

BOMPIANI
SPRING
RIGHTS LIST
2024

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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 / 320 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.

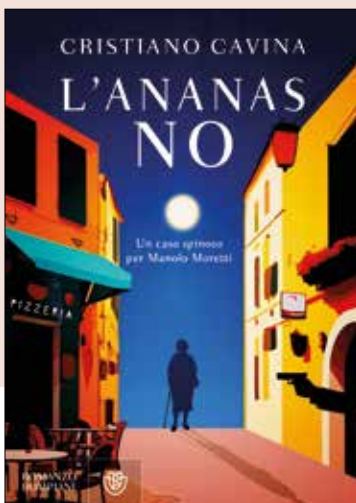
I appreciate the fact he doesn't take constant pictures of me. Not now, nor when I was little, tes-tifying to the miracle that is my existence in his life.

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".





"This is the Riviera of Emilia Romagna, if you wanted pineapple pizza you should be rich and go to Hawaii."
The first investigation by Manolo Moretti, pizza chef by choice and detective in spite of himself, destined to conquer the hearts of us all.

June 2024 / 224 Pages

Cristiano Cavina No Pineapple, Please A Thorny Case For Manolo Moretti



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).

One of the few certainties that stick with us Italians is the sheer greatness of food in Romagna. Not only local specialties, but also pizza. That is why when Vittor Malpezzi – just released from prison – had to decide how to invest the capital accumulated through his dealings he decided to open a pizzeria in Borgo Marittima, on the Adriatic Riviera. Vittor has taken everything into account, except that the best pizza chef in the area is an ex jailer named Manolo, who will refuse to prepare the pineapple pizza that tourists love so much. There is a second thing that Vittor hasn't foreseen: that an ex convict and an ex jailer would find themselves dealing with a crime. Meet Ginetta, an indomitable eighty-year-old dishwasher; the young Mohamed known as Momi; Scianel, the waitress all are in love with; Paderna the hunter: a novel rich with bizarre, lovely characters.

FROM HIS DEBUT IN 2003 WITH *ALLA GRANDE TO LA PIZZA PER AUTODIDATTI*, CRISTIANO CAVINA HAS BEEN WINNING OVER READERS WITH HIS ABILITY TO DESCRIBE AUTHENTICALLY HIS LAND AS WELL AS THE PROFESSION THAT HAS LONG FED HIM, INSIDE AND OUTSIDE OF METAPHOR: PIZZA CHEF.

FROM THE BOOK

"Borgo Marittima is famous for its rivalry with the prestigious neighboring town to the south, which rises on the cool side of the canal port and not close to the industrial docks; but staying in a place like this, not very conspicuous, is an excellent way to escape fate and forget one's darkest thoughts."

MAIN CHARACTER'S PROFILE:

MANOLO MORETTI

AGE: 48 years

PROFESSION: retired prison officer, now pizza chef at Gradisca in Borgo Marittima

MARITAL STATUS: single, but the truth is that no one knows anything about it

MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION: a 1996 methane Fiat Uno

PARTICULAR SIGNS: he hates pizza dough made with special flours, pineapple pizza, customers who arrive one minute before closing time, customers who want to customize their pizza, and tourists in general

SECRETS: only one, as big as the winter sea





Chiara Carminati In Your Skin



CHIARA CARMINATI

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

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

January 2024 / 192 Pages

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



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

FROM THE BOOK

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

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

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





A surprising, incorrect coming-of-age novel spanning between Rome and Tokyo.

An irreverent, sensual and ironic debut featuring a cheeky, bitter and romantic heroine.

September 2024 / 224 Pages

Noemi Abe Damè. You Don't



NOEMI ABE

is Italian-Japanese. After her doctorate in Anglo-American Literature she has been working as a translator, with a focus on contemporary English and Irish theater.

Mirì has a Japanese name and a Japanese father. Her parents divorced when she was a child and she grew up in Rome, her mother's hometown. When as a teenager she began to spend long periods in Japan, the first word she learnt was *damè*, "You don't", strictly pronounced crossing one's forearms. Japanese culture is so full of don't's. As years go by, she absorbs the Japanese love for elegance, their ability to control emotions. The typical Italian chaos she is accustomed to seems the exact opposite: thus she gets to feel a foreigner everywhere. That is possibly why she falls in love with Rugantino, who can lead her towards a bourgeois life with his Romanesque mediocrity. But Mirì will soon realize that she must redefine her own identity possibly free from the dos and don'ts that both Italian and Japanese culture tend to impose unto women.

WHAT CAN YOU DO WHEN YOU STEP OUT OF YOUR COMFORT ZONE?
MORE IMPORTANTLY, WHAT SHOULD YOU NOT DO?

DAMÈ, THE JAPANESE GESTURE FOR DENIAL, IS FINAL, IRREVOCABLE AND YET LIBERATING, BECAUSE IT UNVEILS WHAT OFTEN REMAINS UNSPOKEN IN WESTERN MORALITY.

FROM THE BOOK

"She found herself in Chukagai, the Chinatown of Yokohama. She was trying to cross the street to reach a restaurant she had been to, through a large black door with an inlaid, red frame, green columns, on which stood a large gold plaque with the restaurant name in ideograms. In the middle of the street the parade for the New Year, the crowd around, a huge dragon head with fuchsia gums, two large red spiral-like eyes, two gold trout caught in a dart out of the water formed the cheeks of the huge head, which moved from one side of the street to the other in jerks, the red-clad men supporting the whole structure of the dragon proceeded down the street moving their poles to the hypnotic rhythm of the drums. She tried to pass under the dragon, hurriedly, between one porter and another, avoiding strips of shiny synthetic cloth, which clung everywhere, her hair electrifying, straight up to the sky, she tried to hold it down with her hands, how annoying, but the more she held it down, the more it lifted, pulling at her skin, the thoughts, the air from her lungs, from her nose, the blood, the bodily fluids all, up to the sky, beyond the clouds, up to the stars, I'm going to die, she thought, this is the ascent of the holy virgins, I don't want to die a virgin, let me go, I just want to pass. A porter slapped her, on the back, shouting '*damè!*' And pushed her towards the other pavement."





Fausto Vitaliano The Wolf's Way

A lost brother, a land of crime and beauty, a secret that takes a lifetime to be revealed.

A psychological noir which tells us how the greatest darkness is the one at the heart of every family.

May 2024 / 300 Pages



FAUSTO VITALIANO

was born in Olivadi, Calabria, and lives in Milan. He writes scripts comics and cartoons for Disney and Rainbow as well as writing for radio, television and newspapers. With Bompiani he published the noir trilogy *Le ultime indagini di Gori Mistico*, the first title in the series, *La mezzaluna di sabbia*, won the 2021 Nebbia Gialla Prize.

Little Americo, the son of a teacher from a small village in Calabria, has never met his father, but doesn't miss him. He has no brothers but does not feel the need for them. All he needs is a friend. He finds it in Elvo, a charismatic and restless child with whom he spends afternoons in the nearby woods, in an old abandoned cottage. One day his mother reveals him that she has decided to marry Elvo's father, also a widower. Americo has no time to rejoice because his friend disappears. In their hut in the forest bones are found: Americo's new stepfather confesses to the crime and is arrested. Twenty years later Americo is living up North. Lonely and disillusioned, he makes ends meet by writing novels under pseudonyms. During a presentation he sees Elvo in the audience, but the man vanishes again. Was it really Elvo? Is he alive? And why has he never sought him out? Only by going backwards in time and space truth can be revealed.



THE NEW NOVEL BY THE AUTHOR OF THE NOIR TRILOGY FEATURING THE UNFORGETTABLE INSPECTOR GORI MISTICO. THE FIRST TITLE IN THE SERIES, *LA MEZZALUNA DI SABBIA*, WON THE 2021 NEBBIA GIALLA PRIZE. RIGHTS SOLD: SPANISH (SIRUELA) AND CATALAN (ENCICLOPEDIA CATALANA)

FROM THE BOOK

"I had never shot in my life, but I didn't think it would be difficult. That man had ruined his son's life, my mother's and mine. I could not make a mistake. I decided I would stay outside his house, in the car, and waited as long as it would take. Sooner or later he would come out, if only to go buy the newspaper, take a walk, take out the rubbish. I would wait patiently. One shot in the head and one in the chest."

ONLY IF YOU GET LOST
IN THE WOODS YOU WILL FIND
YOUR WAY HOME.





A Christmas tale for the age of social media.

October 2023 / 208 Pages

17,000 COPIES PRINTED, 3 EDITIONS

Rights sold: Romanian (Act si Politon)

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 18th 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?"

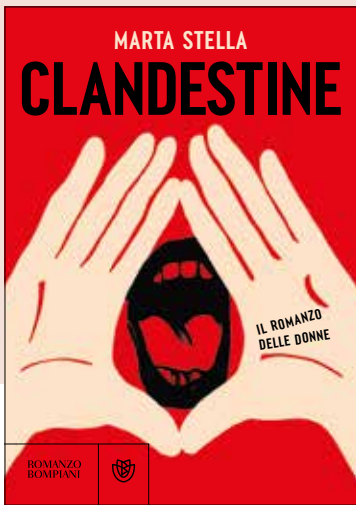
"That Father Christmas doesn't bring presents to naughty children?"

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.*"





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

February 2024 / 396 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 woman, a mother looking for a second chance, an ecologist daughter battling doubts, a difficult child fostered into the family. A novel dealing with environment: the natural one, damaged and changing for the worse, and the place where affections live, thrive and change as climate changes.

February 2024 / 240 Pages

Alessandra Sarchi The Return Is Far Away



ALESSANDRA SARCHI

(1971) lives in Bologna. For Einaudi she published the novels *Violazione*, *L'amore normale*, *La notte ha la mia voce* (2017, Mondello Prize, Wondy Prize and Selezione Campiello Prize) and *Il dono di Antonia*, for Bompiani the essay *La felicità delle immagini, il peso delle parole*.

Sara is a middle-aged archivist, nestled in her Bolognese routine, with a thorn in her heart: her distance from Nina, her only daughter, who has moved to study in Germany where she takes part in a green movement thus taking some risks. A health problem leads Sara to try and fill the void that Nina left in her home and that she feels now within herself: she and her husband Paolo, a solid, supportive man, decide to foster Pietro, a child of angelic beauty, silent, watchful, ready to reject with sudden violence the attentions of his new family. Far from home, Nina, extreme and vehement as young people are, struggles to justify and defend her own choices. A holiday all together in a German forest will be the dramatic junction that will divide – or possibly bring closer – four lonely people.





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

February 2024 / 208 Pages

Melissa Panarello Story of My Money

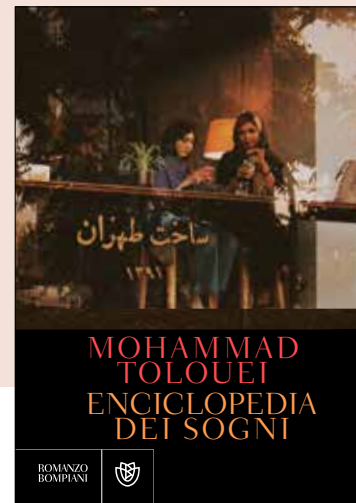


MELISSA PANARELLO

(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.

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.

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 leading to the heart of everything.



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.

September 2024 / 160 Pages

Mohammad Tolouei Encyclopedia of Dreams



MOHAMMAD TOLOUEI

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

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*.

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.





A group of friends and lovers, a mansion that becomes a work of art: reading the story of Vanessa Bell's country house is reading a novel.

May 2023 / 224 Pages

Mario Fortunato The Bloomsbury Garden



MARIO FORTUNATO

managed the Italian Cultural Institute in London. A literary critic, a translator of authors such as Maupassant, Virginia Woolf and Evelyn Waugh, he has published fiction, essays and memoirs. His latest books published by Bompiani are *Sud* (2020) and *Atlante delle città incognite* (2022).

THE STORY OF AN EXTRAORDINARY SEASON LIVED BY EXTRAORDINARY PEOPLE. A CIRCLE OF FRIENDS, LOVERS, CHILDREN BOUND BY A PLACE AND TO A PLACE THAT BECOMES THE SYMBOL OF A DIFFERENT POSSIBLE LIFE.

In the summer of 1916 Vanessa Bell, Virginia Woolf's sister, rents Charleston, a large country house, to host all of her unusual family. The reason is quite practical: both Duncan Grant, with whom Nessa is in love, and Bunny, the young man with whom Duncan is in love, can avoid the war front only by proving they are farmers. And Nessa's original *ménage* (there are also Julian and Quentin, the two sons she had with her husband Clive Bell) won't attract the attention in the middle of nowhere. Charleston will become her palette as an artist and designer but also a refuge for her London friends – from Carrington to Strachey, from Keynes to Fry, as well as the Woolfs, of course – and the hub of their complex, free-spirited sentimental and intellectual relationships.



An intense and poetic short stories collection in which Flavio Soriga recounts passion and jealousy, losing and finding oneself, the fatigue and the ease of love.

March 2024 / 176 Pages

Flavio Soriga Loves at the Window



FLAVIO SORIGA

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

An Indian-rite wedding in a 16th-century villa and two men who share the love for the same woman; a father who goes away, a wounded mother, a boy who emigrates from his small African island; a South American president and an actress who left Italy for a country of heat and cactuses, guitars and revolutions; a cat who arrives by chance, in the middle of August. Set between Rome and Tuscany, Sardinia and Islington, a collection of stories, lives, cities.





A revised and updated edition of Vincenzo Latronico's debut novel, winner of the Napoli and the Bergamo Prizes and shortlisted for the Comisso Prize.

May 2024 / 200 Pages
Rightholder: The Italian Literary Agency

Vincenzo Latronico The Conspiracy of Doves



VINCENZO LATRONICO

(Rome, 1984) published four novels with Bompiani; the latest, *Le Perfezioni* (2022), won the Mondello Prize and is being translated into seventeen languages. He has translated dozens of novels, focusing mainly on the classics, and has curated a re-edition of George Orwell's works for Bompiani. He writes for *Il Post* and teaches at the Scuola Holden.

Against the backdrop of a Europe united by its single market and a Milan of colossal urban transformations, Vincenzo Latronico weaves a wide-ranging tale animated by great passions – ambition, envy, love – that investigates the moral problem at the heart of contemporary society: the justifications, excuses and reasons why we betray those who trust us.



The debut of a powerful voice on the contemporary Italian scene.

The book has been adapted into a movie to be released in June 2024.

April 2024 / 144 Pages

Orazio Labbate Lo Scuru



ORAZIO LABBATE

born in 1985, published the novels *Lo Scuru* (Tunué, 2014), *Suttaterra* (Tunué, 2017) and *Spirdu* (Italo Svevo Edizioni, 2021), and the essays *Atlante del mistero* (Centauria, 2018), *Piccola Enciclopedia dei mostri* (Il Sole 24 Ore Cultura, 2016), *Negli States con Stephen King* (Giulio Perrone editore, 2021) and *L'orrore letterario* (Italo Svevo Edizioni, 2022). He served as a juror for the XXXV edition of the Calvino Prize and is a contributor for *La Lettura - Corriere della Sera*.

Razziddu Buscemi, an old Sicilian man who has long since emigrated to Milton, West Virginia, recalls his past life on his deathbed. While unravelling his memories, mixed up with metaphysical suggestions, the old man tells about his visionary childhood triggered by the exorcisms he suffered and a violent and painful evolution towards maturity.

With a writing style inspired by the American Gothic of Faulkner and McCarthy as well as by the bold and baroque prose of his fellow countrymen such as Bufalino and D'Arrigo, ten years after its first publication Orazio Labbate's debut still stands out for its ability to unveil the magic of southern Sicily.





A choral novel with picaresque characters who remind us how blurred the boundary between wisdom and madness can be.

April 2024 / 304 Pages

Antonella Cilento Lisario or the Infinite Pleasure of Women



ANTONELLA CILENTO

was born in Naples in 1970. In 1993 she started Lalineascritta Laboratori di Scrittura, one of the first creative writing workshops in Italy. Since 2019 she has been working at the first Master's in writing and publishing in Southern Italy, SEMA, in partnership with the Suor Orsola Benincasa University. Since 2007 she has been the director of the international literary review "Strange Couples". She is author of novels, plays, and a radio playwright, a contributor at *La Repubblica*. Bompiani has published her nonfiction book *La caffettiera di carta* in 2021.

Mute as a result of a surgery, Lisario Morales secretly reads Cervantes and writes strange letters to Our Lady in her rich, silent inner world. She is still very young when she discovers the salvific power of sleep to confront the coercive, violent world of adults: and when she is bound to accept an unwanted marriage she falls asleep. She has been sleeping for months, like the main character of the classic fairy tale, when she starts being treated by Avicente Iguelmano, a failed doctor who has come to Naples to restore his professional credibility; the therapy, the most predictable and the most illicit, will be crowned with success.



"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 / 360 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 the 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.





"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 / 216 Pages
Rightholder: Pietrosanti Literary Agency

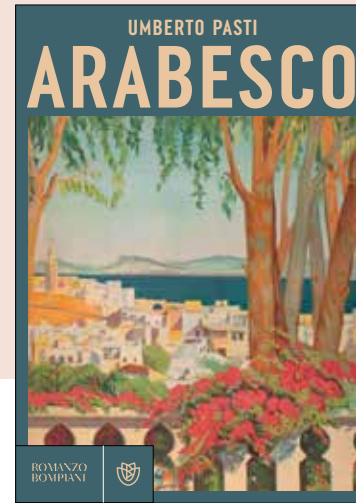
Davide Orecchio Letters to a Young Woman Who Does Not Answer



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.



A house in Tangier is not only a new place to settle into: one has also to settle with its former inhabitants, specially the one who haunts the rooms taking the form of a cantankerous duende.

May 2024 / 280 Pages
Rightholder: The Italian Literary Agency

Umberto Pasti Arabesque



UMBERTO PASTI

journalist, writer, garden designer, divides his time between Milan and Morocco. He is the author of *Giardini e no* (Bompiani, 2010), *Animali e no* (Bompiani, 2016), *Perduto in paradiso* (Bompiani, 2018) and *Un giardino atlantico* (Bompiani, 2019).

Diego is a *duende*, a whimsical spirit protecting Tebarek Allah, the old house the narrator buys on the spur of the moment in Tangier and which has always been (and will still be) a haven for extravagant expats, collectors, decrepit ladies, weary adventurers.

The story of Don Diego Mullor Heredia, who was in life a talented illustrator, is interwoven with those of who have visited the house: the beautiful and damned youths of the beat generation, the lady poet who buys eighty-six pairs of yellow babouches for her friends at home and then abandons them, Mohammed, the deaf-mute gardener with a gift for gratitude. All travellers searching for a place to stay, because "a home is not just a mother's embrace, there is no return to Ithaca without a long, reckless journey".

A PORTRAIT OF A COSMOPOLITAN SOCIETY IN AN EXOTIC SETTING UNDERMINED BY RECKLESS PROGRESS.





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 / 312 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.





The Apulian countryside, a generous entrepreneur, a group of Albanian migrants: a story of love and betrayed expectations.

March 2024 / 368 Pages
Rightholder: The Italian Literary Agency

Marco Ferrante Return to Apulia



MARCO FERRANTE

was born in Martina Franca in 1964. He has worked for several Italian newspapers and television networks and now is deputy director of *Videonews*. His novels *Mai alle quattro e mezzo* (Fazi 1998) and *Gin tonic a occhi chiusi* (Giunti 2016) have been shortlisted for the Strega Prize. He is also the author of the biopics *Casa Agnelli* (Mondadori 2007), *Marchionne* (Mondadori 2009) and *Marchionne. L'uomo dell'impossibile* (Mondadori 2018).

It is Easter day in the 1990s when a boat loaded with Albanians sinks in front of the port of Brindisi. Life goes on as usual: in the countryside vines and almond trees continue to bear fruit, and indifference swallows up the fates of those migrants. Only Bernardo Bleve feels obligated to make a restorative gesture. As a successful entrepreneur he decides to welcome in his homestead Xhemal, his parents and Aurora's family, creating a community where work, aspirations and love can thrive. It could be a marvelous example of integration, but as war news from the Balkans get more tragic, the shady dealings of an Albanian gangster come knocking at the doors of Santa Maria del Palo.



"The fault is mine because I don't know how to be a man... A man shouldn't be so desperate for love, he shouldn't be excluded from female desire. He should know himself."

May 2024 / 288 Pages
Rightholder: Piergiorgio Nicolazzini Literary Agency

Andrea Donaera The Fault Is Mine



ANDREA DONAERA

was born in Maglie in 1989 and grew up in Gallipoli (Puglia). He graduated at the University of Salento, where he was among the founders of a research centre for contemporary poetry and new writing. In 2019 he published the collection *Una Madonna che mai appare* within the "XIV Quaderno italiano di poesia contemporanea" (Marcos y Marcos) and the novels *Io sono la bestia* and *Lei che non tocca mai terra* (NN editore). He works for the newspaper *Domeni*.

In Lecce winter smells of wet sea, but the stale smell of lockdown still permeates the houses. Aby and Bruno's life moves swiftly towards their happy adult future, but suddenly everything is interrupted by Aby's terrible diagnosis of a brain tumor. The courage with which she accepts her fate surprises and terrifies Bruno who begins inexorably to slip away from the couple. As in a mirror, Bruno looks at Aby, the woman who freed him of his pathological shyness and initiated him to sex and love, and he sees himself, his own ineptitude as a thirty-year-old still searching for his place in the world; and he looks at Petrus, one of those "involuntary celibates" who elaborate delirious misogynist theories, discovering similarities he does not like at all.

**ANDREA DONAERA WRITES
A POWERFUL NOVEL ABOUT HIS
STUCK GENERATION, SICKENED
BY UNFULFILLED DESIRES.**





A young man looking for the courage to live. A memorable family portrait. Positano, heartwrenching and forever enchanting.

The story of a summer month magnified into the story of an entire life with its impulses and defeats.

May 2024 / 224 Pages
Rightholder: bookat literary agency

Marco Raio Last Season in Positano



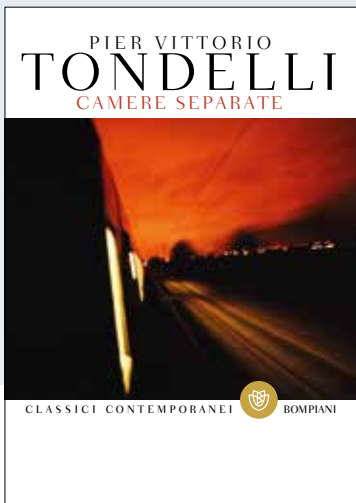
MARCO RAI0

was born in Naples where he lives. He graduated in Philosophical Sciences at the Federico II University, wrote several philosophical essays and worked in a publishing house. He is a bookseller.

When she has to turn down an invitation to a trip, Viviana answers vaguely, “hinting at the density of the shadow looming over her, as if begging her interlocutor to sense the truth for themselves, to step into that shadow and adapt their vision to the darkness”: what prevents her from leaving is the unquestionable charisma of Bruno, her husband, born and raised in the same neighborhood of Naples from which she never wants to move. With one exception: the month her family spends in the house in Positano lent by Viviana’s mother. But this will be the last summer in that house for Bruno, Viviana and their son Tommaso, whose voice recounts with melancholic precision every detail of the rituals, perfumes and promises of a lost time.

MODERN CLASSICS





The last classic of 20th century Italian literature.

A cult writer in the Nineties, Tondelli wrote a small but very influential body of work.

November 2016 / 304 Pages
Rights sold: French (Sous-sol/Seuil), W-English (Sceptre), German (Gutkind), 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 *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 in that project, *L'abbandono*, was published posthumously in 1993.

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

The New York Times

"A sweet-natured swan song"

Kirkus Review

This novel tells us about 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 told through long reflections and flashbacks. Leo is a successful writer, who lives in Milan, Paris, London and Florence; Thomas is in West Berlin. The two lovers often meet elsewhere in Europe, they take their holidays together but live in two separate rooms, 2000 kilometres one from another. They meet whenever they wish but can also seclude themselves in their own loneliness. Then Thomas starts an affair with a girl. The triangle makes Leo deeply jealous, until Thomas is diagnosed with the illness that will lead to his death in Munich.



BOMPIANI 2024 / MODERN CLASSICS



ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED IN 1989, *CAMERE SEPARATE* IS CONSIDERED TONDELLI'S MASTERPIECE. THE BOOK IS LIVING AN INTERNATIONAL RELAUNCH WITH FILM RIGHTS OPTIONED AND FOREIGN RIGHTS SOLD IN FIVE LANGUAGES.

FROM THE BOOK

"One day, not so very long ago, he caught himself looking at his face mirrored in the window of a small plane flying from Paris to Munich.

Twenty-five thousand feet below, the Alps looked like ripples of sand, tinged with gold by the setting sun. The deep blue sky seemed fathomless, lit on the horizon by a bright saffron hem, the colour of Zen robes.

The landscape framed in the small oval window conjured up night and day, and the boundaries between two worlds: earth and air. Later, when a light went on in the cabin, reflecting his weary, fuller face on that northerly holographic screen, the landscape told him things about himself as well.

His face, the one which others had for years recognized as "his", once again struck him as foreign. Every day his face seemed more alien, because the image he retained of his own face was forever and eternally his face as a boy and as a younger man.

He still thought of himself and saw himself as an innocent, someone incapable of doing ill or going astray. But the image he saw against that illuminated backdrop was simply the face of someone no longer as young as he used to be: someone with fine, thinning hair, puffy eyes, full and slightly flabby lips, and the skin of the cheeks flecked with fine veins, just like his father's livid cheeks. All in all a face suffering, like any other, the deterioration and the marks of time."





Winner of the 1988 Strega Prize

Over 60,000 copies sold

June 2024 / 192 Pages

Gesualdo Bufalino Night Lies



GESUALDO BUFALINO

(1920-1996) Long-time teacher and translator, he established himself as a writer with the novel *Diceria dell'untore* (Supercampello Prize 1981). Among his books published by Bompiani, *L'uomo invaso* (1986), *Il malpensante* (1987), *Il matrimonio illustrato* (1989), *Qui pro quo* (1991), *Argo il cieco* (1992), *Calende greche* (1992), *Il Guerrin Meschino* (1993), *Tommaso e il fotografo cieco* (1996), *Dizionario dei personaggi di romanzo* (2000) and *Cere Perse* (2022).

Four revolutionaries – a student, a baron, a soldier and a poet – are imprisoned in a fortress perched on a remote island. On the eve of their execution, the Governor of the island offers to spare their lives if they reveal the identity of their leader, an elusive character known as the Eternal. No one relents, so they are left spending their last night on Earth with a fifth prisoner, a notorious bandit, and each of the four characters tells the story of his life. But are they telling these stories for themselves, for their fellow prisoners, or are they just part of a larger plan? Who is deceiving whom?

NON FICTION





BOMPIANI 2024 / NON FICTION



A land whose borders were drawn by Europeans without any consideration for the people who live there is a land doomed to be miserable.

April 2024 / 492 Pages

Luca Foschi Al Ghalas The Darkest Hour For the Middle East



LUCA FOSCHI

was born in Cagliari in 1981. After graduating in Literature he obtained a postgraduate diploma at the London School of Journalism. He is a freelance journalist. In 2012 he attended the Maria Grazia Cutuli course for war correspondents. For over ten years he has reported from the main war fronts, working for the newspaper *Avvenire*. In 2018 he completed his PhD in Political Science at the University of Cagliari with a dissertation on resistance movements in Iraq, Lebanon and Palestine.

Ernesto Fiaschi is a freelance journalist, who defines himself as a “speaking waiter” and a “fine embellisher”. Starting from the outskirts of Is Mirrionis, in Cagliari, he tells us about daring experiences in Palestine, Lebanon and Afghanistan, reaching Kobariid by way of London, in a moving and amusing memoir. A coming-of-age story with a lyrical and avant-garde style, *Al Ghalas* plunges the reader into the events of the war and into the feelings of the last ones, portraying unforgettable characters such as the partisan priest Abuna, the thoughtful drag queen Edith who is his formidable roommate in Beirut, little Cermil, one of the many, extraordinary boys who guide him through the most dangerous places, and even “Fairuz”, a broom plant that is much more than it seems: a symbol of a heartbreaking, unhappy love.

THE AUTHOR IS ONE OF THE VOICES OF THE NEW GENERATION OF REPORTERS WHO TRAVEL THE WORLD AT THEIR OWN RISK, WITHOUT THE PROTECTION OF BIG NEWSPAPERS.



BOMPIANI 2024 / NON FICTION



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

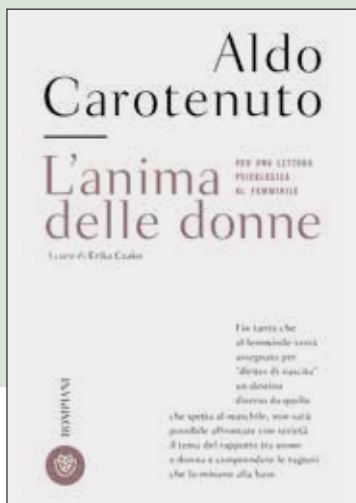


PIERO DORFLES

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 8th, 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.





Revised and updated edition

June 2024 / 400 Pages

EDITED BY ERIKA CZAKO

Aldo Carotenuto Women's Soul



ALDO CAROTENUTO

(1933 – 2005) was among the most significant figures of Italian and international Jungism. Among his works at Bompiani we highlight *Eros e Pathos*, *Amare tradire*, *Il gioco delle passioni* and *I sotterranei dell'anima*.

“To escape from the subordinate condition in which they have been relegated and to gain their freedom back, women must first of all shed the negative image resulting from prejudices and clichés. Later on the Feminine will be able to encounter the Other with its head held high, strengthened by its newly found self-awareness. We are all called to this transformative and self-understanding task, men and women alike.”

Why has the Feminine had a completely different, and more painful destiny than the Masculine in our society? And why have women always found themselves in a subordinate condition?

This essay shows us the possible answers, identifying the ideas and values that have developed self-esteem and a sense of identity in today's women, through an analysis full of psychological suggestions.



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 / 320 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.





CHILDREN & YOUNG ADULTS



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

April 2024 / 120 Pages

Flavio Soriga Mr. Salsiccia

A Story of Hedgehogs, Grandparents and Climate Change



FLAVIO SORIGA

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

ILLUSTRATED BY RICCARDO ATZENI



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

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

FROM THE BOOK

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

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

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

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

"Salsiccia?" my father asked.

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

And so we did.





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

April 2024 / 208 Pages

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



WU MING 4

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

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



THE LITTLE KINGDOM
10,000 COPIES SOLD

"A literary jewel."
Zazine

FROM THE BOOK

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

"Lady Marian." "Where is she?"

"Locked in a tower in Nottingham."





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

April 2024 / 112 Pages

Alice Keller Little Girl



ALICE KELLER

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

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





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