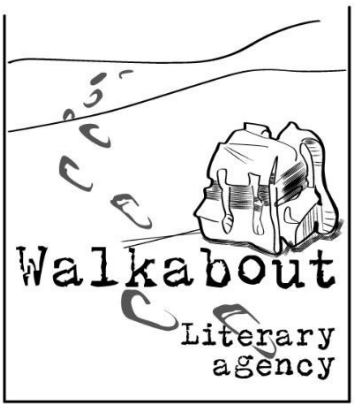


# Sarah Savioli
# Rights List

## La serie de "Gli insospettabili"
## The series "The Unsuspected"
## (5 novels)

Ombretta Borgia ombretta.borgia@gmail.com
Fiammetta Biancatelli fiammettabiancatelli@gmail.com
www.walkaboutliteraryagency.com

**Sarah Savioli** was born in Sardinia in 1974. After graduating from Parma University with a degree in Natural Sciences, she obtained a master's degree in Forensic Sciences and another in Analytical Chemistry. **She worked for more than ten years as a forensic technical-scientific expert, first in collaboration with the Physics Department of Parma University and the Carabinieri's RIS (Scientific Investigation Unit), then as a freelancer. After leaving her job for personal reasons, she discovered writing and was twice a finalist in the "Romanzi in cerca d'autore" competition organised by Kobo and Mondadori.**

She made his debut with Feltrinelli, publishing the first novel in the detective series featuring investigator Anna Melissari, *Gli insospettabili* ("The Unsuspected", 2020), followed by *Il testimone chiave* ("The Key Witness", 2021, finalist for the Nebbia Gialla Prize), *La banda dei colpevoli* ("The guilty gang", 2022*), I selvatici* ("The wild ones", 2023) and *La versione delle margherite (*"The daisies version, 2026), the fifth and last novel of the series.

**A new novel is due to be published in 2027 by Feltrinelli, featuring a new and irresistible female protagonist.**

For young readers, she has published the following with Feltrinelli Kids: *Tutto cambia!* ("Everything Changes!" 2021, with illustrations by Kalina Muhova, finalist for the Strega Junior Prize); the children's crime novel *Delitto alla Tesla Academy* ("Murder at Tesla Academy" 2023) and *Che botta!* ("What a Blow! 2024, with illustrations by Jessica Antonini).

Since 2023, Sarah Savioli has been writing for La Repubblica's cultural supplement "Robinson". In 2024 and 2025, she was President of the Jury for the Andersen Prize, Baia delle Favole in Sestri Levante. Since 2023, she has been on the jury for the Città di Sant'Anastasia Prize, a prize dedicated to short stories written by high school students.
He teaches literature classes for adults, but he is particularly dedicated to children and young people whom she meets in schools of all levels, where he holds courses and workshops aimed at promoting reading and exploring the world of stories as a way to learn more about ourselves and our surroundings.

**Author: SARAH SAVIOLI**
**Title: THE UNSUSPECTED ONES. THE INVESTIGATIONS OF ANNA MELISSARI 1**
**(GLI INSOSPETTABILI. LE INDAGINI DI ANNA MELISSARI 1)**

**Pages: 304**
**First Publisher: Feltrinelli**
**Publication date: 2020**

**Rights: Worldwide**
**Rights sold: Azbooka (Russia)**

**THE FIRST NOVEL IN THE SERIES THAT HAS CAPTIVATED OVER 100,000 ITALIAN READERS**

**THANKS TO HER EXTENSIVE EXPERIENCE AS A FORENSIC SCIENTIST AND HER EXTRAORDINARY LOVE FOR LIVING BEINGS, SARAH SAVIOLI WRITES ANNA MELISSARI DETECTIVE STORIES BRIMMING WITH SENSITIVITY AND HUMOR.**

**HOW MANY THINGS COULD OUR ANIMAL FRIENDS TELL US IF ONLY THEY HAD THE GIFT OF SPEECH? ANNA MELISSARI KNOWS. AN EMPATHETIC INVESTIGATOR WITH A UNIQUE AND SECRET GIFT, ANNA CAN COUNT ON UNSUSPECTED WITNESSES WITH TWO AND FOUR LEGS TO GET TO THE BOTTOM OF BOTH THE MOST INTRICATE MURDERS AND SMALL AND BIG FAMILY SECRETS.**

***«I assist a private detective: he and his colleague question the neighbors, while I question the cacti and parakeets».***

Anna is forty years old, has a child, a husband, a cat, a ficus tree, and loves to chat animatedly with all of them. Her life is like any other, except that, following the formation of a small cerebral hematoma, Anna can communicate with plants and animals. Her extraordinary ability not only offers her a new perspective on the world, but also provides her with an unexpected job: she becomes an assistant to the gruff private investigator Cantoni, with whom she constantly bickers, along with the "heavyweight" Tonino and Otto, a harlequin Great Dane who loves sweets and is prone to flatulence. While Cantoni and Tonino question relatives and neighbors at the scene of the crime, Anna secretly talks to the neighbor's dog, the plants in the garden next door, a pigeon contemplating suicide, and two old, slightly senile turtle sisters... Thanks to her unsuspected informants, Anna searches for a possible answer for the mother of Armando, a 34-year-old former drug addict who 'fell' from the building where he lived. The drug scene is the starting point for an investigation that—amid unexpected revelations, conversations with the most disparate creatures about the meaning of life, a four-year-old son with extremely imaginative questions, and a sister in perpetual emotional crisis—Anna sees become complicated in multiple directions. Like "many pieces of a puzzle, but all different from each other."

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**Author: SARAH SAVIOLI**
**Title: THE KEY WITNESS. THE INVESTIGATIONS OF ANNA MELISSARI 2)**
**(IL TESTIMONE CHIAVE. LE INDAGINI DI ANNA MELISSARI 2)**
**Pages: 304**
**First Publisher: Feltrinelli**
**Publication date: 2021**

**Rights: Worldwide**
**Rights sold: Azbooka (Russia)**

**THE SECOND NOVEL IN THE SERIES THAT CAPTIVATED MORE THAN 100.000 READERS**

**A PUPPY RUNS AWAY AFTER SMELLING THAT HIS NEW OWNERS INTEND TO NEUTER HIM. NOTHING SURPRISING... IF THAT DOG WEREN'T THE KEY WITNESS TO A SUICIDE THAT IS ACTUALLY A MURDER.**

Anna, Cantoni, and Tonino are hired by the children of an elderly suicide victim, Luigi Barani, to investigate a possible will fraud. Barani, a well-liked widowed industrialist, left a cash bequest to his domestic helper, and his two children are convinced that the woman manipulated their father to her advantage. Thanks to her very special talent, Anna soon finds a way to question Barani's dog—a pug obsessed with sex—and discovers that the maid is innocent, but above all that something much more serious lurks behind that death. On the evening of the alleged suicide, the old industrialist was not alone in the house: someone joined him and the two had a brief conversation—a few words, after which Barani hanged himself as if carrying out an order. The police, however, decide not to reopen the case: Cantoni certainly cannot say that his key witness is a dog, and after all, the suicide of a lonely old man surprises no one... The Agency finds itself continuing the investigation alone on behalf of the domestic worker, who never believed the suicide hypothesis, while the pug, sensing that his former owner's children intend to neuter him, runs away before revealing to Anna other information crucial to the resolution of the case. In addition to the investigation and the busy household routine with her husband Alessandro, little Luca, and the cat Banzai, Anna has to deal with her father, who falls ill, needs her, and with whom she has a whole life to start over, old wounds to heal, and new forms of communication to build. Fortunately, however, both in her private life and at work, she can rely on the unconventional perspective of her usual animal companions and those she encounters while solving this difficult case: the sex-obsessed pug, a Jungian cat frustrated by living with a Freudian psychologist, a lizard that wonders about the evolution of the human race, a group of bats that go from one rave to another...

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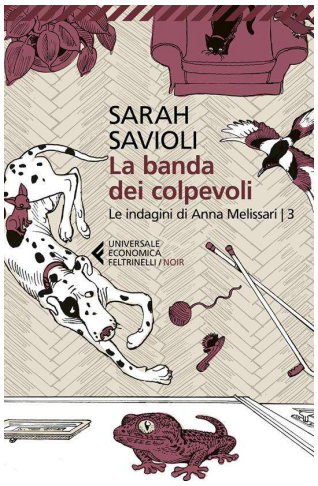


**Author: SARAH SAVIOLI**
**Title: THE GUILTY GANG. THE INVESTIGATIONS OF ANNA MELISSARI 3**
**(LA BANDA DEI COLPEVOLI. LE INDAGINI DI ANNA MELISSARI 3)**

**Pages: 240**
**First Publisher: Feltrinelli**
**Publication date: June, 2023**

**Rights: Worldwide**

**THE THIRD NOVEL IN THE SERIES THAT CAPTIVATED MORE THAN 100.00 READERS**

*«You have to help us, gecko, do you understand? » «I helped you. I confessed! » he replies indignantly, his eyes increasingly wild. «You foolish creature, look at yourself. You can't have killed a woman, do you realize that? » I blurt out. «And that's the beauty of it! The genius! The mystery...» And again he turns to show off what he considers his best profile.*

Sixty-six-year-old Ines Calici was found dead in her apartment, with a gag covering her mouth and her body tied to a chair. She died of suffocation following a respiratory crisis: the gag aggravated her already serious health problems. According to the police, her death is the tragic conclusion of yet another robbery by a gang operating in the city's most elegant neighborhoods. After the event, the thefts ceased, which investigators see as proof of guilt. But Ines' granddaughter, Lucia Calici, is not convinced and hires the Cantoni Agency to conduct a parallel investigation. Shortly before her death, Ines had decided to spend most of her assets on an experimental treatment abroad, which she hoped would improve her health. According to Lucia, the culprit is to be found within the family. While Anna immerses herself in the investigation with Tonino, Cantoni, and Otto the Great Dane, there are also revelations on the private front, and Anna discovers that, on both sides, as she unravels the tangle, the thread of guilt becomes more and more tangled. In addition to her usual unsuspected helpers—Banzai the cat, the turtles Tarta and Rughina, the poetic and eccentric mongrel Bergerac, the adolescent ficus and the now mature plant—she is accompanied by new key witnesses: among others, the cat doorkeeper Lulù, a pair of inseparable parakeets who actually can't stand each other anymore, a mythomaniac gecko who accuses himself of the murder in increasingly ridiculous and surreal ways, the terrible criminal gangs of magpies and rats, locked in a bloody war with each other for control of the neighborhoods... All these lives will allow Anna to see the world in an unconventional way and discover the truth.

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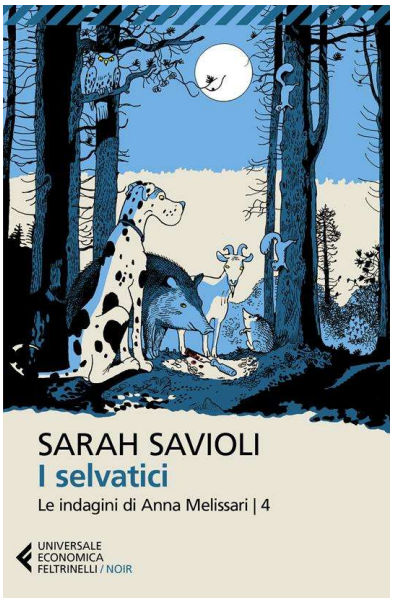


**Author: SARAH SAVIOLI**
**Title: THE WILD ONES. THE INVESTIGATIONS OF ANNA MELISSARI 4**
**(I SELVATICI. LE INDAGINI DI ANNA MELISSARI 4)**

**Pages: 272**
**First Publisher: Feltrinelli**
**Publication date: 2023**

**Rights: Worldwide**

**THW FOURTH NOVEL IN THE SERIES THAT HAS CAPTIVATED OVER 100,000 ITALIAN READERS**

**FIRST CASE AWAY FROM HOME FOR ANNA MELISSARI, THE DETECTIVE WHO COMMUNICATES WITH PLANTS AND ANIMALS.**

*The cat turns its head in my direction: «I don't know who could have mauled it, killed it, got rid of it, done it in. There was a line».*
*«But how was there a line?!» I exclaim. «Everyone has said so far that he was kind and respectful».*
*«What does that have to do with what he was?» replies the feline with a hoarse, pirate-like meow. «It has to do with what the others are».*

In the Ferlico mountains, in the Apennines, Cecilia and her husband Tullio run a business that provides employment and hospitality to refugees awaiting the regularization of their right to asylum. One night, Yasser, a young Syrian who is well-liked by everyone, disappears. The police take the matter lightly, so Cecilia hires the Cantoni Agency. In a place full of witnesses from the woods, the case seems tailor-made for Anna and her special gifts, but things get complicated because nature overwhelms her with enormous intensity. With the help of Cantoni and Otto the Great Dane, our detective will have to find new strategies to connect with the environment surrounding the shelter. As the secrets of a country that sees everything and forgives nothing emerge, animals and humans, each wary and wounded in their own way, teach Anna that for better or worse, we are all inextricably linked, like trees in a forest.

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**Author: SARAH SAVIOLI**
**Title: THE DAISIES VERSION. THE INVESTIGATIONS OF ANNA MELISSARI 5**
**(LA VERSIONE DELLE MARGHERITE. LE INDAGINI DI ANNA MELISSARI 5)**

**Pages: 250**
**First Publisher: Feltrinelli**
**Publication date: 1st September, 2026**

**Rights: Worldwide**

**FIRST REPRINT AFTER ONE WEEK!!!**

**The Unsuspected 1 (Gli Insospettabili 1, Feltrinelli, 2020) - Translation rights sold: Azbooka (Russia)**
**The Key Witness 2 (Il testimone chiave 2, Feltrinelli, 2021) - Translation rights sold: Azbooka (Russia)**

**THE EAGERLY AWAITED FIFTH AND LAST NOVEL IN THE SERIES THAT HAS CAPTIVATED OVER 100,000 ITALIAN READERS.**

**ANNA RETURNS WITH HER BAND OF UNSUSPECTED ANIMAL AND PLANT WITNESSES, THIS TIME DEALING WITH TWO CASES THAT ARE SET TO CHANGE EVERYTHING**

**A DRIFTING MAN FRESH OUT OF PRISON SEEKING JUSTICE FOR HIS INNOCENT BROTHER. A MYSTERIOUS WOMAN WHO REEMERGES FROM THE PAST WITH LONG-BURIED SECRETS**

**Fast-paced, endearing and ironic characters, a voice capable of making you laugh and then hitting you right where it counts. The conclusion of the crime series that uses empathy as an investigative weapon.**

***"And whilst the squirrel carries on rambling, I wonder what I've done wrong to have become a magnet for plants and animals with mental health issues. Perhaps it's because I never abandon anyone. Or perhaps the answer is that we crazy people seek each other out and recognize one another."***

***"But the blame for suffering lies with the injustices and ugliness of the world, not in the fact of feeling them and remaining open, attentive and alive to what happens to others as well."***

Gaetano Rosi, a violent drug dealer recently released from prison, turns to the Cantoni Agency to find out who killed his brother Enrico, who had always stayed away from crime and trouble. Could it have been a mistake? A case of mistaken identity? Or did someone want to hurt Gaetano by targeting an innocent person? As always when faced with a lost cause, Anna defies her boss's opinion and decides to help the ex-convict, even if it means confronting the anger and despair she has always fled from. Then, however, during the investigation, an unknown woman emerges from the past who seems to

know impossible things about her. Fascinated and frightened at the same time, Anna finds herself facing once and for all what she fears most in the world: the pain of her loved ones and the fear of not being able to protect them. How far can you go to defend those you love? And what happens to an angel when she gets angry? Sarah Savioli has accustomed us to light-hearted and entertaining stories that delve deeply into the lives and relationships of human beings, illuminating their dark sides through the disarming frankness of their animal companions. In this fifth and final adventure of the *Insospettabili*, she surpasses herself and completes her contemporary fresco, giving us new laughter, new emotions, and new insights. Among fearful dogs, snooty cats, daisies with a very clear idea of how to always feel they are in the right, and schizophrenic squirrels ready to conquer the world, a double investigation unfolds, racing towards a conclusion in which every piece finds its place, and the characters we have grown to love finally find peace.
«Because in this story, I learned that I am brave enough to continue to be sensitive, to decide that everything that lives interests me, that everything that lives is also part of me. And that I will never stop listening to others, whoever they may be».

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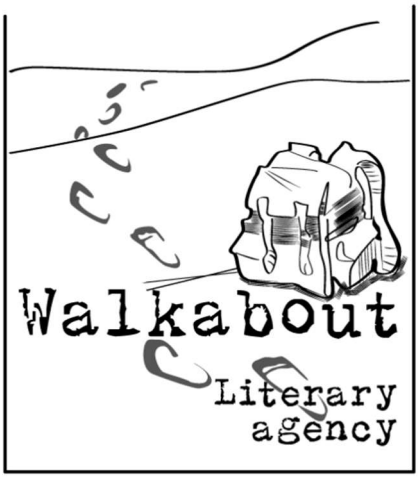


## ABOUT US

**Walkabout Literary Agency – Via Ruffini 2/a**
**00195 Rome Italy**

Ombretta Borgia: ombretta.borgia@gmail.com
Fiammetta Biancatelli: fiammettabiancatelli@gmail.com
info@walkaboutliteraryagency.com
www.walkaboutliteraryagency.com

facebook: Walkabout Literary Agency
Instagram: walkabout_Lit_Age

**Walkabout Literary Agency** was established in 2014 and since then has been successfully operating in the fields of book publishing and translation rights sales, Film/Tv licensing. We represent few foreign writers as the Greek Ersi Sotiropoulos (among the favourites for the 2024 and 2025 Nobel Price, translated in more than 15 languages) and the Turkish Burhan Sonmez (Pen Writers President, translated in 21 languages), as well as some leading Italian writer as Simonetta Agnello Hornby, Pino Cacucci, Simona Baldelli, Sarah Savioli, Piero Trellini, Enrico Terrinoni, Adrian Bravi, and new and talented voices as Giulia Baldelli, Emanuela Fontana, Giacinta Cavagna, Silvia Ciompi, Anna Bonacina, and Caterina Manfrini, in the fields of literary, upmarket, commercial fiction, and general non-fiction. In the field of children's fiction, non-fiction, and illustrated books, we represent Carola Benedetto and Luciana Ciliento, Devis Bellucci, Lia Celi, Nicola Brunialti, Daniela Pareschi, Sarah Savioli, Linda Traversi, and Tassi.
In twelve years WLA has forged solid and fruitful relationships with major Italian and foreign publishing groups and Tv and movie producers.
We attend the most important international bookfairs like Frankfurt, London, Paris, Madrid, Bologna and Turin.
The agency is based in Rome, Italy.
Walkabout Literary Agency is proud to be one of the 37 founders ADALI - Associazione degli Agenti Letterari Italiani, the first Association of Italian Literary Agencies.

**Fiammetta Biancatelli** is Owner and Managing Director. She has been Spanish translator and co-founder of nottetempo edizioni, which has worked as an editor in the Italian and translated fiction. She worked also as a press officer in chief and events planner for Publishers and Book Festivals before creating and starting to manage Walkabout Literary Agency.

**Ombretta Borgia** is Owner and Rights and Contract Manager, she has been Portuguese translator and she has worked for 12 years as a Foreign Rights Manager for Editori Riuniti, before creating the agency.

"Walkabout" is a long ritual journey that Aboriginal people engage in, by walking through large expanses of grasslands in Australia; this allows them to have contacts and exchanges of resources, both material and spiritual, such as the traditional songs. Bruce Chatwin recounted the Walkabout in his "Songlines": "(...) It was believed that each totemic ancestor, on his journey across the country had spread a trail of words and musical notes along his footprints, and that these Dream tracks had remained on the ground as a 'way' of communication between the various distant tribes. A song was simultaneously both a map and a trasmitting aerial. (...) And a man during a *walkabout* always moved following a song path (...)."

We believe that the name Walkabout describes very well and encompasses the philosophy and the work spirit of our agency.