

# BOMPIANI

## SPRING

## CHILDREN & YA



2019





SPRING  
2019  
Children  
& YA

BOMPIANI



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# Mario Bellini Design Explained to Children

IL DESIGN SPIEGATO AI BAMBINI

A big name of Italian design explains to little readers his way of looking at nature and how to take ideas and projects from it.

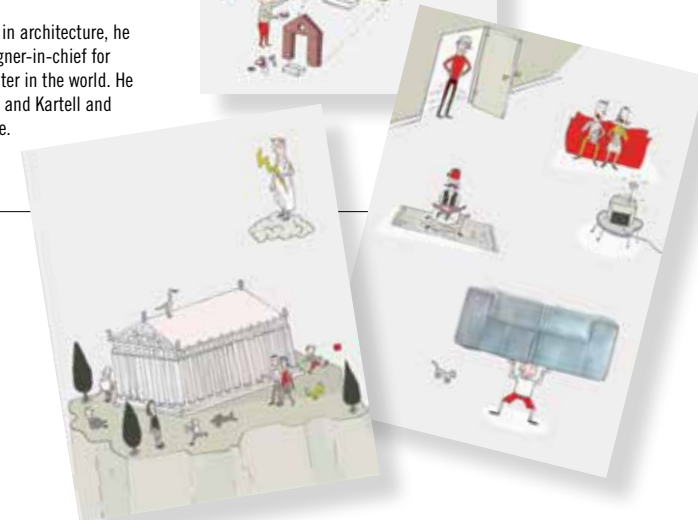
How to draw a chair? And why to draw a chair? Where do ideas feeding a designer's mind come from? How to look at the world

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.



## 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.



ENGLISH SAMPLE TRANSLATION AVAILABLE

Rights sold: Korean (Mirae Media & Books); Simplified Chinese (Love Reading)



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Pages: 32  
Publication: October 2018  
Price: € 12,00

Chiara Carminati  
Out of Focus

FUORI FUOCO

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

"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.

## CHIARA CARMINATI

is the author of stories, poems and plays for children and youngsters. 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. Among her books *L'estate dei segreti* (Einaudi Ragazzi), *Rime chiaroscuri* (with Bruno Tognolini) and *Mare* (Rizzoli), *Parto* (Panini), *L'ultima fuga di Bach* (rueBallu) and the handbooks *Fare poesia* (Mondadori) and *Perlaparola. Bambini e ragazzi nelle stanze della poesia* (Equilibri). In 2012 she received the Andersen Prize as Best Author. Her website is [www.parolematte.it](http://www.parolematte.it).



## ENGLISH SAMPLE TRANSLATION AVAILABLE

ORBIL PRIZE (INDEPENDENT CHILDREN'S BOOKSELLERS PRIZE) 2015

SPECIAL ANDERSEN PRIZE 2015

ALVARO-BIGIARETTI PRIZE 2015

LAURA ORVIETO PRIZE 2015

STREGA RAGAZZI PRIZE 2016

Rights sold: French (La joie de lire), Bulgarian (Knigopis!), Macedonian (Bata Press)

Pages: 208  
Publication: September 2014  
Price: € 12,00



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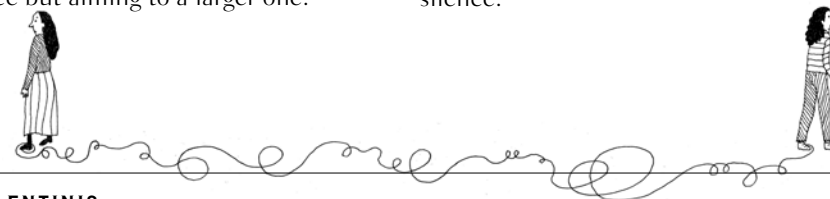
Chiara Carminati  
Travel, Verse

VIAGGIA VERSO

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

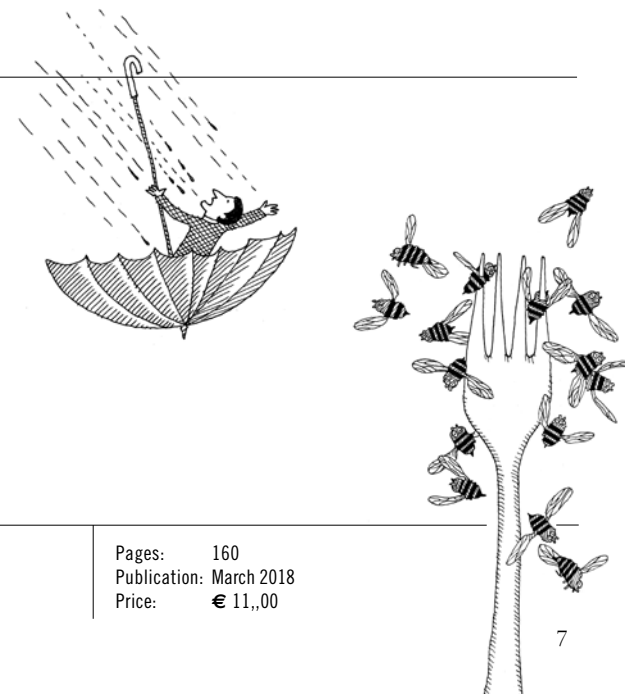
To put together teens and poetry: this is the challenge Chiara Carminati confronts with Pia Valentinis, an illustrator she has already worked many times with. A special book is born out of it, addressing a selected audience but aiming to a larger one:

everyone has been a teen once, and still is, as we may have never got out of that building process of ourselves. To speak about fears and anxieties, desires and delusions, anger and absent-mindedness through poems and images means to create an unusual book, demanding to be read many times and to be let resonate in silence.



## 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.



Pages: 160  
Publication: March 2018  
Price: € 11,00



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# Nicola Cinquetti

## The Worm Came Last

ULTIMO VENNE IL VERME

“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.

### NICOLA CINQUETTI

is a teacher of philosophy in Verona. Poet and writer for young people, he has to his name novels, short stories and picture books.



**ILLUSTRATED BY FRANCO MATTICCHIO**  
**SHORTLISTED FOR THE STREGA RAGAZZI PRIZE 2017**

*One of the most original voices of contemporary children's literature.*  
“Zazienews”



**BOMPIANI**  
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Pages: 160  
Publication: June 2016  
Price: € 12,00

# Nicola Cinquetti

## The Giro of 1944

IL GIRO DEL '44

*A novel about bikes and war: a city boy, an evacuated family, a gang of countryside boys and everyday life.*

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 that 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 that 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 and clear novel about war and about life.

### 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.



**ENGLISH SAMPLE TRANSLATION AVAILABLE**

**SHORTLISTED AT THE 2017 STREGA RAGAZZI PRIZE WITH “ULTIMO VENNE IL VERME”**



**BOMPIANI**  
**RIGHTS LIST**

Pages: 192  
Publication: March 2019  
Price: € 13,00

# Carlo Collodi & Lorenzo Mattotti The Adventures of Pinocchio

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

Lorenzo Mattotti has been working for ages on one of the most famous characters of world literature: *Pinocchio*. The tale of the wooden puppet that comes alive

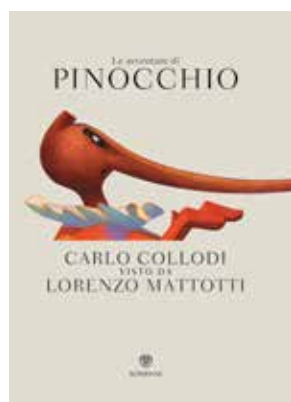
and must face many difficulties in order to become a real boy seems to find in the illustrator's work an ideal mirror. What comes from this exceptional encounter is an artist's book that breathes both with the ambiguous and phantasmagorical spirit and aim of Collodi and with Mattotti's – or rather Mattotti's Collodi's – vision.

## 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 19<sup>th</sup> 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.



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Pages: 296  
Publication: March 2019  
Price: € 35,00

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Agency



"With Pinocchio I started from my own traditional pencil drawings. Then I had to go further. And I asked myself many questions in order to try and face Pinocchio with other techniques, with different signs, with new forms. As your thought is made visible by your sign, when you choose it you're actually saying: 'That's what I think, that's how I think': a sign is like a word."

Lorenzo Mattotti



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# Paolo Di Paolo The Flying Cow

LA MUCCA VOLANTE

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

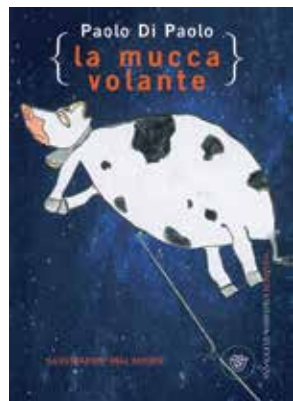
*A cow swollen up like a balloon, the mysterious disappearance of an elderly schoolmistress: a light-hearted, poetic tale about the weight of (white) lies*

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.

## 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*.



## ILLUSTRATIONS BY THE AUTHOR

**SHORTLISTED FOR THE STREGA RAGAZZI PRIZE 2016**

*Subtle and pensive.*  
"La Lettura"

*The rare opportunity to savour a children's tale conceived in childhood.*  
Paola Capriolo, "Il Corriere della Sera"

*A heartwarming story.*  
"la Repubblica"



**BOMPIANI  
RIGHTS LIST**

Pages: 96  
Publication: September 2014  
Price: € 11,00

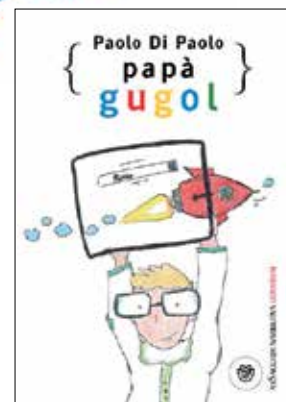
# Paolo Di Paolo Daddy Gugol

PAPÀ GUGOL

*By the author of La mucca volante, shortlisted for the Strega Ragazzi Prize, a book about a child wondering about the world surrounding him and looking for answers at all costs.*

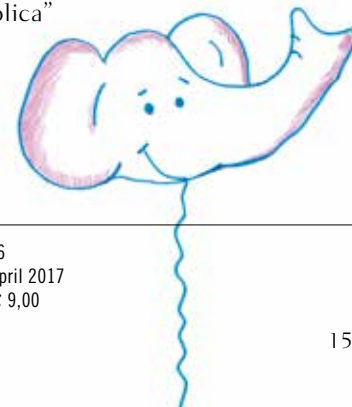
Grown-ups are distracted and careless. If a curious child asks them something they

don't waste time answering, because they don't usually know the answer. They just say: Gugol it! Thus, even a child knows how to surf the net. Paolo Di Paolo tells the story of a fatherless child, who has thousands of questions and nobody to answer them.



## ENGLISH SAMPLE TRANSLATION AVAILABLE

*With poetical irony Di Paolo depicts relationships between parents too busy to answer kids' questions and kids looking for answers that don't come from the Internet only.*  
"la Repubblica"



**BOMPIANI  
RIGHTS LIST**

Pages: 96  
Publication: April 2017  
Price: € 9,00



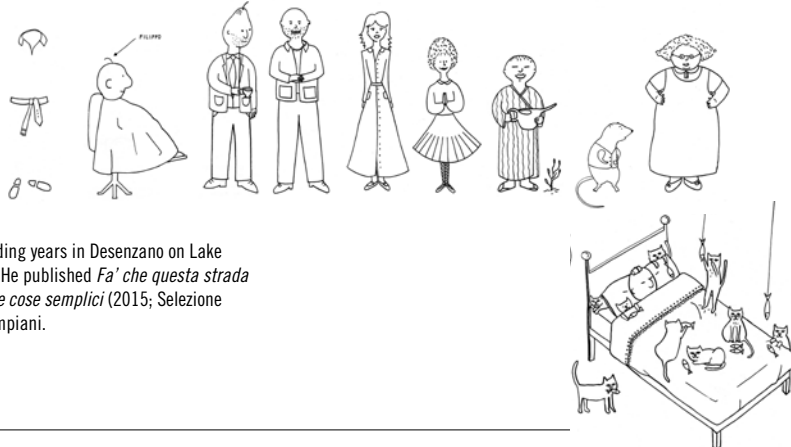
# Luca Doninelli The Detective Wickson Alieni

TRE CASI PER L'ISPETTORE WICKSON ALIENI

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

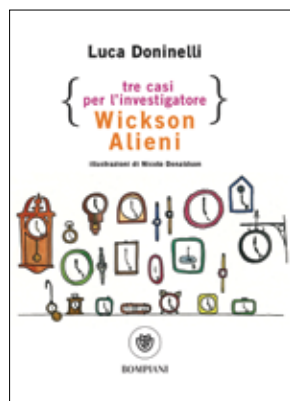
Wickson Alieni is an ordinary detective, so ordinary that nobody sees him. This could look like a flaw, but is his greatest power: without being noticed he can solve a lot of cases, especially those involving wicked

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.



## LUCA DONINELLI

was born in 1956. After spending years in Desenzano on Lake Garda, he now lives in Milan. He published *Fa' che questa strada non finisca mai* (2014) and *Le cose semplici* (2015; Selezione Campiello Prize 2016) for Bompiani.



ENGLISH SAMPLE TRANSLATION AVAILABLE

WINNER OF 2017 GIOVANNI ARPINO PRIZE

SHORTLISTED FOR 2019 STREGA RAGAZZI PRIZE

Rights sold: French (La Joie de Lire)

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Pages: 240  
Publication: March 2018  
Price: € 13,00

# Umberto Eco, Eugenio Carmi Three Tales

TRE RACCONTI

Now in paperback. Three stories for readers of all ages resulting from the creative meeting of a writer and a painter.

Melancholic atoms encased into a bomb and a general who wants war at any cost. Three suspicious cosmonauts and a six-

handed Martian. A pompous emperor who insists on bringing civilization to a small, innocent, happy planet. Three stories told by Umberto Eco and illustrated by Eugenio Carmi, aimed to kids and adults as well.



TRANSLATED ALL OVER THE WORLD

Rights sold to: China Simplified (Shanghai Translation Publishing House); Czech Republic (Argo); Germany (Hanser); Japan (Rikuyosha); Korea ((KKumteo Publishing); Spain (Penguin RH); Turkey (Yapi Kredi)

BOMPIANI  
RIGHTS LIST

Pages: 112  
Publication: October 2015  
Price: € 12,00

# Alberto Moravia Prehistory Stories

STORIE DELLA PREISTORIA

The origins of our world according to a great author.

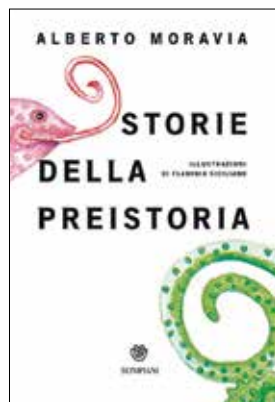
Alberto Moravia wrote these stories in 1982, as a collection of fables about the creation of the world, a world inhabited by animals of all shapes and kinds. As it

always happens, these fables use animal traits and adventures to investigate 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.

## 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 20<sup>th</sup> century. He contributed to newspapers such as "La Stampa", "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.



Rights sold to: Brasil (Editora 34), Romania (Polirom), Vietnam (Nha Nam)

BOMPIANI  
RIGHTS LIST

Pages: 208  
Publication: May/November 2017  
Price: € 13,00

# Wu Ming 4 The Little Kingdom

IL PICCOLO REGNO

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

A tribute to the classics of English literature for youngsters, a story set in that Golden Age which ends where childhood ends.

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.

## 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](http://www.wumingfoundation.com)



## ENGLISH SAMPLE TRANSLATION AVAILABLE

*A literary jewel.*  
"Zazienews"

*It's like reading a classic of English children's literature, only with a more sorrowful touch.*  
Le letture di "Biblioragazzi"

Rights sold: World Spanish (Norma)

BOMPIANI  
RIGHTS LIST

Pages: 240  
Publication: March 2016  
Price: € 13,00

# Orsola Nemi In the Land of the Fairy She-Cat

NEL PAESE DI GATTAFATA

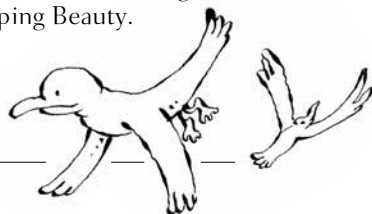


A delicate story about the Three Wise Men, wishes, lonely old women and cats disappearing into paintings.

A fairytale published in 1944. A revival of a shy and well-read author, whose life is intertwined with that of Bompiani.

If you are a lonely old woman and go out to buy a sandwich, you might meet the Three Wise Men, and they might grant you a

wish. You might wish for your childhood and they might take you back in time, in a little home full of dolls and puppets. But, if you get into a painting to look for a kitten who has disappeared inside, you must be aware that you may never go back. You are risking to end up in a fairy land, where the witch she-cat Marfisa reigns and the winds blow so strong as to wake up the Sleeping Beauty.



## ORSOLA NEMI

her real name was Flora Vezzani. She worked in the publishing world between 1930s and 1980s and with Bompiani during World War II. She translated French poets and novelists and wrote poems, essays, articles, novels, fables and short stories. A contributor to

many Italian newspapers, she was friend with Eugenio Montale, Anna Maria Ortese, Emilio Cecchi, Gianfranco Contini, Mario Soldati, Giuseppe Ungaretti, Leo Longanesi.



ILLUSTRATED BY SERGIO RUZZIER

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Pages: 112  
Publication: November 2017  
Price: € 11,00

# Fabio Stassi Zoe's Alphabet

L'ALFABETO DI ZOE



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.

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.



## 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).



A NOVEL THAT SPEAKS BOTH TO KIDS AND TO GROWN-UPS, ALONG THE LINES OF FUORI FUOCO AND IL PICCOLO REGNO

BY THE AUTHOR OF  
L'ULTIMO BALLO DI CHARLOT  
SELEZIONE CAMPIELLO PRIZE 2013

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

BOMPIANI  
RIGHTS LIST

Pages: 256  
Publication: October 2016  
Price: € 13,00

# John Steinbeck, Shout Letter to Thom about Love

LETTERA A THOM SULL'AMORE

A letter from father to son about love: how to tell it from an infatuation, how to face such a new and overwhelming emotion, how not to rush.

John Steinbeck enjoyed the duties of fatherhood and dispensed advice to his two sons when it was requested and sometimes when it was not. When in 1958

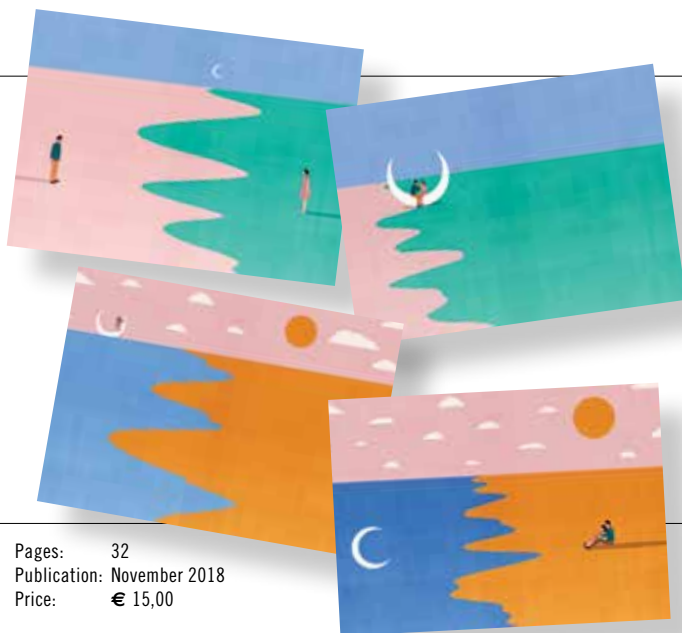
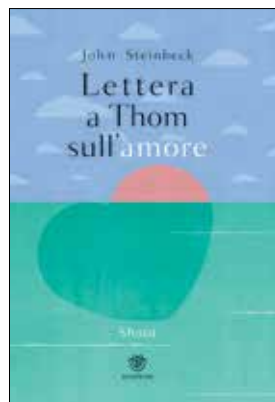
Steinbeck's son Thom was fourteen and attending boarding school in Connecticut he met a young girl named Susan with whom he thought he might be in love. His father, then living in New York with his second wife, Elaine, offered his views on the matter by writing him a touching and tender letter, here enriched by Shout's wonderful illustrations.

## JOHN STEINBECK

(1902-1968) is one of the greatest American writers of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, winner of the 1962 Nobel Prize for Literature. His whole work is published in Italy by Bompiani.

## ALESSANDRO GOTTARDO aka SHOUT

was born in Pordenone but lives and works in Milan. He worked for the "New York Times", "the Wall Street Journal", "TIME", Penguin Books, Volkswagen, Barclays, ENI, Nokia and received many important international prizes.



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Pages: 32  
Publication: November 2018  
Price: € 15,00

# Nadia Terranova Homer was here. Myths and Legends from the Strait

OMERO È STATO QUI. MITI E LEGGENDE DELLO STRETTO

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 and its roundabout.

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.



## NADIA TERRANOVA

was born in Messina. Her first book for grown-ups was *Gli anni del contrario* (Einaudi, 2015) but she is best known for her children books, such as *Bruno: il bambino che imparò a volare* and *Le nuvole per terra*.

## 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".



**BOMPIANI  
RIGHTS LIST**

Pages: 192  
Publication: March 2019  
Price: € 13,00

Rights: MalaTesta Literary Agency



# Beppe Tosco, Zosia Dzierżawska The Owl and the Girl

IL GUFO E LA BAMBINA

A group of animal friends and a girl looking for a way to stop time. An author with a vision and a clear mind and an illustrator who should follow his lead (theoretically). A tale of monsters and laughs. A sweet and ironical counterfable about friendship and its value.

This is the story of Stella, a girl worried about her friend Cocò the owl, who's getting older and older, and willing to find a cure to the flowing of time. But it's also the story of its author who is making it up

## BEPPE TOSCO

has been a writer and a radio and TV screenwriter for a long time. He wrote texts for many Italian comedians, such as Luciana Littizzetto, Luca & Paolo, Geppi Cucciari and Sabrina Impacciatore. His latest novel is *Favola splatter* (2018). [www.beppetosco.it](http://www.beppetosco.it)

phrase after phrase and tells Leandro, the illustrator, what to draw. Unfortunately Leandro has his own mind and his ideas are not the same as the author's. Page after page, Stella and her friends' story develops among squabbles and misunderstandings. A rebel fable against the mushy bleeding heart of the clichés in order to entertain its reader by mocking its own genre while at the same time shining with a sincere light, as it always happens to fables when they are true.

## ZOSIA DZIERŻAWSKA

was born in 1983 in Warsaw. She is author of many comics and illustrated books in Italy, Poland and UK. Her works were hosted in many important exhibitions, such as the Bologna Illustrators Exhibition, the Palais am Festungsgraben in Berlin, the Society of Illustrators/Museum of Illustration in New York.



BOMPIANI  
RIGHTS LIST

Pages: 176  
Publication: October 2018  
Price: € 18,00

# Alessandra Valtieri The Silk Princesses and other stories from ancient faraway China.

LE PRINCESSE DELLA SETA ALTRI RACCONTI CINESI

A collection of short stories to discover a remote and fascinating world. Illustrated in black-and-white by Mauro Evangelista.

The Great Wall, animal fables, rites and special celebrations: ancient China is a fascinating place, rich in stories. This selection is aimed to lure young readers

into a complex world: silkworms and clever emperors, storks and belligerent eels. Little things of everyday life and great projects against the background of a vibrating civilization we can get to know better through stories.

ENGLISH SAMPLE TRANSLATION AVAILABLE

## ALESSANDRA VALTIERI

translator and toy-seller, is author of *Il coniglio di velluto* (Giunti).

## MAURO EVANGELISTA

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BOMPIANI  
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Pages: 240  
Publication: March 2018  
Price: € 13,00



BOMPIANI  
1929\_2019



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