



BOMPIANI  
SPRING  
CHILDREN & YA

2022





SPRING  
2022  
Children  
& YA

BOMPIANI

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fiction

BOMPIANI

# Antonia Murgo Miss December and the Moon Clan

MISS DICEMBRE E IL CLAN DI LUNA



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.

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?

## 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



BOMPIANI  
RIGHTS LIST

Pages: 224  
Publication: March 2022  
Price: € 16,00

# Ilaria Rigoli To Remake the World



A RIFARE IL MONDO

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

The passing of seasons is the thread that binds the poems found in this book while allowing them to roam free in the hearts and minds of those who read them. They touch upon important relationships – with friends, a grandparent or a first love –, time passing, looking at all the things around

us in their everyday wonder. Ilaria Rigoli gives a voice to thoughts shared by all children: the fear of being alone, of things unknown, desire, rage, pure joy. This is a collection to be shared with our loved ones.

## ILARIA RIGOLI

was born in Verona in 1982. She studied Cultural Anthropology, History of Theatre and English Literature. She teaches Italian in a middle school in her home city. She has

been writing poetry since she was a child and has published short stories, translations and schoolbooks. This is her first poetry collection.

ILLUSTRATED BY ILARIA FACCIOLI



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Pages: 96  
Publication: March 2022  
Price: € 12,00

# Silvio D'Arzo

## The Penguin Without a Morning Coat and Other Stories

IL PINGUINO SENZA FRAC E ALTRI RACCONTI



A collection of short stories that reveals a hidden side of one of Italy's greatest 20<sup>th</sup> century authors.

The four short stories contained in this volume offer us a view into a lesser-known aspect of D'Arzo's art: children's literature. The tale that provides the book with its title is that of Limpo, a penguin born completely white in

a very poor family, and who cannot afford to buy the morning coat he need in order to go to school. So, he sets off on a journey filled with encounters and experiences to discover what he needs to be just like the others.

The short stories presented here are illustrated by Franco Matticchio and curated by Roberto Carnero.

### SILVIO D'ARZO

(1920-1952) was an atypical and lonely figure in Italian 20<sup>th</sup> century literature. He is author of a small number of very high quality works, among which Bompiani has also published *Casa d'altri*.

### ILLUSTRATED BY FRANCO MATTICCHIO



BOMPIANI  
RIGHTS LIST

Pages: 480  
Publication: March 2022  
Price: € 16,00

# Chiara Carminati

## A Penguin In Trieste

### UN PINGUINO A TRIESTE

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

Nicolò is a boy in the 1950s when he leaves Istria and his grandfather to go to Trieste and live with his uncle. There he will be able to attend an Italian school, find a job and try to

gather some news about his father, a missing sailor, who never came back from Africa after the war. When he discovers his father might be alive he finds a job on a cruise ship in order to get to South Africa and look for him.

### CHIARA CARMINATI

is the author of stories, poems and plays for children and young adults. She holds workshops and meetings to promote reading in libraries, schools and bookshops. Specialised in the didactics of poetry, she gives courses for teachers and librarians, in Italy and abroad. With the musicians of Linea

Armonica she has realised performances of poetry and narrative that combine words, music and images. In 2012 she received the Andersen Prize as Best Author. Her website is [www.parolematte.it](http://www.parolematte.it)



**FINALIST AT THE 2022 CAMPIELLO JUNIOR PRIZE**

**BY THE AUTHOR OF OUT OF FOCUS THAT SOLD OVER 20.000 COPIES**

**WINNER OF:**

**2015 STREGA RAGAZZI PRIZE**

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

**2015 SPECIAL ANDERSEN PRIZE**

**2015 ALVARO-BIGIARETTI PRIZE**

**2015 LAURA ORVIETO PRIZE**

**2016 WHITE RAVENS SELECTION**

Rights sold: French (La Joie de lire)



**BOMPIANI  
RIGHTS LIST**

Pages: 224  
Publication: April 2021  
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

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### ENGLISH SAMPLE TRANSLATION AVAILABLE

**OUT OF FOCUS SOLD OVER 20,000 COPIES AND WON:**

**ORBIL PRIZE (INDEPENDENT CHILDREN'S BOOKSELLERS PRIZE)**

**2015 SPECIAL ANDERSEN PRIZE**

**2015 ALVARO-BIGIARETTI PRIZE**

**2015 LAURA ORVIETO PRIZE**

**2015 STREGA RAGAZZI PRIZE**

**2016 WHITE RAVENS SELECTION**

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



**BOMPIANI  
RIGHTS LIST**

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

# 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 underwent with Pia Valentinis, an illustrator she had already worked many times with. A special book was born out of it, addressing a selected audience but aiming to a larger one as well: because every one was a teen once, and still is, as we may have never got out of that building process of ourselves. To tell about fears and

anxieties, desires and delusions, anger and absent-mindedness by using poems and images means to create an unusual book, demanding to be read many times and to be let resonate in silence.



### PIA VALENTINIS

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

### ILLUSTRATED BY PIA VALENTINIS



BOMPIANI  
RIGHTS LIST

Pages: 144  
Publication: March 2018  
Price: € 12,00

# Luca Doninelli

## Three New Enigmas For The Unstoppable Wickson Alieni

TRE NUOVI ENIGMI PER L'INSUPERABILE WICKSON ALIENI



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

What happens if somebody goes around London at night ripping apart clothes and dresses? And what if the most famous criminals in the world, Milton Bobbitt and Roger T.L.L. run away

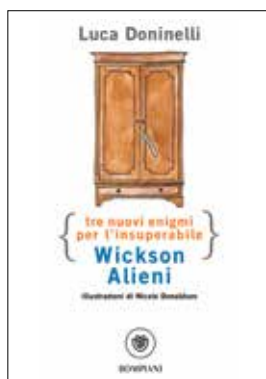
from prison? And what if somebody decides to steal the whole London? That's easy: you must call for Wickson Alieni. Especially if you are the chief of police Frank Fellikke and your first worry is the welfare of your only hair named Filippo.



### LUCA DONINELLI

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

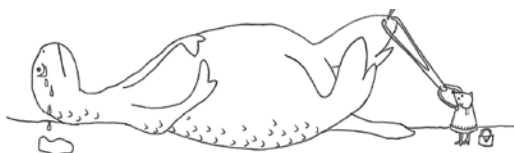
ILLUSTRATED BY NICOLE DONALDSON



ENGLISH SAMPLE TRANSLATION AVAILABLE

THE SECOND TITLE IN THE SERIES

Rights sold:  
Simplified Chinese (Daylight Publishing)



BOMPIANI  
RIGHTS LIST

Pages: 160  
Publication: April 2021  
Price: € 12,00

# Luca Doninelli

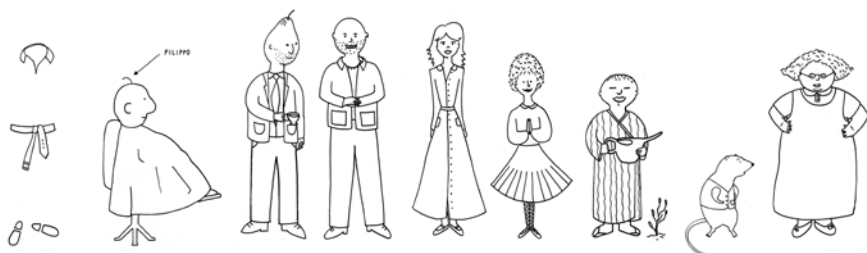
## The Detective Wickson Alieni

TRE CASI PER L'ISPETTORE WICKSON ALIENI

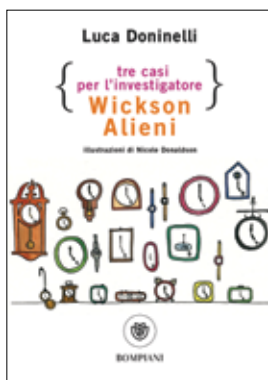
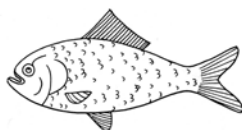
*The investigations of a detective so banal as to be invisible. But...*

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.



ILLUSTRATED BY NICOLE DONALDSON



ENGLISH SAMPLE TRANSLATION AVAILABLE

THE FIRST TITLE IN THE SERIES

STREGA RAGAZZI PRIZE 2019

GIOVANNI ARPINO PRIZE 2019

Rights sold:

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



BOMPIANI  
RIGHTS LIST

Pages: 160  
Publication: March 2018  
Price: € 12,00

# Marco Baliani

## The Dark Stone

LA PIETRA OSCURA

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

Ulisse, Inco, Ago, Gemma, Giorgio aka Stampa: 13 y.o., they are in class together and together are about to live their last spring as a group. Then everyone will take his or her own path. It's inevitable and a little bit hurtful. They share games, role games mainly, and they make up a special one, where

instead of becoming heroes they will get to be what they really are. Then they find a cave, possibly a gate to another world, and a stone that emanates the strongest energy. This is the beginning of a story of escapes, mysteries, hypothesis, where "impossible things are all linked" and the soul of the world is in danger. Ancient curses, old legends, faraway universes, sacred statues, hostile or complicit grownups make for an adventure that is as strong as true friendship and as exciting as a world-connecting equation.

### MARCO BALIANI

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



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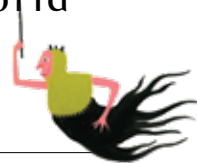
Pages: 368  
Publication: June 2021  
Price: € 17,00

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Centovalli Literary Agency

# Paola Capriolo

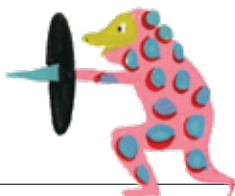
## The First Child In The World

IL PRIMO BAMBINO DEL MONDO



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

Cain's voice tells us this version of the world's origins: he was born with a face that emits light, just like an angel's, and his extraordinary beauty is a relief for Adam and Eve after their Fall. His first seven years are his Eden. Then Abel arrives, and everything changes: Abel is nice and



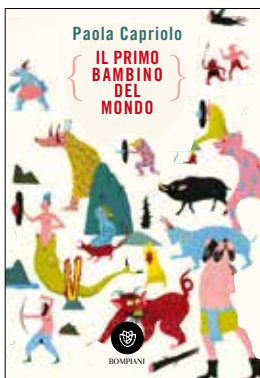
friendly, Abel can't hate, Abel is thankful for everything he gets. All of this to Cain is unbearable: the first child of the world becomes the world's first killer.

### PAOLA CAPRIOLO

was born in Milan in 1962. Her first book was *La grande Eulalia* (1988, Giuseppe Berto Prize), followed by *Il nocchiero* (Rapallo Carige Prize, Selezione Campiello Prize), *Il doppio regno*, *Il pianista muto*, *Aventure di un gatto viaggiatore*

and *Marie e il signor Mahler* (Bompiani, 2019). She is an essayist and a children's author and a translator of German classics such as Goethe, Kafka, Kleist and Mann.

### COVER IMAGE BY ALBERTINE ZULLO



Rights sold: Romanian (Humanitas)



BOMPIANI  
RIGHTS LIST

Pages: 128  
Publication: April 2021  
Price: € 11,00

# Matteo Corradini

## If the Night Has a Heart

SE LA NOTTE HA CUORE

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

Codini Donna is the name with which the protagonist of this story introduces himself to the world. Dressed as an altar boy, he decides to run away from the summer school camp he is being confined to during a big party he has no wish to attend. His accomplice is Andra, who doesn't speak and wears a majorette costume. The night is long and populated by bizarre

encounters. Amid nocturnal dances and chases in the dark, the two kids go in search of a series of messiahs, people who can save us. However it's not so easy to distinguish friend from foe at night. Rodento, Mazurka, the creepy Barbara Zagaglia, Asmodeo the dog, the delicate Ortenzia... Who are they? Whose side are they on? Perhaps it's all just a nightmare, a hallucination. But Andra can finally face the man who took away her voice and her dreams, and Codini can speak to his father, at last. The rising new day won't necessarily be better, but will be different for sure.

### MATTEO CORRADINI

was born in 1975. He is a Hebraist and a writer. He won the 2018 Andersen Award, and edited the latest Italian version of *The Diary of Anna Frank*, published by Rizzoli. Among his

literary works, *La repubblica delle farfalle*, a story set in the Theresienstadt ghetto.

### COVER IMAGE BY MARINA MARCOLIN



BOMPIANI  
RIGHTS LIST

Pages: 352  
Publication: June 2020  
Price: € 15,00

# Silvia Vecchini Before Nightfall

PRIMA CHE SIA NOTTE

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

Carlo can't hear, Carlo can see only from one eye, and now that eye is in danger. The narrating voice of this story, written in poetry and prose, is his sister's, a combative adolescent who has always been drawing energy from her complicity with Carlo. His issues never stopped him from being

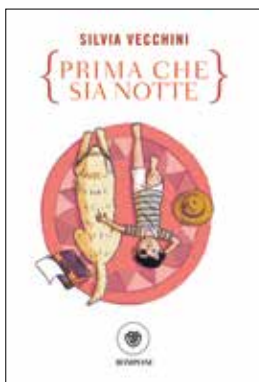
funny, happy, and very strong. But when his sight seems to be failing it is too much for everybody, in the family. How do you stand up to such a risk? Simple: you just do it, that's all. You try and smile, and you realize you actually can. A strong family bond, an inexhaustible vital energy, irony and affection are the source of a fine, unforgettable narrative voice.



## SILVIA VECCHINI

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

## ILLUSTRATED BY SUALZO



A moving story about resilience and courage.

**WINNER 2021 FULGINEAMENTE PRIZE**

**FINALIST 2021 STREGA RAGAZZI PRIZE**

**FINALIST 2020 ORBIL PRIZE**

**FINALIST 2020 LETTERATURA RAGAZZI  
CENTO PRIZE**

**FINALIST 2020 GIOVANNI ARPINO PRIZE**

**SELECTED 2021 PIERLUIGI CAPPELLO  
PRIZE**



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RIGHTS LIST**

Pages: 128  
Publication: May 2020  
Price: € 10,00

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.*

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

ILLUSTRATED BY VANNA VINCI

## 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".



6 EDITIONS, 13.000 COPIES PRINTED

BOMPIANI  
RIGHTS LIST

Pages: 64  
Publication: March 2019  
Price: € 10,00

Rightholder:  
MalaTesta Literary Agency

# Alessandra Valtieri

## The Silk Princesses.

### Stories from ancient faraway China

LE PRINCIPESSA DELLA SETA E 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.

ILLUSTRATED BY MAURO EVANGELISTA

ALESSANDRA VALTIERI

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

MAURO EVANGELISTA

was born in Macerata, where he lives. He worked as a graphic designer before becoming a full-time illustrator and teacher. His works have been published both in Italy and abroad.



ENGLISH SAMPLE TRANSLATION AVAILABLE



BOMPIANI  
RIGHTS LIST

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

# 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 kids.

Giro d'Italia, June 1940. Martino follows the tour with his grandpa and his best friend: they all support Gino Bartali but there's a young man who seems to threaten him, Fausto Coppi, who's going to win his first tour. Martino, though, has nothing to cheer for, because the day after the end of the Giro Italy enters the war.

Four years later he and his family are displaced in the countryside where there's nothing to do. Luckily he got his bike. But that gets stolen by a mean girl who looks like the boss of a local gang. Without stopping dreaming about his own Giro d'Italia, Martino will get closer to this strange girl, experience death and war and live some of the darkest pages of Italian history. Nicola Cinquetti wrote a strong novel about war and life.

### 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

WINNER OF THE 2020 ORBIL PRIZE  
WINNER OF THE 2020 ANDERSEN AWARD

Rights sold: Brazilian Portuguese (Somos Educação)



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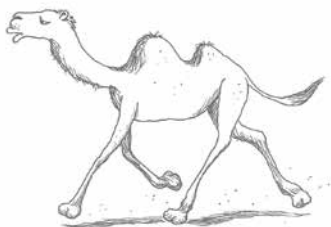
Pages: 208  
Publication: March 2019  
Price: € 13,00

# 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.



ILLUSTRATED BY FRANCO MATTICCHIO



**SHORTLISTED FOR THE STREGA RAGAZZI PRIZE 2017**

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



**BOMPIANI  
RIGHTS LIST**

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

# 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.

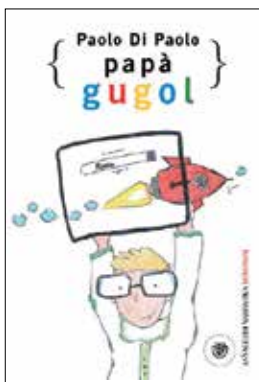


## PAOLO DI PAOLO

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

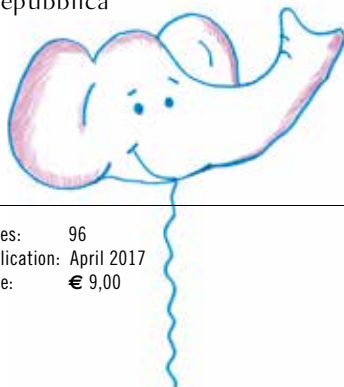


ILLUSTRATED BY THE AUTHOR



## 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

# 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.



ILLUSTRATED BY THE AUTHOR



**SHORTLISTED FOR THE STREGA RAGAZZI PRIZE 2016**

"Subtle and pensive."

*La Lettura – Il Corriere della Sera*

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

*Paola Capriolo, Il Corriere della Sera*

"A heartwarming story."

*la Repubblica*

Rights sold: Simplified Chinese (Daylight Publishing)



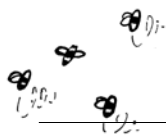
**BOMPIANI  
RIGHTS LIST**

Pages: 90  
Publication: September 2014  
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).

### ILLUSTRATED BY ELEONORA STASSI



BY THE AUTHOR OF  
**L'ULTIMO BALLO DI CHARLOT,**  
**FINALIST AT THE 2013 CAMPIELLO PRIZE**

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

*La Lettura*



**BOMPIANI**  
**RIGHTS LIST**

Pages: 250  
Publication: October 2016  
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*, *Altai*), 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)

COVER IMAGE BY GIULIA ROSSI



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)



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



modern classics

BOMPIANI

# Gesualdo Bufalino

## Tale of the Timeless Castle

FAVOLA DEL CASTELLO SENZA TEMPO

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

Dino is following a butterfly with a skull on its back through a dark wood: when he gets to trap it into a box, he hears it talk. Its name is Atropo, it belongs to the Night and tells him about the Timeless Castle, a sinister place inhabited by the Immortals, souls who escaped the Flood and are

condemned to play a neverending chess match, unable to fool their jailer, Time. Could Dino have the power to free them? And to which consequences?

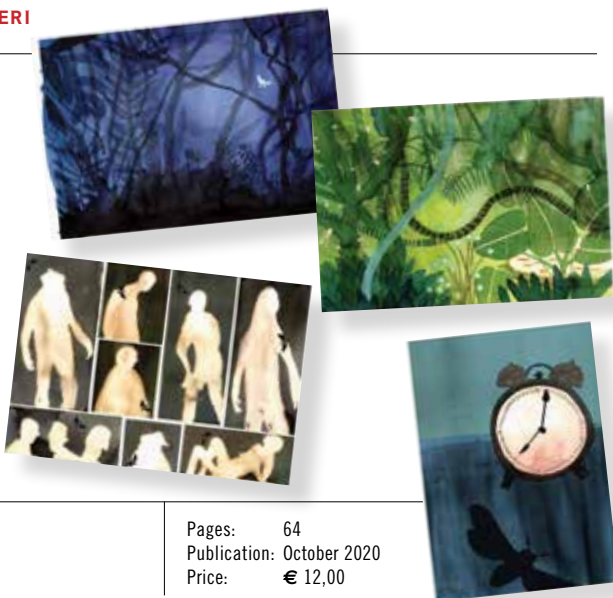
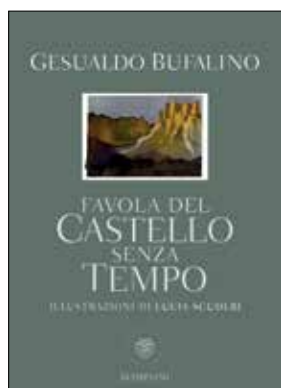


### GESUALDO BUFALINO

was born in Comiso, Sicily, in 1920 and died in 1996. He was a teacher and a translator for many decades and spent a secluded life in his hometown, establishing himself among the finest Italian writers of the 20<sup>th</sup> century only in his late years with *Diceria dell'untore*, which won the 1981 Supercampello Prize. Among his book, all published by Bompiani: *L'uomo invaso* (1986), *Il*

*malpensante* (1987), *L'isola nuda* (1988), *Le menzogne della notte* (1988, Premio Strega), *Il matrimonio illustrato* (1989), *Saldi d'autunno* (1990), *Qui pro quo* (1991), *Argo il cieco* (1992), *Calende greche* (1992), *Il Guerriin Meschino* (1993), *Museo d'ombre* (1993), *Bluff di parole* (1994), *Tommaso e il fotografo cieco* (1996), *Dizionario dei personaggi di romanzo* (2000).

### ILLUSTRATED BY LUCIA SCUDERI



BOMPIANI  
RIGHTS LIST

Pages: 64  
Publication: October 2020  
Price: € 12,00

# Umberto Eco, Eugenio Carmi

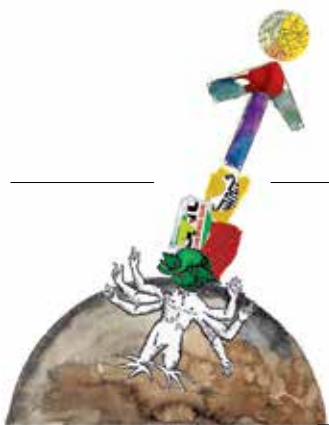
## Three Tales

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: Simplified Chinese (Shanghai Translation Publishing House); Czech (Argo); German (Hanser); Japanese (Rikuyosha); Korean (KKumteo Publishing); Spanish (Penguin RH); Turkish (Yapi Kredi); Romanian (Polirom); Croatian (Antipod); Portuguese (Gradiva); Montenegrin (Zavod za udzbenike); Slovak (Ikar); Bulgarian (List 2016)



BOMPIANI  
RIGHTS LIST

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

# Alberto Moravia Prehistory Stories

STORIE DELLA PREISTORIA

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

Alberto Moravia wrote these stories in 1982, as a collection of fables on the creation of the world, a world inhabited by animals of all shapes and kinds. As it always happens, these fables use animal characteristics and adventures to investigate those of mankind, its vices and follies. But in the end it's hope that wins as the reader

looks at these characters with human understanding, that is indulgency over their and his own whims and weirdness.

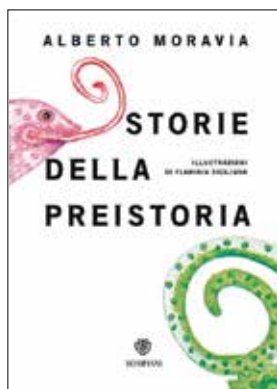


## ALBERTO MORAVIA

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", "Il Corriere della Sera" and "L'Espresso". Among his most famous books translated

worldwide: *Gli indifferenti*, *La ciociara*, *La romana*, *Racconti romani* and *La noia*. In 1952 he was awarded the Strega Prize for his short stories, blacklisted by the Church. Many of his novels have been made into films, including *La ciociara* by Vittorio De Sica, *Il disprezzo* by Jean-Luc Godard and *Il conformista* by Bernardo Bertolucci.

ILLUSTRATED BY FLAMINIA SICILIANO



BOMPIANI  
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Pages: 256  
Publication: May/November 2017  
Price: € 13,00



# Orsola Nemi

## In the Land of the Fairy She-Cat

NEL PAESE DELLA 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 disappeared inside, you must be aware that you may never go back. Or to end up in a fairy land, where the witch she-cat Marfisa reigns and the winds blow so intensively 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



BOMPIANI  
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Pages: 128  
Publication: November 2017  
Price: € 10,00



illustrated books

BOMPIANI

# Mario Bellini

## Design Explained to Children

IL DESIGN SPIEGATO AI BAMBINI

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

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.

### ILLUSTRATED BY ERIKA PITTIS



### ENGLISH SAMPLE TRANSLATION AVAILABLE

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



BOMPIANI  
RIGHTS LIST

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

# Carlo Collodi & Lorenzo Mattotti The Adventures of Pinocchio

LE AVVENTURE DI PINOCCHIO

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

Lorenzo Mattotti has been working for ages around one of the most famous characters of world literature: *Pinocchio*. The tale of the wooden puppet who comes alive and must face many difficulties in order to become a real boy seems to find in

the illustrator's work an ideal mirror. What comes from this exceptional encounter is an artist's book that breathes both with the ambiguous and phantasmagorical spirit and aim of Collodi and with Mattotti's – or rather Mattotti's Collodi's – vision.

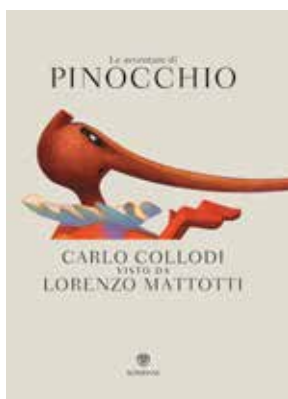
## CARLO COLLODI

(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.

ILLUSTRATED BY LORENZO MATTOTTI



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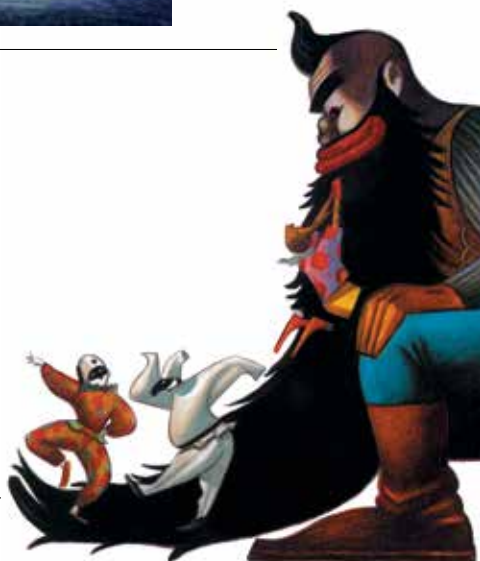
Pages: 296  
Publication: March 2019  
Price: € 35,00

Rights: Alferj e Prestia  
Literary 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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# 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.



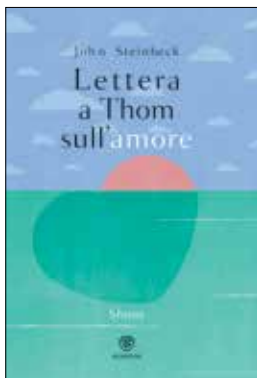
## JOHN STEINBECK

(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.

ILLUSTRATED BY ALESSANDRO GOTTARDO aka SHOUT



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

# 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 laughters. 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 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.

## 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)

## 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.

## ILLUSTRATED BY ZOSIA DZIERŻAWSKA



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Beatrice Masini  
Editor-in-chief

Manuela Melato  
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[b.masini@giunti.it](mailto:b.masini@giunti.it)  
[m.melato@giunti.it](mailto:m.melato@giunti.it)

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