

FRANKFURT

BOOK FAIR

2025

Vicki Satlow Literary Agency

info@vickisatlow.com

+39 02.48015553

Via Cenisio 16 - 20154 Milano (Italy)




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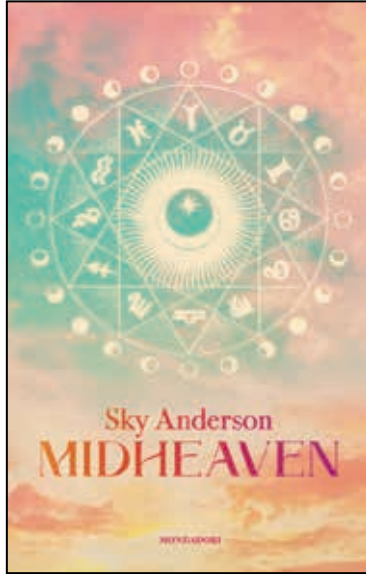
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SKY ANDERSON MIDHEAVEN

ITALY

Original language: Italian
(Partial English translation available)

Publisher: Mondadori
April 2025, 528 pages

Rights with Mondadori

YA
AGES 16+

What if destiny isn't written in the stars?

Lily is sixteen. She has a rare gift tied to the stars and planets: during every eclipse, she glimpses the future—and in it, always the same boy, who seems fated to ruin her life. But when the universe finally brings them together, everything changes.

Oliver is gorgeous, kind, and convinced that Lily is the girl of his dreams. Lily's head tells her to run—but her heart keeps pulling her back to him. How can she surrender to love when she's already seen the heartbreak it brings? Desperate to protect herself, Lily pushes him away, convinced that keeping her distance is the only way to stay safe—even when Oliver reveals his own secrets.

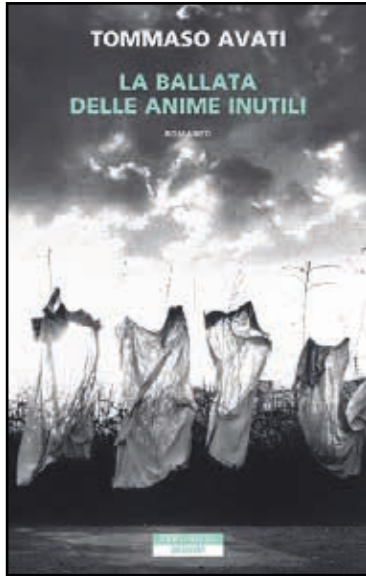
If the stars are warning her, can she really ignore them?
Or... has she misunderstood the message all along?

Lily must decide what matters more: guarding her heart or risking everything for a chance at real happiness. Because sometimes, the future isn't set in stone—it's waiting for you to choose.

SKY ANDERSON

Sky Anderson is a pseudonym. She lives in a seaside town with a ginger cat and a turtle as her companions. Half English and half Italian, she's deeply fascinated by ancient history, the mysteries of the cosmos, and the magic of the stars. When she's not stargazing or swimming in the sea, you'll find her baking the world's best blueberry muffins—though she sometimes forgets them in the oven while daydreaming about far-off lands and captivating characters.

According to her birth chart, it's the Sun in the Fifth House and Mercury in Scorpio that are to blame for her constant urge to create magical adventures. After earning a degree in Philosophy, she worked as a translator, only to discover that she, too, had stories burning to be told. One day, inspired by an unusually promising horoscope and a perfect planetary alignment, she picked up a pen—and *Midheaven*, her debut novel, was born.



TOMMASO AVATI THE BALLAD OF WORTHLESS SOULS

ITALY

Original language: Italian
(Partial English translation available)

Publisher: Neri Pozza
October 2023, 144 pages

Inspired by true events about an entire community in Puglia that converted to Judaism just as the racial laws were being promulgated, this compelling novel follows the drama of a single family.

It is 1938 and thirteen-year-old Sofia lives on a farm in the Gargano together with her large and extended family. Her father, with ‘words sharp as teeth’, has told her that she is slow, especially with numbers. So, Sofia wanders between the farm and the wheat field, feeling alone, different, a mistake. The only person she can talk to is her friend Pasquale, from San Nicandro, and the people there have joined a strange and mysterious sect. They don’t eat salami, they strike on Saturdays, and to become real men they must cut themselves down there. Their leader, Donato Manduzio, is a shady individual who apparently sees things that others do not. It is rumored in the village that he has written a letter seeking help and protection from the one individual he should have run from: the Duce.

Sofia’s father has warned her not to talk to them, it’s dangerous, and they could infect her. But her loneliness and curiosity are stronger than his diffidence and her story becomes entwined with their tragic destiny.



TOMMASO AVATI THE SILENCE OF THE WORLD

ITALY

Original language: Italian
(Partial English translation available)

Publisher: Neri Pozza
February 2022, 240 pages

A novel about being deaf, about language, and about the difficulties in communicating, where gesture replaces words, where listening requires effort. But it is also a novel about an issue that concerns the author in a very personal way because Tommaso Avati was born hearing impaired.

“I know what it means not to hear, to live in a hushed world where you are separated from even your loved ones.” This quiet world which is in many ways unattainable has become a novel of women, filled with poetry and uncompromising tenderness.

***She would remember her mother forever, for as long as she lived,
because her mother was deaf, like her.
But she possessed a fabulous and inexplicable power: the magical
capacity to hold words in her hand.***

Tommaso Avati (1969) is an established screenwriter and author.





SARA A. BENATTI
THE CURSE OF ARIADNE

ITALY

Original language: Italian
 (Partial English translation available)
 Publisher: Sperling & Kupfer
 January 2024, 336 pages

Rights sold

Turkey (Minoa & Marem Nostrum)

**A reinterpretation of the legend of Ariadne, who became immortal
 by marrying the wine god Dionysus.**

Ariadne, daughter of Minos, the cruel ruler of Crete, has always been considered a helpless object, unable to choose her own destiny, a commodity to be sold to the highest bidder. So when the handsome, lovestruck Theseus arrives to renegotiate the terms of Ariadne's subjugation, she agrees to run away with him, taking her mother, Pasiphae, and her younger sisters with her to save them from their father's abuse. It turns out that Theseus intends to kidnap the princess and use her as a hostage. They are discovered and imprisoned in the Labyrinth, guarded by the monstrous Minotaur.

In this vast underground structure, full of secret passages and hidden levels beneath the island, Ariadne and the women are left to rot while Theseus reveals his most brutal nature. Ariadne can only rely on her resources outside the labyrinth to gain her freedom.

SARA A. BENATTI

An epic tale of female independence.

*When I started writing this novel, nobody talked about it, but I challenge anyone to find a woman who hasn't experienced male harassment or intimidation. It affects us all.
 I wanted to give a voice to the slaves, the poor and the women who have been silenced by history and abused by the powerful.*

Sara A. Benatti

Sara A. Benatti (1982)) is passionate about literature, rock, and heavy metal music. She published two urban fantasy novels under the pen name Aislinn and works as a translator and consultant for Harper Collins and Rizzoli. She also teaches creative writing at the School Palomar of Rovigo.





GIULIA BLASI HAPPINESS IS A POLITICAL ACT

ITALY

Original language: Italian
(Partial English translation available)

Publisher: Rizzoli
September 2025, 304 pages

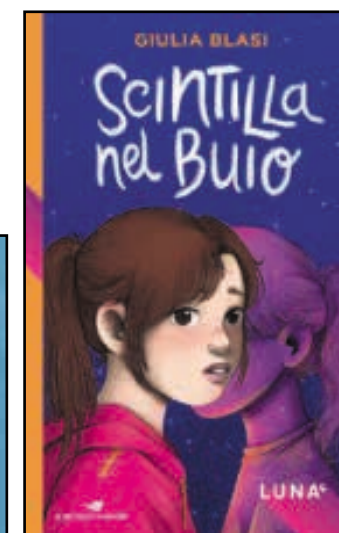
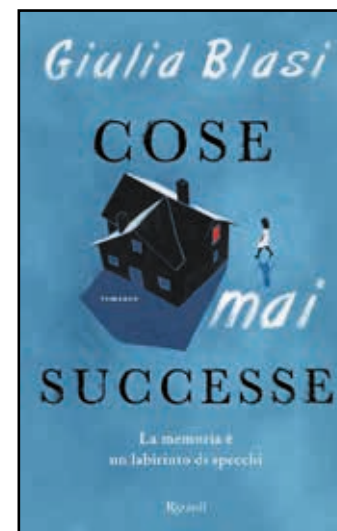
In an age that demands we be sad, efficient, and alone, choosing to pursue happiness can be a truly radical gesture. We have been convinced that happiness is a prize to be won, but reality dictates that happiness is political, a form of collective resistance.

What, then, is happiness really—and why should we stop treating it as a private matter? Starting from personal reflections as an activist in a moment of discouragement, Giulia Blasi dismantles the narrative of isolation and searches for a concrete alternative to the sense of helplessness that defines our times.

The result is a book that does not offer easy solutions to complex problems, but instead sketches out a map for navigating our shared crisis, seeking a way out of the “Tapinocene”—the era of unhappiness—where we are crushed by unmet needs, alienated from our own lives, and left feeling lonely in a hyper-connected world.

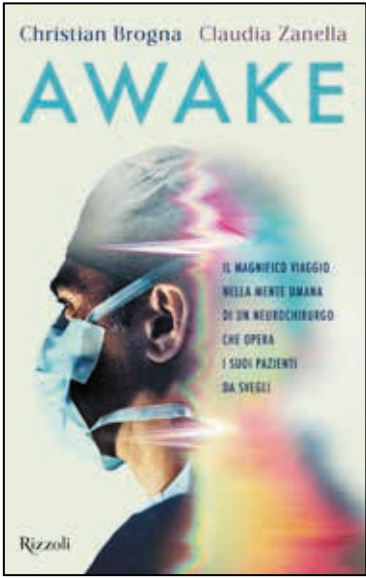
With the clarity and irony that distinguish her writing, Blasi exposes the toxic ideas surrounding power, the body, work, and life, showing how economic, cultural, and social systems are designed to make us feel inadequate: too fragile, too tired, too alone. Page after page, she builds a journey that blends seriousness and humor, analysis and digression, bound by a single thread: reclaiming happiness as a common good and a right to be defended.

GIULIA BLASI



Giulia Blasi (1972) is originally from Friuli. She is a radio spokesperson, writer, and activist dedicated to feminist issues.





CHRISTIAN BROGNA
and CLAUDIA ZANELLA

AWAKE

ITALY

Original language: Italian
(Partial English translation available)

Publisher: Rizzoli

October 2025, 228 pages

Dr. Christian Brogna, an internationally renowned neurosurgeon, has spent his career exploring the brain like few others. But three years ago, a severe case of meningitis changed everything. Falling into a coma, he experienced firsthand what happens in the limbo between life and death. Trapped in unconsciousness, unable to move or speak, he made a startling discovery: the brain does not shut down—it amplifies its power. This revelation challenged everything he had been taught.

Today, Brogna is at the forefront of neurosurgery, specializing in awake brain surgery, where patients remain conscious—singing, speaking, or playing instruments—while he operates. His groundbreaking procedure on a musician, who played the saxophone as Brogna removed his brain tumor, made global headlines, showcasing not only the marvels of the brain but also the deep empathy between doctor and patient.

Dubbed *Awake*, Brogna shares the extraordinary lessons he has learned from his time inside people’s minds, explaining how the brain continuously adapts, rewires, and evolves, shaping who we are.

CHRISTIAN BROGNA and CLAUDIA ZANELLA

Through real-life surgical cases, personal reflections, and the latest neuroscience, he explores:

- **The gut-brain connection** – how gut microbiota influence cognitive function.
- **Music’s impact on the brain** – enhancing memory, learning, and neural plasticity.
- **The brain and physical activity** – how movement boosts cognitive function.
- **Mindfulness and mental health** – how meditation alters pain perception and stress.
- **The power of language** – how our words shape thought patterns and well-being.

One of the brain’s most fascinating secrets is its infinite capacity for transformation. The brain of yesterday is not the brain of today, nor the brain of tomorrow—meaning that change is always possible.

Blending cutting-edge research with compelling patient stories and his own life journey across four continents, *Awake* is a profound exploration of the mind’s mysteries—told by the surgeon who sees them unfold every day.

Christian Brogna (1980), a neurosurgeon, is an internationally recognized expert in brain surgery for complex tumors. Author of over 40 scientific publications in international journals, he focuses on advancing brain mapping techniques to improve the quality of life for his patients.



Claudia Zanella (1979) was born in Florence. After graduating in acting from the Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia, she earned a degree in Literature.



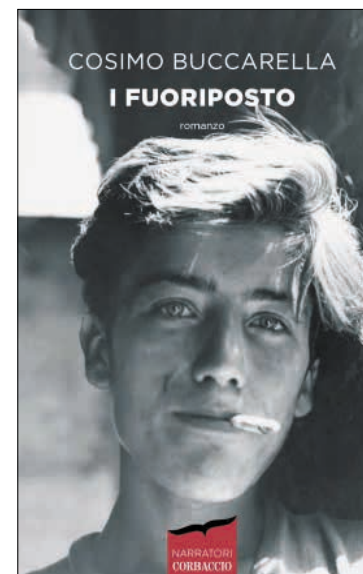
COSIMO BUCCARELLA MORE BEAUTIFUL THAN EVER

ITALY

Original language: Italian
(Partial English translation available)
Publisher: Corbaccio
June 2024, 464 pages

Paolo Congedo's dream of a quiet life vanishes when he is assigned to manage a refugee camp in the aftermath of the British occupation of Puglia in 1943. The Yugoslavian refugees begin to arrive, and then the Jews, having suffered the worst of the war.

Paolo is first forced to engage with a partisan poet involved in a disproportionate struggle with fascists secretly still active in the area. Then, in the summer of 1946, when the most turbulent years seem to be behind them, he is dragged into the investigation of the murder of a refugee. Four young men are convinced that Samuel, the accused culprit who has escaped the Shoah, is the victim of a conspiracy, and engage Paolo to try to prove his innocence. Paolo has learned one thing from his partisan poet: one must not look the other way when faced with injustice. So, he decides to help the boys with their investigation, working along with a policeman who puts friendship before the law, an American civil servant who is suspected of being a spy, and a green-eyed woman in the refugee camp with whom everyone falls in love...



COSIMO BUCCARELLA THE OUTSIDERS

ITALY

Original language: Italian
(Partial English translation available)
Publisher: Corbaccio
April 2023, 368 pages

1946, Santa Maria al Bagno, Puglia. In this tiny fishing port at the heel of Italy's boot, four children – Tommaso, Umberto, Marcello and Giovanni – find a dead body hidden in the bushes along a dusty road they have never noticed before. It leads them to a British-run refugee camp, where thousands who have survived the war are waiting to embark for Palestine, the future state of Israel. The camp is a world away from post-war Italy, with food and medicine, doctors, and all the resources that the town lacks. To the hungry children, it looks like Paradise.

Tommaso has a sister who is dying of typhus. He would do anything to save her, even steal. Paradoxically, their only hope lies within the camp's confines.

Cosimo Buccarella debuted with a short story in 2009 and in 2012 he won the Premio Olivieri with *La mossa più lunga*. With this novel, he won the IoScrittore competition.





PAOLA CALVETTI
THE SWAN’S SECRET

ITALY

Original language: Italian
(Partial English translation available)
Publisher: Mondadori
June 2025, 228 pages

This narrated biography offers an intimate, insightful portrait of Catherine, Princess of Wales—Kate Middleton—as she steadily ascends toward the British throne. Blending elegant storytelling with sharp observation, the book traces her journey from a discreet, middle-class upbringing to becoming one of the most influential figures in the modern monarchy. Through key milestones—her royal wedding, motherhood, charitable causes, and media scrutiny—the narrative explores how Catherine has crafted her role with poise, purpose, and quiet strength. Far from a passive royal consort, she emerges as a modernizing force, reshaping the institution from within while maintaining the mystique of tradition.

With a calm exterior that masks the pressures beneath, Catherine is portrayed as the serene swan navigating the turbulent waters of royal life—gracefully, and on her own terms.

PAOLA CALVETTI



Rights sold
Germany (Piper Verlag)
Poland (Zysk i S-ka)
Film (Nexo Digital)



Rights sold
Germany (Piper Verlag)
Poland (Zysk i S-ka)
Film (Nexo Digital)

Paola Calvetti (1955) is a journalist and full-time writer. She worked as a communications strategist for La Scala, Fabrizio Ferri and The Touring Club.





EMANUELA CANEPA STAY WITH ME, SISTER

ITALY

Original language: Italian
(Partial English translation available)

Publisher: Einaudi Stile Libero
May 2023, 408 pages

Two women trapped by social norms in the early 20th century dare to dream for more.

After the Spanish flu, Anita finds herself in a vulnerable situation when her stepbrother is caught stealing money. He should go to prison, but who would provide for the rest of the family? They would starve on her meager salary. She confesses to a crime she did not commit and is sentenced to spend years of labor in the women's prison of Giudecca.

While Fascism rages in the real world, Anita forges an odd and intimate friendship with Noemi, a fellow inmate. Neither Noemi nor the nuns who guard them ever reveal Noemi's crime. Convinced that she has "the devil in her," they warn Anita to keep her distance. However, a bond is born between them that defies social order. Circumscribed to the stone walls surrounding them, Anita and Noemi dream of a future without a husband or a father to protect them. Anita, whose sentence ends first, will wait for Noemi, and they will open a tailor shop together. But when the day of her friend's release arrives, Anita discovers Noemi's secret. The forces of reality prove to be fiercer and less forgiving than their love for each other.

EMANUELA CANEPA



Rights sold

Albania (Botimet Polis)
Greece (Pedio SA)
Macedonia (Sigma)

Emanuela Canepa (1967) is a librarian at the University of Padua. She attended the Palomar writing school and won the 30th Calvino Prize with her first novel.





SERENA CAPPELLOZZA THE VALUE OF THINGS

ITALY

Original language: Italian
(Partial English translation available)

Publisher: Sellerio
September 2025, 360 pages

Set against the backdrop of the sulky Venetian Lagoon, *The Value of Things* is a gripping crime novel—solid, full of twists. A debut written with the skill of a seasoned mystery writer and an absolutely unforgettable new female investigator.

On a Monday in autumn, the body of the president of a major company in Italy's North-East is found in the Lagoon of Venice. Wrapped in a Persian carpet, anchored to the seabed, and rendered barely recognizable by the voracity of blue crabs, the corpse is identified as Leone Balloni. He had been missing for a couple of days; the last people to see him alive were the members of the board of directors, at the close of their annual hunting lodge party on Saturday night. The final trace: a furious message sent to his wife on Sunday evening.

For the witty and brutally honest Inspector Mirna Pagani and her partner Angeli—already juggling a complicated relationship and wedding plans—the investigation is anything but straightforward. The list of suspects is long: a mysterious mole inside the company, a rival firm, a stepdaughter who is a radical animal-rights activist, the wife and her lover, disgruntled employees. The evidence, on the other hand, is scarce: a missing box of costly cigars, a vanished bag stuffed with cash, traces of a car, and a diary filled with strange notes.

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SERENA CAPPELLOZZA

Meanwhile, Mirna's private life is in turmoil: a bitter divorce, a teenage son in crisis, and an exasperating mother forever scheming to find her a new partner—preferably a very wealthy one. To solve the case, she must wade through the mud of the business world, confronting sordid characters, hidden ambitions, and simmering vendettas.

**A noir with atmosphere as thick as the lagoon itself,
The Value of Things delivers suspense, intrigue,
and the unsettling realization that behind wealth we often find rot.**

Serena Cappellozza, a graduate in Foreign Languages and Literatures, teaches. Her short stories have appeared in magazines and anthologies, and she is the winner of the *Giallo in libreria* contest organized by SEM and La Feltrinelli.



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ROMINA CASAGRANDE THE FOUR WINTERS

ITALY

Original language: Italian
(Partial English translation available)

Publisher: Garzanti
May 2025, 368 pages

**In the frozen heart of the Alps, a hidden community raises children cut off from the world;
when their fragile rites begin to fracture, the wild children must confront
the cult that shaped their fate.**

Maia has always trusted the story of her past, convinced she was cherished and protected by her adoptive parents. But when she discovers she is expecting a child, long-buried questions begin to surface. In a forgotten trunk in the attic, she finds fragments of another life—photographs, newspaper clippings, and cryptic notes that unravel the certainty of her childhood.

Her search leads her to the remote valleys of Trentino-Alto Adige, where whispers of a hidden community of women and children echo across the mountains. There, Maia uncovers the intertwined fates of Esther, Agata, and Tamilè—three women bound by secrets—and the six “wild children” they raised in isolation. What emerges is a story of maternal love pushed to the extreme, of faith warped by obsession, and of wounds that cross generations.

As past and present converge, Maia must face the truth that has been waiting for her all along: the answers she seeks are not only about where she came from, but about who she must choose to become.

ROMINA CASAGRANDE



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France (Fleuve Noir)
Hungary (Európa Könyvkiadó Kft)



Rights sold

Germany (Fischer Verlag)



Rights sold

France (Fleuve Noir)
Germany (Fischer Verlag)
Lebanon (Dar Al Khayal)

Romina Casagrande (1977) lives and teaches in Merano. She works with museums and schools on interdisciplinary courses and is a passionate nature lover.





ANNA CHISARI
THE HEALER
 The Story of a Curse

ITALY

Original language: Italian
 (Partial English translation available)

Publisher: Garzanti
 June 2025

A healer becomes a feared witch to protect her daughter from a family curse in this spellbinding tale of resilience, fate, and maternal love.

Sicily, mid-19th century. Veneranda Balsamo, once a respected herbalist, is now known as *Gnu Ranna*—a witch whose name inspires both reverence and fear.

Abandoned by her father and raised by a *fuliara*—a wise woman with near-magical knowledge of medicinal herbs—Veneranda grows into a gifted healer, a lifeline for the women of Belpasso. Yet, in a village steeped in superstition and rigid traditions, no woman is truly safe.

When her daughter falls in love with a man from the Baruneddu family—a bloodline cursed for generations—Veneranda makes an unthinkable choice. To defy fate and protect her child, she casts aside her healing arts and embraces her dark reputation.

ANNA CHISARI

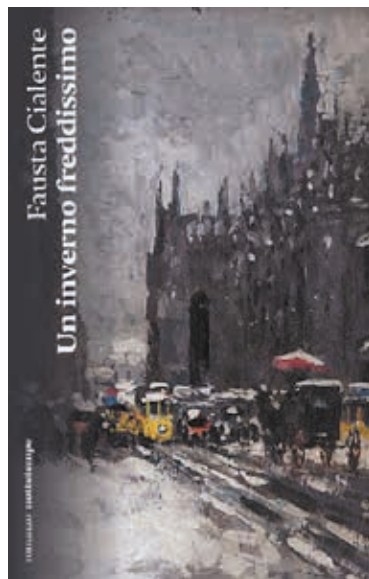
Can she truly break the cycle of misfortune, or will the curse that has haunted the women in her family continue to claim its next victim?

With the wild winds of Mount Etna whispering through its pages, *The Healer* is a gripping, atmospheric novel that weaves folklore, history, and the enduring power of maternal love.

Anna Chisari delivers a hauntingly beautiful story about the weight of inherited trauma and the courage it takes to rewrite one's destiny.

Anna Chisari was born in Sicily and has lived in Milan for over thirty years. A journalist and blogger, she has written for newspapers, directed publications, and worked in radio for many years. She works for the Municipality of Milan, where she strives to promote culture through social media.





FAUSTA CIALENTE A VERY COLD WINTER

ITALY

Original language: Italian
(Full English translation available)

Publisher: Nottetempo
October 2022, 288 pages

Rights sold

US (Transit Books)

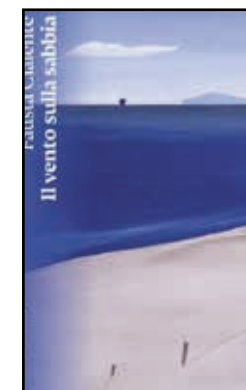
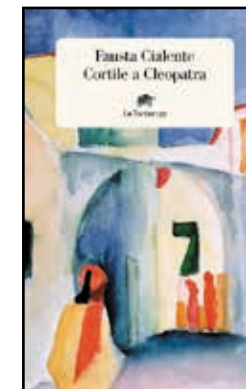
Milan, 1946. A woman named Camilla opens her illegally occupied attic to her extended family as they rebuild their lives among the rubble. The absence of men—lost to war, death, or abandonment—leaves the burden of survival to the women, who use the attic to incubate fragile futures: Camilla works to carry the family toward dignity and normalcy; Lalla dreams of becoming a novelist to escape their grim reality; Regina, widowed by the war, pins her hopes on her infant daughter; Alba chases independence and love. Varying political ideologies, loyalties, and wartime secrets filter through the house, creating a thick net of tension. As the narrative roams from the thoughts of character to character, the residents of this “hotel for the poor” consider their own complicity and moral compromises, wondering if they’re able to escape the weight of what they’ve lived through.

Fausta Cialente’s exquisite prose captures the frailty of the human heart in its desperate search for connection. Tender, thought-provoking, and devastatingly beautiful, *A Very Cold Winter* is about the impossibility of forgetting the past and the difficulty of living with it.



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FAUSTA CIALENTE



Fausta Cialente (1898-1994) was born in Sardinia but spent much of her adult life in Alexandria, Egypt, which provided the backdrop for many of her books. A focal antifascist, she returned to Italy after WW2, and saw out the end of her long life in England. The author won recognition in 1974 when she won the Strega Prize.



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info@vickisatlow.com



JENNIFER CLARK
THE PATRIARCHS
The Agnelli Dynasty and the Price of Power

Original language: English

ITALY
Publisher: Solferino
May 2024, 432 pages

The fascinating and tragic story of one of the world’s wealthiest and most powerful families, as they navigate monumental shifts in history.

The overwhelming power and inestimable fortune of the Agnelli dynasty, paired with the glamour and inimitable class of the legendary *Fiat* figure head, Gianni Agnelli, and the tragic death of his son, makes this family story unique in every sense.

Inspired by Henry Ford, the Turin-based founder of Fiat accumulated a fortune during WW1 and WW2 by providing trucks, cars, and machine guns to Italy’s army. But the Agnelli family soon extended its influence by acquiring a newspaper (*La Stampa*), a football club (*Juventus*), and a host of other businesses.

By 1980, the Agnelli businesses accounted for approximately 3% of the national GDP and 25% of the companies listed on the Milan Stock Exchange.

JENNIFER CLARK

Gianni Agnelli, who passed away in 2003, leaving the reins to his grandson, was a legend in his own right. His mother was half American, and his wife, Marella, was one of Truman Capote’s “Swans”. As “jet setters”, they hobnobbed with the likes of Prince Aga Kahn, Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, and Pamela Churchill. The Agnelli men ruled in a way that reflected the patriarchal mindset of an epoch that is gone forever.

Much has been written about this enigmatic family, but none with the access needed to tell the whole personal and financial story, including what was going on in the shadows, where death and tragedy are as much a part of the family story as the business.



Rights sold

Poland (Spoleczny Instytut)

Russia (Bombora)

Jennifer Clark is an Italy based business journalist and freelance writer with 25 years of experience working for *Bloomberg*, *Reuters*, and *The Wall Street Journal*.





ERRI DE LUCA
THE FIRST ONES

ITALY
Original language: Italian
(Partial English translation available)
Publisher: Feltrinelli
October 2025, 112 pages

Options

France (Gallimard)

Spain (Seix Barral)

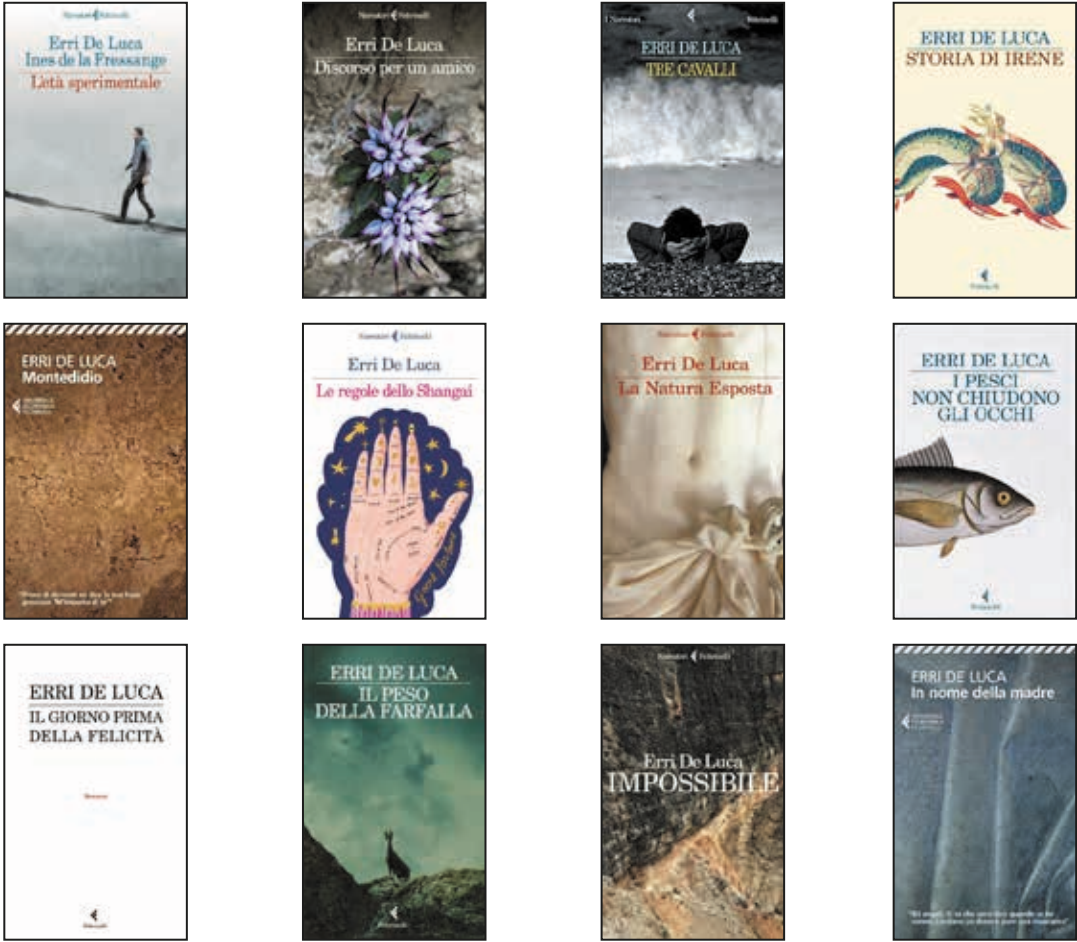
Who were the very first to bear a name? In *The First Ones*, Erri De Luca returns to the sacred texts to listen to the voices of our forebearers—Adam, Eve, and the figures who inaugurated humanity’s story. Each speaks in the first person, offering a condensed autobiography that bridges myth, faith, and memory.

From Adam, molded from earth and called “Earthman,” to prophets and matriarchs whose words and deeds shaped scripture, De Luca gathers their brief self-portraits into a collection both intimate and timeless. Some are well-known, others more obscure, yet all live on in the written canon, a form of existence more enduring than flesh.

With poetic insight and humility, De Luca reflects on the one voice he could not assume—the divine “I” itself. For God remains the ultimate First, whose words created light and life, and whose presence believers echo in prayer.

The First Ones is at once literary meditation and spiritual exploration, giving ancient names a modern resonance and inviting readers to see the origins of storytelling, faith, and identity anew.

ERRI DE LUCA



Erri De Luca is a renowned Italian writer, poet, translator, and screenwriter. Raised in an affluent family, he developed an early passion for literature and languages. In the 1970s, he was active in the political movement Lotta Continua, an experience that deeply influenced his literary works. After leaving political life, he worked various manual jobs in Italy and abroad, enriching his writing with a realistic and human touch.





SIMONA DOLCE
ROSAMUND FISCHER'S
REAL NAME

ITALY

Original language: Italian
(Partial English translation available)

Publisher: Mondadori
May 2024, 384 pages

Candidate for the 2025 Strega Prize

A literary debut by one of Italy's most promising screenwriters.

In the suburbs of Washington D.C. lives an elderly woman who has erased her past until a call from a journalist forces her to reckon with her true identity.

On the other side of the telephone is a journalist, whose great uncle had fled Berlin in the 1930's. His research on Rudolph Hoess's capture led him to Virginia, where Hoess's daughter, IngeBritte has been living under the alias of Rosamund Fischer

Born in 1933 on a farm on the Baltic Sea, she grew up in a villa in Poland, a "little paradise" where, the pavilions and the prisoners of Auschwitz, simply did not exist. In this cat and mouse game with the journalist, she claims she was unaware of the sounds around her and the role her father played. But Rosamund Fischer is a liar. She has lied to her husband, her children, and she lies to herself.

SIMONA DOLCE

In 1947, Rudolph Hoess was tried and hanged in Poland. IngeBritte moved to Spain, became a model for Balenciaga and then changed her name. She might have forgiven her father, like her mother whom she nurtured towards the end of her life, but we will never know. Because there is no changing history, she rewrote her own.

A novelized first-person reconstruction of the life of the daughter of Auschwitz Commandant Rudolph Hoess. To date, all we know of her lies in a single, disturbing interview she gave in 2015.

*My whole life, I deluded myself that no one would ever discover my secret.
But one day, the past found me, and I was forced to recognize the secrets
I had kept from everyone, including myself.*

Rights sold

France (Presses de la Cité)

Simona Dolce (1984) is the winner for prize winning children's books. She contributes to the literary magazine *Nuovi Argomenti* and works as a screenwriter in Rome.





MANUELA FACCON
**THE CONCIERGE AT
 VIA SANT'ANDREA 9**

ITALY

Original language: Italian
 (Partial English translation available)

Publisher: Feltrinelli
 February 2023, 288 pages

1950's. Padua is a city with secrets and Teresa has been carrying hers since she was sixteen.

The war has ended, but Teresa still lives in regret, tortured by painful memories of her years unjustly imprisoned. She works as a concierge in a building that once belonged to Attilio, the Fascist officer responsible for rounding up the Jews in Padova in 1943. On that tragic day, a Jewish family entrusted Teresa with their infant, Amos, and she promised never to abandon him, a promise which cost her dearly.

When Teresa is finally released, she is determined to find the child. The war has ended, but those who survived want to move on. Even her own family does not want to discuss the past. In fact, they want little to do with her after what she put them through. To atone for what their brother had done to her, Attilio's relatives offer her employment in their aristocratic manor. Teresa finds herself living not only with her torturer's sisters, whom she suspects still have contact with Attilio and Vincenzo, a moody child whom Attilio entrusted to the family before escaping the country at the end of the war. Convinced that Vincenzo is Amos, Teresa spends years watching over him. But the sullen boy grows up to be a bitter xenophobe and ultimately demands that she leave.

Vicki Satlow Literary Agency
info@vickisatlow.com

MANUELA FACCON

As Teresa gathers her few belongings, we learn of her story, her courage and her fierce devotion to justice. With nothing to risk, she decides to tell them the truth, hoping it will free her, too. But if she is wrong and the boy isn't Amos, who is he? And above all, what happened to the child she risked her life to protect?

6 weeks on the bestseller list

Manuela Faccon was born in Padova and is an historian and specialist of old manuscripts. She teaches Spanish and Flamenco dance.



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info@vickisatlow.com



LAURA FORTI THE USELESS DAUGHTER

ITALY

Original language: Italian
(Partial English translation available)

Publisher: Guanda
April 2024, 288 pages

An urn rests on an empty grave in a section of the Jewish cemetery designated for suicides and ambiguous deaths. Elena wished for her ashes to be scattered in the Moselle River, but her family chose otherwise.

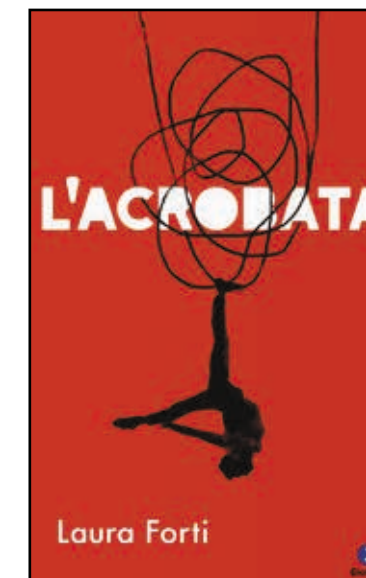
Years later, Elena's uncovers a secret surrounding her death, a rewriting of memory. Born into a family of Russian exiles who had left her with a wet nurse in France, Elena grew up rebellious and non-conformist, despotic, a woman full of contradiction.

At the heart of her identity were the Dresners, their patriarch Giulio, and a successful assimilation in Italy, where they became involved in Zionism, befriending important families, like the Mussolini. With the racial laws in 1938, the Dresners were once again forced into exile. Their unwritten history tells a story that spans the 20th-century diaspora.



Rights sold
Germany (Nonsolo Verlag)

LAURA FORTI



Laura Forti (1966) is an author and internationally renowned playwright. Winner of the Premio Mondello, the Supermondello and the Mondello Giovani 2021, she works as a print and radio journalist and teaches theatre and creative writing.





LORENZA GENTILE THIS TIME IT'S FOR REAL

ITALY

Original language: Italian
(Partial English translation available)
Publisher: Feltrinelli
October 2025, 320 pages

Rights sold
Kuwait (Dar Shafaq Publishing)

A witty, heartwarming romantic comedy about starting over, discovering strength in solitude, and finding family in unexpected places.

In a tiny Italian village, Lucilla dreams of a romantic new beginning with her boyfriend Enrico—until she discovers he has other plans. Alone in a crumbling inn at twelve hundred meters, with no phone signal and only a bottle of disinfectant for company, she fears her dream life is over before it begins. But the mountains have other ideas. What starts as a surreal welcome becomes a lifeline. Despite her heartbreak, she's drawn into village life, full of eccentrics: an innkeeper quoting Dante, a baker obsessed with focaccia, a widow determined to marry her off, and a handyman who always appears when disaster strikes. Running the tavern is chaos—burst pipes, complaining tourists, sudden storms. Yet Lucilla, long used to leaning on others, slowly proves she can stand on her own. Against her better judgment, she begins to suspect the mountains didn't just give her a tavern, but a second chance at love.

With its Alpine setting and lovable oddballs, a heroine whose vulnerability makes her hilarious and relatable shows how being left behind can set us free—and how finding your place in the world isn't something we wait for, but something we create.

LORENZA GENTILE



Rights sold
France (Editions Leduc)
Kuwait (Dar Shafaq Publishing)
Russia ((Mann, Ivanov and Ferber)



Rights sold
Germany (Droemer Verlag)
Kuwait (Dar Shafaq Publishing)
Poland (Wydawnictwo Czarna Owca)
Russia (Mann, Ivanov and Ferber)



Rights sold
Germany (Droemer Verlag)
Kuwait (Dar Shafaq Publishing)
Poland (Wydawnictwo Czarna Owca)
Russia (Mann, Ivanov and Ferber)
Serbia (Vulkan Publishing)
Film rights optioned by Life cinema

Lorenza Gentile (1988) is a full-time writer. She spent formative years in Paris, working as an actress and sleeping in the basement of Shakespeare & Co.





CHIARA GILY MEET ME AT CAFFÈ NAPOLI

ITALY

Original language: Italian
(Partial English translation available)

Publisher: Mondadori
March 2025, 252 pages

Bestseller
with 25,000 copies sold.

Lidia left Naples for Trieste years ago and has rarely returned. The two cities are worlds apart and she cringes just thinking about how her long-time boyfriend would react to the chaos of her friends and family back home. But this time, there's no way out—her cousin Alice is getting married for the third time and Lidia is her maid of honor. The two are so close they might as well be siblings, before life and distance came between them.

Lidia is supposed to stay in Naples only for the weekend, just long enough to attend the wedding. But fate has other ideas, when she finds herself the sole heir to her father's antique shop. More than just a business, it was a gathering place for the neighborhood, a treasure trove of forgotten stories—and the best coffee in town.

CHIARA GILY

The shop comes with its complications and problems. Lidia is tempted to shut it down and walk away but there are a few secrets she must unravel before she makes any decisions. By her side are Alice, the bride still searching for true love, and Mila, a photographer with a knack for detecting the truth.

Together, these three women turn an abandoned antique shop into a beacon of new beginnings. Because sometimes, to find your future, you need to stop and listen to the past.

A moving, witty, and profound novel about friendship, family, and the courage to start over.

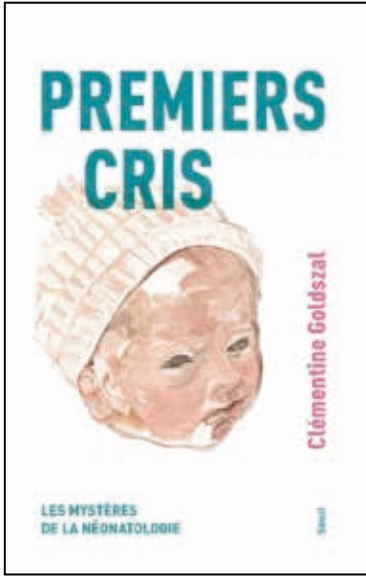
“A witty and brilliant novel, to be savored like a delicious cup of coffee!” – Lorenza Gentile

Rights sold

Russia (Mann, Ivanov and Ferber)

Born in Naples and currently a resident of Trieste, **Chiara Gily** is a freelance journalist who writes a column about living in Trieste.





CLEMENTINE GOLDSZAL
NEWBORN

FRANCE

Original language: French
Publisher: Editions du Seuil
January 2025, 224 pages

The truth of newborns eludes us. Completely helpless, without words... an enigma surrounds their precious existence. What would they tell us if they could speak for themselves?

To approach and begin to unravel these mysteries, the author was granted the rare privilege of spending six months immersed in the neonatal intensive care unit at the Necker–Enfants Malades Hospital in Paris. In this ward, where complex and sometimes desperate cases unfold every day, she observed the world around the newborns—doctors, nurses, psychologists, parents—all united in the effort to guide these fragile beings into life.

First Cries reads both as a field journal of what was seen and as a meditation that draws on art, religion, philosophy, and psychoanalysis—while always centering the lived reality of its youngest patients. It seeks to illuminate what each of us has experienced at birth: our first minutes, our first hours, our first days of humanity. A book about life and death at their most delicate threshold, it is also a profound reflection on vulnerability itself.

CLEMENTINE GOLDSZAL

“To look at a newborn is to face the very beginning of our own story.”



Rights sold

Germany (DTV Verlagsgesellschaft)
Spain (Gattopardo)
UK/US (Pushkin Press)

Clémentine Goldszal is a prize-winning French journalist, who is currently writing on literature and entertainment for *Elle* and *Le Monde* Magazine. She recently published an important profile of Deborah Levy in *Le Monde*. She is fluent in English and lived for several years in Los Angeles where she covered American culture for *Elle* among others.





FRANCESCO LOTORO THE LOST MUSIC OF THE HOLOCAUST

Bringing the music of the camps to the ears
of the world at last

ITALY

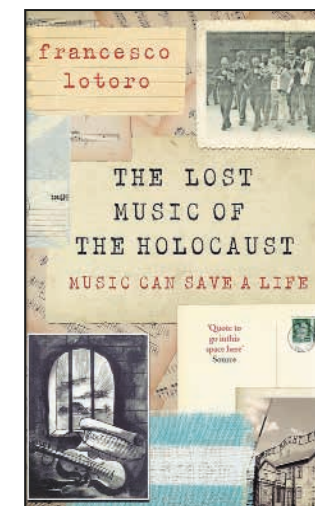
Original language: Italian
(Full English translation available)
Publisher: Feltrinelli
January 2022, 312 pages

Italian pianist and composer Francesco Lotoro has been on a lifelong quest to find the music written by the inmates of concentration camps during the Second World War. *The Lost Music of the Holocaust* movingly pieces together the stories of those whose only solace during their imprisonment was their music.

These incredible stories bear witness to the most devastating experiences in twentieth-century history—but here music was a lifeline that had to be hidden with ingenuity and so sheet music was sewn into the lining of coats, instruments were taken apart and hidden in suitcases, scores written on food wrappings and prison walls.

Lotoro has painstakingly salvaged and performed symphonies, operas and songs written by the incarcerated musicians, many of whom died in the camps, not expecting their music could ever be known or heard by the world. He has travelled the globe to meet with the families of those who lost their lives, as well as survivors themselves. This compelling book takes readers on a journey into some extraordinary lives and music, shining a light on a unique beauty that somehow prevailed against all odds.

FRANCESCO LOTORO



Rights sold

Hungary (Európa Könyvkiadó)
UK/US (Headline)

Born in 1964 in Barletta (Italy), **Francesco Lotoro** is a pianist, composer, and conductor in addition to being a piano professor at the “Niccolò Piccinni” Music Conservatory, in Bari. He is the author of several volumes of musicology. In 1995 he founded the Musica Judaica Orchestra. Francesco Lotoro has been the subject of books and films but never told his story in his own words.





COSTANZA MIRIANO OTHER PEOPLE’S LIVES

ITALY
Original language: Italian
(Full English translation available)
Publisher: Sonzogno
September 2025, 192 pages

We all want to be someone else. We envy others for their successful careers, perfect bodies, fairy-tale marriages and their loving and cheerful teenage children. Envy is nothing new but with social media, it’s so much easier. All it takes is our phone to be reminded of everything we lack and alternative lives where we are never quite beautiful enough, athletic enough, rich enough, or famous enough.

But are we sure that what we want is what we need?

With her ironic, incisive, and profoundly empathetic style, Costanza Miriano takes us on an unexpected journey: a healing of desire. Through the stories of those who managed to overcome temptation (and not by chance, they became saints), she reminds us that the circumstances of our lives, even the wrong, weary, and painful ones, have been placed along our path for a precise reason.

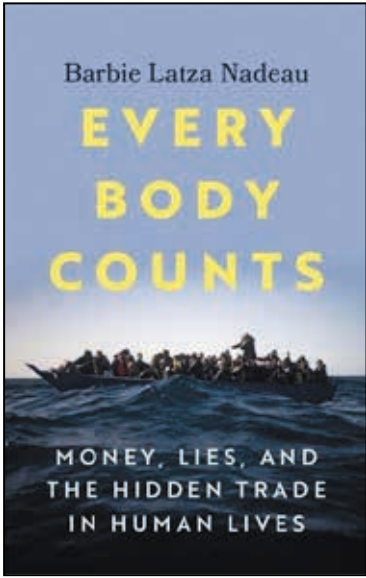
Often, emptiness must exist first, so that it can be filled with the person we are called to become. Desire, too, can be a path to freedom, an encounter with what truly fulfills our heart provided we accept that life is not about obtaining everything we want, but about learning what to desire in the first place.

COSTANZA MIRIANO



Costanza Miriano (1970) works as a journalist and is a public speaker on behalf of Catholic values. Her first book, Marry and Be Submissive, became a controversial editorial success in Italy and has been translated into nine foreign languages. She has since written over seven books, all of which have been successful. She lives in Rome with her husband and four children.





BARBIE LATZA NADEAU
EVERY BODY COUNTS
Money, Lies and Hidden Trade in Human Lives

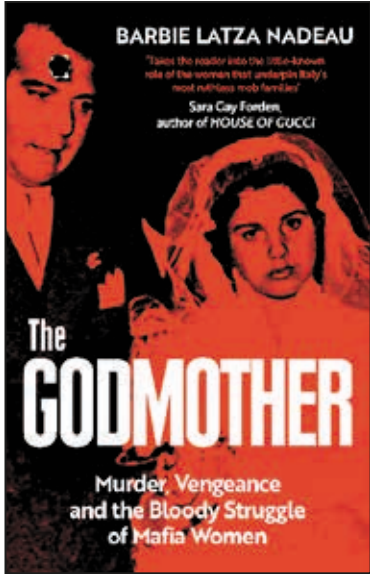
Original language: English
Publisher: Bonnier Books UK
March 2025, 350 pages

Rights sold
France (Grasset Edition)
Germany (Hanser Blau)
Netherlands (Balans)
Spain (Seix Barral)
UK (Bonnier Books)

In this investigative narrative, Rome-based American reporter Barbie Latza Nadeau unravels the dirty money driving migration and human trafficking. Taking advantage of desperate people’s tragic destiny has created a global market worth billions of dollars.

There are more than 280 million people on the move around the world at any given moment, according to the International Organization of Migration. Each person—every body—offers potential for the corrupt. From sex trafficking to drug mules, and child laborers in the fashion industry, desperate people generate billions of dollars. Every body has a value, and each death is a loss that conjures mild compassion from the general public, but which rattles the multi-billion dollar chain of human exploitation. A chain of unmeasurable length that has infiltrated the criminal underworld reaching up to the highest echelons of respectable institutions, from the Italian mafia to the cartels, from banks to governments.

No other multi-billion dollar translational enterprise is less understood than the money trail behind trafficking of humans and their organs. People stop looking when they see desperate people in boats or trudging through the jungle, but every single person represents potential for profit, and every body counts for those in the business of exploiting despair. *Every Body Counts* tells the stories of those who navigate a world where lives don’t matter, but where every body counts.



BARBIE LATZA NADEAU
THE GODMOTHER
Murder, Vengeance and the Bloody Struggle of Mafia Women

US/UK/CANADA
Original language: English
Publisher: Viking Penguin
September 2022, 256 pages

Dive into the abyss of this unexplored territory
Roberto Saviano

Going beyond stereotypes, *The Godmother* redefines our ideas of criminal enterprises led by the women who are strong enough, smart enough, and mean enough to take control.

Meet ‘Lady Camorra,’ one of the first female mafia bosses, as she sips coffee and drums her black-lacquered fingernails on her kitchen table. The Godmother’ takes the reader into the little-known role of the women that underpin Italy’s most ruthless mob families and are forced to reckon with the social and sexual codes governing the violent reality of mafioso rule.

Rights sold
Brazil (Darkside)
Italy (VandA Edizioni)
Poland (Albatros)
Serbia (Public Praktikum)
Ukraine (Vivat Publishing)

Barbie Latza Nadeau (1960) is an American journalist in Rome, working for *Newsweek*, *The Daily Beast* and *CNN*. She has covered crime in Europe, Italian politics, the Vatican, migration, the refugee crisis and women’s issues. Her previous book about the murder trials of Amanda Knox was adapted for film by Michael Winterbottom (*The Face of an Angel*, 2015).





MARTA PEREGO BREAKFAST IN THE PARK WITH VIRGINIA WOOLF

ITALY
Original language: Italian
(Full English translation available)
Publisher: Vallardi
May 2025, 336 pages

Why do we read? Through these pages, Perego invites us to ask new questions, see the world from fresh angles, and—perhaps—uncover unexpected answers.

Science tells us that reading can ease anxiety, calm overthinking, sharpen empathy, slow cognitive decline, and even help us live longer. But beyond the proven benefits, reading is something much deeper.

Great novels don't shy away from life's complexities. They don't chase happy endings or rely on motivational clichés. Instead, they dive headfirst into the messiness of being human—into the light and the dark, the joy and the pain. Reading doesn't give us certainty; it teaches us that life is full of unpredictable seas, and gives us tools to navigate unknown currents and discover new horizons. And so, when we feel adrift and need a compass, books become a light in the storm—guiding us, grounding us, giving us hope.

MARTA PEREGO

In *Breakfast in the Park with Virginia Woolf*, cultural journalist, author, and literary expert Marta Perego takes us on a personal and profound journey through twenty iconic novels.

From Virginia Woolf, a pioneer of inner awareness, to Jane Austen, a master of navigating the most intricate relationships; from the raw intensity of Sylvia Plath and Goliarda Sapienza, to the timeless insights of Italo Calvino, Dino Buzzati, and more.

A celebration of literature's enduring power to speak to us, soul to soul.



Marta Perego (1984) launched her career in 2007 as a culture editor for the magazine Class Life. Since then, she has conducted cultural television programs on literature, cinema and art. She is an avid traveller.





PAOLA PERETTI LOST AMONG THE STARS

ITALY

Original language: Italian
(Full English translation available)

Publisher: Giunti
February 2025, 176 pages

Rights sold

Turkey (Timas Basim Ticaret Sanayi)

A poignant and enchanting tale of sisterhood, self-discovery, and the unseen bonds that tie women together across time.

Perfect for readers who love heartfelt stories with a touch of magic.

Desideria, or Desy, is about to turn fourteen, but instead of celebrating, she's watching handfuls of her beautiful dark red hair fall out every day. Stressed and lonely, she feels invisible—her older sister, Eleonora, won't talk to her, and her mother, a ghost hunter, is rarely home.

Desperate for connection, Desy calls out to her great-aunt Tita, a woman she's only ever known from an old photograph. She never expects an answer—until Tita actually appears. Though long deceased, Tita visits Desy at night in her human form and watches over her during the day as a butterfly.

PAOLA PERETTI



A powerful, uplifting and moving story of a teenage girl's battle against losing her sight and keeping her friendships.

Rights with Bonnier Books (UK)

Rights sold

Brazil; Bulgaria; Canada; China; Czech Republic; France; Germany; Greece; Hungary; Korea; Japan; Netherlands; Poland; Portugal; Romania; Russia; Serbia; Slovak Republic; Spain; Taiwan; Turkey; UK; US; Film

Paola Peretti (1986) teaches immigrant children to read and write Italian in the province of Verona. She suffers from a rare, degenerative eye disease.





CINZIA PENNATI EVERYTHING IN MY FAMILY IS JUST PERFECT

ITALY

Original language: Italian
(Partial English translation available)

Publisher: Sperling & Kupfer
June 2024, 304 pages

**A powerful novel about breaking free from preconceived notions about what it means to be a perfect wife, mother and daughter.
Being a good mother and a trophy wife is no formula for happiness.**

One day, Alma's husband, Albino, leaves on an ordinary business trip and never returns. After twenty years of marriage, Alma finds herself alone with her two children. Alma had made Albino the centre of her life and in return he always took care of the money. When the nanny leaves, her credit card is cancelled and her car is repossessed, she discovers that not only does she have to sell her Prada handbags, but in a few weeks she may not even have a roof over her head. Albino didn't just disappear. He's left her with a debt she can't imagine ever being able to pay.

As Alma comes to terms with her new reality, she begins to question her role in her marriage and her relationship with her children and the rest of her family and friends. As she tries to understand how she could have missed the signs, she discovers that all is not well in her family. But this is only the first step towards a future where she can be truly happy.

Chosen book by Radio Monte Carlo.

Vicki Satlow Literary Agency
info@vickisatlow.com



CINZIA PENNATI A MOTHER IS...

ITALY

Original language: Italian
Illustrated by Sofia Boccato

Publisher: Mondadori
May 2023, 17 pages

Rights with Mondadori Libri

AGES 5+

A perfect gift book for Mother's Day or any day of parental celebration.

In this brief and poetic children's book, the author delves into the heart of tolerance and diversity, defining motherhood as a state of unconditional love and care in the widest and most generous sense.



Cinzia Pennati (1976) lives in Genova with her two daughters. She has been a teacher for twenty years, experimenting with innovative methodologies and social commitments. Her blog sosdonne boasts over two million followers.



Vicki Satlow Literary Agency
info@vickisatlow.com



ELENA PIGOZZI THE SEAMSTRESSES OF VILLAREY

ITALY

Original language: Italian
(Partial English translation available)

Publisher: Mondadori
April 2025, 240 pages

Ancona, 1943: as war rips through Italy, families are torn apart and homes left empty. Eighteen-year-old Laura knows this all too well—her mother has just passed away, her father is missing in action in Greece, and she is left to care for her younger brother, Milo.

Everything changes when she meets Alda, a strong and compassionate widow who has raised four daughters on her own and works as a seamstress and caretaker at the Villarey military barracks. Alda takes Laura under her wing, teaching her the art of sewing—but soon, needle and thread become tools of resistance.

As the tide of history turns with Mussolini's fall and the Badoglio armistice, Italy is thrown into chaos. On September 15, German forces occupy Ancona and imprison over 3,000 Italian soldiers at Villarey, marking them for deportation to Nazi labor camps.

But Alda refuses to stand by. In secret, she orchestrates a daring plan for a mass escape—a plan that will change the course of many lives.

ELENA PIGOZZI

Inspired by an extraordinary true story, *The Seamstresses of Villarey* is a powerful, deeply moving tribute to the courage of women in wartime. With strength, resilience, and quiet defiance, they turned stitches into acts of rebellion—reminding us that even in the darkest of times, hope can be sewn into every seam.



Elena Pigozzi (1968) is a journalist and author living in Verona.





ROSELLA POSTORINO A LITTLE BROTHER

ITALY

Original language: Italian
(Partial English translation available)

Publisher: Salani
September 2025, 160 pages

Mario wishes he had a little brother—to teach him how to spit out meat into a napkin and hide it in his pocket without getting caught, to sneak into his bed after a bad dream, to finally learn to swim together. But every time he asks, his mother’s face turns sad, and his father tells him that some questions shouldn’t be asked. So that’s it? Not quite.

Because someone new does arrive. His name is Nanni: clumsy, round, and patched with too many colors—and, above all, a dog. At the shelter he was lonely and ill-tempered, but now he loves stealing meatballs and socks, sniffing strangers on the street, howling with joy, and sleeping next to Mario. Nanni has been by Mario’s side for months when the boy’s wish finally comes true: a new family member is on the way—this time without a tail or that smelly bush of tangled fur. All attention shifts to the baby’s arrival, and Nanni fears he’ll be left behind once again... like a dog.

What he doesn’t yet know is that love doesn’t get divided—it multiplies.

A luminous story about the universal need to feel loved. Even a goofy little dog, with his guilty conscience, who between a chewed-up shoe and a raid on the cookie jar, has something to teach us—about our desires, our fears, and the unbreakable strength of our bonds.



ITALY

Original language: Italian
(Partial English translation available)

Publisher: Feltrinelli
November 2024, 96 pages

ITALY

Original language: Italian
(Partial English translation available)

Publisher: Salani
October 2019, 144 pages

Rights sold

Chinese simplified (Volumes Publishing House)





ROSELLA POSTORINO THE LOVE I SAVED FOR YOU

ITALY

Original language: Italian
(Partial English translation available)

Publisher: Feltrinelli

January 2023, 352 pages

Strega Prize Finalist 2023

Over 100,000 copies sold

From the author of the international bestseller *The Women at Hitler's Table*.

Spring, 1992. Above the orphanage in Sarajevo, the sky is leaden with bombs. Ten-year-old Omar spends his days at the window, risking sniper fire in the desperate hope of seeing his mother return.

One July morning they are herded onto a bus to salvation. But Omar worries his mother will never manage to find him. And Nada fears that her brother will be killed at war. On the bus racing toward Italy, braving rubble-strewn roads, and the savage cruelty of prowling Chetniks, Nada meets 13-year-old Danilo. He has warm hands, a family somewhere, and he promises to take care of her.

Omar. Nada. Danilo. As the tragedy devastating Europe shatters their every certainty, these three defenseless creatures forge a tormented bond destined to last a lifetime.

In this coming-of-age novel and war story about “the fault of being born”, we see how easy it is not only to endure pain but also to inflict it, and how powerful the will to live can be, proving itself inextinguishable, even in the midst of horror.

Rights sold

France (Albin Michel)
Lithuania (Alma Littera)
Saudi Arabia (Tashkeell)
Slovak Republic (Literárna Bašta)
Slovenia (Hisa Knjig)
Spain (Anagrama)
Film rights optioned by Fandango

Vicki Satlow Literary Agency
info@vickisatlow.com



ROSELLA POSTORINO THE WOMEN AT HITLER'S TABLE

ITALY

Original language: Italian
(Full English translation available)

Publisher: Feltrinelli

January 2018, 285 pages

Rights sold in 46 Countries.
Film adaptation (Italian-Belgian-Swiss coproduction)
directed by Silvio Soldini, released in March 2025.

Over 350,000 copies sold worldwide

Prix Jean Monnet 2019, Winner of Premio Campiello 2018, Premio Pozzale – Luigi Russo, Premio Chianti, Premio Wondy, Book of the year for Fahrenheit Radio 3.

The story follows a group of women who were recruited by the SS in 1943 to make sure that the food being served to Hitler was not poisoned. Force to eat what might kill them, the tasters start to split into two factions: those loyal to Hitler and those who insist they aren't Nazis, even as they risk their lives everyday for the Führer.

Rosella Postorino (1978) is a prize-winning author and editor for Einaudi Stile Libero based in Rome.



Vicki Satlow Literary Agency
info@vickisatlow.com



PAOLO RODARI RUTH'S MANTEL

ITALY

Original language: Italian
(Full English translation available)

Publisher: Feltrinelli
January 2025, 144 pages

Rights sold

France (Archipel)
Serbia (TEA Books)

Rome, 1926. At just twelve years old, Remo is abandoned by his mother at the gates of the Pontifical Seminary, a desperate choice after becoming widowed with four children to feed. The Church is his only hope for survival.

1943. As the city falls under Nazi occupation, a chance encounter will shatter his world and test his deepest beliefs. Now a parish priest in the heart of Rome's Monti district, Remo is entrusted with little Aida, a young girl whose life is at risk after the brutal roundup at the Portico di Ottavia. Rachele begs him to protect her daughter, promising to return—but she never does. For years, Remo and Aida wait, caught in a web of uncertainty and unspoken hope.

2000, Remo's days are numbered. He decides to write a long letter to Aida, a testimony of love, to her and to her mother, whose love he never relinquished.

PAOLO RODARI

Inspired by true events of the Roman Holocaust, *Il mantello di Rut* (Ruth's Mantle) tells the heart-wrenching story of a priest who risks everything to honor a promise made to a mother he barely knew. Hidden beneath the dome of a church, twenty Jewish girls were saved from Nazi deportation, shielded by a priest and nuns who defied death to save them. This novel is a testament to faith, love, and loyalty, as Remo's act of protection becomes a symbol of impossible love and unshakable belief.

Through a beautifully delicate narrative, Paolo Rodari forces us to confront a powerful question: *How far would you go for love and faith?*

Letting go, this is love. Nothing less, nothing more.

A gripping tale of sacrifice, impossible love, and an unforgettable act of courage, inspired by the true stories of the Roman Holocaust.

Paolo Rodari (1973) is a journalist and writer. After earning a degree in Political Science from the Catholic University of Milan, he moved to Rome, where he obtained a licentiate in Fundamental Theology from the Pontifical Gregorian University. He has worked for *il Riformista* and *Il Foglio* and spent nine years as a correspondent and Vatican expert for *la Repubblica*. Since 2023, he has been part of the Culture editorial team at Radiotelevisione Svizzera Italiana (RSI) and collaborates with *Il Manifesto*.





SARAH SAVIOLI THE BEASTS

ITALY

Original language: Italian
(Partial English translation available)

Publisher: Feltrinelli
June 2023, 272 pages

A fresh and amusing approach to the mystery genre featuring a private detective with an unusual gift: she communicates with plants and animals.

The famous detective who communicates with plants and animals is sent on her first case away from home: to the Ferlico Mountain range in central Italy, where husband and wife run a shelter for the homeless and political refugees.

One night Yasser, a well-liked young man from Syria, goes missing. The local police believe he has left of his own free will but Cecelia, who believes otherwise, calls the Cantoni Agency to help search for him. With all the animals and plants around as witnesses, Anna is sure this will be an open and shut case, but the intensity of the voices of the forest overwhelms her. With the help of Cantoni and her Great Dane Otto, Anna finds new strategies for communicating with goats, hedgehogs, wild boars, squirrels, deer, and the vegetation surrounding the refuge. As the secrets of the small town emerge, so do the relationships between the watchful wild animals and humans. It becomes clear to Anna that for better or worse we are as inextricably connected as trees in a forest.

SARAH SAVIOLI



Sarah Savioli's humorous cozy crime stories are filled with forensics and instilled with the author's love for nature and empathy for animals.

Sarah Savioli (1974) worked as a scientific forensic expert in the police force for ten years.





SARAH SAVIOLI MURDER AT TESLA ACADEMY

ITALY

Original language: Italian
Publisher: Feltrinelli KIDS
February 2023, 224 pages

AGES 7+

The Tesla Academy is an experimental, cutting-edge middle school for the world's most brilliant young students in science, math, technology, and art.

Strange and inexplicable events come to a head when a lifeless body is found in one of the classrooms. The authorities think they have identified the dangerous criminal lurking in the halls, but five eccentric and diverse students know better. When they join forces to assume the role of investigator, the clues lead them straight to an unlikely truth.



SARAH SAVIOLI EVERYTHING CHANGES!

ITALY

Original language: Italian
Illustrated by Kalina Muhova
Publisher: Feltrinelli KIDS
September 2021, 48 pages

AGES 6+

**A day in the life of a little girl
who wakes up to an entirely changed world.**

One day, things around Martina begin to change: the road in front of her house becomes curved and full of holes, the satchel lifts from her shoulders and starts to fly away like a balloon, and even the school shrinks to the size of a shoebox! Martina tries to look at the changing world with curiosity, adapting and finding new solutions, until change after change, everything returns to the right proportion and Martina's day can finally begin.

Sarah Savioli (1974) worked as a scientific forensic expert in the police force for ten years.





ROBERTA SCHIRA THE DAISIES CAN WAIT

ITALY

Original language: Italian
(Partial English translation available)

Publisher: Garzanti
June 2025, 416 pages

At *La Mariconda*, a secluded house perched above the sea and cradled by nature, nothing happens by chance. Within its walls—keepers of memories—and under the whisper of ancient trees, five women seek refuge and solace. A sudden blackout severs them from the outside world. But in the darkness, each woman begins to seek the quiet light she carries within.

Camilla, heir and guardian of *La Mariconda*, stumbles upon a mysterious book: *The Song for Restless Hearts*. As its guide and interpreter, she leads the others—women of different ages, wounds, and pasts—on an intimate journey of healing and self-discovery. Through shared rituals, swimming, cooking by firelight, and honest conversation, each woman confronts her unsaid past.

From the acclaimed author of *The Wisdom of Flowers*, Roberta Schira returns with a lyrical and soul-stirring novel of rebirth. With tenderness and depth, she gives voice to a femininity rooted in strength, empathy, and awareness. This is a story of inner renewal—where nature heals, the house protects, and women learn to choose, to speak, and to truly listen. Like daisies blooming in the toughest soil, these women find their way back to themselves. And through Camilla's song, we're reminded that every wound can become a seed, from which hope blossoms.

Vicki Satlow Literary Agency
info@vickisatlow.com



ROBERTA SCHIRA THE WISDOM OF FLOWERS

ITALY

Original language: Italian
(Partial English translation available)

Publisher: Garzanti
September 2023, 400 pages

Rights sold

Russia (Eksmo)
Turkey (Serenad Yayinlari)

Few people in this world are gifted with Eleonora's heightened, almost supernatural sense of smell. It has served her well as a gourmet...until she woke up in the hospital unable to taste or smell.

Now that her love life is in shambles and her restaurant risks closing, she needs the wisdom of Grandmother Ernesta more than ever. Ernesta taught her that cooking, like love, is much more than chemistry. In preparation, there is healing. Day after day, Eleonora tries to rebuild her life with the help of the letters she finds in a trunk that could only have been written by her grandmother. A touch of courage today and a drop of joy tomorrow, over time, create resilience. They simmer to keep her world from collapsing like a soufflé until she finds the will to live again.

Born in Crema, **Roberta Schira** is a feared food and wine critic, a cookbook author, and an innovative food stylist. She writes about cuisine for various national newspapers and teaches courses for chefs and restaurant owners.



Vicki Satlow Literary Agency
info@vickisatlow.com



IVAN SCIAPECONI THE NAME WE GIVE TO COLORS

ITALY

Original language: Italian
(Partial English translation available)

Publisher: Piemme
October 2023, 224 pages

1970: Ettore is a new entry at “Villa Giardini”. His mother has passed away and his father’s new wife doesn’t want an extra mouth to feed. In this senseless place for children considered “subnormal” and “uncurable,” some mentally ill and others simply unwanted, he makes sense of the world through colors. When an unusual teacher—“the Pastor”—arrives, enacting new methods of education that show the children respect, even love, Ettore knows that his life is about to change. In this intimate confession addressed to the Pastor, and to anyone who will listen, Ettore recounts a journey of healing through love and art.

Based on the true story of an educator whose activism led to reform in children’s institutions.



IVAN SCIAPECONI 40 COATS AND A BUTTON

ITALY

Original language: Italian
(Full English translation available)

Publisher: Piemme
January 2022, 208 pages

Based on the extraordinary true story of 73 Jewish children from across Europe who were sheltered in an abandoned villa in Italy.

Berlin is no place for a Jewish boy in 1942. Nathan is taken on a journey to salvation through the Slovenian winter to Villa Emma in Italy on his way to Switzerland and Palestine. In Italy, he is safe, almost happy, in the company of 73 other Jewish children from across Europe. But as Germany advances, leaving begins to look impossible. Just when all seems lost, the town priest and local seamstresses invent a brilliant plan to take the children out of Europe.

Rights sold

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Slovenia (Hisa knjig Zalozba)
Spain (Roca Editorial)

Ivan Sciapeconi (1969) teaches in Modena where he is on the committee of The Foundation of Villa Emma.





MATTIA SIGNORINI PEACE ON THE WESTERN FRONT

ITALY

Original language: Italian
(Full English translation available)

Publisher: Feltrinelli
October 2022, 192 pages

Rights sold

France (Michel Lafon Publishing)
Netherlands (Horizon)
UK (Bonnier Manilla Books)

A powerful, emotional novel of peace and friendship against the greatest of odds.

1914. A boy enrolls in the army, hoping to find peace in the great adventure of war. Handed a rifle, he discovers the grim reality: grey days distinguished only by the ever-present spectre of death. In the midst of horror, he finds close friendships, love and companionship.

In an unexpected act of courage, he changes the course of history, bringing German and Brits to put down their weapons for a celebration of peace. In 1933, a father and son set out for Flanders. The former soldier carries more of the war with him than his maimed left hand. The British man he met in the forest of Ypres is a memory passed down from father to son, a story of friendship across enemy lines, forged by one uniting belief: the need for peace.

MATTIA SIGNORINI



A timeless novel which resonates with a profound truth:
that each and every one of us can make peace blossom.

Viola Ardone

A small gem of a novel about the folly and wickedness of
war.

A.N. Wilson

Peace On the Western Front is the first of a trilogy Mattia Signorini is planning on themes of world peace.

Mattia Signorini (1980) holds a degree in communications from the University of Padua. After working as an Editor in Milan, he started a creative writing school, the Palomar School, in his hometown, Rovigo. He also founded and directs the yearly literary festival RovigoRacconta. He debuted in 2007 with *Lontano da ogni cosa* (*Far from Everything*), followed by *La Sinfonia del Tempo Breve* (*The Symphony of the Nineteenth Century*), *Ora* (*Now*), *Le Fragili Attese* (*Fragile Awaitings*), and *Stelle Minori* (*Lesser Stars*). He is the winner of the Tropea Prize 2010, and finalist of the Stresa Prize.





KRISHA SKIES THE HUMMINGBIRD GIRL

ITALY

Original language: Italian
(Partial English translation available)
Publisher: Magazzini Salani
October 2025, 688 pages

YA
AGES 16+

The end of the world is near. Only love can defy the will of the gods.

In the Empire of Ker'an, whenever the gods of the underworld walk among the living, an era ends in blood. To prevent their coming, a chosen few are “kissed” by the spirits of sacred animals—marked youths capable of descending into the Underworld and interceding with the dark deities. But few survive the journey, and none return unchanged.

Araèn, marked by the hummingbird—the messenger spirit—has received the most precious and perilous gift: the ability to speak with the gods themselves. Raised with her companions in the House of the Sun, deep in the jungle, she has been trained in devotion and taught to fear an ancient, ruthless enemy: the Jade Men, foretold by prophecy as the bringers of ruin, accused of seeking to destroy the Empire and open the gates to the world's end.

KRISHA SKIES

But when Araèn is called to serve in the capital, she uncovers schemes of power she was never meant to see—and begins to question everything she has been taught. At her side is Xerem, a warrior with a shadowy past, who helps her expose the truth: the prophecy has been manipulated. Araèn holds the power to change the fate of her people.

**A dark prophecy, a unique power, an indissoluble bond.
Even when everything seems already written, love can show a new path.**



SUSANNA TAMARO FOR THE LOVE OF DOGS

ITALY
Original language: Italian
(Partial English translation available)
Publisher: Solferino
October 2024, 192 pages

Rights sold
France (Albin Michel)
Germany (HarperCollins DE)

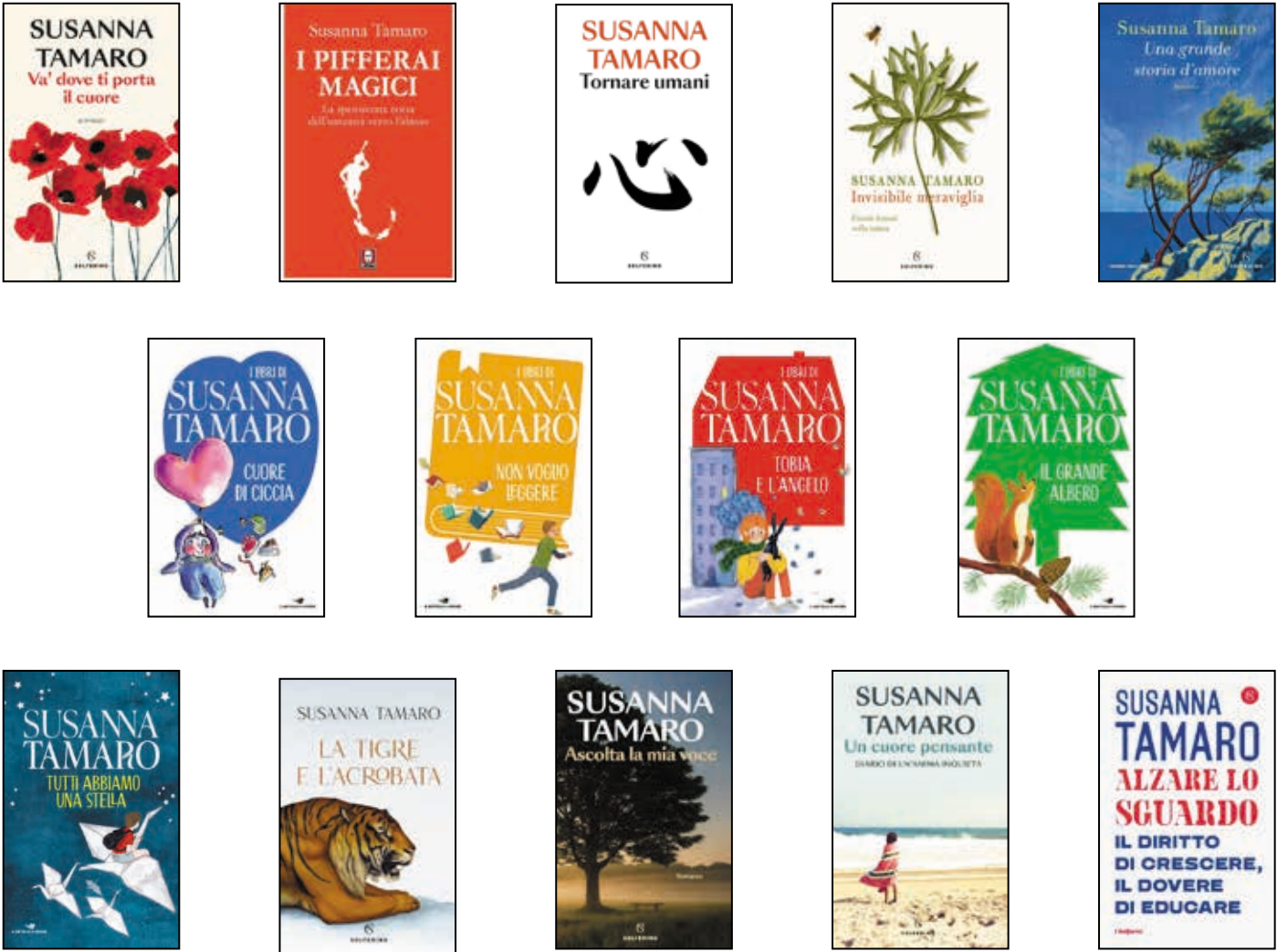
Just as Snow White has seven dwarfs, so I will have seven dogs.

When Susanna Tamaro swapped her small flat in central Rome for a spacious house in the country, the first thing she did was adopt a dog. First, there was Argo, a disabled hound who drove Shepherds of the Maremma into hiding; then poor Bianchina entered the gates of doggy paradise; Tobia, anarchic but noble-hearted; followed by Pongo, an ordinary mutt; Sissi, the perfect cure for insomnia; and Archimede, the polygamist beagle. There were other four-legged companions, all adopted from kennels and with tragic backgrounds. One by one, Susanna transformed her home into a happy family of not only dogs and humans, but also cats and parakeets, not to mention horses and donkeys.

In this hilarious and heartfelt book, she tells the story of how these animals enriched the lives of everyone around them, offering more than just companionship, but unconditional love. Anyone who has ever loved or been loved by an animal will understand how they bring peace and acceptance as no human can. Our furry friends, so inextricably linked to human companionship, are also unique teachers of loyalty, gratitude and happiness.

A profound message about living together in unbalanced times.

SUSANNA TAMARO





SUSANNA TAMARO
THE WIND BLOWS
WHERE IT PLEASES

ITALY

Original language: Italian
 (Full English translation available)

Publisher: Solferino
 October 2023, 240 pages

100,000 copies sold

By the author of the International Bestseller *Follow Your Heart*.

Under the silence of snow as the year ends, Clara decides to spend the holiday at home alone, to face her biggest fear. As she awaits the prognosis, she reflects on the secrets she has kept from her family and writes three intimate letters: one to Alisha, her adopted daughter born in India, who has undertaken an identity search. One to Ginevra, her natural daughter conceived during the adoption process. And one to Davide, her husband, a man whose steadfast nature upheld the family, until shocking and inexplicable events uprooted all their lives.

Three letters written from the heart, a secret, and a generational legacy.

SUSANNA TAMARO

What if that unexpected decision was suggested to me while I slept by the same angel who had whispered my name to my mother twenty years earlier? Wasn't this a surprise intrusion of Shivasankalpa? Had the invisible guide granted me the grace of the Spirit so that I should understand the right path to follow? Does this not perhaps happen many times in our life? To what extent does the destiny we build depend on our ability to listen to these mysterious nocturnal whispers? Is there not a very fine silk thread that links the lives destined to meet each other?

Of course, in the inevitable dark times we might sometimes think this invisible thread is woven by a spider rather than an angel, to prepare us for its fatal trap. But in the end, do you know what I think?

That we must accept our fragility, the fact that we are in any case suspended between light and shadow.

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 Portugal (Presença)
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 Serbia (Vulkan Publishing)
 Slovenia (HKZ)
 Spain (Planeta)
 Turkey (Can Sanat Yayinlari)

Susanna Tamaro (Trieste, 1957) moved to Rome when she was 19 years old to attend the Experimental Center of Cinematography. She lives on a self-sufficient farm in the Umbrian countryside. In addition to writing, gardening, and practicing martial arts, she devotes her time to humanitarian projects that assist women and children.





AURORA TAMIGIO A WOMAN'S LAST NAME

ITALY

Original language: Italian
(Partial English translation available)

Publisher: Feltrinelli
July 2023, 416 pages

180,000 copies sold

Winner of Bancarella Prize 2024

Winner of John Fante Opera Prima Prize 2024

An engaging family saga that marks the debut of an extraordinary talent.

The story begins with Rosa, born in a small Sicilian village at the turn of the 20th century. Strong-willed and yearning for the freedom reserved for men, she runs away with Sebastiano Quaranta, a man with no family. They marry and open a tavern that becomes a social hub for the nearby towns.

They have three children: Fernando, Donato (who joins the seminary), and Selma, a gentle and talented embroiderer. Selma, too beautiful and too meek, marries Santi Maraviglia despite Rosa's warnings. Rosa fears her daughter's gentleness will lead to misfortune — and she's right. Santi wastes Selma's inheritance and dominates the family.

Selma's three daughters — rebellious Patrizia, stunning Lavinia, and studious Marinella — face the consequences of their parents' choices. As they try to break free from the past and find their own identities, they are quietly watched over by the spirit of their grandfather, Sebastiano.

This novel is an epic family saga centered on unforgettable women who struggle to reclaim their voices, their power, and their names.

Vicki Satlow Literary Agency
info@vickisatlow.com

AURORA TAMIGIO

What remains of the grandmothers, the mothers, and the women who came before us?

Rights sold

France (Calmann Levy) two book deal
Germany (BTB PRH) two book deal
Poland (Wydawnictwo Dolnoslaskie) two book deal
Portugal (Bertrand Editora)
Romania (Editura Univers)
Russia (Alpina Publisher)
Spain (Seix Barral)



Aurora Tamigio (1988) was born in Palermo and grew up in Milan. She works as a copywriter for a high-tech company and contributes to literary magazines.



Vicki Satlow Literary Agency
info@vickisatlow.com



LUCA TARENZI
ORPHEUS
Vol. 2 - MUSIC AND DARKNESS

ITALY
 Original language: Italian
 (Partial English translation available)
 Publisher: Giunti Editore
 November 2024, 448 pages

In this gripping second volume of the fantasy trilogy, Orpheus plunges into the depths of the Underworld to reclaim his lost love, Eurydice.

Defying every peril, he reaches the Lord of the Dead, who allows him to bring her back, on one condition: Orpheus must not look back at her until they have fully returned to the world of the living. Yet, as they struggle through the perilous ascent, Orpheus confronts the harsh reality of the unnatural life he would impose on Eurydice. Choosing love over possession, he releases her, even as his obsession with reuniting lingers on. His descent also unveils a disturbing truth: the gods are merely human souls who have refused to move on, amassing power until they claimed mastery over human fate.

With this revelation, Orpheus begins plotting a rebellion to overthrow the tyranny of these self-made deities, setting the stage for a powerful showdown in this intense and evocative continuation of the series.



LUCA TARENZI
ORPHEUS
Vol. 1 - DEATH AND DREAMS

ITALY
 Original language: Italian
 (Partial English translation available)
 Publisher: Giunti Editore
 February 2024, 416 pages

13th century BC: Orpheus, the illegitimate son of a Thracian king, was raised motherless, deprived of his father's affection, and desperately in love with his stepsister, Eurydice. One night, Eurydice flees from the fortress, where she is kept until her arranged marriage. Orpheus pursues her, and shortly afterward, the two find safety with a band of satyrs, wild men who worship the god Dionysus. Marsyas, their leader, is Orpheus' half-brother who years earlier disowned his father and his royal title. Dionysus is intrigued by Orpheus and orders the satyrs to instruct him in their shamanic arts. While the king finds Eurydice and locks her back up in his fortress, Orpheus becomes a prodigious student in the supernatural arts. A brutal, lyrical, violent, and passionate tale of magic, eternal love.

Luca Tarenzi (1976) works as a journalist, an editorial consultant and a tourist guide. He debuted as a writer in 2006. In 2011, his novel *Quando il diavolo ti accarezza* (Salani) received the Award Italia.





KATIA TENTI THEY WILL CALL YOU A WITCH

ITALY

Original language: Italian
(Partial English translation available)

Publisher: Neri Pozza
September 2024, 304 pages

From afar, the castle of Fiè allo Sciliar seems to come right out of a fairy tale. Carved in white onyx, it stands majestically against the cobalt blue sky of the Dolomite valley, like a protector of the houses that surround it. Hardly anyone would image the horrific crimes committed within its walls, when one of the most dramatic trials of the sixteenth century would send thirty innocent women to their deaths by fire. The Witches of the Sciliar were locked up in a tiny cell of the castle dungeons. Tortured, they were forced falsely confession to devil worship. To show them compassion would have resulted in an admission of guilt.

Barbara Vellerin was one of them. Raised by her mother on the edge of the village, her childhood years were filled with joy, caring for the needy and observing the plants and animals around her. Then everything changed when a group of religious men, for whom any woman is a potential witch, began to accuse her of black magic.

Five hundred years later, Arianna Miele is granted the honor of curating an exhibition on the Witches of the Sciliar. The nomination is important for her career as anthropologist, and an opportunity for her to become independent of her oppressive family. But as she immerses herself in history, she discovers the truth of one of its supposed heroes and gives voice to an innocent woman silenced by hypocrisy and cruelty.

Vicki Satlow Literary Agency
info@vickisatlow.com



KATIA TENTI ALL THAT REMAINS

ITALY

Original language: Italian
(Partial English translation available)

Publisher: Piemme
May 2022, 464 pages

A family torn apart and brought back together by history in a mountainous land that has changed hands and alliances from Italy to Germany for as long as anyone can remember.

South Tyrol, 1925: Else Steiner and her father, who have dedicated their entire lives to music, have no time for conflict. Music, after all, is a universal language. However, when young Else is replaced by another singer, an Italian, something in her breaks forever. Fragile and lonely, she allows Alfred Gasser, a successful doctor, to convince her that although she may not love him, they can be happy together... and perhaps they could be if their lives were not intertwined with that of three other families: the wealthy Eggers in Bolzano who live in denial of their son's mental disability; the Marchetti's who have immigrated from the town of Vicenza and are willing to steal, lie and sell their neighbors to the Fascists if it will get them an extra portion of bread or help them integrate; and the Ceccarini, a large family of proud Tuscan Communists, whose land is a refuge for political dissidents.

Born in Bolzano, **Katia Tenti** cultivates her passion for culture, theater and contemporary art. Her novels are set in the Northern Italian territory of "Alto Adige" which is characterized by social, cultural and ethnic contradictions.



Vicki Satlow Literary Agency
info@vickisatlow.com

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Boldwood is an **award-winning independent, global fiction publishing house** launched in February 2019, with its first titles published in August 2019.

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Based on the principles of a true partnership with authors and team members it **guarantees global publishing in all formats** – ebook, audiobook; digital and physical, and print – on the same publication day across all English language territories. All the authors are signed on multi-book deals reflecting the Boldwood commitment to building author careers with every title receiving guaranteed paid digital advertising.

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FALL 2025

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info@vickisatlow.com

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Vicki Satlow Literary Agency
info@vickisatlow.com

Authors

Sky Anderson
Tommaso Avati
Lorenzo Beccati
Sara A. Benatti
Giulia Blasi
Marco Bocci
Christian Brogna
Cosimo Buccarella
Paola Calvetti
Emanuela Canepa
Serena Cappellozza
Alfio Caruso
Romina Casagrande
Marco Celada
Anna Chisari
Fausta Cialente Estate
Jennifer Clark
Roberta De Falco
Erri De Luca
Simona Dolce
Manuela Faccon
Laura Forti
Andrea Galli
Lorenza Gentile
Chiara Gily
Alessandro Golinelli
Micki Gruber
Nazim Hikmet Estate
Valeria Locati
Francesco Lotoro
Giovanni Mastrangelo
Costanza Miriano

Anna Momigliano
Barbie Latza Nadeau
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Ram Pace
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And when you come to a meeting of many ways
and do not know which to choose, do not choose at random,
but pause and reflect.
Breathe with the trusting, deep breaths you took when you first
came into the world; let nothing distract you,
but wait and go on waiting.
Be still and listen in silence to your heart.
When it has spoken to you, rise up and follow it.

Susanna Tamaro, *Follow Your Heart* 1994

Vicki Satlow Literary Agency

info@vickisatlow.com


+39 02.48015553

Via Cenisio 16 - 20154 Milano (Italy)



Vicki Satlow Literary Agency
www.vickisatlow.com

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