



# Canti di guerra

**STEFANO NAZZI** is a journalist, he has worked for several important national newspapers. He has always covered news, following the best known and most resonant cases, but also lesser-known events. Today he reports on news and current affairs for 'il Post'. He is the creator and author of “Indagini”, at the top of the podcast charts, and author of “Il volto del male” (Mondadori, 2023).

"I liked the banks with the revolving door, one kick and the world would start turning. I'd go out first, take out a whole clip and start the Wild West. They called us 'The Wild Bunch'." This is the Milan of the 1970s. Dark, leaden, and unrecognisable compared to today's. Gun shells are trodden on the streets, the average number of murders is 150 a year, delinquents, businessmen and show business personalities mingle in nightclubs, and gambling dens are hidden inside unsuspected buildings. It is here that the destinies of the three bandits who will change the fortunes of Milan's criminal underworld intersect for the first time; their names are spoken in hushed voices because they carry a trail of gunpowder in their wake. They are three very different men: Francis Turatello, known as 'Faccia d'angelo', insatiable for power, Renato Vallanzasca, the 'handsome René', an anarchic robber who always likes to be the centre of attention, and Angelo Epaminonda, known as 'il Tebano', a ferocious and ruthless gangster.

Born without possessing anything, they are ready to take everything, first by shooting at each other, then by allying, then by shooting back. Around them, meanwhile, move the gang's affiliates, policemen and innocent victims. It is a black story of blood, betrayals and deaths, but also of partnerships, power and love. Stefano Nazzi reconstructs it with his intense and pressing prose, recounting the men behind the criminals and the shadows that made them such, because although more than thirty years have passed since the last gunshot, their echoes of war still risonate today.



First run: 25000 copies

Stefano Nazzi  
Echoes of War  
Publisher: MONDADORI  
Release date: May 2024  
Pages: 240

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# Discorso per un amico

**ERRI DE LUCA** was born in Naples in 1950. Before becoming a writer, he practiced various manual jobs in Africa, France, Italy. He studies Hebrew as a self-taught and translates some books of the Bible. He is a columnist for "il Manifesto."

He has published with Feltrinelli (among others): "Non ora, non qui" (1989), "Una nuvola come tappeto" (1991), "In alto a sinistra" (1994), "Tu, mio" (1998), "Montedidio" (2001), "Il contrario di uno" (2003), "Mestieri all'aria aperta. Pastori e pescatori nell'Antico e nel Nuovo Testamento" (with Gennaro Matino, 2004), "In nome della madre" (2006), "Il giorno prima della felicità" (2009), "Il peso della farfalla" (2009), "I pesci non chiudono gli occhi" (2011), "La doppia vita dei numeri" (2012) and "Storia di Irene" (2013).

His most recent books published with Feltrinelli include "La faccia delle nuvole" (2016), "La natura esposta" (2016), "Il giro dell'oca" (2018), "Impossibile" (2019), "A grandezza naturale" (2021), the graphic novel "L'ora X. Una storia di Lotta Continua" (2019; with Cosimo Damiano Damato and Paolo Castaldi) and "Le regole dello Shangai" (2023).

"In faraway places we have shared nights with the crumbs of shooting stars, we have breathed in their dust ignited by friction with the air. In sleep we have felt the turning of the constellations with the North Star fixed at the center, in roulette pegs. We snatched certain nights like this from the life of days. Distant from candles, bulbs, lighthouses and watchtowers, we have fixed in our pupils the expanse of dots of light." These are pages of restrained emotion, and for that reason all the more moving and vivid, these that Erri De Luca dedicates to his late friend, followed on climbs in the Himalayas, in Ecuador or in the Dolomites. In investigating the cause of his fall, in retracing the route where he died, searching for the precise point of his detachment from the rock, the author restores his body and voice, brings back pages from his notebooks and passages from the letters that over time they wrote to each other, drawing a concrete and poetic -

"he called gift a bunch of other things that didn't look like to me. The little dark cloud that in a clear weather precedes the storm, the flower in the crack of a cliff face, the encounter with an ibex: gifts. They are receive and that's it, maybe with a thank you." And at the same time he gives back, making us feel the rock under our fingers, the sound of the ibex's hooves as it flees, the weight of the body on the handholds, the shared love of the mountain, the reason itself of climbing (Diego writes: "this climbing on the border between life and death pleases me and makes me feel intensely the life. At the top I love everything and everyone") and to read. Friendship, mountains and books are intertwined in this Speech with gentleness, gratitude and sorrow, to go through grief and go beyond: "For me you remain Diego, for me you insist, carry on and I continue and follow you." A series of photographs follow the words step by step.



**Erri De Luca**  
**Speech for a Friend**  
**Publisher: FELTRINELLI**  
**Release date: April 2024**  
**Pages: 96**

On July 30, 2023, Diego Zanesco, mountain guide, loses his life on the Tofana di Rozes. Erri De Luca gives voice to their friendship, shared passions, retraces the words and the walls climbed, with moving pages full of gratitude.

# L'alchimista della laguna

**PAOLO LANZOTTI** was born in Venice and graduated in Philosophy from the University of Padua. An omnivorous reader with a preference for historical and scientific themes, he is also a lover of classical music and prose theatre. A refined narrator, he was awarded with the Giallo Mondadori – Alberto Tedeschi Prize, previously awarded to renowned writers likes Carlo Lucarelli and Giulio Leoni. “L'alchimista della laguna” is his third novel in Marco Leon's series of investigations, after “Le ragioni dell'ombra” (2022) and “I guardiani della laguna” (2021), published by Tre60.

Venice, 1753. In a villa along the Riviera del Brenta, the young nobleman Enrico Albrizi dies. It would appear to be suicide, but some disturbing circumstances, such as the position of the corpse, the burnt face and the presence of esoteric symbols at the scene of the crime suggest that the young man was involved in a satanic ceremony. Alvise Geminiani, head of the Inquisition, summons Marco Leon to examine the case. In Venice meanwhile, Marco is investigating a series of strange erotic drawings, and Geminiani's call forces him to leave the case in the hands of his Black Angels. Arriving at Villa Zulian, Leon realises that Enrico Albrizi has most probably been murdered. After all, everyone in that house had a grudge against him. When a second murder occurs, however, Marco suspects that the trail to follow goes far beyond the walls of the villa. And while, in Venice, the Black Angels continue to investigate the erotic drawings, Marco begins to think that the two events may be connected. The circle of suspicion, at this point, widens enormously. However, if reason prevents him from giving credence to the satanic trail, how can he explain the strange circumstances surrounding the discovery of the bodies? To find the murderer, Marco has only to discover the motive...

From the fog of Venice's canals to the patrician villas on the Riviera del Brenta, amidst alchemy experiments and dangerous conspiracies, Paolo Lanzotti composes a splendid new fresco that takes us back to the Serenissima Republic at the time of its inexorable but fascinating decline.



**Paolo Lanzotti**  
**The Alchemist of the Lagoon**  
**Publisher: TRE60**  
**Release date: April 2024**  
**Pages: 352**

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"History, with Paolo Lanzotti, becomes an elegant mosaic full of mystery".  
Marcello Simoni



# La vita non è una corsa

**ELIANA LIOTTA**, writer, journalist and science popularizer, is the author of best sellers including “La Dieta Smartfood” (Rizzoli, 2016), with the scientific stamp of the leo, published in more than 20 countries, and “L’età non è uguale per tutti” (La nave di Teseo, 2018), written in team with doctors and researchers at Humanitas University Hospital. His latest essay is “Prove di felicità” (La nave di Teseo, 2019): collecting 25 ideas recognized by science for living joyfully, in collaboration with the University and San Raffaele Hospital in Milan. She signs two weekly columns in Corriere della Sera: one in Corriere Salute and one in Io donna. In Milan, she is vice-president of Dal Verme and Arcimboldi theaters and serves on the scientific committee for the City’s 2020 cultural program schedule I Talenti delle donne. In 2017 he won the Premiolo, Italy’s oldest journalism award, and in 2019 the Bologna Award for communicating environmental sustainability. For La nave di Teseo she published her latest books: “Il cibo che ci salverà” (2021) and “La vita non è una corsa” (2024).

Breaks are the key, the only key, to regaining energy and are also the way to hope to live well and long. Dosing them can reduce the risk of cancer, heart attacks, diabetes, dementia. It can give creativity, shore up the memory, protect against rash decisions. Banish fatigue and anxiety. In some cases make one thin, often serene, even younger. Life is not a race.

In this essay, Eliana Liotta, together with specialists from the University and the San Raffaele Hospital in Milan, draws a path of possible stops, imagining existence as a walk, in which to pause to chat with a friend, to look inside oneself, to feel the sea breeze on one's skin.



**Eliana Liotta**  
**Life is not a Race**  
**Publisher: LA NAVE DI TESEO**  
**Release date: March 2024**  
**Pages: 288**

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# Il castello delle congiure

**DAVIDE COSSU** was born in Cagliari in 1987. Passionate about cinema and literature, after graduating in Philosophy he studied Creative Writing at the Holden school in Turin. His first novel, "Il quinto sigillo" (Newton Compton, 2023), won the Selezione Bancarella Prize. A new investigation by Leon Battista Alberti was published in 2024, in the second novel "Il castello delle congiure" (Newton Compton).

Ferrara, autumn 1442. Leon Battista Alberti is invited to court to participate, as a judge, in a competition organised by Marquis Leonello d'Este: the winner will be commissioned a monument in honour of his late father, Niccolò III. In the meantime, taking advantage of the ancient friendship that binds them, the marquis instructs Leon Battista to investigate a thorny fact that is troubling the city: the young Laura Pendaglia, heiress of the richest citizen of Ferrara and betrothed to Folco Bonacossi, has decided to renounce the wedding and take refuge in a convent to become a nun. While Leon Battista tries to navigate his way through power games and plots hatched by the families of the unmarried couple, young Folco dies in circumstances that recall the pages of courtly love novels. With the help of his trusted companions, the learned Parentucelli and the adventurer de' Conti, and Margherita, a daring and beautiful noblewoman, Alberti, in a merry-go-round of love affairs, betrayals and unexpected revelations, attempts to shed light on the trail of blood that stains the court of Ferrara. A trail that leads to a tragedy confined to the dark past of the Este family, whose shadow threatens Leonello's power and the very fate of his household.



**Davide Cossu**  
**The Castle of Conspiracies**  
**Publisher: NEWTON COMPTON**  
**Release date: March 2024**  
**Pages: 224**

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"Davide Cossu deserves the flattering reviews of two masters of the historical thriller such as Marcello Simoni and Matteo Strukul."  
Fabrizio d'Esposito  
Il Fatto Quotidiano

Previous title:





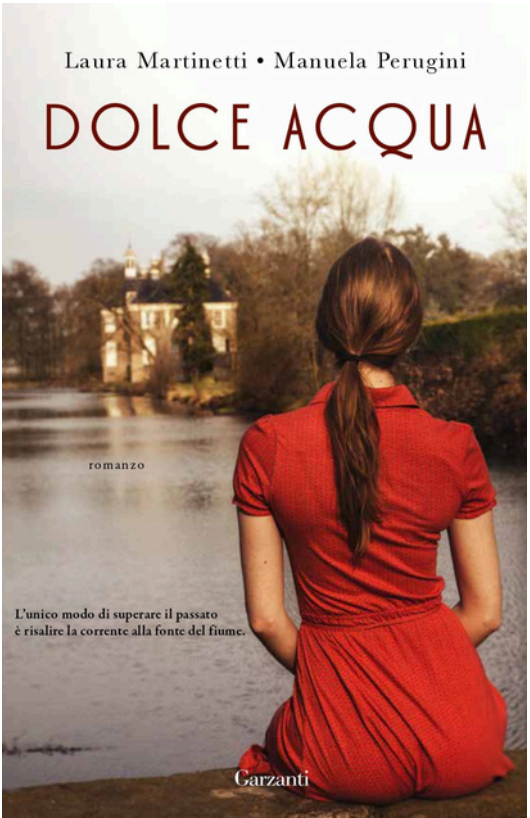
# Dolce acqua

**LAURA MARTINETTI** (Turin, 1973), lives in Turin where she works as a freelance architect. Painting, designing, creating have always been part of her.

**MANUELA PERUGINI** (Turin, 1974), lawyer, has been a partner of an international law firm in Milan for years. In 2017, she decided to leave the legal profession and return to Turin to follow other passions. Laura and Manuela met on the school desks. “Dolce acqua” (2024) is their second novel, after “Nient’altro al mondo” (2018), their debut novel with Garzanti.

Sesia Valley. Two glances cross at the gates of a hotel nestled in a lush forest. They belong to two women, Giulia and Anna, whose words are lost in the murmur of the river rushing past them. They are two strangers, yet confiding in each other comes naturally, as if they have known each other forever. Something in fact unites them, even though they have had completely different existences.

Giulia, able to feel other people's wounds on her own skin, wants to discover the story of Aunt Laura, who taught her how to be brave and defy rules to create her own. Anna, crushed by a rigid upbringing and too great a burden, is looking for answers about her mother Stefania, a fascinating and enigmatic woman who suddenly passed away when she was just a young girl, leaving her at the mercy of doubts and uncertainties. They both hope that crossing the bridge to that place will help them take a step forward into the future. Because, in the past, two other gazes have rested on the same shimmering waters. Those of Laura and Stefania, who entrusted their secrets to the current, the same secrets that, now, are about to be revealed, to allow Julia and Anna to flow free.



**Laura Martinetti - Manuela Perugini**  
**Gentle Water**  
**Publisher: GARZANTI**  
**Release date: February 2024**  
**Pages: 416**

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"There is a sure literary complicity between Laura Martinetti and Manuela Perugini, a vis-à-vis that has the breath, together, of a challenge and a symbiosis."  
Bruno Quaranta  
TuttoLibri

"Two intense voices."  
Famiglia Cristiana

# Il dolore non esiste

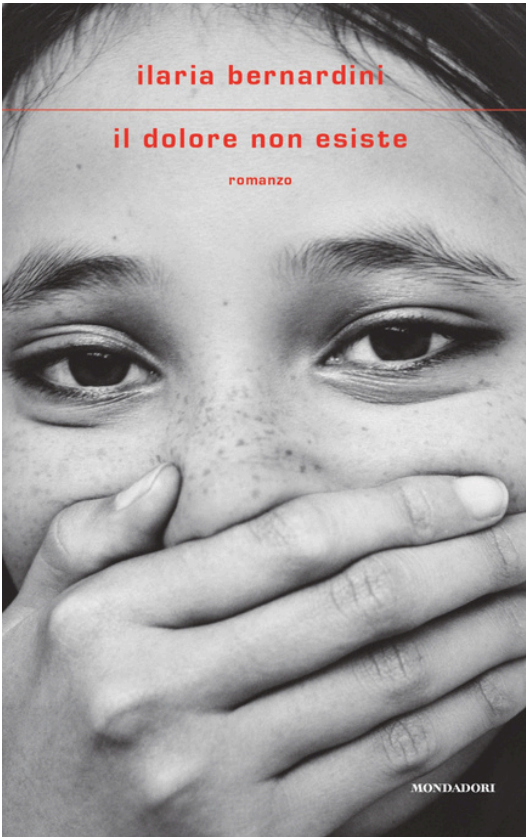
**ILARIA BERNARDINI** writes for film, television and newspapers. She has written novels (“Non è niente”, “I supereroi”, “Corpo libero”, “Domenica”), graphic novels and short story collections (“La fine dell'amore”, “L'inizio di tutte le cose”). Her latest books, released by Mondadori and published in several countries, are “Faremo foresta” (2018) and “Il ritratto” (2020).

"My father's name is Achille and he doesn't talk to me": this story begins like this, with an interrupted dialogue between a father and a daughter. Achille was a charismatic father, with whom Ilaria as a girl shared passions, ideas about life and the world, but also fierce quarrels and great silences. Until, without a trigger or obvious fault, the silence swallowed all. Achille stopped looking for her, stopped responding to her phone calls and letters. Perhaps, he has decided to stop being her father.

But Ilaria does not want to stop being a daughter; she needs an explanation, to understand where the first crack has opened. Therefore, with the reluctant help of the rest of the family, she tries to retrace their history and her father's life, to reconstruct his identity by fragments. It is her way of continuing to talk to him, to hang out with him, but also a ritual to train herself for loss: of a father, of youth, of the past, and of a teenage son who is growing up fast and who day by day holds her hand less and less and believes her inventions and words less and less.

At the same time, almost by chance, during the pandemic Ilaria begins to practice boxing. And one day, certainly not by chance, she remembers that her father also used to box, in fact he was quite good at it. Many years before, he gave her a pair of gloves. This can only be a sign: perhaps her father is training her in absence to make her stronger? So, partly believing it really, partly because she is a writer and the narrative opportunity is irresistible, she invites him to a challenge in the ring. She lets him know the day and place of the match, and although he doesn't respond, part of her hopes and believes he will show up anyway.

And as she practices giving and receiving phantom punches and consults trainers of all kinds - as well as writers, scientists, filmmakers, ancestors, shamans, and a few animals - she gathers the strength to step into the ring and the words to write pages that are exciting, comic, and full of life. An autobiographical novel, a philosophical and intimate investigation of family, love, and nostalgia, *Il dolore non esiste* is a luminous mantra for trying to celebrate everything, even what hurts.



**Ilaria Bernardini**  
**Pain Doesn't Exist**  
**Publisher: MONDADORI**  
**Release date: February 2024**  
**Pages: 180**

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"A timeless dialogue with those who created us, loved us, rejected us. A key to transform absence into a practice of deeper listening, a training to brighten the wounds that hurt".  
Benedetta Barzini  
D - La Repubblica



# Il maestro dei sogni

**MARCO DE FRANCHI** acknowledges that he has a noir side that has always been in him since the beginning. Ever since he was a child, he wanted to be a writer as much as he wanted to become a detective. He has, in fact, a past as Chief of Police, a period during which he worked at the Central Operational Service, the office which is closest to the FBI. His experiences in the field have been fundamental for the writing of the thriller "La condanna dei viventi", published by Longanesi, followed by the sequel "Il maestro dei sogni", by the same publisher. He lives between Pisa and Livorno with his wife Debora and their two children.

Valentina Medici, a young commissioner of the Central Operations Service, is about to leave everything behind. The last investigation she directed wounded her, in body and soul, beyond repair. But just as she is about to hand back her badge, Europol contacts her to offer her an international assignment: to hunt down the woman who ruined her life and stop a dangerous network of criminals. Valentina accepts and soon finds herself plunged into a dark vortex of violence and madness. A serial killer is at work, and his murders are as heinous as they are spectacular. The victims seem to have nothing in common. Yet somehow everything gravitates to the mastermind. In an attempt to get to the bottom of the investigation and, at the same time, to resurface her own nightmares, Valentina will be forced to reconnect ties she hoped buried in her past. To confront the demons operating in the world, Valentina will have to defeat her own inner demons. And pay a heavy price.



**Option Publishers:**

- Xander (Dutch)
- Albin Michel (French)
- Ullstein (German)
- Patakis (Greek)
- Alma Littera (Lithuanian)
- Sonia Draga (Polish)
- Litera (Romanian)
- Grijalbo (world Spanish)

**Previous title:**



**Marco De Franchi**  
**The Dream Master**  
**Publisher: LONGANESI**  
**Release date: January 2024**  
**Pages: 496**

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"De Franchi can be counted among the best European thriller authors."  
Fabrizio d'Esposito  
il Fatto Quotidiano

"Is it the strength of the writing or the power of the story that makes a good novel? Marco De Franchi sweeps this question away: writing and story are two thoroughbred horses running side by side."  
Marco Vichi

"Hard to catch your breath between the lines."  
Carlo Baroni  
La Lettura

"A complex story, full of twists and turns, an overwhelming thriller from which it is difficult to extricate oneself until the last page".  
Lucio Luca  
Robinson - La Repubblica

# La collana di cristallo

**CRISTINA CABONI** lives with her husband and three children in the province of Cagliari, where she takes care of the family beekeeping business. She is the author of the novels “Il sentiero dei profumi” (Garzanti, 2014) - a bestseller sold worldwide, adored by readers and the press, which has topped the Italian and foreign classes - ; “La custode del miele e delle api” (Garzanti, 2021); “Il giardino dei fiori segreti” (Garzanti, 2016) - 2017 Bancarella Selection Prize - ; “La rilegatrice di storie perdute” (Garzanti, 2017), “La stanza della tessitrice” (Garzanti, 2018); “La casa degli specchi” (Garzanti, 2019); “Il profumo sa chi sei” (Garzanti, 2020), “La ragazza dei colori” (Garzanti, 2021), “La via del miele” (Garzanti, 2022).

The blown glass swells as it waits to take shape-it is almost like magic, and when the wonder is realized, Juliet feels safe. Because her family always make her feel out of place. She thrives on creativity, while for them the most important thing is rationality. That's why they don't want her to leave for Murano, where she has been admitted to the most prestigious school for glassmakers in the world. But this time, Juliet does not want to give up the opportunity to realize her greatest dream. Even if it means being alone on the other side of the Ocean. With her she has an amulet, a crystal necklace that the family housekeeper has given her, whispering to her these mysterious words, "It is yours, because you look so much like it." Juliet has no idea what signifies who, but as she arrives on the colorful island crisscrossed by canals, she feels that the jewel gives her the strength to participate the hostility of pupils and teachers, because she is the only girl admitted, and the fear that she will not measure up. What she never expected is that in one of the crystal beads is set with the same coat of arms that stands out on the building that houses the furnace. There is a secret she must uncover.

A secret that links her family to a diary that contains some ingenious formulas for working with glass and to a woman from Murano who lived in the last century. There is Marcus helping her, the director of the school. Together they will get lost among the enchanted calli in search of the past, but mostly in search of themselves.



## Translation rights sold to:

Blanvalet  
- PRH Publishing House Group  
(German)  
Xander (Dutch)



**Cristina Caboni**  
**The Crystal Necklace**  
**Publisher: GARZANTI**  
**Release date: October 2023**  
**Pages: 330**

"Cristina Caboni has become a prolific bestselling author, translated in several countries, with 600,000 copies sold."  
La Lettura - Corriere della Sera

"An author you must read to dream."  
Donna Moderna

"In Cristina Caboni's books there are themes that return: women who are strong and fragile at the same time, who have suffered but fight."  
La Repubblica



# Vitòria Velluno e la classe dei misteri

**ALESSANDRA TABARO** was born in Turin in 1984 and has always kept writing as a secret purpose. She chose classical high school to learn how to write, philosophy so as not to miss the contents, and pedagogy because she saw the future in her children's eyes. She lives with her husband and children in Turin, where she works as a kindergarten teacher. She loves aikido, music, books and, despite herself, writing at night.

Vitória Velluno clutches her Emozionario in her hands and stares at the entrance to the Schuman School. In that large notebook red she notes down all the feelings going through her mind. Now, for example, she is a little nervous because it is the first day of a new year. But she has learned that negative emotions must be heard and faced. And dealing with them is even easier easy if you have friends like Nereo, Erme, Bea, and Sarah, who are really special: one is a ghost that walks through walls; the other is a pointy-eared elf; and the last two are vampires. Vitória is happy that the fantastic creatures can finally live free among humans, because in their company she is able to be herself. And she is not afraid to ask for help. Because some strange postcards that have come to her seem to suggest that her mother who abandoned her when she was just a child has returned to town. Vitória doesn't know if she feels like meeting her; she is experiencing too many unknown emotions that she cannot name. And then the threats to her supernatural friends are not over yet. As if that were not enough, Nereo is increasingly elusive after being so close in that cave hidden among the waterfalls, and Erme has disappointed her by keeping silent about a very important truth.

Sometimes we must learn to trust even those who seem to turn their backs on us. Because everyone has their own share of emotions to deal with, but friendship is a bond that nothing can break and everything can defeat.



Alessandra Tabaro  
Vitòria Velluno And The Mysteries'  
Class  
Publisher: GARZANTI  
Release date: September 2023  
Pages: 350

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"A novel with a focus on the emotional experiences of young people."  
Famiglia Cristiana

Previous title:



# Mia figlia, la filosofia

La forza dell'infanzia e della paternità

**SIMONE REGAZZONI**, student of Jacques Derrida, he holds a doctorate in philosophy in cotutorship from the Universities of Paris VIII and Genoa. He has taught at the Catholic University of Milan and the University of Pavia. He is currently a lecturer at the Holden School in Turin and IRPA (Research Institute of Applied Psychoanalysis) in Milan. He is the author of some fifteen volumes, including: "The Philosophy of Dr. House" (co-authored with the pseudonym Blitris, Ponte alle grazie, 2007); "The Philosophy of Lost" (Ponte alle Grazie, 2009); "The Philosophy of Harry Potter" (Ponte alle Grazie, 2017); "Derrida" (Feltrinelli, 2018); "Plato's Gymnasium" (Ponte alle Grazie, 2020); "Ocean" (Ponte alle Grazie, 2022). He is the author of three novels: "Abyss" (Longanesi, 2014); "Forest of Darkness" (Longanesi, 2017); "I Am Evil" (Rizzoli, 2020). In April 2023 he won the Parmenides Prize.

We associate philosophy with a form of disembodied knowledge, and we forget thus that at the heart of philosophy, as Plato teaches, there is not the simple love of knowledge, but the "desire of procreation and birth in the beautiful both according to the body, as well as according to the soul". Philosophy as a generative force is a complex experience of parenthood that brings into play all the resources of the subject. And at the same time, parenting is a profound philosophical experience, because to measure oneself against the birth of a son or a daughter is to measure oneself against another origin of the world. Starting from his own experience as a philosopher and Julia's father, moving between autobiography and philosophy, between cartoons Japanese cartoons and ancient philosophy, between talking puppets, the dolls with which Nietzsche played with and the sword with which she trains her daughter, Simone Regazzoni offers us a new image of fatherhood that recovers the Greek idea of strength. Fatherhood is a transmission of life force, an education to develop one's own life force, to be "good in strength." But fatherhood is also rebirth, becoming-child of one's own child, experience of childhood not as a time of life to be overcome but as a form of life connected with the life of the whole, as an animated philosophy.



Simone Regazzoni  
My Daughter, Philosophy  
Publisher: PONTE ALLE GRAZIE  
Release date: September 2023  
Pages: 128

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# Grande meraviglia

**VIOLA ARDONE** was born in Naples in 1974. She has a degree in Literature and she used to work in the Publishing world. She teaches Latin and Italian at High School in Naples. For Einaudi Stile Libero she published "Il treno dei bambini" ("The Children's Train") in 2019, which proved to be the literary event of the year, it is presently being translated into thirty languages and will soon be the subject of a motion picture, and "Oliva Denaro", in 2021. Among her novels there are also "Le ricette del cuore in subbuglio" (2013) and "Una rivoluzione sentimentale" (2016), both published by Salani.

Elba is named after a northern river: her mother chose it. They used to live together, in a place she calls the half-world and which is actually an asylum. Then her mother disappeared, and all that was left for her to do was to grow up, compiling her Diary of Mental Illnesses, and telling the newcomers to the ward about doctors Colavolpe and Lampadina, nurse Gillette, and Nana the cana. Of her universe, in short, the only one she knows. At least until a young psychiatrist, Fausto Meraviglia, figures in his head to get her out of the asylum, or rather to eliminate them altogether, asylums; after all, that is what the Basaglia law, passed a few years earlier, provides for. Dr. Meraviglia takes Elba to live in his house, like a daughter: the only one he has chosen, and thanks to whom he, who has never been a good father, learns the weight and strength of fatherhood. The love of others never depends on us alone. This is its mystery, but also its prodigy.



50,000 copies sold

Translation rights sold to:

- Xander Uitgevers (Dutch)
- Albin Michel (French)
- Athenaeum Kiado (Hungarian)
- Alma littera (Lithuanian)
- Patakis (Greek)
- Sonia Draga (Polish)
- Alpha Forlag (Danish)
- Azbuka-Atticus (Russian)

**Viola Ardone**  
**Great Wonder**  
**Publisher: EINAUDI STILE LIBERO**  
**Release date: September 2023**  
**Pages: 300**

"Ardone builds characters that speak to everyone's soul and live at the heart of major events-and not, as is more often the case, in the small navel of memories."  
Vittorio Lingiardi  
La Repubblica

"Viola Ardone constructs a narrative investigation of madness, a condition of man and not its degraded variation, but also, perhaps most of all, a narrative investigation of fatherhood, family, integration and love."  
Simonetta Sciandivasci  
TuttoLibri

"Once again Viola Ardone tells us about the last ones, the so-called rejects, those we pretend not to see, out of cowardice or a sense of inadequacy. Grande meraviglia closes the trilogy dedicated to complicated lives, those born under a bad star, whose propulsive energy generates momentous changes."

Paola Iannelli

# What is said about La grande meraviglia

“Viola Ardone has the rare talent of declining uplifting themes and civil battles in fantastic ways with rich, often winking, funny and therefore even more incisive writing.”

**Titti Marrone**  
**Il Mattino**

“A luminous coming-of-age novel: Ardone takes a definitive leap with daring beauty, looks into the eyes of the existential precipice of madness and gives it an unconventional shape through two stories that grasp the importance of recognizing the other, of feeling that it exists and that we exist, and that listening ourselves is perhaps the key to accessing all great wonder.”

**Federica Bassignana**  
**Il Foglio**

“Viola Ardone holds a rare delicacy. And this element reverberates in her characters, who face the world head-on but always with grace.”

**Mirella Armiero**  
**Corriere del Mezzogiorno**

“[...] a poetic novel, entrusted to a young voice to which Viola Ardone tunes in with her usual freshness and a vibrant explosion of linguistic solutions, crossed with a mild irony, capable of softening the cruelty of the asylum.”

**Marzia Fontana**  
**Corriere della Sera**

“With her intense, original, music-filled writing, Viola Ardone shares that the love of others never depends on us alone. This is its mystery, but also its wonder.”

**Thrillernord**



# Una piccola formalità

**ALESSIA GAZZOLA** was born in Messina in 1982. She holds a degree in Medicine and is specialized in Forensic medicine. She is fond of travelling, reading (which to her is akin to travelling) and cooking. She lives in Verona with her husband and their children.

Her series of novels about the professional and amorous adventures of Alice Allevi includes "L'Allieva" (2011), "Un segreto non è per sempre" (2012), "Sindrome da cuore in sospenso" (2012), "Le ossa della principessa" (2014), "Una lunga estate crudele" (2015), "Un po' di follia in primavera" (2016), "Arabesque" (2017), "Il ladro gentiluomo" (2018), "Questione di Costanza" (2019) and "Costanza e buoni propositi" (2020) all published by Longanesi. Endemol and Rai1 have adapted these novels into the television series "L'Allieva", with Alessandra Mastronardi in the role of Alice Allevi. Her books have been translated into German, French, Spanish, Turkish, Romanian, Serbian, and Japanese.

She has also published "Non è la fine del mondo" (Feltrinelli, 2016), "Lena e la tempesta" (Garzanti, 2019) and "Un tè a Chaverton House" (Garzanti, 2021).

Rachele knows what is fashionable and what is not, and she has always been a great expert on the trends of the moment to the point that she has made it her job: in the most fun-filled Milan, between an aperitif with friends at the last open club and a private event, she writes about lifestyle in the well-known magazine Chic&Glam. So if she knows nothing about inheritance, notarial deeds and related legal matters, she is amply justified. For example: why should she do as her father wants and give up outright the unusual property her uncle left her? It seems crazy to her, and what's more, her journalist's intuition suggests that there is something interesting in that inheritance. Perhaps she is letting herself be influenced, but it may be that her uncle she does not even remember, since he was the black sheep of the family; it may be that her father refuses to even mention his name: it may be that the circumstances of his death do not seem very clear... but this whole story intrigues her, and not a little.

Rachele then dusts off an old contact from her address book, a high school classmate who by a curious coincidence of fate has become a notary public. Manfredi Malacarne's name is answered by a charming and tremendously helpful 30-year-old man. Just when, by another curious coincidence of fate, her affair with Alessio, her long-term boyfriend, has reached a truly surprising turning point. As she attempts to solve the mystery concerning her inheritance and certain family secrets, Rachele will find herself realizing that the things she does not know about the world (and more importantly, about herself) are actually many more and that it will be quite exciting to discover them all...



40,000 copies sold

Italiana	
1	Tre ciotole. Rituali per un anno di crisi Michela Murgia MONDADORI 18,00 € Acquista
2	Una piccola formalità Alessia Gazzola LONGANESI 16,90 € Acquista
3	La portalettere Francesca Giannone NORD 19,00 € Acquista
4	Come d'aria Ada D'Adamo ELLIOT 15,00 € Acquista
5	Il cognome delle donne Aurora Tamigio

**Alessia Gazzola**  
**A Tiny Formality**  
**Publisher: LONGANESI**  
**Release date: August 2023**  
**Pages: 304**

"Millennials recognize themselves in the waverings and uncertainties of Alessia Gazzola's heroines, which she recounts with tenderness and a smile."  
Donna Moderna

"Alessia Gazzola always manages to devise unusual mechanisms to challenge the reader and carefully doses the mystery and chick-lit parts."  
La Repubblica

"There is always something cheerful and melancholy together in the protagonists of Alessia Gazzola's books, in their move naturally between romance and mystery, daughters of Jane Austen and Agatha Christie as much as Sophie Kinsella and Alicia Giménez-Bartlett."  
TTL - La Stampa

# What is said about Una piccola formalità

“There is something new in Rachele's character: a form of independence, perhaps a new maturation compared to her 'sisters' born from Gazzola's pen, which leads her to be a woman who grows, evolves and learns to put herself before everything else.”

**Corriere della Sera**

“Alessia Gazzola needs no introduction, but one thing needs to be said: in addition to being good, she is brave, loves adventure, has not sat on her pupil (first in the form of bestselling novels and then a TV series) and has continued to seek out new stories, experimenting and inventing, here in brilliant comedy seasoned with a fair amount of mystery.”

**Cistina De Stefano**  
**Elle**

“With her usual happy, light-hearted and never predictable pen, Alessia Gazzola builds a new character to whom she gives an explicit and passionate love story interwoven with a dash of detective story and a family saga.”

**Elena Masuelli**  
**TuttoLibri**

# Oro puro

**FABIO GENOVESI** was born in Forte dei Marmi in 1974. He has published the novels "Cadrò, sognando di volare" (2020), "Il mare dove non si tocca" (2017; Premio Viareggio prize-winner), "Chi manda le onde" (2015; Premio Strega Giovani prize-winner), "Versilia Rock City" (2012) and "Esche vive" (2011) – all published by Mondadori –, "Il calamaro gigante" (Feltrinelli, 2021) and the cult essay "Morte dei Marmi" (2012), published by Laterza. Since 2019, he has followed the Giro d'Italia and the Tour de France for RAI television. He contributes to the newspaper "Corriere della Sera" and its weekly section "La Lettura".

Palos, Spain, August 1492. Nuño is 16 years old, and he is a crab. Or at least that is the nickname given him by his mother, who died a few years earlier, and of whom Nuño retains a memory that is both pain and light. Although he lives on the sea, Nuño has never wanted to sail it, and prefers to watch it by clinging to the land, just like crabs. Until, through a series of circumstances as unfortunate as they are accidental, he has to board a ship whose destination he ignores.

It is the Santa María, aboard which Christopher Columbus will discover - by accident and by mistake - the New World. While Nuño will realize, he who knows nothing about navigation, that he shares the bewilderment with his much more experienced companions: all frightened by that crazy and never-before-attempted venture. Having learned to read and write from his mother, Nuño became Columbus' scribe, and spending hours listening to him he felt growing enthusiasm for the big dreams of this unpredictable visionary explorer. Through Nuño's gaze, we travel through the most important journey in human history: the endless days before sighting land, to the discovery of a new world, a new humanity, a new, different possibility of in tend life.

In this Earthly Paradise, Nuño will learn how much ferocity, how much greed can motivate men's choices, but he will also learn about the irresistible force of love, which will overwhelm him until it turns his days and nights upside down.



## Option Publishers:

Botimet dudaj (Albanian)  
Edicions del Periscopi (Catalan)  
Slatkine (French)  
S. Fischer Verlag (German)  
Patakis (Greek)

**Fabio Genovesi**  
**Pure Gold**  
**Publisher: MONDADORI**  
**Release date: June 2023**  
**Pages: 444**

.....

"If I could be able to tell stories the way Fabio Genovesi can, I would want three lives at least, to share them with anyone who might listen."

Concita De Gregorio  
La Repubblica

"A great adventure novel that is also a painful meditation, through Nuno's eyes, of how in the name of wealth, ambition and even in the name of God, entire peoples who until their encounter with the "white" man were free and happy, have been exterminated by disease and exploitation."

Famiglia Cristiana

"This formidable story, though far back in time, manages to tell the story of the present day better than an editorial, a news article or a television news broadcast. As only great literature can do".

Andrea Frateff-Gianni  
Il Messaggero



# What is said about Oro puro

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“Oro Puro is a novel that leaves no traces but bruises: because behind every word there is a world to be discovered.”

**Gian Paolo Serino**  
**Domani**

“It is a novel about discovery and the glimpse that is needed, sometimes, to recognize it: inexperience; the tale of how a dominion is born and how a love is born; the history of the two things that really drive us, chance, and mistake.”

**Simonetta Sciandivasci**

“Fabio Genovesi has written a poetic and massive book, one of those, very rare, whose ending alone is worth reading the pages before it. And it opens up a new world.”

**Pierdomenico Baccalario**  
**Corriere della sera**

# Le mille strade per Buenos Aires

**VALERIA PROVENZANO** born in Cumaná, in the Venezuelan Caribbean, in 1992. She studied Humanities at the Universidad Central de Venezuela, and Storytelling & Filmmaking at the Holden School. She wandered between Cumaná, Caracas, Toronto, and Montevideo, where she studied and worked as an editor, secret ria, bartender and telephone agent. Now she has has stopped in Turin, where she is a translator and Spanish teacher in the sunlight, and writer by the light bulb.

San Juan. "You are big now. You're strong and you're not afraid of anything." These are the last words 12-year-old Rosario hears from her mother before she gets into a car that takes her forever away from home. Arriving at the farm, Rosario receives a new name because, without her knowledge, she has been sold by her family, forced by poverty, to a couple in need of laborers. From then on, she does nothing but work, following the cycle of the rising and setting sun. At night, however, Rosario tries to keep alive the flame of the memory of his parents and siblings. An increasingly fading flame that is nonetheless vital for her not to feel loneliness. Until the day when a terrible earthquake upsets her destiny. Rosario manages to escape from the farm, but she is no longer alone: she is expecting a baby girl, although the man she loves does not want to follow her. In her head she has only one wish: to return home. But what she finds there is another rejection. Another abandonment. This time because she is pregnant and without a husband. So Rosario realizes that she can only count on herself, that she and her daughter are the only thing that really matters.

She leaves for Buenos Aires where, between passionate relationships nate relationships that fill or break her heart and the unconditional love for her children that make her feel alive, Rosario struggles and adapts, always seeking the courage that her mother whispered in her ear that day. Why if one part of her is proud of the independence gained, another small part is still the little girl who feels rejected by those who should have should have loved her.



Valeria Provenzano  
The Thousand Roads to Buenos Aires  
Publisher: GARZANTI  
Release date: May 2023  
Pages: 170

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# Le regole dello Shangai

**ERRI DE LUCA** was born in Naples in 1950. Before becoming a writer, he practiced various manual jobs in Africa, France, Italy. He studies Hebrew as a self-taught and translates some books of the Bible. He is a columnist for "il Manifesto." He has published with Feltrinelli (among others): "Non ora, non qui" (1989), "Una nuvola come tappeto" (1991), "In alto a sinistra" (1994), "Tu, mio" (1998), "Montedidio" (2001), "Il contrario di uno" (2003), "Mestieri all'aria aperta. Pastori e pescatori nell'Antico e nel Nuovo Testamento" (with Gennaro Matino, 2004), "In nome della madre" (2006), "Il giorno prima della felicità" (2009), "Il peso della farfalla" (2009), "I pesci non chiudono gli occhi" (2011), "La doppia vita dei numeri" (2012) and "Storia di Irene" (2013). His most recent books published with Feltrinelli include "La faccia delle nuvole" (2016), "La natura esposta" (2016), "Il giro dell'oca" (2018), "Impossibile" (2019), "A grandezza naturale" (2021), the graphic novel "L'ora X. Una storia di Lotta Continua" (2019; with Cosimo Damiano Damato and Paolo Castaldi) and "Le regole dello Shangai" (2023).

She is a young gypsy woman escaping from her family to avoid an arranged marriage to an older man, he is a watchmaker who is camping on the border and welcomes her into his tent. The meeting inaugurates an understanding made up of nocturnal dialogues about men and life, an exchange of knowledge and visions - she who believes in destiny, in signs, in the god of things, she who trained a bear and loved him as the best of friends; he who feels himself to be a cog inside the machine of the world and that world interprets according to the rules of Shanghai, as if playing were a way of bringing order to chaos. An understanding that will last a long time, even from afar, and will end up altering the existence of both of them: a gap in the game, a moving stick.

Erri De Luca  
*Le regole dello Shangai*



### Translation rights sold to:

Edicions Bromera (Catalan)  
Gallimard (French)  
Kelethos (Greek)  
Seix Barral (Spanish World Rights)  
Het Moet (Dutch)



Erri De Luca  
The Rules of Shanghai  
Publisher: FELTRINELLI  
Release date: May 2023  
Pages: 112

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# Il ladro di quaderni

**GIANNI SOLLA** was born in 1974 in Naples, where he lives. He has published the novels "Airbag" (Ad est dell'equatore, 2008) and "Il fiuto dello Squalo" (Marsilio, 2012). For Einaudi he published "Tempesta madre" (2021).

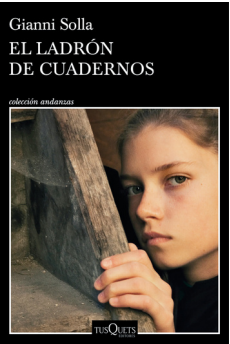
Tora and Piccilli (north of Caserta), September 1942. Davide spends his days, sometimes even the night, with the pigs he guards: he knows them so well that he calls them by name. He limps from birth, and for this he is laughed at by his peers and mistreated by his father. Only Teresa, who works in the family rope factory and spends all her free time reading, has the courage to stand up for him. Davide cannot imagine any other life but the one in Tora. Teresa, on the other hand, only repeats that one day she will go far away, and Davide knows she is telling the truth. The arrival of thirty-six Jews from Naples, sent to the village by the fascist authorities, will change their lives forever. Nicolas, with his restless beauty, brings with him an unknown world and disrupts their days. Davide begins to secretly attend the classes of Nicolas's father, who has set up an underground school. And so the illiterate son of a fascist learns to read and write thanks to a Jew.

Davide, Teresa, and Nicolas explore together the countryside around the village, as far as the Devil's Steeps (according to popular belief the footprints of the evil one are imprinted on the slope of the extinct volcano), but also the unexpressed world of their feelings. The ghost of Nicolas will accompany Davide in the years to come, in Naples after the war. When he will work hard in the factory, when he will accidentally begin to attend a theater company, when – now a man, another man – he will tread the stage as an acclaimed actor. It will be Nicolas himself, alive and yet so much like a ghost, who will lead him back to Tora, to where it all began.



### Translation rights sold to:

- Tusquets (Castilian)
- Grup 62 (Catalan)
- Gronningen 1 (Danish)
- Xander (Dutch)
- Otava (Finnish)
- Albin Michel (French)
- Diogenes (German)
- Patakis (Greek)
- Libri Ciad (Hungarian)
- Dom Quixote (Portuguese/Portugal)
- Harper Via (World English)



**Gianni Solla**  
**The Notebook Thief**  
**Publisher: EINAUDI**  
**Release date: May 2023**  
**Pages: 278**

.....  
"Gianni Solla has written a magical novel, telling an enthralling story that is full of life."  
Diogenes Verlag

“Gianni Solla has written a painful and touching book, telling that one grows anyway, even if everything around conspires to prevent it.”  
Donatella Dipietrantonio  
TuttoLibri

“A dangerous game of feelings and passions described with powerful precision and without a superfluous adjective.”  
Brunella Schisa  
Il Venerdì

In the panorama of contemporary Italian literature Gianni Solla is a certainty, every time he manages to deliver unforgettable characters, filled with a sweetness that remains solid despite the sorrows that punctuate their lives, armored with a very human fragility that becomes priceless value to be preserved after so much suffering.  
Pier Luigi Razzano  
La Repubblica Napoli

# Il primo sole dell'estate

**DANIELA RAIMONDI** was born in the province of Mantua and spent most of her life in England. She now divides her time between London and Sardinia. She has published ten books of poetry that have won major national awards. Her short stories are featured in anthologies and literary magazines. After the success of "La casa sull'argine", "Il primo sole dell'estate" is her second novel.

It's a cold home, the one in which Norma grows up, where parents do not divorce for the sake of quiet life and hugs can be counted on the fingers of one hand. Perhaps that's why, when Norma is away from her parents, everything seems nicer to her. Like the summers spent at her grandparents', in Stellata, a village where time seems to stand still and made even more magical by Grandma Neve's tales of a family of dreamers and psychics and the gypsy woman who marked their path. And then, always in Stellata, there is Elia, a companion of games and confidences. However, when childhood gives way to adolescence, Norma finds that she is afraid of the new feelings that bind her to Elia and decides to break off their friendship. It will be many years before the two find each other again in London and the relationship turns into an adult and all-embracing love, but fate is writing another page for her, a page that began in Stellata and will end far away, in Brazil. Because dreams always have a price and happiness is a gift that is won through hard work.



**Daniela Raimondi**  
**The First Sun of Summer**  
**Publisher: NORD**  
**Release date: May 2023**  
**Pages: 385**

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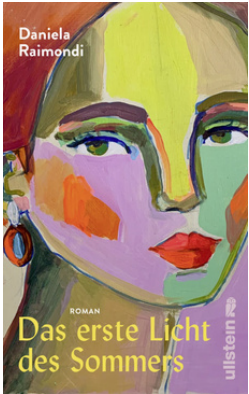
**Translation rights sold to:**

Ullstein (German)

**Option Publishers:**

- De Bezige Bij (Dutch)
- Slatkine (French)
- Patakis (Greek)
- Kinneret (Hebrew)
- Alma littera (Lithuanian)
- Sonia Draga (Polish)
- Intrinseca (Portuguese)
- Arkadia Publishing (Russian)
- Dereta (Serbian)
- İlksatır Yayınevi (Tukish)
- Grijalbo (World Spanish Rights)

**Previous title:**



**120,000 copies sold**

# Vieni tu, giorno, nella notte

**CINZIA LEONE** is a journalist, writer of novels and graphic novels. She collaborates with “Corriere della Sera”, “L’Espresso” and “Il Foglio”.  
She has published two novels with Bompiani: “Liberabile” (2009) and “Cellophane” (2013) and five graphic novels with Rizzoli.  
She lives, writes and illustrates in Rome.

A suicide bomber detonates himself at a club in Tel Aviv. A young man dies in the massacre; his name is Ariel Anav, he is Italian and wears the uniform of the Israeli Army. Upon arrival at Ben Gurion Airport, the parents, Micòl and Daniel, are told that they will have to wait to get their son's body back: he and the suicide bomber were so close that the deflagration mixed their remains.  
What do you call someone who is orphaned by a son? The word does not exist.  
Sons grow up next to us but we know only a fraction of them; the rest is mystery. With sons there are no calculations, sons are lost and found, but Micòl can no longer find her own. Looking for Arièl's last days, her mother discovers his secrets: a love that overrides walls and a friendship that can overturn destiny. Unexpected passions and mysterious fragilities, wounds that heal only by sinking the blade. Along with her, with regret and anger, with pride and atrocious nostalgia, her father, grandmother, lover and friend also face grief.

Each has his Ariel in his head and each wants to chase him where he can no longer be reached. All will manage to patch up the past and find themselves. Death calls for death, but life demands life, and at the score written by fate Micòl will discover that she can change the ending. People do not get lost, we think we have lost them.



**Cinzia Leone**  
**Come You, Day, into the Night**  
**Publisher: MONDADORI**  
**Release date: May 2023**  
**Pages: 419**

.....  
"Cinzia Leone has a special talent for creating plots that could be called adventurous where, however, she manages to maintain a singular narrative unity in spite of every most unexpected twist."  
Corrado Augias  
Il Venerdì



# L'estate brucia ancora

**CHIARA FINA** was born in 1991, lives in Campi Salentina and teaches Humanities. “L'estate brucia ancora” is her debut novel.

Carlotta is a 13-year-old girl like any other: a normal family, a normal house overlooking the bitter fields of Salento. Emma is a little older and her biography is at opposites: half-Irish origins, musician parents, a psychedelic villa with no rules. Theirs is a strong friendship, but one crossed by many shadows. A bond disrupted suddenly, during the last days of that summer that will mark them forever. When she wakes up in a hospital bed, Carlotta bears the indelible marks of a violence that her mind tries to remove. Emma is what remains of that cursed afternoon.

Many years later, a boy knocks on the protagonist's door. And Emma's son, and he demands answers that only his mother's friend can give. And so, Carlotta tells of the dark, yet shining friendship that united them. By piecing it together with her bare hands, piece by piece. Plumbing the clear waters of the past in search of the truth that at thirteen she had not dared to delve into. A descent into the abyss, to find life again.



Chiara Fina  
Summer Still Burns  
Publisher: GUANDA  
Release date: April 2023  
Pages: 430

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# Mirabilis

Cinque intuizioni (più altre in arrivo) che hanno rivoluzionato la nostra idea di universo

**ERSILIA VAUDO** is graduated in Astrophysics. Since 1991, she has been working at the European Space Agency Europe. During her career, between France and the United States, she has held various positions in different areas including Strategy and International Affairs. She is President and Co-founder of the Association "The Traveling Sky" which promotes scientific literacy of boys and girls in areas at high risk of school dropout.

The hand that drops the apple from a tree is the same hand that moves celestial gears: gravity. This of Newton is one of the great insights that changed the way we read the universe. Then came others. Two hundred years later, Einstein introduced a new twist. With the promotion of the speed of light to absolute magnitude absolute, in the theory of special relativity space and time are forever bound together. And in the theory of general relativity general gravity is transformed, it becomes the imprint left by matter in the "soft" geometry of spacetime. From there shortly, a further surprise. The gaze of Hubble reveals the possibility of a universe no longer static and unchanging, but expanding, with a beginning, an age, a history. Meanwhile, Dirac from the solutions of an equation brings out antimatter. Much remains to be understood, however. We know that the expansion of the universe accelerates, but not what drives it. What if our universe is one of many bubbles in a cosmic foam? If other dimensions existed rolled up upon themselves and invisible to us? Mirabilis is a ticket to a journey to places so unknown as to appear fantastic.



4 reprints

Translation rights sold to:

W. W. Norton (American English)  
Blackie Books (Spanish)

Ersilia Vaudo  
Mirabilis  
Publisher: EINAUDI STILE LIBERO  
Release date: April 2023  
Pages: 160

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"The author takes the reader by the hand and tells him or her about our extraordinary adventure toward knowledge of the cosmos [...] She guides us along the way making this complex subject within the reach of anyone."  
Maria Grazia Ligato  
Io Donna

"Mirabilis is an enthralling tale of the human challenge to the unknown, of that stubborn, impatient and free exploration of what we do not yet know."  
Telmo Pievani  
7 - Corriere

# Il cuore è un guazzabuglio

Vita e capolavoro del rivoluzionario Manzoni

**ELEONORA MAZZONI**, after graduating in Literature at the University of Bologna with Professor Ezio Raimondi and a diploma in acting at the Theater School of Alessandra Galante Garrone, until 2010 she worked as an actress for theater, cinema and TV. She has published "Le difettose" (Einaudi, 2012), "Gli ipocriti" (Chiarelettere, 2015), "In becco alla cicogna!" (Biglia Blu, 2016) e "La testa sul tuo petto. Sulle tracce di San Giovanni" (San Paolo, 2016). Some of her short stories and writings have appeared in several anthologies. She writes subjects and scripts for cinema and television. Since 2022 she has been the artistic director of the cultural festival Caterina Sforza in Forlì: The Nonconformist.

The Manzoni, always called by the article preceding his last name, whom we imagine as students is a perpetually middle-aged man, with a grave and somewhat absent gaze, similar to the one portrayed by Francesco Hayez in one of his most famous paintings. A man who can hardly inspire sympathy, just as his masterpiece, *I promessi sposi* (The Betrothed), can hardly inspire it, which as listless adolescents we sip like a bitter medicine to swallow because "it's good for you." But, reading carefully the one thousand eight hundred letters he left us and the testimonies of family and friends, Manzoni turns out to be very different from that. An ironic and affable conversationalist, in the forefront of everything, animated by a burning political fire, when he was young he was rebellious and libertine, remaining restless throughout his existence. Indeed, once he became a writer, Alessandro, let's call him by his name now, poured his restlessness into his work as few others have been able to do. *I promessi sposi* (The Betrothed) reflects, in fact, all the passions that stirred an adventurous life full of emotional turmoil: maternal abandonment, fatherlessness, spiritual travail, the civil struggle for a united Italy free from the foreign oppressor.

A great popular novel, traversed by an indomitable spirit, capable of penetrating human beings and their hearts. And of still shaking our our soul.



5 reprints

**Finalist Emilio Lussu  
Prize 2023**

**Finalist Vincenzo Padula  
Prize 2023**

**Finalist FiuggiStoria  
Prize 2023**

**Finalist Acqui Storia  
Prize 2023**

**Eleonora Mazzone**  
**The Hearth Is a Hodgepodge**  
**Publisher: EINAUDI**  
**Release date: April 2023**  
**Pages: 168**

"Mazzone constructs a dense essay, rich in documentation and textual references, but without burdening the reader with the weight of bibliography and critical references."

Marco Balzano  
Corriere della Sera



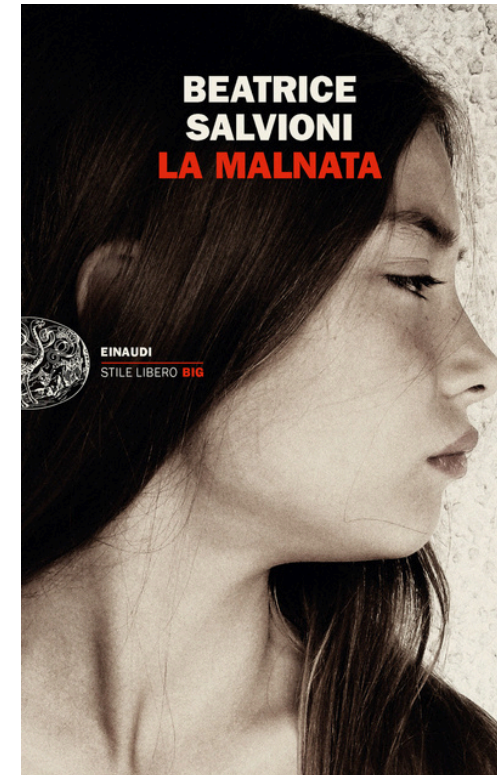
# La malnata

**BEATRICE SALVIONI** was born in 1995 in Monza. She practiced medieval fencing and climbed Mt. Rose. In 2021, she graduated from the Holden School and won the Calvino Short Story Prize. This is her first novel.

Monza, March 1936: on the banks of the Lambro, two 12-year-old girls try to hide the corpse of a man who has pinned on his shirt a brooch with the fascio and the tricolor. They are shocked and half-dressed. It will be Francesca who will tell their story up to that point in first person.

Francesca is the typical respectable daughter of a middle-class family. Every day she spies from the bridge a girl playing together with boys in the river, she's barefoot with her skirt raised, her legs scratched and dirt of mud. Francesca dreams about becoming her friend, despite the fact that everyone in town considers Maddalena a curse-thrower, and scorns her by calling her Malnata. But that determined air of hers, the air of one who is not afraid of anything, fascinates Francesca. It will be the theft of cherries, her first lie, that will make them friends. Against the backdrop of the Abyssinian War, the pain of loss and the upheavals of adolescence, Francesca learns with her to denounce the overpowering and abuse of power, especially male power, despite the community's disapproval. Only the strength of an unbreakable friendship-the kind each of us has encountered at least once in our lives-can drive two teenage girls to rebel against injustice.

An outcast teenager, and a peer who learns to know her for real, beyond prejudice, and who, thanks to her, finds the courage to make her voice heard to confess the truth. An engaging coming-of-age novel set against the background of a Po Valley province oppressed by control, sexism and the violence of fascism. A debut that has already enchanted publishers around the world.



**60,000 copies sold**

**7 reprints**

**Film rights optioned by**

**Banijay**

**Flaiano International Narrative  
and Italian fiction under 35 Prize  
2023**

Chi sale, chi scende	TOP TEN
Beatrice Salvioni un esordio da bestseller di Claudio Martignetti	1 Carlo Rovelli Buchi bianchi Adelphi, euro 16
L'idea centralissima, la religione della famiglia, la famiglia come nucleo di solidarietà, come luogo di protezione e di crescita. Il libro di Beatrice Salvioni è un'opera di grande qualità, che regala l'emozione di un'opera di grande qualità. La vita intima di Beatrice Salvioni è un libro di grande qualità. La vita intima di Beatrice Salvioni è un libro di grande qualità.	2 Gianluca Gatto Profondo come il mare, leggerezza... Mondadori, euro 16,50
	3 Tilde Cole Dammi mille baci Rizzoli, euro 13,90
	4 Niccolò Ammaniti La vita intima Garzanti, euro 16
	5 Carlo Vecce Il sorriso di Caterina Garzanti, euro 16
	6 Beatrice Salvioni La Malnata Einaudi, euro 12,50
	7 Marco Tassinari Scemi di guerra Piemonte, euro 17
	8 Emmanuel Carrère Vix Adelphi, euro 20
	9 Alessandro Barbero Brick for stone Salerno, euro 16
	10 Quentin Tarantino Cinema Speculation L'Espresso, euro 20
STATI UNITI	REGNO UNITO
1 James Garcia L'America in America Bompiani	1 James Garcia L'America in America Bompiani
2 James Garcia L'America in America Bompiani	2 James Garcia L'America in America Bompiani
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**Beatrice Salvioni**  
**The Wicked One**  
**Publisher: EINAUDI STILE LIBERO**  
**Release date: March 2023**  
**Pages: 200**

.....

"Malnata comes out of the pages  
so alive that it seems you can  
touch it. She is a character that  
every publisher would like to have in  
their catalog."  
Anne Michel  
Albin Michel

"Beatrice Salvioni is an absolute  
literary revelation. She is  
reminiscent of authors such as  
Elena Ferrante and Joyce Carol  
Oates."  
María Fasce  
Lumen

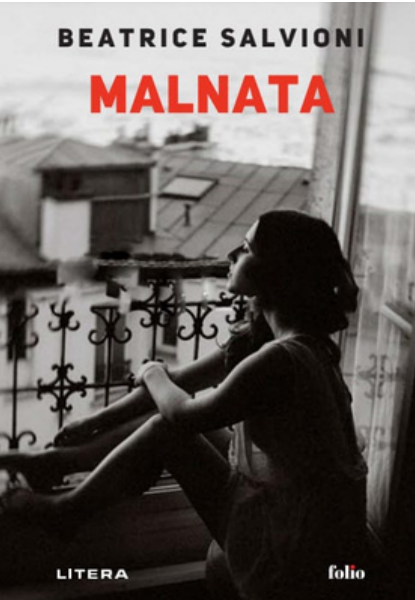
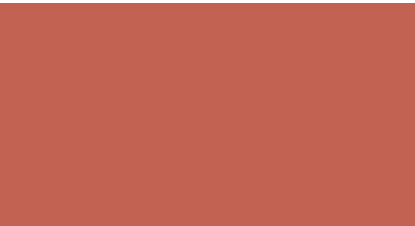
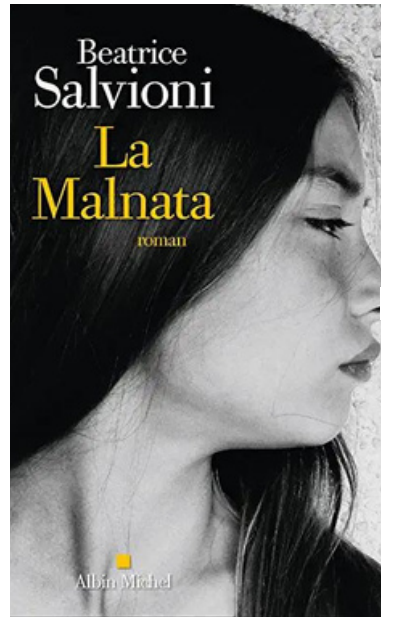
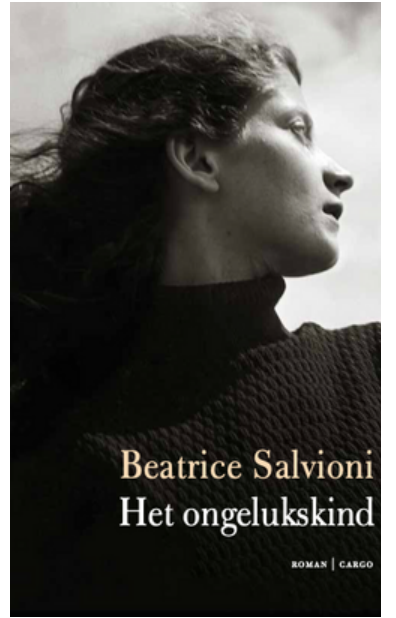
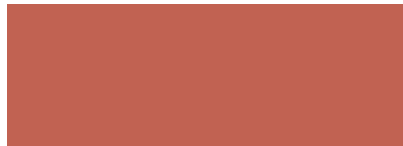
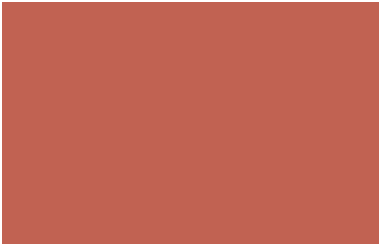
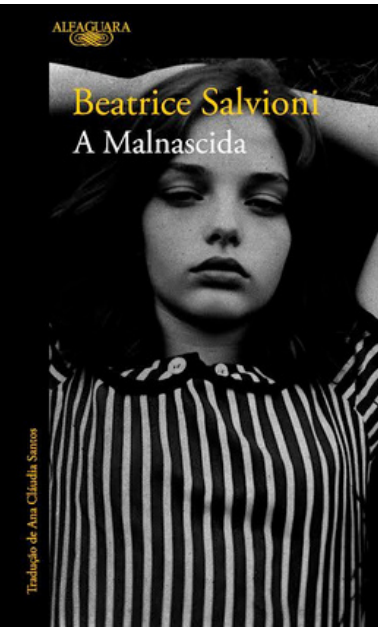
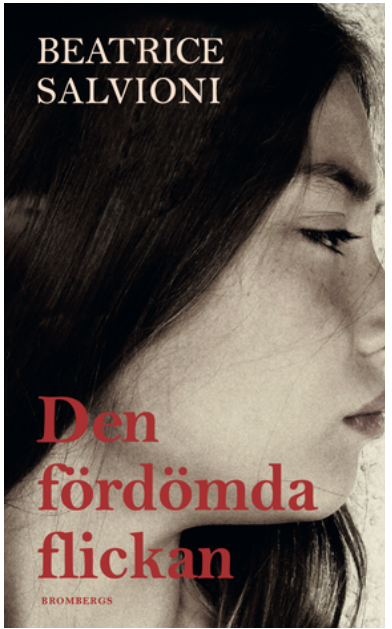
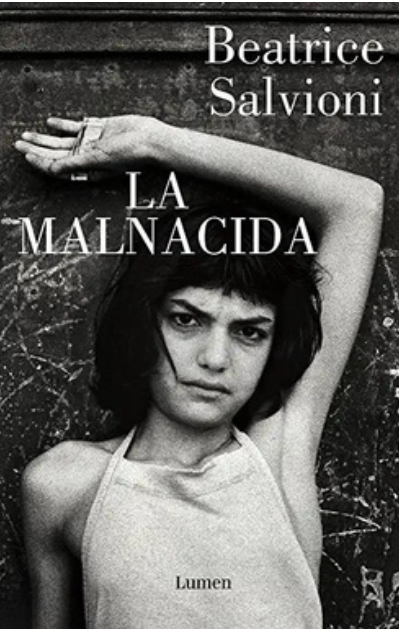
"La Malnata is one of those books  
that stands out from the rest; the  
story and the characters captivate  
the reader, revealing Beatrice  
Salvioni's great talent."  
Chris Kooi  
Uitgeverij Cargo

"A very strong heroine, a special  
friendship, a beautiful language.  
Malnata is a gem."  
Lene Evensen  
Gyldendal Norsk Forlag



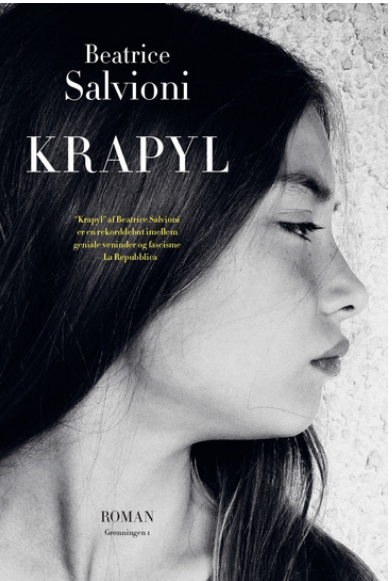
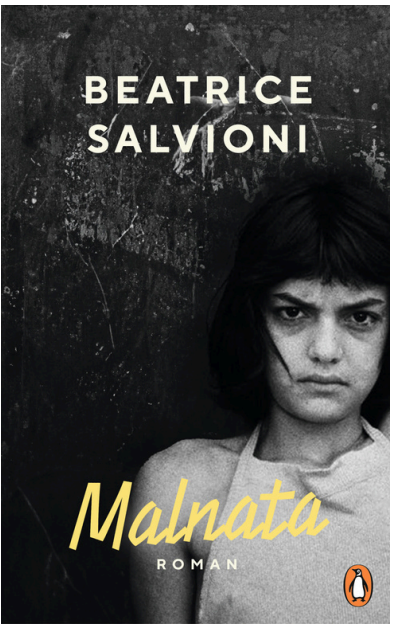
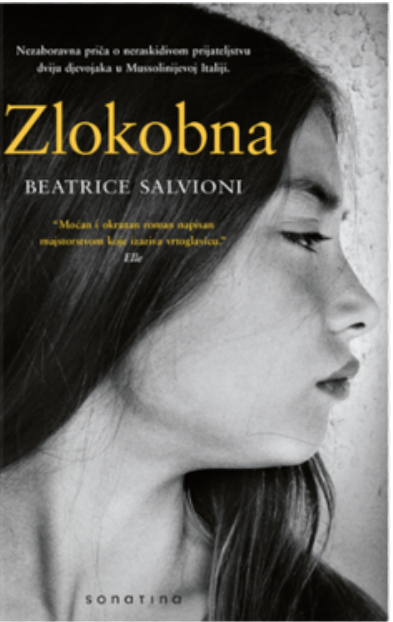
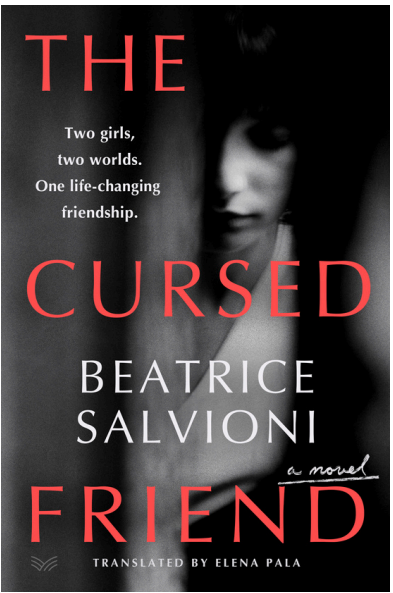
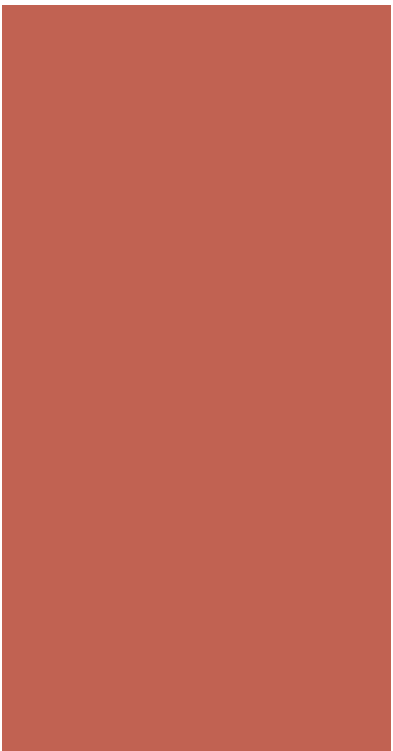
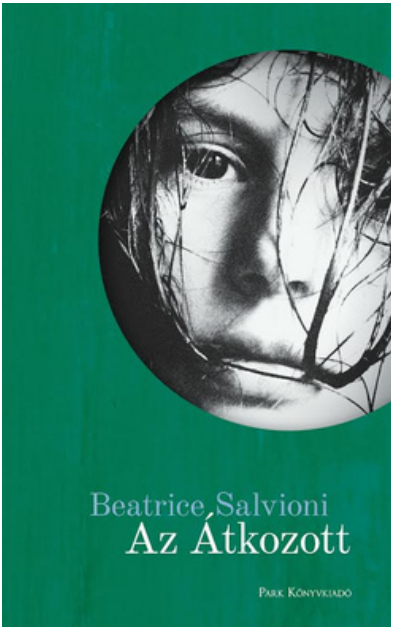
Translation rights sold to:

- Dudaj Botime (Albanian)
- Dar Tashkeel (Arabic)
- Intrinseca (Brazilian)
- Obsidian (Bulgarian)
- Lumen (Castilian Spanish)
- Periscopi (Catalan Spanish)
- Sonatina j.d.o.o. (Croatian)
- Argo (Czech)
- Gronningen (Danish)
- Cargo-De Bezige Bij (Dutch)
- Päitese (Estonian)
- Gummerus (Finnish)
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- Penguin Hardcover (German)
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- Kawade Shobo Shinsha (Japanese)
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- Publik praktikum (Serbian)
- Literárna bašta (Slovak)
- Brombergs (Swedish)
- Epsilon (Turkish)
- HarperVia (World English Rights)
- Txalaparta Argitaletxea (Basque)
- Beletrina Academic Press (Slovenian)





# What is said about La malnata

"The young writer constructs with an unprecedented and convincing voice a story of personal and civic formation, brings to life a portrait of characters with chiaroscuro tones and a well-oiled narrative device, marked by sharp writing and effective dialogue."

**Marzia Fontana**  
**Corriere della Sera**

"Bloody, unapologetic, and wild ... I loved it!"

**Naomi Krupitsky, New York Times bestselling author of The Family**

"Phénomène littéraire, révélation d'une voix unique, récit puissant où le passé fait écho au présent."

**ActuaLitté**

"Beatrice Salvioni a les mots qu'il faut pour dépeindre les ambiances nuisibles et la détresse des enfants mal-aimés."

**Femme Actuelle**

"This novel endears itself and Maddalena gets into people's heads never to leave."

**Carlotta Vissani**  
**Il fatto quotidiano**

"Un récit d'apprentissage bouleversant qui rend hommage au courage des jeunes filles."

**Plus de Pep's Magazine**

"Not simply the birth of an Italian author in Italy, but of an Italian author in the world."

**Cristina De Stefano**  
**Elle**

# What is said about La malnata

"La Malnata est un livre puissant, une lecture qu'il sera difficile d'oublier, une autre Amie prodigieuse en quelque sorte, sur un registre décalé mais non moins efficace."

**Le Soir**

"Un magnifique premier roman qui emporte et dépayse."

**Point de vue**

"La Malnata is well written, has a captivating plot and a modern style that does not rely on unnecessary catch-phrases. The story works because, without winking at easy moralizing, it tells life for what it is."

**Marco Onnembo**  
**Il Sole 24 ore - Domenica**

"In her gripping novel set in fascist Italy, and in the tradition of Elsa Morante and Natalia Ginzburg, Beatrice Salvioni gives powerful voice to the female experience in Italy."

**Jenny McPhee, author of The Center of Things**

"Une plume fluide et fulgurante."

**Marie France**

"Beatrice Salvioni signe un roman hors du commun où la beauté de la langue éclaire avec force et pudeur un roman d'apprentissage plein de sensibilité et d'intelligence."

**Page**

"Maddalena is a solid, warm character who rises from the pages with an almost tangibly perceptible breath."

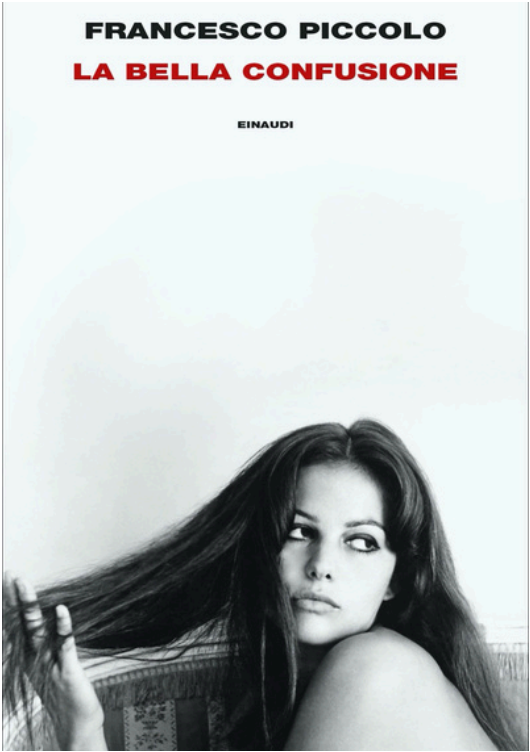
**Leonetta Bentivoglio**  
**La Repubblica**

# La bella confusione

**FRANCESCO PICCOLO** was born in Caserta in 1964; he is a writer and screenwriter. His latest books are *La separazione del maschio* (2008, Einaudi), *Momenti di trascurabile felicità* (2010, Einaudi), *Il desiderio di essere come tutti* (2013, Einaudi, Premio Strega prize-winner), *Momenti di trascurabile infelicità* (2015, Einaudi), *L'animale che mi porto dentro* (2018, Einaudi), *Momenti trascurabili vol. 3* (2020, Einaudi). Among others, he has signed screenplays for Paolo Virzì, Francesca Archibugi, Nanni Moretti, Marco Bellocchio, Daniele Luchetti, Silvio Soldini, and also the TV series *L'amica geniale* and *La vita bugiarda degli adulti*. He collaborates with "la Repubblica."

Film history is not so different from life: seemingly linear, but studded with chance encounters, chased or missed appointments, last-minute decisions and unpredictable coincidences. Crucial fatalities that allow a work to come to light, with the precise characteristics that everyone will later remember. The choice of an actress, the light on the set, the sentimental vicissitudes of the director or a co-star, as well as budget cuts or a sudden scene change, can in their own way write a page of universal genius. 1963 is the year of Fellini and Visconti. A decisive year for Italian cinema, which saw the birth of *Otto e mezzo* and *Il Gattopardo*. But before they became the masterpieces we know so well, they were two incredible bets, as well as the battleground between two rival and profoundly different artists: while Claudia Cardinale changed her hair color according to the whims of her director, the entire Italian cultural context was preparing to espouse one or the other vision of cinema and the world. This is what "La bella confusione" is: chasing like a detective the figures and episodes that made History, Francesco Piccolo sifted through letters, films, notes and diaries, interviews, gossip and testimonies.

For in this novel unlike any other, the characters are named Marcello Mastroianni, Ennio Flaiano, Sandra Milo, Tomasi di Lampedusa, Camilla Cederna, Suso Cecchi d'Amico, Burt Lancaster and Pier Paolo Pasolini. Moving between myth and anecdote, the unmistakable voice of the author of "Il desiderio di essere come tutti" awakens millions of memories and gives us the lost light of an era. A documentary made of words: the power of art, the secrets of cinema, the duels of an Italy we could no longer imagine.



**Viareggio-Rèpaci non-fiction  
Prize 2023**

**Translation rights sold to:**

Albin Michel (French)  
Botime Dudaj (Albanian)  
Editora Âyiné (Brazilian)  
Aminori (Latvian)

**Francesco Piccolo**  
**The Beautiful Confusion**  
**Publisher: EINAUDI**  
**Release date: February 2023**  
**Pages: 296**

.....  
"This book is never an essay on film,  
but it is the very personal novel  
about the happiness of being in the  
world to do something beautiful,  
and about the construction and  
acceptance of life through film and  
literature"  
Annalena Benini  
Il Foglio



# Uvaspina

**MONICA ACITO** was born in 1993. She grew up in Cilento, between the Calore gorges and the temples of Paestum.

She started writing as a child, and since adolescence has collaborated with print and online publications. After graduating from classical high school she moved to the historic centre of Naples, between Forcella and Mezzocannone, and specialised in Modern Philology at the Federico II University. In 2019 she landed in Turin, where she attended the Scuola Holden. She was a member of the reading committee of the Calvino Prize and her short stories have been published in literary magazines and have won numerous prizes. She teaches humanities at middle and high school.

A birthmark under the left eye, as dark as a ripe grape embedded in the skin very clear: he was born that way, Uvaspina, so much so that he soon got used to being called by that name that identifies him with his spot. Uvaspina can get used to almost anything: to notary Pasquale Riccio, his father, who only comes home for meals and is ashamed of him; to the Spaiata, his mother, who after having set up Pasquale Riccio with her arts of *chiagnazzara* does not rest for having lost her own charm and pretends to die every time he leaves the house. But above all Uvaspina is used to his sister Minuccia, a little younger. Ever since she was a child, Minuccia is inhabited by an energy capable of unpredictable explosions, which precisely on Uvaspina measure their power: Minuccia holds her brother in check with her physical strength, with her cruel spites, with the acumen of one who knows how to strike at the point of maximum fragility, as when she tells him: "Your comrades were right, you really are a *femminiello*". Yet only Uvaspina knows the deep trigger that makes her sister a strummolo, a spinning top capable of wounding with its swirling metal tip. And only Minuccia senses Uvaspina's dreams, when the strummolo keeps her awake and can peer at his fine features in his sleep

Around them, Naples: the city of seething bowels, of the neighborhoods reaching for the sky, from the long tentacles immersed in the sea that faces and penetrates it, right into the caves of Palazzo Donn'Anna. It is precisely on this border between the city and the sea, between history and myth, that Uvaspina meets Antonio, the fisherman with two different colours eyes who reads books and is not afraid of blood, who knows how to sail as far as Procida and get a crybaby who doubted himself his life back on track. The purity of their encounter, however, will not be hidden for long in the caves of Palazzo Donn'Anna: the city draws them to itself, the strummolo turns and its lace will unite their destinies forever.



Film rights optioned by  
Indiana Production

Translation rights sold to:  
Les Éditions du sous-sol  
(French)

Monica Acito  
Uvaspina  
Publisher: BOMPIANI  
Release date: February 2023  
Pages: 422

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Fiesole Under 40 Fiction  
Prize 2023

Massarosa Prize 2023  
Critics and audience award

Runner-up in the Stresa  
Prize for Fiction 2023

Segafredo Zanetti Prize  
Finalist

# What is said about Uvaspina

"Uvaspina is a first work almost perfect. In style, in the dramatic incident, in descriptions".

**Marco Onnembo**  
**Il Sole 24 Ore**

"Monica Acito is surprising in her debut with a novel that restores to the Neapolitan literary tradition a carnal, overflowing, limitless dimension".

**Pier Luigi Razzano**  
**Repubblica**

"The real power of this story is in the language, archaic and mysterious, that creates an atmosphere suspended between fable and bewilderment".

**Viola Ardone**  
**Tuttolibri**

"An exciting, mature, talented book that sticks in your head and heart".

**Emiliano Reali**  
**Huffpost**

"Uvaspina is the title of the pyrotechnic and original debut novel, a story of anomalous, intriguing characters".

**Ugo Cundari**  
**Il Mattino**

"It breaks the mold of Italian fiction and draws heavily from the reservoir of the Neapolitan tradition".

**Mirella Armiero**  
**Corriere del Mezzogiorno**

# Il secondo piano

**RITANNA ARMENI** is a journalist and writer. She was editor-in-chief of "Noi Donne" and has worked at "Rinascita", "il manifesto", "l'Unità" and "Liberazione". She was head of the press office for Fausto Bertinotti, leader of the Italian Communist party, and for four years presented "Otto e mezzo", a TV political program, with Giuliano Ferrara. She has published "Di questo amore non si deve sapere" (Comisso prize-winner), "Una donna può tutto", "Per strada è la felicità" e "Mara, una donna del Novecento".

Rome, in the last year of the war, is not "città aperta" ("open city"). The Germans, on the verge of defeat, hold it in an increasingly ruthless grip, the Allies struggle to arrive, the Romans fight back paying with blood every act of rebellion. In a city di- stricken by starvation, bombs, and terror, Jews are persecuted, deported, killed, as the most dangerous and truest of enemies.

And the Church? While the Vatican is secretly negotiating the Nazi surrender and the pontiff chooses, more or less openly, the path of caution, the sacred places open up to welcome - defying the rules and even some of the commandments - those in need.

That is how, in a suburban Franciscan convent, among the scents of the garden and a new neighborhood under construction, Sister Ignatia and the other nuns find themselves in the surreal situation of hosting on the ground floor a German infirmary and on the second some families who miraculously escaped the Ghetto roundup. Separating them, only a staircase and the mild audacity of those who do not hesitates to put themselves on the line to the very end.

Ritanna Armeni, with her strict and deep as ever, enthusiasm, traverses a crucial passage bottom as ever, traverses a crucial passage of our history and gives substance to an exemplary case, which speaks of courage and sisterhood, of strength and creativity, of joy, fear, resistance.



5 reprints

Film rights optioned by  
Iter Film

**Ritanna Armeni**

**The Second Floor**

**Publisher: Ponte Alle Grazie**

**Release date: January 2023**

**Pages: 272**

.....  
"Ritanna Armeni becomes an exceptional chronicler in our darkest past, and brings to light an unexpected story.

Terrible and luminous at the same time. As a narrator, with iridescent and participatory writing, turns it into a great novel about genuine courage, about charity that becomes duty, risk, sacrifice."

Paolo Di Paolo

"Book after book, Ritanna Armeni is constructing an exciting, unusual, multifaceted history of women."

Tuttolibri

"Modernity never told, the secret freedom: Ritanna Armeni lights up with light, thought and adventure the invisible world of the women who hid and saved thousands of Jews in the name of love."

Annalena Benini



# Il quinto sigillo

**DAVIDE COSSU** was born in Cagliari in 1987. Passionate about cinema and literature, after graduating in Philosophy he studied Creative Writing at the Holden school in Turin.  
"Il quinto sigillo" is his first novel.

Florence 1439.

During the Ecumenical Council, Cosimo de' Medici and Chancellor Leonardo Bruni commission Leon Battista Alberti and Tommaso Parentucelli, renowned for their ingenuity, to investigate a murder that took place in unsettling circumstances. A man has fallen from the cupola of Santa Maria del Fiore, but the marks on his neck suggest strangulation. Most disturbingly, the corpse had a gold florin in his mouth and a note with the inscription 'timeo'.

It does not take Alberti and Parentucelli long to discover the victim's identity: a young Greek delegate, barely 20 years old. But who could have masterminded his murder? And why?

When another crime bathes the streets of Florence in blood, the two realise they have become pawns in a scheme conceived with diabolical precision by a lucid and ruthless mind.

And if they do not find the murderer soon, the deaths will end up multiplying.



**2 reprints**

**Finalist Bancarella Prize 2023**

**Translation rights sold to:**

Publik Praktikum (Serbian)



**Davide Cossu  
The Fifth Seal  
Publisher: NEWTON COMPTON  
Release date: January 2023  
Pages: 200**

.....

A debut of rare power, from the pen of an author who shows an extraordinary ability to immerse himself in the atmospheres of the past and an absolute mastery of the subject matter, like the great names of the Italian historical novel: from Umberto Eco to Marcello Simoni and Matteo Strukul.

"A great debut.  
Cossu's Writing sinks dark and seductive into the roots of history".  
Marcello Simoni

"A breathtakingly fast-paced, sweeping historical thriller that portrays a Renaissance Florence, that is both magnificent and livid. Charismatic characters and formidable twists and turns make this novel a unmissable read".  
Davide Strukul

# La condanna dei viventi

**MARCO DE FRANCHI** acknowledges that he has a noir side that has always been in him since the beginning. Ever since he was a child, he wanted to be a writer as much as he wanted to become a detective. He has, in fact, a past as Chief of Police, a period during which he worked at the Central Operational Service, the office which is closest to the FBI. His experiences in the field have been fundamental for the writing of the thriller "La condanna dei viventi", published by Longanesi. He lives between Pisa and Livorno with his wife Debora and their two children.

The child found in the night is hiding something. Fosco claims that he was kidnapped but managed to escape, running through the Tuscan countryside. Nobody believes him, or maybe no one has really tried to listen to him. I did. And I know that inside his story lies something terrible. Something bigger than him and perhaps even bigger than me. But what can it be? It is only when another child disappears that I begin to see a window of opportunity to carry out my investigation. Fosco and Andrea live far away from one another, they don't know each other, they have nothing in common. Except their appearance: they're identical, they could be twins. Andrea, however, does not reappear: it's up to me to find him, to find the person who killed his father and took him away from his mother. It's up to me to save his life. But I can't do it alone. The only one who believes in me is Fabio Costa, an outcast policeman with a dark past, exiled in a small provincial police station. While the number of victims increases and enigmas become more and more indecipherable, I understand that the author of these crimes responds to a superior plan. His obsession is morbid, cruel, unstoppable: to transform his visionary follies into violent realities, in delirious works of art.

My name is Valentina Medici, I am the youngest commissioner of the Service, and this is my first real investigation. And it may also be the last of my life. Because no one can fall into a pit so black, so deep, and hope to emerge from it unscathed.



English Draft available

Film rights optioned by  
11 Marzo Film

**Marco De Franchi**  
**The Condemnation of the Living**  
**Publisher: LONGANESI**  
**Release date: May 2022**  
**Pages: 560**

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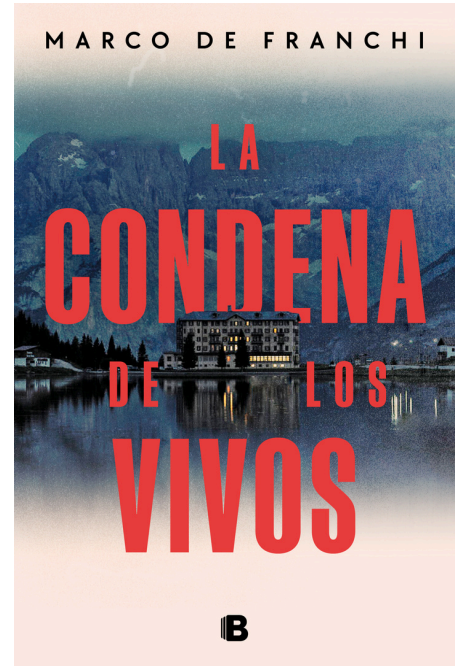
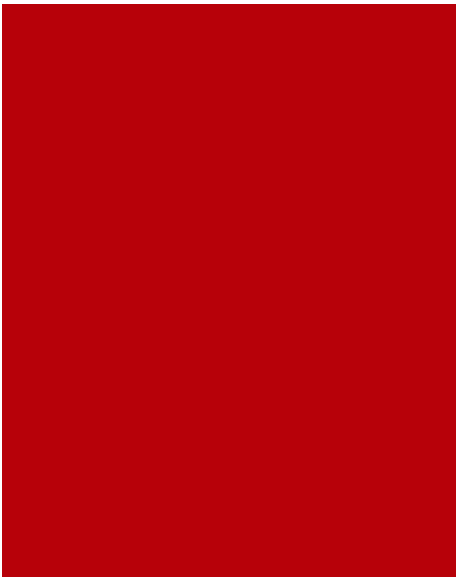
"The book is a magnet that is hard to pull away from. A game with a pressing that never ends. Tension and curiosity play it on equal terms. It's those star conjunctions that you can't wait to see how it turns out. And it's usually not what you thought. That's the beauty of thrillers when they're good for real".

Carlo Baroni  
Corriere della Sera



Translation rights sold to:

- Xander (Dutch)
- Albin Michel (French)
- Ullstein (German)
- Patakis (Greek)
- Alma Littera (Lithuanian)
- Sonia Draga (Polish)
- Litera (Romanian)
- Grijalbo (world Spanish)





# La foglia di fico

## Storie di alberi, donne, uomini

**ANTONIO PASCALE** was born in Naples in 1966 before moving to Caserta and then Rome, where he now works. He is a writer and essayist, and he also writes for the theatre and television and serves as an inspector for the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry. His other published works include "La città distratta", "Ritorno alla città distratta", "La manutenzione degli affetti", "Passa la bellezza", "Scienza e sentimento", "Le attenuanti sentimentali" and "Le aggravanti sentimentali".

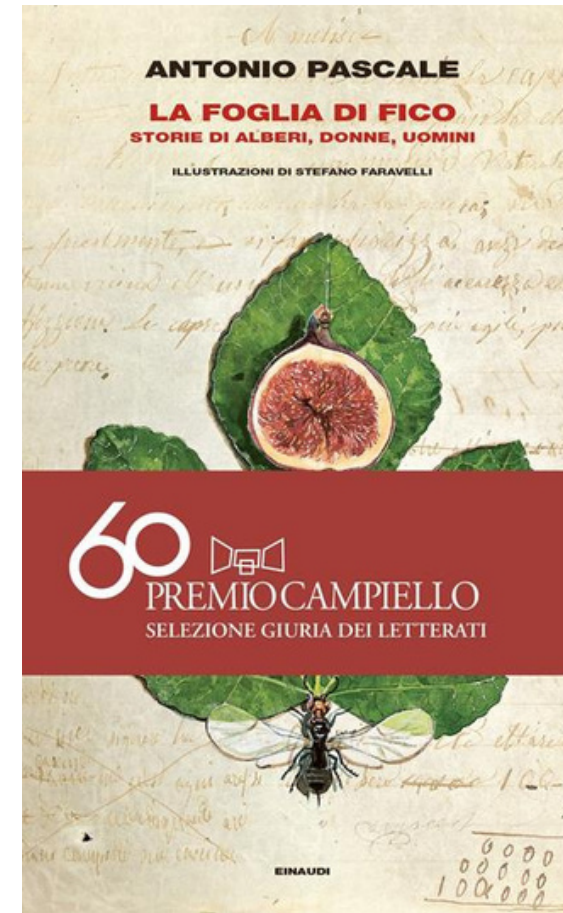
He contributes to the newspapers "Il Mattino", "Il Foglio" – for which he edits the twice-monthly insert on agriculture "Agrifoglio" – "Rivista Studio", "Link. Idee per la tv", "Mind", "Le Scienze", "limes", and he also writes a blog on "Post".

What is this book about? It's about a man who the more he lives, the more he forgets; the more he desires, the more he is disappointed; the more he reads and learns, the more he finds himself confused and afraid: a bit like everyone. That's why he is looking for something stable, some clear points of reference. Only he, unlike many others, turns to plants, constructing a sort of atypical tale, in which each episode is like a journey (through childhood, through time, through his relationships with women). After all, these magnificent creatures have been here long before us and will be here after we've gone.

Plants are beacons; they contain symbols that are thousands of years old, reaching us loud and clear. They defy adversity and thus offer us a model of resistance, for they tenaciously display the power of contradiction: the desire to live and love (expressed by the cherry tree) which can lead to frustration and insecurity; the strength (of the oak) which can abandon us instantly, casting us into despair; democracy as a process of adaptation between depth and surface (the olive); the need for a rite of passage (wheat), for a journey towards death in order to be reborn.

This book is a horoscope, a seismograph, a time machine, as well as a kind of botanical study of feelings. On the other hand, plants are an exceptional tool for dealing with our mysterious, amusing, intricate nature: they resemble us more than we might ever have thought.

In the world there are plant experts and there are writers: then there's Antonio Pascale, a passionate connoisseur of nature and one of the most widely appreciated storytellers of his generation. He knows how to interact with trees, listening to their stories and sensing their intrinsic beauty.



**Shortlisted Cinquina Campiello Prize 2022**

**Orbetello Book Prize 2022**

**English Material available**

**Translation rights sold to:**

Albin Michel (French)

**Antonio Pascale**  
**The Fig Leaf**  
**Stories of Trees, Women and Men**  
**Publisher: EINAUDI**  
**Release date: October 2021**  
**Pages: 290**

"La foglia di fico is a book of pleasant reading that tells small, painful, ironic stories within the great and serious problems of our country and our time".

Domenico Starnone  
Corriere della Sera

"La foglia di fico is not a sentimental book, but it is a book that possesses a feeling, from the first page to the last: the feeling for the things in life".

Annalena Benini  
Il Foglio

"With no three-act narrative score, no catchphrases, the author manages to put together not only all his skills (agricultural, narrative) but also almost all the ingredients of a novel: love, childhood, traumas, summers, olfactory memories, wars, family memories, discoveries, identities, lands, territories".

Silvia Veroli  
Il Manifesto

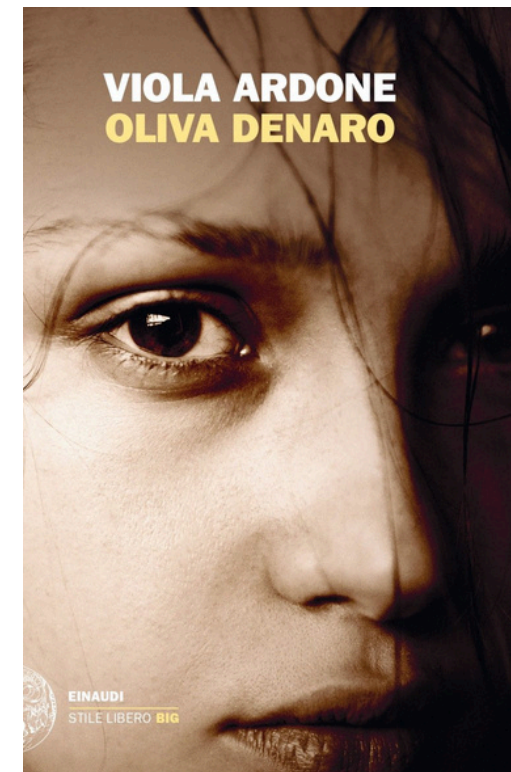
# Oliva Denaro

**VIOLA ARDONE** was born in Naples in 1974. She has a degree in Literature and she used to work in the Publishing world. She teaches Latin and Italian at High School in Naples. For Einaudi Stile Libero she published "Il treno dei bambini" ("The Children's Train") in 2019, which proved to be the literary event of the year. It is presently being translated in to thirty languages and will soon be the subject of a motion picture. Among her novels there are also "Le ricette del cuore in subbuglio" (2013) and "Una rivoluzione sentimentale" (2016), both published by Salani.

It's 1960 and Oliva Denaro is sixteen years old. She lives in a small town in Sicily and ever since she was a little girl she has known, on account of her mother repeating it to her obsessively, that 'a woman is like a vase; whoever breaks it, buys it'.

She likes running until her lungs burst, she secretly copies the faces of film stars into her notebook and she goes looking for snails with her father, an activity she loves, especially for its silence. She doesn't like, however, the idea of becoming a young woman, as she knows from that moment on she'll have to defend herself from men.

When she rejects the advances of the baker's son, enamoured by the young girl, he kidnaps and rapes her in the hope that he can have her as his wife due to the Italian law of 'reparatory marriage'. But Oliva doesn't just refuse to marry him, she defends her right to choose her path in life by first reporting him to the police and then facing up to the brutal reality of the trial.



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