2026

HIGHLIGHTS

www.walkaboutliteraryagency.com
info@walkaboutliteraryagency.com



Author: GIULIA BALDELLI
Title: JUST ONE WORLD
(UN MONDO SOLTANTO)

First Publisher: NN Editore
Publication Date: 30th June 2026
Pages: 575

Rights Worldwide
Rights sold: Wereldbibliotheek - Park Uitgevers - pre-emp deal (The Netherlands), Bertrand – Record Editora – best offer deal (Brazil), Hutchinson Heinemann - Penguin Random House UK – (English World rights), Dom Quixote – LeYa Group - pre-emp deal (Portugal), Colibri (Bulgaria), Editions Robert Laffont - best offer deal (French-language rights).

TV series adaptation Rights: Offer pending

THE REMAINS OF THE SUMMER - Rights sold: Dumont Buchverlag (Germany), Editorial Dos Bigotes (Spain).

FIVE REPRINTS IN FOUR MONTHS!

8TH PLACE IN L'INDISCRETO'S QUALITY RANKING
FINALIST AT "IO DONNA 'HEROINES OF TODAY' AWARD

ENGLISH SAMPLE AVAILABLE

"Giulia Baldelli has written a novel that captures the spirit of a generation, telling the story of all our lives – the past and the present - what life takes away and what friendship gives back." Aurora Tamigio

"Is Giulia Baldelli the new Elena Ferrante? The literary sensation of the year. The writer recounts the friendship between four girls from adolescence to adulthood. In terms of style and its twists and turns, her book is reminiscent of the *My Brilliant Friend* quadrilogy by the mysterious author." Lavinia Capritti – Oggi

"Some have even drawn parallels with Elena Ferrante, for her ability to follow the lives of her protagonists over thirty years, allowing the grand sweep of history to intertwine with their everyday lives. Yet Giulia Baldelli shines with a light of her own in her latest work, "Un mondo soltanto", the novel published by NN editore that marks the full blossoming of her talent with a raw and powerful story about friendship, abandonment, the search for self, and the twists and turns of life." **Elvira Serra – Corriere della Sera**

"With her captivating voice, the author has crafted a mature novel, centred on emotions and written in a choral style. A celebration of sisterhood."
Ilaria Zaffino – Robinson La Repubblica

"Giulia Baldelli's third novel explores the fierce magic of adolescence through the story of a girl whose mother is a drug addict and who was brought up by her grandmother. It spans three decades and a world undergoing rapid, radical change" **Marzia Fontana – La Lettura**

***JUST ONE WORLD* TELLS THE STORY OF AN ENTIRE LINE OF WOMEN THROUGH THE LIVES OF FOUR FRIENDS: FROM ADOLESCENCE TO ADULTHOOD, THEIR LIVES ARE WOVEN INTO THE PATRIARCHAL, POLITICAL AND SOCIAL HISTORY OF OUR COUNTRY. A NOVEL ABOUT BEING WOMEN, MOTHERS, LOVERS, AND HOW FORGIVENESS BECOMES THE ONLY POSSIBLE FORM OF FREEDOM.**

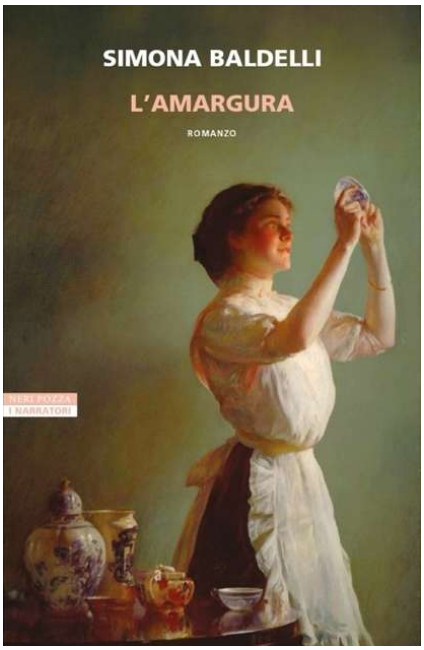
"You don't choose whom to desire. Otherwise, it's not desire, it's pure will."

Tessa is sixteen; she lives with her grandmother—her only anchor—far from a drug-addicted mother whom she cannot bring herself to fully hate. When she enrolls in high school in Fano in 1995, she meets Cecilia—beautiful and generous—Irene, an aspiring painter, and Virginia, who is outspoken yet inscrutable. The girls become as inseparable as sisters, growing up together at the turn of the millennium amidst nights in Adriatic Riviera clubs and mornings on the beach, sharing deep secrets and solemn promises. During their university years in Bologna, Tessa and Virginia learn what love means for the first time, but Tessa struggles to keep pace with adulthood: while Virginia finds fulfillment as a doctor, Tessa gives in to her darker side and writes a novel that betrays everyone's trust. As the years pass, the world changes—growing hotter and rife with war—until the life Tessa has painstakingly built seems to implode; she finds the strength to recover only through those friends she never forgot. "Un mondo soltanto" is the story of four women and three decades of Italian history—a novel about friendship as an absolute bond and forgiveness as a form of liberation. With a magnetic voice, Giulia Baldelli shows us that to save ourselves, we must nurture our most fragile yet stubborn side: the part that, despite everything, keeps fighting for love.

"Giulia Baldelli's third novel explores the fierce magic of adolescence through the story of a girl whose mother is a drug addict and who was brought up by her grandmother. It spans three decades and a world undergoing rapid, radical change" **Marzia Fontana – La Lettura**

"With her captivating voice, the author has crafted a mature novel, centred on emotions and written in a choral style. A celebration of sisterhood."
Ilaria Zaffino – Robinson La Repubblica

Giulia Baldelli was born in Fano, on the Adriatic Sea, in 1979. In 1998 she moved to Bologna, where she obtained a degree in Chemistry and Pharmaceutical Technology. She writes and lives in Bologna, together with her husband and three children. Her debut novel, *L'estate che resta*, published by Guanda, has received a rave review and has been a finalist at several Literary Awards. *Le parole che mi hai lasciato,* (Guanda 2024) was a finalist at the Chianti Prize 2025.



Author: SIMONA BALDELLI
Title: THE BITTERNESS
(L'AMARGURA)

Pages: 300
First Publisher: Neri Pozza
Publication date: January 2027

Rights: Worldwide

FROM THE AUTHOR OF *EVELINA AND THE FAIRIES* AND *ALFONSINA AND THE ROAD*, AN INTENSE, PASSIONATE, AND GRIPPING NOVEL ABOUT THE STORY OF PELLEGRINO ARTUSI, THE WORLD'S MOST FAMOUS COOKBOOK, AND THE FORGOTTEN WOMAN WHO HELPED CREATE IT.

***SCIENCE IN THE KITCHEN AND THE ART OF EATING WELL* WAS A GLOBAL BESTSELLER. A FASCINATING PORTRAIT OF AN ERA OF TRANSFORMATION AND UNFORGETTABLE CHARACTERS.**

Pellegrino Artusi was over seventy years old when he embarked on the most important and successful endeavor of his life: a cookbook, *Science in the Kitchen and the Art of Eating Well*, which, after being rejected by every publisher and printed at the author's own expense, would go on to become one of the greatest publishing successes of all time. But these pages are not merely delicious and meticulously crafted; they conceal the passions, regrets, hardships, and generosity of a man with a troubled past and of the woman who stood by his side throughout that wonderful journey. Marietta, a simple maid who arrived from the Tuscan countryside with a single dress and the dream of being more than just a farmer's wife. It is thanks to her and the deep affection that bound her to Artusi that, nearly 150 years later, we still find ourselves appreciating the importance of every flavor and every small pleasure in life.

Some biographical information about Artusi:
Pellegrino Artusi, who grew up in a family marked by violence and devoid of affection, reached old age without any culinary experience. Yet, in Florence, in the flat in Piazza D'Azeglio where he lived with his trusted companions Marietta and Francesco, he found an unexpected form of redemption in the kitchen. Together, they experimented with the 475 recipes that would form the basis of "Science in the Kitchen and the Art of Eating Well", a work initially rejected by every publisher and which Artusi decided to publish himself, setting in motion a success story destined to grow into the most famous cookbook in history. *L'Amargura* reconstructs Artusi's life through his deepest wounds (the attack by Passator Cortese, the abuse suffered by his sister Geltrude, the suspicion that he had fathered an illegitimate child as a result of his abuse of a maid) and weaves them together with the major events of nineteenth-century Italy, from the uprisings to the Risorgimento. The ghosts that haunt him into old age shed light on his private life and cast a new light on the origins of his bestseller.
From these shadows arises the question that runs through the entire novel: how can a passion for cooking blossom in a life marked by bitterness?

WHAT THEY SAID ABOUT SIMONA BALDELLI:

«Simona Baldelli's writing gets to the heart of what is invisible to the eye, capturing the characters' thoughts, desires, and frustrations. As we follow this stubborn and slow journey, it opens up to visions and fantasies, giving way to a magical realism that encompasses everything».
Il Venerdì di Repubblica

«Simona Baldelli writes a coming-of-age novel, precise and unwavering in its depiction of the setting, that moves in step with history, delves into a buried world, and chronicles the life of a rootless young woman, starved of existence, fearful and fragile».
TTL La Stampa

«If it is true that every writer gravitates inexorably toward a particular center of attraction, a cluster of primal emotions that they dwell on with the same tenacity as a toothache, then Simona Baldelli, impetuous and fragile, grapples with the themes of guilt and failure, and the shift in direction of a life that has been humiliated».
Il Fatto Quotidiano

Simona Baldelli She was born in Pesaro and lives in Rome. She made her debut with the novel *Evelina and the Fairies* (Giunti, 2013), a finalist for the Italo Calvino Prize and winner of the 2013 John Fante Literary Prize. She has since published *Il tempo bambino, La vita a rovescio, L'ultimo spartito di Rossini, Vicolo dell'immaginario, Fiaba di Natale, Alfonsina e la strada e Il pozzo delle bambole.*



Author: DEVIS BELLUCCI
Title: DATA AT HAND. THE TRUTHS ABOUT HEALTH BETWEEN NUMBERS AND ILLUSIONS
(DATI ALLA MANO. LE VERITÀ SULLA SALUTE TRA NUMERI E ILLUSIONI)

Pages: 180
First Publisher: Bollati Boringhieri
Publication date: 6th March 2026

Rights: Worldwide

TWO REPRINTS IN FIVE MONTHS!

THROUGH CASE STUDIES AND EXPERIMENTS, WITH IRONY, SIMPLICITY, AND RIGOR, THIS BOOK IS AN INVITATION TO A CONSCIOUS SCIENTIFIC APPROACH AND A GUIDE TO DEVELOPING A CRITICAL VIEW OF ONE OF THE MOST DELICATE ISSUES OF OUR TIME: THE USE (AND ABUSE) OF DATA WHEN IT COMES TO MEDICINE, HEALTH, AND NUTRITION.

«A correlation, however suggestive, does not imply a cause-and-effect relationship. It is our preconceptions about how the world works, combined with a natural inclination to look for a bright trail behind a flow of events that lack one, that make us jump from mere correlation to causality, and all without any supporting evidence. When we recognize a precise pattern, we tend to reject the idea that it could be the result of chance, especially if the little we see fits perfectly into our worldview».

We humans are naturally inclined to identify specific causes in the world. If a ball rolls, someone must have kicked it. So, if we notice a correlation between two phenomena, we immediately imagine that there must be a cause-and-effect relationship between them, even if sometimes the link is just a trick of our mind.
Much of the health market, and more, is based on these innate beliefs. Are blueberries good for the heart? If I eat a lot of processed meats, will I get cancer? Do supplements and multivitamins work? Does keeping your cell phone in your pocket make you sterile? Does that expensive anti-dandruff shampoo really work?
With an accessible but rigorous style, ironic without being superficial, Devis Bellucci guides us through the pitfalls of statistical analysis, revealing the mistakes and illusions we often fall into. We will learn to defend ourselves against the spurious correlations that abound in the media and understand how much weight to give to the study that frightens us so much. We will finally discover what clinical trials really prove when we read that “clinical trials prove it,” and how science defends itself against the vagaries of chance, which can lead to false discoveries. Finally, we will retrace the lives - sometimes exciting, sometimes hilarious - of the figures who made the history of statistics and epidemiology: from Francis Galton, one of the first to introduce statistical methods into the study of human phenomena, to George Gallup, creator of modern opinion polls; from Austin Breadford Hill, who taught us to understand when a drug really works, to the extraordinary Florence Nightingale, pioneer of modern nursing sciences.
Because when it comes to data, graphs, and percentages, it is not enough to know how to read the numbers: you have to learn to question them before letting yourself be convinced.

Devis Bellucci (1977) holds a degree and a doctorate in physics from the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia, where he now teaches Materials Science and Technology. He works in particular on biomaterials for orthopaedics, dentistry and tissue engineering. Writer, journalist and blogger - you can find him on social networks as @ditantomondo - he has collaborated with several newspapers including 'Vanity Fair'. His publications include *Guida ai luoghi geniali (*2019) and *Perché la forchetta non sa di niente? E altre domande curiose per capire la scienza senza uscire di casa* (2022). For Bollati Boringhieri he published *Materials for Life. The incredible stories of biomaterials that repair our bodies* (2022, **Finalist for the Galileo Literary Prize 2023**), and *And Yet, It Shouldn't Have Sunk. When Science Missed The Target* (Bollati Boringhieri, 2024).



Author: ANTONIO BOGGIO
Title: BLACK MEDITERRANEAN. AN INVESTIGATION BY ALVISE TERRANOVA
(NERO MEDITERRANEO. UNA INDAGINE DI ALVISE TERRANOVA)

Pages: 365
First Publisher: Mondadori
Publication date: May 2026

Rights: Worldwide

A NEW INVESTIGATION FOR COMMISSIONER TERRANOVA, A RESTLESS SOUL WHO IS ALSO EMPATHETIC AND DEEPLY HUMAN, SET IN THE SPLENDID BACKDROP OF THE SARDINIAN ISLAND OF CARLOFORTE

Summer is long gone, and Carloforte is now almost exclusively populated by residents. One afternoon, a fishing boat lands on the coast of San Pietro Island, bringing a group of migrants rescued at sea. For this very reason, when the body of Brigitta, a 19-year-old local girl, is found on a nearby beach the next morning, many people are up in arms, convinced that the culprit is one of the refugees who escaped from the reception center during the night. The investigation ends up on the desk of Alvise Terranova, who is going through a personal storm, torn between memories of the past and fears of the future. When it comes to murders, Alvise is allergic to easy solutions, even more so to those that give voice to the basest instincts of human beings. As always at the beginning of an investigation, he focuses first and foremost on the victim, as if only she could tell him which face hides her killer. He soon realizes that Brigitta was hiding truly unsuspected secrets, and that this time the truth may lie in the darkest corners of people's hearts—even those who chart routes across the Mediterranean that do not exist on maps...

Antonio Boggio, born in 1982, he grew up in Carloforte, on the island of San Pietro, a small island in the south-west of Sardinia. He currently lives and works in Cagliari. Some of his short stories have appeared in anthologies and magazines. *Omicidio a Carloforte,* Piemme *(2022)*, his debut novel, the first detective story of the series featuring Commissioner Alvise Terranova, was a great success. *I delitti della Baia d'Argento,* Piemme (2023) is the second novel of the series. *Assassinio all'isola di San Pietro* is the third chapter of the series and was published by Mondadori in 2025.



Author: ANNA BONACINA
Title: AUTUMN MAGIC
(MAGIE D'AUTUNNO)

Pages: 250
First Publisher: Sperling & Kupfer
Publication date: 1st September 2026

Rights sold: La belle Etoile – Hachette – two-book pre-empt deal (France)

The Summer When The Strawberries Bloomed - Rights sold: Bastei Lübbe - auction (Germany), La belle Etoile – Hachette – two-book pre-empt deal (France) - Vulkan Izdavaštvo (Serbia), Publishing house «Eksmo» (Russia), Bata Press (Macedonia).

Film/Tv adaptation Rights sold!

FOLLOWING THE INTERNATIONAL SUCCESS OF "THE SUMMER WHEN THE STRAWBERRIES BLOOMED", THE SMALL VILLAGE OF TIGLIOBIANCO ONCE AGAIN SETS THE SCENE FOR A BRILLIANT AND IRRESISTIBLE NEW COMEDY!

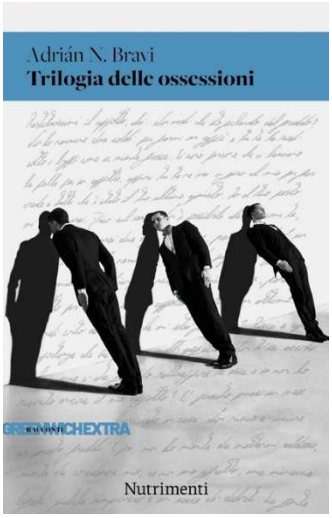
A BEST-SELLING AUTHOR IN FRANCE, TRANSLATED INTO 5 LANGUAGES

AN UNUSUAL ROMANTIC COMEDY AND A DECIDEDLY UNPREDICTABLE AUTUMN

« Love isn't all the pieces of you that explode and shatter.
It's the pieces of you that were once scattered and suddenly come home, all together.»

The quiet village of Tigliobianco is jolted out of its slumber when the mayor decides to demolish the house of the centenarian Penelope, who has recently passed away, to build a supermarket. Opposed to the plan, the villagers rally to find an heir to the elderly lady, and Maximilien Bonnet, a multi-starred chef and the grandson of one of Penelope's cousins, arrives from Taipei. The house seems to be safe, but the mayor refuses to back down, and the greedy Erica – owner of a struggling homewares shop – is prepared to do anything to get her hands on the treasures hidden within those walls. Amidst secret investigations, plot twists and the arrival of three eccentric but big-hearted friends, Maximilien will find the key to preserving Penelope's house and changing his own destiny. This is also thanks to Azzurra, a charming perfumer who has fled Geneva in search of her true self.

Anna Bonacina was born in Friuli and lives in Udine, where she works as a librarian. Her short story, entitled *L'amore è un airone azzurro*, was a finalist in the competition organised by Eataly Editore and Scuola Holden, and has been published in the anthology *Mangia, scrivi, Eataly!*. Her fairy tale *Sei cose impossibili prima di colazione* was set to music by the composer Marco Beretta and has now been adapted into a theatre production. She has also published *L'estate in cui fiorirono le fragole* (The Summer the Strawberries Bloomed) with Sperling & Kupfer, which has been translated into German, French, Serbian, Russian and Macedonian. Both of her novels have been optioned for a TV series.



Author: ADRIÁN N. BRAVI
Title: TRILOGY OF OBSESSIONS
(TRILOGIA DELLE OSSESSIONI)

Pages: 200
First Publisher: Nutrimenti
Publication date: 18 September 2026

Rights: Nutrimenti

WITH A TOUCH OF SARCASM, *THIS TRILOGY OF OBSESSIONS* OFFERS A DAZZLING (AND AT TIMES BITING) OVERVIEW OF THOSE WHO PERSIST IN SEEKING A PERSONAL ORDER AMIDST THE CHAOS OF EVERYDAY LIFE. LETTERS THAT NEVER ARRIVE, TABLES THAT NOBODY EVER CLEANS PROPERLY, AND THAT MELANCHOLIC HUMOUR REMINISCENT OF THE FINEST CONTEMPORARY ITALIAN NOVELS.

"I couldn't imagine literature," writes Adrián N. Bravi, "without Captain Ahab's obsessions, Raskolnikov's demons, Zeno's powers of persuasion or Humbert's morbid tendencies."

Amidst provincial superstitions, stubborn baldness and relentless dust, dignity lies hidden where no one would think to look for it: beneath a hairpiece, amongst the pages of books, in a mountain cave. Arduino Gherarducci, a university researcher with minute yet relentless obsessions, finds himself on the fringes of society and his own family, fighting with pride against the decline of his hairpiece in a world that is too hurried, too bald and too noisy. Anselmo, on the other hand, is obsessed with dust, to which he sacrifices even his most intimate relationships, whilst the third protagonist, having reached the brink of suicide, realises that his coat has been taken from him and from that moment on will do nothing but demand its return.

Arduino Gherarducci is a man obsessed with his hairpiece – a particular hairstyle designed to conceal his baldness. He comes from a family of men who wear hairpieces, all of whom take pride in their elegance. He works as a university researcher and leads a quiet life until, during a lecture, an Argentine student messes up his hairpiece in front of the whole class, provoking laughter and embarrassment. This incident marks the beginning of his crisis: humiliated, he abandons his job and his family, and embarks on a journey in which he is swept up in sensational and unexpected events until he finally decides to shave his head, abandoning his identity as a man with a hairpiece. Anselmo Del Vescovo, a librarian in Catinari, is obsessed with cleanliness and the fight against house dust, which he regards as an invisible and omnipresent enemy. He devotes himself scrupulously to cataloguing books, but feels isolated and dissatisfied. He is visited by an Argentine man, Adrián Bravi, who borrows a book and leaves behind a briefcase. Then there is a man who, on the verge of suicide, has his coat stolen; from that moment on, he lives solely for the obsession of getting it back, engaging in an imaginary dialogue with the person who took it from him, to whom he reveals all the dissatisfactions of his life.

Adrián N. Bravi was born in Buenos Aires and lived in Argentina until the age of 24, when he moved to Italy to continue his studies in philosophy. He lives in Recanati and works as a librarian at the University of Macerata. Some of his published books include: *Restituiscimi il cappotto* (2004), *La pelusa* (2007), *Sud 1982* (2008), *Il riporto* (2011), *L'albero e la vacca* (2013), *L'inondazione* (2015), *La gelosia delle lingue* (2017), *L'idioma di Casilda Moreira* (2019), *Il levitatore* (2020). With Nutrimenti, he has published *Verde Eldorado* (2022), *Adelaida* (2024) – shortlisted for the Strega Prize, winner of the Comisso Prize and the Basilicata Literary Prize, and recipient of a special mention at the Napoli Prize, as well as a finalist for the Procida Isola di Arturo Elsa Morante Prize – and *La nuotatrice notturna* (2025). In 2025, the Universidad Nacional de Villa María in Argentina awarded him the title of Honorary Professor.



Author: ADRIÁN N. BRAVI
Title: THE NIGHT SWIMMER
(LA NUOTATRICE NOTTURNA)

Pages: 196
First Publisher: Nutrimenti
Publication date: 26 September 2025

Rights: Nutrimenti

Film/Tv rights available

A MISSING FATHER. A HIDDEN TRUTH. A JOURNEY OF DISCOVERY THAT WILL CHANGE JACOPO'S LIFE FOREVER.

AFTER THE AWARD-WINNING "ADELAIDA", ADRIÁN N. BRAVI SIGNS A POWERFUL NOVEL ABOUT GENDER IDENTITY, LOVE AND THE COURAGE TO BE ONESELF.

FIFTH PLACE IN THE INDISCRETO QUALITY CHART 2026

"When Jacopo Bordignola heard the telephone ring that morning and a woman he didn't know, but who said her name was Ingrid, told him his father had drowned in a river the night before, at a point, she explained mournfully, where the waters are swampy and become impassable, the first thing he thought of doing was to fetch the harmonica his father had given him as a gift long ago. He had kept it always in a bedside drawer, wrapped in an old silk handkerchief. Then he dropped onto the sofa, holding the harmonica, blowing lightly over the holes and thinking of the last time he had seen that man, many years before."

When he receives a phone call informing him of the death of his father Pietro, drowned in a river in Portugal, Jacopo has no idea that this event will start a journey that will upset all his certainties. He, who works in a cemetery and is a clumsy and awkward forty-something man, sets off accompanied by his friend Quinto in search of answers, taking with him only a harmonica and the few blurred memories of an ever-absent father.
In Rio Salgueiro, Jacopo will discover that his father was hiding a surprising truth. Between the cobbled streets of the Portuguese town and the rushing waters of the river, the protagonist will have to confront not only his own pain, but also a revelation that will challenge everything he thought he knew about his family and himself.
Through an intimate and profound narrative, with delicacy and poetry, Bravi explores universal themes such as gender identity, family relationships and the weight of secrets. The Night Swimmer is an intense and moving novel capable of tackling complex themes by interweaving the lives of the characters in a mosaic of emotions and revelations. A novel about searching for one's roots and accepting truths that can change the course of a life.

THEY SAID ABOUT "THE NIGHT SWIMMER"

"In the present, there is a mild-mannered young man, Jacopo, who is always awkward in his approach to life. In his humble job as a gravedigger's assistant lurks, like an unspoken promise

of redemption, the memory of a fabulous, bohemian father who abandoned him and his mother to lead a mysterious life in unknown places. One day, a phone call from Portugal announces his death by drowning, and so Jacopo begins the journey backwards that leads him to his father's remains, or rather, to a simulacrum of him that suddenly contradicts and unsettles both the memories so often repeated by his mother and his own memories, as well as the expectations of a son forced to become an orphan long before his time.
With the delicacy typical of his prose, with a gaze that captures an emotionally risky story without exaggerating it, Bravi knows how to tackle and convey in his narrative themes that have become hot topics today, even from an ethical and political point of view, starting with gender identity. **The absence of rhetoric and the rhythmic cadence of a narrative that seeks out the reader without ever pandering to them or disorienting them with special effects testify, above all, that with *La nuotatrice notturna*, Bravi has reached his full maturity as a writer." Massimo Raffaeli, Il Venerdì di Repubblica**

« This is the story of the world and its pettiness, a story about identity and its constraints. About the need to remain silent in the certainty that one will never be understood. » **Romana Petri – La Lettura**

« By fully adopting the perspective of the shy protagonist, with his naivety and amazement, and adding details, sharp observations, and delicately humorous notes, Bravi constructs a charming and profound story, in which there is not the slightest hint of a thesis, as can happen when dealing with topics that are considered "difficult" in some way, such as gender identity and the prejudices (as well as clichés and the occasional touch of victimhood) that often accompany it. » **Francesca Lazzarato - Il Manifesto**

Adrián N. Bravi was born in Buenos Aires, lived in Argentina until the age of 24, then moved to Italy to pursue his studies in philosophy. He lives in Recanati and is a librarian at the University of Macerata. Some of his published books: *Restituiscimi il cappotto* (2004), *La pelusa* (2007), *Sud 1982* (2008), *Il riporto* (2011), *L'albero e la vacca* (2013), *L'inondazione* (2015); *La gelosia delle lingue* (2017); *L'idioma di Casilda Moreira* (2019), *Il levitatore* (2020).
With Nutrimenti he published *Verde Eldorado* (2022) and *Adelaida* (2024), **selected in the dozen of the Premio Strega, winner of the Premio Comisso, the Basilicata Literary Prize, special mention of the Premio Napoli, finalist of the Premio Procida Isola di Arturo Elsa Morante.** This year, the Argentinean University of Villa Maria awarded him the title of Honorary Professor.



Author: NICOLA BRUNIALTI
Title: KILLERGARTEN

Pages: 300
First Publisher: Gallucci
Publication date: September 2026

Rights: Worldwide

A DARK TALE POISED BETWEEN SARCASM AND MYSTERY, IN WHICH NICOLA BRUNIALTI INTRODUCES YOU TO THE PERSON YOU'D NEVER WANT TO HAVE TO RELY ON AND LEAVES YOU IN THEIR COMPANY IN THE LAST PLACE YOU'D EVER WANT TO FIND YOURSELF. SWEET DREAMS ARE OVER FOR GOOD.

"The little girl is at the bottom of the well.
She thrashes about, moves her hands, scratches at the muddy walls with her fingernails.
She flails about. The little girl cannot swim. She stirs up the water, calls for help, screams.
As she stretches her arms and neck towards the sky, she sinks and resurfaces.
She sinks and resurfaces again.
Then she sinks for the last time. And when she resurfaces, she is no longer struggling.
Now she floats weightlessly, face down.
And her long blonde hair floats all around her, along with her floral dress and her slender legs. He stands there watching her, motionless, from the edge of the well.
He hasn't lifted a finger. He hasn't said a word.
Standing on tiptoe, he looks down, his fingers clenched tightly around the rough, moss-covered bricks. Suddenly, from deep within the woods, a distant chant reaches his ears.
The sound of a music box, an obsessive melody that repeats, repeats, repeats…"

Michael is an unreliable womaniser and a compulsive gambler, up to his neck in debt. In short, certainly not the sort of person you'd expect when you think of a famous children's author. And yet the proceeds from his novels, inspired by the toys of his childhood, have funded his questionable lifestyle for years. Until now. Times have changed, sales have plummeted, so his publisher has dropped him like a hot potato. It's a pity that he still has to pay back a fair sum to the relentless loan shark who's hot on his heels. To get himself out of this mess, Michael decides to hide away in the abandoned family villa, on an island in the middle of a lake, to write a horror story for young people that he hopes will make his fortune. Nothing could be more fitting, given that the house where he is about to shut himself away has been known locally as the 'cursed house' ever since the tragic death of his little sister. From the moment he arrives, in fact, Michael notices – with some apprehension – strange coincidences, objects out of place and inexplicable events. Is it just his imagination? Perhaps, or perhaps not. **A dark tale poised between sarcasm and mystery, in which Nicola Brunialti introduces you to the person you'd never want to have to rely on and leaves you in their company in the last place you'd ever want to find yourself. Sweet dreams are over for good.**

Nicola Brunialti worked as an advertising executive for years, creating famous campaigns, including those for Lavazza, TIM and Alitalia. He was the writer behind *Chi ha incastrato Peter Pan?* and other television programmes. He wrote the songs *Dormono tutti* for Renato Zero; *Abbi cura di me* in 2019; and *Quando sarai piccola*, performed at Sanremo 2025, both with Simone Cristicchi. Since 2010, he has devoted himself full-time to writing novels and animated TV series for children. Gallucci has published the books *Sophie. Se ci sei, batti un colpo!* and *Parental fuori control*.



Author: PINO CACUCCI
Title: REPAIR THE WRONGS
(RIPARARE I TORTI)

Pages: 416
First Publisher: Mondadori
Publication date: 24th March 2026

Rights: Worldwide

Rights sold: Les Grands Vents (France)

Film/Tv rights available

A GREAT EPIC NOVEL WHERE SPYING, ADVENTURE AND LOVE STORIES INTERTWINE MASTERFULLY AS ONLY A GREAT STORYTELLER LIKE CACUCCI CAN DO. A STORY THAT EVOKES A VERY SIGNIFICANT SEGMENT OF ITALIAN AND MEXICAN HISTORY.

PINO CACUCCI FLOODS HIS WRITING WITH EVENTS AND MAKES THE WAR EPIC A SEGMENT OF HISTORY IN WHICH ONE LEARNS TO READ THE LOGIC OF FACTS AND RIGHT WRONGS.

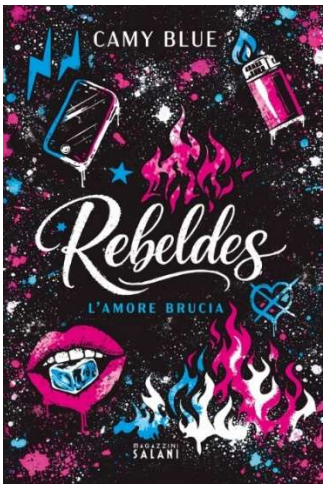
IT WAS SELECTED AMONG THE TEN NOVELS OF THE BOOK ADAPTATION FORUM (BAF, OCTOBER 7, 2025) FOR PREVIEW PRESENTATION AT MIA (INTERNATIONAL AUDIOVISUAL MARKET)

IN MEXICO, WHAT APPEARS SIMPLE IS ALMOST ALWAYS DANGEROUS

June 10, 1940. Ten Italian merchant ships are requisitioned by the still neutral Mexican government. Furio, boatswain of the Lucifero, after discovering that he is under close surveillance as a “probable anti-fascist and defeatist,” is enlisted to find out what is happening on a wealthy coffee plantation in Chiapas. The land belongs to the Braun family (Eva, the Führer's companion, apparently visits from time to time). Every move is risky. On the one hand, the German owners are pushing for a coup by the Mexican far-right Synarchist movement; on the other, the government is keeping a close eye on developments. Furio is approached by Amalia, beautiful, mysterious, ruthless, who has suffered and witnessed abuse and violence on the coffee plantation.
The torch of justice is lit. Love and struggle mark the passage of time in a world that has meanwhile plunged into the vortex of war.
Pino Cacucci floods his writing with events and makes the war epic a segment of history in which one learns to read the logic of facts and right wrongs.

Pino Cacucci, (1955) Born in Alessandria he grew up in Chiavari, near Genua, and moved to Bologna in 1975 to study at the faculty of the performing arts. In the early 1980s he spent long periods of time in Paris and Barcelona, and then in Mexico and in Central America, where he lived for a few years. He is a translator and was awarded several prizes, including that for the best translation from the

Cervantes Institute in Rome, and the Premio Italia-México 2017 awarded in Mexico City. He published *Outland rock* (Traseuropa, 1988, winner of the MystFest prize; Feltrinelli, 2007), *Puerto Escondido* (Interno Giallo, 1990, then Mondadori and finally Feltrinelli, 2015) upon which Gabriele Salvatores based the homonymous film, Tina (Tina Modotti's biography), upon which a Mexican producer is developing a tv series, *San Isidro Futbòl* , upon which Alessandro Cappelletti based the film Viva San Isidro, starring Diego Abatantuono, (Interno Giallo, 1991; Feltrinelli, 2005), *La polvere del Messico* ("Mexico's dust", Mondadori, 1992; Feltrinelli, 1996, 2004), *Punti di fuga* ("Vanishing points", Mondadori, 1992; Feltrinelli, 2000), *Forfora* ("Dandruff", Granata Press, 1993), later on expanded into *Forfora e altre sventure* ("Dandruff and other misfortunes", Feltrinelli, 1997), *In ogni caso nessun rimorso* ("In any event no remorse", Longanesi, 1994; Feltrinelli, 2001), *La giustizia siamo noi* ("We are justice", with Otto Gabos; Rizzoli, 2010). With Feltrinelli he also published: *Camminando. Incontri di un viandante* ("On the road. Encounters of a wayfarer", 1996, Terra- City of Palermo Prize), *Demasiado Corazòn* (1999, Giorgio Scerbanenco Noir Prize at the Courmayeur Festival), *Ribelli!* ("Rebels!", 2001, Special Prize of the jury at Fiesole Narrativa), *Gracias México* (2001), Mastruzzi indaga ("Mastruzzi investigates", 2002), *Oltretorrente* ("Beyond the stream", 2003, finalist at the Paolo Volponi National Literary Prize), *Nahui* (2005), *Un po' per amore, un po' per rabbia* ("A bit for love, a bit for rage", 2008, that came out in Universale economica edition in two volumes titled Vagabondaggi, "Wanderings", 2012, and La memoria non m'inganna, "Memory does not trick me", 2013), *Le balene lo sanno. Viaggio nella California messicana* ("Whales know. Journey through Mexican California", 2009, Emilio Salgari Prize 2010), *¡Viva la vida!* (2010; "Audiobooks EmonsFeltrinelli", 2011), *Nessuno può portarti un fiore* ("No one can bring you flowers", 2012, Chiara Prize), *Mahahual* (2014), *Quelli del San Patricio* ("San Patricio's battalion", 2015), *Mujeres* (2018; with Stefano Delli Veneri in the series Feltrinelli Comics) and, in the digital series Zoom, with Stefano Delli Veneri, upon which an International producer is developing a tv series), *Tijuanaland* (2012), *Colluttorius* (2012), *Campeche* (2013), *Acapulco* (2014), *Ferrovie secondarie* ("Secondary railways", 2014) and *Irlanda por siempre!* (2015; illustrated by Stefano Delli Veneri). For Feltrinelli he also edited *Latinoamericana* by Ernesto Che Guevara and Alberto Granado (1993) and *Io, Marcos. Il nuovo Zapata racconta* ("I, Marcos. Stories by the modern Zapata", 1995). He translated more then one hundreds of Spanish and Latin American novels into Italian, among whom Claudia Piñeiro, Enrique Vila-Matas, Ricardo Piglia, David Trueba, Gabriel Trujillo Muñoz, Manuel Rivas, Carmen Boullosa, Maruja Torres, Carlos Franz, Manuel Vicent. Some of his novels are translated into 7 languages and two of his books are about to go into production for international TV series. With Mondadori has published *The Elban errant. Life, deeds and loves of a soldier of fortune and of his young friend Miguel de Cervantes* (Mondadori 2022), winner of **Alessandro Manzoni Award 2022 for Historical novel**, *Dieguito and the northern centaur* (Mondadori, 2024), a novel that recount the revolutionary deeds of Pancho Villa.



Author: CAMY BLUE
Title: REBELDES 1. LOVE BURNS
(REBELDES. L'AMORE BRUCIA)

Pages: 350
First Publisher: Magazzini Salani
Publication date: 7th April, 2026
Print run: 10.000 copies

Rights: Worldwide
Film/Tv series: Rights sold!

Rights sold: Wonderbooks (SP)

FIRST REPRINT AFTER TWO WEEKS!

AFTER THE SUCCESS OF *LE STELLE NON FANNO RUMORE*,
CAMY BLUE RETURNS TO CONTEMPORARY ROMANCE SET IN ITALY

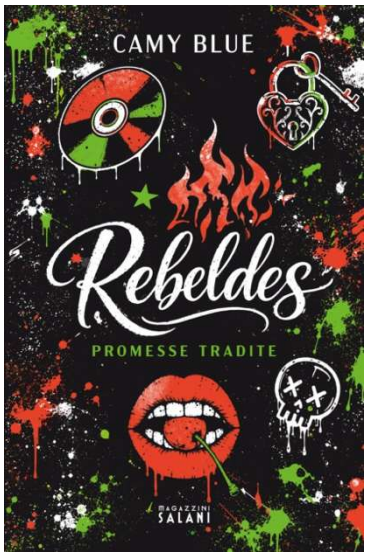
AN AUTHOR WITH 50,000 COPIES SOLD!

FOUR YOUTHS. TWO IMPOSSIBLE LOVE STORIES.
A SECRET THAT COULD DESTROY EVERYONE.

«You are too alive to stay in the place they have assigned you. Nobody likes perfect things, because they are not real. They don't hurt, they don't bleed, they don't haunt you. There is no darkness to hide in or recognize yourself in, and there is nothing to save.».

In the heart of ruthless Rome, Lavinia Benedetti finds herself dealing with the mysterious death of her cousin Samanta during a school party that ended in tragedy. From that moment on, Lavinia finds herself involved in an investigation that will force her to question everything she thought she knew about those around her. Helping her unravel the mystery are Simone, a boy with a difficult past and a present marked by anger; Carlotta, fragile and rebellious, struggling with a family that does not understand her; Riccardo, the "son of the pope" who hides more shadows than he lets on. Together, amid the run-down suburbs and corridors of a high school where bullying and social differences are the order of the day, the four teenagers will have to face not only pain and fear, but also their own desire for redemption and the desire to finally be seen and loved for who they are.

Camy Blue is the pseudonym of Silvia Ciompi. She was born in 1993 and lives in Tuscany. A graduate student in Communication Sciences, she has always written everywhere: diaries, poems, short stories, and now novels. She made her debut first on Wattpad with over 2 million reads, and then in bookstores with the novel *Tutto il buio dei miei giorni* (2019), followed by *Tutto il mare è nei tuoi occhi* (2019), both published by Sperling & Kupfer.
In 2021, she published *Tutto l'amore che resta di noi* (ebook only). Sperling & Kupfer also published *Volevo solo sfiorare il cielo* (2021), *Oggi sarò tempesta* (2022), and *Le stelle non fanno rumore* (2023). In 2024, Magazzini Salani published *The Love Map* and in 2025 *Wild Hearts*, both of which were reprinted after their first week of release. In April 2026, Magazzini Salani published her latest novel, *Rebeldes*.



Author: CAMY BLUE
Title: REBELDES 2. BROKEN PROMISES

Pages: 400
First Publisher: Magazzini Salani
Publication date: 3rd November 2026

Rights: Worldwide
Rights sold: Wonderbooks (SP)

Rebeldes 1. L'amore brucia – Film/Tv series: Rights sold!
Rights sold: Wonderbooks (SP)

FOUR TEENS.
TWO LOVES HANGING BY A THREAD.
TOO MANY FALSE PROMISES FOR A SINGLE, DARK TRUTH.

"I cannot promise you a happy ending, but I can swear to you that I will never forget you, our love, and everything we experienced together."

«I LOVE YOU, AND NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS, WHATEVER COMES TO PASS, I NEVER WANT YOU TO FORGET IT.»

Following the official reopening of the Polidori case, Torquato Tasso High School is back in the spotlight and Rome is holding its breath: it is now clear that Samanta's death was not an accident, but a murder. The police have taken charge, yet Lavinia cannot stop seeking justice. Together with Simone, Carlotta, Riccardo, Amir, and Giada, she begins to retrace the steps of the relationship Samanta had kept hidden from everyone. The closer the group gets to the truth, the more they discover the extent of the adults' involvement, and how difficult it is to distinguish between those who protect them and those who lie. Meanwhile, it is not just the investigation that grows increasingly complicated, but their own lives as well: Lavinia and Simone must confront feelings that never truly faded but were shattered by mistakes that may be irreversible, while Carlotta and Riccardo walk a fine line between love and self-destruction, knowing time is running out. When they finally uncover Samanta's unspeakable secret, and the lengths to which those who knew about it were willing to go, none of them will ever be the same. Because finding the culprit isn't enough: they must decide what to do with the truth, and what kind of people they want to become after facing it head-on.

Camy Blue is the pen name of Silvia Ciompi, a young Italian writer who made her debut on Wattpad before reaching bookstores, captivating thousands of readers and winning the affection of a vast community. She has already published with Magazzini Salani *The Love Map* and *Wild Hearts*; *Rebeldes. L'amore brucia* is the first volume of this duology.



Author: FRANCESCA COSTENARO
Title: ANONYMOUS LETTERS FOR LOST HEARTS
(LETTERE ANONIME PER CUORI SMARRITI)

Pages: 400
First Publisher: Giunti
Publication date: 15th July 2026

Rights: Worldwide

FRANCESCA COSTENARO RETURNS WITH A HEARTWARMING STORY, FILLED WITH SMALL THINGS AND GREAT ACTS OF COURAGE.

A FEELGOOD STORY THAT INTERTWINES MYSTERY, AUTHENTIC EMOTIONS, AND THE TRANSFORMATIVE POWER OF WORDS.

«We always believe that the person in front of us is stronger than they really are. That's how we stop caring for them. With love, anonymous writer.»

In Fraise Rouge, a tiny village in Provence, something unexpected happens that shakes up a summer that always seems the same. One day, an anonymous envelope is posted in a letterbox, and before long every villager receives one. Each letter has an unexpected quality; the anonymous sender seems to know every inhabitant of the village intimately: dreams, disappointments and secrets included. Like a hurricane, the slow, peaceful life of Fraise Rouge is transformed, stirring the inhabitants' consciences with new feelings. The young Viola, unable to let herself go with her feelings, arrives in the village to spend time with her grandmother Emma, a free-spirited and rebellious woman, as much loved as she is feared by the villagers. Amidst risky adventures and the turmoil of the heart, Viola discovers among her grandmother's belongings an album bearing a name: Rose. It is the first clue to a secret that Emma has kept hidden for decades...

Francesca Costenaro was born in 1983 in Marostica, Veneto, where she lives. She has a bachelor's degree in Social Services Planning and Management and a master's degree in Project Management for International Cooperation and Non-Profit Organizations. She works as social worker for a public body. Her debut novel *The little herb shop* (*La piccola bottega delle erbe*), published by Giunti (2025) has sold around 15.000 copies.



Author: EMANUELA FONTANA
Title: THE GIRLS OF ROME
(LE BAMBINE DI ROMA)

Pages: 450
First Publisher: Mondadori
Publication date: 5th May 2026
Print run: 15.000

Rights: Worldwide

FIRST REPRINT AFTER ONE MONTH!

THE STORY OF A LIFELONG FRIENDSHIP, AMIDST CONTESTED LOVES AND POWER GAMES, AS EXCITING AS A BRILLIANT FRIEND BUT SET IN ANCIENT ROME.

FROM THE AUTHOR OF THE BEST-SELLING NOVEL "LA CORRETTRICE", A NEW NOVEL FOCUSING ON TWO HISTORICAL FEMALE FIGURES NEVER BEFORE TOLD.

"LA CORRETTRICE", HAS SOLD MORE THAN 15,000 COPIES AND HAS REVEALED TO THE PUBLIC A NEW WRITER OF HISTORICAL NOVELS

***THE GIRLS OF ROME* IS THE FIRST BOOK IN A TWO-VOLUME SAGA**

"We have made a pact. We will be different from our fathers."

Giulia and Selene are no ordinary girls in first-century BC Rome. The former is the only daughter of Octavian Augustus, the man whom the Roman people regard as a god; the latter is the daughter of the scandalous love affair between Mark Antony and Cleopatra. When the couple, defeated by Octavian at Actium, take their own lives, Selene and her twin brother are taken to Rome and paraded as spoils of war in the triumphal procession. It is there that Giulia sees Selene for the first time, and is deeply struck by her: her long dark hair cascading over her shoulders and her proud bearing, despite having lost everything at the age of just ten. Octavian, in an act of clemency, decides to take the twins into his domus. And in that household, already crowded with half-siblings and cousins of all ages, Giulia manages to break through Selene's silence, slowly winning her trust. In the shadow of the ancient hatred between their fathers, an unexpected and tenacious friendship is born, one that grows, changes, cracks and mends itself continuously. They are completely different in every way: Selene has inherited her mother's charm and has a melancholic, reflective nature; Giulia is impetuous, capable of rivalling the boys and defying the rules. Surrounding them is a veritable extended family rife with underlying tensions, forbidden loves – such as that between Giulia and Iullo, Antony's only son spared by Octavian – and unions dictated by the logic of power, such as the marriage to which she herself will be destined in order to produce an heir for her father, Augustus. Outside the domus, a splendid Rome in the midst of its 'golden age', celebrated by poets and propaganda, seemingly at peace but in reality threatened by intrigues and conspiracies. Alternating the main narrative with the silence and solitude of Giulia's exile in Ventotene, Le bambine di Roma follows the protagonists to the threshold of adulthood, accompanying them through the first major upheavals that disrupt and divide their lives and the worlds – West and East – of which they are daughters.

Emanuela Fontana was born in Milan but has lived in Rome for many years. She is a teacher, journalist, and tour guide. She made her debut with Mondadori with *Il respiro degli angeli* (The Breath of Angels, 2021), followed by *La correttrice* (The Proofreader, 2023), **winner of the Manzoni Prize**, which revealed to the general public the figure of Emilia Luti, a Florentine nanny who played a role in the revision of *The Betrothed*. Her essay for Treccani on Emilia Luti and her correspondence with Alessandro Manzoni is going to be published in September 2026.



Author: ALLEGRA IAFRATE
Title: THE STRANGLER
(LA STRANGOLATRICE)

Pages: 300
First Publisher: Guanda
Publication date: February 2027

Rights: Worldwide

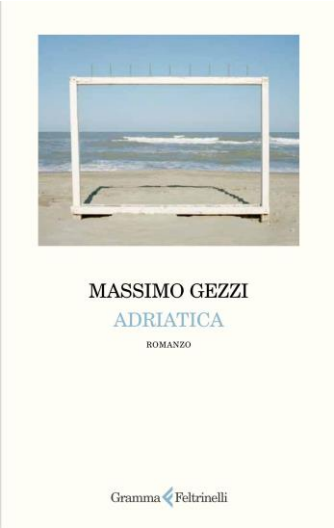
MYSTERIOUS DISCOVERIES, A RESTLESS PAINTER AND THE SHADOW OF THE INQUISITION: A GRIPPING NOVEL SET IN THE FLORENCE OF THE MEDICI, WHERE NOTHING IS AS IT SEEMS.

A MYSTERIOUS PAINTING THAT HAS AN ENTIRE COURT IN ITS GRIP.

AT A TIME WHEN FLORENCE WAS IN FLAMES WITH INTRIGUE, POISON AND SILENT BURNINGS, THE PORTRAIT OF A STRANGLER EMERGES.
THE THREAT OF A NAMELESS WOMAN.

In June 1640, in Florence, on the night of St John's Day, the corridors of the Palazzo Pitti became the scene of a disturbing mystery. The painting of *The Strangler*, along with a wax effigy and the carcass of a black goat, was discovered in front of the Medici apartments. Could this be witchcraft? The Inquisition has no doubts; it has long been seeking a suitable opportunity to strike at the ducal family. But Salvatore Rosa, a Neapolitan artist working at court, is convinced that there is another meaning hidden behind these objects. Eager to protect the sister of the woman he is in love with - who risks becoming a scapegoat in the trial – he embarks on an investigation that draws him into the secrets of the noble Florentine family, amidst political rivalries, tensions with the clergy, clandestine passions and illegitimate children. As his investigations take him beyond Florence, Rosa gradually realises that the painting might conceal something quite different from an occult ritual. **Allegra Iafrate reconstructs 17th-century Medici-era Florence with historical accuracy in this debut novel, imbued with noir and Gothic elements, in which art proves to be the key to unravelling the most unspeakable mysteries of the Florentine nobility.**

Allegra Iafrate was born in Bologna in 1985. She studied Modern Literature and Medieval Art History at the Scuola Normale Superiore in Pisa and obtained a violin diploma from the Maderna Conservatoire in Cesena. From 2022 to 2024, she directed the Italian Cultural Institute in Brussels. In 2021, she published the essay *Cercar tesori. Tra Medioevo ed Età Moderna* with Laterza. *La strangolatrice* is her debut novel.



Author: MASSIMO GEZZI
Title: ADRIATICA

Pages: 170
First Publisher: Gramma/Feltrinelli
Publication date: 7th October 2025

Rights: Worldwide

Foreign Rights sold: Nonsolo Verlag (Germany), NoRules (Serbia), Bulgaria (Aviana Burgas).

«BEFORE THIS BOOK, ADRIATICA DID NOT EXIST. NOW IT IS AN UNFORGETTABLE PLACE.» Andrea Bajani

THIRD PLACE IN THE INDISCRETO QUALITY CHART 2026
FINALIST FOR THE MEGAMARK AWARD 2026

PROPOSED TO THE STREGA AWARD BY LAURA PUGNO with this motivation:

"(...) Everything happens in one night, on this tiny planet Solaris. Émilie disappoints her perfect friend, who is more naive than truly integrated into the ruthless social mechanism that she has always avoided, paying the monstrous price of adolescent marginalisation. Tullio discovers the deadly end of a distant love, which in the time since its end has consumed all the space of reality. Here, the author's poetic skill lies in avoiding any flattery of consolation, any seduction of comfort. When it all ends, the protagonists and readers will find themselves in an exploded elsewhere, or a beginning of change will have been triggered within us. The happy ending in literature, Massimo Gezzi seems to be telling us, is perhaps this, today?"

TWO DESTINIES MEET IN ONE NIGHT IN ADRIATICA: SHE, EIGHTEEN YEARS OLD, EMILIE, LIVES ALL STRETCHED OUT INTO THE FUTURE, IN AN IMAGINARY ESCAPE FROM THE PLACE WHERE SHE FEELS IMPRISONED, AND HE, SIXTY YEARS OLD, TULLIO, ALL CURLED UP IN A PAST THAT THAT VERY EVENING WANTS TO FORCEFULLY COME BACK TO THE SURFACE. THAT NIGHT THE TWO WILL MAKE AN UNEXPECTED NOCTURNAL CROSSING, UNTIL A SINGULAR EVENT PUTS AN END TO EVERYTHING OR FROM WHICH EVERYTHING CAN START AGAIN.

«For these characters, marked by an apparently peaceful everyday life but with many wounds beneath the surface, Gezzi constructs an imaginary place called Adriatica, part village, part city. It is simple and welcoming, sufficiently rough and bare to encourage young people and adults to look inside themselves, to find themselves alone, to annul themselves.» **Marco Balzano, La Lettura**

«With Adriatica, poet Massimo Gezzi also confirms his talent as a narrator.»
Massimo Raffaeli – Il Venerdì

«The old and the young today inhabit different planets: Tullio, the boomer, is analog, while Emilie, the Generation Z girl, is digital. They meet because they both need to get some fresh air, they recognize each other as wounded animals, and they take care of each other for a few hours.»
Sette, Corriere della Sera

« The writing is precise, fluid, poetic but without vertigo.»
Lavinia Mannelli, Tuttolibri la Stampa

It is a mid-May evening in Adriatica, the moon is high in the sky, and the sea is almost still. Emilie walks toward the pier. She needs silence tonight. She has no desire to set foot in her home. Her eyes are swollen, and her throat is sore from screaming. Her mother drinks a bottle of wine a day and has the nerve to accuse her of being disgusting. It's too much for such a calm evening. Better the pier, better that "thing in the middle of the sea" on the strip of beach next to the outlet of the sewage treatment plant where she and Giada, her best friend, have just given vent to their desires, fantasies, and their unconfessable teenage secrets. Tullio also needs silence and the sea tonight. He is almost seventy and lives alone in the apartment his mother left him. His head is spinning, but he can't stop drinking. He blesses and curses the sea, the scent of acacia trees, the intermittent glimmer of the lighthouse, and a relic kept in a box buried in his bedroom cabinet: the image of a young woman, the most precious and dearest to him. Both the girl and the 68-year-old man walk along the Adriatic seafront and venture onto that pier, hoping to sort out their thoughts and find calm. But their lives will end up colliding and opening up to each other, and the two will discover that they share memories and secrets, gray areas and suspicions. Until, at the end of their nighttime wanderings, consumed by a fire that reignites in a pub populated by noisy and racist fans, they witness a singular event that will put an end to everything, or from which everything can begin again. **Massimo Gezzi brings together different generations, lost dreams, and naive hopes in an imaginary province, an unforgettable province of the soul overlooking the sea. He blends youth and old age in a measured, precise, and clear portrait.**

HAVE WRITTEN ABOUT "LE STELLE VICINE"

"Massimo Gezzi explores and immerses himself in the underworld of everyday life, among bars and streets, where anger, desires, and loves explode with greater force."
Marco Balzano

"Gezzi mostly uses grey as a psychological symbol for his characters, and the clarity of his style and conciseness refer to the teachings of easily identifiable masters, from Raymond Carver to our own Claudio Piersanti." **Massimo Raffaeli, *La Repubblica*, il Venerdì**

"Twelve texts of remarkable stylistic quality (...) set against a backdrop of mundane or even vulgar everyday life." **Alberto Casadei, *La Stampa*, Tutto Libri**

"Massimo Gezzi is particularly interested in portraying a world crowded with individuals who are often ignored by contemporary narratives. The story of their violence and their joys is equivalent to the dozens of underground, everyday stories that occur everywhere, in every suburb of the Western world." **Francesco Brancati, Doppiozero**

Massimo Gezzi lives in Lugano, where he teaches in a high school. He has published the poetry books *Il mare a destra* (2004), *L'attimo Dopo* (2009, **Metauro Prize and Marazza Giovani Prize**), *Il numero dei vivi* (2015, **Carducci Prize, Tirinnanzi Prize and Swiss Literature Prize** 2016) and *Uno di niente. Storia di Giovanni Antonelli, poeta* (2016). He coordinates the literary site «Le parole e le cose2». He edited the commented edition of the Diary of '71 and '72 by Eugenio Montale (Mondadori, 20202), the *Oscar Poesie 1975-2012 di Franco Buffoni* (Mondadori, 2012), *Le Poesie scelte di Luigi Di Ruscio* (Marcos y Marcos, 2019) and *La città lontana. Poesie 1993-2009 di Adelelmo Ruggieri* (Marcos y Marcos, 2021). *Tra le pagine e il mondo* (Italic Pequod, 2015) he collected ten years of interviews with poets and reviews of poetry books.He published a short stories collecion *Le stelle vicine* (Bollati Boringhieri, 2021) **in the Top 10 of Indiscreto's quality ranking.**



Author: ANTONIO IOVANE
Title: ITALIANISSIMO
(L'ITALIANISSIMO)

Pages: 240
First Publisher: Mondadori
Publication date: September 2026

Rights: Worldwide

Film Rights: Sold!

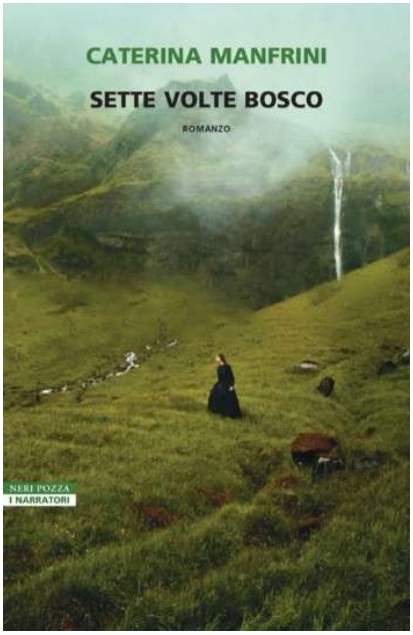
SOME OF THE MOST ICONIC IMAGES IN THE HISTORY OF OUR COUNTRY ARE LINKED TO SANDRO PERTINI. THE STORY OF HIS LIFE PROVIDES AN OPPORTUNITY TO REFLECT ON A PRESENT DEVOID OF PERSONALITIES CAPABLE OF UNITING THE COUNTRY AND BREAKING DOWN THE WALL THAT SEPARATES THOSE WHO GOVERN FROM THE CITIZENS.

IT'S PERTINI'S LAST DAY AT THE QUIRINALE.
BUT THE PRESIDENT HAS DECIDED HE WON'T LEAVE.

«Life is meant to be lived to the fullest, Maccanico. There are people who die with their lives still untouched - what good is a life that's untouched? Live your life to the fullest, or you'll regret it later.»

It is June 29, 1985, Sandro Pertini's last day as President of the Republic, and in the courtyard of honor, ministers, cuirassiers, and Quirinale staff are lined up to bid him a solemn farewell. But Pertini doesn't show up. He isn't in his office. He seems to have vanished. When, after a long search, he is found, the head of state announces with his usual resolve: "I have decided to stay." The country, he says, still needs him. The day that was supposed to be one of farewells turns into a whirlwind of live television addresses, arguments with his wife Carla and Secretary-General Antonio Maccanico, meetings with Eugenio Scalfari, Bettino Craxi, and Pope Wojtyla, and increasingly intense confrontations with friends and memories of a life that never ceases to challenge him. What will he do, Sandro Pertini? Is he really determined to barricade himself in the Quirinale? Drawing inspiration from a real-life episode - his delayed farewell at the end of his seven-year term - Antonio Iovane crafts a novel that blurs the lines between reality and fiction to portray Pertini, the quintessentially Italian figure: a man steeped in history who desperately seeks a bridge between the past, present, and future, a mirror in which we can look at ourselves to try to understand how to be reborn today.

Antonio Iovane was born on May 18, 1974, in Rome, where he lives. A journalist, he produces investigative podcasts for the Gedi group. With Minimum Fax, he published the novel *Il brigatista* (2019), which was a huge success with critics and the public, and *La seduta spiritica* (2021). Mondadori published *Un uomo solo* (2022) in the Strade Blu series, an immersive and vivid account of Luigi Tenco's last hours, and *Il carnefice* (2024), the story of Erich Priebke, the executioner of the Fosse Ardeatine. **Antonio Iovane has become one of Italy's most important investigative journalists through his podcasts, from 'Meredith' to 'Uno Bianca' to 'Il cielo sopra Ustica'. 'Nera', released monthly by OnePodcast and produced in collaboration with journalist Massimo Lugli, had millions of listeners in 2025.**



Author: CATERINA MANFRINI
Title: SEVEN TIMES FOREST
(SETTE VOLTE BOSCO)

Pages: 240
First Publisher: Neri Pozza
Publication date: 11th July 2025

Rights: Worldwide

Rights sold: Rowohlt Verlag - pre-empt deal (Germany), Buchet-Chastel – auction (France), Dedalus (English World);

ENGLISH SAMPLE AVAILABLE

FOUR REPRINTS!!

FINALIST AT THE ZOCCA PRIZE FOR YOUNG WRITERS

ADALINA TRAVELS ON AN OLD TRAIN TO RETURN HOME. THE GREAT WAR TOOK HER PARENTS AWAY AND LEFT HER HOMELAND, SOUTH TYROL, UNRECOGNISABLE: THE BORDERS AND LANGUAGE HAVE CHANGED, THE MOUNTAINS AND FORESTS HAVE BEEN TORN APART BY BOMBING. THE TIME HAS COME TO START OVER, TO HEAL THE WOUNDS OF BODY AND SOUL, WHILE WAITING FOR HER BROTHER EMILIANO TO RETURN HOME.

A RAW AND POETIC DEBUT NOVEL. A TIME TO DIE AND A TIME TO HEAL. A CONTESTED LAND TORN BETWEEN FRAGILE BORDERS AND THE DESIRE TO BELONG.

AN EXTRAORDINARY STORY OF FEMALE REDEMPTION, DEEPLY INTERTWINED WITH THE INTENSITY AND STRENGTH OF THE MOUNTAINS.

"Seven times forest, seven times meadow": this was the prophecy they lived by. Life, in short, was a circle. Everything, in the end, returned to how it had been, and nothing they had was owed to them. Everything changed, went through phases and seasons, returned to how it had been and started again. Perhaps things would start again for Adalina too, now that she was back at the màs.

Adalina is alone. She has been travelling on that old, creaking train for two days. She has no one beside her to hold, comfort or feed. She only has a suitcase clutched between her legs, made of a bit of wood and cardboard that has almost melted in the storm. She is returning from Mitterndorf, the refugee camp for the inhabitants of South Tyrol, which was incorporated into the front line of the Great War, where she spent the last terrible year and lost her parents, who died of exhaustion and grief. In the camp, during the harsh days broken only by work at the shoe factory, and during the long nights crushed between the bodies of other desperate people, only two thoughts kept her alive: her màs, the farmstead that had been passed down through her family for generations, and Emiliano, her brother who had left to fight for an empire that had crumbled like a loaf of bread, the brother she had not heard from in months and who was now the only one left to call her by the name she loved: Lina. Back home, Lina realises that not only her family, borders and language have changed: the mountains and woods are no longer the same, torn apart by bombing, plundered and stripped bare. The farmhouse has partly collapsed and been blackened by fires set by squatters. But it is still standing. Adalina knows that life is made up of sad winters as well as lush springs, and now is the time to start over, to heal the wounds of the body and soul. This is also true for Emiliano, who will return from the war and must not think that Lina has ever given up. Until one day, something changes in her hard-won daily life. A young man has

sneaked into the farmhouse: he is a soldier, like Emiliano; he speaks German, the real one. And, just like Emiliano, he too is now on the wrong side of the border.

“Writing about mountains has become a well-represented ‘subgenre’ in bookshops, but one in which it is difficult to avoid clichés. Some manage to do so, as Caterina Manfrini's debut novel, *Sette volte bosco*. A novel that brings back to the present a largely forgotten episode dating back to the First World War: the great deportation, decided by the Austro-Hungarian Empire, to remove its Trentino subjects from the border area.

A journey between memory and hope, in an evocative debut novel.
Il Venerdì

Here, the mountain emerges, a “real” mountain, with its lyricism and tragedy, with its popular nakedness, as in the pages on Mount Pasubio ravaged by war, or in those on the market where goods are exchanged in kind. Bending down with careful research on the ignored tragedy of the Trentino populations thus becomes, on the one hand, a gesture of pity but also, on the other, of conscious restitution, ultimately of belonging.
Mario Baudino - EN Il Libraio

A first time to frame. Because making your debut with a novel, at a historic publishing house, when you are not even thirty years old, is not for everyone. Caterina Manfrini succeeded. **Carlo Martinelli – Il T**

Such a strong and powerful bond with the place, traditions and language are the elements that make this literary debut worth reading.
Il Piccolo

Caterina Manfrini was born in Rovereto in 1996. She studied anthropology in Denmark and Bologna. Her passion for stories led her to London, where she obtained a master's degree in Creative Writing. *Sette volte bosco* is her debut novel.



Author: CATERINA MANFRINI
Title: THE SUN IS BACK
(TORNA IL SOLE)

Pages: 250
First Publisher: CAI Edizioni
Publication date: 21 October 2026

Rights: Worldwide

Sette volte bosco - Rights sold: Dedalus (English world), Rowohlt Verlag (Germany), Buchet Chastel (France).

"The sun returned, just as, Martino thought, it always did. It reclaimed the valley as if nothing had changed, and continued to shine, to radiate its light. Who knows if, in the meantime, it was aware of the things that, beneath it, grew and died, blossomed and rotted over the course of seasons, days and minutes."

Set amongst the mountains of Trentino and Veneto, the 20th century bursts into the lives of men and women forced to grapple with wars, migration, poverty and upheavals destined to change the landscape and communities forever. Four stories follow characters caught between the need to leave and the desire to belong: Martino, a stonemason working on the construction of a road that threatens the valley's ancient balance; Ines, a young displaced woman serving on the second line on Mount Pasubio; Aleksandra, who has arrived from Russia in a mountain village where she is trying to put down new roots; and Aurelia, who seeks a promise of rebirth in the ancient carnival rituals. Through separate stories united by the same human landscape, the collection portrays the mountains as a dynamic, living place: houses, terraces, woods, roads and boundaries form a geography of memory in which human time confronts the slower passage of the seasons. The result is a collective portrait of roots, work and the possibility of starting afresh, even when doing so seems truly difficult.

Caterina Manfrini was born in Rovereto in 1996. She studied anthropology in Denmark and Bologna. Her passion for storytelling took her to London, where she completed a Master's degree in Creative Writing. In 2024, she published the young adult novel *Cugini* (Einaudi EL). In 2025, *Sette volte bosco* (Neri Pozza), her first novel, was a great success, as evidenced by four reprints and translations into English, French and German, as well as a **special mention at the 2026 ITAS Mountain Book Award.**



Author: SONIA MILAN
Title: THE FAVORITE SISTER
(LA SORELLA PREDILETTA)

Pages: 450
First Publisher: Garzanti
Publication date: June, 2026

Foreign Rights: Garzanti

TWO VERY DIFFERENT WOMEN
A SECRET DIVIDES THEM
A BOOK BRINGS THEM TOGETHER AGAIN

FROM THE AUTHOR OF *LA PRIMOGENITA*,
WHICH SOLD OVER 25,000 COPIES!

SONIA MILAN RETURNS TO HER READERS
WITH A NOVEL IN WHICH THE INCREDIBLE STORIES OF TWO SISTERS INTERTWINE
WITH ENCOUNTERS WITH REAL-LIFE CHARACTERS AND THE GREATEST EVENTS IN HISTORY.

«Sonia Milan has a knack for keeping readers glued to the pages
while also offering carefully reconstructed historical settings.»
Carlotta Sanzogni - Cosmopolitan

« Sonia Milan's heroines are not easily forgotten.»
Fulvia Degl'Innocenti - Famiglia Cristiana

Paris, the 1920s. Estelle and Olympia are sisters, but they couldn't be more different: the former is gentle and always open to others, the latter rebellious and a maverick. Yet it was Olympia who raised Estelle after they lost their mother when they were still children. One day, Estelle falls in love with Paul, a young aspiring writer. Olympia is happy for her, but feels the weight of a secret she has never been able to reveal. Then fate tears them apart, and that sense of guilt becomes insurmountable. All Olympia has left is Paul's unpublished first novel. So, she decides to do everything in her power to get it published. She owes it to him. And she owes it to Estelle. Only then does she realise that life is presenting her with a new challenge. She sets off for Spain, ravaged by the civil war, and, against that tragic backdrop, tries to forget. Decades later, in Rome, Caterina is a young journalist dissatisfied with her job. When she stumbles upon the story of a mysterious novel, she is captivated. It could be a case of plagiarism: the book was published by two different authors, in Paris and New York, in eras far apart. But her research reveals something quite different. Behind that novel lies a great love story. And hidden within it is a woman's final act of devotion to her beloved sister. Caterina realises that you cannot protect someone forever, but you can love them timelessly.
Because, one way or another, fate always ends up coming full circle. And perhaps the time has come for her to write her own story. Following the huge success of *La Primogenita*, fuelled by word of mouth among readers, Sonia Milan returns with a novel in which the extraordinary

stories of two sisters intertwine with real-life figures and major events in international history. A novel of great loves and sudden rebirths, of bonds stronger than anything else, and of choices that seem impossible.

THE HISTORICAL FIGURES THE PROTAGONISTS MEET IN THE NOVEL

Dolores Ibárruri, known as "La Pasionaria," was a Spanish politician, activist, and anti-fascist. During Franco's dictatorship, she inspired the Spanish resistance.

Ernest Hemingway, one of the most famous American writers and journalists, won the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1954.

Martha Gellhorn, American journalist, writer, and travel reporter, is considered one of the greatest war correspondents of the 20th century.

Oliver Sacks, British neurologist and writer, is the author of numerous best-selling books, many of which are dedicated to people with neurological disorders.

Sylvia Beach, American publisher, founded the Shakespeare and Company bookshop in Paris, where she published Joyce's controversial Ulysses and Ernest Hemingway's first book.

Sonia Milan, born in Rome in 1969, works in the IT sector. Passionate about flowers, she has obtained a certificate in ornamental floriculture from the municipality of Rome, is an expert rose grower, and is a member of the international jury for the Premio Roma award. She is also a great history buff. She is in love with Victor Hugo and has three dogs and a cat. Her debut novel *La primogenita* has sold over 25.000 copies.



Author: SEBASTIANO NATA
Title: EXERCISES IN SALVATION
(ESERCIZI DI SALVEZZA)

Pages: 350
First Publisher: Frassinelli
Publication date: 23th April, 2026

Rights: Worldwide

THE AUTHOR OF *"THE RESISTANCE OF THE SWIMMER"* AND *"THE EMPLOYEE"* RETURNS.

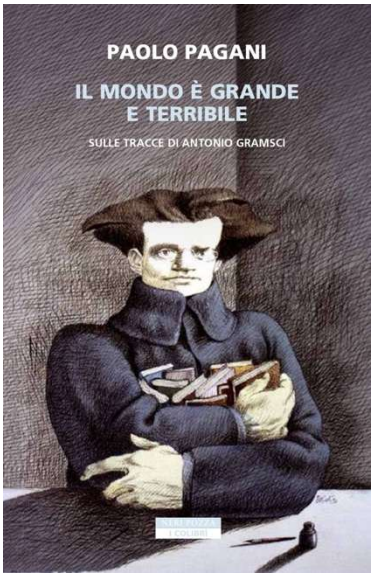
"EXERCISES IN SALVATION" ARE DISCIPLINE OF THE HEART, A DAILY ATTEMPT TO RECONCILE WITH ONESELF AND THE WORLD. A CRYSTAL-CLEAR NOVEL ABOUT FAITH THAT IS BORN OF DOUBT AND BECOMES A POSSIBILITY FOR REBIRTH.

SEBASTIANO NATA, WITH HIS MOST PAINFUL AND AMBITIOUS BOOK: A JOURNEY THROUGH FAITH AND LIFE, TOWARDS A REDEMPTION THAT SOMETIMES SEEMS UNATTAINABLE.

Whoever saves a life saves the entire world, says the Babylonian Talmud. But I don't believe it. It's too comforting, a fairy tale. All those hundreds of millions of damned lives will continue to be damned.

The protagonist of this novel, Gabriele Sata, is a man who cannot stop questioning the meaning of his life. In an attempt to bring order to chaos, he has written a book that spans his entire human experience: a time-consuming job, a love that fades away, the stubborn need to recognize something sacred within existence. But the novel never really ends. It revolves around the spiritual exercises promoted by Ignatius of Loyola, intimate and rigorous practices that seek to halt the flow of reality and open up a space for elevation.
Between a life spent in banking and the dream of becoming a successful writer, between the desire for happiness and the desire to care for others, Gabriele is driven by the need to save himself, to trigger an inner revolution that will restore order to the world.

Sebastiano Nata was born in Rome in 1955. His debut novel, *Il dipendente* (Theoria 1995, Feltrinelli 1997; 2025 with a preface by Emanuele Trevi), was a real literary sensation. He then published *La resistenza del Nuotatore* (1999), Mentre ero via (2004), *Il valore dei giorni* (The Value of Days, 2010), all published by Feltrinelli. With Barney Edizioni he published *La redenzione* (Redemption, 2014), with Atlantide *Tenera è l'acqua* (Water is Tender, 2020) and with Bompiani *Memoria di un infedele* (Memory of an Unfaithful Man, 2023).
A manager in various companies and also active in the third sector, his work has often been compared to that of Paolo Volponi for its intensity of experience and narrative power.



Author: PAOLO PAGANI
Title: THE WORLD IS BIG AND TERRIBLE
(IL MONDO È GRANDE E TERRIBILE)

Pages: 320
First Publisher: Neri Pozza
Publication date: March 2027

Rights: Worldwide

ONE HUNDRED YEARS AFTER HIS ARREST AND NINETY YEARS AFTER HIS DEATH, A PORTRAIT OF GRAMSCI THAT REDISCOVERS HIS EXTRAORDINARY CONTEMPORARY RELEVANCE.

A WORLD-RENOWNED INTELLECTUAL,
PORTRAYED IN HIS MOST HUMAN DIMENSION: ILLNESS, ENCOUNTERS, POLITICS, IMPRISONMENT, AND THE INEXHAUSTIBLE POWER OF IDEAS.

THEY TOOK AWAY HIS FREEDOM, BUT THEY COULD NOT IMPRISON HIS THOUGHT. A HUNDRED YEARS AFTER HIS ARREST, A JOURNEY TRACING THE FOOTSTEPS OF GRAMSCI, THE MAN WHO LEFT AN INDELIBLE MARK ON TWENTIETH-CENTURY CULTURE.

The journey begins where Antonio Gramsci's freedom ended: on the island of Ustica, where the Fascist regime sent him into internal exile in 1925.
From there, Paolo Pagani travels back in time, tracing the man behind the icon: Turin and his formative years, the Sardinia of his childhood, Moscow and his meeting with Lenin, Vienna, Fascist Rome, and finally the prison at Turi, where his health deteriorated even as he shaped a body of thought destined to outlive him.
Blending biography, reportage, and travelogue, *Il mondo è grande e terribile* restores Gramsci to his most vivid reality: a man who was both vulnerable and incredibly tenacious, capable of transforming his imprisonment into an extraordinary space of intellectual freedom.

Paolo Pagani was born in Milan in 1957. After graduating from the Liceo Classico Parini, he studied philosophy under Mario Dal Pra at the University of Milan in the early 1980s. A professional journalist, married with two children, he spent decades working in magazines, newspapers, and television as a correspondent; as an editor-in-chief, he launched digital startups (serving as deputy head of CNN Italia's Rome bureau) and led online editorial teams.
He has published *I luoghi del pensiero* (2019) and *Nietzsche on the road* (2021) with Neri Pozza, and *Citofonare Hegel* (2022) with Rizzoli. Under the latter title, he also created a philosophy podcast for Choramedia, comprising sixty 7-minute episodes, which was released exclusively on Spotify and reached third place in the Italian listening charts. He lives and works in Milan and contributes to the *Domenicale* supplement of *Il Sole 24 Ore*. In early 2024, he published *In cammino con Walter Benjamin. Il naufragio di un genio e le idee della sua epoca* with Neri Pozza. In 2025, he is publishing *Rivoluzione! Storia di una idea che ha trasformato il mondo* with Treccani.



Author: GIULIANA SALVI
Title: CLEMENTINA

Pages: 325
First Publisher: Einaudi
Publication date: 18th March, 2025
Print run: 16.000 copies
Paperback edition: April 2026

Rights: Worldwide

Rights sold: Bertrand (Portugal), Exmo (Russia/ best offer), Axis Mundi Wydawnictwo (Poland), Ninfi Publishing (Greek).

5 REPRINTS IN FIVE MONTHS!!
PAPERBACK EDITION IN APRIL 2026
OVER 35.000 COPIES SOLD!

WINNER OF "FLORENCE CITY OF READERS AWARD 2026"
WINNER OF "MEGLIO UN LIBRO AWARD 2026"
WINNERA OF "EDOARDO KIHLGREN DEBUT NOVEL AWARD CITY OF MILAN XXVII EDITION 2026"
WINNER OF "THE BELL OF BURGIO CULTURAL AWARD FOR "DEBUT NOVEL 2025"
FINALIST FOR "DOLORES PRADO AWARD 2026"
SELECTED FOR "2026 CITY OF CUNEO AWARD FOR DEBUT NOVELS"
SELECTED FOR THE READERS' PRIZE LUCCA-ROME 2025
AND FOR "IO DONNA LITERARY PRIZE "HEROINES OF TODAY" 2025

ENGLISH SAMPLE AVAILABLE

A MAKESHIFT CLASSROOM WITHIN THE WALLS OF HOME IS WHERE CLEMENTINA CHANGES THE WORLD.
THE COURAGE OF A WOMAN AND HER SILENT STRENGTH.

THE EXTRAORDINARY STORY OF CLEMENTINA SALVI MARTELLO, MOTHER AND INTELLECTUAL WHO, IN THE FIRST HALF OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY, FOUNDED A "DIFFERENT" SCHOOL WITHIN THE WALLS OF HER HOME.

INSPIRED BY THE TRUE STORY OF THE AUTHOR'S GREAT-GRANDMOTHER, CLEMENTINA TELLS THE STORY OF A WOMAN FORCED TO REINVENT HER LIFE TO SAVE HER FAMILY. ANIMATED BY A UTOPIAN AND INTELLECTUAL IMPULSE, AND BY A "GUT" FEMINISM, CLEMENTINA WILL TRANSFORM HER HOME INTO A SCHOOL AND CHANGE THE DESTINY OF GENERATIONS OF BOYS AND GIRLS, LOVING THEM NOT AS CHILDREN BUT AS YOUNG HUMAN BEINGS FULL OF MYSTERY.

IT IS HER GREAT-GRANDDAUGHTER WHO CONVERTS CLEMENTINA'S LIFE INTO A NOVEL, DRAWING ON FAMILY NARRATIVES AND LITERARY IMAGINATION. IN THIS DEBUT FULL OF LOVE THAT CAN BE READ IN ONE BREATH, GIULIANA SALVI REVEALS A RARE TALENT FOR STAGING: THE GHOSTS OF HER GENEALOGY BECOME VERY LIVELY CHARACTERS, READY TO ESCAPE THE CONFINES OF HER FAMILY'S MEMORY AND INHABIT THE OUR OWN.

"We immediately fell in love with Clementina, a very strong, interesting and contemporary female figure, utopian and perhaps even proto-feminist, but 'from the gut'. A character who is not to be forgotten and who could rightly be one of Chiara Tagliaferri and Michela Murgia's Morgane." **(Angela Rastelli and Dalia Oggero, Einaudi Editore)**

"'Giuliana Salvi tells in novel form the story of her great-grandmother, who founded a home school in Lecce at the beginning of the 20th century. And invented a method. (...)
There are many ways to make a revolution without going to the barricades, and Clementina achieves her own by creating a fertile pedagogy." **Leonetta Bentivoglio, La Repubblica.**

"**History teaches us that underestimating a woman is cowardly as well as foolish': it was 1925 and Clementina Salvi had set up a public school in her home in Lecce, where, over the next twenty years, she would educate dozens of children. Her personal history had brought her face to face with the sudden death of her husband, three children to support, a life to rebuild in that Salento from which she had left and then forcibly returned.**
Was she a feminist?
'She was one in deeds, not in claims, for which she had no time. The figure I have tried to bring to life in the novel is not that of a heroine: Clementina was rough, complicated, as a mother at times castrating. But also challenging, attentive. Getting respect from the teenagers she was surrounded by was not easy, but she put so much faith and passion into her teaching that those around her were overwhelmed by it'." **Interview to the author, Il Venerdì di Repubblica**

While History rages outside the window, Clementina, a young widow with three children has to reinvent the world. Sitting at the desk that was her father's and make ends meet, so as not to disappoint either the living or the dead. And so, utopian and feminist at heart, Clementina sets up, within the walls of her home, a school improvised and different from all the others, changing the destiny of dozens of boys and girls in a Lecce that, in the first half of the 20th century seems on the periphery of everything. Inspired by the true story of the author's great-grandmother, Clementina is a novel that is not to be forgotten, thanks the strength of an extremely contemporary female character contemporary: a woman 'all gestures', alive charismatic, restless, always in search of something, ready to escape the confines of family memory and to inhabit our own.

Giuliana Salvi Born in Rome in April 1988, after a master's degree in Screenplay and Audiovisual Production she started working in the audiovisual sector as an editor, researcher and text collaborator for documentary film production companies. *Clementina* is her debut novel and it's currently being translated in Russia and Portugal. Einaudi releases in 2026 *The paine of the goose,* a mesmerizing psychological thriller.



Author: GIULIANA SALVI
Title: THE PAIN OF THE GOOSE
(IL DOLORE DELL'OCA)

Pages: 150
First Publisher: Einaudi
Publication date: 12th May, 2026

Print run: 10.000 copies

Rights: Worldwide

Clementina - Rights sold: Bertrand (Portugal), Exmo (Russia/ best offer), Axis Mundi Wydawnictwo (Poland), Nimfi Publishing (Greek).

A MESMERIZING PSYCHOLOGICAL THRILLER FROM THE AUTHOR OF *CLEMENTINA*

AN ECCENTRIC POLICEWOMAN INVESTIGATES THE DARK PAST OF A YOUNG WOMAN WHO COMMITTED SUICIDE AND ENDS UP DISCOVERING EVEN DARKER TRUTHS ABOUT HERSELF

GIULIANA SALVI RELEASES A NOVEL WITH A CONTURBAN ATMOSPHERE, TENSE AND COMPELLING.

FOLLOWING THE SUCCESS OF HER DEBUT NOVEL
5 REPRINTS, OVER 35,000 COPIES SOLD.
WINNERA OF "EDOARDO KIHLGREN DEBUT NOVEL AWARD CITY OF MILAN XXVII EDITION 2026"
FINALIST FOR "DOLORES PRADO AWARD 2026"
FINALIST FOR "FLORENCE CITY OF READERS AWARD 2026"
SELECTED FOR "2026 CITY OF CUNEO AWARD FOR DEBUT NOVELS"
WINNER AT "THE BELL OF BURGIO CULTURAL AWARD FOR "DEBUT NOVEL 2025"
SELECTED FOR THE READERS' PRIZE LUCCA-ROME 2025
AND FOR "IO DONNA LITERARY PRIZE "HEROINES OF TODAY" 2025

ENGLISH SAMPLE AVAILABLE

Nikita is so named because she was very active in her mother's womb on the evening when Besson's film was shown. Now she is a young policewoman who smokes and drinks too much, has a cat named Susanna whom she treats harshly but loves very much, and an occasional lover whom she treats just as harshly without loving him very much. Her life proceeds without too many upsets, until one morning she notices a girl on an overpass ready to commit suicide.

And everything falls apart with her. **Taking on board the lessons of the great masters of psychological thrillers (Charlotte Link, Lars Kepler, Donato Carrisi), Giuliana Salvi crafts a tense and compelling novel in which reality breaks down into a game of mirrors. And with a protagonist who is very different from Clementina in her debut novel, but just as strong.**

Nikita is a young policewoman who lives alone in a seaside town near Rome. Apart from her mother Ada and her ex-boyfriend Alessio, she doesn't socialize with anyone, her life revolving solely around home and work. That is to say, she scrapes by at the office doing paperwork and at home she mostly lets herself go. But then one morning, as she is rushing to work in her car, she notices a young girl on an overpass ready to commit suicide. «Her bare feet dangle, her legs white and naked. She is wearing a yellow hoodie and staring into the void and at the few cars speeding below her». Nikita tries to dissuade her, and the girl, whose name is Fresia, seems to cooperate at first.
But then she confides that she hears voices, and in an instant, everything changes. «Nikita is certain, absolutely certain, that she heard her whisper something before jumping. A whisper or a scream. She doesn't remember. Yet she is good at remembering».
Since that day, Nikita has been obsessed with what happened. Who was Fresia, and why did she do it? Was she seeking peace or justice? Whatever her intention, she left those left behind with a legacy to handle with care.
Nikita begins to investigate in her own way, going to Fresia's house and trying to get in touch with her mother and uncle. Then Erica, Fresia's sister, appears, with her mysteries and secrets.

When Nikita's informal investigation is joined by the incursions of her mother Ada and Giulio Drago, who professes to be an old friend of her father's but seems overly interested in her, Nikita finds herself at the center of a labyrinth where the Minotaur could be hiding anywhere. But this time, she is the prey.
Without sacrificing the stylistic joy of *Clementina*, her debut novel beloved by critics and readers alike, the author draws us into a radically different world, changing her perspective and voice. But thanks to the power of her writing and her female character, the limits of the genre are transcended, taking *Il dolore dell'oca* to a level where entertainment and depth intertwine until the very end.

Giuliana Salvi born in Rome in April 1988, after a master's degree in Screenplay and Audiovisual Production she started working in the audiovisual sector as an editor, researcher and text collaborator for documentary film production companies. She made her debut in 2025 with *Clementina*, a novel inspired by the true story of his great-grandmother, which sold around 35,000 copies in Italy. The novel is currently being translated in Russia and Portugal.



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».

Sarah Savioli was born in Sardinia in 1974. After graduating with a degree in Natural Sciences, she obtained a master's degree in Forensic Sciences and another in Analytical Chemistry, and worked as a forensic technical-scientific expert for more than ten years. She has published the crime novels Gli insospettabili (The Unsuspected, 2020), Il testimone chiave (The Key Witness, 2021), La banda dei colpevoli (The Gang of Guilty Ones, 2022), and I selvatici (The Wild Ones, 2023), and in the “Feltrinelli Kids” series, Tutto cambia! (Everything Changes!, 2021, with illustrations by Kalina Muhova), the crime novel Delitto alla Tesla Academy (Murder at Tesla Academy, 2023), and the picture book Che botta! (What a Blow!, 2024, with illustrations by Jessica Antonini).



Author: GENNARO SERIO
Title: THE SHORT TRAVELLER, OR A LIFE OF EDMUND HALLEY
(IL VIAGGIATORE BREVE, OVVERO UNA VITA DI EDMUND HALLEY)

Pages: 200
First Publisher: L'Orma editore
Publication date: March 2026

Rights: Worldwide

Rights sold: Istya & Cia (France)

THE LATEST NOVEL BY THE AUTHOR OF "NOTTURNO DI GIBILTERRA", WINNER OF THE 2019 CALVINO PRIZE, AND "LUDMILLA E IL CORVO", FINALIST FOR THE 2023 CAMPIELLO AWARD, FINALIST FOR THE 2023 GIUSEPPE DESSI' AWARD, FINALIST FOR THE 2023 WOJTEK AWARD.

«I listened to Gennaro Serio's enchanting music with great respect and sincere gratitude on behalf of my neglected companion, Literature.» **Sandra Petrignani**

«Yet this is an eclectic traveler, a zigzagging traveler, who traces flashes, then discards them. A brief traveler: because the trajectories of his studies are often hints, incursions, prefigurations: because in their extension, juxtaposed with the ticking of the capricious cosmic clock, they are too ambitious: because he has always and only been written about under the sign of brevity.»

Before his name became forever linked to the most famous comet, Edmund Halley set sail from England aboard a sailing ship, the Paramour, of which he was the captain. It is 1699: a brilliant astronomer and restless spirit, Halley searches the waves of the Atlantic Ocean for elusive constellations, uncharted landscapes, and mysterious magnetic variations. Besieged by tales of portable libraries, fires, and unreliable testimonies, his logbook unfolds, welcoming, among others, the shadow of Isaac Newton, that of a tipsy Tsar visiting London, and a gallery of extravagant biographers, from John Aubrey to J. Rodolfo Wilcock, from Samuel Johnson to Giorgio Manganelli—to finally come together in an exciting sea adventure. **An erratic navigation between islands and books, The Short Voyager ironically questions the way in which an existence is narrated and sings a hymn to travel as a privileged form of knowledge.**

THEY WROTE ABOUT NOTTURNO DI GIBILTERRA:

«A daring, free, experimental, and very courageous work [...], a personal ode to literature and a labyrinth of stories in which one has the pleasure of getting lost, without ever wanting to leave.» **La Repubblica**

« A thriller in every sense of the word [...] that contrasts the increasingly consumerist tendencies of the genre with a novel that is highly enjoyable and entertaining, with a refined structure and writing style.» **La Lettura - Corriere della Sera, Ermanno Paccagnini**

«Gennaro Serio truly has a happy pen. Like his hyper-investigator, he embodies everyone else within himself. He is a reckless troublemaker who constructs an Ur-giallo, a disruptive and, at times, impertinent adventure

novel. With a broad, happily irreverent style, as only talented young people or great old men can achieve.» **Tuttolibri, La Stampa, Marcello Fois**

«It is not often that one encounters a debut of such surprising and, in some ways, disarming quality, especially when it comes from an author who is only thirty years old and yet already shows a well-defined style and, at the same time, complete mastery of his linguistic and stylistic means.» **Alias de Il Manifesto, Massimo Raffaeli**

THEY WROTE ABOUT LUDMILLA AND THE RAVEN:

«Gennaro Serio constructs a "novel of papers" by bringing together a diary, some letters, two texts (one in German, the other in Portuguese), a doll, and references to writers from every era. A melancholic meta-literary divertissement.» **La Lettura - Corriere della Sera, Ermanno Paccagnini**

«Once again, Serio connects and integrates documentary reality and virtual history, starting with Der Rabe ("The Raven"), the title of Kafka's fourth and final novel. It was conceived during Kafka's last stay in Berlin, in the company of Dora, and inspired by an encounter in the park with a desperate little girl, Ludmilla, who had lost her doll. Moved, Kafka consoles her by writing her a series of letters in which he follows, as in a short coming-of-age novel, the existential story of the doll until the appearance of the Raven (the symbol that E. A. Poe conveys to his contemporaries), a figure of affliction and redemption at the same time.» **Alias de Il Manifesto, Massimo Raffaeli**

«Distancing himself from his tutelary deities Borges, Vila-Matas, and Wilcock, Serio does not aim to create an alternative reality compatible with our own, but rather moves into the realm of fantasy, into a parallel dimension where nothing else exists but literature and an all-consuming passion for its authors.» **L'Indice dei Libri del Mese, Mauro Maraschi**

«It is increasingly rare to come across a novel that has its roots in invention rather than in the recounting of reality, whether public or private. (...) Gennaro Serio's novel thrives on this imagination; it is a hymn to writing that restores the transparency of a vivid and visionary light to the page, nourishing it with literary echoes, suggestions of childhood, investigations into truth and falsehood, two sides of the same coin that give value to existence.» **Giuseppe Lupo (from the Nomination for the Strega Prize 2024)**

Gennaro Serio was born in Naples in 1989 and lives between Paris and Greece. He is editor and author of Alias D, the book supplement of Il Manifesto. His debut work, *Notturno di Gibilterra* (L'orma editore 2020), a hyper-literary parody of a detective story, **won the Italo Calvino Prize** and has been compared to the atmospheres of Bolaño and Eco, hailed by critics as one of the most surprising debuts of recent years. It was translated in France in 2023 with an original afterword by Enrique Vila-Matas. In 2023, *Ludmilla e il corvo* (Ludmilla and the Raven) was published in Italy, in which he imagines a continuation of Franz Kafka's famous encounter with an unknown girl in tears in a Berlin park in 1923. *Il viaggiatore breve, ovvero una Vita di Edmund Halley* (The Short Traveller, or A Life of Edmund Halley) is his third novel.



Author: ERSI SOTIROPOULOS
Title: SEÑORITA

First Publisher: Patakis
Publication date: March 2026
Page: 70

Rights: Worldwide
Rights sold: Kampa Verlag (Germany), Galaxia Gutenberg (Spain), Panama Publishing (Bulgaria).

ENGLISH SAMPLE AVAILABLE
FULL SWEDISH TRANSLATION AVAILABLE

WITH HER SHARP, IRREVERENT VOICE, SOTIROPOULOS OFFERS A VISCERAL, ELECTRIFYING SHORT NOVEL THAT PULLS US DEEP INTO FRACTURED CONSCIOUSNESS — WHERE THE MIND TURNS CARNIVALESQUE, BEAUTIFUL, CHAOTIC, AND DANGEROUSLY ALIVE.

THE AUTHOR WAS AMONG THE FAVOURITES FOR THE NOBEL PRIZE IN 2024 AND 2025. HER FICTION IS TRANSLATED IN MORE THAN 15 LANGUAGES

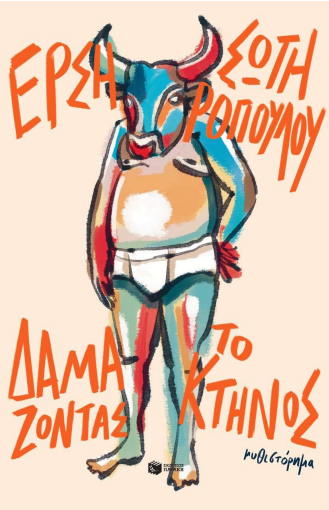
«Darkness. The air smelled of burnt caramel. Some women were dancing. Green light, red light. Now I'm across the street, she suddenly thought. The light changed again, but she was already on the opposite sidewalk without having crossed the road»

On one side of the avenue parade the hanging masks, the carnival dances, the rampant lust of those girls at the corner; and the tingling risk of tiptoeing down the stairs to wander alone at night in a foreign country.
But across the street lays *el lado malo de la Avenida*. A woman's walk through her mind, a terror parade through death, love, hope. Here, there are smiling doctors playing gods, the falling skin, cancer posing as the carnival queen, queues outside the pharmacy, bitter saliva, sweet nurses, a memory of a thing that never was – or was it?
Senorita drifts between the two sides of the avenue that Sotiropoulos often guides the reader through: crossing from the reality front to a disobedient mind wander, only to have us seated at the edge of a table, inescapably attached to the story, always in limbo, always searching.
Just to find what always lies in the middle of the writer's literary avenida: two bodies thrusting against with a primal angst - raw, ignorant, brutal. Two female bodies able to erase memory, fear, or even death itself.

With her sharp, irreverent voice, Sotiropoulos offers a visceral, electrifying short novel that pulls us deep into fractured consciousness — where the mind turns carnivalesque, beautiful, chaotic, and dangerously alive.

Ersi Sotiropoulos (novelist, fiction writer, poet) won the **National Literature Prize and the Book Critics Award** for her *novel Zigzag Through the Bitter-Orange Trees*, as well as **Athens Academy Prize for Best Novel 2011** for her novel *Eve* (published in France by Editions Stock). She studied

Philosophy and Cultural Anthropology in Florence and was a cultural attaché in the Greek Embassy in Rome. She has participated in several exhibitions of Visual and Concrete Poetry as well as in literature festivals around the world. She has written scripts for film and television. Her works have been translated into English, French, Spanish, German, Italian, Dutch, Danish, Albanian, Swedish, Turkish, Arabic, Korean, Romanian, Estonian, Bulgarian, Persian, Catalan, Asturian.



Author: ERSI SOTIROPOULOS
Title: TAMING THE BEAST

Pag. 232
First Publisher: Patakis, 1st December 2025 (Greece), Kedros, 2003 (Greece)

Rights Worldwide

Rights sold to: (all expired) Maurice Nadeau, France (2003) Quidam éditeur, France (2011)

THE AUTHOR WAS AMONG THE FAVOURITES FOR THE NOBEL PRIZE IN 2024 AND 2025. HER FICTION IS TRANSLATED IN MORE THAN 15 LANGUAGES

A STUNNING PENETRATING PORTRAIT OF A SOCIETY RAISING TOWARD COLLAPSE

ENGLISH SAMPLE AVAILABLE

FRENCH FULL TRANSLATION AVAILABLE

"Start reading, and you wouldn't be able to put it down!" **France Culture**
"She unravels the thread of her carachters lives, which we feel is doomed to break".
Le Nouvelle Observateur
"Do not read this novel! Not that it is not good - it is even excellent!" **Le Monde**
"Each page, each phrase, like a camera peering over the shoulder: surprising, seductive... perfect."
Vogue

The place is Athens, the time is the present. Aris Pavlopoulos, special advisor to a minister, former leftist, is returning home in his official car after a meeting with his lover when he realizes that a decrepit Peugeot driven by a young man he's never seen before is starting to pursue him. The man hits him, then disappears into the night.
Pavlopoulos is unwittingly entangled in the mystery of this chase, the first in a series of events that will turn his life upside-down. It is a life of relative ease, seemingly unconventional, which has up to now kept hidden its darker folds: Pavlopoulos's obsession with sex and his repressed ambition to gain recognition as a poet.
A poetry reading dedicated to his work and a trip to Spain, haunted by the sexual symbolism of the bullfight, promise to afford him opportunities to realize his desires. But nothing is what it seems in Pavlopoulos's life: the beggar across the street from his office isn't a cripple, his friend the minister isn't a friend, an attempted bribe is just a joke, his masterpiece of a poem is absurd. Other relationships are weaving themselves together behind his back and he will have to track down the lost thread. Nothing is what it seems in Athens.

The plot of this novel also shows the intricate convergence of other characters and relationships involving betrayal and denial, midlife crises and intergenerational conflicts. As in Ersi Sotiropoulos's previous novels, the central character traverses a city that isn't just an urban landscape, but is also the site of internal anguish, unsettled accounts, fallen passions. The story lasts less than a month and it takes place now, today, here, with us.
Ersi Sotiropoulos presents us with an x-ray of the conduct of an elite, posing ethical and existential problems in an enjoyable novel you don't want to put down. The writing is accessible without sacrificing Sotiropoulos's innovative idiosyncrasies, tragic without overlooking the ironic, even ludicrous unfolding of events, and consistent in its technique without neglecting the element of "chance," which is equally consistent. Sotiropoulos's precision and inventiveness uncompromisingly pervade the structure and the narrative of *Taming the Beast*.

"They live, they think. But they don't really act…Beautiful specimens of a bankrupt bourgeoisie, headed for an ineluctable tragedy. Tantalized, en route, by the elusive promise of bliss." **Libération**

"With a rigorously inventive prose, tragic without neglecting the comic or even grotesque side of things, *Taming the Beast* dissects the behavior of an elite while at the same time exploring deeper moral and existential questions. A novel to be read at a single sitting." **France Culture**

"The protagonists crisscross, parading before each other, measuring off in a bellicose ballet strikingly choreographed by the novelist, bouts that resemble as much the bullfight, inspiring our hero to games of erotic role-playing, as the rodeo…Taming the Beast embraces several genres, from the comedy of manners to social satire, from the moral tale to classical tragedy. Without ever showing off her narrative underpinnings no matter how impressive, Ersi Sotiropoulos places her banderillas with formidable timing and verve." **Livres Hebdo**

"A superb novel wherein one relishes all the ingredients of noir fiction, from fate's macabre farces to bloody moral sketches, the practices and the fantasies of a bourgeois society…And there is something else about Sotiropoulos, something that recalls the novels of Don DeLillo…It goes without saying that you cannot begin this book and hope to set it aside." **Olé!**

"It will be hard…not to be seduced by this novel…by a subtle alchemy." **L'escalier des aveugles**

"With the central character a counselor to a minister, the novelist scrutinizes the conduct of an elite, raising ethical and other dilemmas with the pace of a thriller in a delightful novel that can be read at one stretch." **Dimitra Rouboula**

"A novel of corrosive delights." **To Vima**

"Pages of a bullfight with the protagonists sometimes taking on the part of the bull, other times of the matador, and yet other times of the referee. A fast pace and bold action —which the corrida demands— with victims and victimizers in a story that can be read as a thriller or a book-length poem." **Vasiliki Strati**

"A flawless portrait of our times." **Peloponissos**

"This novel, which begins with an examination of the mores of a certain sector of the Athenian elite, quickly evolves into an existential thriller one is compelled to read at a single sitting…Alienated idealists obsessed with sex, provocative youth, anorexic women, bloodsuckers, and frustrated intellectuals. Other truths are hidden. Ersi Sotiropoulos pursues these in an effort to illuminate the existential crisis that plagues contemporary Athens… Sotiropoulos knows from first-hand experience: If the truth is one interpretation of reality, we can only reach it through a series of disillusionments." **Mikela Hartoulari, Ta Nea**

"A passionate book in every sense." **K. Karakotias**

"Ersi Sotiropoulos is a writer of the city and the modern age. Her subversive gaze and equally subversive imagination compose scenarios that seem extreme, although they are simply the other side of reality, its reflection in distorting mirrors of an enormous circus which is nothing other than life in contemporary Athens." **Thiteia magazine**

Ersi Sotiropoulos, a renowed Greek writer, is author of novels, short stories, screenplays and poems. Her works have been translated into several languages (English, French, Spanish, Italian, German, Swedish and Turkish) and presented in festivals worldwide. Her novel *Zig zag through the bitter-orange trees* is the first novel to win both **the National Award for Best Novel** and **the National Critics Award in 2000**. The stories *Feel blue, dress in red* won the National Award for the Best Collection of Stories in 2012. The novel *Eva*, **Athens Academy Award for Best Novel**, has been translated in French in 2015 (it is also being translated into Albanian and Turkish), and was shortlisted at the **European Book Prize 2015** and the **Prix du literature du Monde 2015**. *What's left of the night,* **Prix Méditerranée Étranger** 2017 *and* nominated for the **Prix Femina 2016** and the **European Book Prize 2017. In 2022** the collection of short stories ***The art of feeling nothing*** was **shortlisted** for **The "Anagnostis" Literary Magazine Award.**



Author: ERSI SOTIROPOULOS
Title: MEXICO

Pages: 80
First Publisher: Kedros, Greece 1988, Patakis, Greece 2026

Rights: Worldwide

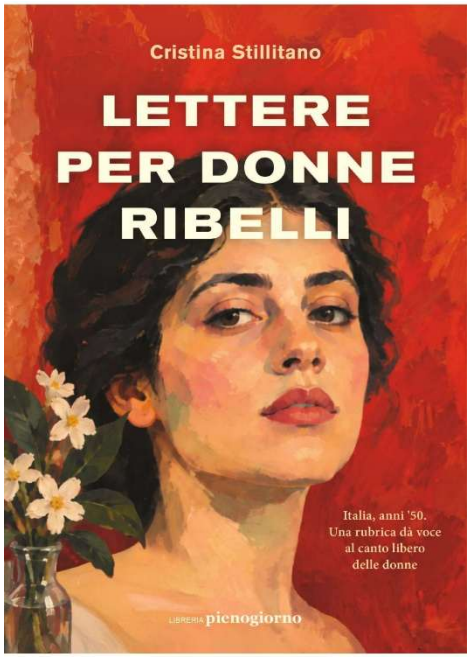
Rights sold: Donzelli, Italy 1994, AOC, France 2021 (all expired).

FRENCH FULL TRANSLATION AVAILABLE

«The showers were lit. Trapped in a harsh, white light, the landlady's son was washing himself, completely naked, his gaze fixed on my window. I was dazed; for a second, I had the impression that our eyes met. I was almost trembling as I took in that beauty, that body, those muscles heaving heavily along his thighs, his bare chest, and the defined outline of his genitals».

Thirty-five years old, red-haired, tormented by the fear of having "lost" her son. A desperate search drags the young woman through woods and caves, tunnels, and the cars of speeding trains. But her eyes look back, contemplating a spectacle unfolding inside her mind. In the light of dreams and the shadows of nightmares, a sense of panic drives the "mother" on a breathless journey. The destination is a Mexico that serves as an archetype of lost childhood, a place of the soul whose pull is impossible to escape. A sandstorm halts the woman's journey, along with that of her occasional companion, lover, and tormentor, in an amniotic Eden beyond time and space. A "motel with a pool" in the desert where the feverish "mother" loses herself in a violent, swirling void: days without will, while even the Mexican destination seems to evaporate in the heat. In this novel of life and death, Ersi Sotiropoulos achieves a truly rare feat, one in which style and form, skin and flesh, merge into a fiery prose that pierces the mind and the senses, trapping us in a dreamlike web of honey and anguish: a richly layered text, strewn with "keys" and symbols, yet where nothing is mere interpretation or suggestion, everything is narrative.

Ersi Sotiropoulos (novelist, fiction writer, poet) won the National Literature Prize and the Book Critics Award for her novel Zigzag Through the Bitter-Orange Trees, as well as Athens Academy Prize for Best Novel 2011 for her novel Eve (published in France by Editions Stock). She studied Philosophy and Cultural Anthropology in Florence and was a cultural attaché in the Greek Embassy in Rome. She has participated in several exhibitions of Visual and Concrete Poetry as well as in literature festivals around the world. She has written scripts for film and television. Her works have been translated into English, French, Spanish, German, Italian, Dutch, Danish, Albanian, Swedish, Turkish, Arabic, Korean, Romanian, Estonian, Bulgarian, Persian, Catalan, Asturian.



Author: CRISTINA STILLITANO
Title: LETTERE PER DONNE RIBELLI

Pages: 400
First Publisher: Libreria Pienogiorno
Publication date: March 2027

Rights: Worldwide

A POIGNANT AND COMPELLING NOVEL IN WHICH WOMEN'S VOICES TRANSFORM FROM A SOURCE OF SCANDAL INTO A MEANS OF HEALING AND SURVIVAL.

EVERY REBELLIOUS WOMAN PAVES THE WAY FOR ALL WOMEN.

Rome, November 1954. Marta Mariani is thirty-five years old and married to Giorgio, an influential banker who is courteous yet emotionally distant. Their union is marked by silences and misunderstandings, and the rift deepens when Marta begins to suspect him of infidelity. Thanks to her husband's connections, Marta has spent the past year writing the "*Letters to Madame Zoe*" column for the magazine *Domani Insieme* (Tomorrow Together).
At first, she responds in accordance with the norms of conventional morality, which expects women to be patient and devoted—guardians of the hearth—forbidden from putting themselves first or even harboring desires. Yet the letters she receives—filled with confessions, secrets, and agonizing questions—speak to her all too personally. She listens to everything, even what no one else wants to hear: troubles great and small, impossible loves, joyless marriages, stifled dreams, and lives already mapped out. And while she initially counseled prudence, endurance, and solutions that wouldn't unduly upset the established order—urging women to stay in their place—there comes a moment when she faces a trial by fire: one day, her answers change, becoming bolder. More truthful.
She begins telling women what no one has ever told them: that desiring something is not a fault; that choosing oneself is not selfishness; that an unhappy life need not be accepted as inevitable; that they have a choice. Her words grow increasingly direct and courageous, eventually shaking public opinion and turning the column into a national sensation.
That is when Teresa's letter arrives. It is just one letter among many—a confession, a longing, a question that could belong to thousands of women. Teresa lives in the working-class Trastevere neighborhood; nineteen years old, the wife of a farmer named Silvano, she is the queen of the local market, where she runs a fruit stall. One day, she receives a secret gift from Marcello, the young butcher: a pair of gold earrings hanging among the pears. It is a gesture that sparks a sudden, powerful attraction within her. Her sister Lina—stern and moralistic—warns her: she must forget that man immediately; a woman cannot commit adultery—the very idea is unthinkable. Besides, Silvano would crack her skull open. Teresa is torn, caught between overwhelming passion and the fear of losing everything. That is when her friend Mirella, a newsstand owner, suggests a solution: writing to the famous Madame Zoe—who

authors the column most widely read by women—to ask whether or not it is right to give in to love.
Madame Zoe's reply will have consequences neither woman could have ever imagined...
A poignant and compelling novel in which women's voices transform from a source of scandal into a means of healing and survival.

Cristina Stillitano is a professional journalist. She lives and works in Rome, where she has primarily covered foreign affairs. She is the author of the *Le inchieste di Clodoveo* mystery series, set in 1950s Rome. The first three novels *Cuore di passero ha la morte*, *La donna a metà*, and *Andrai Tornerai Non Morirai*, were self-published on Amazon, where they reached the bestseller lists; the third won the Amazon Storyteller Award in 2021. The fourth and fifth volumes, *La giostra del perdono* and *A luglio non succede mai niente*, were published by Piemme. The latest book in the series was a semi-finalist for the Giorgio Scerbanenco Prize.



Author: LICIA TUMMINELLO
Title: THE LONG SUMMER OF JASMINES
(LA LUNGA ESTATE DEI GELSOMINI)

Pages: 350
First Publisher: Editrice Nord
Publication date: 31 August 2026

Rights: Nord Editrice

Rights sold: Carl Hanser Verlag (Germany), City Editions (France), Alpina Publisher (Russia), Grupo Atico (Spain);

FOUR REPRINTS IN TWO MONTHS!

IN THE TOP 10 OF THE ITALIAN FICTION CHART FOR TWO MONTHS

SICILY, 1945. GRAZIA IS A YOUNG WOMAN WHO HAS ALREADY GIVEN UP TOO MANY DREAMS. TIRED OF ENDURING THE ABUSE SUFFERED BY JASMINE PICKERS LIKE HERSELF, SHE WILL FIND THE COURAGE TO URGE THEM TO REBEL IN THE NAME OF THEIR RIGHTS AND THEIR DIGNITY.

IMAGINE IT, RIGHT BEFORE YOUR EYES: ON ONE SIDE OF THE WALL ARE THE JASMINE-PICKERS, WHO CAN'T WAIT TO GET BACK TO WORK AND IN THEIR HEARTS ARE SURELY ALREADY REGRETTING IT; ON THE OTHER SIDE IS BARON PUGLISI, DON GIOACCHINO, ALL THE MEN, WHO BELIEVE THAT WOMEN «MUST STAY IN THEIR PLACE». A TOWERING WALL TO BE BROKEN DOWN. A TOWERING WALL, AND SHE, SO SMALL, FACING IT. WITH HER BARE HANDS.

«A story of personal redemption and solidarity, in which the daily grind is transformed into awareness and rebellion into a shared struggle. Those little white flowers, destined for the finest perfumes, will become the symbol of a struggle for women's dignity.»
La 27a Ora - Corriere.it

«A saga centred on women, solidarity and emancipation, set against a patriarchal backdrop that paints a portrait of ordinary, yet extraordinary, women.»
Io Donna

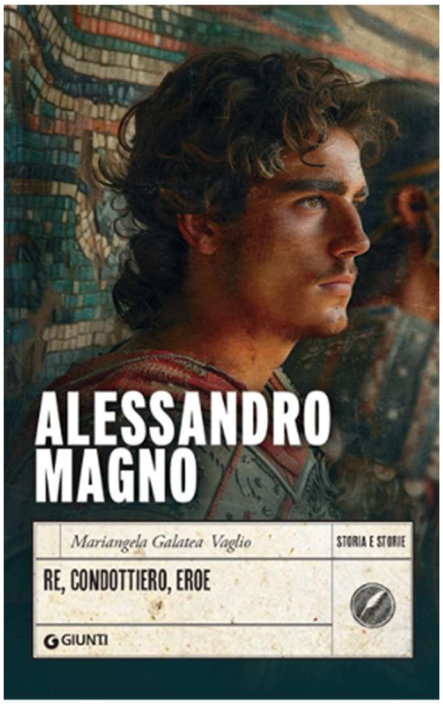
«From an author originally from Palermo, an intriguing exploration of memory. And a tribute to fundamental struggles for dignity.» **L'Espresso**

«A story of people, hard work, subjugation and rebellion, inspired by the first women's strike in Sicily, which took place in August 1946 in Milazzo, organised by the jasmine pickers.» **Gazzetta del Sud**

«Through this story, the author tells of a community of women who were expected to obey, work and keep quiet. A chapter in the history of women's emancipation and the dignity of work that Licia Tumminello brings to light in *La lunga estate dei gelsomini*, a novel inspired by the 1945 strike by Sicilian jasmine pickers.» **La Sicilia**

Milazzo, summer 1945. Quick hands rummage in the dark, searching for the tiny white blossoms that dot the countryside by the thousands, like stars. Those delicate, heady night-blooming flowers will become prized French perfumes, but it is not the jasmine pickers who will enjoy that luxury. For the many women and girls bent over picking them from midnight until dawn, from June to October without a single day off, there is nothing but mud, hard labour and a starvation wage. Grazia has been a farm labourer since she was eleven. Now she is twenty-three and a forewoman, a figure of reference for her fellow workers. As a young girl, she dreamt of becoming a teacher, but in her family of fishermen, there was no need for an educated woman. So, if she really had to give up her education, she wanted at least to smell of flowers, like Aunt Assunta. From that independent aunt who never let anyone boss her about, Grazia wishes she'd also inherited a firm and authoritative voice, to speak out against the injustices suffered by women. But she feels she lacks the same courage to stand up to the foremen, her husband and all those who tell her day in, day out to know her place. And yet, in that summer suspended between the end of the war and the promise of a better future, something is about to change. This is partly due to Francesco's return, which turns Grazia's heart and mind upside down. They met at school, when they were bound by an unspoken affection, before fate went its separate ways. He went on to graduate, become a doctor, and live in the North, and now he speaks to her of strikes and workers' rights. Empowered by this newfound awareness, Grazia can no longer remain silent in the face of the abuses she suffers and witnesses at the Jasmine Plain, and decides to lead a protest. She owes it to her friend Nedda and her little niece Vita; she owes it to all her fellow women, who deserve protection and respect; she owes it to herself and to the dreams she still harbours. Because perhaps it is not too late for her to choose for herself the place she deserves. **Inspired by a forgotten chapter of our history, this polyphonic novel paints an indelible, intimate portrait of its protagonist whilst giving a voice to all the women who have fought, yesterday and throughout history, for their dignity and freedom.**

Licia Tumminello was born in Palermo and has made Crema her home. A law graduate, she worked for many years in the banking sector before turning to writing. From her very first forays into fiction, she has won various literary awards, including the Giorgione Prize, the SquiLibri Prize and a special mention from the Reading Committee of the Calvino Prize, 35th edition. For *La lunga estate dei gelsomini* (The Long Summer of Jasmine), she drew inspiration from the strike by Sicilian jasmine pickers in the post-war period, which she researched in depth through first-hand accounts and historical documentation.



Author: MARIANGELA VAGLIO
Title: ALEXANDER THE GREAT. KING, LEADER, HERO.
(ALESSANDRO MAGNO. RE, CONDOTTIERO, EROE)

Pages: 320
First Publisher: Giunti
Publication date: 15th July, 2026

Rights: Worldwide

«Alexander is not just a man; he is an era. Or rather, two: an era that he helped bring to a definitive close, and another that he ushered in. He opened up new worlds, crossed borders, and forged new connections and ways of thinking. The world after him was never again what it had been before. And perhaps, of all the figures of antiquity and history, he is the one who most truly deserved that title: Magno, the Great.» Mariangela Vaglio

A RICH AND FASCINATING PORTRAIT OF ALEXANDER THE GREAT, THE MAN WHO BUILT ONE OF THE LARGEST EMPIRES IN HISTORY

Ege, 336 B.C. Philip II, the king who in just a few decades transformed Macedonia from a land of rough shepherds into the most powerful region in Greece, was suddenly assassinated just as he was about to launch an expedition against Persia. His designated heir is the barely twenty-year-old Prince Alexander, but many doubt that the young man can prove himself a worthy successor to his father. However, against all expectations, the unstoppable "boy from Macedonia" first consolidates his rule over Hellas, then sets out on an ambitious, almost impossible campaign to conquer the Persian Empire: a feat in which Alexander succeeds, reaching the borders of India with a sweeping military campaign.
But who was Alexander really? With his boyish appearance, his close bond with his Companions (first and foremost his beloved Hephaestion), and his multifaceted and sometimes contradictory character, the Macedonian conqueror was—and still is, in many ways—a mystery. Mariangela Galatea Vaglio, with her in-depth research and fresh, lively style, crafts a historical biography as gripping and vivid as a film, tracing the exploits and life of the famous commander. ***Alexander the Great*** **is a densely woven tapestry of characters, cities, and territories, battles and betrayals, friendships and loves that intertwine to create the detailed backdrop against which Alexander lived his intense and brief life.**

Mariangela Galatea Vaglio born in Trieste in 1972, she graduated in Classical Literature and holds a PhD in Ancient History. After a brief academic career, she became a tenured teacher in middle schools in the province of Venice in 2001.
A freelance journalist, she has contributed to the local news section of Il Gazzettino for 13 years and wrote for Il Sole 24 Ore for about two years. She currently contributes to L'Espresso. As a columnist, she covers school issues. She also contributes to the editorial staff of the public archaeology magazine

Archeostorie, where she edits the “archeotales” section. In the past, she has collaborated with Spinoza, Giornalettismo, and the Tech Economy portal.
Well-known online, her blog, Il Nuovo Mondo di Galatea (Galatea's New World), was created in 2006 and currently has over 3,700,000 hits, with a monthly average of about 30,000 visits. She edits two blogs on the Espresso website: Non Volevo fare la Prof. (I Didn't Want to Be a Teacher) and Italiano_Espresso.
In 2018, she published *Teodora. La figlia del Circo* (Teodora: The Circus Girl) with Sonzogno; in 2020, *Cesare. L'uomo che ha reso grande Roma* (Caesar: The Man Who Made Rome Great) with Giunti; and in 2021, *Teodora. I demoni del potere* (The Demons of Power); in 2022, again with Giunti, *I lupi di Roma* (The Wolves of Rome). In 2024, she published *Afrodite. La verità della dea* (Aphrodite: The Truth of the Goddess) with Giunti. In 2025, again with Giunti, she published *Il fondatore. Romolo e il mito delle origini di Roma* (The Founder: Romulus and the Myth of the Origins of Rome).

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.