



BOMPIANT
SPRING
CHILDREN & YA
2024



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HIGHLIGHTS



Chiara Carminati In Your Skin



CHIARA CARMINATI

was born and lives in Udine. She writes stories, poetry and plays for children and young adults. She was awarded the Andersen – Il mondo dell'infanzia Prize as best author in 2012 and was nominated for the Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award in 2021, 2022 and 2023. Her first books published by Bompiani, *Fuori fuoco* (2016) and *Viaggia verso* (2018) won many prizes. Bompiani also published *Un pinguino a Trieste*, shortlisted for the Campiello Junior Prize.

From the winner of the first Strega Ragazze e Ragazzi Prize, a novel about children, abandoned but not orphaned, and the smaller stories with which history itself is interwoven.

January 2024 / 192 Pages

In the North-East of Italy, the First World War and the comings and goings of different armies brought with them all kinds of suffering and destruction. Chiara Carminati takes inspiration from a lesser-known fact: the War Children, girls and boys born as a result of local women being raped by soldiers, abandoned by their mothers' families or by their mothers' husbands returned from the front, and raised by a religious group in a specific institute, the only one of its kind in Europe. From these sad events comes a story filled with adventure and friendships. It follows the events in these children's lives, from their shared childhood to their unique stories: one is adopted by a rich family, changing her name and moving far away, another stays behind and starts a job, some try to discover their origins or create their own family. However, each child finds oneself in the thrall of sometimes hostile and sometimes complicit adults, they too victims of these events.



FUORI FUOCO, VIAGGIA VERSO, UN PINGUINO A TRIESTE HAVE SOLD 40,000 COPIES AND WON MANY LITERARY PRIZES. THE AUTHOR'S WORKS HAVE BEEN TRANSLATED INTO MANY LANGUAGES.

FROM THE BOOK

At the end of the Second World War, there are the orphans of the dead and there are the children of the living. And then there are the orphans of the living. They are orphans of the living because each of them has a mother who has had to give birth to them and then give them up; and each of them has two fathers. One of the two is a soldier who forced himself on their mother and left her pregnant. An Austrian soldier, or Hungarian, or Italian, or Bosnian – it makes little difference. Their other father is her husband, the head of the family, who at that point was off in the army. When he came home, at the end of the war, he found an extra baby in the house. An intruder, conceived and born in his absence. An affront to his dignity. An unacceptable affront.

“When Vittorio arrived at the hospital, for the very first time in his life he felt he was in the right place. He felt at home. Which was strange, because he knew perfectly well that the swelling in his knee had been caused by that fall and not by an illness, and by rights he should have felt like an imposter on those wards full of genuinely sick patients. Added to which, the hospital wasn't a cosy, homely place. Anything but. It was a sprawling complex with many different wings – a regular little citadel of healthcare, much bigger than the Institute he'd grown up in, or the Salesian College.

And yet something about the place made him feel good.”





The foray into children's literature by a renown author of Bompiani catalogue.

March 2024 / 120 Pages

Flavio Soriga Mr. Salsiccia A Story of Hedgehogs, Grandparents and Climate Change



FLAVIO SORIGA

was born in Uta, a small town in the province of Cagliari. At twenty-five he won the Italo Calvino prize for unpublished works with his debut novel, *I diavoli di Nuraiò* (new edition Bompiani 2023). All of his books are published by Bompiani.

ILLUSTRATED BY RICCARDO ATZENI



One autumn day Nora's mother finds a baby hedgehog in hypothermia out in the garden. The family mobilizes: they need to figure out how to feed him, keep him warm, possibly find his mother, who, due to climate changes, gave birth late, so that the baby was unable to gain enough weight before hibernation. The mother is not found and it is therefore necessary to help the baby survive the winter. But looking after a hedgehog is not easy if you don't know anything about hedgehogs. Luckily Mr. Salsiccia (as the little one is named) can count on Nora's bizarre family, on her mother's practicality and her father's enthusiasm and on two fierce grandparents. In the meantime, however, Nora must also start a new school, with all the problems that this entails, and face, just like Mr. Salsiccia, the challenges of growing up.

A story that shows sagaciously and tenderly, and with a lot of fun, the importance of opening our eyes to the beauty and fragility of the world that surround us: nature, bonds, knowledge.

FROM THE BOOK

I WILL HAVE A HEDGEHOG WITH ME ALL WINTER! CRAZY! I CAN'T WAIT TO TELL ALL MY NEW CLASSMATES AND ESPECIALLY SOFIA!

Anyway, we need a name. And I think about it day and night, and then one day my father comes back from work and says: "I heard a radio interview with a guy, an important guy who works in an important government office in Rome, and this guy is called Antonio Salsiccia. Can you imagine? Poor guy, Salsiccia, what a name! The life of a child called Salsiccia must be hard."

"But even when he grows up," said mother while cutting the salad. "Think about when he goes to work and everyone says to him 'Good morning Mr Salsiccia', 'Welcome back Mr Salsiccia'."

And then I said: "Let's call him that, the hedgehog".

"Salsiccia?" my father asked.

"No," I said, "Mr. Salsiccia."

And so we did.





After The Little Kingdom, Wu Ming 4 goes back to England to tell us a story deeply rooted in British tradition, one of the most beloved adventures ever.

April 2024 / 208 Pages

Wu Ming 4 The True Story of Robin Hood and the Merry Men



WU MING 4

is a member of the collective of storytellers Wu Ming, authors of the novel *Q* (Einaudi, 1999) under the pseudonym of Luther Blissett. He also wrote solo novels, travel stories, reportages and essays on literature. With Bompiani Wu Ming 4 published *L'eroe imperfetto* (2022), the novel *Il piccolo regno* (2016) and *Difendere la Terra di Mezzo* (2023). The collective's website is www.wumingfoundation.com.

The Sherwood Forest, the Sheriff of Nottingham, John Lackland, Richard the Lionheart, Lady Marian, Friar Tuck, Little John: thanks to a host of successful films, everyone, even non-British people, know about the legend of Robin Hood, the epic bandit who stole from the rich to give to the poor, a phenomenal archer and a champion of British dynastic legitimacy. But where does the truth lie? Wu Ming tries to answer this question by offering us his fictionalized yet "true" version of the story of Robin Hood and the Merry Men.



THE LITTLE KINGDOM
10,000 COPIES SOLD

"A literary jewel."
Zazinews

FROM THE BOOK

"Get down," ordered a male voice behind him.

Gisborne dropped to his knees, feeling the flint sting his neck.

"The weapons and the bag," the voice said.

He drew his sword and laid it beside him with the rest.

A kick pushed him against the rock. He found himself sitting beside the corpse and could see who was in front of him. Little more than boys, ravenous faces, bows and arrows stuck.

The chances of getting out alive were slim. That made him grin.

"It's a crusader," said one. said one. "They passed through here years ago. They went to the Holy Land with the king. They had a cross sewn on them." Gisborne recognised the beggar's rough voice.

"Is it true? Were you with the king?" asked another. Gisborne nodded silently.

"If you kill a soldier of God you give your soul to the Devil," said the first.

The girl bent down, grasped the flap of green cloth sticking out from under the vest and unrolled the belt. She sniffed it. "What is your name?"

"Lady Marian." "Where is she?"

"Locked in a tower in Nottingham."





A short novel with a surprising ending. Choosing who you will be is not easy, but must be done.

April 2024 / 112 Pages

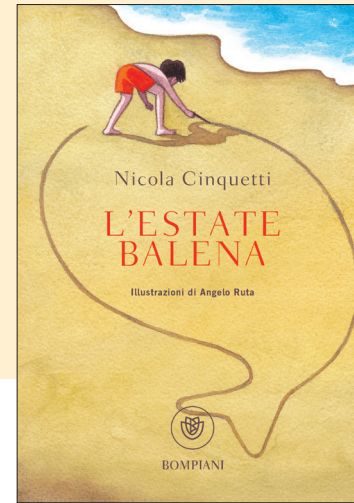
Alice Keller Little Girl



Alice Keller

was born in Bologna in 1988. In 2016 she opened Momo, a bookshop for children and teenagers in Ravenna. She is the author of several picture books, novels and graphic novels for children and young readers published by various publishing houses. Her latest books are *Il mistero dei cani che sognano* (Pelledoca, 2023) and *Gaspere e Amleto* (Sinnos, 2023).

A summer camping, a pine forest, the light of bonfires, a swimming pool, a group of kids dealing with body changes; the older, almost grown-up group leaders and some mysterious, intriguing foreign teens. The narrator's voice, delicate, scared, still not totally self-aware and assured, tells the reader what it means to discover yourself, who you are, what you are, what you want. And what a precious gift it is, in the protean freedom of summer, to find someone who sees you for who you really are, who sees you even better than yourself.



A beach holiday just like any other, or maybe not. Because Mum is as big as a whale.

March 2023 / 144 Pages

Rights sold: Daylight Publishing (Simplified Chinese)

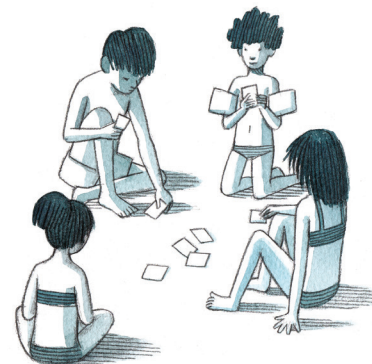
Nicola Cinquetti The Whale Summer



Nicola Cinquetti

is a poet and writer. He teaches Philosophy in Verona. With *Ultimo venne il verme* he was finalist at the 2017 Strega Ragazzi Prize. With *Il giro del '44* he won the 2020 Andersen Prize as Best Author and the 2020 Orbil Prize and was finalist at the 2019 Laura Orvieto Prize.

ILLUSTRATED BY ANGELO RUTA



Dad, Mum and Carlo are travelling to the seaside. The same old sea. There is someone with them, even if she's not quite there: Carlo's little sister in his mother's womb. On the beach there are mischievous children who call his mother a whale. And three little sisters who are loyal and affectionate allies, the lifeguard, the strange child everyone calls Stain, who is always on his own and doesn't know how to float. And is another whale too, the one that appears from the water to show itself to Carlo only. But maybe it was just a dream of water and sun.





FICTION



*What if the Bogeyman really existed?
What if he had a son? What if that son
needed a nanny?*

*A stunning debut, a dark tale
reminiscent of Mary Poppins and
Howl's Moving Castle.*

March 2022 / 224 Pages

Rights sold: German (Knesebeck), World Spanish (Nordica), Catalan (Nordica), Russian (Clever Media), Simplified Chinese (Beijing Everafter), Turkish (Timas), Estonian (Varrak)

Antonia Murgo Miss December and the Moon Clan



ANTONIA MURGO

was born in Manfredonia, studied and worked in Florence and Rome and now lives in Turin. She loves drawing. This is her first novel.

ILLUSTRATED BY THE AUTHOR

FOREIGN RIGHTS SOLD
IN 7 LANGUAGES

4 EDITIONS, 18.000 COPIES
PRINTED

WINNER OF THE 2022
STREGA RAGAZZE E RAGAZZI PRIZE
AS BEST DEBUT

SHORTLISTED FOR
THE 2022 STREGA RAGAZZI PRIZE

SHORTLISTED
FOR THE 2023 ORBIL PRIZE

BEST BOOK OF 2022
FOR THE LIBER REVIEW

CINEMA/TV RIGHTS OPTIONED

Miss December is looking for a job, but all of her previous employment ended almost as soon as it had begun. When she applies for a job as a nanny, she discovers her employer is the Bogeyman himself, in need of someone to care for his son Corvin. Incredibly, December gets the job and is tasked with keeping an eye on Corvin (with the help of a bellows and a stoker), a boy who is able to change into smoke and hide among the ashes. One night December had just discovered that Corvin isn't the Bogeyman's only child when three violent strangers break into the house. Why are they there? What do they want with Corvin? And is his mysterious older brother involved somehow?



*An unusual form (poetry and prose)
to tell the story of a kid in trouble,
who has to face another challenge: an
operation that might or might not save
his sight.*

May 2020 / 128 Pages

Rights sold: World English (New York Review of Books), French (La Joie de lire), Macedonian (Bata Press), Simplified Chinese (Beijing New Oriental Dogwood Cultural Communications)

Silvia Vecchini Before Nightfall



SILVIA VECCHINI

was born in 1975 in Perugia. She loves poetry and has written several books for children and young adults. She regularly holds workshops and events based on her works.

ILLUSTRATED BY SUALZO

A MOVING STORY ABOUT RESILIENCE
AND COURAGE.

WINNER OF THE 2021
FULGINEAMENTE PRIZE

SHORTLISTED FOR THE 2021
STREGA RAGAZZI PRIZE

SHORTLISTED FOR THE 2020 ORBIL
PRIZE

SHORTLISTED FOR THE 2020
LETTERATURA RAGAZZI CENTO PRIZE

SHORTLISTED FOR THE 2020
GIOVANNI ARPINO PRIZE

SHORTLISTED FOR THE 2021
PIERLUIGI CAPPELLO PRIZE

Carlo can't hear, Carlo can see only from one eye, and now that eye is in danger. The narrating voice of this story, written in poetry and prose, is his sister's, a combative adolescent who has always been drawing energy from her complicity with Carlo. His issues never stopped him from being funny, happy, and very strong. But when his sight seems to be failing it is too much for everybody, in the family. How do you stand up to such a risk? Simple: you just do it, that's all. You try and smile, and you realize you actually can. A strong family bond, an inexhaustible vital energy, irony and affection are the source of a fine, unforgettable narrative voice.





A boy looking for his father gone missing during the war. A small South African penguin. The story that links them.

April 2021 / 224 Pages

Rights sold: French (La Joie de lire), Spanish (Siruela)

Chiara Carminati A Penguin In Trieste

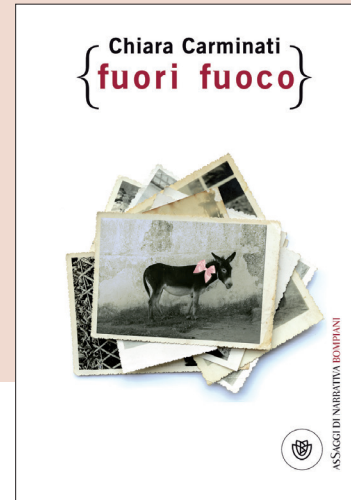


CHIARA CARMINATI

is the author of stories, poems and plays for children and young adults. She holds workshops and meetings to promote reading in libraries, schools and bookshops. Specialised in the didactics of poetry, she gives courses for teachers and librarians, in Italy and abroad. With the musicians of Linea Armonica she has realised performances of poetry and narrative that combine words, music and images. In 2012 she received the Andersen Prize as Best Author. Her website is www.parolematte.it

Nicolò is a boy in the 1950s when he leaves Istria and his grandfather to go to Trieste and live with his uncle. There he will be able to attend an Italian school, find a job and try to gather some news about his father, a missing sailor, who never came back from Africa after the war. When he discovers his father might be alive he finds a job on a cruise ship in order to get to South Africa and look for him.

SHORTLISTED FOR THE 2022
CAMPIELLO JUNIOR PRIZE



1914-1918. The story of a family told by a bright young girl. Talking about war from the viewpoint of one who doesn't make it

September 2014 / 208 Pages

Rights sold: French (La Joie de lire), Bulgarian (Knigopis), Macedonian (Bata Press), Japanese (Iwanami Shoten)

Chiara Carminati Out of Focus



CHIARA CARMINATI

is the author of stories, poems and plays for children and young adults. She holds workshops and meetings to promote reading in libraries, schools and bookshops. Specialised in the didactics of poetry, she gives courses for teachers and librarians, in Italy and abroad. With the musicians of Linea Armonica she has realised performances of poetry and narrative that combine words, music and images. In 2012 she received the Andersen Prize as Best Author. Her website is www.parolematte.it

OVER 20.000 COPIES SOLD

WINNER OF:

THE 2015 STREGA RAGAZZI PRIZE

THE 2015 SPECIAL ANDERSEN PRIZE

THE 2015 ALVARO-BIGIARETTI PRIZE

THE 2015 LAURA ORVIETO PRIZE

THE 2015 ORBIL PRIZE
(INDEPENDENT CHILDREN'S
BOOKSELLERS PRIZE)

THE 2016 WHITE RAVENS SELECTION

"When war broke out we were all pleased". Jolanda known as Jole was already working at the spinning-wheel at the age of thirteen during the summer of 1914. It didn't take her long to understand and suffer for the consequences of a conflict that sends the men away and leaves the women alone. Separated from her mother, traumatised by the bombings, she and her sister will roam the countryside looking for a grandmother that they had never met before. Through the voice of Jole – a penetrating, vivid first person narrator – their experiences are those of all the women who stay out of the line of fire, far from the front, blurred, almost invisible, while History proceeds, ruthlessly. Thirteen narrated images, like photos missing from a family album, punctuate a narration based on diaries, testimonies, reports and documents.





The investigations of a detective so banal as to be invisible. But...

March 2018 / 160 Pages

Rights sold: French (La Joie de Lire), Korean (A Thousand Hopes), Macedonian (Bata Press), Simplified Chinese (Daylight Publishing), Turkish (Domingo), Russian (Meschcheryakov)

Luca Doninelli The Detective Wickson Alieni



LUCA DONINELLI

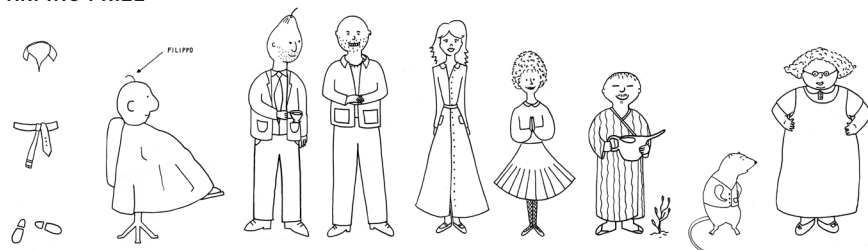
was born in 1956 and lives in Milan. For Bompiani he published *Fa' che questa strada non finisca mai* (2014) and *Le cose semplici* (2015, Selezione Campiello Prize) and *Tre casi per l'investigatore Wickson Alieni* (2017, Strega Ragazzi Prize).

**ILLUSTRATED
BY NICOLE DONALDSON**

THE FIRST TITLE IN THE SERIES

**WINNER OF THE 2019 STREGA
RAGAZZI PRIZE**

**WINNER OF THE 2019 GIOVANNI
ARPINO PRIZE**



Wickson Alieni is an ordinary detective, so ordinary that nobody sees him. This could look like a flaw, but is his greatest power: without being noticed he can solve a lot of cases, especially those involving wicked Milton Bobbitt, the pear-headed man, and Roger T.L.L., the man with 364 teeth, one for each day of the year (almost). Chief inspector Frank Fellikke, with his one and only hair named Filippo, counts on his cunning. Who stole the clouds? the herrings? five p.m.? We don't know yet, but Wickson will find out. Maybe.



The comeback of the most discreet detective in the world. So discreet that nobody can see it!

April 2021 / 160 Pages

Rights sold: Simplified Chinese (Daylight Publishing)

Luca Doninelli Three New Enigmas For The Unstoppable Wickson Alieni

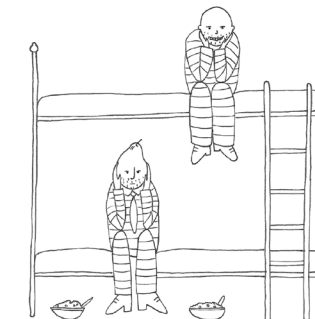


LUCA DONINELLI

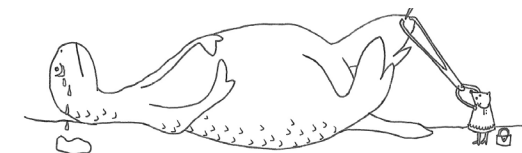
was born in 1956 and lives in Milan. For Bompiani he published *Fa' che questa strada non finisca mai* (2014) and *Le cose semplici* (2015, Selezione Campiello Prize) and *Tre casi per l'investigatore Wickson Alieni* (2017, Strega Ragazzi Prize).

**ILLUSTRATED
BY NICOLE DONALDSON**

THE SECOND TITLE IN THE SERIES



What happens if somebody goes around London at night ripping apart clothes and dresses? And what if the most famous criminals in the world, Milton Bobbitt and Roger T.L.L. run away from prison? And what if somebody decides to steal the whole London? That's easy: you must call for Wickson Alieni. Especially if you are the chief of police Frank Fellikke and your first worry is the welfare of your only hair named Filippo.





A writer for children and grownups, a story for all readers, one of the possible tales of the origins of humankind: the world's first child is Cain.

April 2021 / 128 Pages

Rights sold: Romanian (Humanitas)



Paola Capriolo The First Child In The World

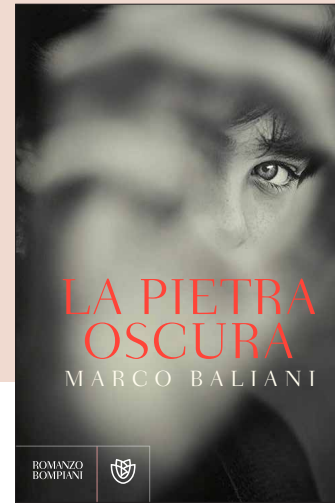
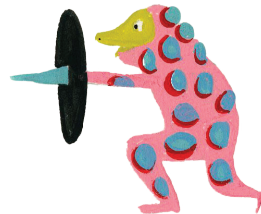


PAOLA CAPRIOLO

was born in Milan in 1962. Her first book was *La grande Eulalia* (1988, Giuseppe Berto Prize), followed by *Il nocchiero* (Rapallo Carige Prize, Selezione Campiello Prize), *Il doppio regno*, *Il pianista muto*, *Avventure di un gatto viaggiatore* and *Marie e il signor Mahler* (Bompiani, 2019). She is an essayist and a children's author and a translator of German classics such as Goethe, Kafka, Kleist and Mann.

COVER IMAGE BY ALBERTINE ZULLO

Cain's voice tells us this version of the world's origins: he was born with a face that emits light, just like an angel's, and his extraordinary beauty is a relief for Adam and Eve after their Fall. His first seven years are his Eden. Then Abel arrives, and everything changes: Abel is nice and friendly, Abel can't hate, Abel is thankful for everything he gets. All of this to Cain is unbearable: the first child of the world becomes the world's first killer.



A novel – for young people and for a wider audience – about the power of relationships and the energy linking distant worlds and times. A role game opening up an adventure full of ancient magic.

June 2021 / 368 Pages

Rightholder: Benedetta Centovalli Literary Agency

Marco Baliani The Dark Stone



MARCO BALIANI

actor, director, founded the "teatro di narrazione" (narrative theatre) with Kohlhaas in 1989. Among his shows: *Come gocce di una fiumana*, *Antigone nella città*, *Identità*, *Trincea*. Among his books: *Corpo di stato*, *Pinocchio nero*, *L'occasione*.

Ulisse, Inco, Ago, Gemma, Giorgio aka Stampa: 13 y.o., they are in class together and together are about to live their last spring as a group. Then everyone will take his or her own path. It's inevitable and a little bit hurtful. They share games, role games mainly, and they make up a special one, where instead of becoming heroes they will get to be what they really are. Then they find a cave, possibly a gate to another world, and a stone that emanates the strongest energy. This is the beginning of a story of escapes, mysteries, hypothesis, where "impossible things are all linked" and the soul of the world is in danger. Ancient curses, old legends, faraway universes, sacred statues, hostile or complicit grownups make for an adventure that is as strong as true friendship and as exciting as a world-connecting education.





An altar boy in the grip of doubt and a majorette who doesn't speak. The escape from a tedious summer school camp, an adventure in one night.

June 2020 / 352 Pages

Matteo Corradini If the Night Has a Heart



MATTEO CORRADINI

was born in 1975. He is a Hebraist and a writer. He won the 2018 Andersen Award, and edited the latest Italian version of *The Diary of Anna Frank*, published by Rizzoli. Among his literary works, *La repubblica delle farfalle*, a story set in the Theresienstadt ghetto.

COVER IMAGE BY MARINA MARCOLIN

Codini Donna is the name with which the protagonist of this story introduces himself to the world. Dressed as an altar boy, he decides to run away from the summer school camp he is being confined to during a big party he has no wish to attend. His accomplice is Andra, who doesn't speak and wears a majorette costume. The night is long and populated by bizarre encounters. Amid nocturnal dances and chases in the dark, the two kids go in search of a series of messiahs, people who can save us. However it's not so easy to distinguish friend from foe at night. Rodento, Mazurka, the creepy Barbara Zagaglia, Asmodeo the dog, the delicate Ortenzia... Who are they? Whose side are they on? Perhaps it's all just a nightmare, a hallucination. But Andra can finally face the man who took away her voice and her dreams, and Codini can speak to his father, at last. The rising new day won't necessarily be better, but will be different for sure.



Four friends in Bologna, a group of odd, original twelve-year olds who have a wonderful time together. But then one of them disappears.

March 2023 / 272 Pages

Cristiano Governa I Will Be Your Eyes



CRISTIANO GOVERNA

(1970) lives and works in Bologna as a journalist, author and writer for cinema and theatre. He has worked for various newspapers, including *la Repubblica*, *Il Domani di Bologna*, *Corriere della Sera*, *L'Osservatore Romano* and the magazines 'Il Venerdì', 'D' for *la Repubblica*, *D Lui* and *GQ*. With Bompiani he has published the noir *La strategia della clarissa*.

When Chiara vanishes, she is not the first girl to do so and the police find themselves at a loss. Eugenio, Ivano and Nino decide to carry out their own investigation, at night, riding around on their bikes and breaking into a stationery store that guards a terrifying mystery connected to a series of photographs of primary school children. It is up to the band of three to solve the mystery and piece together the truth, proving that a girl with dark skin, another who is fat (not round, not chubby, just fat), a geeky boy and one who is about to lose his sight can change the world if they want to.

AN ADVENTURE VEINED WITH
HORROR IN A REAL CITY WHERE
A PORTAL OPENS INTO ANOTHER
DIMENSION.





What happens when your best friend ignores you, your brother doesn't want to sort himself out, your parents are too worried about him to think about you, and you are left on your own in the world? You are alone and there's nothing you can do about it. Until a tall boy in a hoodie comes along, with scars on the back of his head. The wrong boy.

May 2023 / 304 Pages

Giada Borgatti & Cristiano Cavina The Wrong Boy



GIADA BORGATTI

(Bologna, 1985) trained as an actress, teacher and creator of children's projects at the Compagnia Teatro dell'Argine. In 2020 she published her illustrated book *La mia mamma ha qualcosa nella pancia* with Edizioni Arka. *Il ragazzo sbagliato* is her first book for teenagers.

CRISTIANO CAVINA

was born in Casola Valsenio, a little village on the Romagna hills, in 1974. He spent half his life as a pizzaiolo, and the other half writing books. His first ten novels were published by Marcos y Marcos. His latest book for Bompiani is *La parola papà* (2022).

Desi is alone. She had a best friend, Simo, who left for Mexico and now is not answering her texts. Desi also nearly lost her brother Pippi in a motorbike accident that has left its mark on their family. Her mother is obsessed with the health of her favourite child, her father hides himself at work and they both ignore Desi. But then the wrong boy comes along. His name is Jader, he is older than the other classmates, he has scars on his neck and wears a mysterious-looking hoodie. Who is he? Why does he regularly skip classes? Why has Simo changed? How can Desi help Pippi get his life back?



From Peix Nicolau to Scylla and Charybdis, from Syrens and Mermaids to Morgana, ten stories from the Mediterranean tradition set in the waters of the Messina Strait.

March 2019 / 64 Pages

Rightholder: MalaTesta Literary Agency

Nadia Terranova Homer Was Here Myths and Legends from the Strait



NADIA TERRANOVA

was born in Messina. Her first novel was *Gli anni del contrario* (Einaudi, 2015) but she also writes children's books, such as *Bruno: il bambino che imparò a volare* and *Le nuvole per terra*. Her novel *Addio fantasmi* was shortlisted for the 2019 Strega Prize.

VANNA VINCI

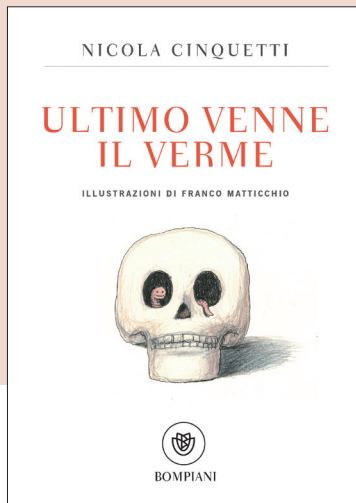
was born in 1964 in Cagliari. She has been working in the comic and illustration world since 1990, becoming one of the most beloved Italian comic authors. She was awarded the Yellow Kid Prize for the best comic author in 1999, the Gran Guinigi Prize in 2005 and the Romics Prize for the best European work in 2001. She is best known for "La bambina filosofica".

ILLUSTRATED BY VANNA VINCI

6 EDITIONS, 13.000 COPIES PRINTED

Nadia Terranova was born and grew up in Messina. The stories of her land inhabit her and as she dedicated herself to literature it would come natural to go back to them and retell them. This anthology pays homage to the great ones of the past in order to offer the young readers the plethora of wonders the Greek world and the rich tradition of Mediterranean sea can offer us.





"One of the most original voices of contemporary children's literature."
Zazienews

June 2016 / 160 Pages

Nicola Cinquetti The Worm Came Last



NICOLA CINQUETTI

is a poet and writer. He teaches Philosophy in Verona. With *Ultimo venne il verme* (Bompiani) he was finalist at the Strega Ragazzi Prize.

**ILLUSTRATED
BY FRANCO MATTICCHIO**

**SHORTLISTED FOR THE 2017
STREGA RAGAZZI PRIZE**

"One of the most original voices of contemporary children's literature."
Zazienews



"Against you, poor worm, complaints are eternal", wrote Toti Scialoja. In the spirit of nonsense, and with a strong taste for joking, a collection of fables inhabited by many animals and some humans. The whale that feels small, the poet dog that sings to the moon for the ears of a mole, flower children: a collection of fables of our times, where morality is overturned and the extravagance of the points of view is winning.



A novel about bikes and war: a city boy, an evacuated family, a gang of countryside kids.

March 2019 / 208 Pages

Rights sold: Brazilian Portuguese (Somos Educação)

Nicola Cinquetti The Giro of 1944



NICOLA CINQUETTI

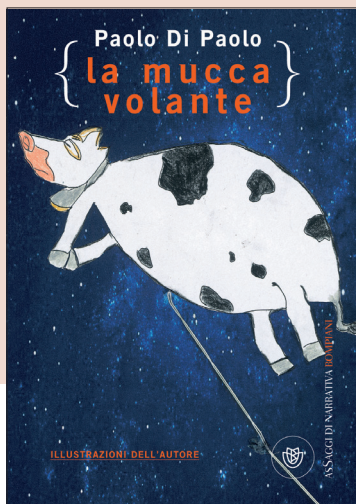
is a poet and writer. He teaches Philosophy in Verona. With *Ultimo venne il verme* (Bompiani) he was finalist at the Strega Ragazzi Prize.

Giro d'Italia, June 1940. Martino follows the tour with his grandpa and his best friend: they all support Gino Bartali but there's a young man who seems to threaten him, Fausto Coppi, who's going to win his first tour. Martino, though, has nothing to cheer for, because the day after the end of the Giro Italy enters the war. Four years later he and his family are displaced in the countryside where there's nothing to do. Luckily he got his bike. But that gets stolen by a mean girl who looks like the boss of a local gang. Without stopping dreaming about his own Giro d'Italia, Martino will get closer to this strange girl, experience death and war and live some of the darkest pages of Italian history. Nicola Cinquetti wrote a strong novel about war and life.

**WINNER OF THE 2020
ORBIL PRIZE**

**WINNER OF THE 2020
ANDERSEN PRIZE**





From the author of *Mandami tanta vita*, shortlisted for the 2013 Strega Prize.

A cow swollen up like a balloon, the mysterious disappearance of an elderly schoolmistress: a light-hearted, poetic tale about the weight of (white) lies.

September 2014 / 90 Pages

Rights sold: Simplified Chinese (Daylight Publishing)



Paolo Di Paolo The Flying Cow



PAOLO DI PAOLO

born in Rome in 1983, works as a journalist, critic and writer. He is the curator of Indro Montanelli's works and letters. Among his books, the novels *Dove eravate tutti*, *Mandami tanta vita*, *Una storia quasi solo d'amore* and *La mucca volante*.

ILLUSTRATED BY THE AUTHOR

SHORTLISTED FOR THE 2016
STREGA RAGAZZI PRIZE

"Subtle and pensive."

La Lettura – Il Corriere della Sera

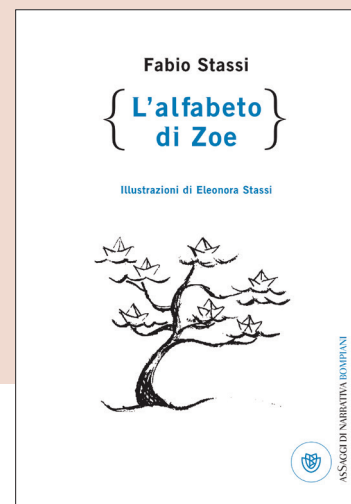
"The rare opportunity to savour a children's tale conceived in childhood"

Paola Capriolo, Il Corriere della Sera

"A heartwarming story."

la Repubblica

A corner of the schoolyard has been marked off by a strip of red and white plastic. And the teacher forbids the children to go outside during breaktime. Leonardo is determined to investigate: that same evening, in the pouring rain, armed with a torch and escorted by his dog Macchia, he goes back to school and discovers a cow blown up like a balloon. Is it dead? The next day the cow isn't there anymore. Where's it gone? This mystery runs parallel with another mystery – the disappearance of dear Mistress Pompelmo some years earlier. A whole band of kids is eager to understand why grown-ups go to so much trouble to hide truth.



The adventure of a stubborn, brave dyslexic little girl against an organization of evil thieves of memories and against her own difficulties that are to become her strength.

October 2016 / 250 Pages

Fabio Stassi Zoe's Alphabet



FABIO STASSI

was born in Rome in 1962. His family is of Sicilian origins. He has published *L'ultimo ballo di Charlot*, translated into nineteen languages (Sellerio 2013), second best at the Campiello Prize 2013, Sciascia Racalmare Prize, Caffè Corretto Città di Cave Prize, Alassio Prize, *Come un respiro interrotto* (2014), *La lettrice scomparsa* (2016), *Fumisteria*, his first novel (GBM 2006, Premio Vittorini for the best debut novel) and edited the Italian edition of *Curarsi con i libri. Rimedi letterari per ogni malanno* (2013).

ILLUSTRATED BY ELEONORA STASSI

BY THE AUTHOR OF *L'ULTIMO BALLO DI CHARLOT*, SHORTLISTED FOR THE 2013 CAMPIELLO PRIZE

"Stassi composes an alphabet where the words bravery, friendship, loyalty have a distinct meaning anybody can understand."

La Lettura – Il Corriere della Sera

Zoe's alphabet is not like ours because the letters are not always in the same order as we know. But this is not a problem for her; on the contrary, it's a way of looking at the world from a different perspective. The real problem is her mother who is lying in induced sleep after an accident. Investigating on her bike with two friends, Zoe discovers the real truth: her mother, like many other parents, was victim of a huge robbery of memories. In order to get them back, and to have her mother back. Zoe fearlessly challenges the King of Mirrors and his followers. A story of the courage and pride of diversity.





A summer tale. Four boys in the English countryside, the ghost of a warrior awakened from his sleep, a season in which everything changes.

March 2016 / 368 Pages

Rights sold: World Spanish (Norma), Serbian (Urban Reads)

Wu Ming 4 The Little Kingdom



WU MING 4

is a member of the Wu Ming collective of writers – authors of the novel *Q* (Einaudi 1999) under the pseudonym “Luther Blissett”. Besides the group novels (*54*, *Manituana*, *Alta*), Wu Ming have also written solo novels, travel stories, reportages and essays on literature. Each member has adopted a nom de plume composed of the collective name plus a number. Wu Ming 4 is the solo author of the novel *Stella del mattino* (Einaudi 2008), centred on the figure of Lawrence of Arabia. The collective's site is www.wumingfoundation.com

COVER IMAGE BY GIULIA ROSSI

A TRIBUTE TO THE CLASSICS OF ENGLISH LITERATURE FOR YOUNGSTERS, A STORY SET IN THAT GOLDEN AGE WHICH ENDS WHERE CHILDHOOD ENDS.

“A literary jewel.”

Zazlenews

The English countryside, in the Thirties. For four boys it's the time of conversations with the animals, of scuffles in the village, of the tree-house with its hidden secrets, and of friendship with Ned, a war hero and one of the rare adults who know how to talk to children. One day a sheep falls into a mound of earth, revealing the tomb of an ancient warrior from which the protagonist steals a gold bracelet: the ghost seeks him out, leaving a trail of blood next to his room, taking on the form of a black mastiff. Among the lies and the mysteries of the grown-ups, the brutality of two excessively blonde twins and a tragedy, the Gente Bassa (Low People) are sadly to discover that life is unfair.



POETRY





BOMPIANI 2024 / POETRY



A collection of poems aimed to teenagers illustrated by Pia Valentinis.

March 2018 / 144 Pages

Rights sold: Catalan (BiraBiro)



Chiara Carminati Travel, Verse



CHIARA CARMINATI

is the author of stories, poems and plays for children and young adults. She holds workshops and meetings to promote reading in libraries, schools and bookshops. Specialised in the didactics of poetry, she gives courses for teachers and librarians, in Italy and abroad. With the musicians of Linea Armonica she has realised performances of poetry and narrative that combine words, music and images. In 2012 she received the Andersen Prize as Best Author. Her website is www.parolematte.it

PIA VALENTINIS

born in Udine, lives now in Cagliari, Sardinia. She won many prizes for her work as an illustrator. Among her works, *Raccontare gli alberi* (Rizzoli), *Ferriera* (Cononino Press) and some biographies for RueBallu.

ILLUSTRATED BY PIA VALENTINIS

To put together teens and poetry: this is the challenge Chiara Carminati underwent with Pia Valentinis, an illustrator she had already worked many times with. A special book was born out of it, addressing a selected audience but aiming to a larger one as well: because every one was a teen once, and still is, as we may have never got out of that building process of ourselves. To tell about fears and anxieties, desires and delusions, anger and absent-mindedness by using poems and images means to create an unusual book, demanding to be read many times and to be let resonate in silence.



BOMPIANI 2023 / POETRY



A collection of poems for children that tackles big themes, such as friendship, relationships and change, with grace and thought.

March 2022 / 96 Pages

Ilaria Rigoli To Remake the World



ILARIA RIGOLI

was born in Verona in 1982. She studied Cultural Anthropology, History of Theatre and English Literature. She teaches Italian in a middle school in her home city. She has been writing poetry since she was a child and has published short stories, translations and schoolbooks. This is her first poetry collection.

ILLUSTRATED BY ILARIA FACCIOLI

SHORTLISTED FOR THE 2023
CAMPIELLO JUNIOR PRIZE (11-14)

The passing of seasons is the thread that binds the poems found in this book while allowing them to roam free in the hearts and minds of those who read them. They touch upon important relationships – with friends, a grandparent or a first love –, time passing, looking at all the things around us in their everyday wonder. Ilaria Rigoli gives a voice to thoughts shared by all children: the fear of being alone, of things unknown, desire, rage, pure joy. This is a collection to be shared with our loved ones.





MODERN CLASSICS



*A new edition of Bufalino's fable
illustrated by Lucia Scuderi
and enriched by a forward
by Nadia Terranova.*

October 2020 / 64 Pages

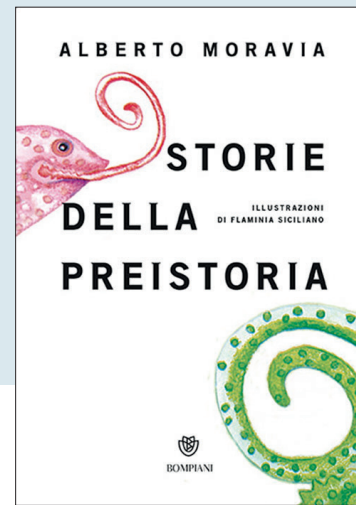
Gesualdo Bufalino Tale of the Timeless Castle



GESUALDO BUFALINO

was born in Comiso, Sicily, in 1920 and died in 1996. He was a teacher and a translator for many decades and spent a secluded life in his hometown, establishing himself among the finest Italian writers of the 20th century only in his late years with *Diceria dell'untore*, which won the 1981 Supercampello Prize. Among his book, all published by Bompiani: *L'uomo invaso* (1986), *Il malpensante* (1987), *L'isola nuda* (1988), *Le menzogne della notte* (1988, Premio Strega), *Il matrimonio illustrato* (1989), *Saldi d'autunno* (1990), *Qui pro quo* (1991), *Argo il cieco* (1992), *Calende greche* (1992), *Il Guerrin Meschino* (1993), *Museo d'ombre* (1993), *Bluff di parole* (1994), *Tommaso e il fotografo cieco* (1996), *Dizionario dei personaggi di romanzo* (2000).

ILLUSTRATED BY LUCIA SCUDERI



*The birth of the world according
to a great author.*

November 2017 / 256 Pages

Alberto Moravia Prehistory Stories



ALBERTO MORAVIA

pseudonym of Alberto Pincherle (Rome 1907-1990), was a writer, a journalist, an essayist, a travel reporter and a playwright. He is one of the most important Italian novelists of the 20th century. He contributed to newspapers such as "La Stampa", "Il Corriere della Sera" and "L'Espresso". Among his most famous books translated worldwide: *Gli indifferenti*, *La ciociara*, *La romana*, *Racconti romani* and *La noia*. In 1952 he was awarded the Strega Prize for his short stories, blacklisted by the Church. Many of his novels have been made into films, including *La ciociara* by Vittorio De Sica, *Il disprezzo* by Jean-Luc Godard and *Il conformista* by Bernardo Bertolucci.

ILLUSTRATED
BY FLAMINIA SICILIANO

Alberto Moravia wrote these stories in 1982, as a collection of fables on the creation of the world, a world inhabited by animals of all shapes and kinds. As it always happens, these fables use animal characteristics and adventures to investigate those of mankind, its vices and follies. But in the end it's hope that wins as the reader looks at these characters with human understanding, that is indulgency over their and his own whims and weirdness.





ILLUSTRATED BOOKS



One of the most renowned Italian designers explains to little readers his way of looking at nature and taking ideas and projects from there.

November 2018 / 32 Pages

Rights sold: Korean (Mirae Media & Books), Simplified Chinese (Love Reading), French (Éditions Parenthèses)

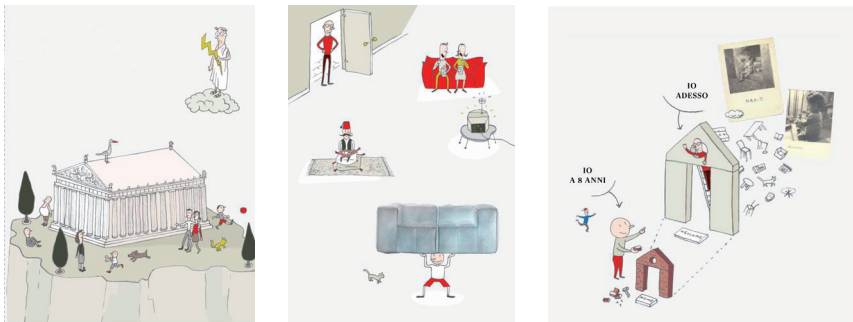
Mario Bellini Design Explained to Children



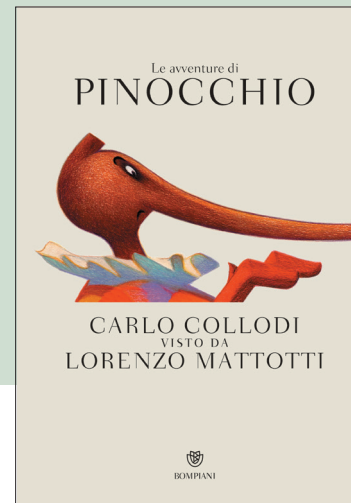
MARIO BELLINI

was born in Milan in 1935. After his bachelor in architecture, he started working as a designer in 1960s. Designer-in-chief for Olivetti, he designed the first personal computer in the world. He worked for Renault, Cassina, B&B, Flou, Vitra and Kartell and received eight times the Compasso d'Oro Prize.

ILLUSTRATED BY ERIKA PITTIS



How to draw a chair? And why to draw a chair? Where do ideas feeding a designer's mind come from? How to look at the world to make it better through everyday objects? Mario Bellini answers these questions in his first book for children: a travel into his world through photographs and drawings to catch the beauty and essential of those everyday objects we don't even stop to contemplate.



The most beloved classic of Italian children's literature illustrated by one of the most important contemporary artists.

March 2019 / 296 Pages

Rightholder: Alferj e Prestia Literary Agency

Carlo Collodi & Lorenzo Mattotti The Adventures of Pinocchio



CARLO COLLODI

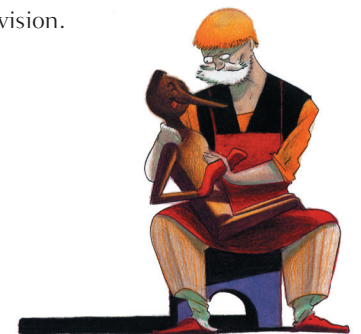
(1826-1890), pen name of Carlo Lorenzini, was the author of many books for children, but his fame is bound to his masterpiece, *The Adventures of Pinocchio*, unanimously regarded as one of the most important novels of 19th century Italian literature.

LORENZO MATTOTTI

is one of the most important contemporary illustrators. He was born in Brescia in 1954 but lives and works in Paris. His work has been released to widespread acclaim from critics and readers since 1970s. In 1983 he founded, together with other artists, the Valvoline group that marked a turning point in contemporary graphic novel production worldwide. He was awarded the Bratislava Grand Prix, one of the most important prizes for children's literature.

ILLUSTRATED
BY LORENZO MATTOTTI

Lorenzo Mattotti has been working for ages around one of the most famous characters of world literature: Pinocchio. The tale of the wooden puppet who comes alive and must face many difficulties in order to become a real boy seems to find in the illustrator's work an ideal mirror. What comes from this exceptional encounter is an artist's book that breathes both with the ambiguous and phantasmagorical spirit and aim of Collodi and with Mattotti's – or rather Mattotti's Collodi's – vision.





BOMPIANI

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