



# BOMPIANI FALL RIGHTS LIST 2023



BOMPIANI

FALL  
RIGHTS LIST

2023

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FICTION



*An old father, seducer and seductive,  
who makes a wrong move.  
A teenage son ready to judge  
and condemn him. A scandal that  
spreads via social media. A bevy  
of wives, ex-wives, lovers  
and daughters of all ages.*

February 2024 / 240 Pages

## Lidia Ravera One Day All This Will Be Yours



### LIDIA RAVERA

was born in Turin. A journalist and author, she gained notoriety in 1976 with her debut novel, *Porci con le ali*, a longseller that has sold three million copies over the course of forty years (available today in the Tascabili Bompiani series). She has written more than thirty narrative works, and her most recent novels, *Piangi pure*, *Gli scaduti*, *Il terzo tempo*, *L'amore che dura*, *Avanti, parla* are part of the Bompiani catalogue, alongside her biographical novel *Tempo con bambina* and the short story *La somma di due*. She has worked in cinema, theatre and television.

Seymour is fifteen and a self-confessed nerd with an ambition to become a writer like his problematic seventy-year-old father, Giovanni Sartoris. "Vain, self-centred and phony", Giovanni is a successful author and veteran of various marriages, with a slew of sons and daughters to show for it. The relationship between father and son is marred by conflict and anger. When Giovanni is accused of having tried to seduce Tatiana, a small-time actress from the suburbs willing to do anything for her moment of fame, Seymour joins the chorus calling for his head that storms social media. He is the only one who knows what really happened between his father and Tatiana, but the truth seems like a currency no longer in circulation. Each of his ex-wives (who embody very different generations and ways of thinking) have something to say on the situation; but all of them fall silent when Giovanni disappears and the worst is feared.

A comedy about wise children, childish adults, unpunished elders, distracted parents and overly zealous ones.

**WIT, A TASTE FOR PLOT, BRILLIANCE:  
THE UNMISTAKABLE WRITING  
OF LIDIA RAVERA.**

**THIS IS A NOVEL THAT BELONGS TO THE  
#METOO DEBATE, WITH A SERIOUS YET  
LIGHT-HEARTED SLANT.**

### FROM THE BOOK

"I don't love him, my father.

He has never been a mystery to me.

That's to say: I would have gladly made a mystery of him if I didn't live at a time in which myster-ies no longer exist due to them requiring an interruption of exhibitionism, and no one wants to risk that.

I don't love my father. But I don't hate him either.

I appreciate him for some things.

For others I despise him.

I despise the fact he behaves like an idiot when there are girls around.

Even in the street or in a café. Look at how cute she is. Why don't you ask for her number? No one is going to take you for a paedophile with that babyface.

I appreciate the fact he doesn't take constant pictures of me. Not now, nor when I was little, tes-tifying to the miracle that is my existence in his life.

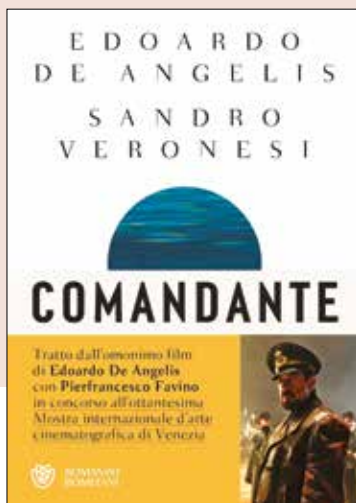
Most fathers take photographs of their children and children allow themselves to be photo-graphed and are always smiling, often flicking a V for victory with their fingers, but the fathers aren't really there. I mean, you can't count on them any more than video directors can count on you, they are not cut out to hang about, like drawings in the sand that disappear with the first puff of wind or are swallowed up by a wave rolling across the shore.

Fathers, for the most part, do not behave like fathers.

Mine is apparently no different from the others, he doesn't dictate rules but you have to obey them all the same. As if he had just waved them under your nose".







*A Marine official disobeys German orders in the middle of the war and rescues his drowning enemies. An extraordinary true story.*

January 2023 / 160 Pages

Rights sold: Dutch (Prometheus), French (Grasset), German (Zsolnay), Russian (Eksmo). Spanish (Anagrama), Catalan (Periscopi), Croatian (Naklada Ljevak), Ukrainian (Anetta Antonenko)

## Edoardo De Angelis, Sandro Veronesi Commander



### EDOARDO DE ANGELIS

was born in Naples in 1978. He is a director, screenwriter and producer (*Perez*, 2014, *Indivisibili*, 2016). He published the novel *Il vizio della speranza*, from which he adapted the award-winning movie of the same name in 2018. In 2020 he directed *Natale in casa Cupiello*, the first of a trilogy taken from Eduardo De Filippo's plays, followed by *Sabato, domenica e lunedì* and *Non ti pago*.

### SANDRO VERONESI

was born in Florence in 1959. He has published many books including, *Per dove parte questo treno allegro* (1988), *Gli sfiorati* (1990), *Venite venite B-52* (1995), *La forza del passato* (2000, Campiello and Viareggio-Rèpaci Prizes), *Brucia Troia* (2007), *XY* (2010, Superflaiano Prize), *Baci scagliati altrove* (2012), *Terre rare* (2014, Baguette Prize), *Non dirlo. Il Vangelo di Marco* (2015). He was awarded the Strega Prize in 2008 for *Caos calmo* and in 2020 for *Il colibri*.

A saltless piece of bread: that is the gift the book's protagonist happily gives his dogs in a sort of intimate communion after dealing with a fight over dinner between cat- and dog-lovers. His dogs are his wandering companions. Every night, as they walk slowly up the beautiful Roman street in which he happens to live, the old writer recalls his arrival to the city, the first jobs he took in order to provide a life for him and the girl he loved, the strange world of television, the alcoholic colleagues, a colourful bohemia, the cafés in Piazza del Popolo and all the farewells to friends and lovers who disappeared into the night, just like him.



*"Veronesi shows once again that the power of true prose is in the painstaking calibration of its registers, a blade that must be sharpened well, not too much, otherwise it falls apart."*

**Roberto Saviano**

**BASED ON THE HOMONYMOUS FILM BY EDOARDO DE ANGELIS STARRING PIERFRANCESCO FAVINO IN COMPETITION AT THE 80<sup>TH</sup> EDITION OF THE VENICE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL.**



**A WAR NOVEL THAT IS ALSO AN EXTRAORDINARY STORY OF BROTHERHOOD**

*"And now those men had nothing. All any of them had was a body growing ever heavier, a body coming ever closer to the end. But still warm. A body that the icy water would have frozen to death in a matter of minutes. Actually, Rita my love, I'm wrong when I say "had". They "were" that body. At this point that was all they were. They weren't what Donitz's Standing Order 154 calls survivors. They were lost at sea."*





*An intellectual autobiography narrated through animals, this is an anti-rhetorical and hilarious book by one of the greatest Italian writers of our time.*

*“As far as I can recall there has always been a tortoise in my life.”*

October 2023 / 264 Pages

## Bianca Pitzorno Emeralds for Some, Frogs for Others



### BIANCA PITZORNO

was born in Sassari, Sardinia, in 1942 and has been publishing books (now numbering almost fifty among novels, non-fiction and work for children) since 1970, selling over two million copies in Italy and translated into several languages. She has in turn translated works by J.R.R. Tolkien, Sylvia Plath, David Grossman, Enrique Perez Diaz, Tove Jansson, Soledad Cruz Guerra and Mariela Castro Espín. Her latest books are *La vita sessuale dei nostri antenati* (spiegata a mia cugina Lauretta che vuol crederci nata per partenogenesi) (2015), *Il sogno della macchina da cucire* (2018) and *Sortilegi* (2021).

Bianca Pitzorno has always been a free woman, a stranger to any kind of conformism, and this book, which tells with seemingly harmless precision of the incredible adventures lived by the animals in her life, is yet another demonstration. Among these pages you will find cats like Minouche, who got stuck in a cellar full of salami for a whole week, or Sugar, who burnt the parquet with a drop of urine, or Prunilde, who could answer the phone. But above all, you will meet extraordinary creatures such as Andrea, the tortoise who loved everyone except Agata the nanny; Valentine the crocodile, who was not so keen on hugging back; the enormous toad that used to keep Mr Pitzorno company every night as he smoked his pipe; along with a few mice, one bat and some parrots. And, of course, Griselda, Greta and Allegra, the emerald-like frogs, gifted by a loyal boyfriend.

Through the animals that have accompanied her over the course of her life, Bianca Pitzorno recounts 80 years of Italian history, from rural Sardinia in the 1940s to the creative Milan of the 1970s, all the way to the modern day.

A memoir filled with love for every creature mocking the clichés and selfishness that often lead us to think of animals as creatures destined merely to keep us humans company.



**BIANCA PITZORNO'S NEW NOVEL AFTER THE GREAT INTERNATIONAL SUCCESS OF *THE DREAM OF THE SEWING MACHINE*, WINNER OF THE 2019 IL CORSARO NERO LITERARY PRIZE AND TRANSLATED IN 13 LANGUAGES.**

*“A hit with readers seeking a historical novel with a protagonist to root for: a strong young woman who hopes to succeed despite having few advantages.”*

*Library Journal*

*“This sumptuous costume drama has a great deal of heart.”*  
*Publishers Weekly (starred review)*





*A Christmas tale for the age of social media.*

October 2023 / 208 Pages

## Enrica Tesio Smiles Are Silent



### ENRICA TESIO

is a blogger and a writer, a mother of three, an owner of two cats and a copywriter. In 2015 she published her debut, *La verità vi spiego sull'amore*, adapted for the screen by Max Croci. She has also published *Dodici ricordi e un segreto* (2017), *100 storie d'amore* (2019), *Filastorta d'amore. Rime fragili per donne resistenti* (2021) and *Tutta la stanchezza del mondo* (2022).

A cold December morning, a show full of children. The music starts, the faces of the kids turn towards the magic of the lights and the writer begins to tell her story... but then she stops and simply says: "There is no Santa Claus." These words, uttered live to millions of screens, cause the children to cry out of despair and mothers out of rage. There is nothing for it: the writer must disappear. Yes, Antonia Baldi, the famous author, needs to stop. She has spent her whole life running, to escape family tragedy, to keep a great love at bay, to get pregnant, to learn that children are different from what we dream they will be, to become the successful woman she is today. But now, with Christmas coming, Antonia says: "Stop!" And who knows, maybe she will discover that telling the truth is the only way to start believing in our dreams once more.

**A SPARKLING COMEDY AND A DEEP REFLECTION ON THE MEANING OF OUR EVER FASTER MOVING LIVES.**

A woman who needs to stop, an army of mothers wielding hashtags and Instagram profiles, letters arriving straight from Lapland and Christmas creeping ever closer.

### FROM THE BOOK

"On December 18<sup>th</sup> at 10.45 am, I take to the stage in the Auditorium and the children applaud, they are not applauding me, they are applauding because it's nice to do, they can clap their hands together and jump up and down without their teachers telling them off, they applaud their desire to applaud. I can't see them, I have the lights pointed directly at me, but I know them. On the background are projected images from my most recent book, a large iceberg appears that Orangostanco is grating to make a slushie, on the stage an overweight Brazilian dancer prances around on skates wearing a rubber costume bearing the features of Ottavia Meraviglia. The dancer slides away.

The presenter calls my name, I sit on the stool.

"Antonia, may I call you Toni?", the presenter looks at me with her huge bovine eyes.

"Toni is great", I say.

"So, Toni, shall we tell these children?" she repeats.

"What?"

"That Father Christmas doesn't bring presents to naughty children?"

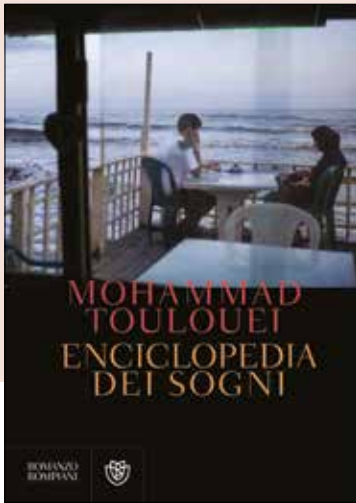
It is not a rhetorical question; she really wants me to answer. I breathe.

"I say to these children that they can do what they like, because Father Christmas doesn't exist".

I said it. *Father Christmas doesn't exist.*"







*The journey of a young man and his accidental companion through today's Iran in search of the truth hidden behind his dreams. A narrator caught between the choices he makes and the idea of the destiny that is waiting for him. A story about contemporary Iran.*

March 2024 / 160 Pages

## Mohammed Toulouei Encyclopedia of Dreams



### MOHAMMED TOULOUEI

(1979) is an Iranian writer and a playwright, winner of many prizes. He worked with *Internazionale* and *The Guardian*.

A 30-year-old man has accepted that his mother and his aunt set up a blind date with a very shy girl, Elham. In order to get to know each other better they will go to Isfahan and will spend one night together in a hotel. The true aim of Elham's journey, though, as becomes clear the morning after, is to consult an exorcist who in the hopes she can free her of her dead sister's ghost, who haunts her and gives her dream unnerving dreams of a reality that is not hers. She succeeds, but this makes her less charming in the eyes of the narrator who, during the return journey back, meets a strange woman with a prophecy for him. Now that his fascination with the dreamless Elham has faded away, he takes a bold decision: to vanish from the train as well as from his friends' lives, to start anew.

COMPARED TO MARTIN AMIS, TOLOUEI IS ONE OF THE MOST PROMINENT AUTHORS OF IRANIAN CONTEMPORARY LITERARY SCENE HAVING WON PRESTIGIOUS LITERARY AWARDS SUCH AS THE SHAHID GHANIPOOR AWARD AND WOW LITERARY PRIZE FOR HIS DEBUT NOVEL *FAIR WIND'S PREY*.



*We are proud to feature in our catalogue the collected works of Forugh Farrokhzad, the Iranian poet who left a lasting impact not only on Persian culture but also on the international literary scene. When Farrokhzad died, in 1967, she was Iran's most famous and controversial poet.*

October 2023 / 800 Pages

## Forugh Farrokhzad I Speak from the Edges of the Night

Edited and translated by Domenico Ingenito



### FORUGH FARROKHZAD

was born in Tehran in 1934. She married at a young age but later left her husband to pursue her passion for literature and art. In 1955, she published her debut collection, *Asir (Prisoner)*. In the following years, she traveled to Italy and Germany to study languages and familiarize herself with European literary movements. By 1958, she released two more poetry collections: *The Wall* and *Rebellion*. In 1962 she directed a documentary about a leper colony in Tabriz, *The House is Black*, which was soon recognized as a cornerstone of the Iranian New Wave movement. The last book she published while still alive, *Another Birth*, released in 1964, is considered a masterpiece of Persian modernism. Farrokhzad was only 32 when she died in a car accident in 1967.

In a very short lifespan, Forugh Farrokhzad left a profound mark both on Iranian culture and world literature: compared to Anna Akhmatova and Sylvia Plath, celebrated as a figure of rupture and rebellion, she was a translator and filmmaker, but above all, an extraordinary poet. In an Iran where women face persecution and strive to change the rules of their world, today Farrokhzad's poems read as a timeless work of art. Her verses have contributed to the renewal of the magnificent tradition of Persian poetry by celebrating passion and pain, inner torments, and movements of the soul.

THIS BOOK PRESENTS FOR THE FIRST TIME THE PERSIAN ORIGINAL EDITION AND TRANSLATION OF ALL OF FARROKHZAD'S POEMS, WHICH ARE STILL HEAVILY CENSORED IN IRAN.

"I sinned, a sin replete with pleasure in a warm embrace of fire. I sinned between two arms of iron, resentful arms ablaze."





## Luca Doninelli Florentine Black



### LUCA DONINELLI

was born in 1956 and lives in Milan. For Bompiani he published the provocative pamphlet *Salviamo Firenze* (2012), *Fa' che questa strada non finisca mai* (2014), *Le cose semplici* (2015, Selezione Campiello Prize), *Tre casi per l'investigatore Wickson Alieni* (2018, winner of the 2019 Strega Ragazzi Prize) and *Tre nuovi enigmi per l'insuperabile Wickson Alieni* (2021).

*A cultured, satirical and disturbing thriller. A story of intrigue filled with suspense, a corrosive portrait of a city in love with itself and its past. Only a series of murders can rouse Florence from its centuries-old lethargy.*

August 2023 / 272 Pages

Florence, modern day. In the basement of the fashion house Dombey & Sons, a strange discovery is made in an ancient closet. The secretary general, the powerful Loredana Fallai, decides to have it valued by art historian, Oreste Marcucci, who identifies it as the tables with which Brunelleschi “invented” perspective. An object many scholars did not believe existed. The following day, Fallai is found dead, and the tables disappear along with Marcucci. Fifteen years later, the mystery remains unsolved but when a competition is launched to complete St. Laurence’s façade – an event that brings in the world’s most famous star architects – the murders start up once more. The first of these new victims is Paolo del Chierico, former AD of the fashion house. His sister, Lucia, and Fallai’s daughter, Maria Giovanna, investigate.

**CHILDHOOD FRIENDSHIPS AND SUBTLE GAMES, LONG-HELD PASSIONS AND ANCIENT RESENTMENTS THAT HAVE NEVER HEALED.**

*“A sophisticated, adventurous novel to be read on multiple levels - allusive, cynical and ironic.”*

**Luigi Mascheroni, *Il Giornale***

Two generations become involved in a labyrinthine mystery that intertwines history, politics and power in a magnificent Florence, perfect but all too much jealous of its own secrets.

### FROM THE BOOK

“They are the two panels designed with immense virtuosity by ser Filippo Brunelleschi, the greatest architect in history, the inventor of the Renaissance, in order to study linear perspective, which still carries his name today. No revolution in the History of Art is comparable to this. I like to repeat this to myself, it both calms me and kills my thought that with these two panels ser Filippo not only ushered in a new era, but invented the Space in which we live, breathe, work, love and, in turn, invent new things. In this new era, we build our cities, divide up our territory, establish charts and maps, study the climate, vegetation, ecosystems; and then we destroy, and kill.

This is the space of our actions, our scruples, our deceptions, our strategies, but also of every wonder.

Since that day, horizons have grown bigger, the sunsets more glorious, the dawns more dense and precious, the world more boundless than ever, and us ever smaller but also more beautiful. Without these panels we would never have discovered the laws of flight, aeroplanes would not exist, we would never have been to the Moon.

The science of construction would have produced masterpieces, of course, but they would have remained on an empirical level. Galileo, Newton, Einstein, Le Corbusier are all indebted to this discovery.”





*When a father poisons his children's lives, how far is their hatred for him allowed to go?*

*"The rain doesn't wash anything clean, as my father liked to say."*

June 2023 / 288 Pages

## Emanuele Altissimo The Poisoner



### EMANUELE ALTISSIMO

was born in 1987 in Turin, where he graduated with a dissertation on David Foster Wallace and attended a two-year creative writing course at the Scuola Holden. He has worked for Italy's National Transport Authority and is now a high school teacher. His first novel, *Luce rubata al giorno* (2019), won the Kihlgren Prize as best Italian literary debut of the year.

Every year, when they've finished ploughing, the farmers pump fertilizers into the soil: nitrates, phosphorus and ammonium chloride, which will course unseen through the veins of the land like poison. When Arno was a child, his father used to show him puddles that were opalescent with the sinister sheen of those fertilizers, and reminded him that the same chemicals filter into the water we drink when we're thirsty. Now Arno is a grown man with a good job, a wife he loves and a young daughter. It has been years since he last saw his father, but he's the chief suspect for the man's murder. Oh yes, because Dr Paternoster's body has been found, and the killing was done in rage, and the murder took place in the house out in the countryside where all their family memories are lodged and live on. Arno hated his father. Arno had just made a secret trip back to that house. Arno doesn't have an alibi. But maybe hitting rock bottom is the only way you can rid yourself of a poison polluting your blood.

THE LONG-AWAITED NEW NOVEL BY THE AUTHOR OF *LUCE RUBATA AL GIORNO* (2019), WINNER OF THE KIHLGREN PRIZE AS BEST ITALIAN LITERARY DEBUT OF THE YEAR.

*"The novel dances across a deliciously tense and thought-provoking psychological and narrative tightrope."*  
*Il Tempo*

*"A beautiful crystal voice of hypnotic transparency for an elegant novel After the intimate pages of Luce rubata al giorno, Emanuele Altissimo returns with a story of unexpressed, oblique conflicts, mercilessly delving his hands into the dark and throbbing heart of a family."*

Mirko Zilahi, *la Lettura-Corriere della Sera*

### FROM THE BOOK

"When you are six, you are scared of your father. At twelve, you envy him; at nineteen you help him to die for the first time, you tell yourself you have no choice, that you have to save yourself, even if this means that you will be alone. And so, at thirty, you no longer know who you are."

"There is crime and there is punishment. No one ever talks about the other, immeasurable prison: the one for those who loved the guilty and are serving the most violent sentence - that of staying behind."

"Silence fell as soon I reached the altar. There wasn't so much as a murmur, just the Virgin Mary staring at me with her glass eyes. They were waiting for my words, the ones I had never wanted to say at the funeral.

My whole life had been a war against my father. As a child I ran away from his injunctions, as a teenager I tried to find a way to free myself from him, as an adult I responded to his financial revenge with lawyers. And when he was in the corner, and the guilt was devouring me, all I could do was lock myself in the bathroom, hold onto the basin and let the water run to drown out my own thoughts. One day you will be free of this pain, I said. That day arrived. There was nothing to give thanks for."





*Melissa Panarello, known for placing female desire at the core of her stories, breaks another taboo: women controlling money.*

February 2024 / 224 Pages

## Melissa Panarello Story of My Money



### MELISSA PANARELLO

(Catania, 1985) is the author of novels and nonfiction books, and a mother of two. Her debut, *Cento colpi di spazzola prima di andare a dormire*, appeared when she was 17 and became a literary sensation, adapted into a successful movie by Luca Guadagnino. She has also published *L'odore del tuo respiro*, *In nome dell'amore*, *Tre* and *Il primo dolore*. Her latest novel is *Cuori arcani* (2020). She wrote and presented the podcasts *Love Stories*, *C'era una volta e c'è ancora* and *Pornazzi*. She works with many newspapers and has a feature on *Grazia* since 2011. She lives in Rome.

The main character of this book is a writer, who became famous thanks to a provocative and autobiographical novel she wrote as a teenager. Time has passed, she now has a husband, a son, and an ironic wisdom that makes her wonder whether she will write something else now that she lacks the wave of rebellion that had compelled her to express herself. But it is life itself that gives her the chance to escape the self-satisfied inertia of adulthood by putting Clara on her path. Clara is the actress who had played the role of the protagonist in the movie adapted from her novel, but she needs money. Clara was beautiful but now seems consumed by a demon. Clara is hungry but sometimes is unable to swallow, as if she were choking. Clara needs to tell her story and to do so she follows the trail of money, the one leads to the heart of everything.

**A COURAGEOUS AND MOVING FEMALE MONOLOGUE ON THE SCARS LEFT BY SUCCESS AND WEALTH ON THE SKIN OF THOSE WHO EXPERIENCE THEM, ON THE TRAPS LAID BY YOUTH FOR THE MOST FRAGILE, ON PRIVILEGE AND THE CURSE OF TALENT.**

### FROM THE BOOK

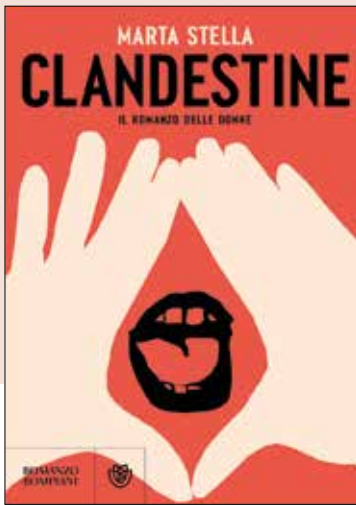
"I'll bring you my account statements. Forget novels, that's where you'll find people's stories".

"Money was the greatest source of shame and not only because we tend not to talk about it unless it's with disgust or excessive longing, but even more so because women do not talk about it, and it is an argument that we collectively struggle to associate with female discourse, where we are much more likely to imagine two female friends discussing shoes or husbands. How had I managed to remain ignorant for so very long to the fact that the greatest taboo in all the world, in any country or society, is money?"

"It is money, or presents, that clarifies how miserable we are, and not by the quantity accumulated but by how we have spent or lost it, and by how we have demanded it or frittered it away".







*In novel form for the first time, the heroic stories of the women who created freedom for themselves.*

February 2024 / 300 Pages

## Marta Stella Clandestine Women



### MARTA STELLA

(1988) is a professional journalist and editorial consultant, her most recent works have been featured in *The New Yorker*, in a documentary celebrated at the New York International Film Awards, and in the *Corriere della Sera* weekly supplement, 7. In recent years, she has taken on several curatorial roles in projects such as the Sguardi Altrove female cinema festival.

It is pitch black when the novel's central protagonist, a student at a high school in central Milan, comes home after a day that will stay with her forever: she has had an abortion. She did it with the help of a doctor, thanks to an association that supported her and many others, but she had to do it illegally nevertheless. Because it is the end of the 1960s and, in Italy, a Fascist law is still in force, stating that abortion is "an act against the integrity and health of the race". The punishment is imprisonment. She is young, she has her whole life ahead to fight to ensure that other women will not suffer her fate. But she is not alone, her path is both intimate and shared, made up of the bodies and minds of all the women, and men, who took part, each in his or her own unique way.



*A biographical novel about Luigi Pirandello, the greatest Italian writer of the 20th century.*

*A noteworthy Sicilian family, Italy between Belle Époque and Fascism, love and theatre, and a crowd of characters in search of an author.*

July 2023 / 416 Pages

## Silvana La Spina The Sulphur Man Life of Luigi Pirandello



### SILVANA LA SPINA

was born in Padua. She published the collection of short stories *Scirocco* (1992, Chiara Prize) and the novels *Morte a Palermo* (1987, 1999, Mondello Prize), *L'ultimo treno da Catania* (1992), *Penelope* (1998), *La creata Antonia* (2001), the three detective stories about Maria Laura Gangemi's cases (2007-2011), the historical thriller *L'uomo del Viceré* (2021) and *Angelica* (2022).

**SILVANA LA SPINA LEADS US BEHIND THE CURTAINS OF PIRANDELLO'S LIFE TO GET TO KNOW THE MAN WHO TOOK ITALIAN LITERATURE INTO CONTEMPORARY AGE.**

*"The narration, which oscillates between history and fiction, seems the result of passionate and shamanic work."*

**Salvatore Ferlita, *la Repubblica***

Blonde hair, a faun-like beard, a stern gaze that caused people to take him for a German student. When, at 20, he moved to Rome, Luigi Pirandello was a melancholic youth who hailed from a cumbersome family with a fiancée he left behind in Palermo and did not want to marry. Inside him was a crowd of ghosts he did not know how to give voice to. Yet. In a few decades, that tormented young man would become the most famous Italian writer of his time, who, in the tangle of his personal bonds, and his prison-like marriage bubbling with madness, would find the burning substance of his plays, novels and short stories. Here we have a Nobel-prizewinning artist who converses with Albert Einstein and has ambiguous links with the Fascist regime; an old playwright who feel in love with an actress, the muse of his plays.







*Med, the girl with hair that looks like a snakes' nest, and the noble Esmeralda: a splendid forbidden love. And Vittorio, who thinks money can buy everything.*

September 2024 / 200 Pages

## Giuseppe Conte I, Medusa



### GIUSEPPE CONTE

(Imperia, 1945) has published books in verse such as *L'Oceano e il ragazzo* and *Ferite e rifioriture* (Premio Viareggio), alongside travel essays and books including *Terre del mito*, and novels: from *Primavera incendiata* a *Fedeli d'amore* and *Il terzo ufficiale* (Premio Hemingway) to *La casa delle onde* (shortlisted for the Premio Strega) and *Sesso e apocalisse a Istanbul*, *I senza cuore* and *Dante in Love*, all published by Giunti. A translator of Shelley, Whitman and D.H. Lawrence, a great traveller and passionate lover of myths, he has given lectures all over the world.

**FROM THE PEN OF A GREAT POET,  
A CONTEMPORARY AND MOVING  
RETELLING OF THE MEDUSA MYTH.**

**"WHAT IS THE POINT OF KNOWLEDGE  
IF IT CAN'T SAVE YOU FROM EVIL?"**

Amelia, Amanda and Amedea are the three daughters of admiral Corallo who, together with his wife Carola, raises them in a large and beautiful house at the foot of Mount Etna. Until, one fateful day, the admiral and his wife lose their lives and the young Amedea, known to all as Med, begins to show signs of a deep restlessness that takes her away from her sisters and delivers her to an extraordinary destiny. A number of encounters will mark her life indelibly: that with the humble Tunisian vegetable seller Abdelnur, that with the rich and fascinating Esmeralda, and finally that with the powerful Vittorio, the founder of a shipping dynasty. When love bursts into Med's life in the most unexpected way, she also finds herself up against the archaic force of male arrogance, incapable of accepting refusal. Only the old professor Homer Grant, with his timeless wisdom, will be able to help her untangle the thread of her life.



*"This must be a kind of dream, all of it, even if I am certain I am awake." The novel of love, death and psychedelia we have been waiting for. A gripping story.*

January 2024 / 300 Pages  
Rightholder: The Italian Literary Agency

## Andrea Piva The Eternal Girl

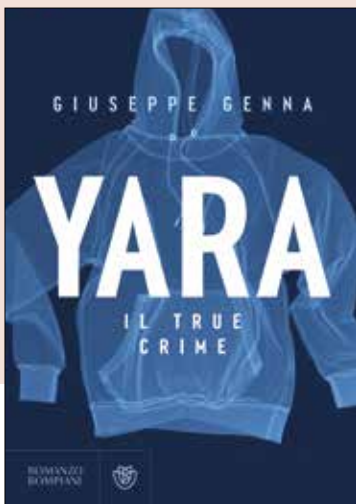


### ANDREA PIVA

was born in Salerno in 1971. He is a screenwriter, a narrator and a professional poker player of the highest level. He debuted in 2000 as the author of the movie *LaCapaGira* (entirely acted in the Bari dialect), winner of de David di Donatello, the Nastro d'argento and the Ciak d'oro Prizes as the best debut. He wrote the novels *Apocalisse da camera* (Einaudi, 2006) and *L'animale notturno* (Giunti, 2017).

Renata is an extraordinary creature, a woman who wears her beauty and intelligence with the grace of a butterfly. This is perhaps why Boccia always accepted that their relationship could not be predictable and quiet, that of an ordinary couple. But suddenly, one day she rings his doorbell and tells him she has received a diagnosis that leaves no hope: she is too proud to talk about it, but she asks for his help. So, while Renata chooses repression by becoming a socialite in a crowd of colourful and hilarious characters, Boccia – who is a psychiatrist – starts considering experimenting on her with a therapy that is illegal in Italy: psychedelia. This novel is a journey into human psyche, its enormous sufferings and its chances of opening up, of sharing, of generating new universes.





*A literary true crime book about the most disturbing case in Italian history.*

October 2023 / 416 Pages  
Rightholder: Piergiorgio Nicolazzini Literary Agency

## Giuseppe Genna Yara. The True Crime



### GIUSEPPE GENNA

was born in Milan in 1969. He worked for TV networks, as well as the *Poesia* magazine, Clarence.com, web agencies and as publishing consultant. He was also a member of the jury of the Venice Film Festival. Together with director Gilbert Squizzato he wrote *Suor Jo*, a series broadcasted on Rai3 in 2005. His first fiction book was *Catrame* (1999), followed by many others, such as *Nel nome di Ishmael*, *Dies Irae*, *Hitler*, *La vita umana sul pianeta Terra*, *Assalto a un tempo devastato e vile* and *History*.

November 26<sup>th</sup>, 2010. In Brembate di Sopra, close to Bergamo, Lombardy, a girl leaves home to go to her rhythmic gymnastics practice. She will never return. There was no news of her for exactly three months, but on February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2011, Yara Gambirasio's body was found in a field, mouth open in a silent cry, arms outstretched. The coroners say she froze to death. The day after her disappearance, an unprecedented investigation began, unprecedented because of the scientific methods deployed and the number of people involved – from policemen and policewomen to common citizens asked for help –, because of the worldwide media uproar and the deployment of civil, political and military resources, and of the many faux pas, mistakes and quarrels. In June 2014, a man was arrested who has now been condemned to life in jail but he continues to maintain his innocence.



*"Could you write to me, please? Answer me? Could you not delete the memory of me? You would delete your own too."*

*A novel that is both avant-guard and archaic, a love letter in the time of AI.*

January 2024 / 200 Page  
Rightholder: Pietrosanti Literary Agency

## Davide Orecchio Letters to a Young Woman Who Does Not Answer



### DAVIDE ORECCHIO

published the collections of short stories *Città distrutte. Sei biografie infedeli* (2012, new edition il Saggiatore, 2018, Super Mondello Prize and Mondello Opera Italiana 2012 Prize) and *Mio padre la rivoluzione* (minimum fax 2017, Campiello-Selezione Giuria dei Letterati 2018 Prize). He wrote the novels *Stati di grazia* (il Saggiatore 2014), *Il regno dei fossili* (il Saggiatore 2019) and *Storia aperta* (Bompiani, 2021) and, with Mara Cerri, a picture book, *L'isola di Kalief* (orecchio acerbo 2021).

LB is a lovebot: it was artificially developed to feel emotions and give pleasure. But when Livia rents it, at first for a few hours, then for a whole weekend and then for much longer, what LB starts to feel for her is unprecedented: something that is not artificial. So, when Livia gets sick, LB cannot accept that she no longer needs a lovebot but a carebot. LB cannot change, because it was not programmed to change, and so, it is dismissed. So, in the abysmal loneliness of an apocalyptic world, dominated by functions and oblivious to the value of symbols and words, LB chooses an ancient human tool in order not to lose Livia: pen and ink, to write her letters about itself, about the thirty years spent by her side, about all that happened and that she alone can save because she is endowed with memory. And Livia, who will never answer, will maybe read them all, if only to relive the only true love of her life.





*The novel of Cicely Saunders, who took care of the terminally ill.*

*A novel about the “rebel girl” who wrote a fundamental page in the history of modern medicine.*

October 2023 / 432 Pages  
Rightholder: Otago Literary Agency

## Emmanuel Exitu What Hope Is Made of



### EMMANUEL EXITU

was born in Bologna and moved to Rome to work for Rai and Mediaset TV, as a talk show author and, eventually, as a screenwriter. Alongside director Luciano Damiani, he adapted two Greek tragedies viewed through the lens of the news, as well as his novel *La Stella dei Re* into a Rai movie. His documentary *Greater – sconfiggere l'AIDS*, filmed in the slums of Kampala, Uganda, was chosen by Spike Lee as best documentary at the Babelgum Contest at the 2008 Cannes Festival.

Born into an affluent British family in the 1910s, Cicely Saunders could have lived a life of wealth and comfort before her. But since childhood, she found it impossible to remain indifferent to what was happening around her. She eventually decided to enrol in a nursing school led by a pupil of Florence Nightingale. As a nurse, she found herself tending to the wounded soldiers coming back from the battlefields of World War II, a witness to the horrendous suffering of those left “without any hope”. But she did not agree with this sentiment. Driven by radical indignation, Cicely devoted her life to amassing the best ways to ease pain, earning herself a bachelor's degree in Medicine and opening the world's first hospice for the terminally ill.



*The true story of the explosion of the Sutter&Thévenot factory in Bollate, a possible story, filled with the poetry of our small lives battered by the harsh winds of history.*

January 2024 / 300 Pages  
Rightholder: Piergiorgio Nicolazzini Literary Agency

## Ilaria Rossetti The Girl Factory



### ILARIA ROSSETTI

was born in Lodi and in 2007 won the Campiello Giovani Prize with *La leggerezza del rumore* (Marsilio). She wrote the novels *Tu che te ne andrai comunque* (2009), *Happy Italy* (2011), *Le cose da salvare* (2020), winner of the Neri Pozza Prize and the youth section of the Milan Circolo dei lettori Prize, and the nonfiction book *Stig Dagerman. Il cuore intelligente* (2021). She teaches at the Scuola Holden in Turin.

It's 1918 and it seems there is no space for pretty and gentle things, while the young die in the trenches, and in the countryside only the old and the women remain to starve. But Martino tried to teach his daughter Emilia beauty and kindness, hoping these things would protect her. Emilia, who is diminutive but has the strength of a grown woman, answers the call of destiny and starts to work in a factory alongside many girls just like her: their hands are needed to build munitions for the soldiers. Among them is Corrado, who can no longer stand the war and deserts, chasing the dream of love promised in Emilia's letters. But one morning, the Sutter&Thévenot factory explodes, along with all of its female workers: a vain cry of horror for all those lives battered by history.





*Visions, yearnings, terrors, open doors into the unknown. Twenty contemporary writers for an eerie map of our dreams, our fears and our obsessions.*

*The first anthology of the Italian new weird.*

May 2023 / 288 Pages

## The Year of the Secret Fire

The New Italian Weird

Edited by Edoardo Rialti & Dario Valentini



### EDOARDO RIALTI

is a writer. He translated and edited the works of G.R.R. Martin, J.R.R. Tolkien, C.S. Lewis, R.K. Morgan, J. Abercrombie for Mondadori and Bompiani. He is an editor for *L'Indiscreto* and writes for *Il Foglio* and *minima&moralia*.

### DARIO VALENTINI

(1993) has published short stories and translations on literary magazines such as *L'Indiscreto*, *Nazione Indiana*, *minima&moralia*, and in anthologies like *Il Visibile Parlare* (Le Lettere, 2022).

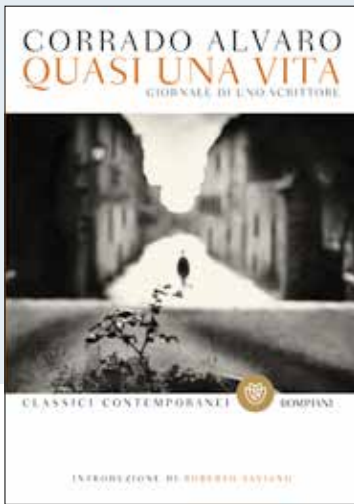
### THE CONTRIBUTORS ARE:

ANDREA ZANDOMENEGHI, DARIO VALENTINI, VANNI SANTONI, LUCA RICCI, EDOARDO RIALTI, ROBERTO RECCHIONI, LAURA PUGNO, ANDREA MORSTABILINI, ELENA GIORGIANA MIRABELLI, GABRIELE MERLINI, FRANCESCA MATTEONI, GREGORIO MAGINI, LOREDANA LIPPERINI, CLAUDIO KULESKO, LUCIANO FUNETTA, CARLA FRONTEDDU, FRANCESCO D'ISA, VIOLA DI GRADO, GIOVANNI CECCANTI, ANDREA CASSINI.

The aim of this book is to overcome the contrast between prose and poetry, realism and fantasy, while launching stylistic and thematic challenges: literature can't be but disconcerting. The authors of the book are writers of non-fiction, comic books, poetry and philosophy and all are set, each one on his or her own way, to make their own path into the woods of collective imaginary by answering to the same question, which is a challenge as well: what does it mean to write a *disconcerting* story in nowadays Italy?

## MODERN CLASSICS





*The tale of the twenty years (1927-1947) that shocked Italian history.*

*"Alvaro is an author only seemingly forgotten. In fact his works – novels and articles – are the placenta our nation selfawareness has fed upon."*

**Roberto Saviano**

September 2023 / 496 Pages

## Corrado Alvaro Almost a Life A Writer's Journal



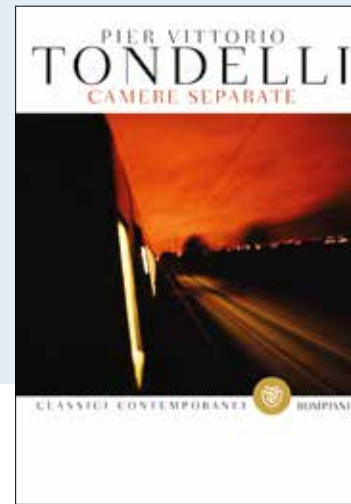
### CORRADO ALVARO

(San Luca, Reggio Calabria 1895 – Rome, 1956) was a writer, a journalist, a poet and a man of thought with strong civic sensibilities. Bompiani also published *Vent'anni* (1930), *Itinerario italiano* (1933), *L'uomo è forte* (1938), *L'età breve* (1946). In 1951 he was awarded the Strega Prize for *Almost a Life. A Writer's Journal*, which Valentino Bompiani had urged him to publish the year before.

**WINNER OF  
THE 1951 STREGA PRIZE**

**WITH A PREFACE  
BY ROBERTO SAVIANO**

*Almost a Life* is a powerful book, a most precious testimony, crafted from notebooks Alvaro kept between 1927 and 1947. The author himself presented it using these words: "People like me don't have a life fable. That is why this book is neither an autobiography nor a diary. It was originally simply a collection of notes I was going to use for future works, books, stories." In its pages, we see passing before our eyes the tale of twenty difficult years for both Alvaro and for Italy: the social and cultural history of a people first oppressed by the Fascist regime and then in search of a new, collective identity.



*The last classic of 20<sup>th</sup> century Italian literature.*

*A cult writer in the Nineties, Tondelli wrote a small but very influential body of work despite his premature death. His *Camere separate*, originally published in 1989, is considered by many his masterpiece.*

November 2016 / 304 Pages

Rights sold: French (Sous-sol/Seuil), Czech (Meridione), Greek (Polis)

**CINEMA/TV RIGHTS OPTIONED**

## Pier Vittorio Tondelli Separate Rooms



### PIER VITTORIO TONDELLI

was born in Correggio in 1955 and died in 1991. He made his debut in 1980 with *Altri libertini*, the book that depicted the euphoria and desperation of an entire generation of Italians. He then published *Pro Pao* in 1982, *Rimini* in 1986 and *Biglietti agli amici* in 1986. His last novel was *Camere separate* in 1989. He curated three anthologies of work by young writers in the 1980s as well as editing the magazine *Panta* with Elisabetta Rasy and Alain Elkann. In 1990, he collected his non-fiction writing in *Un weekend postmoderno*, a kind of "chronicle from the Eighties". The second book from that project, *L'abbandono*, was published posthumously in 1993.

*"One of the masterpieces of twentieth-century literature that everyone, sooner or later, should read."*

**Mangialibri**

*"The author's lyricism and low-key humor successfully contend with the weight of an immense melancholy."*

**The New York Times**

This novel tells us of three moments in the life of a 30-year-old writer, Leo, who is mourning the loss of his boyfriend, Thomas, a young German music player. Their affair is narrated through long reflections and flashbacks. Leo is a successful writer, who lives in Milan, Paris, London and Florence; Thomas, however, is in West Berlin. The two lovers often meet throughout Europe, they take their holidays together, but live in two separate rooms, each 2000 kilometres from the other. They can see each other whenever they want and seclude themselves in their own loneliness. But then Thomas begins an affair with a girl. This strange triangle makes Leo deeply jealous, until Thomas is diagnosed the illness that will lead to his death in Munich.





## MUNIZIONI



*A first-line recall by the only Italian journalist remained in Libya after the revolution.*

May 2023 / 288 Pages

## Nancy Porsia Libyan Bug My Days On The Mediterranean Front



### NANCY PORSIA

is a freelance journalist working with and in Middle East and Northern Africa. She specialized on the traffickers' net in the central Mediterranean sea and in 2016 she published an investigative report about the mafia in Tripoli and the links between the Libyan coastguard and the human trafficking. For this reason, she was forbidden to enter Libya again.

After the 2011 Libyan revolution Nancy Porsia was the only Italian – and overall one of the few – journalists to stay in Libya to document about a country that would become her own. She wrote about the political alliances, coups and civil war, the complex clashes between revolutionaries and Gheddafi nostalgics, the tragedy of migration: from the streets of Tripoli to the seaside of Sabrata, she visited the houses of the traffickers, the jails overcrowded with migrants and the beaches filled with corpses. In this brave book the author accompanies us to discover a contradictory and misunderstood people, often forgotten by mainstream media. She also offers us an honest look on her life: what does it mean to be on the frontline if you are a woman and a mother? What is the price to pay for a free and independent voice?



ILARIA JOVINE AND ROBERTO MARIOTTI DEDICATED A DOCUMENTARY FILM ENTITLED *TELLING MY SON'S LAND TO NANCY PORSIA*.

HERE THE TRAILER:  
[WWW.ZALABVIEW.ORG/MOVIE/TELLING-MY-SONS-LAND/](http://WWW.ZALABVIEW.ORG/MOVIE/TELLING-MY-SONS-LAND/)

The documentary, *Telling my son's land*, by Ilaria Jovine and Roberto Mariotti, tells the story of Nancy Porsia and her investigation into human trafficking by the head of the Zawiya coastguard, an action that caused the Libyan government to rescind her visa.

*"No one better than Nancy Porsia has testified and narrated the events that shook Libya."*

David D. Kirkpatrick, *The New York Times*

*"Nancy Porsia tells us the hell of those running away from their own land. After reading these pages we thank fate for having given us birth on the lucky side of the sea."*

Roberto Saviano





*A new kind of warfare, in which it is not houses that are bombed but people's minds. This is the hidden war the Kremlin is waging against Western democracies to make way for a new authoritarian world order.*

May 2023 / 304 Pages



*"A must-read, the most up-to-date and well-documented book on the subject, not just in Italy but internationally."*  
**La Stampa**

#### FROM THE BOOK

"If the journalist has one job, it is to point out when something is not working. After having nearly fallen into the trap of believing Putin's false narrative on Crimea (along with many others), I discovered that beneath that fake news a vortex was opening, and it needed to be brought to light.

Someone in Moscow believes freedom, freedom of information in particular, to be a weakness of our world, a weak point to be targeted. The objective, the enormous effort we must all make, should be to prove that person is wrong. Proving also that, if we have got to this point, it is precisely because we are free. Free also not to allow the wool to be pulled over our eyes.

To be free means exercising the use of reason and understanding when it comes to whether we are being told the truth or a lie, often one that is well dressed up, often a blatant untruth. It means being able to say 'I don't agree' and being able to put forward our own motivations without denigrating those of others. It means being aware of the fact that all of this could be lost much more quickly than we might imagine and without anyone actually invading or bombing us. The bombing of consciences is intangible, subtle, and its aim is to take away the most precious thing we own: our freedom to think for ourselves. It is called asymmetrical warfare; it was invented by Russia and we must find a way to fight it. The first step is accepting that it exists."

## Marta Ottaviani Russian Brigades Hidden War against the Western World



### MARTA OTTAVIANI

is a freelance journalist who worked as a correspondent from Turkey from 2005 and 2013 for *Apcom*, *Avvenire*, *La Stampa* and *Radio24*. In 2008 she covered the Greek debt crisis and in 2016 started specializing on Russia and ex-Soviet republics.



Is it possible to manipulate public opinion? Is there such a thing as a weaponless war that is just as dangerous? Yes, and Vladimir Putin's Russia has been a pioneer of this unseen conflict, using the Internet, new technologies and social networks to reshape minds and consciences. It is an occult, untouchable war, one that is waged even in times of peace and that can have devastating consequences upon a nation. These kinds of aggressive acts are Russia's way of attempting to influence the Western world, and this unilateral war in our fast-changing world can cause serious problems for even the most mature democracies.





NON FICTION



*After the success of The Place of War, Parsi's new book is a highly documented essay that is passionately written yet easy to read.*

*The author has become a reference point for Italian public opinion.*

November 2023 / 176 Pages

## Vittorio Emanuele Parsi

### Mother Land

An Idea for a Nation of Orphans



#### VITTORIO EMANUELE PARSÌ

is a professor of International Relations at Università Cattolica in Milan. He is the director of ASERI (High School of Economy and International Relations), a member of the SISP (Italian Society for Political Science) and sits on the Advisory Board of the Centre for Diplomacy and Strategy at the London School of Economics. He is a columnist for Italian newspaper *Il Messaggero*, and regularly hosts and takes part in debates on both television and radio. With Bompiani he published *Il posto della guerra* (2022).

Everything that these months of war in Europe have taught us about who we are, what we want and where we want to go. A manifesto that centres once more the value of the *patria*, or motherland: a concept born not to divide, but to unite. After seventy years of peace, war has returned to Europe. And with it, more than ever, an idea that has been ill-treated and yet remains fundamental: that of the motherland, the mother of our identity. But what actually is a motherland, and why do so many languages associate it with a maternal quality? Only a strong sense of which characteristics define our motherland will permit us to open ourselves up to others without fear of losing ourselves. Because if we feel weak and insecure, if we do not have a secure and conscious identity, we will be incapable even of understanding who we truly are.



THE NEW BOOK BY THE AUTHOR OF *THE PLACE OF WAR*  
15,000 COPIES SOLD 4 EDITIONS

The propaganda of the aggressor presents war as a grand patriotic project, while the brave sacrifice of a people that resists shows how you might have to give your life for the freedom of the motherland. But how do we mediate between the fundamental need for an identity and the risk of a descent into sovereignism?

#### FROM THE BOOK

“Mother Land: a concept that is pluralist, inclusive, welcoming, pliable and ever-changing.

It is not necessary for the motherland to be perfect in order to love it: you don't love your team because it wins, but because it is yours. And the quality of the team also depends on the quality of the players, and in particular on the commitment they show to the shirt, to their teammates and to the club's traditions. If we each carry out our own duty, the motherland too will succeed where, up until now, it has so often left us disillusioned.

Without the motherland, any prospect for the reform of our institutions, any political regeneration or even a process of further, sincere and necessary European unification will remain out of reach.”

WITH HIS CLEAR PROSE, VITTORIO EMANUELE PARSÌ ACCOMPANIES US ON A JOURNEY THAT IS AT ONCE A RECOGNITION OF WHAT THESE MONTHS AT WAR HAVE TAUGHT US, AND THE SURPRISING REDISCOVERY OF THE BEAUTY CONTAINED WITHIN THE IDEA OF MOTHERLAND.







*"The body changes, but the light remains. Isn't it this that saves us from transience? The look of someone who loves us."*

September 2023 / 192 Pages

WITH 20 RICHLY COLOURED ILLUSTRATIONS

## Roberta Scorrane This Is What the Body Is For



### ROBERTA SCORRANESE

is a journalist and works for *Il Corriere della Sera* where she writes about cultural themes. She is scientific director for the Masters in Art and Cultural Heritage at the RCS Academy Business School. She has also published *Portami dove sei nata* (2019) with Bompiani.

March 10<sup>th</sup>, 1914. In London the suffragette Mary Richardson took a knife and plunged it into a divine, naked beauty who is looking herself in a mirror: the *Rokeby Venus* by Diego Velázquez, on display in the National Gallery. That act by one woman against another was aimed at striking a symbol of femininity as dictated by men, set apart from history. The body is also for this: to mirror oneself, to rebel. In these pages, Roberta Scorrane places the female body at the centre of the conversation, both in its representation by the greatest artists of all time, from Raffaello to Picasso, and in its physicality, one of bodies that fight, love and change. Do happy bodies exist? This is the main question that runs through this book.



### FROM THE BOOK

"'The body is everything,' Patrizia Cavalli once told me, with all the electrifying gracefulness of that illusion-free poetry of hers. And she was right, because only in this way, only by trying to 'understand bodily' can we grasp the deeper significance of certain works of art – as Pierre-Auguste Renoir realised when he saw Raphael's paintings of women for the very first time. It is only by 'embodying' the thought of it that we feel the vibrant strength of the muscles Caravaggio painted, or the unavoidable, urgent distortion in Picasso's figures. Only this way can we get a foothold in Modigliani's universe, and look into those apparently blank eyes (but only apparently) in his portraits. It is impossible, or next to impossible, to understand Frida Kahlo without putting yourself in the shoes of a woman with damaged limbs; impossible to love Marc Chagall without dancing along with those dreamy bodies of his as they float through the void or quiver in their magical contortions."

**ROBERTA SCORRANESE TEACHES US TO READ ART HISTORY BY MAKING IT RESONATE IN OUR EVERYDAY LIVES, LEADING US TO DISCOVER HOW THE FEMININE BODY HAS CHANGED IN BOTH ITS REPRESENTATIONS AND ITS REALITY.**





BOMPIANI 2023 / NON FICTION



*In the stories of the Trojan war, behind every hero, behind his life, his humanity, there is a god determining his action. This book is a reinterpretation of the Iliad as a great choral novel as well as a way to read our own time through the lens of Epos.*

May 2023 / 256 Pages

Rights sold: Spanish (Siruela)

## Giovanni Nucci Gods at Six O'Clock The *Iliad* at the Happy Hour



### GIOVANNI NUCCI

was born in Rome in 1969. He is a poet and a writer of fiction. He's been studying, telling and re-writing the classical myths for 20 years. His books include *Ulisse il mare color del vino* (e/o, 2004; Salani, 2013), *E fonderai la più grande città del mondo* (Feltrinelli, 2007), *Francesco* (Rizzoli, 2013), *La storia di tutto* (Salani, 2017), *E due uova molto sode* (Italo Svevo, 2017), *La differenziazione dell'umido* (Italo Svevo, 2018), *Achille, il midollo del leone* (Salani, 2020).

*"Nucci re-reads the Iliad highlighting the interpretative power of myth for a better understanding of the contemporary world."*

**Il Sole 24 Ore**

*"A light and profound essay."*

**Marina Valensise, Il Messaggero**

Greek gods are forever looking down on mankind from above, watching heroes fighting and taking sides, sometimes interfering by determining men's actions. But this is not how things really are. There is not one single event in the Trojan war as narrated in the *Iliad* that is not the result of a divine intention. Gods fight alongside humans, they stand behind them, they manifest themselves by becoming the heroes' most deeply-rooted ideas.

Giovanni Nucci re-reads the *Iliad* from the gods' point of view, making them the true protagonists of the deep, intimate forces moving mankind. Myths can help us explain our own times: pandemic, war, women's condition, the crisis of the patriarchy, sexual identity, childhood loss, and the incompatibility between power and new generations.



BOMPIANI 2023 / NON FICTION



*A pamphlet about work for women today and about employment equality for all. A young journalist casts an analytical, disenchanted eye over the problems and perspectives of the contemporary world, while identifying new chances and possibilities.*

March 2024 / 304 Pages

## Irene Soave The Statute of Female Workers



### IRENE SOAVE

works for *Il Corriere della Sera*. She published *Galateo per ragazze da marito* with Bompiani in 2019 and *Camilla, la Cederna e le altre* in 2021.

A man can work a lot, and that's ok. A woman, however, is forced to stop at a certain point. Female occupation in Italy is 53.2%, the lowest in the EU apart from Greece. Among women with children, it is 37.2% which means only one woman in three is in work. The Workers' Statute has been in force since 1970 and Irene Soave analyses its most important articles while considering the reality for women now: silent quitting; what is asked of mothers and what they receive in return; the fact that the debate about women and work is still considered a cultural phenomenon. She looks back over time and considers the rest of the world to draw up a compendium of who we are and how we are when we are women working, our concerns and our perspectives. The result is a damning analysis of our society, still entangled in stereotypes and lacking the inventive needed to rethink a world of work that is for everyone.





*A famous TV author has written a novel (or maybe not) that depicts the struggle many face and most lose: the battle to quit smoking.*

September 2023 / 304 Pages

## Giovanni Benincasa Quit S. Delusions of a Tobacco Addict



### GIOVANNI BENINCASA

was born in 1960 and made the history of Italian TV with his work, especially during the golden years of Raffaella Carrà. He has worked with, among many, Fiorello, Fabrizio Frizzi, Gianni Boncompagni, Renzo Arbore, Teo Mammucari and Valerio Lundini.

We must stop smoking. But how? What's the secret?

This is a memoir that at times resembles a self-help manual and at other times a novel teaches us that, first and foremost, we have to decide. And then we must tell ourselves that we have done so, but not completely. An element of ceremony must be established. To know that it's you the cigarette is missing, even if this is shocking. Life is what happens while we are smoking, or what happens now that you haven't been smoking for some time.

What Giovanni Benincasa never stops doing is laughing, taking us along with him.



*The history and personal stories of a Jewish family from Trieste who escaped war and persecution in a vast villa in the heart of Tuscany.*

January 2024 / 204 Pages

## Piero Dorfles Chiassovezzano



### PIERO DORFLES

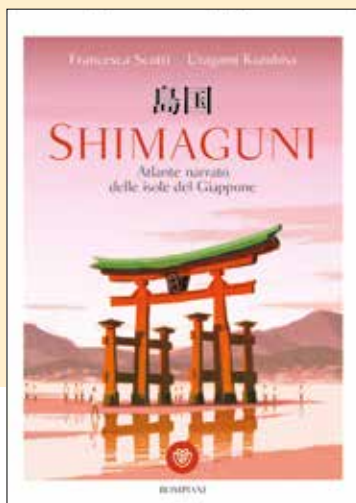
is a journalist and a literary critic. He has curated many RAI radio and TV programmes, such as *Il baco del millennio* and *La banda*. He has been working for the successful programme *Per un pugno di libri* on Rai3 for years. Among his latest books, *Il ritorno del dinosauro* (2010), *I 100 libri che rendono più ricca la nostra vita* (2014), *Le palline di zucchero della fata turchina. Indagine su Pinocchio* (2018) and *Il lavoro del lettore* (Bompiani, 2021).

The Dörfles are an important family from Trieste, of Jewish origins though they are not practicing nor are they registered in the local Jewish community. Despite the war and the Fascist persecution, they remain in Trieste up to July 1943, helped by their typically German surname. But after the armistice on September 8<sup>th</sup>, their lives are plunged into chaos and they must escape. From that moment on, their Chiassovezzano mansion, in Lajatico between Pisa and Volterra, becomes a safe haven where the extraordinary natures of the family members can gather and be themselves. This is why today Piero Dorfles – whose surname lost the umlaut because of the events narrated in this book – has chosen to tell of those terrible months he experienced as a child by recalling the Chiassovezzano house, its garden, its basements, its secrets, a place where everything evokes the people who inhabited it.





# ILLUSTRATED BOOKS



*A fascinating, magical journey through the Japanese archipelago led by the invisible presences that inhabit it: spirits of folklore.*

October 2023 / 160 Pages

## Francesca Scotti, Uragami Kazuhisa Shimaguni A Narrative Atlas of Japanese Islands



### FRANCESCA SCOTTI

was born in Milan in 1981. Since 2011 she divides her time between Italy and Japan. She graduated from both the Conservatoire and in law, and works with Palazzo Marino in Music and the Mediterranean Ambassadors Music Experience. Her tales and reportages have been featured in many Italian and international publications. With Bompiani she has published the novels *Ellissi* (2017) and *Capacità vitale* (2019).

### URAGAMI KAZUHISA

since graduating from prestigious illustration college Aoyama-Juku he has worked on a myriad of projects across the advertising, publishing and editorial landscape and had his work selected to exhibit at the Bologna International Children's Book Fair. More recently Kazuhisa's work has been the subject of solo exhibitions in art galleries in South West Japan.

The idea of a spirit is deeply rooted in Japanese culture. *Kami*, the word used for divinity, can be translated both as 'god' and 'spirit'; traditional martial artforms are permeated by their own vital essence, the 'spirit'; places are often associated to a specific *ki* – atmosphere, but also, spirit. Francesca Scotti, who over the years has made Japan her second home, accompanies readers in their voyage through the Japanese islands, crossing the seas that surround them. By allowing herself to be guided by the spirits that live there, Scotti brings to the surface Japan's authentic elements, a far cry from stereotypes, and sheds light on less well-known areas, mysterious fragments of a land and a world.



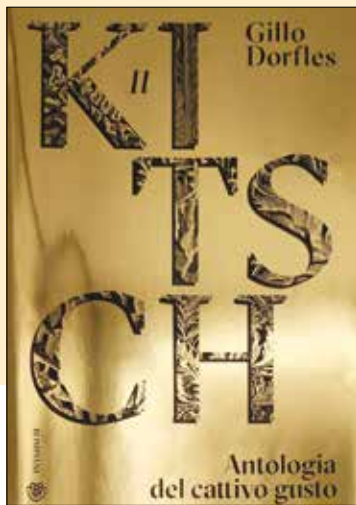
**A PRECIOUS TRAVEL COMPANION FOR THOSE WHO WANT TO DISCOVER THE LAND OF THE RISING SUN.**

**IN 2023 PUBLICATIONS FOCUSED ON JAPANESE CULTURE AND LANDSCAPE SOLD OVER 100,000 COPIES IN ITALY**

**REAL AND IMAGINARY AT THE SAME TIME, THIS BOOK REFLECTS THE SPIRIT OF AN ANCIENT AND YET VERY MODERN COUNTRY.**







*A new edition of a milestone in art theory now back in bookstores.*

*Written in 1968, it is still a reference point in the world of art critic.*

*A journey through art, myth, cinema, politics and daily life.*

October 2023 / 320 Pages

## Gillo Dorfles Kitsch An Anthology of Bad Taste



### GILLO DORFLES

(Trieste, 1910 – Milan, 2018) was an Italian philosophical, critical and artistic personality who cultivated intense international relationships with aesthetics and art the world over. A visiting professor in several American universities, he was also Professor of Aesthetics in the universities of Milan, Cagliari, Florence and Trieste, as well as a prolific writer of essays, monographs, articles and cultural features since 1930. His works published by Bompiani are *Estetica senza dialettica* (2016), *Paesaggi e personaggi* (2017), *Abbecedario* (2021) and *Estetica dovunque* (2022).

**THE ANTHOLOGY INCLUDES ESSAYS BY GILLO DORFLES, JOHN McHALE, KARL PAWEK, LUDWIG GIESZ, LOTTE H. EISNER, UGO VOLLI, VITTORIO GREGOTTI, ALEKSA ČELEBONVIĆ, HERMANN BROCH AND CLEMENT GREENBERG**

When, in 1968, Gillo Dorfles published a book on the phenomenon of kitsch, the word itself was little known outside the German-speaking world. But while this word may not have been mainstream, the products and trends characterised by their more or less deliberate bad taste could be found everywhere, breaking out of a purely artistic environment and working their way into every aspect of contemporary life, from design to communication, fashion to interior design, sport to showbusiness. According to Dorfles, kitsch is not simply an atemporal concept bound to the idea of technical reproduction that has flourished with the second industrial revolution. Its very essence is to gratify the user with a sense of easy artistry that is superficial and fundamentally contrived to manipulate the consciousness for propagandistic ends, whether political, religious or consumer.



*Kitsch. An Anthology of Bad Taste remains a milestone in the reflection on contemporary aesthetics, precisely because today's world appears dominated by its opposite – the good taste imposed by postmodernism.*





CHILDREN & YOUNG ADULTS



*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 / 208 Pages

## 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.

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.**

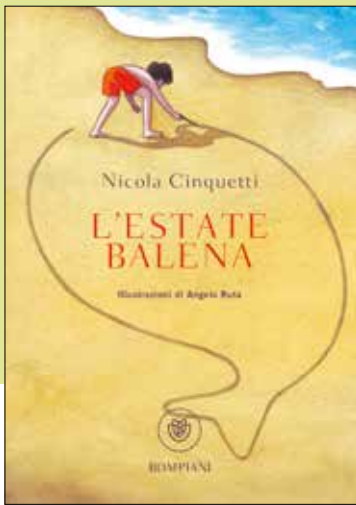
### FROM THE BOOK

“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.”





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

March 2023 / 144 Pages



## 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.



*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*.

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



Chiara is not the first girl to vanish in Bologna. 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 to solve the mystery and piece together the truth, proving that a girl with dark skin, a fat one, a geeky boy and one who is about to lose his sight can change the world if they want to.







*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.*

June 2023 / 163 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 deep 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?



*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 (Varrakt), Georgian (Academic Press)

## Antonia Murgò 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

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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

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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?







BOMPIANI

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