sister of Marisa. Betta and Miriam are the same age, but that's about all they have in common; just like their mothers, they couldn't be more different. Nonetheless, they spend their first day of vacation together, enjoying their company and catching up. At night the two girls sneak away from home to reach a bonfire by the sea.

Unfortunately, they never get there: they are assaulted and raped by a group of boys. Betta dies in the sand from an asthma attack, crushed by the weight of her aggressors. Miriam survives but, deeply affected by the trauma, reveals nothing of what happened.

Betta's body is found the next morning, and her family loses its center right there. The loss drives the Ansaldo couple further and further away, leaving behind only the memory of the couple they once were.

In the background, the investigation of Betta's murder stagnates, slowed by prejudices and omissions.

Miriam, abandoned to herself, is overwhelmed by the consequences of her secret. Only meeting with Leo, a young man from Rome, will change the fate of her story.

Despite mourning, once again, in the history of this family, love and sincere relationships help bring the truth to light and strengthen the deepest bonds. The characters, finally exposing their fragility, can question themselves on the value of hope and the meaning of faith in front of a pain that seemingly eradicated all certainty.



RIGHTS SOLD TO:

France (*Slatkine* in a preempt)

Germany (*Fischer Verlag* two book deal in a preempt)

The Netherlands (*Xander* in a preempt)

Denmark (*Gronningen 1* in a preempt)

Romania (*Editura Trei* in a preempt)

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Poland (*Publicat*)

Czech Republic (*Grada*)

Spain (*Alianza Editorial*)

Israel (*Keter Books*)

Uk and Commonwealth English
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Albania (*Botime Pegi*)

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Russia (*Inspira*)

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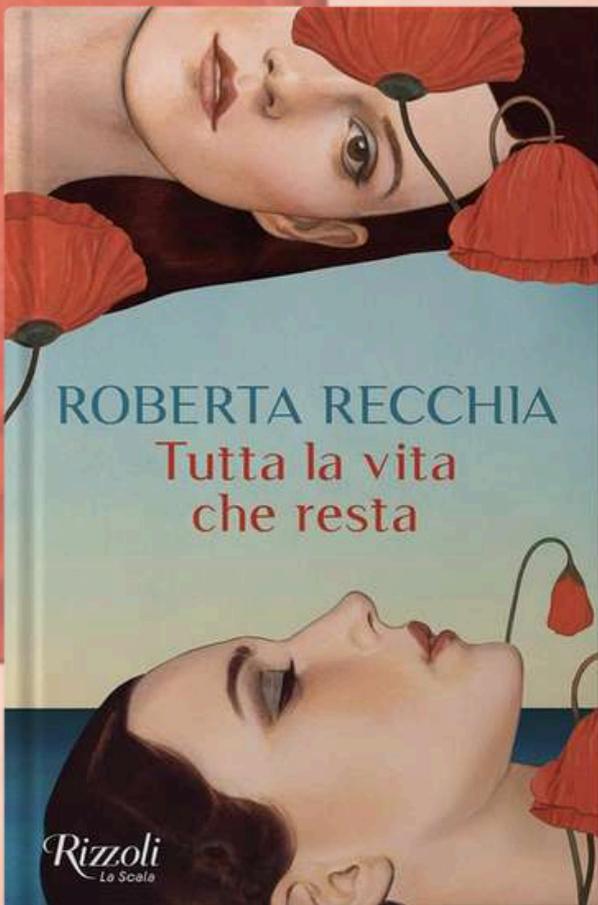
Arabic language (*Sada for Publishing and Distribution LTD*)



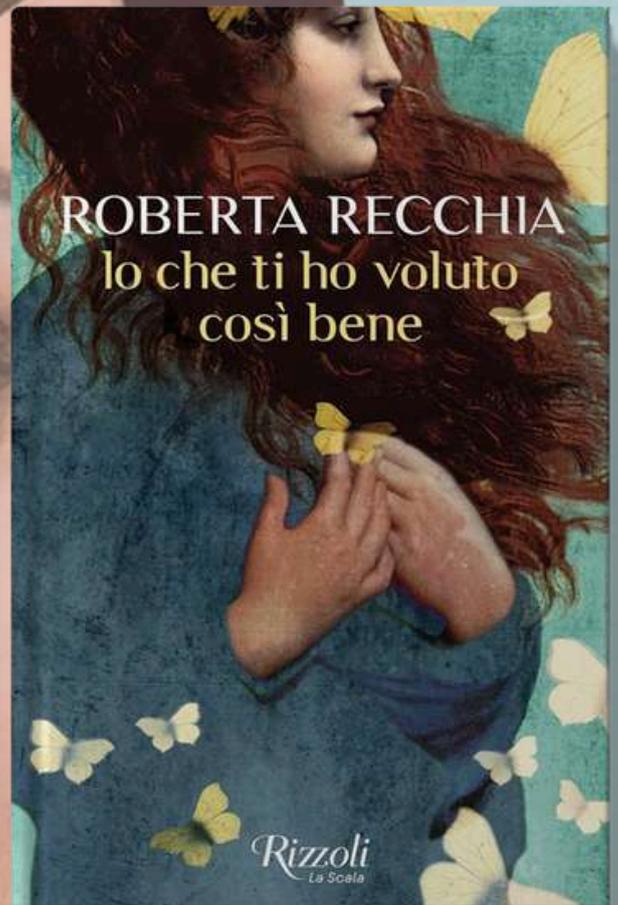
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How Deeply I Loved You is her second novel.

After the outstanding success of her debut novel
ALL THE LIFE THAT REMAINS in 2024
Roberta Recchia released
HOW DEEPLY I LOVED YOU in 2025.
Year after year her novels
have climbed the Italian publishing charts
and have been sold
in over 19 countries.



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BOTH NOVELS IN THE CHARTS FOR WEEKS

la Lettura
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Mara Carollo
**PROMETTIMI
CHE NON MORIREMO**

A haunting tale of love, desire, and the enduring weight of regret.

La Scala



PROMISE THAT WE WILL NOT DIE

Mara Carollo

Rizzoli, March 2025

Pages 500

Mara Carollo's novel, by reconstructing the intimate epic of its protagonist, is above all an investigation into desire, a dense and enthralling read to tell us that it is true: we chase illusions and impossible passions all our lives, but they are worth the journey.

When her father comes home from the war, in 1918, Caterina does not even recognise him. He is dirty, barefoot and his gaze is dull. For the first time, she is truly afraid of death. Yet, at five years old, Nina already knows what it entails to be born in the mountains of Veneto, in a district of a few houses where life means work in the pastures, toil in the woods and deprivation. However, when Mario, the companion of secret games and races through the fields, leaves for Milan where school, clothes that are always white and a better future await him, Caterina also begins to dream of a different existence for herself. She voraciously learns to read and work, she is in search of a destiny that will take her far away from there.

Spiky, stubborn, rebellious in her own way, Caterina is a memorable character: she traverses the 20th century in a Veneto province that changes profoundly while she remains fiercely attached to her old desires. And Mario is for Caterina the hope of total love, a ghost to chase through the decades.



RIGHTS SOLD TO:

Romania (*Editura Trei* in a preempt)

Spain (*Duomo Ediciones*)

Polonia (*Publicat*)

«The story of a woman spanning a century, with all the things that shape the 20th century, from the two wars to the transition from country to city, and with all the things that shape a life, even the regrets, even the mistakes. Catherine is so real, so human, so similar to the less luminous parts of each of us. She jumps off the page in one piece, right from the first lines, and never leaves you again. Ever since I closed the book, this protagonist has haunted me.»

Cristina De Stefano, international scout



MARA CAROLLO was born in Thiene in 1979. She graduated in Philosophy in Padua and has been working as a teacher in a high school in her city for ten years. *Promise Me We Will Not Die* is her first novel.

MARTA LAMALFA

**L'ISOLA DOVE VOLANO
LE FEMMINE**

ROMANZO



A novel made of flesh and blood, of bodies, but also of dreams
and yearnings for freedom.

BLOOM



THE ISLAND WHERE WOMEN FLY

Marta Lamalfa

Neri Pozza, May 2024

Pages 224

An extraordinary debut that brings to light a historical fact of great originality and fascination that occurred on the island of Alicudi: the collective hallucination caused by a parasitic mushroom containing the basic ingredient of LSD.

Alicudi, 1903. Caterina looks at the cold, hard as a crust of bread body of Maria, her twin sister, and thinks that from that moment on, her life will change forever. An evil illness has taken her away and everyone in her family - from the great-grandmother who can no longer see well but understands everything, to Palmira, the mother who has a baby in her belly for the fourth time but has lost her mind in grief - thinks it is the fault of Salvatore a young man serving political exile in Lipari Castle, who wants to start a revolution. Now that Maria is no longer there, even though Caterina's room has expanded, life has become much tighter: she works in Don Nino's fields until sunset, delivers salted anchovies with her donkey and helps her mother with the housework, waiting for the day when all the females in the family get together to knead bread, the only time she enjoys it.

For some time, small, coal-black horns have sprouted from the island's rye, in the village they call it tizzonara. At first, they didn't trust themselves to eat it, but now that's all that's left, so Catherine too throws down those hard, death-smelling bites.

Perhaps, however, in those painful morsels lies the key to escape from an increasingly lonely present, and reach the majare, the witches who fly naked to Palermo, laughing loudly in the extreme freedom of the night. It is not only Caterina who sees things that have disappeared when she wakes up, but also the rest of the family and the seven hundred and thirteen people who live on the island.

But for everyone, the time will come to return to reality.

An original and powerful new voice, echoing the pens of successful writers with a unique world view. A story based on an event that really happened in Alicudi at the beginning of the 20th century, extraordinary and yet took place in the smallest and most forgotten of the Aeolian Islands.

Marta Lamalfa, with a sharp and antique language, masterfully transports us to a windswept land, tiny, because beyond the sea one cannot conceive of going, and yet extraordinarily wide and universal.



RIGHTS SOLD TO:

France (*Editions Phébus*)

Portugal (*Almados Livros*)

Poland (*Wydawnictwo Pozna
skie*)

Bulgary (*Znaci Publishing House*)



MARTA LAMALFA was born in Palmi, Calabria, in 1990. She lives in Rome, where she works in the press office of a humanitarian organisation. She graduated in Middle Eastern Languages, specialised in Publishing and Writing and studied piano at an academic level. She attended the annual workshop of Bottega di Narrazione, a creative writing school directed by Giulio Mozzi and Giorgia Tribuiani. Her novel *L'isola dove volano le femmine* was among the commended entries in the 36th edition of the Italo Calvino Prize.

MATTEO BUSSOLA

LA LUCE DEGLI INCENDI A DICEMBRE



EINAUDI
STILE LIBERO

An unbiased dialogue and exchange that leads the protagonists to welcome each other with kindness.



THE LIGHTS OF FIRES IN DECEMBER

Matteo Bussola

Einaudi, November 2025

Pages 144

What if *Before Sunrise* were not about two young strangers at the beginning of life, but about two adults who feel betrayed by it? That would be *The Light of Fires in December*.

This is the true story of a possible love.
Or perhaps the possible story of a true love.

Margherita and Marcello meet on a train. She is fleeing her family; he is returning to his. Seated opposite each other in a crowded carriage—among restless children and talkative elderly passengers—they cautiously begin to talk. What starts as small talk slowly becomes something else. Almost without noticing, they begin to confide in one another.

They speak of marriage, children, missed chances, promises kept and promises forgotten. Of fragility. Of disillusionment. Of the quiet ache of expectations unmet.

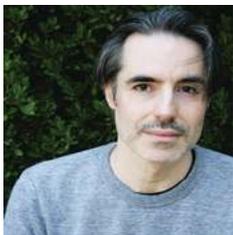
Like an auteur film unfolding in a single, intimate shot, Matteo Bussola stages a raw and tender dialogue between a woman whose gaze is lucid and disenchanted and a man who still refuses to stop believing in others. Two seemingly ordinary lives—so familiar they could be our own—who, within the suspended reality of a journey, uncover a hidden and unspoken part of themselves.

An out-of-season blaze that perhaps not even fate will manage to extinguish.

A luminous novel about second chances, emotional honesty, and the small openings through which life reminds us that we are still in time.



**«They sipped their coffee,
facing each other,
amid the ruins of his past life
and the fragments of her
present one, stirred
by a tender excitement for
that extra portion of life
they felt entitled to, and by a
fierce nostalgia
for a life that had never
been.»**



Matteo Bussola (Verona, 1971) has published for Einaudi Stile Libero the bestsellers *Notti in bianco*, *baci a colazione* (2016, translated in many countries), *Sono puri i loro sogni* (2017), *La vita fino a te* (2018), *L'invenzione di noi due* (2020), *Il tempo di tornare a casa* (2021), *Il rosmarino non capisce l'inverno* (2022), *Un buon posto in cui fermarsi* (2023), *La neve in fondo al mare* (2024) and, with Emilio Pilliu, the manga *Zeroventi* (2023, 2024 and 2025). For Salani he published the children's books *Viola e il Blu* (2021) and *Mezzamela* (2023). He hosts a radio programme on Radio 24, *Non mi capisci*, and has a weekly column in 'F', entitled *Uno scrittore, una donna*. *La luce degli incendi a dicembre* is his new novel.



MATTEO BUSSOLA **LA NEVE IN FONDO** **AL MARE**



EINAUDI
STILE LIBERO BIG

A delicate journey into the profound and often heart-wrenching journey of adolescent fragility.



THE SNOW AT THE BOTTOM OF THE SEA

Matteo Bussola

Einaudi, June 2024

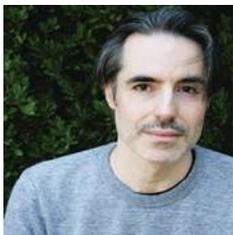
Pages 182

Matteo Bussola recounts a struggle of our time: adolescent fragility. He writes a touching story, full of grace, about the betrayal of becoming oneself. And he shows us, with honesty and delicacy, what it feels like to be faced with the pain of a child, but also the light of being parents, which even in the darkness continues to shine. Because it is difficult to accept the truth of those we love, especially if we have brought them into the world. But love always carries a rebirth.

A father and a son, inside a room. Facing each other, as they have never done. Each a mirror of the other. The two of them, together, in a children's neuropsychiatric ward. There are other parents, in that ward, other children. Teenagers refusing food or hurting themselves, experiencing the exhausting struggle of growing up, within families unable to give a name to their torment. And bewildered mothers and fathers, who share the same wound, the intolerable feeling of no longer being up to their task. With the warm, intimate voice of a lost father, Matteo Bussola photographs the frightening instant when parents and children stop recognising each other, and talking to each other becomes impossible. Through a handful of heartbreaking and beautiful characters, he reminds us that every human being is a mystery, even when we are the ones who gave birth to them.



«- Discovering the depth of a child's sadness, not even sixteen years old, is like finding something in a place where you never expected it. Where it just shouldn't be.
- What do you mean?
- Like, I don't know. Like finding snow at the bottom of the sea.»



Matteo Bussola (Verona, 1971) has published for Einaudi Stile Libero the bestsellers *Notti in bianco*, *baci a colazione* (2016, translated in many countries), *Sono puri i loro sogni* (2017), *La vita fino a te* (2018), *L'invenzione di noi due* (2020), *Il tempo di tornare a casa* (2021), *Il rosmarino non capisce l'inverno* (2022), *Un buon posto in cui fermarsi* (2023), *La neve in fondo al mare* (2024) and, with Emilio Pilliu, the manga *Zeroventi* (2023, 2024 and 2025). For Salani he published the children's books *Viola e il Blu* (2021) and *Mezzamela* (2023). He hosts a radio programme on Radio 24, *Non mi capisci*, and has a weekly column in 'F', entitled *Uno scrittore, una donna*. *La luce degli incendi a dicembre* is his new novel.

MATTEO BUSSOLA

IL ROSMARINO NON CAPISCHE L'INVERNO



EINAUDI
STILE LIBERO **BIG**



TEN EDITIONS AND
250.000 COPIES SOLD



ROSEMARY DOESN'T GET WINTER

Matteo Bussola



TEN EDITIONS - 250.000 COPIES SOLD

«Rosemary goes untouched through winter and blossoms again in spring, hence the title, because these women so profoundly human, they suffer life's bad weather, love, death, sickness, betrayal and they can dry up for a while, but they come back, they always do.»

Tuttolibri - LA STAMPA

«Matteo Bussola always gives the impression of handling pain with such tenderness, but underneath those soft words there is a merciless life, moments to remember and moments you would rather forget... Maybe though his secret lies in the tenacious belief that, no matter what, life is always worth living.»

LA REPUBBLICA

ROSEMARY DOESN'T GET WINTER

Matteo Bussola

Einaudi, June 2022

Pages 154

There are only a few authors like Bussola, authors who can recount, with such delicacy and profoundness, the contradictions of human relationships. Only a few can seize with such modesty our desire and fear to be happy.

A lonely woman who finds love in her late-life. A daughter who struggles to forgive her mother. A young woman who does not want children because she would not stand their suffering. A widow who writes to her husband. A sixteen years old girl who falls in love with her girl friend. An old lady who tells a terrible secret to her caregiver. The heroines of this book are everything but heroes, they are normal people, they could be our neighbors, our colleagues, our sister, our daughter, they could be us. Fragile and strong, meek and cruel, restless and happy, they love and hate with all they have, because they think love is their key chance. They fall, like all of us, and yet they hold up, like rosemary when winter tries to bring it down and yet it resists to be born again in spring despite its scars. A novel made of ordinary and exceptional stories intertwined, moving, touching, questioning stories.

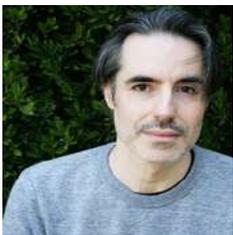


RIGHTS SOLD TO:
Israel (Kinneret)

«I decided to write about women because I am not one. Because I feel I don't know them well enough, even if I live with four of them. And because it is much more useful to write about something you want to get to know better than to write about something you think you know a lot about.»

Matteo Bussola

«What does a woman think about when, deafened by the voices of others, she suddenly understands she repressed her own?»



Matteo Bussola (Verona, 1971) has published for Einaudi Stile Libero the bestsellers *Notti in bianco, baci a colazione* (2016, translated in many countries), *Sono puri i loro sogni* (2017), *La vita fino a te* (2018), *L'invenzione di noi due* (2020), *Il tempo di tornare a casa* (2021), *Il rosmarino non capisce l'inverno* (2022), *Un buon posto in cui fermarsi* (2023), *La neve in fondo al mare* (2024) and, with Emilio Pilliu, the manga *Zeroventi* (2023, 2024 and 2025). For Salani he published the children's books *Viola e il Blu* (2021) and *Mezzamela* (2023). He hosts a radio programme on Radio 24, *Non mi capisci*, and has a weekly column in 'F', entitled *Uno scrittore, una donna*. *La luce degli incendi a dicembre* is his new novel.



ENRICO
GALIANO

Quel posto
che chiami casa

romanzo

Ci vuole coraggio
per diventare chi sei

The heart is a city that collapses even without earthquakes.



THE PLACE YOU CALL HOME

Enrico Galiano

Mondadori, May 2025
Pages 432

After enchanting over 600,000 readers, Enrico Galiano returns to bookstores with his most powerful story yet. Through his novels, videos, and live performances, he has touched thousands of people. This is his most heartfelt work: a journey into the secrets we carry inside, a discovery of the voice that pushes us to become who we truly are. Because only then can we finally find the place we call home.

Vera has never truly been alone. Since she was a child, a voice has followed her everywhere: it wakes her in the night, provokes her, comforts her. It's the voice of her brother Cé, who passed away when she was just four years old. A voice that's sharp and ironic, able to gift her with strange, beautiful thoughts like: "There's no synonym for synonym" or "Snow is proof you don't have to shout to be seen." But it's also a harsh judge, pushing her into corners with simple questions like: "Are you really Vera?" But who was Cé, really? To their parents, he was the perfect child—and Vera has lived every day in his shadow. Every choice becomes an impossible comparison, even her decision to study law: is she doing it for herself or to chase a ghost? Luckily, she has Gin—her best friend—who always knows how to make her laugh and feel a little less strange. Then something inexplicable happens. Vera knows she shouldn't listen to Cé's voice. And yet, one day, she throws everything away and follows a ladybug through the gates of a clinic. There, she meets Francesco—a boy who seems to know her better than anyone ever has. Maybe he's the only one who can help her uncover the secret her family has been hiding for years. Because Francesco teaches her something simple, yet incredibly hard to accept:

Vera isn't crazy.

She's just alive.

And being alive, sometimes, isn't all that different from being crazy.



«You need courage to become your true self.»



ENRICO GALIANO was born in Pordenone in 1977. A teacher in a provincial school, in 2020 Il Sole 24 Ore included him in the list of the ten most influential teachers on the web. He has published many novels with Garzanti, including *And Yet We End Up Happy*, which became a successful TV series and won the Città di Como International Prize as best first work and the Mediterranean Culture Prize, but he is also the author of essays, including the bestseller *The art of Failing Big*.

The Secret Society of Words Rescuers, his first novel for children written for Salani, won the Bancarellino Prize 2023. In 2024 he won the Nastro d'Argento for the movie *Il punto di rugiada*, awarded Best Story. The secret of a good teacher for him is: 'They won't listen to you if you don't listen to them first'.

MARZIA SICIGNANO

Prima o poi sarò io casa mia

romanzo

E ogni notte
devo ricordarmi
che devo a me stessa
tutta la forza che serve
per essere felice
anche senza di te.

And every night I have to remind myself that I owe it to myself to find the strength to be happy, even without you.



ONE DAY I WILL BE MY OWN HOME

Marzia Sicignano

Mondadori, May 2025
Pages 204

***One Day, I Will Be My Own Home* is a raw, intimate story. A narrative where prose and poetry intertwine, speaking straight to the heart, digging deep, then gently soothing, hurting and healing in the same breath. A hymn to the strength it takes to start over. A literary embrace for those who have loved deeply, perhaps too much, and maybe in the wrong way, and in doing so, forgot how to breathe on their own.**

Mirea is twenty-five, and everything in her life seems to be in its rightful place: a job she loves, a relationship that makes her feel safe, a home filled with shared dreams. But in a moment, everything shatters. Pietro, the man she believed was her "forever", has betrayed her trust and broken their story. Suddenly, Mirea finds herself unmoored, without direction or a sense of self. Every certainty collapses, along with every plan for the future. So she leaves. From Rome to Paros, then Corfu, Mykonos, Budapest, she retraces all the places where she once felt happy with him. A backpack on her shoulders and only the essentials inside, but nothing that can truly protect her from the weight of memory. Everywhere she goes, she meets strangers who seem to carry wounds not so different from hers.

Each story becomes a mirror, each city a place to cross through with both body and soul. Mirea writes, listens, starts to see herself, cautiously, tenderly, with new eyes. She stumbles, she holds on. She lays herself bare in the truest sense of the word, confronting pain, longing, guilt, and slowly discovering that when you've lost everything, the only way forward is the path that leads you back to yourself.



**«I am, and only I can be,
the one who saves me. I,
who thought I was strong
because of you, I am
strong in spite of you.»**



Marzia Sicignano, born and raised in Scafati, near Salerno, made her debut just past the age of twenty. She has already published six novels, all with Mondadori: *Me, you and The Sea* (2018), a bestseller in Italy and also translated in Spain; *Air* (2019); *Everywhere will be, will be together* (2020); *Where goodbyes don't exist* (2021); *Where are you hiding* (2022); and *Where The Tears Hide* (2024).

yari selvetella

la mezz'ora della verità

romanzo



A fast-paced, thought-provoking novel
that illuminates the frailties of our age.



THE HALF-HOUR OF TRUTH

Yari Selvetella

Mondadori, January 2025

Pages 348

With biting humor and a cast of unforgettable characters, Yari Selvetella crafts a fast-paced, thought-provoking novel that illuminates the frailties of our age. Amid the contradictions of contemporary life, glimpses of unexpected light shine through, revealing both the absurdity and the poignancy of the human condition.

They creep into the intimacy of apartments, bounce between building facades, and hover in the streets and gardens of Aquarius Square: they are the responses of Varami, the app that can confirm or deny the truth of what people say. At first, it seems like the fulfilment of a forbidden desire—the ability to access others' thoughts.

Varami satisfies every curiosity, even the most unspoken ones: you can check if your spouse is faithful, if an elderly aunt plans to bequeath her apartment to you, or if the girl you're in love with truly reciprocates your feelings. It exposes the bluffs of politicians and the petty hypocrisies of daily life. But soon, troubling questions emerge: does this new oracle make us more sincere—or just more guarded? What are the criteria behind its judgments? And what is its real purpose?

As the weeks pass, rather than clarifying, the mystery deepens. At first, Varami infiltrates domestic spaces, delivering its judgments through smartphones, tablets, stereos, and TVs. Then, the situation spirals: every day at 6 p.m., using the city's loudspeakers, Varami broadcasts its universal pronouncements for exactly thirty minutes—the "half-hour of truth."

The protagonists are forced to confront uncomfortable questions: how credible is this story? And how authentic is the truth we're living?



YARI SELVETELLA (Rome, 1976) is an accomplished author whose recent novels include *Vite mie* (Mondadori, 2022), winner of the UmbriaLibri Prize – “Raccontami l'amore” and finalist for the Minerva Prize; *Le regole degli amanti* (Bompiani, 2020), recipient of the Cambosu Prize; *Le stanze dell'addio* (Bompiani, 2018), a Strega Prize candidate; and *La banda Tevere* (Mondadori, 2015). He also published the poetry collection *La maschera dei gladiatori* (CartaCanta, 2014).

A journalist and television author, he works for RAI, Italian National Broadcast.

ALESSIA CASTELLINI

IL SENTIERO DELLE FORMICHELLE

An ancient and evocative world, populated by tenacious women whose sisterhood turns out to be indissoluble.

PIEMME



THE PATH OF LEMONS

Alessia Castellini

Piemme, May 2024

Pages 345

Alessia Castellini, with a unique grace of writing, immerses herself in an ancient and evocative world, populated by tenacious women, and tells a profound and moving story of sisterhood that teaches how ties, of blood and land, are indissoluble even when they seem to blossom without strength and roots.

Amalfi Coast, 1940s. Rachele and Nannina cross the mountain every day, carrying heavy baskets full of lemons to the coast of Maiori, where the sea stretches open. It is the destiny of all the women of Tramonti.

Rachele believes that the world has fixed and invariable rules and is proud of the traditions of her country, while Nannina has dreamt since childhood of lands far away from the steep path that they will have to walk for a lifetime, until they break their backs and knees. Different in every way, they cannot, however, think of being apart. It is in their footsteps that eighty years later, two sisters, Ninfa and Aleli, arrive in the village. They are convinced that this story is just a figment of the imagination of their grandmother, a writer, who died recently. Instead, they discover that Rachel and Nannina really existed, and that the lemons path holds a secret that their family has forgotten for decades. There are voids that swallow you up and voids that embrace you. In the former you sink, in the latter you float.



RIGHTS SOLD TO:
France (*Michel Lafon*)



ALESSIA CASTELLINI was born in Palermo and is thirty-one years old. She has a PhD in theoretical physics and is co-author of scientific articles published in international journals. She travels and takes photographs with her reflex camera, always in search of stories to tell.

Andrea Pennacchi

Una foresta di scimmie



A new adventure for William Shakespeare, detective.



A FOREST OF MONKEYS

Andrea Pennacchi

Marsilio, November 2025

Pages 304

What if the birth of *The Merchant of Venice* were itself a crime story?

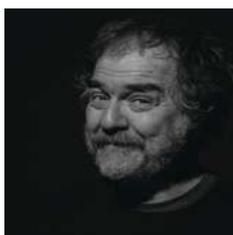
“Venice takes commercial agreements very seriously,” they say. “They hold the city up as much as the forest of poles it stands on.” Young Will has never met a Jew before. In England, they are little more than bogeymen—poisoners of wells, monstrous noses, red beards, figures of superstition. But when he encounters Shylock and Tubal in the Venetian Ghetto, he finds something unexpected: humanity. Wit. Intelligence. Perhaps even sympathy. At least until someone starts talking about “a pound of flesh.” And Antonio is found dead.

In a Venice where justice is scarce but the law is sacred, contracts matter more than mercy. A city built on trade, calculation, and survival becomes the stage for a story that will echo through centuries.

Following in the footsteps of *If the Rose Had No Name*, Andrea Pennacchi once again takes readers to the roots of Shakespearean myth, blending historical fiction, literary imagination, and thriller tension. Through the eyes of Will and his unruly band of companions, the novel reconstructs the possible origins of Shylock, Bassanio, and the infamous bond.

Because literature is not born in silence—it rises from the noise of the streets, from prejudice, blood, and contradiction.

A vivid, theatrical novel that moves between Renaissance Venice and the forging of Shakespeare’s imagination.



Andrea Pennacchi (Padua, 1969) is an actor, playwright, theater director, and writer. In addition to *If the Rose Had No Name*, his first foray into detective fiction, and *A Forest of Monkeys*, his second one, he is the author of several other works, all published by People.

Andrea Pennacchi

**Se la rosa
non avesse
il suo nome**



The Bard's First Case is a thrilling new perspective
on a timeless classic.



IF THE ROSE HAD NO NAME

Andrea Pennacchi

Marsilio, November 2024

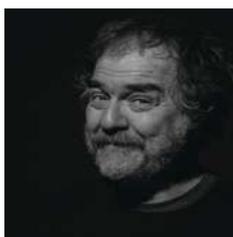
Pages 384

Andrea Pennacchi—actor, playwright, and Shakespeare scholar—takes us on a riveting journey. With urgency and humor, he propels us into the Bard's very first investigation, where Shakespeare becomes both a victim and solver of a case of love, death, and the infamous balconies we know as Romeo and Juliet. This dazzling debut reimagines the classic tale through the lens of a detective story.

William Shakespeare, having temporarily left his wife and children in his beloved England, embarks on a secret mission on behalf of the Crown. This mission is shrouded in utmost secrecy. The young Shakespeare—who has yet to realize he is destined to become a poet—arrives in the lands of the Serenissima and settles in Padua. There, he must locate an Englishman and bring him back home. Padua, the intellectual heart of the Venetian Republic, is a bustling hub of political, social, and academic life. It teems with priests, noblewomen, physicians, magicians (or those claiming to be), hotheaded students, soldiers, and men who have abandoned the art of war. Among them is Vincenzo Saviolo, a former soldier and a walking contradiction—both corpulent and agile. With his walking stick and elegant demeanor, Saviolo becomes Shakespeare's guide and protector on this top-secret mission. What begins as a discreet cloak-and-dagger operation takes a dramatic turn when young Shakespeare finds himself entangled in a deadly feud of power and love between the Montagues and Capulets. Romeo and Juliet are smitten with one another, but their families would rather see anything but a union between them. *Amor vincit omnia*, the Latins say—but they fail to mention that love does not conquer all swiftly, nor does it do so alone. Matters spiral further out of control when Shakespeare is accused of murdering Tybalt, Juliet's cousin. His secret mission is abruptly sidelined as he is forced to flee for his life. Joining Shakespeare in his escape are Saviolo, a wet nurse, a medical student harboring a mysterious secret, two other young men, Romeo himself, and eventually a monk. This peculiar monk, with his concoctions of mandrake and other herbs, is said to have the power to raise the dead—though resurrection, when not the work of God, often brings with it the shadow of the devil. Amidst a whirlwind of intrigue involving comic lords and ladies, dogs, and good-hearted citizens.



For fans of historical fiction and Shakespearean drama, Andrea Pennacchi reimagines the legendary tale in this sparkling debut, where love, death, and mystery entwine to create a detective story like no other.



Andrea Pennacchi (Padua, 1969) is an actor, playwright, theater director, and writer. In addition to *If the Rose Had No Name*, his first foray into detective fiction, and *A Forest of Monkeys*, his second one, he is the author of several other works, all published by People.

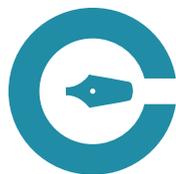


valeria sirabella

**il mondo
che da qualche parte
esiste**

romanzo

On the Tower, one is nothing, just a part of the emptiness surrounding it.



THE WORLD THAT SOMEWHERE EXISTS

Valeria Sirabella

Mondadori, May 2024
Pages 192

On the Tower, one is nothing, just a part of the emptiness surrounding it.

That's why Vanda decides to move her daughter Ginevra away from the big building they live in, twenty-two floors of concrete on the outskirts of Rome, and enroll her in a prestigious high school in a wealthy neighborhood of the city, where she can mingle with the children of influential people. For Ginevra, indeed - Vanda is sure of it - there is hope for redemption: at fourteen, her body has blossomed into an unexpected beauty that sets her apart from the other inhabitants of the Tower. It seems designed to seduce, conquer whatever she desires, and speak of a better life. More aware than Vanda of her unavoidable difference from her new schoolmates, Ginevra finds herself catapulted into an unknown world. She befriends Camilla, a girl raised hyper-protected by her father Claudio, with whom she shares a morbid love, and in a perpetual cold war with her mother Eleonora. While Camilla struggles with her sense of inadequacy towards everyone - the boy she's fascinated with, her peers, but above all, herself - Ginevra wants to be free, from the Tower, from a predestined life, but also from Vanda and her suffocating love. To do so, she needs money, and the people she ends up associating with have plenty of it. Ginevra, Vanda, Camilla, Claudio, Eleonora: in a desperate effort to counteract the inertia that cages them, each one tries to untangle the threads of their own story, making complicated choices that sometimes will prove to be definitive.



VALERIA SIRABELLA was born in Acqui Terme and grew up in Rome.
The world that somewhere exists is her debut novel.

Mattia Corrente

La fuga di Anna



«Each truth inherently contains a violence, each abandonment a wound that will not heal, each choice that makes us happy will end up hurting someone else.»



THE DISAPPEARANCE OF ANNA

Mattia Corrente

Sellerio, February 2022

Pages 228

The truth does not always set you free.

The wife, after a lifetime spent beside her husband one day goes out and just disappears.

One year later he decides to leave everything behind, Stromboli, the island where they lived, all their things, all their habits, he is ready to go find her. Anna, the old Severino and his hope of bringing her back home.

This is how begins a trip down memories lived and left all around Sicily that becomes not only an investigation on his past but also a test of his actions, his choices and a confrontation with long evaded, devastating, merciless truths. It is facing ghosts, men and women that could have been someone else if only traitors or violators did not surround them.

In this story of voices, point of views and ambiguities emerging page after page, Anna lives despite her absence. In Severino's look their past takes shape only to be understood together along with the personal story of a woman that unwillingly obeyed to orders, the first of which was her mother's: a woman only purpose in life is to be a husband's wife, a mother's child. This was her destiny but towards the end, when she had become all that she needed to become Anna looked forward and disappeared. At last she turned into the person her father wanted her to be when she was a little girl: free. A freedom that means chaos because what the novel is trying to say through its characters and its writing is that each truth inherently contains a violence, each abandonment a wound that will not heal, each choice that makes us happy will end up hurting someone else. But the understanding and the acceptance of this truth is a lifelong experience.

From the French Publisher

We have been swept away by this first novel whose narrative depth comes hand in hand with a deeply original voice. Shedding light on Anna's story through the lens of her husband's viewpoint, the author offers an original insight into the inner conflicts brought about by marriage and motherhood. Old Severino's quest to find Anna unravels as both a personal quest as a husband and a universal questioning on womanhood as a drama per se. The depiction of Sicily is more than a mere backdrop, it drew us into this ancient rural world where voices and places are beautifully intertwined by Corrente's delicate prose. Anna's story mingles with Severino's and the constant to-and-fro pattern of the narrative convinced us that Mattia Corrente is a great writer in the making whose voice should be heard by French readers. **We are glad to say that *La fuga di Anna* will be our main debut of 2024.**



MATTIA CORRENTE, born in 1987, resides in Sicily in a small town in the province of Messina overlooking the enchanting panorama of the Aeolian Islands. He has an affinity for Calvino, Carver, Hemingway, Pavese and stories told by Stromboli's fishermen. He has collaborated as a ghostwriter with significant Italian publishing houses. His debut novel, *La fuga di Anna* (*The disappearance of Anna*), was released by Sellerio Editore in 2022 and sold in France, Poland, and the Czech Republic.



RIGHTS SOLD TO:

France (*Le bruit du monde*)

Poland (*Uniwersytetu Jagiellonskiego*)

Czech Republic (*Grada*)

«The unexamined life is not worth living, he reckoned.»



An all-Italian Percy Jackson in which history, mythology, and modernity intertwine in an explosive and highly entertaining mix.



CHRONICLES FROM HADES

Mattia Corrente

Salani, April 2024

Pages 160

An all-Italian Percy Jackson in which history, mythology, and modernity intertwine in an explosive and highly entertaining mix.

Michele is eleven years old, has one 'funny' arm, and a crippled seagull for a friend. Nothing too strange for the few souls that inhabit the island of Stromboli, but enough to be an outcast. Everyone keeps him at a distance because of his disability and the crimes committed by his father, a notoriously corrupt tour guide, who died years earlier in a volcano accident caused by his greed. But things are not as Michele has always been told. To discover the truth and redeem his father's soul, there is no other option than to descend into Hades personally. Here, Michael will cross the Styx together with the smuggler Charon, take lessons in military strategy from a certain Umberto Eco, and discover on the island of haters that hatred on social media proves to be a boomerang for those who practice it. Strong themes such as diversity, inclusiveness, gender freedom, failure as a resource and not as defeat, and the right to be vulnerable.



«Two unlikely heroes, a mysterious secret linked to a volcano, and a daring descent into Hades. The most hilarious journey to hell ever.»



MATTIA CORRENTE, born in 1987, resides in Sicily in a small town in the province of Messina overlooking the enchanting panorama of the Aeolian Islands. He has an affinity for Calvino, Carver, Hemingway, Pavese and stories told by Stromboli's fishermen. He has collaborated as a ghostwriter with significant Italian publishing houses. His debut novel, *La fuga di Anna* (*The disappearance of Anna*), was released by Sellerio Editore in 2022 and sold in France, Poland, and the Czech Republic.

MATTEO BUSSOLA

Il talento della rondine



So what is talent, really? Is it following what you're best at—or challenging your limits?
Is it striving to be the best—or daring to be happy?



THE SWALLOW'S GIFT

Matteo Bussola

Salani, June 2025
Pages 208

Two boys born with the 'wrong' talent. One has a body made for dance, but a deep passion for drawing. The other draws like no one has ever seen, yet dreams of being a dancer. So what is talent, really? Is it following what you're best at—or challenging your limits? Is it striving to be the best—or daring to be happy?

Brando was born to dance. A perfect body, movements that captivate. His mother stitched a very specific dream onto him—one that perhaps fits too tightly. But when the world goes silent, Brando draws. He draws to feel free, to run toward his true essence. Ettore is his opposite. Dance didn't choose him—he wrestled it from his body with grit and persistence. Every step is a battle, every mistake a blow absorbed. His father doesn't understand, but Ettore keeps dancing. Because fighting is the only thing he's ever known. Yet Ettore has a natural gift. He draws with instinct and grace, as if it were the easiest thing in the world. Brando sees it. Almost envies it. Because while he searches for freedom in drawing, Ettore possesses it effortlessly. Brando and Ettore- so alike. Close friends, and a little bit rivals. And then there's Mirta, who arrives like a summer storm. She sees them. She understands. And with her whirlwind of joy and disruption, she forces them to truly look at themselves and to question everything they thought they knew. Brando. Ettore. Mirta. Dance. Drawing. Love. What is true talent? The one you're born with or the one you choose to chase, no matter the odds?

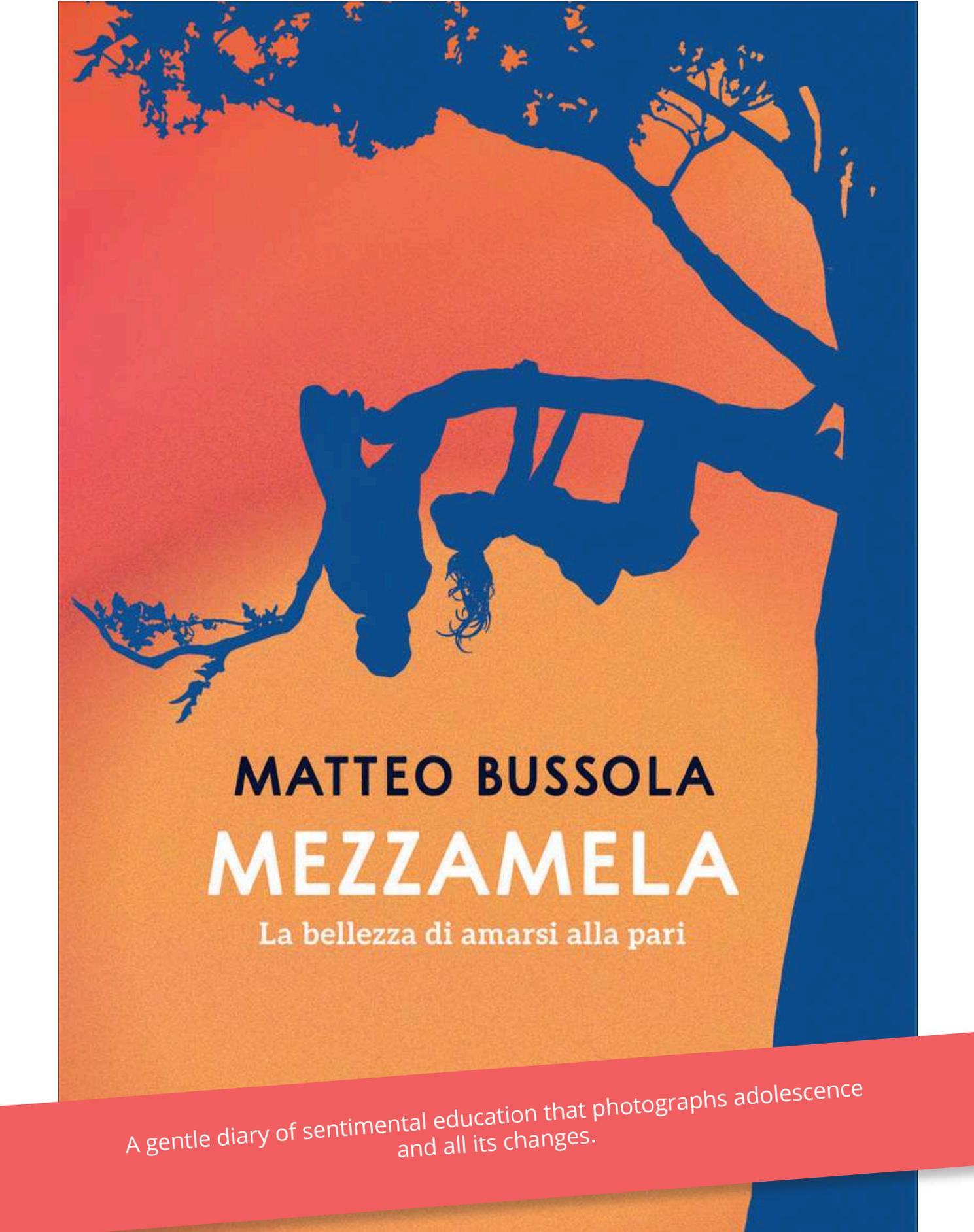
In a choreography where everything is connected, Matteo Bussola weaves movement and desire into a crescendo of emotion. Because maybe true talent is simply this: finding your own rhythm and sharing it with those you love.



«To do with ease what others find difficult—that is talent. To do with effort what the talented find easy—that is courage.»



Matteo Bussola (Verona, 1971) has published for Einaudi Stile Libero the bestsellers *Notti in bianco*, *baci a colazione* (2016, translated in many countries), *Sono puri i loro sogni* (2017), *La vita fino a te* (2018), *L'invenzione di noi due* (2020), *Il tempo di tornare a casa* (2021), *Il rosmarino non capisce l'inverno* (2022), *Un buon posto in cui fermarsi* (2023), *La neve in fondo al mare* (2024) and, with Emilio Pilliu, the manga *Zeroventi* (2023, 2024 and 2025). For Salani he published the children's books *Viola e il Blu* (2021) and *Mezzamela* (2023). He hosts a radio programme on Radio 24, *Non mi capisci*, and has a weekly column in 'F', entitled *Uno scrittore, una donna*. *La luce degli incendi a dicembre* is his new novel.



MATTEO BUSSOLA
MEZZAMELA

La bellezza di amarsi alla pari

A gentle diary of sentimental education that photographs adolescence
and all its changes.



HALFAPPLE The beauty of loving each other as equals

Written and illustrated by Matteo Bussola

Salani, January 2023

144 pages

FALLING IN LOVE IS NEVER EASY.

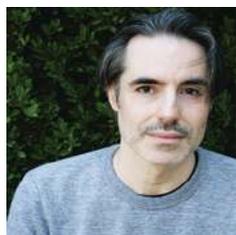
What happens when you realize, for the first time, that you like someone? Viola became aware that she saw Marco with different eyes on an October afternoon, on a Monday, in the middle school yard while he is playing soccer and big white clouds are running in the sky, one looks like a bear. Marco, on the other hand, has had feelings for Viola for a while now, but they have been friends for many years, and you know that when you tell someone you like them, then things change, and almost never for the better.

And it is right there, at the moment of awareness of new feelings, when everything should be simple and beautiful, that things instead become more complex. When do you stop being friends and perhaps become something else? How do you tell the difference?

How do you speak to the same person in a new voice? With what eyes does one look at it? How do you get over that giant cliff of awkwardness and misunderstanding without having to start all over again?

A gentle diary of sentimental education that photographs adolescence and all its changes, a novel about first loves but also about fragilities, and about stopping protecting yourself out of fear. Because it doesn't matter if you are male or if you are female, if your body is changing and you can't keep up with it, what matters is that we (re)begin to look into each other's eyes. What we choose to see will depend only on us.

«I don't know why I ran away like that. Maybe because when you feel that you like someone a little bit, you get scared. Maybe love always makes us a little scared, I think... I feel like Marco has suddenly become a nice juicy apple, and I, on the other hand, I'm still kind of in the middle. A halfapple.»



Matteo Bussola (Verona, 1971) has published for Einaudi Stile Libero the bestsellers *Notti in bianco*, *baci a colazione* (2016, translated in many countries), *Sono puri i loro sogni* (2017), *La vita fino a te* (2018), *L'invenzione di noi due* (2020), *Il tempo di tornare a casa* (2021), *Il rosmarino non capisce l'inverno* (2022), *Un buon posto in cui fermarsi* (2023), *La neve in fondo al mare* (2024) and, with Emilio Pilliu, the manga *Zeroventi* (2023, 2024 and 2025). For Salani he published the children's books *Viola e il Blu* (2021) and *Mezzamela* (2023). He hosts a radio programme on Radio 24, *Non mi capisci*, and has a weekly column in 'F', entitled *Uno scrittore, una donna*. *La luce degli incendi a dicembre* is his new novel.



RIGHTS SOLD TO:
Albania (*Dituria*)

It doesn't matter if you are male or if you are female, if your body is changing and you can't keep up with it, what matters is that we (re)begin to look into each other's eyes. What we choose to see will depend only on us.

*Two wonderful standalone stories
about growing up accepting our
fragilities while learning how to love
ourselves and others.*





MATTEO BUSSOLA
VIOLA E IL BLU

La libertà di essere i colori che vuoi

A tale to encourage girls to overcome fears & self-limiting beliefs. The new *The Story of a Seagull and the Cat Who Taught Her to Fly*.



VIOLET AND BLUE Be the color you want to be

Written and illustrated by Matteo Bussola

Salani, March 2021

73 pages

A STORY FOR CHILDREN AND ADULTS THAT AFTER ONLY FOUR DAYS OF SALES WENT STRAIGHT INTO THE TOP FIVE ITALIAN BESTSELLER LIST

This is the story of Violet, a little girl who plays football, shoots around on a push scooter and likes wearing Blue and Purple – she writes the names of the colors in capital letters, because they're exactly like people : each person is unique. But not everyone agrees with her, especially the adults. A lot of them think there are 'boy things' and 'girl things' but Violet has never really understood this. So one day she decides to ask her father, who is a painter and knows all about colors. It's May, a Friday afternoon, the sky is an intense blue, dotted with white clouds and her father is in the garden tending to the gentians. Gentians have a female name in Italian and yet they're blue flowers. Fortunately nobody has anything to object when it's a matter of flowers. Not like people, thinks Violet. A flower is fine for everyone just the way it is... In this story, inspired by his conversations with his daughters, Matteo Bussola explores gender stereotypes through the eyes of Violet – a child who is already quite clear about who she is and what she wants to become. This is a story for everyone, which celebrates the strength of diversity and the importance of growing up amidst the wonder of all the various different shades of being life has to offer. A story dedicated to all those who want to paint their lives in the colors they choose.



RIGHTS SOLD TO:

Greece (Kalendis)

Korea (Chungaran Media)

Poland (Biuro Literackie)

A welcome reminder to girls that nothing stands in their way no matter what other people say or think.

«Daddy, I don't understand this thing about places for boys and places for girls,» says Violet.

«Why do we have to have one place?»

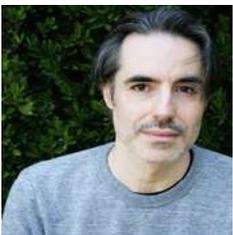
Isn't it nicer if everyone can go where they want?»

«But you can go wherever you want, Violet.

You just have to remember that sometimes someone will think they have the right to tell you that you're on the wrong track.

Or that that you don't have the right to be there.

But you must never let them do that.»



Matteo Bussola (Verona, 1971) has published for Einaudi Stile Libero the bestsellers *Notti in bianco*, *baci a colazione* (2016, translated in many countries), *Sono puri i loro sogni* (2017), *La vita fino a te* (2018), *L'invenzione di noi due* (2020), *Il tempo di tornare a casa* (2021), *Il rosmarino non capisce l'inverno* (2022), *Un buon posto in cui fermarsi* (2023), *La neve in fondo al mare* (2024) and, with Emilio Pilliu, the manga *Zeroventi* (2023, 2024 and 2025). For Salani he published the children's books *Viola e il Blu* (2021) and *Mezzamela* (2023). He hosts a radio programme on Radio 24, *Non mi capisci*, and has a weekly column in 'F', entitled *Uno scrittore, una donna*. *La luce degli incendi a dicembre* is his new novel.

Matteo Bussola gracefully wrote a story about freedom, freedom of swimming against the tide, freedom of thinking with one's own mind. To live in the world with balance and being able to capture all the tenderness and variety it owns, because life is full of shades of every color.

Mariagrazia Mazzitelli Salani
Editorial Director



BLURBS FROM THE PRESS

VIOLET AND BLUE AFTER ONLY FOUR DAYS OF SALES WENT STRAIGHT INTO THE TOP FIVE ITALIAN BESTSELLER LIST

«Violet is a girl that rejects stereotypes, she hates pink and plays soccer. Her story, told and illustrated by Matteo Bussola, is one of freedom, inspired by author's conversations with her three daughters. It's all about the joy of swimming against the tide.»

Maria Novella De Luca,
laRepubblica
(04/04/2021)

«Violet as the color made by mixing pink and blue. Violet as one of the flowers that Nature gifted us with, in its smashing variety and diversity. Violet as the name of a girl tired of having to do only 'girl things', the impatient main character of the first book for children, boys and girls—but helpful to adults, too—written and illustrated by one of the writers most loved among modern parents: Matteo Bussola.»

Federico Taddia,
TTL - laStampa
(27/03/2021)

«The book, good for readers of all ages, is an ode to freedom and self-determination. Told with both tenderness and strenght, the story of Violet and Blue urges us to get out of the box we have been put in and to look for the box of our uniqueness.»

Natasha Barratto,
L'Arena
(27/03/2021)

A STORY FOR CHILDREN TO GROW UP WITH NO BOUNDARIES

laLettura		
Top 10		
1	Massimo Mucchetti Fiora	
2	Lyon Gamor Le storie del quartiere	
3	Michael Kuper Sai zitti e allora no no no!	
4	Gianni Cervigni La disciplina di Pasquale	
5	Matteo Bussola Viola e il Blu	

CORRIERE DELLA SERA

Corriere della Sera La
Lettura
April, 4 - 2021

TOP 10
BESTSELLER LIST
IN THE FIRST WEEK OUT

FOR WEEKS AT
THE TOP
OF THE CHILDREN'S BOOK
BESTSELLER LIST

4 REPRINTS
IN 2 WEEKS

150 5 STARS
REVIEWS

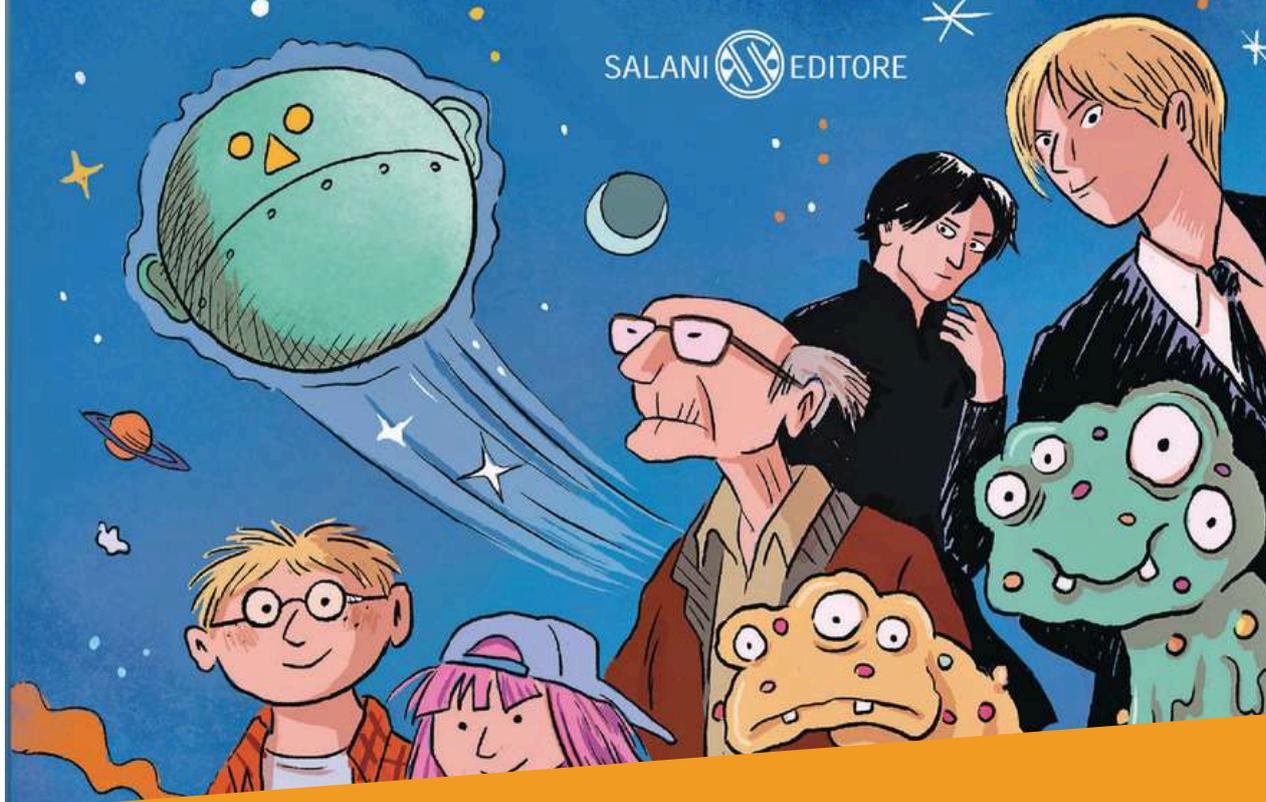


ENRICO GALIANO

L'INCREDIBILE AVVENTURA DI UN

SUPER-ERRORE

SALANI EDITORE



«Does it take a Super-Hero or a Super-Mistake to save the Earth?»



THE INCREDIBLE ADVENTURE OF A SUPER-MISTAKE

Enrico Galiano

Salani, September 2024

Pages 336

Trust me: if you're obsessed with perfection and can't handle mistakes, put this book down right now. This story is packed with mistakes—but all for a good cause. It all began when two aliens, who looked suspiciously like K-pop idols, handed Ricky a superhero costume.

Only, Ricky feels more like a SUPER-MISTAKE than anything else. Not only is he painfully shy, but the suit that was supposed to grant him incredible powers turns out to be an old pair of tights that accentuate his belly and itch like crazy. Then, things get even weirder: donut trucks explode to the cry of "APPLE IN THE BIDET!," flying dictionaries appear, frogs run away, and most surprising of all, Ricky—the shy guy, remember?—starts standing up against the greatest injustices on Earth.

Fortunately, he's not alone in unraveling these mysteries. By his side are Jo, a budding computer genius; Toni Tanaka, a slightly mad ex-cop; and a stuffed hippo with a sharp-tongued artificial intelligence inside. Oh, and let's not forget Flu, a color-blind chameleon.

Who am I, you ask? That's a secret... for now. But maybe, just maybe, this mystery will be revealed in the end...



After the success of *The Secret Society of Word Rescuers*, Enrico Galiano returns with a heartwarming tale of friendship and courage, but also of failure and rebirth, celebrating mistakes as a crucial part of personal growth.

«A Dead poets society type of teacher.»
Massimo Gramellini



ENRICO GALIANO was born in Pordenone in 1977. A teacher in a provincial school, in 2020 Il Sole 24 Ore included him in the list of the ten most influential teachers on the web. He has published many novels with Garzanti, including *And Yet We End Up Happy*, which became a successful TV series and won the Città di Como International Prize as best first work and the Mediterranean Culture Prize, but he is also the author of essays, including the bestseller *The art of Failing Big*.

The Secret Society of Words Rescuers, his first novel for children written for Salani, won the Bancarellino Prize 2023. In 2024 he won the Nastro d'Argento for the movie *Il punto di rugiada*, awarded Best Story. The secret of a good teacher for him is: 'They won't listen to you if you don't listen to them first'.



ENRICO GALIANO



La SOCIETÀ SEGRETA dei



SALVAPAROLE



«Words will save the world.»



THE SECRET SOCIETY OF WORDS RESCUERS

Enrico Galiano

Garzanti, April 2022
Pages 400

Enrico Galiano's incredible debut in children's fiction: a story about friendship, courage and loyalty that teaches us the importance of always protecting words, the most important weapon to defend ourselves from the evil of the world.

When words begin to disappear, Samu thinks that it is not a big deal. Fewer words means fewer things to learn and as long as it is words like muffler or iconoclast to disappear he is fine with it.

But what if words like jam, holidays, friendship, love disappeared? Samu could lose his best friend Nico, and surely, he would have to give up the hope of winning back Rachele, the girl with raven black hair and unpaired socks that makes his heart beat. No, it is a risk that Samu is not willing to take. That is why he chooses to become a words rescuer. That is why with the help of a rather rickety team, he will throw himself in an adventure full of secret missions, coded messages and mysterious snatches.



RIGHTS SOLD TO:

Romania (*Didactica*)

The Netherlands (Luitingh - Sijthoff)

«I swear to defend words at all costs. I swear to defend three above all: friendship, honor, courage. I swear to help friends when in trouble. I swear to never betray my mates. I swear to never betray myself. I swear to always be the mirror of my words. I swear to always believe that the world can be a better place.»



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THE SECRET SOCIETY OF WORDS RESCUERS

in the bestseller lists of Bookshops Journal and amazon.it

LA NEWS | LA NEWS ETTER | LA RIVISTA | ARCHIVIO | G | FRBOOK | LE CLASSIFICHE | FUORI CATALOGO

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17,00 €

6 **La società segreta dei salvaparole**
Enrico Galiano
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Salerni
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21/04/2022
15,00 €

7 **Vado in prima. Attività, giochi, pregrafismi, lettere e numeri**

Lavoro: 15 posizioni aperte e 7 stage in editoria

LE PIÙ LETTE

- 1 **Besa**, premiata in Albania la casa etrusca che poeti in Italia lo letterarismo balcanico. Ora anche a bambini e ragazzi
- 2 **Anne Berinova**, l'EDP: editoria accessibile entro il 2025 e il nuovo regolamento che limita il potere delle big tech
- 3 **Alberto Nivalta** lascia il Gruppo Feltrinelli

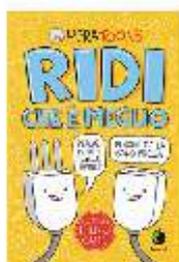
NOTIZIE DALL'AI

Bestseller di Amazon

I nostri prodotti più popolari, in base alle vendite. Aggiornato ogni ora.

Bestseller in Libri per bambini sull'amicizia

#1



Ridi che è meglio
Pera Toons
★★★★☆ 1.925
Copertina flessibile
14,99 €

#2



Sfida all'ultima battuta: 100
Pera Toons
★★★★☆ 758
Copertina flessibile
14,99 €

#3



La società segreta dei salvaparole
Enrico Galiano
★★★★☆ 159
Copertina flessibile
15,00 €