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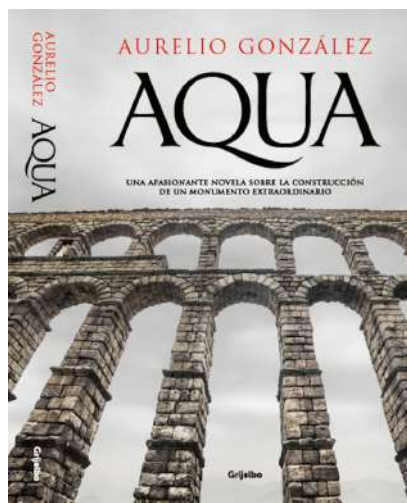
HISTORICAL FICTION
CONTEMPORARY, SAGAS AND WOMEN'S FICTION
THRILLERS AND NOIR

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AQUA by AURELIO GONZÁLEZ

Spanish world: Grijalbo (PRH), September 2025

In 112 c.e., the Roman engineer Marco Claudio Luceyo, arrives in Segovia to build an aqueduct by order of emperor Trajan. Marco meets the young apprentice mason Lucio whose intelligence and good work make him the ideal assistant to Marco. It also makes Lucio a target when Marco takes him to Rome, as unbeknown to either, Lucio's parents were assassinated on emperor Nerva's orders and those responsible, having not found the child Lucio was then, now fear that he has returned to take his vengeance.

Lucio is in love with Flavia, who is expecting his child, but Marco's daughter, beautiful, capricious Claudia, captivates the young mason and Flavia takes refuge with the wise woman of the town. Unresolved murders, an attempt on Lucio's life and strange activities in insalubrious areas of Segovia and Rome are part of a wider conspiracy to manipulate the succession to Trajan, elderly and not in the best of health. The large amounts of money Rome sends to Segovia for the building works attract a whole cast of corrupt and unscrupulous characters.

The novel spans five years in which the stunning aqueduct –still standing in Segovia– is built, and combines fascinating scenes of Roman engineering and ingenuity with action, dangers, romance and conspiracies. Ideal for readers of Simon Scarrow, Luis Zueco, Santiago Posteguillo or Robert Harris.



Aurelio González (El Casar, Guadalajara 1977) is an expert in construction techniques by profession, and writes novels because he loves doing so. His novels are for readers looking for addictive stories with intrigue, strong narrative, rich dialogues and well-rounded characters, as well as fascinating historical ambience. He has published three novels so far: *Abrío los ojos*, *Keltia* and *Fe labrada en piedra*, shortlisted for the Premio Internacional de Novela Histórica de Úbeda 2020 and published by Sargantana (Valencia). por Sargantana (Valencia).



**UNA CASA EN MANILA - A HOUSE IN MANILA by
MÓNICA SOLDEVILA**

Spanish world: Ediciones B (PRH), September 2025

In 1887, young Carmen, her husband and doctor Francisco, her brother Javier and her aunt Milagros board a liner in Barcelona to take them to Manila, the Philippines, to join Carmen and Javier's father, a lawyer exiled for political reasons and now pardoned. The voyage itself is an adventure, sometimes dangerous, but Manila surpasses their expectations and they settle in happily.

Tagu, a young Philippine educated by a religious community in the city and now assistant to Carmen's father, brings his younger sister, the beautiful Dalisay, to Manila. Dr. Sandemetrio, a wealthy Spaniard, becomes obsessed with Dalisay and will cause many problems to her family and to Carmen's. Apanaya, housekeeper for the Governor, falls in love with brave Cañamón, and befriends Carmen, Milagros and Dalisay. Together, they will survive natural disasters, attempted murders and capture by rebellious tribes in the interior of the island, while Milagros will confirm her love for the ship's captain she met on the voyage to the other side of the world.

For readers of Luz Gabas, Sarah Lark. Anne Jacobs



Mónica Soldevila (Barcelona, 1970), married and with two daughters, lives in both France and Spain. She was twenty when she boarded her first flight abroad to live eight thousand kilometres from home, towards the Tropic of Capricorn. She has worked in countries brimming with contrasts under the sun in South America. West Africa or the Antilles, until the capricious trade winds returned her to Europe. Everywhere she set down her suitcase for enough time to get to know and be inspired by new customs, enjoy the varied food and make many friends. Her moves were not always easy because of the excess baggage caused by

the large number of books she always took with her, as a voracious reader since she was a child. Now she is a writer and her first passionate historical novel is the fruit of so much reading. so many travels and a boundless imagination.

Contemporary fiction, sagas and women's fiction

EL DESEO DE SOFÍA - SOFÍA'S WISH by PILAR MAYO

Spanish world: Plaza&Janés (PRH), January 2026

After Sofía's father dies, her mother tells Sofía that she, her mother, has a younger daughter, from her romance with her best friend's brother. Sofía's father discovered the affair and made her choose between keeping Sofía and him, or leaving with nothing but the new baby, never to see her Sofía again. She chose Sofía but now her husband is dead, she asks Sofía to find her other daughter.

As her mother entrusted the baby to her friend, she has an idea where she might be and Sofía unwillingly sets out to find her sister. Much to her surprise, she finds Didi, so similar to her mother that there is no doubt she is the long-lost daughter. Didi is married and has two young children, a very bright young girl starved of affection and an autistic little boy.

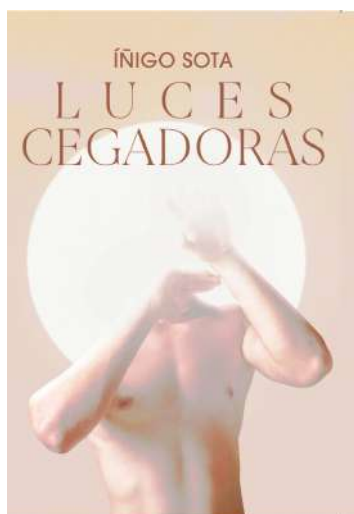
The family barely makes it to the end of the month but seems very happy and delighted to find the new family. That is, until Sofía gets to know them better, despite her own reticence in accepting Didi. The strain of past secrets, emotional and economic stress and the complex relationships between mothers and daughters will bring tears and frustrations, but also contentment and understanding,



Pilar Mayo, (Barcelona, 1969) has been a voracious reader ever since she can remember. Her need to express herself through literature led her to create a blog where she published stories and reflections. The excellent reception these writings received encouraged her to go for her dream, publishing her first novel *The Stolen Embraces* (Versátil, 2019), a tender, exciting story that had a warm reception among readers. Since then she has published two more novels, *The Suitcases of Forgetting* (Versátil, 2020) and *The Sadness of Others* (Collection Mil Amores, 2022)

Her new novel is a heartfelt look at the relationships of mothers and daughters, the weight of past secrets, and the emotions and frustrations of couples and families.

Contemporary fiction, sagas and women's fiction



LUCES CEGADORAS - BLINDING LIGHTS by IÑIGO SOTA

Spanish: Editorial Egales, February 2025

In October 2019, in a provincial town, Hernán goes to the funeral of Leo's father, to see Leo again, his first great love. They have not met since the abrupt ending to their passionate affair seventeen years ago, shortly before Leo moved to Madrid. Despite the tension now, they agree to meet a few days later to have a coffee and remember who they used to be. The initially tense conversation evolves into a trip into the past with veiled reproaches, until they can finally stare at each other openly. From a rich family, Leo is now married with children, not accepting who he really is; Hernán, nine years younger, is still affected by the violent relationship he endured before Leo. When Leo proposes they spend an night together before he goes back to Madrid, Hernán accepts, not realising to what extent this final date will make him come to terms with himself.



Iñigo Sota (Pamplona, 1983) is a journalist, with a doctorate in Sociology, and he works in the Digital Strategy Department of Grupo La Información. His early love of literature led him to take part in short story competitions and to write several articles for his school magazine.

He published his first novel, *Las distancias cortas / In Close Proximity*, when he was twenty-four. In 2010, the Navarre cultural society Bilaketa awarded him the XXIV Premio Francisco Ynduráin para Jóvenes Escritores (XXIV Francisco Ynduráin Award for Young Writers), having published a collection of short stories and several plays; his short stories have been shortlisted in several awards. In 2019, he published his second novel, the psychological drama *El sueño más profundo / The Deepest Sleep* (Niña Loba). He belongs to the Navarre writers' society (Asociación Navarra de Escritores), he is active on social media and is passionate about cinema, leading him to write his doctoral thesis on the American director Sofia Coppola.



LA LÍNEA DE LA VENGANZA - THE LINE OF VENGEANCE
by **ÁNGEL OSUNA**

Spanish world: Grijlabo (PRH) October 2025

Lola Barco's life changed irrevocably the day she found her elder brother Selu brutally murdered. Knowing that Selu had risked his life as a drug trafficker in order to keep her and her mother, and pay for Lola's studies as a nurse, Lola wants nothing more than vengeance for Selu's death, since the police haven't solved the murder.

When an unreliable journalist says he has information about Selu's killers, Lola accepts the meeting with a retired trafficker who will set her on the path to violent confrontations with the extremely dangerous criminal gang led by El Francés.

But this journey has no heroes, only predators and prey and Lola will have to choose which she will be.

Set in present-day Cádiz, one of the key areas for drug-trafficking and distribution from América and North Africa to the rest of Europe, the novel lays bare the corruption, the money and the pure violence that form the very fibres of the criminal underworld. For readers who enjoyed Narcos,



EL PUENTE - THE BRIDGE by **ÁNGEL OSUNA**

Spanish world: Grijlabo (PRH) September 2024

When the body of Ada Sofia, daughter of one of the most powerful bankers in the country, is found hanging from the central pier of the Constitution Bridge in Cádiz, it first looks like an assisted suicide. Salvadora Rossi, Violent Crimes police inspector, does not agree. The merciless cruelty used and the forensic evidence soon demonstrate that Ada Sofía was ritually tortured. When another girl, a friend of Ada Sofía, is found tortured and murdered, Rossi faces a case almost as complicated as her personal life.

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While Rossi's theories are crumbling and with the pressure of such a high-profile case suffocating her, in Madrid, Manuel Pizarro is shocked to read the news of the murders in Cádiz. Formerly a promising young police officer, he resigned after an accident left him disabled, taking refuge in drink and drugs to forget his problems. He decides to take action, confident that he knows how to solve the case, joining the pieces that link Ada's murder to a much worse conspiracy originating in the small Dutch town of Oude Pekela.

Rossi will find herself facing a world in which nothing and no one is what they seem and the reality hidden behind appearances is unimaginably cruel. Obedience, religious fanaticism, the complicity of powerful people, social prejudices, loneliness and the vulnerability of the fearful and indifferent, create a scenario in which the hopelessly doomed characters evolve and blur as the case progresses to an uncertain resolution.

Ángel Osuna (Tarifa, 1975) graduated in Architecture and Technical Architecture from the University of Seville. As a professor he contributes to various university magazines, especially with essays on Architectural Theory and reflections on the imaginary of Architecture. He has been a curator for various exhibitions and cultural cycles sponsored by the University of Seville, the Ministry of Culture and private entities.

After more than fifteen years as an architect and plastic artist, he has decided to dedicate himself fully to his true passion, writing. In 2020 he won the first prize for crime novels, the Sed de Mal award, at the Black October event in Madrid, with his novel *El despiadado país de las maravillas* (*The Ruthless Country of Wonders*). In early 2023 he published his second crime novell *La danza del polvo en los rayos de sol* (*The Dance of Dust in the Rays of the Sun*) with the Sevillian publisher Extravertida Editorial.





LA NOCHE DEL KASKAROT - THE NIGHT OF THE KASKAROT by JAVIER DÍEZ CARMONA

Spanish world: Grijalbo, October 2025

A village surrounded by mountains. A community full of secrets. A woman in search of the truth.

At night, the peaceful mountains surrounding Sainte-Agathe, a small village in the French Basque Country, are usually hidden under a blanket of fog that dissolves at dawn. One morning the sunlight reveals the macabre sight of André's body. While visiting his family, he appears to have fallen from one of the cliffs. His girlfriend from Madrid, Zaida, immediately sets out for the village, and she can't stop thinking about what awaits her there. When she arrives, her worst fears are confirmed. The circumstances of André's death are far from clear and she discovers a whole life he had hidden from her.

He never told her that he came from a family of Kaskarots, an ancient Romani ethnic group shrouded in a thick web of rumours and prejudices and neither did he reveal his relationships with the other families in the village. Who was André really? What was he doing walking alone in the woods in the early hours of the morning? What secrets are the residents of this rugged mountain enclave hiding?

With his trademark refined and captivating prose, Javier Díez Carmona unravels the mysteries surrounding the lives of his protagonists in this splendid rural thriller set in the disturbing and misty Basque landscape. A superb, addictive thriller by one of the undisputed masters of "EuskalNoir"



Javier Díez Carmona (Bilbao, 1969) has a degree in Economics and works in the financial sector. His vocation has always been to write, and he has won awards in over 100 short story competitions, publishing his work in different anthologies. He published two YA novels and two short thrillers before his breakout novel, *Justicia*, (Spanish world, Grijalbo 2023). *La noche del Kaskarot* is his fourth novel with Grijalbo.

Simplemente brutal, una trama adictiva y que te atrapa desde el comienzo. Una ambientación maravillosa que nos sitúa perfectamente donde transcurre

la historia

BACKLIST HIGHLIGHTS

Javier Díez Carmona

Daniel Jerez

Raúl Ariza

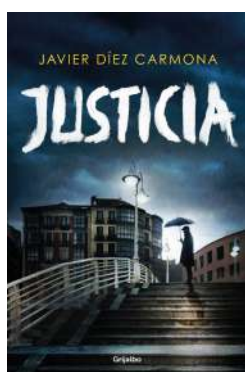
Juan Antonio Piñero

THE JUSTICE TRILOGY by JAVIER DíEZ CARMONA

[Cliente Amazon](#)

[5.0 out of 5 stars Gracias Osmany](#) [Reviewed in Spain on 7 June 2024](#)[Verified purchase](#)

A real discovery. I read Justice, Alone, and Revenge in one sitting. Not only the rainy, dark setting of the Basque Country in winter, ideal for mystery novels, but also the characters, all of them. Osmany is undoubtedly one of the best I've seen as a protagonist. That touch of humanity, goodness, kindness, combined with the other instincts inherent in human beings: survival, revenge, and loyalty only to those who deserve it. All of this is seasoned with a few murders, a lot of deduction, and psychology. It's a shame there are only three books.



JUSTICIA / JUSTICE

Spanish world print and ebook: Grijalbo, 2021, five editions;
pocketbook, 2023

Spanish audiobook: Audible, 2025

English extract available.

Bilbao, November 2014. Four people are murdered within a few days: Camilo, a young Cuban married to a girl from Bilbao; Rosa, about to retire from a bank; a businessman; and Esther Delgado, CEO of a holding founded by her father. Nothing connects the murders directly but Osmany, Camilo's father and an ex-captain in the Cuban army, saw Rosa being killed and knows it was not a simple case of a mugging gone wrong, as the police said.

Osmany and a motley group of people including Rosa's partner Antonio, the private investigator taken on by Esther's father, and other people who knew the four deceased, band together to find the truth behind the murders.

During the week of their investigations, more people die, real estate fraud is uncovered, shadowy figures try to cover up all the leads, and greed and sordid motives for the murders are revealed, tainting all levels of society. Osmany must decide how far to venture and what moral outcomes he can accept, putting his own life at risk in a race against the killers prowling the grim rain-slicked streets of a city as dangerous as the battles he fought as a soldier.



SOLAS / ALONE

Spanish world print and ebook: Grijalbo, January 2023, seven editions and now in pocketbook.

Spanish audiobook: Audible, 2025

February 2015, an icy winter in the Basque country. A phone call from an old friend in Cuba worried about his daughter, married to an older man in Bilbao and out of contact for several months, sends Osmany Arechabala out to look for her. He asks for help from Nekane, a police officer he met the previous year in his investigations of several murders (*Justice*). At the same time, Agurtzane reports her lover Lola as missing and the investigation will uncover other women who have disappeared without trace.

Nothing is as straightforward as it seems and various guilty parties are discovered, along with police corruption and some very shady dealings. There is no happy ending in sight as Osmany unwittingly makes himself a target for some very dangerous people.

The novel takes place over eight days, three months after the events of *Justice*, and features some of the same characters, as well as introducing new ones, although both novels can be read independently. The events play out in the city of Bilbao and in the surrounding mountainous countryside, dotted with remote farms and country houses, during a hard, snowy winter.



VENGANZA - REVENGE

Spanish world print and ebook: Grijalbo, October 2023, five editions; pocketbook, 2025.

Spanish audiobook: Audible, 2025

Miren Ruíz de Heredia, a police officer in the Basque Country, investigates the massacre, where three colleagues and a kidnapper died. She is not convinced by the official version and while waiting for the forensic reports, she begins to interrogate possible witnesses, among them, the Cuban Osmany Arechabala.

When Osmany returns from testifying at the police station, he finds the bodies of his daughter-in-law and his granddaughter. However, he soon discovers that he will not be able to take revenge on the murderer. With the help of Borja Maruri, a lawyer and economist, and Antonio Arzamendi, a former bank director, he begins to uncover the moneylaundering operation of a Nigerian mafia in Bilbao, while trying to evade the suspicions of Miren.

For fans of Ibon Martín, Arantxa Portabales, or Jo Nesbø

Javier Díez Carmona (Bilbao, 1969) has a degree in Economics and works in the financial sector. His vocation has always been to write, and he has won awards in over 100 short story competitions, publishing his work in different anthologies. He published two YA novels and two short thrillers before his breakout novel, *Justicia*, the first of the Justice Trilogy. Grijalbo is publishing his fourth novel, *La noche del Kaskarot*, in October 2025.





EL PASADO NO NOS OLVIDA / THE PAST NEVER LETS US GO by DANIEL JEREZ

Spanish world: Maeva September 2022

In 2014 in the marshes near Barcelona airport, a German fighter plane that crashed and sank without trace in 1940 is finally recovered, but as well as the remains of the pilot, bones of a woman from several decades earlier also appear.

Sebastián, a sports journalist, unenthusiastically covers the event for another reporter who is off sick. That changes radically when his good friend Vidal, an aviation expert investigating the macabre discovery, is brutally murdered and the police chief brushes it off as a robbery gone bad. Sebastián's own investigations put him in grave danger, but with the help of a junior policewoman, Lorena, who went to school with Vidal and Sebastián, he uncovers conspiracy and corruption dating back a century.

The four families of the most important industrialists of the town, the chief of police and the aristocrat who lives in a palatial mansion nearby are all involved and their fathers and grandfathers were responsible for the death of the young woman all those years ago, to silence her. The revelations rock the town and finally make the criminals pay, although the investigations lead Sebastián to a shocking discovery about himself.

For fans of Juan Gómez-Jurado, Dolores Redondo, Toni Hill or Joel Dicker.



EL BESO DE LA MUERTE - DEATH'S KISS by DANIEL JEREZ

Amazon, 2021

Blanca Serrano, a young journalist, is reporting on the discovery of a sunken ship in the South Pole, embedded in a working group on the Amundsen Base. Strange signs show that the vessel sank in 1890, much earlier than Amundsen's first expedition. A diary and a letter written by Jacinto Verdaguer, a Spanish priest, mention other mysteries and decide to Blanca investigates Verdaguer's life. She

focusses on his time in Barcelona at the end of the nineteenth century, when he was well-known as an exorcist. A police detective comes to Blanca's aid when she is attacked

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near Verdaguer's old rooms, and the two women join forces to uncover the mysteries: exorcisms, time-travellers, a modern flat with ghosts, and a woman who appears to have survived in Chernobyl at its most dangerous time.

Ideal for readers of Glenn Cooper, Javier Sierra, Matilde Asensi.



Daniel Jerez (Barcelona, 1975) has a degree in Psychology, a Master in Professional Health&Safety and a doctorate in Business Management. His range of experiences and studies help him create charismatic, contradictory characters who people the mystery novels he so enjoys writing.

He published his first novel, *El arcabucero nº 61*, on Amazon in 2012 and seven years later it is still in the top 500 thrillers/mystery titles. His second novel, *La fórmula Terrades* about Albert Einstein's visit to Barcelona, was published in 2014, has had similar success with sales and happy readers. In all, his indie novels have over 15,000 readers. He has taken part in round-tables and conferences on writing, indie publishing and the place of Barcelona in literature, along with well-known authors (for instance, a round-table discussion with Glenn Cooper in Barcelona). His blog has over 300,000 unique visitors, as well as being present on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

<https://www.danieljerez.es/>

RAÚL ARIZA



UN VIAJE SOLO PARA HOMBRES / A JOURNEY ONLY FOR MEN

Spanish: Versátil, 190 pp

One cold spring morning, Santiago Albiol picks up his only son, barely five years old, puts him in the car and sets out on a desperate, erratic journey taking him across half of Spain. Santiago is fleeing: he has just killed his wife. Two years after that tragic event, Jorge Canal, an architect and author, decides to write a novel telling the story of Santiago. The reader feels the tension in the development of the two stories: Santiago's escape on an impossible journey and Jorge's obsession with capturing the story of such a dreadful crime, without suspecting that the outcomes of both events are connected.

For readers of Javier Cercas, Andrés Trapiello.



Raúl Ariza Pallarés (Benicàssim, Castellón, 1968) is a lawyer. He published three collections of short stories in 2010, 2012 and 2014, and three novels: *Un viaje solo para hombres* (Versatil, 2017), *Antes. Entonces. Nunca* (Talentura, 2019) and *Por mi gran culpa* (EDAF, 2020), winner of the crime novel award Ciudad de Getafe 2020. His latest collection of short stories, *Pústulas* (Talentura), was published in 2025 to enthusiastic acclaim. He has also written numerous literary and film reviews, articles and chronicles on varied themes for cultural magazines and online papers, and has taken part in several anthologies of short stories and collected articles.



MIENTRAS YO TE QUIERA / WHILE I LOVE YOU by JUAN ANTONIO PIÑERO

Spanish: La Esfera de los Libros, 2021

EL SILENCIO

Y el silencio ganó,
pero no logró matar al amor,
porque hay miradas que gritan más que mil gargantas,
y yo sé
que esto
que me zarandeo por dentro es real,
porque va pasando el tiempo
sin quererte menos,
porque el silencio calla,
pero tú y yo
somos verdad.



LOCO POR TI / MAD ABOUT YOU by JUAN ANTONIO PIÑERO

Spanish: Editorial Alfar, 2022

SÚPLICAS

He pensado mil veces
en el cristal de mi ventana
suplicándole a cada día
que te trajera conmigo.



Two emotive collections of brief poetry reflecting on love, heartbreak, longing and passion, with lovely pencil illustrations.

Juan Antonio Piñero (Jerez de la Frontera), graduated in Image&Sound, and he lives in Madrid with his wife and two sons. With El Primer Susurro, he has 395K followers on [Facebook](#) and 28K on [Instagram](#)