

Miss Bee e il giardino avvelenato

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 sospeso" (2012), "Le ossa della principessa" (2014), "Una lunga estate crudele" (2015), "Un po' di follia in primavera" (2016), "Arabesque" (2017), "Il ladro gentiluomo" (2018). Endemol and Rai1 have adapted these novels into the television series "L'Allieva". Also with Longanesi, she published "Questione di Costanza" (2019), "Costanza e buoni propositi" (2020) and "Una piccola formalità" (2023). Her other works include "Non è la fine del mondo" (Feltrinelli, 2016), "Lena e la tempesta" (Garzanti, 2019) and "Un tè a Chaverton House" (Garzanti, 2021).

In 2024, she published "Miss Bee e il cadavere in biblioteca", followed in 2025 by "Miss Bee e il principe d'inverno" and "Miss Bee e Il fantasma dell'ambasciata".

Her books have been translated into German, French, Spanish, Turkish, Romanian, Serbian, and Japanese.

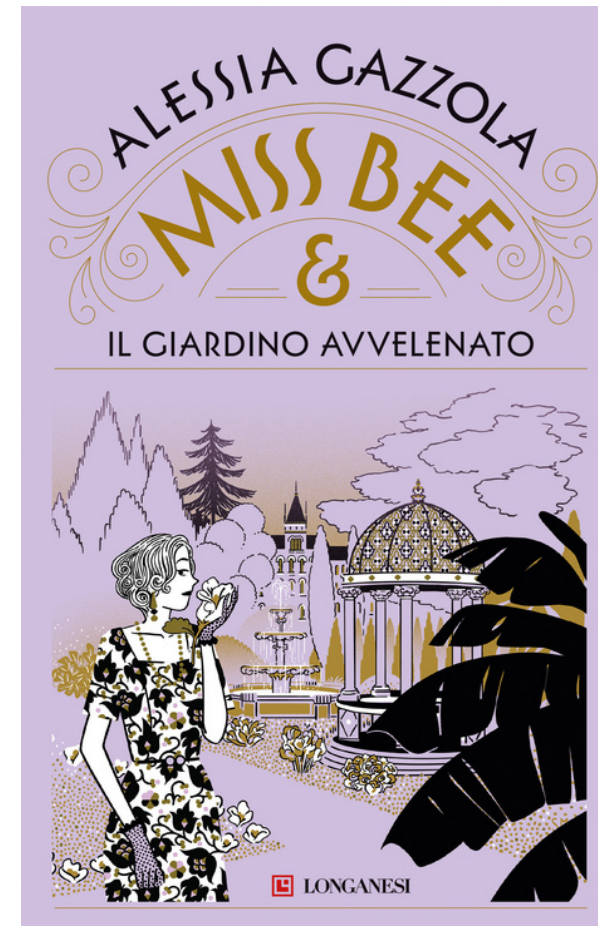
London, August 1925.

After an unpredictable event that turned her life upside down, just over twenty years old, young Beatrice Bernabò, aka Miss Bee, finds herself in an entirely new situation. A new life is opening up before her eyes... Or at least it should be. Because even though Miss Bee tries to stay out of trouble, trouble always seems to find her. This time, it comes in the form of an unexpected invitation to Norfolk, to the historic estate of an old friend of Inspector Archer Blackburn.

And so, shortly after what was supposed to be a pleasant stay in a wonderful noble residence surrounded by a fairy-tale garden begins, Miss Bee finds herself entangled in a mystery involving someone from her past, a familiar figure who quickly takes on even darker contours than usual, just like her own troubled present, not to mention the uncertainty of her future...

To further complicate things, there's someone who played a significant role in Beatrice's turbulent romantic past: His Lordship Julian Lennox, Viscount of Warthmore. Will Beatrice be able to set aside her emotions and uncover the truth?

This time more than ever, Miss Bee will have to draw on all her wit and inner strength to unravel the mysteries of her world, and especially those of her heart.



More than 200,000 copies sold

Optioned by Palomar

Translation rights sold to:

Sonia Draga (Polish)

Sindbad (Russian)

Albin Michel (French)

Alessia Gazzola

Miss Bee and the Poisoned Garden

Publisher: LONGANESI

Release date: November 2025

Pages: 250

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"Gazzola's merit is that she has fixed on paper a kind of woman who has no problem showing her humanity and who lives her everyday life for what it is."

La Lettura - Corriere della Sera

"Alessia Gazzola is a true champion of writing."

Io Donna

"There is always something cheerful and melancholic at the same time in the protagonists of Alessia Gazzola's books."

TTL - La Stampa

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

La Repubblica

Tu vivi

GIADA MESSINA CUTI was born in Trieste and holds a degree in Law. She worked for many years as a multilingual communication consultant before moving to London, where she studied and practiced in the field of complementary therapies.

She made her debut in 2003 with the humorous blog “I gatti senz’altro si arrangerebbero” (“Cats Would Surely Fend for Themselves”), which gained unexpected popularity and allowed her to engage with a wide and discerning audience.

She is author of poems and theatrical texts. Since 2018, she has collaborated with the Compagnia Teatrale Costellazione, writing for “Il folle volo – A Journey through Cantos IV and XXVI of Dante’s Inferno.”

In 2025, she published her first novel, “Tu vivi”, with Guanda.

Dalia lives in a small Sicilian village overlooking the sea, with an adoptive family she adores. The deep love she receives from her father, Felice, and her grandmother, Brigida, is not enough to soften the coldness of her mother Franca, a stern, distant woman who disapproves of Dalia’s spirited nature, her lack of refinement, and above all, her unsettling habit of dreaming about dramatic events that never involve her, always others. When Franca forces the family to move to Mestre, Dalia finds herself in a cold, unfamiliar world where her already fragile sense of belonging begins to dissolve. Caught between restlessness and profound loss, she sinks into a long season of darkness and solitude. Just when it seems there’s no way out, someone appears, at a moment that feels like fate, offering her what she’s always longed for: the chance to dream of herself, and to free herself from the pain she carries. But to do that, Dalia must return to her homeland, to the ruins of a life that no longer exists.



Giada Messina Cuti
You live
Publisher: GUANDA
Release date: October 2025
Pages: 272

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La rotta delle stelle

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); “La collana di cristallo” (2023); “La ragazza senza radici” (2024).

Marigold stands still, watching the sea shimmer beneath the golden light of dawn. She never imagined she'd end up there. Not long ago, she was dancing on the world's most prestigious stages; it was her destiny. Until the day an injury ended it all. With no clear future ahead, she retreats to Sicily, to the only person she can call family: an elderly uncle. But even on this enchanting island, Marigold feels like she doesn't belong. The memory of the life she lost is still too raw. And yet, something begins to stir within her. She finds comfort in a group of women who walk the hills and coastline with her, helping her feel less alone. There's a man who listens to the songs of whales and stirs something deep inside her. And then there's the mysterious sound of an ancient bell rising from the sea, a sound only she seems able to hear. It feels like a calling, but also a healing force. What Marigold doesn't know is that the bell is connected to a long-held family secret. Drawn into a journey she didn't choose, she is forced to confront what it means to belong, the weight of inherited prejudice, and the power the past holds when it becomes a trap.

As the sun rises and the sea catches the first light of morning, Marigold takes her first steps toward peace, with her past, her family, and herself. Because sometimes, to stop feeling alone, you must open yourself to what's waiting just beyond the horizon. Cristina Caboni, one of Italy's most beloved authors, returns with a deeply emotional novel about broken dreams and second chances, about the voices of the past and the healing power of the present. A story of sound, memory, and the courage to begin again.



An author whose books have sold over 600.000 copies

Option Publishers:

Blanvalet
- PRH Publishing House Group (German)
Xander (Dutch)
Presses de la cité (French)

Cristina Caboni
The Route of the Stars
Publisher: GARZANTI
Release date: October 2025
Pages: 272

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“A bestselling author.”

Francesca Pellas
TuttoLibri

“Cristina Caboni's novels always deal with ecological themes.”

Patrizia Violi
La Lettura

“Cristina Caboni has signed a dozen of successes talking about love of nature, sensitivity to colours, scents and gifts that come to us from Mother Earth.”

Nicoletta Sipos
Chi

Il circolo dei congiurati

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. He is the author of several crime novels, children’s books, and the successful historical mystery series about the investigations of Marco Leon, published by Tre60 and in paperback by TEA. “Il circolo dei congiurati” (TEA, 2025) is a new case for former police officer Teodoro Valier, the protagonist of “La voce delle ombre” (Mondadori, 2017).

Venice, 1850. The city is once again under Austrian control following the brief existence of the Republic of San Marco, led by Daniele Manin. Teodoro Valier, a former police officer now discredited in the eyes of the authorities for having collaborated with the republicans, makes a living as a street scribe. One day, he is approached by the widow of the man whose death he had investigated the year before. She asks for his help in proving the innocence of a friend accused of murder, someone she is convinced did not commit the crime. Valier agrees to take the case, partly because of, or in spite of, the strong hold the woman seems to have over him. His investigation begins at the Euterpe social club, a place frequented by both the victim and the accused. But the Austrians are also keeping a close eye on the club, suspecting it to be a front for a group of Mazzinian conspirators in possession of a mysterious cargo, possibly weapons. They task Valier with recovering it, offering him a potential reward: reinstatement in the police force.

In a cold, fog-laden Venice, Valier must navigate carefully through hidden truths and growing suspicions, unsure of whom he can trust – or where his loyalties truly lie – except to his own principles and conscience, in the hope that he might finally face the future without his usual sense of uncertainty.



Paolo Lanzotti
The Circle of the Conspirators
Publisher: TEA
Release date: October 2025
Pages: 336

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

La memoria del giglio

ALESSANDRA LIBUTTI was born in 1967. After earning a degree in Literature, she moved to the United Kingdom, where she lived for over thirty years. In 2002, she was a finalist for the Italo Calvino Prize with her novel “Thomas Jay”, later published by Fazi in 2012. She currently lives in Rome and writes for La Ragione, Il Foglio, and Linkiesta. She is also co-founder and editor of the online magazine inOltre.

Volterra, 1872. The wedding of Count Lodovico to Adele marks a revolution within the Ruggieri Buzzaglia family: the bride, once a servant in their household and lacking formal education, now enters the palazzo as a countess. With her candid, determined nature, Adele embraces the role society expects of her, devoting herself to her gentle, progressive husband and bearing him the lineage he longs for. Her days pass in a haze of pregnancies and duties, her figure often hidden beneath a swollen belly. To Livia, the fourth of their eight children, her mother is a distant, enigmatic figure, worn down by sacrifice. Still a child herself, Livia soon decides that “women’s matters” are not for her. It is her older sister, Babà, who dares to defy tradition, asking their father for permission to earn a diploma and pursue her dream of becoming a teacher. Willing to trade the comforts of nobility for a solitary life in a remote mountain village, Babà’s bold act becomes the first crack in the family’s tightly held legacy.

Told through Livia’s quiet, reflective voice, the Ruggieri Buzzaglia saga unfolds across decades of passion, hardship, and social change, spanning from the late 19th century to the postwar era. At its heart is the story of four generations of women (based on the author’s own ancestry) who found the courage to forge their own paths, drawing strength from knowledge and resilience. A luminous, enveloping novel. A tribute to women who refuse to surrender to the roles imposed upon them, and to the enduring power of education to transform lives.



Alessandra Libutti
The Memory of the Liliun
Publisher: RIZZOLI
Release date: September 2025
Pages: 392

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Tanta ancora Vita

VIOLA ARDONE was born in Naples in 1974. She has a degree in Literature and previously worked in the publishing industry. She currently teaches Latin and Italian at a high school in Naples. Her breakthrough came in 2019 with “Il treno dei bambini” (“The Children’s Train”), published by Einaudi Stile Libero. The novel became a literary sensation and is currently being translated into thirty languages. It has also inspired a motion picture. She went on to publish “Oliva Denaro” in 2021 and “Grande Meraviglia” in 2023, both with Einaudi. Her earlier novels include “Le ricette del cuore in subbuglio” (2013) and “Una rivoluzione sentimentale” (2016), both published by Salani.

Kostya is ten years old when he sets off alone in search of his grandmother Irina, a housekeeper in Naples. In his backpack, he carries a photo of the mother he never knew and an address. His father is at the front, fighting to defend Ukraine in the wake of the invasion. Between soldiers trying to stop him at the border and strangers who choose to help, Kostya somehow makes it. Until he’s found asleep on a doormat in Naples by Vita, the woman Irina works for. Vita has been living in quiet isolation since losing her son four years earlier. Her only companion is Irina, who quotes Dante and speaks Italian like a 13th-century poet. The sudden arrival of this determined, fragile boy upends Vita’s life and slowly pulls her back into a role fate had once taken from her. But when news comes that Kostya’s father is reported missing, Irina decides to return to her homeland to search for him. On a sudden impulse, Vita follows her. Because sometimes, the only way to save yourself is by trying to save someone else.



Translation rights sold to:

Albin Michel (French)
Sonia Draga (Polish)
Literatura Random House (Spanish)
Patakis (Greek)



Viola Ardone
Still so much Vita
Publisher: EINAUDI STILE LIBERO
Release date: September 2025
Pages: 336

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“A coming-of-age novel and a work of civil and social denunciation, highlighting the tragically relevant images of childhood trampled by conflict, the atrocities of war, and the labor of immigrants”.

Marzia Fontana
La Lettura

"Viola Ardone succeeds in the difficult task of portraying contemporary issues with the clear-eyed gaze of a sharp analyst, while also bringing the passion that defines her”.

Mirella Armiero
Corriere del Mezzogiorno

"Once again, she does not disappoint: she manages to infuse a touch of humor into life’s tragedies, and above all, she knows how to explore the hearts of her characters with delicacy and realism, opening the door to hope”.

Maria Grazia Ligato
Io Donna

“She manages to make the inner world of the three characters visible, changing voice, reality, and thoughts.”

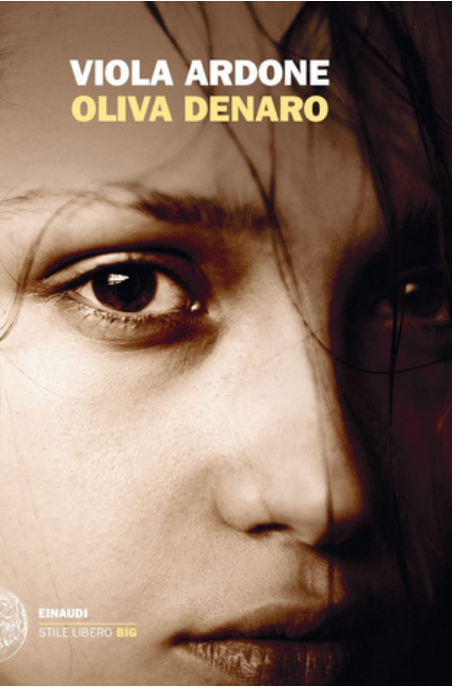
Isabella Fava

Viola Ardone - The 20th Century Trilogy

750.000 copies sold

Translation rights sold to:

- Ebdaat Alamia (Arabic)
- Obsidian (Bulgarian)
- Columna (Catalan)
- Euromedia (Czech)
- Alpha Forlag (Danish)
- Xander Uitgevers (Dutch)
- Aula&Co (Finnish)
- Albin Michel (French)
- DVA (German)
- Patakis (Greek)
- Athenaeum Kiado (Hungarian)
- Alma littera (Lithuanian)
- Sonia Draga (Polish)
- Seix Barral (Spanish World Rights)
- Brombergs (Swedish)
- HarperVia (World English Rights)
- Azbuka-Atticus (Russian)
- Sakam Knigi (Macedonian)
- Yasturoon Publishing (Arabic)



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"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 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

"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

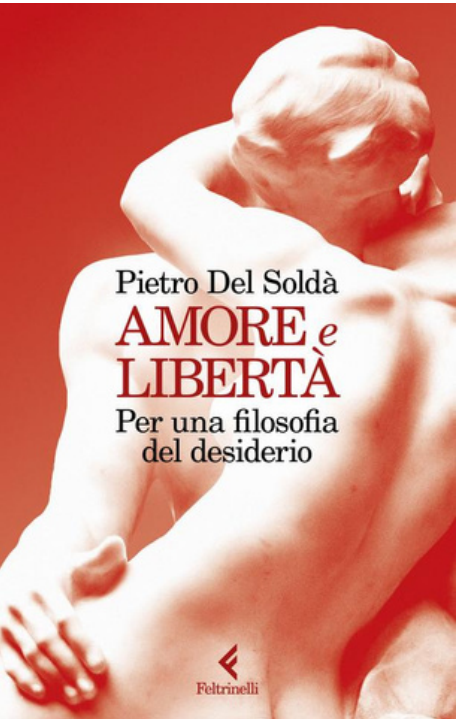
Amore e libertà

Per una filosofia del desiderio

PIETRO DEL SOLDÀ was born in Venice in 1973. He is author and host of the Rai Radio3 shows “Tutta la città ne parla” and “Zarathustra”. He has published numerous essays on ancient philosophy, including “Il demone della politica. Rereading Plato: Dialogue, Happiness, Justice” (2007). He also contributes regularly to the cultural section *Domenica di Il Sole 24 Ore*. With Marsilio, he is the author of “Non solo di cose d'amore. Noi, Socrate e la ricerca della felicità” (2018), winner of the Biblioteche di Roma Award and the Alessandro Leogrande Award; “Sulle ali degli amici. A Philosophy of Encounter” (2020), which received the City of Roses Prize; and “La vita fuori di sé. Una filosofia dell'avventura” (2023). In 2018, he was awarded the Flaiano Prize for his work in radio journalism.

When desire is genuine, it draws us toward what we lack, but not to possess it. Toward what fascinates us, but not to control it. Perhaps this is love’s greatest challenge today: letting go of control, possession, and the illusion of perfect fusion between lovers. But also overcoming the fear of surrendering ourselves, and the illusion that we can be fulfilled without ever risking overwhelming passion. At a time when relationships feel increasingly fragile and the cult of the self dominates, Pietro Del Soldà takes on an ancient yet urgent question: What does it truly mean to love? “Love and Freedom” is a journey through philosophy, literature, and real-life stories in search of the “divine Eros”. The voices of Diotima and Socrates, Plotinus, Lucretius, bell hooks, Merleau-Ponty, and Eshkol Nevo are brought into dialogue with the fractures of modern love: toxic masculinity, the fear of dependence, narcissism, social conformity, the objectification of bodies, and the obsession with identity.

What emerges is a vision of love not as a refuge, but as a fragile, dynamic space, one that opens us to the world and to others. With clarity and depth, Pietro Del Soldà, philosopher and one of the most distinctive voices in Italian cultural life, offers a bold and original philosophy of desire that resonates deeply without resorting to simplification. “Love and Freedom” is a book that challenges our certainties, cuts through the clichés, and reclaims passion as a vital, meaning-giving force in human life.



Pietro Del Soldà
Love and Freedom
A Philosophy of Desire
Publisher: FELTRINELLI
Release date: September 2025
Pages: 176

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"This is the true strength (and beauty) of this book: thoroughly enjoyable, it moves gracefully between deep reflections and current events, engaging with the cornerstones of the history of philosophy, contemporary news, and literature".

Marco Filoni
Tuttolibri - La Stampa

Predatori

STEFANO NAZZI is a journalist who has worked for several major national newspapers. He has always focused on crime reporting, covering both high-profile cases and lesser-known stories. He currently writes about news and current events for il Post.

He is the creator and host of Indagini, one of the top-ranked podcasts in Italy and a sold-out live theater show, as well as Altre indagini, also produced by il Post.

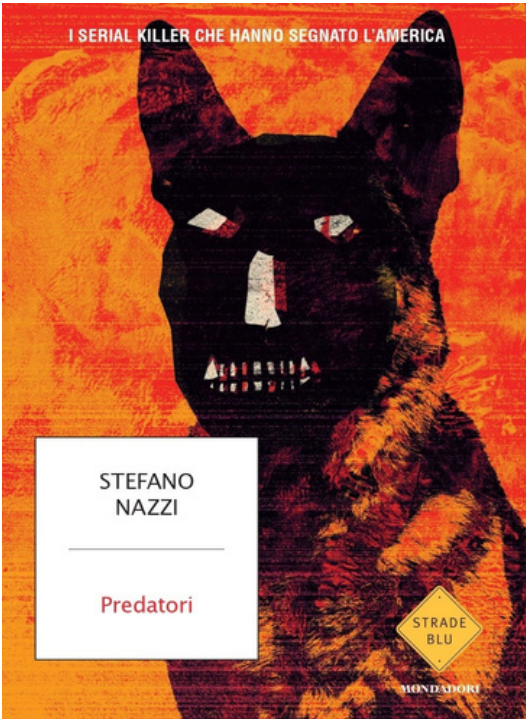
His most recent books include “Il volto del male” (2023), “Canti di guerra” (2024), and “Predatori” (2025), all published by Mondadori.

There was a time in America when evil seemed to be everywhere: lurking in parking lots, stalking quiet roads, hiding behind the doors of seemingly ordinary homes. The FBI called it “the epidemic”: the golden age of serial killers. Between the 1960s and the 1990s, nearly two thousand serial murderers operated across the country. They killed silently, methodically, often with chilling creativity, and sometimes with a disarming smile. “We are your sons, we are your husbands, we are everywhere,” said Ted Bundy, one of the most infamous among them. And he was right.

With gripping, cinematic prose, Stefano Nazzi retraces those dark decades, exploring the lives and minds of some of the most terrifying killers in American history, and of the men and women who dedicated their lives to understanding and stopping them. In the basement of Quantico, two FBI agents, Robert Ressler and John Douglas, began piecing together the first criminal profiles, working alongside psychologist Ann Burgess.

They visited high-security prisons, interviewed thirty-six serial killers, and uncovered a disturbing truth: even the most brutal murders follow patterns. From these insights, criminal profiling was born. Ressler coined the term “serial killer.” Douglas mapped the first psychological types. Together, they became the first mindhunters, the hunters of the mind.

This book is the story of that era: a journey into the minds of America's most ruthless predators, and of those who dared to stop them.



Stefano Nazzi
Predators
Publisher: MONDADORI
Release date: September 2025
Pages: 252

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Amata

ILARIA BERNARDINI is a novelist, screenwriter, and contributor to various newspapers and magazines. She writes for film and television and is the author of several novels, including “Non è niente”, “I supereroi”, “Corpo libero”, and “Domenica”, as well as graphic novels and short story collections such as “La fine dell’amore” and “L’inizio di tutte le cose”. Her most recent works, published by Mondadori and translated into several languages, include “Faremo foresta” (2018), “Il ritratto” (2020), and “Il dolore non esiste” (2024).



Ilaria Bernardini
Loved
Publisher: HARPER COLLINS
Release date: September 2025
Pages: 144

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Nunzia is not yet twenty. She left Sicily to study Classical Literature in Milan. She knows ancient Greek, just as her father had always hoped, but he is no longer with them. Since his death, Nunzia and her mother have been left to run the family fish shop on their own. Maddalena is nearly forty. She comes from a difficult past but managed to build the life she dreamed of: she earned an engineering degree, married Luca, a violinist from a respected family, and now, from the outside, she seems indistinguishable from the elegant women she once envied in the halls of a wealthy high school. Nunzia has been feeling strange for a while: nausea, loss of appetite, tenderness. The symptoms confuse her, but the test does not: she is pregnant. And she doesn’t want the baby. Maddalena, on the other hand, wants a child more than anything. But the doctors have made it painfully clear: her chances are virtually nonexistent. Still, she clings to that tiny glimmer of hope. Or to the idea of adoption, though that path is far from easy.

Then, just as the call finally comes, Maddalena sees the news: a newborn has been left in a Cradle for Life. Could it be her child? Or someone else’s?
Told through the alternating voices of Nunzia and Maddalena, Amata is a powerful, emotionally charged duet. With this novel, Ilaria Bernardini confirms herself as one of the most compelling literary voices of her generation. An unforgettable story of motherhood, longing, and the right to choose, about the complexities of desire, the weight of regret, and the fragile beauty of hope. In a country where the female body remains a battleground, “Amata” speaks with rare clarity, passion, and tenderness.

Il silenzio delle rondini

MARCO DE FRANCHI has always embraced the noir side of his imagination. Since childhood, he dreamed equally of becoming a writer and a detective. That dual calling eventually shaped his life: he went on to become a Chief of Police, serving at the Servizio Centrale Operativo, the Italian law enforcement division most akin to the FBI. His years in the field deeply inform his writing. His debut thriller, “La condanna dei viventi” (Longanesi), draws directly from his investigative experience and was followed by the sequel “Il maestro dei sogni”, also published by Longanesi. He lives between Pisa and Livorno with his wife Debora and their two children.

Seemingly inexplicable murders are spreading, first in Italy, then beyond. Brutal, senseless killings with just one terrifying common thread: the perpetrators are young. Sometimes very young. And their first victims are their own parents. What could drive them to such violence? What force pushes them to cross the fragile boundary between imagination and horror? The official narrative is quick to take shape: teenagers corrupted by violent video games, TikTok challenges gone wrong, the dark side of social media... But Valentina Medici knows there’s something far more complex, and far more terrifying, behind these crimes. Determined to uncover the truth, she launches her own investigation, starting from scratch each time. The only lead is the eerie, recurring image that all the young killers describe: a swarm of seagulls attacking a flock of swallows who do not flee, who suffer in silence. A silence that soon gives way to the screams of new victims, as someone (or something) prepares to kill again.



Option Publishers:

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

Previous titles:



Marco De Franchi
The Silence of the Swallows
Publisher: LONGANESI
Release date: August 2025
Pages: 512

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They are young.
They kill.
And they don't even know why.

La regola dell'ortica

NUNZIA SCALZO is a forensic graphologist and journalist. She graduated in Philosophy from the University of Catania, specializing in the Philosophy of Language and effective communication. This focus led her to her first passion: journalism and writing. She has served as editor-in-chief of the regional weekly *I Vespri*, where she is now editorial director, edited the monthly *I Quaderni dell'Autonomia*, and contributed to the daily newspaper *La Sicilia* (Catania). She is currently a freelance writer for the culture section of *la Repubblica*, Palermo edition. Alongside journalism, she pursued a parallel passion: forensic graphology. Registered with the Court of Catania since 2003, she has worked on thousands of cases as a handwriting expert. “*La regola dell'ortica*” (Feltrinelli, 2025) is her first novel.

Catania, 1965. Norma Speranza is rushed to the hospital in critical condition. She dies shortly after. The cause? A gunshot wound. The conclusion? Suicide. A note was found beside the body, and the graphological analysis conducted at the time appeared to confirm the official version. But her family never believed it. They're convinced it was murder, and that the note was forged to create an alibi for the killer. Their prime suspect? Norma's husband, Andrea Longo. Sixty years later, Norma's niece, Simonetta Arriva, hires forensic graphologist Bea Navarra to re-examine the note. With the help of journalist Domenico Grimaldi, Bea reopens the cold case. Piece by piece, the truth begins to surface through new analysis, old testimonies, and the stories of the people who lived in Norma's world: the doormen in her building, her closest friend Evelina, and even Andrea Longo himself.

A forensic graphologist like her protagonist, Nunzia Scalzo guides the reader into the elusive and fascinating world of handwriting analysis, where every stroke, pause, and slant can betray what the hand tries to hide. Because writing is movement across a page, and the pen leaves behind more than ink. It leaves traces of the human soul. And the soul always has a motive. A taut, atmospheric Sicilian thriller in the spirit of Hitchcock, “*La regola dell'ortica*” is a story of secrets, silence, and the marks that never fade.



More than 30,000 copies sold

Optioned by Palomar

Nunzia Scalzo
The Nettle Rule
Publisher: FELTRINELLI
Release date: July 2025
Pages: 248

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"The summer crime revelation".
Raffella Silipo
La Stampa

"The characters are not only three-dimensional but truly alive thanks to the author's skill in dialogue and effective use of dialect".
Giuliano Aluffi
Il Venerdì-Repubblica

"The author draws with the confident hand of a journalist, but with the soul of an accomplished writer, creating settings and themes, people and atmospheres".
Pasquale Almirante
La Sicilia

Le ragioni dell'istinto

DANIELE PRONESTÌ was born in Polistena, in the province of Reggio Calabria. He has lived in Copenhagen and New York and works for a major Italian financial institution. “Le ragioni dell’istinto” (Bompiani, 2025) is his first novel.

Giuseppe Bellingeri is Calabrian: an engineer, a former secret service agent recently returned to civilian life, a gray wolf. Yes, because in the world of this novel, animals walk alongside humans: impeccably dressed, speaking with ease. When a body is found in an apartment in Morgese, a small village in the heart of the Reggio Calabria plain, it is Deputy Police Chief Balbino, a brown bear and head of the mobile squad, who calls on Bellingeri. He knew the victim: Maria, a young woman in love with freedom. In this universe teeming with humans, martens, salamanders, hawks, and other creatures, Bellingeri must navigate a complex web of instinct, desire, and danger to uncover who wanted Maria dead. Set in a Calabria caught between the Mediterranean charm and the noir shadows of a Philip Marlowe tale, where stately buildings overlook the Strait of Messina, immigrants toil under the sun in the fields, and the shadow of organized crime casts its long reach, Daniele Pronestì brings to life a vibrant cast of characters. Guided by their rawest instincts, they vividly embody our basest fears, desires, and the courage it takes to choose humanity.

“Le ragioni dell’istinto” marks the debut of a memorable protagonist, Peppe Bellingeri, the wolf of the Sila: slender, melancholic, but undefeated. A surprising and gripping first investigation, as dynamic as a manga and as profound as an ancient drama.



Daniele Pronestì
The Reasons behind Instinct
Publisher: BOMPIANI
Release date: June 2025
Pages: 350

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L'uomo che parlava ai funerali

MARIO ZANGRANDO was born and lives in Conegliano, Italy. He holds a degree in Modern and Contemporary History and has also studied screenwriting. He is one of the winners of lo Scrittore, the literary competition promoted by the Mauri Spagnol publishing group (GeMS).
“The Man Who Spoke at Funerals”, published by Astoria in 2025, is his debut novel.

Renato is an expert on funerals. In his small notebooks, he meticulously records the time and place of each service, along with a few personal details about the deceased. Then, he attends one funeral after another, all day, every day. A few well-chosen words, a discreet presence, and soon friends and family are in tears. Just as he wants them to be.

Renato is alone now, but he wasn't always. Once, his life was full: his vibrant wife Lidia, their lively son Luca, a modest job as a municipal clerk, seaside holidays, love, arguments, the everyday beauty of a normal life. Until one day, everything collapsed. And from that moment on, death became his constant yet unreachable companion, something he both avoids and seeks. But fate isn't finished with Renato. A mysterious woman, always dressed in black, begins appearing at every funeral he attends. She, too, carries a small notebook. And she, too, seems to be hiding something. With clear, poetic prose and deep emotional insight, Mario Zangrando tells a story of grief, ritual, and the quiet possibility of rebirth. “The Man Who Spoke at Funerals” is a moving meditation on loss, and a powerful reminder that life can change, even when all hope seems gone.



Mario Zangrando
The Man who spoke at Funerals
Publisher: ASTORIA
Release date: May 2025
Pages: 224

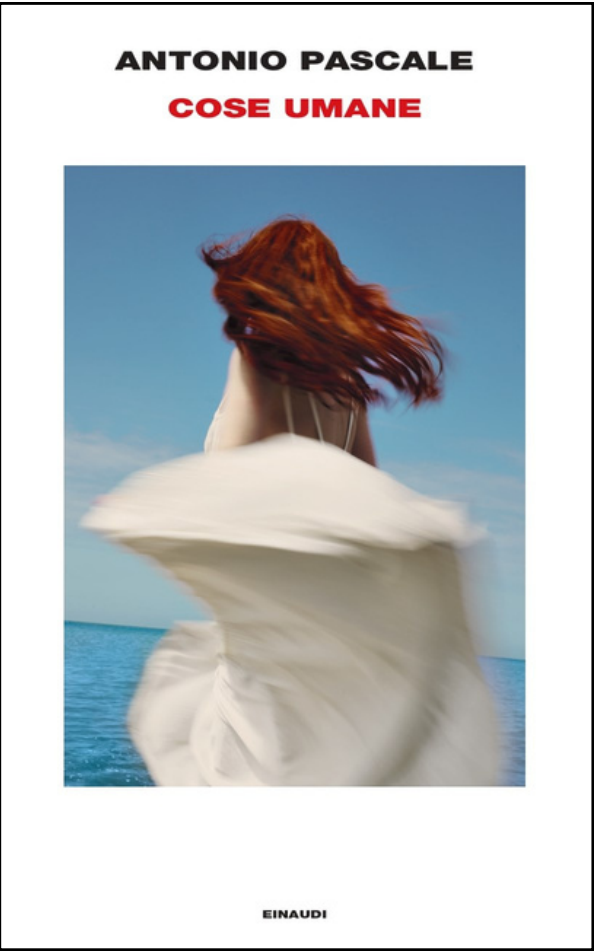
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Cose Umane

ANTONIO PASCALE was born in Naples in 1966 and later moved to Caserta and then Rome, where he currently lives and works. He is a writer and essayist, as well as a screenwriter for theatre and television. In addition, he serves as an inspector for the Italian Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry. His published works include “La città distratta”, “Ritorno alla città distratta”, “La manutenzione degli affetti”, “Passa la bellezza”, “Scienza e sentimento”, “Le attenuanti sentimentali”, “Le aggravanti sentimentali”, and “La foglia di fico” (shortlisted for the Cinquina Campiello Prize in 2022). He is a regular contributor to several major Italian newspapers and magazines, including Il Mattino, Il Foglio (where he curates the agriculture-themed insert Agrifoglio), Rivista Studio, Link – Idee per la TV, Mind, Le Scienze, Limes, and Il Post, where he also maintains a blog.

Sun-drenched, deserted streets that seem to stretch into the horizon. Shutters closed. Granite silence. There are eight billion people in the world, but in Caserta, in August, it feels like no one is left. In his mother’s dim apartment, where the sunlight rarely enters because she prefers the dark, to sleep, and in sleep, to slip away from this world, Antonio returns from Rome to be by her side. But travel, as always, sparks inspiration. So why not use this suspended time to work on a new piece? Not a novel, but an installation, like the ones he used to create with Caterina, the tormented love of his youth. The subject? The revolution that transformed Italy in just a few decades: from Pinocchio’s country, marked by hunger and misery, to MasterChef, the kingdom of abundance. His story has everything in it: a peasant grandfather who reeks of manure and a foreman who smells of turpentine, relatives who were miners in Belgium. A half-witch great-aunt who looks like something out of an Ernesto De Martino book, a father who emancipated himself from working in the fields and ended up at the Agricultural Inspectorate.

A mother who once taught half the neighborhood to write and now remembers almost nothing of her life, and then edits, arranges, invents, worse than a novelist. And then there are the friends who emigrated to the North, those who stayed in town, the speculators, the strunz’ and the sfaccimm’, the Camorra girls and those who are loved, reviled, disputed. And finally there is Susanna, the daughter in her early twenties, who studies artificial intelligence and wants to live in the countryside. Her wry voice, or perhaps that of a bot that resembles her, is a counterpoint to her father’s idiosyncrasies, forcing him to look out into the future that awaits us when the MasterChef era is also gone. Relentless and full of feeling, Pascale’s writing delivers a gallery of characters who are tender, mean, violent, vulnerable, and impossible to forget because they are real.



Antonio Pascale
Human Things
Publisher: EINAUDI
Release date: May 2025
Pages: 214

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"Pascale thinks in images, but they are images that smell of bread, that have texture, that sink into memories and contradictions. Pascale has his own deeply human way of bringing order to chaos. He does it with irony, he does it with obsession, he does it with a love for real things".

Il Foglio

“Human things is full of beautiful moments, even a glimmer of joy, albeit blurred by memory”.

Mario Lavia - Tuttolibri

I vestiti della domenica

LUDOVICA ELDER was born in 1980 in Monfalcone, a town overlooking the Gulf of Trieste. She lives and works in Milan, while maintaining a strong connection with her roots, which are deep in the red soil of the Carso.

“I vestiti della domenica” (Piemme, 2025) is her debut novel.

The Pàhor family's old vineyard looks out over Trieste from the top of the Carso hills between the rows of vines, the sea air and the impetuous whisper of the Bora wind blow, mitigated by its vertical passage over the rocks. It's a September evening and everything is ready for the celebration of the end of harvest.

Vittorio Stefàncich fought the Great War like a hero. Back to everyday life, he struggles to resume his role in the family business. Cold and strict with his employees, he conducts market negotiations in a military and ruthless manner. Antonia Pàhor is different from the ladies who crowd the noble streets of the city: born in a village in the Carso, she has a good, peasant soul and has nothing in common with the Trieste bourgeoisie who are facing the end of an era of imperial splendor. When they meet at the party, something clicks in the heart of both of them, like a silent promise. But the war is only over in the trenches.

Also Giacomo Ledri is at the old vineyard, son of the most prominent lawyer in the city. He has been told all his life that, unlike his best friend Vittorio, he is a failure. Now, with the rise of Mussolini's party, Giacomo has realized that those who side with the fascists will have the road paved for them. Hungry for power and glory, he decides to exploit his friendship with the wealthy Pàhor and Stefàncich families, whom he will drag with him into the flames of a short and violent century. Against the backdrop of a borderland rich in traditions, Ludovica Elder writes an enchanting novel, a family story with a unique, passionate and refined voice.



Ludovica Elder
Sunday Clothes
Publisher: PIEMME
Release date: April 2025
Pages: 503

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L'enigma della maschera

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’enigma della maschera” is his fourth novel in Marco Leon's series of investigations, after “L’alchimista della laguna” (2024), “Le ragioni dell’ombra” (2022) and “I guardiani della laguna” (2021) published by Tre60.

Venice 1754. Since leaving the Angeli Neri (Black Angels), the secret agent corps of the State Inquisition, Marco Leon has lived a seemingly quiet life as librarian to an elderly Venetian nobilhommo. The Angels miss him, but he has chosen to be with Marion, the woman he loves, and he does not regret his decision. However, his past is always lurking: surprisingly, Alvise Geminiani, the inquisitor in charge of the Angels, asks him to return to investigate, because a hitman, Fabio Groggia, has been killed, and the affair may involve a Venetian patrician, Enea Dorigo. In addition, some shady dealings would seem to lead to the Lazzaretto Vecchio, a very important Venetian garrison against epidemics. Before long, more murders happen and some clues lead Marco to Eugenio Flores, a patrician business partner of Enea Dorigo.

But what relationship could there be between the two patricians, the Lazzaretto, and the many murders that have occurred in recent times? And who is the mysterious Mask that roams the city asking uncomfortable questions? Before the very existence of the Republic is jeopardized by an epidemic, Mark has only to use his proverbial intuition to get to the bottom of the tangled affair, until the final confrontation with the murderer. A confrontation from which only one of the two will emerge alive.



Paolo Lanzotti
The Mask Enigma
Publisher: TRE60
Release date: February 2025
Pages: 416

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

Previous titles:



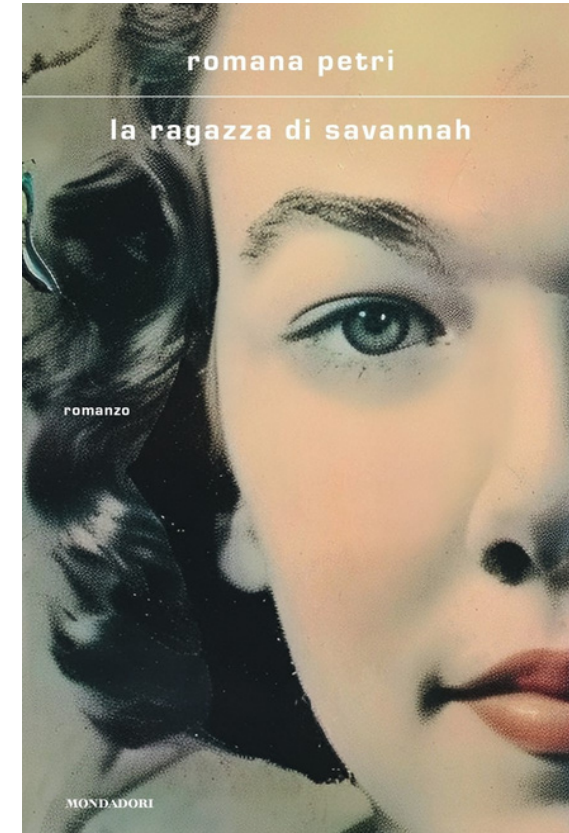
La ragazza di Savannah

ROMANA PETRI lives in Rome. Her works include “Ovunque io sia” (2008), “Ti spiego” (2010), “Le serenate del Ciclone” (2015, Super Mondello and Mondello Giovani award), “Il mio cane del Klondike” (2017), “Pranzi di famiglia” (2019, The Bridge award), “Figlio del lupo” (2020, Comisso prize and Anna Maria Ortese-Rapallo special prize), “Cuore di furia” (2020), “La rappresentazione” (2021), “Mostruosa maternità” (2022), “Rubare la notte” (2023, in the five finalists for the Strega prize) and “Tutto su di noi” (2024).

Translator and critic, she collaborates with *lo Donna* and *Corriere della Sera*. Her novels have been translated in England, the United States, France, Spain, Serbia, Holland, Germany and Portugal (where she lived for a long time).

An American girl with solid principles, in love with her father, with dark blue eyes and flashes of deep thought. A girl who, when she leaves the house, is enchanted by the sight of chickens. A girl who has and never stops having Christ as her sublime interlocutor, and her God is not simple. When she gets to writing, she recognizes it as a divine gift. That girl is Flannery O'Connor, one of the greatest authors of the 20th century. She enters the imagination of Romana Petri with her humble and her fools, her sinners, her loneliness, the splendor of her peacocks and the love she never had. Pitiful to the point of impiety, imbued with an irony that leaves her interlocutors astonished, Mary Flan finds her father suffering from the same disease, lupus, but she fights it with incandescent words and without ever complaining. She left her native Georgia when the call of literature became as strong as an investiture, a mission, but this dream of freedom was shattered by illness and she had to return to her mother's ranch, to that Regina who didn't understand her genius but who assisted her until the end.

She had a destiny as a well-bred Southern lady, but instead the girl from Savannah became a fearless writer (who could barely stand up on crutches), obsessed with the perfect phrase and with food as compensation for a denied love life, because no man was willing to love a cripple so close to Heaven. Romana Petri follows her around, spying on her, turning her inside out in front of us and we take her in like a drug that saves us, that prevents us from being afraid despite everything.



Orbetello Book Prize 2025

Romana Petri
The Girl from Savannah
Publisher: MONDADORI
Release date: February 2025
Pages: 276

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“La ragazza di Savannah is a small miracle: makes you laugh, makes you cry and makes you think, Read it, you will thank me.”

Lidia Ravera - Elle

“A portrait destined to make an indelible impression.”
Marzia Fontana - Corriere della Sera

“Romana Petri has skillfully interwoven biographical facts with flights of her own passionate imagination.”
Laura Pezzino - TTL La Stampa

“One gets the feeling that there is this virtuous ability in her, this human ability, to tell every time by embodying the character whose life she wants to give back to us.”
Gaia Manzini - L'Espresso

“A beautiful novel about the unruliness of female talent - a novel of mothers, of genealogies.”
Nadia Terranova - Il Manifesto

Undici

Non dimenticare

ANDREJ LONGO was born in Ischia. In 2002 he published his first book, “Più o meno alle tre” (Meridiano Zero) and in 2003 he published his novel “Adelante” published by Rizzoli. With Adelphi, in 2007, he published “Dieci” with which he won the Premio Chiara and the Premio Bagutta; “Chi ha ucciso Sarah?” (2009), “Lu campo di girasoli” (2011) and “L'altra madre” (2016). In 2017 he won the City of Vigevano Literary Prize. With Sellerio he published “Solo la pioggia” (2021), “Chi ha ucciso Sarah?” (2021, re-edition of his 2009 novel), “Mille giorni che non vieni” (2022) and “La forma dei sogni” (2023). He is author of plays and he deals with film and radio.

This is a collection of eleven short stories, set in Naples, in its endless suburbs. The stories are all about women. They are taken from the news, stolen by everyday life, describing unknown portraits of ordinary life in Naples. Eleven women dealing with common troubles, often trying to change the course of their lives, which seems to have already been established by someone else.

In “Eleven” we find unforgettable characters. There’s Anna, a caregiver who stumbles across a book of poems in an underground station, words that slowly begin to reshape her relationship with the elderly man she looks after. Aurora, who marries a young member of the Camorra in search of stability for herself and her children. Luisella, who can’t understand why a lone chair sits in front of her parents’ front door, and what silence it might be guarding.

Told entirely in first person, these stories echo with clarity, pain, defiance, and occasional joy. The language is direct yet lyrical, the dialogue masterfully real. Longo doesn’t simply observe these women, he inhabits them, revealing how their voices resist being silenced.

Moreover, Andrej Longo goes further. “Eleven, do not forget” is also a warning. It is a commandment, the eleventh actually, which forbids to forget what we would like not to remember.

It is forbidden to forget the injustice, the arrogance, the violence of which women are mostly the victims. And it is also forbidden to forget how much beautiful life is when it is spent not just chasing our own pleasure.



Andrej Longo
Eleven. Do not forget
Publisher: SELLERIO
Release date: February 2025
Pages: 248

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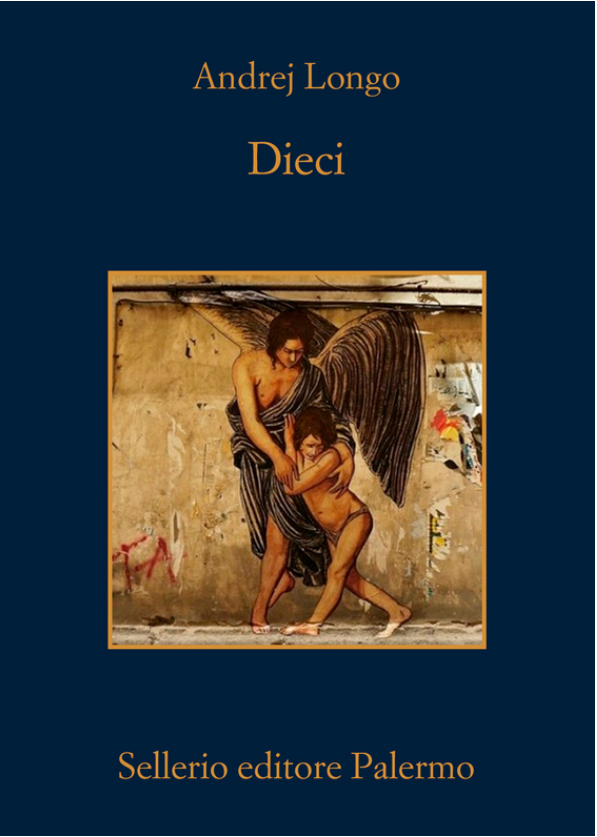
“Among short stories, the best I haven't read in a long time.”
Ermanno Paccagnini - La Lettura

“Longo's women are real creatures, by no means resigned to suffering, even if the clashes with the torments of existence often subdue them, deprive them of dignity.”
TTL - La Stampa

Dieci

ANDREJ LONGO was born in Ischia. In 2002 he published his first book, “Più o meno alle tre” (Meridiano Zero) and in 2003 he published his novel “Adelante” published by Rizzoli. With Adelphi, in 2007, he published “Dieci” with which he won the Premio Chiara and the Premio Bagutta; “Chi ha ucciso Sarah?” (2009), “Lu campo di girasoli” (2011) and “L'altra madre” (2016). In 2017 he won the City of Vigevano Literary Prize. With Sellerio he published “Solo la pioggia” (2021), “Chi ha ucciso Sarah?” (2021, re-edition of his 2009 novel), “Mille giorni che non vieni” (2022) and “La forma dei sogni” (2023). He is author of plays and he deals with film and radio.

Ten short stories set in the suburbs of Naples, each one linked to a commandment. But there is no religious message here, and no trace of moral judgment. Most of the protagonists are teenagers, isolated, often invisible. navigating a world marked by violence, silence, and survival. Each story is told in the first person, in a direct and unfiltered voice that captures the rawness of their experiences. There is no self-pity, no embellishment, just the stark, urgent truth of their lives. Though written seventeen years ago, these stories remain strikingly relevant. The atmosphere they evoke is still present in many corners of Naples today, a testament to how little has changed in its forgotten peripheries. But that is also what makes Andrej Longo’s work universal: his stories transcend time and place. They are not confined to Naples, they could belong to any suburb, anywhere. And because of this, they endure. Brutal, poetic, and profoundly human, this collection is a timeless portrait of youth and marginality told with clarity, empathy, and a voice that refuses to look away.



Bagutta Prize
Piero Chiara Prize

Andrej Longo
Ten
Publisher: SELLERIO
Release date: February 2025
Pages: 216

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“A cross-section of real life,
more realistic than a journalistic
investigation.”

La finestra del terzo piano

PAOLA DARÒ was born in Pinerolo in 1987 and lives in Turin. She is a civil engineer: she works on structural monitoring of bridges and large infrastructures, immersed in sensors, numbers and algorithms. “La finestra del terzo piano” (Piemme, 2025) is her debut novel.

The blue light of the patrol cars illuminates the austere facades of Turin buildings, lighting up the night in a quiet central neighborhood where nothing ever happens. An elderly Savoy painter, Simone Benelli, was found dead in his home, seated in the armchair in his living room, with a severed finger. No signs of forced entry on the front door, no one heard a sound. Adele used to see old Benelli every day. He lived in the building across the street and had the habit of ending his day smoking on the balcony, just like her. He was a distinguished, elegant man with a sad and solitary demeanor. The case intrigues her: she contacts the family and decides to dedicate a solo exhibition to the deceased painter in her small art gallery.

Thus begins her investigation into the past of a mysterious man, whom not even his family truly knew. A turbulent youth spent in London and a late life passed quietly in Italy. A great initial success and sudden, prolonged bouts of creative crisis. Benelli's life, as much as his art, is studded with contradictions and mysteries. Who killed the lonely painter? “La finestra del terzo piano” embodies the most intimate character of a reserved and noble city like Turin. A captivating debut, teetering between the warmth of a comedy and the gripping pace of a crime novel, with an unconventional, offbeat protagonist: Adele Tedeschi, a gallery owner who searches through the painter's brushstrokes for a clue that might solve a perplexing murder.



Paola Darò
The third-floor Window
Publisher: PIEMME
Release date: January 2025
Pages: 304

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La Malacarne

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. “La Malnata”, her first novel, was published in 2023 by Einaudi Stile Libero. It is being translated all over the world and will soon become a TV series.

A 16-year-old girl runs barefoot down the street. It is night, she wears only a petticoat, and runs desperately through the deserted city. She is disappointed, full of anger, because she has discovered that she has been betrayed, and by someone she never thought could deceive her.

It opens like a rift, this terse and furious novel. We are in Monza, in April 1940. For four years Francesca knows nothing more about Maddalena. Her friend has been locked up in an asylum, and has never answered the letters she has sent her. Francesca believes it is out of resentment towards her.

After all, it always fell to Maddalena to play the role of the outcast, the cursed one. But now Francesca's life has also been shaken up: she ran away from home and went to live with Noè Tresoldi, causing a scandal. Her mother accuses her of being a degenerate, a Malacarne. Then, finally, Maddalena returns. She is small and thin, as if she had never grown up, and pretends to be the courageous adolescent of always; but Francesca sees that she is different. What has happened in the asylum? Meanwhile, Italy enters the war. Between hunger and the fear of bombs, every day becomes more difficult. And the time comes to choose sides.



Translation rights sold to:

Albin Michel (French)
Loumen (Castilian Spanish)
Gronnigen (Danish)
Gummerus (Finnish)
Penguin Hardcover (German)
Penguin Random House (Portuguese)
Publik praktikum (Serbian)
Sonia Draga (Polish)
Argo (Czech)

Previous title:



80,000 copies sold

Beatrice Salvioni
Malacarne

Publisher: EINAUDI STILE LIBERO

Release date: October 2024

Pages: 200

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"With a fast pace that plunges the reader into the atmosphere of those horrific years, Salvioni sketches a well-rounded fresco of characters around her protagonists and portrays a hard-hitting cross-section of the female condition".

Marzia Fontana
La Lettura - Corriere della Sera

"Beatrice has excellent craftsmanship and a strong personality, as the prose is intense and well organised, and the popular and 'classical' style seems to emerge from an experienced pen."

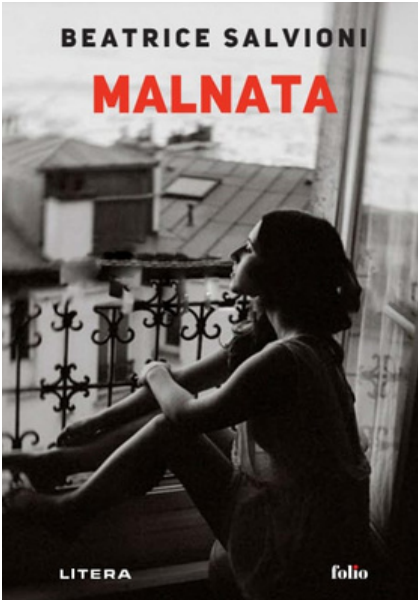
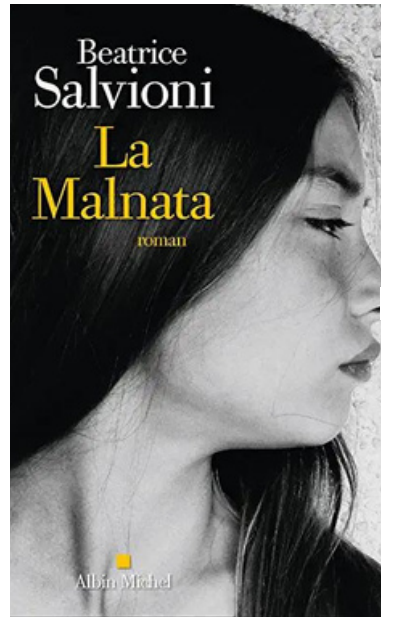
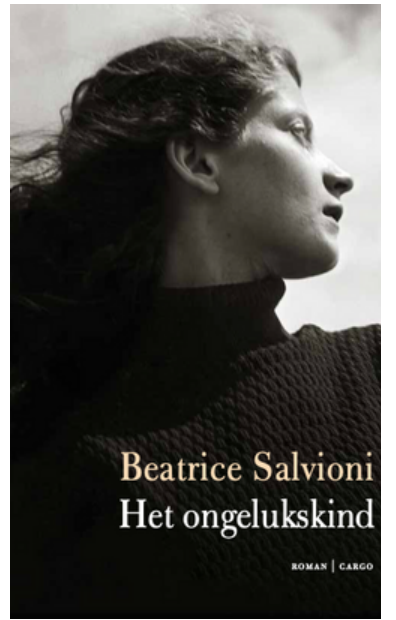
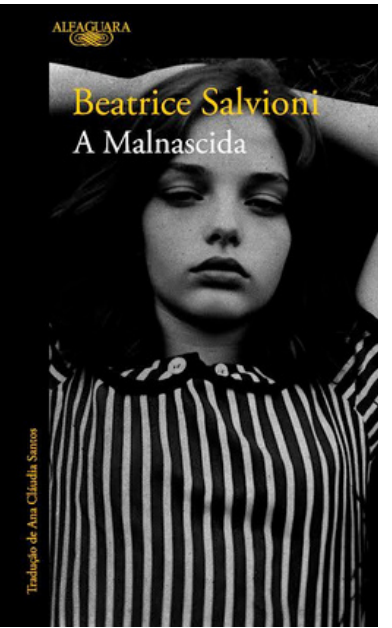
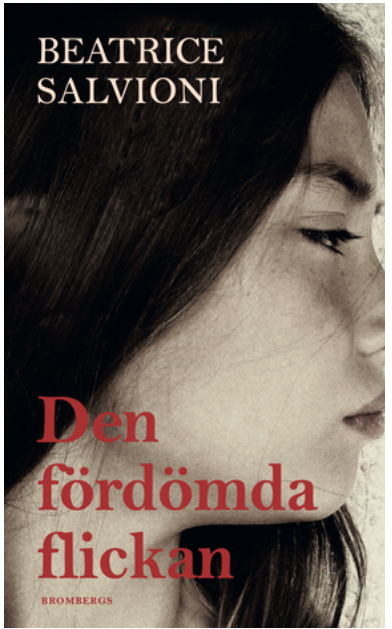
Leonetta Bentivoglio
Robinson

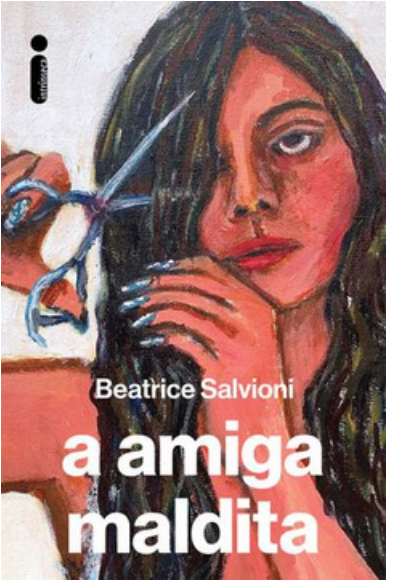
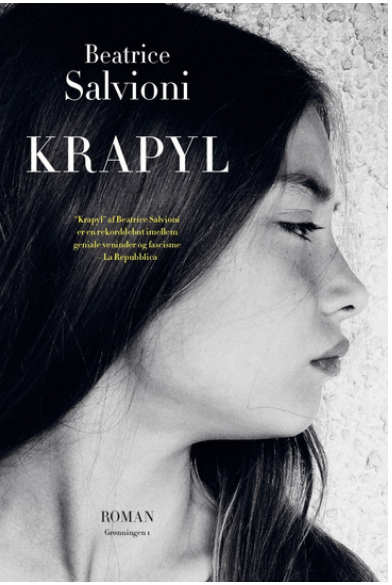
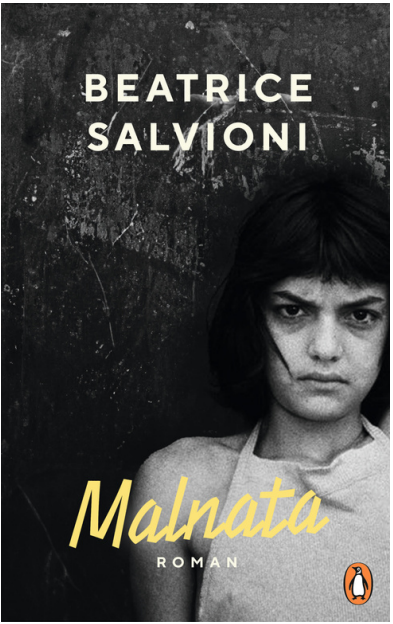
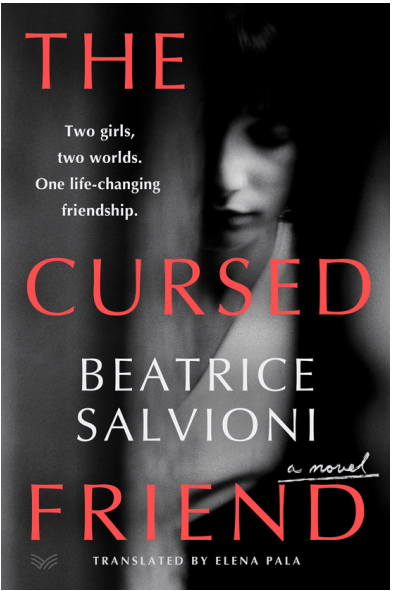
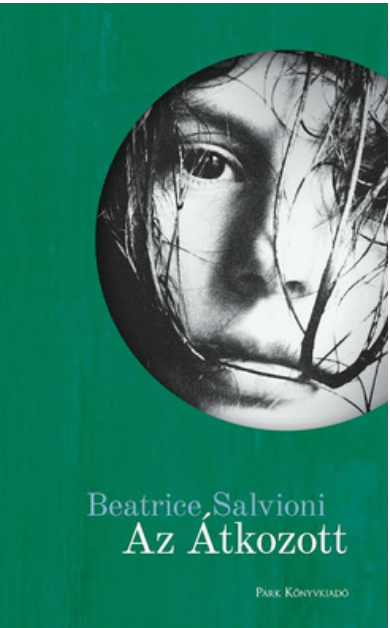
"With luminous force, the book gives voice to the Resistance, to the liberation of the self and, inextricably, of the other."

Federica Bassignana
Il Foglio

Option Publishers:

- Dudaj Botime (Albanian)
- Dar Tashkeel (Arabic)
- Intrinseca (Brazilian)
- Obsidian (Bulgarian)
- Periscopi (Catalan Spanish)
- Sonatina j.d.o.o. (Croatian)
- Cargo-De Bezige Bij (Dutch)
- Päitese (Estonian)
- Patakis (Greek)
- Kinneret (Hebrew)
- Libri Kiado (Hungarian)
- Kawade Shobo Shinsha (Japanese)
- Baltos Lankos (Lithuanian)
- Gyldendal (Norwegian)
- Litera (Romanian)
- Sindbad (Russian)
- 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

"I'm excited to read what she does next."

Lucy Popescu
The Guardian

"A book to read, if not to keep."

John Self, The Times

"Krapyl' by Beatrice Salvioni is a story of inter-war Italy with a strong female character - and it is excellent."

Politiken

"It has echoes of Elena Ferrante, Natalia Ginzburg and Alba de Céspedes."

Financial Times

"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

"This debut grips your soul and never lets go."

Le Point

La straniera

MARTA AIDALA was born in Turin in 1996. At seventeen years old she fell in love with the mountains and her dream is to climb them to stay. After a variety of jobs, she attended the Holden School and graduated in 2023. Now she works in a bookshop and devotes herself to writing. “La straniera” is her debut novel.

Take her life and go - to understand herself, find a future, not to go down any more but to stay. These are the reasons for which, one morning in May, Beatrice leaves Turin to move to the mountains. Those mountains that, she is certain, are women even though they often bear male names. Women like her, who as soon as she arrives to the refuge of the Barba, a gruff man with a mysterious past, feels rejected, as woman and foreigner (“straniera”). Marta Aidala has the courage of a clear voice that lets gestures and events speak, the noises of the forest, the smells, the light of a sky high above the peaks. And she knows how to recount in the most concrete details a new epic, that of a girl who goes after her own freedom despite hesitations and fears, a girl who seeks herself on the trails and among the men of the mountains, in a world that she feels is hers even though the old traditions look at her with distrust. With fear and curiosity, as Elbio looks at her, the young herdsman with whom Beatrice will establish a profound bond, made up of reluctance and outbursts, in that fragile and poignant intimacy that arises between two people who mirror and recognise themselves.

When the summer ends, however, Beatrice decides not to follow Elbio to the valley, instead staying with the Barba in the refuge, a place that now, perhaps, she feels she can call home. But the snowless winter will reveal to her an unexpected mountain, pushing her to put everything into question, and questioning her once again about her future, the person she wants to be and the places where she feels she belongs.



3 reprints

Opera Prima Prize

Mandarossa Opera Prima Prize

John Fante Opera Prima Prize

Translation rights sold to:

Calmann-Lévy (French)

CLASSIFICHE		2023	
TOP TEN		NARRATIVA ITALIANA	
1	LA STRANGERA	1	LA STRANGERA
2	LA STRANGERA	2	LA STRANGERA
3	LA STRANGERA	3	LA STRANGERA
4	LA STRANGERA	4	LA STRANGERA
5	LA STRANGERA	5	LA STRANGERA
6	LA STRANGERA	6	LA STRANGERA
7	LA STRANGERA	7	LA STRANGERA
8	LA STRANGERA	8	LA STRANGERA
9	LA STRANGERA	9	LA STRANGERA
10	LA STRANGERA	10	LA STRANGERA

Marta Aidala
Strangera
Publisher: GUANDA
Release date: August 2024
Pages: 330

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“The novel contains one of the most beautiful love stories in current literature.”
Filippo La Porta
Robinson

“Aidala makes her debut with this book and time will tell how much her star will continue to make us new eyes and desires and even dreams. But in the meantime we have seen a new star shining.”
Alberto Infelise
La Stampa

“Everything is narrated with a balance of tones, smooth transitions from the tragic to the humorous, well delineated and excavated characters, careful handling of dialogue, and cultured, even refined writing in the personification of nature”.
Ermanno Paccagnini
La Lettura

“I believe that Marta Aidala has a long future ahead”
Cristina De Stefano
Elle

What is said about La straniera

“Marta Aidala, here in her debut, clearly sculpts sharply the characters of a world that seems suspended in time.”

Deborah Ameri
Io Donna

“Marta Aidala, with her poetic and visual writing, performs a miracle: getting us in touch with the most authentic part of ourselves so that we can rediscover the joys of everyday life, no matter where we are. Her novel captivates, and leads us back to the simplicity of living where what counts has the face of the people we love, the passions we nurture and the values we believe in.”

Stefania Massari
Huffpost

“Marta Aidala, has managed to establish herself as a new literary voice that combines authenticity and originality of style.”

Ansa

“A luminous coming-of-age novel: Ardore takes a
“Aidala's novel proceeds with the slow and sure pace of a hike through the peaks. The page generates the healthy unease provoked by radical novels unwilling to please the reader. [...] the picture appears dominated by the old, dear, incommunicable Angst of the existentialists, the anguish that oppressed another famous literary stranger from whom Beatrice is less distant than one might suspect.”

Fabrizio Ottaviani
Il Giornale

“Aidala has written an Alpine novel that is both faithful to the genre and at the same time open to a broad existential vision, removing it from possible clichés.”

Gino Ruozzi
IlSole24Ore

“A new female voice that sensitively narrates the inner conflicts of a girl in search for her place in the world.”

Beppe Cottafavi
Domani

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

Option Publisher:
Publik Praktikum (Serbian)

Previous title:



Il ladro di quaderni

GIANNI SOLLÀ 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.



English translation available

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

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

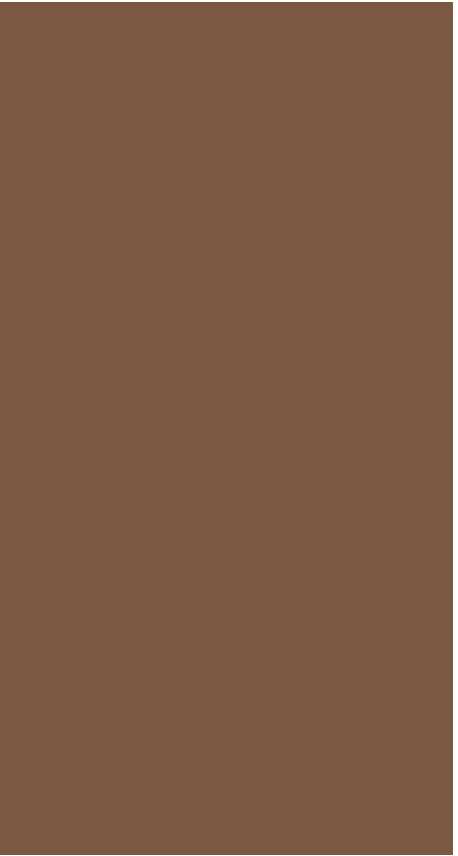
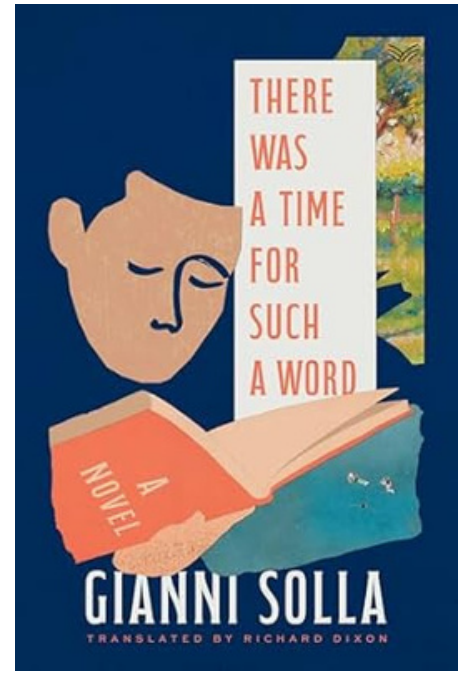
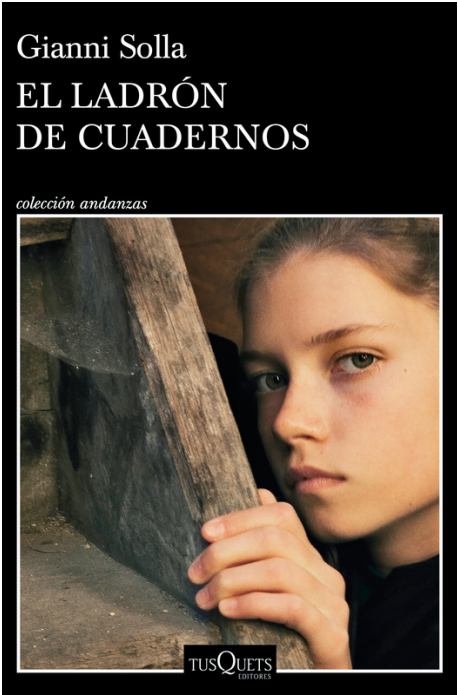
"Gianni Solla has written a painful and touching book, telling that one grows anyway, even if everything around conspires to prevent it."
Donatella Dipietrantonio
TuttoLibri

"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

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)



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.



Translation rights sold to:

Heraclon Publishing (Polish)

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.

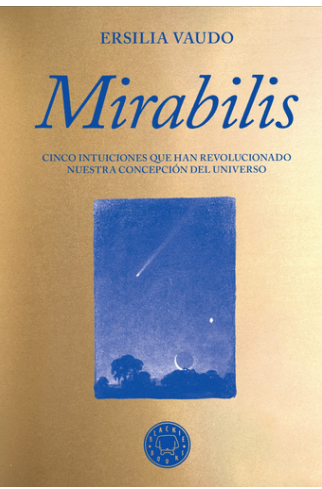
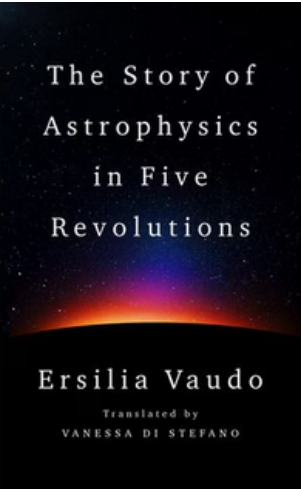
The hand that drops the apple from a tree is the same hand that moves celestial gears: gravity. This of Newton is one of the great insights that changed the way we read the universe. Then came others. Two hundred years later, Einstein introduced a new twist. With the promotion of the speed of light to 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)
Dar Telad Publishing House (Arabic)
QUANTO (French)



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

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.

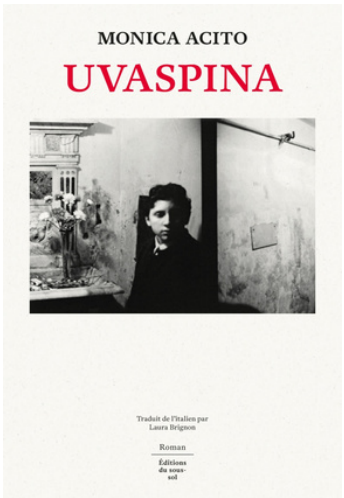
A birthmark under the left eye, as dark as a ripe grape embedded in the skin very clear: he was born that way, Uvaspina, so much so that he soon got used to being called by that name that identifies him with his spot. Uvaspina can get used to almost anything: to notary Pasquale Riccio, his father, who 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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Prix Ulysse du premier roman

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